

PATHFINDER HOUSE St Mary's Street, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire

HN576



Desk-based Archaeological Assessment & Archaeological Evaluation Report

THE HERITAGE NETWORK LTD

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Archaeological Director: David Hillelson, BA MIFA

PATHFINDER HOUSE St Mary's Street, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire.

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Desk-based Archaeological Assessment & Archaeological Evaluation Report

Prepared on behalf of Huntingdonshire District Council by Helen Ashworth BA (HONS) AIFA, Chris Turner BSC (HONS) MIFA & Abigail Rothwell BSC (HONS) PIFA

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The cover illustration shows the machining of evaluation Trench 1, looking westwards

Acknowledgements

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Site name and address:	Pathfinder House Hu	ntingdon, Cambridgeshire							
County:	Cambridgeshire	District:	Huntingdonshire						
Village/town:	Huntingdon	Parish:	Huntingdon						
Planning reference:	n/a	NGR:	TL 2402 7156						
Client name and address:		ict Council, Pathfinder Hous							
Nature of work:	Offices / Residential	Former land use:	Offices & Car Parks						
Site status:	None	Reason for investigation:	Direction of local planning authority (PPG 16)						
Position in planning process:	Pre-application	Project brief originator:	Local authority						
Size of affected area:	0.8 Ha	Size of area investigated:	110m ²						
Site Code:	HN576	Other reference:	ECB 2161						
Organisation:	Heritage Network	Site Director:	David Hillelson						
Project type, methods etc.:	Desk-based assessment & Evaluation	Archive recipient:	Cambridgeshire County Archaeological Store						
Start of work	11/04/2006	Finish of work	11/05/2006						
Related SMR Nos:	n/a	Periods represented:	Roman/Medieval/ Post Medieval/Modern						
Oasis UID	heritage1- 15663	Significant finds:	No significant finds						
Monument types:	Ditch – RB, Pit-RB, P Victorian/modern, wa	osthole – undated, Ditch- me ll- Victorian/modern,	edieval, Pit- medieval, Pit-						
Physical archive:	Pottery, tile, animal bo	one, shell, slag							
Previous summaries/reports:	n/a								

Summary

Synopsis:

In order to assess the archaeological risk posed by a proposal to redevelop the Huntingdon District Council offices at Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon, the Heritage Network was commissioned by Huntingdon District Council to undertake a desk-based archaeological assessment of the site and a programme of archaeological evaluation.

A study of the documentary and database evidence relating to Huntingdon indicated that there was a low to moderate risk that evidence from the Prehistoric to the Iron Age would survive on the site, and there is a high risk that evidence from the Roman to the modern periods would survive.

In order to characterise the defined archaeological potential of the site, six trenches were machined to the first significant archaeological horizon. Artefacts and deposits were encountered from four periods: Romano-British, Medieval, Post-Medieval and Modern. Romano-British pits and ditches of $2^{nd} - 4^{th}$ century date, were encountered to the west and south of Pathfinder House. In Trench 1, a pit dating of $9^{th} - 13^{th}$ century date was cut into a Romano-British pit, suggesting that features and deposits, indicative of occupation, survive from both the Romano-British and Medieval period. To the east of Pathfinder house, around Castle Hill House, the overburden was deeper but more disturbed by Post-Medieval activity and modern services. Nevertheless, in Trench 5, Romano-British material was recovered from a ditch and a possible buried subsoil.

A Post-Medieval pit recorded in Trench 6, appears to be associated with the rear of the properties that fronted on the High Street prior to their demolition and the construction of Castle Hill House in the late 18th century. No remains associated with the use of Castle Hill House during the Second World War were encountered.

Walls and brick drains associated with Castle Hill House were recorded in Trenches 4 and 6, indicating that the remains of outbuildings associated with the house survive.

It is clear that the current development of the present site will have an impact on remains of potential archaeological significance. It is considered that features and deposits located beneath the car park immediately to the west of Pathfinder House are at the greatest risk.

1. Introduction

1.1 This report has been prepared on behalf of *Huntingdonshire District Council* as a part of for the archaeological evaluation of a proposed development site located at Pathfinder House, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire. Planning consent for the development has been deferred under the provisions set out in Planning Policy Guidance Note No.16 (PPG16) on Archaeology and Planning (DoE 1990) to allow further information to be provided on the potential impact of the proposal on any archaeological remains. The required information was defined in an *Brief for Archaeological Evaluation* prepared by the *Cambridgeshire Archaeology, Planning and Countryside Advice* (CAPCA) section of Cambridge County Council (ref. AT 03/11/2005), acting as archaeological advisers to the local planning authority, Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC). A full specification for the work was contained in the Heritage Network's approved *Project Design*, dated March 2006.

1.2 The study area comprises the present site of the Huntingdonshire District Council offices, located on land between St Mary's Street and Castle Moat Road, centred at NGR TL 2402 7156. The full site covers approximately 0.8 Ha and is bounded by Castle Hill House and the Methodist Church to the east, and Centenary House to the west. The development proposes the demolition of Pathfinder House and the construction of five new structures with associated car parks and landscaping, and alterations to the setting of Castle Hill House.

1.3 Pathfinder House is situated on river terrace gravels in the historic core of Huntingdon and is located within a conservation area designated in the District Local Plan. The remains of a medieval motte and bailey castle, which is a scheduled ancient monument (SAM 24417), survive c.50m to the south. The site formed the gardens associated with Castle Hill House until the middle of the 20th Century, and was largely undeveloped until that time

1.4 During the 1970s the present site was the subject of an archaeological investigation. Unfortunately the project archive has been lost and no report is known to exist. It is thought that significant archaeological features, including the line of Ermine Street (HER CB15034) and a spur road off this towards the west, remains of Saxon buildings, and the stone foundations of a possible church were encountered during this work. The remains of a medieval motte and bailey castle (SAM 24417) survive c.50m to the south.

1.5 The aim of the evaluation, which combines fieldwork with desk based research, has been to consider the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any remains that are liable to be threatened by the development, and to provide a local and regional, archaeological and historical context for such remains, in accordance with the current published regional research agenda (Glazebrook 1997, Brown and Glazebrook 2000), should they be discovered.

1.6 The present report is intended to provide the planning authority with sufficient data to allow it to consider the archaeological implications of the proposed development, and to determine what further, if any, mitigation measures might be required to allow the development to proceed.

2. Desk-Based Research

TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

2.1 Huntingdon is located close to the south-western edge of the Fens, a large area of uninterrupted wetland extending inland westwards and southwards from The Wash. The River Great Ouse, which flows to the south of the town, drains the southern side of the Fens. It joins the Cam near Ely and then flows northwards to The Wash.

2.2 The study area lies on the southern edge of the town, approximately 200m north-west of the River Great Ouse. It lies at c.14m OD, with the ground levels falling gently from west to east, towards the river (ibid).

2.3 The Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW 1983) indicates that the site is located on river alluvium of the Fladbury 1 association overlying marine an river terrace gravel of Efford 1 association.

2.4 Prior to the start of the evaluation seven boreholes (BH) were sunk to investigate the geology of the site (Figure 16). These were located chiefly around the edge of the study area. Details of the stratigraphy noted in each borehole are as follows:

- **BH 1** was located adjacent to southern side of Castle Hill House: Ground surface to 0.10m ASPHALT; 0.10m to 0.30m CONCRETE; 0.30m to 0.50m ash and brick GRAVEL; 0.50m to 1.20m MADE GROUND consisting of orange brown gravelly clay, with ash and brick fragments. Natural River Terrace deposits occurred below 1.20m. The Oxford Clay appeared at a depth of 3.30m.
- **BH 2** was located adjacent to northern side of Castle Hill House: Ground surface to 0.05m ASPHALT; 0.05m to 0.20m CONCRETE; 0.20m to 2.20m MADE GROUND, consisting of soft dark brown and black sandy gravelly clay, with brick, ash and slate fragments. Natural River Terrace deposits occurred below 2.20m. The Oxford Clay appeared at a depth of 3.20m.
- **BH 3** was located along northern side of study area, to south-west of BH 2: Ground surface to 0.10m ASPHALT; 0.10m to 0.20m GRAVEL layer; 0.20m to 1.30m MADE GROUND, consisting of firm brown gravelly clay; 1.30m to 1.70m ALLUVIUM, described as firm orange brown/grey slightly gravelly sandy clay. Natural River Terrace deposits occurred below 1.70m. The Oxford Clay appeared at a depth of 2.30m.
- **BH 4** was located in north-western corner of the study area: Ground surface to 0.10m ASPHALT; 0.10m to 0.30 GRAVEL layer; 0.30m to 1.40m ALLUVIUM, described as soft to firm brown and orange brown gravelly silt. Natural River Terrace deposits occurred below 1.40m. The Oxford Clay appeared at a depth of 3.50m.
- BH 5 was located in the centre of the study area, to the west of Pathfinder House and south of BH 4: Ground surface to 0.10m ASPHALT; 0.10m to 0.25m GRAVEL layer; 0.25m to 1.40m MADE GROUND, consisting of firm brown slightly sandy gravelly clay; 1.40m to 2.70m REWORKED OXFORD CLAY, described as stiff brown/orange brown/grey mottled clay, with silt partings and decomposed roots at 2.05m and rare flint

gravel. No River Terrace deposits were recorded in this borehole. Weathered Oxford Clay appeared at a depth of 2.70m.

- **BH 6** was located in the south-western corner of the study area, south of BH 4. Ground surface to 0.10m ASPHALT; 0.10m to 0.80m MADE GROUND, consisting of brown and grey sand and gravel; 0.80m to 1.50m MADE GROUND, consisting of firm brown sandy gravelly clay. Two layers of gravel, described as natural River Terrace deposits occurred below 1.50m. Weathered Oxford Clay appeared at a depth of 3.20m.
- **BH 7** was located along the southern side of the study area, close to the south-western aligned range. Ground surface to 0.10m ASPHALT; 0.10m to 0.45m MADE GROUND, consisting of brown/orange sand and gravel, with pockets of firm brown clay (brick and asphalt fragments were present in the gravel); 0.45m to 1.40m ALLUVIUM, described as orange brown slightly gravelly, very sandy, clay. Natural River Terrace deposits occurred below 1.40m. Reworked Oxford Clay appeared at a depth of 2.40m, weathered Oxford clay at a depth of 2.70m.

2.5 The boreholes indicate that the River Terrace deposits lie at a depth of between 1.20m and 1.50m below the present ground surface across most of the site. The exception was in BH 2, where it was logged at a depth of 2.20m, below made ground. This may indicate that this borehole was located within an archaeological feature. Made ground was recorded below the modern asphalt in all boreholes, other than BH 4.

HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

Introduction

2.6 The site lies to the south of the core of the medieval town and immediately north of Huntingdon Castle. It occupies a triangle of land between St Mary's Road to the north-west, High Street to the north-east and Castle Moat Road to the south.

2.7 Documentary and cartographic evidence for this study has been collected from a 0.5km radius of the study area. This includes sites and find spots listed on the county Historic Environment Record (HER); aerial photographic collections at CUCAP and the NMR; and buildings included on the statutory List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, maintained by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport.

Prehistoric

2.8 The present site lies on river gravels approximately 200m to the north of the River Great Ouse, an area likely to have attracted prehistoric activity. Late Neolithic and Bronze Age monuments are known from the Ouse valley, including a ceremonial complex at Brampton, approximately 3 km to the south-west (Kenney 2003, 4).

2.9 Limited evidence for prehistoric activity has been recorded from the immediate vicinity of the study area, consisting largely of chance finds of flint implements. A number of Palaeolithic flint tools have been found at Hartford, approximately 2km to the north (Dunn 1977, 13, 14). Closer to the study area, two Palaeolithic (c. -500,000 bc to -10,000 bc) flint implements, comprising a long blade and a small ovate axe (HER 01690) were recovered from the town. A Neolithic (c. -4,000 bc to -2,200 bc) flint flake (HER 01690A) was found at the same location. Other Neolithic implements (HER 01912) have been collected from the southern end of High Street, approximately 70m to the north-east.

2.10 Archaeological investigations in Huntingdon have also revealed evidence for features of prehistoric date, including a Bronze Age (c. -2,500 bc to -700 bc) ditch at Royal Oak Passage (HER MCB16503) approximately 480m to the north-west. This feature followed the same alignment as the modern High Street. Pottery sherds of Bronze Age date were present in the fills of later features at Gazeley House (HER MCB16321) approximately 300m to the north-west. The size and quality of the sherds suggests there may be features of this date in the vicinity. A probable late prehistoric (Bronze Age or Iron Age) gully was identified during archaeological evaluation at Hartford Road (HER CB15695) approximately 170m to the north-east.

Iron Age (-800 bc to AD 43)

2.11 Early Iron Age settlements have been identified to the south and west of Huntingdon, in the Godmanchester area and close to the racecourse (Kenney 2003, 4). Excavations in Godmanchester have also revealed evidence of a pre-Roman settlement, including round houses and ditched enclosures (ibid). The archaeological evidence also suggests a concentration of Iron Age activity at Hinchingbrooke Park, approximately 2km to the west of the study area (Carroll & Spoerry 2001, 11). Settlements of this period have also been recorded at Brampton and Buckden to the south-west and Alconbury to the north-west (Dunn 1977, 13).

2.12 Although Huntingdon lies in a region that was well settled by the late Iron Age, relatively little evidence of this period has been recovered from the town. Pottery of middle to late Iron Age (c. -400 bc to AD 43) date was recovered during the evaluation and excavation at Watersmeet (HER MCB16330) on Mill Common, approximately 210m to the south-west. It is possible that this represents evidence for an early settlement at the river crossing, predating the establishment of Ermine Street.

Romano-British (AD 43 to AD 410)

2.13 A small Roman settlement developed at Huntingdon along the line of Ermine Street, a major Roman road running north from London to Lincoln and York This has been interpreted as either a suburb of the town at Godmanchester, approximately 1 km to the south, or as roadside ribbon development (Kenney 2003, 5).

2.14 The evidence for this settlement is chiefly in the form of finds of Roman artefacts from the around the modern town, including findspots of coins (HER 02602; 02603; 02607; 02608) and pottery sherds (HER 00869; 02625; 02637). A number of Roman cremation burials have also been recorded to the south and south-west of the study area, suggesting the possibility of a roadside cemetery in the vicinity (HER 00868; 02635). A large number of the finds of Roman material from the town were found in conjunction with medieval artefacts (HER 02604; 02625; 02733; 02764) suggesting that parts of the Roman settlement were damaged or destroyed by intensive later occupation.

2.15 Evidence for a possible riverside settlement (HER MCB16329) was revealed during an archaeological evaluation on Mill Common, approximately 300m to the south-west. Features including pits, gullies and ditch were investigated, all of which dated between the mid 1^{st} century and late 2^{nd} century AD.

2.16 The remains of a substantial villa (HER 0245a), located to the west of the earlier riverside settlement, also lie on Mill Common, approximately 420m to the south-west. These

were excavated in the late 1960s and revealed that it was built in the early third century AD and later developed into a winged corridor house (Branigan 1987, 127). Further, more recent, archaeological work on Mill Common identified a late Roman cemetery with at least 73 inhumations (HER MCB16330) approximately 210m to the south-west. This has been interpreted as a small rural cemetery for the inhabitants and servants of the villa.

2.17 The small town at Godmanchester (possibly called *Durovigutum*) on the southern side of the Ouse, was more important than Huntingdon in the Roman period. It appears to have originally developed around a short-lived early fort, though civilian settlement was not properly established until after the Boudiccan rebellion of AD 60 (Green 1969). In c. AD 120 construction started on a *mansio*, or rest house for official travellers on imperial business. The complex, which was set back from Ermine Street within a ditched enclosure, included an inn, stables and a bath house. A temple, dedicated to a local god *Abandinus*, was erected immediately west of the mansio (Branigan 1987, 85). The mansio was destroyed by fire in the late 3rd century AD (Green 1969, 138).

2.18 Archaeological excavation has shown that in the 2^{nd} century AD the other buildings in the town were of relatively low status, and probably occupied by peasant farmers (Branigan 1987, 87). However, the status of the town appears to have changed in the 3^{rd} century. Town walls were erected and a market place and a basilica established (Browne 1977, 17). This suggests that it had become a centre of local government. The villa on Mill Common, which was first built at this period, may have been occupied by a local official.

Early Medieval (AD 410 to AD 1066)

2.19 Although there are 7th century references to Huntingdon in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, these are likely actually to date to a later period (Carroll & Spoerry 2001, 8). It is known that Huntingdon was established as a Danish burh by the late 9th century AD (HER 02581) and became one of the 5 lesser burhs of the Danelaw. This settlement established Huntingdon's strategic location at the point where the main road north from London crossed the River Ouse, a site which would continue to be important into the 19th century.

2.20 The Vikings were undoubtedly attracted to the site by the good communication network provided by the road and the river. It is thought likely that the burh consisted of a D-shaped enclosure, located either where Ermine Street crossed the river or the later castle site. Archaeological and documentary evidence suggests that it extended from High Street in the east as far as Mill Common and Bar Dyke in the west.

2.21 During the early 10^{th} century the town was retaken by Edward the Elder as part of his re-conquest of eastern England, though not before it had been slighted (ibid). Huntingdon was repaired and re-garrisoned after the defeat of the Vikings. Later charters indicate the status of the late Saxon settlement, showing the presence of a mint from the mid 10^{th} century and a market in the town (ibid).

2.22 Finds and features of early medieval date have been recorded in the town. Pottery dating to the $8^{th}/9^{th}$ century AD was found at a depth of 4m during excavations for buildings in St John's Street, approximately 550m to the north-west (HER 02605). Pits of possible 10^{th} century date were investigated during an archaeological evaluation in the garden of 12 Hartford Road, approximately 220m to the north (HER 11908). Rubbish and cess pits dating to between AD 900 and 1150 were recorded at Orchard Road, approximately 210m to the north (HER 13020). Many of these sites also produced medieval finds and features.

2.23 A church of St Mary at Huntingdon was granted to Thorney Abbey in AD 972 and is likely to have been be one of the two churches recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086. The present St Mary's church (HER 04248 / 04248A) approximately 100m to the north-east, probably stands on the site of the early church. By 1086 it had been granted to the new priory of St Mary in Huntingdon (Page et al 1932, 144). The site of the medieval priory lies approximately 500m to the north-east, within a modern cemetery (Page et al 1932, 123).

2.24 Another early medieval church and associated burial ground (HER 0245b) was revealed during excavations on Mill Common, approximately 420m to the south-west, in the late 1960s. Several hundred inhumations, of late Saxon date, were discovered, aligned east to west, on the site of the Roman villa. A considerable number of the burials appeared to respect the villa walls, suggesting that parts of the building had survived into the 10^{th} century.

Medieval (1066 to 1540)

2.25 The Domesday Survey of 1086 records that Huntingdon was a substantial town by this period (Williams & Martin 1992). It records 256 burgess plots, two churches, one mill, three moneyers, 2 carucates and 40 acres of land (c. 280 acres) and 10 acres of meadow. It has been estimated that there were probably about 250 households in Huntingdon, compared to 373 recorded in Cambridge (Carroll & Spoerry 2001, 9).

2.26 The town flourished in the years after 1086. Although not the trading centre of the shire, it acted as an entrepot for goods travelling along the Ouse and along Ermine Street. It was granted a royal charter in 1205 by King John. This confirmed its status as a borough and allowed a weekly market (Huntingdon official guide website). In 1252 the burgesses of Huntingdon also managed to obtain, by royal charter, a grant of all tolls imposed on wares brought to the annual fair at St Ives, a town on the Ouse approximately 5 miles to the east (Page et al 1932, 123). This event was extremely popular with foreign merchants and generated considerable income for Huntingdon. In 1260 the value of the tolls was £100. However, the inhabitants of the county of Huntingdonshire claimed, in return for repairing the bridge, freedom from tolls in the town, which reduced the town's income.

2.27 Huntingdon castle (HER 01774 / DCB 166 / SAM 24417) lies less than 100m to the south-west of the study area, at the southern edge of the town and close to the river. It was built on the instructions of William I in.1068 and consisted of an oval motte, about 4.6m high, and a roughly rectangular bailey, measuring 180m long by 140m wide. It has been suggested that there was a second bailey immediately to the west of the motte mound and in the area of the modern Castle Hill Street (Kenney 2003, 7).

2.28 The castle was surrounded by a moat on three sides, with the river acting as the moat on the south. Part of the northern arm of the moat lay within the garden of Castle Hill House, within or adjacent to, the study area.

2.29 The site of the castle impinged significantly on the existing settlement. Domesday states that twenty properties were destroyed by its construction. As a result the main river crossing was moved eastwards, away from Ermine Street, and a new High Street had to be established (Kenney 2003, 7). It is probable that Ermine Street functioned as a 'back lane' for a while. Initially the new river crossing is likely to have been carried on a wooden bridge, but this was replaced by a stone one in 1332.

