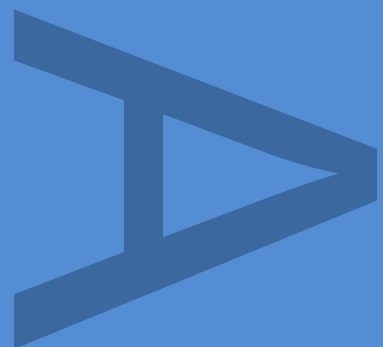


**Land East of Cody Road,
Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire:**

**An Archaeological Trial Trench
Evaluation**

August 2016




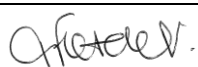
**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY
R12566**


LAND EAST OF CODY ROAD, WATERBEACH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd	
Project Number	K4522
Report Number	R12566

	Name & Title	Signature	Date
Text Prepared by:	Mary-Anne Slater		August 2016
Graphics Prepared by:	Ray Murphy		August 2016
Graphics Checked by:	Josephine Brown		August 2016
Project Manager Sign-off:	Taleyna Fletcher		August 2016

Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved
Rev. 1	August 2016	Taleyna Fletcher	

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
The Granary
Rectory Farm
Brewery Road
Pampisford
Cambridgeshire
CB22 3EN

Land East of Cody Road, Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire:

An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

Local Planning Authority: South Cambridgeshire District Council

Planning Reference: S/1907/14/OL

Central National Grid Reference: TL 4992 6600

Site Code: ECB4764

Report No. R12566

Written and researched by: Mary-Anne Slater
Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Project Manager: Taleyna Fletcher

Commissioning Client: CgMs Consulting

Contractor: Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Central Office
The Granary
Rectory Farm
Brewery Road
Pampisford
Cambridgeshire
CB22 3EN

Tel: 01223 845522

E-mail: tfletcher@pre-construct.com

Website: www.pre-construct.com

©Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
August 2016

The material contained herein is and remains the sole property of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd and is not for publication to third parties without prior consent. Whilst every effort has been made to provide detailed and accurate information, Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd cannot be held responsible for errors or inaccuracies herein contained.

CONTENTS

CONTENTS	2
ABSTRACT	3
1 INTRODUCTION	4
2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY	5
3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	6
4 METHODOLOGY	8
5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE	10
6 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS	14
7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	15
8 BIBLIOGRAPHY	16
9 APPENDIX 1: PLATES	20
10 APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX	23
11 APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM	24
FIGURE 1 SITE LOCATION	17
FIGURE 2 TRENCH LOCATION	18
FIGURE 3 SECTIONS	19
PLATE 1: TRENCH 1, VIEW EAST	20
PLATE 2: TRENCH 5, VIEW SOUTH-EAST	20
PLATE 3: TRENCH 6, VIEW WEST	21
PLATE 4: DITCH [103], VIEW NORTH	21
PLATE 5: DITCH [105], VIEW WEST	22

ABSTRACT

This report describes the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land east of Cody Road, Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 4992 6600) on the 27th July 2016. The archaeological work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting in response to a planning condition for archaeological work prior to the construction of 40 residential dwellings. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the proposed development area.

The principal result of the evaluation was the discovery of two undated ditches, likely associated with post-medieval agricultural activity on the site.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on land east of Cody Road, Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire (centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 4992 6600) on the 28th July 2016 (Figure 1).
- 1.2 The archaeological work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting in response to an archaeological planning condition attached to the construction of 40 new residential dwellings, with associated access, car-parking and landscaping (Planning Reference S/1907/14/OL).
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Mary-Anne Slater of PCA (Slater 2016) in response to a Brief for archaeological evaluation issued by Kasia Gdaniec (Gdaniec 2016) of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET).
- 1.4 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.
- 1.5 A total of seven trial trenches were excavated and recorded (Figure 2).
- 1.6 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 Geology

- 2.1.1 The area is underlain by Gault Formation - Mudstone, a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 100 to 112 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period when the local environment was dominated by warm chalk seas (BGS; Website 1).
- 2.1.2 There are no superficial deposits recorded for this area.

