cambridgeshire archaeology
archaeological field unit

CAM ARC Report Number 983

Land to the West of St. Peter's Church, Papworth, Cambridgeshire:

An Archaeological Evaluation

Thomas Lyons

January 2008

Cambridgeshire County Council
Environment & Community Services

Commissioned by Anglian Water

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With contributions by **Carole Fletcher BA AIFA**
Rachel Fosberry HNC (Cert Ed) AEA

Site Code: PEV AWP 07
CHER Event Number: ECB 2766
Date of works: 15 – 25/10/2007
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Status			
Author	Thomas Lyons		
Checked By	Paul Spoerry		
Authorised By	Paul Spoerry		

Editor: Elizabeth Popescu BA PhD MIFA
Illustrators: Louise Bush MA
Severine Bezie MA

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PROJECT DETAILS				
Project name	Land to the West of St. Peter's Church, Papworth, Cambridgeshire: An Archaeological Evaluation			
Short description	150m of trial trenching between St. Peter's Church and Cow Brook revealed Late Saxon ditches and a cobbled surface at the base of the slope near the brook, as well as more ditches and a possible hollow way further up the hill near the church.			
Project dates	Start	15/10/07	End	25/10/07
Previous work	ECB 2766		Future work	yes
Associated project reference codes	PEV AWP 07 ECB 2766			
Type of project	Evaluation			
Site status	None			
Current land use (list all that apply)				
Planned development	Foul sewer			
Monument types / period (list all that apply)				
Significant finds: Artefact type / period (list all that apply)	Pottery: Late Saxon Early Medieval			
PROJECT LOCATION				
County	Cambridgeshire	Parish	Papworth	
HER for region	Cambridgeshire			
Site address (including postcode)	Church Lane, Papworth CB23 3QN			
Study area (sq.m or ha)				
National grid reference	TL 2815 6271			
Height OD	Min OD	34	Max OD	43
PROJECT ORIGINATORS				
Organisation	CAM ARC			
Project brief originator				
Project design originator	Richard Mortimer			
Director/supervisor	Thomas Lyons			
Project manager	Paul Spoerry			
Sponsor or funding body	Anglian Water			
ARCHIVES	**Location and accession number**		**Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone, database, context sheets etc)**	
Physical			Pottery	
Paper			CAM ARC ceramic report	
Digital			List contents and format of archive materials e.g. ceramic specialist report.	
BIBLIOGRAPHY				
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Summary

Between the 15th and 25th of October 2007 CAM ARC conducted an archaeological evaluation on a proposed foul sewer route on the west side of Papworth Everard, between Cow Brook and St. Peter's Church. A total of 110m of trial trenching was excavated to the north-west of the church, lying between 35mOD at the bottom of the slope and 43mOD close to the brow of the hill. Evidence for Late Saxon and Early medieval activity, in the form of ditches and a cobbled surface, was identified and recorded. On higher ground to the south of the Church a Medieval hollow way was found as well as evidence for Medieval or Post Medieval enclosure.

Contents

List of Figures

List of Plates

List of Appendices

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, 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 boulder clay (British Geological Survey 1993). A hilltop lies between the site and Ermine Street to the east, with its highest point at 56m OD. It extends north-westwards as a spur at 50m OD, to the parish church overlooking the Cow Brook, from where the valley side slopes steeply down to the brook at 35m OD.

The site location is TL 2815 6271.

3 Archaeological and Historical Background

3.1 Prehistoric

Early prehistoric finds are few in the Papworth Everard area. These are mainly represented by lithic stray finds, i.e. a late Neolithic polished axe *c.* 1km to the south of the village, and flint arrowheads and scrapers exposed during ploughing in the village in the 1940s.

The later prehistoric period is better represented. Recent excavations and aerial photographic re-assessments have revealed evidence for settlement on the heavy clay soils that had previously gone undetected through traditional air reconnaissance and chance discovery. In particular, sparse evidence for Bronze Age/Iron Age seasonal and transient occupation in the form of cooking pits containing burnt flint and stone emerged during investigations conducted in the 'South-east

Quadrant' of the village, off Ermine Street (Alexander 1998). Further to the east and north, trenching revealed the presence of a Bronze Age/Early Iron Age more permanent settlement (Kenney 2000; HER 13049). This latter consisted of a beam slot, a posthole, and the base of an hearth indicating the presence of structures within a large circular enclosure, two parallel ditches outside the main enclosure may have represented droveways, possibly associated with a separate use of the enclosure for livestock holding.

The distribution of known finds may suggest that occupation in the earlier prehistoric period was mainly confined to the well-drained gravels of the river valleys. However, there is growing evidence for Bronze Age/Early Iron Age activity on marginal heavy clay soils in Cambridgeshire. This is a trend observed elsewhere in Britain, which may point to increased pressure on land from the later Neolithic period.

With reference to Cambridgeshire, recent excavations on the Boulder Clay at Caldecote have produced evidence for a multiphase Iron Age farmstead complex which may have continued into the Roman period (Kenney, Forthcoming CAM ARC Report). This pattern of use has been confirmed by excavations in Cambourne (Wessex Archaeology, 2003) and St Neots (Loves Farm), (Hinman *et al*, forthcoming) where Iron Age sites, including complex and long lived structures seem to have been part of an organised landscape of economically specialised settlements, set within an agricultural hinterland of well defined and organised bounded fields, droveways and enclosures. Both of these sites also showed that the area under study was under some limited and less intensive use during the Bronze age, and that this use became more substantial and intensive during the Iron Age, with the settlements expanding and becoming even more intensively used in the Romano-British period.

3.2 Roman

The main feature of the Roman landscape is represented by Ermine Street that connected London (*Londinium*) to York (*Eboracum*). The projected course of the road runs northwards between Braughing and Godmanchester (*Durovigutum*) through Papworth Everard (Margary 1973). Roman forts (e.g. Cambridge-*Durolipons*, Godmanchester-*Durovigutum*) were established in the late first century along this route. At a later stage *vici* and *mansiones* developed around the forts that, by then, had become redundant.

Despite the presence of Ermine Street, few Roman finds were known from the Papworth Everard area until the evaluation (and subsequent excavation) of the Papworth Bypass site (Hounsell, Forthcoming CAM ARC Report No. 971) and of the Summerfield development (Pocock, 2007). Cropmarks of the Iron Age, Roman and Saxon features

revealed by the Summerfield evaluation are visible on aerial photographs in areas where ridge and furrow is less prominent.

The various excavations in the area, mentioned above, have confirmed the presence of Iron Age sites continuing into the Roman period.

3.3 Saxon and Medieval

Saxon Papworth remains elusive and no artefacts of this period are known in the area, despite a possible hundred or Wapentake meeting place having been located off Ermine Street, some 0.5km north of the present village core. During recent fieldwalking a single sherd of hand-made Saxon pottery was recovered some 0.5km to the south-east of St Peter's Church (HER 11833).

Papworth (Pappeworda) is recorded in the Domesday survey (AD 1086) as a manor including Papworth Wood east of Papworth Hall (below), now a nature reserve. It was held in demesne by Count Alan, lord of Richmond. The place-name derives from the person name *Pappa* and *worp* meaning *'Pappa's enclosure'*, possible the same Pappa after which Papley Grove in Eltisley was named. Everard derives from Evrard de Beche (Reaney 1943, 171) who was lord of the manor in the twelfth century.

The manor remained in honour of Richmond until the seventeenth century (VCH 1989, 359 ff.). The location of the manor house is uncertain. It is traditionally identified with a large moated site depicted on the Enclosure Map of 1815/1826 and on the Tithe Map of 1844 in the grounds of Papworth Hall HER 0921), to the east of Ermine Street. However, no medieval finds were recovered from this site during excavations in 1970 (VCH 1989, 361).

Other possible locations for the manor house are two smaller moats, SMR 1050 and 1051, of which little is now visible above ground. The former is located in the grounds of Fir Tree Farm, some 100m to the north of the thirteenth century church of St Peter. The latter moat lies further away, 0.5km south of the Church, off Ermine Street and is visible as a wooded depression. Both sites are known from cartographic evidence, being depicted on the Enclosure Map of 1815/26 (HER 1051) and on the Tithe Map of 1825/1844 (HER 1050). A fourth moated site is located near Papley Grove Farm in the parish of Eltisley (HER 1049). Earthwork remains associated with the latter include a fishpond.

