UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Access Cambridge Archaeology

Archaeological Excavations at Ridley Hall Cambridge 2012

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Ridley Hall CAMBRIDGE

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1. Summary

In 2012 a small archaeological excavation was undertaken in the grounds of Ridley Hall Theological College by a number of volunteers, including sixth-form students and members of a local archaeology group, who were supervised and directed by Access Cambridge Archaeology at the University of Cambridge in collaboration with Ridley Hall. The aim of the excavation was to identify, record and analyse any archaeological evidence surviving on the site of a proposed new building while also providing the opportunity for volunteers to learn new skills and experience aspects of life and learning at Cambridge University.

The excavations revealed residual evidence for intermittent prehistoric activity spanning the Mesolithic to late Iron Age and *in situ* features and finds pertaining to rural settlement dating to the 1st-2nd century AD and the 5th – 6th century AD. The 1st – 2nd century AD Romano-British evidence may extend back into the pre-Roman period and included a ditch likely to relate to domestic settlement in the immediate vicinity. Activity here appears to pre-date later Romano-British (2nd – 4th century) ditches previously recorded c. 200m to the west at Newnham College.

Excavated evidence dating to the early Anglo-Saxon period included spread deposits of 5th – 6th century date which appear to be derived from domestic settlement on or immediately adjacent to the excavated site. This is less than 120m from a previously excavated area of 6th – 7th century AD domestic settlement, and it seems likely that these together form part of the same Anglo-Saxon settlement. This site is thus shown to extend over a much larger area than was previously known, although its apparent size may be due in part to settlement shift, with the site focus possibly moving gradually north over the course of a century or so. The excavations in 2012 thus support recent suggestions that the intensity of settlement along this part of the Cam Valley in the 5th – 7th century AD was very high, and raises the likelihood that this area may have been of some importance in this period. By the 8th century, however, the area appears to have been abandoned and was thereafter used for arable, meadow or pasture until the existing college was built in the late 19th century.

The 2012 excavations at Ridley Hall indicate it is highly probable that further *in situ* archaeological evidence of 1st – 6th century AD date survives beyond the area excavated in 2012, and may include a range of features, possibly including structural features associated with domestic settlement.

2. Introduction

2.1 The 2012 excavation

A small scale archaeological excavation was undertaken by Access Cambridge Archaeology at the University of Cambridge in collaboration with Ridley Hall, over seven days from the 11th to the 17th of April 2012, within the grounds of Ridley Hall College, Cambridge. The excavation was carried out under the supervision of Access Cambridge Archaeology, by members of the public including volunteers from the Cambridge Archaeology Field Group (CAFG) as well as 9 sixth-form students from North Wales and Merseyside who stayed at Magdalene College, and 9 sixth-form students from Middlesex, Surrey, Sheffield, West London and Doncaster who stayed at Homerton College.

The 2012 trench in Ridley Hall was opened in an area which was formerly the Principal's Garden in the south of the college site. It was conducted in advance of ground works prior to the anticipated construction of a new college building. The trench size encompassed most of the footprint of the basement of the proposed new building, as any archaeology in this area would be directly affected by its construction, but existing features prevented the entirety of the area of the proposed building footprint being included in the 2012 excavation.

2.2 Ridley Hall

Ridley Hall (http://www.ridley.cam.ac.uk/) is a Christian Anglican theological college sited in the west of Cambridge and was opened on the 18th October 1881. In 2012 the college provides opportunities for theological training and research accommodating around 140 people per year. The college's £10 million *Faith for the Future* campaign is intended to expand and improve college facilities and includes proposals for a new building, the John Stott Auditorium, to be constructed on an area of undeveloped land, formerly the Principal's Garden, which will complete the fourth side of the college's quadrangular court. This was the site of the 2012 excavation.

Despite previous trial trenching revealing the presence of *in situ* archaeological features in the area (Brittain 2009), no archaeological condition was placed on the proposed development when planning permission was granted. However, the development management team at Ridley Hall were aware and mindful of the usual responsibilities placed on developers to ensure that archaeological remains threatened by development should be properly investigated and recorded and wished to observe these. Furthermore they wished to maximise the wider social benefit of the excavations by inviting Access Cambridge Archaeology to undertake the excavations as a community and educational project, providing an opportunity for local people to volunteer and aspiring sixth-form students to take part in a residential excavation, similar to that conducted by ACA in 2010 at Newnham College (Lewis and Ranson 2013).

2.3 Access Cambridge Archaeology

Access Cambridge Archaeology (ACA) (http://www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/) is an archaeological outreach organisation based in the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research in the University of Cambridge which aims to enhance economic, social and personal well-being through active engagement with archaeology. It was set up by Dr

Carenza Lewis in 2004 and specialises in providing opportunities for members of the public to take part in purposeful, research-orientated archaeological investigations including excavation. Educational archaeological activities and courses provided by ACA range in length from a few hours to a week or more.

Since 2005 ACA has provided opportunities for members of the public of all ages and backgrounds, including academically gifted students and people with special needs, to participate in a wide range of archaeological activities including field-walking, excavation, analysis and reporting. These have included projects funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and events in 2011-12 as part of the Cultural Olympiad for the 2012 London Olympic Games. By 2012, more than 3,000 teenagers had taken part in Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA) test pit excavation programmes, intended to build academic skills, confidence and aspirations.

3. Location and Geology

The city of Cambridge is situated in south Cambridgeshire, c.80km north of London, and c.49km south east of Peterborough, centred on TL 4453 5782. The city was founded in the Roman period and re-founded in the later Anglo-Saxon period along the banks of the River Cam, which flows north through Grantchester and from which Cambridge eventually gets its name. The city is also situated on the southern edge of the fens that extend north towards the Wash through most of north Cambridgeshire and into both Lincolnshire and Norfolk.

Ridley Hall is located in west Cambridge along Sidgwick Avenue. Prior to the construction of the Hall in the late 19th century, the area was open meadows until the foundation of Newnham College, a decade earlier than Ridley Hall and immediately to its west. The site excavated in 2012 in Ridley Hall mostly lies within an area enclosed by a fence and currently defined as the Principal's Garden.

The underlying geology of Cambridge comprises chalk to the south and east of the city with upper greensand and gault to the north and west[1]. Ridley Hall sits on the second terrace river gravels. The area around Cambridge is generally low lying at between 6-24m OD with Ridley Hall at c.10m OD at about 330m west of the River Cam.

[1] http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/2F0D5E30-F308-406B-9455-86B9EDDD50EC/0/soe98physical.pdf (Accessed December 2010)

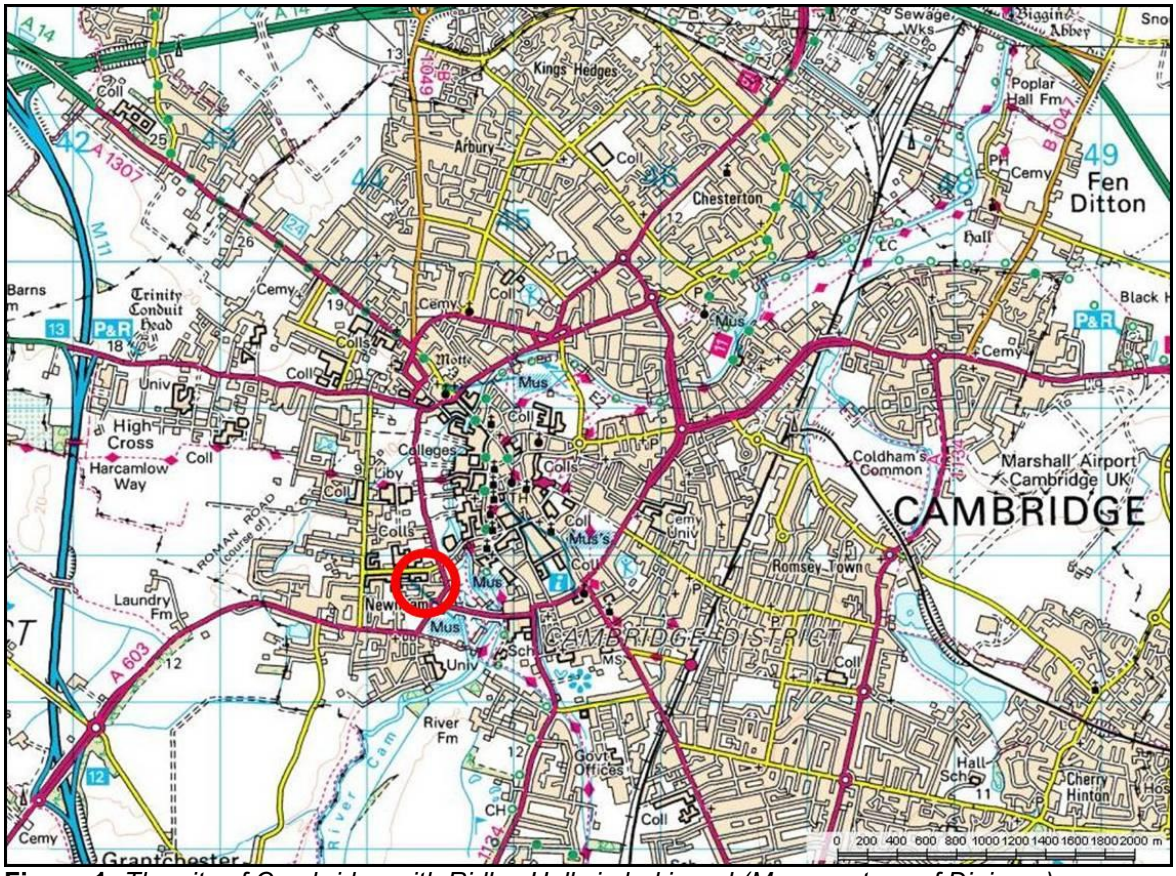

Figure 1: *The city of Cambridge with Ridley Hall circled in red (Map courtesy of Digimap).*

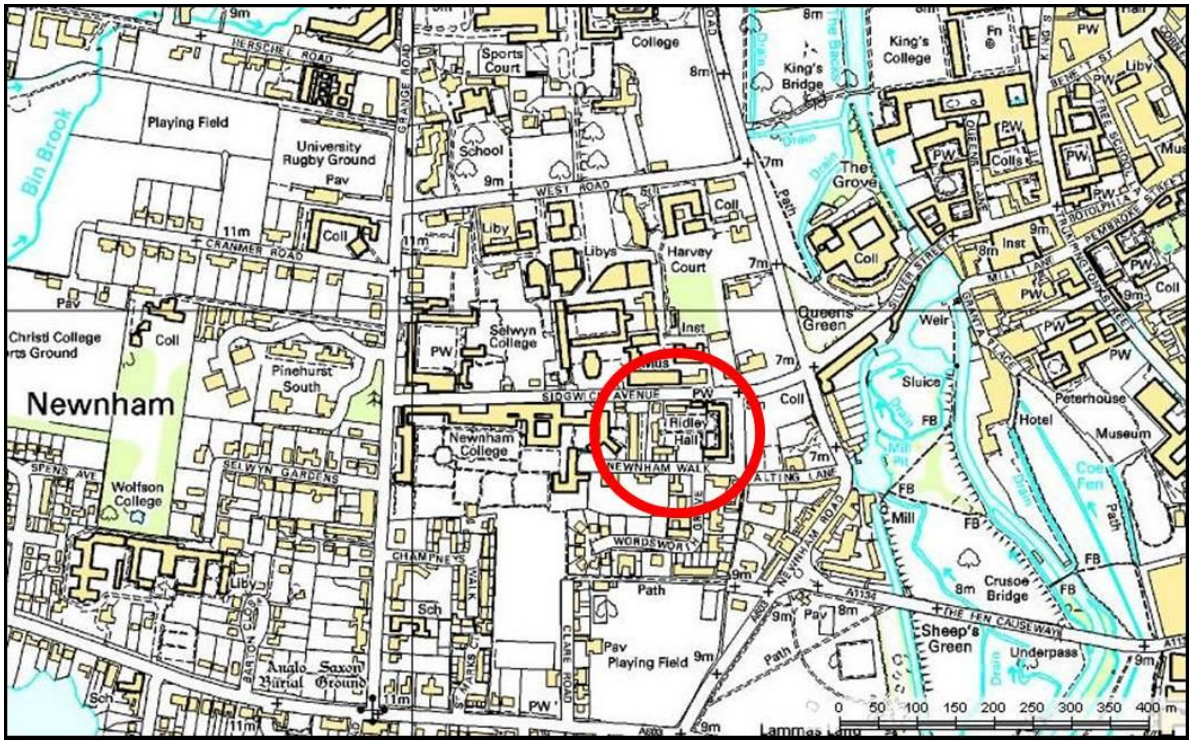

Figure 2: *Close up map of west Cambridge with Ridley Hall circled in Red (Map courtesy of Digimap).*

