

**LAND AT 40-64 COLVILLE ROAD  
& 1-9 AUGERS ROAD,  
CHERRY HINTON, CAMBRIDGE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL  
TRENCH EVALUATION**

**JUNE 2014**



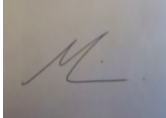
**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY  
R11683**

LAND AT 40-64 COLVILLE ROAD & 1-9  
AUGERS ROAD, CHERRY HINTON,  
CAMBRIDGE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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**Land at 40-64 Colville Road & 1-9 Augers Road, Cherry Hinton,  
Cambridgeshire CB1 9HR: An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation**

**Local Planning Authority:** Cambridge City Council

**Planning Reference:** 13/1129/FUL

**Central National Grid Reference:** NGR TL 4892 5656

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## CONTENTS

CONTENTS .....	2
ABSTRACT.....	3
1 INTRODUCTION .....	4
2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY .....	6
3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND .....	7
4 METHODOLOGY.....	9
5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS .....	11
6 THE FINDS.....	14
7 DISCUSSION .....	22
8 CONCLUSIONS.....	24
9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....	25
10 BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	26
11 APPENDIX 1: PLATES .....	32
12 APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX .....	38
13 APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM.....	39
FIGURE 1 SITE LOCATION .....	27
FIGURE 2 TRENCH LOCATION.....	28
FIGURE 3 TRENCH 1 AND 2 PLAN .....	29
FIGURE 4 TRENCH 3 PLAN .....	30
FIGURE 5 SECTIONS .....	31
PLATE 1: THE SITE, VIEW SOUTH-EAST TOWARDS AUGERS ROAD.....	32
PLATE 2: EXISTING STRUCTURES ON SITE, VIEW SOUTH-EAST .....	32
PLATE 3: TRENCH 3 FEATURES, VIEW SOUTH.....	33
PLATE 4: TRENCH 1, VIEW SOUTH-EAST .....	33
PLATE 5: TRENCH 2, VIEW SOUTH-EAST .....	34
PLATE 6: TRENCH 3, VIEW NORTH-EAST.....	34
PLATE 7: DITCH [16], VIEW SOUTH-EAST .....	35
PLATE 8: DITCH [22], VIEW SOUTH-EAST .....	35
PLATE 9: DITCH [25], VIEW SOUTH-EAST .....	36
PLATE 10: PIT [20], VIEW SOUTH-EAST .....	36
PLATE 11: PITS [29] AND [31], VIEW SOUTH-EAST.....	37
PLATE 12: TRENCH 3, VIEW NORTH-EAST .....	37

## **ABSTRACT**

*This report describes the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land at 40-64 Colville Road & 1-9 Augers Road, Cherry Hinton, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 4892 5656) in May 2014. The archaeological work was commissioned by Keepmoat in response to a planning condition attached to residential development. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the site.*

*The evaluation identified a series of north-west to south-east-aligned ditches and several pits, including a large steep-sided possible cess pit, all of which yielded pottery of 'high medieval' date (late-12<sup>th</sup>- to 14<sup>th</sup>-century). The pottery, faunal remains and environmental evidence from these features are in keeping with occupation debris from nearby settlement. The results of this fieldwork have implications for the development of medieval settlement in Cherry Hinton and are therefore of local significance.*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on land at 40-64 Colville Road & 1-9 Augers Road, Cherry Hinton, Cambridgeshire, CB1 9HR (centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 4892 5656) in May 2014 (Figure 1; Plate 1).
- 1.2 The site is located in the Cherry Hinton ward of the City of Cambridge, 4km to the south-east of Cambridge town centre and to the east of Cherry Hinton High Street. It is bounded by Colville Road to the south and Augers Road to the east. It currently comprises five detached blocks of modern single-storey bungalow-style dwellings, three of which (nos.40-48, 50-56 and 58-64) front onto Colville Road, while two further blocks of bungalows to the east (nos. 3-5 and 6-7) front Augers Road (Plate 2). The area also includes small gardens to the front and rear of the bungalows and a swathe of undeveloped open space between the back gardens of the bungalows and the back gardens of houses fronting onto Fisher's Lane, to the north. The general character of the site is suburban in character, with the focus of historic Cherry Hinton lying nearby to the west, along the High Street. Cherry Hinton has largely been absorbed by post-War housing developments which have encroached from the City of Cambridge to the west. The area to the north and east of Cherry Hinton remains largely undeveloped, retaining its historic use as open farmland.
- 1.3 The archaeological work was commissioned by Keepmoat in response to an archaeological planning condition attached to the construction of a new development, comprising 33 residential units with associated access and services (Planning Reference 3/1129/FUL).
- 1.4 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Mark Hinman of PCA (Hinman 2014) in response to a Brief for archaeological evaluation from Andy Thomas of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (Thomas 2014).

- 1.5 The aim of the evaluation was to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition and quality of any archaeological remains on the site, to assess the significance of any such remains in a local, regional or national context, as appropriate, and to assess the potential impact of the development proposals on the site's archaeology.
- 1.6 Three linear trial trenches were excavated and recorded on the 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> May 2014, totalling 100m in length (Figure 2). A total of 4 ditches and 3 pits of 'high medieval' (12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>-century) date were revealed.
- 1.7 This report describes the results of the evaluation and aims to inform the design of an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy. The site archive will be deposited at Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store.

## **2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

- 2.1 The geological deposits that underlie Cambridgeshire predominantly date from the Cretaceous Period (140 to 65 million years ago). The geology is divided into a series of strata that outcrop in bands running from north-east to south-west. These formations were laid down as successive marine deposits that have since been raised and tilted by tectonic processes in Tertiary times (British Geological Survey Online Viewer 2014).
- 2.2 The Cherry Hinton area is underlain by a grey chalk subgroup bedrock formed approximately 99-94 million years ago. This deposit was formed in a low-energy warm marine environment. The lower chalk beds comprise a chalk marl (West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation). In the south-eastern parishes of the district, the chalk is partly overlain by glacial boulder clay.
- 2.3 The soils of the area are of the Milton association. This consists of deep permeable calcareous fine loamy soils, which are often interspersed with river alluvium along the valley floors.
- 2.4 No geotechnical work has been undertaken on the site.
- 2.5 The site lies along the eastern reaches of the Cam river valley and to the north-east of Cherry Hinton Brook, a tributary river of the Cam which flows north-west from the foot of the Gog Magog hills down to the Cam floodplain. The site is close to the 15m contour, the topography being generally flat.



