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**Agricultural Buildings
76 MAIN STREET
Great Gidding, Cambs.**

HN1328

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION REPORT**

Revision A

HERITAGE NETWORK

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Managing Director: David Hillelson, BA MCIfA

AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS, 76 Main Street, Great Gidding, Cambridgeshire

Project ref.: HN1328
Planning Ref.: 16/01874/FUL
HER Event No.: ECB 4960

Archaeological Evaluation

Prepared on behalf of Jan Maciag Architects & Milton (Peterborough) Estates Co.

by

Helen Ashworth, BA (Hons)

Report no. 1064

May 2017

Revision A – issued June 2017

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The front cover shows the site looking north

Acknowledgements

The fieldwork for this project was carried out by Greg Jones and Mark Sycamore. The report text and illustrations were compiled by Helen Ashworth. The report was edited by David Hillelson.

The Heritage Network would like to express its thanks to: Jan Maciag, Jan Maciag Architects; Robert Dalglish, Milton (Peterborough) Estates Co.; Quita Mould, Barbican Research Associates, for advice on the leather sole; and Gemma Stewart of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team, for their co-operation and assistance in the execution of this project.

Summary

Site name and address:	Agricultural Buildings, 76 Main Street, Great Gidding, Cambs.		
County:	Cambridgeshire	District:	Huntingdonshire
Village/town:	Great Gidding	Parish:	Great Gidding
Planning reference:	16/01874/FUL	NGR:	TL 11960 83460
Client name and address:	Jan Maciag Architects & Milton (Peterborough) Estates, c/o 21 Commerce Road, Lynch Wood, Peterborough, PE2 5EJ		
Nature of work:	Rural residential	Current land use:	Farm buildings
Site Status:	Conservation Area	Reason for investigation:	Direction of local planning authority (NPPF)
Position in planning process:	After full determination (as a condition)	Project brief originator:	Local Authority
Size of affected area:	2107.4m ²	Size of area investigated:	96m ² (4.8% by area)
Site code:	HN1328	HER Event no.:	ECB 4960
Organisation:	Heritage Network	Site Director:	David Hillelson
Project type, methods etc...	Field evaluation	Archive recipient:	Cambridgeshire County Store
Start of work:	28/03/2017	Finish of work:	30/03/2017
Related HER nos:	n/a	Periods represented:	Post-medieval
OASIS UID:	heritage1-284041	Significant finds:	None
Monument types:	Drain		
Physical archive:	None		
Previous summaries/reports:	Cope-Faulkner, P. 2013 <i>Archaeological Desk Based Assessment of Land at Laurel Farm, Main Street, Great Gidding, Cambridgeshire</i> . Archaeological Project Services, Report No 21/13		

Synopsis:

In order to investigate the archaeological potential of the proposed residential redevelopment of the former agricultural buildings at Laurel Farm, 76 Main Street, Great Gidding, Cambridgeshire, the Heritage Network was commissioned to undertake a field evaluation by trial trenching.

Four trenches were excavated, two of which measured 20m in length, and two were 10m in length. The archaeological fieldwork indicated that the ground has been subject to significant disturbance from at least the mid-19th century onwards. A considerable depth of modern overburden was encountered in all four trenches. Below this overburden was a layer of possibly redeposited natural clay containing significant amounts of black organic or burnt material. This may either reflect the site's use as a farmyard, or have come from the fire of 1861, which appears to have destroyed the earlier buildings on the site.

The only cut feature encountered on the site was a north-west to south-east aligned wooden drain at the north-western end of Trench 3. This cut the clean natural clay below the redeposited natural and contained organic material. The drain is aligned with the axis of the farmyard and may run down the track dividing the two earlier tofts shown on the 1851 Tithe map.

On the basis of the results of the evaluation, the risk that the proposed development might have a negative impact on remains of archaeological significance may be considered to be *Low* for all periods.

1 Introduction

1.1 This report has been prepared at the request of *Jan Maciag Architects & Milton (Peterborough) Estates Co.*, to cover a programme of archaeological work carried out as part of the proposed redevelopment of a group of agricultural buildings located at 76 Main Street, Great Gidding, Cambridgeshire.

1.2 Planning permission (ref. 16/01874/FUL) was granted by Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) for the scheme at Laurel Farm, Great Gidding, subject to an archaeological condition (Condition 3) issued under the provisions set out in the Department of Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF).

1.3 The extent of the work required was set out in a *Brief for Archaeological Evaluation*, prepared by the Historic Environment Team (HET) of Cambridgeshire County Council, acting as archaeological adviser to HDC (Stewart 2017). A full specification for the evaluation is contained in the Heritage Network's approved *Project Design*, dated March 2017 (Phillips 2017).

1.4 The proposed development site is situated at the northern end of Great Gidding, on the south-eastern side of Main Street. It is bordered by open fields to the rear, by no.70 Main Street to the south-west and by Laurel Farmhouse to the north-east. The site consists of disused agricultural buildings set around a courtyard and is centred on NGR TL 11960 83460.

1.5 The proposed development entails the demolition of redundant farm buildings, the erection of two dwellings and the reuse of an existing barn as a studio.

1.6 The aim of the evaluation has been consider the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any remains that might be threatened by the development, and to provide a local and regional, archaeological and historical context for them, in accordance with the current published regional research agenda (Glazebrook 1997, Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Oake *et al* 2007, Medlycott 2011), should they be discovered.

1.7 The present report is intended to advise the planning authority on the risk that the development might encounter archaeological remains that could be damaged or destroyed by the development groundworks, and, if necessary, propose an appropriate strategy to mitigate such damage.

2 Fieldwork

TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

2.1 The site lies at a height of c.63mAOD on fairly flat ground, sloping gently downwards to the east into the valley of the Alconbury Brook.

2.2 Locally the soils belong to the Hanslope Association (411d), described as:

Slowly permeable calcareous clayey soils. Some slowly permeable non-calcareous clayey soils. Slight risk of water erosion (SSEW 1983).

2.3 The underlying solid geology consists of Oxford Clay Formation – Mudstone, a Sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 156 – 165 million years ago in the Jurassic Period when the local environment was dominated by shallow seas (British Geological Survey). The clays are overlain by superficial deposits of Oadby Member - Diamicton, formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period when the local environment was dominated by ice age conditions (ibid). These comprise outwash tills, sands and gravels deposited by seasonal and post-glacial melting.

METHODOLOGY

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

2.5 The overburden was removed, under close supervision, to the first significant archaeological horizon, or to the natural geological horizon, as appropriate, using a 3 tonne tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.3m wide toothless bucket. The size of the bucket used meant that the trenches were double pulled in order to achieve the 1.6m width stated in the Project Design.

2.6 Spoil from the machining was scanned for archaeological artefacts both visually and using a metal detector in order to assess the presence and survival of artefactual material in the overburden. The base of each trench was also scanned by metal detector. The detector was not set to discriminate against iron.

