

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SUPERVISION AND RECORDING AT BOURNE CASTLE, BOURNE, LINCOLNSHIRE (BOBC 17)

Work Undertaken For Anna Rogers On behalf of Bourne 2 Play

May 2018

Report Compiled by Mark Peachey BA (Hons)

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APS Report No. 29/18



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1. SUMMARY

A programme of archaeological work was undertaken during the removal of an existing play area and the installation of new equipment the Wellhead Park, Bourne Castle, Bourne, Lincolnshire.

The site is archaeologically sensitive, lying within medieval Bourne Castle, a Scheduled Monument. Possible Roman remains are also known nearby.

The investigation revealed a sequence of natural, subsoil and topsoil deposits, and made ground for the play area. The only archaeological feature was a small undated pit.

Finds included residual medieval pottery, post-medieval pottery, brick and glass.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

Scheduled Monument Consent (S00161792) was granted for the removal of an existing play area, fencing, seating and play equipment and replacement with new equipment. This was to be together with the insertion of French drains, new planting and an information board about the castle site. The work was subject to archaeological supervision and recording of groundwork and investigation and recording of any archaeological remains exposed. Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Anna Rogers, on behalf of Bourne 2 Play, to undertake this work, which was carried out between 18th and 20th September 2017 in accordance with a written scheme of investigation prepared by APS and approved by the Planning Archaeologist for South Kesteven

2.2 Topography and Geology

Bourne is located 24km southeast of Grantham in the administrative district of South Kesteven, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site is located on the western side of the grounds of Bourne Castle to the east of Manor Road at National Grid Reference TF 9189 9915 (Fig. 2). Situated at a height of c. 15m, the castle lies within the floodplain of the Bourne Eau.

Local soils are of the Curdridge Association, typical argillic gleys (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 153). These soils are developed upon a solid geology of Jurassic mudstones of the Kellaways Clay Formation (BGS 2016).

2.3 Archaeological Setting

During the Romano-British period, Bourne is believed to have been a substantial settlement sitting astride the Roman thoroughfare of King Street. A possible Romano-British ditch was identified during evaluation on the site of the former hospital, immediately west of the castle and just southwest of the present site (Hall 2001, 7).

Bourne is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of *c*. 1086. Referred to as *Brune*, the name is derived from the Old Norse *brunnr* meaning a spring or stream (Cameron 1998, 18).

At the time of Domesday, the principal manor was held by Oger the Breton, with the remaining manors held by Ivo Taillebois, Alfred of Lincoln, Robert of Stafford and Suen and contained a church with resident priest, several mills, 30 fisheries, 43 acres of meadow, 60 acres of underwood and extensive woodland for pannage (Foster and Longley 1976, 14/86; 42/1, 2, 3, 7; 59/7; 67/9).

The site lies within the Scheduled Monument of Bourne Castle (County No: LI 95). The castle is generally believed to date to the mid 12th century when the smaller Domesday holdings had been consolidated into a single manor (Cathcart-King 1983, 266). The construction of the castle may have been undertaken by Baldwin de Clare, successor to Oger the Breton, who founded nearby Bourne Abbey in or before 1138. This suggestion is on the basis that the construction of the abbey brought about a complete replanning of the town including the construction of the castle (Hayes and Lane 1992, 140).

The existence of a castle in Bourne is first documented in the Pipe Roll of 1190 (Roffe nd, 2). It is again mentioned in the 14th century although no specific description of the castle is given. By the mid-16th century, John Leland, the King's Antiquarian, implied it was in a ruinous state (Toulmin-Smith 1907, 25).

During the Civil War (1642-46) the castle was said to have been garrisoned by Parliamentarian troops (Birbeck 1970, 13) possibly implying that elements of the castle were still standing. Tradition has it that Parliamentarians were ordered to slight the castle to punish Bourne for its loyalty to the King (Venables 1889, 7).

