cambridgeshire archaeology
archaeological field unit

CAM ARC Report Number 917

Roman and Saxon Remains at The Old Paper Mill, Ditton Walk, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire

An Archaeological Evaluation

Liz Muldowney

January 2007

Cambridgeshire County Council
Environment & Community Services

Commissioned by Whitfield Associates

CAM ARC Report Number 917

Roman and Saxon Remains at The Old Paper Mill, Ditton Walk, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire

An Archaeological Evaluation

Liz Muldowney MA

With contributions by Chris Faine MA MSc BABAO, Rachel Fosberry HNC (Cert Ed) AEA

Site Code: CAM DIW 06
CHER Event Number: 2437
Date of works: 20th to 21st November 2006
Grid Ref: TL4726 5948

Status	Approved		
Author	Liz Muldowney		
Checked By	JDM		
Authorised By			

Editor: James Drummond-Murray
Illustrator: Andrew Corrigan

Summary

Between the 20th and the 21st November 2006 CAM ARC, Cambridgeshire County Council (formerly Archaeological Field Unit). conducted an archaeological evaluation on the land behind the Old Paper Mill at 1A Ditton Walk in Cambridge, in advance of the construction of an extension to the existing building and the construction of a new dwelling in its grounds. The work was undertaken in accordance with a brief issued by Cambridgeshire Archaeology, Planning and Countryside Advice team (CAPCA), supplemented by a specification prepared by CAM ARC (James Drummond-Murray 2006).

The evaluation sought to establish the character, date, extent and preservation of any archaeological remains within the proposed development area. An assessment of the standing building was also undertaken to determine, as far as reasonably possible, whether any fabric dating to the earliest Mill building remained.

Two trenches were excavated both of which contained archaeological remains. A number of pits and ditches were recorded indicating a possible settlement dating to the Roman/Saxon period, close to marsh or wetland immediately adjacent to Coldham's Brook. The land immediately to the west of the mill had been raised and levelled to create a flat terrace/garden during the ?18th century.

The visual survey of the building itself indicated that the surviving fabric dated to the 18th/19th century. Much of the fabric of the building was concealed by modern office fittings.

Contents

List of Figures

List of Appendices

List of Tables

Drawing Conventions

Sections

Limit of Excavation

Cut

Cut-Conjectured

Soil Horizon

Soil Horizon - Conjectured

Intrusion/Truncation

Top of Natural

Top Surface

Break in Section

Cut Number 118

Deposit Number 117

Ordnence Datum 18.45m OD

N

Plans

Limit of Excavation

Deposit - Conjectured

Natural Features

Intrusion/Truncation

Sondages/Machine Strip

Illustrated Section S.14

Archaeological Deposit

Excavated Slot

Cut Number **118**

1 Introduction

This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Kasia Gdaniec of the Cambridgeshire Archaeology, Planning and Countryside Advice team (CAPCA; Planning Application C/05/0875/FUL & C/05/0872/LBC), supplemented by a Specification prepared by CAM ARC, Cambridgeshire County Council (formerly Archaeological Field Unit).

The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *Planning and Policy Guidance 16 - Archaeology and Planning* (Department of the Environment 1990). The results will enable decisions to be made by CAPCA, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority; with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

The site archive is currently held by CAM ARC and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

2 Geology and Topography

The site was believed to overlie gault clay (British Geological Survey 1981), however, natural deposits, where encountered, consisted of chalk marl.