2.7 The exposed area was cleaned by hand, and potential archaeological features and deposits were sampled to ascertain their nature, depth, date, and quality of preservation.

2.8 All identified contexts were photographed and recorded using the appropriate proforma and Scaled plans and sections were drawn on drafting film at scales of 1:10, 1:20 and 1:50. Each layer, fill, cut etc, encountered was individually numbered and described in terms of soil detail, stratigraphic position, dimensions, artefact content, samples and interpretation.

2.9 The trenches were surveyed in relation to fixed points shown on the current Ordnance Survey map of the site and referenced to the OS National Grid.

Artefacts

2.10 A leather shoe sole was recovered from Trench 3. This has been treated in accordance with the advice in First Aid for Finds (Watkinson & Neal 1998). It has been gently cleaned and placed within a pierced plastic bag in a plastic tub with water. The tub has been wrapped in black plastic.

Ecofacts

2.11 No macroscopic ecofacts were recovered during the course of the present project. As no features of archaeological significance were encountered during the course of the fieldwork, and the deposits exposed in the trial trenches were considered to be of modern or late post-medieval date, no bulk soil samples were taken for microscopic environmental investigation.

Documentary Archive

2.12 The documentary archive, comprising the excavation records, has been quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency.

Material Archive

2.13 The material archive will be prepared in accordance with UKIC guidelines and with the published guidelines for preparing archaeological archives for deposition with the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record.

RESULTS

2.14 Four trenches were excavated across the site, three of which measured 1.6m in width and one (Trench 3) measured 1.40m in width. Two trenches (Trenches 2 & 3) measured 20m in length and two trenches (Trenches 1 & 4) measured 10m in length (Figure 2).

Trench 1

2.15 Trench 1 was located at the north-western end of the site (Figure 2). It was aligned north-west to south-east and measured 10m in length, 1.60m in width and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.60m (Figure 3, Plate 1).

Recorded data:

Length (m):	10	Width (m):	1.60	Maximum Depth (m):	1.60	Orientation	NW-SE
Level at NW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	63.31	Level at SE End of Trench (mOD)		Top	63.05
		Base	62.23			Base	62.28
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Layer	Concrete yard surface at NW end of trench	3	>1.6	0.08		
-	Layer	Rubble layer, base for concrete surface	3	>1.6	0.17		
-	Layer	Dark greyish brown soft silty clay topsoil with frequent roots and moderate small to medium stone inclusions.	7	>1.6	0.25		
-	Layer	Yellowish brown hoggin, comprising mixed sands, gravels and stones, with occasional brick & tile fragments.	>10	>1.6	0.30		
-	Layer	Light blueish grey clay, containing significant amounts of black burnt or organic material.	>10	>1.6	0.30		
-	Layer	Mottled light blueish grey and orange soft clay natural.	>10	>1.6	>0.05		

2.16 The stratigraphy in Trench 1 varied slightly from north-west to south-east. At its north-western end it comprised a modern concrete yard surface, approximately 3m in length and 0.08m in depth, above a rubble bedding layer, 0.17m in depth (Figure 3, Plate 2). This changed to a grassed area at approximately 3m from the north-western end. The turf overlay dark greyish brown friable silty clay topsoil, containing frequent roots and moderate amounts of small stones.

2.17 Both the concrete and the topsoil overlay a yellowish brown hoggin deposit, consisting of mixed gravel, sand and medium sized stones, which contained occasional brick and tile fragments. This is likely to represent a levelling layer at this end of the site.

2.18 A mixed light blueish grey and black clay layer was encountered below the hoggin layer. This may represent redeposited natural clay, mixed with organic black material derived from the site's use as a farmyard. Alternatively, it may represent material resulting from the fire at Great Gidding in 1861. The natural mottled blueish grey and orange clay was encountered below this layer at a depth of c. 0.85m below the present surface.

2.19 No archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in Trench 1.

Trench 2

2.20 Trench 2 was located to the south of Trench 1. It was aligned north–east to south-west and measured 20m in length, 1.60m in width and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.80m (Figure 2, Plate 3).

Recorded Data

Length (m):	20	Width (m):	1.60	Maximum Depth (m):	0.80	Orientation	NE-SW
Level at NE End of Trench (mOD)		Top	62.80	Level at SW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	63.10
		Base	61.98			Base	62.45
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Layer	Dark greyish brown friable silty clay topsoil	>20	>1.60	0.10		
-	Layer	Compact mid brownish purple aggregate layer	>20	>1.60	0.50		
-	Layer	Light blueish grey clay, containing significant amounts of black burnt or organic material at NE end of trench.	4	>1.60	>0.10		
-	Layer	Light yellowish brown soft clay natural	17	>1.60	>0.10		

2.21 The stratigraphy in Trench 2 comprised a topsoil of dark greyish brown friable silty clay, 0.10m in depth, above a modern Type 1 aggregate (Figure 4, Plate 4). The mixed blueish grey and black clay layer, observed in Trench 1, was encountered below the aggregate at the north-eastern end of the trench. This was separated from the clean natural substrate by a narrow band of orange – red gravel.

2.22 The natural light yellowish brown clay was encountered at a depth of 0.70m below the present surface. A modern land drain, which ran on a north-west to south-east alignment, was cut into the natural clay at approximately 7.50m from the south-eastern end of the trench (Figure 4).

2.23 No archaeological features, deposits or finds were revealed in Trench 2.

Trench 3

2.24 Trench 3 was located in the centre of the site, to the east of Trench 2. It was aligned north-west to south-east and measured 20m in length, 1.40m in width and was excavated to depths of between 1.20m at the north-western end and 2.20m at the south-eastern end (Figure 2, Plate 5).

Recorded Data

Length (m):	20	Width (m):	1.40	Maximum Depth (m):	2.20	Orientation	NW-SE
Level at NW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	62.79	Level at SE End of Trench (mOD)		Top	62.69
		Base	61.50			Base	60.70
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Layer	Concrete yard surface	>20	>1.60	0.22		
-	Layer	Rubble bedding layer below concrete	>20	>1.60	0.10		
-	Layer	Crushed red brick rubble	>20	>1.60	0.20		
-	Layer	Yellowish brown hoggin, comprising mixed sands, gravels and stones, with occasional brick & tile fragments	>20	>1.60	0.10		
-	Layer	Remnants of a cobbled surface seen at various points below the brick layer	Max 3.50	-	0.08		
-	Layer	Light blueish grey clay, containing significant amounts of black burnt or organic material. Possibly a redeposited natural.	>20	>1.60	Max 1.50		
301	Layer	Soft clayey black organic material, not examined in detail owing to considerations of health and safety. Leather shoe sole recovered from this layer.	10	>1.60	>0.20		
302	Cut	NW-SE aligned cut for a wooden drain, contains 303 & 304	2.10	0.32	-		
303	Structure	Wooden drain. The wooden side pieces measured between 0.04 & 0.02m in width and were exposed to a height of approx 0.23m. The base was not reached. Contains (304).	2.10	0.32	0.23		
304	Fill	Black organic matter					
-	Layer	Clean light blueish grey soft clay natural observed in the north-western half of the trench only.	10	>1.60	>0.03		

2.25 The stratigraphy in Trench 3 comprised a concrete yard surface, 0.22m in depth, above a rubble bedding layer, 0.10m in depth. This overlay a deposit of red brick rubble, 0.20m in depth (Figure 5, Plate 6).

