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**CRANFORD COTTAGE, DUCK STREET,
WENDENS AMBO, ESSEX**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Authors: Adam Dyson (Field work & report) Matthew Adams (Report) Peter Thompson MA (Research)	
NGR: TL 509 359	Report No: 3779
District: Uttlesford	Site Code: WACC 11
Approved: Claire Halpin	Project No: P4272
Signed:	Date: March 2011

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	Cranford Cottage, Duck Street, Wendens Ambo, Essex		
<p>In March 2011, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) conducted an archaeological evaluation adjacent to Cranford Cottage, Duck Street, Wendens Ambo, Essex (NGR TL 509 359). The evaluation was conducted in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval to construct a new house and garage (Planning Reference UTT/2337/10).</p> <p>The evaluation revealed Roman, medieval and post-medieval features, and the occurrence of sparse struck flint is also suggestive of prehistoric activity.</p> <p>The Roman features were dispersed and recorded in Trench 1 (Ditch F1010 and Pit F1013) and Trench 3 (Pit F1006 and Ditch F1021). Ditches F1010 (Tr.1) and F1021 (Tr.3) contained large assemblages of Roman pottery, and Ditch F1010 contained a thatch or loomweight. Medieval (12th – 14th century) features were found in Trenches 2 (Pit 1027) and 3 (Ditch F1018, Layer 1020 & Pit F1023), towards the front of the site. The post-medieval feature was Flint Surface S1035 (Trench 2), but it may be earlier. A trackway metalled with flint cobbles dating from the medieval period was recorded on the adjacent site.</p> <p>The archaeological evidence is comparable to that recorded on the adjacent site where Roman and medieval features were revealed (Wightman 2009). It is suggested that the Roman features may indicate agricultural activity peripheral to the Roman villa complex at Chinnel Barn. The adjacent site also recorded medieval features dating from the 12th century or earlier. It is suggested that the medieval activity may relate to a farmstead on the edge of the medieval village of Wendens Ambo.</p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	8 th March – 15 th March 2011		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work	TBC
P. number	4039	Site code	WACC 11
Type of project	Archaeological evaluation and possible excavation		
Site status	-		
Current land use	Garden		
Planned development	House and garage		
Main features (+dates)	Pits, ditches, metalled surface		
Significant finds(+dates)	Roman and medieval		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	Essex	Uttlesford	Wendens Ambo
HER/ SMR for area	Essex HER (EHER)		
Post code (if known)	-		
Area of site			
NGR	TL 509 359		
Height AOD (max/ min)	55m AOD		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	Essex County Council Historic Environment Management Team (R Havis)		
Project supervisor (PO)	Adam Dyson		
Funded by	Mr & Mrs Pike		
Full title	Cranford Cottage, Duck Street, Wendens Ambo, Essex, An Archaeological Evaluation and Possible Excavation		
Authors	Adams, M; Dyson, A; & Thompson P.,		
Report no.	3779		
Date (of report)	March 2011		

CRANFORD COTTAGE, DUCK STREET, WENDENS AMBO, ESSEX,

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In March 2011, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) conducted an archaeological evaluation adjacent to Cranford Cottage, Duck Street, Wendens Ambo, Essex (NGR TL 509 359). The evaluation was conducted in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval to construct a new house and garage (Planning Reference UTT/2337/10).

At Chinnel Barn approximately 300m to the north-west is a scheduled Roman villa site and field system which overlies Iron Age settlement (TL 507 361: EHER 169 & 170). Approximately 120m to the north Roman features and a metalled surface were excavated off Duck Street. They are probably part of the Roman villa system and may extend south into the area (TL 510 361: EHER 46000). Roman tile has also been observed in the angle where Chinnel Lane meets Duck Street (TL 510 360: EHER 260). Medieval features were also identified in the Duck Street excavation indicating previously unknown occupation (EHER 46001).

The evaluation revealed Roman, medieval and post-medieval features, and the occurrence of sparse struck flint is also suggestive of prehistoric activity.

The Roman features were dispersed and recorded in Trench 1 (Ditch F1010 and Pit F1013) and Trench 3 (Pit F1006 and Ditch F1021). Ditches F1010 (Tr.1) and F1021 (Tr.3) contained large assemblages of Roman pottery, and Ditch F1010 contained a thatch or loomweight. Medieval (12th – 14th century) features were found in Trenches 2 (Pit 1027) and 3 (Ditch F1018, Layer 1020 & Pit F1023), towards the front of the site. The post-medieval feature was Flint Surface S1035 (Trench 2), but it may be earlier. A ?trackway metalled with flint cobbles dating from the medieval period was recorded on the adjacent site.

The archaeological evidence is comparable to that recorded on the adjacent site where Roman and medieval features were revealed (Wightman 2009). It is suggested that the Roman features may indicate agricultural activity peripheral to the Roman villa complex at Chinnel Barn. The adjacent site also recorded medieval features dating from the 12th century or earlier. It is suggested that the medieval activity may relate to a farmstead on the edge of the medieval village of Wendens Ambo.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In March 2011 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) conducted an archaeological evaluation adjacent to Cranford Cottage, Duck Street, Wendens Ambo, Essex (NGR TL 509 359, Figs. 1-2). The evaluation was conducted in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval to construct a new house and garage (Planning Reference UTT/2337/10).

1.2 The archaeological evaluation was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by Essex County Council Historic Environment Team (ECC HEM; dated Jan/2011), and a specification compiled by AS (dated 21/02/2011), and approved by ECC. The project conformed to the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (revised 2008), as well as the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The evaluation aimed to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. Specific research aims for the programme were:

- to establish the date and nature of the initial and subsequent settlements
- to define the nature of the site in relation to the Roman and medieval occupation identified on the adjacent site at Rookery Lane
- to define the site in relation to the work previously undertaken adjacent to this development and those adjacent to the M11/Roman villa complex

Planning policy context

1.4 PPS5 states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The Planning Policy Statement aims to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions that concern the historic environment recognise that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. It aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance. It states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment and to contribute to our knowledge and understanding of our past, and to make this publicly available, should be taken, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE (Figs. 1 - 2)

2.1 Wendens Ambo is a small village in north-west Essex located 24km south of Cambridge and 3 miles south-west of Saffron Waldon. The site is at the south-west end of Wendens Ambo on lawns immediately to the south of Cranford Cottage, and is to the west of the meeting of Duck Street and Rookery Lane. The north-south running M11 is situated 150m to the west.

3 THE EVIDENCE

3.1 Topography, geology and soils (Fig. 1)

3.1.1 The village is located where a west/east running tributary valley joins the south/north flowing River Cam. The village probably takes its name from 'winding valley' and the site is on the southern lower slope of the tributary valley at approximately 55m AOD. The local soil is loam over clay with the underlying bedrock comprising chalk.

3.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

3.2.1 In 2006 residual prehistoric worked flint and pottery was recovered during an evaluation on Duck Street, some 120m to the north of the site (TL 510 361: EHER 46002). Bronze Age pottery was recovered 300m to the west at Chinnel Barn where excavations were carried out ahead of construction of the M11. Here an Iron Age roundhouse and associated pits and gullies were also found (EHER 170). A geophysical survey carried out ahead of widening of the motorway identified more features and Middle Iron Age pottery was recovered.

