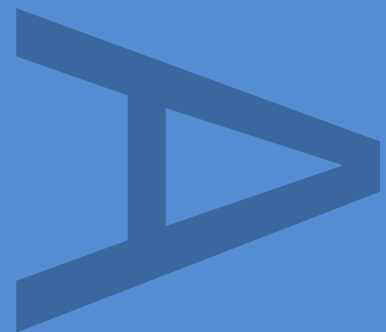


Archaeological Monitoring at
Castle Farm, Church Lane,
Castle Camps, Cambridgeshire,
CB21 4TH

May 2015


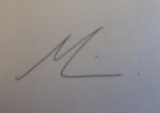


CASTLE FARM, CHURCH LANE, CASTLE CAMPS,
CAMBRIDGESHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd	
Project Number	K3937
Report Number	R12095

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Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved

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Archaeological Monitoring at Castle Farm, Church Lane, Castle Camps, Cambridgeshire, CB21 4TH

Local Planning Authority: South Cambridgeshire District Council

Planning Reference: S/1594/12/FL

Central National Grid Reference: TL 6263 4241

Site Code: CCCF15

Event Number: ECB4414

Report No. R12095

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May 2015**

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ABSTRACT

This report describes the results of archaeological monitoring carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology at Castle Farm, Church Lane, Castle Camps, Cambridgeshire, CB21 4TH (NGR TL 6263 4241) on the 8th, 11th and 27th May 2015. The archaeological work was commissioned by Richard and Sharon Parsonson in response to an archaeological brief by Andy Thomas of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCCHET). The aim of the work was to ensure that any archaeological remains exposed during groundworks at Castle Farm were recorded, recovered and interpreted.

The principal result of the monitoring was a chalk rubble and mortar wall, (evidence of an earlier phase of building), and a domed brick structure, possibly an ice-house or cellar associated with the present house. Several made ground deposits associated with the demolition of the Castle after it collapsed around 1738 and the construction of the current Castle Farmhouse in the mid-18th century were also recorded.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Archaeological monitoring was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) at Castle Farm, Church Lane, Castle Camps, Cambridgeshire, CB21 4TH (centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 6263 4241) on the 8th, 11th and 27th May 2015 (Figure 1).
- 1.2 The archaeological work was commissioned by Richard and Sharon Parsonson in response to an archaeological planning condition attached to a conservatory extension adjacent to existing buildings at Castle Farm (Planning Reference S/1594/12/FL).
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Mark Hinman of PCA (Hinman 2015) in response to a Brief for archaeological evaluation issued by Andy Thomas (Thomas 2015) of CCCHET.
- 1.4 The aim of the monitoring was to ensure that any archaeological remains exposed during groundworks at Castle Farm were recorded, recovered and interpreted.
- 1.5 This report describes the results of the monitoring. The site archive will be deposited at Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store.

2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

2.1 Geology

2.1.1 The underlying bedrock is comprised of the Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation and Seaford Chalk Formation (British Geological Survey; Website 1). Sedimentary bedrock that formed approximately 84 to 94 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period.

2.1.2 The superficial deposits are of the Lowestoft Formation, an extensive sheet of chalky till, together with outwash sands, gravels, silts and clays.

2.2 Topography

2.2.1 The site is located in the South Cambridgeshire village of Castle Camps, 25km south-east of Cambridge, close to the Essex border. Castle Farm is located on the bailey of a Norman motte and bailey castle, which is designated as a Scheduled Monument (SAM 46). The site is situated at an elevation of approximately 118m OD (above Ordnance Datum). The River Granta is located 150m west of the site, with the elevation dropping to 110m OD along the course of the River.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 General

3.1.1 The site lies in an area of known archaeological significance, as recorded in the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER). Castle Farm is located within the bailey of a Norman motte and bailey castle which is designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. The castle's scheduled monument designation is SAM 46. An evaluation at Castle Farm in 2000 revealed wall foundations of a 15th century brick building, but no traces of the medieval castle appeared to have survived. This archaeological and historical background has been drawn from the WSI (Hinman 2015) and the archaeological design brief (Thomas 2015).