2.26 Part of a former cobbled yard surface, 0.10m in depth, was noted below the brick rubble at various points along the east facing section (Plate 6). This consisted of large rounded stones in a soil matrix. Where the cobbles had not survived they were replaced by a layer of yellowish brown hoggin, 0.10m in depth, consisting of mixed gravel, sand and medium sized stones, which contained occasional brick and tile fragments (Plate 7).

2.27 A mixed light blueish grey and black clay layer, similar to that encountered in Trench 1, was observed below the hoggin layer. This increased in depth from approximately 0.60m at the north-western end of the trench to 1.50m at the south-eastern end. Below this was a black clayey organic layer (301), which could not be examined in detail owing to considerations of safe access. It measured 0.20m in depth at the north-western end of the trench, but its full depth was not revealed at the south-eastern end. A leather shoe sole, of probable late 19th century date, was present in this layer. A modern ENE-WSW aligned drain pipe was cut into this layer in the centre of the trench.

2.28 Clean blueish grey clay was exposed at the north-western end of the trench at a depth of approximately 1.10m below the present surface.

2.29 An open wooden drain, [303] was cut into the natural clay below the organic layer at the north-western end of the trench. This ran on a north-west to south-east alignment in the centre of the farmyard and parallel (Figure 5) with the site boundaries. Its exposed area

measured approximately 2.10m in length, 0.25m in depth and 0.32m in width (Plate 8). The wooden sides varied in width between 0.04m and 0.02m. A wooden stake, 0.06m in diameter and 0.23m in height, was observed on the interior of the western side.

2.30 The drain contained fill (304), organic material, possibly animal manure. It was aligned with the axis of the farmyard and may run down the track dividing the two earlier tofts shown on the 1851 Tithe map.

2.31 The clean natural clay was not reached at the south-eastern end of the trench.

2.32 No other archaeological features, deposits or finds were revealed in Trench 3.

Trench 4

2.33 Trench 4 was located in the north-eastern corner of the site, to the east of Trench 3, and was oriented north-east to south-west (Figure 2). It measured 10m in length, 1.60m in width and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.30m (Plate 9).

Recorded Data

Length (m):	10	Width (m):	1.60	Maximum Depth (m):	1.30	Orientation	NE-SW		
Level at NE End of Trench (mOD)			Top	62.77	Level at SW End of Trench (mOD)			Top	62.75
			Base	61.68				Base	61.62
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)						
			Length	Width	Depth				
-	Layer	Concrete yard surface	>10	>1.60	0.20				
-	Layer	Crushed red brick rubble.	>10	>1.60	0.32				
-	Layer	Yellowish brown hoggin, comprising mixed sands, gravels and stones , with occasional brick & tile fragments	>10	>1.60	0.08				
-	Layer	Light blueish grey clay, containing significant amounts of black burnt or organic material	>10	>1.60	0.50				
-	Layer	Light blueish grey soft clay natural	>10	>1.60	>0.05				

2.34 The stratigraphy in Trench 4 comprised concrete yard surface, 0.20m in depth, above a layer of red brick rubble, 0.32m in depth (Figure 6, Plate 10). Below this was thin layer of gravel hoggin, 0.08m in depth, which overlay the dirty blueish grey redeposited clay, 0.50m in depth, seen elsewhere on the site.

2.35 The clean light blueish grey soft clay natural was encountered below this layer at a depth of approximately 1.10m below the present surface.

2.36 No archaeological features, deposits or finds were revealed in Trench 4.

ARTEFACTS

Leather

2.37 One leather shoe sole was recovered from layer (301) in Trench 3. The sole, which is in good condition, measures 240mm in length, 2mm in depth and varies in width, measuring 60mm at the heel, narrowing to 38mm for the waist, before widening to 68mm for the instep, then narrowing to 20mm at the toes (Plates 11 & 12). It is made of two pieces of leather, one for the sole and a second piece at the heel, possibly as an insole. The footbed appears to have been cut out, of the main leaving a band approximately 7mm in width and 0.5mm in height, standing proud around the sole for the welt. This appears to have small holes, presumably from where the upper was stitched to the sole.

2.38 It has been dated to the mid 19th century at the earliest, and is likely to post-date the rebuilding of the farm after the fire (Quita Mould, pers. com.). Its shape shows that it was for the right foot, but from not a work boot. The size indicates that it was either a woman's or a youth's shoe, possibly worn as "Sunday best".

Recommendations

2.39 The sole by itself has no archaeological significance, beyond dating its context, and on this basis it is proposed to photograph it and then discard.

3 Discussion

Archaeological Background

3.1 In order to establish the archaeological and historical context for the site, the overview set out below has been drawn from the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) for a 1km radius around the site, the previous desk-based assessment, the Heritage Network's own library and other sources.

- There is no evidence for early prehistoric activity within the defined study area, although slight evidence does exist within the wider region. The earliest evidence takes the form of a scatter of Neolithic flints (HER 00944) at Manor Site Farm, approximately 900m to the north.
- Three Iron Age ditches, one of which contained pottery, were recorded during a watching brief on the Lutton to Huntingdon gas pipeline in 1998 (HER 14661). The ditches, located at Lower Farm, approximately 1km to the south-west, are presumed to be part of a larger enclosure.
- A low status Roman domestic site (HER 17969), including the remains of a building and a kiln, was recorded just outside the study area during the evaluation of a site adjacent to Winwick Road, 700m to the south-west. The investigation revealed wall footings, building material, wall plaster, box flue tiles and pottery dumps. Two ditches of probable Roman date (HER 18219), were found to the north of the building.
- No evidence for Anglo-Saxon activity has yet been discovered within the study area. However, a charter from the mid-10th century, appearing in the 13th century chronicle of Ramsey Abbey, records land at *Giddinge* (Hart 1966)
- Great Gidding is mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086. It is a very large settlement with 40.5 households.
- The development site lies within a well documented medieval landscape.
 - St Michael's church (HER 00932) dates to the early 13th century, with the nave, piers and chancel being added in the later 13th century. The remainder of the church is either 14th or 15th century. The Grade II* listed building (Listing 1130104) lies approximately 300m to the south-west.
 - The site of a probable medieval windmill (HER 00941) is recorded on a 1541 manorial map, 500m to the south-east.
 - A probable *Deserted Medieval Village* (DMV) (HER 00934/Listing 1130106), surviving in the form of earthworks, is located 350m to the south-west.
 - Medieval ridge and furrow field systems have been recorded around the village. The closest (HER 00934) has been recorded as crop marks close to the DMV, approximately 350m to the south-west.
- There are five listed buildings within the study area, all Grade II, the closest being the Fox and Hounds Public House, 50m to the north-east:
 - The Fox and Hounds Public house (Listing 1222762), 17th century
 - Tower Mill (Listing 1130106), 19th century
 - Crown Cottage, former public house (Listing 1130105), 17th century
 - Baptist Chapel (Listing 1222773), 18th century
 - Cottage (Listing 1330512), 18th century

