

Archaeology, Excavation & Surveys.

Land Adjacent to 108 Histon Road,
Cottenham, Cambridgeshire.

A Trenched Evaluation

Report No. AES/2014/3



**LAND ADJACENT TO
108 HISTON ROAD
COTTENHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRENCHED EVALUATION

Dawn Keen BA MA (Arch)

April 2014

Site Code: **COTHR14**
TL 4460 6646

Report No. AES/2014/3
Event No: ECB4133

Oasis id: archaeol15-172336
Planning ref: S/1949/13/FL

Checked by: S. Bray

© 2014. The material contained herein is and remains the sole property of Archaeology Excavation Surveys and is not for publication to third parties without prior consent. Whilst every effort has been made to provide detailed and accurate information, Archaeological Excavation and Surveys cannot be held liable for errors or inaccuracies herein contained.

CONTENTS

Non-technical summary	1
1.0 Introduction	2
2.0 Compliance	2
3.0 Methodology	2
4.0 Geology and Topography	3
5.0 Archaeological and Historical Background	4
6.0 Results	6
6.1 Overview of results	
6.2 Results Trench 1	
6.3 Results Trench 2	
6.4 Results Trench 3	
6.5 Testpit results	
7.0 Conclusions	8
Acknowledgements	8
Bibliography	9

FIGURES

- Figure 1: Site location plans for 108 Histon Road Cottenham
Figure 2: Development Area with Evaluation trenches Superimposed
Figure 3: Trench and Testpit Locations Superimposed on Architects Plan.
(reproduced by kind Curtersey of C J Surveys Ltd.)
Figure 4: General shot of site before trial trenching looking north west
Figure 5: North-east facing view of Trench 1
Figure 6: South-west facing view of Trench 2
Figure 7: North-east facing view of Trench 3
Figure 8: 1847 tithe map showing PDA and associated CHER locations
Figure 9: 1847 Tithe map; Cottenham and surrounding area showing ownership of allotments
Figure 10: Ordnance survey map 1888 1:25000
Figure 11: Ordnance survey map 1889 – 1891 1:25000
Figure 12: Ordnance survey map 1902 1:25000
Figure 13: Ordnance survey map 1938 1:25000
Figure 14: Ordnance survey map 1952 1:10,560
Figure 15: Ordnance survey map 1959 1:10560

APPENDICES

- APPENDIX 1: Site location
APPENDIX 2: Site Photographs
APPENDIX 3: Cartographic Sources
APPENDIX 4: Archive Qualification (Site Code: COTHR14)
APPENDIX 5: Context Summary Table
APPENDIX 6: Photographic Register
APPENDIX 7: Archaeological Brief
APPENDIX 8: Oasis Form

Non-technical Summary

An archaeological survey of a 1161 square metre area on former gardens/wasteground was undertaken on the 17th March 2014 in response to a planning requirement set by Andy Thomas, Senior Archaeologist prior to the development of the site as four dwellings with associated services and access (planning ref: S/1949/13/FL).

Three linear trenches, totalling 35m in length were opened using a 3.5 tonne 360 degree tracked excavator with toothless ditching bucket. A further 10 test-pits (1m x 1m) were opened across the site on a ten metre grid to characterize the artefact content of the topsoil. All exposed trench bases and spoil were scanned by an experienced Metal Detectorist. The trenches were manually cleaned by hand and planned using Leica 1200 GPS Smart Rover (GPS).

The upper layers (<0.30m) had considerable root turbation, a reflection of the sites recent history as an orchard, recorded on the 1888 and 1902 ordnance survey maps (Appendix 3, figures 9 and 11).

The archaeological survey revealed no archaeological features, other than a single field drain [4], present in all three trenches and aligned East to West. The work showed the strata of the site to consist of topsoil (1) of a consistent 0.15m depth across the site, sealing layer (2), which was found to be 0.15m in depth on the western side of the site, and 0.45m on the eastern side.

1.0 Introduction

Archaeology, Excavation and Surveys (AES) were commissioned to carry out an archaeological evaluation by [REDACTED]. The village of Cottenham is located in Cambridgeshire, with the development site itself located on the south side of the historic village of Cottenham, to the west of Histon Road (NGR TL 4460 6646). The Proposed Development Area (PDA) lies on vacated farmland, within a residential area.

The aims of the evaluation were as follows:

- to enable the archaeological resource, both in quantity and extent, to be accurately quantified;
- to identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposits, together with its likely extent, localized depth and quality of preservation;
- to identify the potential for environmental deposits;
- to further elaborate on the development of the village of Cottenham; to enhance the understanding of Cottenham through the examination of the date, form and character within its local, regional and national context;
- to produce a permanent record of the site in an archive that will be deposited with Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER).

The aims were to be achieved using the methodologies of a linear trenched evaluation, bucket sampling and metal detecting survey. This report details the results of the investigation together with an assessment of the archaeological evidence discovered.

2.0 Compliance

When completing the work, Archaeology, Excavation and Surveys (AES) adhered to the requirements established by Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team (HET), and the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA).

3.0 Methodology

The evaluation trenching represented a 4.5% sample of 1161 square metres of former orchards. This equated to 35m of linear trenching with each trench measuring 1.8m in width.

Machining was carried out under constant archaeological supervision using a 3 tonne tracked 360° excavator with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket.

Bucket sampling of the topsoil was undertaken on a 10m grid to determine and characterize the extent, date and significance of artefactual evidence within the plough-soil.

The trenches and testpits were tied into the National Grid using a Leica 1200 GPS Smart Rover with RTK differential correction giving global positioning accuracy to within 2cm.

Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector and hand collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.

All archaeological features, deposits and layers were recorded using AES *pro forma* context sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and site photographs were taken of all trenches, profiles and any features using a Cannon EOS 1100 SLR digital camera.

The work was completed in good, sunny, dry conditions. Ground water was encountered at a depth of 0.65m.

Prior to the field work an event code (ECB4133) was obtained from the CHET Officer. This number was clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work and in any reports arising from the work.

4.0 Geology and Topography

The parish of Cottenham, is located close to the river Ouse or Old West River, running alongside Rampton Drift to the south. The development site itself, adjacent to 108, Histon Road, lies to the south east of Rampton Drift on a shallow ridge of Lower Greensand. Extending northeastwards from Rampton Drift, the ridge rises above clay and gravel deposits along the parish boundaries to the north-west and south-east. The soil of the ridge is fertile red loam; part of the fens were described in the 1790s as having a strong black loamy mould, but nearer the river the soils are lighter. The ridge and the lower-lying land correspond respectively to the former arable fields and to the extensive meadows, pastures, and fens of which the development site forms a part.

The underlying rock beds are concealed intermittently by drift deposits, which are mainly river terrace deposits and alluvium relating to the Cam-Ouse river system. The deposits of Ampthill Clay and Lower Greensand from the third and fourth river terraces of the Cam-Ouse river system lie south of Cottenham and consequently may form part of the geology of the site (Dixon, 1980).

5.0 Archaeological and historical background

From documentary sources and cartographic evidence, it has been possible to build up a picture of the archaeological and historical background appertaining to the PDA, on the land adjacent to 108 Histon Road, Cottenham.

