



### Test Pit 11: 27 Main Street, SK 42409 02431

Test Pit 11 (Figure 1) was dug in the rear garden of 27 Main Street, 35m to the west of Main Street. The property was a modern house which replaced a mid-20th century bungalow called 'Pell Mell' which was built on pasture associated with Manor Farm. The 1840 tithe map lists the property as pasture, called 'Billings Yard', owned by Sir Robert Horton and occupied by Elizabeth Worthington.



Figure 1: Excavation of Test Pit 11, looking south-west



Figure 2: Test Pit 11 post-excitation, looking north

During the excavation, 0.2m of turf and brownish grey sandy silt topsoil (Layers 1-2) was removed. Beneath was 0.5m of greyish brown sandy silt subsoil (Layers 3-7) and greyish orange silty sand (Layers 8-9). The natural substratum, greyish orange clayey sand, was reached 0.9m below the ground; no archaeological features were recorded (Figure 2).



In all, 120 individual finds (818g) were recovered from the test pit (Table 1). A small assemblage of Saxo-Norman pottery (mid-9th – mid-12th century) was found, along with a large assemblage of High Medieval pottery (12th-14th century) and a small assemblage of modern pottery (19th century – present). Other finds included a large amount of modern building material, typically fragments of handmade brick and tile made locally from the 18th century onwards. Clay tobacco pipe, modern bottle glass and a small assemblage of iron slag was also found.

The test pit was sited to assess the potential extent of medieval and pre-medieval activity in Cadeby. The pottery from the test pit is significant. This test pit is the only one which produced late Anglo-Saxon St Neots Ware, suggesting that it was sited in or near the location of the earliest part of the village. The presence of High Medieval pottery also suggests that the site remained inhabited until the 14th century. However, the total absence of later medieval and post-medieval pottery, and relative scarcity of modern finds, suggests that the site was abandoned at some point in the later 14th or 15th century and given over to pasture until the 20th century. The presence of iron slag, including a large piece of hearth slag, may indicate that iron working was taking place in the vicinity.

Many thanks to Mel Evans for the test pit location. Excavation was carried out over two days on September 9-10, 2023 by Krystal Beeken with David, Erica and Fiona.

Table 1: The finds from Test Pit 11

Layer	Category	No	Description	Period	Notes
2	Bone & shell	10	Misc. animal bone	Undated	
2	Building material	49	Red ceramic building material	Modern	
2	Building material	1	Wire nail	Modern	1½"
2	Glass	3	Clear bottle glass	Modern	Melted
2	Glass	1	Green bottle glass	Modern	
2	Pottery	3	Modern earthenwares	Modern	AD 1800+
3	Building material	18	Red ceramic building material	Modern	
3	Clay pipe	2	Clay tobacco pipe stem	Modern	2.4mm & 1.6mm bores
3	Pottery	2	Chilvers Coton 'A' Ware	High Medieval	Chilvers Coton, Warwickshire AD 1250-1395
3	Pottery	2	Chilvers Coton 'C' Ware	High Medieval	Chilvers Coton, Warwickshire AD 1200-1475
3	Pottery	2	Modern earthenwares	Modern	AD 1800+
3	Pottery	3	Potters Marston ware	High Medieval	AD 1100-1300/50+
3	Pottery	1	St Neots ware	Saxo-Norman	AD 850/900-1150
4	Building material	1	Iron object	Undated	Probably a nail
4	Pottery	3	Chilvers Coton 'C' Ware	High Medieval	Chilvers Coton, Warwickshire AD 1200-1475
4	Pottery	1	Medieval shelly wares	High Medieval	AD 1100-1400
4	Pottery	5	Potters Marston ware	High Medieval	AD 1100-1300/50+

BOSWORTH LINKS DIGS CADEBY (2023): *Kati's Settlement*

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Layer	Category	No	Description	Period	Notes
5	Industrial waste	1	Iron slag	Undated	
5	Pottery	1	Medieval shelly wares	High Medieval	AD 1100-1400
5	Pottery	2	Potters Marston ware	High Medieval	AD 1100-1300/50+
6	Pottery	1	Chilvers Coton 'C' Ware	High Medieval	Chilvers Coton, Warwickshire AD 1200-1475
6	Pottery	3	Potters Marston ware	High Medieval	AD 1100-1300/50+
6	Pottery	3	St Neots ware	Saxo-Norman	AD 850/900-1150
7	Industrial waste	1	Iron slag	Undated	Hearth slag
9	Pottery	1	Medieval shelly wares	High Medieval	AD 1100-1400

\* Phasing: Mesozoic (252-66 million years ago), Mesolithic/Early Neolithic (10000-3300 BC), Roman (AD 43-410), Saxo-Norman (AD 850-1100), High Medieval (1100-1400), Later Medieval (1400-1550), Post-medieval (1550-1800), Modern (1800-present)