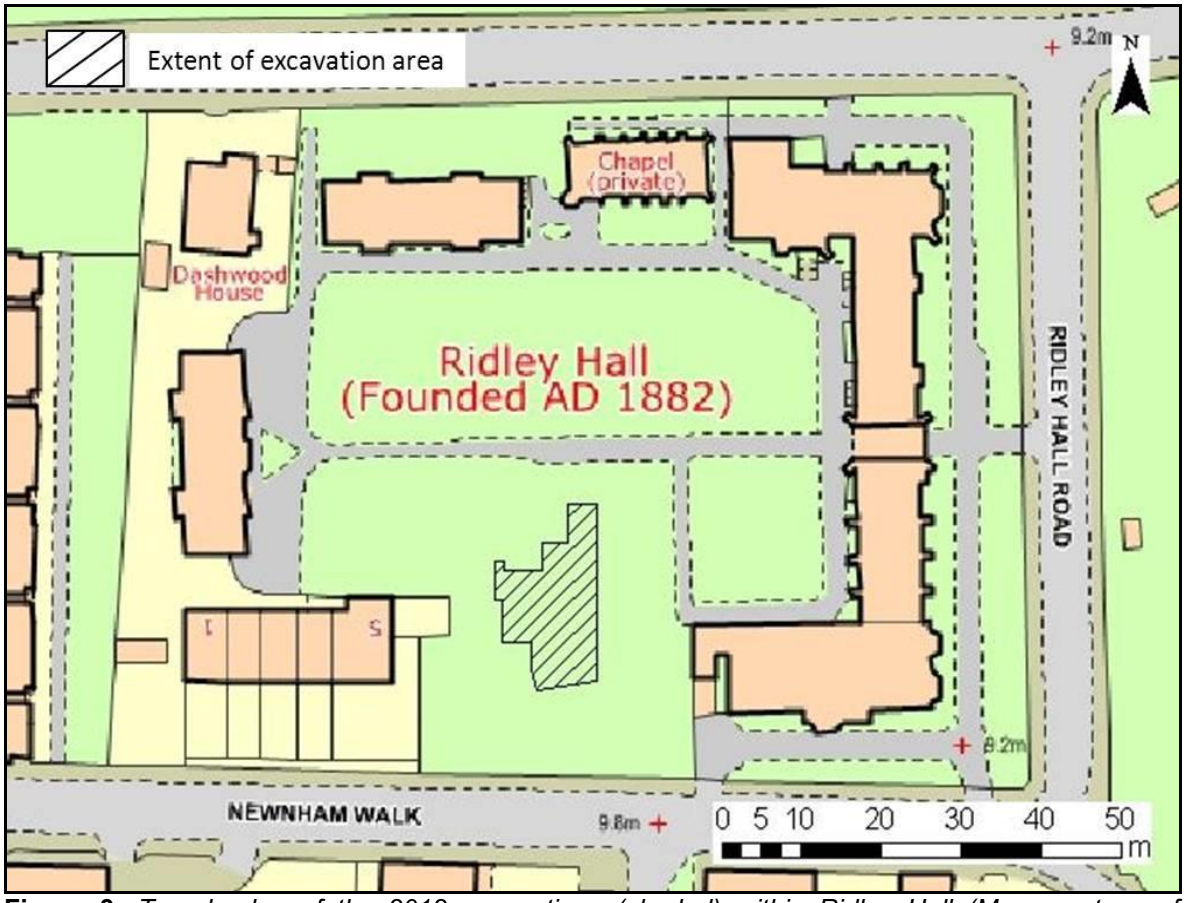

Figure 3: *Trench plan of the 2012 excavations (shaded) within Ridley Hall (Map courtesy of Digimap).*

4. Aims and objectives

The overall aims of the excavations at Ridley Hall were to identify, record and evaluate any archaeological remains on the site of the proposed John Stott Auditorium and advance the knowledge and understanding of the archaeology and historic development of this part of Cambridge prior to the potential loss of material remains due to building work. The aim was also to provide volunteer members of the public including sixth-form students with the opportunity to acquire new skills and experience life and learning at Cambridge, boosting educational aspirations and enriching lives.

4.1 Archaeological aims

The archaeological aims of the excavation were:

- To establish the extent of buried archaeological deposits and features.
- To identify, date and characterise any archaeological deposits and features revealed during excavation.
- To preserve by record any archaeological deposits and features revealed during excavation.
- To establish the stratigraphic sequence of the features and deposits and, as far as possible, the nature of the activities carried out at the site during its use.

- To determine, as far as possible, the origins, development, function, character, economy and status of the site.
- To place the findings of the aims above in both regional and national research contexts.

4.2 Educational aims

The educational aims of the excavation were:

- To provide up to 20 sixth-form students in state education with the opportunity to take part in an archaeological excavation in Cambridge while staying in one of the university colleges.
- To provide an opportunity for sixth-form students in state education to learn new archaeological skills and knowledge.
- To provide an opportunity for sixth-form students in state education to learn new transferable skills which will boost academic attainment.
- To provide an opportunity for sixth-form students in state education to experience life as a student in Cambridge in order to support them in deciding to apply to Cambridge University.
- To provide an opportunity for members of the public to take part in an archaeological excavation in Cambridge.
- To provide an opportunity for members of the public to learn new archaeological skills and knowledge.

5. Methodology

5.1 Excavation

The open area excavation followed standard procedures for trial trench excavations as suggested by the standards set for field archaeology in the east of England (Gurney 2003).

1. One trench was excavated within the footprint of the basement of the proposed new building. The footprint measured 25.9m long x 13.6m wide, stepped out to 16m wide at its southern end, totalling approximately 370 square metres in area. It was not however possible to excavate the entirety of the basement footprint due to a number of external factors, which at the time of excavation could not be removed. These include the presence of a fence along the western side of the footprint, a hedge along the north side, a CATV cable across the south east corner and a large cedar tree, which could not be removed because of nesting birds.

2. The excavation area was stepped in 4m from the centre of the trunk of the cedar tree within the north-west corner of the footprint; 1m from the fence; 3m from the unidentified tree within the south-west corner of the footprint, 3m from the ash tree on the south side of the footprint and 2m in from the CATV cable, thus making the maximum area excavated approximately 128 square metres. Hand dug extensions were also added to the trench, with Extension A along the western edge, close to the fence and measured 4m in length and 0.7m wide, while Extension B extended the north eastern corner of the trench by a further 1.2m, while keeping the width the same

at 3m. Both of these added approximately another 6.4 square metres to the trench, increasing the maximum area excavated to 134.4 square metres.

- The top soil and overlying deposits were excavated using an 8 tonne machine digger with a toothless bucket. The spoil was scanned by eye during extraction and with a metal detector working across the spoil heap.

- 50% of hand-excavated bulk-removed spoil was sieved by hand through a 10mm mesh to ensure maximum retrieval of archaeological finds.

- A register was kept detailing all photographs taken including feature/context number, direction of shot and date and time of day.

- Cut features were excavated sequentially in the normal way.

- At the end of the excavations, the trench was machine backfilled.

5.2 On-site finds identification and retention

- Non-metallic inorganic finds and bone (unless in very poor condition) were washed on site where possible, thoroughly dried and bagged separately for each context in the trenches. Either on site or during post excavation the animal bone, pottery, burnt clay, flint and burnt stone were bagged separately, ready to be given to specialists.

5.3 On-site archaeological volunteer supervision

- Archaeological supervision of volunteers and the excavations was carried out by professional archaeologists from ACA, on site for the duration of the excavations, with at least three supervisors present at all times to direct the excavations and provide training and guidance for each of the volunteers.

5.4 Trench backfilling

- A member of the ACA archaeological team inspected all the features on site to ensure that they had been fully excavated to natural.
- After the excavations were completed the archaeological records and finds were retained by the University of Cambridge for analysis, reporting, archiving and submission to HERs, publication and on-going research into the origins and development of rural settlement. Routine procedure is that finds are curated by the University of Cambridge unless the site owners request their return.

5.5 Recording

- The trenches were recorded following a Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) modified MoLAS system (Spence 1990); whereby numbers (fill) or [cut] were assigned to individual contexts and feature numbers F. to stratigraphic events. Sections were drawn at 1:10 and base plans at 1:50, with a photographic archive consisting of digital images.
- The site code was RID/12.

5.6 Finds curation and ownership

Few excavations retain all the finds that are made if they are deemed to be of little or no research value.

Finds appropriate for recording, analysis, reporting, retention and curation

- All pottery has been retained.
- All faunal remains, worked and burnt stone have been retained
- All other finds from contexts pre-dating 1800 have been retained.
- All finds pre-dating 1900 have been retained

Finds appropriate for disposal after recording and reporting

- The following finds which are not considered to warrant any further analysis were discarded after they have been photographed and their weight and number by type has been recorded,: Slate, coal, plastic, Perspex, modern glass, modern wood, modern metal objects (including nails), concrete, modern mortar, modern fabric, shoes and other modern items (including batteries and shotgun cartridges), naturally occurring animal shells, unworked flint and other unworked stone (including fossils).
- C20th window and vessel glass was discarded after sorting, counting and weighing.
- C19th and C20th CBM was discarded after counting and weighing. One sample of any hand-made, unusual or older type of CBM was kept with the remainder discarded after counting and weighing.
- Most fragments of C20th metal whose use can be identified was discarded and the same is true for any unidentifiable object of ferrous metal, aluminium or modern alloys from contexts containing other material of post-1900 AD date. Modern nails have also been discarded but handmade nails were retained.
- C20th tile (floor, roof and wall) was discarded after counting and weighing, with a sample of each type of pre-modern tile retained. Any decorated examples have been retained unless these have been recovered in very large quantities in which case representative samples were retained with the remainder discarded after counting and weighing.

Legal ownership of finds

- Ownership of objects rests in the first instance with the landowner, except where other law overrides this (e.g. Treasure Act 1996, 2006, Burials Act 1857).
- Owners of private unscheduled land where trenches have been excavated who enquire about the final destination of finds from excavation on their property will be informed that ACA prefers to retain these in the short term for analysis and ideally also in the longer term in order that the excavation archives will be as complete as possible.
- NB: Most land-owners are not concerned about retaining ownership of the finds and are happy to donate them to ACA.
- Any requests by owners for the final return of finds to them will be agreed. Finds will be returned after recording, analysis and reporting is complete, accompanied by a letter inviting them to treat the finds with care, retain them in association with identifying documentation and to consider donating them to ACA/University of

Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology should they ever change their minds about wishing to have possession of them.

- If the landowners are unwilling, for whatever reason, to donate any or all of the finds from the excavation on their land to ACA, the requested finds are returned to them after recording and analysis is completed, safely packaged and conserved (if required), accompanied by a letter explaining how they should be cared for and asking for them to be returned to the University of Cambridge if for any reason the owners no longer wish to retain them, and that if they are moved from the address to which they were returned the ACA should be informed. The location of such finds will be stated in the site archive.

Curation of Archaeological Finds

- All finds which are not discarded or returned to owners are retained and stored in conditions where they will not deteriorate. Most finds are stored in cool dry condition in sealed plastic finds bags, with small pierced holes to ventilate them. Pottery, bone and flint have been bagged separately from other finds.
- Finds which are more fragile, including ancient glass or metal objects, are stored in small boxes protected by padding and if necessary, acid free paper. Metal objects are curated with silica gel packets and conserved if necessary to prevent deterioration.
- All finds bags/boxes from the same context have been bagged/boxed together, and bags from all test pits excavated in the same settlement in the same year will be kept together. All the trench finds have also been stored together. All bags and boxes used for storage will be clearly marked in permanent marker with the site code (which includes settlement name code and year of excavation code), test pit number and context number.

6. Archaeological Background

Previous archaeological work near to the 2012 excavation site at Ridley Hall was undertaken in 2009 when three trenches were opened up to inform the development of the planning application for construction work at the college. Two of the trenches were sited in the Principal's Garden (where the 2012 dig was also sited), with the third nearby, between the Moule Hole Lawn and the Lecture Hall Lawn. Evidence for prehistoric activity was considered to be mostly residual but two ditches and other cut features contained pottery of Late Iron Age and Roman period with further post-medieval remains also excavated (Brittain 2009).

Accounts of the archaeology of the area around Ridley Hall have recently been provided elsewhere (Appleby and Webb 2009; Webb *et al* 2006) and this will not be reiterated in detail here. Provided below is a brief overview of the results of a number of excavations which have been undertaken in recent years in the vicinity of Ridley Hall, including at Newnham College in 2010; 7 West Road in 2009; Newnham College in 2006; Selwyn College in 2003, 5 West Road in 2002 and at the Institute of Criminology on the Sidgwick site also in 2002.

Early in 2012 Archaeological Solutions (AS) undertook an evaluation including test pitting on land adjacent to 5 Spens Avenue, c.800m west of Ridley Hall in advance of a housing development. The trenches revealed a number of pits, most likely used for quarrying, tentatively dated to the Roman period on the basis of abraded pottery recovered (Barlow & Brampton 2012).

In autumn 2010 two trenches were opened in the gardens of Newnham College in an attempt to ascertain the location and character of human burials excavated in the 1930's, deemed to be either Romano-British or Anglo Saxon (Hills 2010). The 2010 excavations were supervised by Access Cambridge Archaeology and carried out by sixth-form students on an aspiration-raising residential educational programme. No evidence for human burials was present in the excavated trenches, but these revealed a series of ditches of mid to late Roman date, an undated beam slot, a large quarry pit of probable post-medieval date, a considerable quantity of un-stratified post-medieval pottery mostly dating to the late 16th to early 18th century and a modern path (Lewis & Ranson 2013).

In 2009 two trenches and two test pits were excavated by the CAU at 7 West Road, just to the north of Ridley Hall. These revealed a probable later medieval/post medieval field boundary with associated features, evidence for Victorian quarrying and an Anglo-Saxon quern stone, probably residual but suggestive of activity nearby dating to that period (Collins 2009).

In 2006 work undertaken by the CAU at the former kitchen and buttery at Newnham College (situated immediately west of Ridley Hall) revealed several phases of Roman enclosure ditches, dating to both the Early and Late Roman periods. The large amount of material of Roman date recovered from the ditches further suggests that there was a Roman settlement or farmstead nearby. The excavations also revealed a buried medieval plough soil that covered the earlier Roman ditches (Webb, Timberlake & Armor 2006).

In 2003 archaeological work at Selwyn College, to the north west of the Ridley Hall site, uncovered further Roman features, including a field or boundary ditch and a Roman plough soil. Post-medieval activity was also noted, with evidence for 18th century gravel extraction and a 17th century plough soil above the Roman plough soil (Regan 2003).

In 2002 a large open area excavation was undertaken by the CAU at the Institute of Criminology site, focusing on the footprint and in advance of the new building. Evidence for a settlement of early Anglo Saxon date was recovered, with one large hall identified and two other features identified as probable 'sunken featured buildings'. A number of pits were also excavated with material dating to the 6th and 7th centuries AD. Two possible further buildings were identified near a later ditch (Armour, Evans & Tipper 2003). In the same year, excavations nearby at No. 5 West Road recorded an undated ditch system, which had two sherds of Middle Anglo Saxon Ipswich Ware in the top soil. These were found with a single piece of lava quern stone and it seems probable that the ditches here are contemporary with the early Anglo Saxon settlement on the Sidgwick site (Mackay 2002). An Anglo Saxon cemetery was excavated prior to extension work at Kings College Hostel which also dates to the 7th century and may also be contemporary with the early Anglo Saxon settlement to its south. Twenty-one burials were excavated, five had grave goods and there was a mix of ages and sexes identified (Dodwell 2001; Dodwell, Lucy & Tipper 2004).