2.30 At least part of the castle was destroyed in 1174, following a siege by Henry II. Various structures clearly survived, or were built later within the eastern bailey. In 1327 a chapel within the castle was granted to Huntingdon Priory and the county gaol was maintained on the site in the 15^{th} and 16^{th} centuries.

2.31 Huntingdon supported an unusually large number of churches in the medieval period, an indication of the wealth of the town at the time. At least sixteen churches and six religious houses are known to have existed in the 12th and 13th centuries (Carroll & Spoerry 2001, 13). However, the majority of these were short-lived. The town's decline in the 14th century meant that the churches were abandoned and the parishes amalgamated. By the 17th century only four churches had survived and two of those were demolished as a result of damage sustained during the Battle of Huntingdon in 1645.

2.32 A number of these churches lie within 500m of the study area, including St John the Baptist's church (HER 02655) in the High Street, approximately 550m to the north-west; St George's church (HER 02593) in George Street, approximately 430m to the north-west; St Clement's church (HER 02624) on Orchard Lane, approximately 210m to the north-east.

2.33 The medieval town was relatively small, extending from the river north to the St John's Street / Cromwell Walk junction with High Street, and from Brookside, which marks the eastern line of the Town Ditch, west to Bar Dyke on Mill Common. Speed's map of 1610 (Figure 6) suggests that the built-up area was focused on High Street, with other buildings fronting St Germain's Street and Hartford Road on the eastern side of High Street and Walden Road / Prince's Street on the western side. Archaeological fieldwork in the town has indicated that the rear of the properties was used for industrial purposes and rubbish disposal. Quarry pits and rubbish pits were recorded during an evaluation at St Clement's Passage (HER CB14595) approximately 140m to the north-east and a number of pits were recorded during at 90/91 High Street (HER 11506) approximately 500m to the north-west.

2.34 Huntingdon declined in the 14^{th} century. This was caused partly by the quarrels with the Abbot of Ramsey over traffic on the Ouse. Eventually the numbers of diversions and obstructions on the river below Huntingdon caused a significant reduction of traffic. Other factors also led to Huntingdon's economic decline. The Hundred Years War and the establishment of the staple caused a reduction in the number of foreign merchants attending St Ives fair and a commensurate reduction in tolls. By 1384 the value of the tolls was only £5 (Carroll & Spoerry 2001, 6).

2.35 The Black Death in the mid 14th century also caused severe problems. A charter of 1363 states that Huntingdon was so weakened by pestilence and other calamities that a quarter of the town was uninhabited and the remaining population were living in poverty (Page et al 1932, 123). It also stated that three of the churches had closed for want of parishioners and eight others had insufficient tithes to appoint incumbents (ibid).

2.36 This picture of dereliction and decay continued through the 15th and into the 16th century. In 1461 Huntingdon was sacked by the Lancastrian army on their way south to the Battle of St Albans. Complaints against the burden of taxation and the decay of the town were also general, with burgesses leaving the town rather than taking office. By the early 16th century half the dwelling houses were empty and only four parish churches remained, though there was only sufficient congregation for two (ibid, 124).

2.37 Evidence for settlement shrinkage in the late medieval period, consisting of a layer of soil overlying earlier medieval features, has been identified during archaeological fieldwork on a number of sites in the modern town centre. This was noted at Hartford Road (HER CB15695) approximately 170m to the north-east, the rear of Gazeley House (HER MCB16321) approximately 300m to the north-west and at the rear of Walden House (HER CB16320) approximately 430m to the north-west.

Post-medieval (1540 to 1901); Modern (1901 to present)

2.38 Further damage was made to the town in Civil War of the 17th century. A number of buildings were damaged or destroyed during the Battle of Huntingdon in 1645, including the churches of St John and St Benedict (Carroll & Spoerry 2001, 7).

2.39 The castle earthworks were also re-fortified at this period (HER 01774 / DCB 166 / SAM 24417). A rectangular depression cut into the back of the bailey in the south-eastern corner represents a gun platform. In 1830 the railway from Godmanchester was cut through the southern side of the castle earthworks. The line of the A14 bypass now runs across the top of the 19th century railway cutting. Archaeological observation during the initial works for the bypass and following the landscaping after its construction, approximately 150m to the south-west, also show that the rampart was remodelled at this time. Roman and medieval artefacts were collected from a layer of buried soil below the ramparts. A number of east – west aligned graves, probably related to the castle chapel, were also recorded in the same area.

2.40 It wasn't until the 18th century that economic prosperity began to return, largely as a result of improvement in the road system. The road north through the town was one of the first in England to be turnpiked, with a private trust set up in 1710 to repair and maintain the road (Akeroyd & Clifford 2004, 35).

2.41 Huntingdon became an important stop for stage coaches running between London and York and a number of coaching inns were established in the town. A list of inns, dating from 1765, lists 22 establishments, but was not comprehensive since it omitted 'The Fountain', one of the main hotels in the town. During the 1820s four coaches left 'The George' for London every day, with two leaving from 'The Fountain'. Other coaches took travellers north to York, Newcastle and Scotland and on more local routes, including to Peterborough, Stamford, Leicester and Cambridge (Akeroyd & Clifford 2004, 36).

2.42 As a result of increased prosperity the population in the town increased, rising from about 1,188 people in 1674 to 1,235 in 1705 (ibid, 34). By the end of the 18^{th} century the population of Huntingdon had risen to approximately 2,000 and reached 3,267 in 1831. The steady rise in population continued throughout the 19^{th} and early 20^{th} centuries. In 1921 the population of the town had reached 4184 (Carroll & Spoerry 2001, 7). It expanded rapidly in the late 20^{th} century, reaching 19,020 in 2000 (ibid).

2.43 The increased wealth resulted in a spate of new building in the 18th and 19th centuries. This included civic buildings, such as the town hall (HER 02736) which was erected in 1745 on the site of the old Court House on Market Hill, approximately 335m to the north-west. Private houses were also built, replacing earlier buildings along the main streets in the town. A number of listed buildings of 18th and 19th century date are recorded on High Street and Prince's Road.

2.44 The town remained relatively small, and focused around the historic core, until the later 20^{th} century. Ordnance Survey maps show that most of the new residential development has been concentrated on the north-eastern side, with New Town being built in the years after 1950.

SITE SPECIFIC

2.45 The study area is currently occupied by Pathfinder House, a T-shaped office block which was opened in April 1977, and its associated car parks. The office was named in honour of the RAF squadron based in Castle Hill House in the Second World War. It is located at the southern side of the town, close to the medieval castle, the parish church of St Mary and the bridge across the Ouse.

2.46 Excavations are known to have taken place on the site in 1973 (Figure 16). No report or archive exists for this work, but copies of three slides showing plans of the excavated areas and some of the main features are held by the Cambridgeshire Archaeological Field Unit (Paul Spoerry, pers. comm.).

- The excavations consisted of four trenches on the southern side of the study area. A plot of their location shows that Trenches I to III lay across the short arm of Pathfinder House (Figure 16). Trench IV was sited approximately 23m to the east, across the southern end of the long arm of Pathfinder House.
- The excavations are thought to have exposed a metalled surface, running approximately WSW-ENE. It appears as a dark line, shown crossing the southern side of Trench II, in two of the slides. This has been interpreted as a spur road linking the Whitehills Roman villa (HER 02545a) on Mill Common, approximately 420m to the south-west, with Ermine Street. An earthwork line, which may represent traces of this road, is visible on aerial photographs taken in the 1950s (CUCAP APs RT87 and L.B.23). It appears to run south-west across Mill Common towards the railway.
- The line of Ermine Street does not appear to have been located in the course of the excavations. It is possible that it was not recognised as such, or may lie a little to east.
- It is also thought that late Saxon building remains were found during the excavations. One slide shows number of vague features in Trench I, to the north of the possible road. The plan appears to show a series of straight and curved linears, as well as a number of circular features.
- Vague references also hint at another trench, located on the northern side of St Mary's Street, that uncovered a stone church. Although this cannot currently be proved, human bone was discovered there in the early 19th century.

2.47 Roman artefacts have been recovered from within 100m of the centre of the study area, including pottery sherds from St Mary's Street (HER 00867) approximately 50m to the west and pottery and coins, also from St Mary's Street (HER 02597), approximately 70m to the west. A stone coffin (HER 02638), thought to be of Roman date, was found on the hill adjoining the castle in the early 19^{th} century. This lay in the grounds of Castle Hill House, approximately 40m to the south-west of Pathfinder House.

2.48 The present site may have been located towards the northern edge of the Danish burh. The exact location of the Viking settlement at Huntingdon is not known, but one possible site is the point where Ermine Street crossed the Ouse (Kenney 2003, Figure 2). It has been

suggested that the settlement consisted of a D-shaped enclosure on the north bank of the river, lying either side of Ermine Street.

2.49 St Mary's church (HER 04248 / 04248A) lies on the north-eastern side of High Street, approximately 100m to the north-east of the study area. A church of St Mary, belonging to a house of Secular Canons, is recorded in Huntingdon in the early medieval period. This developed into the parish church of St Mary by 1066 and the present church probably stands on, or near, the site of this early foundation. It is likely that part of the early medieval town would have been focused around the church.

2.50 The original church was undoubtedly built of wood, but was replaced in stone. The remains of 12^{th} century buttresses lie at the north-eastern and south-western corners of the south aisle, representing the earliest features of the present church (RCHM(E) 1926, 146). These indicate a substantial building of Norman date, other parts of which may be incorporated in the later church fabric. The chancel and arcades date to the 13^{th} century, but most of the building is later, with the west tower and south porch added in c.1380-90 and the clerestory in c.1500. The west tower partly collapsed in 1607, destroying large parts of the nave arcades. Rebuilding started in 1608 and was completed in 1620. The church was restored and the east wall rebuilt in 1876. The churchyard wall was built in 1817 and the stone piers and gates date to the mid 19th century.

2.51 The study area lies on the northern side of the castle earthworks. Jeffery's map (Figure 5) and the series of OS maps (Figures 6 to 9) show the proximity of earthworks associated with the castle to the study area. The exact line of the northern arm of the moat is currently unclear. It may run to the south, beneath Castle Moat Road, alternatively it may cross the southern side of the study area. A windmill stood on the top of the hill adjoining the castle earthworks in the medieval and post-medieval period.

2.52 A surprisingly large number of churches were established in Huntingdon between the 11th and 13th centuries. The town's decline in the later 13th and 14th centuries caused the majority of these to fall into decay and, eventually, to be demolished. The location of many of these is still unknown. One such church, dedicated to St Lawrence, is known to have existed in the 13th century (HER 02594). It is thought that its site was in the grounds of Castle Hill House, approximately 35m to the north-east of Pathfinder House. Another church, dedicated to St Edmund, may have lain to the east of the study area, possibly in the vicinity of Centenary House (Oakley & Spoerry 1997, 126).

2.53 Castle Hill House (HER 53563) is a Grade II* listed building located immediately to the north-east of Pathfinder House. The listing describes it as being 2 storeys high and built of Gault brick. It was constructed in 1787 for Owsley Rawley, the lawyer and business adviser to Lord Montagu of Hinchingbrooke House (HDC n/d). It was then inhabited, in succession, by Mr Vanteusen Cole, Admiral Montagu and Sir John Arundel (Page et al 1932, 126). Between 1837 and 1916 the house was occupied by the Veasey family of bankers and clergymen. Ordnance Survey maps of the late 19th and early 20th century show that the house went through a number of alterations and extensions in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

2.54 From June 1943 Castle Hill House acted as the headquarters of No. 8 (Pathfinder Group) of Bomber Command (www.raf.mod.uk/bombercommand/h8gp.html). The group originally comprised 5 squadrons, located in Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire, but by April 1945 consisted of 19 operational squadrons. Their task was to precede the main bomber force and accurately mark the targets for the main force to attack. As part of the headquarters

operations a Type 1 meteorological outstation, which provided fully independent forecasting services on a 24 hour basis, was also located at Castle Hill House (Ogden 2001, 2)

2.55 Seven rectangular buildings appear in the rear gardens of the house on the Ordnance Survey maps of the 1950s (Figure 13). These possibly represent temporary offices associated with the RAF Squadron stationed at Castle Hill House during the Second World War. These buildings are likely to have originated as temporary structures, and are unlikely to have had significant footings. However, deep features, such as air-raid shelters, may also have been constructed on the site in the early 1940s.

2.56 The Methodist congregation bought the site of the present church (HER CB14924), to the south-east of Castle Hill House, in 1811 (www.huntingdon.methodist.care4free.net). The original chapel was demolished in 1877 as a much larger building was needed. The present building was erected in 1878. Recent work on enlarging the structure revealed that it had been built without foundations.

2.57 Ordnance Survey maps show that the study area remained undeveloped until the mid 20th century. A number of rectangular buildings are shown in the rear gardens of Castle Hill House on the 1958 map (Figure 13). Several of these represent surviving World War II buildings, which were apparently still in use in the mid 1970s. Others appear to have been built in the 1950s and 60s (Figure 14). They were used as council offices before the completion of Pathfinder House in 1977.

2.58 The A14 ring road was constructed to the south of the study area in the early 1970s. This ran on top of the cutting made through the castle earthworks for the railway in 1830. Castle Moat Road, which forms the southern boundary to the study area, was built in the late 1960s or early 1970s. It cut through the gardens of Castle Hill House and separated the castle earthworks from the present site.

Cartographic

2.59 The earliest map examined is John Speed's Map of Huntingdon, dated 1610 (Figure 6). At this period the greater part of the study area apparently lay in agricultural land to the rear of properties fronting High Street. The north-eastern corner extended into their rear gardens. St Mary's Street is shown as a narrow lane, called Cobblers Lane, which runs along the northern edge of the study area. Surprisingly, the map does not show the castle earthworks. No evidence for the line of Ermine Street appears on the map.

2.60 A Plan of the Hospital Lands, dated 1752, shows the study area as lying in a plot marked 'inclosed pasture' between the common and properties fronting High Street (Kenney 2003, Figure 4).

2.61 Jefferys' map of the town, dated 1768, shows that the study area was still largely undeveloped in the late 18th century (Figure 7). A rectangular building is shown in the northwestern corner, possibly an outbuilding at the rear of High Street. This map marks the castle earthworks and appears to show that the southern side of the study area extends into the bailey. Hedges are marked towards the southern and western edges of the present site.

2.62 A map of Huntingdon dated c.1845 (CRO DDM 76/5) shows that the study area lay within property owned by D. Veasey (Figure 8). The buildings along High Street had been demolished by this date, leaving a rectangular building set back from the street. A smaller building is shown in the north-western corner, adjacent to the lane.

2.63 The Tithe map of 1850 (CRO 2196/271) marks the property as Castle Hill House (Figure 9). The house itself had been altered, with extensions on the front and the north-western sides. No detail of the rear gardens are shown, though the a semi-circular drive is shown at the front of the building. A number of long thin buildings are shown on the northern side of St Mary's Street.

2.64 The 1st edition OS map of 1885 shows more detail of the rear gardens to Castle Hill House (Figure 10). These appear to have been laid to lawn, with paths and wooded areas around the boundaries. The house had been extended on the southern side, with the construction of a conservatory or glasshouse. Other glasshouses are marked in the northwestern corner of the grounds, adjacent to St Mary's Street. Two small square structures, possibly representing summerhouses, are marked on either side of the drive at the front of the main house. A set of steps lies between them, rising from the drive to the front of the house.

- The house itself appears to sit on a raised terrace. This may either represent landscaping of the gardens or part of the castle earthworks. A fountain is marked on the terrace at the rear of the house.
- The rear grounds extended southwards towards the castle and included earthworks associated with the castle. A raised mound, formerly the site of a windmill and the site of the discovery of a stone coffin of possible Roman date, lay in the south-eastern corner of the garden. A public footpath ran from High Street on the southern side of the boundary wall dividing Castle Hill House from the castle.
- The northern side of St Mary's Street had been developed by this period. Private houses line the eastern end of the road, with a malthouse at the western end.
- The Wesleyan Methodist chapel is shown on the south-eastern side of Castle Hill House. This was set back from High Street, with several small buildings on the street frontage. The front of the chapel is in line with the small structures at the front of the house.

2.65 Very little change is visible on the 2^{nd} edition OS map of 1901 (Figure 11). Two of the glasshouses in the north-western corner of the grounds had been demolished by this time.

• The former malthouse is now marked as St Mary's Brewery.

2.66 By 1926 the glasshouses in the north-western corner of the grounds had all disappeared and been replaced by small rectangular building (Figure 12). Castle Hill Hostel had been constructed adjacent to the rear boundary. Otherwise the site remained as before.

2.67 Significant changes had occurred by 1958 (Figure 13). Seven rectangular buildings were present on the site. Two were located along the northern boundary, adjacent to St Mary's Road. Two smaller ones, on the same alignment, lay to the south at the western end of the Castle Hill House grounds. Three others were located in the south-eastern quadrant. One of these ran north-west to south-east, the other two ran north-east to south-west.

• The fountain and the path from the rear of the house to the back of the garden had also disappeared.

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2.68 The OS map of 1975 shows the line of Castle Moat Road (Figure 14). It cut through the former grounds to Castle Hill House to the north of the earthwork mound. A boundary line is visible to the rear of Castle Hill House, separating the house from the study area.

• The number of office buildings on the present site had increased. Several of the structures shown on the map of 1958 had survived into the mid 1970s, others had been constructed in the intervening period. Centenary House, at the junction between St Mary's Street and Castle Moat Road, had been built by this time.

3. Fieldwork

METHODOLOGY

3.1 All fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the approved *Project Design*, current health and safety legislation, and the appropriate IFA and ALGAO guidance documents.

3.2 Six trenches were opened using a wheeled JCB and a tracked 4 tonne mini-digger, fitted with a 1.6m wide toothless ditching bucket (see Figure 15). Spoil from the machining was inspected for archaeological artefacts. Trenches were machined to the first significant archaeological horizon.

3.3 The trenches were located by triangulation from known points using fibreglass tape measures.

3.4 The trenches were cleaned by hand, and all potential archaeological features and deposits were sampled to ascertain their nature, depth, date, and quality of preservation.

3.5 All identified contexts were photographed and recorded using the appropriate proforma. Scaled plans and sections were drawn on drafting film at scales of 1:10, 1:20 and 1:50.

RESULTS

Trench 1

3.6 Trench 1 was located in the north western part of the site. It measured $15m \times 1.6m$, had a maximum depth of 2.45m, and was aligned north east – south west

3.7 The stratigraphy in the trench consisted of a layer of tarmac above a layer of levelling gravel 0.20m in depth. Beneath the gravel was a thin layer (118), of very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay 0.30m deep, then a firm dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) layer (119) 0.60m deep. This contained several sherds of Roman and Medieval shell tempered ware fragments of animal bone, stone and building material. The natural geology consisted of loose, yellowish brown (10YR 5/8), sandy clay with patches of olive brown (10YR 4/3) gravel and clay.

3.8 The trench contained three possible postholes [101], [103] and [105], a pit [107], a recut pit [114] and [112], and a linear feature [110]. There was also a modern service pipe [120] and some natural root disturbance [109].