### **3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER) records a large number of known archaeological sites in the Cherry Hinton area, with Saxon and medieval occupation known to the north and north-west in the area of Cherry Hinton High Street and Church End, and significant prehistoric and Roman sites to the south of Fulbourn Road. Despite being located close to these known focuses of activity, no archaeological sites or other heritage assets have previously been recorded within the development site itself.
- 3.2 The site was thought to have moderate potential for prehistoric activity based on the frequency of such sites in the general area and its location within the valley of the river Cam and its tributary Cherry Hinton Brook/ Coldham's Brook. The site also lies close to a number of important prehistoric sites, with the scheduled Iron Age Wandlebury Camp c. 3km to the south, the Iron Age 'War Ditches' hillfort situated opposite on Limekiln Hill and a number of barrows and ring ditches located just south of the Fulbourn Road. Prehistoric, primarily Neolithic to Iron Age, activity appears to have been focused on the lower slopes of the Gog Magog Hills and particularly in the area of Limekiln Hill. Chance finds of Neolithic and Bronze Age flint tools occur in the general area of the site, while evidence of Later Neolithic and Bronze Age activity has been found to the west, along the High Street, and to the east, adjacent to Fulbourn Hospital.
- 3.3 The site is located close to a previously-recorded Roman kiln, a Roman chalk quarry and a 2<sup>nd</sup>-century Roman farmstead, all south of Fulbourn Road. In addition, there is a general 'background noise' of Roman-period activity across the wider area, with further occupation sites to the north and east of the site, although these are mainly some distance away.
- 3.4 Current evidence suggests that the principal focus of activity in Cherry Hinton during the Saxon and medieval periods lay some distance to the north and north-west of the present site, in the area of the High Street and St Andrew's Church at Church End, with little other activity apart from agriculture outside the limits of Church End and Mill End. Accordingly, it was

thought prior to the evaluation that there was only low potential for Saxon and medieval settlement activity on the site.

- 3.5 Cartographic evidence shows that this area of Cherry Hinton, to the east of the High Street, remained as farmland up until its enclosure and drainage in 1806-10. Early Ordnance Survey maps show that during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the site, though not developed, was crossed by a series of boundary ditches delineating back plots to the rear of properties that fronted onto Fisher's Lane, to the north. These plots were swept away when the present housing estate was built between 1955 and 1970. Based on this evidence it was thought prior to the evaluation that there was moderate potential for encountering post-medieval boundary features or deposits on the site.

## 4 METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 All archaeological works were undertaken prior to the demolition of existing buildings within the bounds of the development area. Three linear trial trenches, totalling 100m, were excavated, to cover the area of the new development. These were positioned outside the footprints of the existing buildings and within less-disturbed former garden areas.
- 4.2 Ground reduction was carried out under archaeological supervision using a 180° wheeled mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m-wide toothless ditching bucket. Topsoil and subsoil deposits were removed in spits down to the level of the undisturbed natural geological deposits where archaeological features could be observed and recorded. No deposits of archaeological interest survived above the level of the natural geology. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by trowel as appropriate and all further excavation was undertaken manually using hand tools.
- 4.3 The limits of excavations, heights above Ordnance Datum (m OD) and the locations of archaeological features and interventions were recorded using a Leica 1200 GPS rover unit with RTK differential correction, giving three-dimensional accuracy of 20mm or better.
- 4.4 Deposits or the removal of deposits judged by the excavating archaeologist to constitute individual events were each assigned a unique record number (often referred to within British archaeology as 'context numbers') and recorded on individual pre-printed forms (Taylor and Brown 2009). Archaeological processes recognised by the deposition of material are signified in this report by round brackets (thus), while events constituting the removal of deposits are referred to here as 'cuts' and signified by square brackets [thus]. The record numbers assigned to cuts and deposits are entirely arbitrary and in no way reflect the chronological order in which events took place. All features and deposits recorded during the evaluation are listed in Appendix 2. Artefacts recovered during excavation were assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved.

- 4.5 Metal-detecting was carried out during the topsoil and subsoil stripping and throughout the excavation process. Archaeological features and spoil heaps were scanned by metal-detector. Only objects of modern date were found and were not retained for accession.
- 4.6 High-resolution digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits, and were used to keep a record of the excavation process.
- 4.7 Bulk samples were taken by the excavator and in consultation with the project's environmental specialist where practicable, to test for the presence and potential of micro- and macro-botanical environmental indicators.

## **5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS**

### **5.1 Overview**

Trench 1 contained only modern features, while Trench 2 contained a single shallow undated north- to south-aligned ditch (Figure 3). The focus of the archaeology was in Trench 3, where four north-west- to south-east-aligned ditches and three pits, all of medieval date, were present (Figures 4 and 5, Plate 3).

### **5.2 Trench 1 (Figure 3, Plate 4)**

A small sub-rectangular pit [8] (0.93m long x 0.52m wide) was located towards the north-west end of the trench, extending out of the south-western limit of excavation. It contained a single fill of loose light grey sandy silt (7) and contained modern brick. Due to this, the feature was not excavated.

A small sub-rectangular pit [10] (1.40m long x 0.48m wide) was located in the central area of the trench, extending out of the north-eastern limit of excavation. It contained a single fill of mixed natural chalk and modern building debris (9). Due to this, the feature was not excavated.

### **5.3 Trench 2 (Figure 3, Plate 5)**

Ditch [12] (1.80m+ long x 0.28m wide x 0.05m deep) was located towards the south-east end of the trench. It was aligned north to south, extending out of both limits of excavation. The ditch had regular slightly sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It contained a single fill of light brown-grey clayey silt (11) with occasional chalk fragments, which contained no finds.

### **5.4 Trench 3 (Figures 4 and 5, Plate 6)**

Ditch [16] (Plate 7) (1.80m+ long x 1.05m wide x 0.45m deep) was located towards the north-east end of the trench; it was aligned north-west to south-east, extending beyond both limits of excavation. The ditch had steeply sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It contained two fills, the uppermost being a dark grey clayey silt (14) with occasional chalk and flint inclusions, which contained 13<sup>th</sup>-century pottery and animal bone. The basal fill was a light grey clayey silt (15) with occasional chalk and flint inclusions

which contained no finds.

Ditch [22] (Plate 8) (1.80m+ long x 2.11m wide x 0.25m deep) was located towards the northeast end of the trench; it was aligned north-west to south-east, extending out of both limits of excavation. The ditch had slightly sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It contained a single fill of mid grey clayey silt (21) with occasional chalk and flint inclusions which contained 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>-century pottery, animal bone and iron objects.

Ditch [25] (Plate 9) (1.80m+ long x 1.41m wide x 0.50m deep) was located in the central area of the trench; it was aligned north-west to south-east, extending out of both limits of excavation. The ditch had steeply sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It contained two fills, the uppermost being a light grey clayey silt (23) with frequent chalk and occasional flint inclusions, which contained 12<sup>th</sup>- to 14<sup>th</sup>-century pottery and animal bone. The basal fill was a light brown-grey clayey silt (24) with occasional chalk and flint inclusions which contained no finds.