2.2 Topography

- 2.2.1 The site lies on a slight plateau above the River Cam valley and the southernmost part of the Fens at a height of approximately 5.5m above Ordnance Datum (AOD).

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 General

3.1.1 The following archaeological background is taken from the Desk Based Assessment (Cope-Faulkner 2013) for the site and a search of the Cambridgeshire HER.

3.1.2 An evaluation to the west of Cody Road in 2014 identified a shallow medieval (late 12th-14th century ditch) on an east-west alignment (Woolhouse 2014).

3.2 Prehistoric

3.2.1 The earliest known material in close proximity to the site is a number of Neolithic stone axes to the west (HER 00343). A Bronze Age beaker and a flint dagger were found to the east of the site (HER 06337, HER 06356). Middle Iron Age pits have also been excavated 300m to the south (HER 19562).

3.3 Roman

3.3.1 An evaluation approximately 300m south of the site discovered two gullies of possible Roman date and excavations to the south of the site revealed extensive features along with two pottery kilns and associated waster heaps dating to the early 2nd century (HER 17241 and HER 19562).

3.3.2 A coin and disc brooch have also been recorded around the vicinity of the site (HER 02296 and HER 09702).

3.4 Saxon

3.4.1 Excavations to the south-west have revealed evidence for Saxon activity (HER 402) and further investigations in the area have revealed a sunken floored building, with a post-built structure as well as a number of pits and hollows (HER 14602).

3.5 Medieval

3.5.1 The parish church of St John the Evangelist dates to the late 12th century (HER 05560). Located 50m to the north of the church is a barn of 15th to

16th century date which may have functioned as a tithe barn for the church or Denny Abbey's holdings in the village (HER 17340).

- 3.5.2 Located to the south of the site are the earthwork remains of Waterbeach Abbey, a Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1006888, HER 05309). The earthworks comprise a moat and internal ditch with up-cast from the robbing of the walls. Limited excavation revealed evidence for substantial stone walls and painted wall plaster.

3.6 Post-Medieval

- 3.6.1 Post-medieval remains in this area are mainly represented by Listed Buildings.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Excavation and Sampling

- 4.1.1 The Written Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation proposed the excavation of seven trial trenches, distributed across the site (Figure 2). Due to an overhead cable, Trench 6 was shifted slightly to the north.
- 4.1.2 Ground reduction was carried out under archaeological supervision using a 21-ton tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 2m-wide toothless ditching bucket. Topsoil and subsoil deposits were removed in spits down to the level of the undisturbed natural geological deposits where potential archaeological features could be observed and recorded. 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.
- 4.1.3 Metal-detecting was carried out during the topsoil and subsoil stripping and throughout the excavation process. Archaeological features and spoilheaps were scanned by metal-detector as they were encountered/ created. No metalwork was found.
- 4.1.4 The artefact contents of the ploughsoil was examined as part of the evaluation using a programme of bucket sampling. 90 litres of topsoil and 90 litres of subsoil were hand sorted at one end of each of the trenches. No artefacts were recovered during this exercise.
- 4.1.5 Field excavation techniques and recording methods are detailed in the PCA Fieldwork Induction Manual (Operations Manual I) by Joanna Taylor and Gary Brown (2009).
- 4.1.6 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.

- 4.1.7 Linear features were investigated by means of slots excavated across their width and measuring at least 1m in length.

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 Section drawings of archaeological features and deposits were drawn at an appropriate scale (1:10).
- 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 evaluation process. Digital photographs were taken of all archaeological features and deposits.
- 4.2.5 Artefacts and ecofacts 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 (ClfA 2014; Walker 1990; Watkinson 1981).