Archaeological investigations not involving excavation included a geophysical survey in 2009 which included magnetometry and resistivity, carried out on the lawn immediately north of the Principal's Garden site at Ridley Hall by Archaeology Rheesearch Group (Archaeology Rheesearch Group 2009). The most distinct anomaly was a north-south orientated linear feature which, if its alignment continued southwards unchanged, would cross the 2012 excavation site in the Principal's Garden. All anomalies recorded were considered to be of recent origin, but it was noted that the alignment of this feature was similar to a ditch of Roman date revealed in the 2009 trial trench (F.1) (Brittain 2009).

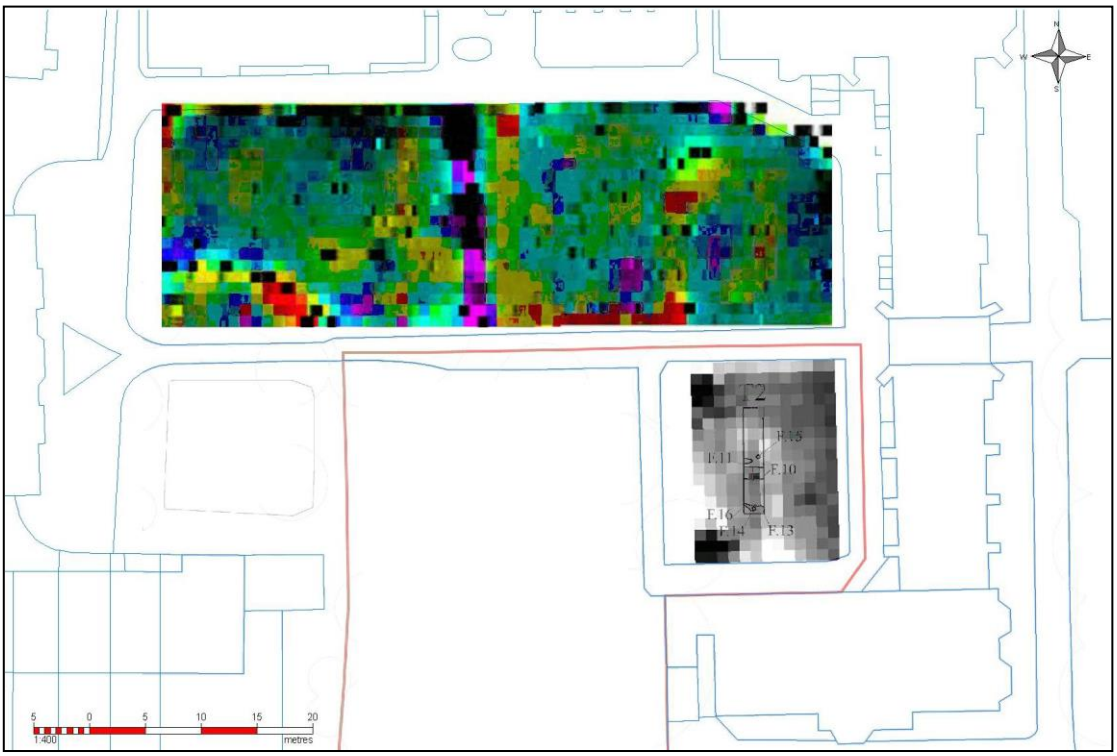

Figure 4: *Magnetometry and resistivity results from Ridley Hall, 2009 (black/purple/blue = low, white/red = high (courtesy of Archaeological Rheesearch)*

An historic evaluation of the area and of the development of the buildings of the college (Donald Insall Associates 2009) indicated that the college was founded on land which had previously been in long-term use as fields, and that the area of the proposed new development in the Principal's Garden had not previously been occupied by built

structures. This concurs with Guillebaud's assessment that there is no known history of buildings or other recent settlement on this site (Guillebaud 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009).

Overall, excavations in the area around Ridley Hall suggest very limited prehistoric activity despite the presence of a high status 3rd-2nd century BC burial at Newnham Croft, adjacent to St Mark's Church, Barton Road (Fox 1923). This pattern changes in the Roman period, with the widespread appearance of evidence for rural settlement and associated fields including ditches, pits, roads and burials ranging across the 2nd – 4th centuries AD, across and beyond the present site of Newnham College (Britain 2009). Activity in the 6th and 7th centuries AD including settlement, cemetery and fields is attested by excavations on the present Sidgwick Site. After the 7th century, however, settlement and burial alike appear to cease and, the area seems to have been given over to fields until the colleges were constructed in the 19th century.

7. Results of the excavations at Ridley Hall

A number of linear ditches, pits and post holes were revealed by the 2012 excavations at Ridley Hall (figure 5) and will be discussed in feature number order below. Finds were also recovered from the both the top and sub soils. Two small trench extensions were also dug by hand, Extension A and Extension B, with the finds separated according to the individual layers. Trench 1 of the 2009 evaluation trench (Brittain 2009) was also encountered but its western extension (trench 1a) was not able to be definitely identified.

F.1 was a large north-south orientated linear feature measuring c.14.6m in length running through the middle of the site. Five 1m slots were excavated through it, labelled A-E. A flint flake of possible prehistoric date was picked up off the surface of the ditch after machining but prior to excavation.

Slot A, located next to the baulk, was the southernmost of the five slots and measured 2.96m in width and 1.3m deep. The sides of the linear feature at this point were found to be gently sloping to a relatively flat base [2] and the cut was filled with a single fill (1) of a fairly compact dark orange brown sandy silt with occasional gravel and charcoal inclusions. The finds consisted of a metal button, clay pipe, coal, window glass, an iron nail, oyster shell, a small fragment of red CBM and two fragments of possible building sandstone. Sheep/goat, horse and dog bone were found with a number of unidentified bone fragments, three flint flakes, a possible flint blade, a single piece of Tin Glazed Earthenware and two sherds of 19th century pottery (see appendix 11.1).

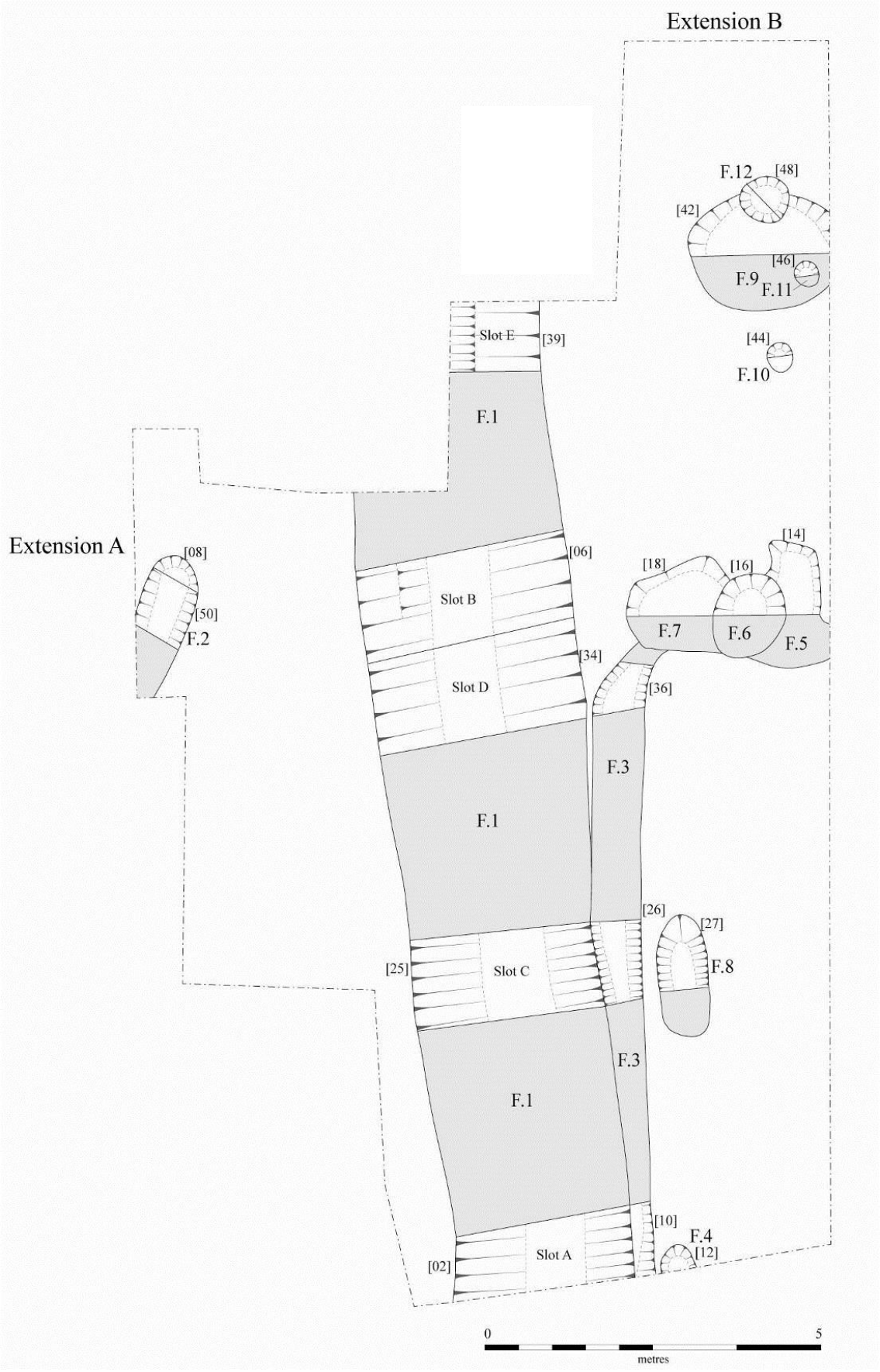

Figure 5: *Site plan, Ridley Hall 2012*

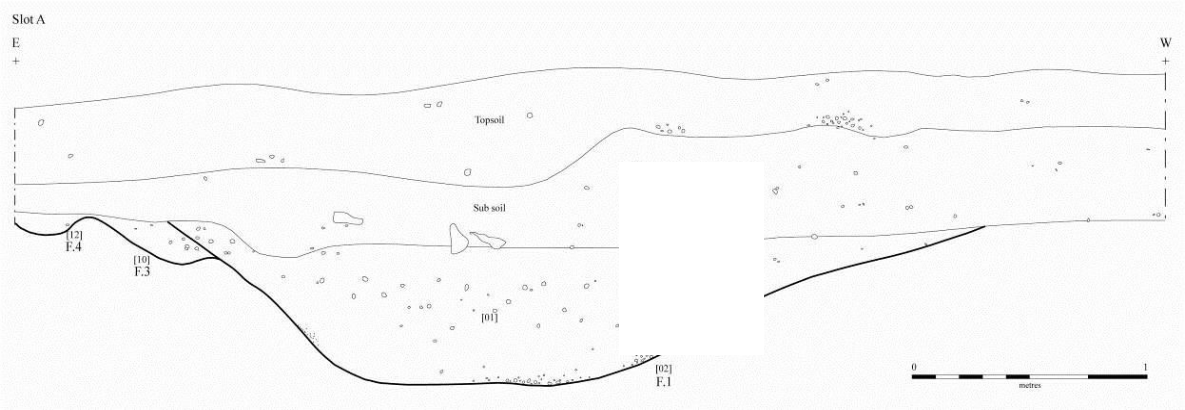

Figure 6: *Section through Slot A of F.1, F.3 and F.4.*

Slot B was excavated towards the northern end of the ditch, between slot D and slot E, and was 3.35m in width and 0.69m in depth. The sides of the linear feature at this point were gently sloping but slightly irregular to a gently rounded base [6]. The cut was filled with a main bottom fill of (5) a mid-orange-brown compact sandy silt with frequent medium and small stone inclusions, moderate rooting and a piece of charcoal. Seven primary and five secondary flint flakes were identified with three blades and one possible Mesolithic tool, with cow bone and unidentified bone fragments which were all found along with a single sherd of Ely Ware. A mid fill (4) was recorded as a dark grey compact sandy silt with moderate gravel and occasional small stone inclusions and moderate rooting. Coal was found with three flint flakes and a single piece of burnt flint, sheep bone, unidentified bone fragments and two sherds of Roman pottery. The uppermost cap fill of the ditch (3) was a dark brown/black sandy silt with occasional small stone and gravel inclusions. The finds consist of coal, oyster shell, window glass, degraded green bottle glass, red fragments of CBM, tile and two fragments of worked sandstone possibly from a building. An undated, undecorated copper-alloy folded bar was also found, which may have been a finger ring.

A range of animal bone was also excavated from fill (3) in slot B, consisting of sheep/goat, cow, pig, horse and rabbit/hare and other unidentified bone fragments along with five flint flakes, three pieces of Roman pottery and seven sherds of Early/Middle Saxon hand-built wares.

Slot C was excavated towards the southern end of the ditch, between slots A and D and measured 1.99m in width and 0.68m in depth. The base of the feature here was flat and the sides were gently sloping [25]. It was filled with a single fill (28) of a homogenous brown sandy silt with occasional small stones. The finds consist of small pieces of both coal and oyster shell with 22 flint flakes, bone from a sheep/goat, an unidentified bone fragment, one large burnt flint nodule and a single sherd of Roman pottery.

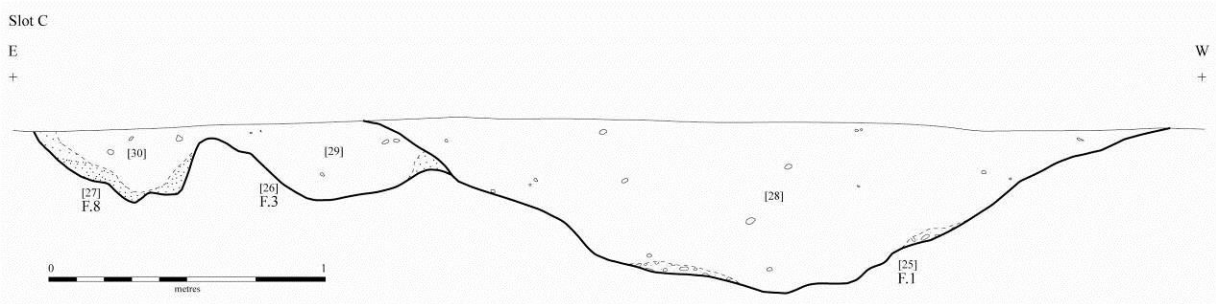

Figure 7: *Section through Slot B of F.1, F.3 and F.8*

Slot D was excavated as a continuation of slot B to the south and measured 3m in width and 0.65m in depth. The sides of the feature here were gently sloping and quite shallow on the western edge dipping to a flat/slightly rounded base [34]. The basal fill of the ditch (33) was a light brown sandy silt with occasional small to medium stone inclusions. Fifteen sherds of Roman pottery were excavated with sheet/goat and cow bone, as well as five flint flakes. The mid fill (32) was a compact mid brown sandy silt with moderate small stone and gravel inclusions and moderate rooting. A single piece of Roman pottery was excavated along with dog bone, 11 flint flakes and a possible polished burnt stone. The uppermost fill (31) was a mid to dark brown compact sandy silt with occasional medium stone inclusions. The finds consist of a single piece of tile with a sherd of Iron Age pottery and two sherds of Roman pottery, with sheep/goat, cow and pig bone with a large number of unidentified bone fragments. An additional six primary and four secondary flint flakes were also recorded and one abraded and frost-pitted flint nodule.