The church of St Peter (HER 02468), refurbished in the course of the seventeenth and twentieth centuries, is thought to have represented the focus of the medieval settlement that grew west of Ermine Street. The HER reports that Earthwork remains of a shrunken village survive either side of a steep valley south of the Church and around a spring. In addition a hollow way c. 1m deep has been identified running along

the southern boundary of the graveyard heading westwards and down hill towards the spring and stream crossing (HER 02469). Earthwork remains of a shrunken village and a hollow way *c*. 1m high along the southern boundary of the graveyard partially survive on either sides of a steep valley south of the church and around a spring (HER 02469).

During the Middle Ages most of the land in the parish was open fields subdivided into furlongs. Ridge and furrow still survive around Papworth as earthwork remains and cropmarks visible on aerial photographs (e.g. HER 02525, 02527, 05753). South of the hollow way (above) twelfth-fourteenth century sherds of pottery have been found. Further (undated) irregular earthworks (HER 11253) are visible in the open pasture area in front of the church. Finally, earthwork remains survive in the front gardens of Papworth Hall (HER 11252). These include possible sections of ridge and furrow and a platform.

By the late sixteenth century the arable land was divided into three open fields, Southbrook Field, Crabbush (later Woodbrook field and Hamden (later Londonbrook) Field (VCH 1989, 362).

The 1815/1826 Enclosure Map shows scattered ancient closes between Ermine Street and the turnpike road to the west, i.e. in the area of the medieval settlement. The pre-enclosure 'allotments' probably date to the late medieval/early post-medieval period. They consist of linear boundaries some of which, as in the case of the 'Rector's Allotments,' are likely to be associated with established properties. Circular enclosures may represent reclaimed wooded areas that were cleared during the thirteenth and fourteenth century due to growth in the size of the population.

3.4 Post-medieval and Modern

The post-medieval settlement developed along the Old North Road (Ermine Street) that was first turnpiked in 1663. Tollgates were set up and travellers charged for use of the road to cover the costs of its maintenance. The first tollgate was erected on the Papworth Everard/Caxton boundary and later moved to Arrington Bridge (VCH 1989, 357; Parker 1977, *passim*).

Few post-medieval houses survive in Papworth Everard. Papworth Hall (HER 02443) was completed at the beginning of the nineteenth century. It was built as a two-storey square building within the setting of a landscaped park. After witnessing the changing fortunes of two owners, the Hall was occupied by the Cambridgeshire Tuberculosis colony. The establishment of the colony transformed the face of the village. Renamed 'Papworth Village Settlement' in 1927, it brought staff, patients and families into the area. During the nineteenth-twentieth century new accommodation was built, and light industry for wood carving, leather manufacture, and book-binding introduced.

Amenities such as a village hall, a theatre and a sports ground were also provided (VCH 1989, passim).

3.5 Previous archaeological work

There have been two recent, large-scale archaeological interventions in the vicinity of the site: the excavation of the route of the Papworth Bypass which runs to the west and south, and the evaluation for the Summerfield development. Below are summaries of these two sites.

3.5.1 Papworth Bypass

Excavations conducted by CAM ARC in 2006 to the west of Papworth along the route of the bypass revealed substantial prehistoric archaeology (Hounsell, forthcoming). At the south end of the bypass, on the bank of the Cow Brook, was a large Middle Bronze Age cremation cemetery, sealed beneath a metre of alluvium. Excavation revealed 39 cremations, some urned, and a number of associated features such as ash dumps and post holes.

Across the rest of the area was the remains of a substantial Mid to Late Iron Age field system which, based on the density and location of finds, appeared to lie close to an associated settlement, at the north eastern end of the excavation area. In addition to these field boundaries a number of seemingly isolated structural features were identified at the southern end of the excavation (a large possible post pit and a number of beam-slotted short linear ditches, one of which was clay lined). These occupied the top of a hill overlooking the rest of the site. The function of these features was unclear.

The occupation of the site continued into the early Roman period with a number of the earlier Iron Age field boundaries being maintained, and new ones being established.

Medieval ridge and furrow and modern plough scars were recorded along much of the bypass route.

3.5.2 Summersfield development

In 2006 Essex County Council Archaeological Field Unit conducted an archaeological evaluation on a proposed housing development on the south-western edge of Papworth Everard (Pocock, 2007). Discussion of this evaluation is included in this report, which will be directly referred to in the text as 'ECC Evaluation'.

Residual Mesolithic flints suggest seasonal activity on the hilltop immediately southeast of St Peter's church and remains of a probable Middle Iron Age settlement were recorded further to the southeast.

There was some evidence for Late Iron Age and Roman occupation, with the most intensive Roman activity in the late Roman period. A late

Roman enclosure, with some evidence for structures and domestic occupation, was recoded on the spur of the hilltop southeast of the church. Further Late Roman ditches, perhaps stock enclosures, were found at the far south of the development area

The late Roman enclosure in the north-west of the site appears to have been re-used in the Late Saxon period, although with no evidence of any internal activity. Further Late Saxon features to the north of the enclosure may represent an area of settlement, and a major boundary (an extension of the southern edge of the churchyard) may have originated in the Late Saxon period.

Medieval ridge-and-furrow cultivation was recorded over the entire site area. Medieval activity at the edges of the ridge and furrow included possible stock enclosures south of the church and a windmill on the highest point of the hilltop, next to Ermine Street. The area was enclosed in 1818.

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

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

Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which 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.

Where colluvium was present machine dug Sondages were used to find the level of the natural geology. These were dug where it was safe, practical and useful to do so and were then backfilled as soon as possible.

Environmental samples were taken along with two column samples.

Much of the excavation and recording of the trenches was hindered by heavy rain and standing water. A two inch pump was used on site for

most of the project. Cleaning of features and trench bases took longer than usual and in some cases, Trenches 4 and 6a&b, was almost impossible. Machining and section observation and drawing was also made more difficult by the bright and low sunlight which also resulted in poor photographic conditions.

5 Results

All trenches were machined with a 1.6m toothless bucket. In all trenches colluvium was discovered. This consisted of redeposited natural clay which, it is assumed, accumulated as a gradual result of agricultural exploitation of higher land to the south and east of St. Peter's Church. This colluvium often looked like (natural) geology but was identified by its softer consistency. The character, depth and thickness of this material was different in each trench and is described accordingly.

5.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was located at the southern end of the current development area to the south of St. Peter's Church and oriented north-south.

It was 30m long and machined to a depth of 0.45m where colluvium (108) was encountered beneath subsoil (101) and topsoil (100). Two archaeological features truncated it, ditches **105** and **103**. A Sondage was excavated by machine at the north end of the trench to ascertain the full depth of colluvial material 108 and find the base of ditch **105**.

Deposit 108 was a compact brown silty clay deposit. It contained frequent small chalk flecks and in appearance was similar to the natural geology. It was encountered beneath subsoil and was excavated in Sondage 1 to a depth of 1.6m where natural boulder clay was reached.

Ditches

Ditch **105** was 6.5m wide and 1.15m deep. It was aligned north-east south-west. Its fill (104) was a pale brown redeposited clay, the top of which was dark and appeared relatively modern. It contained Post-medieval tile and pottery.

Feature **103** was 0.15m deep and 1.3m wide and contained no dateable material. It was aligned north-east south-west and filled by a pale brown clay.

5.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was located towards the southern end of the current development area, immediately south-west of St. Peter's Church and oriented north-south.

It was 22m long and machined to a depth of 0.36m where colluvium (202) was encountered. Three Sondages were excavated to find natural geology beneath this material. Two were excavated by machine, at each end of the trench (Sondages 1 and 3), and a third, Sondage 2, was excavated by hand in the middle of the trench (Plates 3 & 4). No archaeological features were found truncating deposit 202.

Sondages

Sondage 1 (Section 250; Plate 4) was excavated to a depth of 1.7m where natural boulder clay was encountered. Beneath further layers of Medieval and Post-medieval colluvium (202, 203 & 208) feature **211** was found. This contained two waterlogged clay fill deposits (209 & 210). These deposits were present in plan at the base of the Sondage until natural boulder clay began to rise up to the south, as if at the edge of a cut. No dateable material was found in either deposit. (A vertical column sample (6) was taken at the base of this Sondage containing **207**, **208**, and **209**.)