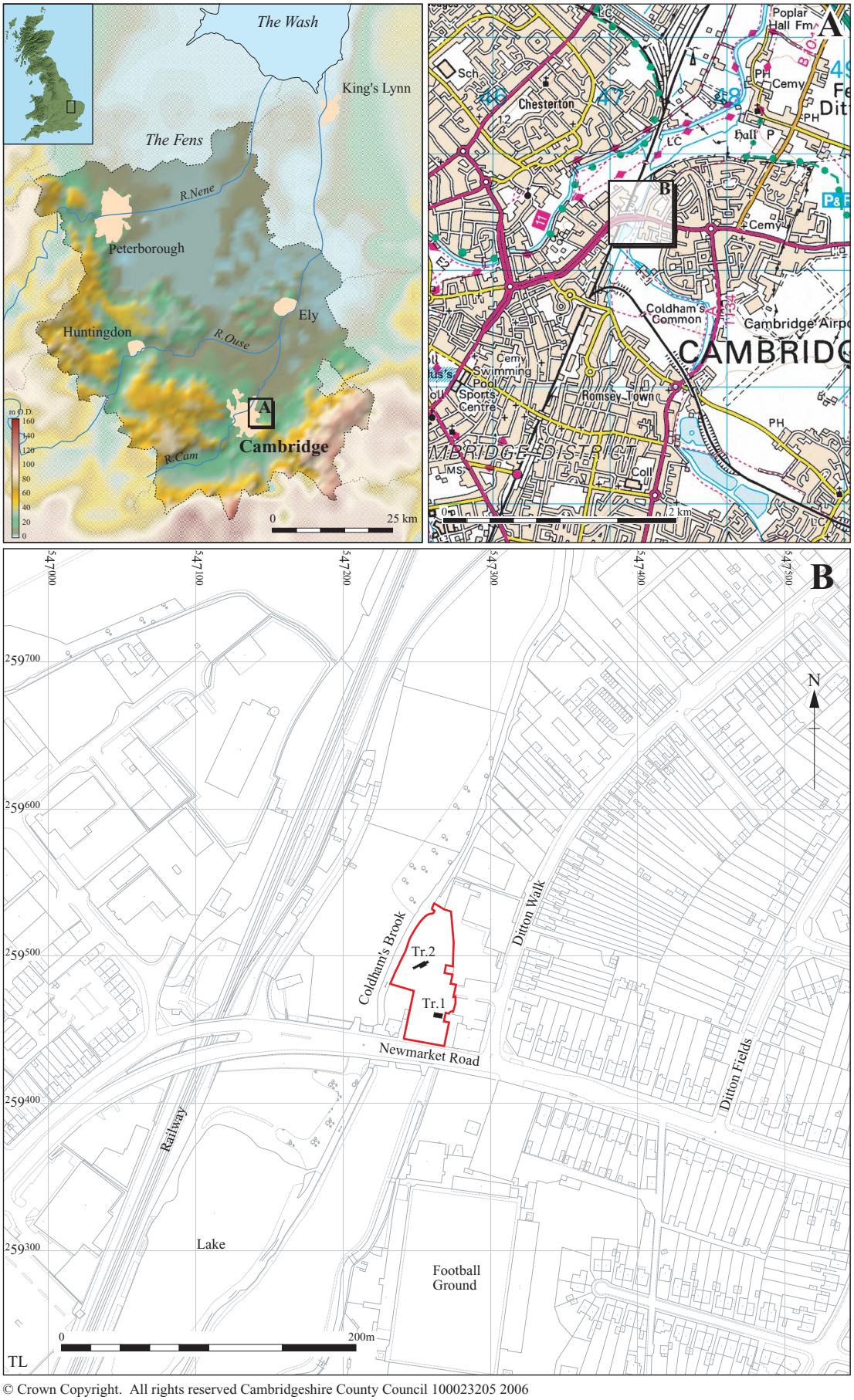
The natural land surface sloped from the east down to Coldham's Brook at the west. An artificial terrace, extending for approximately 10m to the west, had been created behind the mill building in the post-medieval period. The land then dropped sharply before levelling out on the east side of the brook. The terrace was at approximately 6.5m OD; the area adjacent to the brook was over 2m lower at 4.3m OD.

3 Archaeological and Historical Background

The site lies in area of multi-period remains including prehistoric, Roman, Saxon and medieval.

3.1 Prehistoric

Mesolithic and other flints have been found c 850m to the north (HER 05451 & 05450).



© Crown Copyright. All rights reserved Cambridgeshire County Council 100023205 2006

Figure 1 Location of trenches with the development area outlined (red)

Palaeolithic flints were recorded to the east (HER 04691) and a Neolithic axe was found at Stansfield Road 500m to the south-east (HER 04633).

A Bronze Age axe was found in 1857 on the current site itself (HER 04694), a Bronze Age cremation was uncovered to the north-east on Ditton Lane (HER 04685), and Iron Age pottery came from Stourbridge Common to the north-west (HER 04699).

3.2 Roman

Roman pottery came c850m to the north (HER 05227) and a Roman Coin from Fen Ditton 500m to the north-east (HER 04693).

3.3 Saxon

Newmarket Road is thought to be of late Saxon origin and Saxon finds have been found on its route (HER 05338) as well as possible Saxon burials 700m to the east at Barnwell Road (MCB16936).

3.4 Medieval

The site lies shortly to the east of Stourbridge chapel (HER 04781), of 12th century origin, and lies on the fringe of the medieval settlement. The chapel was connected to the leper hospital. Such hospitals were frequently located on the edge of towns, away from the main population. Stourbridge Fair (HER 10176) was held on Stourbridge Common to the north-west.

Other medieval finds include a medieval weight 550m to the north (HER 04695), a dagger c 850m to the north-east (HER 05298) and a medieval merchants seal was found adjacent to the Newmarket Road to the east (HER 04692 - exact location unrecorded).

3.5 Post-medieval

The paper mill itself was constructed on the east bank of Coldham's Brook between 1550-4 but has been subject to much rebuilding. Paper Mill House (HER 04967) dates to the early 18th century.

Also located adjacent to the site were the Round House (HER 04968), a toll house on the Newmarket turnpike, and the Globe brewery (MCB 17313) to the east of the site, both being 19th century.

3.6 Excavations in the area

An evaluation directly opposite the site at the Abbey Stadium produced no archaeological remains (Pearson & Crank 2000).

An evaluation and subsequent excavation at 1-23 Barnwell Road revealed six burials undated except for a copper alloy buckle from the 6th-8th centuries from one of them (Kenney 2005, Newton 2006).

4 Methodology

The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

The Brief required that a 5% sample of the proposed development area should be subject to trial trenching. Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a wheeled JCB-type excavator using a 1.6m wide toothless ditching bucket. Two trenches were excavated, the first was adjacent to the modern extension to the entrance to the mill, the second was located down slope, close to Coldham's Brook. Both trenches encountered deep deposits and were widened to 3.2m and stepped in to create a safe working environment.

A visual survey of the standing buildings was undertaken to determine as far as reasonably possible the date of surviving visible structural elements.

All hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those that were obviously modern.

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using CAM ARC's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

Two 10L and one 20L samples were taken from relevant deposits to investigate possible survival of micro- and macro- botanical remains.

