

LAND OFF BARTLOW ROAD, CASTLE CAMPS, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



Report Number: 1270 August 2020



LAND OFF BARTLOW ROAD, CASTLE CAMPS, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Prepared on behalf of:

Arbora Homes
Units 1-2
Tollgate Business Park
Colchester
CO3 8AB

By: Louisa Cunningham MSc, MA (Hons)

Britannia Archaeology Ltd

Unit 2, The Old Wool Warehouse St Andrews Street South Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP33 3PH

T: 01284 630057 info@brit-arch.com

www.britannia-archaeology.com
Registered in England and Wales: 7874460

Version 1.2



Site Code	ECB6196	NGR	TL 63014337
Project No.	P1232	Museum Acc	-
Planning Ref.	S/0415/17/OL	OASIS	britanni1-311891
Approved By:	Les de la constant de	Date	August 2020



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Abstract

On the 27th and 28th July 2020 Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook an archaeological evaluation at Land off Bartlow Road, Castle Camps, Cambridgeshire (TL 63014337) on behalf of Arbora Homes. The archaeological work was undertaken as a condition of planning application S/0415/17/OL in advance of the construction of 10 residential buildings and associated ancillary works

There was a moderate to high potential for Roman, Medieval, and Post Medieval activity, in particular there was the potential to encounter evidence of the abandoned area of the Medieval town, and also agricultural activity from the Medieval and Post Medieval periods. There was a low to moderate potential for encountering Prehistoric finds.

Despite the above potential no archaeological finds or features were present dated earlier than the post medieval were present. Ditch 1003 located in Trench 3 likely represents a former post medieval field boundary or drainage ditch associated with the land when it was previously subdivided into smaller plots. Its orientation running perpendicular to the road suggests that it fed into the still extant roadside ditch. The subsoil is likely an agricultural subsoil of post-medieval date representing previous use of the site as agricultural fields.

The evaluation as successful in characterising the historic use of the land and while there was no archaeological finds recovered the use of the land as outlying fields from the main settlement has been established.



1.0 INTRODUCTION

On the 27th and 28th July 2020 Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook an archaeological evaluation at Land off Bartlow Road, Castle Camps, Cambridgeshire (TL 63014337) on behalf of Arbora Homes. The archaeological work was undertaken as a condition of planning application S/0415/17/OL in advance of the construction of 10 residential buildings and associated ancillary works (Fig. 1).

The evaluation was undertaken in response to a design brief issued by Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team (CHET) (Thomas. A, 19^{th} February 2020) which required a programme of linear trial trenching to sample 5% of the area threatened by the development. The trenching comprised six trenches measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$ (Fig. 4). The trenches were excavated using a 360° tracked, mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.



2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION (Fig. 1)

The site was located in the village core of Castle Camps, situated c.4 miles southwest of Haverhill. Bartlow Road was on the southwest side of the site and there were residential properties located against the southeast edge.

2.1 Site Geology

The Bedrock geology was described as Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation (undifferentiated) - Chalk. This Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 84 to 94 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period when the local environment was previously dominated by warm chalk seas (BSG, 2020).

The superficial deposits were recorded as Lowestoft Formation - Diamicton. These Superficial Deposits were formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period when the local environment was previously dominated by ice age conditions (U) (BSG, 2020).



3.0 PLANNING POLICIES

The archaeological investigation was carried out on the recommendation of the local planning authority, following guidance laid down by the *National Planning and Policy Framework* (NPPF, DCLD 2018). The relevant local planning policy is the *South Cambridgeshire Local Plan* (Adopted September 2018).



4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Figs. 2 & 3)

The following archaeological background draws on the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) (1km search centred on the site), English Heritage PastScape (www.pastscape.org.uk), and the Archaeological Data Service (www.ads.ahds.ac.uk) (ADS) (Fig. 2 and 3).