The PDA lies to the south of the main village of Cottenham, along Histon Road. The location of the development site lies directly along the line of Histon Road and follows the ribbon development of the historic village of Cottenham.

The archeological and historical background of the land on which the PDA lies along with its surrounding environs has revealed the following data. For ease the information collated has been divided into areas radial to and including the PDA.

The land on which the PDA lies

Evidence to date shows nothing has been recorded on the actual PDA.

Land within a 1.5km radius of the PDA

Prehistoric

To date little evidence of prehistoric activity has been found in the Cottenham area, what has been discovered is summed up by a small quantity of flints (Hall, 1996).

Iron Age/Roman

To the west of the site lie cropmarks of a settlement of possible iron age/roman date (CHER 9547, site 15 Hall, 1996) and also in the vicinity of the site a Roman gold solidus dated Valentinian I, issue of C4 AD 364-367 was found in 1948 in Further or Farm Field (CHER 05199) (Phillips, 1970).

To put the PDA in the wider context of Cottenham itself and surrounding areas excluding the area south of the village, it lies to the south of the fenland landscape prone to low level flooding, and as early as the 2nd century the Romans were active in draining the fens, notably in the form of the Car Dyke formerly called the Old Tillage. The Car Dyke was possibly constructed to link the Cam with the Ouse at Earith and cut across the natural drainage of Cottenham. The present river Ouse west of its junction with the dyke was part of the Roman canal. Cottenham lode between the village and the dyke may also have been dug by the Romans. (Wright, 1989). Roman activity continues north of Cottenham at Bullocks Haste, believed to be the remains of a significant Romano-British settlement, to have also been a major port and possibly an administrative and religious centre.

Medieval

The closest excavation to the PDA lies at Lamb's Lane on the edge of Cottenham village where late medieval pottery such as German Stonewares, Glazed Red Earthenwares and Manganese wares were found (MCB 19740) (HEFA test pit 15, Blinkhorn, 2009).

Post Medieval

Post-Medieval Victorian wares were found at Lambs Lane (MCB 19740) (HEFA test pit 15, Blinkhorn, 2009). Also on Lambs Lane is situated a post-medieval windmill and water tower called Graves Mill (MCB16560). Graves Mill is a small four storey tower mill built in 1848. It was purchased for use as the village water tower in 1898, but worked until 1903; the tank was built on top in 1904, and was used until c. 1950 (Balchin 2001).

Early farming: Medieval to Post Medieval

With regard to the development of the economy, in particular agrarian, the land south of Cottenham and the PDA has shown since the eleventh century to lie under meadowland and extensive pastures. Little North Fen lying west of the site and Holme meadow was recorded from 1330, both of which lie to the west of the PDA and along the Histon boundary. Domestic orchards were recorded from the late sixteenth century (Wright, 1989) and the late nineteenth century ordnance survey maps of 1888, 1889-1891 and 1902 show that the PDA was under orchard (Appendix 3). By 1938, the ordnance survey map of that year shows that the orchards on the PDA had been dissipated. To assist in the drainage of land for agrarian use, two windmills of medieval to post medieval date are located in two mill field, which lies to the west of the PDA (CHER 5200 and 5201), (Smith, 1975, Wright, 1989) and are marked on the 1889-1891 ordnance survey map (Appendix 3, figure 10).

The original medieval field system was made up of Lyles Lane or Banhill, Further and Farm Fields and Two Mill fields all lying on southern edge of Cottenham village (Wright, 1989). The PDA lies within the boundaries of Farm Field (ref: tithe map of 1847). An agreement of 1596 settled land disputes and established the basis on which the commons were managed until the 1840s. Hindes and Christ's College enclosures were meadows south-east of village which remained as meadows, while Holme and Little North fen were set aside for village flock. By the 19th century the field boundaries formed five open fields in total (Ravensdale, 1976).

Early roads and buildings: Post medieval

With regard to the development of the village of Cottenham it has been recorded as extending southwards along Histon Road. However the road fronting the PDA is recorded on the 1847 tithe map as being Cambridge Road, not Histon Road, and is also noted as being 40 feet wide (Appendix 3, figure 7). Wright (1989) records that in the sixteenth century money was frequently left for the repair of the main street, the highway to Histon, and Smithey fen causeway. It was also noted that the roads to Histon,

Landbeach, Rampton, and Westwick were straightened at inclosure in 1847, when c. 10 roads and footpaths across the fens and many around the village and over the fields were closed. The enclosure map of 1847 shows the land of the PDA being owned by a Thomas Farechild, Allotment Co. L.

By 1881 building had extended beyond the old village and there were 31 houses in Histon Road, built gradually since the 1840s, and 26 in the fens, most of which were put up by 1851. Most of those built before 1939 were along the roads to Histon and Rampton, and by 1986 there were c. 100 houses in Histon Road (Wright, 1989).

6.0 Results

6.1 Overview of Results

The results of the evaluation are presented sequentially by trench and bucket sample test-pits. Full context descriptions can be found in Appendix 5. In all trenches the topsoil (1) was a uniform 0.20m in depth and consisted of a homogeneous mid grey brown, loose slightly sandy silt with occasional small (<0.05m) angular flints.

A single field drain [4] was found in all trenches and sealed by the topsoil (1), (Figure 2). Aligned north-west to south-east the drain was filled by an orange/brown firm sandy silt (3) with occasional small angular stones (<0.04) and few fine roots.

6.2 Trench 1

Trench 1 measured 10m in length and 1.8m in width and was orientated north-west to south-east. The trench was machined to a depth of 0.65m where the natural clays were encountered. The topsoil (1) was found to seal a layer (2) consisting of a firm mid orangery brown sandy gravel 0.45m in depth.

6.3 Trench 2

Trench 2 measured 10m in length and 1.8m in width and was orientated north to south. The trench was machined to a depth of 0.48m in depth where the natural clays were encountered. The topsoil (1) was found to seal layer (2), a layer consisting of a firm mid orangery brown sandy gravel 0.28m in depth.

6.4 Trench 3

Trench 3 measured 10m in length and 1.8m in width and was orientated north-west to south-east. The trench was machined to a depth of 0.25m in depth where the natural clays were encountered. The topsoil (1) was found to seal layer (2), consisting of a firm mid orangery brown sandy gravel 0.15m in depth.

6.5 Testpit Results

Bucket sampling of the topsoil was undertaken on a 10m grid to determine and characterize the extent, date and significance of artefactual evidence within the ploughsoil.

The soil profiles were found to be similar in all testpits, being Topsoil (1) overlying layer (2) overlying natural. The only variation being was in the depth of layer (2), which was found to increase in depth downslope towards Histon Road (from 0.15m to 0.45m in depth). No artefacts were recovered during the test pitting other than 20th Century material which was discarded.

Testpit 1 was 0.9m deep.

Testpit 2 was 0.55m deep.

Testpit 3 was 0.35m deep.

Testpit 4 was 0.35m deep.

Testpit 5 was 0.50m deep.

Testpit 6 was 0.55m deep.

Testpit 7 was 0.55m deep.

Testpit 8 was 0.55m deep.

Testpit 9 was 0.50m deep.

Testpit 10 was 0.45m deep.