Sondage 2 (Section 251; Plate 3) was excavated to a depth of 1.3m, initially by machine then by hand. Natural was reached at the base (206). Three further deposits of colluvium were recorded in section (203, 204 & 205). 205 was a dark brown, friable silty clay. 204 was a mixed deposit of pale brown and grey redeposited clay. 203 was the largest deposit and similar to 205. It was between 0.5m and 0.75m deep and equivalent to deposit 207 in Sondage 1. 203 contained a copper alloy button of probable Eighteenth Century date. This material appeared to be relatively modern and deposited as single event in contrast to deposits 202, 204 & 206 which seem to have resulted from a more gradual process.

Sondage 3, at the south end of the trench, was excavated to a depth of 1.7m where natural boulder clay was reached. Beneath the topsoil (200) was a single layer of redeposited clay colluvuim that was approximately 1.5m deep.

5.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was located to the west of St. Peter's Church on the steepest part of the west facing slope towards Cow Brook and was oriented

north-west south-east. It was adjacent to several earthworks visible on the surface.

It was 13m long and machined to a maximum depth of 0.85m where colluvium (301) was encountered beneath the topsoil (300). This was a brown and pale brown redeposited silty clay. Four archaeological features were revealed to be truncating this colluvium. These were all broadly north-south oriented ditches.

Ditches

Ditch **303** was 1m wide and 0.13m deep. It was filled by a silty clay fill (302) which contained eight sherds of 13th to mid 14th Century pottery.

Ditch **305** was 1.1m wide and 0.29m deep. It was filled by a silty clay fill (304) which contained nine sherds of mid 13th to mid 14th Century pottery.

Ditch **307** was 2m wide and 0.52m deep. It was filled by a pale silty clay fill (306) which contained one pot sherd of unknown date.

Ditch **309** was only partially visible in plan at the east end of the trench immediately adjacent to **307**. Its alignment was not clear. It was 0.4m deep and contained no finds.

5.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 was located to the west of St. Peter's Church at the bottom of the west-facing slope, adjacent to Cow Brook, and was oriented north-south.

It was 7m long and machined to a depth of 0.9m, where a grey clay colluvial deposit was encountered (402). Natural geology was reached at the south end of the trench in a hand dug Sondage.

Archaeology was present in the west facing section (section 450). Immediately above colluvium 402 was a dark greyish brown silty clay deposit, 403. This appeared to be a fill although a cut for any feature(s) could not be identified. The boundary between 402 and 403 fluctuated in height indicating the presence of more than one archaeological feature. The boundary between 403 and subsoil 401 above was very indistinct. Post-medieval pottery was recovered from the subsoil (401) and five small unabraded sherds of mid 13th Century to mid 14th Century pottery were found in deposit 402.

Excavation and interpretation in Trench 4 were constantly hampered by flooding and excess groundwater.

5.5 Trench 5

Trench 5 was located towards the northern end of the current development area at the bottom of the slope to the north and west of St. Peter's Church. It was oriented north-south and was parallel to Cow Brook. Several subtle earthworks were visible along the course of the trench and in the grass immediately to the east.

It was 24.5m long and machined to a maximum depth of 0.65m, where colluvium (519) was reached and archaeology was visible. Natural geology was reached at 0.7m in a hand dug sondage. Four ditches were recorded in the northern half of the trench and a cobbled surface was recorded at the south end (Plate 2). Between ditches **505** and **507** some large stones (up to 0.4m wide) were found beneath the topsoil; as a matter of caution they were left in place which accounts for the step in the trench.

Cobbled Surface

Across the southern ten metres of the trench a cobbled surface (502, Plate 2) was revealed and cleaned by hand. This surface was inconsistent, with stones varying in size and density, the largest being 0.3m across. It had been truncated by two modern service trenches and appeared to continue beneath the west facing baulk but petered out in all other directions. Cleaning by trowel over 502 produced 33 sherds of pottery which was dated to the 14th Century (cleaning context 518).

Ditches

At the centre of the trench was a large area of fill on a north-west south-east alignment. Upon excavation this proved to consist of at least three intercutting ditches, **505**, **507** and **516**. At the north end of the trench was Ditch **514.**

Ditch **505** was 0.75m wide and 0.15m deep. It was orientated north-west south-east. Only its western edge was visible in plan. It was filled by a silty clay fill which contained two sherds of diagnostic 12th Century pottery.

Ditch **507** was 1.75m wide and 0.13m deep. It was orientated north-north-east south-south-west. Only its northern edge was visible in plan, the other side was indistinguishable from the fill of Ditch **505**. It was filled by a silty clay which contained 13th Century pottery.

Ditch **516** was a subtle recut of **507** and was 0.6m wide and 0.13m deep, although only its northern edge was visible in plan. It was filled by a single silty clay fill which contained no dateable material.

Ditch **514** was 0.75m wide and 0.2m deep (Section 550). It was orientated east-west and contained two fills. The lower fill (513) was a light brown silty clay and the upper fill (512) was a dark brown silty clay. 513 contained five relatively unabraded sherds of mid to late 12th Century pottery.

5.6 Trench 6a

Trench 6a was located at the northern end of the current development area and orientated north-south, parallel to Cow Brook.

It was 3m long and machined to a depth of 0.65m. Topsoil (600) was 0.15m thick and subsoil (601) was 0.2m thick. Beneath the subsoil was thick clay colluvium. No archaeological features were encountered. An extant electricity cable was disturbed by the machine bucket in the north-east corner of the trench.

5.7 Trench 6b

Trench 6b was located at the northern end of the current development area and was orientated north-south.

It was 5m long and machined to a maximum depth of 0.95m (Section 650). Topsoil (600) was 0.14m thick and subsoil (601) was 0.34m thick. Natural geology was reached by hand not far beneath the machined level. Archaeological deposits were recorded in section as light conditions during machining made visibility difficult in plan. Two features were recorded: a buried turf or topsoil horizon, 602, and ditch **605**.

Ditch **605** was recorded at the south end of section 650. It ran obliquely across the line of Trench 6b on a broadly south-west north-east alignment. Its fill (606) was present in section at the north facing end of the trench, and at the far south end of the opposite section face.

Immediately beneath the subsoil was buried turf or topsoil horizon 602 (Section 650). This was 0.2m thick and overlay another colluvial horizon, 603. It was present in all sides of the trench apart from the north facing end where it had been truncated by Ditch **605**.

Two sherds of pottery were recovered from the section of Trench 6b. These came from subsoil 601 and buried turf 602. They both date from the 10th to late 12th Centuries.

6 Discussion

All archaeology either truncated or was on top of a colluvial soil which is deepest near St. Peter's Church around Trenches 1 and 2. This

deeper colluvium probably represents natural soil creep down the south-west facing hillside, accentuated by medieval (or later) ploughing evidenced by furrows recorded in Trenches 43 and 47 of the Essex CC evaluation (Fig.5). In contrast, the colluvial material closer to Cow Brook (in Trenches 3, 4, 5 & 6) has 12th to 14th Century features cut through it so is definitely medieval.

6.1 Trenches 1, 3, 4, 5, 6a & 6b

Trench 1

Ditch **105** (It is likely that it is part of a Post Medieval enclosure shown on an 1818 enclosure map (Fig 6).)

Ditch **103** (It was probably a furrow as it's orientation matches the furrows recorded further to the north-east (Pocock, 2007)

Trench 5

Spot dating of the pottery suggests medieval activity between the C12th and C14th with some residual C10th pottery. Ditches **505** and **507** run broadly parallel up the slope in a south-east north-west direction, between Cow Brook and the Church. Pottery in their fills has been dated to the C12th and C13th, respectively and **507** probably replaced **505**. It is likely that these ditches represent a route between the Church and a crossing point over the Brook, which was then augmented or replaced by a cobbled surface over flooded or boggy ground. (It possibly represents an external yard surface connected to domestic activity in the immediate vicinity. Alternatively, it lead to, or was part of a crossing point over, Cow Brook.)

Trench 3

Trench 3 contained three ditches (303, 305 & 307) on slightly different alignments but all were roughly east-west. Pottery from their fills is of C13th to C14th date (with a single sherd in 307 being conceivably C12th). These are likely to have been boundary ditches surrounding the Church or part of a route around it.

Trench 4

Due to the relatively small length of Trench 4 it is difficult to make conclusive interpretations. It is possible that the trench had cut obliquely across, or along the length of, as yet, unidentified archaeological feature(s).