Weather conditions during the evaluation were good, however a combination of low lying ground and a high water table resulted in both trenches flooding rapidly with ground water to a depth of between 0.2m and 0.8m. This flooding made it difficult to fully explore and record the archaeology encountered.

5 Results

The archaeology encountered consists of pits, ditches and layers. The results will be discussed in sequence by trench. Unless otherwise stated all features cut natural.

Trench	Topsoil depth	Subsoil depth	Total depth to archaeology/natural from modern ground surface
Trench 1	(9) 0.20m	Not present	To make up layer 0.20m To natural 1.95m
Trench 2	(1) 0.36m	(2) 0.24m	0.60m to archaeology No natural deposits encountered, total excavated depth 2.5m

Table 1: Depth of topsoil and subsoil across the site

5.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 (Fig. 2) was 6m long and oriented east-south-east to west-north-west. It was sited immediately to the west of the current mill building. A stratified sequence of pits, ditches and layers was encountered. The natural horizon was recorded 1.95m below ground surface at 4.56m OD.

5.1.1 Stratified remains

Ditch **23** was oriented south-east to north-west and was recorded in plan only. It was 1m+ in length and truncated by ditch **21** to the east and pit **25** to the west. Its full width was not recorded within the excavated area. Fill 22 was dark reddish grey clay silt with moderate quantities of charcoal flecks as well as moderate amounts of small flint fragments. Burnt flint waste flakes were also retrieved. This feature was not excavated.

Ditch **27** was oriented north to south and was located 1m to the south-west of ditch **23**; it was also truncated by pit **25**. It measured 1.1m in length and 0.3m in width, at its northern end it merged with ?pit **30**. The relationship between the two was obscured by pit **25**. Fill 26 was light whitish grey silty clay with moderate quantities of charcoal flecks, moderate amounts of small flint fragments and moderate quantities of small rounded chalk fragments. One abraded sherd of?Anglo-Saxon pottery was retrieved as well as charred ?barley grains from the unexcavated ditch.

Pit/Ditch **30** was located in the north-west corner of the trench. Its full form was uncertain because so little of the feature lay within the excavated area. Unexcavated fill 29 was very similar to, and merged with, fill 26 within ditch **27**. Daub fragments and a large piece of ?Romano-British tile were recovered. This feature was also truncated by large pit **25**.