7.0 Conclusions

The work to date has demonstrated the absence of archaeological remains on the site. Subsoil (2) which was recorded across the site ranging in depth from 0.15m to the west to 0.45m to the east, could be, the remnants of Medieval ridge and furrow. The 1888 to 1902 ordnance survey maps (Appendix 3) indicate site usage as an orchard, which would account for the significant root disturbance in the subsoil, and truncation of any surviving archaeological remains.

The absence of archaeology on the PDA supports the marginal position of the site outside the historic core of Cottenham, the latter combined with the changing depth of layer (2) across the site could suggest Medieval ridge & furrow and early maps which indicate the PDA as being covered in orchard (figures 9-11).

Conditions on site were favourable for the identification and recording of any archaeological remains. The trial trenching was appropriate to the nature and extent of the development. It has demonstrated that the site has negligible archaeological potential.

Acknowledgements

Archaeology, Excavation & Surveys would like to thank [REDACTED] [REDACTED] for commissioning the survey. The assistance of Andy Thomas, Senior Archaeologist of Cambridgeshire County Council in providing the initial Project Brief and for commenting on the Written Scheme of Investigation and final report.

The site work was completed under the direction of Dawn Keen, assisted by Simon Bray. Mary Ann of Pre Construct Archaeology (Central) must be thanked for coming out at short notice to tie in the trenches by GPS.

Finally, thanks must go to Rob Parker for his diligence in completing a metal detecting survey of the site and for scanning the spoil heaps and exposed trench surfaces.

Bibliography

Balchin, N. and Filby, P. 2001. 'A Guide to the Industrial Archaeology of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough.' Association for Industrial Archaeology, S 09, p. 20.

Blinkhorn, P. 2009. 'Cottenham 2009 Phase 2: Pottery report for HEFA Programme testpit exercise'.

Blinkhorn, P. 2010. 'Cottenham, 2010: Pottery report for HEFA Programme testpit exercise'.

Dixon A. J., 'The sand and gravel resources of the country around Cottenham, Cambridgeshire', *Mineral Assessment Report 53*, Institute of Geological Sciences Natural Environment Research Council, LHMSO, 1980.

Hall, D., 'The Fenland Project, Number 10: Cambridgeshire Survey, Isle of Ely and Wisbech', East Anglian Archaeology Report No 79, 1996.

Heawood, R. 1997. 'Medieval, Post-Medieval, and undated features south of Denmark Road, Cottenham: An Archaeological Evaluation'. CCC Archaeological Field Unit Report 140.

Lyons, T. 2008. 'Land to the Rear of Orchard Close, Cottenham, Cambridgeshire'. Oxford Archaeology East Report 1077 Archaeological Evaluation Report.

Evaluation at Orchard Close, Cottenham, 2008 Oxford Archaeology East 02/12/2008 - 04/12/2008 Cottenham, South Cambridgeshire, TL 44357 67219 Cambridgeshire (nothing found)

Palmer, R. 1996. 'Denmark Road, Cottenham, TL450672. Aerial Photographic Appraisal'. Air Photo Services (Cambridge) Report 100.

Phillips, C.W. (ed.) 1970. 'The Fenland in Roman times: studies of a major area of peasant colonization with a gazetteer covering all known sites and finds'. Royal Geographical Society Research Series Number 5, 201.

Ravensdale, J. R., 'Liable to Floods, Village landscape on the edge of the fens A.D. 450-1850,' C.U.P., 1974.

Riley, D.N. 1945. 'Aerial reconnaissance of the Fen Basin'. *Antiquity* 19: 145-53.

Smith, A.C. 1975. 'Windmills in Cambridgeshire: a contemporary survey. Stevenage: Stevenage Museum.

Wilson, John Marius, 'Imperial Gazetteer of England) 'A History of the County of and Wales' 1870-1872.

Wright, A. P. M., & Lewis, C. P., (eds *Cambridge and the Isle of Ely: Volume 9: Chesterton, Northstowe and Papworth Hundreds* 1989.

APPENDIX 1: Site location

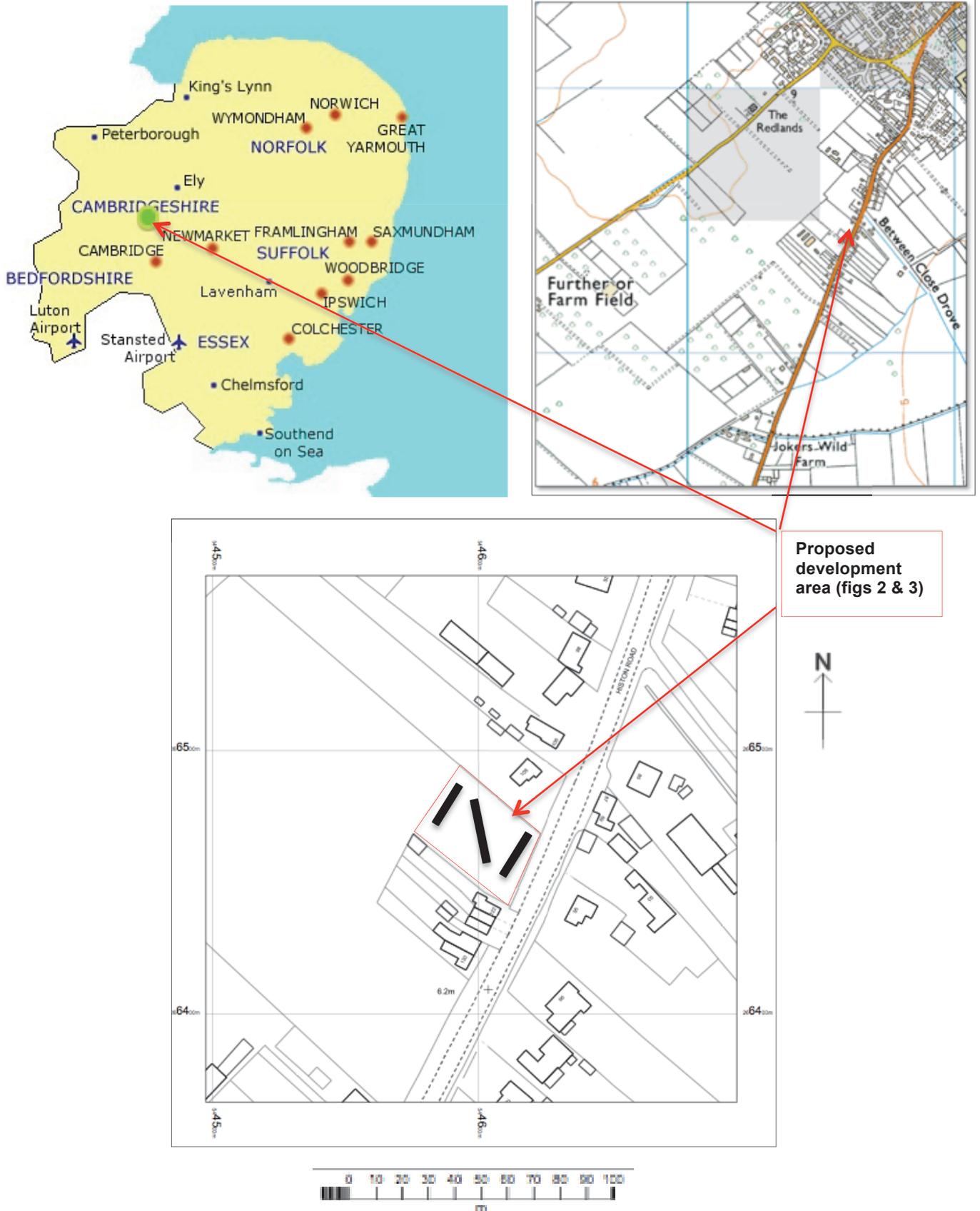


Figure 1: Site location plans for 108 Histon Road Cottenham
 © Crown Copyright All Rights Reserved Archaeology, Excavation & Surveys 100055549 2014