- Documentary evidence shows that the northern half of Great Gidding experienced a fire in 1861. The fire started close to the present site and ultimately spread to it.
- There is extensive cartographic evidence for the site. The earliest map depicting the proposed development area is entitled 'Descriptio Haec Manerii de Gigginge Magna in Comitatu Huntingdoniensis' and dates from 1641. The map indicates at least one building on the site and its associated toft (Cope-Faulkner 2013, Figure 3).
- The Tithe Map of 1851 shows the site prior to the fire as two separate tofts with buildings on each (Cope-Faulkner 2013, Figure 5). The Enclosure Award Map of 1866, which was drawn after the fire, shows that the tofts had been amalgamated in to a single plot, with buildings along all four sides and an inner courtyard (ibid, Figure 6). The layout of the site has remained largely unchanged to the present day.

Research Design

3.2 The aim of the trial trenching has been to consider the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any remains that might be threatened by the development, and to provide a local and regional, archaeological and historical context for them, in accordance with the current published regional research agenda (Glazebrook 1997, Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Medlycott 2011), should they have been discovered, to ensure that an appropriate strategy for the mitigation of damage or destruction of such remains by the development could be adopted.

3.3 It was considered that such an investigation had the potential to contribute to an understanding of the landscape of Great Gidding and its environs from the prehistoric period onwards, and to contribute to a number of research topics highlighted in the published local research agenda, including:

- the origins and development of Great Gidding from the prehistoric period onwards;
- the transition of Great Gidding from the late Anglo-Saxon to the medieval period;
- the extent and character of the medieval landscape associated with Great Gidding.

Collected Data

3.4 The trial trenching revealed significant evidence for modern disturbance across the site. This included make-up and levelling layers revealed below the modern ground surface in all four trenches.

3.5 A possibly redeposited natural clay layer, containing black organic or burnt material was present in all four trenches. The discolouration of the clay may represent either significant amounts of organic material generated by the site's use as a farmyard, or burnt material from the fire of 1861. This layer was quite shallow in depth in Trenches 1 and 2, in the north-eastern half of the site, but was significantly deeper in Trenches 3 and 4 in the south-western half. No clear reason for this was observed during the course of the archaeological fieldwork but it is possible that it was introduced to level the site.

3.6 A soft clayey black organic layer (301) was observed below the proposed redeposited clay in Trench 3. This particular deposit was not noted elsewhere on the site and no clear reason for its existence could be ascertained from the cartographic evidence shown in the desk-based assessment (Cope-Faulkner 2013). No ponds are marked within the farmyard on any of the maps consulted for the assessment (ibid), although two pumps are marked on the

1st and 2nd editions of the 25-inch Ordnance Survey map. A single leather shoe sole, of late post-medieval date, was recovered from this layer.

3.7 A wooden drain [303], which still contained organic material (304), was observed cutting the natural clay below the black organic layer at the north-western end of Trench 3. The drain is aligned with the axis of the farmyard and may run down the track dividing the two earlier tofts shown on the 1851 Tithe map.

3.8 Apart from the drain, no evidence for any of the earlier buildings shown on maps pre-dating the fire of 1861, was encountered on the site and no evidence for activity pre-dating the late post-medieval period was encountered during the course of the present project.

Impact Assessment

3.9 The archaeological fieldwork on the present site indicates that the ground had been subject to significant disturbance from at least the mid-19th century onwards. A considerable depth of modern overburden was encountered in all four trenches. Below this overburden was a layer of possibly redeposited natural clay containing significant amounts of black organic or burnt material. This may either reflect the site's use as a farmyard, or have come from the fire of 1861, which appears to have destroyed the earlier buildings on the site.

3.10 The only cut feature encountered on the site was a north-west to south-east aligned wooden drain at the north-western end of Trench 3. This cut the clean natural clay below the redeposited natural and contained organic material.

3.11 On the basis of the cumulative results of the evaluation, the risk that the proposed development might have a negative impact on remains of archaeological significance may be considered to be *Low* for all periods pre-dating the post-medieval.

Confidence Rating

3.12 During the course of the fieldwork, the conditions were generally acceptable for the identification of potential features and deposits, and for their investigation. As such the confidence rating for the work may be considered to be *High*.

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Websites

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- British Geological Survey: www.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html