- Feature [101] was observed cut through the natural geology in the north-eastern half of the trench on a north-east, southwest alignment. The feature was sub-ovoid with sloped concave (15-20°) sides and a rounded base. It measured 0.35m long by 0.15m wide and had a maximum depth of 0.05m. The primary fill (102) of firm, very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) sandy clay yielded no archaeological artefacts. The feature has been interpreted as a possible posthole.
- Feature [103] was observed cut through the natural geology in the north-eastern half of the trench on a north-west, south-east alignment. The feature was sub-circular with sloped, concave (40-45°) sides and a rounded base. It measured 0.35m long by 0.30m

wide and had a maximum depth of 0.13m. The primary fill (104), was firm, dark brown (10YR 3/3) sandy clay. A small amount of slag was collected from the fill. The feature appears to represent a posthole

- Feature [105] was observed cut through the natural geology in the centre of the trench, on a north east south west alignment. The feature was sub-circular with sloped, concave (10-20°) sides. It measured 0.26m long by 0.20m wide, with a maximum depth of 0.04m. The primary fill (106) was firm very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) sandy clay. No finds were recovered from the feature. It has been interpreted as a possible posthole.
- Pit [107] was observed cut through the natural geology, in the south western half of the trench on a north east south west alignment. The feature had an irregular sub-circular shape with rounded, concave (55-65°) sides and a flat base. The full dimensions of the feature were unclear as it ran beneath the northern baulk of the trench. It measured 1.10m long and had a maximum depth of 0.20m. The primary fill (108) of firm, brown (10YR 4/3) silty clay yielded pottery from the 2nd to 3rd century AD and a single oyster shell.
- Re-cut pit [114] and [112] was observed cut through the natural geology in the southwestern half of the trench. The initial cut [114] was aligned north west – south east. It was sub-circular and had stepped sides and a flat base. The full dimensions of the feature were unclear as it ran beneath the northern baulk of the trench. The exposed area was 0.95m wide and had a maximum depth of 0.32m. The primary fill (115) of firm, very dark grey (10YR 3/1) silty clay contained shell tempered, Nene valley and grey-ware pottery sherds from the 3rd and 4th centuries AD. Small amounts of CBM, animal bone and slag were also collected. The feature was truncated by a later cut [112] aligned north east – south west. It was sub-circular with sloping, concave (40-50°) sides and a flat base. The full dimensions of the feature were unclear as it ran beneath the northern baulk of the trench. The exposed area was 1.10m long and had a maximum depth of 0.34m. The feature had two fills. The primary fill (113) of firm dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) very silty clay, contained a few pottery sherds of a Medieval date and animal bone. The secondary fill (121) was firm, very dark grey (10YR 3/1) silty clay. No finds were recovered from this fill.
- Linear feature [110] was observed cut through the natural geology in the south western end of the trench on a north west – south east alignment. The feature had steep, sloping concave sides. The full dimensions of the feature were unclear as ran beneath the baulk at the south western end of the trench. The natural water table was encountered in this feature, at a level of 13m AOD. The primary fill (111) of firm, very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay yielded pottery from the mid 2nd to the early 3rd centuries including imported Samian, Nene Valley, grey and shell tempered wares. The fill also contained several fragments of CBM as well of metal, animal bone and oyster shell.

Trench data:

Length (m):	15	Width (m):	1	.6	Maximum Depth (m):	2.45	Orientat	tion	NI	E - SW
	E End of Tren		Top Base	14.10 13.85	Level at SW	End of	Trench (m(op ase	14.60 13.30
<u> </u>										
Context	Туре		1	Descripti	on	-		imensior		
							Length	Widtł	1	Depth
101	Cut		n rounded	l base. O	ed, concave (15 rientated NE/S posthole		0.35	0.15		0.05
102	Fill	Firm very	dark grey	yish brow	n (10YR 3/2) s of possible po		0.35	0.15		0.05
103	Cut		and a rou	unded bas	ncave, sloped (e. Orientated Posthole	40-	0.35	0.30		0.13
104	Fill	Firm, dark	brown (small sto	10YR 3/3	sandy clay wi mm). Fill of	th	0.35	0.30		0.13
105	Cut	Sub-circul	ar feature and a rou	unded bas	ped, concave (e. Orientated Posthole	10-	0.26	0.20		0.04
106	Fill				n (10YR 3/2) s of posthole [19		0.26	0.20		0.04
107	Cut	concave (5	5-65°) si	ides and a	e with rounded a flat base. as fill (108). Pi		1.10	>0.62		0.20
108	Fill				clay with occa of pit [107].	asional	1.10	>0.62		0.20
109	Root disturbance	Irregular s irregular s	ub-circul ides and irm dark	ar natura base. Ori	feature with entated NE/SV rown (10YR 3		1.0	>0.4		0.18
110	Cut	Linear feat 70°) sides.	ture with Natural	water tal	ping concave (ble in bottom o Contains fill (1	f	>1.70	>1.55		>0.30
111	Fill	Firm very	dark grey requent g	yish brow gravel inc	n (10YR 3/2) s lusions. Fill o	silty	>1.70	>1.55		>0.30
112	Cut	Sub-circul 50°) sides	ar feature and a fla hrough fe	e with slo t base. O	ped, concave (rientated NE/S 4] contains fill	W.	1.10	>0.47		0.34
113	Fill	Firm, dark	greyish no inclusi	ions. Prin	0YR 4/2) very mary fill of pit		1.10	>0.47		0.34
114	Cut	Sub-circul	ar feature entated N	e with ste W/SE. C	pped sides and ut by pit [112]		>0.93	0.95		0.32
115	Fill		dark gre	y (10YR	3/1) silty clay	with	>0.93	0.95		0.32
116	Layer	Tarmac ab					>15.0 >1.70			0.15
117	Layer		elling lay	yer Below	v tarmac (116)	above	>15.0	>1.70		0.20
118	Layer	silty yer	>15.0	>1.70		0.30				

Length (m):	15	Width (m):	1	.6	Maximum Depth (m):	2.45	Orienta	tion	N	E - SW
Level at NF	E End of Tre	nch (mOD)	Тор	14.10	Level at SW	End of 7	rench (m	OD)	Тор	14.60
			Base	13.85					Base	13.30
Context	Туре]	Descripti	on		D	imen	sions (n	ı)
							Length	W	idth	Depth
119	Layer				OYR 4/2) sandy arden soil laye		>15.0	>]	1.70	0.60
120	Service	Service pij layer (117)			e. Cuts levellin yer (116).	ıg	>3.0	0	.15	N/a
121	Fill				y with no inclu Above primary		1.10	0	.26	0.03

Trench 2

3.9 Trench 2 was located in the southern half of the site. It measured $3m \ge 10m$, had a maximum depth of 1.68m, and was aligned north west – south east

3.10 The stratigraphy in the trench consisted of a layer of tarmac above a layer of building debris 0.35m thick. Beneath the debris was a thin layer of very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay. The natural geology consisted of loose, yellowish brown (10YR 5/6), clayey sand. In the north western end of the trench the natural contained a higher proportion of gravel.

3.11 The trench contained a large ditch [207], a shallow gully [204], and ditch [201] / [206]. There was also modern disturbance in the form of a service pipe and a narrow gully.

- Feature [207] was observed cut through the natural geology and below the modern concrete layer (210) in the northern half of the trench, on a north east south west alignment. It had sloping (30°) sides and a flat base. The full dimensions of the feature were unclear as it ran beneath the baulk at the northwestern end of the trench, although it had a maximum depth of 1.25m. The natural water table was encountered at 13.17m AOD. The primary fill (209), of mixed dark greyish brown sandy clay yielded fragments of building material, animal bone and a small amount of slag. The secondary fill (208) of compact grey clay appeared to be redeposited natural clay possibly from the southern bank of the ditch. No finds were recovered from this fill. The feature was cut by a modern drain [212] on an E-W alignment. The feature appears to represent a large medieval boundary ditch.
- Gully [204] was observed cut through the natural geology in the centre of the trench on a north east south west alignment. It had gently sloping concave sides and a rounded base. The length of the gully was unclear as it ran beneath the baulk at the western and eastern sides of the trench. The exposed area was 0.40m wide by 0.35m deep. The primary fill (205) of plastic dark greyish brown clayey sand. Two fragments of animal bone were collected from the fill. The gully was cut by a modern feature [213], which is likely to be the remains of a previous excavation from the 1970s. This gully appears to run parallel to ditches [201] and [206], but produced no datable evidence.

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Ditch [201] was observed cut through the natural geology in the south eastern end of the trench. The full dimensions of the feature were unclear as it ran beneath the south eastern baulk, but it had a maximum depth of 0.65m. The primary cut [201] was U shaped with steep flat sides and a rounded base. Its primary fill (203) of soft mid brown (10YR 4/3) clayey sand contained a high concentration of finds including a substantial amount of pottery most of which consisted of fragments of 3rd century AD Nene valley folded beakers. Metal, animal bone and oyster shell were also collected from the fill. The feature was truncated by a linear cut [206] which had sloped, concave sides and a rounded base. Its primary fill of soft dark brown clayey sand (202) yielded Nene Valley pottery sherds of late 2nd/ early 3rd century AD date, animal bone and oyster shell. The animal bone displayed evidence of butchery. The feature appears to represent a ditch of Roman origin and its recut.

Length (m):	10	Width (m):		3	Maximum Depth (m):	1.68	Orientat	tion	N	W-SE
	W End of Tr	ench (mOD)	Тор	14.02	Level at SE l	End of	Trench (m	OD)	Тор	14.47
		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Base	13.67			,	,	Base	13.72
Context	Туре			scriptior	1		D	imen	sions (m	
content	-580		2.		-	F	Length		idth	Depth
201	Cut		. Orienta		ep slides and a W. Truncated		>3		1.2	0.65
202	Fill	Soft plastic d with moderat	ark brow e charcoa nues und	al flecks a	sand (10YR 3/2 and infrequent the SE. Fill o	ŕ	>3	^	1.2	0.65
203	Fill	Soft mid brow	wn clayey coal flec	ks and in	0YR 4/6) with frequent stones	. Fill	>3	0	.60	0.30
204	Cut		th shallov . Shallov	w concav w gully.			>3	0	.40	0.35
205	Fill	Plastic, dark	greyish b asional s	rown cla mall ston	yey sand (10YI es. Fill of shal	R	>3	0	.40	0.35
206	Cut	Linear cut fe	ature alig oncave s	ned Nort ides and a	heast-Southwes a rounded base		>3	>	1.2	0.50
207	Cut	Linear cut fea (30°) sides an	ature alig nd a flat b atural wa	ned East- base. Con ater table	West with slop ntains fills [208 in bottom 0.25	3]	>3		>4	1.25
208	Fill	Compact gre occasional sr Secondary fi	nall stone ll of ditch	es and cha [207]	arcoal flecks.		>3	~	>4	0.15
209	Fill		nal small	stones an	ly clay (10YR - nd charcoal flec		>3	>	>4	0.20
210	Layer	Modern build	ling debr	is			>11 >3		>3	0.35
211	Layer	Tarmac					>11 >3			0.15
212	Cut	Modern drain pea shingle.	nage cut a	ligned W	/est-East contai	ining	>5.2	0	.85	N/A

Trench data:

Length (m):	10	Width (m):		3	Maximum Depth (m):	1.68	Orientat	tion	N	W-SE
Level at NV	V End of Tre	ench (mOD)	Тор	14.02	Level at SE End of Trench (mOD) Top					14.47
			Base	13.67					Base	13.72
Context	Туре		De	escription	1		D	imen	sions (n	l)
							Length	W	idth	Depth
213	Cut	Modern cut a associated wi					>4.5	().8	N/A

Trench 3

3.12 Trench 3 was located in the southern half of the site. It measured $2m \times 7m$, had a maximum depth of 1.10m, and was aligned north west –south east.

3.13 The stratigraphy in the trench consisted of a layer of concrete slabs above a layer of very dark brown (10YR 2/2) loamy soil. Beneath this was a thin layer of modern debris 0.40m thick. The natural geology consisted of compacted, yellowish brown (10YR 5/6), clayey sand and gravel.

3.14 The trench contained a two large Roman ditches [301] and [303]. There was also modern disturbance.

- A large linear feature [301] was observed cut through the natural geology in the northern half of the trench on a NE SW alignment. The full dimensions of the feature were unclear as it ran beneath the north eastern baulk, but it had sloping concave sides. The primary fill (305), of firm greyish brown silty clay, contained three sherds of 3rd century AD Samian pottery. The secondary fill (302) was a firm reddish brown mottled silty clay. A few sherds of 2nd century AD shell tempered and grey ware pottery and a small amount of animal bone were collected from this fill. The animal bone had an unfused element suggesting juvenile animals, and showed evidence of gnawing. This ditch was not observed within the confines of Trench 2 to the west.
- A large linear feature [303] was observed cut through the natural geology in the southern half of the trench on a N S alignment. The length of the feature was unclear as it ran beneath the baulk in the south western corner. The exposed area was 1m wide by 0.39m deep and had sloping concave sides and a rounded base. The primary fill (306) of loose reddish brown gravel yielded a single fragment of animal bone showing butchery evidence and a shell. The secondary fill (304) of firm greyish brown clayey gravel contained a few sherds of highly abraded late 2nd/ early 3rd century AD pottery, CBM, a single fragment of animal bone and a piece of worked flint in the shape of an arrow or spear tip.
- A layer [307] of compacted greyish brown silty clay was observed above features [301] and [303]. It consisted of mainly modern material but also yielded a sherd of Roman and a sherd of Saxo Norman shell tempered ware.

Trench data:

Length (m):	7	Width (m):		2	Maximu m Depth (m):	1.10	Orienta	tion	N	W-SE	
Level at NV	V End of Tr	ench (mOD)	Тор	14.03	Level at SE	End of [French (m	OD)	Тор	14.13	
			Base	13.43					Base	13.58	
Context	Туре		De	escription	n		D	imen	sions (n	1)	
				_			Length	W	idth	Depth	
301	Cut	with sloped of	concave s	ides. Bas unning th	heast-Southwe se was not rea rough from tr 5]	ched.	>1.75m	>	2m	>0.50m	
302	Fill	Firm Reddish	h brown r nal small	nottled si	lty clay (5YR Secondary fill		>1.75m	>	2m	>0.56m	
303	Cut	Linear cut fe sloped, conca Contains fills	ave sides	and a rou			>2m]	lm	0.39m	
304	Fill				el (10YR 5/2) of ditch [303].		>2m	1	lm	0.22m	
305	Fill				(10YR 5/2) w ry fill of large		>1.75m	>	2m	>0.56m	
306	Fill	Loose Reddi inclusions. F			0YR 4/3) wit h [303].	h no	>2m]	lm	0.12m	
307	Layer	Compacted,	greyish bi te gravel	rown silt	y clay (10YR s. Below [308		>2.75m	>	2m	0.15m	
308	Layer	building debr					ompacted bricks and sand containing modern>7muilding debris.Below [309], above [303], [307].		>2m		0.35m
309	Layer				silt (10YR 2/2 modern activi		>7m	>	2m	0.35m	
310	Layer	Modern conc	crete slabs	5			>5.20 >		2m	0.07m	

Trench 4

3.15 Trench 4 was located in the northern part of the site. It measured 3.10m x 1.9m, had a maximum depth of 1.85m, and was aligned north east–south west.

3.16 The stratigraphy in the trench consisted of a layer of tarmac above a thin levelling layer of gravel. Beneath this was a layer (404) of firm very dark grey (10YR 3/1) silt with frequent building debris, then a layer (406) of firm very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silt. Beneath this was a layer (407) of loose yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) gravel. This layer represents a post medieval levelling layer for the courtyard associated with Castle Hill House.

3.17 Above the natural geology, but below layer (407) consisted of plastic, was a very dark grey (10YR 3/1) silty clay layer (408). No finds were recovered from this layer. As Castle Hill House is situated on a slight rise in ground level, this layer may represent material being imported in preparation to the construction of the house.

3.18 The trench contained a brick built structure [401] and the remains of two further structures [410] and [412]. Large areas of the trench were disturbed by three service pipes (405), (409), and (411) which cut through layer (404).

Pathfinder House, Huntingdon

- Structure [401] was observed cut through layer (404) in the north western half of the trench on a north east south west alignment. The full dimensions of the feature were unclear as it ran beneath the north-western baulk. The exposed area was 0.2m in depth consisting of three courses above the brick base. The structure consisted of red, unfrogged, possibly hand made bricks measuring 0.23m x 0.11m x 0.07m bonded by a lime mortar. The north western line of the structure appeared to run parallel with the wall of Castle Hill House.
- Two lines of mortar [410] and [412] were observed cutting through layer (404) in the north eastern half of the trench. Context [410] was aligned north west south east and measured 0.25m long by 0.15m wide. Context [412] was aligned north east south west and measured 0.25m long by 0.15m wide. These features represent the vestiges of brick structures which suggest the presence of a network of Post-Medieval, brick built conduits that have since been destroyed.

Length (m):	3.10	Width (m):	1	.9	Maximum Depth (m):	1.85	Orienta	tion	NI	E - SW	
Level at N	E End of Tre	nch (mOD)	Тор	13.75	Level at SW	End of	Trench (m	OD)	Тор	13.77	
			Base	13.27					Base	11.87	
Context	Туре]	Descriptio	n		D	Dimen	sions (m)		
	• •			•			Length	W	idth	Depth	
401	Structure	Brick built	structure	with bric	k base aligned	north	>2	>	0.5	0.2	
		east - south	west wi	th unfrog	ged possibly						
					cks (0.23m X 0	.11m					
					mortar. Three						
		courses abo	ve brick	base. Cu	t by drain servi	ce					
		pipe [411].	Post me	dieval	-						
402	Layer	Tarmac. A	bove [40	3]			>3.10	>	1.9	0.15	
403	Layer	Gravel leve	lling lay	er below ((402) above (40)4)	>3.10	>	1.9	0.05	
404	Layer	Firm, very	dark grey	/ (10YR 3	/1) silt with fre	quent	>3.10	>	1.9	0.45	
	-	building de	bris. Cu	t by servic	e pipe [405], b	elow					
		(403) above	e (406).	-							
405	Service	Modern ser	vice pipe	e, orientato	ed north east –	south	>3.10	0	.05	0.05	
		west, cuts (404)								
406	Layer	Firm, very	dark grey	ish brown	n (10YR 3/2) si	ilt	>1.70	>().75	0.10	
					04), above (407						
407	Layer	Loose, yelle	owish bro	own (10Y	R 5/8) gravel v	vith no	>1.70	>(0.75	0.15	
		inclusions.	Below (406), abo [,]	ve (408).						
408	Layer	Plastic very	dark gre	ey (10YR	3/1) silty clay	with	>1.70	>(0.75	1.0	
		no inclusion	ns. Belo	w (407), a	bove natural						
409	Service	Ceramic ser	vice pip	e orientate	ed north west –	south	>1.70	0	.15	0.15	
		east, cuts (4	-04).								
410	Structure	1			d north west –		0.25	0	.11	N/a	
					evious structure						
411	Service	Ceramic ser	vice pip	e containi	ng cables. Cut	s	>2.80	0	.15	N/a	
		(404)									
412	Structure				d north east – s		0.25	0	.15	N/a	
			le indica	tion of pro	evious structure	e.					
		Cuts (404).									

Trench data:

Trench 5

3.19 Trench 5 was located in the eastern half of the site. It measured $6m \times 2m$ and was aligned north – south.

3.20 The stratigraphy in the trench consisted of a layer of tarmac above a layer of concrete 0.15m thick. Beneath the concrete was a thin layer of black (10YR 2/1) silty sand, then a layer of loose dark brown (10YR 3/3) silty sand both containing frequent modern building debris. In the southern half of the trench this layer was disturbed by modern services. The natural geology consisted of loose, yellowish brown (10YR 5/6), sand with gravel.

3.21 The area of the trench available for investigation was reduced due to the proximity of scaffolding surrounding Pathfinder House. It was further reduced by the presence of two modern services [506] and [510]. The visible area contained a feature [501] which cut through a layer or deposit (503).

- A large linear feature [501] was observed cut through the deposit/layer (503) in the northern half of the trench on a north south alignment. The full dimensions of the feature were unclear as it ran beneath the baulk at the northern and western ends of the trench. It had a maximum depth of 0.40m, sloping, slightly rounded sides at approximately 45° and a rounded base. The primary fill (502) of loose dark brown silty sand yielded a small amount of abraded Roman, grey ware pottery sherds, and several types of animal bone. The animal bone had an unfused element suggestive of juvenile animals and showed evidence of butchery. The natural geology was observed in the base of the feature.
- A layer or deposit (503) was observed within the excavated area of the trench. The full dimensions of the layer or deposit were unclear as the limits could not be seen within the trench. Several sherds of 2nd to 3rd century AD grey ware, fragments of animal bone and shell were collected from the layer.

