

# Caistor Roman Project

## An Evaluation of the Heritage Lottery Funded 2014 - 2016 Programme



**Written by Ian Jackson**

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## Background

The Caistor Roman Project, under the direction of Will Bowden Associate Professor of Archaeology at Nottingham University has been conducting research across a range of inter-related disciplines for over ten years. This research has encompassed an extensive programme of fieldwalking, archival research, geophysical surveys and excavations. Between 2009 and 2012 four seasons of excavations were carried out within the footprint of the original town (Bowden pending), representing the first formal excavations there since Donald Atkinson's original work between 1929 - 1936.

The 2009-2012 excavations provided the stimulus for further work in the area, particularly given the fact that Venta is one of only three Roman towns that remain on green field sites. Central to the desire to continue to conduct research on this iconic site was the belief that there remained further legitimate research questions to be answered, not least of which was the fate of the town following the end of Roman occupation in AD409/410. It was also felt that the drive to maintain professional standards within what is a volunteer community organisation required regular and repeated involvement in the archaeological process to keep members up to speed with the demands of conducting research on such an important site. A systematic and extensive programme of Test Pitting was felt to be an ideal means of achieving this objective in the first instance.

## 2014 - 2016 Project Primary Objectives

**Membership** - to further develop members skills including geophysics, excavation of larger areas, standing building surveys, environmental sampling, desk based assessment and post-excavation work.

**Outcomes against Objective - Member Training/Skills Development** (extract from 2016 Annual Report)

The Caistor Roman Project is committed to the training and development of its Members to achieve the highest possible standards in the work carried out across the Archaeological spectrum. To this end 2016 has seen an extremely full programme of workshops covering a wide variety of subjects, utilising both internal and external expertise, viz:

Archaeological Illustration - attended by 12 Members (Total 52 hours).

Field Walking - attended by 15 Members (Total 60 hours).

Slag Workshop - attended by 12 Members (Total 60 hours).

Test Pit Revision Workshop attended by 14 Members (Total 42 hours).

Small Finds Workshop attended by 10 Members (Total 35 hours).

Geophysics Workshop - attended by 7 Members (Total 28 hours).

Ceramic Building Material Workshop - attended by 8 Members (Total 24 hours).

Pottery Workshop - attended by 18 Members (Total 52 hours).



Conservation Training - by Conservation Team Shirehall, Norwich attended by 6 Members  
(Total 15 hours). Grand total of hours - 368 hours

### Illustration workshop

**Archaeology** - to conduct further investigation of sites as indicated in 5 year plan, including geophysics in selected areas.

### Outcomes against Objective - Archaeology

Geophysical work in Park Field, August.

As planned. Geophysical work was undertaken in Park Field which is to the east of the town site- opposite the visitor's car park. The work was led by Dr. Dave Bescoby, supported by volunteers from CRP who have to date assisted in a number of geophysical surveys in the area. (Add ref here)

Existing aerial photography indicated that the town spread beyond the walled town and the geophysical plots underlined this. The triple ditch system is prominent, running from west to east and buildings and roads, as expected, criss-cross the field. A number of possible industrial sites were identified- probably kilns or similar structures. Much of this underlined pre-existing knowledge of the site- but the spread of buildings to the north in the direction of the hotel was unexpected.

Near the road from Norwich to Stoke, a more contemporary piece of archaeology revealed itself. Apparently, after the wartime air attacks on Norwich, a large dump of rubble was placed in an existing wet area of the field- indeed the area is still soggy underfoot and may cover a spring.

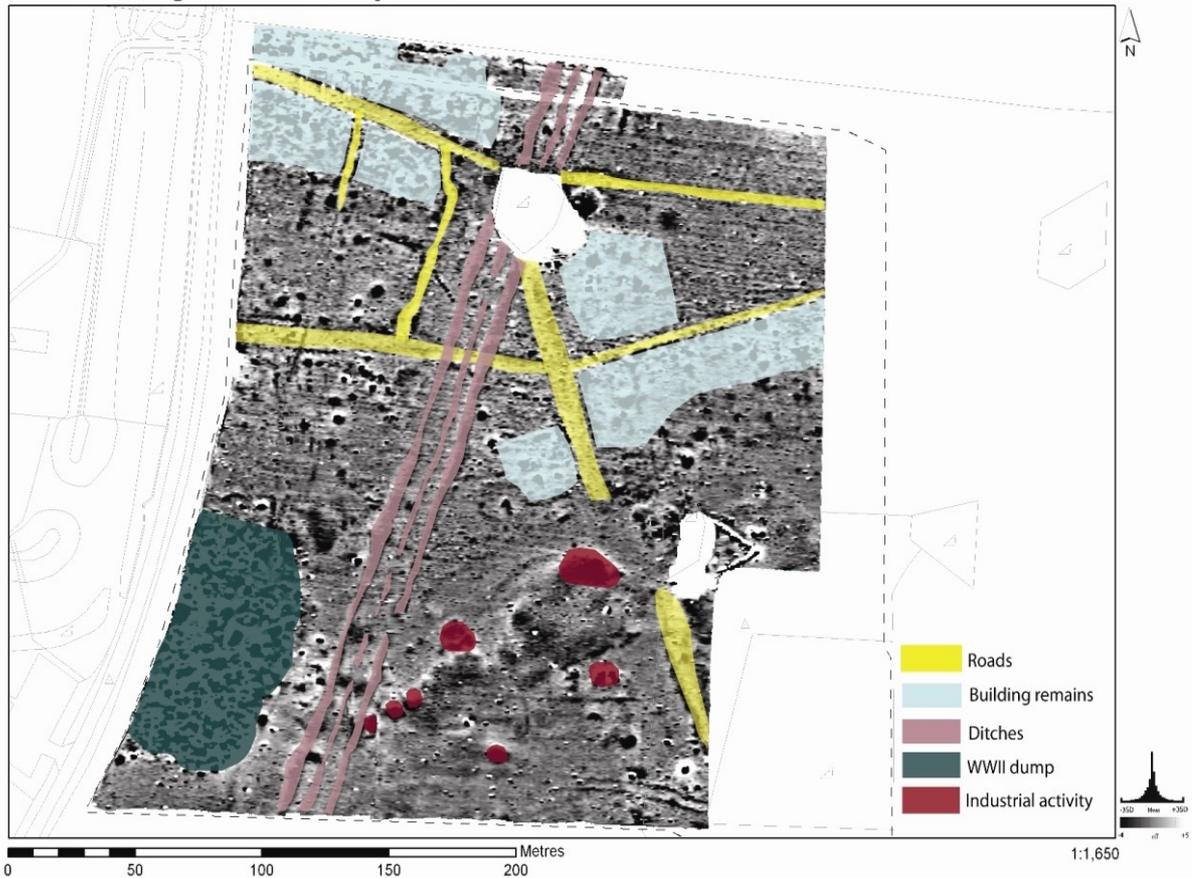
This was an important contribution to our existing knowledge of the town and its environs. We now have a complete picture of the fields that surround the walled town and the level of activity there. All of this data is encapsulated in the NMP (National Mapping Programme) image of Caistor (reproduced below).