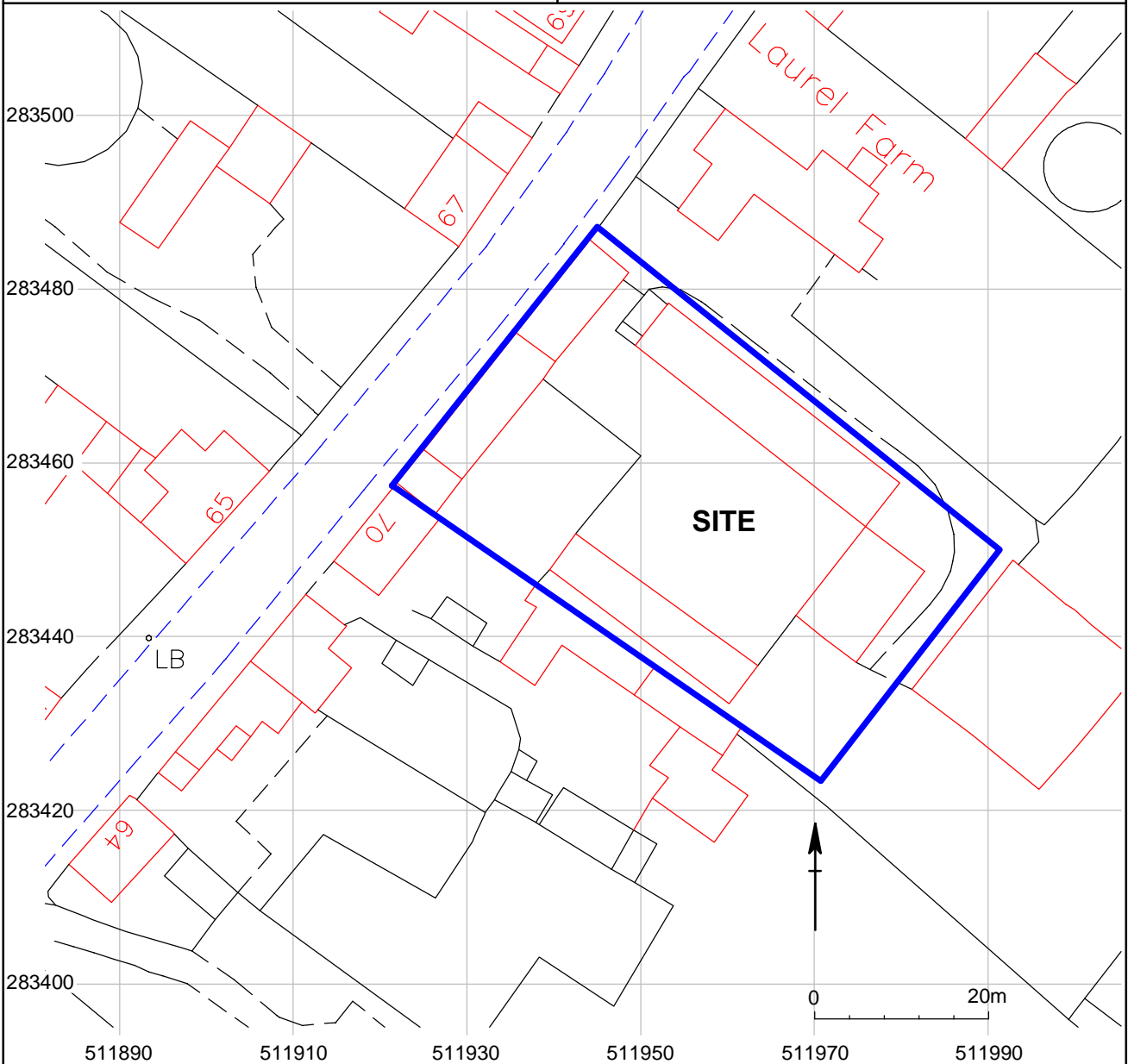
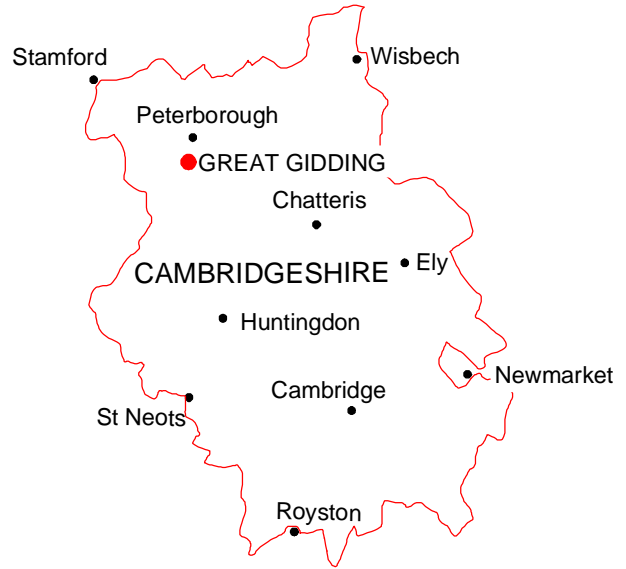
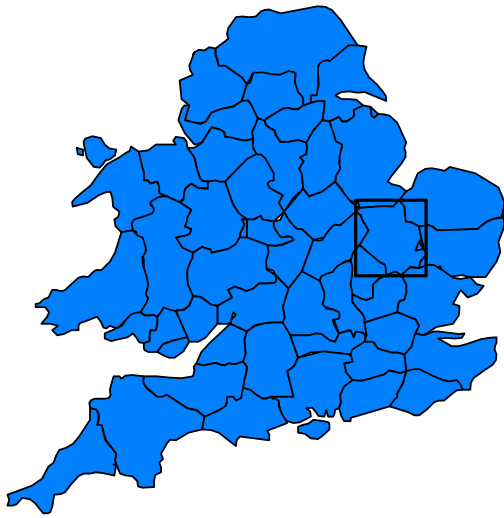
5 Illustrations

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Figure 4	Trench 2: plan and indicative section
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Agricultural Buildings, 76 Main Street,
Great Gidding, Cambs.