3.2.2 At Chinnel Barn a Roman corridor villa was excavated which included a hypocaust and bath house and is a Scheduled Monument (TL 507 361: EHER 169). Infant burials were also present, and the finds recovered from the villa dated it to between the 1st and 3rd centuries AD. Romano-British field systems were identified overlying the Iron Age remains, along with corn drying kilns and a possible pre-Boudiccan granary. At the Duck Street site the 2006 evaluation identified a series of 1st century ditches and gullies, and a north-east to south-west aligned metalled road or yard underlying 4th century Roman deposits (EHER 46000). Mid 2nd to mid 3rd century pottery was also present in the subsoil and all these remains suggest a continuation of the Roman field systems to the west. Surface finds including Roman tile were found in the small field to the west of the road in the angle of Duck Street and Chinnel Lane (TL 510 360: EHER 260).

3.2.3 The Duck Street evaluation also identified medieval features consisting of two 12th to early 13th century ditches and a 14th to early 15th century pit (EHER 46001). In addition a metalled yard or track, aligned north-east to south-west

(presumably a different one to EHER 46000), was of 15th or 16th century date. These features probably indicate the presence of previously unknown occupation in the vicinity. In the medieval period, there were two settlements *Wenden Magna* and *Wenden Parva*, and the latter is believed to have been approximately 5-600m to the north where excavations found remains of late Saxon timber buildings and some pottery (EHER 163, 167 & 17339). Documentary evidence suggests that the church was located near the Old Vicarage (EHER 162). The Church of St Mary the Virgin ministering to *Wenden Magna* is located 250m north of the site (EHER 217). It contains reused Roman brick, probably from the villa, and the nave and west tower date from the late 11th century. There were subsequent periods of rebuilding during the medieval period through to the 15th century clerestory and some 16th century windows. The church was further rebuilt in the 19th century. An Early Saxon warrior burial was found to the east near Audley End Station (EHER 229). Several houses in the village are of medieval origin.

3.2.4 In 1662 the two medieval parishes were amalgamated as Wendens Ambo and an extensive programme of building was undertaken. The closest listed buildings to the site are the Old Rectory Cottages, Beam End and a cottage 70m north-east of Willows, which are all in Duck Street and originated in the 17th-18th centuries (LB 415553, 417058 & 41552). The base of a wall, thought to be post-medieval, was found in Duck Street approximately 130m to the north of the site (TL 511 361: EHER 46869). There are a number of WWII defences in Wendens Ambo including one in Duck Street (TL 510 361: EHER 10385). An evaluation carried out by Archaeological Solutions at The Bourn, Duck Street, did not uncover any archaeological features (Barlow, Brogan & Thompson 2009).

3.3 The Site

3.3.1 The 1777 Andre & Chapman map shows the site on the slope of the tributary valley to the River Cam near the join of Duck Street and Rookery Lane (Fig. 3). There are houses and gardens to the north and south of the plot. The Enclosure and Tithe maps were not available. The 1881 First Edition 6 inch map shows the site in an open area with a hedge-lined field boundary to the north and a fence line to the west (Fig. 4). The succeeding 1897 and 1921 maps show no changes to the site apart from some houses appearing to the south (Figs. 5 & 6). The modern maps (Figs. 1 & 2) show the northern boundary of the site has been straightened and that there are houses immediately to the north and south.

4 METHODOLOGY (Trial Trenching)

4.1 Three trenches were excavated using a mechanical 360° excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, and each trench measured 15 x 1.60m (Fig.2).

4.2 Topsoil and undifferentiated overburden were mechanically excavated under close archaeological supervision. Work was undertaken using a mechanical 180° excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by hand and examined for archaeological features. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale, and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was searched for finds and the trenches were scanned by a metal detector.

5 RESULTS

Trench 1 (Figs. 2, 7 & 9; DPs. 2 – 4)

<i>Sample Section 1a: NW end, NE facing</i> <i>0.00 = 56.36m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.12m	L1000	Topsoil. Mid grey brown, loose, sandy silt.
0.12 – 0.40m	L1001	Made Ground. Mid to light orange brown, compact, silty clay with occasional modern building rubble and frequent medium and large flint nodules.
0.40 – 0.72m	L1002	Buried Topsoil. Dark grey brown, firm clay silt with occasional chalk flecks.
0.72m+	L1003	Natural. Light to mid yellow orange, compact sandy clay and occasional chalk.

<i>Sample Section 1b: SE end, NE facing</i> <i>0.00 = 56.14m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.12m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.12 – 0.40m	L1001	Made ground. As above.
0.40 – 0.72m	L1002	Buried Topsoil. As above.
0.72m+	L1003	Natural. As above.

Description: Trench 1 contained Ditch F1010, Pit F1013 and Gully F1016.

Ditch F1010 was linear in plan (1.50+ x 1.53 x 0.62m) orientated east/west. It had steep sides and a flattish base. It contained two fills which are tabulated below. Ditch F1010 was cut by Pit F1013.

Context	Description	Spot Date
L1012 Upper	Mid orange brown, compact, silty clay with occasional chalk flecks	Early – late 1 st C
L1011 Lower	Light white grey, compact, silty clay with moderate flint and occasional chalk flecks	-

Pit F1013 was oval in plan (0.14+ x 1.62 x 0.17m). It had moderately steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1014, was a dark, black grey, firm, silty clay with

occasional chalk flecks and small flint. Finds comprise CBM (63g) and animal bone (315g).

Gully F1016 was curvilinear in plan (4.50+ x 0.40 x 0.32m). It had shallow to moderate sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1017, was dark brown grey, compact, silty clay. No finds were present.

Trench 2 (Figs. 2, 7 & 9; DPs. 7–8 & 11-12)

<i>Sample Section 2a: NW end, NE facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 56.22m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.14m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr. 1
0.14 – 0.52m	L1001	Made Ground. As Above Tr. 1
0.52 – 0.86m	L1031	Buried Topsoil. Mid grey brown, firm, clay silt
0.86 – 0.98m	L1002	Buried Topsoil. As Above Tr. 1
0.98m+	L1034	Layer. Dark grey, compact, silty clay with frequent chalk flecks

<i>Sample Section 2b: SE end, NE facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 56.22m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr. 1
0.20 – 0.52m	L1001	Made Ground. As Above Tr. 1
0.52 – 0.74m	L1002	Buried Topsoil. As Above Tr. 1
0.74 – 0.86m	L1030	Subsoil. Mottled mid grey & orange, compact, clay silt with moderate chalk flecks
0.86m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr. 1

Description: Trench 2 contained Pit F1027 and Flint Surface S1035

Pit F1027 was rectangular in plan (1.70+ x 0.66+ x 0.80m). It had steep sides and a flattish base. It contained two fills which are tabulated below.

Context	Description	Spot Date
L1029 Upper	Mottled mid grey brown & mid orange, compact, silty clay with occasional chalk flecks and moderate flint	-
L1028 Lower	Dark brown grey, compact, silty clay with frequent flint and moderate chalk	Late 12 th – 14 th C

Flint Surface S1035 was a possible metallated road surface. It was linear in plan (1.50+ x 9.25 x 0.28m) aligned north-east/south-west. It comprised a mid grey, compact, flint layer with a mid grey brown silty clay matrix. Layer L1034 may form the upper fill of a drainage ditch on the north-west side of the metallated flint surface, however it was not fully excavated due to the water table.