3.2 Prehistoric

- 3.2.1 Prehistoric flint flakes (MCB 18363) were identified to the north-east of the site at TL 629 429 while a prehistoric flint scatter (MCB 18371) was identified to the north-west at TL 619 431.
- 3.2.2 A Neolithic polished flint axe (HER 7357) was recovered immediately to the north-west of the site (TL 625 4247).
- 3.2.3 A late Mesolithic to Late Neolithic sandstone mace head (HER MCB17027) was recovered during fieldwalking alongside broken flint blade fragments to the north-west of the site (TL 6224 4308).
- 3.2.4 Further Neolithic flint blades and cores (MCB 17047) and blades, scrapers and cores plus other debitage (MCB18368) were identified to the north-west of the site at TL 618 427 and TL 617 429 respectively.
- 3.2.5 Bronze Age flint scrapers (MCB17033) and other associated flint debitage were identified to the southwest of the site (TL 617 418) while a damaged Bronze Age flint barbed and tanged arrowhead (MCB 18362, FCB 19343) was recovered to the north of the site at TL 627 432.
- 3.2.6 An Iron Age coin (FCB11316) was recovered from the Castle Camps Villa

site (CB14728) to the north-west of the site (TL 62302 42871).

3.3 Roman

- 3.3.1 Large quantities of Roman finds have been found during field walking, surveys and metal detecting to the north-west of the site. These finds are likely to be directly associated with the Roman villa documented in the HER. References such as MCB15967 and HER 11520 demonstrate large quantities of metal objects such as coins, brooches as well as pottery and flue tiles.
- 3.3.2 Roman bronze tweezers (HER 7356, TL 62 42) were recovered to the south-west of the site.
- 3.3.3 A Roman coin (HER 07361, TL 62 42) was recovered from a similar location as the Roman tweezers (HER 7356) to the south-west of the site.
- 3.3.4 Bronze artefacts in the form of a coin, brooch and finger ring (FCB 11308-11310) were recovered (CB 14726) to the south of the Castle Camps villa site (TL 62215 42894), north-west of the site. Further bronze objects (CB14728, FCB 11312-11319) were discovered to the south-east of this location including bronze harness fittings and another coin at TL 62302 42871.

3.4 Medieval

- 3.4.1 The farmhouse is located on the bailey of a Norman Motte and Bailey castle (HER1769; SAM 46). The HER describes the castle as; 'A fine example of a Norman keep and bailey earthwork castle. Very faint traces of flint rubble foundations are to be seen within the farm area north-east of the farmhouse, which, with the farm buildings occupies approximately the site of earlier construction. The moat of the keep is perfect on three sides, and the outer defences (earthen) are practically complete'.
- 3.4.2 The estate was given to Aubrey de Vere by William I and was the property of the de Vere's from the 11th century to the late 16th. The castle was built c.1068 with a large motte surmounted with a wooden keep and surrounded with a wide ditch and a small bailey. Between 1265 and 1331 important

works were carried out on the site, involving the abandonment of the small bailey and the construction of the much larger enclosure. The enlargement of the bailey brought the total area covered by the castle and its outworks to 8 acres.

3.4.3 The castle deer park (HER 7360) has been identified to the east of the castle at TL 6340 4260 covering all of the high ground to the east. Established in the late 13th century this deer park is believed to have been up to 400 acres by the early 14th century.

3.4.4 Immediately to the north and adjacent to the castle location is All Saints Church (HER 07369), while further to the north of the church is Castle Camps Deserted Medieval Village (DMV). The remains of the DMV comprises earthworks, ditches, a hollow way and house platforms (HER 07366). The desertion of the village left the parish without a recognisable centre and instead there was a large hamlet at Camps Green and smaller ones at Olmstead Hall, Olmstead Green, Brownings Farm, Camps Hall, Camps End and Westoe.

3.4.5 Evaluations at Castle Farm itself (CB 15483) revealed brick wall foundations of 15th century date. This information has been used to suggest the motte was demolished at some time in the 15th century ahead of the construction of later medieval structures in the 15th and 16th centuries.

3.4.6 To the west (TL 622 426) of the castle, linear and rectangular earthworks (MCB 17040) are identified in the HER and assumed to be medieval due to the proximity to the castle grounds.

3.5 Post-Medieval

3.5.1 A four storey brick tower was added to the castle in the late 15th century, to which was attached a substantial house which was rebuilt in late 16th with a four bay gabled front. Excavations in the mid-19th century found masonry that was described as 27 inches thick, which was probably part of this late medieval structure (Taylor 1998). When the farmyard was resurfaced in 1997, the foundations of the tower were exposed and recorded (Charge 1997). In 1607 it was bought by the money lender Thomas Sutton, who later

gave it to his foundation, the London Charterhouse. The house fell down c.1738, but a 1730 engraving of the property depicts a high tower and a large gabled range. The Charterhouse built a farmhouse on the site in the mid-18th century.