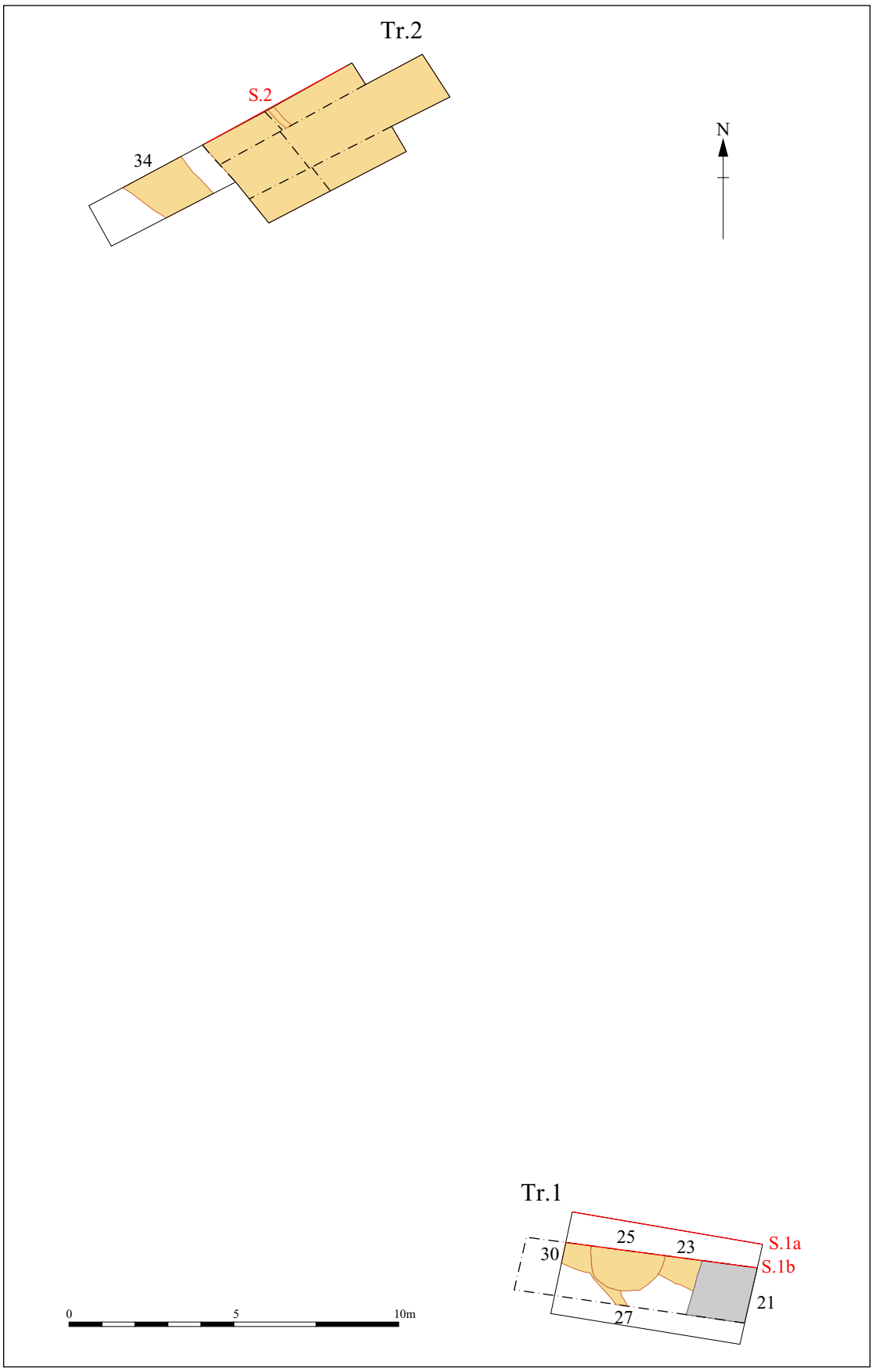


Figure 2: Trench plans

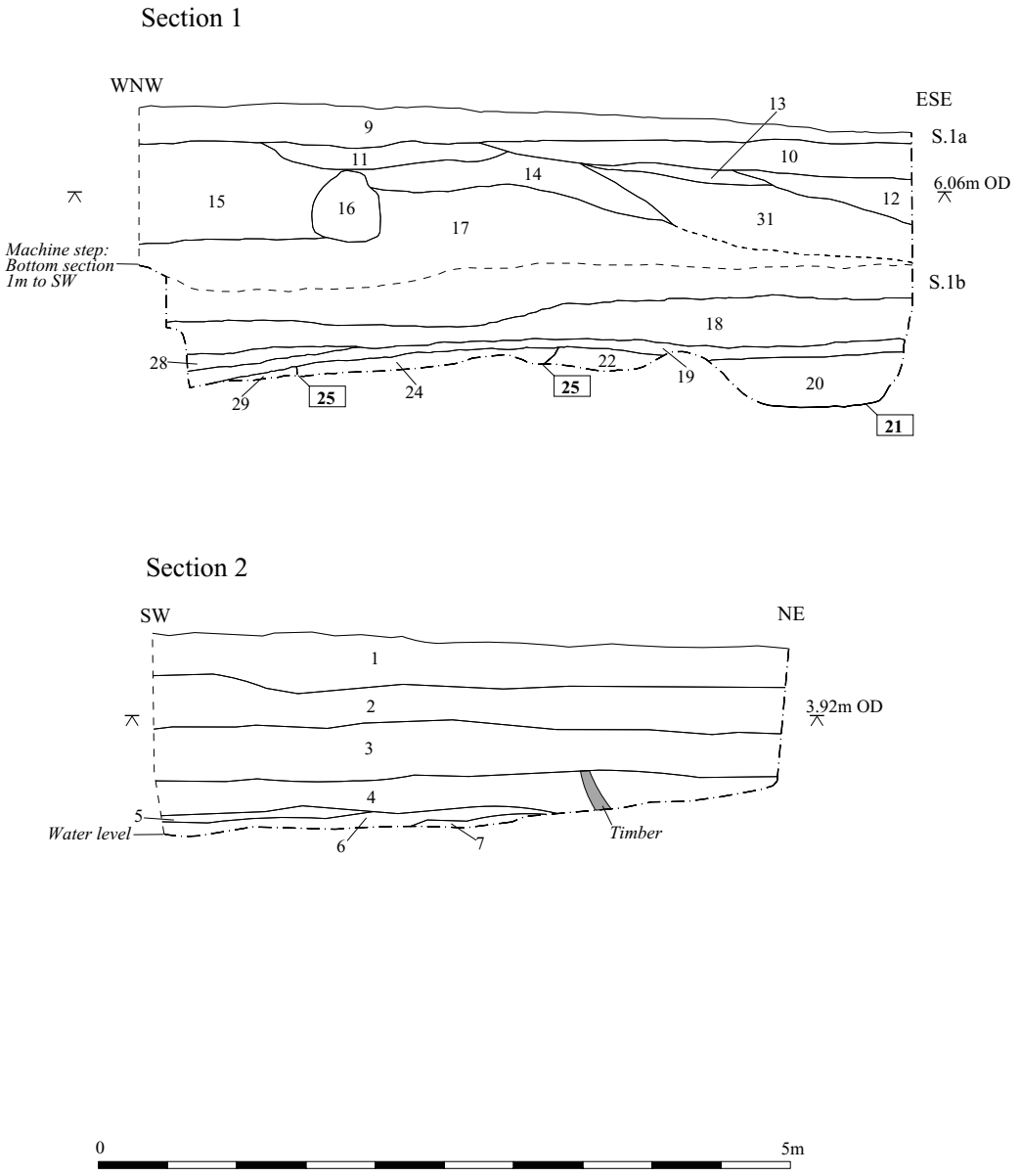


Figure 2: Section Drawings

Circular pit **25** was 2m in diameter and located against the northern trench baulk. It truncated ditches **23** and **27** as well as pit/ditch **30**. It was unexcavated, due to trench flooding, but fill 24 was sampled for artefacts and environmental remains. This fill was described as dark reddish brown clay silt with frequent small snail shells and a moderate quantity of small sub-angular flint fragments. Only animal bone was retrieved.

Ditch **21** was located at the east end of the trench and was oriented north-north-east to south-south-west. It was partially excavated by machine revealing a flat base, but its full profile was not recovered. It measured 1.6m + in width and 0.35m in depth. It truncated ditch **23**. The single fill (20) was dark reddish brown silty clay with frequent small burnt flint fragments. No datable artefacts were retrieved, the sample (2) consisted of decaying vegetation including leaves and twigs.