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The trenches are described below in numerical order, with technical data tabulated. Features and deposits are described from west to east or south to north depending on the alignment of the trench. Archaeological features and deposits were sealed by the subsoil, unless otherwise stated.

5.2 Trench 1

5.2.1 No archaeological features were present in this trench.

TRENCH 1	Figure 2	Plate 1	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD): 4.7-5.01	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		W End	E End
Topsoil	(100)	0.21	0.18
Subsoil	(101)	0.21-0.49	0.18-0.46
Natural	(102)	0.49+	0.46+
Summary			
Trench 1 was located close to the northern boundary of the site.			
No archaeological features were present.			

5.3 Trench 2

5.3.1 No archaeological features were present in this trench.

TRENCH 2	Figure 2	Plate N/A	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD): 4.66-4.78	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.28	0.2
Subsoil	(101)	0.28-0.43	0.2-0.39
Natural	(102)	0.43+	0.39+
Summary			
Trench 2 was located close in the northern part of the site.			
No archaeological features were present.			

5.4 Trench 3

5.4.1 No archaeological features were present in this trench.

TRENCH 3	Figure 2		Plate N/A	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD): 4.59-4.62		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		SW End	NE End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.29	0.25	
Subsoil	(101)	0.29-0.48	0.25-0.34	
Natural	(102)	0.48+	0.34+	
Summary				
Trench 3 was located in the northern part of the site.				
No archaeological features were present.				

5.5 Trench 4

5.5.1 No archaeological features were present in this trench.

TRENCH 4	Figure 2		Plate N/A	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD): 4.45-4.51		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		E End	W End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.28	0.29	
Subsoil	(101)	0.28-0.51	0.29-0.52	
Natural	(102)	0.51+	0.52+	
Summary				
Trench 4 was located in the centre of the site.				
No archaeological features were present.				

5.6 Trench 5

5.6.1 Trench 5 contained a small undated ditch.

5.6.2 Ditch [105] (Plate 5; Figure 2, Section 2) was aligned east-west and measured 0.37m wide and 0.08m deep, with a moderate concave profile. It contained a single fill (106) of mid-greyish brown silty clay.

TRENCH 5	Figure 2	Plates 2, 5	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD): 4.28-4.63	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		NW End	SE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.29	0.26
Subsoil	(101)	0.29-0.51	0.26-0.7
Natural	(102)	0.51+	0.7+
Summary Trench 5 was located in the southern half of the site. One small undated ditch was present in the north-west of the trench.			

5.7 Trench 6

5.7.1 Trench 6 contained one undated ditch.

5.7.2 Ditch [103] (Plate 4; Figure 2, Section 1) was aligned north-south and measured 1.14m wide and 0.26m deep, with a moderate concave profile. It contained a single fill (104) of mid-brownish grey silty clay.

TRENCH 6	Figure 2	Plates 3-4	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD): 4.44-4.55	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		W End	E End
Topsoil	(100)	0.23	0.22
Subsoil	(101)	N/A	0.22-0.36
Natural	(102)	0.23+	0.36+
Summary Trench 6 was located in the southern half of the site. One undated ditch was present in the east of the trench.			

5.8 Trench 7

5.8.1 No archaeological features were present in this trench.

TRENCH 7	Figure 2	Plate N/A	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD): 4.15-4.36	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End

Topsoil	(100)	0.41	0.3
Subsoil	(101)	0.41-0.74	0.3-0.42
Natural	(102)	0.74+	0.42+
Summary Trench 7 was located close to the southern boundary of the site. No archaeological features were present.			