3.6 Modern

- 3.6.1 An RAF Airfield (CB15130) with associated buildings and defensive structures was located to the east of the site (TL 62378 41921).

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Monitoring

4.1.1 Ground reduction was carried out under archaeological supervision using a 2.5-ton tracked mechanical excavator fitted with 0.3m and 0.6m-wide toothless ditching buckets. Deposits were removed in spits down to the level of the foundation footings. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by trowel and hoe as appropriate and all further excavation was undertaken manually using hand tools. Overburden deposits were set aside beside each trench and examined visually and with a metal-detector for finds retrieval.

4.1.2 Metal-detecting was carried out throughout the monitoring process. Archaeological features and spoil heaps were scanned by metal-detector as they were encountered/ created.

4.1.3 Field excavation techniques and recording methods are detailed in the PCA Fieldwork Induction Manual (Operations Manual I) by Joanna Taylor and Gary Brown (2009).

4.1.4 All features were investigated and recorded in order to properly understand the date and nature of the archaeological remains on the site and to recover sufficient finds assemblages to assess the chronological development and socio-economic character of the site over time.

4.2 Recording Methodology

4.2.1 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.

4.2.2 Manual plans and section drawings of archaeological features and deposits were drawn at an appropriate scale (1:10, 1:20 or 1:50).

4.2.3 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.

- 4.2.4 High-resolution digital photographs were taken at all stages of the monitoring process.
- 4.2.5 Artefacts were collected by hand and assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved, receiving appropriate care prior to removal from the site (IfA 2001; Walker 1990; Watkinson 1981).

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The principal result of the fieldwork was the discovery of a demolished chalk rubble and mortar wall line [103] and a domed brick built structure [104], possibly an 18th or 19th century cellar or ice-house. Underlying these were layers of made ground/demolition (105), (107) and (109). Overlying the structures were layers of 18th-19th century made ground (102) and (108).

5.2 Post-Medieval

5.2.1 Layer (109) (Figures 2-3, Section 103) was seen in the soakaway pit to the north-west of the foundation footings. It was 1.5m + long, 1.4m + wide and 0.25m+ deep. It consisted of a light greyish brown silty clay with frequent chalk inclusions. No finds were seen.

5.2.2 Layer (105) was located in the north-western foundation footing. It was 6m+ long, 1.1m+ wide and 0.3m+ deep and consisted of a mid-orange brown silty sand with frequent tile, chalk and flint inclusions.

5.2.3 Layer (107) was seen in the west service trench and the soakaway pit (Figures 2-3, Section 103). It was 6m+ long, 1.5m+ wide and 0.51m deep and consisted of a mid-orange brown silty sand with frequent brick, chalk and flint inclusions.

5.2.4 Structure 103 (Figures 2-3, Section 100) was located in the north-eastern foundation footing, almost parallel to the current Castle Farm. It was 0.85m+ long, 0.9m wide and 0.13m+ deep. It consisted of light whitish yellow chalk rubble and mortar. No finds were seen.

5.2.5 Structure 104 (Figure 2) was located in the north-eastern foundation footing. It was 2.05m+ long, 0.45m+ wide and 0.2m+ deep. It was a brick built domed structure, circular in plan. Six courses of bricks were seen. The feature was not excavated and was left in situ.

5.2.6 Layer (108) (Figures 2-3, Section 103) was seen in the north-east of the foundation footings, the eastern service trench and the soakaway pit. It was

c.9.5m long, 2.2m+ wide and 0.26m deep. It consisted of a light greyish brown silty clay with frequent chalk inclusions. No finds were seen.

5.2.7 Layer (102) covered the area monitored and was 6.6m+ long, 5.75m+ wide and 0.58m deep. It consisted of a mid to dark greyish brown sandy clayey silt with patches of silty clay and had frequent inclusions of chalk and flint. A large assemblage of 18th- 19th century pottery and glass was retrieved from this layer.

6 THE FINDS

6.1 Pottery

By Chris Jarrett

Description of pottery assemblage

- 6.1.1 The assemblage of pottery consists of a sample of material collected from a sole deposit: layer [102]. The pottery appears to be contemporaneous with most of it dating to the mid-19th century. The material consists of 33 sherds, representing nineteen estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weighing 1.013 kg. The material is not abraded and indicates that it was deposited soon after breakage, however it is in a fragmentary state and only one vessel has a complete profile.