Layer 19 was uniform in thickness at 0.08m and sloped down with the natural contours from south-east to north-west. It was composed of sticky browny grey silty clay. A single Romano-British pottery sherd was collected. The deposit sealed ditch **21** and pit **25**.

Layer 28 was recorded at the north-west end of the trench above layer 19. It was light grey silty clay with frequent crushed chalk fragments as well as frequent small to medium rounded chalk fragments. It was 0.10m deep at the north-west end of the trench and petered out to the south-east indicating that it had accumulated on the down slope.

Layer 18, a sticky mid orangey grey silty clay with moderate small angular flint fragments, sealed this layer and extended across the whole length of the trench. Iron staining was apparent in the upper part of the layer. It was 0.30m at its deepest at the north-eastern end of the trench; to the south-west it was 0.22m in depth. This difference in depth was probably caused by post-medieval disturbance associated with the construction of the mill or its later reconstruction and the building of Mill House. The layer contained two fragments of lava quern (SF 1 and 2), daub pieces, one tile fragment and flint waste flakes.

Layer 17 sealed layer 18, it was composed of light browny grey silty clay with moderate quantities of post-medieval brick and tile fragments and broken clay pipe pieces throughout. The deposit was variable in depth at its maximum it was 0.96m deep. This layer was the earliest in a sequence of post-medieval levelling layers.

Layers 15 and 16 were probably deposited simultaneously immediately after the deposition of layer 17, both show signs of disturbance. Layer 16 was a compact irregular lump of mid bluey grey clay, 0.50m deep. Layer 15 was deposited down slope of this lump to the north-west and measured 0.70m at its deepest point. It was firm mid browny grey silty clay with sandy lenses. Frequent charcoal flecks and occasional brick

and tile fragments were recorded. Post-medieval pottery and clay pipe pieces were retrieved.

Layer 14 was dumped on the north-eastern side of the solid lump 16. It was firm mid grey brown silty clay with sandy lenses, 0.24m deep. Small quantities of oyster shell, mussel shell and charcoal were recorded.

Layer 31 overlay layer 14, it was light browny grey silty clay 0.46m deep with moderate quantities of brick and tile fragments and occasional clay pipe stems. This deposit was similar in composition to deposit 17.

Layer 11 sealed layers both 14 and 15 and was probably originally continuous with layer 13. Both were light whitish grey concreted mortar spreads. Layer 11 was 0.14m deep, layer 13 was 0.09m deep. Neither appeared to be a deliberately laid surface.

Layer 12 was a firm mid browny grey silty clay with rare flint gravel and rare tile inclusions. This deposit lapped over mortar layer 13 and was 0.29m at its deepest.

Layer 12 was sealed by layer 10 a friable mixed deposit of dark grey brown silty clay with mid yellowy brown sand and gravel. Rare brick fragments were recorded within the layer. The deposition of this layer presumably disturbed the mortar layer 11/13. It extended for 3m from the south-eastern end of the trench and measured 0.22m at its deepest.

Topsoil layer 9 sealed layer 10. It was firm dark grey brown silty clay with rare brick fragments measuring 0.24m at its deepest.

5.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 (Fig. 2) was oriented south-west to north-east and measured 9m in length. It was sited approximately 7m to the east of Coldham's Brook in an area of low-lying ground. A sequence of waterlogged deposits was recorded to a depth of 2.5m, below the very wet upper layers. Excavation stopped at 2.18m OD for safety reasons, no natural deposits were encountered.

5.2.1 Stratified deposits

The earliest recorded deposit was a layer (8) of mid yellowy brown silty clay with frequent timber fragments. This deposit was seen in the base of the flooded trench as the machine bucket pulled back the water. It was not possible to record it in plan or section.

Above this was a firm layer (7) of dark reddish grey silty clay with organic matter, 0.06m+ deep. Occasional medium sub-angular flint fragments and occasional snail shells were observed. It was peaty in appearance and probably developed in a wet but not flooded condition. This layer contained two joining large rim sherds of a Romano-British jar and one fragment of animal bone.

Layer 6 sealed this deposit; it was friable mid grey brown clay silt with abundant small to medium snail shells, 0.10m deep. butchered animal bone was recovered, including sheep/goat, pit and cow. Sample 1 taken from this deposit indicated a wetland environment at the time of its deposition.

Layer 5 overlay layer 6 to the west where it was 0.04m deep before petering out to the east. It was friable dark browny grey silty clay with moderate very small snail shells and occasional pea grit gravel. This layer had characteristics of the above and below layers (4 and 6).

The layer (4) sealing layer 5 was a sticky mid browny grey slightly silty clay with rare charcoal flecks measuring 0.24m in depth. This smelly layer of almost pure clay had preserved a raking worked timber fragment, the upper part of this timber had been eroded by the accumulation of layer 3 suggesting a further rapid change in the conditions within this area. The appearance of this clay layer suggested that it had been deposited under water and had remained waterlogged.

Layer 3 was 0.36m deep and sealed layer 4. It was composed of friable mid yellowish grey clay silt with frequent small angular flint fragments and frequent pea grit gravel. This layer possibly derived from inundation episodes and may have accumulated gradually.

This layer was sealed by layer 2, a friable mid browny grey clay silt with moderate small sub-angular flint fragments and moderate charcoal flecks, measuring 0.41m in depth. It was believed to represent a possible subsoil horizon.