4.1 Significant Records

The most significant record within the CHER search area is Camps Castle a Norman Motte and Bailey (built c.1068) which was formerly the seat of the de Veres, given to the family by William I (1006884, DCB344). The castle area is located c.1km southwest of the site. The site is now occupied by the 18th century Castle Farm but remains of the bailey, moat, and bank are still visible in places as earthworks and are now a Scheduled Monument. A watching brief at Castle Farm found wall foundations of an earlier 15th century brick building close to the current farmhouse but did not encounter any traces of the medieval castle or fortifications (CB15483, ECB9). A further evaluation at the farmhouse revealed a chalk rubble and mortar wall line and a domed brick structure (which was possible an ice house or cellar) as well as made ground deposits associated with the demolition of the castle after it collapsed in 1738 (ECB4414).

To the north of the castle site are the remains of a deserted medieval village which adjoined Castle Camps now also a Scheduled Monument (07366, 1006894). The site now consists of the remains of a hollow way, house platforms, a paddock boundary in the form of a bank, and possible quarrying.

Also located next to the castle is the medieval All Saints' Church (07369, DCB4387). The church has undergone alterations but prior to the 19^{th} century it was predominantly a $15^{th}/16^{th}$ century building. There was likely a church on the site from around the time the castle was built but the earliest record of the name 'All Saints' is 1470.

Also of significance is the site of a possible Roman villa in the area c.800-900m southwest of the site (ECB3172, MCB18381). A number of metal-detector finds were retrieved from this area covering c.3 fields and lead to non-intrusive investigation. Geophysical survey results have suggested the presence of the foundations of at least one external wall from a structure believed to be a Roman villa still reasonably intact. The finds include structural



remains such as roof tiles and wall plaster, metal objects including coins and brooches, various types of Roman pottery, and other items such as bone, evidence of metalworking, and personal items such as the bust of a goddess, a leaping frog and lead dice (CB14726, CB14728, 11520, 11505). Finds relating to other periods of activity have also been found in this area including a slightly polished (but plough damaged) neolithic axe (07357), a late mesolithic/Neolithic sandstone macehead (MCB17027), a Saxon copper girdle hanger and an iron spearhead (MCB18406), some bronze medieval finds (11520B), some assorted post-medieval metal finds (11520C), and a 15th century medieval copper alloy pilgrims crucifix (11505A).

In a field just northwest of the possible villa area (and c.1km west of the site) a large number of finds have been recorded through metal detecting including bronze Roman coins, bronze brooches and rings, an Iron Age gold Stater, silver Medieval coins, and sherds of Roman and Medieval pottery (MCB15967).

The closest significant record to the site is 08772 which refers to a portion of the medieval town which seems to have been abandoned. This is indicated by linear soilmarks with a track or street pattern which were identified by aerial photography. A considerable amount of medieval and post-medieval was also found on the site. This area is located c.200m east of the site, adjacent to the northern part of the field within which the site is located in. A scatter of Roman pottery was also found on the site during fieldwalking (MCB18384).

On the opposite side of the road from the site (c.200m southwest) a scatter of medieval pottery and bone was found (MCB17035), and c.170m further southwest fieldwalking found some bronze age flints (MCB18362). Also at a similar distance but south of the site, an undated linear earthwork was found in a field which produced medieval pottery (MCB 17041).

4.2 Remaining Records

The remaining records identify find spots located further from the site and undated earthworks indicating a wider historic landscape. In the southern area of the search area from c.500m-1km from the site scatters of prehistoric flints and pottery, medieval pottery, and a piece of lava quern have been found during fieldwalking (MCB18363, MCB17050, MCB18378, MCB18379, MCB18374). Some undated circular and linear earthworks were identified southeast of the site c.500m (MCB17037) and c.1km (MCB17039).



The northern area of the CHER search c.500-700m from the site contains several records referring to Roman finds. These included a pipe clay figurine (CB14725), a small scatter of Roman pottery found during fieldwalking (MCB18404), and a sealed glass urn containing a Roman cremation with a lachrymatory found in a field in 1758 (07364). A scatter of prehistoric flints were also found in this area (MCB18369).