Ditch [27] (1.80m+ long x 1.44m wide x 0.23m deep) was located towards the south-west end of the trench; it was aligned north-west to south-east, extending out of both limits of excavation. The ditch had slightly sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It contained a single fill of mid grey clayey silt (26) with frequent chalk and occasional flint inclusions which contained 12<sup>th</sup>- to 14<sup>th</sup>-century pottery and iron objects.

Pit [20] (Plate 10) (1.80m+ long x 2.41m wide x 1.00m deep) was located towards the north-east end of the trench. It was aligned north-west to south-east, extending beyond both limits of excavation. The pit had near-vertical concave sides and was not fully excavated due to its considerable depth. It contained three fills, the uppermost being a dark grey clayey silt (17) with occasional chalk and flint inclusions, which contained 13<sup>th</sup>-century pottery and animal bone. The middle fill was a mid grey clayey silt (18) with frequent chalk and flint inclusions which contained 12<sup>th</sup>- to 13<sup>th</sup>-century pot. The basal fill was a light brown-grey clayey silt (19) with occasional chalk and flint inclusions which contained no finds.

Pit [29] (Plate 11) (0.85m long x 1.19m wide x 0.32m deep) was located towards the south-west end of the trench. The pit had moderately sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It contained a single fill of mid grey clayey silt (28) with occasional chalk and flint inclusions which contained 12<sup>th</sup>- to 13<sup>th</sup>-century pottery. Pit [29] cut Pit [31] to the south.

Pit [31] (Plate 12) (1.80m+ long x 1.20m wide x 0.37m deep) was located towards the south-west end of the trench. The pit had moderately sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It contained a single fill of mid grey clayey silt (30) with occasional chalk and flint inclusions which contained no finds. Pit [31] was cut by Pit [29] to the north.

## **6 THE FINDS**

### **6.1 The Medieval Pottery by Chris Jarrett**

#### Introduction

The post-Roman pottery assemblage consists of 39 sherds weighing 380g. The material dates to the medieval period and more precisely encompasses the late 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century. The condition of the pottery is good, with very little or no evidence of abrasion. The assemblage consists of sherd material with identifiable forms represented and this all indicates deposition fairly soon after breakage. The pottery was recovered from seven contexts.

#### Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

The pottery consists of medieval wares ranging in date between c. AD 1175 and AD 1400. The pottery types conform to the ceramic profile of medieval Cambridge. The pottery has the potential to date the features it was recovered from and its stratified sequence may aid in the dating of the pottery types marketed to Cambridge and, by extension, refine the known ceramic sequence for the city. The range of forms recorded for the pottery types largely consist of jars/ cooking pots and jug sherds, with the highly-decorative 13<sup>th</sup>-century style represented amongst the latter. The pottery has the potential to inform upon the medieval activities associated with occupation of the site. The small quantity of pottery (39 sherds; 380g) recovered from the evaluation is a good indication of intensive late-12<sup>th</sup>- to 14<sup>th</sup>-century dated activity on the site. There are no further recommendations for the pottery at this stage, although the assemblage should be reviewed alongside material recovered from any future excavation on the site.



Context	Pottery Types	Sherd count	Weight (g)	Datable forms	Spot date
(14)/[16]	Hedingham coarseware	2	23		13 <sup>th</sup> century
	Hedingham fineware	3	15	Highly decorated jugs	
	Medieval coarseware/ greywares	3	8		
	Medieval Ely ware	1	6	Jug	
	<i>Sub-total</i>	9	52		
(17)/[20]	Essex/ East-Anglian redware	8	31	Highly decorated jugs	13 <sup>th</sup> century
	Hedingham coarseware	2	15		
	Hedingham fineware	2	13		
	Medieval coarseware/ greywares	2	4		
	Medieval Ely ware	1	19		
	<i>Sub-total</i>	15	82		
(18)/[20]	Essex/ East-Anglian redware	1	15		1175-1300
	Medieval Ely ware	2	44	Strap handle with knife slash decoration	
	<i>Sub-total</i>	2	44		
(21)/[22]	Essex/ East-Anglian redware	3	13		1200-1400
	Medieval Ely ware	2	11		
	<i>Sub-total</i>	5	24		
(23)/[25]	Medieval coarseware/ greywares	3	105		1175-1400
	<i>Sub-total</i>	3	105		
(26)/[27]	Essex/ East-Anglian redware,	1	14		1175-1400
	<i>Sub-total</i>	1	14		
(28)/[29]	Medieval coarseware/ greywares	3	44	Jug with strap handle	1175-1225
	<i>Sub-total</i>	3	44		
	<b>Total</b>	39	380		

Table 1: Pottery catalogue

## 6.2 The Animal Bone by Kevin Rielly

### Introduction

All of the faunal remains were taken from the medieval features in Trench 3 and all were recovered by hand. They are generally in good condition and have clearly not been subjected to undue fragmentation pressures.

### Methodology

The bone was recorded to species/ taxonomic category where possible and to size class in the case of unidentifiable bones such as ribs, fragments of longbone shaft and the majority of vertebra fragments. Recording follows the established techniques whereby details of the element, species, bone portion, state of fusion, wear of the dentition, anatomical measurements and taphonomic (including natural and anthropogenic) modifications to the bone were registered.

### Description of the faunal assemblage

The site provided a total of eight bone fragments, taken from four features in Trench 3 (see Table 2)

Feature:	Ditch [16]	Ditch [22]	Ditch [25]	Pit [20]
Fill:	14	21	23	17
Species				
Equid			1	
Cattle-size	1			
Sheep/Goat		1		2
Sheep-size		2		
Dog	1			
Grand Total	2	3	1	2

Table 2: Species distribution by feature and context

They all appear to date to approximately the same period, the late 12<sup>th</sup> to late 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. This collection features the proximal half of a dog-gnawed equid femur from a medium-sized individual, a dog distal humerus, also medium-sized, and a small selection of sheep/ goat bones (two foot

bones from [16] and a scapula from [22]) alongside a cattle-size limb bone fragment and some sheep-size ribs. There is some root etching but the majority of this collection is in a good state of preservation.

#### Conclusions and recommendations for further work

These bones clearly demonstrate that a wide range of domesticate species were being exploited in this area during the 'high' medieval era. The rather small quantity would suggest that they derive either from a similarly small centre of local habitation or perhaps represent various re-deposited items from some local waste tip and/ or refuse spread. It was mentioned that the bones are well-preserved, which perhaps counters the suggestion concerning re-deposition. With all the bones arising from Trench 3, coinciding with the richest concentration of archaeological features, it follows that this part of the site should be the focus of any further excavation.

### **6.3 The Environmental Remains by Val Fryer**

#### Introduction

The evaluation recorded pits, ditches and other discrete features of 12<sup>th</sup>- to 14<sup>th</sup>-century date. Samples for assessment of the preservation and content of plant macrofossil assemblages were taken and four were submitted for assessment.

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/ washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 3. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Modern roots and seeds were also recorded.