Image showing NMP data for Caistor

## Excavation

## Park Field Magnetometer Suvey Data



Details of the three year test pitting programme within the parish of Caistor St. Edmund and its immediate environs are set out on pages 6-14 below.

**Community** -to further engage with local people and make use of the website to inform and make public our findings. Development of links with the University of East Anglia, Norfolk Archaeological Trust and youth organisations including Norfolk Young Archaeologists Club and Girl Guides.

### Outcomes against Objective - Community

Participation in the Festival of Archaeology event at Caistor Hall Hotel

Participation in the Science Forum at The Forum Norwich

4 coffee mornings for local residents hosted at Caistor Hall Hotel including:

1. talk by Assoc. Professor Will Bowden Nottingham University;
2. talk by Caroline Davison of The Norfolk Archaeological Trust;
3. guided tour of excavation site by Mike Pinner;
4. talk and presentation on the two week Summer excavation by Chrissy Sullivan and Ian Jackson

Open afternoon during the two week Summer excavation.

THE  
2016



2014 -  
T E S T  
P I T T I N G

## PROGRAMME

### Introduction

The Test Pitting programme was one element of the multi-stranded project referred to above. The main focus was on the village of Caistor St. Edmund and, in particular, the area to the north, beyond the footprint of the original street grid. A successful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund resulted in the award of a grant of £9600 which facilitated the excavation of a total of 45 test pits over the 3 year life of the project.

A public meeting held at Caistor St. Edmund church provided the impetus for the project with a number of residents keen to allow their gardens to be turned upside down for two days.

During 2014 20 test pits were dug with the primary focus being the grounds of Old Hall to the north of the walled town where 9 test pits were excavated. The other site where multiple test pits were dug was Wymer Field, immediately to the north of Old Hall (4 Test Pits). The remaining 7 were all single test pits.

During 2015 a further 18 test pits were excavated, 8 at Old Hall, 5 in Wymer Field together with 5 single test pits.

In 2016 a final 7 test pits were dug, 4 in the grounds of Old Hall and 3 in individual gardens. Two of the latter were located some distance from the walled town on the western side of the River Tas at Markshall.



**Setting Test Pit**

out a

For the brevity report on what learned analyses

sake of t h i s focusses we have from the of the

pottery assemblages but it should be emphasised that bulk finds reports have been compiled for all relevant materials including flint, animal bone, glass, metal working debris and clay tobacco pipe. Many of these bulk finds assemblages have been analysed and reported on by volunteer Caistor Roman Project members.

### **Methodology**

Following the initial public meeting individual properties were visited to enable the suitability of each location to be assessed. At the same time householders were asked to complete a simple pro forma granting permission for the excavation to proceed and highlighting features such as access to the site and availability of sanitary facilities. The actual location of each Test Pit was then determined by a survey team using pre-agreed criteria to ensure infrastructure such as mains services, in particular, were avoided. Appendix A is a schedule of the test pits excavated over the life of the project. Appendix B shows the location of Each test pit by year.

Once the suitable test pit locations had been decided upon the project's archive research team set about compiling as much background data on each site as could be found using sources such as the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER), Norfolk Record Office, Eastern Daily Press archives and the likes of Census data available via the internet. In several instances the information collected was collated and reproduced in report format for the benefit of the test pit supervisor and his/her team. An example of this approach is reproduced as Appendix D (A Short History of Markshall).

After initial training, under the watchful eye of the Project's professional Archaeologist Giles Emery of Norvic Archaeology, each Test Pit was dug under the direction of a nominated supervisor over a maximum of two days following the ROMFA model devised by Giles. This ensured that a standardised approach and the appropriate degree of rigour

was applied to each excavation in the knowledge that this approach would ultimately be transferable to large scale excavations in the future.

### **Putting training in to practice**

Each Test Pit measured 1.0m x 1.0m and was reduced in spits, context by context, until a maximum depth of 1.0m or the natural was reached, whichever occurred first. In some cases excavation was terminated earlier when it was deemed either impracticable or unnecessary owing to the conditions or material encountered.



**Barely room for two in a test pit**



**Excavation in progress**

Wherever practicable 100% of removed spoil was hand sieved with finds labelled and recorded by Context. Digital photographs were taken at significant stages throughout the excavation and scale drawings of sections together with a plan, in appropriate cases completed prior to backfilling.



**Unsung heroes - sieving in progress**



**Metal detecting underway**

All finds recovered were processed by volunteer Project members including cleaning, weighing and sorting with Small Finds numbered and photographed separately. Individual assemblages of items such as pottery, glass and flint were subsequently sent off to specialists for analysis and reporting purposes.



## Break time in Wymer Field

Test pit reports were produced using a standardised pro forma devised by Giles Emery and completed reports submitted in electronic form to the NHER. and in either electronic form or hard copy to householders.

## Cartoon courtesy of Jenny Press



programme has proved an invaluable and informative extension to the 4 years of excavation within the town and provided data that has enabled the Project to target resources on additional areas deemed to be worthy of further investigation. The value of this approach has been borne out in several instances where larger trenches have been specifically positioned over earlier Test Pits which had produced promising results.