Trench 3 (Figs. 2, 8 & 9; DPs. 1, 5-6 & 9-10)

<i>Trench 3a: NE end, NW facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 56.25m AOD</i>		
0.00 -0.24m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr. 1
0.24 – 0.50m	L1001	Made Ground. As Above Tr. 1
0.50 – 1.04m	L1002	Buried Topsoil. As Above Tr. 1
1.04 – 1.28m	L1026	Subsoil. Mid brown grey, firm, clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks
1.28m	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr. 1

<i>Trench 3b: SW end, NW facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 56.26m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr. 1
0.20 – 0.44m	L1001	Made Ground. As Above Tr. 1
0.44 – 0.93m	L1002	Buried Topsoil. As Above Tr. 1
0.93 – 1.00m	L1020	Layer. Mottled mid grey and mid orange, firm, silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and flint nodules
1.00m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr. 1

Description: Trench 3 contained Pits F1004, F1006, F1008 and F1023, and Ditches F1018 and F1021.

Pit F1004 was oval in plan (1.10 x 0.96 x 0.32m). It had moderate to steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1005, was a mid grey brown, loose, silty clay with occasional angular flint. No finds were present.

Pit F1006 was rectangular in plan (1.30+ x 0.60+ x 0.28m+). It had steep sides and the base was unexcavated due to the water table. Its fill, L1007, was a dark grey brown, compact, clay silt with frequent flint and moderate chalk. Finds comprise CBM (186g).

Pit F1008 was rectangular in plan (1.20+ x 0.60+ x 0.10m). It had steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1009, was mid brown grey, compact, silty clay with frequent flint. No finds were present.

Ditch F1018 was linear in plan (1.50+ x 1.72 x 0.20m) aligned north/south. It had moderate sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1019, was a mid orange grey, firm, silty clay with freq flint and moderate charcoal flecks. Finds comprise mid 13th – 14th century pottery (98g), CBM (133g), animal bone (84g), shell (10g) and struck flint (9g).

Ditch F1021 was linear in plan (1.50+ x 1.08 x 0.42m) aligned north/south. It had moderate to steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1022, was a mid grey, firm, silty clay with moderate flint and occasional charcoal flecks. It contained early – late 1st century pottery (265g), CBM (374g), animal bone (192g), an iron fragment

(3g), struck flint (11g) and burnt flint (15g). It was sealed by Layers L1020 and L1026.

Pit F1023 was oval in plan (2.31 x 0.50+ x 0.56m). It had vertical sides and a concave base. Its fill, 1024, was a dark orange grey, firm, silty clay with frequent flint and occasional charcoal flecks. It contained late 12th – 14th century pottery (10g), CBM (4g) and animal bone (178g).

6 CONFIDENCE RATING

6.1 It is not felt that any factors restricted the identification of archaeological features or the recovery of artefacts during the evaluation. The depth of the mechanical excavation of the trench meant that some deposits e.g. S1035 (Trench 2) were recorded in section rather than in plan.

7 DEPOSIT MODEL

7.1 Topsoil L1000, was a mid grey brown, loose silty clay with occasional angular flint (0.10 – 0.24m). It overlay Made Ground L1001, a mid to light orange brown, compact, silty clay with occasional CBM rubble (0.28 – 0.38m). L1001 overlay a Buried Topsoil L1002 (Trs. 1 & 3), a dark grey brown, firm, clay silt with occasional chalk flecks (0.21 – 0.52m).

7.2 At the north-western end of Trench 2, Layer L1001 overlay Buried Topsoil L1031, a mid grey brown, firm, clay silt. L1031 overlay L1032, a light grey orange, compact, clay silt with chalk flecks and occasional flint. L1032 overlay L1033, a light white, compact, chalk. L1033 overlay L1002.

7.3 In Trench 1, Buried Topsoil L1002 overlay Subsoil L1015, a mottled mid grey and orange, compact silty clay. In Trench 2 it overlay Subsoil L1030, a mottled mid grey and orange, compact silty clay with moderate chalk flecks. It also overlay the metalised Surface S1035 and L1034, a dark grey, compact, silty clay with frequent chalk flecks. In Trench 3, Buried Topsoil L1002 overlay L1026, a mid brown grey, firm, clay silt which in turn overlay Layer L1020, a mottled mid grey and orange, firm, silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and flint.

7.4 The basal layer in all trenches was the Natural, L1003, a mid yellow orange, compact, chalky sandy clay with occasional flint.

8 DISCUSSION

Summary of the archaeology

8.1 Archaeological features were recorded in each trench, in summary:

Trench	Feature	Description	Spot Date
1	F1010	Ditch	Mid – Late 1 st C
	F1013	Pit	?Roman
	F1016	Gully	Undated
2	F1027	Pit	Late 12 th – 14 th C
	S1035	Flint Surface	Mid 16 th – 18 th C
	L1034	Upper fill of ?Ditch	Undated
3	F1004	Pit	Undated
	F1006	Pit	?Roman
	F1008	Pit	Undated
	F1018	Ditch	Mid 13 th – 14 th C
	F1021	Ditch	Mid – Late 1 st C
	F1023	Pit	Late 12 th – 14 th C

8.2 The evaluation revealed Roman, medieval and post-medieval features. The occurrence of sparse struck flint is also suggestive of prehistoric activity (Ditches F1010 (Tr.1), F1018 (Tr.3) and F1021 (Tr.3) and Pit F1027 (Tr.2)). Ditch F1010 L1011 contained 10 struck flints (Struck Flint report below)

8.3 The Roman features were dispersed and recorded in Trench 1 (Ditch F1010 and Pit F1013) and Trench 3 (Pit F1006 and Ditch F1021). The dating of Pits F1006 and F1013 is tentative and based on the presence of Roman tile. Conversely Ditches F1010 (Tr.1) and F1021 (Tr.3) contained large assemblages of Roman pottery, and Ditch F1010 contained a thatch or loomweight (Pottery and CBM reports below). Residual Roman pottery and CBM was found within Ditch F1018 (Tr.3) Pit F1027 (Tr.2)

8.4 Medieval (12th – 14th century) features were found in Trenches 2 (Pit 1027) and 3 (Ditch F1018, Layer 1020 & Pit F1023), towards the front of the site. The pottery sherds occurred in small quantities (2 - 4), excepting Ditch F1018 (Tr.3) which contained 16 sherds.

8.5 The post-medieval feature was Flint Surface S1035 (Trench 2), but the dating evidence is tentative (based on two sherds). A ?trackway metalled with flint cobbles dating from the medieval period was recorded on the adjacent site.

Research Potential

8.6 The archaeological evidence is comparable to that recorded on the adjacent site where Roman and medieval features were revealed (Wightman 2009). It is suggested that the Roman features may indicate agricultural activity

peripheral to the Roman villa complex at Chinnel Barn. This suggests that the site has the potential to address research questions regarding Romano-British agricultural practices. Important research questions on this subject for the eastern counties are set out by Medlycott and Brown (2008) and aim to provide answers regarding the form of Romano-British farms and farmsteads, and the relationships between field size and shape and agricultural regimes (Medlycott and Brown 2008, 65). Along with the Roman evidence recorded from the surrounding area, the archaeology recorded at this site can be seen to form part of a wider Romano-British landscape, though the pottery from the adjacent site is of 3rd-4th century date, as opposed to mid – late 1st from the current investigation.