HN1328

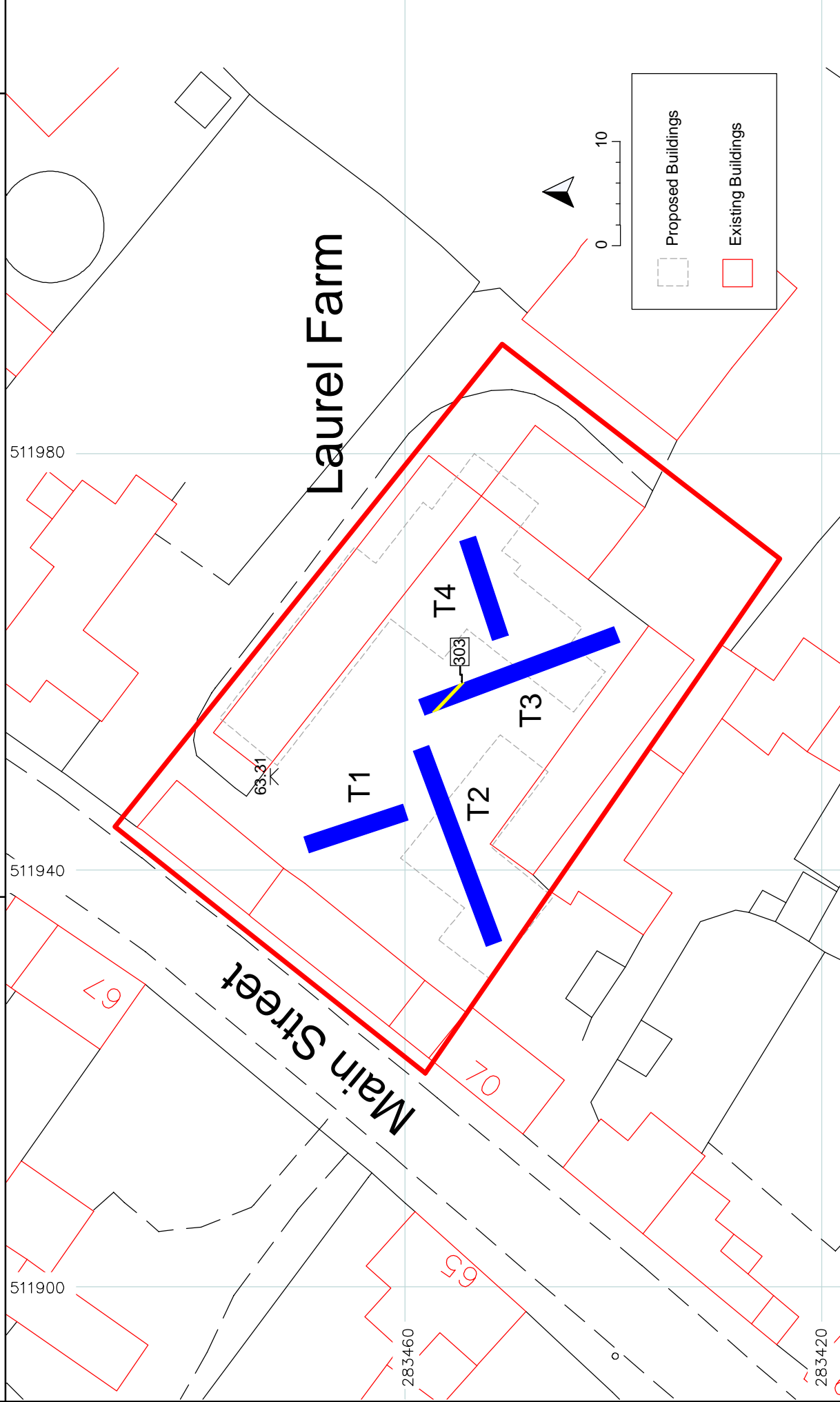


Site Location

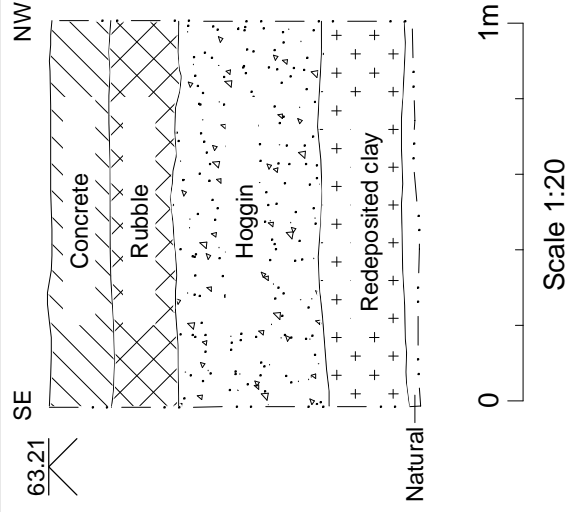
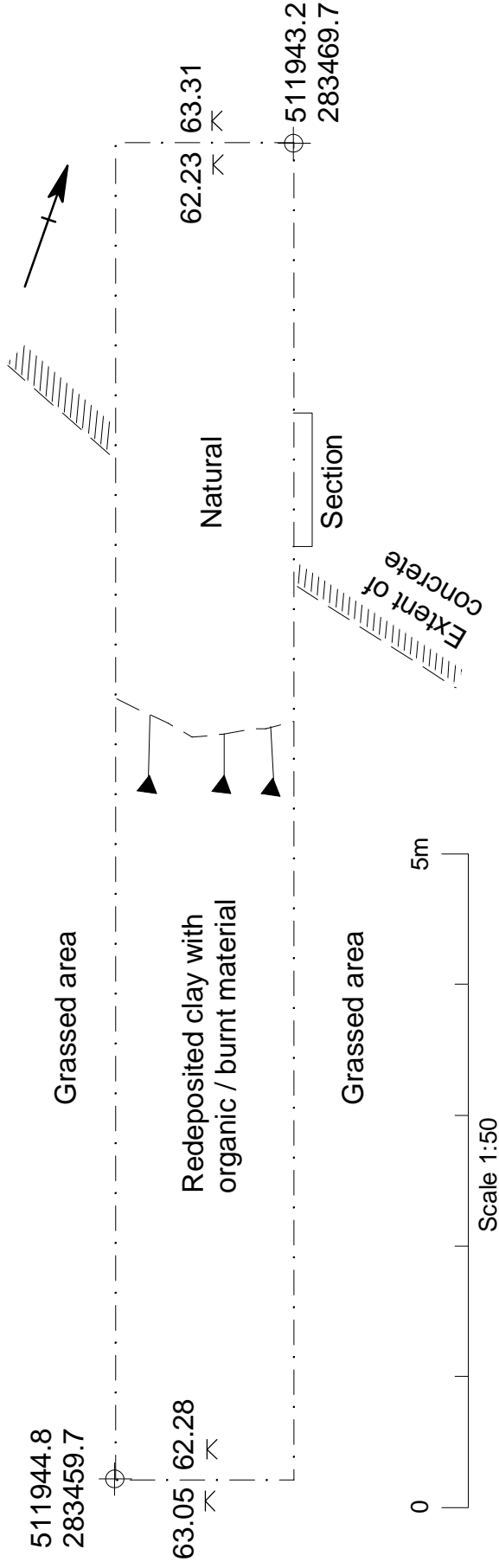
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Scale 1:750

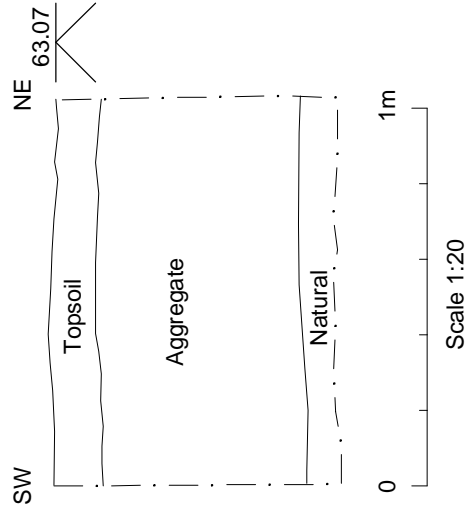
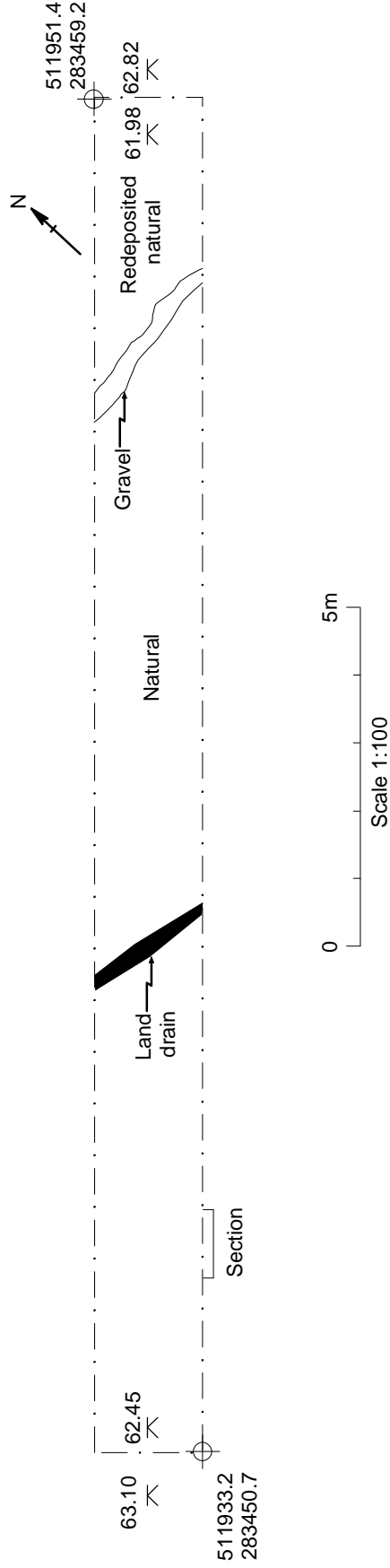
Figure 1