Length (m):	6m	Width (m):	2	m	Maximum Depth (m):	2m	Orienta	tion		N-S
Level at N l	End of Tren	ch (mOD)	Тор	13.81	Level at S E	nd of Tre	ench (mOD))	Тор	14.01
		-	Base	12.01					Base	11.96
Context	Туре		Ι	Descriptio	n		D	imen	sions (m	l)
							Length	W	idth	Depth
501	Cut	Linear cut f	eature or	n north-so	uth alignment	with	>2m	>0	.80m	0.40m
		sloping slig	htly roun	ded sides	and a rounded	base.				
		Feature disa	appears u	nder sout	hern and weste	rn				
		bulk. Ditch.	Cuts th	rough dep	osit layer [503].				
502	Fill	Loose dark	brown (1	0YR 3/3)), silty sand wit	h	>2m	>0	.80m	0.40m
		occasional o	charcoal	flecks and	l infrequent sm	all				
		stones. Fill	of ditch	[501]						
503	Layer				R 5/4) silty san		>2m	>9	0cm	50m
		-			s. Extends bey	ond				
		boundaries		<i>i</i> -						
504	Layer) silty sand with		>2.75m	>	2m	0.55m
					nents and asso					
		U	bris. Cut	by [506]	below [505] ab	ove				
		[503]								
505	Layer) silty sand with		>2.75m	>	2m	0.45m
		-		-	ris. Cut by [500	6],				
		below [507]], above	[504]						

Trench data:

Length (m):	6m	Width (m):	2	2m	Maximum Depth (m):	2m	Orienta	tion		N-S
Level at N	End of Tren	ch (mOD)	Тор	13.81	Level at S E	nd of Tre	nch (mOI))	Тор	14.01
			Base	12.01					Base	11.96
Context	Туре]	Descriptio	n		D	imen	sions (n	n)
							Length	W	idth	Depth
506	Cut	Modern cut building de			ontaining mode 504]	ern	>2m	>1	.5m	>0.8m
507	Layer		·	· ·	sand with frequ w [508], above		>3.5m	>	2m	0.10m
508	Layer	Concrete. 1	Below [5	09], abov	e [507].		>4.75m	>	3m	0.15m
509	Layer	Tarmac. Ab	ove [509)]			>6m	>	3m	0.10m
510	Cut	Modern cut pea shingle			ontaining mode	ern	>0.8m	>0).1m	>0.20m
511	Cut	Modern cut debris [506		ice pipe. (Contains buildi	ng	>0.8m	0.	.2m	>0.2m

Trench 6

3.22 Trench 6 was located in the eastern half of the site. It measured $3m \times 3m$ and had a maximum depth of 3.10m.

3.23 The stratigraphy in the trench consisted of two layers of tarmac above a layer of modern debris 0.35m thick. Beneath the modern debris was a layer of loose, brown (10YR 5/3) silty sand with frequent root disturbance. The natural geology consisted of loose yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sand with gravel.

3.24 The trench contained a brick structure [601], and two cut features [605] and [602].

- Structure [601] was observed cut through layer (607) to the western end of the trench on a north south alignment. The full dimensions of the feature were unclear as it ran beneath the baulk at the western side of the trench. The majority of the structure consisted of unfrogged, moulded bricks measuring 10.5cm by 22.5cm by 6.7cm bonded by a cement mortar. Two courses of the structure survived, except at the west end where only a single course was observed. The structure was recorded then removed to gain access to the features below. It is likely to be a garden feature, related to Castle Hill House.
- A cut feature [605] was observed in the southern half of the trench. The full dimensions of the feature were unclear because no sides were observed within the trench. It had a maximum depth of 0.85m. The feature had a flat base. The primary fill (606) was loose black silty sand with a secondary fill (611) of loose brown (10YR 5/3) silty sand. No finds were observed or recovered from the feature.
- A deep rectangular feature [602] was observed cutting through feature [605]. The full dimensions of the feature were unclear as it ran beneath the baulk on the northern side of the trench, it had a minimum length of 1.5m. The feature contained three fills. The primary fill (604) was firm black (10YR 2/1) silt. The secondary fill (603) was loose reddish brown (5YR 4/4) silt. Fragments of Post-Medieval brick were observed within this fill but, due to health and safety constraints these were not recovered. The upper fill (612) of loose brown (10YR 5/3) silt was 0.85m deep. It contained no datable artefacts.

Trench data:

Length (m):	3	Width (m):		3	Maximum Depth (m):	3.10	Orienta	tion		N/A
Level at N	End of Trenc	ch (mOD)	Тор	15.14	Level at S E	nd of Ti	ench (mOI))	Тор	15.14
			Base	13.94					Base	13.89
Context	Туре		1	Descriptio	n		D	Dimen	sions (n	n)
							Length	W	idth	Depth
601	Structure	Brick struct	0				>1.5m	>1	.75m	>1.75m
					22.5cm, W 10.					
					Mostly 2 cours					
					d. Pier end cor					
					sible garden fea	ature				
602	Cut	-	0		vertical sides.		>1.65m	>1.	.20m	>1m
], Cuts [605], cont	ains fills [603]	,				
(02	D'11	[604].		0.1. (53			. 1.65	. 1	20	0.0
603	Fill				(R 4/4) with free		>1.65m	>1	.20m	0.9m
					f deep rectange	ular				
604	Fill	feature [602			th no inclusion	g Fill	>1.65m	>1	.20m	0.08m
004	ГШ				02]. Below [60		~1.0JIII	~1.	.20111	0.0811
605	Cut				base but no visi		>1.50m	>0	.50m	c.2m
005	Cut				tangular featu		× 1.50m	- 0.	.50111	0.2111
		Below [611			Aungunar Toura					
606	Fill			YR 2/1) w	vith no inclusio	ns.	>1.6m	>0	.50m	0.85m
		Fill of [605								
607	Layer				5/3) with frequ	ient	>3m	>	3m	1.15m
	-	roots. Belo	w garder	n feature [601], above [6	11].				
608	Layer	Modern deb	oris direc	tly below	tarmac [609]		>3m	>	3m	0.35m
609	Layer				ow upper layer	r [610]	>3m		3m	0.07m
610	Layer	Tarmac, ab					>3m		3m	0.10m
611	Fill				R $5/3$) with no		>1.75m	>1	.75m	0.40m
		inclusions.								
612	Fill				(8.5/3) with no		>1.65m	>1	.20m	0.85m
		inclusions.	Fill of d	eep rectar	gular feature [602]				

FINDS ASSESSMENT

Concordance of Finds

	Po	ttery	CI	BM	Me	etal		imal one	Sh	nell	St	tone		rked int	SI	ag	Cha	rcoal
Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt
104															2	15		
108	9	65							1	<5								
111	58	535	7	115			31	550	3	35								
113	3	50					4	15										
115	20	140	1	10			5	30	2	<5					1	10		
119	13	185	1	30			6	70			1	35						
Tr 2 u/s	3	70																
202	8	50	1	130			10	55	8	140								
203	70	750			1	5	9	15	16	305	1	635					1	10
205							2	10										
209			3	40	1	35	27	35							3	25		
302	5	35					4	20			1	600						
304	5	30	2	70			1	<5					1	<5				
305	3	45																
306							1	65	1	10								
308	1	15																
Tr 4 u/s							3	45										
Tr 5 u/s	2	10					1	10										
502	5	15	1	20			14	45									1	<5
503	7	30					7	25	2	5	1	595						
Total	212	2025	16	415	2	40	125	990	33	495	4	1865	1	<5	6	50	2	10

Pottery

3.25 A total of 212 sherds of pottery, weighing 2025g, was recovered from 13 stratified and 2 unstratified contexts during the present investigation. No pottery was recovered from Trenches 4 and 6. The pottery was mainly $2^{nd}-3^{rd}$ century AD in date. However, some Saxo-Norman and Medieval sherds were also identified. The assemblage consisted mostly of small, abraded, bodysherds, but diagnostic sherds were also present. Some material had decoration.

3.26 Trench 1 contained pottery ranging from the $2^{nd}-3^{rd}$ century to the Medieval period. The material consisted mainly of small abraded sherds. Fill [108] contained $2^{nd}-3^{rd}$ century local and regional wares including Nene valley ware, with colour coat, grey wares and grog tempered pottery. The fill of feature [110] contained both imported and regional wares including Samian, Nene valley, grey wares and shell tempered wares. The material represents a domestic assemblage. Feature [114] contained grey ware, Nene valley, and shell tempered sherds that are late 3^{rd} -Early 4th century in date. This feature is cut by [113], the fill of which contained Saxo-Norman and Medieval pottery including St Neots type ware. Layer [119] contained small abraded sherds of both Roman and Medieval pottery.

3.27 Medieval $13^{th}-14^{th}$ century sherds were recovered unstratified from Trench 2. Fill (203) contained 3^{rd} century imported folded beaker fragments. These fragments were in situ and were decorated using rouletting. The context also contained shell tempered sherds. Fill of ditch [206], which cuts through (203), contained late $2^{nd}-3^{rd}$ century sherds with burnished decoration and Nene valley ware with colour coat.

3.28 In Trench 3 fill [302] contained shell tempered and grey ware mid-late 2^{nd} century in date. From the same feature, fill [305] contained 3^{rd} century Samian. Feature [303] contained

abraded grey wares and Samian of late 2nd–early 3rd century date. Roman and Saxo-Norman pottery was recovered from layer (308).

3.29 Roman pottery was recovered unstratified from Trench 5. Fill [502] contained Roman abraded grey wares. Context [503] also contained abraded grey wares that were $2^{nd}-3^{rd}$ century in date.

3.30 The Roman pottery from the present site represents a domestic assemblage. The small and abraded nature of several the sherds indicates that some material was not in its primary place of deposition. This, combined with the small size of the assemblage recovered from some features, indicates that it is not the result of the dumping of domestic refuse in the features. It does, however, suggest domestic occupation in the vicinity of the site at this time. This occupation is confirmed by the folded beaker in feature [203] which is likely to be in situ.

Recommendations

3.31 Due to abraded nature and the small size of the assemblage, it is recommended that no further analysis is undertaken at this stage. However due the date of the assemblage and the presence of diagnostic sherds it is recommended that the assemblage is included in any analysis undertaken following any further stages of work.

Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

3.32 A total of sixteen fragments of CBM, weighing 415g, was recovered from 7 stratified contexts during the course of the investigation. The assemblage consists of both Roman material and late post-medieval peg tile and brick fragments.

3.33 The Roman material was recovered from contexts (111), (115), (202) and (304). Most fragments were small and abraded.

3.34 The post-medieval CBM recovered from contexts (111), (119), (209) and (502) is likely to be the result of activity on the site associated with the construction of Pathfinder House.

Recommendations

3.35 Due to the late date of several of the fragments, and the small size and abraded nature of the remainder of the assemblage, no further work is proposed on this material.

Metal

3.36 Two irregular pieces of heavily corroded iron, weighing 40g, were recovered from 2 stratified contexts during the course of the investigation. The assemblage was recovered from context (203) and (209) the fragments are small and undiagnostic.

Recommendations

3.37 Due to the small size and undiagnostic nature of the material no further work is proposed on this material.

Animal Bone

3.38 A total of 125 fragments of animal bone, weighing 990g, was recovered from 13 stratified contexts and 2 unstratified contexts during the course of the investigation. The general condition of the assemblage recovered was good but fragmentary in nature. The most fragmentary bones within the assemblage could not be identified as to species but are likely to originate from medium sized mammals.

3.39 Species represented from the site include cattle, sheep/goat, pig, bird, fish, small mammal (such as mouse), and frog/toad. Fusion evidence indicates both mature and juvenile animals were present. There does not appear to be any bias towards any particular element which could have indicated industrial processes; the assemblage therefore is likely to represent domestic waste.

3.40 Butchery evidence was recorded on several bones. The evidence identified includes single and repeated knife cuts, chop marks and saw marks. Gnawing evidence was also identified and a single fragment of burnt bone was recorded.

3.41 Animal bone from Trench 1 originated from 4 stratified contexts. Fill (111) contained the most diverse range of species including cattle, sheep/goat, pig and fish. There were several butchery marks identified on fragments from this context as well as from fill (119). Contexts (113), (115) and (119) all contained sheep/goat fragments and (115) contained the only burnt bone fragment identified.

3.42 Animal bone from Trench 2 originated from 4 stratified contexts. Fill (202) contained cattle bones which had signs of butchery in the form of chop marks. Identified species in fill (203) included bird and small mammal. Butchery was also identified on the bone in this context in the form of knife cuts. Fish was identified in fill (205) and pig in fill (209).

3.43 The animal bone from Trench 3 originated from 3 stratified contexts. Sheep/goat was represented in fill (302). Gnawing evidence was identified, and fusion information demonstrating that juvenile animals were present. Fill (306) also had evidence of juvenile animals and also had butchery information in the form of chop marks. Cattle was present in this fill.

3.44 The animal bone from Trench 4 was unstratified. Species represented were cattle and sheep/goat.

3.45 The animal bone from Trench 5 included an unstratifed fragment of cattle bone which showed evidence of chop marks. Fill (502) contained a range of species including cattle, sheep/goat, pig, bird and frog/toad. The frog/toad bones may indicate that the feature was left open for a period of time. The bone from this context also included evidence of butchery, in the form of knife and chop marks. Fusion evidence indicates some juvenile animals were present.

3.46 No faunal remains were recovered from Trench 6.

Recommendations

3.47 Due to the small size and the fragmentary nature of the assemblage no further work is proposed on the animal bone at this stage. However, it is recommended that the assemblage is included in analysis undertaken following any further stages of work.

Shell

3.48 Thirty three fragments of shell weighing 495g were recovered from 7 stratified contexts during the course of the investigation

3.49 A large proportion (85%) of the shell was oyster. There were no intact oyster shells, but most of them were complete halves and were in good condition. These fragments occurred in contexts (108), (111) (202) (203) and (306). Mussel shell was present in context (115). Possible edible land snails occurred in contexts (203) and (503).

Recommendations

3.50 No further work is proposed on this assemblage.

Stone

3.51 Four fragments of stone weighing 1865g were recovered from 4 stratified contexts: (119),(203), (302) and (503). The assemblage consisted of three limestone fragments and a fragment of igneous rock. This material appears to have been imported on to site. Although there is no clear evidence of working on the stones their large size, in comparison with other stones in the features and the natural geology, made them worthy of note.

Recommendations

3.52 No further work is proposed on this assemblage at this stage. However, it is recommended that the assemblage is included in analysis undertaken following any further stages of work.

Worked Flint

3.53 A single piece of worked flint was recovered from fill (304) of a Roman ditch (Figure 24). It is likely to be the broken tip of an arrow head. It is 27mm long and 21mm wide.

Recommendations

3.54 It is recommend that this artefact is included in any analysis undertaken following any further stages of work.

Slag

3.55 Six pieces of slag, weighing 50g, were recovered from contexts (104), (115) and (209) during the course of the investigation. Its presence suggests evidence of metal working in the vicinity. This small quantity of slag appears to be mainly deposited in pits used for domestic rubbish dating to the late Romano-British period.

Recommendations

3.56 It is recommend that the assemblage is included in any analysis undertaken following any further stages of work. A larger sample size from around the site could provide information about the nature, scale and methodologies of metal working on site during this period.

Charcoal

3.57 Two small pieces of charcoal, weighing 10g, were recovered from contexts ditch fills (203) and (502) during the course of the present investigation.

Recommendations

3.58 No further work is proposed on this assemblage.

DISCUSSION

3.59 The fieldwork has identified stratified archaeological features and deposits. Within the archaeological trenches five main periods of activity were identified; Roman-British, Saxo-Norman, Medieval, Post-Medieval and Modern.

Stratigraphy

3.60 The nature of the stratigraphy changed across the site. In the area immediately to the east of Pathfinder House and around Castle Hill House (Trenches 4,5,6), the sequence ranged from two to three metres in depth. Around the southern margins of Pathfinder House and the main carpark (Trenches 2,3) the ground had been truncated by modern construction, leaving sequence of approximately 0.60m in depth. In the northern half of the main carpark (Trench 1) the sequence was relatively undisturbed, extending to a depth of approximately 1m.

3.61 The stratigraphy in Trench 1 was the least disturbed of all the trenches investigated. The impact of the present carpark construction was minimal in this area.

3.62 In Trenches 2 and 3 the archaeological horizon lay immediately beneath the modern construction layers for Pathfinder House, indicating that the original stratigraphy had been truncated. In addition, Trench 2 was located within an area excavated during the 1970s, which is likely to have truncated the stratigraphy in this area.

3.63 Investigation of Trench 4 was hampered by the number of live services crossing the trench. Nevertheless, natural was encountered at a depth of c.1.80m. A gravel layer [407], at a depth of 0.60m, probably represents a levelling layer for a Post-Medieval courtyard surface associated with Castle Hill House. Beneath this was a dark silty clay layer [408] which sealed the natural. This layer may be associated with landscaping during the development of Castle Hill House or a remnant soil from when the area was part of the rear gardens of houses which were located along the High Street frontage.

3.64 Trench 5 also contained numerous live services associated with Pathfinder House. Natural was encountered at a depth of c.1.90m. Four layers [504], [505], [507] and [508] lay beneath the modern carpark surface. All of these layers contained modern brick and CBM, suggesting they were associated with the construction of Pathfinder House. However, layer [503] also contained sherds of abraded $2^{nd} - 3^{rd}$ century pottery. This layer, a yellowish brown silty sand, has the appearance of a buried subsoil, but may also be the remnant soil from a earthwork. This soil, predating Castle Hill House, survives at a depth of approximately 1.40m.

3.65 The natural horizon was encountered at a depth of c.2.90m in Trench 6. The modern carpark and its associated levelling layers sealed the base of a brick wall cut into layer [607]. This wall aligns with a structure extending from the present southern wall of Castle Hill House.

3.66 Layer [607] beneath structure [601] appears to be a garden soil. There was a lot of root activity observed in this layer, which seals two deep cut features [602] and [603].

3.67 It appears likely that the ground around Castle Hill House was reduced when the house was built. This is suggested by the windowed basement, the floor of which is approximately c.2m below the present ground surface.

Roman Evidence

3.68 Evidence of activity on site from the 2^{nd} to the 4^{th} century AD was encountered in Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 5. There was no evidence for activity prior to the 2^{nd} century.

3.69 A series of Roman domestic rubbish pits in Trench 1 contained a range of imported and regional wares, suggesting occupation in the immediate vicinity. It is not known if post holes [101], [103] and [105] are also Roman because Saxo-Norman pits have been cut into the same area.

3.70 The projected alignment of Ermine Street passes through the site. However, this feature could not be identified and no areas of metalling were encountered within the confines of the evaluation trenches. It is possible that the original line of Ermine street was either situated to the east of Pathfinder House (within the area disturbed by Castle Hill House), or directly under Pathfinder House itself.

3.71 A series of six Roman ditches were investigated within Trenches 1,2,3 and 5. Two ditches [110] and [303], were orientated north-east south-west, which broadly aligns with the projected line of Ermine Street. Although these ditches probably do not represent road-side ditches, they do indicate that the land divisions, at this period reflect that alignment.

3.72 The excavations in the 1970s identified a potential track linking the villa at Mill Common to the west, to Ermine Street. In the southern half of Trench 2, a series of ditches [201], [204] and 206], appear to be aligned with this spur road. However, the narrow separation between the ditches, the differences in their profiles and the fact that only ditches [201] and [206] contain Roman material suggests that the track lies outside Trench 2, to the south and that ditches [201] and [206] may represent the northern boundary of the track. Ditch [201] has been re-cut as ditch [206] indicating that this feature was maintained.

3.73 Ditch [501] in Trench 5 was cut into a layer [503] which contained abraded pottery also from the $2^{nd}-3^{rd}$ century. This layer has been tentatively interpreted as an area of remnant Roman subsoil.

Saxo-Norman Evidence

3.74 Despite the site's proximity to the castle and known Saxo-Norman activity, there was a lack of both unstratified or stratified material of this period recovered from the evaluation. This is probably the result of truncation arising from the construction of Pathfinder House. Although material dating to this period was recovered from Trenches 1, 2 and 3, only in Trench 1 was it securely stratified.

3.75 Pit [112], in Trench 1, contained sherds of pottery dating from $9^{th} - 13^{th}$ century AD and was cut into a Roman pit [114] dating to the late $3rd - early 4^{th}$ century AD. These features were sealed by layer [119] which probably represents a Medieval plough soil, indicating that other features dating to this period may survive in the vicinity.

3.76 The northern end of Trench 2 was occupied by a large ditch [207] orientated broadly east to west. This substantial feature was over 4m wide and 2m deep. In contrast to the Romano-British features in the vicinity, there was very little dateable artefactual evidence from this feature, although a fragment of probable Medieval/ Post-Medieval CBM was identified. Fragments of slag recovered from the ditch may be indicative of metal working in the vicinity.

3.77 The fill of this ditch, [208], contained lenses of redeposited natural in the upper levels. This is indicative of material from an adjacent bank being used to backfill the ditch. The deposition sequence suggests that the bank was positioned along the southern edge of the ditch. Tentatively this feature has been interpreted as a medieval ditch associated with the castle complex. The ditch may form the southern boundary to Saxon-Norman settlement activity located beneath the main carpark, based on the evidence observed in Trench 1 and available information from excavations in the 1970s.

3.78 Unstratified sherds dating to this period were recovered from layer [308], in Trench 3, which is associated with the construction of Pathfinder House.

Post-Medieval and Modern Evidence

3.79 The site lies within what was formerly the gardens of Castle Hill House. A remnant of possible garden soil [118] was observed in Trench 1. The demolition and clearance of the mid 20^{th} century structures and the construction of the Pathfinder House during the 1970s appears to have removed any garden layers or features across most of the site.

3.80 There was no evidence of the buildings shown on the 1958 OS plan (Figure 13). Which are likely to have been temporary buildings built in the Second World War. These buildings appear not to have had extensive footings associated with them.

3.81 Prior to the construction of Castle Hill House in the late 18th century, a series of houses were located along the High Street frontage. These buildings are shown on Speed's map of 1610 and Jeffrey's map of 1768 (Figures 6 and 7). Trench 6 lies within the rear gardens of these buildings.