## Roman Pottery

Not surprisingly many of the Test Pits, particularly those close to the town, in the grounds of Old Hall and the adjacent Wymer Field, have produced large assemblages of Romano-British pottery. For example Test Pits 3,5 and 6 all dug within the grounds of Old Hall during 2014 produced sherd counts of 332 (1402g), 310 (1320g) and 443 (1412g) respectively. Further afield at Old Church Close where 3 Test Pits (TPs 12, 19 and 30) were dug during 2014-15 sherd counts of 81 (220g), 77 (310g) and 175 (469g) respectively were recovered. Of the final four test pits dug within the grounds of Old Hall in 2016, two, TPs 36 and 45 produced sherd counts of 340 (1185g) and 279 (1059g) respectively.

**Coarse wares** (reproduced from Caistor Test Pit Survey: The Roman Pottery by Alice Lyons)

The pottery assemblage is characterised by the presence of coarse sandy grey wares present in a limited range of utilitarian forms comprising globular jars (with rolled and everted rims) and dishes (straight-sided). The majority of this pottery was undecorated but combed motifs are present, also several examples of a rusticated design. The sparse use-residues that survive indicate that these vessels were used both as cooking pots and kettles, as well as for the small-scale storage of dry goods. The manufacturing source of this material is unknown but is likely to be local, as some grey ware kilns were known to have been in use at Caistor during the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD (Davies 2001, 17; Atkinson 1930; 1935) and others are suspected to have existed in the vicinity at a later date. The majority of this coarse ware pottery is mid-Roman 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries AD and is influenced, both in fabric and design, by the Black Burnished ware industry which flourished around the Thames estuary in the Antonine period (Tyers 1996, 186-187).

In addition a small number of Sandy grey ware sherds with distinctive micaceous inclusions were also found that were produced in the north Suffolk kilns situated in and around Wattisfield (Tomber and Dore 1998, 184). Also found were a few late Roman South Midland shell tempered ware (Tomber and Dore 1998, 115) jar fragments, produced in the Harrold kilns in Bedfordshire; these wares did not reach this region until the later part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century and into the 4<sup>th</sup>.

It should be noted that the assemblage was in too poor condition to attempt meaningful spatial analysis of the different test pit assemblages beyond that recorded in Table Rbpot1. Also common within this assemblage are Sandy oxidised wares which mostly comprise the fragmentary remains of flagons and Sandy red ware beakers; both vessel types used in the storage and distribution of liquids such as wine. It is suggested that these wares are also locally produced.

### Fine wares

It is noteworthy that a relatively high number of fine wares, from a variety of factories, were recorded within this assemblage.

The fine wares found include a group of extremely fragmentary samian vessels imported from Gaulish sites of manufacture (Webster 1976; Tomber and Dore 1998, 28-41). This distinctive red glossy table ware is mostly of central Gaulish origin and comprises plain bowl (DR 18/31) and cup (Dr 33) fragments commonly imported and used within the 2<sup>nd</sup> century. A single 1<sup>st</sup> century South Gaulish bowl (DR 29) was identified, while no east Gaulish material was recorded. Also imported was a single sherd of a Trier black-slipped folded beaker (Tyers 1996; 138-139).

The remaining fine wares were all produced domestically (within Roman Britain) with the majority produced within the Lower Nene Valley (Perrin 1999; Tyers 1996; 173-175; Tomber and Dore 1998, 118) which consists of beaker fragments decorated with rouletted motifs and barbotine scale. These wares were produced between the mid 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries AD. Other later Nene Valley bowl and jar pieces were found in small numbers. A very small number of Colchester colour coated roughcast beakers were also recorded (Tyers, 1996, 167-168).

In addition a small number of late Roman red ware bowl fragments were found comprising Oxfordshire red slipped ware (Tyers 1996, 175-178) and highly burnished Hadham (Herts) red ware (Tyers 1996, 168-169).

### **Specialist Wares**

Specialist wares were scarce within this assemblage. Only three body sherds of olive oil amphora imported from southern Spain (Tomber and Dore 1998, 85) were recorded. Mortaria, gritted mixing bowl (Tyers 1996, 116-117) were also found but only in very small numbers. Several Sandy oxidised bead and flanged examples of East Anglian type, with flint trituration grits were found. In addition a single partial bead and flange mortarium produced in the Mancetter-Hartshill Tyers 1996, 123-124) area of the British Midlands was also identified.

### **Summary**

This is a large, but fragmentary assemblage of mid-to-late Roman pottery primarily comprised of locally produced utilitarian coarse wares. It is significant, however, that several fine wares were recorded including material imported from the wider Roman Empire and large regional British manufacturing centres.

Unfortunately the assemblage is in poor condition suggesting it has been subject to extensive post-depositional disturbance, Certainly none of the pottery had been deliberately placed, rather it had found its way into the various excavated deposits probably in association with other small amounts of detritus, all of which originated from the near-by Roman town.