A large uncontexted circular modern pit cut through layer 2 on the south-east side of the trench. This feature was excavated by machine and contained pieces of corroded machinery, oil cans, diesel and plastic.

A post-medieval ?culvert (**34**) oriented north-west to south-east was recorded in the western half of the trench cutting through the subsoil layer (2). It was unexcavated; the upper fill (33) was recorded as being sticky light browny yellow silty clay with moderate quantities of whole modern bricks and moderate tile pieces.

Topsoil layer 1, soft very dark browny grey clay silt with occasional peagrit gravel inclusions, sealed these features. A large quantity of

modern rubbish was noted within the layer including the rotten remains of a mattress and bedsprings, large unidentified twisted iron objects and plastic bailing wire.

5.3 The Standing building

The visual survey of the interior of the Old Mill and Mill House found no elements that could be positively identified as belonging to the mid 16th century building. The brickwork of the Old Mill seen on the ground floor probably dates to the 19th century, with machine made bricks of regular size used throughout. The brick built barrel-vaulted ceilings of the three main rooms on the ground floor appear intact.

A number of fireplaces within Mill House remain, these all have timber lintels that appear to be machine cut and probably date to the original construction of the building in the early 18th century.

The upper floors of both buildings had undergone significant alteration during conversion to offices and little further evidence of the original structures could be observed.

6 Discussion

The two excavated trenches revealed very different conditions within this small development area. It was not possible to correlate the horizons exposed in the two trenches because of post-medieval changes to the landscape. Despite this the pottery retrieved from the two areas suggests a link between the differing environments.

6.1 The upper area

Trench 1 was excavated through the upper terraced area immediately adjacent to the 20th century extension to the Mill building. This trench showed that the natural chalk marl horizon sloped gradually from the north-east to south-west. The land dropped from 4.87m OD to 4.56m OD over a distance of approximately 5m.

A relatively dense sequence of intercutting pits and ditches was recorded cutting into this slope. It was not possible to establish their extent or function with any certainty in such a small excavation area, however, they clearly continued in all directions. The finds and environmental evidence would indicate domestic activity dating to the Roman to Saxon period.

This activity was sealed by relatively thin colluvial/subsoil layers (19 and 38). These layers probably dated to the late Roman or Saxon period. The overlying layer 18 appeared to be the original topsoil horizon with oxidised organic material apparent in its upper part. Two Saxon quern fragments (SF 1 and 2) and vitrified daub were collected

from this deposit suggesting a Saxon to Medieval date for its accumulation.

This soil horizon was sealed by the creation of the present terrace. Layers 17, 16, 15, 14 and 31 probably represent a single event of dumping material to raise the ground surface and level the area to create the terrace/garden associated with Mill House. All artefacts retrieved from these deposits suggests a post-17th century date for this levelling, it is likely that it was contemporary with the construction of Mill House in the early 18th century.

Mortar spreads 11 and 13 were probably originally a single layer. It was not continuous across the trench and was not believed to form a mortar surface. It is likely that this spread was associated with the reconstruction of the Mill or the construction of Mill House. Make up layers 12 and 10 post date this episode and probably represent levelling or making good of the area immediately to the west of the building, possibly dating to the construction of the modern extension to the mill. Garden soil (9) was deposited/accumulated above these layers and developed from the 18th century onwards.

6.2 The lower area

Below the terrace, adjacent to Coldham's Brook, Trench 2 revealed no archaeological features predating the ?19th century. The sequence of layers identified indicate a marshy/wetland area at the base of the slope, their deposition commencing in the ?Roman period and continuing through to post-medieval/modern period.

The lowest recorded deposit (8) appears to have been laid down in wet conditions with irregular fragments of timbers preserved in the clay silts. The peaty layer (7) that had accumulated above this dated to the Roman period and the large pottery sherds and animal bone retrieved from the deposit suggest occupation in the vicinity, possibly deriving from the activity noted on the slope above. The snail rich layers (6 and 5) suggest a continuation of the wetland environment perhaps becoming increasingly wet before a rapid inundation saw the deposition of solid clay layer 4, trapping all the snails within the lower layer. This deposit unlike those below and above it appears to have been laid down under water. Its relative thickness at 0.24m might indicate a period when this area was continually underwater. One driven timber was recorded in this layer, it was probably inserted from layers above, but its upper part had eroded away.

At some point after this flooding, the environmental conditions altered again. The area was no longer permanently under water, but does appear to have been subject to periodic inundation episodes resulting in the accumulation of alluvial silts and gravels (3). This layer was sealed by subsoil (2) possibly accumulating in the medieval to post-medieval period.

Post-medieval to Modern activity in this area included the construction of ?culvert **34** and the digging of a modern pit for the disposal of machine parts and waste oil. Topsoil layer 1 sealed these features; this organic wet deposit was very different from the garden soil layer (9) seen on the terrace above. This area continued to be used as a dumping ground until recent times with modern debris found throughout the upper layer.

6.3 The standing building

No traces of the 16th century mill were observed; it seems likely that subsequent rebuilding, probably in the 18th or 19th century, was comprehensive.

7 Conclusions

The evaluation provides evidence for a well preserved sequence of Roman/Saxon occupation up slope of a wetland/marshy area on the north side of late Saxon Newmarket Road.

