



**CAM ARC Report Number 953**

## **Medieval Remains on Land off Ship Lane, Ely, Cambridgeshire**

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**An Archaeological Evaluation**

Tom Phillips

February 2008

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## **An Archaeological Evaluation**

Tom Phillips BA

With contributions by Chris Faine MA MSc BBAO,  
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Spoerry Btech Hons PhD MIFA

Site Code: ELY SHL 07  
CHER Event Number: 2602  
Date of works: 23rd-25th May 2007  
Grid Ref: TL 5439 8000

Status	Approved		
Author	Tom Phillips		
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## CAM ARC OASIS Report Form

OASIS Number: 272411

PROJECT DETAILS				
Project name	Evaluation on land off Ship Lane, Ely			
Short description	A square trench was excavated, 6m x 6m to a depth of approximately 1m and then stepped in to form an area 4m x 4m. Two medieval pits and a ditch were discovered, truncating through a thick layer of silt. Natural was reached approximately 2m below modern ground level.			
Project dates	Start	23/05/07	End	25/05/07
Previous work	none		Future work	unkown
Associated project reference codes	Site code: ELY SHL 07 CHER No: ECB 2602 Planning Application No: 06/00547/FUL			
Type of project	evaluation			
Site status	Area of Archaeological Importance			
Current land use (list all that apply)	Garden			
Planned development	General Residential			
Monument types / period (list all that apply)	Pits of unassigned type, boundary ditch			
Significant finds: Artefact type / period (list all that apply)	Medieval pottery, animal bone, Worked wood			
PROJECT LOCATION				
County	Cambridgeshire	Parish	Ely	
HER for region	Cambridgeshire			
Site address (including postcode)	Land off Ship Lane. No plot number			
Study area (sq.m or ha)	36m <sup>2</sup>			
National grid reference	TL 5439 8000			
Height OD	Min OD	5.85m	Max OD	5.97m
PROJECT ORIGINATORS				
Organisation	CAM ARC			
Project brief originator	Andy Thomas			
Project design originator	James Drummond Murray			
Director/supervisor	Tom Phillips			
Project manager	James Drummond Murray			
Sponsor or funding body	Clarke and Smith (Builders) Ltd			
ARCHIVES	Location and accession number	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone, database, context sheets etc)		
Physical	Cambridgeshire County Store	Pottery, bone, wood		
Paper	Cambridgeshire County Store	Context sheets, site registers, plans, photos.		
Digital	CAM ARC	photos		
BIBLIOGRAPHY				
Full title	Medieval Remains on Land off Ship Lane, Ely, Cambridgeshire			
Author(s)	Tom Phillips			
Report number	953			
Series title and volume	Unpublished client report			
Page numbers				
Date	June 2007			

## **Summary**

Between 23rd and 25th May 2007 CAM ARC, Cambridgeshire County Council (formerly Archaeological Field Unit) carried out an evaluation on land off Ship Lane, Ely. Initially an area measuring 6m x 6m was excavated to a depth of approximately 1m. The trench was then stepped to create an excavation area measuring 4m x 4m.

Two large pits and a ditch were encountered, truncating up to three layers of silt. All features and layers date to between the 10th and 14th centuries. The site may represent part of a backyard plot for buildings fronting on to Broad Street to the west while the layers indicate episodes of earlier flooding. A small assemblage of Mid-Late Saxon pottery is significant due to the limited evidence of Saxon activity in this part of Ely.

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## **1 Introduction**

Between 23rd and 25th May 2007 CAM ARC, Cambridgeshire County Council (formerly Archaeological Field Unit) carried out an evaluation on land off Ship Lane, Ely.

This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Andy Thomas of the Cambridgeshire Archaeology, Planning and Countryside Advice team (CAPCA; Planning Application 06/00547/FUL), 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 overlies Kimmeridge Clay (British Geological Survey 1980).

The land slopes slightly downhill west to east towards the river. The western end of the trench lies at 5.97m OD and the eastern end lies at 5.85m OD.

## **3 Archaeological and Historical Background**

The site lies towards the east edge of the island on which Ely lies. Broad Street is generally thought to form the east edge of the Saxon settlement, although limited Saxon remains have been found.

An evaluation at 2 Ship Lane, to the south-east of the current site, revealed late 12th/13th century waterlogged deposits, a medieval boundary or drainage ditch and evidence of later medieval industrial activity (ECB 1053) (Tipper 2003).

A recording brief on Ship Lane (ECB948) (Hinds 1994) on the foundations of a public convenience revealed no archaeological features, although this was c. 100m to the east of the current site.