6.2 'Hollow way'

The Cambridgehsire HER includes a medieval hollow way on the southern boundary of the churchyard, 30ft wide and 260ft long (CHER monument no. 02469, Plate 1). A boundary dated to the Late Saxon period was found on this alignment to the east of St. Peter's Church (TL283 626) during evaluations conducted by Essex County Council (Fig 5, **505**). It is possible that feature **211** in Sondage 1, Trench 2 represents either a continuation of the Late Saxon boundary ditch or is the base of the Hollow Way, only buried beneath a greater depth of colluvium and spoil material. Either way these two previously observed landscape features are likely to be two aspects of the same phenomena: a long lived churchyard enclosure and a route aligned around it. It is pertinent to consider whether feature **211** turns north and runs along the west side of St. Peter's Church, as suggested at the base of sondage 1, Trench 2 as if this is the case it perhaps represents the continuation of a route around the churchyard enclosure, running down the slope towards the putative stream crossing.

Two C19th maps (Fig 6 & 7) show the boundary of St. Peter's Church following the line of the hollow way then turning north around the west side of the present churchyard. Immediately west of the churchyard is a path or 'terrace' before the land drops steeply down to Cow Brook. Only further excavation can reveal the date of the feature in Sondage 1, Trench 2 and whether it turns around the Church or continues east down the slope towards Cow Brook.

An 1818 enclosure map shows a subrectangular enclosure to the south of St. Peter's Church on an east-west alignment running down the slope (Fig 6). This boundary was found in the furthest north-western trench of the ECC Evaluation (Trench 47, Fig 5) and its northern return was found in Trench 1: Ditch **105** contained Post-medieval and modern material. This enclosure is a probable Post-medieval stock enclosure. It's ditch was also visible on site as a subtle earthwork further down the slope immediately south of Trench 1 (TL 282 625). By the time of the first edition OS in the 1860s (Fig. 5) this enclosure was no longer in use. Therefore it is plausible to posit a (deliberate) backfilling of this enclosure in the mid 19th Century. This infilling may also be used to account for the thick deposit found in Trench 2 (**203** and **207**). This material appears too dark and friable to have accumulated as a result of slow colluvial processes (like **202**) so might have resulted from 19th Century activity around the church boundary, perhaps to level an existing earthwork.

The 1825 Tithe map (Fig 7) shows a trackway leading from the south east corner of the St. Peter's Churchyard boundary, which is respected

by 19th Century field boundaries (Dickens, 1998; Fig 2). This path seems to enclose the most substantial archaeology discovered in the ECC Evaluation (Pocock, 2007; Area F, Fig 3) and follow the natural contour line. The ECC evaluation revealed probable ditches on and close to this alignment; in Trenches 48 and 51 two linear features were dated 'Late Iron Age/Roman' and 'Roman to Saxon', **444** and **240**, respectively. It is conceivable that this trackway is Medieval and respects a boundary surrounding earlier Saxon settlement to the south east of St. Peter's Church.

As well as a possible continuation of the Saxon boundary to the east of the Church (Fig 5, **505**), this area also provided evidence for Saxon settlement in the form of ditches, gullies and a pit which is perhaps the best evidence to date for the Saxon origins of Papworth (Pocock 2007, 54). However these trenches revealed no evidence for medieval settlement archaeology and only plough furrows on an east-west orientation, which are presumably Medieval or Post-medieval.

7 Conclusions

Evaluation has revealed the presence of archaeological features dating from the Medieval period between St. Peter's Church and Cow Brook, specifically the 12th to 14th Centuries. The full extent of this archaeology has not been ascertained although much of the land immediately to the west of the church contains earthworks (HER 11253). All recorded archaeology truncates colluvium; the depth of this is known in Trenches 1, 2 and 4 but not in Trenches 3, 5 and 6b, where it conceivably seals further archaeological deposits.

The archaeology recorded consists of ditches and a cobbled surface; no structural remains or house platforms were encountered. Preservation levels are generally good, the exception being two service trenches revealed in Trench 5, as well as two high current electicity cables located by CAT scanner which presumably truncate much of the archaeology to the east of Cow Brook (HER 11253). There was no visible plough disturbance and archaeology was present not far beneath the topsoil in Trench 5. Closer to the Church was revealed the base of an as yet unidentified feature (**211**) which is possibly either a Medieval Hollow way or earlier ditch. This was sealed by large deposits of colluvium, probably of Medieval and Post Medieval date.

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

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Anglian Water who commissioned and funded the archaeological work. The project was managed by Paul Spoerry and significant input was given by Richard Mortimer in the excavation and post excavation stages. Chris Montague and James Fairbairn assisted with the fieldwork.

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

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Appendix 1: Post Roman Pottery

by Carole Fletcher BA AIFA

1 Introduction and Background

The evaluation along the Anglian Water Pipeline easement at Papworth Everard, Cambridgeshire produced a small pottery assemblage of 77 sherds, weighing 0.766kg. The material from the topsoil and any unstratified material are included in these totals.

Ceramic fabric abbreviations used in the following text and dating table are:

Brill	BRILL
Developed St Neots	DNEOT
Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware	EMEMS
Early Medieval ware	EMW
Grimston ware	GRIM
Grimston Thetford ware	GTHET
Huntingdonshire Fen Sandy ware	HUNFSW
Lyveden-Stanion ware	LYST
Medieval Ely type ware	MELT
Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware	MEMS
Post-medieval Red wares	PMR
Sandy ware	SW
Shelly ware	SHW
St Neots or St Neots Type ware	NEOT/NEOTT

2 Methodology

The basic guidance in the Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2) has been adhered to (English Heritage 1991). In addition the Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG) documents Guidance for the processing and publication of medieval pottery from excavations (Blake and Davey, 1983), A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms (MPRG, 1998) and Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics (MPRG, 2001) act as a standard.

Dating was carried out using CAM ARC's in-house system based on that previously used at the Museum of London. Fabric classification has been carried out for all previously described types. All sherds have been counted, classified and weighed. All the pottery has been spot dated on a context-by-context basis

The pottery and archive are curated by CAM ARC until formal deposition.

3 The Assemblage

Fieldwork generated a small assemblage of 77 sherds, weighing 0.766kg from five of the six trenches along the line of the pipeline easement. This material consists of moderately abraded and abraded pottery with an average sherd weight of 9.9 grams. Few features have more than one context containing pottery. This and the quantity of pottery produced has made the assemblage difficult to assess on grounds of site phase, as a result statistical analysis of the sherds is not viable. Five of the six trenches produced pottery and the assemblage is discussed in terms of ceramic dates within each trench.

3.1 Trench 1

Context 101 produced a single undiagnostic body sherd of HUNFSW with a date range of mid 12th to mid 14th century.

3.2 Trench 2

No post Roman pottery was recovered from trench 2.

3.3 Trench 3

Trench three produced 19 sherds of pottery from three contexts, dating from the mid 12th to the mid 14th century. The fabrics present are medieval SHW, HUNFSW, MEMS and MELT, these are mainly undiagnostic body sherds, with some indication of use where sooting is present. In addition two glazed jug sherds were recognised one from a LYST jug the other from a GRIM vessel. Residual sherds to late Saxon or early post conquest NEOT were also identified in context 304.

3.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 produced eight sherds of pottery from two contexts including two residual NEOT sherds, medieval DNEOT and glazed sherds of BRILL and GRIM, giving a mid 13th to mid 14th century date. Context 401 is dated by the presence of a single moderately abraded sherd of PMR 16th to late 18th century, which was recovered alongside abraded medieval MEMS.

3.5 Trench 5

Trench 5 produced 47 sherds weighing 0.507kg from five contexts; this represents 61% by count and 66% by weight of the whole assemblage from the pipeline easement. The context 504 and 513 both date to the 12th century and produced sherds of NEOT, DNEOT and SHW. Context 506 was dated to the 13th century and included a sherd from a glazed BRILL jug. Context 518 produced NEOT, DNEOT, MEMS and HUNFSW alongside glazed sherds of BRILL and POTT. The presence of POTT gives the context its 14th century date. Context 518

produced the broadest range of fabrics and the largest number of sherds; it represents cleaning across a cobbled surface and indicates medieval domestic activity.