3.82 The base of a brick wall [601] encountered in Trench 6, corresponds to a garden feature with an apsidal projection on the south eastern end, depicted on the 1926 OS plan (Figure 12). This feature appears to have replaced a series of conservatories which adjoined Castle Hill House and extended the south west facing frontage.

3.83 Two pits [602] and [603] were also observed in Trench 6. It is clear that pit [602] cut through [605]. The edge to [602] was vertical and the lower fill (603) contained a high degree of late Post-Medieval/ Modern brick and tile debris. This was suggestive of a soakaway. The cut of this pit aligns with the edge of the brick wall, indicating that they may be associated.

3.84 The earlier pit [605] contained dark silts and redeposited natural. Small and infrequent flecks of CBM, suggesting a post-medieval/modern date, were observed but not recovered from this feature. It is likely that this pit relates to activity in the rear gardens of the earlier buildings fronting the High Street. Both pits were sealed by layer [607].

3.85 A brick conduit [401] and the base of a yard surface [407] were encountered in Trench 4, indicating that features associated with earlier phases of Castle Hill House do survive. This area of the site has been a small courtyard since Castle Hill House was constructed.

3.86 Modern services, including water, gas, electricity, fibre optic cables, outside lighting and drainage associated with Pathfinder House and Castle Hill House were observed in all trenches, except Trench 6.

4. Assessment of Risk

Early Prehistoric

4.1 Little evidence of early prehistoric activity has been recorded from the immediate vicinity of the study area. A number of Palaeolithic flint implements are known from Hartford, approximately 2 km to the north.

4.2 In the course of the fieldwork no features or artefacts from this period were encountered. On this basis, the risk of encountering features and finds of early prehistoric date in the course of development on the present site may be considered to be *Low*.

4.3 A number of research topics relating to the early prehistoric period have been identified in the regional research framework, including the establishment of a chronological framework, the identification of sites and *in situ* horizons, and the impact of human occupation on the landscape (Austin 2000, 5-8). Therefore, the significance of any remains of early prehistoric date identified on the present site would be considered to be *High*.

Later Prehistoric

4.4 Sites of later prehistoric date have been recorded in the Ouse valley, including the ceremonial complex at Brampton, approximately 3 km to the south-west. A number of flint implements of later prehistoric date have also been found from within a 500m radius of the site, including Neolithic tools (HER 01912) found at the southern end of High Street, approximately 70m to the north-east.

4.5 Bronze Age finds and features have been recorded during archaeological fieldwork in the town centre, including pottery sherds in later features at Gazeley House (HER MCB16321) approximately 300m to the north-west and a Bronze Age ditch at Royal Oak Passage (HER MCB16503) approximately 480m to the north-west.

4.6 Although no finds from this period was encountered during the present fieldwork, the risk of encountering finds or features of later prehistoric date in the course of development on the present site may be considered to be *Moderate*.

4.7 The regional research framework has identified a number of relevant research topics, including the development of agriculture, patterns of settlement and the development and integration of monuments, fields and settlements (Brown & Murphy 2000, 9-13). Therefore, the significance of any remains of late prehistoric date identified on the present site would be considered to be *High*.

Iron Age

4.8 Evidence for Iron Age settlement in the vicinity appears to be focused to the south and west of the study area, at Hinchingbrooke Park and Godmanchester. However, archaeological evaluation at Watersmeet on Mill Common in 1999 (HER MCB16330), approximately 210m to the south-west, revealed evidence of late Iron Age activity. This may represent either roadside occupation along a precursor to Ermine Street, or a small riverside settlement. Evidence of late Iron Age activity has also been recorded on the site of the medieval castle (HER 01774).

4.9 No evidence for this period was recovered during the evaluation, although, the extent of Romano-British finds from Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 5 suggest there may have been late Iron Age activity in the area prior to the conquest. On this basis, the risk of encountering features and finds of early to middle Iron Age date in the course of development on the present site may be considered to be *Low*. The risk of encountering features and finds of late Iron Age date in the course of development on the present site may be considered to be *Low*.

4.10 A number of research topics have been highlighted for the Iron Age in the regional research framework, including the development of farming, settlement change and economic and social change during the late Iron Age and Iron Age/Roman transition (Bryant 2000, 16-17). Therefore, the significance of any remains of this period identified on the present site would be considered to be *High*.

Romano-British

4.11 Although Huntingdon was less important in the Roman period than the town at Godmanchester, approximately 1km to the south, a small settlement developed on the northern side of the river. This may represent roadside ribbon development. Finds of Roman date have been recorded from the southern end of the modern town, including pottery sherds from the site of the Post Office (HER 00868) and from the site of the Hippodrome Cinema (HER 02625).

4.12 The remains of a late Roman villa (HER 02545a) were investigated on Mill Common in the 1960s, approximately 420m to the south-west. The villa was first constructed in the 3^{rd} century AD, around the time that the town at Godmanchester appears to have achieved status as a *vicus*. A cemetery containing at least 73 inhumations was excavated at Watersmeet in 2003. This has been interpreted as the cemetery serving the villa.

4.13 A number of finds of Roman artefacts have also been recorded from the immediate vicinity of the study area. These include a group of pottery and coins from St Mary's Street (HER 02597) and sherds from one vessel (HER 00867) found during the excavation of a water trench on St Mary's Street. Roman pottery was also recovered from the castle moat in 1939 (HER 02637). Evidence for burials has also been recorded in close proximity to the present site, including a stone coffin from the mound in the grounds of Castle Hill House (HER 02638) and cremation burials, with accompanying grave gifts (HER nos. 00868, 02635).

4.14 Excavations on the study area in 1973 revealed a metalled surface aligned WSW to ENE. This has been interpreted as a spur road running from the villa on Mill Common to join Ermine Street.

4.15 The present fieldwork produced features and artefacts of Romano-British date from Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 5. These deposits are indicative of Romano-British occupation under Pathfinder House and in the main carpark to the west. As well as pits, several ditches were investigated indicating land divisions. The spur road observed in the 1973 excavation may have been recorded in Trench 2, but no metalling was encountered. The nature of the recorded features supports the theory of ribbon development following the line of Ermine Street on the north side of the river.

4.16 On this basis, the risk of encountering features and finds of Roman date, including metalled road surfaces, roadside structures and human remains, in the course of development on the present site may be considered to be *High*.

4.17 A number of relevant topics have been identified in the regional research framework (Going & Plouviez 2000, 21–22). These include the investigation of small rural settlements, the relationship between town and country in the landscape and research on the road network. As the site is located close to the line of a major Roman road the significance of any remains of this period identified on the present site should be considered to be *High*.

Early Medieval

4.18 A Danish burh was established at Huntingdon in the 9^{th} century AD (HER 02581). Although the exact location for this is currently unknown, one of the possible sites is thought to be at the point where Ermine Street crossed the river. This would place the study area within, or on the northern edge of, the suggested D-shaped ditched enclosure surrounding the settlement. The town was retaken in AD 917 and became a thriving riverside town. Archaeological and documentary evidence suggests that the pre-Conquest settlement extended from the High Street in the east as far as Bar Dyke on Mill Common in the west.

4.19 The present site is adjacent to St Mary's church (HER 04248). This is believed to stand on the site of the early medieval house of Secular Canons, which had become a parish church by 1066. Another late Saxon church may have been identified on the northern side of St Mary's Street during the excavations in 1973.

4.20 The excavations on the study area in 1973 may have encountered the remains of late Saxon buildings.

4.21 The evaluation encountered finds from this period in Trenches 1, 2 and 3. Material was recovered from stratified deposits in Trench 1, including a pit cut into an earlier Romano-British pit. On this basis the risk of encountering features and finds of early medieval date associated with occupation, such as building remains and human burials, in the course of development on the present site may be considered to be *High*. The highest risk is in the carpark to the west of Pathfinder House.

4.22 A number of relevant research topics have been highlighted for early medieval activity in the regional research framework, including the study of settlement morphology, the definition of boundaries in relation to urban settlement and the impact of the church on urban development (Ayers 2000, 29-31). As the site lies within an early medieval settlement and close to a religious house, the significance of any remains of this period identified on the site should be considered to be *High*.

Medieval

4.23 The town flourished until the late 13th century. Its location at the crossing point of the River Ouse by Ermine Street made it an important strategic location. In 1068 a motte and bailey castle (HER 01774) was constructed at this point, causing the realignment of Ermine Street. The main road now ran to the east of its original course.

4.24 The study area lies immediately to the north of the castle. The location of the northern arm of the moat is currently unclear. It may lie beneath Castle Moat Road, but equally it may extend into the study area.

4.25 Huntingdon supported a large number of churches in the period between the 11th and 13th centuries. At least sixteen churches are known to have existed in the town. A number of these are thought to have been located close to the study area, including St Edmund's immediately to the east of the study area (Oakley & Spoerry 1997, 126) and St Lawrence's (HER 02594) which may have lain in the grounds of Castle Hill House. Both of these are likely to have had accompanying graveyards and to have acted as *foci* for settlement.

4.26 The evaluation encountered a large ditch in Trench 2, this is unlikely to be the castle moat itself, but it may relate to land division associated with the wider castle complex. Medieval pottery was also encountered in Trench 1. On this basis the risk of encountering features and finds of medieval date, including human remains, buildings and castle earthworks, in the course of development on the present site may be considered to be *High*.

4.27 A number of relevant research topics have been highlighted for the late Medieval period in the regional research framework. These remain much the same as for the early medieval period and include the study of settlement morphology, the definition of boundaries in relation to urban settlement and the impact of the church on urban development (Ayers 2000, 29-31). As the site lies within the medieval town and close several churches, the significance of any remains of this period identified on the site should be considered to be *High*.

Post-medieval

4.28 According to 17th and 18th century maps of Huntingdon, the study area lay in open land to the rear of properties fronting High Street (Figures 6 & 7). From 1787 it formed part of the extensive rear grounds to Castle Hill House. The 1st edition OS map of 1885 shows that the grounds had been landscaped by the late 19th century (Figure 10).

4.29 On this basis, the risk of encountering deposits and features associated with agricultural practice and garden landscaping of post-medieval date, in the course of development on the present site may be considered to be *High*.

4.30 The regional research framework has identified the archaeology of formal gardens as an important research theme (Gilman et al 2000, 39-42). Evidence for the remains of garden features may be identified during any fieldwork on the present site and therefore the significance of any remains of this period identified on the site should be considered to be *High*.

Modern

4.31 The site remained part of the rear garden to Castle Hill House into the 20th century (Figures 11 & 12). During WWII the house was used as the headquarters of the RAF Pathfinder Squadron. A number of temporary offices are likely to have been erected in the grounds at this time. The OS map of 1958 shows 7 rectangular buildings across the study area (Figure 13).

4.32 The use of the site as a squadron headquarters suggests that features, such as air-raid shelters or defensive emplacements, may have been located on the site. No documentary evidence for such structures has been found.

4.33 By the mid 1970s the study area housed a series of council offices, several of which had survived since the 1940s. These were demolished to make way for the present Pathfinder House, which was opened in April 1977.

4.34 The evaluation encountered modern drains and services in Trenches 1, 2, 4 and 5. Although no Second World War features or artefacts were identified during the evaluation, the site has a strong association with the RAF. On this basis, the risk of encountering finds and features, such as air-raid shelters and service trenches, of modern date in the course of development on the present site may be considered to be *High*.

4.35 The regional research agenda has identified the study of surviving World War II remains as an important research topic. On this basis the potential significance of such features should be considered to be *High*. The potential significance of modern service trenches may be considered to be *Low*.

CONCLUSION

4.36 The present site is located at the southern side of the town of Huntingdon, on the original line of Ermine Street and close to the medieval castle. A study of the cartographic and documentary resources has demonstrated that it lies in an area of high archaeological risk.

4.37 Research for this project has indicated that, based on known evidence, there is a low probability of encountering finds and features of early prehistoric date. However, the site's location, geology and proximity to the river Ouse suggests that the chance of encountering evidence from this period cannot be ruled out.

4.38 The risk increases to moderate for the later prehistoric and Iron Age periods. However, there is a high risk of encountering archaeological remains dating to between the Roman and modern periods.

4.39 Six trenches were machined to the first significant archaeological horizon. Despite the relatively small size of the evaluated area artefacts and deposits were encountered from five periods, Romano-British, Saxo-Norman, Medieval, Post-Medieval and Modern. The depth of the archaeological deposits from the existing ground surface are:

- Trench 1: 0.60m to the medieval plough soil [119]; 1.30m to cut features
- Trenches 2 and 3: 0.40m to cut features
- Trench 4: 0.60m to post-medieval brick structures; 0.75m to levelling layer [407]
- Trench 5: 0.90m to deposit [503]
- Trench 6: 0.55m to post-medieval walls and c.1.4m pit [602]

4.40 The evaluation has identified Romano-British remains beneath the footprints of proposed buildings A, D and E. In addition Saxo-Norman and Medieval features were encountered within the footprints of proposed building A and possibly building D.

4.41 Romano British pits and ditches were encountered to the west and south of Pathfinder House. In Trench 1, a pit dating from the 9^{th} - 13^{th} century was cut into a Romano-British pit, suggesting that features and deposits, indicative of occupation, survive from both the Romano-British and Medieval period. To the east of Pathfinder House, around Castle Hill House, the overburden was deeper but more disturbed by Post-Medieval activity and Modern services. However, in Trench 5, Romano-British material was recovered from a ditch and a possible buried subsoil.

4.42 Although the stratigraphy appears to be disturbed around Castle Hill House, elements such as walls and brick drains associated with house do survive at a relatively shallow depth.

4.43 It is likely that the future development of the site will have an impact on all these remains, with features and deposits in the car park immediately to the west of Pathfinder House at the greatest risk.

Confidence Rating

4.44 An acceptable range of documents and maps were examined to allow a comprehensive overview of the history of land use on the present site to be gained, and to allow the findings of the fieldwork to be placed in their historical context.

4.45 During the course of the fieldwork, the conditions were generally acceptable for the identification of potential features and deposits, and for their investigation. Although the evaluation trenches were relatively small, significant archaeological deposits were encountered.

4.46 There are no circumstances which would lead to a confidence rating for the work which was less than High.

5. Sources Consulted

ARCHIVES

Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER)

See Appendix 1

Cambridgeshire Record Office, Huntingdon (CRO)

2196/271 1850 Tithe Map and Award, Huntingdon

DDM 76/5 c.1845 Map of the town of Huntingdon

OS 1885 Sheet XVIII.13 1st edition, 25" scale, 1885

OS 1901 Sheet XVIII.13 2nd edition, 25" scale, 1901

OS 1926 Sheet XVIII.13 3rd edition, 25" scale, 1926

OS 1958 Sheet TL 27 SW, 6" scale, 1958

OS 1975 Sheet TL 27 SW, 1:10,000 scale, 1975

CUCAP

L.B.23, taken April 1953

RT87, taken March 1956

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6. Illustrations

Figure 1	Site location
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Figure 3	HER entries: Early medieval
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Figure 5	HER entries: Post-medieval
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Figure 15	Proposed Development
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Figure 17	Trench 1 Plan & Section
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Figure 23	Feature Sections
Figure 24	Flint Artefact

Appendix 1

Extract from Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record

Records from a 0.5km radius around the present site in period order

HER	NGR (TL)	Period	Remarks
01690	24 72	Palaeolithic	Two flint artefacts, comprising a long blade and a small ovate axe. Within 500m radius.
01690A	24 72	Neolithic	Neolithic flint flake. Within 500m radius.
01912	241 716		Neolithic flint implements, found on High Street. Approximately 70m NE
MCB16321 /	23747 71727	Bronze Age	Trench 3 of the evaluation for the Huntingdon Town Centre Modernisation
ECB1804			Scheme was located behind Gazeley House. Pottery sherds, of Bronze Age date,
			were recovered from a later feature. Size and quality suggests prehistoric features
			in the vicinity. Approximately 300m NW.
MCB16503 /	23672 71868	Bronze Age	The evaluation at Royal Oak Passage in 2005 revealed a Bronze Age ditch, which
ECB1922			was aligned parallel with the modern High St. Approximately 480m NW.
CB15695 /	24129 71697	?Late prehistoric	An evaluation at Hartford Road in 2003 revealed a possible late prehistoric gully.
ECB1369			Approximately 170m NE.
MCB16330 /	23948 71366	Iron Age / Roman	Evaluation and excavation at Watersmeet, Mill Common revealed evidence of
ECB388 /			significant late Iron Age and Roman activity on the site. A late Roman cemetery,
ECB1872			containing 73 individuals, was also recorded. This may represent the cemetery for
			the villa 100m to the W. Approximately 210m SW.
00867	2397 7156	Roman	Roman pottery sherds from 1 vessel, found in water pipe trenches along St Mary's St. Approximately 50m W.
00868	240 714	Roman	Late 2 nd century Romano-British cremation, containing 4 vessels + burnt bone.
			Found in house foundations, Castle Hill, Huntingdon. Approximately 150m S
00869	2382 7185	Roman	Roman greyware jar, found in 1824 during construction of Post Office.
			Approximately 350m NW.
02545a	2366 7138		Excavation of low mound on Mill Common, possibly the site of the mound used
		medieval	in the castle siege of 1174, in late 1960s. Revealed evidence of Roman villa
			(02545a), early medieval church & cemetery (02545b), siege castle (02545c),
			medieval windmill & church (02545d), post-medieval gallows, windmill &
			cottages (02545e). Approximately 420m SW.
02583	23 71		Lead cistern found in the bed of the River Ouse near Huntingdon. Within 1km radius.
02597	2397 7156	Roman / Medieval	Roman finds, including pottery and coins, from St Mary's Street. Medieval finds,
			including pottery sherd, from the same area. Approximately 70m W.
02602	2362 7137	Roman	Findspot of Roman coins. Approximately 450m SW.
02603	2355 7139	Roman	Findspot of Roman coin. Approximately 510m SW
02604 /	2356 7165	Roman / Medieval	Finds of Roman pottery, a iron arrowhead, possibly dating to the Norman period,
02604A			and medieval pottery, found on the Chivers pipeline. Approximately 490m NW
02607	2399 7136	Roman	Findspot of coins of Constantine and Valentinian (4 th Century AD).
			Approximately 190m S.
02608	2397 7132		Roman coin in 1924 on the site of a new house. Approximately 240m S
02625 /	2393 7171	Roman / Medieval	Finds of Roman pottery made during building of Hippodrome Cinema in High
02625A			Street. Medieval pottery and shoe soles were also recovered from the site.
			Approximately 200m NW.
02635	2397 7144	Roman	Roman cremation burial group. Pottery dated to late 2 nd century. Approximately
			120m SW.
02637	2406 7152	Roman	Roman pottery found in the castle moat in 1939. Approximately 40m SW
02638	2406 7152	Roman	In the early 19 th century a stone coffin, thought to be of Roman date, was found
		_	on the hill adjoining the castle where the windmill stood. Approximately 40m SW
02684	245 713		Pottery and roof tile, Godmanchester. Approximately 530m SE.
02733 /	2437 7177	Roman / Medieval	Findspot of Roman tile fragments and medieval pottery sherds. Approximately
02733A	0.40 = 1.1		390m NE.
02764	242 711	/ Post-medieval	Findspot of group of Roman coins, medieval church plate and a post-medieval seal fob. Port Holme. Approximately 485m to the south-east.
09787	24 71		Six late Roman skulls dredge from the river at Godmanchester. Some had sword
			cuts, 1 decapitated. Within 500m S.