Excavations almost directly opposite the site on the west side of Broad Street produced remains from the 12th century onwards (ECB 772) (Bray and Last 1997).

On the east side of Broad Street, a series of evaluations at Tesco and Jewson's Yard found domestic occupation on the street frontage dating back to the 13th century, with channels and subsequent lanes and walls running east to the river. The Jewson's Yard site also produced industrial activity relating to tanning from the 14th-17th centuries, as well as kiln waste and shellfish dumps (ECB 383) (Alexander 1998a). A subsequent watching brief revealed Roman activity adjacent to the River Ouse and domestic activity from the 12th-15th centuries and further industrial activity from the 16th century (ECB 1059) (Cessford 2003).

To the south-east of the site and close to the river, only marginal land with desultory attempts at reclamation from the 14th century onwards was uncovered at the former coalyard on Jubilee Terrace (ECB 1211) (Alexander 1998b).

Also to the south-east, medieval foreshore deposits were found at the Maltings (ECB 770) (Reynolds 1994).

A watching brief on an Anglian Water pipeline from the river to the area of the Porta (gateway to the cathedral precinct) revealed 17th century pottery (ECB771) (Holton-Krayenbuhl 1984).

To the south of the site, but on the east frontage of Broad Street, at Fenland Pine, 57 Broad Street, an evaluation revealed evidence of 12th-15th century buildings on the frontage with "backyard" activities to the east including ditches and a pond (ECB 1909) (Crank et al 2004).

At 55 Broad Street further backyard activities from the 14th-19th centuries were uncovered (ECB 724) (Armour 2002).

At the Old Eastern Electricity Depot site, also on the east side of Broad Street, urban settlement remains from 14th-18th centuries were uncovered, including remains of a 15th century building (ECB 392) (Regan 1998).

Cartographic evidence includes John Speed's map of 1610 which shows densely packed housing along Ship Lane (Cessford *et al* 2006: 76). The First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1885 shows no structures on the site with the land probably being used for horticultural purposes.

Previous archaeological investigations suggest that, given the subject site's location, remains are likely to comprise backyard activities behind buildings fronting on to Broad Street from the medieval period

onwards, including the possibility of industrial and other features on the more marginal land running down to the river.

## 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 at least 5% of the development area should be subject to trial trenching. As the site was small (approximately 20m x 10m) and because archaeological remains were likely to survive up to 2m below modern ground level it was decided to excavate an area 6m x 6m to a depth of approximately 1m and then step the trench in giving an excavation area of 4m x 4m (Fig. 2).

Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a wheeled JCB-type excavator using a 1.6m toothless ditching bucket.

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.

Five environmental samples were taken from features to investigate the possible survival of micro- and macro- botanical remains (Appendix 5).

Weather conditions were good. Site conditions were hampered by the water table, which was encountered approximately 1.5m below modern ground level - the same depth as archaeological remains.

## 5 Results

A full context summary can be found in Appendix 1.

Natural geology was encountered 2.06m below modern ground level. The earliest archaeological deposits consisted of three layers of silt. Layer 16 was a light greyish green silty clay with orange mottling, measuring 1.72m wide and 0.16m deep. It was sealed by layer 15, a thin band of mid grey silt measuring 0.9m wide and 0.06m deep. Layers 15 and 16 were only visible in section 3 (Fig. 3). Sealing both was layer 10, a mid greyish green silty clay measuring up to 4.5m wide (the width of the trench) and 0.62m deep. Three sherds of pottery were retrieved from layer 10 including a piece of hand made Middle Saxon pottery and a sherd of Ipswich ware (also Saxon). The context possibly



dates to between AD850-900. These three layers may be the result of silts deposited during early episodes of flooding on the site.

Layer 10 was truncated by later features. Pit 7 was partially exposed in the west of the trench. It appeared to be sub-circular in plan with steep sides and increased in depth in the north-west corner. The pit was not bottomed due to incoming water and because it narrowed as it reached the baulk. It measured 2.1m in width and at least 0.76m deep. Its lower fill (6) was a dark blackish brown waterlogged clayey silt containing moderate charcoal flecks. The upper fill (5) was a brownish grey clayey silt containing twelve sherds of 11th/12th century pottery including Thetford ware, St Neots ware and a residual sherd of micaceous Middle Saxon pottery as well as a small amount of animal bone.