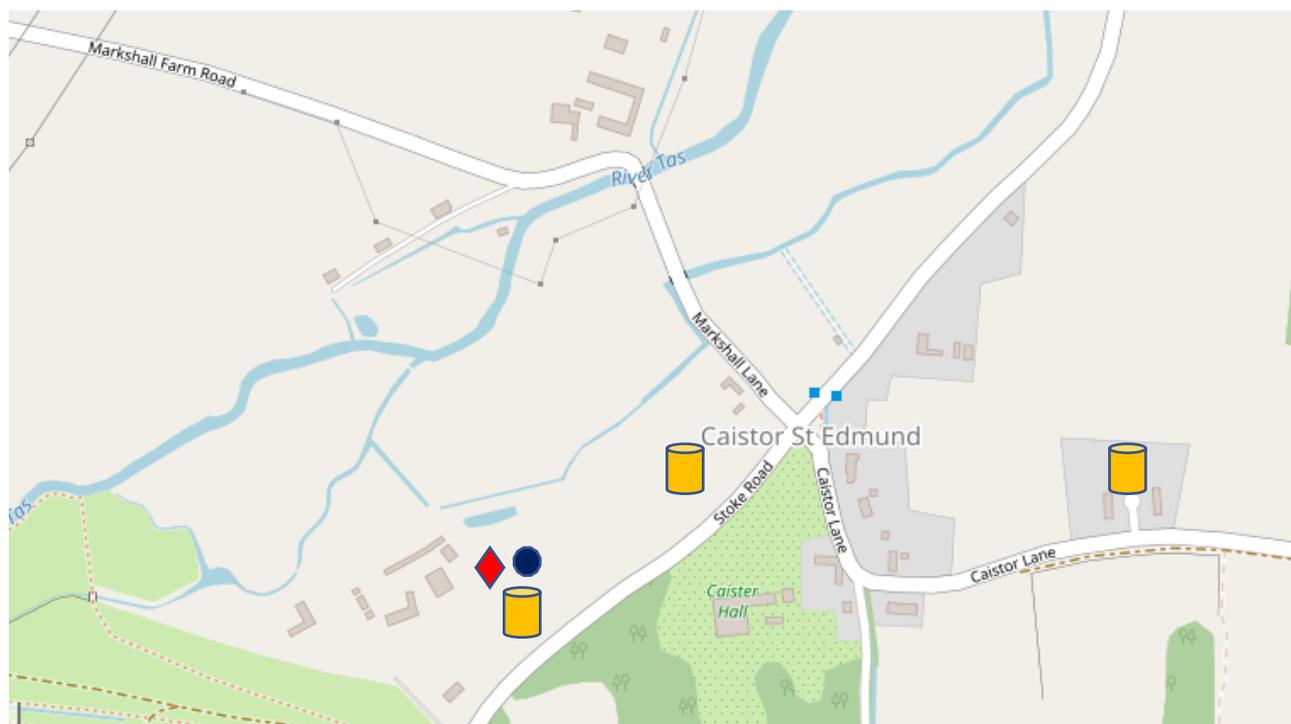
This assemblage forms part of a growing corpus of ceramic data from *Venta Icenorum* (Lyons in prep). It can be said with confidence, therefore, that the range of pottery fabrics and forms found is typical of the Roman town and its hinterland reflecting a relatively affluent community with access to both local and traded ceramic wares.

**Post-Roman Pottery** (from Caistor Roman Project Test Pit Survey (CRP14 and CRP15):  
Post Roman Pottery by Sue Anderson

### **Pottery from Old Hall Test Pits**

This group contained a high proportion of Early, Middle and Late Saxon pottery in comparison with other locations. The majority of sherds in these period groups were body or base fragments which were undiagnostic in terms of form. One Ipswich ware jar rim was found in context 603 (TP6) and there were two Thetford-type ware jar rims in context 200 (TP2). A possible Mid/Late Saxon import in the form of a white ware base, was identified as Badorf ware, although the sherd was relatively finer in comparison with sherds of this type found elsewhere in the region and it may be from another production centre (or possibly Roman).

## Main concentrations of Saxon pottery found during Test Pitting programme



### Key

Early Saxon 5 <sup>th</sup> - 7 <sup>th</sup> century	◆	Test Pits 3,5,6,37 & 39 Old Hall
Middle Saxon 8 <sup>th</sup> - 9 <sup>th</sup> century	●	Test Pits 3,6,7 & 9 Old Hall
Late Saxon 10 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup> century	☺	Test Pits 6, 9 & 39 Old Hall, Test Pits 13, 14, 15 & 16 Wymer Field, Test Pits 12 & 19 Old Church Close

In total the Test Pit excavations produced 8 sherds of Early Saxon pottery, 10 sherds of Mid-Saxon pottery and 39 sherds of Late Saxon pottery.

## Medieval Pottery

Examples of Medieval pottery were uncommonly encountered across the total of 21 test pits dug at Old Hall. In the case of Test Pits 31 - 39 (excluding TP36) only a single sherd (2g) of Early Medieval ware was retrieved from TP 39 (3900). Of the earlier Test Pits dug at Old Hall TP 3 produced single counts of Medieval Courseware (14g) (301) and Unprovenanced Glazed ware (4g) (301) and 2 sherds of Local Medieval Unglazed ware (18g) (301). From the final four test pits dug within the grounds of Old Hall in 2016 TP36 (3602) produced 9 sherds of Late Medieval Unglazed ware (91g), TP43 (4300) produced 4 sherds of Late Medieval Unglazed ware (37g) and 8 sherds of Late Medieval Transitional ware (26g). No medieval pottery was recovered from TPs 44 and 45.

Findings of Medieval pottery from the 9 test pits dug in Wymer Field were broadly similar to those from Old Hall with several of the test pits producing no examples of

pottery from this period. Based on the evidence gleaned from the analysis of the pottery recovered from 30 test pits dug at Old Hall and Wymer Field it seems reasonable to conclude that any activity in this part of Caistor was at a low level between the 11<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. This also seems to be the case during the late Medieval 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. From the Old Hall test pits pottery from this period is almost totally absent the only exception being a single sherd of Late Medieval Transitional (LMT) ware recovered from TP 39 (3902) (3g). Again the impression created by the finds recovered from Wymer Field is similar to Old Hall with single counts of LMT ware from TP 13 (1301) (1g), TP 15 (1500) (8g) TP 22 (2200) (5g) and 2 sherds from TP 24 (2400) (9g). These findings suggest that low level of occupation/activity within the area encompassing Old Hall and Wymer Field continued at least until the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

## **Post-Medieval Pottery**

The picture, based on the analyses of the pottery assemblages appears to change once we reach the post-medieval period 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> centuries in that there is a marked contrast between the range and quantity of finds when we compare Old Hall and Wymer Field. Old Hall seems to continue to remain largely fallow with TP36 producing only 2 sherds of Glazed Red Earthenware (4g), TP43 1 sherd of Refined White Earthenware (1g), TP44 no post-medieval pottery and TP45 a single sherd of Refined White Earthenware (1g). By contrast in Wymer Field, most noticeably Test Pits 13 - 15 a wider range of pottery with larger sherd counts was encountered. TP13 produced 11 sherds (40g) from (1300) and (1301), TP 14 20 sherds (62g) from (1400) and (1401). Wares from this period represented in the finds assemblage included Iron Glazed Black wares (IGBW), Glazed Red Earthenware (GRE), Cologne/Frechen Stoneware (GSW4) and Staffordshire Type Manganese Glazed (STMG).