Investigations in the 19th century revealed the gatehouse. Closer to the site, more recent investigations recorded postmedieval deposits including a rubbish pit and infilled deposits indicating the disuse and abandonment of the 'Horse Pool' on the east side of St Peter's Road to the northeast of the play area (Dymond 1996). These lie outside of the extent of the bailey in which the play area sits. Similarly, bailey earthworks, outside the pits containing late Saxon to early medieval pottery were recorded immediately to the northeast of the play area (Cope-Faulkner 2002).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the work was to record and interpret the deposits and any archaeological features exposed during the development groundwork.

The objectives of the investigation were to:

- Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
- Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
- As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features; and
- Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

4. METHODS

Demolition of the old play area was monitored (Plate 1) followed by the machine excavation of trenches for the new equipment.

Each deposit was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 1. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Following post-excavation analysis, a stratigraphic matrix was produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and supplemented by artefact dating.

5. **RESULTS**

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

The individual excavations for the new equipment were each given a trench number (Fig. 3).

Trench 1

In the west side of this trench, at least 0.42m thick light grey silt subsoil (002), which contained a sherd of abraded early medieval pottery, was overlain by 0.12m thick turf (001) (Fig. 4, Section 1; Plate 2). In the centre of the trench, yellowish brown to light grey clayey silt subsoil (008) was overlain by 0.07m thick grey brown silt subsoil (007). This was overlain by the crushed stone base (006) for rubber play area surface (005) (Fig. 4, Section 2).

Trench 2

Grey with orange brown mottles subsoil (011) was overlain by light grey/orange brown silt topsoil (010). Several sherds of pottery, ranging in date from the 12th to 19th centuries, post medieval brick and glass and a 19th century iron ring were retrieved from this layer. This was cut, in the southwest of the area, by steep-sided possible pit [014] which was 0.65m wide and 0.62m deep (Fig 4, Section 4; Plate 3). A basal fill of yellow grey and mid grey silty sand (013) was overlain by 0.47 m thick mid grey silt (012). The feature was sealed by 0.17m thick hard standing (007). Further north within this trench the topsoil was overlain by turf (001) (Fig. 4, Section 5).

Trench 3

In this trench, yellow orange clayey silt natural deposit (017) was overlain by 0.26m thick orange brown silt subsoil (016), above which was 0.14m thick topsoil (015) containing a sherd of medieval pottery, and 0.12m thick turf (001) (Fig. 4, Section 6; Plate 4).

Trench 4

The yellow orange clayey silt natural deposit (017) was overlain by orange brown silt subsoil (016), above which was a thin layer of silty sand (022) with turf (001) above (Fig. 4, Section 7).

Trenches 5-29

The remaining trenches all contained sequences similar to Trenches 3 and 4 (Figs 5-7, Sections 8-32; Plates 5, 6). There were no further archaeological features. Two sherds of abraded early medieval pottery were retrieved from the subsoil in Trenches 14 and 22 with a sherd of 19th century pottery also coming from the former.

6. **DISCUSSION**

Natural clayey silt deposits were revealed in Trenches 3, 4, 6, 7, 14, 18 and 20. In these, and all the other, trenches there was an overlying sequence of subsoil, topsoil and play area surface deposits. Only one, undated, feature was revealed.

Pottery, largely abraded, and dating from between the 10th and 19th centuries was retrieved along with few miscellaneous post-medieval finds.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological supervision and recording was undertaken during the demolition of the old play area and excavation of footing trenches for new play area equipment, at Bourne Castle, Lincolnshire.

However, apart from one small undated pit, only a sequence of natural, subsoil, topsoil deposits, and made ground for the play area, was revealed.