Pit 3 truncated pit 7 in the eastern half of the trench. Although only partially exposed it was obviously large in size and circular in plan. It had gently sloping sides, although its full profile, including the base, could not be determined as it lay to the north of the trench. It measured 2.8m wide and 0.94m deep. Pit 3 contained four fills. The lower fill (14) was a dark greyish green silty clay and was located in the deepest excavated part of the pit. Overlying this was fill 13, a mid greyish green silty clay. Fill 9, a dark grey silty clay, contained six sherds of medieval Ely ware and one sherd of Stamford ware, dating the context to AD1200-1350. The upper fill (8) was a light greyish brown clayey silt. Several sherds of 12th-14th century pottery and a residual sherd of Ipswich ware were retrieved from fill 8.

Truncating layer 10 on the southern side of the trench was ditch 12, orientated east-south-east to west-north-west. The ditch was linear in plan with steep sides and a flat base, measuring 0.9m wide and 0.59m deep. Its single fill (11) was a mid brownish grey silty clay containing several sherds of 12th-14th century pottery and a residual sherd of Ipswich ware with comb decoration. The ditch is possibly a property boundary for dwellings on Broad Street.

Pit 18 truncated the upper fill of pit 3 in the north-east corner of the trench. It had steep sides and a concave base, measuring 0.36m wide and 0.29m deep. Its single fill (17) was a dark grey silt comprising loose organic material, suggesting it was much later in date.

All features were sealed by layer 4, a 0.48m deep blackish brown silty clay subsoil. It contained fourteen sherds of pottery, many of which were residual. The latest comprised two sherds of Ely red ware with wavy line decoration dating to the 16th century. Layer 4 was in turn sealed by layer 2, a 0.9m thick deposit of dark brown clayey silt, which contained two sherds of 14th/15th century pottery although a later date for the context is likely. This represents garden or horticultural soil formed while the land has been open. Layer 1 was visible in the

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eastern half of the trench and sealed layer 2. It was a thin layer of sand and gravel and represents modern levelling.

## 6 Discussion

Given the location of the site and its potential, it is not surprising that archaeological deposits were encountered. Whilst not exceptional, the results do correspond with those on sites nearby.

The earliest deposits, layers 10, 15 and 16, represent episodes of periodic flooding on the site, which is not unexpected, given that the river is less than 200m to the east. At the Jewson's Yard site, approximately 100m to the south, 12th and 13th century activity centred primarily on Broad Street with the area closer to the river subject to flooding (Cessford *et al* 2006). Similarly, at 2 Ship Lane there were 12th/13th century waterlogged deposits suggestive of inundation by the river (Tipper 2003). On the current site pottery from layer 10 suggests a Middle-Late Saxon date. This is noteworthy as the only evidence for this period from the waterfront area comes from Jewson's Yard where relatively intensive activity was encountered. Environmental data hinted at wet conditions and seasonal flooding which corresponds with the current site.

Pits **3** and **7** and ditch **12** date to between 11th-14th centuries and may relate to a backyard plot for a building fronting on to Broad Street at a period when flooding had subsided or drainage was better. The function of the pits is unclear although the relatively small number of artefacts suggests the plot was not being used intensively. The faunal and environmental remains support this, suggesting low-level butchering and cereal cultivation (Appendix 4 and 5). Ditch **12** possibly represents a property division as it is roughly perpendicular to Broad Street. At the Jewson's yard site north-west to south-east boundary ditches were discovered in the 14th and 15th century phases, along with strong evidence of expansion towards the river (Cessford *et al* 2006). Although these dates are slightly later it is not surprising that earlier boundaries exist on similar alignments.

## 7 Conclusions

This evaluation has added to the understanding of medieval land use in this part of Ely between Broad Street and the Great Ouse. Periodic flooding in the 9th-10th centuries was followed by evidence of low-level activity between the 11th and 14th centuries. The small assemblage of Mid-Late Saxon pottery is significant, given the limited evidence of Saxon activity in this part of Ely; even though the sherds were only associated with the flood deposits or were residual. In the post medieval period the land was given over to gardening or horticulture leading to the build up of a thick layer of garden soil.

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

## Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Clarke and Smith (Builders) Ltd who commissioned and funded the archaeological work. The author and Steve Graham excavated the site. Survey was undertaken by Taleyna Fletcher, with the assistance of Glenn Bailey. Illustrations were by Louise Bush, the pottery was examined by Paul Spoerry, faunal remains were analysed by Chris Faine and Rachel Fosberry examined the environmental evidence. Mo Muldowney edited the report.

The project was managed by James Drummond-Murray.