6 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The evaluation identified undated ditches in Trenches 5 and 6, in the southern half of the site. The ditch in Trench 5 was aligned perpendicular to Cody Road, while the one in Trench 6 was perpendicular to Bannold Road. These ditches are likely to be associated with post-medieval agricultural activity.
- 6.2 No other archaeological features or deposits were present in the trenches. The shallow depth of the ploughsoil (in some areas it lay directly over the natural geology as seen in the 2014 evaluation to the west of Cody Road; Woolhouse 2014) meant that any archaeological remains on the site would have had little protection from modern agricultural activity. However, no finds were recovered from the spoil-heaps or during the artefact characterisation sampling, suggesting that the absence of archaeological features on the site is not a result of them having been ploughed away.

7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 7.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank CgMs Consulting for commissioning the work and LK Construction (Eastern) for supplying and operating the excavator. The author would like to thank Taleyna Fletcher for managing the project, Sam Corke for his hard work on site, and finally PCA's CAD department for preparing the figures.

8 BIBLIOGRAPHY

8.1 Printed Sources

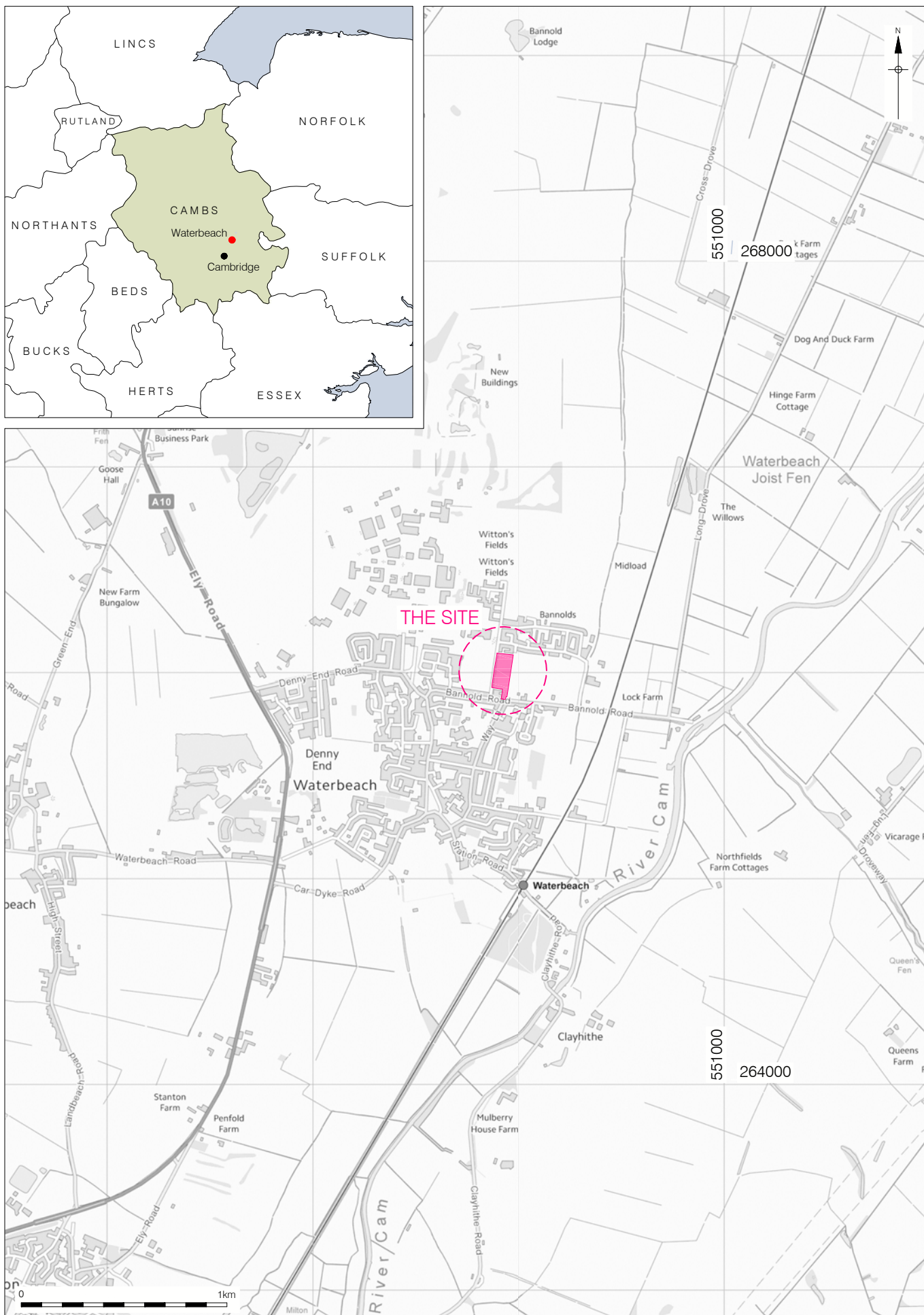
Gdaniec, K. 2016 Brief for Archaeological Evaluation: Land East of Cody Road, Waterbeach. Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (unpublished)