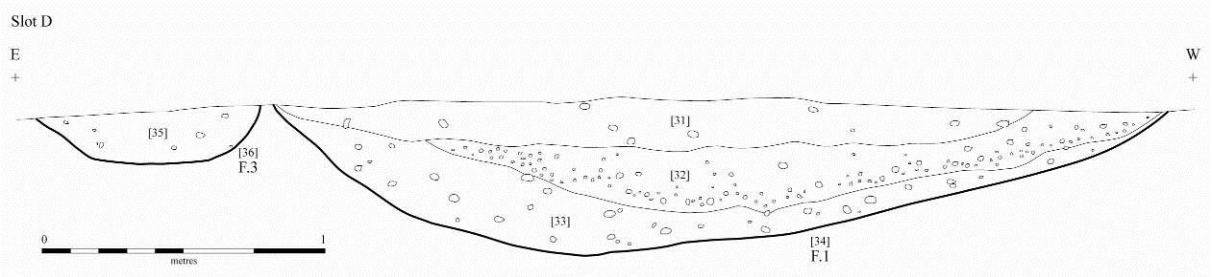

Figure 8*: Section through Slot D of F.1 and F.3*

Slot E was excavated along the northern baulk of the trench and due to the shape of the trench was only partially excavated to a width of 1.5m and a depth visible of 0.38m. Only the eastern side of the linear feature was visible and was here gently sloping in nature, although quite irregular [39]. A single fill was also visible (38) and comprised an orange-brown sandy silt with occasional large flint inclusions. The finds consisted of two unidentifiable fragments of animal bone and one flint flake. (37) is a layer that was only visible over the northern end of the trench under the sub soil (52) (discussed below) that here also formed a layer infilling the top of the ditch. It was a dark grey sandy, stony silt with and occasional charcoal inclusions and bone of sheep/goat and cow as well as two unidentified fragments of bone and two worked flint flakes.

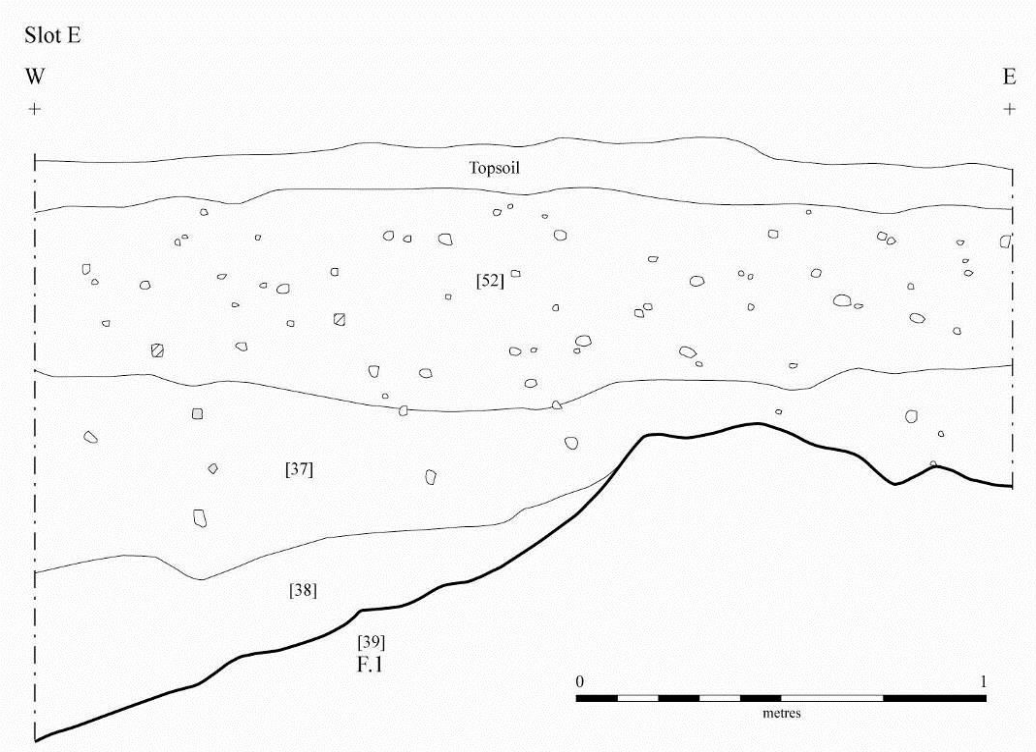

Figure 9: *Section through Slot E of F.1*

F.2 was interpreted as northeast – southwest orientated linear feature, exposed along 2.2m of its length. It terminated near to the western trench edge, and only a very short length of the feature measuring 0.3m in width and c. 0.15m in depth was exposed in the original excavated area, leading to it being provisionally interpreted as a small pit or post-hole. The sides of F.2 where first exposed were moderately sloping to a rounded base [8] and the cut was filled with a single fill (7) of grey compact silty clay with occasional pea gravel and small stone inclusions. Finds from fill (7) comprised a small fragment of red CBM, a piece of charcoal, sheep bone, bone fragments not identifiable to species, three flint flakes and a fragment of a single-sided composite comb made of bone or antler and dating to the late 4th to the 8th century AD. The trench was then extended (Extension A) in order to ascertain the form of the feature. Extension A was entirely excavated by hand. A continuation of feature F.2 was exposed which showed it to be of linear, not sub-circular, form, extending in a south-westerly direction. The slot across the feature (F.2) was widened to 0.8m, showing F.2 to become deeper away from its terminus, to a maximum depth where excavated of 0.4m [50]. There was a single fill (49) of a mid to dark orange-grey sandy silt with frequent rooting and small stone inclusions. No finds were recovered from F.2 within Extension A.

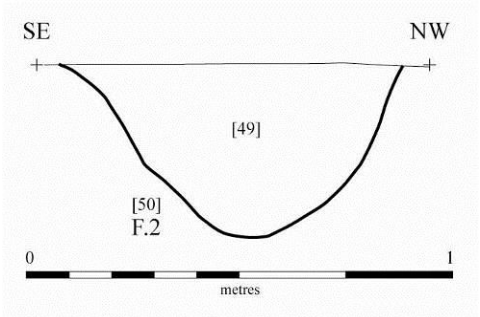

Figure 10: *Section through F.2*

F.3 was a smaller north-south orientated linear feature measuring 9.4m in length that was cut by F.1 along its western edge, before curving to the east mid trench. This end of the ditch is unknown as it is also truncated by the three pits, F.7, F.6 and F.5. It also appears to be turning in the section in slot A, but is too heavily truncated for this to be exactly ascertained. Three slots were excavated through the ditch and were incorporated into slots A, C and D across F.1.

Slot A was excavated next to the baulk and showed F.3 here to measure 0.2m in depth. At this point the ditch was too heavily truncated to allow any other measurements. Only the eastern side was visible and was moderately steep and straight, leading to a flat base [10]. It was filled with a single fill (9) of a mottled greyish brown sandy silt with patches of orange sand and occasional gravel inclusions. No finds were present.

Slot C showed F.3 here in the middle of the trench to measure 0.91m wide and 0.31m in depth. The sides of F.3 were here quite steep, although slightly irregular with a rounded base [26]. It was filled with a single fill (29) of a brown sandy silt with occasional small gravel inclusions. The only finds from this feature were burnt flint.

Slot D was excavated at the point where F.3 started to turn to the east and measured 0.8m in width and 0.34m deep. The sides of F.3 were here steeply sloping and the base was quite flat [36]. It was filled with a single dark yellowish brown sand (35) with occasional stone inclusions. One piece of burnt flint constituted the only find from this feature.

F.4 was a small circular feature only half exposed along the southern extent of the trench. It measured 0.4m in length, 0.65m in width and 0.15m in depth with shallow sides to a flattish base [12]. It had a single fill (11) of a mottled orangey grey/brown sandy silt with patches of orange sand and occasional gravel inclusions. No finds were excavated from this feature.

F.5, **F.6** and **F.7** were three inter-cutting irregular oval and circular features close to the eastern edge of the trench. All three features were half-sectioned with the northern half excavated in each case, but there were no visible cuts identifiable between the features and all three features were covered by a moderately compact black sandy silt layer (19).

F.5 was the eastern most of the three inter-cutting features, measuring c.1.85m in length, 0.36m in width and 0.19m in depth and was an irregular oval feature with gently sloping sides to a flattish base [14]. It was filled with a single fill (13) of a mid orange-brown soft sandy silt with occasional gravel inclusions and moderate rooting. No finds were present.

F.6 was the middle of the three inter-cutting features, a sub-circular feature measuring 0.54m x 0.9m across and 0.28m in depth with sides sloping gently to a rounded base [16]. It had a single fill (15) of a mid orange-brown soft sandy silt with occasional gravel inclusions and moderate rooting. The finds consist of coal, green bottle glass, clay pipe, a corroded plate of metal, red flat tile, small fragments of red and yellow CBM and oyster shell. Cow bone and an unidentified bone fragment were also recovered with one flint blade and four flakes.

F.7 was the western of the three inter-cutting features and was irregular oval in shape and measured 1.3m in length, 0.7m in width and 0.12m deep. The sides were gently sloping to a flat base [18]. It had a single fill (17) of a mid orange-brown soft sandy silt with occasional gravel inclusions and moderate rooting. The finds consist of clay pipe, yellow flat tile, oyster shell, coal, two secondary flint flakes and a single piece of cow bone with

individual sherds of Glazed Red Earthenware, German Stoneware, Staffordshire Slipware and Nottingham/Derby Stoneware.

F.8 was a lozenge-shaped feature orientated north-south and measuring 1.8m in length, 0.7m in width and 0.19m deep. The feature was half-sectioned with the northern half excavated, the eastern side was gently sloping while the western side was steeper and it had an irregular, but slightly rounded base [27]. It was filled with a single light brown sandy silt with occasional small stone inclusions (30), with a single flint flake only recovered.

F.9 was a sub-circular feature, 2.1m in length, 1.7m in width and 0.43m in depth. It was half-sectioned with the northern half of the feature excavated. The feature was quite steep on its western side, whilst the eastern side was moderately shallow, but was also truncated by the baulk on the eastern side of the trench. The feature had a flattish base [42] and was filled with a lower compact red/brown sandy silt with frequent medium stone inclusions and moderate rooting (41). No finds were noted. The upper fill (40) was a loose grey/brown sandy silt with occasional small stone and charcoal inclusions and moderate rooting. Pig bone, an unidentified bone fragment, three primary and three secondary flint flakes, a flint nodule and a Mesolithic flake core were all found along with a fragment of worked bone which may have been a needle, awl or pin beater.

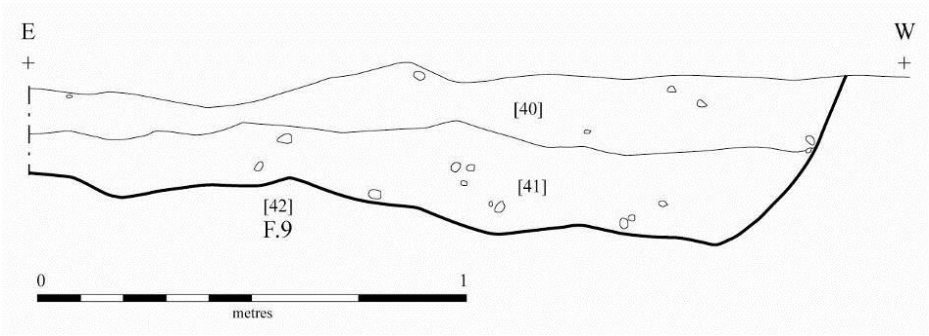

Figure 11: *Section through F.9*

F.10 was a small circular feature, measuring 0.4m in length by 0.4m in width and 0.07m in depth. The northern half was excavated and it had steep sides to a flat base [44]. It was filled with a single soft black/brown sandy silt with moderate small stone inclusions and frequent rooting (43). No finds were recovered.

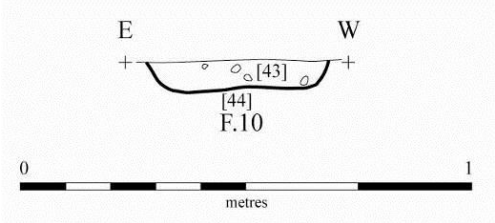

Figure 12: *Section through F.10*

F.11 was a small circular feature, cut into the top of F.9 and measuring 0.35m in length, 0.35m in width and 0.12m in depth. The northern half was excavated to have steeply sloping sides to a flat base [46]. It was filled with a single soft dark black silty clay, occasional small stone inclusions and frequent rooting (45). No finds were recovered.

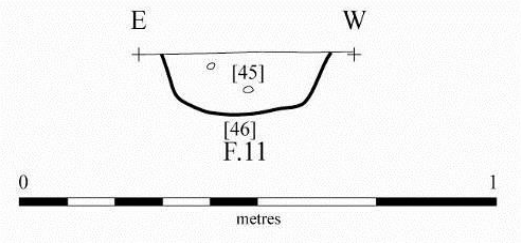

Figure 13: *Section through F.11*

F.12 was a small oval feature, cut into the northern side of F.9 and measured 0.75m in length, 0.6m in width and 0.45m in depth. The eastern half was excavated to have very steep to near vertical sides and a rounded base [48]. It had a single fill of a loose light grey sand with frequent stone inclusions (47). A single piece of slag was the only find recovered.