8.7 The adjacent site also recorded medieval features dating from the 12th century or earlier. A possible structure or enclosure was revealed. It is suggested that the medieval activity may relate to a farmstead on the edge of the medieval village of Wendens Ambo. The form of medieval farms, the kind of agricultural regimes that they practised and the relationship between rural and urban sites are identified as important research questions for the eastern region (Medlycott and Brown 2008, 96). The identification of these features suggests that the site may have the potential to provide information to contribute to answers to these questions. The possible trackway, metalled with flint cobbles, recorded in 2009 was also recorded during the current investigation. Medieval infrastructure is regarded as an important area of research for the East Anglian region (Medlycott and Brown 2008, 97). S1035 may be considered to add to the corpus of information regarding this subject.

9 DEPOSTION OF ARCHIVE

9.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with the finds from the site, at the Uttlesford Museum. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. In addition to the overall site summary, it will be necessary to produce a summary of the artefactual and ecofactual data.

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Limited would like to thank Mr & Mrs Pike for funding the evaluation and for assistance, and their architect Mr Ian Abrams for his assistance.

AS is grateful to the staff at the Chelmsford Record Office.

AS is pleased to acknowledge the input and advice of Mr Richard Havis of the Essex County Council Historic Environment Management Historic Environment Office.

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WEB SITES

Heritage Gateway

Unlocking Essex's Past

APPENDIX 1 Cartographic Sources

Map Description	Date	Scale
Site Location: OS Explorer	Modern	1:25,000
Detailed Site Location	Modern	1:1,250
Andre & Chapman	1777	
OS 1st edition	1881	1:10,560
OS 2 nd edition	1897	1:2,500
OS 3 rd edition	1921	1:2,500

APPENDIX 2: CONCORDANCE OF FINDS**WACC11: Land Adjacent to Cranford Cottages, Duck St Wendens Ambo.**Concordance of finds by
feature

Feature	Context	Trench	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)	A. Bone (g)	Other
1002			Buried Topsoil			1649		B. Flint 103g
1006	1007	3	Pit			186		Thatch or loomweight S. Flint (10) 97g
1010	1011	1	Ditch	Mid-late 1st C AD	(96) 1074g			
1010	1012	1	Ditch	Mid-late 1st C AD	(4) 45g	10	3	
1013	1014	1	Pit			63	315	
1015		1	Subsoil			84		
1018	1019	3	Ditch	Mid 13 th -14 th	(16) 98g	133	84	Shell 10g S. Flint (1) 9g
1020		3	Layer	Late 12 th – mid 14 th	(3) 27g		4	
1021	1022	3	Ditch	Mid-late 1st C AD	(16) 265g	374	192	B. Stone 639g Fe Fragment (1) 3g S. Flint (3) 11g B. Flint 15g
1023	1024	3	Pit	Late 12 th -14 th	(2) 10g	4	178	
1026		3	Subsoil			132		
1027	1028	2	Pit	Late 12 th -14 th	(4) 35g	97	9	S. Flint (1) 22g B. Flint 47g
	1029					170		
1030		2	Subsoil	Mid 16 th -18 th	(3) 135g			
1034		2	Layer			43		
1035		2	Flint Surface	Mid 16 th -18 th	(2) 13			
US		2				307		

CONCORDANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

WACC 11: Cranford Cottages, Duck Street, Wendens Ambo Concordance of Samples

Sample	Size (l)	Feature	Context	Description	Spot Date	Flot (ml)	Pot (g)	A. Bone (g)	S.Flint
1	20	1004	1005	Pit		3			
2	20	1010	1011	Ditch	e-1 1st C AD	5	45	12	
3	10	1013	1014	Pit		3	4		
4	10	1016	1017A	Gully		3	3		(1) 5g

APPENDIX 3 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Flint

Andrew Peachey

The trial trench evaluation recovered a total of 15 fragments (166g) of struck flint and three fragments (165g) of burnt flint. The flint occurs in an un-patinated condition.

The struck flint is entirely limited to debitage flakes, that range from secondary, tertiary to un-corticated in type, and are consistently irregular in profile suggesting they are the bi-products of unsystematic flint reduction technology that is characteristic of the later Neolithic/early Bronze Age or later still in the Bronze Age. A small concentration of 10 flakes (97g) was contained in Ditch F1010 (L1011), while isolated flakes were also contained in Ditches F1018 (L1019), F1021 (L1022) and Pit F1027 (L1028). Isolated fragments of burnt flint contained in Ditch F1021 (L1022), Pit F1027 (L1028) and in Buried Topsoil L1002 may also be the result of prehistoric activity, however the assemblage is devoid of diagnostic implements.

The Roman Pottery

Andrew Peachey

The trial trench evaluation recovered a total of 117 sherds (1389g) of early Roman 'Belgic' pottery in a slightly abraded condition, with the bulk of the material contained in Ditch F1010 (L1011 and L1012). 'Belgic' pottery is introduced in north-west Essex in the 1st century BC, but ceramic traditions at many locations including Wendens Ambo have been demonstrated to be intrinsically conservative with wheel-thrown 'Belgic' pottery not introduced until after the Roman Conquest in AD43 (Sealey 2007, 30). The forms recorded as part of this assemblage conform to vessel types in the typology developed by Thompson (1982), and confirm that this assemblage is of post-conquest date in the mid to late 1st century AD. The two fabric variants recorded suggest that the local potters were imitating in predominantly sand-tempered fabrics the grog-tempered fabrics of classic 'Belgic' pottery from south-eastern England, but that the Romanisation of local pottery had yet to commence.

Methodology

The pottery was quantified by sherd count, weight and rim estimated vessel equivalent (R.EVE). Fabrics were examined at x20 magnification and assigned an alpha-numeric code (Table 1). All data will be entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that will form part of the site archive and conform to the Guidelines for the archiving of Roman pottery (Darling 2004).

Fabric Descriptions

Fabric Code	Description
Q1	Fine sand-tempered ware. Thin pale orange-brown surfaces often mottled black, contrasting with a thick very dark grey core. Inclusions comprises common, well-sorted fine quartz (<0.1mm) with occasional dark red or black iron rich grains/grog (0.1-0.5mm). A hard fabric with soapy to smooth surfaces.
Q2	Medium sand-tempered ware. Dark grey-brown to black surfaces fading to a dark grey core, sometimes with contrasting grey-brown margins. Inclusions comprise common moderately sorted quartz (0.1-0.5mm) with sparse iron-rich grains/grog (0.25-3mm). A hard fabric with surfaces ranging from smooth to slightly abrasive.

Table 1: Fabric codes and descriptions

Results

Ditch F1010 (L1011 and L1012) contained a total of 100 sherds (1119g) of Belgic pottery, including 10 sherds (78g) of fabric Q1, with the remainder comprised of fabric Q2. The fabric Q1 sherds are entirely derived from a single butt-beaker with an offset neck and burnished exterior (Thompson 1982: type G5-4/G5-5). The fabric Q2 sherds included fragments of at least five vessels including two bowls with burnished cordons (*ibid*: types D2-4 and D1-1), a jar with a plain shoulder cordon (*ibid*: type B1-2), a storage jar (*ibid*: type C6-1), and a jar with an everted bead rim and rilled body (*ibid*: type C7.1). Body sherds derived from this final type indicate there may be several examples of this type of vessel present, but the corresponding rim sherds were not recovered. Also present were basal fragments from a pedestal base with a dished foot (*ibid*: type A4), which could belong to one of the vessel types recorded above although no cross-joins could be identified. This presence of these forms conforms to the distribution of common types in north-west Essex in the post-conquest mid to late 1st century AD, and probably represents a rubbish deposit associated with domestic occupation in the immediate vicinity. Further sparse sherds of Belgic pottery were contained in Ditch F1021 and Pit F1027, with the fabric Q2 sherds contained in Ditch F1021 (L1022) including the perforated base of a bowl.

