



LAND SOUTH OF PHOENIX HOUSE, WESTRY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



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LAND SOUTH OF PHOENIX HOUSE, WESTRY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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Abstract

In October 2013 Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land south of Phoenix House, Westry, Cambridgeshire (NGR 54009 29843) in advance of the residential development of the site.

Background research for the project indicated that the most likely results would be associated with the late 19th century rectory built to the north of the site and a possibility of Bronze Age activity connected to a settlement site noted in excavation on the trading park to the east.

The rectory was present on the First Edition Ordnance Survey (1885) maps, but burned down in the late 1970s. No other structures were present on the maps in the assessment area.

The evaluation revealed four potential phases of activity all dating to the post-medieval and modern periods. These comprised a recent phase of dumping of imported waste soil and material on to the former ground surface in the eastern half of the site, a second phase associated with the demolition of the burnt out rectory building, a phase of occupation corresponding with the rectory and finally the earliest phase associated with potential agricultural activity.

A rough brick surface (1006) was recorded towards the south of the site and may have been a path or garden feature associated with the rectory or slightly earlier. A brick sample dated to between the 17th and 19th century AD.

Two joining fragments of fired clay were recovered from a buried soil layer 1002. It is possible that the fragments are part of an artefact such as a loomweight, but it is more likely that they represent the remains of something structural such as a clay oven (Goffin, R. this report).

The site has suffered significant modern truncation, especially in the east where the dumping occurred. It is unlikely that development will encounter preserved archaeological remains given the depth of these deposits, widespread disturbance in most areas and the low feature density. If remains are encountered they are most likely to be late post-medieval and modern in date.



1.0 INTRODUCTION

In October 2013 Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land south of Phoenix House, Westry, Cambridgeshire (NGR 54009 29843) in response to a design brief issued by Cambridgeshire County Council, Historic Environment Team (CCC HET) (McConnell. D, dated 16/08/2012). The work was commissioned to comply with a condition of planning permission reference F/YR12/0305/F in advance of residential development of the site.

The works comprised the excavation of six trial trenches measuring 30.00 x 1.80m (Fig. 1).

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

The site is located to the south of Phoenix House in a large garden formerly associated with the rectory for St Mary's Church which lies to the west. A modern industrial estate is situated to the south and east and mixed agricultural and residential areas lie to the north. The site comprises a 0.65ha, roughly square parcel of land with numerous exotic trees around the boundary and centre. These have a TPO in place and an exclusion zone for machining is in place (Fig. 1).

The site lies at a height of approximately 4m AOD and the bedrock geology is described as West Walton Formation and Ampthill Clay Formation mudstone. This is a sedimentary rock formed in the Jurassic Period when the local environment was dominated by shallow seas (BGS, 2013).

The bedrock is overlain by a glacial till described as mid Pleistocene diamicton. This is a superficial deposit formed up to 2 million years ago during ice age conditions (BGS, 2013).

3.0 PLANNING POLICIES

The archaeological investigation was carried out on the recommendation of the local planning authority, following guidance laid down by the *National Planning and Policy Framework* (NPPF, DCLD 2012) which replaces *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (PPS5, DCLG 2010). The relevant local planning policy is, Fenland Council's *Fenland Local Plan (1993; 2005 Edition)*.

3.1 *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, DCLG March 2012)*

The NPPF recognises that 'heritage assets' are an irreplaceable resource and planning authorities should conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance when considering development. It requires developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. The key areas for consideration are:

- The significance of the heritage asset and its setting in relation to the proposed development;



- The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance;
- Significance (of the heritage asset) can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction, or development within its setting. As heritage assets are irreplaceable, any harm or loss should require clear and convincing justification;
- Local planning authorities should not permit loss of the whole or part of a heritage asset without taking all reasonable steps to ensure the new development will proceed after the loss has occurred;
- Non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest that are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments, should be considered subject to the policies for designated heritage assets.

3.2 *Fenland Local Plan (1993; 2005 Edition)*

Fenland Council are currently producing a new local plan to replace the existing 1993 Local Plan. The draft *Fenland Communities Development Plan (draft Core Strategy)* was consulted upon in July-September 2011 and the document is being amended to reflect the comments and bring it into line with the NPPF.

The Fenland Local Plan states that it is important to protect the rich archaeological heritage where necessary to do so, and elsewhere to permit investigation before development takes place. Development which would result in the loss of important archaeological sites will be resisted and where development can be permitted conditions will be imposed on planning permissions to allow for the proper recording of sites before development takes place.

The relevant sections on Archaeology and Planning state the following:

E6 – Planning permission will not normally be granted for development which would adversely affect the preservation or setting of an ancient monument or other important archaeological site. The local planning authority will normally require all planning applications for development on sites of recognised or suspected archaeological importance to be accompanied by an archaeological evaluation.

E7 – Where there is no over-riding case for the preservation of an archaeological site and planning permission is granted for its development that development will be conditional upon the developer making satisfactory provision for the excavation and recording of remains. Such excavation and recording will be carried out before development commences in accordance with a project brief prepared by the local planning authority with advice from County Archaeologists. Where appropriate provision shall be made for the sealing and preservation of archaeologically significant layers prior to construction.

4.0 **ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Fig. 2)**

The following archaeological background utilises the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) (1km search centred on the site), English Heritage PastScape (www.pastscape.org.uk), and the Archaeological Data Service (www.ads.ahds.ac.uk) (ADS) (Fig. 2). There are 25 entries within the 1km search area comprising 16 monument



entries, eight Events, and one listed building. The preferred CHER reference has been used where possible.

The earliest entry dates to the late Mesolithic/early Neolithic period and records a findspot that contained a flint blade, core and associated flakes (MCB1821). These were recovered during an excavation in 1995 at Barn Farm located 600m north-east of the site.

The most significant prehistoric entry in relation to the proposed site records a Bronze Age findspot (MCB9457) situated around 250 to 300m to the south-east. This comprised a 'lithic implement' made from rough brown glacial flint and a scatter of debitage which was not kept.

Three related trial trench evaluations at Hundred Road, March (ECB2032, ECB2965, ECB3027) recorded Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age remains (MCB18211, MCB18212 and MCB18212). The north-west area of the site contained significant Bronze Age settlement activity and lies around 600m east of the assessment site.

Numerous Roman remains have been identified to the north-east of the proposed site. The Fen Causeway (CB15033) is thought to be a Roman road and lies approximately 450m to the north-east, aligned north-west to south-east. Significant Roman settlement activity adjacent to the Causeway is suggested at Westry Farm (MCB7188, MCB10760 and MCB10118) were large find scatters and crop marks are recorded. An evaluation and aerial photograph assessment at Barn Farm (ECB282 & ECB2787), identified field boundaries and a D-shaped enclosure which also probably date to the Roman period (MCB15692).