A number of WW2 air raid shelters are present within the search area, the closest of which is just 60m southeast of the site (MCB25228).

4.3 Archaeological Potential

Given the above, the site has a **moderate** to **high** potential for Roman, Medieval, and Post Medieval activity, in particular there is the potential to encounter evidence of the abandoned area of the Medieval town, and also agricultural activity from the Medieval and Post Medieval periods. There is also a **low** to **moderate** potential for encountering Prehistoric finds.



5.0 PROJECT AIMS

The CHET brief stated that 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 (Thomas. A, 2020, Brief, Section 3.1).

The trenching sampled 5% of the threatened area and took the form of six trenches measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$ laid out across the site in a grid array (Fig. 4).

All aspects of the archaeological work will be undertaken in accordance with the CIfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations, 2020 and Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England, 2003 and The relevant local planning policy is the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan (Adopted September 2018).



6.0 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Research objectives for the project are in line with those laid out in *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England,* East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24 (Medlycott, 2011).

Specific objectives outlined in the brief (section 3.4) stated that a particular importance be placed on:

- the presence or absence of a palaeosol and old land surface soils/deposits
- the character of deposits and their contents within negative features
- palaeochannels
- site formation processes



7.0 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

The CHET brief required a programme of linear trial trenching to sample the site ahead of the construction of houses. This was achieved by excavating six $30.00m \times 1.80m$ trenches.

The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with CIfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations, 2020 and Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England, 2003.

A 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket was used to machine down to the first archaeological horizon, thereafter all excavation work was undertaken by hand.

The trenches characterised the full archaeological sequence down to the natural deposits. In the interests of reproduction of the results, a single context planning methodology was used.

The archaeology was recorded using pro-forma record sheets, drawn plans and section drawings and appropriate photographs were taken.



8.0 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS (Fig. 5 - 10)

A professional metal detectorist was used to scan the trench locations prior and post excavation along with the spoil heaps. Bucket sampling was undertaken whereby a total of 90 litres of spoil from the topsoil was hand sorted at 3 points along each trench. Only demonstrably modern finds were present which were not retained. Similarly, all stratigraphic layers were scanned for metal and non-metal finds and only finds of demonstrably modern date were recovered.

8.1 Trench 1 (Fig.5)

Trench 1 was located in the northwestern area of the site on a NE-SW orientation and measured $30.00m \times 1.80m$. No archaeological features were present, and no finds were recovered.

8.2 Trench 2 (Fig. 6)

Trench 2 was located near the centre of the site on a NW-SE orientation and measured $30.00 \,\mathrm{m} \times 1.80 \,\mathrm{m}$. No archaeological features were present, and no finds were recovered.

8.3 Trench 3 (Fig. 7)

Trench 3 was located along the southwest edge of the site near the northwest area on a NW-SE orientation and measured $30.00m \times 1.80m$. A single ditch was present just south east of the centre of the trench.

Ditch 1003 (1.80m+ x 0.82m x 0.38m) was on a N-S orientation and was cut by a modern land drain on a NW-SE orientation. It contained a single fill, 1004, comprising a light greyish brown, compact, silty clay with frequent chalk inclusions. No finds were present.

8.4 Trench 4 (Fig. 8)

Trench 4 was located along the southwest edge of the site in the southeast area on a NW-SE orientation and measured $30.00m \times 1.80m$. No archaeological features were present, and no finds were recovered.



8.5 Trench 5 (Fig. 9)

Trench 5 was located in the southeast area of the site on a NW-SE orientation and measured $30.00m \times 1.80m$. No archaeological features were present, and no finds were recovered.

8.6 Trench 6 (Fig. 10)

Trench 6 was located in the centre of the site on a NE-SW orientation and measured $30.00m \times 1.80m$. No archaeological features were present, and no finds were recovered.