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The Ceramic Building Materials and Fired Clay

Andrew Peachey

The trial trench evaluation recovered a total of 28 fragments (1021g) of early Roman CBM, 17 fragments (2105g) of post-medieval CBM and 39 fragments (703g) of fired clay derived from probably thatch weights. The CBM was recovered in a fragmentary but only slightly abraded condition. The Roman CBM includes fragments of tegulae roof tile and bessalis brick that are probably contemporary with the fired clay, and probably associated with domestic occupation in the vicinity. The post-medieval CBM was dominated by a wholly represented though broken ridge tile, with peg tile also present, and was largely recovered from subsoil and topsoil layers.

Methodology

The CBM and baked clay were quantified by fragment count and weight with fabrics examined at x20 magnification and all data entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that will be deposited as part of the archive. Roman CBM forms were identified using the conventions defined by Brodrigg (1987).

The Roman CBM

The 28 fragments (1021g) of Roman CBM occurred in a single fabric fired orange to orange-brown throughout, sometimes with mid grey cores or margins. Inclusions comprise common, moderately-sorted quartz (0.1-0.5mm), sparse red clay pellets/grog (0.25-5mm), sparse fine mica and occasional flint (<15mm). A single fragment of 40mm *bessalis* brick was contained in Ditch F1018 (L1019), with the remaining Roman CBM fragments comprising 20mm thick *tegula* roof tile contained in Pits F1006 (L1007), F1013 (L1014), F1027 (L1028 and L1029), Ditches F1011 (L1012), F1021 (L1022) and Buried Soil L1002. However, only two fragments (186g) contained in Pit F1006 (L1007) exhibit flanges on the edge of the tile, with the remaining fragments representing only flat tile. The associated pottery assemblage suggests that these fragments originate in the mid to late 1st century AD, although hypothetically they could have been manufactured at any point during the Roman period.

The (early Roman) Fired Clay

With the exception of a single small fragment (4g) contained in Pit F1023 (L1024), the fired clay is entirely contained in Ditch F1010 (L1011) and derived from a single object. The fabric of the fired clay is mottled orange-brown throughout with inclusions of sparse chalk (2-10mm), sparse clay pellets (2-8mm) and sparse voids/burnt organics (linear <15mm). Although highly fragmented the fragments contained in L1011 include the rounded corners of an apparently triangular object c.70mm thick, probably a thatch or loom weight although no perforations or external grooves were recorded. Triangular weights are characteristic of late Iron Age activity, although given the post-Roman conquest adoption of 'Belgic' pottery on the site, it is quite

feasible that this weight remained in domestic use in the mid to late 1st century AD and is contemporary with the Roman CBM and pottery from the site.

The Post-Medieval CBM

The post-medieval CBM includes five fragments (1245g) from a single fragmented, but wholly represented ridge tile distributed in Buried Topsoil L1002 and as un-stratified material, with the remainder comprised of peg tile. The roof tile (ridge and peg tiles) occurs in a single fabric that is orange-red throughout with inclusions of common moderately sorted quartz (0.1-0.5mm, occasionally to 1mm), sparse fine mica, and occasional fragments of flint (<10mm). The ridge tile has complete dimensions of L245mm x W105mm x H80mm, with a thickness of 15mm (complete weight c.1245g) and a tightly curved/arced profile. The sanded base of the tile indicated that it was formed over a mould, while the length-ways striations on the upper surface show how it was pressed and smoothed onto the mould. Three rows of pre-firing nail hole perforate both ends and the middle of the ridge tile resulting in three holes on each side and along the crest of the tile. The remaining fragments of peg tile comprised 12-14mm thick flat tile with nail hole at one end, but are limited to sparsely distributed, relatively small fragments contained in Ditch F1021 (L1022), Buried Topsoil L1002, Subsoil L1026, Layer L1034 and as un-stratified material. The roof tile is probably derived from a 17th to 19th century building, although the lack of any distinct concentrations suggests it may be some distance from its original structure.

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The Medieval and Post-Medieval Pottery

by Peter Thompson

The evaluation recovered 27 sherds weighing 299g from five features and the sub-soil. The pottery can be divided into three groups, medieval grey wares, Colchester-type wares and early post-medieval red earthenware. The medieval sherds can be generally characterised as abraded although several sherds are in fairly good condition. The grey wares include a C1 type beaded rim and H1 flanged rim from Ditch F1018, and a cooking pot base from Layer L1020. Three of the Colchester-type sherds from Ditch F1018 have patchy copper speckled glaze. Large conjoining fragments of a slightly abraded post-medieval red earthenware bowl with a flanged or lid seated rim and patchy internal glaze came from the subsoil (L1030).

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Key (with Essex codes)

F13/20 MGW: Medieval grey ware late 12th-14th

F21COL: Colchester-type ware mid 13th-14th

F21 COL(g): Colchester-type glazed ware mid 13th-14th

F40 PMRE: Post-medieval red earthenware mid 16th-18th

<i>Feature</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Layer	1020	3x26g MGW	Late 12 th – mid 14 th	MGW: sagging cooking pot base
Ditch 1018	1019	8x80g MGW 3x6g COL 3x6g COL(g)	Mid 13 th -14 th	MGW: C1 and H1
Pit 1023	1024	2x8g MGW	Late 12 th -14 th	MGW: jug neck cordon
Pit 1027	1028	3x30g MGW	Late 12 th -14 th	
subsoil	1030	3x131g PMRE	Mid 16 th -18 th	PMRE: deep bowl with E2 type rim (but downturned) with patchy internal glaze.
Flint surface	1035	2x12g PMRE	Mid 16 th -18 th	

The faunal remains catalogue and assessment

by Julie Curl

Methodology

The assessment was carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis, 1992). All of the bone was scanned to determine range of species and elements present. A note was also made of butchering and any indications of skinning, hornworking and other modifications. When possible a record was made of ages and any other relevant information, such as pathologies. Counts and weights were noted for each context with additional counts for each species identified, counts were also taken of bone classed as 'countable' (Davis, 1992) and measureable bone. All information was recorded directly into Excel for quantification and assessment. A basic catalogue is included in the written report and the full assessment database is available in the digital archive.

The faunal assemblage

Quantification, provenance and preservation

A total of 1029g of faunal remains, consisting of seventy-three pieces, was recovered from excavations at this site. Bone was yielded from seven features, which are ditch, layer and pits; dating of these features was not available at the time of this assessment. Quantification by weight, feature number and feature type is presented in Table 1.