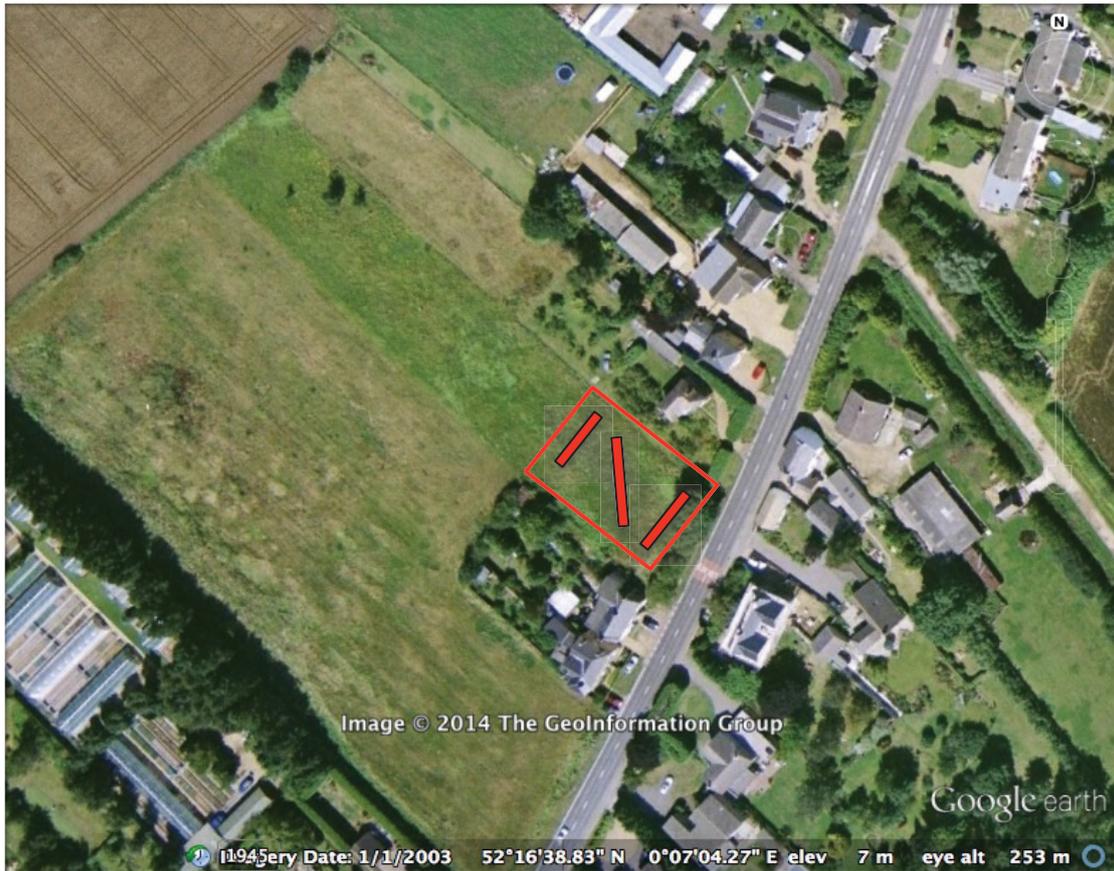


Figure 2: Development Area with Evaluation trenches Superimposed.

APPENDIX 2: Site Photographs



Figure 4: General shot of site before trial trenching looking north west



Figure 5: North east facing view of Trench 1



Figure 6: South-west facing view of Trench 2



Figure 7: North-east facing view of Trench 3



Figure 9: 1847 Tithe map; Cottenham and surrounding area showing ownership of allotments