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and will be sorted when dry. Any artefacts/ ecofacts will be retained for further specialist analysis.

## Results

Cereal grains, chaff and seeds were recorded at a low to moderate density within all four assemblages. Preservation is very variable; some grains are well preserved while others are severely puffed and distorted, probably as a result of combustion at very high temperatures.

Oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains are present, along with cereals which are too poorly preserved for close identification. Chaff is scarce but bread wheat (*T. aestivum/compactum*) type rachis nodes were recorded along with a spelt wheat (*T. spelta*) glume base. However, as spelt production had largely ceased in eastern England by the end of the Saxon period, it is thought most likely that the latter is residual within the fill of Pit [20].

Weed seeds are scarce, occurring within only two of the assemblages studied. All are of common segetal species, namely small legumes (Fabaceae), goosegrass (*Galium aparine*) and knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*). A single saw-sedge (*Cladium mariscus*) nutlet and a fragment of indeterminate damson type (*Prunus* sp.) fruit stone were also recorded. Charcoal/ charred wood fragments are present at a low to moderate density throughout, but other plant macrofossils occur infrequently.

Although most fragments of the black porous and tarry material are probable residues of the combustion of organic materials (including cereal grains) at very high temperatures, other pieces are hard and brittle and are almost certainly bi-products of the combustion of coal, fragments of which are also present within all four assemblages. Other remains include small pieces of bone, fragments of burnt or fired clay and vitreous concretions.

Although specific sieving for molluscan remains was not undertaken, shells of terrestrial and marsh/ freshwater species are common or abundant within all four assemblages. A number of the shells are probably quite modern in origin as they retain delicate surface structures and coloration, but other specimens are bleached and abraded and are quite likely to be

contemporary with the feature fills. Sample 1, from Pit [20], includes a burnt shell of *Anisus leucostoma*, a freshwater slum species, along with a burnt operculum of *Bithynia* sp., a mollusc commonly found in small bodies of water. Both could have been imported to the site and subsequently burnt along with plant materials used for flooring, roofing or bedding.

#### Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, all four assemblages would appear to be derived from small deposits of charred midden waste, possibly including hearth detritus and burnt flooring or roofing materials. Although the current assemblages are relatively sparse, they do clearly illustrate that plant macrofossils are preserved within the archaeological horizon at Colville Road. It is, therefore, recommended that if further interventions are planned, additional plant macrofossil samples of approximately 20-40 litres in volume are taken from all well-sealed and dated contexts recorded during excavation.

Sample No.	1	2	3	4
Context No.	18	15	24	28
Feature no.	20	16	25	29
Feature type	Pit	Ditch	Ditch	Pit
Cereals				
<i>Avena</i> sp. (grains)	x	xcf		
<i>Hordeum</i> sp. (grains)	x	xcffg	x	
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (grains)	x	x	x	x
<i>T. spelta</i> L. (glume bases)	x			
<i>T. aestivum/compactum</i> type (rachis nodes)	x	x		
Cereal indet. (grains)	xx	xx	x	xfg
Herbs				
Fabaceae indet.				x
<i>Galium aparine</i> L.	x			
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.	xcf			
Wetland plants				
<i>Cladium mariscus</i> (L.)Pohl		x		
Tree/shrub macrofossils				
<i>Prunus</i> sp. (fruit stone frag.)			x	
Other plant macrofossils				
Charcoal <2mm	xxx	xxx	x	xx

Charcoal >2mm	xx	x		x
Charcoal >5mm	x	x		
Charcoal >10mm	x			
Charred root/stem	x	x		
Indet.culm node		x		
Other remains				
Black porous 'cokey' material	x	xx	x	xx
Black tarry material	x	x	x	
Bone		x	x	x
Buff/white concretions			xxx	
Burnt/fired clay	x	x	x	xx
Fish bones			x	x
?Glass frag.		x		
?Mineralised faecal concretion			x	
Small coal frags.	x	x	x	x
Small mammal/amphibian bones	x	x	x	x
Vitreous material	x	x	x	
Mollusc shells				
Woodland/shade loving species				
<i>Ena</i> sp.	x	x	xx	
Zonitidae indet.		x	x	x
Open country species				
<i>Helicella itala</i>	xxx	xxx	xxxx	xx
<i>Pupilla muscorum</i>	x	x	x	x
<i>Vallonia</i> sp.	xxx	xxx	xx	xx
<i>V. costata</i>	x	x	xx	x
<i>V. pulchella</i>	x	x		
<i>Vertigo pygmaea</i>	x	x		
Catholic species				
<i>Cepaea</i> sp.			xx	
<i>Cochlicopa</i> sp.	x	x	xx	x
<i>Nesovitrea hammonis</i>	x	x		
<i>Trichia hispida</i> group	xxx	xxx	xxxx	xx
Marsh/freshwater species				
<i>Anisus leucostoma</i>	xb	x	x	
<i>Bithynia</i> sp. (operculi)	xb	x		
<i>Lymnaea</i> sp.			xx	x
<i>L. truncatula</i>		x		
<i>Succinea</i> sp.		x		
Sample volume (litres)	<b>18</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>
Volume of flot (litres)	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>
% flot sorted	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 3: Plant macrofossils identified in the bulk samples

### Key to Table

x = 1 – 10 specimens    xx = 11 – 50 specimens    xxx = 51 – 100 specimens  
xxxx = 100+ specimens

cf = compare    fg = fragment    b = burnt

## 7 DISCUSSION

- 7.1 The evaluation identified a series of ditches [16], [22], [25] and [27] of medieval date located in the east of the site, close to Augers Road. All the ditches are on a similar north-west to south-east orientation and contain domestic-type waste including pottery, animal bone and sparse cereal grains. The alignment of the ditches parallel to Fisher's Lane, to the north, suggests that they may represent repeated demarcations of the rear boundary of house plots or 'tofts' fronting onto the road.
- 7.2 The evaluation also identified three medieval pits [20], [29] and [31], also located in the east of the site. Two of these pits [29] and [31] were of moderate size, with one [29] containing domestic-type waste such as pottery. The third pit [20] was of a different type to the aforementioned two, being far larger and having near-vertical sides. This pit also contained domestic-type waste including pottery and animal bone.
- 7.3 These features provide clear evidence for the presence of low-level occupation in the immediate vicinity of the site in the late 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. This is of note as the focus of medieval Cherry Hinton during the 13<sup>th</sup> century is known to have been in the St Andrew's Church area, 500m to the north. A settlement shift is thought to have occurred with the transfer of economic focus to Uphall Manor, itself a subdivision of Hinton Manor, in the late 12<sup>th</sup> to early 13<sup>th</sup> century (Slater 2012). The distance of the current site from this new settlement focus would previously have suggested an agricultural function for the site throughout these periods. However, the concentration of features containing domestic-type waste, especially Pit [20], the large size and distinct profile of which suggest a possible function as a cess or storage pit, indicates that, although not located in the core of the settlement, medieval land use on the site was not simply peripheral, and that occupation was taking place in this area of Cherry Hinton's hinterland during this period.
- 7.4 The faunal and environmental remains are indicative of medieval waste disposal relating to nearby settlement. The small faunal assemblage



includes the principal domesticated species (cattle, horse and sheep/ goat) and may derive from redeposited midden waste. Similarly, the plant macrofossils identified in the ditch and pit fills include crop remains such as oat, barley and wheat (both bread wheat and spelt wheat), although the surviving seeds have frequently been distorted through burning. Fragments of burnt material thought to be bi-products of the combustion of coal are also present in the bulk samples and suggest the re-deposition of hearth debris within the features at Colville Road.