It would seem reasonable to conclude from the analysis of the pottery data that the area we now know as Old Hall remained largely fallow perhaps until the original house was built on the site whereas the area immediately to the north of Old Hall that we named Wymer Field seems to have come in to use during the post-medieval period.

This assessment of the data from the pottery analyses has been confined to a discussion of the findings from Old Hall and Wymer Field for two principal reasons, namely

1. Multiple Test Pits were dug in these two locations increasing the reliability of the data and the conclusions that might be drawn from that data.
2. It was generally evident, from the mixed nature of the finds produced, that the individual Test Pits dug in householder's gardens were in ground that had suffered a considerable degree of post-depositional disturbance although this was a common feature across all test pits as evidenced by the abraded condition of the pot sherds recovered. An additional factor taken in to account was the likelihood that the source of at least some of the modern pottery recovered was the disposal of night soil on open fields that had dwellings constructed on them at a later date. Some of this pottery may thus have come from further afield than Caistor.

## **Noteworthy Finds**

One of the most interesting finds to have emerged from the 3 years of test pitting was a rim fragment from a mortarium bearing a partial trade stamp composed of two lines of

identical motifs with dots inside the diamond shapes on each line. This find came from TP40 (4 Markshall Cottages) on the other side of the River Tas and to the north of the walled town (see image below). The sherd was examined by mortarium expert Kay Hartley who reported that it was only the fourth such piece from the same die as earlier finds from Denver, Saham Toney and Upwell (The Three Holes). i.e the mortaria stamped with this motif have only ever been found in Norfolk. Intriguingly the four find sites sit broadly on the alignment of the probable east - west Roman link between Venta and the fens, a section of which was discovered at Crownthorpe.



**Stamped Mortarium rim from TP40**

**Early Roman coin TP19 (1904) 3 Old Church Close SF2014.82**

This is a nice example from the reign of Vespasian AD 69 -71. The obverse show a bust of the Emperor with the legend VESPASIAN AVG COS. The reverse features a goddess, possible Aequitas with the letters S C either side.



**Mid 3<sup>rd</sup> century coin TP4 (400) Old Hall SF 2014.1**

Coin struck in the name of Oticilia Severa wife of Phillip I AD 245 - 249. Reverse is Concordia seated.



**Roman Brooch TP36 (Described by Dr. Natasha Harlow)**

An equal-ended plate brooch comprising two concave opposed discs. A central concave bar or collar runs transversely between the two discs. A white metal coating remains on areas of the dished surfaces. Unusual double ended brooch with gilding to inner surface of dished ends. Found in one of the sections of the Test Pit complete with pin. The brooch is very unlikely to be post-Roman and probably dates from the mid-late Roman-British period (Tim Pestell pers comm).

The nearest recorded example appears to be the brooch described by Mackreth 2011; 117 Plate 117. This was found on the temple site at Harlow in Essex and is dated pre-80 CE.



From the outset a key element of the Caistor Roman Project's work has been community engagement and efforts within Caistor itself have included participation in Festival of Archaeology events and talks to local residents during a programme of regular coffee mornings.

The experience gained by CRP members over the life of the project has subsequently enabled us to broaden our community engagement in other ways, including involvement in fledgling projects in other parts of the County. For example, experienced project members have provided supervisory and logistical support in relation to test pitting carried out as part of the Tasburgh and Burnham Norton Imagined Land Project. With the added benefit that this in turn attracted new members to our own project. More recently support has been provided during excavations carried out by the WALBEA Project (What the Americans Left Behind in East Anglia) conducted at the ex-USAAF air base at Thorpe Abbots.

In addition to the Caistor Roman Project website ([www.caistorromanproject.org](http://www.caistorromanproject.org)). The website publishes various links including those to organisations such as the Norfolk Archaeological Trust, University of Nottingham, South Norfolk District Council and the Norfolk and Norwich Archaeological Society. Every year since 2014 a blog has been published detailing in particular the day to day events associated with the principal excavation/s, the most recent being [www.caistorromanproject2018](http://www.caistorromanproject2018.wordpress.com). Wordpress.com.

Finally, a number of project members have used the knowledge and confidence gained from working in and around Venta for so long to lead guided tours around the walled town.

## Conclusions

The 2014-2016 Test Pitting programme has provided critical ongoing maintenance and development of the skills required to execute larger scale excavations to the required professional standard. Volunteer project members have also become proficient in the post-excavation processing of finds including initial cleaning, sorting, weighing, cataloguing and reporting on bulk finds. A team of illustrators under the mentorship of Jenny Press has also evolved during the life of this project. Whilst assemblages of pottery, glass and flint, for example, will continue to be analysed and reported on by specialists this continuing accumulation of experience has greatly enhanced the capabilities of the project as a whole. A number of reports on specific finds assemblages have been produced in-house. Examples include Fe (Author Janet Christmas, CBM (authors Keith Bowen and John Davies) and animal bone (Author Lynda Bradley). It has also afforded those members wishing to take on greater responsibility in terms of supervision, opportunities to test their abilities in the less daunting environment of test pitting, in the knowledge that the skills learned are directly transferable to the larger scale excavations to be undertaken in the future.

The programme has also provided a wider understanding of the archaeological landscape of the hinterland surrounding the walled town helping to shed new light on the evolution of the town in the centuries following the end of Roman occupation. Finds from the three and a half centuries of Roman occupation raise questions as to the extent that the local population ever became Romanised. Clearly they had access to fine wares, for example, suggesting a degree of affluence and a nod towards some of the advantages of association but conversely there is a distinct lack of some of the features one would normally associate with Roman sites such as large quantities of oyster shell and also amphora. Sherds of the latter are largely notable by their absence, suggesting that

whatever cultural mores the local chose to adopt this did not extend to the consumption of oysters and olive oil.