Breakdown of the pottery types and forms

- 6.1.2 Bone china, 1794-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 20g. Form: porringer-shaped tea cup with Chelsea style decoration in the form of moulded scrolls and diamond trellis decoration and an applied mauve sprig moulded cornucopia.
- 6.1.3 English stoneware, 1700-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 92g. Form: blacking bottle
- 6.1.4 Refined white earthenware with under-glaze painted decoration (chrome colours), 1830-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 10g. Form: small porringer-shaped teacup
- 6.1.5 Refined whiteware with under-glaze painted decoration, 1805-1900, 2 sherds, 1 ENV, 9g. Form: small cylindrical mug with lustre decoration
- 6.1.6 Refined white earthenware with industrial slip decoration, 1805-1900, 2 sherds, 1 ENV, 12g. Form: cylindrical mug with brown slip lines and a grey green slip band with black mocha decoration.
- 6.1.7 Transfer-printed refined whiteware, 1780-1900, 9 sherds, 6 ENV, 443g. Forms: medium rounded bowl (decorated with a European landscape), dinner plates, both marked on the underside of the base, one with 'STON[E CHINA]/WARRANTED' and the other 'IRON STONE CHINA' in a ribbon

below a crown, oval plate and rectangular plate. All of the plates are decorated with the willow pattern.

- 6.1.8 Transfer-printed refined whiteware with 'flow blue' decoration, 1830-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 4g. Form: unidentified flat ware base, marked on the underside with the design name 'AMOY' and 'davenport' as a transfer mark and as a stamp with an anchor and the number 44. Davenport operated at Longport, Staffordshire during the period 1793-1887, and the Amoy design, which features an oriental woman with a parasol, dates to the c.1830's and 40's, while the anchor stamp includes a production date of 1844.
- 6.1.9 Refined whiteware with under-glaze colour transfer-printed decoration, 1825-1900. Form: dessert plate with a dark green, late 19th-early 20th century floral border.
- 6.1.10 Transfer-printed refined whiteware with under-glaze printed and over-glaze painted decoration, 1810-1900, 5 sherds, 2 ENV, 53g. Form: breakfast shape teacup, dessert plate classified as a 'nursery ware' with the word 'Shave' only legible.
- 6.1.11 Plain yellow ware, 1820-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 226g. Form: unidentified, base sherd stamped with a crown above the legend 'V/VILLIERS/WARRANTED/FIREPROOF'. The pottery maker has not been identified.
- 6.1.12 Yellow ware with brown glaze, 1820-1900, 4 sherds, 1 ENV, 68g. Form: teapot with a double line of a moulded bead border.
- 6.1.13 Yellow ware with industrial slip decoration 1820-1900, 5 sherds, 2 ENV, 69g. Form: bowls, one with white slip line decoration and another with a white band with blue lines and green mocha decoration.
- 6.1.14 Yellow ware with industrial slip decoration 1820-1900, 9 sherds, 3 ENV, 137g. Form: bowls, one with white slip line decoration and another with a white band with blue lines and green mocha decoration.

Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

- 6.1.15 The pottery has little significance at a local level: it is not certain if the source of the material is from on-site activity associated with the farmhouse or from activity elsewhere and off site. The pottery does have the potential to date the deposit it was recovered from and appears to be a largely contemporaneous mid-19th century group, although one item has a date mark for 1844 and a later item has a transfer-printed design more associated with a late 19th, possibly early 20th century style. There are no recommendations for further work on the pottery assemblage.

7 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1.1 The archaeological monitoring identified features and deposits relating to post-medieval activity on the site. The made ground layers are thought to represent activity associated with the demolition of the Castle after it collapsed around 1738 and the construction of the current Castle Farm house in the mid-18th century. The chalk rubble wall foundation may relate to an earlier phase of building on the site between the 15th and 18th centuries while the domed brick structure is possibly an ice-house or cellar relating to 18-19th century activity associated with the current house.
- 7.1.2 The archaeological features and deposits from the post-medieval period are well-preserved and, in the case of layer (102), associated with a large finds assemblage.
- 7.1.3 The character of the post-medieval features and the associated finds is in keeping with a fairly high-status rural site. This is not unexpected given the location of the site within the grounds of Castle Farmhouse, the results of previous archaeological work and the known history of this site as a Norman motte and bailey castle.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 8.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Richard and Sharon Parsonson for commissioning the work and Jerry Murkin, Nick Rodwell and Dave Greenham of Argent Building Company for operating the excavator and dumper. The author would like to thank Mark Hinman for managing the project and Jennifer Simonson of PCA's CAD department for preparing the figures.