9.0 DEPOSIT MODEL (Fig. 5-10)

The deposit model was broadly consistent across the site with the only exception being the absence of subsoil in trench 1.

At the top of the stratigraphic sequence was topsoil **1000** which comprised a dark greyish brown, compact, silty clay present to a maximum depth of 0.38m in sample section 4. The layer represents the current ploughsoil.

Beneath topsoil **1000** was subsoil **1002** in all trenches except trench 1. This layer comprised a light orangish brown, compact, silty clay. This layer was present to a maximum depth of 0.62m in sample section 2 with a maximum thickness of 0.43m. It represents a former post-medieval agricultural sub soil.

At the base of the stratigraphic sequence in all trenches was natural geology **1001** comprising a mid-brownish orange, compact, silty clay.



10.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

There was a moderate to high potential for Roman, Medieval, and Post Medieval activity, in particular there was the potential to encounter evidence of the abandoned area of the Medieval town, and also agricultural activity from the Medieval and Post Medieval periods. There was a low to moderate potential for encountering Prehistoric finds.

Despite the above potential no archaeological finds or features were present dated earlier than the post medieval were present. Ditch **1003** located in Trench 3 likely represents a former post medieval field boundary or drainage ditch associated with the land when it was previously subdivided into smaller plots. Its orientation running perpendicular to the road suggests that it fed into the still extant roadside ditch. The subsoil is likely an agricultural subsoil of post-medieval date representing previous use of the site as agricultural fields.

The evaluation as successful in characterising the historic use of the land and while there was no archaeological finds recovered the use of the land as outlying fields from the main settlement has been established.



11.0 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

The final archive will be deposited following the acquisition of the transfer of title. The deposition will be made with Cambridgeshire County Council's Archaeological Archive Storage Facility – Deep Store, subject to agreement with the legal landowner where finds are concerned. An appropriate accession number will be obtained in advance of deposition. The digital archive will be stored with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).



12.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Britannia Archaeology would like to thank Abora Homes for commissioning and funding the project.

We would also like to thank Andy Thomas of CHET for his help and advice throughout the project.

We would like to thank Mr Steve Clarkson (PCIfA) for his specialist assistance in metal detecting the site.

The site was excavated by Martin Brook, Dan McConnell, and Matthew Selfe of Britannia Archaeology Ltd.



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Archaeological Data Service (ADS) www.ads.ahds.ac.uk

English Heritage National List for England www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/protection/process/national-heritage-list-for-england

DEFRA Magic http://magic.defra.gov.uk/website/magic



APPENDIX 1 - DEPOSIT TABLES

TRENCH 1

Trench No	Orientation			Height AOD		Shot ID
1	NE-SW		112.65m		1	
Sample Section No	Location			Facing		
1	SW end			NW side		SE
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description				
1000	0.00-0.2	29m	Topsoil:	: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty clay		
1001	0.29m+		Natural	atural: Mid brownish orange, compact, silty clay		

TRENCH 2

Trench No	Orientation		Height AOD		Shot ID	
2	NW-SE			113.85m		3
Sample Section No	Location		Facing			
2	Middle o			ench, NE side		SW
Context No	Depth Deposi			t Description		
1000	0.00-0.2	!2m	Topsoil:	opsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty clay.		
1001	0.22-0.62m Subsoi			Subsoil: Light orangish brown, compact, silty clay.		
1002	0.62m+		Natural	ural: Mid brownish orange, compact, silty clay.		pact, silty clay.

TRENCH 3

Trench No	Orienta	Orientation		Height AOD		Shot ID
3		NW-SE		113.79m		6
Sample Section No		Location		Facing		
3			SE end,	SW side		NE
Context No	Depth	Depth Deposit Description				
1000	0.00-0.1	L7m	Topsoil:	osoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty clay.		
1001	0.17-0.6	50m	Subsoil	Subsoil: Light orangish brown, compact, silty clay.		
1002	0.60m+		Natural	ral: Mid brownish orange, compact, silty clay.		