Happy

bunch of CRP members - Caistor Hall Hotel

## Acknowledgments

The 3 year Test Pitting programme would not have been possible without the assistance of the Heritage Lottery Grant, the co-operation of the landowners, particularly Antony and Anne Jarrold and Janie Wymer but also the individual householders who were happy to let us loose in their gardens and kept us liberally supplied with cakes and refreshments. Professional support provided by Giles Emery and a number of specialist, including Alice Lyons (Roman pottery, Sue Anderson (post-Roman pottery), Sarah Bates (flint), Kath Walker (flint) and Dr. Harriet Foster (glass) has been much appreciated. We are particularly indebted to Mike Pinner who made the successful application for HLF funding and directed the project throughout the three years. Our thanks also go to CRP members Rob Bylett and Wendy Shanks who reported on the 2015 and 2016 pottery assemblages and to Sue Harman and Judy Booker of the Archive team who produced several well researched and informative background publications. The key role in organising the test pitting and post-excavation processing was taken by Chrissy Sullivan and grateful thanks are extended to her. Thanks also go to Andy Barnett who provided assistance with coin identification as did Val Fryer with the other small finds. Last but not least thanks go to all of the volunteer members of the project who have committed hundreds of hours not only during the surveying and excavation phases but also the lengthy post excavation process that has inevitably followed.

## APPENDIX A

<b>Season</b>	<b>Test Pit No.</b>	<b>HER Site Code</b>	<b>Address</b>
2014	1	ENF134952	Caistor Cottage
2014	2	ENF134950	Caistor Old Hall
2014	3	ENF134950	Caistor Old Hall
2014	4	ENF134950	Caistor Old Hall
2014	5	ENF134950	Caistor Old Hall
2014	6	ENF134950	Caistor Old Hall
2014	7	ENF134950	Caistor Old Hall
2014	8	ENF134951	66 Caistor Lane
2014	9	ENF134950	Caistor Old Hall
2014	10	ENF134950	Caistor Old Hall
2014	11	ENF134950	Caistor Old Hal
2014	12	ENF134988	4 Old Church Close
2014	13	ENF134954	Wymer Field
2014	14	ENF134954	Wymer Field
201	15	ENF134954	Wymer Field
2014	16	ENF134954	Wymer Field
2014	17	ENF135120	Jubilee Cottage
2014	18	ENF135129	Old Hall Farm
2014	19	ENF135152	3 Old Church Close
2014	20	ENF135197	Thistledown Cottage
2015	21	ENF136730	Wymer Field
2015	22	ENF136730	Wymer Field
2015	23	ENF136730	Wymer Field
2015	24	ENF136730	Wymer Field
2015	25	ENF136730	Wymer Field
2015	26	ENF136951	Whiteford Hall Farm
2015	27	ENF137074	Queen Anne House
2015	28	ENF137239	1 Norwich Rd

2015	29	ENF137905	49 Norwich Rd
2015	30	ENF138281	2 Old Church Close
2015	31	ENF138649	Caistor Old Hall
2015	32	ENF138649	Caistor Old Hall
2015	33	ENF138649	Caistor Old Hall
2015	34	ENF138649	Caistor Old Hall
2015	35	ENF138649	Caistor Old Hall
2016	36	ENF141380	Caistor Old Hall
2015	37	ENF138649	Caistor Old Hall
2015	38	ENF138649	Caistor Old Hall
2015	39	ENF138649	Caistor Old Hall
2016	40	ENF140334	4 Markshall Cottages
2016	41	ENF140335	Belvedere House
2016	42	ENF140336	Old Hatchery Barn
2016	43	ENF141380	Caistor Old Hall
2016	44	ENF141380	Caistor Old Hall
2016	45	ENF141380	Caistor Old Hall

## APPENDIX B1

### Caistor Roman Project 2014 (Test Pits Nos. 1 to 20)

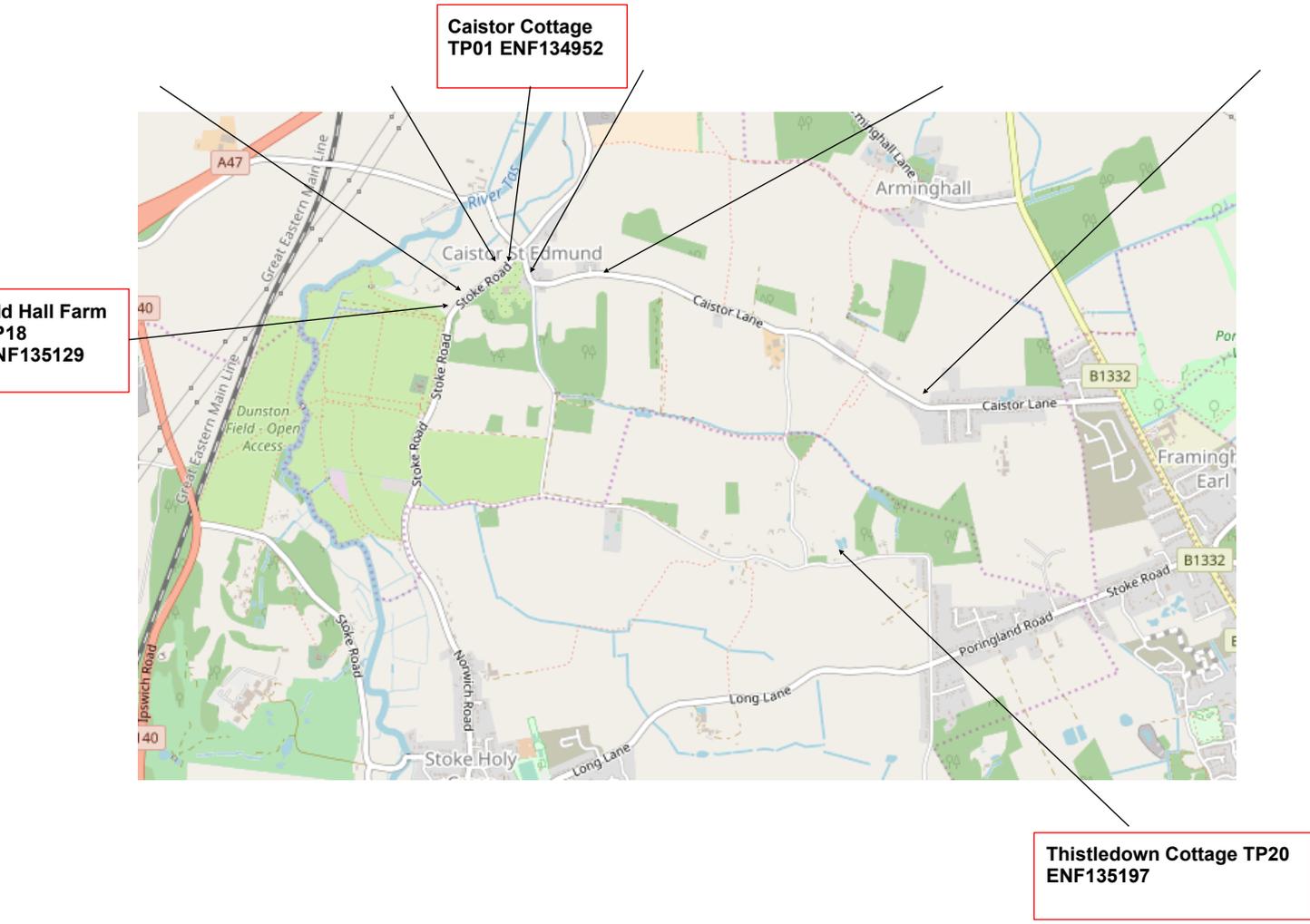
Caistor Old Hall TP2-7  
& 9-11 ENF134950