3.6 Trench 6

Two contexts in trench 6b produced abraded pottery sherds of 10th to mid 12th century in date.

4 Discussion

The earliest material present, are the sherds of NEOT or NEOTT recovered mainly as a residual element in medieval and later contexts; the majority of the assemblage is medieval in date (see dating table) spanning the 13th and 14th centuries. The main fabrics present are MEMS; SHW DNEOT and HUNFSW and vessel types represented are mainly jars. Six jug sherds were recovered representing at least five different vessels, these include fragments of GRIM, BRILL and unglazed POTT. Seven bowls sherds were also recognised, five NEOT sherds, a sherd from an internally glazed POTT bowl and the sherd of PMR.

The assemblage is small and almost the material is moderately abraded, or abraded suggesting some reworking after initial deposition. The assemblage has no complete vessels, no sherds worthy of illustration and full statistical analysis is not viable. Despite this there is a strong indication of medieval domestic activity in trench 5 although the assemblage is too small to be certain if this is a true reflection of pottery usage.

No preservation bias has been recognised and no long-term storage problems are likely. Further work will need to be undertaken if additional excavation is carried out.

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Dating

Context	Fabric	Sherd Count	Sherd Weight	Form	Assessment date range
101	HUNFSW	1	0.006		Mid 12th to mid 14th century
303	EMEMS	3	0.004		13th to mid 14th century
	EMW	1	0.001		
	GTHET	2	0.014		
	HUNFSW	1	0.004		
	LYST	1	0.015	Jug	
	MEMS	1	0.002		
304	GRIM	1	0.021	Jug	Mid 13th to mid 14th century
	MELT	1	0.004	Jar	
	NEOT	2	0.017		
	NEOTT	1	0.004		
	SHW	1	0.004		
	SHW	2	0.045	Jar	
	SW	1	0.004		
307	SW	1	0.004		12th to mid 14th century
401	MEMS	2	0.015		16th to late 18th century
	PMR	1	0.06	Bowl	
402	GRIM	1	0.001	Jug	Mid 13th to mid 14th
	BRILL	1	0.004	Jug	
	DNEOT	1	0.006		
	NEOT	2	0.018	Bowl	
502	MEMS	2	0.007		mid 13th to late 14th century
504	DNEOT	1	0.016		12th century
	NEOT	1	0.02	Bowl	
506	BRILL	1	0.028	Jug	13th century
	EMEMS	1	0.009		
	NEOT	1	0.022	Bowl	
	NEOTT	2	0.013		
513	DNEOT	1	0.011		Mid 12th to late 12th century
	NEOT	2	0.006		
	NEOTT	1	0.086	Bowl	
	SHW	1	0.043	Jar	
518	BRILL	1	0.002	Jug	14th century
	DNEOT	2	0.012		
	HSW	2	0.006		
	HUNFSW	2	0.006		
	MEMS	1	0.005		
	MEMS	16	0.137	Jar	
	NEOT	3	0.033		
	POTT	2	0.02		
	POTT	1	0.01	Bowl	
	SHW	2	0.013		
	SW	1	0.002		
601	NEOTT	1	0.004		10th to late 12th century
602	NEOT	1	0.002		10th to mid 12th century

APPENDIX 2: ENVIRONMENTAL APPRAISAL OF SAMPLES FROM PEV AWP 07

by Rachel Fosberry

1 INTRODUCTION AND METHODS

Five 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.

The samples were soaked in a solution of Decon 90 for two weeks prior to processing in order to break down the heavy clay. 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 on Table x.
Two monoliths were taken from Trench 2 and Trench 6b and will be assessed separately.

2 RESULTS

The results are recorded on Table 1.

Sample Number	Context Number	Cut Number	Context Type	Flot contents	Residue contents
1	513	514	Ditch	Charcoal, Small bone, Grain, seeds	Pot, Bone
2	210	211	Ditch	Snails	Fossil with central hole
3	306	307	Ditch	Charcoal, grain	Pot
4	606	605	Ditch	Charcoal, grain	No finds
5	602		Layer	Charcoal only	Fired clay

Table 1: Environmental Samples from PEV AWP 07

Plant macrofossils

The samples all produced small flot volumes of between 0.5ml to 2ml. Preservation is by charring and is generally poor. Charcoal fragments are present in most of the samples in small quantities and wheat (Triticum sp.) grains occur in three of the samples. The flot of Sample 2, context 210, is comprised of snail shells.

Other Finds

Artefacts recovered from the sample residues include small fragments of pottery and fired clay and a mammal tooth. A circular fossil approximately 1cm in diameter with a central hole resembling a bead was recovered from Sample 2.

3 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Wheat grains are present in three of the samples and represent both discrete deposits and general scattering of grain preserved by accidental burning. Wood charcoal predominates in this assemblage providing evidence of burning.

The samples show only a low abundance of charred material that is not considered worthy of further analysis. If further work is planned in this area, it is recommended that environmental sampling is included as this assemblage shows that there is some potential for the recovery of plant remains.