The highest potential for archaeology on the site relates to the 19th century church of St Mary's (DCB1801 or MCB4586) and the associated church yard (MCB16848) located to the west of the site boundary. The Rectory used to stand immediately north of the site, but was destroyed by fire in 1978 and demolition material from this event will likely be found across the area. An historic building recording survey (ECB3517) was carried out on the church in 2012 by APS in advance of the church being used for residential accommodation.

5.0 PROJECT AIMS

The CCC HET brief states that the evaluation should aim to determine, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. (McConnell, D. Brief, Section 3.1).

6.0 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Research objectives for the project are in line with those laid out in *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24 (Medlycott, 2011).



Specific objectives outlined in the brief state that a particular importance be placed on:

- the amount of truncation to buried deposits,
- the presence or absence of a palaeosol or 'B' horizon,
- the preservation of deposits within negative features,
- site formation processes.

7.0 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

A Leica Viva Smart Rover GS08 differential global positioning system (DGPS) was used to accurately set-out the evaluation trenches. These were located over the proposed building footprints avoiding areas with Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's) and were excavated using a 14 tonne 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under the control of a qualified professional archaeologist (Fig. 3). Topsoil and subsoil layers were removed carefully down to the first archaeological horizon, thereafter all excavation was undertaken by hand (Fig. 3).

Topographic survey, trench edges, section locations and archaeological and natural feature survey points were accurately recorded using the DGPS to produce a pre and post-excavation plan tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The archaeology was preserved by record using pro-forma sheets, plan and section drawings and appropriate photographic records, as agreed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Adams, 2013). All features, finds and samples were given unique context numbers assigned during the recording phases on site.

8.0 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS (Figs. 3-5)

Archaeological features and deposits are described below in trench order. Detailed information on all features and deposits can be found at Appendix 1.

The trenches were all excavated to a depth that exposed the full stratigraphic sequence down to the natural geological deposits. This was observed to be at around the same depth (2.20 – 2.70m AOD) in all trenches although slight deformation of the natural due to excessive dumping of overburden was noted in trenches 1 to 4.

Evidence of substantial modern dumping was present in the east and south-east of the site (Fig. 3 & 5) with up to 2.00m of overburden (1001) sealing a buried topsoil (1002) dating to the 20th century. Modern truncation in Trenches 1 & 2 was also noted and dated to the same phase of activity as the dumping. An unusual brick surface, 1006, was present at the western end of Trench 4 and was probably associated with a garden feature from the rectory.



8.1 Trench 1 (Fig. 3)

Trench 1 was located on a prominent area of higher ground in the north-east corner of the site and was aligned north-east to south-west. Six linear modern features were present, all of which contained material associated with landfill (plastic bags, galvanised nails, hessian and modern brick). Substantial modern overburden (1001) was noted below the topsoil (1000) and above buried topsoil (1002).

No archaeological features or finds were present.

8.2 Trench 2 (Figs.)

Trench 2 was also located on the prominent area of high ground, adjacent to the eastern boundary of the site and was aligned north to south. It contained five modern features, two of which were irregular linear trenches similar to those observed in Trench 1 and three modern pits containing large quantities of burnt material including wood, books, glass and fragments of a circular saw (not retained).

The modern over burden (1001) was present to a depth of 2.00m at the southern end of Trench 2.

No archaeological features or finds were present.

8.3 Trench 3 (Figs.)

Trench 3 was located in the centre of the prominent high ground to the eastern side of the site and was aligned north to south. A post-medieval/modern ceramic land drain was present in the centre of the trench.

No archaeological features or finds were present.

8.4 Trench 4 (Figs.)

Trench 4 was located towards the southern boundary of the site with the eastern end in the area of high ground and the western in the lower garden lawn area.

Brick surface 1006 was present at the western end of the trench. It was cut into the natural (1007) and comprised one course of around 80 floor or paviour bricks laid on their side and closely packed together. Small amounts of mortar were present on the bricks, however there did not appear to be any bonding material other than soil, suggesting they may have been re-used. This type of floor brick or paviour dates from the 17th to 19th century AD (Goffin, R. this report). The western section showed signs of disturbance and damage, possibly associated with later demolition of adjacent structures or more likely during the phase of modern waste soil disposal.



No other archaeological finds or features were present.

8.5 Trench 5 (Figs.)

Trench 5 was located in the south-western corner of the site and was aligned north to south. Two natural features were noted, but no archaeological finds or features were present.

8.6 Trench 6 (Figs.)

Trench 6 was located in the north-western area of the site and was aligned north-east to south-west. A modern ceramic land drain was noted in the centre of the trench, but no archaeological features were present.

Two joining fragments of fired clay were recovered from the buried soil layer 1002 in the centre of the trench. The original surfaces were gone but the surviving fragments are mid buff in colour with a dark grey reduced core. The pieces are made in a fine fabric with sparse limestone inclusions up to 3mm in length, occasional small red grog and sparse organic voids. It is possible that the fragments are part of an artefact such as a loomweight, but it is more likely that they represent the remains of something structural such as a clay oven (Goffin, R. this report).

9.0 DEPOSIT MODEL (Fig. 4-5)

The deposit model varied slightly between the west and east of the site where there was a prominent area of high ground (Fig. 3-5).

Topsoil 1000 formed the upper most layer in the stratigraphic sequence and sealed all other layers and features. The topsoil is a recent deposit and contained demolition material associated with the destruction of the Rectory building in the late 1970's.

In the west of the site, fragmentary remains of an earlier, now buried topsoil 1002, were present below the modern topsoil, 1000. Subsoil 1004 was partially present below the buried topsoil 1002, although it had been removed in many areas due to modern truncation or earlier ploughing. The natural drift geology 1003 was present below subsoil 1004.

In the east of the site, a phase of extensive dumping of modern imported waste soil and material had taken place in the last 30 years and a layer of made ground/overburden 1001 was present below the Topsoil 1000. Layer 1001 was present to a considerable depth of around 2.00m in places and accounts for the whole eastern side of the site being raised above the surrounding ground level. It contained various types of plastic, an old



Sony Walkman, vehicle tyres and assorted modern debris (not retained). The layer was well compacted and had probably been rolled with heavy machinery.

Buried topsoil 1002 was present below the layer of made ground/overburden and this roughly corresponds with the current ground level located in the western half of the site. Subsoil 1005 and the natural drift geology 1003 were present below buried topsoil 1002, in the same way they were present to the west.

Two fragments of fired clay were recovered from the buried topsoil 1002 as described above in Trench 6.