Wymer Field  
TP13-16  
ENF134954

Jubilee Cottage TP17  
ENF135120

3 & 4 Old Church  
Close TP12 & 19 ENF  
135152 & ENF134988

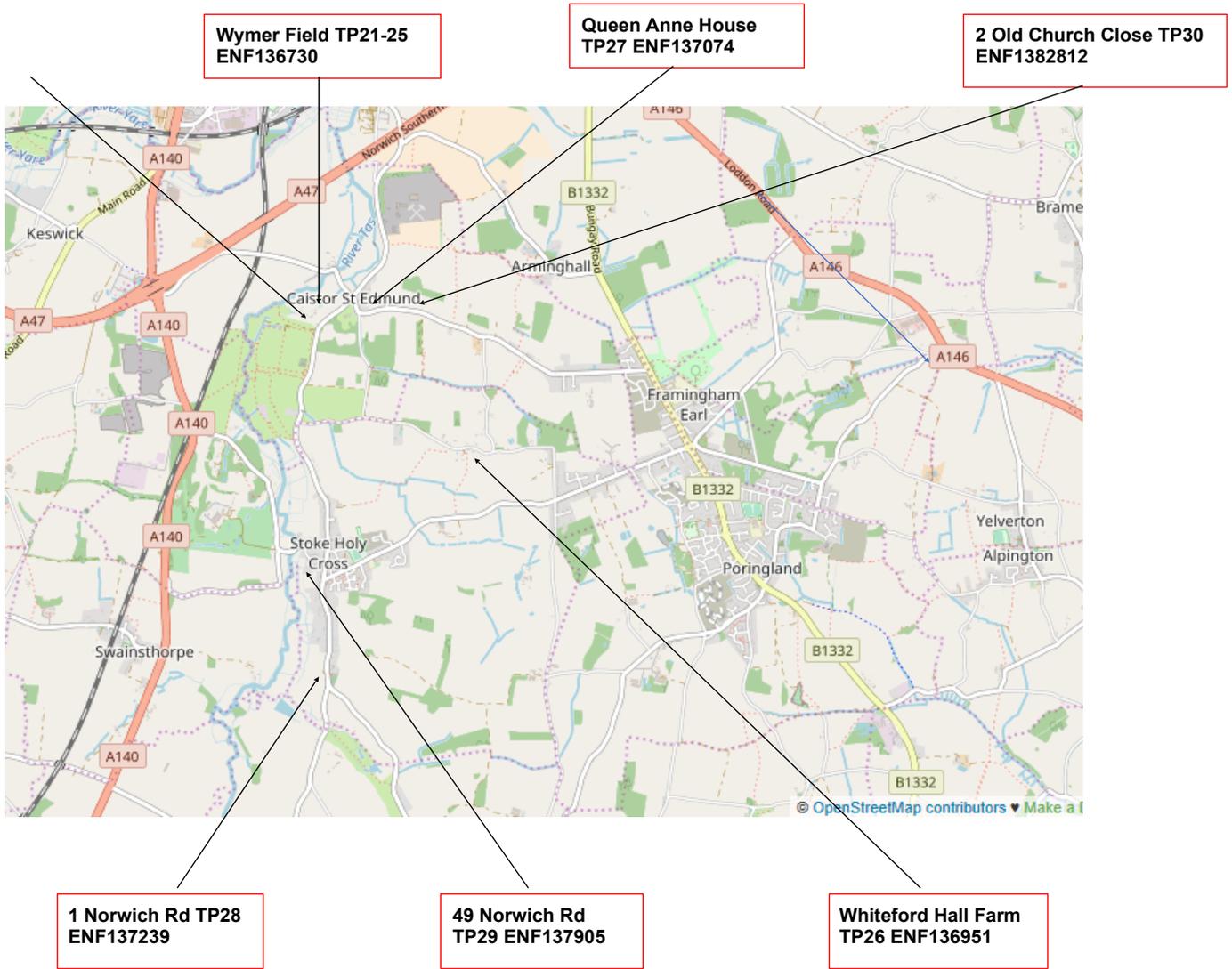
66 Caistor Lane TP8  
ENF134951



**APPENDIX B2**

**Caistor Roman Project 2015 Test Pits Nos. 21 - 39**

**Caistor Old Hall  
TP31-35 & 37-39**

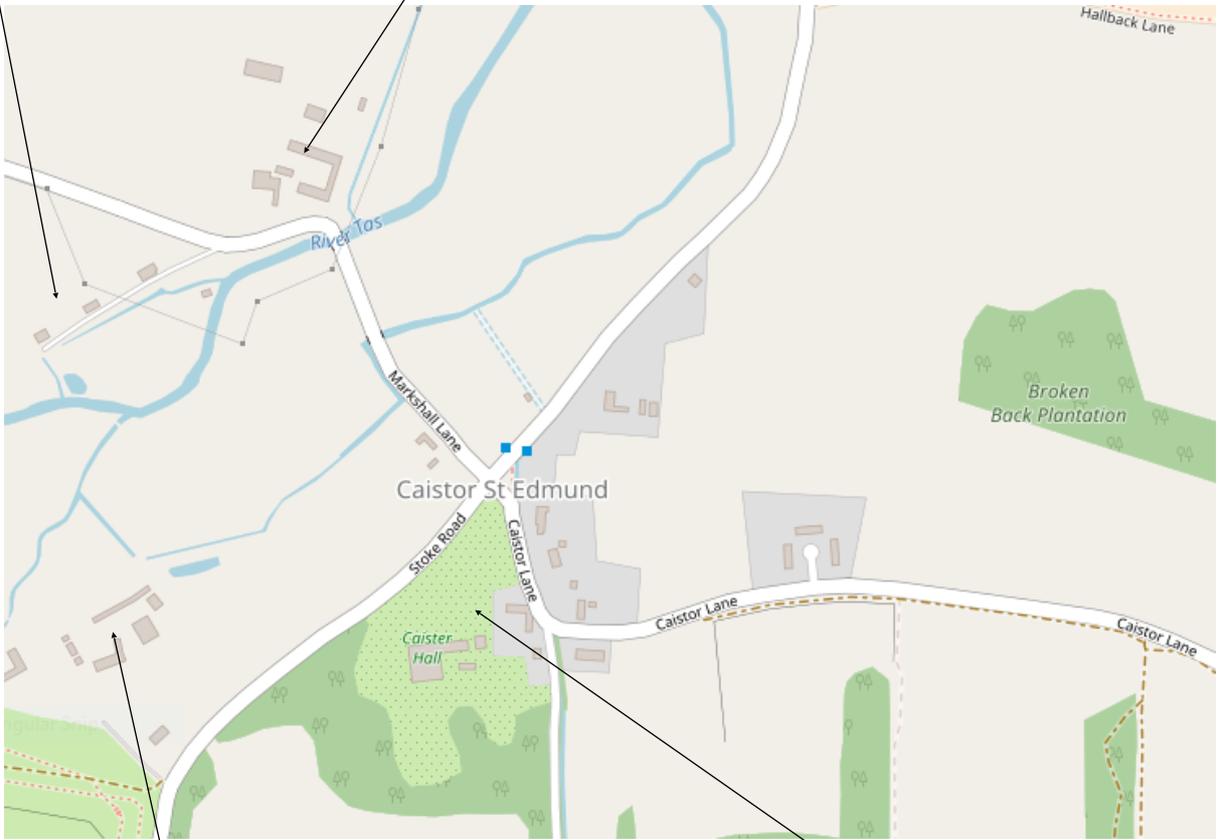


**APPENDIX B3**

**Caistor Roman Project 2016 Test Pits (Nos. 36, 40, 41,42, 43, 44 &45)**

**4 Markshall Cottages TP40  
ENF140334**

**Old Hatchery Barn  
TP42 ENF140336**



**Old Hall TP36, 43,44 & 45 ENF141380**

**Belvedere House TP41  
ENF140335**

APPENDIX C			
NHER	Type	Location	Period
9808	Find Spot	TG2349 0397	Roman
Roman pottery was found to the west of the road outside the back garden fence of Caistor Cottage			
NHER	Type	Location	Period
9811	Find Spot	TG2335 0405	Roman
Roman pottery mostly dating to the 2nd Century AD, was dredged from the River Tas near Venta Icenorum Roman town (NHER9786)			
NHER	Type	Location	Period
9854	Monument	TG2360 0433	Post-medieval
A post-medieval hydraulic ram is marked on maps in this area.			
NHER	Type	Location	Period
41821	Monument	TG23708 04046	Post-medieval
Post-medieval drainage ditches and rubbish pit, The Old Rectory. Two linear features, probably postmedieval drainage ditches, are observed, one containing post-medieval tile and brick fragments as well as fragments of an 18th Century shoe buckle. One medieval pottery herd was recovered from the general spoil of the trenches.			
NHER	Type	Location	Period
9861	Building	TG2341 0423	Post-medieval