Feature	Feature Type			Feature Total
	Ditch	Layer	Pit	
1010	247g			247g
1013			315g	315g
1018	84g			84g
1020		4g		4g
1021		192g		192g
1023			178g	178g
1027			9g	9g
Feature Type Total	344g	196g	502g	1029g

Table 1. Quantification (weight) of the faunal assemblage by feature number and feature type

All of the bone is in good condition, although heavily fragmented from butchering and wear. No gnawing, weathering or burning was observed on any of the remains. The assemblage contains elements that allow identification, measurement for stature and breed and evidence of pathological conditions.

Species range and modifications and other observations

At least five species were identified during the assessment. The most frequent species, in terms of the number of identifiable pieces, is sheep/goat, which included both adult and juvenile remains. Cattle were seen in slightly lower numbers and small quantities of equid and pig/boar were also noted. A single femur from a small dog or possibly fox was recorded from F1010 L1011. Quantification (NISP) of the species by feature type can be seen in Table 2.

Species	Feature Type			Species Total
	Ditch	Layer	Pit	
Cattle	5	2		7
Dog/Fox	1			1
Equid			2	2
Mammal	22	23	6	51
Pig/boar	1	1		2
Sheep/goat	8	2		10
Feature Total	37	28	8	73

Table 2. Quantification (NISP) of species by feature type.

Some pathologies were noted. Sheep remains in L1011 included two proximal metacarpals that both show small lesions on the articular surface that might suggest an animal that has undergone some physical or dietary stress during its development, possibly resulting in a lame animal. An equid metatarsal from (1024) showed some arthritis at the proximal end; the size of the bone would suggest a small horse or large pony; such pathologies can indicate working animals.

Butchering was noted throughout the assemblage, including some cuts and scrape marks on an equid radius. There is a higher number of the better quality meat-bearing bones in this assemblage and less primary butchering waste.

Conclusions

This is a relatively small assemblage, which does however produce a good deal of animal, health and husbandry information. The bulk of the remains consist of the butchering and food waste from the main food mammals with some evidence for a small dog or fox. The higher number of better meat-bearing bones would suggest the disposal of more food waste rather than general processing.

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Appendix

Catalogue of the faunal remains recovered from WACC11, Land Adjacent to Cranford Cottages, Duck St Wendens Ambo. Listed in context order.

A full catalogue (with additional counts) is available as an Excel file.

Key:

NISP = Number of Individual Species elements Present

Age – a = adult, j = juvenile (older than 1 month)

Butchering = c = cut, ch = chopped

Element range – ul = upper limb, ll = lower limb, scap = scapula, t = teeth, v = vertebrae, mand = mandible

Path = Pathology

Context	Trench	Feature	Type	Ctxt Qty	Wt (g)	Species	NISP	Age	Element range	Butchering	Path	Comments
1011		1010	Ditch	23	244	Cattle	1	a	ul	ch, c		
1011		1010	Ditch			Sheep/goat	6	a	ll, ul, scap	c, ch	2	small lesions on the proximal ends of both metacarpals
1011		1010	Ditch			Pig/boar	1		ul	ch, c		
1011		1010	Ditch			Dog/Fox	1	a	ul			femur (proximal) from a small dog or fox
1011		1010	Ditch			Mammal	14			ch, c		
1012	1	1010	Ditch	1	3	Mammal	1					
1014	1	1013	Pit	2	315	Equid	1	a	ul	many cuts		radius, cut and scrapped along shaft
1014	1	1013	Pit			Mammal	1					
1019	3	1018	Ditch	13	84	Cattle	4	a	ul	ch, c		
1019	3	1018	Ditch			Sheep/goat	2	j	t			inc a worn Dp4
1019	3	1018	Ditch			Mammal	7		fragments	c, ch		
1020	3	1020	Layer	1	4	Sheep/goat	1		t			
1022	3	1021	Layer	27	192	Cattle	2	a	v, t	ch, c		
1022	3	1021	Layer			Sheep/goat	1		mand	c, ch		
1022	3	1021	Layer			Pig/boar	1	j	mand	ch, c		
1022	3	1021	Layer			Mammal	23					
1024	3	1023	Pit	5	1178	Equid	1	a	ll		1	proximal metatarsal with arthritis at proximal end
1024	3	1023	Pit			Mammal	4					
1028	2	1027	Pit	1	9	Mammal	1					



1
Pits F1004, F1006, & F1008. Looking north-west.



2
Ditches F1010 & F1013. Looking south-west



3
Gully F1016. Looking north-west.



4
Trial trench 1 – Post exc. Looking north-west.



5
F1018. Looking north.



6
F1021. Looking north.



7
Long section. Trench 2. Looking west



8
F1027. Looking south-east



9
Trench 3. Sample Section 1. Looking south-east



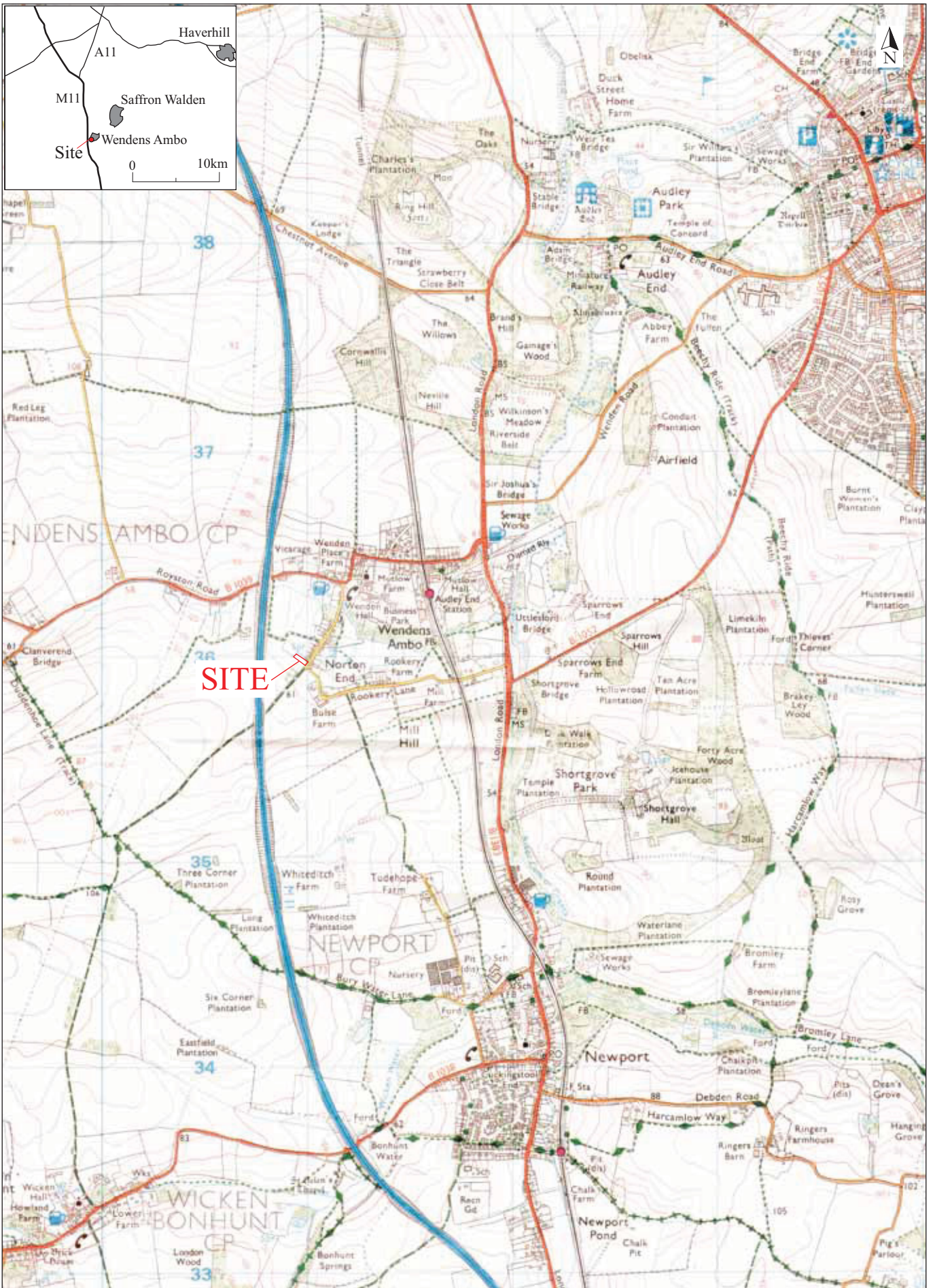
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Trench 3. Post excavation. Looking north-east