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

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### Appendix 1: Context Summary

Context	Cut	Category	Feature type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine components	Coarse components	Shape in plan	Side	Break of slope	Base
1		layer	levelling	3	0.22	yellowish grey	sand and gravel					
2		layer	garden soil	6	0.9	dark brown	clayey silt	rare pottery				
3	3	cut	pit	2.8	0.94				circular?	gently sloping	unknown	unknown
4		layer	subsoil		0.48	blackish brown	silty clay	rare pottery, occasional charcoal flecks				
5	7	fill	pit	2.1	0.62	brownish grey	clayey silt	occasional charcoal flecks, rare mussel shells, rare pottery				
6	7	fill	pit	0.4	0.16	dark blackish brown	clayey silt	moderate charcoal flecks				
7	7	cut	pit	2.1	0.76				sub-circular	steep	sharp	unknown
8	3	fill	pit	2.5	0.28	light greyish brown	clayey silt	rare small stones, rare pottery and animal bone				
9	3	fill	pit	2.2	0.1	dark grey	silty clay	rare small stones, rare pottery and animal bone				
10		layer		4.5	0.62	mid greyish green	silty clay	rare small stones, rare pottery and animal bone				
11	12	fill	ditch	0.9	0.59	mid brownish grey	silty clay	occasional charcoal flecks, rare pottery and animal bone				
12	12	cut	ditch	0.9	0.59				linear	steep	sharp	flat
13	3	fill	pit	1.6	0.26	mid greyish green	silty clay	rare small stones, rare charcoal flecks, rare pottery and animal bone				
14	3	fill	pit	0.5	0.31	dark greyish green	silty clay					

Context	Cut	Category	Feature type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine components	Coarse components	Shape in plan	Side	Break of slope	Base
15		layer		0.9	0.06	mid grey	silt					
16		layer		1.72	0.16	light greyish green	silty clay	rare small stones				
17	18	fill	pit?	0.36	0.29	dark grey	silt	occasional small stones				
18	18	cut	pit?	0.36	0.29				unknown	steep	gradual	concave

**Appendix 2: Finds Summary**

<b>Context</b>	<b>Material</b>	<b>Object Name</b>	<b>Weight in kg</b>
2	Ceramic	Vessel	0.03
2	Bone	Bone	0.21
2	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.43
4	Ceramic	Vessel	0.18
4	Bone	Bone	0.16
4	Stone		0.03
5	Ceramic	Vessel	0.16
5	Bone	Bone	0.26
8	Ceramic	Vessel	0.18
8	Bone	Bone	0.06
9	Ceramic	Vessel	0.17
9	Bone	Bone	0.12
10	Ceramic	Vessel	0.05
10	Bone	Bone	0.16
11	Bone	Bone	0.08
11	Ceramic	Vessel	0.10



## Appendix 3: The Pottery

by Paul Spoerry

### Introduction and Background

The evaluation at Ship Lane produced a small pottery assemblage of 30 sherds, weighing 0.850kg. Of the 18 contexts recorded, seven contained pottery. The material from the topsoil and any unstratified material are not included in these totals.

Ceramic fabric abbreviations used in the following text are:

Developed Stamford ware	DEST
Early/Middle Saxon hand-made wares	EMSAX
Grimston Thetford ware	GTHET
Ipswich ware	IPSW
Late Medieval Ely ware	LMEL
Medieval Ely ware	MEL
Ely redware	PMEL
Stamford ware	STAM
St Neots type ware	NEOT
Thetford type ware	THET
Unknown	UNK

### Methodology

The trenches were machine excavated with further excavation carried out by hand and selection made through standard sampling procedures on a feature by feature basis. There are not expected to be any inherent biases. Where bulk samples have been processed for environmental remains, there has been some recovery of pottery.

The basic guidance in *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) has been adhered to along with the MPRG documents (MPRG 1998 and 2001). *Guidance for the processing and publication of medieval pottery from excavations* (Blake and Davey, 1983) acts as a standard.

Spot dating was carried out using CAM ARC's in-house system based on that used at the Museum of London. Fabric classification has been carried out for all previously described types. New types have been given descriptive identifiers. All sherds have been counted, classified and weighed. Sherds warranting possible illustration have been identified, as have possible cross-fits.

All the pottery has been spot dated on a context by context basis and this information is presented in Table 1.

CAM ARC curates the pottery and archive until formal deposition of the site archive.

### **Results of Assessment**

Numbers of sherds represented are as follows, by general period:

Middle Saxon	7
Late Saxon	10
Saxo-Norman	3
Medieval	24
Late medieval	1
Post-medieval	2
Unknown	1

At approximately 20g the average sherd weight is high and this, coupled with the even spread of sherd weight across the periods represented, suggests an assemblage without much secondary re-working. In contrast, however, all of the Middle Saxon sherds are residual, the earliest context spot-dates being late Saxon.

### **Interpretation and Conclusions**

It is important to note that the range of Middle to late Saxon material seen here is not typical of Ely's waterfront and this adds to growing evidence for activity in this zone in periods perhaps before the putative river re-cutting of the 10th or early 12th century (Cessford *et al* 2006).