Context Descriptions

Feature	Feature Type & Description	Layer/Fill	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or
Context	(m)	Context			number)
1003	Ditch (1.80m+ x 0.82m x 0.38m) Linear in plan with steep sloping sides and a flat base. On a N-S orientation.	1004	Light greyish brown, compact, chalky clay	-	-



Trench No	Orientation		Height AOD		Shot ID	
4		NW-SE		115.68m		8
Sample Section No	Location		Facing			
4	SE end,			SW side		NE
Context No	Depth Deposi			t Description	•	
1000	0.00-0.3	38m	Topsoil:	psoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty clay.		
1001	0.38-0.5	50m	Subsoil	Subsoil: Light orangish brown, compact, silty clay.		
1002	0.50m+		Natural	: Mid brownish ora	nge, com	pact, silty clay.

TRENCH 5

Trench No	Orientation		Height AOD		Shot ID	
5		NW-SE		115.25m		10
Sample Section No	Location		Facing			
5	SE end		NE side		SW	
Context No	Depth		Deposi	t Description		
1000	0.00-0.2	24m	Topsoil:	act, silty clay.		
1001	0.24-0.3	38m Subsoil: Light orangish brown			wn, com	pact, silty clay.
1002	0.38m+		Natural	: Mid brownish orai	nge, com	pact, silty clay.

TRENCH 6

Trench No	Orienta	Orientation		Height AOD		Shot ID
6		NE-SW		114.21m		12
Sample Section No		Location		Facing		
6		NE end,		NW side SE		SE
Context No	Depth	Depth Deposit Description				
1000	0.00-0.2	25m	Topsoil:	Dark greyish brow	ın, compa	act, silty clay.
1001	0.25-0.6	-0.60m Subsoil: Light orangis		: Light orangish bro	ght orangish brown, compact, silty clay.	
1002	0.60m+	0.60m+ Natural		latural: Mid brownish orange, compact, silty clay.		



APPENDIX - 2 OASIS FORM

OASIS FORM - Print view

https://oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

List of Projects | Manage Projects | Search Projects | New project | Change your details | HER coverage | Change country | Log out

Printable version

OASIS ID: britanni1-311891

Project details

Project name Land off Bartlow Road, Castle Camps, Cambridgeshire

Short description of the project

On the 27th and 28th July 2020 Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook an archaeological evaluation at Land off Bartlow Road, Castle Camps, Cambridgeshire (TL 63014337) on behalf of Arbora Homes. The archaeological work was undertaken as a condition of planning application S/0415/17/OL in advance of the construction of 10 residential buildings and associated ancillary works There was a moderate to high potential for Roman, Medieval, and Post Medieval activity, in particular there was the potential to encounter evidence of the abandoned area of the Medieval town, and also agricultural activity from the Medieval and Post Medieval periods. There was a low to moderate potential for encountering Prehistoric finds. Despite the above potential no archaeological finds or features were present dated earlier than the post medieval were present. Ditch 1003 located in Trench 3 likely represents a former post medieval field boundary or drainage ditch associated with the land when it was previously subdivided into smaller plots. Its orientation running perpendicular to the road suggests that it fed into the still extant roadside ditch. The subsoil is likely an agricultural subsoil of postmedieval date representing previous use of the site as agricultural fields. The evaluation as successful in characterising the historic use of the land and while there was no archaeological finds recovered the use of the land as outlying fields from the main settlement has been established

Project dates Start: 27-07-2018 End: 28-07-2018 No / Not known

Previous/future

work

codes

Any associated project reference

P1232 - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project reference ECB6196 - HER event no.