The small scale nature of the intervention in conjunction with the problems caused by the high water table entail that a fuller interpretation of this sequence of activity is not possible. The full form, function and potential significance of these features remain uncertain.

No Roman features have been recorded in the vicinity with which to compare this assemblage. The proximity of the late Saxon road might account for the Saxon finds within the buried soil. The Saxon burials recorded at 1-23 Barnwell Road (Kenney 2005, Newton 2006) were interred 240m to the east along the Newmarket Road and are therefore too distant to be closely associated with the activity recorded here.

The lower marshy area was presumably wetland from at least the Roman period and probably earlier. It remains a very wet area and would have the potential to produce good environmental data from the lower waterlogged deposits. However, modern dumped material may have introduced some contaminants.

Post-medieval landscaping has altered the upper area considerably. This activity is likely to have been associated with the use of the Mill and the construction of Mill House in the 18th century. The absence of features associated with the early mill and the 18th or 19th century date for the fabric of the building itself entails that building recording is unlikely to be necessary.

Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be made by the County Archaeology Office.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Whitfield Associates who commissioned and funded the archaeological work. The project was managed by James Drummond-Murray. The site was excavated by the author and Nick Gilmour, Taleyna Fletcher carried out the survey. The report was illustrated by Andrew Corrigan and edited by James Drummond-Murray.

The brief for archaeological works was written by Kasia Gdaniec, who visited the site and monitored the evaluation.

Bibliography

British Geological Survey	1981	*England and Wales Sheet 188 Cambridge, Solid and Drift Geology Map*
Drummond-Murray, J	2006	*Specification for Archaeological Evaluation at The Old Paper Mill, Ditton Walk, Cambridge*
Kenney, S	2005	*An Iron Age or Roman Burial at Barnwell Road, Cambridge: An Archaeological Evaluation CCC AFU Report 802*
Newton, A	2006	*Land to the rear of 1-23 Barnwell Road, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire. Archive Report. Archaeological Solutions Report 2029*
Pearson, A & Crank, N	2000	*Land at the Abbey Stadium, Newmarket Road, Cambridge: an archaeological evaluation. HAT report 762*

Appendix 1: Context Summary

Context Number	Fill Of	Tr	Category	Feature Type	Function	Date
1		2	Layer	Accumulation	Topsoil	Modern
2		2	Layer	Accumulation	Subsoil	Post-medieval
3		2	Layer	Accumulation	?Alluvium	Medieval/ Post-medieval
4		2	Layer	Accumulation	?Alluvium	
5		2	Layer	Accumulation	?Marsh	
6		2	Layer	Accumulation	?Marsh	?Roman
7		2	Layer	Accumulation	?Marsh	Roman
8		2	Layer	Accumulation	?Marsh	?Roman
9		1	Layer	Accumulation	Topsoil	Modern
10		1	Layer	Deposition	Make up/levelling	?Modern
11		1	Layer	Spread	Building debris	Post-medieval
12		1	Layer	Deposition	Make up/levelling	Post-medieval
13		1	Layer	Spread	Building debris	Post-medieval
14		1	Layer	Deposition	Make up/levelling	Post-medieval
15		1	Layer	Deposition	Make up/levelling	Post-medieval
16		1	Layer	Deposition	Make up/levelling	Post-medieval
17		1	Layer	Deposition	Make up/levelling	Post-medieval
18		1	Layer	Accumulation	Buried topsoil	Saxon/medieval
19		1	Layer	Accumulation	Buried subsoil/ colluvium	?Saxon
20	21	1	Fill	Ditch		
21		1	Cut	Ditch		
22	23	1	Fill	Ditch		
23		1	Cut	Ditch		
24	25	1	Fill	Pit		
25		1	Cut	Pit		
26	27	1	Fill	Ditch		
27		1	Cut	Ditch		
28		1	Layer	Accumulation	?Colluvium	?Saxon
29	30	1	Fill	Pit/Ditch		
30		1	Cut	Pit/Ditch		
31		1	Layer	Deposition	Make up/levelling	Post-medieval
32		1	Layer	Natural deposit		
33	34	2	Fill	Construction cut	Culvert	Post-medieval
34		2	Cut	Construction cut	Culvert	Post-medieval

Table 2: Context type with preliminary dates

Appendix 2: Finds Summary

Context	Material	Object Name	Weight in Kg	Comments
6	Bone	Bone	0.70	See Appendix 3
7	Bone	Bone	0.01	See Appendix 3
7	Ceramic	Vessel	0.14	2 sherds of same shell tempered Romano-British jar
14	Ceramic	Tobacco pipe	0.01	Post-medieval
14	Ceramic	Vessel	0.00	Red fabric with grey core, remains of red brown slip, probably late Roman Oxfordshire red slipped ware
15	Ceramic	Vessel	0.23	Post-medieval jug
15	Ceramic	Tobacco pipe	0.05	
17	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.04	Tile fragment
17	Ceramic	Vessel	0.00	Brown glazed sherd, post-medieval
18	Lava	Quern	0.35	1 large lava quern fragment (SF1),
18	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.04	5 small daub fragments, 4 highly fired with wattle impressions
18	Lava	Quern	0.55	16 small quern fragments (SF2) probably originally one stone damaged in machining
19	Ceramic	Vessel	0.02	1 small abraded Romano-British grey ware sherd, 1
19	Flint		0.00	Flint flake
20	Bone	Bone	0.35	See Appendix 3
20	Flint		0.06	Core and burnt flint fragment
22	Flint		0.00	Small burnt flint fragment
24	Bone	Bone	0.16	Sample 3, See Appendix 3
26	Ceramic	Vessel	0.02	Handmade, quartz tempered, Saxon or Iron Age
29	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.18	1 tile fragment and two large pieces of daub ?Romano-British
99999	Ceramic	Vessel	0.12	Unstratified, 1 sherd Romano-British grey ware, 1 large piece post-medieval bowl