10.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The evaluation revealed four phases of activity all dating to the post-medieval and modern periods. The most recent phase comprised the dumping of imported waste soil and material on to the former ground surface in the eastern half of the site. Modern features were present in trenches 1 & 2 suggesting that the waste material was initially disposed of in large pits and later progressed to building up the ground level.

The second phase represents disturbance of the existing ground level with the demolition of the burnt out rectory building and the spreading of this material around the garden. It forms the basis for the current topsoil and buried the original garden soil in many areas.

The third phase of activity relates to the brick surface (1006) which was probably connected with an outbuilding or garden feature associated with the rectory. However, the date range for the bricks begins in the 17th century and the rectory was constructed in the 1870s so it is possible that the surface is older. Cartographic sources dating from the late 19th century onwards do not show any buildings or structures in the vicinity of this surface.

The final phase relates to a period of possible agricultural activity that pre-dates the 1870s and is suggested by the patchy subsoil 1004. This is evident in small areas, especially in slight depressions in the natural 1003 and the homogenous nature of the overlying buried topsoil is consistent with agricultural plough soils.

It is clear that the site has suffered significant damage during the two most recent phases of activity, however the preservation of features outside of the built up area was shown to be reasonably good.

The fired clay fragments are interesting and may suggest early activity in the immediate area, however they are not likely to have been found *in-situ* given the extensive disturbance across the site.

The current development plans propose the construction of three large houses and garages, two of which are in the area of the prominent high ground. Given the depth of



these deposits, widespread disturbance in these areas and feature density, it is unlikely that development will encounter preserved archaeological remains. If remains are encountered they are most likely to be late post-medieval and modern in date.

11.0 PROJECT ARCHIVE AND DEPOSITION

A full archive will be prepared for all work undertaken in accordance with guidance from the *Selection, Retention and Dispersion of Archaeological Collections*, Archaeological Society for Museum Archaeologists, 1993. Deposition will be with the relevant museum or Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store subject to agreement with the legal landowner where finds are concerned and in accordance with *Deposition of Archaeological Archives in the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store*, 2004.

The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. The material will be catalogued, labelled and packaged for transfer and storage in accordance with the guidelines set out in the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation's *Conservation Guidelines No.2* and the Archaeological Archives Forum's *Archaeological Archives, A guide to best practice, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown, 2007).

12.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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English Heritage National List for England
www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/protection/process/national-heritage-list-for-england

DEFRA Magic <http://magic.defra.gov.uk/website/magic>



APPENDIX 1 DEPOSIT TABLES AND FEATURE DESCRIPTIONS

TRENCH 1

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
1	NE-SW	3.26m	
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
1A	NW Side	SE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.15m	Topsoil. Mid grey brown, loose clay silt with occasional stones.	
1001	0.15 – 0.52m	Made Ground. Mixed mid red brown & mid brown grey, compact sand/silt clay with frequent charcoal flecks & modern rubbish.	
1002	0.52 – 0.77m	Buried Topsoil. Dark grey brown, compact clay silt.	
1004	0.77 – 0.87m	Subsoil. Light brown grey, friable clay silt.	
1003	0.87 – 0.98m+	Natural. Light orange brown, compact clay with patches of light white yellow orange, compact silty chalk.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
1	NE-SW	3.92m	
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
1B	NE Side	SW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.30m	Topsoil. Mid grey brown, loose clay silt with occasional stones.	
1001	0.30 – 1.03m	Made Ground. Mixed mid red brown & mid brown grey, compact sand/silt clay with frequent charcoal flecks & modern rubbish.	
1002	1.03 – 1.33m	Buried Topsoil. Dark grey brown, compact clay silt.	
1004	1.33 – 1.50m	Subsoil. Light brown grey, friable clay silt.	
1003	1.50m+	Natural. Light orange brown, compact clay with patches of light white yellow orange, compact silty chalk.	

TRENCH 2

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
2	N-S	3.96m	
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
2A	E Side	W Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.09m	Topsoil. Mid grey brown, loose clay silt with occasional stones.	
1001	0.09 – 0.99m	Made Ground. Mixed mid red brown & mid brown grey, compact sand/silt clay with frequent charcoal flecks & modern rubbish.	
1002	0.99 – 1.30m	Buried Topsoil. Dark grey brown, compact clay silt.	
1003	1.30m+	Natural. Light orange brown, compact clay with patches of light white yellow orange, compact silty chalk.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
2	N-W	4.10m	
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
2B	E Side	W Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.12m	Topsoil. Mid grey brown, loose clay silt with occasional stones.	
1001	0.12 – 1.42m	Made Ground. Mixed mid red brown & mid brown grey, compact	



		sand/silt clay with frequent charcoal flecks & modern rubbish.
1002	1.42 – 1.90m	Buried Topsoil. Dark grey brown, compact clay silt.
1005	1.90 – 1.96	Burnt Layer. Dark brown grey, loose ash & clinker silt
1003	1.96m+	Natural. Light orange brown, compact clay with patches of light white yellow orange, compact silty chalk.

TRENCH 3

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
3	N-S	4.10m	
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
3A	W Side	E Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.20m	Topsoil. Mid grey brown, loose clay silt with occasional stones.	
1001	0.20 – 1.14m	Made Ground. Mixed mid red brown & mid brown grey, compact sand/silt clay with frequent charcoal flecks & modern rubbish.	
1002	1.14 – 1.49m	Buried Topsoil. Dark grey brown, compact clay silt.	
1003	1.49m+	Natural. Light orange brown, compact clay with patches of light white yellow orange, compact silty chalk.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
3	N-W	4.25m	
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
3B	E Side	W Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.15m	Topsoil. Mid grey brown, loose clay silt with occasional stones.	
1001	0.15 – 1.15m	Made Ground. Mixed mid red brown & mid brown grey, compact sand/silt clay with frequent charcoal flecks & modern rubbish.	
1002	1.15 – 1.52m	Buried Topsoil. Dark grey brown, compact clay silt.	
1004	1.52 – 1.64	Subsoil. Light brown grey, friable clay silt.	
1003	1.64m+	Natural. Light orange brown, compact clay with patches of light white yellow orange, compact silty chalk.	

TRENCH 4

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
4	E-W	3.37m	
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
4A	S Side	N Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.12m	Topsoil. Mid grey brown, loose clay silt with occasional stones.	
1001	0.12 – 1.29m	Made Ground. Mixed mid red brown & mid brown grey, compact sand/silt clay with frequent charcoal flecks & modern rubbish.	
1002	1.29 – 1.61m	Buried Topsoil. Dark grey brown, compact clay silt.	
1003	1.61m+	Natural. Light orange brown, compact clay with patches of light white yellow orange, compact silty chalk.	



Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
4	E-W	3.22m	
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
4B	S Side	N Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.32m	Topsoil. Mid grey brown, loose clay silt with occasional stones.	
1004	0.32 – 0.55m	Subsoil. Light brown grey, friable clay silt.	
1003	0.55m+	Natural. Light orange brown, compact clay with patches of light white yellow orange, compact silty chalk.	

Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or number)	Other
1006	Brick Surface (1.37+ x 2.00+ x 0.15m) Irregular linear in plan. 1 course of rough herringbone brick work bonded with soil (1008).	1008	Dark grey brown, compact silty clay	17 th – 19 th century AD	1(2294) 17 th – 19 th Century AD, pavioir	

TRENCH 5

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
5	NW-SE	3.18m	
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
5A	NE Side	SW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.28m	Topsoil. Mid grey brown, loose clay silt with occasional stones.	
1004	0.28 – 0.50m	Subsoil. Light brown grey, friable clay silt.	
1003	0.50m+	Natural. Light orange brown, compact clay with patches of light white yellow orange, compact silty chalk.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
5	NW-SE	3.25m	
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
5B	NE Side	SW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.36m	Topsoil. Mid grey brown, loose clay silt with occasional stones.	
1004	0.36 – 0.44m	Subsoil. Light brown grey, friable clay silt.	
1003	0.44m+	Natural. Light orange brown, compact clay with patches of light white yellow orange, compact silty chalk.	



TRENCH 6

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
6	E-W	3.23m	
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
6A	S Side	N Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.19m	Topsoil. Mid grey brown, loose clay silt with occasional stones.	
1002	0.19 – 0.55	Buried Topsoil. Dark grey brown, compact clay silt.	
1004	0.55 – 0.60m	Subsoil. Light brown grey, friable clay silt.	
1003	0.60m+	Natural. Light orange brown, compact clay with patches of light white yellow orange, compact silty chalk.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
6	E-W	3.29m	
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
6B	S Side	N Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.15m	Topsoil. Mid grey brown, loose clay silt with occasional stones.	
1002	0.15 – 0.50m	Buried Topsoil. Dark grey brown, compact clay silt.	
1003	0.50m+	Natural. Light orange brown, compact clay with patches of light white yellow orange, compact silty chalk.	



APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

1. THE FINDS

By Richenda Goffin

Introduction

Finds were recovered from two contexts.

Context	CBM		Fired clay		Date Range
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	
1002			2	73	
1006	1	2294			L17-19th C
Total	1	2294	2	73	

Table 1. Finds quantities

CBM and fired clay

A single floorbrick was recovered as a sample from brick surface 1006. The brick which is complete measures L233mm, W 118mm and H49mm. It is made in a white firing fine fabric which contains frequent yellow grog inclusions and sparse red grog. The brick is unsanded and has the remains of some white mortar on one of the headers. Such bricks or paviments are known to have been used as floorbricks in the East Anglian region from the late 17th through to the 19th centuries (Drury 166, FT26).

Two joining fragments of fired clay were present in the buried soil layer 1002. They have lost their original surfaces but are mid buff in colour with a dark grey reduced core. One of the fragments is slightly red on the outer edge. The pieces are made in a fine fabric with sparse limestone inclusions up to 3mm in length, occasional small red grog and sparse organic voids. It is possible that the fragments are part of an artefact such as a loomweight, but it is more likely that they represent the remains of something structural such as a clay oven.

Drury, P., 1993, 'Ceramic Building Materials', in Margeson, S., *Norwich Households*. East Anglian Archaeology 58, Norwich Survey.



APPENDIX 3 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

FEATURE CONTEXT	FEATURE TYPE	LAYER/FILL CONTEXT	LAYER/FILL DESCRIPTION	SPOT DATE	POTTERY /g(sherds)	CBM /g(number)	ANIMAL BONE /g(number)	HUMAN BONE /g(number)	STRUCK FLINT /g(number)	BURNT FLINT /g(number)	OTHER /g(number)
		1002	Buried Soil	POST- MED/MOD	90(2)						
1006	Brick Surface	1008	Infill	POST-MED		2293(1)					



APPENDIX 4 OASIS SHEET (Copied from OASIS page)

OASIS ID: britanni1-161467

Project details

Project name Land South of Phoenix House, Westry, Cambridgeshire - Evaluation

Short description of the project

In October 2013 Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land south of Phoenix House, Westry, Cambridgeshire (NGR 54009 29843) in advance of the residential development of the site. The evaluation revealed four potential phases of activity all dating to the post-medieval and modern periods. These comprised a recent phase of dumping of imported waste soil and material on to the former ground surface in the eastern half of the site, a second phase associated with the demolition of the burnt out rectory building, a phase of occupation corresponding with the rectory and finally the earliest phase associated with potential agricultural activity. A rough brick surface (1006) was recorded towards the south of the site and may have been a path or garden feature associated with the rectory or slightly earlier. A brick sample dated to between the 17th and 19th century AD. Two joining fragments of fired clay were recovered from a buried soil layer 1002. It is possible that the fragments are part of an artefact such as a loomweight, but it is more likely that they represent the remains of something structural such as a clay oven. The site has suffered significant modern truncation, especially in the east where the dumping occurred. It is unlikely that development will encounter preserved archaeological remains given the depth of these deposits, widespread disturbance in most areas and the low feature density. If remains are encountered they are most likely to be late post-medieval and modern in date.

Project dates Start: 07-10-2013 End: 10-10-2013

Previous/future work No / No

Any associated project reference codes P1041 - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project reference codes ECB4049 - HER event no.

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Other 5 - Garden

Monument type BRICK SURFACE Post Medieval

Significant Finds FIRED CLAY Uncertain

Methods & techniques ""Sample Trenches""

Development type Rural residential



Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE FENLAND MARCH Land South of Phoenix House, Westry
Postcode	PE15 0GB
Study area	0.67 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 4009 9843 52 0 52 33 54 N 000 04 01 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 2.20m Max: 2.70m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Britannia Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Matthew Adams
Project director/manager	Matthew Adams
Project supervisor	Matthew Adams
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Christine Dean
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	CCCAS
Physical Archive ID	ECB4049
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	CCCAS
Digital Archive ID	ECB4049
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive	CCCAS



recipient

Paper Archive ID ECB4049

Paper Contents "none"

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Map", "Microfilm", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Land South of Phoenix House, Westry, Cambridgeshire - Archaeological Evaluation

Author(s)/Editor(s) Adams, M.C.