- 7.5 The small pits [8] and [10] and ditch [12] present in Trenches 1 and 2 represent modern activity, relating to the use of the site as residential garden plots.

## **8 CONCLUSIONS**

- 8.1 The trial trenches revealed significant evidence for activity during the medieval period. The density and types of features uncovered, as well as the type of finds, indicate the presence of nearby settlement spanning the 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. After this period, land use appears to have shifted back to agriculture, before residential development spread into the area again from the 1930s.
- 8.2 The features identified in the evaluation appear to represent low-level occupation; the ceramic, faunal and environmental remains are suggestive of discarded domestic waste material deriving from nearby settlement areas. The focal point of Saxon and medieval Cherry Hinton is considered to be within the immediate vicinity of St Andrew's Church, some distance to the north of the evaluation area, and it is presumed that at this time, the area of Colville Road was agricultural land. The economic focal point of the settlement shifted in the late 12<sup>th</sup>/ early 13<sup>th</sup> century to the area around Uphall Manor and it is plausible that the activity at Colville Road relates to this settlement shift.
- 8.3 The lack of archaeological remains in the western half of the site suggests that this area was used for agricultural activity during the medieval and later periods. The ditches and other features present in Trench 3 might relate to an area of medieval settlement focused along Fisher's Lane, to the north, with the numerous parallel ditches representing repeated reinstatements of the rear boundary of house plots ('tofts') fronting onto the road.
- 8.4 Based on the results of the evaluation, the potential of the site to contain further significant archaeological remains relating to the medieval activity is considered to be high, in particular within the eastern side of the development area.

## **9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Keepmoat for commissioning the work. PCA are also grateful to Andy Thomas of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team for monitoring the work. Figures accompanying this report were prepared by Nathalie Barrett of PCA's CAD Department. The pottery was analysed by Chris Jarrett, the animal bone by Kevin Rielly and the plant macrofossils by Val Fryer. The author would like to thank Matthew Lees for his assistance on site.

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### **10.1 Printed Sources**

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Slater, A. 2012 Excavations at Neath Farm, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge. (Cambridge Archaeological Unit, Cambridge Archaeological Unit Report No. 1108)

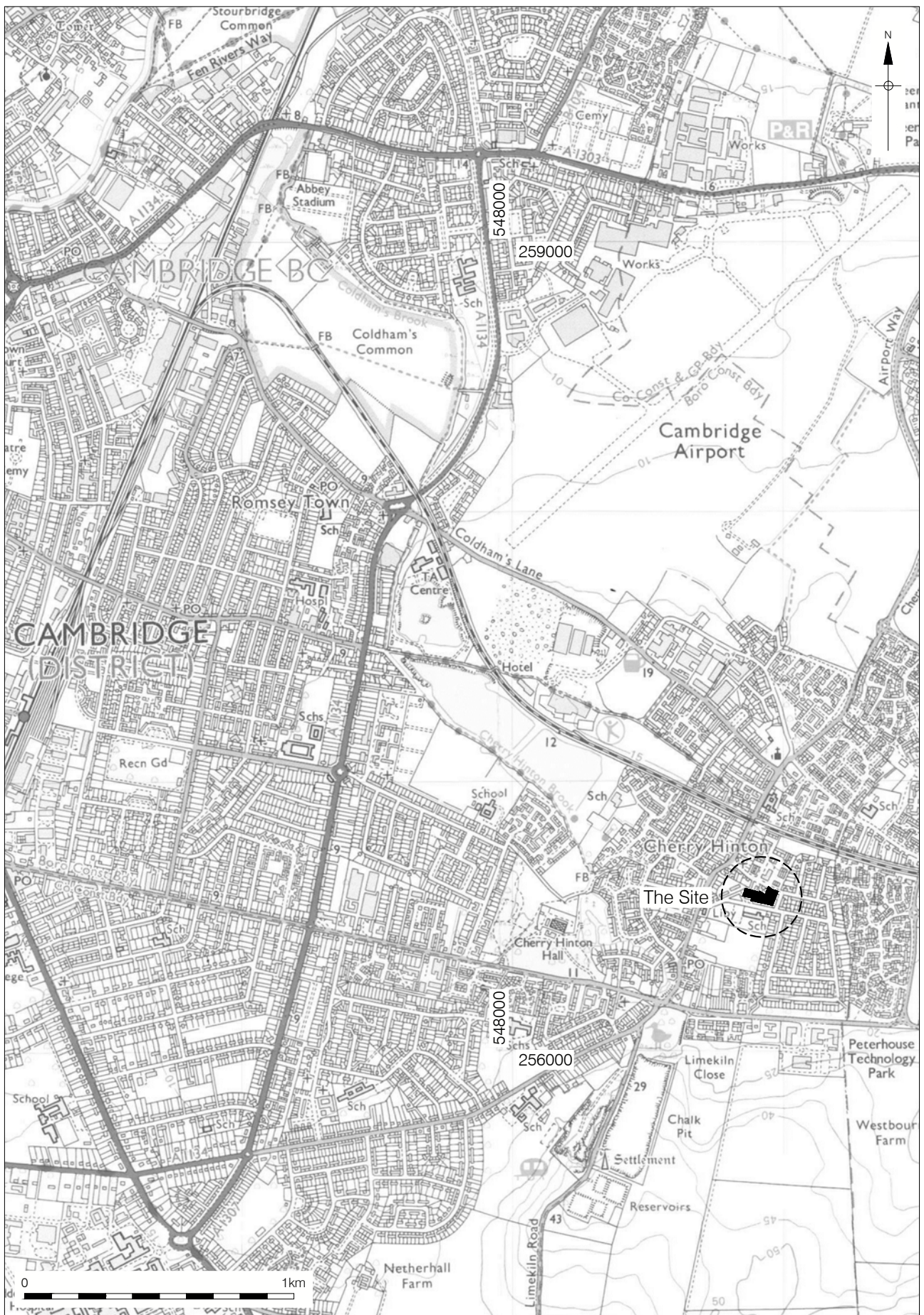
Stace, C., 1997. *New Flora of the British Isles*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Cambridge University Press