Finds included residual medieval pottery, post-medieval pottery, brick and glass.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Anna Rogers, on behlf of Bourne 2 Play, for commissioning the fieldwork and postexcavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Neil Parker and Paul Cope-Faulkner also edited this report.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Neil Parker Site Supervisor: Fiona Walker Finds Processing: Denise Buckley Photographic reproduction: Mark Peachey CAD Illustration: Lydia Hendry, Mark Peachey Post-excavation analysis: Mark Peachey Archiving: Denise Buckley

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

- BGS British Geological Survey
- CIFA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists



Figure 1 - General Location Plan



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Figure 2. Site location



Figure 3. Site plan



Figure 4. Sections 1-7





Figure 6. Sections 16-23



Figure 7. Sections 24-32



Plate 1. Demolition of old play area in progress looking southwest



Plate 2. Trench 1, Representative Section 1, looking southwest



Plate 3. Trench 2, feature [014], Section 4, looking west



Plate 4. Trench 3, Representative Section 6, looking northwest



Plate 5. Trench 15, Representative Section 18, looking northwest



Plate 6. View of new footings for play equipment, looking northwest, Trench 29 in foreground

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Trench	Description	Interpretation
001	1	Mod crumbly, light grey brown, organic silt, 0.12m thick max	Turf of play area
002	1	Mod, light grey with orange mottles, silt, occ. sand & slight clay, seen 0.42m not bottom	Subsoil
003	1	Mod-firm pliable, light brown yellow – yellow, sandy silt become clayey silt, seen 0.06m thick not bottom	Natural
004	Play areas	Mod-firm, mid grey brown, silt, 0.07m thick	Made ground
005	Play areas	Mod, black, rubber & glue, 0.07m	Surface
006	1	Firm compacted, light-mid grey – greyish yellow, crushed stone, 0.17m thick	Hard stand for rubber matting play area
007	1	Soft-mod (wet), mid grey brown, silt, varied 0.07m thick dip & thicker where posts removed, soil under rubber surface, very wet	Subsoil
008	1	Mod, light-mid yellowish brown with grey mottles & light grey, clayey-ish silt, mod sand, 0.2m thick not bottom	Subsoil
009	Play areas	Mod, light grey with orange mottles, silt, occ. sand slight clay, 0.37m thick	Topsoil-subsoil
010	2	Mod, light grey & orange brown, silt, mod orange mottles	Topsoil-subsoil
011	2	Mod, light-mid grey, silt, mod-freq. orange – orange brown mottles, 0.1m thick not bottom	Subsoil/spread
012	2	Soft very wet, mid grey, silt, slight sand, 0.47m thick	Fill of [014]
013	2	Mod, light-mid mixed yellow grey and mid grey, silty sand, 0.13m thick	Basal fill of [014]
014	2	Sub-rectangular, not seen, 0.6m x 0.65m & 0.62m deep, irregular unclear, diffuse steep wavy, undefined, undulating	Cut
015	3	Mod crumbly, mid grey with orange brown flecks, silt, occ. orange brown flecks, 0.14m thick	Topsoil-subsoil
016	3	Mod, light grey & orange brown, silt, slight clay, 0.26m thick	Subsoil
017	3	Mod-firm, mid yellow/orange yellow, clayey silt, 0.04m thick not bottom	Natural
018	7	Same as (016) 0.28m thick	Subsoil
019	14	Same as (016) 0.27m thick	Subsoil
020	19	Same as (015) 0.12m thick	Topsoil-subsoil
021	22	Same as (015) 0.12m thick	Topsoil-subsoil
022	4	Mod crumbly, mid grey with orange brown flecks, silt, occ. orange brown flecks, slight organic rare sand	Topsoil-subsoil

THE FINDS

POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* (2005). A total of 19 sherds from approximately 16 vessels, weighing 151 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 1 below. The pottery ranges in date from the Saxo-Norman to the early modern period.

Condition

The pottery is in a fragmentary condition, with four pieces classed as abraded. Given that all of the material came from subsoil or topsoil deposits, the poor state of the material is unsurprising. Two sherds from two spate vessels have external sooting indicative of usage over a hearth or fire.