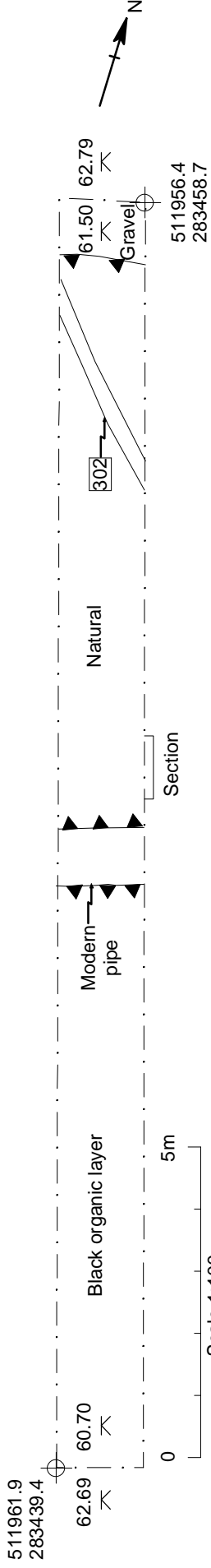
Trench layout



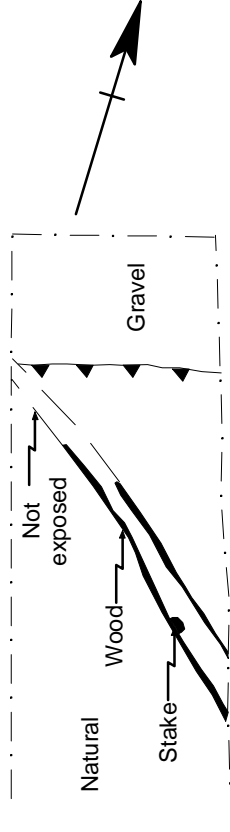
Trench 1: Plan and indicative section



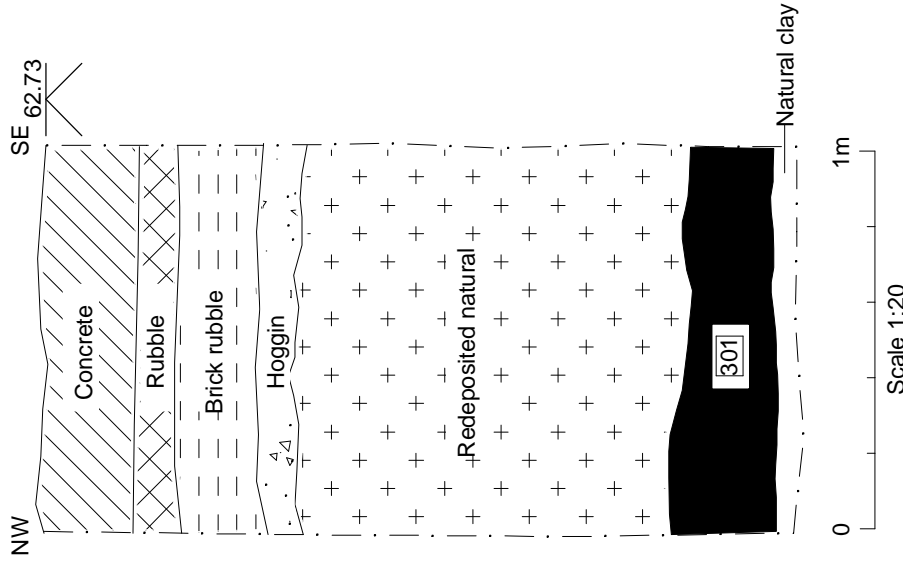
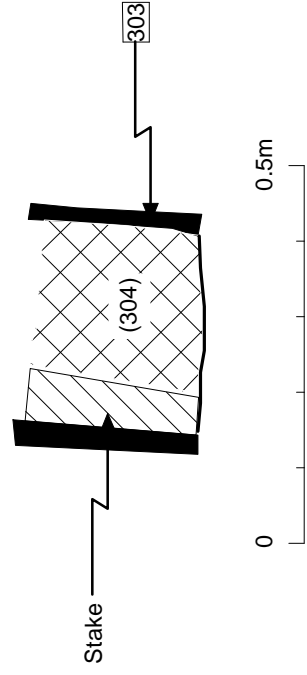
Trench 2: plan and indicative section



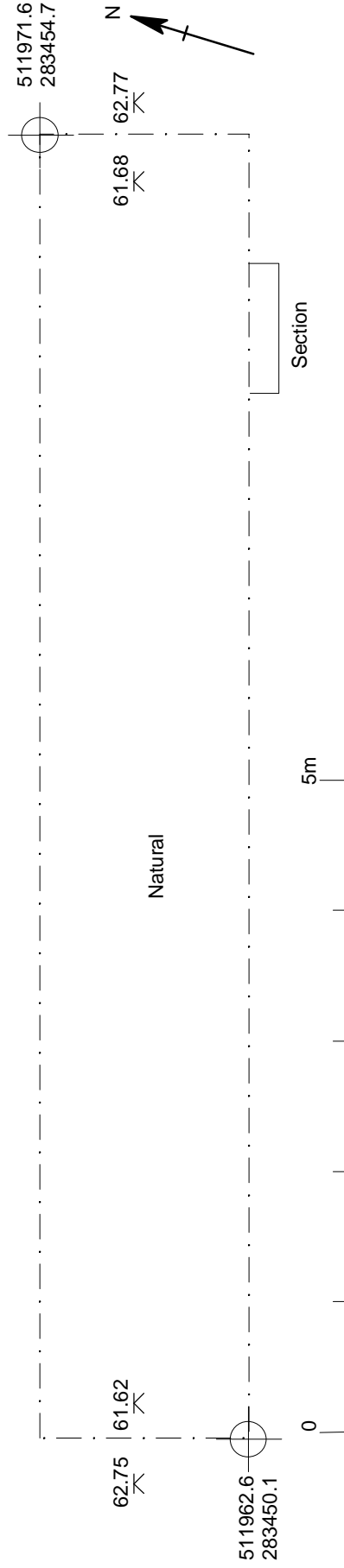
Plan of wooden drain [302]