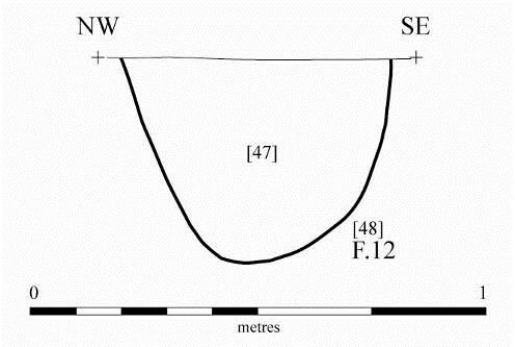

Figure 14: *Section through F.12*

As mentioned above, two extensions (Extension A and Extension B) were added to the main trench, both of which were dug by hand.

Extension A measured 4m long by 1m wide and was situated on the western boundary of the trench where it extended this to the north, south and west. The purpose was to expose more of F.2 and to see if it was associated with any further features. Finds were separated into those derived from the top soil (20), the sub soil (21) and from a grey layer underlying the sub soil (54).

The top soil from extension A (20) contained a number of finds, consisting of oyster shell, many fragments of ceramic flower pot, red flat tile, fragments of red CBM, clear window glass, green bottle glass, corroded iron nails and bolts, part of a horseshoe, a small metal hoop, clay pipe, slate, clear container glass, orange bottle glass and yellow flat tile. A single bone from a sheep/goat was also found along with 12 fragments of unidentified bone. Two sherds of Glazed Red Earthenware pot were also found with a single sherd of Staffordshire White Salt-Glazed Stoneware and 27 pieces of 19th century pottery.

The sub soil from extension A (21) contained flat red and yellow tiles, slate, degraded green bottle glass, coal, clay pipe, clear window and container glass, cockle and oyster shell, yellow and red CBM - some possibly burnt - and corroded iron nails. A number of bones were found, identified as sheep/goat, cow, pig and chicken, with a number of unidentified bone fragments. A wide range of pottery sherds were excavated from this layer, including single sherds of both Roman and Early/Middle Saxon hand-built wares, and single sherds of Ely Ware, Late Medieval Oxidized Ware, Glazed Red Earthenware, German Stoneware, Metropolitan Slipware, Staffordshire Slipware, Nottingham/Derby

Stoneware and Staffordshire White Salt-Glazed Stoneware. 18 sherds of 19th century pottery were also recovered, along with a copper-alloy book-clasp that dates to the 16th or 17th century AD.

The grey layer under the sub soil of extension A (54) contained single fragments of both oyster shell and undated red flat tile and two sherds of Early/Middle Saxon hand-built ware. Bone from sheep/goat, cow, horse, birds and a number of unidentified bone fragments were also recovered along with six worked flint flakes.

Extension B, located in the far north eastern corner of the trench, was excavated with the aim of establishing whether there were any additional features located to the north of the cluster constituted by F.9, F.10, F.11 and F.12. As in Extension A, finds were separated into those derived from the top soil (23) and sub soil (24), and the continuation of the grey layer under the sub soil (53).

The top soil from extension B (23) contained fragments of modern drain, red and yellow flat tiles, oyster shell, clay pipe, a small pink hair clip with a flower on it, coal, slate, clear window glass, green bottle glass, fragments of red flower pot, corroded iron nails, fragments of red CBM and three pieces of slag. Sheep/goat and pig bone were also recorded with a number of unidentified bone fragments, as well as a single heavily oxidised flint flake. A range of pottery wares were also identified, including three sherds of Late Medieval Oxidized Ware, five sherds of Glazed Red Earthenware, three sherds of Staffordshire Slipware, one sherd of English Stoneware, four sherds of Nottingham/Derby Stoneware, two sherds of Creamware and 84 pieces of 19th century pottery.

The sub soil (24) contained fragments of red CBM, slag, clay pipe, clear window glass, corroded iron nails, red and yellow flat tiles, mortar, snail and oyster shell, coal, green bottle glass and potentially slightly burnt sandstone tile. A small brass thimble was also found, which likely dates to the late 18th or 19th century. A mix of identified species of bones, sheep/goat, cow, pig, horse, duck and birds were all found with a number of unidentified bone fragments. Sixteen flint flakes were recorded with two pieces of burnt flint and the pottery consists of four sherds of Roman pottery found with two sherds of Late Medieval Oxidized Ware, single sherds of both German Stoneware and Anglo-Dutch Tin Glazed Earthenware, three sherds of Nottingham/Derby Stoneware and 24 pieces of 19th century pottery.

The grey layer (53) contained coal, fragments of red CBM, oyster and cockle shells, red flat tile and clay pipe. Sheep and cow bone were found with a number of unidentified bone fragments. A fragment of worked bone was also recorded that had been tapered to a point and may have been utilised as an awl. Its date is unknown. A single primary flint flake was also found with five sherds of 19th century pottery.

The spoil heaps on site from the machine were also scanned with a metal detector as well as some of the finds being collected off their surface or some deeper searching through them by hand by interested members of the public. The machined top soil (22) had a range of finds collected, including oyster shell, clear window glass, clear container glass, red and yellow flat tiles, fragments of red CBM, a metal button, corroded iron bolts and nails, fragments of modern drain, clay pipe, fragments of red flowerpot, fragments of modern white glazed flat tile, slag, a metal hook, brick fragments with mortar, a strip of decorated copper, a large piece of worked sandstone, probably from a building, and a piece of red CBM with either slag or vitrified material attached to its side. A large amount of animal bone was also found, with sheep/goat, cow, pig, horse, cat and dog all identified, along with a high number of unidentified bone fragments. Two flint blades, one fragment of burnt flint and a flint end/side scraper were also picked out of the spoil heap, the scraper

possibly dating to the Middle/Late Bronze Age. A range of pottery types were also collected off the spoil heap, including a single sherd of Iron Age pottery, three pieces of Roman pottery, two sherds of Early/Middle Saxon hand-built wares, three sherds of Early Medieval Sandy Ware, a single sherd of Ely Ware, three sherds of Late Medieval Oxidized Ware, four sherds of Glazed Red Earthenware, two sherds of Staffordshire Slipware, four sherds of English Stoneware, four sherds of Nottingham/Derby Stoneware, 16 sherds of Creamware and 90 pieces of 19th century pottery.

The evaluation trench that was excavated by the CAU in 2009 was identified along the eastern side of the trench and a number of finds were assessed as derived from the backfill (51), consisting of clay pipe, red CBM, modern black and red flat tile, red flat tile and pink/yellow CBM with sherds of Late Medieval Oxidized Ware, Glazed Red Earthenware and three 19th century sherds. Two flint flakes were also recorded.

8. Discussion

8.1 Prehistoric period

Large amounts of worked flint of mostly indeterminate date but including flakes and blades along with a scraper and a core attest to intermittent prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the excavated site ranging from the Mesolithic to the later Iron Age. However, the only feature identified as likely to be of prehistoric date is a slight linear feature (F.3) possibly of late Iron Age date, while it is possible that some of the undated sub-circular features on the eastern side of the trench may also be prehistoric (although an Anglo-Saxon date for these remains an alternative possibility).

Large numbers of worked flints recovered across the site, including a range of tools, flakes, blades and fire-cracked flint, were interpreted as mostly residual. The large ditch (F.1) yielded flint flakes from all excavated slots through upper, mid and basal layers. A single tool from (5), the basal fill of slot B, may be Mesolithic in date; while a scraper found in the machined top soil is of probable Middle-Late Bronze Age in date. Pit F.9, located in the north of the excavated site, contained a small number of worked flints, mainly flakes, including a Mesolithic flint core excavated from the upper fill of the pit. This is certainly residual in this context, and it is likely that the other flints in this feature are also residual, incorporated in the fill as the cut features gradually silted up or were backfilled. Other features (F.2, F.5, F.6 and F.7) also contained worked flint thought to be residual, overall constituting evidence of recurrent prehistoric activity in the area over a broad period of time even if no securely dated contemporary features have yet been identified.

It is possible that more substantial evidence survives for prehistoric activity of very late date: the small shallow ditch (F.3) that runs parallel to F.1 was interpreted as of possible Late Iron Age date, as only burnt flint was recovered from it and its western side was removed by a ditch dating to the 1st - 2nd century AD (F.1) (discussed below). F.3 may have been a small boundary marker for a field, or settlement sited in the unexcavated area to the east of site. Tentative support for a Late Iron Age date for F.3 is provided by two sherds of Late Iron Age grog-tempered pottery identified from the machined top soil and the upper fills of the large ditch F.1. This is residual within F.1, incorporated during its deliberate backfilling which presumably incorporated material lying immediately adjacent. In addition, small pits (F.8 and F.4) immediately east of F.3 may also be Late Iron Age in date, as they are closely associated with F.3 and the only find was a flint flake excavated

from F.8. If they are indeed prehistoric, these pits may have been marker pits, used to indicate where F.3 should be sited. They could, however, be of later date.
There is thus circumstantial evidence for settlement in the vicinity in the Late Iron Age. Within the confines of the small extent of the trench, the extent and limits of this activity cannot be determined. The gravel terraces of the River Cam have long been identified as attractive to prehistoric populations (Fox 1923), and the 2012 excavations at Ridley Hall provide additional evidence for the recurrent use of this part of the landscape.

8.2 Roman period

Activity on the Ridley Hall site intensified early in the Roman period, which saw a large north-south orientated ditch extend across the site and evidence of domestic activity spanning the 1st- 2nd century AD.

The most notable excavated feature of Roman date is the large north-south oriented ditch (F.1) which is undoubtedly the same feature as that exposed in the 2009 evaluation (Brittain 2009, figure 2, F.1). The 2012 excavations showed this ditch to continue beyond the excavated area to both its north and south. The alignment of the ditch was very similar to that of the low-resistance feature identified immediately to the north by geophysical survey in 2009, and although this was then considered likely to be modern, it now seems clear that this must represent a northerly continuation of F.1. Running almost due north-south in a straight line for more than 60m, F.1 appears to be a boundary feature of some substance.

Roman pottery was found in three of the slots dug through the large north-south orientated ditch (F.1) and throughout the ditch fills, with 15 sherds coming from the basal fill (33) of Slot D. These seem to suggest there were periods of deliberate backfilling of/deposition into the ditch as well as natural silting up of the feature. Although there is no surviving evidence for any bank flanking F.1, the absence of any cut features immediately along the western side of F.1 tentatively hints at the former presence of such a feature. In addition, use of material from such a bank to backfill the ditch would explain the presence of the Iron Age pottery in the upper fills of F.1: material incorporated into the bank during its construction (sometime after the pottery was manufactured) would be relocated into the ditch during its (later) backfilling.

The Romano-British pottery assemblage from F.1 is characterised as domestic, dominated by grey wares with some sherds of Samian and two sherds of mortarium, used for food preparation. The quantity and character of the assemblage overall suggests that (F.1) was sited close to an Early Romano-British settlement that lay beyond the confines of the trench excavated in 2012. The assemblage seems to date to the early Roman period, with datable wares all belonging to the 1st – 2nd century AD.

The animal bone found in the Romano-British contexts indicates a meat diet dominated by cow, but with the additional presence of both sheep/goat and pig. All common domesticated species are represented in the assemblage but, with the exception of the single find of a dog tooth, the assemblage includes no non-meat species or wild fauna. These results are broadly similar to those identified from the evaluation at Ridley Hall in 2009. They are likely to represent food waste from a domestic site, with a dietary preference for beef thought to have come from the continent with the Roman legions invading Britain (Rajkovaca 2009).

Overall, the evidence seems to indicate that an already-settled landscape around the excavated area was reorganised in the early Roman period when a linear ditch (possibly

flanked by a bank) was constructed, probably near a Romanised domestic rural settlement which lay beyond the excavated area. This settlement appears either to have been nearer to the excavated area than Late Iron Age settlement had been, or was larger and/or more intensively occupied, given the greater amount of pottery recovered. The orientation of the ditch (F.1) appears to be similar to that of F.2/F.4 identified on the Newnham Buttery site in 2009 (Webb et al 2006; Brittain 2009 12), although there is very little of this excavated to allow its alignment to be established with confidence. It is also parallel with Grange Road, which has been proposed as preserving the line of a Romano-British trackway (Webb et al 2006, 31). These alignments are all perpendicular to other postulated routes across the area (ibid.), and together these may hint at the presence of a gridded pattern of roads, settlement and fields across this area in the early Roman period.

The excavations in 2009 and 2012 at Ridley Hall indicate domestic activity of 1st – 2nd century AD date in the form of both ditches and pits. This area was ideally situated to the east of the main Roman road that led into the Roman town of Cambridge from the south (centred around Castle Hill and known as Duroliponte) and west of the River Cam. The Ridley Hall site seems to be earlier that that noted in archaeological excavation at Newnham College Buttery, less than 200m from the 2012 Ridley Hall trench, identified several phases of ditches dating to 2nd – 4th centuries AD (Webb et al 2006), with a similar pattern identified in 2010 excavations in the college garden (Lewis and Ranson 2013). It is now apparent from these successive excavations that the area along Sidgwick Avenue was characterised in the Romano-British period by domestic settlement of essentially rural character, possibly arranged as one or more farmsteads or a small village, surrounded by fields marked out by boundary ditches. It seems likely that this succeeded (and possibly continued) later prehistoric occupation in the same general area. The absence of any Romano-British material of 3rd or 4th century date from the Ridley Hall site suggests the site was by then no longer in intensive use, a period also of decline in the Roman town of Cambridge. Settlement by this time may have favoured the Newnham College Buttery site where a later Roman-British phase of activity was evident.

8.3 Anglo-Saxon period

A particularly important discovery to come from the 2012 excavation at Ridley Hall was the first recorded evidence for activity of Anglo-Saxon date south of Sidgwick Avenue. Although there were no structures identified that could be categorically dated to the Anglo-Saxon period, twelve sherds of early/middle Anglo-Saxon hand-built wares dated to the 5th – 7th centuries AD were recovered from the excavations. Nine of these came from contexts which suggest they are likely to relate to domestic occupation in the immediate vicinity, overlying the early Roman ditch, which was evidently still visible as a slight depression.