Table 3: Brief finds summary (excluding faunal remains)

Appendix 3: Faunal Remains

By Chris Faine

Introduction

A total of 15 fragments were recovered from the evaluation, with 13 identifiable to species (86% of the total sample). Bone was recovered from 4 contexts, from both hand collected and sieved samples. Preservation was extremely good, albeit fragmented due to butchery. Loose teeth, caudal vertebra and ribs without proximal epiphyses were noted but not included in any quantification. Elements not identifiable to species were classed as "large/medium/small mammal" but again not included in any quantification. Initially all elements were assessed in terms of siding (where appropriate), completeness, tooth wear stages (also where applicable) and epiphyseal fusion. Completeness was assessed in terms of percentage and zones present (after Dobney & Reilly, 1988). Ageing of any suitable fragments was carried out using Grant mandible wear stages (Grant, 1982). Horse withers heights were calculated using Kiesewalter (in Driesch & Boessneck, 1974). The presence of any taphonomy, i.e. butchery, burning, gnawing etc was also noted.

The assemblage

The largest number of identifiable fragments was recovered from context 6. These consisted of a single sheep/goat proximal femur and two pig and cattle tibiae. All of the above elements showed evidence of heavy butchery, most likely made with a large knife or cleaver. The sheep femur in particular showed cut marks indicative of disarticulation of the hind limbs. In addition to these two sheep/goat mandibles were recovered from individuals aged 4-5 years and 2-3 years respectively. Context 7 contained only one identifiable fragment; that of a heavily butchered pig rib. Context 20 contained a metatarsal of an adult horse around 1.48m tall (around 14 ½ hands), in addition to portions of butchered cattle scapula and radius, the latter of which showed evidence of gnawing. A single portion of butchered chicken femur was also recovered from this context. Context 24 contained a burnt cattle 3rd molar and a portion of heavily butchered cattle ischium.

Conclusions

Unfortunately due to the extremely small sample size few conclusions can be drawn from this assemblage. However, it is clear that many of the elements in the assemblage represent butchery waste.

References

Dobney, K & Reilly, K. 1988. A method for recording archaeological animal bones: the use of diagnostic zones. *Circaea* 5(2): 79-96

Driesch, A. von den & Boessneck, J.A. 1974. Kritische Anmerkungen zur Widerristhohenberechnung aus langmassen vor-und fruhgeschichtlicher Tierknochen, *Saugertierkundliche Mitteilungen* 22, 325-348

Grant, A. 1982. The use of tooth wear as a guide to the age of domestic ungulates. In B. Wilson, C. Grigson & S. Payne (eds.) *Ageing and sexing animal bones from archaeological sites*. Oxford: BAR British Series 199.

Appendix 4: Environmental Appraisal

By Rachel Fosberry

1 Introduction and Methods

Three bulk samples were taken from features within the evaluated areas of the site in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations.

Ten litres of each sample were processed by tank flotation for the recovery of charred plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The flot was collected in a 0.5mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through a 1mm sieve. Both flot and residue were allowed to air dry. The dried residue was passed through 5mm and 2mm sieves and a magnet was dragged through each resulting fraction prior to sorting for artefacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds. The flot was examined under a binocular microscope at x16 magnification.

2 Results

Sample 1 and 2 were preserved by waterlogging and do not contain any charred material. Sample 1 (6) contains several *Carex* sp (sedge) seeds along with wetland snails. Sample 2 (20) is humic and is comprised of leaves, roots and decomposing vegetation.

Sample 3 (24) contains a few charcoal fragments and two charred cereal grains that are fragmented and abraded and can only be tentatively identified as *Hordeum* sp. (barley). Sample 3 also contain several large animal bone fragments.

3 Conclusions and Recommendations

The assemblage appears to represent mainly a natural accumulation of plant remains from local vegetation. The only charred plant remains are of barley, which is a common cereal crop, occurring in Sample 3 along with other dietary remains of animal bone.

In conclusion, these samples do not provide any useful interpretive information and no further work is required.

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

REGISTERED IFA ORGANISATION

Beacon Council
2004-2005
Better Local Public Transport
2005-2006
Asset Management

Cambridgeshire County Council's **Archaeological Field Unit** undertakes a wide range of work throughout the county and across the eastern region.

Our key purpose is to increase understanding of the rich heritage of the region.

We are keenly competitive, working to the highest professional standards in a broad range of service areas. We work in partnership with contractors and local communities.

We undertake or provide:

- surveys, assessments, evaluations and excavations
- popular and academic publications
- illustration and design services
- heritage and conservation management
- education and outreach services
- volunteer, training and work experience opportunities
- partnership projects with community groups and research bodies

contact

cambridgeshire archaeology
archaeological field unit

Fulbourn Community Centre Site
Haggis Gap
Fulbourn
Cambridge
CB1 5HD

Tel : 01223 576201
Fax: 01223 880946
email: arch.field.unit@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
web: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/archaeology

Printed on recycled paper