Thomas, A. 2014 Brief for Archaeological Evaluation: 40-64 Colville Road and 1-9 Augers Road (unpublished, Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team)

### **10.2 Websites**

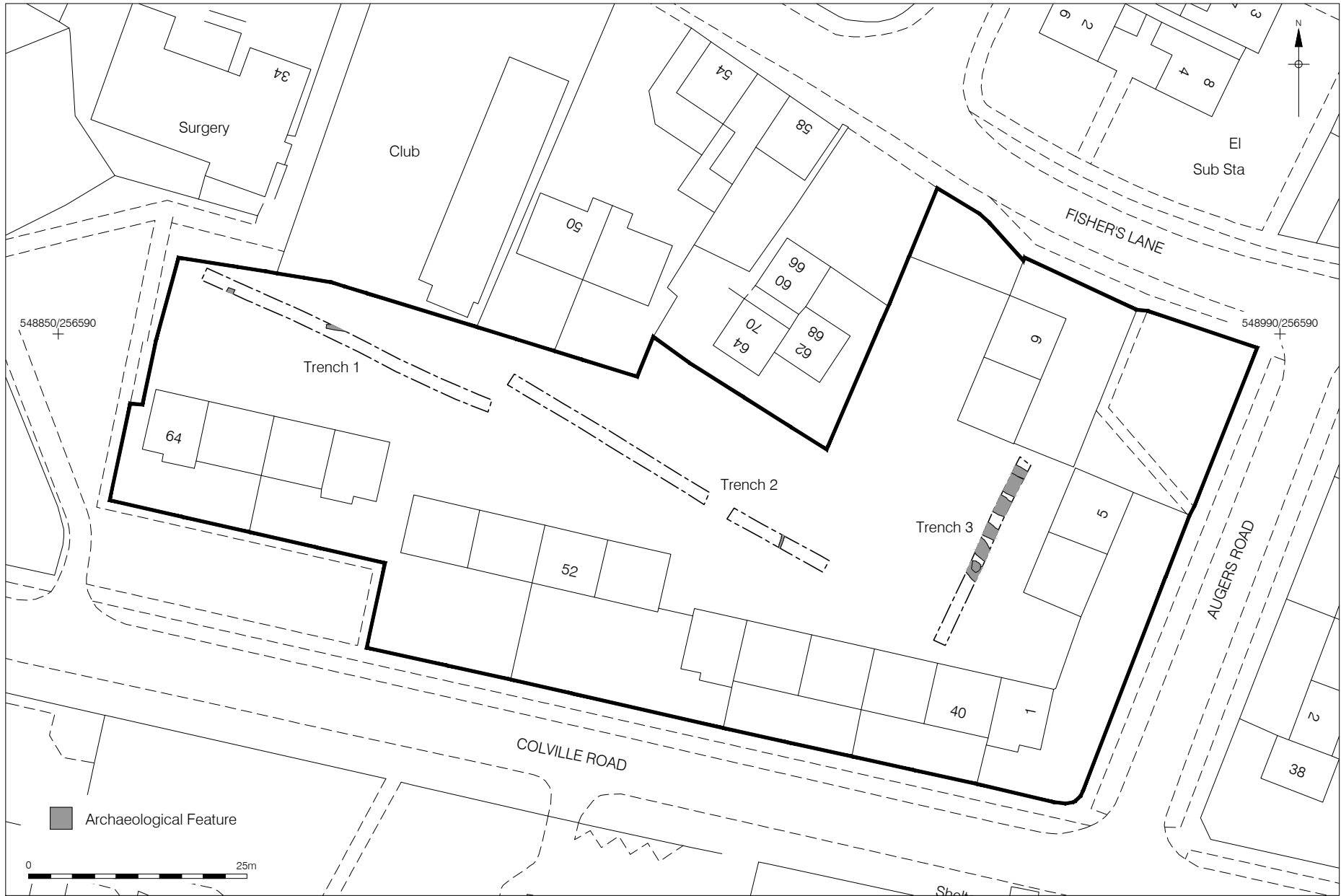
British Geological Survey 2014 Geology of Britain Viewer  
<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