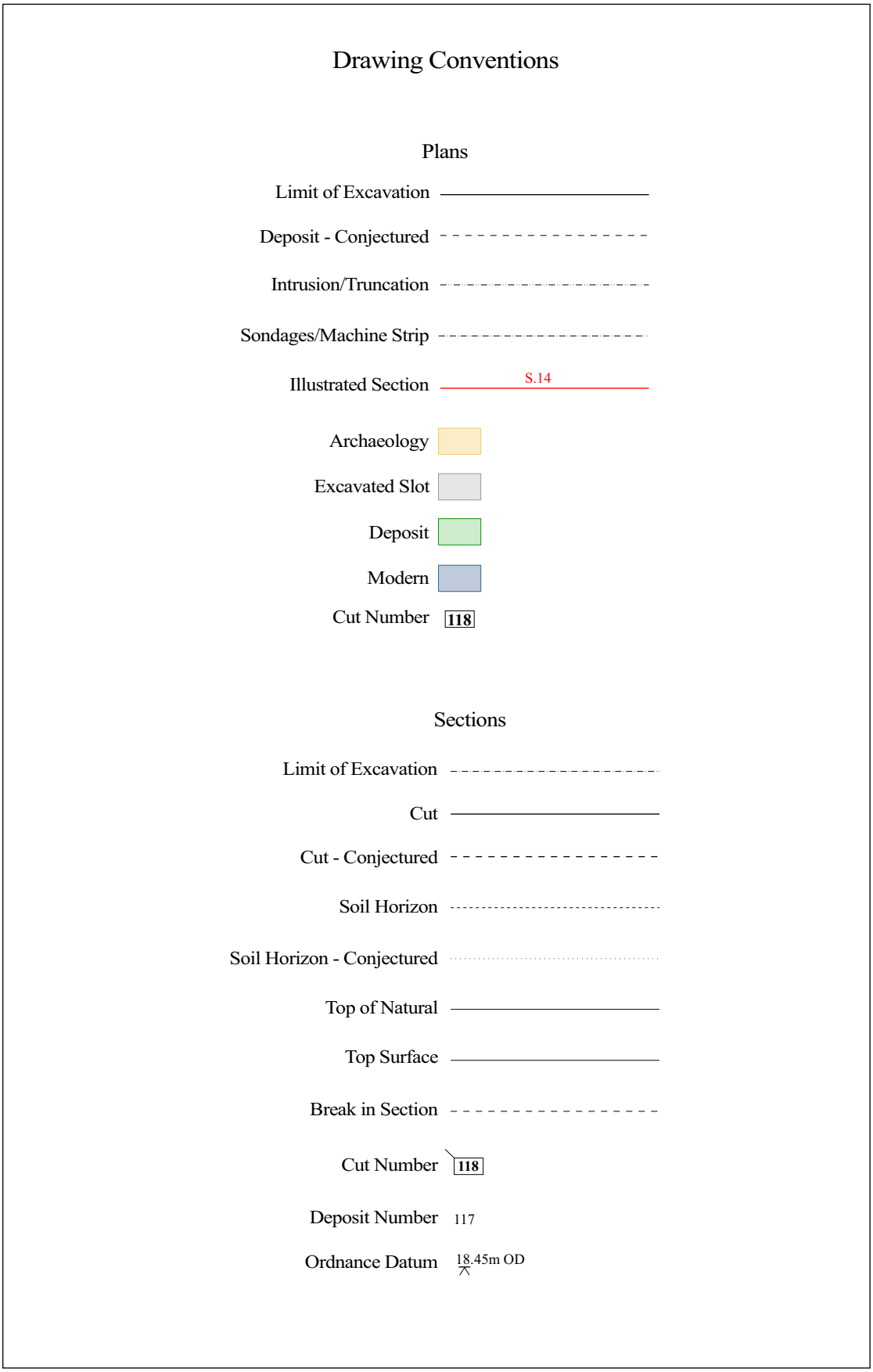


Figure 1: Convention key

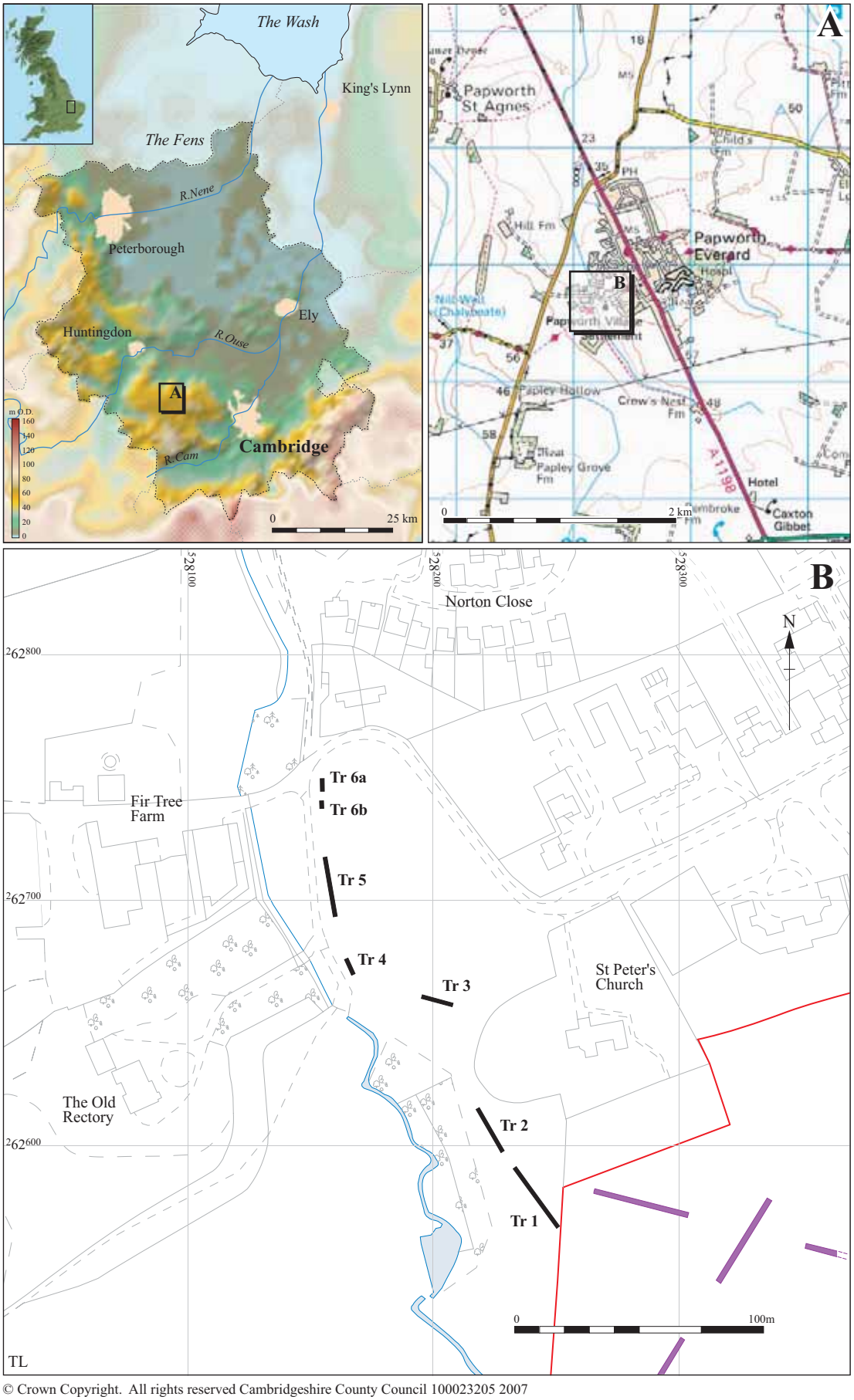


Figure 2: Location of CAM-ARC trenches (black) Summersfield trenches (purple) Essex County Council area (red)

