



### Test Pit 3: Carlton Green, Main Street, SK 39433 04942

Test Pit 3 was excavated on the village green, on the north side of Main Street. The test pit was sited close to the former village pump (marked on historic Ordnance Survey maps at SK 39430 04935) and in front of a row of cottages shown on an 1849 tithe map and the 1886 1st edition 25" Ordnance Survey map but demolished before the first revision was published in 1903. The village school, built on the green in 1847 (closed in 1968), was located to the west of the test pit at SK 39409 04923.



Figure 1: Test Pit 3 during excavation. Looking north-east



Figure 2: Test Pit 3 fully excavated, looking north

During the excavation, 0.1m of turf and brownish grey sandy silt topsoil (Layers 1) was removed. Beneath was 0.2m of pebbly brownish grey sandy clay soil (Layers 2-3) and 0.2m of greyish brown sandy clay (Layers 4-5) mixed with building rubble and charcoal. At the base of the test pit was 50mm of dark orangish brown silty clay (Layers 6) mixed with building rubble, pebbles and charcoal. The natural substratum, greyish yellow clay, was reached 0.6m below the ground; no archaeological features were recorded.

In all, 595 individual finds (6.816kg) were recovered from the test pit (Table 1). A very large assemblage of post-medieval and modern pottery (17th-19th century) was found. Other finds included modern building material, typically fragments of handmade brick and tile made locally from the late 18th century onwards. Iron slag, handmade iron nails, iron wire, pieces of clay tobacco pipe and modern bottle glass were also found. Unique items included a carbon rod from a battery, a polished stone bead and part of a cockle shell. A small group of animal bone was also present. None of the finds pre-dated the 17th century.

The test pit was sited to assess the potential extent of medieval and post-medieval activity on Carlton Green. The absence of finds pre-dating the 17th century was significant and suggests that the green was a large, uncultivated open space with no medieval activity along its southern edge bordering Main Street. Post-medieval and modern finds are most likely associated with activities on the green associated with the village pump (the clay tobacco pipe pieces and the bottle glass for instance), or are associated with the row of cottages which formerly stood immediately to the north of the test pit. The demolition of these cottages in the late 19th century would account for the large quantity of building rubble found in the test pit.

Many thanks to Carlton Parish Council for the test pit location. Excavation was carried out over two days on September 10-11, 2022 by Darianne Hoyen-Chung, Tracy Orton and Eamonn and Thomas Quinn.

Table 1: The finds from Test Pit 3

Layer	Category	No	Description	Phase*	Comments
1	Building material	4	Red ceramic building material	Modern	
1	Building material	1	Brown-glazed ceramic drainage pipe	Modern	
2	Bone & shell	1	Misc. animal bone	Undated	
2	Building material	4	Brown-glazed ceramic drainage pipe	Modern	
2	Building material	1	Cement roof tile	Modern	
2	Building material	35	Red ceramic building material	Modern	
2	Glass	6	Clear bottle glass	Modern	
2	Glass	1	Brown bottle glass	Modern	
2	Pottery	13	Iron-Glazed Earthenware	Post-medieval	Chilvers Coton / Ticknall 17th-19th century AD
2	Pottery	1	English Brown Salt-Glazed Stoneware	Post-medieval	Staffordshire AD 1670-1900
2	Pottery	29	Modern earthenwares	Modern	AD 1800+
3	Bone & shell	2	Misc. animal bone	Undated	

Layer	Category	No	Description	Phase*	Comments
3	Building material	1	Cement roof tile	Modern	Nib tile, 14mm thick
3	Building material	1	Iron wire	Modern	2mm diameter, wound into butterfly shape, probably packaging/fencing wire
3	Building material	33	Red ceramic building material	Modern	
3	Building material	2	Brown-glazed ceramic drainage pipe	Modern	
3	Building material	2	Iron nails	Modern	Fragments
3	Glass	1	Brown bottle glass	Modern	
3	Glass	6	Green bottle glass	Modern	
3	Glass	8	Clear bottle glass	Modern	
3	Glass	1	Blue bottle glass	Modern	Neck from a poison bottle
3	Household	1	Carbon rod from battery	Modern	Carbon rod with cu alloy cap, 5mm diam. 55mm long (full length), broken in two
3	Pottery	1	Unclassified post-medieval earthenware	Post-medieval	AD 1550+
3	Pottery	12	Iron-Glazed Earthenware	Post-medieval	Chilvers Coton / Ticknall 17th-19th century AD
3	Pottery	1	English Brown Salt-Glazed Stoneware	Post-medieval	Staffordshire AD 1670-1900
3	Pottery	38	Modern earthenwares	Modern	AD 1800+
4	Building material	17	Red ceramic building material	Modern	
4	Glass	3	Clear bottle glass	Modern	
4	Glass	1	Green bottle glass	Modern	
4	Industrial	8	Iron slag	Undated	
4	Pottery	11	Iron-Glazed Earthenware	Post-medieval	Chilvers Coton / Ticknall 17th-19th century AD
4	Pottery	1	English Brown Salt-Glazed Stoneware	Post-medieval	Staffordshire AD 1670-1900
4	Pottery	26	Modern earthenwares	Modern	AD 1800+
5	Bone & shell	3	Misc. animal bone	Undated	
5	Building material	15	Red ceramic building material	Modern	Includes brick and nib tiles
5	Building material	25	Red ceramic building material	Modern	

Layer	Category	No	Description	Phase*	Comments
5	Building material	2	Iron nails	Undated	Handmade, square-shafted
5	Clay pipe	2	Clay tobacco pipe stem fragments	Modern	2.4mm bore
5	Clay pipe	1	Clay tobacco pipe bowl fragment	Modern	
5	Glass	6	Green bottle glass	Modern	
5	Glass	2	Clear bottle glass	Modern	
5	Household	1	Fitting or mount	Modern	
5	Personal adornment	1	Bead	Modern	Polished oval black stone bead, 14mm x 7mm, 2mm bore
5	Pottery	11	Iron-Glazed Earthenware	Post-medieval	Chilvers Coton / Ticknall 17th-19th century AD
5	Pottery	4	English Brown Salt-Glazed Stoneware	Post-medieval	Staffordshire AD 1670-1900
5	Pottery	99	Modern earthenwares	Modern	AD 1800+
6	Bone & shell	8	Misc. animal bone	Undated	
6	Building material	8	Red ceramic building material	Modern	
6	Building material	2	Iron nails	Undated	Handmade, square shafted, 3.5"
6	Clay pipe	12	Clay tobacco pipe stem fragments	Modern	2.4mm bore
6	Clay pipe	2	Clay tobacco pipe bowl fragments	Modern	Including base of bowl with step, 2.4mm bore
6	Glass	1	Green bottle glass	Modern	
6	Pottery	20	Iron-Glazed Earthenware	Post-medieval	Chilvers Coton / Ticknall 17th-19th century AD
6	Pottery	95	Modern earthenwares	Modern	AD 1800+
7	Bone & shell	1	Cockle shell fragment	Undated	

\* Phasing: Bronze Age (2600-700 BC), Roman (AD 43-410), High Medieval (1100-1400), Later Medieval (1400-1550), Post-medieval (1550-1800), Modern (1800-present)