Other bibliographic details R1040

Date 2013

Issuer or publisher Britannia Archaeology Ltd

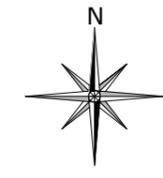
Place of issue or publication Stowmarket, Suffolk

Description A4 Thermal bounds report with A3 figures

URL <http://www.britannia-archaeology.com>

Entered by Matt Adams (matt@britannia-archaeology.com)

Entered on 26 November 2013

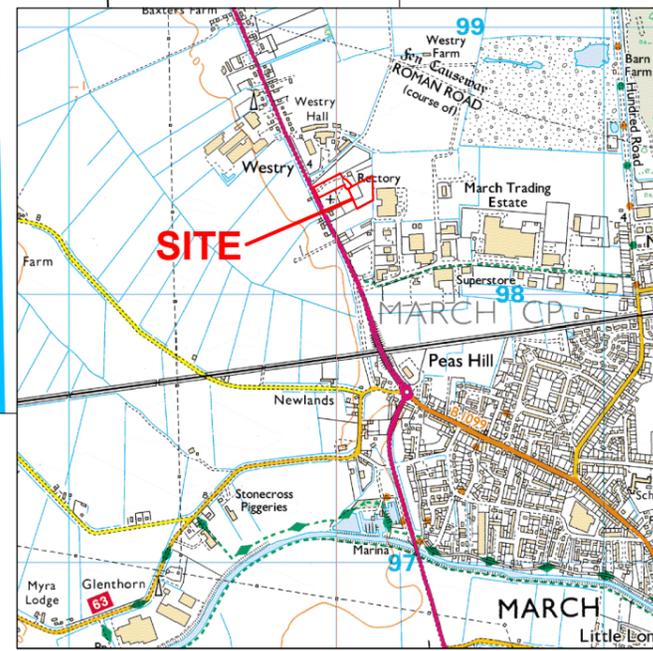
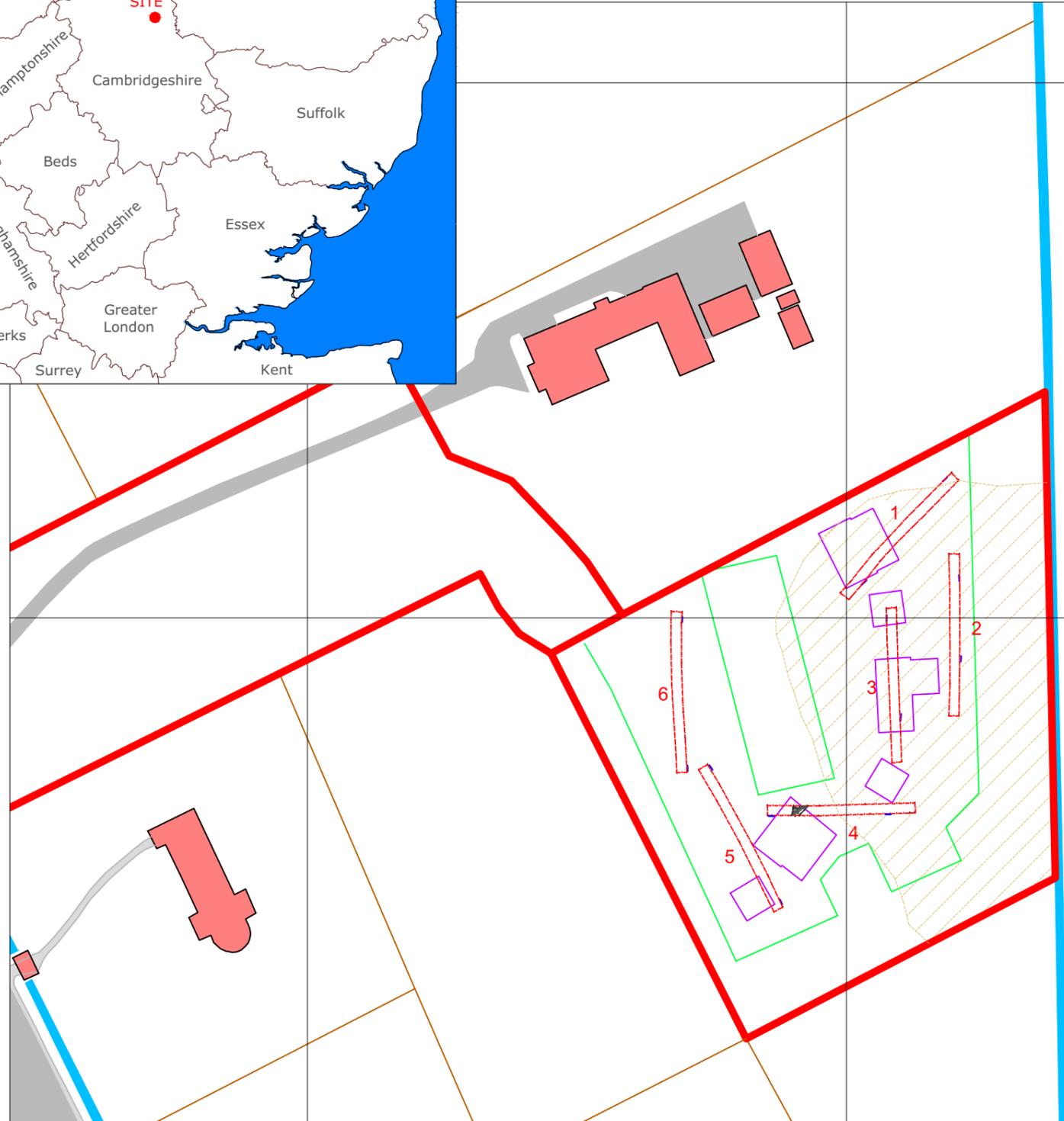


298500

298400

540000

540100



	Proposed Building Footprint
	Area of Higher Ground
	Tree Protection Area
	Trial Trench Location
	Site Boundary

NGR: 54009 29843	REPORT NUMBER: 1040
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PROJECT:
**LAND SOUTH OF PHOENIX HOUSE,
WESTRY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