Slater, M. 2016 Land East of Cody Road, Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation. Pre-Construct Archaeology (unpublished)

Woolhouse, T. 2014 Land West of Cody Road, Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire: An Archaeological Evaluation. Pre-Construct Archaeology R11886 (unpublished)

8.2 Websites

1) British Geological Survey (Accessed 28/07/2016)
<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

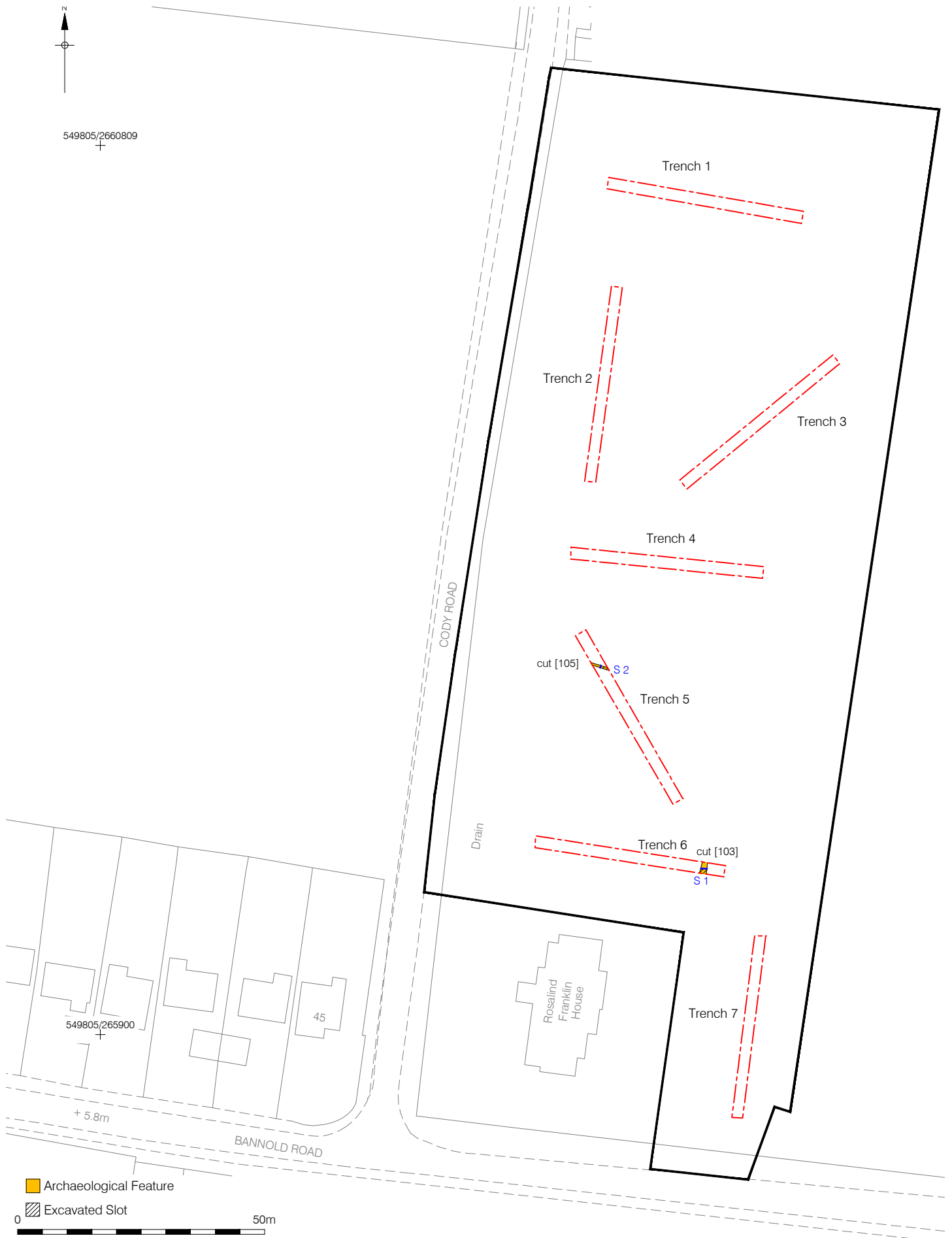


© Crown copyright 2015. All rights reserved. License number 36110309

© Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd 2016

02/08/16 RM

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



Archaeological Feature

Excavated Slot

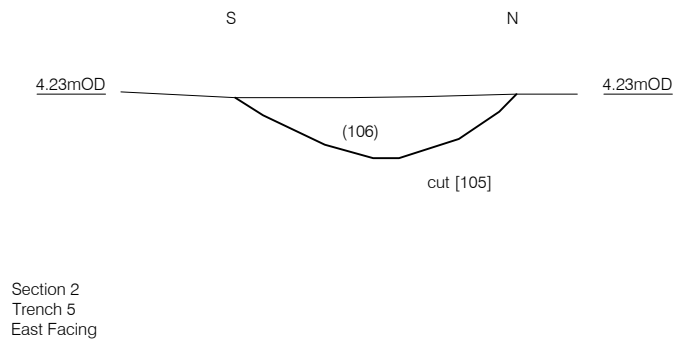
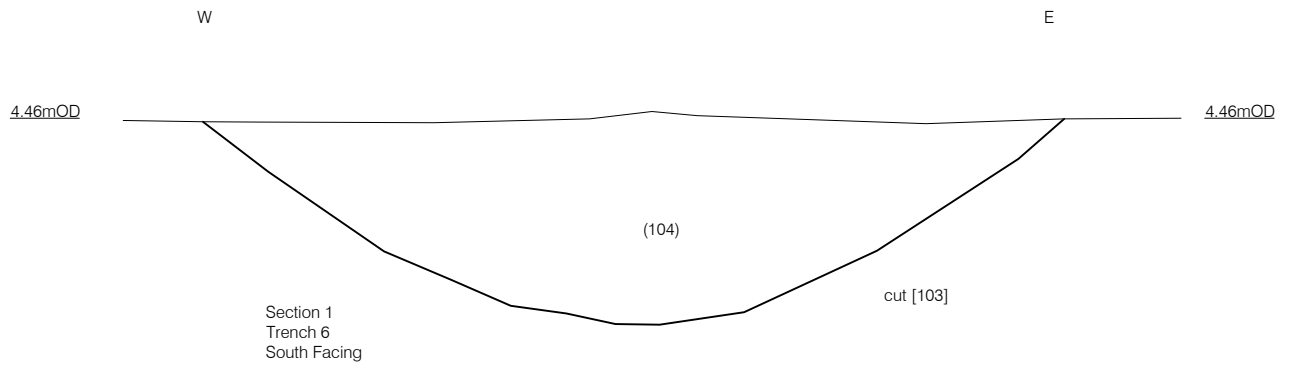
0 50m