The assemblage is otherwise unsurprising in that after c. AD 1150 it is dominated by Ely wares which are known to have been made a short distance away from this site (Spoerry in press).

The assemblage is small, has no complete vessels, and full statistical analysis is not viable.

No preservation bias has been recognised and no long-term storage problems are likely. The assemblage offers little potential for further study.

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Context	EMSAX (AD 650-850)		IPSW (AD 725-850)		NEOT (AD 850-1150)		THET (AD 875-1150)		GTHET (AD 1000-1200)		STAM (AD 875-1150)		DEST (AD 1150-1250)		MEL (AD 1150-1350)		LMEL (AD 1350-1500)		PMEL (AD 1500-1600)		UNK		Context Date (AD)		
	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)			
2															1	35								1350-1500	
4											2	15	1	19	7	104	1	5	2	30	1	5		1500-1600	
5	3	13			2	15	4	93	3	39														1000-1150	
8			1	39											5	138								1150-1350	
9											1	12			6	153								1200-1350	
10	1	16	1	15			1	5																850-900	
11			1	24											4	75								1150-1350	
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	

Table 1: The pottery quantified by fabric type, occurrence and weight

## **Appendix 4: Faunal Remains**

by Chris Faine

### **Introduction**

A total of 39 “countable” bones were recovered with 16 fragments being unidentifiable to species (41% of the total sample). Faunal remains were obtained from 7 contexts. The condition of the assemblage is extremely good, with the majority of fragmentation being attributed to butchery rather than any taphonomic processes.

### **Methodology**

All elements identifiable to species and over 25% complete were included in the quantification. 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. Tooth wear was assessed using Grant (1982). Completeness was assessed in terms of percentage and zones present (after Dobney & Reilly, 1988). Initially the whole identifiable assemblage was quantified in terms of number of individual fragments (NISP) and minimum numbers of individuals MNI.

Any instances of butchery were also noted and recorded. The type of lesion, its position, severity and direction were all noted. The presence of any further taphonomy, i.e. burning, gnawing etc was also noted.

### **The Assemblage**

The largest numbers of fragments were obtained from context 4. These consisted of portions of adult pig mandible from an individual around 2 to 2 ½ years of age. Further pig remains were recovered in the form of a left ilium and humerus, again from adult animals. The humerus showed evidence of butchery at the proximal end, possibly indicating disarticulation of the carcass at the shoulder joint.

Context 5 contained further pig remains in the form of an unfused distal tibia. Sheep/goat remains were also recovered from this context, in the form of a butchered left mandible from an animal aged around 4 to 6 years old, and a butchered distal tibia. A portion of butchered cattle metacarpal and calcaneus were also recovered from this context. The cattle metacarpal showed evidence of gnawing around the proximal

break. Very few faunal remains were recovered from context 8 apart from two butchered medial cattle ribs.

Context 9 contained butchered pig femur and cervical vertebra along with a single portion of cattle humerus. Cattle remains were also recovered from context 10. These consisted of a butchered shaft of a femur and a portion of mandible from an animal around 1 ½ years of age. Portions of butchered cattle and sheep/goat radius were recovered from context 11.

Faunal material was also recovered from subsoil context 2. These consisted of butchered portions of cattle radius ulna and ribs along with a sheep/goat metatarsal.

### Conclusion

Unfortunately few conclusions can be drawn from such a small and fragmentary assemblage, with the remains most likely representing scattered domestic or butchery waste.

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- |                        |      |   |
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## Appendix 5: Environmental Remains

by Rachel Fosberry

### Introduction and Methods

Five bulk samples were taken from across the evaluated area 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.

Up to twenty 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 and the presence of any plant remains or other artefacts are noted in Table 2.

### Results

The results are recorded in Table 2.

Sample Number	Context Number	Cut Number	Flot contents	Residue contents
1	5	7	Wheat grains, charcoal, fishscale	Mussel shells, animal bone, fishbone, pottery
2	6	7	Waterlogged rootlets	Mussel shells, animal bone
3	4	3	Wheat grains, charcoal, fishscale	Mussel shells, animal bone, fishbone, pottery
4	8	3	Wheat grains, charcoal,	Mussel shells, animal bone, fishbone, pottery
5	11	12	Wheat grains, charcoal, fishscale and fishbone	Mussel shells, animal bone, fishbone, pottery, eggshell

Table 2: Environmental Samples

Preservation is by charring in all of the samples except Sample 2 (context 6), which is preserved by waterlogging. The other four samples are remarkably similar in appearance and content. Mussel shells (*Mytilus* sp.) are found in all of the samples in quantities of up to 15 apices. Fish bones are common as is fish scale. Charred plant remains are rare and are only represented by charred grains, most of which are identified as wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains.