Figure 10: Ordnance survey map 1888 1:25000



Figure 11: Ordnance survey map 1889 – 1891 1:25000

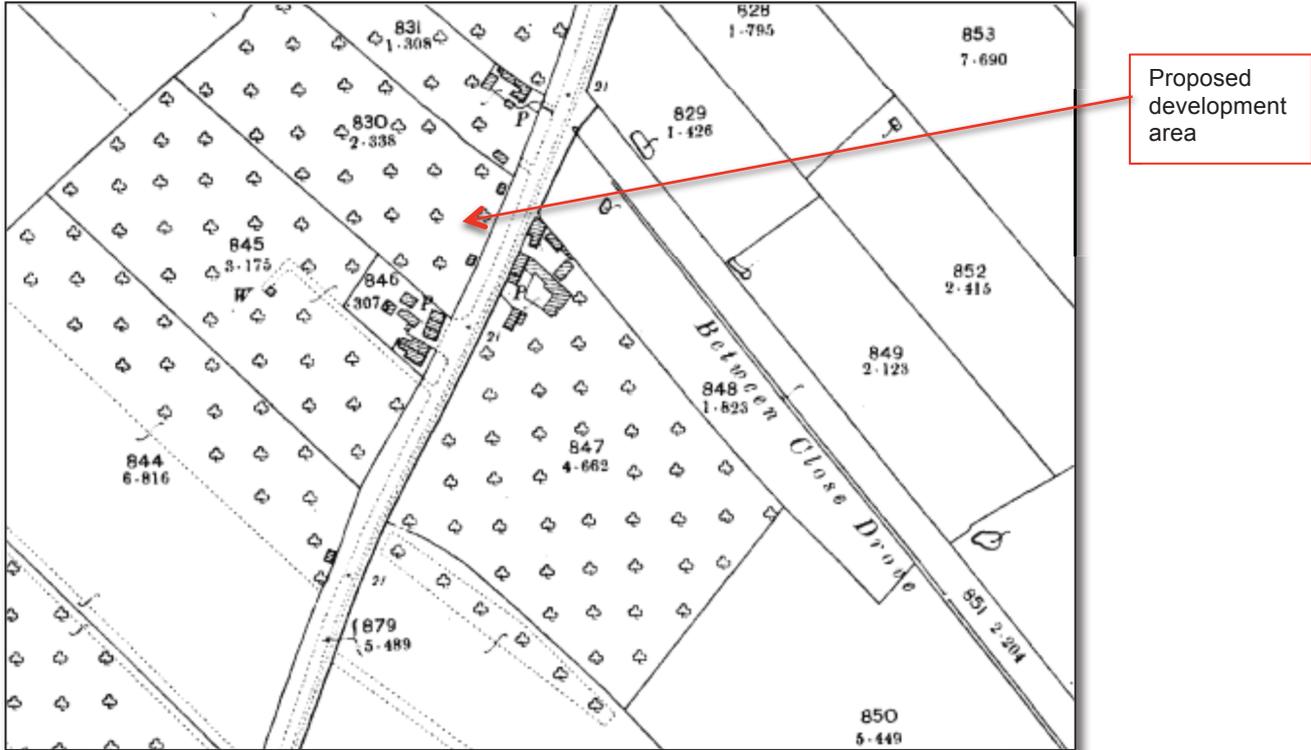
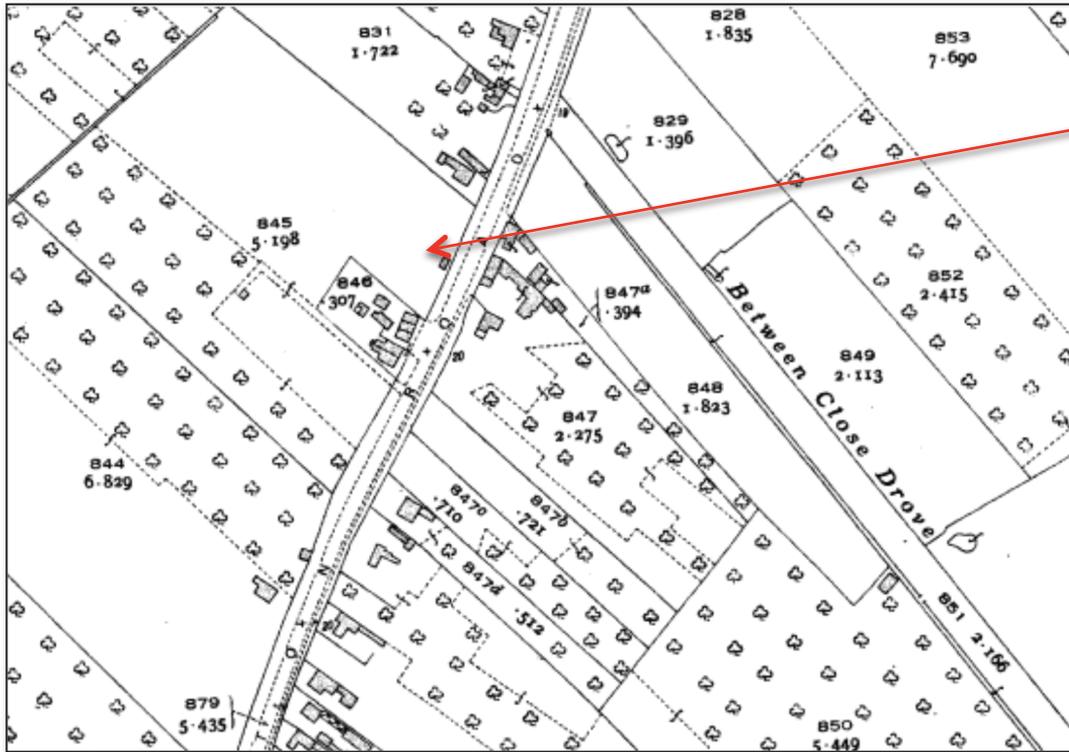
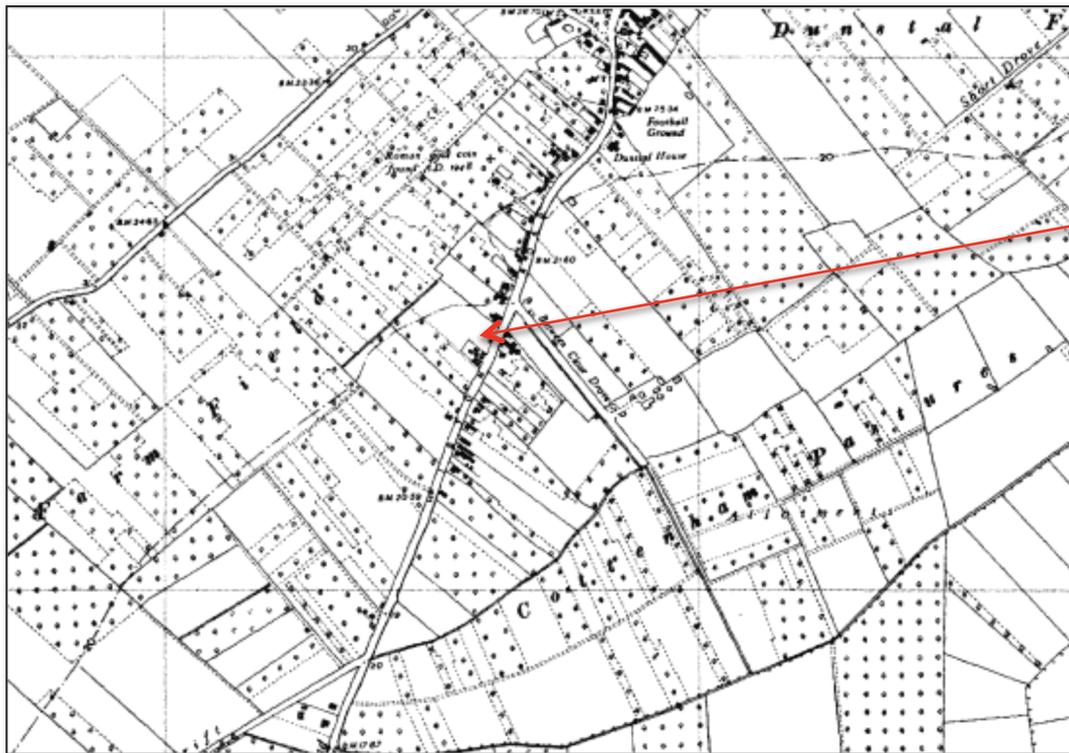