Field evaluation Type of project

Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation Current Land use

Monument type **DITCH Post Medieval** Significant Finds NONE None Methods & "Sample Trenches"

techniques

Development type Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)

Prompt National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF Position in the planning process

After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

1 of 3 25/08/2020, 10:16



OASIS FORM - Print view

https://oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm

Country England

Site location CAMBRIDGESHIRE SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE CASTLE CAMPS land off bartlow

road, castle camps, cambridgeshire

Postcode **CB21 4SX**

Study area 0 Square metres

TL 6301 4337 52.064227430014 0.378292037609 52 03 51 N 000 22 41 E Point Site coordinates

Height OD / Depth Min: 112.36m Max: 115.18m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Britannia Archaeology Ltd

Project brief originator

Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body

Project design

Martin Brook

originator

Martin Brook

Project director/manager

Project supervisor

Martin Brook

Type of sponsor/funding

client

body Name of

Arbora Homes

sponsor/funding

body

Project archives

Physical Archive

Exists?

No

Digital Archive recipient

ECB6196

Digital Archive ID

"Stratigraphic", "Survey"

Cambridgeshire HER

Digital Contents Digital Media

"GIS", "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"

available

Paper Archive

Cambridgeshire HER

recipient

Paper Archive ID ECB6196

Paper Contents

"Stratigraphic", "Survey"

Paper Media available

"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Map", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey ","Unpublished Text"

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Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

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Author(s)/Editor(s) Cunningham, L

Other

bibliographic details

R1270

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OASIS FORM - Print view

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HER Search Area

Site Boundary

563015 243373

REF: R1270 LAND OFF BARTLOW ROAD, CASTLE CAMPS, CAMBS

HER DATA - MONUMENTS

AVERIL GOUDY

BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD



THE OLD WOOL WAREHOUSE ST ANDREWS STREET SOUTH BURY ST EDMUNDS

T: 01284 630057 E: info@brit-arch.com W: www.britannia-archaeology.com

AUG 2020 А3 HG 2

DPM





HER Search Area

Archaeological Event

Grade II*

Grade II

Site Boundary

563015 243373 (REF: R1270

LAND OFF BARTLOW ROAD, CASTLE CAMPS, CAMBS

HER DATA - EVENTS AND LISTED BUILDINGS

AVERIL GOUDY

BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD



UNIT 2
THE OLD WOOL WAREHOUSE
ST ANDREWS STREET SOUTH
BURY ST EDMUNDS
SUFFOLK
IP33 3PH

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PLOT: A3 VERSION: 2 AUG 2020 HG 3 DPM

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Site Boundary

Tren

Archaeological Features

Sample Section

Modern Land Drain

R: 563015 243373 (REF: R1270

LAND OFF BARTLOW ROAD, CASTLE CAMPS, CAMBS

PROPOSED TRENCH LOCATION PLAN

CLIENT:

AVERIL GOUDY

BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

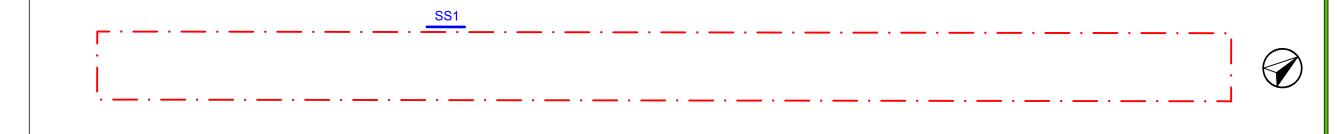


UNIT 2
THE OLD WOOL WAREHOUSE
ST ANDREWS STREET SOUTH
BURY ST EDMUNDS
SUFFOLK
IP33 3PH

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1000 NE 112.65m

TR1 - SAMPLE SECTION 1

DP01 - SAMPLE SECTION 1 - VIEW NW





DP02 - TRENCH 1 - VIEW NE



: AVERIL GOUDY

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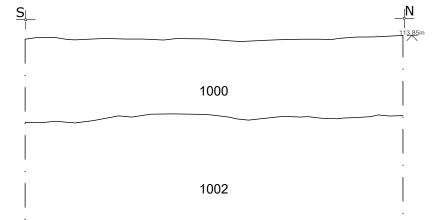
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AUTHOR:	HG	FIGURE:	
APPROVED:	DPM		J