### **Conclusions and Recommendations**




The plant remains recovered from these samples are dominated by cereal grains. Although they are present in small quantities, they do indicate that cereals were being locally utilised, although possibly not to any great extent. These grains, along with other dietary remains, namely animal bone, fishbone and mussels, are probably derived from low-density deposits of domestic refuse and/or hearth waste.

The low density of plant remains from the site is essentially uninformative, and is not considered to merit full analysis. Further analysis of the present samples is not recommended.




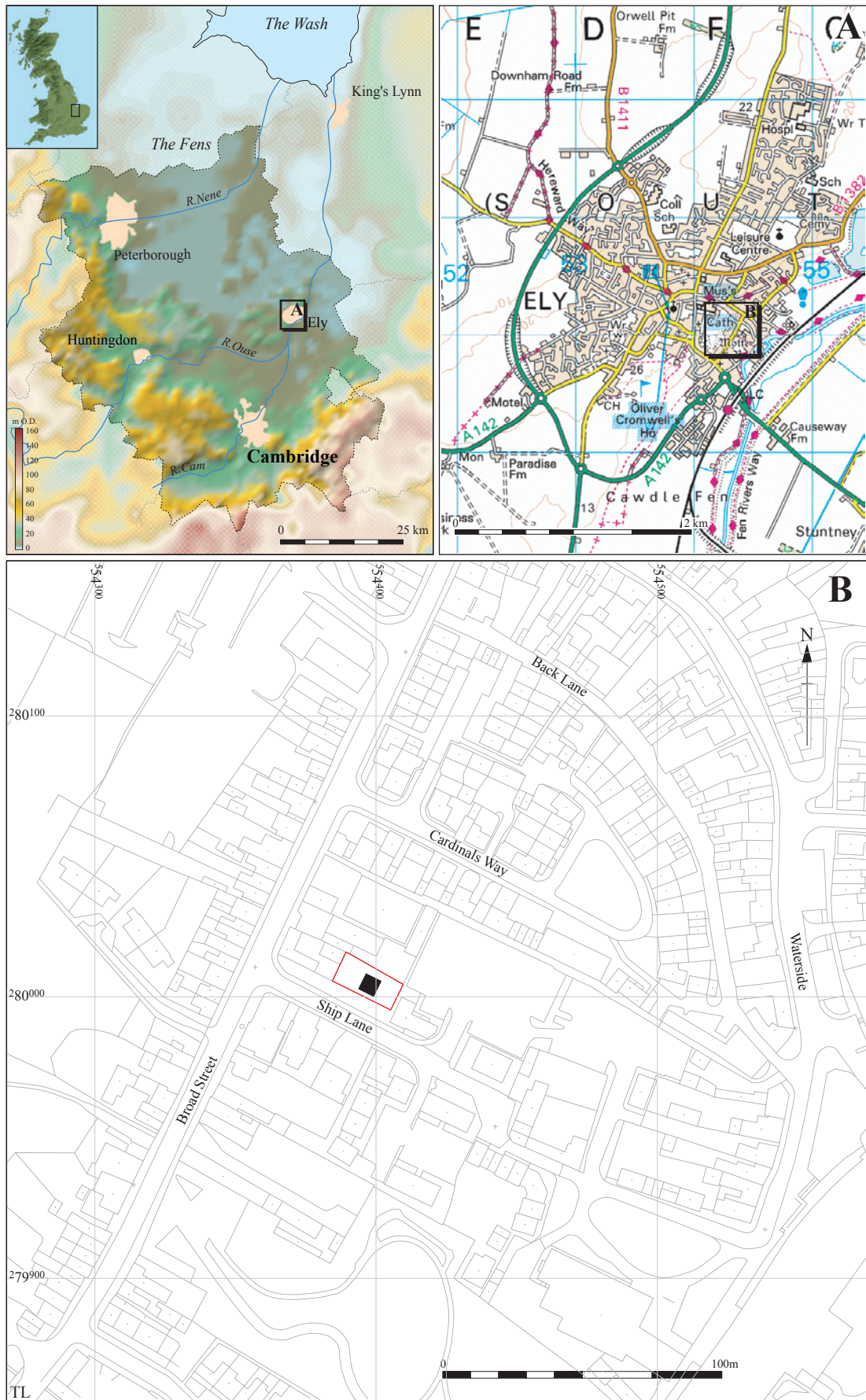
## Drawing Conventions

### Plans

Limit of Excavation	_____
Deposit - Conjectured	-----
Natural Features	_____
Sondages/Machine Strip	- - - - -
Intrusion/Truncation	.....
Illustrated Section	<u>S.14</u>
Archaeological Deposit	
Excavated Slot	
Modern Deposit	
Cut Number	<b>118</b>