Date accessed: 27<sup>th</sup> May 2014



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 27/05/14 JS

Figure 1  
 Site Location  
 1:20,000 at A4



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 27/05/14 JS

Figure 2  
 Trench Location  
 1:625 at A4

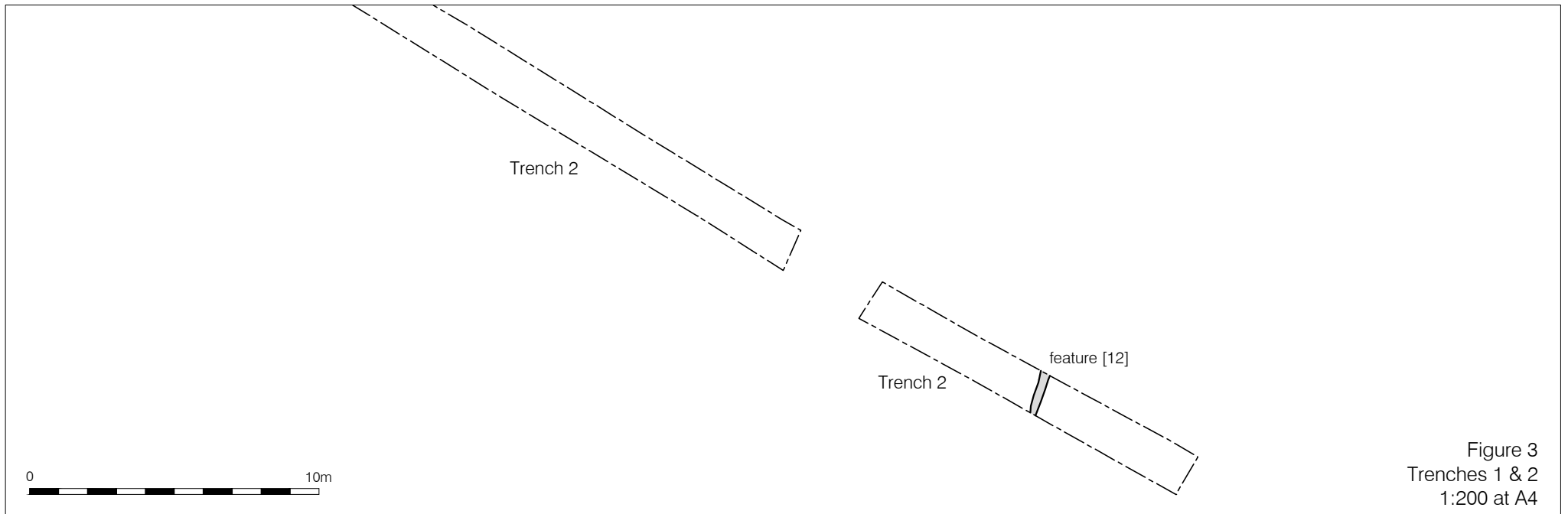
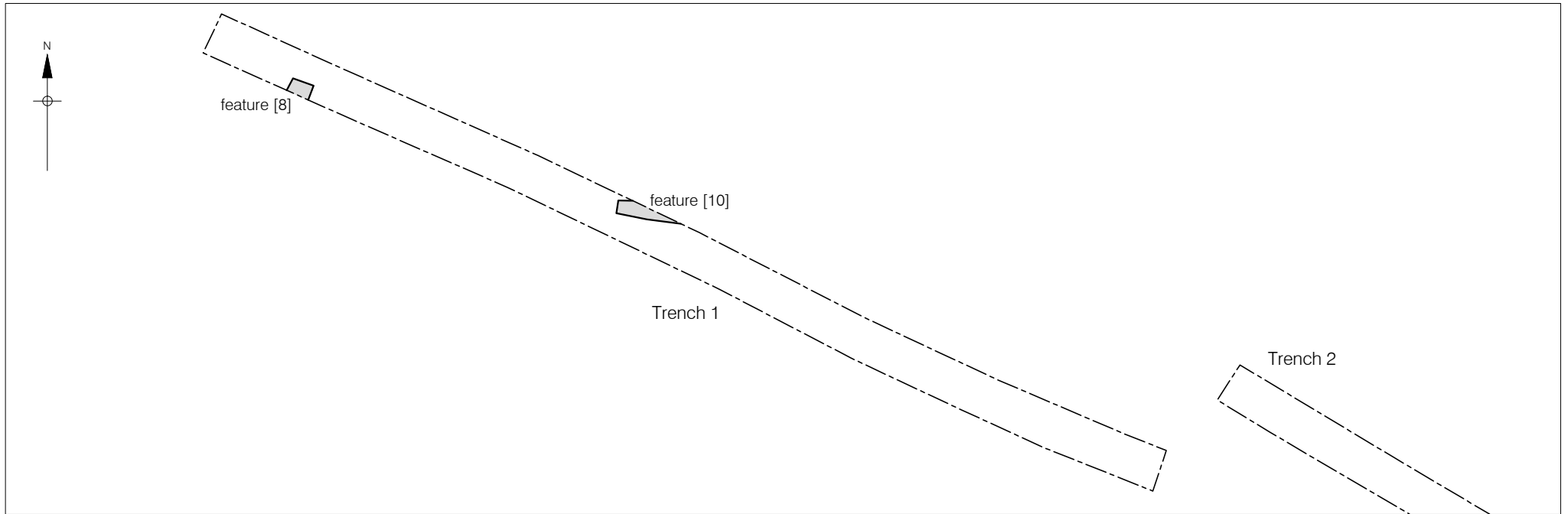


Figure 3  
Trenches 1 & 2  
1:200 at A4

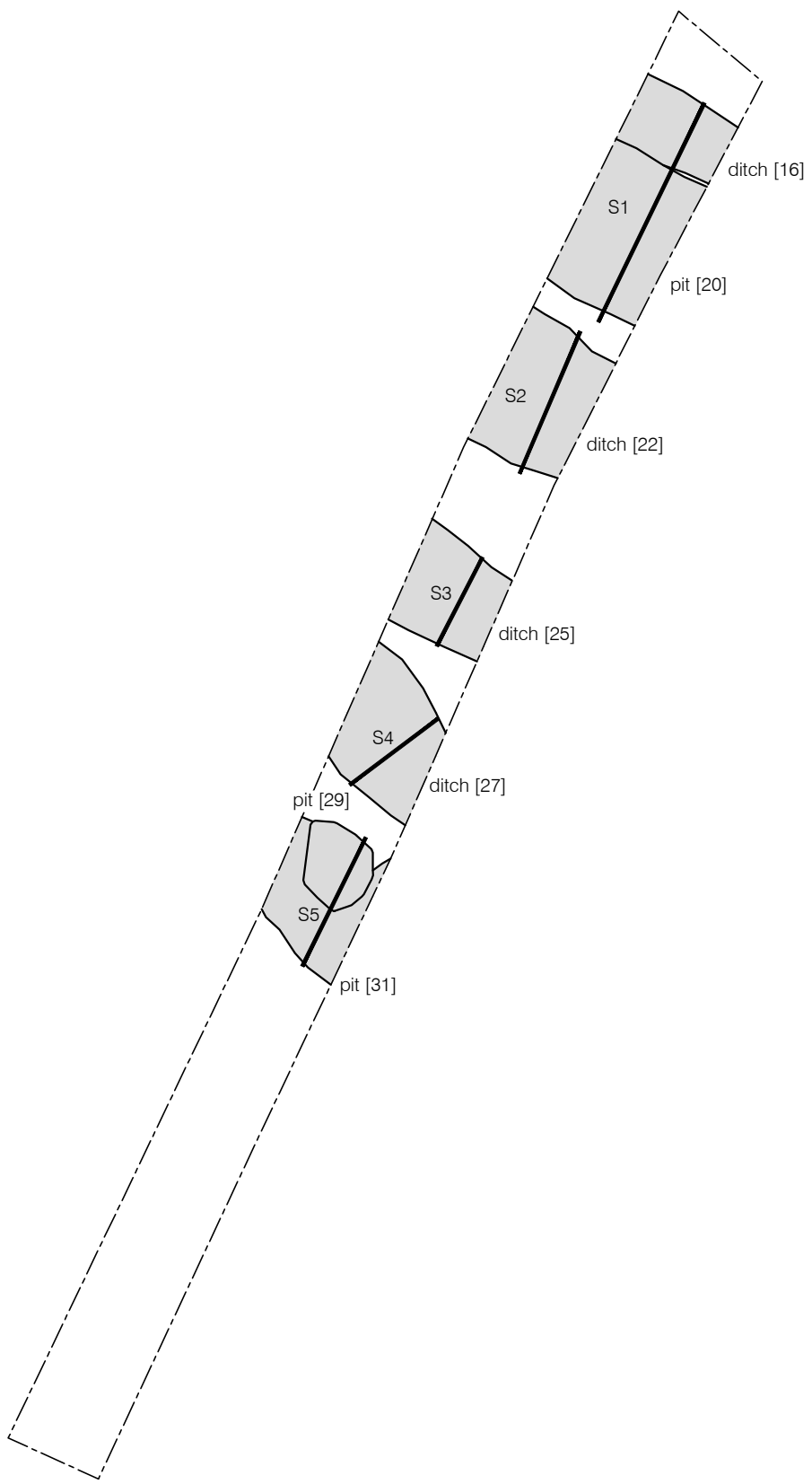
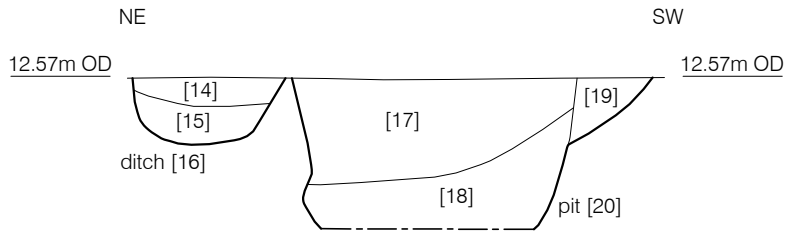
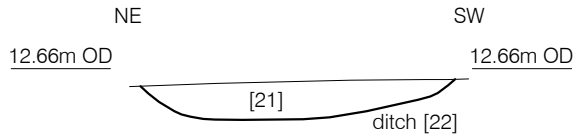