CLIENT:
GEOFF BISCO & CHRISTINE DEAN

DESCRIPTION:
SITE & TRENCH LOCATION PLAN

BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD



115 OSPREY DRIVE, STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK
IP14 1RB

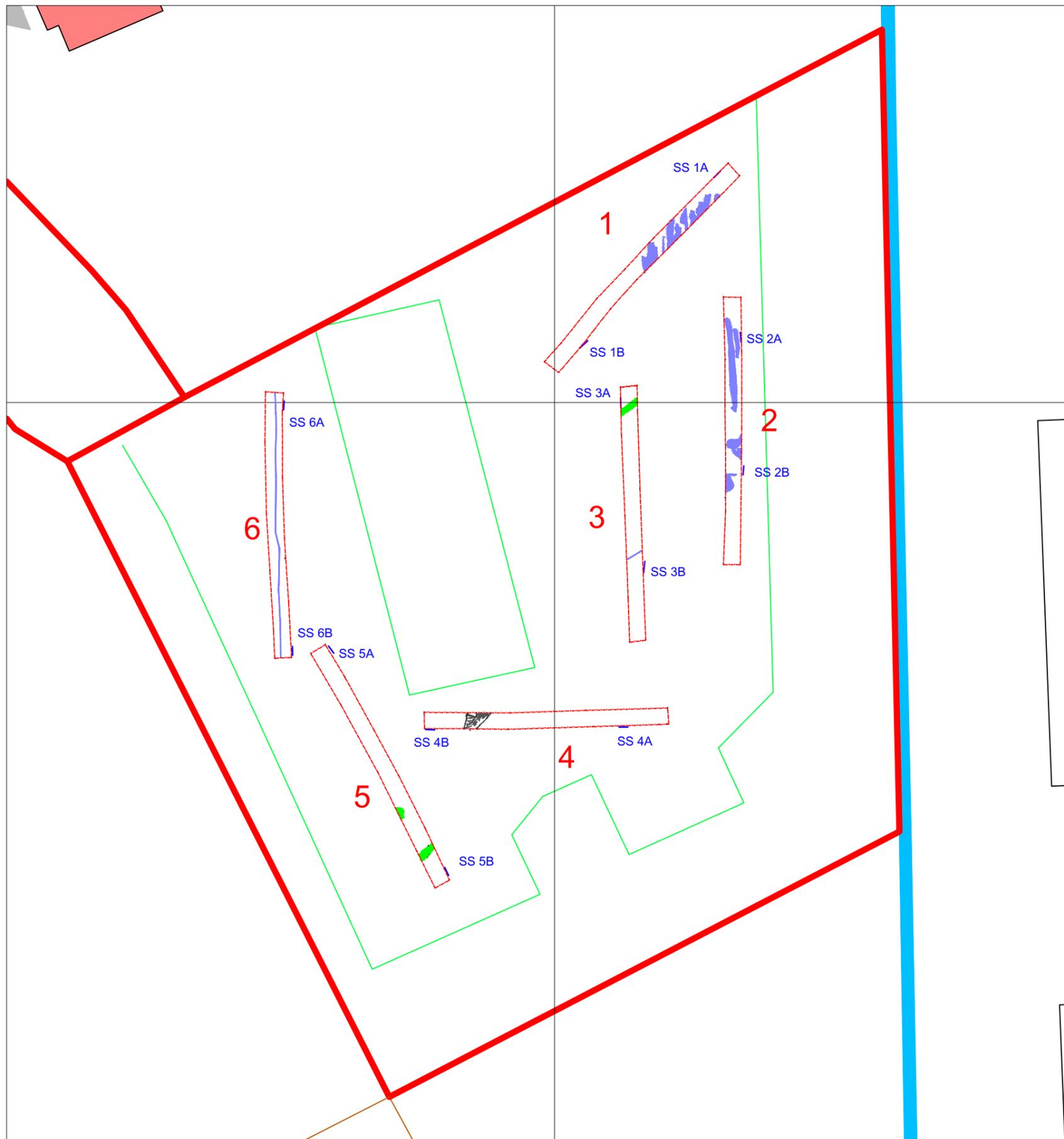
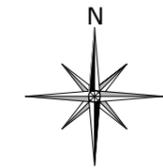
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E: info@britannia-archaeology.com
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PLOT: A3	APPROVED: TPS	VERSION: 01
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DATE: OCT 2013	AUTHOR: MCA	FIGURE: 01
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298400

540100

	Archaeological Feature
	Natural Feature
	Modern Feature
	Sample Section Location
	Tree Protection Area
	Proposed Trial Trench
	Site Boundary

NGR: 54009 29843	REPORT NUMBER: 1040
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PROJECT:
**LAND SOUTH OF PHOENIX HOUSE,
WESTRY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