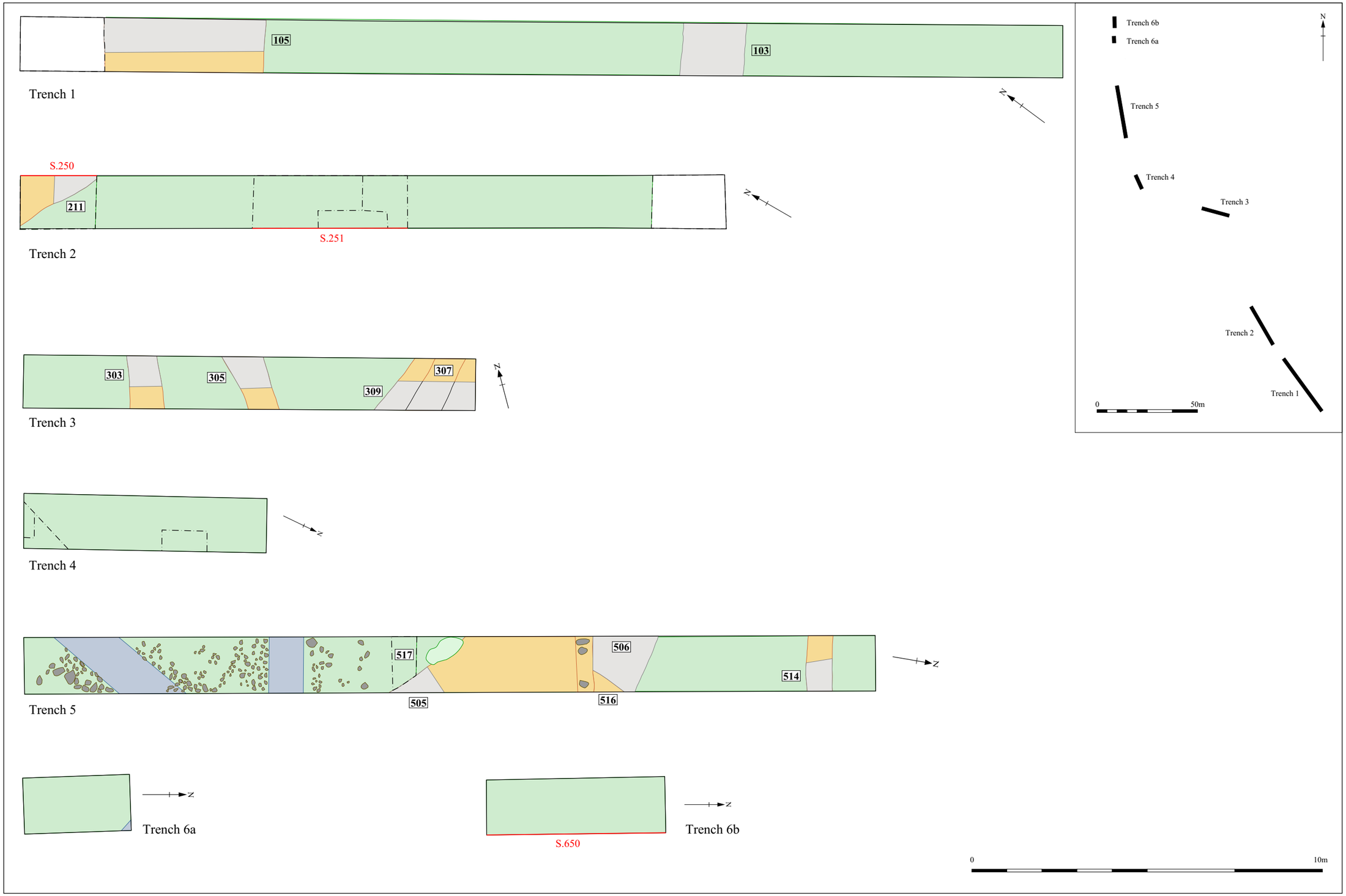


Figure 3: Trench plans

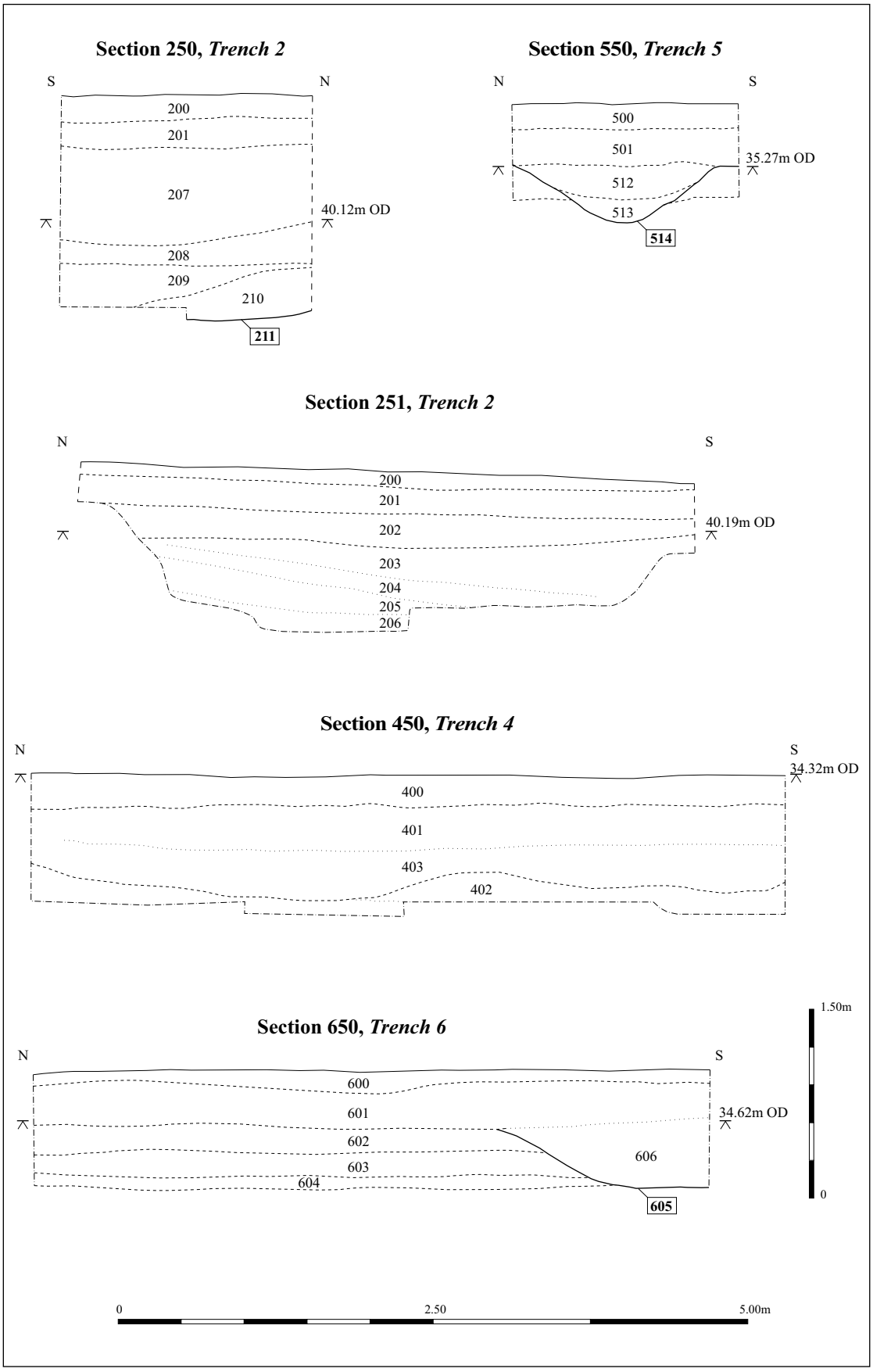


Figure 4: Section drawings

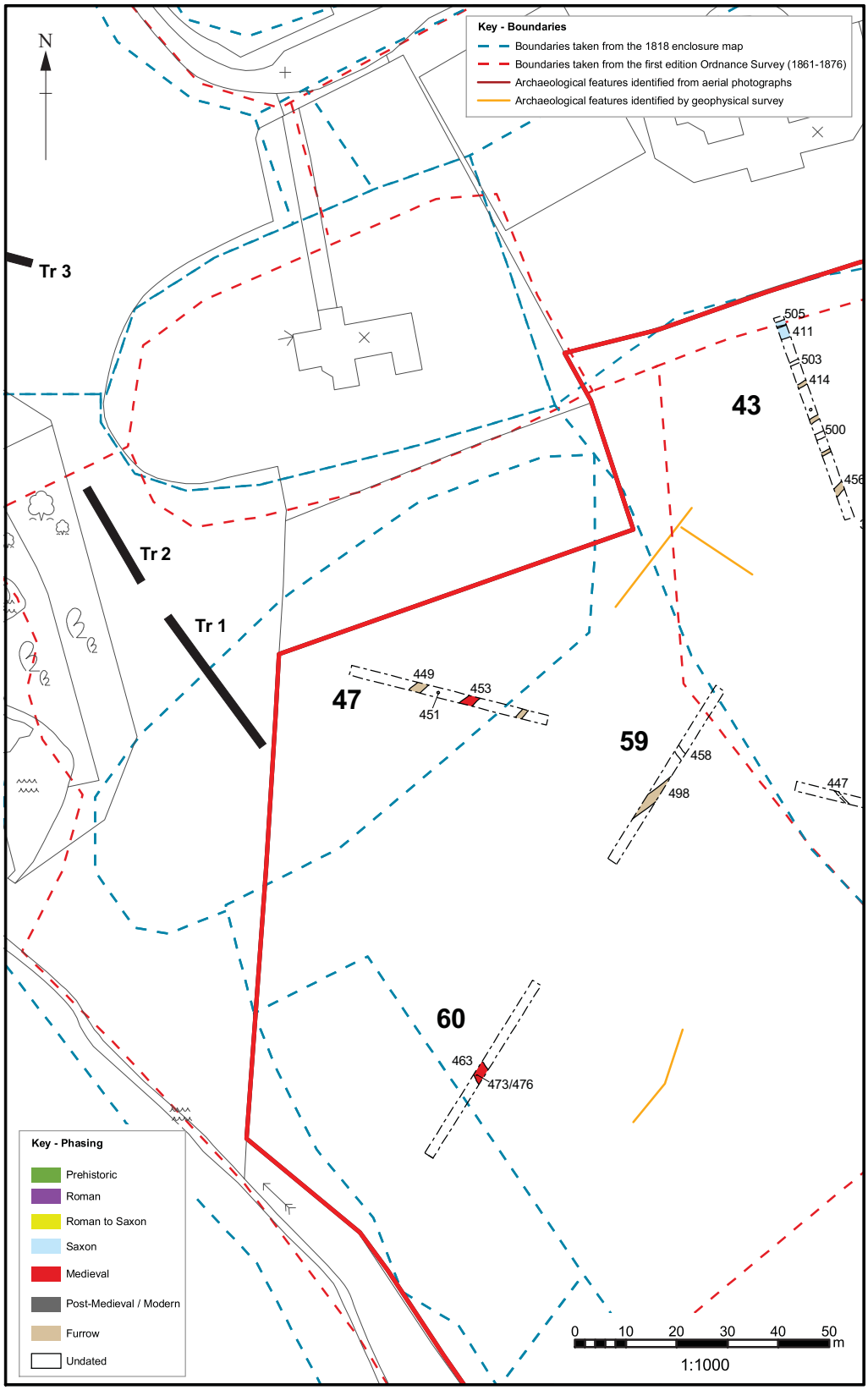


Figure 5: Field boundaries recorded on 19th Century Maps with ECC Evaluation Trenches (after Pocock 2007, Fig 11)