The majority of the early Anglo-Saxon pottery (seven sherds) came from the upper fill (3) of F.1 (slot B). This fill (3) was considered to be of 5th – 7th century date, incorporating as residual three sherds of Roman pottery and some worked flint. The remaining two sherds of early Anglo-Saxon pottery were recovered from the thin 'grey silty clay layer' (54) observed above the natural and beneath the sub-soil where the latter was removed by hand. (54) contained animal bone including sheep/goat, cow, horse and bird but no other pottery and was identified as also of early Anglo-Saxon date. Two other fills may be contemporary: the first is fill (7) found in the northern terminus of F.2 was identical to (54), which extended across and beyond the top of F.2. (7) also contained animal bone including sheep/goat and other unidentified fragments along with a fragment of bone or antler comb of 5th-9th century AD date. Secondly, the uppermost fill (40) of the pit (F.9) in the north eastern corner of site was a loose grey/brown sandy silt which also appeared

very similar to (54) and was interpreted as likely to be the same deposit or a near-contemporary.
The similarity noted between fills (3) and (7) and layer (54) strongly suggests they relate to the same depositional process which generated a broad spread of material which extended across much of the excavated site, intruding into shallow surface depressions left by F.1 and F.2, where it was recorded during excavation as fills (3) and (7). (54) was present across much of the northern half of the trench, was relatively rich in animal bone and contained pottery of early/middle Anglo-Saxon date only. (54) (with (3) and (7)) was thus interpreted as an early Anglo-Saxon layer, probably relating to domestic settlement in the near vicinity. It is possible that this material was deliberately used to level up existing depressions where ditches F.1 and F.2 and pit F.9. had not been completely filled in. It appears therefore that these features were still visible as shallow depressions in the 5th/6th century AD.

The identification of domestic material of Anglo-Saxon date on the Ridley Hall site invites the question whether any of the cut features identified during the excavations may also be of 5th – 7th century date. Certainly, a number of these features are similar in form to those found on the Institute of Criminology site in 2002 (Dodwell *et al* 2004) which revealed a settlement of similar date barely 100m north of the Ridley Hall site. The Criminology site exposed clear evidence for earth-fast timber buildings and sunken-floored buildings (not found at Ridley Hall), and also a number of other small shallow sub-circular features collectively identified tentatively as indicating 'some manner of small shed-like structure or working area' (ibid., 114). These features 'showed diverse fill characteristics and were of differing sizes, ranging from 0.11-0.65m in diameter and 0.1 -0.4m in depth' (ibid.), a description almost exactly matching that of several features (F.4, F.8 - F12) in the 2012 Ridley Hall excavation for which no date could be established. Given the close spatial association of 5th – 7th century spread deposits with these, it does remain a possibility that some or all of these features may be of early Anglo-Saxon date (although it should be born in the mind that they could equally well be of prehistoric or even post-medieval date).

The animal bone recovered from the dateable Anglo-Saxon layers show a reduction in the volume of pig compared to the Romano-British assemblage, although beef still appears to have dominated the diet. In addition, in contrast to the Romano-British assemblage the faunal remains from the Anglo-Saxon period, while still including the major domesticated species of sheep/goat, cow and pig, also include possible wild fauna of rabbit/hare and geese as well as presumed non-meat animals such as horse. The slightly more diverse fauna may suggest a preference for a wider range of species or that the wild resources of the local area were more readily utilised, compared to the more restricted resources inferred by the domesticate-dominated diet of the Romano-British settlement.

The limits of the extent of Anglo-Saxon domestic activity at Ridley Hall were not found within the area exposed in the 2012 excavations and it therefore considered is highly likely that this extends further, especially to the north and west of the area excavated in 2012. In seeking to relate this to the evidence from Institute of Criminology site, it is notable that this also was considered 'likely to extend over a considerable area' with there being 'no possibility of establishing the total extent of the (Criminology) settlement with any certainty' (Dodwell et al 2004, 121). Given the proximity of the Ridley Hall and Criminology sites (separated by little more than 100m), it is likely these two sites constitute part of the same settlement. This may have been a single large site, but is more likely to have been at any one time a smaller settlement, thus corroborating the suggestion made in 2004 that the Criminology site was 'part of a larger settlement complex, which was also the result of a gradual movement along the terrace edge' (ibid.). This accords with other known 5th – 7th century settlements (Hamerow 1993; Hamerow 2002; Powlesland 2003), including the recent nearby example of Cottenham (Mortimer 2000), which are now widely recognised

as generally consisting of 'one or a series of shifting, loosely arranged little farmsteads/households, or relatively equal size' (Ulmschneider 2011, 159). Apparently larger sites are usually often the product of settlement shift, and the settlement pattern overall is generally highly dispersed (Lewis et al 1997; Parry 2006; Rippon 2008; Thomas 2012). The Ridley Hall/Institute of Criminology site provides another example of this, and notwithstanding the difficulties of dating which makes it impossible to establish with any certainty which part of the site is the earlier, it is possible to very tentatively suggest that the Ridley Hall area (pottery dating to 5th - 7th centuries) may have predated the Criminology site (pottery dating to 6th – 7th centuries).

The discovery of evidence for early Anglo-Saxon domestic settlement at Ridley Hall raises another interesting question, namely whether there is likely to be any connection between this site and human skeletons found c. 200m to the west in Newnham College in the 1930s (Hills 2010), which have not been securely dated, and are considered to be either Romano-British or Anglo-Saxon. The discovery of Roman settlement remains and ditches elsewhere in Newnham College (Webb *et al* 2006; Lewis and Ranson 2013) gave some support to a Roman date for the skeletons. However the Ridley Hall 2012 excavation, in providing evidence for Anglo-Saxon settlement closer to the Newham site that has previously been known, may suggest that an Anglo-Saxon date for these burials should not be ruled out.

The lack of late Saxon pottery types (which are common throughout Cambridgeshire) from both Ridley Hall and the Criminology site, suggest that the settlement was abandoned by the 8th century. This period was one of major change in the settlement pattern in much of southern England, by the end of which many small dispersed sites were abandoned in favour of others which would grow into nucleated villages over the course of the 9th - 11th centuries AD (Lewis *et al* 1997, Jones and Page 2006, Rippon 2008; Thomas 2012).

8.4 Medieval and post-medieval

From the 7th century until, the 2012 site seems to have been kept mainly as arable or pasture, part of the West Field of Cambridge, until the present buildings of Ridley Hall were constructed in the late 19th century. Pottery types of high and later medieval date were recovered from the top-soil and sub-soil layers of the trench, including sherds of Early Medieval Sandy Coarsewares, Ely Ware, Late Medieval Oxidized ware and a single sherd of Cistercian ware. A single sherd of Ely Ware was excavated from the basal fill (5) of F.1 ditch (Slot B), but this may have been intrusive. A possible large post hole (F.6), yielded sherds of 15th century Cistercian ware and late 17th/early 18th century Staffordshire Slipware, which with a similar large post hole c.5.2m to the north, (F.12) may represent a post medieval structure, as two small post holes (F.10 and F.11) were also excavated in between F.6 and F.12. During the 2009 evaluation a likely post medieval post structure was identified over the site of the 2012 excavations that was interpreted to be a tannery or potentially a barn relating to general farming practices (Britton 2009). It seems probable that the line of post holes recorded here supports the theory of a farm building on the site, but also suggests the potential for an earlier phase of occupation from the 15th century onwards.

A large quantity of post medieval and 19th century pottery types were also excavated; again the majority were identified from both the top and sub soils across site. A sherd of Anglo-Dutch Tin Glazed Earthenware and 19th century wares were excavated from the main fill of F.1 ((5) Slot A) with cow bone, but as this part of the ditch contained just the one fill and was evident under the sub soil it is most likely that like with the medieval

pottery from Slot B, the later wares were incorporated into the ditch at a much later date, most likely through ploughing.

Four sherds of pottery (Glazed Red Earthenware, German Stoneware, Staffordshire Slipware and Nottingham/Derby Stoneware) were all excavated from a small pit F.7 in the eastern side of the trench that also contained cow bone. There is certainly evidence for disturbances over this part of the site, due to the previous evaluation trench being sited here, which may also explain the irregularity of the feature. The feature is similar to another small shallow pit, F.5, immediately to its east, which is probably contemporary, and both of which seem to be post medieval in date and probably related to farming activities prior to the construction of the college.

8.5 Widening participation

The feedback from the sixth form students who attended the excavation in order to give them an experience of life at the University of Cambridge which would encourage them to consider applying to study at the university was very positive with 94% of the students rating their experience as ‘excellent’ or ‘good’. When asked about what aspects of the trip that the students enjoyed the most, the top two answers were ‘visiting the University of Cambridge’ and ‘meeting and working with new people’. The students also enjoyed ‘learning how to do something new’, ‘finding things’ and ‘learning more about university’. The students were also asked before and after the dig whether they were considering applying to the University of Cambridge (table 1). On arrival, only 12.5% answered ‘yes’ to this question, with 56.25% answering ‘maybe’, and 31.25% answering ‘no’. After their stay in Cambridge taking part on the excavation, the number responding ‘yes’ rose to 50%, with the number of ‘no’ responses reduced to zero. 81.25% of the students also responded that after the dig they felt more positive about applying to the University of Cambridge. The impact of taking part in the residential archaeological excavation on participants’ attitudes to applying to the University of Cambridge can clearly be seen to be very positive.

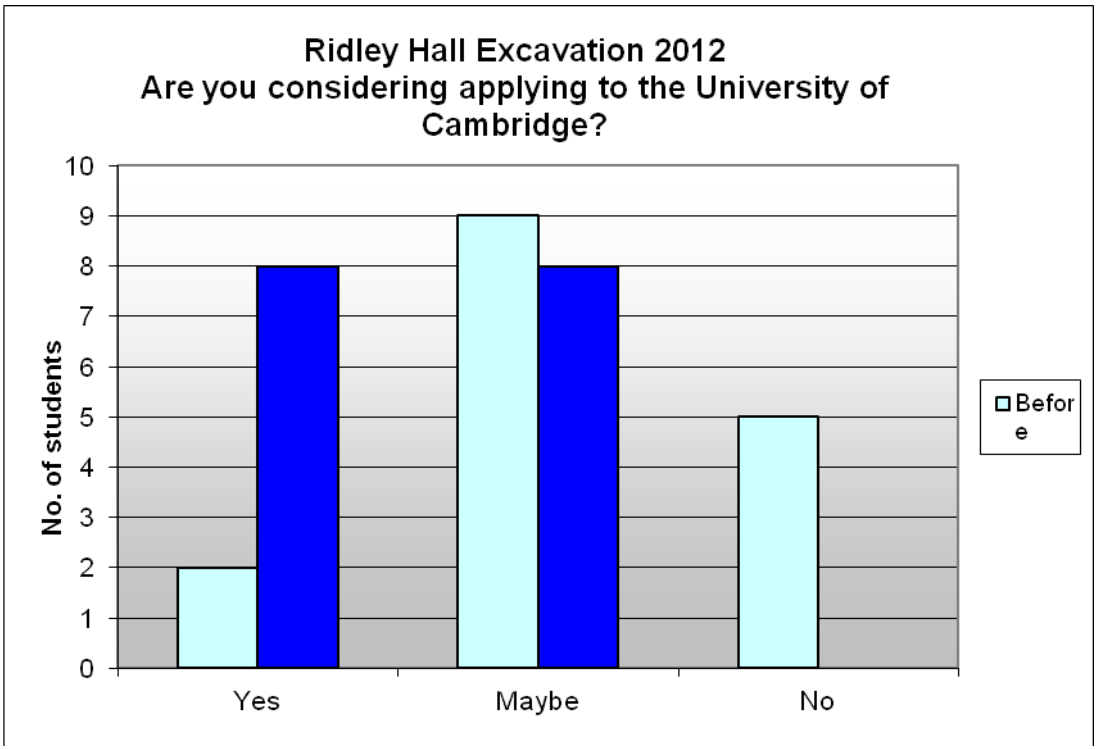

Table 1: *Feedback on excavation participant attitudes to applying the University of Cambridge*

9. Conclusion

The 2012 excavations at Ridley Hall recorded evidence for multi-period settlement and associated activity, particularly pertaining to the early Romano-British period and the early Anglo-Saxon period.

- A low level of intermittent prehistoric activity in the form of residual finds was noted, dating back to at least the Mesolithic and extending to the late Iron Age.
- Cut features including re-cut ditches indicate that a Romano-British rural settlement lay immediately adjacent to the excavated area, which lay just outside the Roman town of Cambridge and close to the road leading into the city.
- Of particular significance was evidence for domestic activity of early Anglo-Saxon date (5th-7th century AD) which indicates that the Anglo-Saxon settlement previously identified c. 120m to the north on the Institute of Criminology site is more extensive that has previously been known. This confirms recent suggestions that the intensity of settlement along this part of the Cam Valley was very high and may be of considerable significance (Dodwell et al 2004, 123).
- The area has been in non-intensive use as arable or pasture from the 8th century onwards, possibly briefly furnished with an agricultural building of some sort in the post-medieval period.
- Archaeological evidence extends beyond the limit of the excavated area.

The discoveries at Ridley Hall in 2012 advance knowledge and understanding of the development of this part of the Cambridgeshire landscape and as such feed into developing frameworks underpinning understanding of the development of the historic landscape more generally. The discovery of evidence for early Anglo-Saxon activity is considered to be of particular importance.

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11. Appendices

11.1 Small Finds – *Mary Chester-Kadwell*

F.1 (3)
Object type: Unidentified Object

Broad period: Unknown

Description: Copper-alloy bar of D-shaped cross-section, possibly broken at both ends, one terminal narrower than the other, roughly folded into the form of a ring with the ends overlapping by 10mm. Diameter of ring at widest point 21mm, width of bar 3.5mm at widest point, depth of bar 1.5mm. Without decoration this object is difficult to date.

Figure 15: *Unidentified copper-alloy bar*

Extension B – Grey Layer (53)
Object type: Unidentified Object

Broad period: Unknown

Description: Fragment of bone, tapering to a point, broken at both ends. Four faces, one of which is cortex, and two show possible signs of working. Despite its pointed appearance it is difficult to say if this is implement, such as an awl or pin beater, and this sort of bone fragment is difficult to date. Length 40mm, width at widest point 7mm.

Figure 16: *Fragment of worked bone*

Extension A – Subsoil (21)
Object type: Book fitting

Broad period: Post medieval

Description: Post-medieval copper-alloy book-clasp eye-plate, slightly bent. Two folded lugs for the spindle are missing. Two attachment holes, one near the broken end, the other nearest the pointed rear edge decorated with two concentric punched rings. Comparable with an example in Margeson (1993), p. 74-5, pl. XIII. Length (bent) 30mm, width 15mm, thickness 1mm. Dates to the late 16th or early 17th century.