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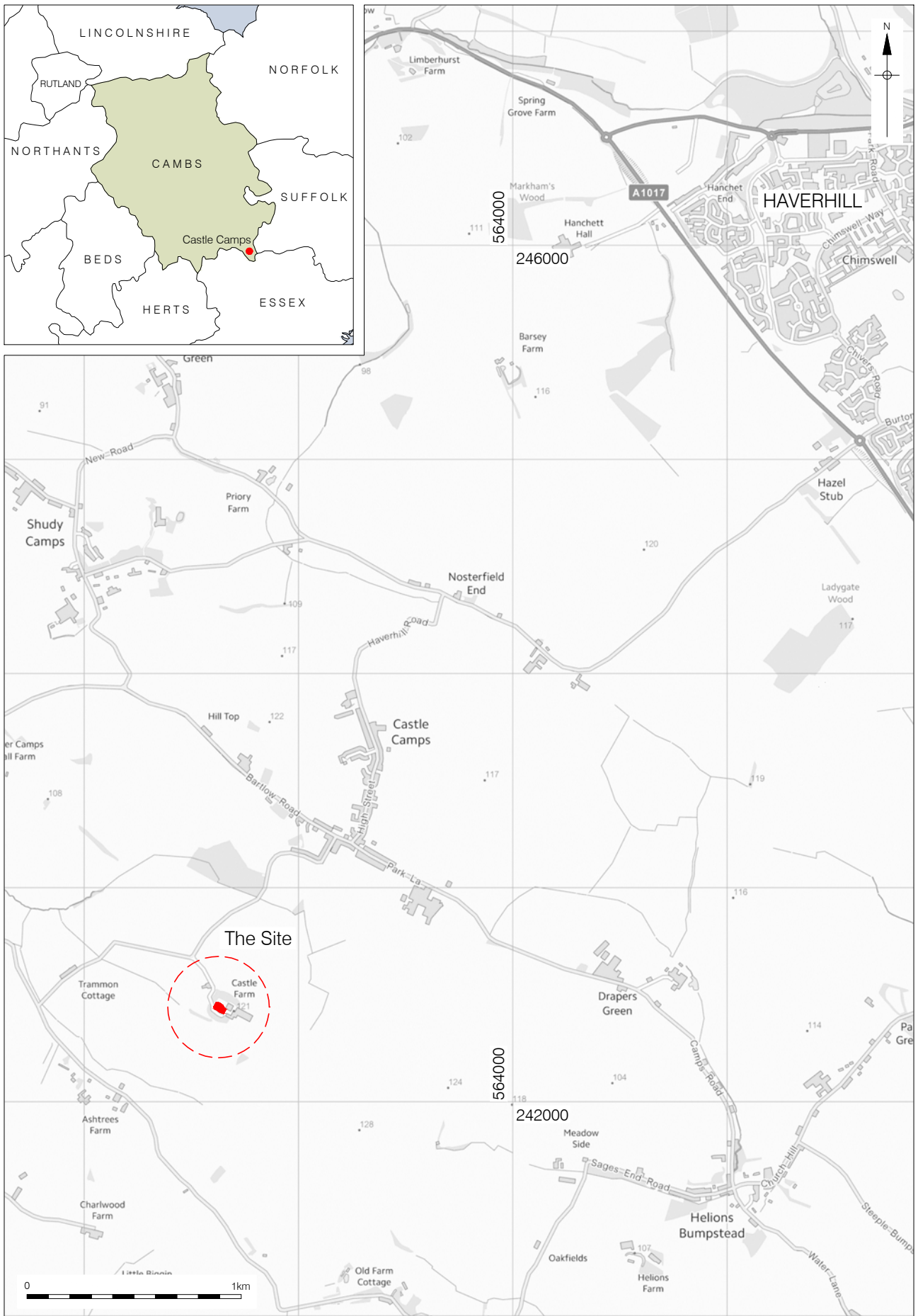
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9.2 Websites