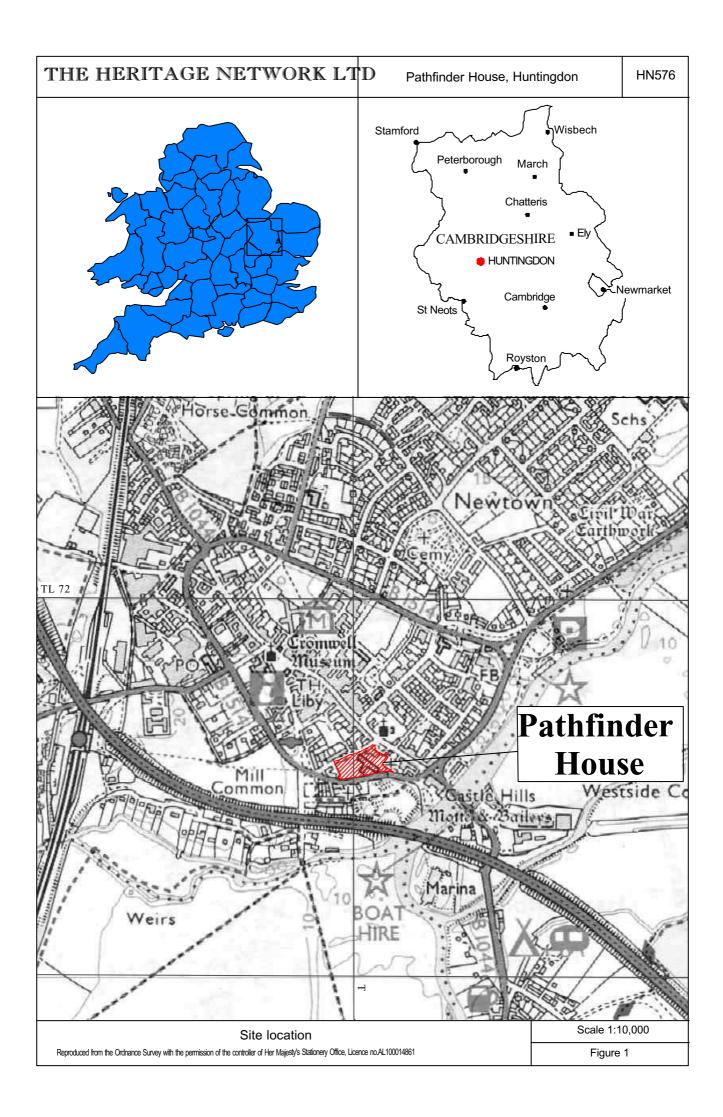
HER	NGR (TL)	Period	Remarks
MCB16329 /	23801 71358	Roman	An evaluation adjacent to Edward House, 4 Mill Common, revealed pits, gullies
ECB1871			and a ditch dated to the mid 1^{st} – late 2^{nd} century AD. The remains suggest
			riverside occupation, pre-dating the 3 rd century Roman villa to the west.
CD15024	22850 70(24	D	Approximately 300m SW.
CB15034 0245b	22859 70634 2366 b7138	Roman Early medieval	Ermine Street Roman Road. Route thought to run through the study area. Early medieval church and cemetery, Mill Common. Excavations on the mill
02450	2300 07138	Earry medievai	mound revealed a large early medieval Christian cemetery on the site of the
			Roman villa. Several hundred inhumations were recorded. A small church or
			chapel was built to serve the community some time before 1066. Approximately
			420m SW.
02581	241 714	Early medieval	Site of Danish Burh. Huntingdon was established as a Danish burh about AD879
			and became one of the 5 lesser burhs of the Danelaw. The town was retaken by
			the Mercian king, Edward the Elder in 917 as part of his re-conquest of eastern England. Thought likely that the burh consisted of a D-shaped enclosure located
			around the river crossing or later castle site. Archaeological & documentary
			evidence suggests that pre-Conquest settlement extended from High St in E as far
			as Mill Common & Bar Dyke in W. Centred approximately 170m SE
02605	236 719	Early medieval	During excavations for foundations of buildings in St John's St, early medieval
02(0)	220 710	F 1 1 1	pottery, dated to 8 th /9 th century, found at depth of c.4m. Approximately 550m NW
02606	238 718	Early medieval	Early medieval pottery vessel, dated AD800-850, found during building
04248 /	2409 7164	Early Medieval /	demolition. Approximately 320m NW St Mary's Church. Earliest church probably wooden. Belonged to a house of
04248A	2409 /104	Medieval	Secular Canons, but by 1066 had developed into the parish church of St Mary.
			Rebuilt in stone before 1100 & replaced in early English style c. 1220. Damaged
			by fire in 1428. Clerestory in Perpendicular style added c.1500. Approximately
101051			100m NE.
10486 /	2388 7148	Early medieval /	Archaeological test pitting on Mill Common in 1992. 4 1m x 1m test pits hand
ECB664		Medieval	dug. 1 test pit contained a medieval ditch. Finds, including pottery of 10 th to 13 th century date, recovered from 3 test pits. Approximately 180m to the south-west.
11907 /	2406 7167	Early medieval /	Evaluation at Marshall's Garage at the junction of High St and Hartford Rd in
ECB935	2.00 / 10/	Medieval / Post-	1993. Three trenches dug. Finds of residual Saxon pottery suggest occupation in
		medieval	the vicinity. The fieldwork revealed a gravel surface, with possible structures &
			pits of 13 th /14 th century date, late medieval cellared buildings and a series of
			buildings constructed c.1700. These were demolished in the early 19 th century and
			replaced by St Mary's vicarage. This was demolished in the 1930s. Approximately 100m N.
11908 /	2409 7178	Early medieval /	Evaluation in the garden of 12 Hartford Road, 1996. Results show at least 3
ECB1041		Medieval	phases of activity on the site. Pits at rear of plot may date to 10 th century. Other
			activity, including clay extraction & structural evidence, dated to between 12 th -
			14 th century. Evaluation demonstrated that Hartford Rd was part of early medieval
			town, which appears to have contracted in the 14 th century. Approximately 220m
13020 /	2425 7160	Early medieval /	N. Excavations 1994 at Orchard Road revealed rubbish and cess pits dating to
ECB188	2425 / 100	Medieval	between AD 900 and 1150. See also HER 02624. Approximately 210m NE
CB 15332 /	23858 71835	Early Medieval	Archaeological excavations at 112 High St in 1995/6 identified 3 phases of
ECB975		-	medieval activity (see CB 15333 / 15334). The 1 st stage was essentially undated,
			but thought to date between the 10 th /12 th centuries. Approximately 330m NW.
MCB16331 /	23926 71368	Early medieval	Evaluation and excavation at Watersmeet, Mill Common revealed a number of features of 10 th - 12 th century date, including a large ditch and 4 pit complexes.
ECB388 / ECB1872			None of the features appeared to relate to the defensive features of a castle or
ECD1072			castle bailey. Approximately 210m SW.
01055	2443 7178	Medieval	Moated site at Riverside Road. No traces remain. Approximately 450m NE
01774	2411 7143	Medieval / Post-	Huntingdon Castle. SAM 24417. Remains of motte and bailey castle, built by
		medieval	William I in 1068 and destroyed in 1174. Surrounded by moat on N, E & W sides,
			River Ouse on S side. Archaeological investigations have shown evidence for Iron
			Age and Roman occupation on the site. Surveys have revealed that the bailey and summit of the motte also retain evidence for former structures. The defences
			were remodelled during the Civil War in the 17 th century. Approximately 100m S.
02544	24289 71470	Medieval	Huntingdon Bridge. SAM 209. Narrow bridge, built of stone in 1332.
			Approximately 250m E
02545c	2366 7138	Medieval	Low mound on Mill Common, possibly site of siege castle used in 1174.
			Approximately 420m SW
02545d	2366 7138	Medieval	Windmill and church remains, Mill Common. The early medieval church may
			have been rebuilt in the medieval period. Possible 15 th C windmill. Medieval quarry pits of 14 th C date present. Approximately 420m SW.
	l		quarry pris of 14 C date present. Approximatery 42011 SW.

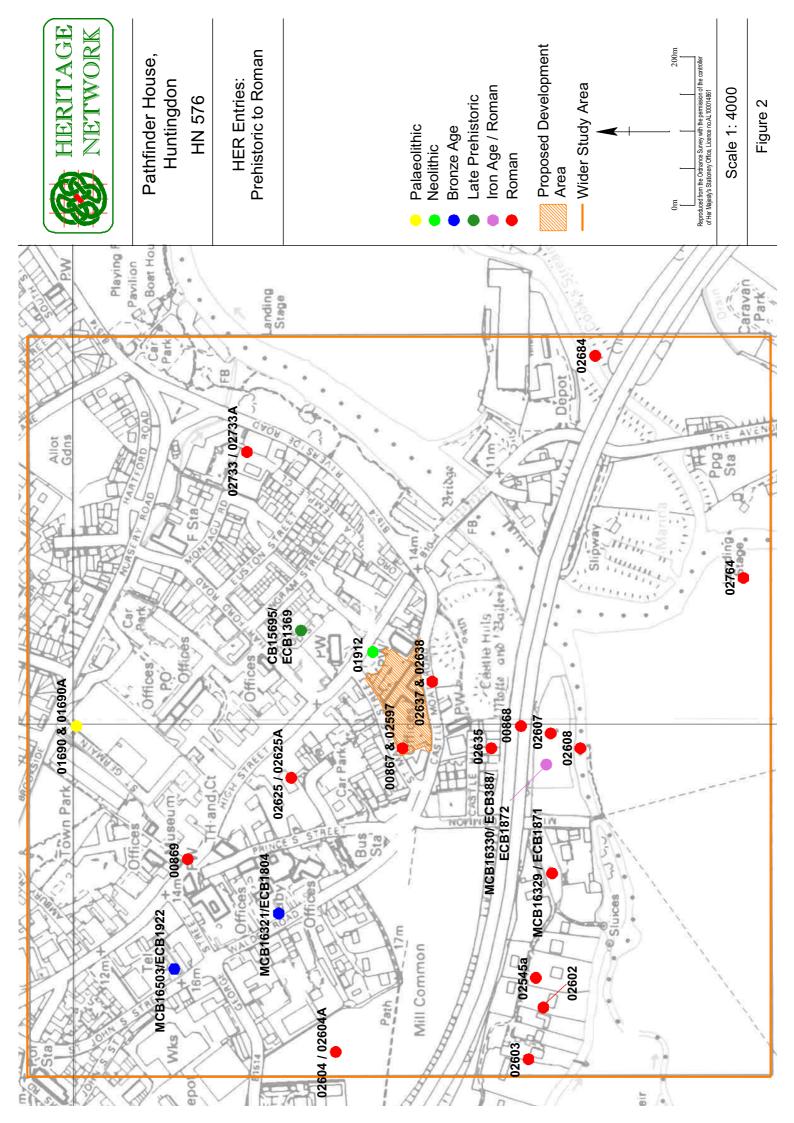
HER	NGR (TL)	Period	Remarks
02561	24 72	Medieval	A church dedicated to the Holy Trinity was owned by St Neots Priory in the 12 th
			century. In 1364 the church was recorded as derelict for want of parishioners.
			Within 500m radius.
02567	237 714	Medieval / Post-	Site of windmill, called the 'White Mill'. Approximately 370m SW.
		medieval	
02568	236 714	Medieval / Post-	Site of windmill, called the 'Black Mill'. Approximately 450m SW.
		medieval	
02593	2370 7183	Medieval	Alleged site of St George's church. Speed's map of 1610 possibly marks a church
			in George St, E of where the modern church of St John stood. Approximately
			430m NW.
02594	2406 7158	Medieval	Site of Church of St Lawrence, which existed in 13 th century. Site probably in the
			garden of Castle Hill House. Approximately 35m NE.
02595	239 719	Medieval	Site of St Germain's Church, which may have stood on the N side of St Germain
			St. Evidence for a graveyard has been found in the area. Approximately 370m
			NW
02614	238 713	Medieval / Post-	Site of watermill. Approximately 350m SW.
00/01/		medieval	
02624 /	2425 7159	Medieval	Site of St Clement's Church. Church recorded in 1334. No mention later than
ECB188			1372. May be the church that stood on S side of Orchard Lane. Excavations on
			Orchard Lane in 1994 revealed rubbish & cess pits dating between AD 900 and
			1150. Site became a cemetery, probably in 11 th century. Burial ceased by 15 th century. Site quarried in 16 th /17 th century. Remained open land otherwise. See
			also HER 13020/13021. Approximately 210m NE.
02636	2400 7153	Medieval	Socketed iron arrowhead, possibly of Norman date, and glazed pottery found in
02030	2400 /155	Wieulevai	1930. Approximately 50m SW.
02643	245 717	Medieval	Findspot of decorated medieval pewter. Approximately 480m NE.
02649 /	2391 7175	Medieval	Site of St Benedict's Church, which stood on High St. Part of the churchyard
ECB801	23717173	ivicule val	survives. Excavation indicated 3 phases of construction. Church mostly
Leboor			demolished in 17 th century. Tower demolished 1802. Approximately 240m NW
02655	2366 7196	Medieval	Site of St John the Baptist's church in the High Street. The church was destroyed
02000	2000 / 190	in cure var	in the 17 th century. Part of the churchyard survives and is maintained by the local
			council as a garden Approximately 550m NW.
02685	245 713	Medieval	Pottery sherds, Godmanchester. Approximately 530m to the SE.
02703 /	2366 7204	Medieval / Post-	Cromwell House stands on the site of the house of Austin Friars, founded c.1285.
02703A /		medieval	At the Dissolution granted to Cromwell family. Church & other friary buildings
ECB1717			probably destroyed soon after Dissolution, but 1 range, probably W range of
			cloister block, retained as a house House almost entirely rebuilt early 19 th
			century. Excavations in 1984 found remains of floor and walls relating to
			medieval friary. Approximately 610m to the NW.
02737	2380 7186	Medieval / Post-	Hospital of St John, founded 12 th century by David, earl of Huntingdon.
		medieval	Originally founded as an almshouse for the poor, later remodelled by Bishop
			Dalderby of Lincoln. Surviving building dates to c. 1160 and was the W end of
			the hall. At some point in the 14 th century the management was taken over by the
			town & it remained in the hands of the borough. As a result, the buildings were
			not demolished when the hospital was suppressed in 1547. The buildings were
			used as free school (later Huntingdon Grammar School. The building now houses
02005	2272 71 (7		the Cromwell Museum. Approximately 370m NW.
02805	2373 7167	Medieval	Human remains found on Walden Road in 1918 and 1958. Medieval pottery
11506 /	2271 7104	Medieval	found 1938. Approximately 330m NW. Archaeological recording at 90-91 High St in 1993, during shop refurbishment &
11506 / ECB1336	2371 7194	wieulevai	extension revealed at least 12 pits. Bottomy from these features dated to between
ECB1336			extension, revealed at least 12 pits. Pottery from these features dated to between AD 1000 to 1200. Suggests 11^{th} - 12^{th} century occupation in the vicinity.
			AD 1000 to 1200. Suggests 11 -12 century occupation in the vicinity. Approximately 500m NW.
13021 /	2425 7160	Medieval	Medieval cemetery, Orchard Lane. Excavated 1994. Remains of 21 articulated
ECB188	2723 / 100	withitval	human skeletons recovered, concentrated near Orchard Lane frontage. Alignment
LCD100			& methods of burial consistent with a Christian cemetery. Likely to have been
			interred in churchyard of 1 of medieval churches in area – either St Clement's or
			St Lawrence's church. See also HER 02624/13020. Approximately 210m NE.
CB14595 /	24157 71636	Medieval / Post-	Evaluation at St Clement's Passage revealed quarry pits, rubbish pits and deposits
ECB143937	21107 /1050	medieval	dating from the medieval to the post-medieval periods. A clay and wood lined pit
			was found with a group of similar features at the N end of the site. Build up of soil
			suggests this area was open land to the rear of properties along High St until 19 th
			century. Approximately 140m NE.
CB14832	23774 71840	Medieval	All Saints' and St John the Baptist Church. Approximately 390m NW.

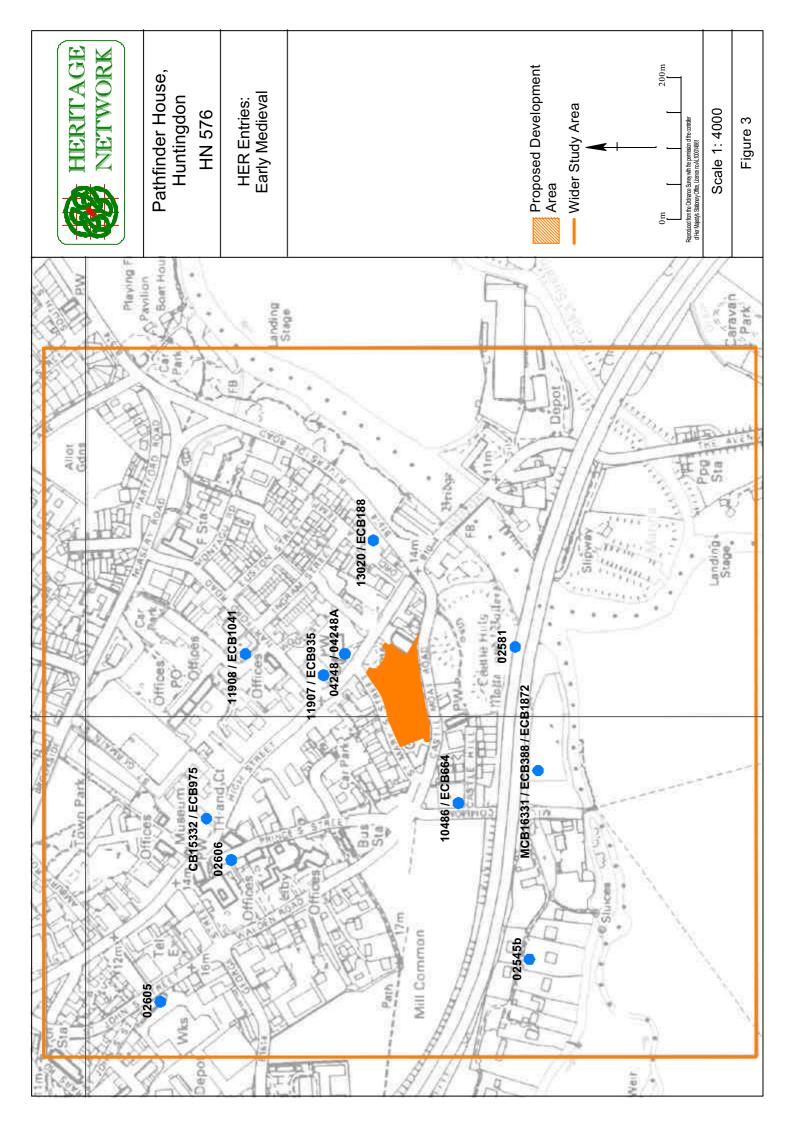
HER	NGR (TL)	Period	Remarks
CB15040 /	24018 71930	Medieval	Archaeological evaluation on the Sainsbury's site, St Germain St, revealed
ECB885			medieval and later activity, including part of the town ditch. Evidence for
			domestic occupation included pits and plot boundary ditches. Pits and ditches of
			early medieval date were also recorded. Residual finds of prehistoric worked
			flints & Roman pottery & tile were also recorded. Approximately 370m N.
CB 15333 /	23858 71835	Medieval	The 2 nd phase at 112 High St was mainly characterised by intensive pitting and
ECB975			has been dated to the 12 th /13 century. Approximately 330m NW
CB 15334 /	23858 71835	Medieval	The 3 rd phase at 112 High St was connected to industrial activity, dating to the
ECB975			13 th /14 th century. Evidence in the form of hearths, hammerscale and slag, was
			recovered. The floors of a later building were also recorded. Approximately 330m
CD 15(40 /	00057 71010		
CB 15649 /	23957 71812	Medieval / Post-	Emergency recording of a trench at 4 Chequers Court in 2003 revealed a series of
ECB1335		medieval	deposits and features, including a probable tanning pit in the SW corner. Approximately 250m NW.
CB 15671 /	23674 71713	Medieval	Evaluation at 9-10 George St revealed extensive 13 th /14 th century quarrying. In
ECB130717 ECB182	23074 /1/13	Wieuleval	addition pits, postholes & ditches were recorded in the W side of the
LCD102			development, also dating to the same period. Approximately 390m NW.
CB15695 /	24129 71697	Medieval	An evaluation at Hartford Rd revealed a gully of possible late prehistoric date.
ECB1369	21129 / 1097	ivicule vui	Evidence for dense occupation, dating to the $12^{\text{th}}/13^{\text{th}}$ century, was recorded on
Lebitor			the site. A ditch, which followed the modern boundary line of St Mary's church,
			may represent an early church enclosure or field boundary. The dumping of soil in
			the later medieval period suggests that the site may have been abandoned or used
			for agriculture. Approximately 170m NE.
CB 15754 /	23807 71893	Medieval	Emergency recording at the Probation Services building revealed three burials.
ECB1451			These indicate the presence of a larger cemetery, possibly that of the medieval
			hospital of St John. Approximately 400m NW.
CB16320 /	23694 71802	Medieval / Post-	Trenches 1 & 2 of the evaluation in advance of the Huntingdon Town Centre
ECB1804		medieval	Modernisation Scheme were located behind Walden House. The majority of
			features dated to the 13 th /14 th century, comprising pits, postholes, a ditch and a
			well. Residual early medieval pottery was found in later contexts. A layer of
			possible late medieval cultivation soil covered the medieval features, indicating a
			change of use for the site. Post-medieval brick drains and wall foundations for
MCD1(221 /	22747 71727	Medieval / Post-	structures fronting Walden Rd were also recorded. Approximately 430m NW.
MCB16321 / ECB1804	23747 71727	medieval	Trench 3 of the evaluation in advance of the Huntingdon Town Centre Modernisation Scheme was located behind Gazeley House. Sherds of Bronze Age
ECD1004		medievai	pottery were recovered from a later pit. Their quality and size suggests prehistoric
			features in the vicinity. Evidence of possible early medieval activity, including
			pits, postholes and possible tanning waste, was recorded from the site. Other
			features were dated to the medieval period, particularly the 13 th ^{$/14$th} century.
			Overlying these was a layer of possible late medieval cultivation soil. Above this
			was a further soil layer, possibly representing post-medieval agriculture or
			horticulture. A Victorian rubbish dump was present at the W end of the trench,
			but no evidence for post-med structures was recorded. Approximately 300m NW.
MCB16322 /	23765 71685	Medieval / Post-	Trench 4 of the evaluation in advance of the Huntingdon Town Centre
ECB1804		medieval	Modernisation Scheme was located in the car park of Huntingdon Library. Pits
			and postholes, dating between the $10^{\text{th}}/11^{\text{th}}$ and $13^{\text{th}}/14^{\text{th}}$ century, were recorded. A
			probable late medieval cultivation soil overlay these features. A series of dumped
			soil overlay this, representing post-medieval cultivation or garden soils. A post-
	00505 51 (40		medieval or modern ditch was also recorded. Approximately 300m NW.
MCB16323 /	23795 71648	Medieval / Post-	Trench 5 of the evaluation in advance of the Huntingdon Town Centre
ECB1804		medieval	Modernisation Scheme was located in the car park to the rear of the HPDC
			building. A small number of medieval features was recorded, overlain by a probable late medieval cultivation soil. This was cut by a possible clay-filled pit.
			Two early post-medieval layers & the foundations for a brick wall on a similar
			alignment as the 18 th century malting wall which forms the boundary to the bus
			station to the S were also recorded. Approximately 260m NW.
MCB16503 /	23672 71868	Medieval / Post-	An evaluation at Royal Oak Passage revealed a prehistoric ditch, aligned with the
ECB1922	20072 /1000	medieval	modern High St. Significant evidence of medieval activity, including pits and
2021/22			postholes suggestive of backyard activity, was also recorded. Post-medieval
			activity was also recorded, consisting of pits and postholes, overlain by a thick
			layer of garden soil dated to the 18 th century. Approximately 480m NW.
ECB183	23630 71637	Medieval	One medieval feature was recorded during evaluation at The Views.
			Approximately 390m NW.
02545e	2366 7138	Post-medieval	16 th C Gallows; 18 th C postmill; 19 th C cottages on mound on Mill Common.
			Approximately 420m SW.