Figure 12: Ordnance survey map 1902 1:25000



Proposed development area

Figure 13: Ordnance survey map 1938 1:25000



Proposed development area

Figure 14: Ordnance survey map 1952 1:10,560

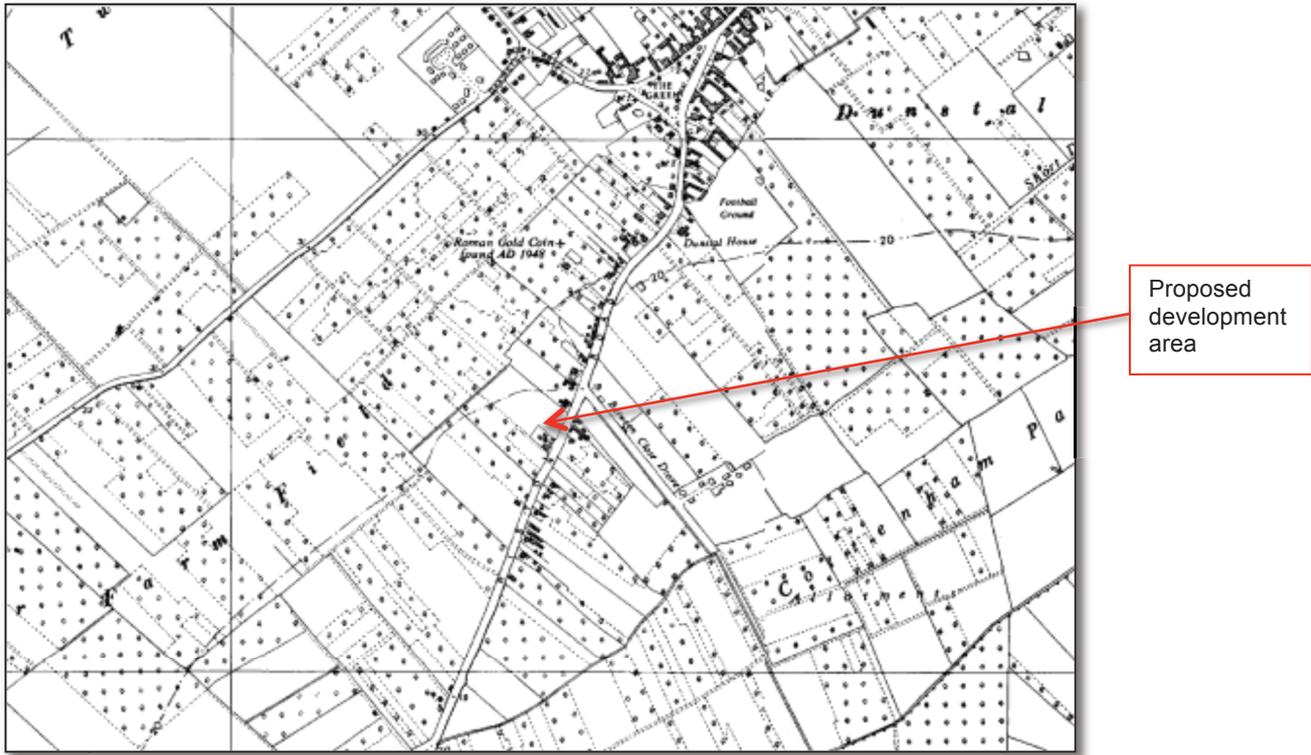


Figure 15: Ordnance survey map 1959 1:10,560

APPENDIX 4: Archive Qualification (Site Code: COTHR14)

Recorded Contexts: 4 contexts

Digital Photographic Archive: 67 photographs

Drawn Plans Archive: N/A

Drawn Sections Archive: N/A

Level Diary

GPS plot: Leica 1200 GPS Smart Rover with RTK differential correction giving global positioning accuracy to within 2cm

1	544612.66	266466.259	5.712	LOE	1	S	TR 1
2	544607.525	266457.229	5.761	LOE	1	S	TR 1
3	544609.015	266456.461	5.777	LOE	1	S	TR 1
4	544614.027	266465.159	5.721	LOE	1	S	TR 1
5	544612.645	266466.169	5.72	LOE	1	E	TR 1
6	544613.378	266465.962	5.739	SH	0	G	TR 1
7	544610.495	266462.203	5.474	SH	0	G	TR 1
8	544600.563	266457.981	5.59	LOE	1	S	TR 2
9	544598.946	266457.605	5.55	LOE	1	S	TR 2
10	544594.658	266477.454	5.568	LOE	1	S	TR 2
11	544596.39	266477.836	5.547	LOE	1	S	TR 2
12	544600.608	266457.959	5.59	LOE	1	E	TR 2
13	544600.08	266457.481	5.588	SH	0	G	TR 2
14	544596.35	266476.962	5.164	SH	0	G	TR 2
15	544592.809	266483.535	5.561	LOE	1	S	TR 3
16	544591.277	266484.615	5.58	LOE	1	S	TR 3
17	544585.421	266476.6	5.586	LOE	1	S	TR 3
18	544586.686	266475.576	5.548	LOE	1	S	TR 3
19	544592.782	266483.642	5.539	LOE	1	E	TR 3
20	544592.503	266484.114	5.563	SH	0	G	TR 3
21	544590.795	266481.367	5.182	SH	0	G	TR 3

FINDS

Small Finds: None.

Bulk Finds: None.

Environmental Samples: None taken

Level Diary: See GPS Data

APPENDIX 5: Context summary

Cxt No.	Tr. No.	Description	Interpretation	Finds
(1)	All	Mid grey brown sandy silt	Topsoil	20 th Century
(2)	All	Mid orange brown sandy silty gravel	Subsoil	
(3)	All	Mid-dark orangery brown firm sandy silt	Fill of [4]	?19 th Century
[4]	All	Cut	Field drain	?19 th Century

APPENDIX 6: Photographic Register

Photo Reg.	Digital No.	Direction taken from	Description of shot	Initials/date
1	1180	North-East	Site before trenching	SB 17/4/14
2	1181	North-West	Site before trenching	SB 17/4/14
3	1182	North-East	Metal detecting	SB 17/4/14
4	1183	North-East	Metal detecting	SB 17/4/14
5	1184	East	Site before trenching	SB 17/4/14
6	1185	East	Site before trenching	SB 17/4/14
7	1186	East	Site before trenching	SB 17/4/14
8	1199	North-East	Tr 3	SB 17/4/14
9	1200	North	Opening Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
10	1201	South-West	Opening Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
11	1202	North-West	Opening Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
12	1203	North	Opening Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
13	1204	North	Opening Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
14	1205	South-East	Tr 1	SB 17/4/14
15	1206	South-East	Tr 1	SB 17/4/14
16	1207	South-East	Tr 1	SB 17/4/14
17	1208	North-East	Tr 1	SB 17/4/14
18	1209	North-East	Tr 1	SB 17/4/14
19	1210	South-East	GPS	SB 17/4/14
20	1211	South-East	GPS	SB 17/4/14
21	1212	South-West	Tr 3	SB 17/4/14
22	1213	South-West	Tr 3	SB 17/4/14
23	1214	North-East	Tr 3	SB 17/4/14
24	1215	North-East	Tr 3	SB 17/4/14
25	1216	South-West	Tr 1 section	SB 17/4/14
26	1217	South-West	Tr 1 section	SB 17/4/14
27	1218	North	Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
28	1219	North	Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
29	1220	North	Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
30	1221	North	Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
31	1222	North	Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
32	1223	North	Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
33	1224	South	Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
34	1225	South	Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
35	1226	South	Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
36	1227	South-West	Tr 3	SB 17/4/14
37	1228	South-West	Tr 3	SB 17/4/14
38	1229	South-West	Tr 3	SB 17/4/14
39	1230	North-West	Tr 3	SB 17/4/14
40	1231	North-West	Tr 3	SB 17/4/14
41	1232	North-West	Tr 3	SB 17/4/14
42	1233	North-East	Tr 1	SB 17/4/14
43	1234	North-East	Tr 1	SB 17/4/14
44	1235	South-West	Tr 1	SB 17/4/14
45	1236	South-West	Tr 1	SB 17/4/14
46	1237	South-West	Tr 1	SB 17/4/14
47	1238	South-West	Tr 1	SB 17/4/14

Photo Reg.	Digital No.	Direction taken from	Description of shot	Initials/date
48	1239	South	Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
49	1240	South	Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
50	1241	North	Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
51	1242	North	Tr 2	SB 17/4/14
52	1243	North	TP 1	SB 17/4/14
53	1244	North	TP 2	SB 17/4/14
54	1245	North	TP 3	SB 17/4/14
55	1246	North	TP 3	SB 17/4/14
56	1247	North	TP 4	SB 17/4/14
57	1248	North	TP 5	SB 17/4/14
58	1249	North	TP 5	SB 17/4/14
59	1250	North	TP 6	SB 17/4/14
60	1251	North	TP 6	SB 17/4/14
61	1252	North	TP 7	SB 17/4/14
62	1253	North	TP 8	SB 17/4/14
63	1254	North	TP 8	SB 17/4/14
64	1255	North	TP 9	SB 17/4/14
65	1256	North	TP 9	SB 17/4/14
66	1257	North	TP 9	SB 17/4/14
67	1258	North	TP 10	SB 17/4/14