Figure 4  
Trench 3  
1:100 at A4

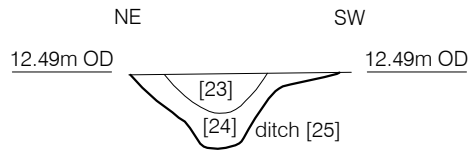




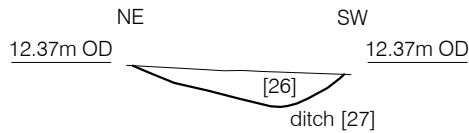
Section 1  
Trench 3  
Northwest Facing



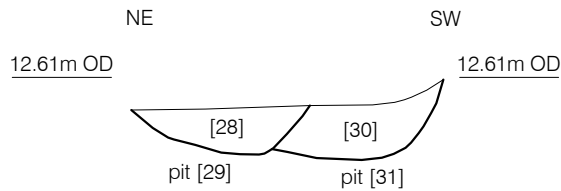
Section 2  
Trench 3  
Northwest Facing



Section 3  
Trench 3  
Northwest Facing



Section 4  
Trench 3  
Northwest Facing



Section 5  
Trench 3  
Northwest Facing

## 11 APPENDIX 1: PLATES



Plate 1: The site, view south-east towards Augers Road



Plate 2: Existing structures on site, view south-east



Plate 3: Trench 3 features, view south



Plate 4: Trench 1, view south-east



Plate 5: Trench 2, view south-east



Plate 6: Trench 3, view north-east



Plate 7: Ditch [16], view south-east



Plate 8: Ditch [22], view south-east



Plate 9: Ditch [25], view south-east



Plate 10: Pit [20], view south-east



Plate 11: Pits [29] and [31], view south-east



Plate 12: Trench 3, view north-east with Pits [29] and [31] in foreground

## 12 APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Site code	Context	Cut	Type	Category	Period	Interpretation
CCRD14	1	n/a	Trench	Trench	n/a	n/a
CCRD14	2	n/a	Trench	Trench	n/a	n/a
CCRD14	3	n/a	Trench	Trench	n/a	n/a
CCRD14	4	n/a	Layer	Topsoil	n/a	n/a
CCRD14	5	n/a	Layer	Subsoil	n/a	n/a
CCRD14	6	n/a	Layer	Overburden	n/a	n/a
CCRD14	7	8	Fill	Pit	Modern	n/a
CCRD14	8	8	Cut	Pit	Modern	n/a
CCRD14	9	10	Fill	Pit	Modern	n/a
CCRD14	10	10	Cut	Pit	Modern	n/a
CCRD14	11	12	Fill	Ditch	Undated	Boundary
CCRD14	12	12	Cut	Ditch	Undated	Boundary
CCRD14	13	n/a	Layer	Natural	n/a	n/a
CCRD14	14	16	Fill	Ditch	1300s	Boundary
CCRD14	15	16	Fill	Ditch	1300s	Boundary
CCRD14	16	16	Cut	Ditch	1300s	Boundary
CCRD14	17	20	Fill	Pit	1300s	Storage
CCRD14	18	20	Fill	Pit	1300s	Storage
CCRD14	19	20	Fill	Pit	1300s	Storage
CCRD14	20	20	Cut	Pit	1300s	Storage
CCRD14	21	22	Fill	Ditch	1200-1400	Boundary
CCRD14	22	22	Cut	Ditch	1200-1400	Boundary
CCRD14	23	25	Fill	Ditch	1175-1400	Boundary
CCRD14	24	25	Fill	Ditch	1175-1400	Boundary
CCRD14	25	25	Cut	Ditch	1175-1400	Boundary
CCRD14	26	27	Fill	Ditch	1175-1400	Boundary
CCRD14	27	27	Cut	Ditch	1175-1400	Boundary
CCRD14	28	29	Fill	Pit	1175-1225	Refuse
CCRD14	29	29	Cut	Pit	1175-1225	Refuse
CCRD14	30	31	Fill	Pit	Undated	Refuse
CCRD14	31	31	Cut	Pit	Undated	Refuse



## 13 APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM

### 14 OASIS ID: preconst1-179943

#### Project details

Project name	Land at 40-64 Colville Road and 1-9 Augers Road, Cambridgeshire CB1 9HR: An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation
Short description of the project	This report describes the results of a number of linear trial trenches, totaling 100m carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land on Land at 40-64 Colville Road and 1-9 Augers Road, Cherry Hinton, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 4892 5656) in May 2014. The archaeological work was commissioned by Keepmoat in response to a planning condition attached to residential development. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the site. The evaluation identified a series of NW-SE running ditches and a series of pits, all of which were of medieval date. These discrete features included a large steep sided pit representing, along with the relatively non-abraded pottery found within the features, nearby occupation activity. The results of the fieldwork enhance understanding of the spread and development of Cherry Hinton village in the medieval period and can be characterized as being of local significance.
Project dates	Start: 20-05-2014 End: 22-05-2014
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	CCRD14 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Monument type	PIT Early Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Early Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Early Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Early Medieval
Significant Finds	NAIL Early Medieval

#### Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE CAMBRIDGE CAMBRIDGE Land at 40-64 Colville Road and 1-9 Augers Road, Cherry Hinton, Cambridgeshire CB1 9HR
Postcode	CB1 9HR
Study area	180.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 548880 256632 51.907474075 0.251898003938 51 54 26 N 000 15 06 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 0.45m Max: 0.75m

#### Project creators

Name of Organisation	PCA
Project brief originator	CCC Historic Environment Team

Project design originator	Mark Hinman
Project director/manager	Mark Hinman
Project supervisor	Lawrence Morgan-Shelbourne
Type of sponsor/funding body	Keepmoat
Name of sponsor/funding body	Keepmoat

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### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	CCC County Archaeology Store
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	CCC County Archaeology Store
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","Survey"
Digital Media available	"Database","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	CCC County Archaeology Store
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Map","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

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### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at 40-64 Colville Road and 1-9 Augers Road, Cherry Hinton, Cambridgeshire CB1 9HR: An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Morgan-Shelbourne, L.
Other bibliographic details	R11683
Date	2014
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Cambridge
Description	36 page bound A4 report with 5 figures. GL report.

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