CLIENT:
GEOFF BISCO & CHRISTINE DEAN

DESCRIPTION:
FEATURE LOCATION PLAN

BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD



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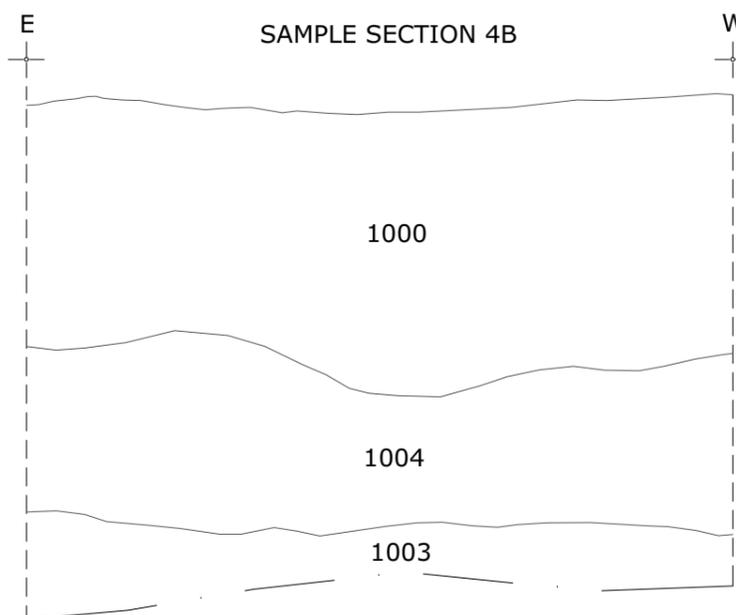
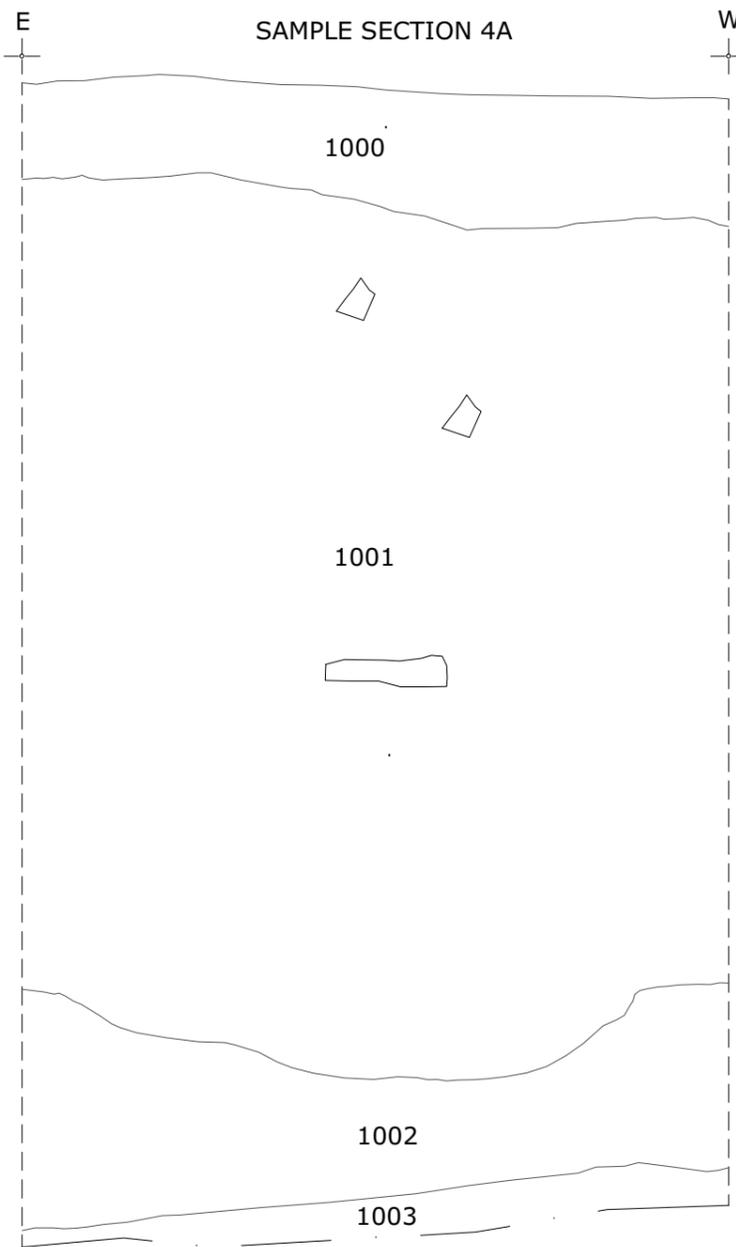
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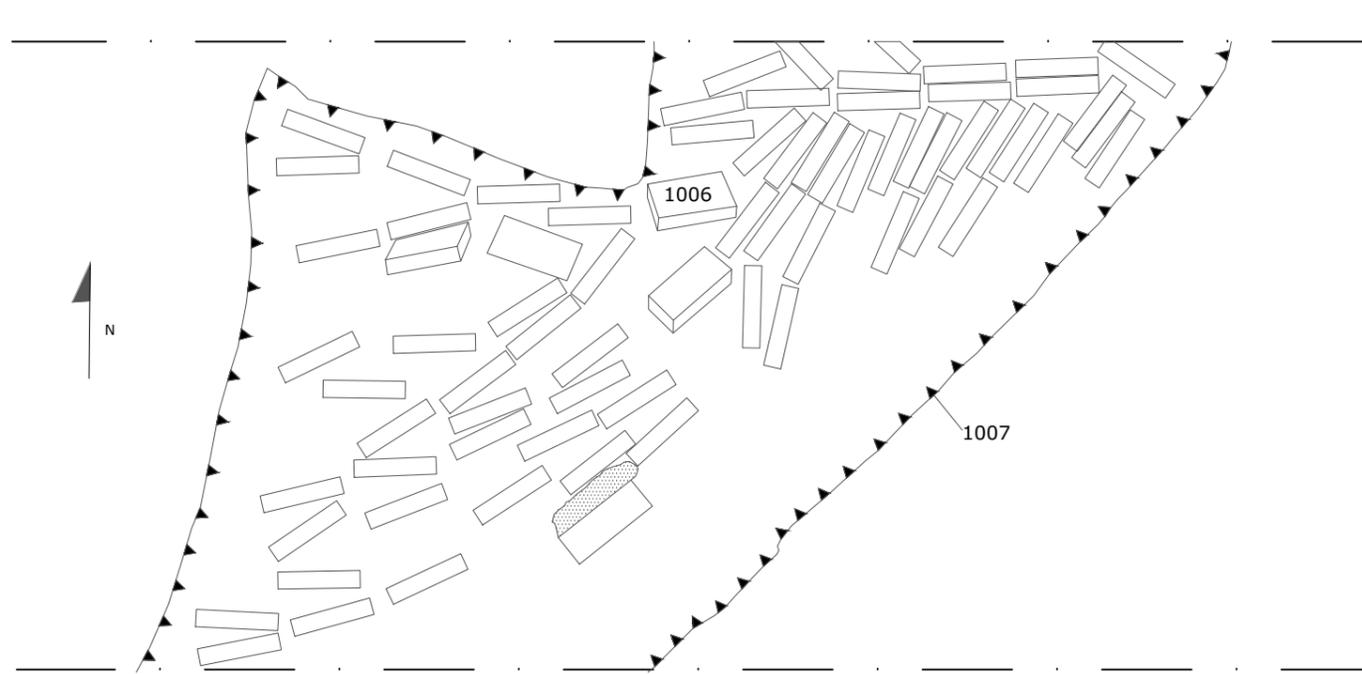
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DATE: OCT 2013	AUTHOR: MCA	FIGURE: 03
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TRENCH 4
BRICK SURFACE 1006



DP1: Brick Surface 1006 - View East



DP2: Sample Section 4a - View South



DP3: Sample Section 4b - View South

	CBM & Rubbish
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NGR: 54009 29843	REPORT NUMBER: 1040
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PROJECT:
LAND SOUTH OF PHOENIX HOUSE,
WESTRY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

CLIENT:
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DESCRIPTION:
PLANS & SECTIONS