Figure 17: *Copper-alloy book-clasp eye plate*

F.2 (7)
Object type: Comb

Broad period: Early medieval

Description: Fragment of bone or antler single-sided composite comb. One toothplate, most of the teeth missing, iron rivet, and one small fragment of connecting plate adhering. No decoration. Ashby (2007) Type 1a. Width 13mm, surviving length 35mm, thickness of toothplate 3mm. Dates to the late 4th to 8th century (MacGregor (1985) p. 85-7).

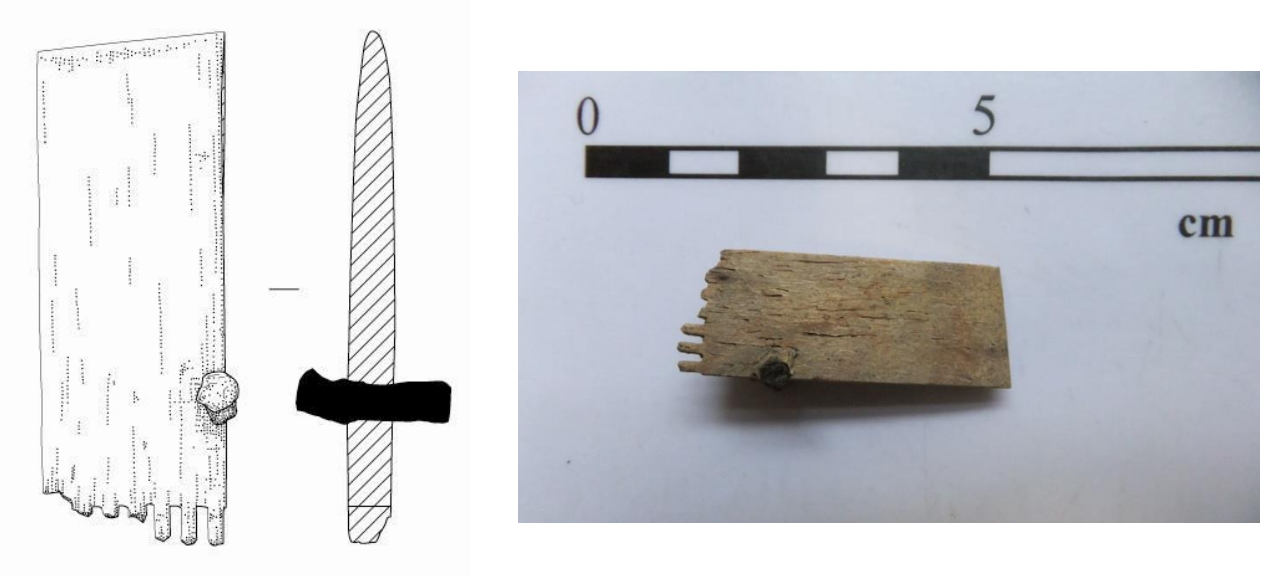

Figure 18: *Bone comb fragment*

Extension B – Subsoil (24)
Object type: Thimble

Broad period: Post medieval to modern

Description: Post-medieval to modern brass thimble, machine made, with round holes starting 3mm from the open end, and grid holes on the dome. Of form Holmes (1991) Dutch Type III, these thimbles were made in large numbers and different sizes. Height 16mm. Dates to the late 18th or 19th century.

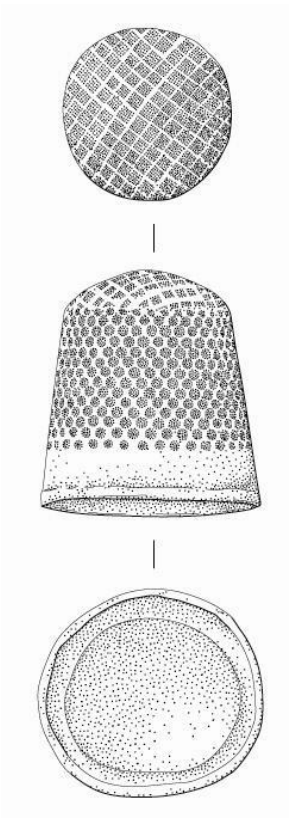

Figure 19: *Brass Thimble*

11.2 Pottery Report – *Paul Blinkhorn*

The pottery assemblage comprised 384 sherds with a total weight of 2659g. The bulk of the assemblage consisted of redeposited and/or recent material, although sherds from the Iron Age, Roman, Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods were noted. The following fabrics were noted:

CIST: **Cistercian Ware**: c. AD1470-1550. Hard, smooth fabric, usually brick-red, but can be paler or browner. Few visible inclusions, except for occasional quartz grains. Range of vessel forms somewhat specialized, and usually very thin-walled (c. 2mm). Rare white slip decoration. Manufactured at a number of centres, including Potterspury in Northamptonshire (Mayes 1968) and, during the 16th and 17th centuries, at Ely. 1 sherd, 1g.

CRW: **Creamware**. *c* 1740-1880. A cream-coloured earthenware, made from a calcinated flint clay (Jennings 1981, 227), and with a lead glaze, resulting in a rich cream colour. Range of tableware forms. 18 sherds, 138g.

ELY: **Ely Ware**, mid-12th -15th century (Spoerry 2008): Generic name for a quartz sand and calcareous tempered group of pottery fabrics mainly manufactured in Ely, but also with a second possible source in the Hunts. Fenland. Jars, bowls and jugs dominate the assemblage. Earlier vessels hand-built and turntable finished later vessels finer and usually wheel-thrown. wide distribution, including King's Lynn, where it was originally identified as 'Grimston Software'. 3 sherds, 9g.

E/MS: **Early/middle Saxon hand-built wares**, c AD450 – 850. These are sub-divided into the following:

> F1: Granitic temper. Sparse to moderate angular granite fragments up to 2mm, some ‘free’ mica platelets. 4 sherds, 40g.
>
> F2: Few visible inclusions other than rare to sparse angular calcite up to 1mm and fine flecks of mica. 7 sherds, 74g.

EMW: **Miscellaneous Sandy Coarsewares**. A range of quartz-tempered coarsewares that are found throughout the east midlands and East Anglia. 3 sherds, 30g.

EST: **English Stoneware**. 1680+. Hard, grey fabric, often with a brown, iron-rich exterior wash. Range of utilitarian vessels, particularly mugs. 5 sherds, 40g.

GRE: **Red Earthenware**, 16th – 19th century. Fine sandy earthenware, usually with a brown or green glaze, occurring in a range of utilitarian forms. Such 'country pottery' was first made in the 16th century, and in some areas continued in use until the 19th century (Brears 1969). 16 sherds, 196g.

GS: **German Stonewares**. AD1480+. A range of hard, grey, salt-glazed fabrics produced at numerous sites in the Rhineland and beyond (cf Gaimster 1997). 3 sherds, 14g.

HSW: **Metropolitan Slipware**, 17th – 18th C. Similar fabric to Red Earthenware, with geometric designs in white slip under the glaze. Produced at a number of centres, but particularly Harlow in Essex (Davey and Walker 2009). 1 sherd, 6g.

IA: ?**Iron Age**. Shelly/grog-tempered fabric of probable late Iron Age date. 2 sherds, 34g.

LMOx: **Late Medieval Oxidized ware**. Mid-15th – 16th century. Very hard orange sandy ware in a range of developed late medieval utilitarian forms, some with a dark green glaze. Numerous kiln sites throughout the south-east midlands, at places such as Glapthorn in Northamptonshire (Johnston 1997). 10 sherds, 64g.

NOTTS: **Nottingham/Derby Stoneware**. 1700-1900. Hard grey fabric with a glossy, metallic 'dark chocolate' glaze. Wide range of utilitarian vessels. 13 sherds, 79g.

RB: **All Romano-British**. 32 sherds, 174g.

SS: **Staffordshire Slipware**. AD1680-1750. Fine cream fabric with white slip and pale yellow lead glaze, commonest decoration is feathered dark brown trailed slip. Chiefly press-moulded flat wares, although small bowls and mugs etc. are known. 8 sherds, 58g.

SWSG: **Staffordshire Salt-Glazed Stoneware**, AD1720-1780 Hard, white fabric with a distinctive white 'orange peel' textured glaze. Range of fine tableware's such as mugs, tea bowls and plates. 2 sherds, 4g.

TGE: **Anglo-Dutch Tin-glazed Earthenware 17th – early 18th century** (Orton 1988). Fine white earthenware, occasionally pinkish or yellowish core. Thick white tin glaze, with painted cobalt blue or polychrome decoration, . Range of table and display wares such as mugs, plates, dishes, bowls and vases. 2 sherds, 9g.

19thC: **Miscellaneous 19th and 20th century wares**. Mass-produced white earthenwares, stonewares etc. 9 sherds, 98g. 253 sherds, 1688g.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 2. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. The range of fabric types is fairly typical of sites in the Cambridge region. The Iron Age sherds are fairly undiagnostic, but are in a shelly/grog-tempered fabric which suggests that they date to the end of the period. The Romano-British assemblage includes similar pottery, along with Grey Wares, a sherd of Samian and two mortarium fragments, suggesting a general date of the 1st – 2nd centuries for the material.

The early Anglo-Saxon hand-built wares are typical of the region. The sherds are all undecorated, and thus impossible to date on typological grounds other than to within the broad lifespan of the tradition. Two jar rims were noted. Hand-built wares are rare in the kingdom of East Anglia after the beginning of the 8th century, after which time most of the ceramic in use was Ipswich Ware (Blinkhorn in print). In Cambridgeshire, the eastern area of what is now the county conforms to the 'East Anglian' pattern of pottery consumption in the middle Saxon period, *i.e.* Ipswich Ware with a little hand-built pottery, whereas on western side, the opposite is true. The 'border' between these two zones appears to be the Roman road running from Godmanchester to Braughing (ibid.). This site is to the east of that boundary, so is in the area which shows the 'East Anglian' pattern of middle Saxon pottery consumption, suggesting very strongly that the hand-built pottery from the site pre-dates the 8th century, and that a date of the 5th – 7th centuries is the most likely.

Late Saxon pottery types which are common in the area, such as Thetford, Stamford and St Neots Wares, are all absent, indicating that the site was not in use at that time, and medieval pottery dating to before the 15th century is rare, and all the sherds of that date are redeposited. This suggests that the site had a somewhat marginal use at that time.

The pottery sequence is continuous from the 15th century onwards, with most of the common pottery types from then to the present occurring although, once again, much of the pottery is redeposited, suggesting that older strata were disturbed in the 19th or 20th centuries. The assemblage appears entirely domestic in nature.

	IA		RB		E/MS		EMW		ELY		LMOx		CIST		GRE		GS		HSW		TGE		SS		EST		NOTTS		SWSG		CRW		19thC		
Cntxt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date
1																					1	4											2	5	U/S
3			3	39	7	64																													E/MS
4			2	10																															RB
5									1	3																									M12thC
15													1	1									1	2											M17thC
17															1	2	1	1					1	34			1	4							18thC
20															2	54													1	2			27	120	U/S
21			1	4	1	1			1	5	1	6			1	4	1	10	1	6			1	3			1	5	1	2			18	56	U/S
22	1	11	3	16	2	28	3	30	1	1	3	34			4	62							2	13	4	25	4	21			16	126	90	873	U/S
23											3	7			5	68							3	6	1	15	4	35			2	12	84	494	U/S
24			4	16							2	16					1	3			1	5					3	14					24	107	U/S
28			1	1																															RB
31	1	23	2	4																															RB
32			1	3																															RB
33			15	81																															RB
51											1	1			3	6																	3	11	U/S
53																																	5	22	19thC
54					2	22																													E/MS
	2	34	32	174	12	115	3	30	3	9	10	64	1	1	16	196	3	14	1	6	2	9	8	58	5	40	13	79	2	4	18	138	253	1688	

Table 2: *Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type*

11.3 Faunal Remains – *Jane Sanford*

A total of 657 identifiable remains were recovered from Ridley Hall, with a combined weight of 11894.7g. An additional 548 unidentifiable bone fragments were recovered, with a combined weight of 1633.3g. The distribution of identifiable material over the stratigraphic units can be seen in Table 3. Material in all stratigraphic units was identified to element and also to taxon where possible. Those remains too fragmentary to identify to taxon were identified to size class of individual. In these size classes, Size 5 represents *Equus*/*Bos*, Size 4 *Sus*/*Cervus* and Size 3 represents *Ovis*/*Capra*/*Capreolus* sized animals. Identifications to taxon were made with the assistance of the reference collection of the Grahame Clark Laboratory for Zooarchaeology.

All identifiable material was quantified using NISP (Number of Identified Specimens) and MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals) accounting for the presence of greatly differing ages, as described by Lyman (2008). Sex determination of remains (where possible) was made using reference material. Age calculations were made following Bull and Payne (1982), Grigson (1982) and Zeder (2006). Measurements were taken following Von Den Driesch (1976). Height calculations were made following Matolcsi and Teichert as described by Von Den Driesch and Boessneck (1974). Only seven elements in this sample could be sexed. From unstratified deposits one male and one female Sus were identified on the basis of size and morphology of canine teeth. Two male and one female *Ovis* were identified on the basis of pelvic morphology. From the Romano-British layers one male *Bos* (pelvic morphology) and one male Sus (canine tooth morphology) were identified.

The NISP counts for each discrete period, as well as for unstratified deposits, are given in Table 4. As can be seen from these data, the majority of fauna from Ridley Hall come from the unstratified layers. The Romano-British and Early to Middle Saxon deposits contributed similar samples of fauna, on which the analysis will focus. As both samples are small any interpretations gleaned from them must be necessarily rough. With regards to the distribution of the major domesticated taxa (*Ovis, Bos* and *Sus*) both periods demonstrate a dominance of sheep and cattle.

The main difference observed between the two periods sampled is the reduced representation of *Sus* in the Early to Middle Saxon sample. This is caused by the presence of low levels of *Equus*, *Lepus*/*Orcyctolagus* and *Anser*, whereas the sample from the Romano-British period only contained a single *Canis* tooth in addition to the major domesticates. Between these two samples the Early/Middle Saxon period fauna appear to be more diverse, representing either a small contribution of wild taxa or the addition of less common domesticates to the sample (as these may be either wild or domestic goose and hare/rabbit).