Results

Tr	Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Sub Fab	Form	Decor	Part	Description	Date	NoS	NoV	W(g)
1	002	ST	Stamford ware	?	?		BS	Extremely abraded; burnt re-oxidised; ?ID	10th- 12th	1	1	4
2	010	ENGS	English stoneware		Close d		BS	Probably straight-sided bottle	19th?	1	1	33
2	010	PEARL	Pearlware		Plate		Rim; BS	Joining fragments	19th	2	1	2
2	010	PEARL	Pearlware		Flat	Grey transfer print - Chinoiserie	Base		19th	1	1	25
2	010	NCBW	Nineteenth century buffware		?		BS		19th	1	1	13
2	010	ST	Stamford ware	B/C	Jar or pitcher		BSS	Unglazed		3	3	14
2	010	ST	Stamford ware	A/D	Jar		Base; BSS	One piece burnt reduced?; 2 pcs from single vessel abraded; unglazed		4	3	15
2	010	ST	Stamford ware	С	Jar or pitcher		BSS	Mottled grey-green glaze	12th	2	1	30
3	015	BOUA	Bourne medieval ware		?		BS	Sooted exterior; ?ID; EMHM type?	12th- 14th	1	1	3
14	019	PEARL	Pearlware		?		BS		19th	1	1	6

Table 1, Post Roman Pottery Archive

Tr	Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Sub Fab	Form	Decor	Part	Description	Date	NoS	NoV	W(g)
14	019	ST	Stamford ware	?	?		Base	Abraded; burnt; sooted; iron pan adhered; unglazed	10th- 12th	1	1	4
22	021	ST	Stamford ware	B/C			BS	Thick pale yellow glaze	11th- 12th	1	1	2
Tota	Total					19	16	151				

Provenance

Pottery was retrieved from subsoil layers (002) in Trench 1, and (019) in Trench 14, as well as topsoil-subsoil layers (010) in Trench 2 and (021) in Trench 22.

Range

There are 12 fragments from approximately 10 vessels in Stamford ware (ST). Stamford ware came from Trenches 1, 2, 14 and 22. There are a range of fabrics, including the sandier types A/D, which are typical of 10th and 11th century assemblages and the typologically later Fabric B, at least one piece of which can be dated to the 12th century on the basis of glaze and finish. Given the close proximity of the surveyed area to the Norman fortification of Bourne Castle, the recovery of this type of material, is not a surprise. Stamford ware is often associated with manorial and ecclesiastical establishments of the Saxo-Norman period.

With the exception of a single small fragment of medieval Bourne ware (BOUA) pottery, which came from Trench 3, the remainder of the material is most likely of 19th century date and domestic waste.

Potential

There is limited potential for further work. The pottery should be retained as part of the site archive and should pose no problems for long term storage.

Summary

A small assemblage of pottery was recovered, although all of the material came from the topsoil or topsoil-subsoil layers. Four trenches produced pottery of Saxo-Norman date, although there is no reason to suspect any of this pottery predates the Norman castle.

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group (2002) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. A total of three fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 1199 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments were counted and weighed within each context. The ceramic building material was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the ceramic building material is included in Table 2 below.

Condition

There are three large brick fragments. The items are not overly abraded. None have any bonding material adhered.

Results

Table 2, Ceramic Building Material Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	Description	Date	NoF	W(g)
010	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; medium sandy; mudstone	Joining fragments; abundant coarse red and white mudstone pieces; 60mm thick; stacking scar on stretcher face	16th-18th	2	483
010	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; medium sandy; mudstone	Abundant coarse red and white mudstone pieces; 80mm thick	16th-18th	1	716
Tota	I					3	1199

Provenance

The ceramic building material was recovered from subsoil (008) in Trench 1.

Range

There are three fragments of brick. The bricks are handmade and slightly irregular in size, with one piece measuring 80mm in thickness. The items are probably post-medieval in date.

Potential

There is limited potential for further work. The material should be retained as part of the site archive and should pose no problems for long term storage.

GLASS

By Denise Buckley

Introduction

One fragment of glass weighing 4g was recovered.

