

EOAP Test Pit: 62

Location: 9 Sandford Road

Date of Excavation: 15/06/2013

Area of excavation: 1x1m

Weather conditions: Overcast

Excavators: RM, RB, KW, MS

Report by: Olaf Bayer

Location and elevation: E453631 N202653 H71.85m OD

Introduction: Test pit 62 was one of a series of test pits excavated in the historic core of Littlemore in June 2013. It is located in the back garden of 9 Sandford Road. 9 Sandford Road is set slightly back from the street and was constructed in the late 1970s/1980s. It replaced two cottages 9 and 11 Sandford Road which faced directly onto the street (see figure 2).

Excavation summary: Test pit 62 measured 1x1m by a maximum depth of 0.67m. The top three contexts 101/102/103 comprised turf and garden soil and had a combined depth of c.0.21m. This overlay a substantial deposit (c. 0.25m thick) of material thought to be levelling associated with landscaping of the garden for the new 9 Sandford Road. This in turn overlay two distinct deposits thought to be a spread of demolition material from the original numbers 9 and 11 Sandford Road.

Results:

Context	Type	Description	Soil sample	Comments/photo
101	layer	Matrix: Loose/friable black-grey-brown, humic, sandy-clay-silt Inclusions: Small stones, rounded, 5%, charcoal, lime mortar Finds: None Depth: 0.05m Boundaries: Distinct with 102 below Contamination: small roots Excavated: trowel	N/A	Layer (101) is turf and topsoil 
102	layer (spit)	Matrix: Loose, friable dark grey brown humic sandy clayey silt Inclusions: Lot of lime mortar Finds: CBM, ?flint flake?, pottery (blue and white china, earthenware), glass, pipe stem fragments Depth: Combined layer (102/103) are 0.16m deep Boundaries: Same as 103 below – distinct with 104 below Contamination: Fine roots Excavated: Trowel	N/A	Layers (102) and (103) are modern garden soil. Photograph below (102/3) facing south. 

103	layer (spit)	As (102)	N/A	
104	layer (spit)	<p>Matrix: Dry loose, friable orange/brown silty sand</p> <p>Inclusions: River washed pebbles, 0.01-0.1m, sub-angular stones 0.03-0.10m, charcoal flecks and pieces, flint <1%</p> <p>Finds: Bone, pottery, green glazed pottery fragment, tile, clay pipe, modern glass, Fe frags 0.02-0.16m</p> <p>Depth: c. 0.25m deep</p> <p>Boundaries: Distinct with (105) below</p> <p>Contamination: Fine roots</p> <p>Excavated: Trowel</p>	N/A	<p>Layer (104) is likely to represent a substantial spread of introduced material during construction of garden for current 9 Sandford Road. Photo facing east</p> 
105	layer (spit)	<p>Matrix: Loose friable dark brown/black sandy silt</p> <p>Inclusions: Charcoal pieces and flecks, flint</p> <p>Finds: Fe, metal, glass, wood</p> <p>Depth: 0.17m</p> <p>Boundaries: Distinct with (106) below.</p> <p>Contamination: Fine roots</p> <p>Excavated: Trowel</p>	N/A	<p>Layer (105) is likely to represent a spread material from the demolition of the original 9/11 Sandford Rd.</p>
106	layer	<p>Matrix: Dry/compact light brown grey clayey sand</p> <p>Inclusions: Charcoal lumps, few river washed pebbles</p> <p>Finds: CBM, modern pottery 1 frag. Large brick and building stone fragments, crushed mortar. 1 x Fe loop in section</p> <p>Depth: Uncertain not bottomed</p> <p>Boundaries: Distinct</p> <p>Contamination: Worms</p> <p>Excavated: Trowel</p>	N/A	<p>Layer (106) is likely to represent a spread material from the demolition of original 9/11 Sandford Rd. Photo facing south – (106) in base of sondage</p> 