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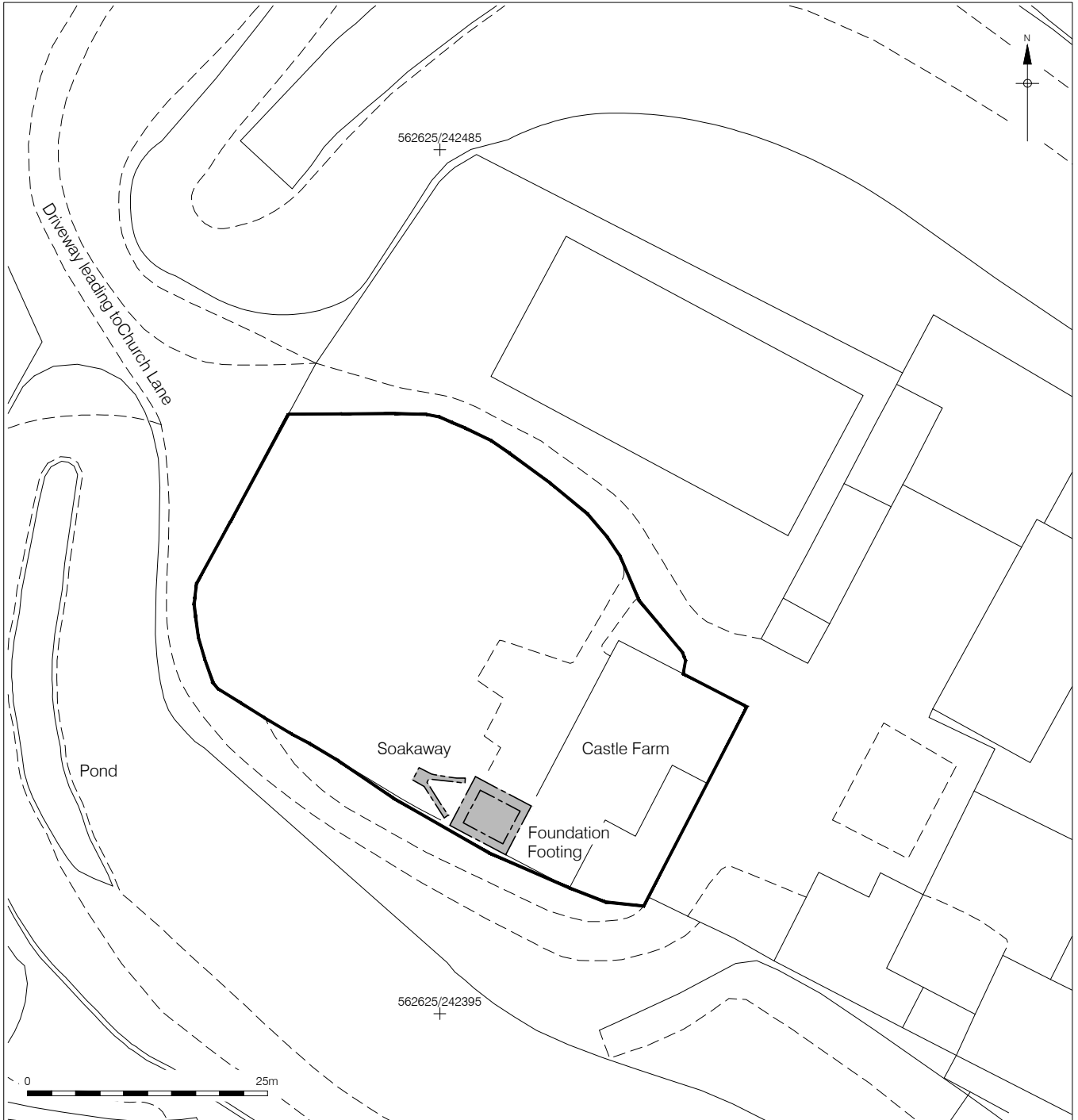