### Sections

Limit of Excavation	-----
Cut	_____
Cut-Conjectured	-----
Deposit Horizon	_____
Deposit Horizon - Conjectured	-----
Intrusion/Truncation	.....
Top Surface/Top of Natural	_____
Break in Section/ Limit of Section Drawing	- - - - -
Cut Number	<b>118</b>
Deposit Number	117
Ordnance Datum	18.45m OD ^
Inclusions	



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

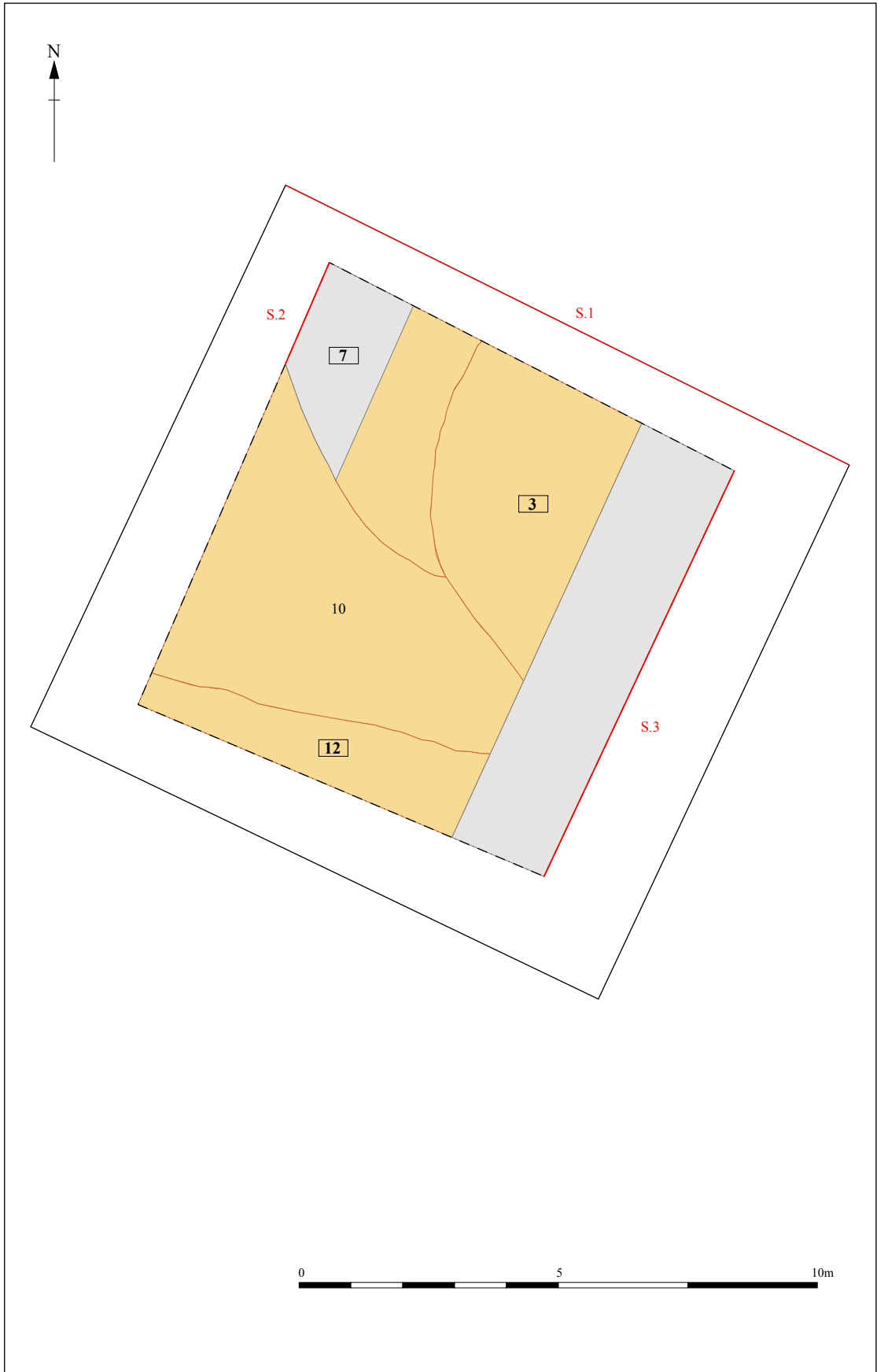


Figure 2: Trench plan

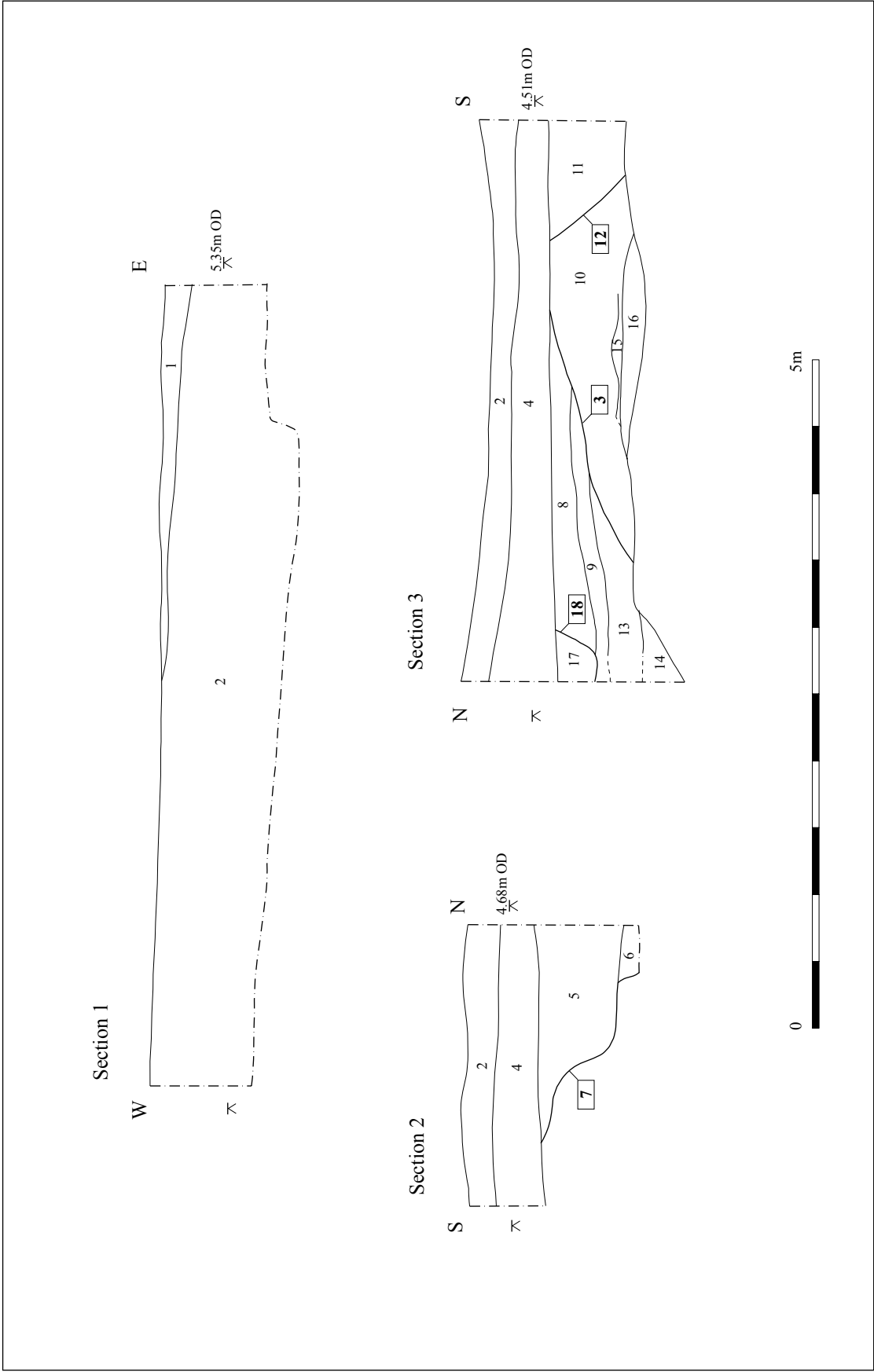


Figure 3: Sections

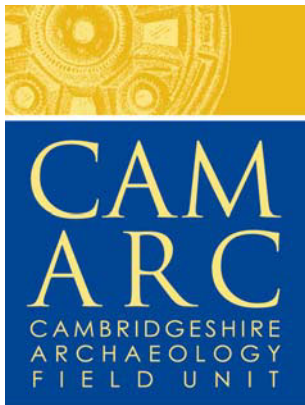




*Plate 1: Pre-excavation shot of trench, looking west*



*Plate 2: Section 3*



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