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TR2 - SAMPLE SECTION 2

0 1:10 **50**cm



DP04 - TRENCH 2 - VIEW N



MGR: 563015 243373 (REF: R1270

PROJECT:
LAND OFF BARTLOW ROAD, CASTLE CAMPS, CAMBS

DESCRIPTION:
TRENCH 2 - PLANS, SECTIONS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

CLIENT:

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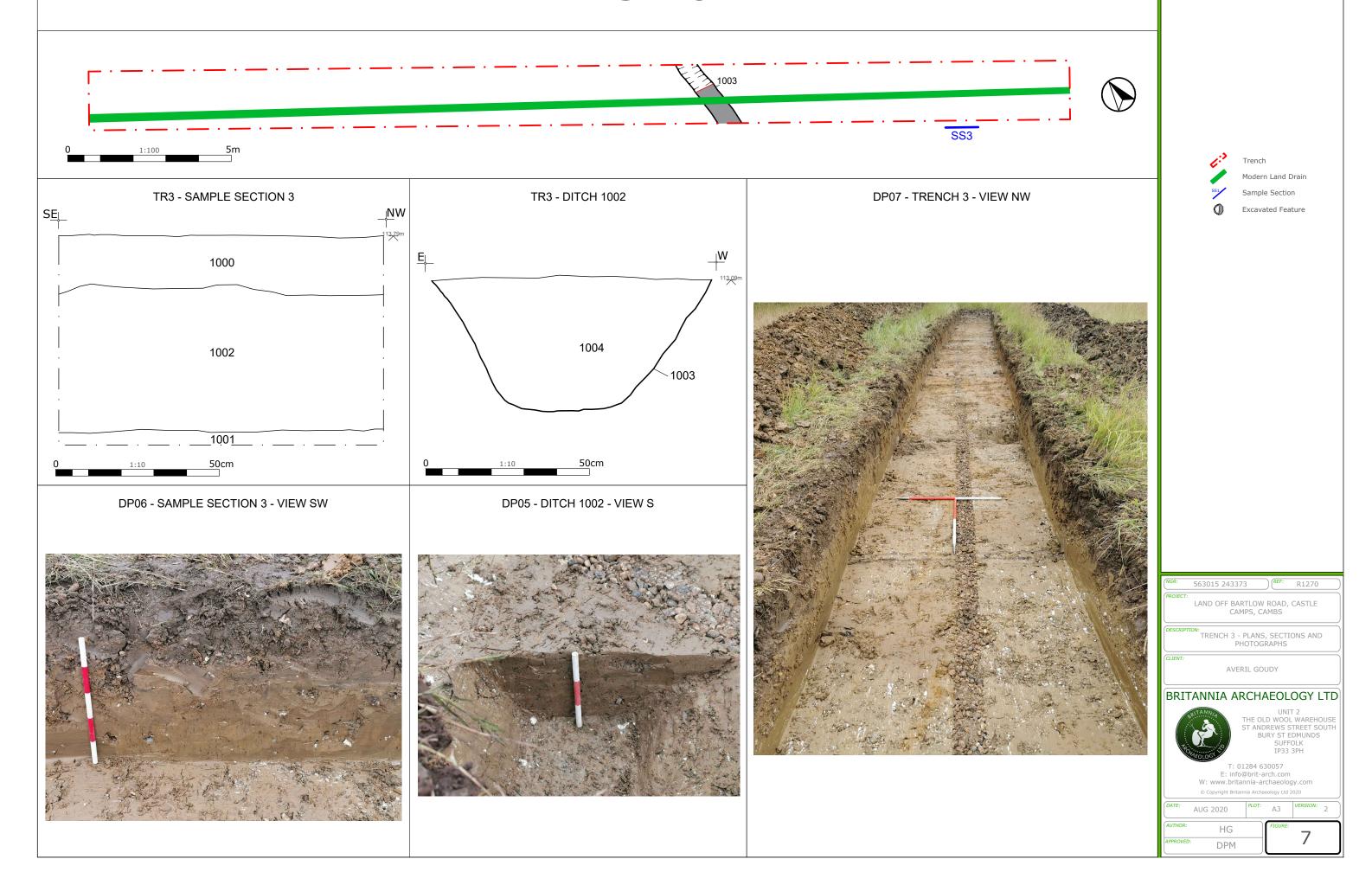
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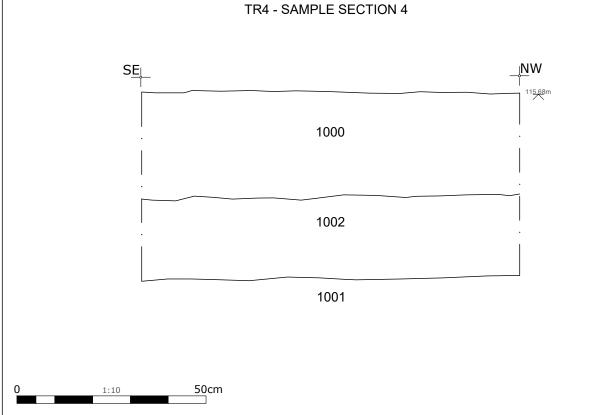
AUTHOR: HG FIGURE:

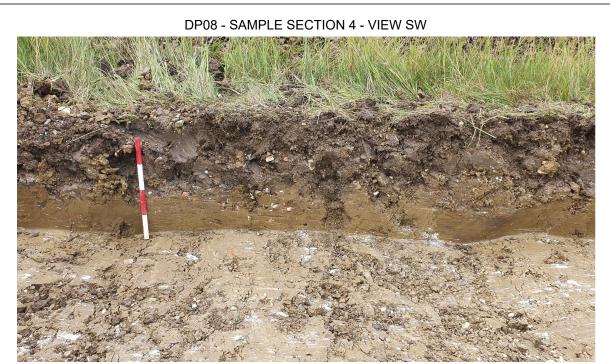
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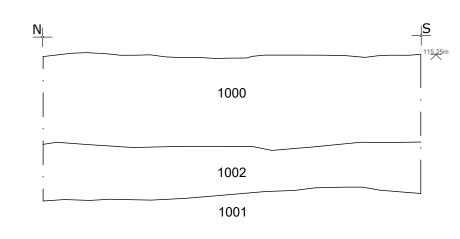
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TR5 - SAMPLE SECTION 5 - FACING W



DP10 - SAMPLE SECTION 5 - VIEW E



DP11 - TRENCH 5 - VIEW S







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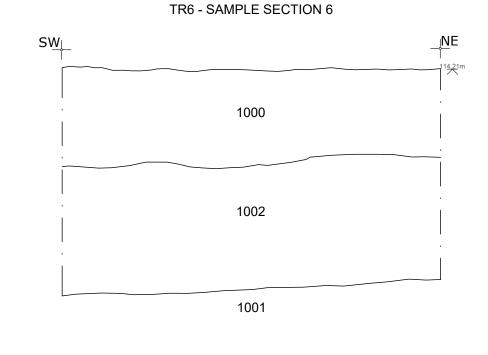
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SS







DP12 - SAMPLE SECTION 6 - VIEW NW





(NGR: 563015 243373) (REF: R1270)

PROJECT:
LAND OFF BARTLOW ROAD, CASTLE CAMPS, CAMBS

DESCRIPTION:
TRENCH 6 - PLANS, SECTIONS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

CLIENT:
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BURY ST EDMUNDS
SUFFOLK
IP33 3PH

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E: info@brit-arch.com
W: www.britannia-archaeology.com
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