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29/05/15 JS

Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:2,000,000; 1:25,000 at A4

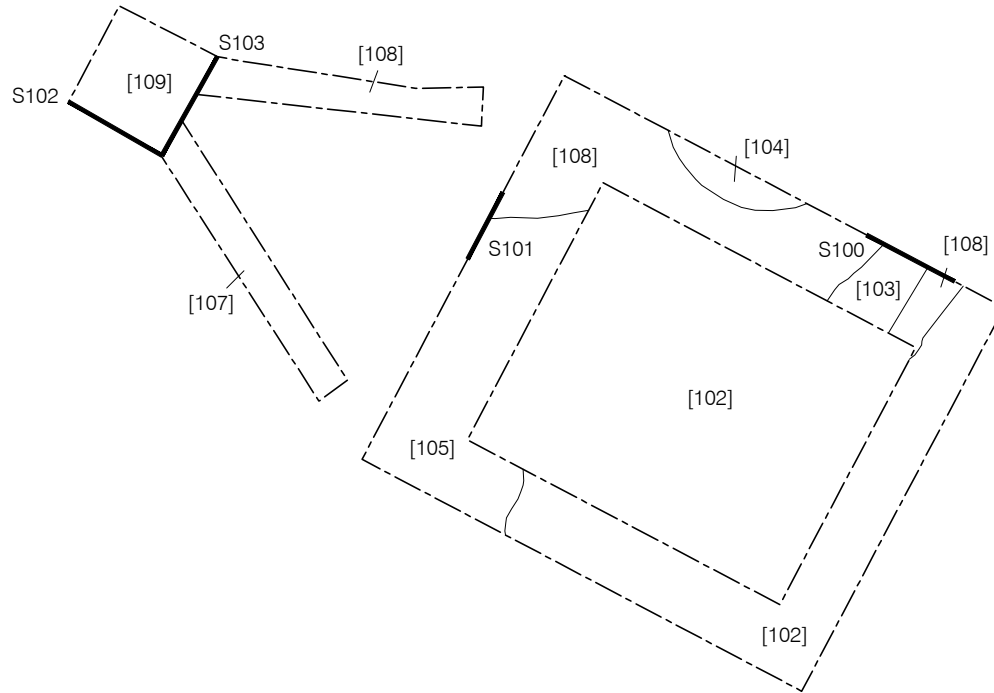


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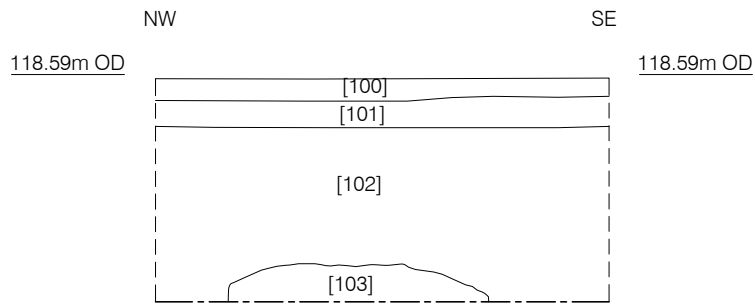
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Figure 2
Trench Location
1:625 at A4

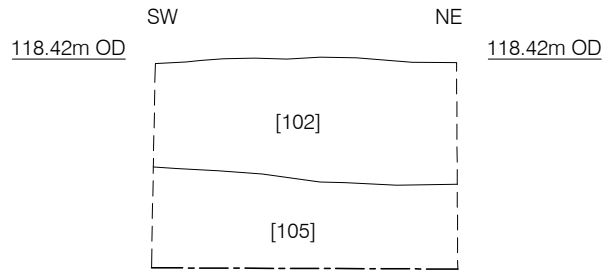


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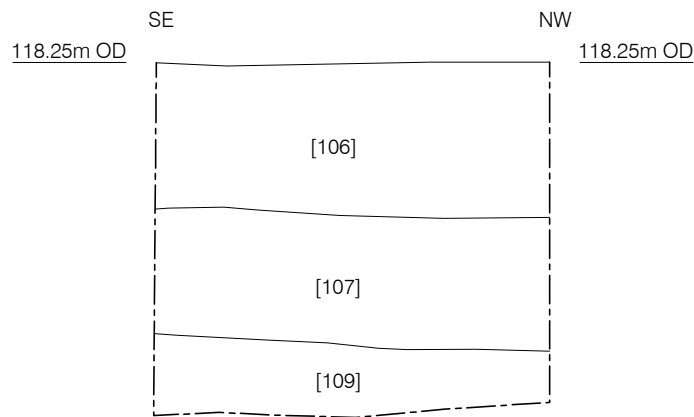
Figure 3
Trench Plans
1:100 at A4