© Crown copyright 2016. All rights reserved. License number PMP36110309

© Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd 2016

02/08/16 RM

Figure 2
Trench Location Plan
1:1,000 at A4



0 50cm

9 APPENDIX 1: PLATES



Plate 1: Trench 1, view east



Plate 2: Trench 5, view south-east



Plate 3: Trench 6, view west



Plate 4: Ditch [103], view north



Plate 5: Ditch [105], view west

10 APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Interpretation	Trench Number
100	-	Layer	Topsoil	Overburden	-
101	-	Layer	Subsoil	Overburden	-
102	-	Layer	Natural	Geological	-
103	103	Cut	Ditch	Drainage Ditch	6
104	103	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [103]	6
105	105	Cut	Ditch	Drainage Ditch	5
106	105	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [105]	5

11 APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-258922

Project details

Project name Land east of Cody Road, Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire:
 Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

Short description of the project This report describes the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land east of Cody Road, Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 4992 6600) on the 27th July 2016. The archaeological work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting in response to a planning condition for archaeological work prior to the construction of 40 residential dwellings. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the proposed development area. The principal result of the evaluation was the discovery of two undated ditches, likely associated with post-medieval agricultural activity on the site.

Project dates Start: 27-07-2016 End: 27-07-2016

Previous/future work No / No

Any associated project reference codes ECB4764 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Cultivated Land 2 - Operations to a depth less than 0.25m

Monument type DITCH Uncertain

Significant Finds N/A None

Methods & "Sample Trenches" techniques

Development type Rural residential

Prompt Planning condition

Position in the planning process After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country England

Site location CAMBRIDGESHIRE SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE WATERBEACH
Land East of Cody Road, Waterbeach

Study area 0 Square metres

Site coordinates TL 4992 6600 52.271263759984 0.197467120902 52 16 16 N 000
11 50 E Point

Project creators

Name of CGMS Consulting
Organisation

Project brief Cambridge HET
originator

Project design Mary-Anne Slater
originator

Project Taleyna Fletcher
director/manager

Project supervisor Mary-Anne Slater

Project archives

Physical Archive No
Exists?

Digital Archive Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store
recipient

Digital Archive ID ECB4764

Digital Contents "none"

Digital Media "Database","Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
available

Paper Archive Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store
recipient

Paper Archive ID ECB4764

Paper Contents "none"

Paper Media "Context sheet","Report","Section"
available

Project bibliography

1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

Title Land East of Cody Road, Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire: An
Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

Author(s)/Editor(s) Slater, M.

Date 2016

Issuer or publisher Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Place of issue or Cambridge
publication

PCA

PCA SOUTH

UNIT 54
BROCKLEY CROSS BUSINESS CENTRE
96 ENDWELL ROAD
BROCKLEY
LONDON SE4 2PD
TEL: 020 7732 3925 / 020 7639 9091
FAX: 020 7639 9588
EMAIL: info@pre-construct.com

PCA NORTH

UNIT 19A
TURSDALE BUSINESS PARK
DURHAM DH6 5PG
TEL: 0191 377 1111
FAX: 0191 377 0101
EMAIL: info.north@pre-construct.com

PCA CENTRAL

THE GRANARY, RECTORY FARM
BREWERY ROAD, PAMPISFORD
CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB22 3EN
TEL: 01223 845 522
FAX: 01223 845 522
EMAIL: info.central@pre-construct.com

PCA WEST

BLOCK 4
CHILCOMB HOUSE
CHILCOMB LANE
WINCHESTER
HAMPSHIRE SO23 8RB
TEL: 01962 849 549
EMAIL: info.west@pre-construct.com

PCA MIDLANDS

17-19 KETTERING RD
LITTLE BOWDEN
MARKET HARBOROUGH
LEICESTERSHIRE LE16 8AN
TEL: 01858 468 333
EMAIL: info.midlands@pre-construct.com