In comparison with the Early Roman material recovered from Cambridge Archaeological Unit sampling of Ridley Hall in 2009, however, little variation is seen between the fauna of both periods. Features excavated by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit demonstrated minor presence of *Equus, Capra, Gallus* and *Anser* as well as three finds of *Cervus*. The dominance of *Bos* seen in this earlier excavation is not seen in either recently recovered sample from Ridley Hall (Romano-British or Saxon), in which *Ovis* dominates in %NISP. As sheep would have provided a great deal less meat than the cattle from this site it can be considered that *Bos* predominated the dietary contribution of both the Romano-British and Early/Middle Saxon presence at Ridley Hall. Taken together, these samples do not indicate a major change in diet between the represented periods, although further excavation would be required to substantiate this.

From those six Romano-British remains of *Bos* which could be aged, two-thirds of remains came from adults and the remaining third from sub-adults (both from individuals under two years). From the Early/Middle Saxon deposits, thirteen *Bos* remains could be aged. Of these nine came from adult animals and four from sub-adults; all of which were under two years of age. This age distribution matches that of the Romano-British sample, with two-thirds of ageable remains coming from adults and the remaining third coming from individuals under two years of age. Four remains of *Sus* from the Romano-British period could be aged, all coming from adult animals. Only one *Sus* was ageable from the Early/Middle Saxon, coming from an individual under three years of age. Eight remains of *Ovis* were ageable from the Romano-British sample. Of these six came from adult animals, one from an animal under twelve months and one from an animal of around eighteen months of age. From the Early/Middle Saxon period sample twelve remains could be aged. Of these two came from individuals aged less than one year, two from individuals aged less than three years and the remaining eight came from adult animals - one of which was several years of age as evidenced by a heavily worn mandibular third molar. These age proportions translate into three-quarters of Romano-British sheep being adults as compared with two-thirds of Early/Middle Saxon sheep. One of the two remains of *Equus* from the Early/Middle Saxon sample came from an elderly individual (determined by severely worn molar). Three height at withers estimates were obtained from sheep and cattle at Ridley Hall. From the Romano-British sample two height estimates of 58.7cm and 58.2cm were obtained for sheep. From the Early/Middle Saxon a single intact Bos radius gave height estimates of 125.1cm.

Taxon	Romano-British			Early/Middle Saxon		
	NISP	% NISP	MNI	NISP	% NISP	MNI
OvisCapra	19	40.4	2	31	50.0	4
[Ovis]	[8]		1	[10]		3
Bos	16	34.1	2	23	37.1	2
Sus	11	23.4	1	4	6.5	2
Equus	-	-	-	2	3.2	1
Canis	1	2.1	1	-	-	-
Lepus	-	-	-	1	1.6	1
Anser	-	-	-	1	1.6	1
Size 3	15		1	24		1
Size 4	8		1	6		1
Size 5	23		1	14		1

Table 3: *Comparison of Romano-British and Early/Middle Saxon fauna from Ridley Hall. NISP counts for OvisCapra include those for separately identified Ovis and Capra, which are given in brackets. The genus Lepus here designates Lepus/Orcyctolagus, as the single recovered ulna could not be distinguished between rabbit and hare.*

Stratigraphic Units	*Ovis/Capra*	*[Ovis]*	*[Capra]*	*Bos*	*Sus*	*Equus*	*Felis*	*Canis*	*Lepus*	*Anser*	*Mergus*	*Gallus*	Aves	Size 3	Size 4	Size 5	Total
1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	8
3	20	[4]	-	20	4	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	15	4	13	78
4	5	[5]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	4	12
5	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	6
7	2	[2]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	5
15	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
17	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
20	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	3	13
21	7	[1]	-	8	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	15	6	3	46
22	31	[25]	-	58	41	3	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	52	15	21	230
23	4	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	14
24	21	[8]	[1]	12	13	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	14	5	13	81
28	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
31	11	[3]	-	15	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	8	19	75
32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
33	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
37	2	[1]	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	8
38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
40	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	6
52	4	[2]	-	1	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	17
53	1	[1]	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	7	19
54	11	[6]	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	9	2	1	28
Un-stratified	65	[34]	[1]	78	66	5	7	3	-	-	1	1	1	88	34	43	392
12-19th Century	1	[1]	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	8	28
Early/Mid Saxon	31	[10]	-	23	4	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	24	6	14	106
Romano-British	19	[8]	-	16	11	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	15	8	23	93

Table 4: *NISP distribution of Ridley Hall fauna by stratigraphic unit. NISP counts for OvisCapra include those for separately identified Ovis and Capra, which are given in brackets. The genus Lepus here designates Lepus/Orcyctolagus, as not all bones could be distinguished between rabbit and hare.*

Ovis aries				*Bos taurus*			
Element	Measure	mm	Period	Element	Measure	mm	Period
Calcaneus	GL	51.5	R-British	Metacarpal	Bd	49.2	R-British
Metatarsal	Bp	19.5	R-British		Dd	29.5	
	Dp	21.0		Metacarpal	Bp	44.0	R-British
Metacarpal	GL	119.0	R-British		Dp	26.0	
	Bp	22.1			SD	23.0	
	Dp	15.5		Phalanx 2	GL	35.0	R-British
	SD	8.8			Bp	27.0	
	Bd	23.5			SD	21.2	
	Dd	17.0			Bd	21.5	
Metacarpal	Bp	25.1	E/M Saxon	Radius	GL	291.0	E/M Saxon
	Dp	18.0			Bp	79.0	
Metatarsal	Bp	20.0	E/M Saxon		BFp	73.5	
	Dp	20.5			Dp	36.0	
	SD	11.5			SD	44.0	
Phalanx 1	GLpe	35.0	E/M Saxon		BFd	57.0	
	Bp	11.5			Dd	41.0	
	SD	9.5		Metatarsal	Bd	49.5	E/M Saxon
	Bd	10.5			Dd	28.0	

Table 5: *Osteometric data from Ridley Hall. Measures given in mm following Von Den Driesch (1976)*

11.4 Worked Flint – *David McOmish*

Flint artefacts from the Ridley Hall excavations included struck flints and fire-cracked flint. These were identified to type and date if possible, with retouching and other distinguishing characteristics noted if present. In most instances a date could not be established. Flint artefacts are listed here by context and feature number with particular points of interest discussed in sections 8 and 9.

RID/12									
Context and Feature No.	**Blades**	**Flakes**	**Nodule**	**Undiagnostic**	**Fire-cracked flint**	**Retouched pieces**	**Cores**	**Tools**	**Comments**
F.6 (15)	1	4							nothing diagnostic in here
F.8 (30)				1- crude flake					
F.1 (5)	4, one might be natural	7 primary 4 secondary 2 natural						1	Curious poss tool. Looks Meso - knocked about a bit - hints of retouch
F.9 (42)	1 - ?natural	2 primary 2 secondary	1						
F.1 (28) C		14 primary 6 secondary 2 core rejuv							
Ext.B (23)		1 heavily oxidised							
Topsoil (22)	2		1 - natural		1			1	End/side scraper - M/LBA in date
F.1 (32)		7 primary 3 secondary 1 core rejuv		1 - polished burnt? Sandstone					
F.1 (38)		1 core rejuv							
F.1 (33)		3 primary 2 secondary							looks like modern frags building debris
F.3 (29)					1				
Ext.B (53)		1 primary							
F.7 (17)		2 secondary							
2009 Eval tr (51)		1 primary							
RID/12 (37)		1 primary 1 ?core rejuv							

F.2 (7)		2 secondary 1 core rejuv							
F.1 (1)	1 - core rejuv?	1 primary 2 secondary							
F.1 surface		1 secondary poss core rejuv							
Ext A (54)		2 secondary 2 primary 2 core rejuv							
2009 Eval tr (51)		1 core rejuv							
F.1 (3)		2 primary 3 secondary							One of the secondaries has a strange bit of wear/retouch
F.1 (28) C					1 - massive nodule, in 2 pieces				
F.3 (35) BS				1 - sandstone					
F.1 (4)		3 secondary			1				looks like modern stuff
Ext.B subsoil (24)		4 core rejuv - one might have wear/retouch 5 primary 7 secondary			2				Interesting variety!
F.9 (40)		1 primary 1 secondary					1		Meso flake core
F.1 (5)		1 secondary							
F.1 (31)		6 secondary 4 primary	1 frost-pitted and knocked about	1 - ceramic tile? 7 stone - sandstone limestone?					

Table 6: *The worked flint from Ridley Hall*

11.5 Other Finds – *Catherine Ranson*

RID/12	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal-working	Stone	Other
(22) Machined Top Soil	red flat tile x7 =172g, red CBM x13 =351g, red and grey brick fragment with mortar =313g, modern white glazed flat tile x4 =75g, clay pipe bowl fragments x3 =2g, clay pipe stem =4g, fragments of red flowerpot x23 =206g, modern drain =51g, dirty yellow flat tile x2 =14g, CBM with slag or Vitrified material? =8g	clear flat glass x19 =116g, clear container glass x2 =23g, degraded bottle glass =15g	metal button =3g, corroded flat strips of metal x3 =168g, corroded iron bolts x2 =87g, metal hook =20g, slag x2 =55g, corroded iron nails x21 =124g, large strip of decorated copper? =2g	large piece of building stone (grey sandstone?) = 1722g	oyster shell x18 = 256g
(52) Sub Soil					Oyster shell x2 =19g, snail shell x5 =<1g

Table 7: *Finds from the top-soil and sub-soil*

RID/12 Extension A	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal-working	Stone	Other
(20) Top Soil	fragments of red flower pot x217 = 1735g, red flat tile x8 =287g, red CBM x2 =15g, clay pipe stem x3 =9g, yellow flat tile x2 =34g	clear flat glass x15 =20g, green bottle glass x2 =6g, clear container glass x4 =14g, orange bottle glass =12g	corroded iron bolts x2 =72g, part of a horseshoe? =94g, small metal hoop =1g, corroded iron nails x3 =29g		slate x2 =7g, Oyster shell x12 = 178g (one with a hole pierced through it)
(21) Sub Soil	Flat red tile x4 =353g, dirty yellow flat tile x2 =49g, pink/yellow flat tile x4 =59g, clay pipe stem x12 =29g, clay pipe bowl fragments x3 =15g, dirty yellow CBM x3 =20g, burnt CBM? =84g, grey flat tile =265g, red and grey CBM =1421g, red CBM x7 =107g, curved red tile/flowerpot =24g, pink/yellow CBM x4 =79g	degraded green bottle glass x3 =12g, clear flat glass x8 =12g, clear container glass x2 =4g	corroded iron nails x2 =8g	coal x14 =20g	slate x5 =21g, cockle shell =2g, oyster shell =6g, mortar =8g
(54) Grey Layer	red flat tile = 87g				oyster shell =4g

Table 8: *Extension A Finds*

RID/12 Extension B	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal-working	Stone	Other
(23) Top Soil	Modern drain fragments x6 = 189g, flat red tile x13 =106g, clay pipe stem x23 =65g, dirty yellow flat tile x3 =152g, red CBM x31 =185g, pink/yellow flat tile x3 =139g, pink/yellow curved tile x2 =64g, red flower pot x16 =94g	clear/bluish container glass =22g, clear flat glass x53 = 107g, green bottle glass =2g	slag x3 =83g, corroded iron nails x6 =40g, corroded iron scraps x2 =57g	coal x16 =101g	oyster shell x42 = 235g (one with pierced hole through it), pink small hair clip with pink flower and a green stalk on its front =1g, slate x6 = 63g
(24) Sub Soil	Red CBM x33 =442g, clay pipe stem x10 =26g, red flat tile x7 =408g, clay pipe bowl fragments x3 =5g, red flower pot fragments x3 =27g, pink/orange flat tile =18g, dirty yellow flat tile x3 =44g	clear flat glass x4 =8g, green bottle glass =4g	corroded iron nails x7 =35g, slag x5 =53g	slightly burnt? sandstone/building stone? =199g, coal x27 = 166g	mortar =7g, snail shell =<1g, oyster shell x39 =111g
(53) Grey Layer	red CBM x2 =5g, red flat tile =14g, clay pipe bowl fragment =5g			coal x2 =2g	oyster shell x2 =5g, cockle shell =2g

Table 9: *Extension B Finds*

RID/12	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal-working	Stone	Other
2009 Trench Backfill (51)	Clay pipe stem x3 =10g, red CBM x9 =35g, modern black and red flat tile =30g, red flat tile =16g, pink/yellow CBM x2 =8g		corroded iron nails x4 =19g, slag x2 =12g	coal x11 =17g, yellow sandstone? tile =51g	oyster shell x6 =8g

Table 10: *2009 Trench Backfill Finds*

RID/12	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal-working	Stone	Other
(1) F.1 Slot A	clay pipe stem =2g, red CBM =1g	clear flat glass =<1g	metal button =3g, corroded iron nail =2g	coal x15 =6g, building sandstone? x2 =489g	oyster shell =<1g
(3) F.1 Slot B	red and grey flat sandwich tile =20g, red CBM x2 =80g, red and yellow flat tile =5g	clear flat glass =1g, degraded green glass =1g		coal x2 =5g, building sandstone? =154g	oyster shell x3 =2g
(4) F.1 Slot B				coal =5g, large smooth stone =812g	
(28) F.1 Slot C				coal x2 =1g	oyster shell =<1g
(31) F.1 Slot D	pink/red flat tile = 31g				
(7) F.2	red CBM =3g				charcoal x3 =<1g
(15) F.6	clay pipe stem x3 =9g, red flat tile =19g, red CBM x3 =4g, dirty yellow CBM =1g	green bottle glass =5g	corroded plate of metal =8g	coal x9 =8g	oyster shell x3 =<1g
(17) F.7	clay pipe stem x2 =7g, yellow flat tile =15g			coal x8 =6g	oyster shell =1g
(47) F.12		slag = 29g			

Table 11: *Other finds from excavated features*

11.6 Site Photos

Figure 20: *Pre-excavation photo of the site (looking north-west)*

Figure 21: *Slot A, F.1 (looking south-west)*

Figure 22: *Slot C, F.1, F.3 and F.8 (looking south-west)*

Figure 23: *Slot D, F.1 and F.3 (looking south-west)*

Figure 24: *Slot E, F.1 (looking north-east)*

Figure 25: *F.2 and trench baulk (looking west)*

Figure 26: *F.5, F.6 and F.7 (looking south-west)*

Figure 27: *Overview of F.9, F.10, F.11 and F.12 (looking south)*

Figure 28: *Post-excavation photo of the site (looking north-west)*