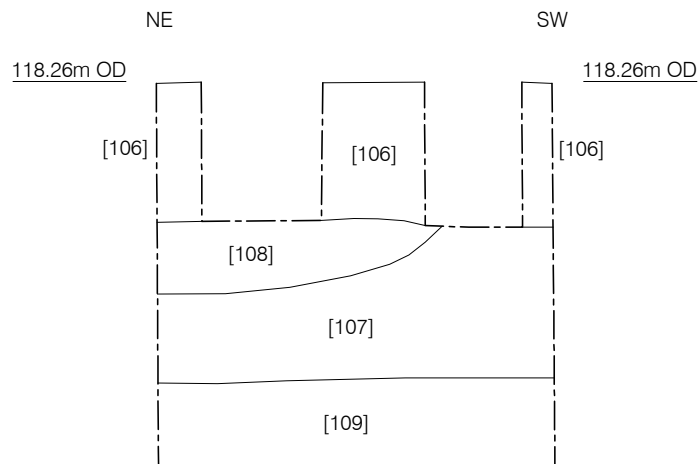
Section 100
Foundation Footing
Southwest Facing



Section 101
Foundation Footing
Southeast Facing



Section 102
Soakaway
Northeast Facing



Section 103
Soakaway
Northwest Facing

10 APPENDIX 1: PLATES



Plate 1: The site, view south-east



Plate 2: After initial ground reduction, view south



Plate 3: Structure 104 and wall 103, view south-east



Plate 4: Wall 103, view north-east



Plate 5: Structure 104, view south-east



Plate 6: South-western foundation footing, view north-west



Plate 7: South-eastern foundation footing, view south-west



Plate 8: North-western foundation footing, view south-west



Plate 9: Section 103, view south-east



Plate 10: Soakaway and service trenches, view south-east

11 APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Interpretation
100	N/A	Layer	Made Ground	Modern made ground
101	N/A	Layer	Made Ground	Modern made ground
102	N/A	Layer	Made Ground	18/19th century made ground
103	N/A	Structure	Structure	Demolished wall
104	N/A	Structure	Structure	Ice-house/cellar?
105	N/A	Layer	Made Ground	Demolition rubble/made ground
106	N/A	Topsoil		Garden Soil
107	N/A	Layer	Made Ground	Demolition rubble/made ground
108	N/A	Layer	Made Ground	Levelling?
109	N/A	Layer	Made Ground	Levelling?

12 APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-210958

Project details

Project name Archaeological Monitoring at Castle Farm, Church Lane, Castle Camps, Cambridgeshire

Short description of the project This report describes the results of archaeological monitoring carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology at Castle Farm, Church Lane, Castle Camps, Cambridgeshire, CB21 4TH (NGR TL 6263 4241) on the 8th, 11th and 27th May 2015. The archaeological work was commissioned by Richard and Sharon Parsonson in response to an archaeological brief by Andy Thomas of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCCHET). The aim of the work was to ensure that any archaeological remains exposed during groundworks at Castle Farm were recorded, recovered and interpreted. The principal result of the monitoring was a series of layers and a chalk rubble and mortar wall associated with the demolition of the Castle after it collapsed around 1738 and the construction of the current Castle Farm house in the mid-18th century. Overlying these was 18-19th century made ground.

Project dates Start: 08-05-2015 End: 27-05-2015

Previous/future work Yes / Not known

Any associated project reference codes CCCF15 - Sitecode

Type of project Recording project

Site status Scheduled Monument (SM)

Site status (other) SM 46

Current Land use Other 5 - Garden

Monument type BRICK STRUCTURE Post Medieval

Monument type DEMOLISHED WALL Post Medieval

Significant Finds POTTERY Post Medieval

Significant Finds GLASS Post Medieval

Investigation type ""Watching Brief""

Prompt Planning condition

Prompt Scheduled Monument Consent

Project location

Country England

Site location CAMBRIDGESHIRE SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE CASTLE CAMPS
Castle Farm, Church Lane, Castle Camps, Cambridgeshire

Postcode CB21 4TH

Study area 37.00 Square metres

Site coordinates TL 6263 4241 52.0557149464 0.37229584109 52 03 20 N 000 22 20
E Point

Project creators

Name of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.
Organisation

Project brief Andy Thomas
originator

Project design Mark Hinman
originator

Project Mark Hinman
director/manager

Project supervisor Mary-Anne Slater

Type of Private Client
sponsor/funding
body

Project archives

Physical Archive Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store
recipient

Physical Archive ID CCCF15

Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","other"

Digital Archive Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store
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