APPENDIX 7: Archaeological Brief

BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION Historic Environment Team

Site: Land Adjacent 108 Histon Road, Cottenham

Planning Application: S/1949/13/FL

Company: Archaeology Excavation Surveys

Location: NGR TL 4460 6646

Prepared by: Andy Thomas, Senior Archaeologist, Cambridgeshire County Council

This design brief is only valid for six months after the date of issue. After this period the Historic Environment Team (HET) should be contacted. Any specifications resulting from this brief will only be considered for the same period. Please note that this document is written for archaeological project managers to facilitate the production of an archaeological specification of work; the term project manager is used to denote the archaeological project manager only.

The project manager is strongly advised to visit the site before completing their specification, as there may be implications for accurately costing the project. The project manager must consult the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) as part of the evaluation. Any response to this brief should follow IfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations, 2008.

NO FIELDWORK MAY COMMENCE UNTIL WRITTEN APPROVAL OF A SPECIFICATION HAS BEEN ISSUED BY THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT TEAM

1.0 Site Description

- 1.1 The site is located on the south side of the historic village of Cottenham.
- 1.2 Although little archaeological investigation has been undertaken in the vicinity, cropmarks show an area of probable late prehistoric or Roman settlement to the north west (HER 09547) and artefacts of Roman date are known in the vicinity. Evidence for medieval and post medieval ribbon development along the main road to Histon can also be anticipated.
- 1.3 Detailed archaeological evidence and references for these and other sites is contained in the HER search attached to this brief. Please contact the HER team to request the GIS files, should you require data in this format.

2.0 The nature of the development and archaeological requirements

- 2.1 The development is for four dwellings with associated services and access.
- 2.2 Due to the high archaeological potential of the site, a condition has been placed on planning consent requiring a scheme of archaeological work to be undertaken at the site. The first phase of this work will be an archaeological evaluation to assess the nature and potential of the site. This brief deals solely with the evaluation phase.
- 2.3 The evaluation should include a suitable level of documentary research, including further consultation with information held in the CHER as necessary, to set the results in their geographical, topographical, archaeological and historical context.
- 2.4 The required scheme shall include a field evaluation of the application area. A fieldwalking or test pitting programme should be included in the evaluation scheme to

characterise the artefact contents of the ploughsoil and any lower soil horizons. This may assist in the final location of trenches and also provide indication of the condition of underlying archaeological remains.

- 2.5 The evaluation should include a programme of linear trial trenching and/or test-pitting to adequately sample the threatened available area and will excavate sufficient archaeological features to conform to section 3.0 below.
- 2.6 The use of metal detectors on site to aid the recovery of artefacts is required. The detector should not be set to discriminate against iron.
- 2.7 All features must be investigated and recorded unless otherwise agreed with HET. Investigation slots through all linear features must be at least 1m in width. Discrete features must be half-sectioned or excavated in quadrants where they are large or found to be deep. The use of boreholes is recommended to gain information from very deep deposits.
- 2.8 The evaluation results will be used to determine the need, design and extent of any mitigation works that may be required.**
- 2.9 The mitigation of construction impacts to archaeological remains that are identified during this evaluation will be outlined in a further Design Brief.

3.0 Objectives

- 3.1 The evaluation should aim to determine, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. An adequate representative sample of all areas where archaeological remains are potentially threatened should be studied. This office will be particularly concerned with the amount of truncation to buried deposits, the presence or absence of a palaeosol or 'B' horizon, the preservation of deposits within negative features, site formation processes generally. To these ends buried soils and associated deposits should be inspected on site by a suitably qualified soil scientist and his/her advice sought on the whether soil micromorphological study or other analytical techniques will enhance understanding of the site. If so, suitable samples should be taken from relevant deposits/features and assessed.
- 3.2 Aerial photographic assessment is not required for this site.
- 3.3 Geophysical survey is not required for this site.
- 3.4 The assessment of the environmental potential of the site through examination of suitable deposits must also be arranged with a suitably qualified specialist. Attention should be paid:
- to the retrieval of charred plant macrofossils and land molluscs from former dry-land palaeosols and cut features, and to soil pollen analysis;
 - to the retrieval of plant macrofossils, insect, molluscs and pollen from waterlogged deposits located.
 - provision for the absolute dating of critical contacts should be made: eg the basal contacts of peats over former dryland surfaces; distinct landuse or landmark change in urban contexts

The assessment of environmental potential should consider the guidelines set out in the following documents:

- English Heritage, 2011, *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (second edition)*. - Association for Environmental Archaeology, 1995, *Environmental archaeology and archaeological evaluations. Recommendations concerning the environmental archaeology component of archaeological evaluations in England*. Working Papers of the Association for Environmental Archaeology 2, 8 ff. York: Association for Environmental Archaeology;

- Dobney, K., Hall, A., Kenward, H. and Milles, A., 1992, *A working classification of sample types for environmental archaeology*. Circaea 9.1 (1992 for 1991), pg. 24-26; - Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J., 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*.

The Project Manager is also advised to consult the following guidance documents in order to provide an adequate strategy for the excavation, field treatment and conservation of any delicate organic materials: English Heritage, 2012, *Waterlogged Organic Artefacts: Guidelines on Their Recovery, Analysis and Conservation*; English Heritage, 2008, *Investigative Conservation: Guidance on How the Detailed Examination of Artefacts from Archaeological Sites Can Shed Light on Their Manufacture and Use*; English Heritage, 2010, *Waterlogged Wood: Guidelines on the Recovery, Sampling, Conservation and Curation of Waterlogged Wood*.

The project manager must ensure that the results of palaeoenvironmental investigation or industrial residue assessments/analyses are included in a full report and sent to the English Heritage Science Advisor.

- 3.5 The evaluation should also carefully consider any artefact or economic information, in particular the survival of faunal evidence, and provide an assessment of the viability for further study of such information. It will be particularly important to provide an indication of the relative importance of such material for any subsequent decision-making regarding mitigation strategies. Advice is to be sought from a suitably qualified specialist in Faunal Remains on the potential of sites for producing bones of fish and small mammals. If there is potential, a sieving programme is to be undertaken. Faunal remains collected by hand and sieving are to be assessed and analysed if appropriate.
- 3.6 The evaluation should include a comprehensive, illustrated assessment of the regional context within which the archaeological evidence rests and should aim to highlight any relevant research issues within a national and regional research framework.
- 3.7 The evaluation should provide a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains detailing zones of relative importance against known development proposals. An impact assessment should also be provided.
- 3.8 If any of these areas of analysis are not considered appropriate the report will detail justification for their exclusion.