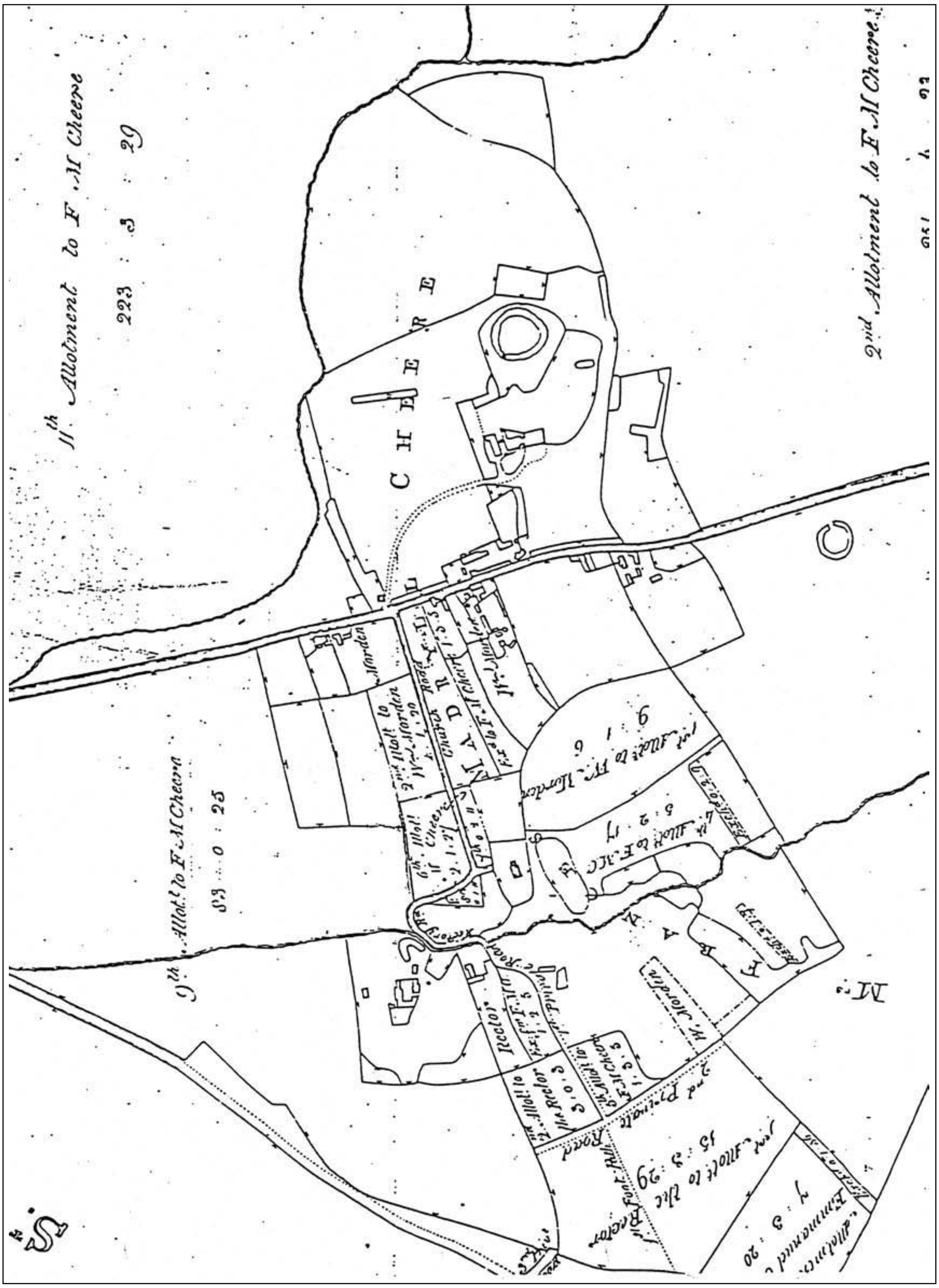


Figure 6: 1818 Enclosure Map

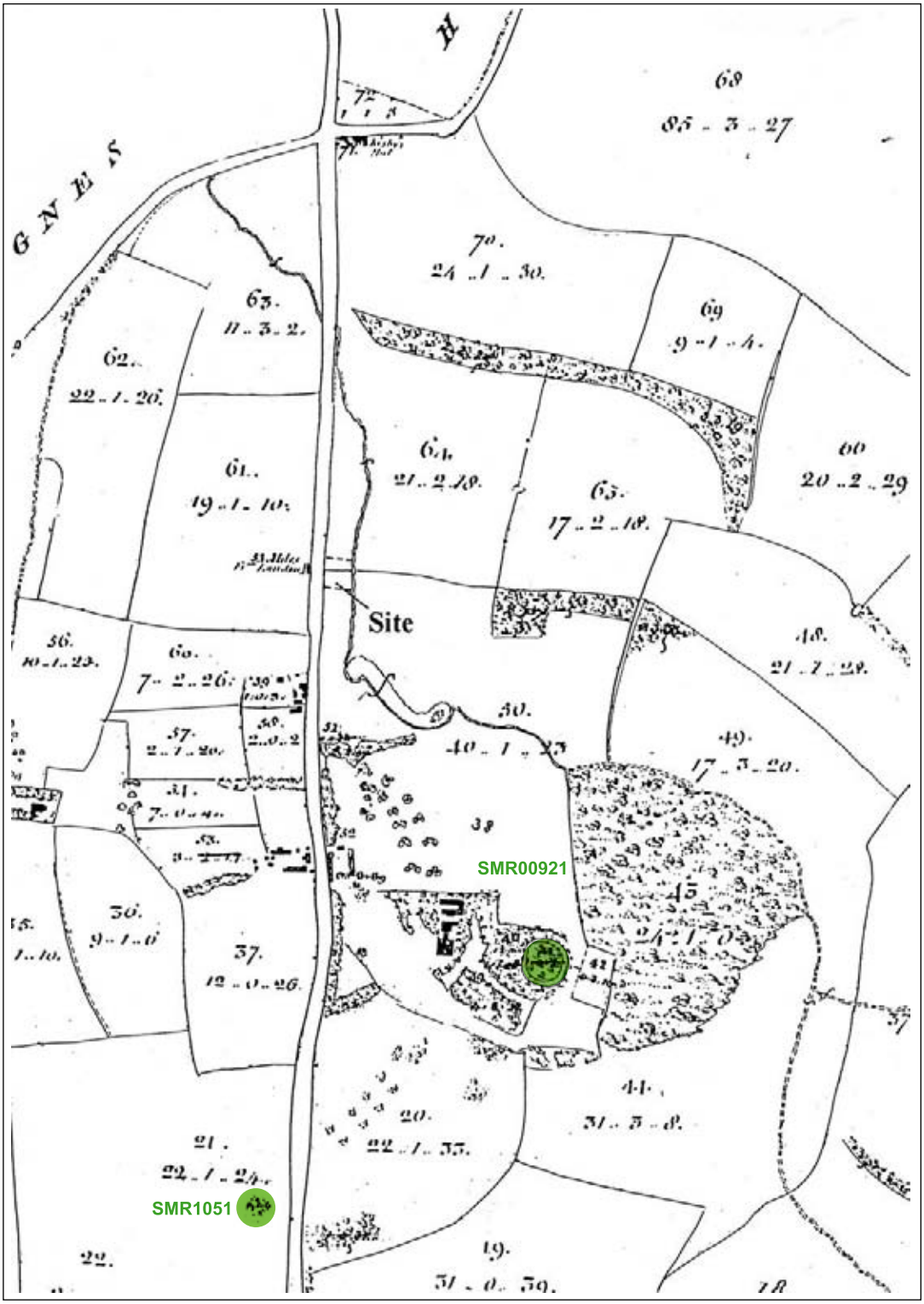


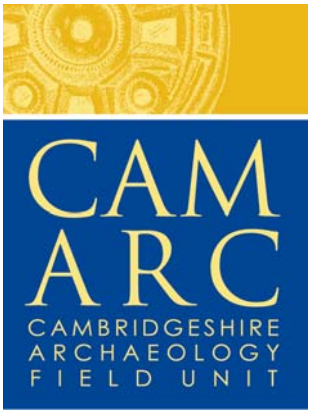
Figure 7: 1825 Tithe Map

Plate 1: Earthworks in churchyard, looking west

Plate 2: Cobbled surface 502, Trench 5

Plate 3: Trench 2, Sondage 2

Plate 4: Trench 2, Sondage 1



CAM ARC,
Cambridgeshire County Council,
15 Trafalgar Way,
Bar Hill,
Cambridgeshire,
CB3 8SQ

General Enquiries: 01954-204191
Fax: 01954-273376

http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/archaeology