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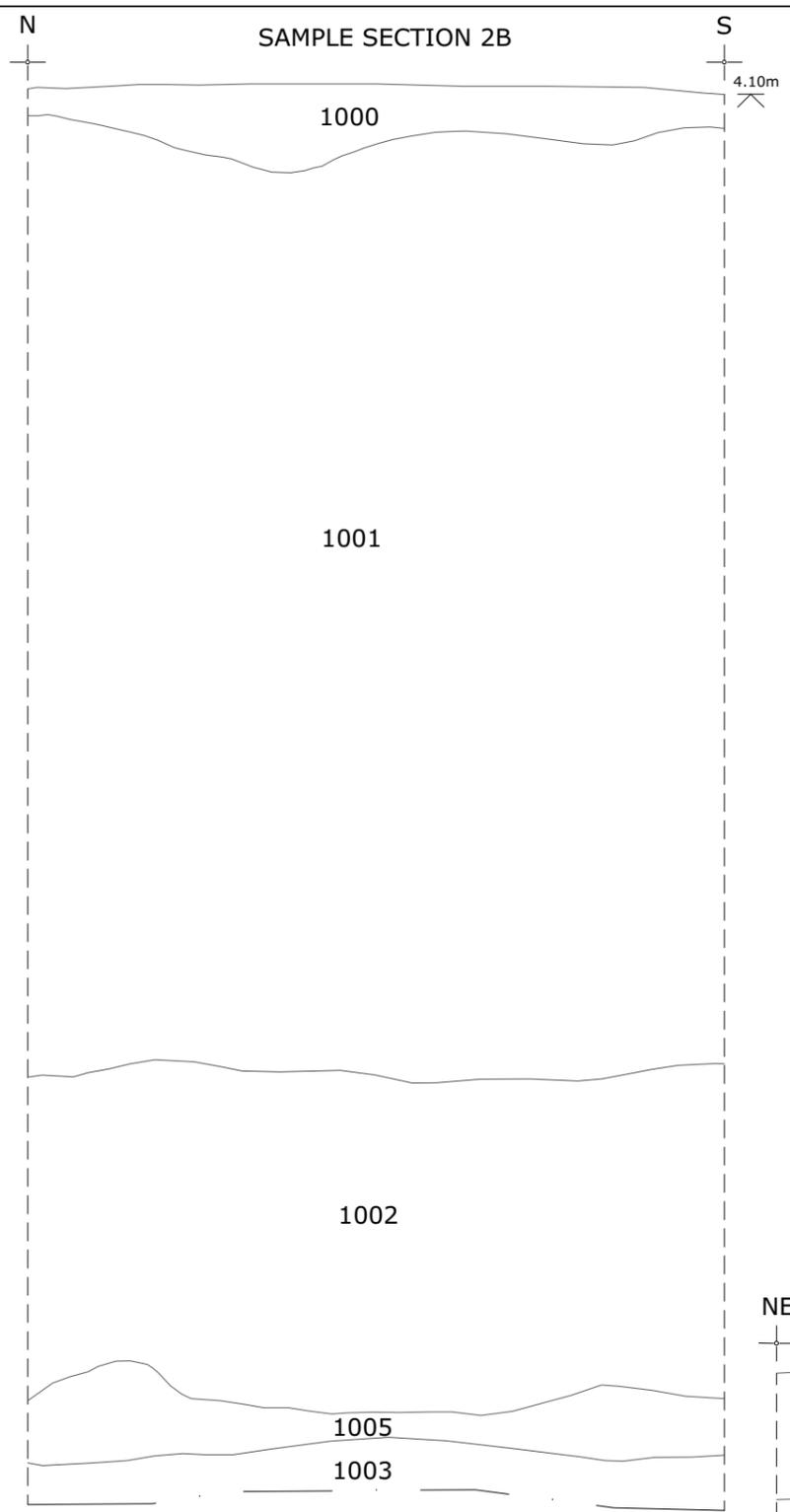
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PLANS @ 1:20

PLOT: A3	APPROVED: TPS	VERSION: 01
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DP4: Sample Section 2a - View East



DP6: Trench 4 Post Excavation - View East



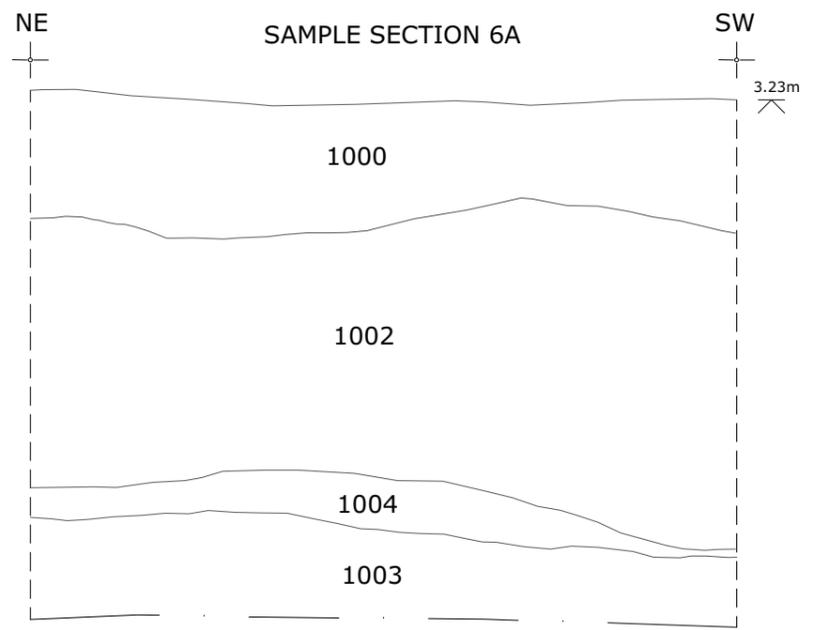
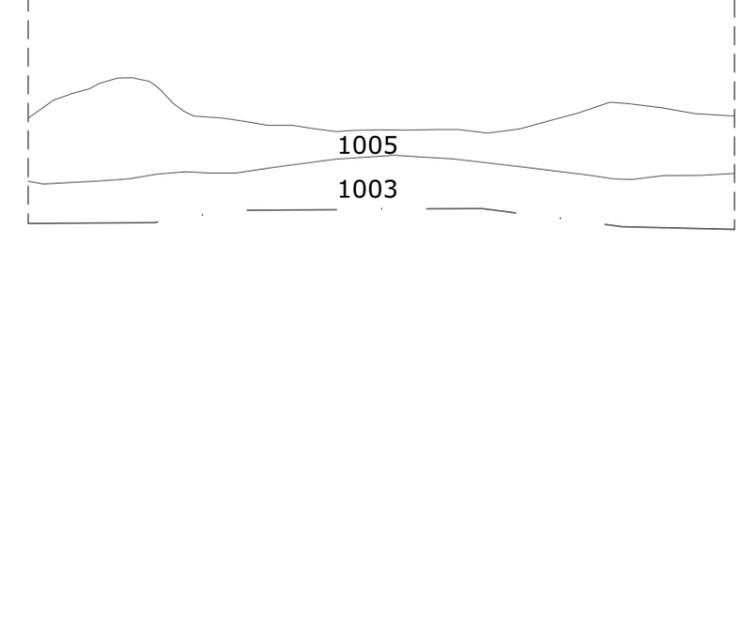
DP7: Modern Burnt Pit - Trench 2 - View South



DP9: General Site Shot - View South-East



DP8: Trench 3 Post Excavation - View South



DP5: Sample Section 6a - View South-East

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