4.0 Requirements

- 4.1 The evaluation must be undertaken by an archaeological team of recognised competence, fully experienced in work of this character and formally acknowledged by the HET officers, advisors to the Local Planning Authority (LPA). Inclusion in The Institute for Archaeologists' Register of Archaeological Organisations is recommended. Details, including the name, qualifications and experience, of the site director and all other key project personnel (including specialist staff) will be communicated to HET as part of a specification of works to be submitted by the archaeological contractor undertaking the programme. The specification must conform to the guidance in English Heritage's MoRPHE publication (*Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment. The MoRPHE Project Manager's*

Guide. EH 2006). This specification must:

1. be supported by a research design which sets out the site specific objectives of the archaeological works.
 2. detail the proposed works as precisely as is reasonably possible, indicating clearly on plan their location and extent.
 3. provide a timetable for the proposed works including a "safety" margin in the event of bad weather or any other unforeseen circumstances that may effect this timetabling.
- 4.2 Care must be taken in the siting of offices and other support structures in order to minimise impact on the environment. Extreme care must also be taken in the structure and maintenance of spoil heaps for the same reasons and to facilitate a high quality reinstatement. This is particularly important in relation to pastureland.
- 4.3 The archaeological project manager must satisfy themselves that all constraints to groundworks have been identified, including the siting of live services, Tree Preservation Orders and public footpaths. The HET officers bear no responsibility for the inclusion or exclusion of such information within this brief.
- 4.4 Care must be taken in dealing with human remains and the appropriate guidance issued by the Ministry of Justice should be followed. Environmental health regulations must also be followed. The Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team and the local Coroner must be informed immediately upon discovery of human remains. If found during an evaluation, the human remains must be left *in situ*, covered and protected when discovered. No further investigation should normally be permitted beyond that necessary to establish the date, condition and character of the burial. If removal is essential an exhumation licence should be requested from the MoJ.
- 4.5 All aspects of the evaluation shall be conducted in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*, the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* (2008), and *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (EAA Occasional Paper 14). Reference should also be made to *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (EAA Occ. Paper No 24, 2011) .
- 4.6 **Before commencing work the project manager must carry out a risk assessment and liaise with the site owner, client and HET in ensuring that all potential risks are minimised. A copy of this must be given to HET before the commencement of works.**
- 4.7 Project Managers are reminded of the need to comply with the requirements of the Treasure Act 1996 (with subsequent amendments). Advice and guidance on compliance with Treasure Act issues can be obtained from the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team (CHET) office. Any finds that could be considered treasure under the terms of the Act made during the process of fieldwork should be **immediately** reported to the Finds Liaison Officer of the Portable Antiquities Scheme based in CHET, so that it is reported to the appropriate Coroner within 14 days of discovery in line with the Act¹ .
- 4.8 The site archive specification should conform to the guidelines in MoRPHE (EH 2006), eg section 2.5.3 and be deposited within the County Archaeology Store on completion of site analysis and any ensuing publication.
- 4.9 To assist with the curation of the project's archive, the Project Manager must contact the CHER office to obtain an **event number**. CHER will use this number as a unique identifier linking all physical and digital components of the archive. **The unique event number must be clearly indicated on any specification received for this project, on relevant ensuing reports and on the OASIS data collection form (see 4.11**

below).

- 4.10 Arrangements for the long term storage and deposition of all artefacts must be agreed with the landowner and CHER before the commencement of fieldwork. The Project Manager should consult document ref HER 2004/1 (available from our website²) regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive, which must be deposited in the County Store on completion of post-excavation analysis and publication.
- 4.11 Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team supports the national programme: Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS III) project and requires archaeological contractors working in Cambridgeshire to support this initiative. In order that a record is made of all archaeological events within the county occurring through the planning system, the archaeological contractor is required to input details of this project online at the ADS internet site³: The OASIS reference ID and Data Collection Form should be clearly presented in the relevant report. **Any report that does not contain this information will not be approved.**
- 1 Please see <http://finds.org.uk/treasure> for further information. 2 <http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/leisure/archaeology/archives/herstore.htm>
- 4.12 An unbound hard copy of the report, clearly marked **DRAFT**, should be prepared and presented to HET within four weeks of the completion of site works (unless there are reasonable grounds for more time). This report must conform to the format contained within the document **HET Eval rev 06** dealing with the production of archaeological evaluation reports. Copies can be obtained from the address below. *IfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2008) Annex 2, Report Contents, should be used.
- 4.13 Following acceptance, **one copy** of the approved report of the results should be submitted to the CHER. The approved report should also be uploaded to the OASIS database within **two weeks** of approval.
- 4.14 HET officers are responsible for monitoring all archaeological work within Cambridgeshire and will need to inspect site works at an appropriate time during the fieldwork, and review the progress of excavation reports and/or archive preparation. Further trenching or deposit testing may be a requirement of the site monitoring visit if unclear archaeological remains or geomorphological features present difficulties of interpretation, or to assist with the formulation of a mitigation strategy. Appropriate provision should be made for this eventuality. The project manager must inform HET in writing **at least one week in advance** of the proposed start date for the project.
- 4.15 Any changes to the specifications that the project manager may wish to make after approval by this office should be communicated directly to HET for approval.
- 4.16 HET should be kept regularly informed about developments both during the site works and subsequent post-excavation work.
- 4.17 The involvement of HET should be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

As part of our desire to provide a quality service to all our clients we would welcome any comments you may have on the content or presentation of this design brief. Please address them to the author at the address below.

Andy Thomas Senior Archaeologist

Historic Environment Team Box CC1008, Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge CB3 0AP

APPENDIX 8: AES OASIS Report Form **OASIS ID Number: archaeol15-172336**

PROJECT DETAILS				
Project Name:		Land adjacent 108 Histon Road, Cottenham		
Short Description:		Three trenches revealed no archaeological evidence		
Project Dates:	Start	17 th March 2014	End	17 th March 2014
Previous work:	None	Future work:	None	
Associated Project Reference Codes:		Site Code: COTHR14		
Type of Project:		Evaluation		
Site Status:		None		
Current land use: (list all that apply)		Waste		
Planned development:		Social Housing		
Monument types/period (list all that apply)		None		
Significant finds: Artefact type / period (List all that apply)		None		
PROJECT LOCATION				
County:	Cambridge	Parish:	Cottenham	
HER for region:		Cambridgeshire		
Site address: (including postcode)		108 Histon Road, Cottenham, Cambridgeshire, CB24 8UG		
Study area (sq m or ha)		1161 square metres		
National Grid Reference	Easting (6 figures)	TL 4460	Northing (6 figures)	6646
Height OD	Max OD		Min OD	
PROJECT ORIGINATORS				
Organisation:		Cambridgeshire County County		
Project brief originator:		Andy Thomas		
Project design originator:		Dawn Keen		
Sponsor or funding body:		Cocksedge Building Contractors		
ARCHIVES	Location and accession number		Content (eg. Pottery, animal bone, database, context sheet etc)	
Physical	Cambs County Store		None	
Paper	Cambs County Store		Evaluation	
Digital	AES		Report, illustrations, films	
BIBLIOGRAPHY				
Full title:		Land adjacent to 108 Histon Road, Cottenham, Cambridgeshire: An Archaeological Evaluation		
Report No.:		AES/2014/3		
Series title and volume:		AES		
Page numbers:				
Author(s)		Dawn Keen		