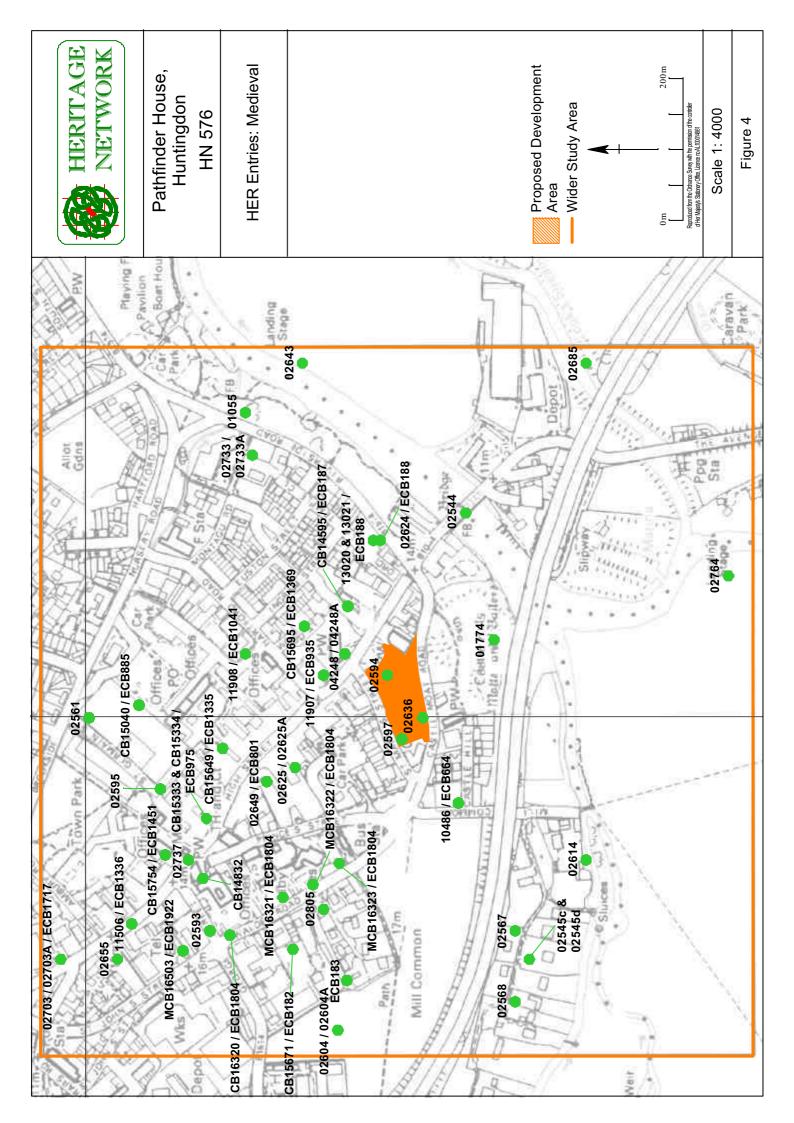
Pathfinder House, Huntingdon

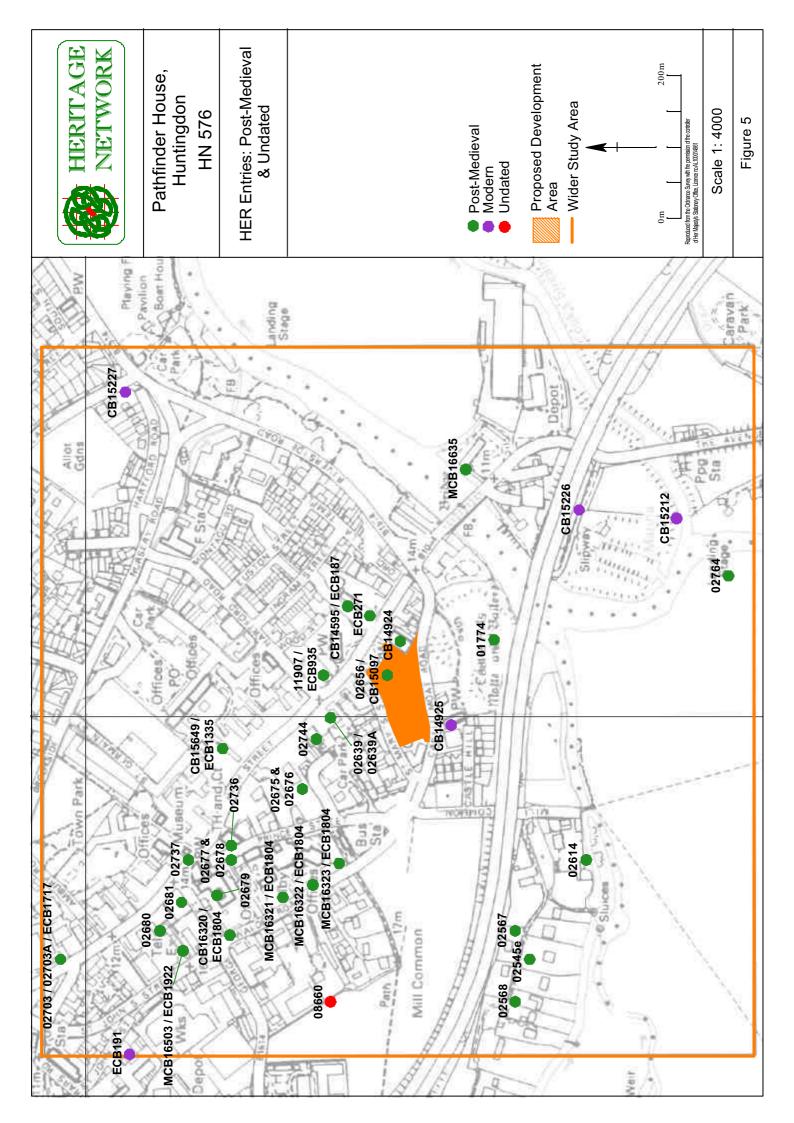
HER	NGR (TL)	Period	Remarks
02600	275 711	Post-medieval	Course of former of Ely and Huntingdon railway.
02639 /	2400 7166	Post-medieval	Cowper House, dated c.1550. Contains 16 th and 17 th century wall paintings.
02639A			Approximately 100m N.
02656	2406 7158	Post-medieval	Castle Hill House, Grade II listed 2 storey house. Built in 1787. Approximately
			40m NW.
02665	243 710	Post-medieval	Icehouse. Approximately 610m SE.
02675	239 717	Post-medieval	House and shop. Approximately 200m NW
02676	239 717	Post-medieval	House. Approximately 200m NW
02677	238 718	Post-medieval	House. Approximately 330m NW.
02678	238 718	Post-medieval	Falcon Hotel. Approximately 330m NW
02679	2375 7182	Post-medieval	Walden House. Approximately 400m NW
02680	237 719	Post-medieval	House and shop. Approximately 490m NW.
02681	2374 7187	Post-medieval	George Hotel, High St. Important posting inn on Great North Road. Dates to at
			least 16 th century. Approximately 430m NW.
02736	2382 7180	Post-medieval	Town Hall stands on the SE side of Market Hill. The present building was erected
			in 1745 on the site of the old Court House and was altered and extended in 1817.
			It contains a late 17 th century staircase, probably retained from the Court House.
			Grade II* listed. Approximately 335m NW.
02774	2397 7168	Post-medieval	Bellarmine pot found in the garden of house on High St. Approximately 130m
			NW
CB14924	24108 71562	Post-medieval	Methodist Church. Approximately 60m E.
MCB16635	2435 7147	Post-medieval	An impressive 3 storey range, beside the River Ouse in Godmanchester, built
			1847 as corn and flour mills with their own docks. Later used as oil & cake mill,
			then converted to hosiery mills which worked until c.1980. Now converted to
			apartments. Adjacent later 5 storey flour mill demolished in the 1960s.
			Approximately 320m SE.
ECB271	24144 71605	Post-medieval	Evaluation at the Samuel Pepys, 146 High St revealed that, although the site lay
			close to the line of Ermine St, a 19 th century brick building cellar had destroyed
			archaeological deposits. Approximately 120m NE.
CB14925	23990 71490	Modern	Spiritualist church next to Huntingdon Castle. Approximately 80m SW.
CB15097	24060 71580	Modern	Castle Hill House, headquarters of the RAF 'Pathfinder' force. Approximately
			30m NE.
CB 15212	24281 71173	Modern	WWII pillbox for Godmanchester Bridge. Approximately 450m SE.
CB 15226	24293 71310	Modern	WWII pilboxes in Godmanchester – to guard River Ouse & railway.
			Approximately 350m SE.
CB 15227	24459 71949	Modern	Site of anti-tank defences. Approximately 570m NE.
ECB191	23526 71943	Modern	A watching brief at 36 St John's Rd found that the site comprised made-up
			ground with 19th/20th century building and domestic rubble in a garden soil
			matrix. Approximately 640m NW.
00888	23 72	Undated	Stone coffin and several skeletons found before 1824. Exact location not known.
			Possibly within 500m radius.
08660	2360 7166	Undated	Fragmentary remains of at least 4 individuals recovered from secondary deposit in
			front garden of house at Birchmead. Deposit also contained fragments of plastic &
			glass & had been dumped in recent past. Approximately 450m NW