11
Trench 2. Sample Section 2. Looking south-west

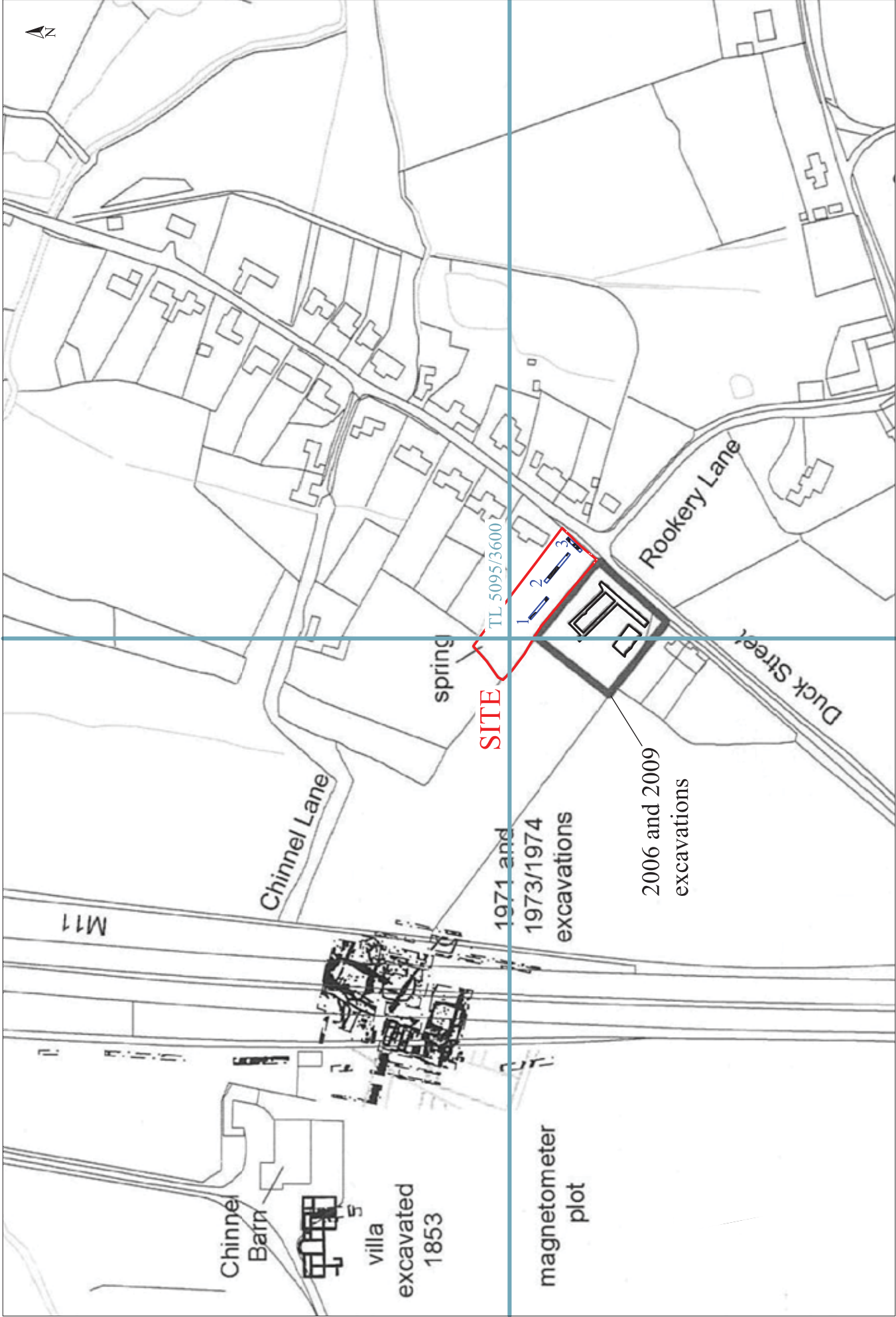


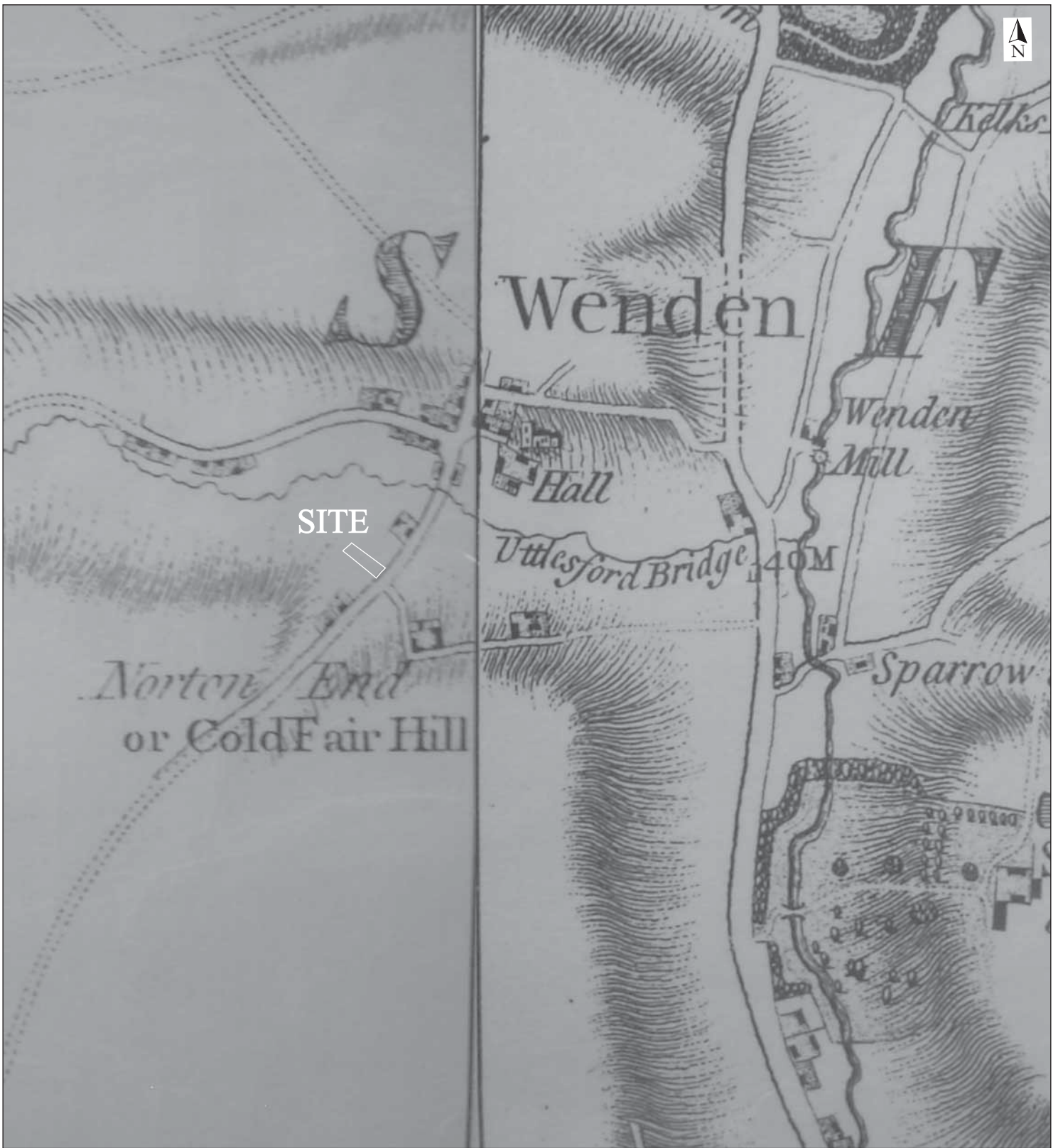
12
Trench 2. Post excavation. Looking north-west