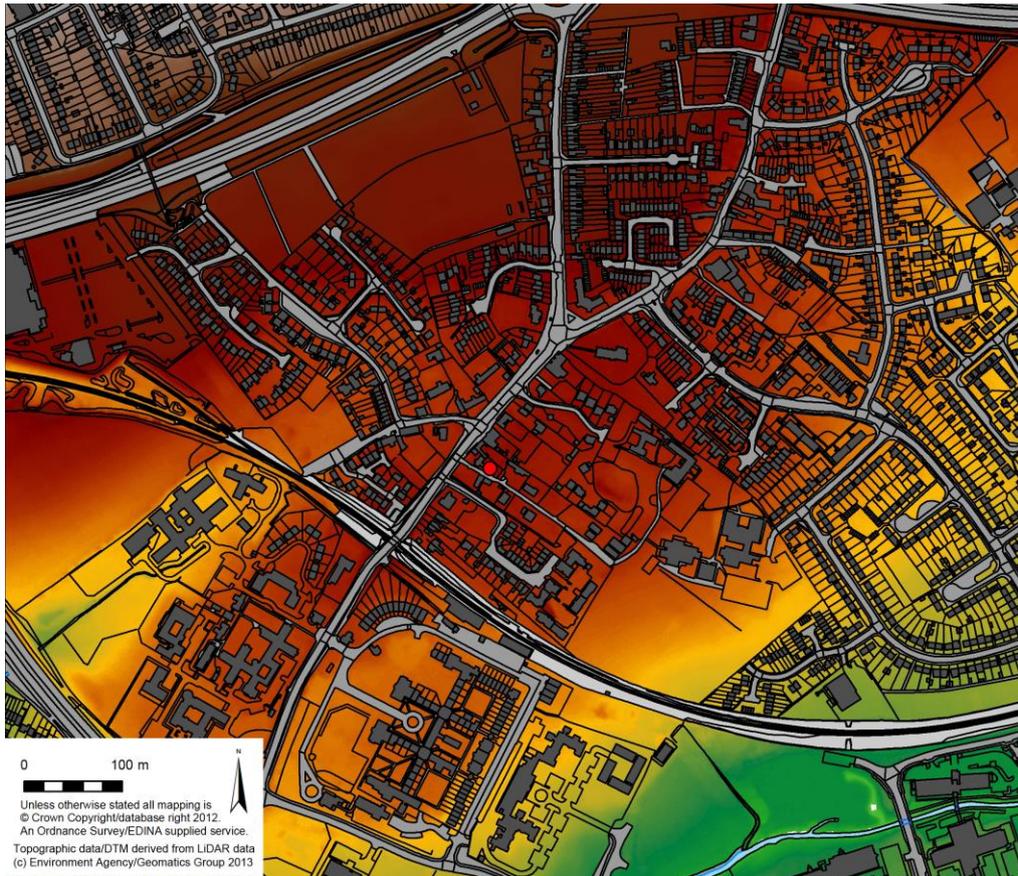


Figure 1: Test pit 62 Location and Topography

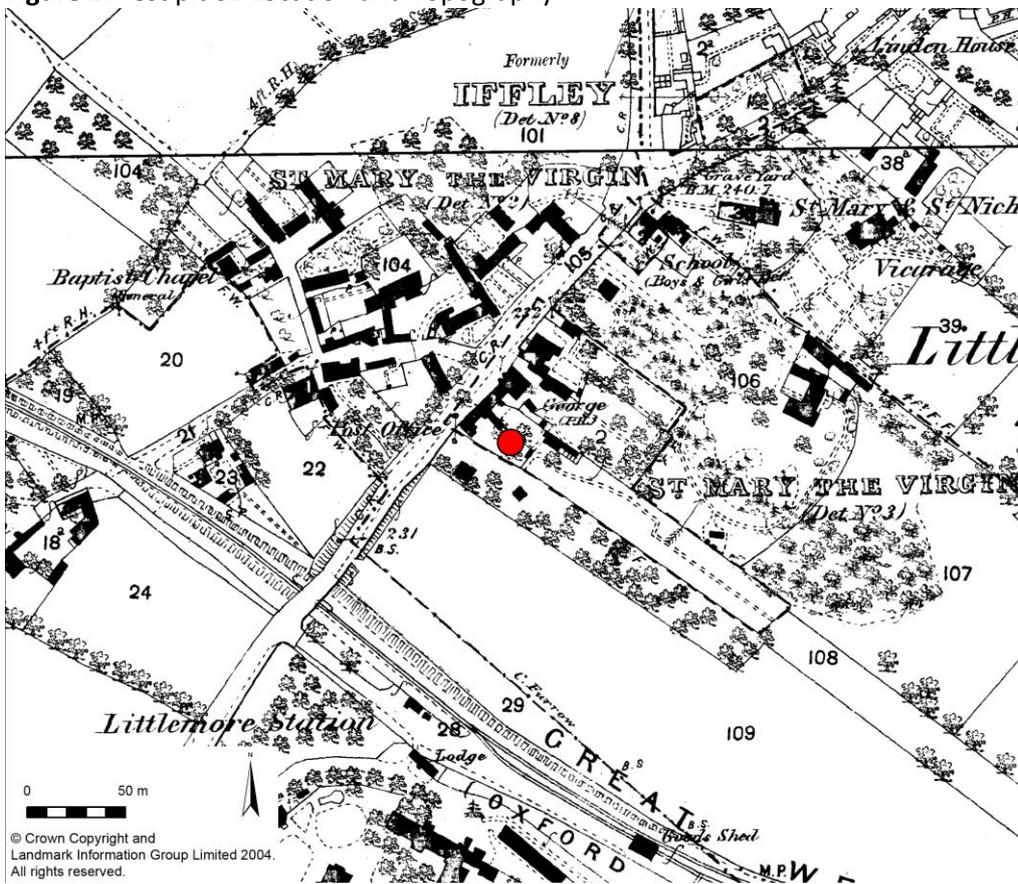


Figure 2: Test pit 62 c.1880 (Ordnance Survey First Edition Mapping)

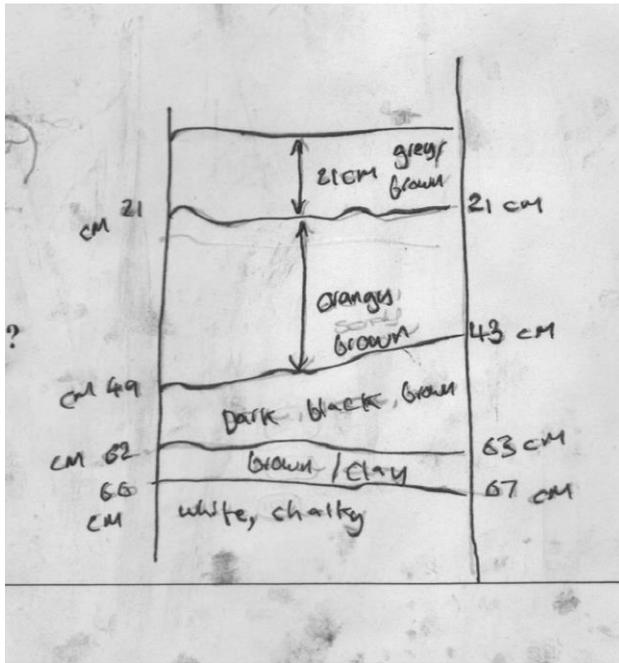


Figure 3: South facing sketch section of TP62