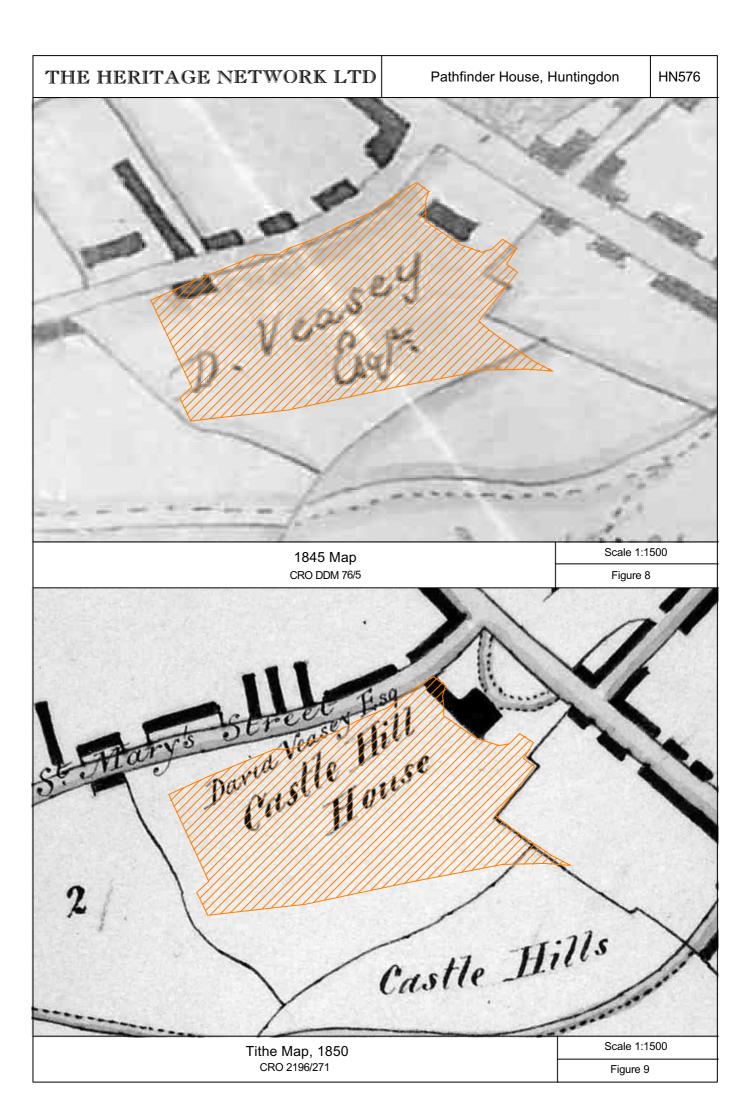






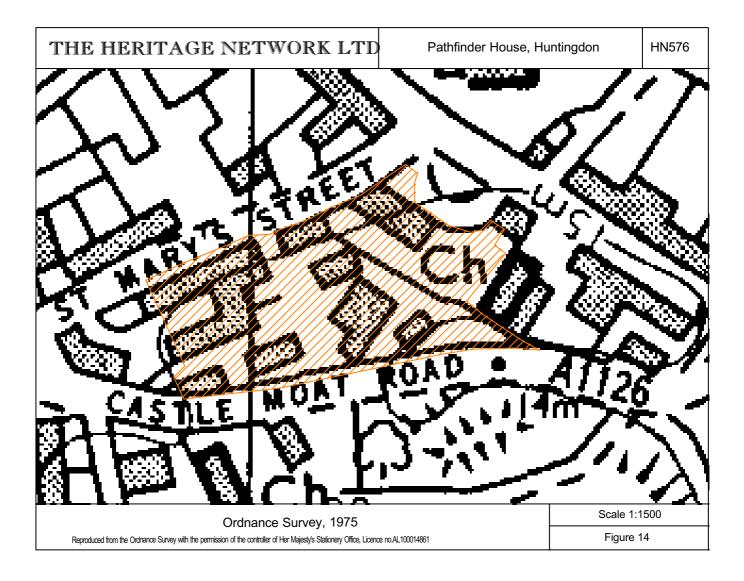


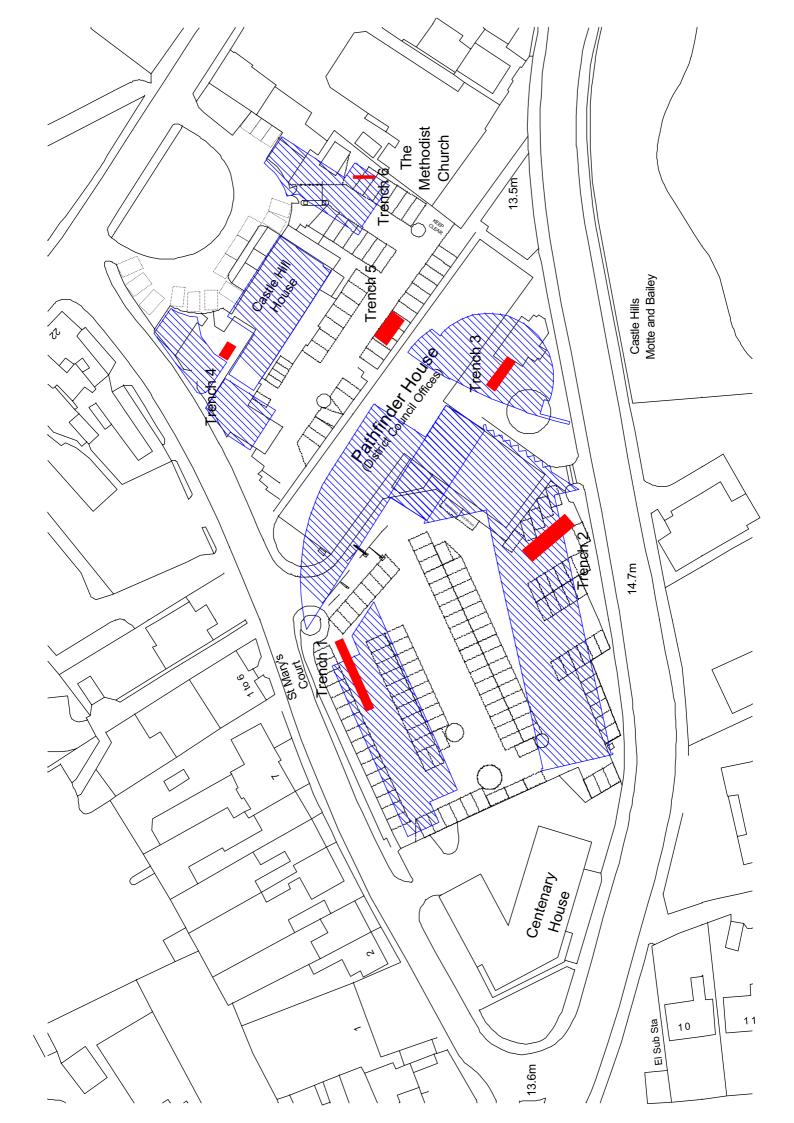


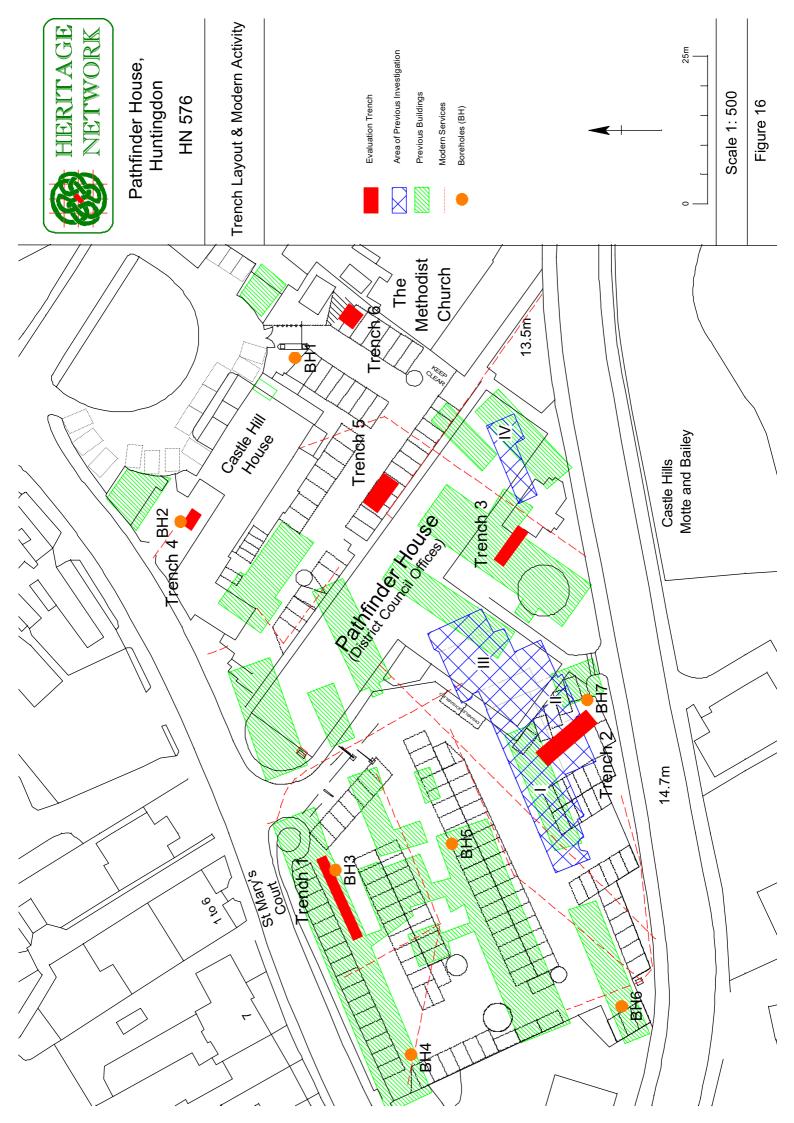


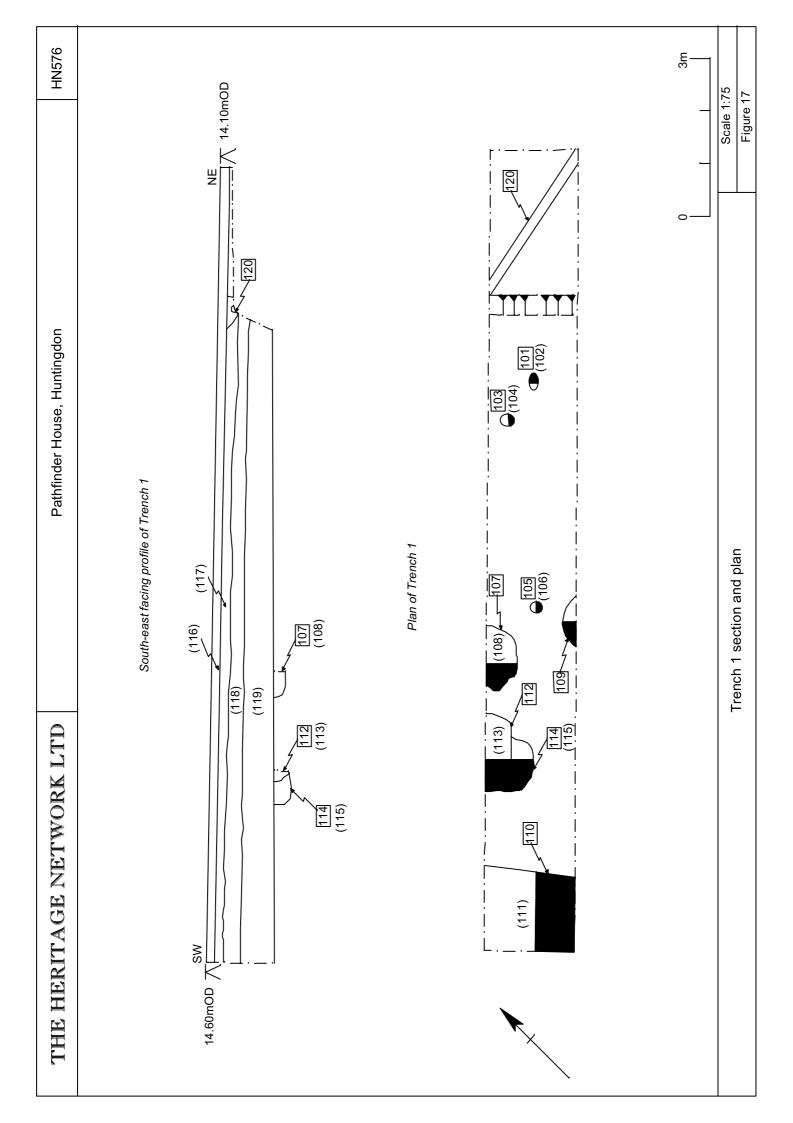


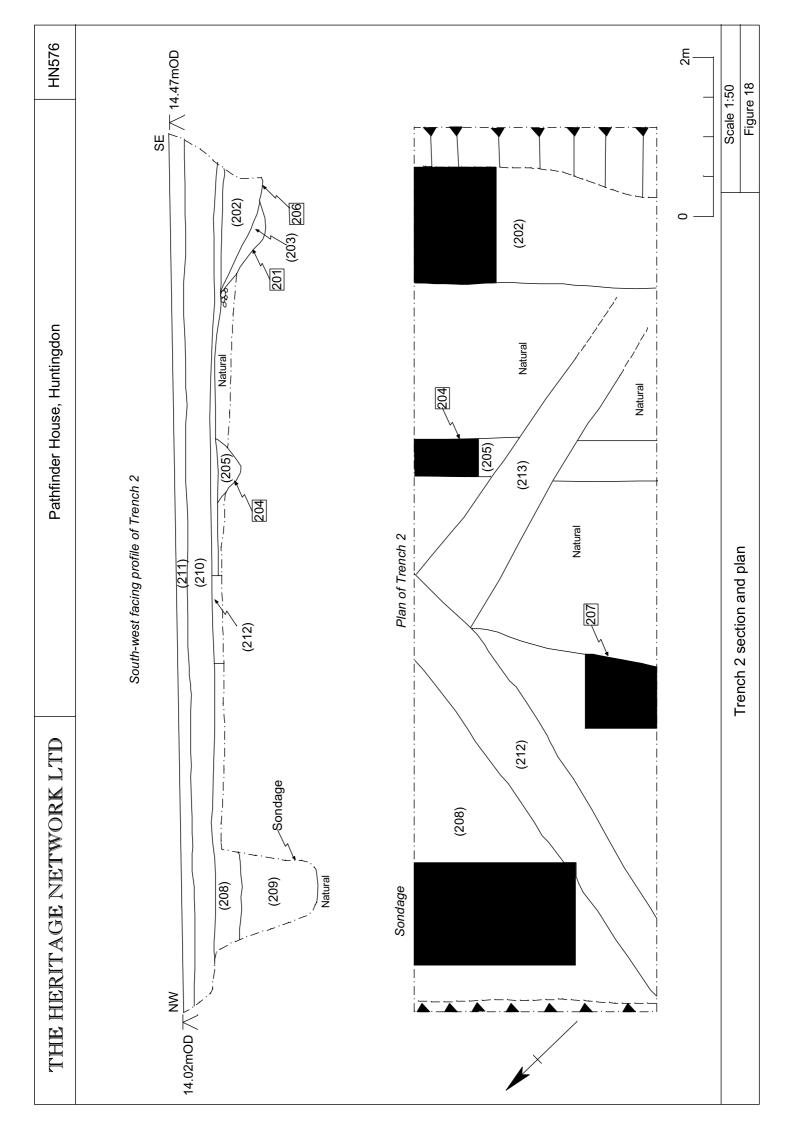


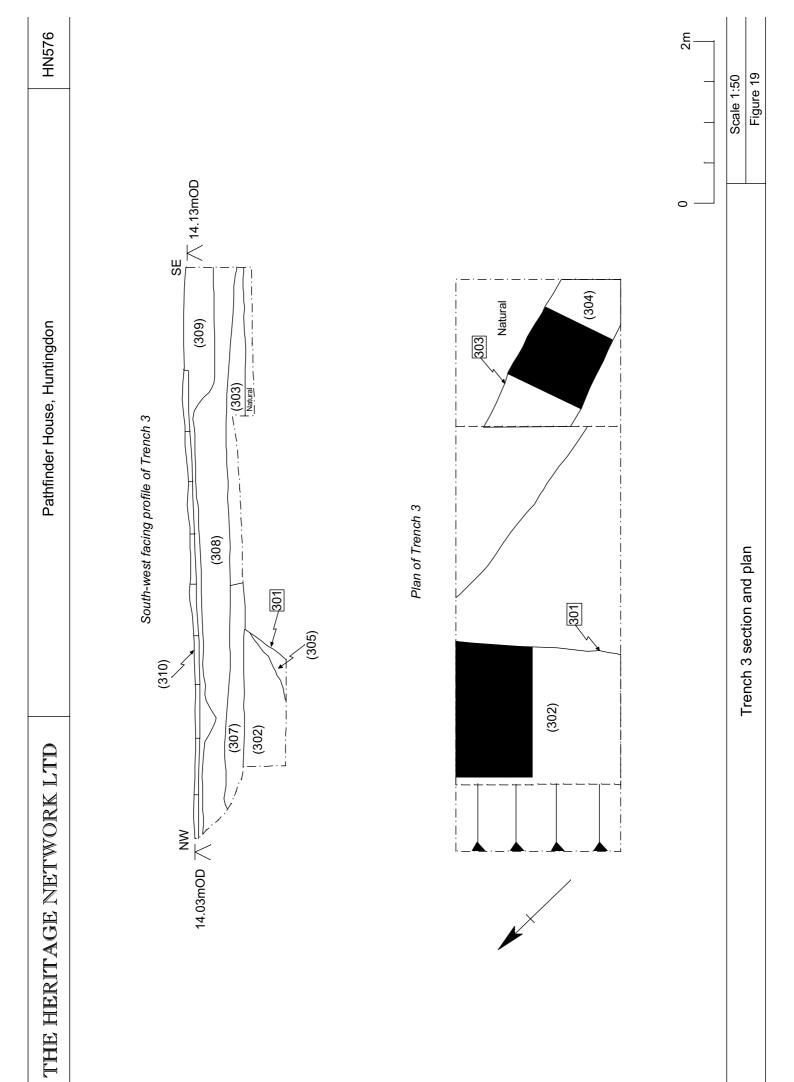


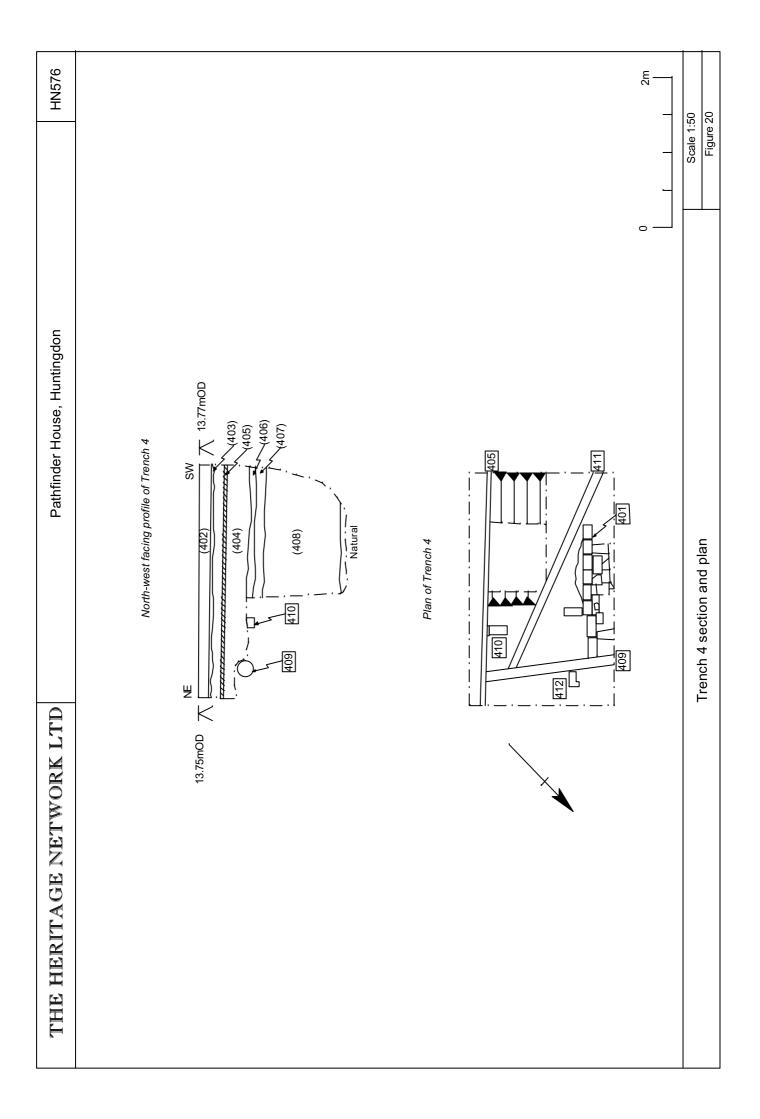


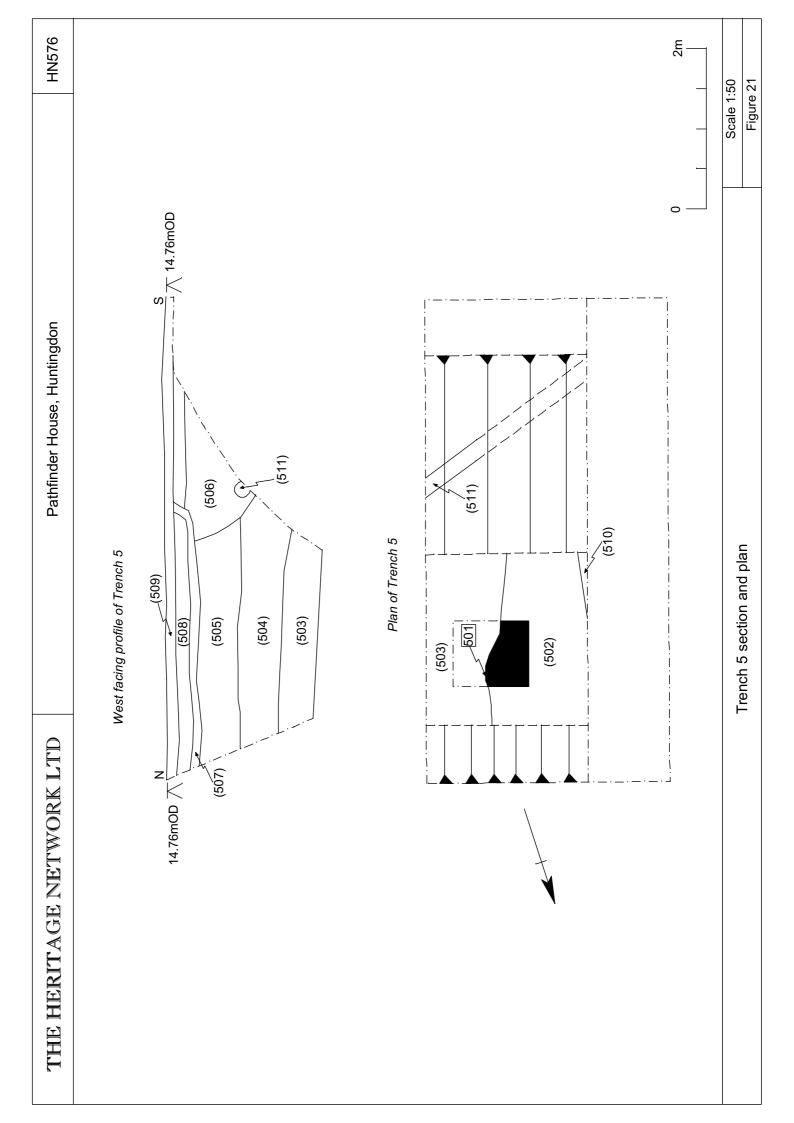


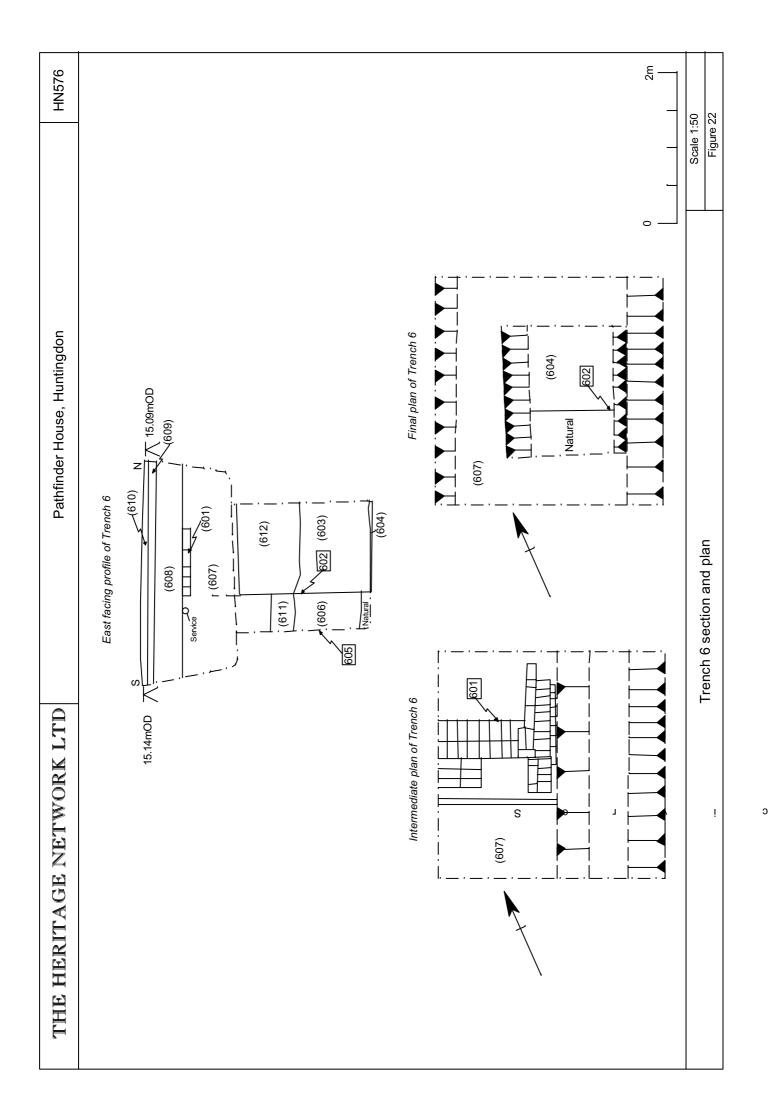


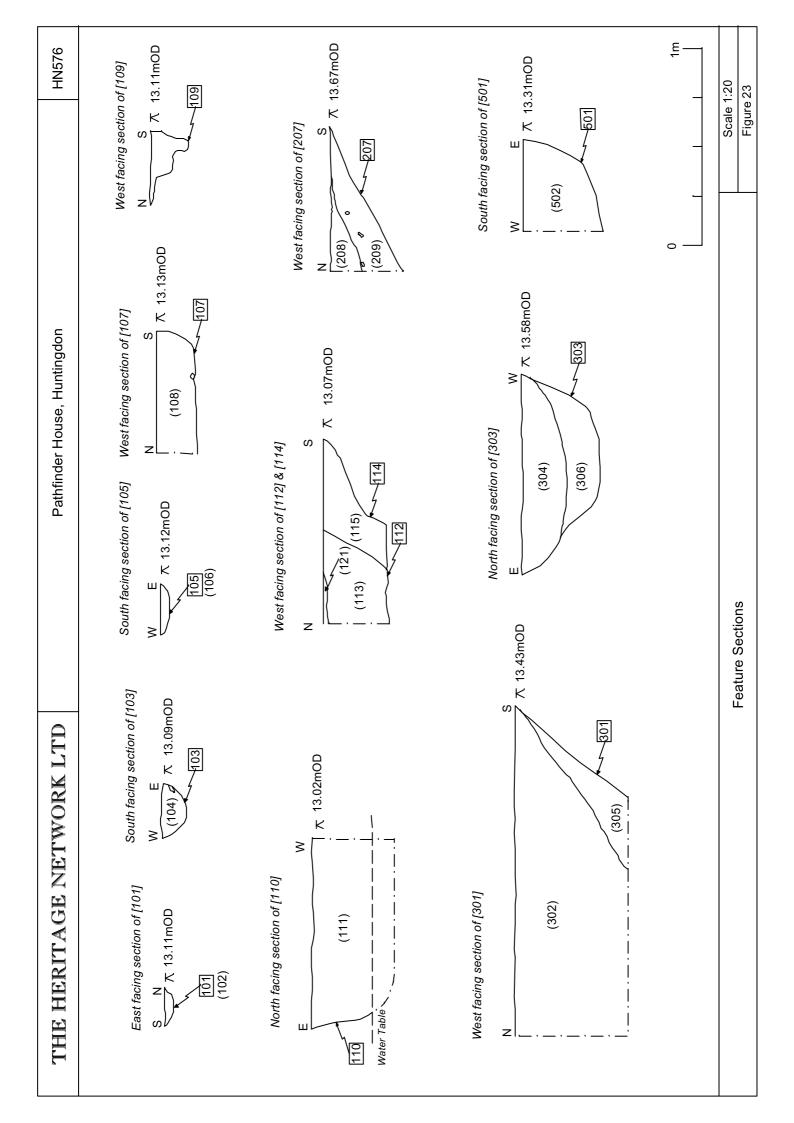












THE HERITAGE NETWORK LTD	Pathfinder House, Huntingdon	HN576
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