<p>This post-medieval barn is rated to 1716. The adjacent farmhouse probably also dates to the same period. Some of the windows from Markshall church (NHER9795) are reused in the farmhouse. An early map marks two summerhouses at this spot.</p> <p>Windows from Markshall church are set in wall of Markshall farm marked on S(1). R.R Clarke (NCM). February 1977 visit. The note seems to indicate the east wall of the farm buildings. However this wall only contains small square windows of no outstanding features. No other possible church windows can be seen from the road.</p> <p>2001 The church windows were located in a new position, the are perpendicular in style.</p>			

NHER	Type	Location	Period
41839	Monument	TG23454 04165	
<p>This red brick bridge has two low arches and two low cutwaters. There is a stone plaque attached that reads: THIS BRIDGE WAS REBUILT BY HARRIET DASHWOOD THE OWNER 1880. It is likely that this rebuilding completely replaced any earlier bridge.</p>			
NHER	Type	Location	Period
51964	Ring ditch (cropmark)	TG2346 0445	Bronze Age?
<p>The crop marks of a possible ring ditch , potentially representing the remains of a Bronze Age barrow are visible on aerial photographs to the west of the River Tas. This ring ditch may have formed part of a cemetery (NHER 51965) that overlooks the river and is located approximately 650 metres to the south of the hengiform monument and possible mortuary and/or ceremonial enclosure at Markshall (NHER 9582-3) and these form part of a wider group of ceremonial and funerary monuments focussed on the confluence of the Rivers Tas and Yare.</p> <p>The possible ring ditch is incomplete and is only as one third of a possible circular feature. The ring ditch, if complete, would have been approximately 26m in diameter. There is possibly a sunken area in what would have been the centre of the ring, however crop mark may be of geological origin and has not been mapped.</p>			