Condition

The glass is abraded and starting to show signs of deterioration.

Results

Table 3, Glass Archive

Cxt	Description	Date	NoF	W (g)
010	Small fragment of pale green vessel glass.	18 th -19 th	1	1
		century		

Provenance

The glass was recovered from the topsoil-subsoil layer (010) in Trench 2.

Range

A single fragment of 18th – 19th century glass was retrieved.

Potential

As a single small fragment, apart from dating evidence, the glass is of no further potential and has been discarded.

OTHER FINDS

By Denise Buckley

Introduction

Two items, together weighing 649g, were recovered.

Condition

The coal is good condition. The iron is encrusted and showing signs of corrosion.

Results

Table 4, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	Date	NoF	W (g)
	Coal	Coal		1	<1
010	Iron	Large ring with fitting for attachment to wall.	19 th centurv	1	649
Totals	i i		Contary	2	649

Provenance

The other finds were recovered from the topsoil-subsoil layer (010) in Trench 2.

Range

A small piece of coal and an iron ring were retrieved from Trench 2. The iron ring could possibly have been a door knocker, but is more likely to have been attached to a wall and used for tying up livestock.

Potential

The other finds are of little further potential. The coal has been discarded. The iron ring will require an x-ray and should be retained as part of the site archive.

SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 5 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table	5.	Spot	dates

Cxt	Date (Century AD)	Comments
002	10 th -12 th	
010	19 th	
015	12 th – 14 th	
019	19 th	
021	11 ^h -12 th	

ABBREVIATIONS

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group
BS	Body sherd
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
CXT	Context
NoF	Number of Fragments
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
TR	Trench
W (g)	Weight (grams)

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GLOSSARY

Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> [004].
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Domesday Survey	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
English Civil War	Violent conflict of 1642-6 between forces loyal to parliament (the parliamentarians or Roundheads) and those of King Charles I (the Royalists or Cavaliers).
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Layer	A layer is an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas.

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 2 Context register sheets
- 22 Context record sheets
- 3 Photographic record sheets
- 2 Section record sheets
- 3 Daily record sheets
- 5 Sheets of scale drawings

All primary records are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services The Old School Cameron Street Heckington Sleaford Lincolnshire NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

The Collection Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire Danes Terrace Lincoln LN2 1LP

Accession Number	LCNCC: 2017.134
Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	BOBC 17
OASIS Record Number	archaeol1-317186

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

List of Projects | Manage Projects | Search Projects | New project | Change your details | HER coverage | Change country | Log out

Printable version

OASIS ID: archaeol1-317186

Project details

Project name	Archaeological Supervision and Recording at Bourne Castle, Bourne, Lincolnshire
Short description of the project	Supervision and recording of the removal of old play area equipment and the the excavation of trenches for new equipment revealed a single possible undated pit. Finds included medieval and post-medieval pottery and ceramic building material.
Project dates	Start: 18-09-2017 End: 20-09-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	BOBC17 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	LCNCC:2017.134 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	S00161792 - SM No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Scheduled Monument (SM)
Current Land use	Community Service 2 - Leisure and recreational buildings
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	LINCOLNSHIRE SOUTH KESTEVEN BOURNE Bourne Castle
Postcode	PE10 9PQ

Study area	1356 Square metres
Site coordinates	TF 9185 9915 53.453771940698 0.889747175624 53 27 13 N 000 53 23 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 15m Max: 15m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Project Services
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Neil Parker
Project director/manager	Neil Parker
Project supervisor	Fiona Walker
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Anna Rogers on behalf of Bourne 2 Play

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	The Collection
Physical Archive ID	LCNCC:2017.134
Physical Contents	"Ceramics", "Glass"
Digital Archive recipient	The Collection
Digital Archive ID	LCNCC:2017.134
Digital Contents	"Ceramics", "Glass"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	The Collection
Paper Archive ID	LCNCC:2017.134
Paper Contents	"Ceramics","Glass"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Diary", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey "

Project bibliography 1

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