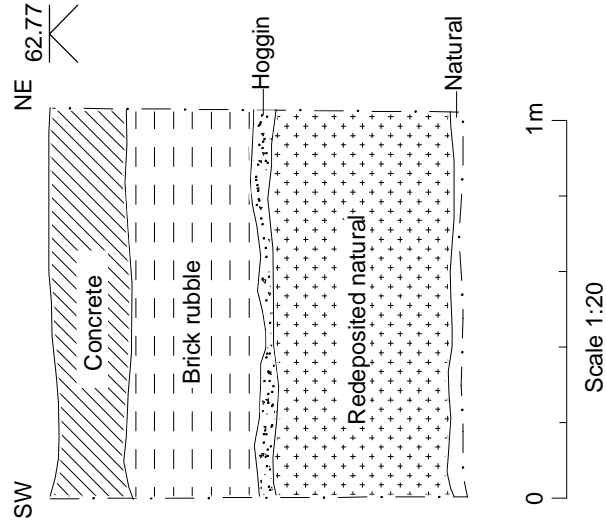
Section through wooden drain [302]



Trench 3: plans and indicative section



Scale 1:50



Trench 4: plan and indicative section



Plate 01 - Trench 1, looking SE



Plate 02 - Trench 1, indicative section at NW end



Plate 03 - Trench 2, looking SW



Plate 04 - Trench 2, indicative section, looking SE



Plate 05 - Trench 3, looking SE



Plate 06 - Trench 3, indicative section showing cobbles



Plate 07 - Tr.3, indicative section, showing hoggin layer



Plate 08 - Trench 3, wooden drain, looking W



Plate 09 - Trench 4, looking NE



Plate 10 - Trench 4, indicative section, looking SW



Plate 11 - Leather sole from [301]

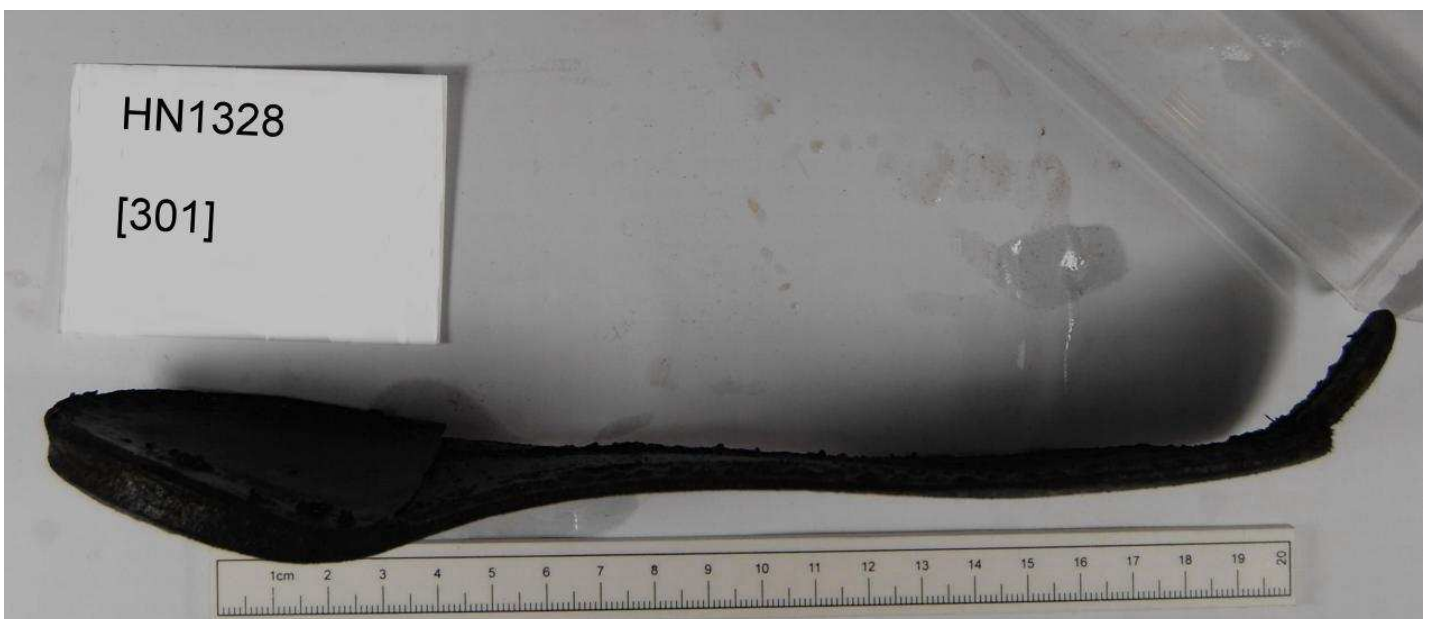


Plate 12 - Leather sole from [301], section

Appendix 1

Oasis Summary Sheet

<i>OASIS ID: heritage1-284041</i>	
Project details	
Project name	Agricultural Buildings, 76 Main Street, Great Gidding
Short description of the project	<p>In order to investigate the archaeological potential of the proposed residential redevelopment of the former agricultural buildings at Laurel Farm, 76 Main Street, Great Gidding, Cambridgeshire, the Heritage Network was commissioned to undertake a field evaluation by trial trenching.</p> <p>Four trenches were excavated, two of which measured 20m in length, and two were 10m in length. The archaeological fieldwork indicated that the ground has been subject to significant disturbance from at least the mid-19th century onwards. A considerable depth of modern overburden was encountered in all four trenches. Below this overburden was a layer of possibly redeposited natural clay containing significant amounts of black organic or burnt material. This may either reflect the site's use as a farmyard, or have come from the fire of 1861, which appears to have destroyed the earlier buildings on the site.</p> <p>The only cut feature encountered on the site was a north-west to south-east aligned wooden drain at the north-western end of Trench 3. This cut the clean natural clay below the redeposited natural and contained organic material. The drain is aligned with the axis of the farmyard and may run down the track dividing the two earlier tofts shown on the 1851 Tithe map.</p> <p>On the basis of the results of the evaluation, the risk that the proposed development might have a negative impact on remains of archaeological significance may be considered to be Low for all periods.</p>
Project dates	Start: 28-03-2017 End: 30-03-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Associated project reference codes	ECB 4960 - HER event no.
Associated project reference codes	HN1328 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Other 3 - Built over
Monument type	DRAIN Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE HUNTINGDONSHIRE GREAT GIDDING Agricultural buildings, 76 Main Street
Study area	2107 Square metres

Site coordinates	TL 11960 83460 52.437246790493 -0.35282009183 52 26 14 N 000 21 10 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 60.7m Max: 63.1m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Heritage Network
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Daniel Phillips
Project director/manager	David Hillelson
Project supervisor	Greg Jones
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Archaeological Store
Digital Archive ID	ECB 4960
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Archaeological Store
Paper Archive ID	ECB 4960
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Diary", "Drawing", "Plan", "Section", "Unspecified Archive"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Agricultural Buildings, 76 Main Street, Great Gidding, Cambs.: archaeological evaluation report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Ashworth, H.
Other bibliographic details	Report no. 1064
Date	2017
Issuer or publisher	Heritage Network
Place of issue or publication	Letchworth, Herts.
Description	A4 booklet, comb bound, green cover, 14 text pages, 6 figures, 12 plates