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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4





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Fig. 3 Andre & Chapman, 1777
Not to scale



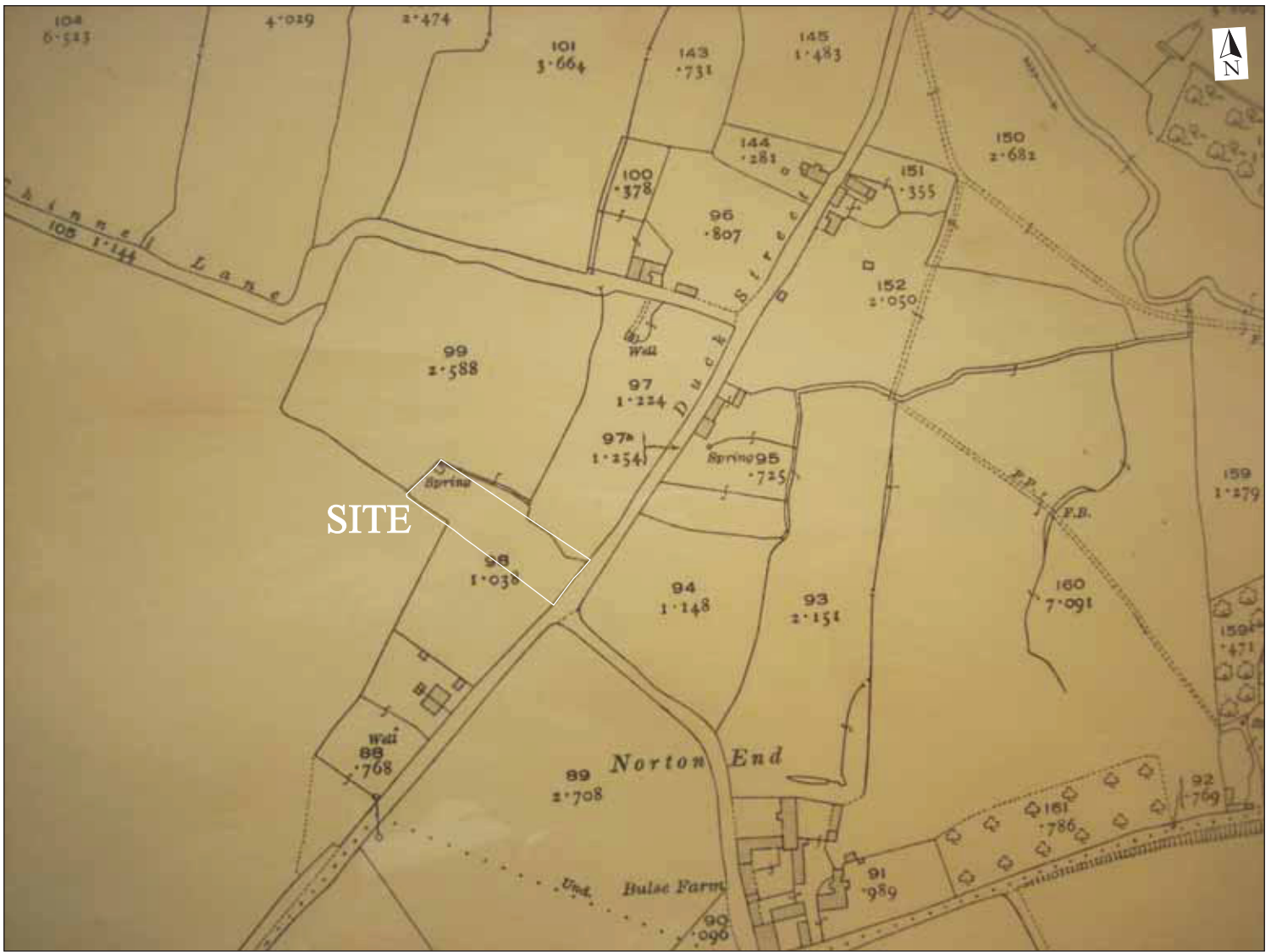
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Fig. 4 1st edition OS map, 1881
Not to scale



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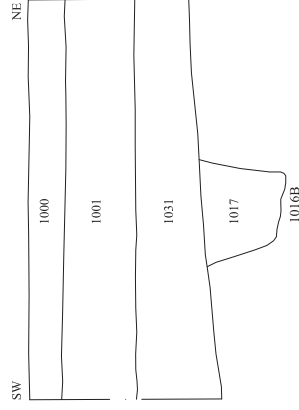
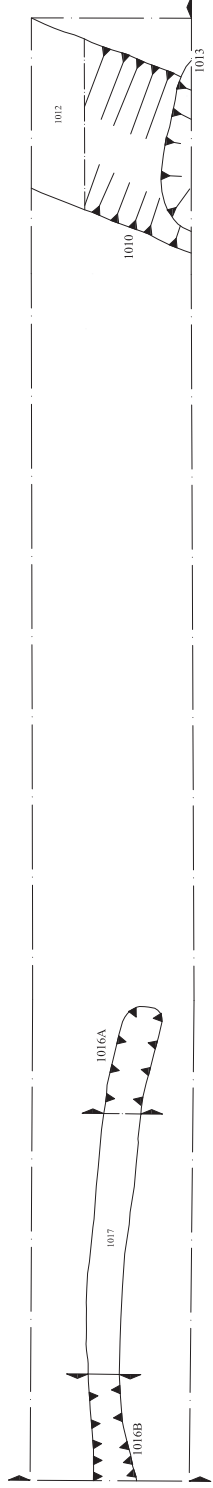
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Fig. 5 2nd edition OS map, 1897
Not to scale



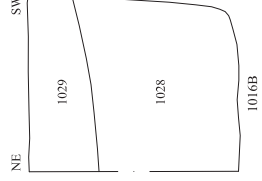
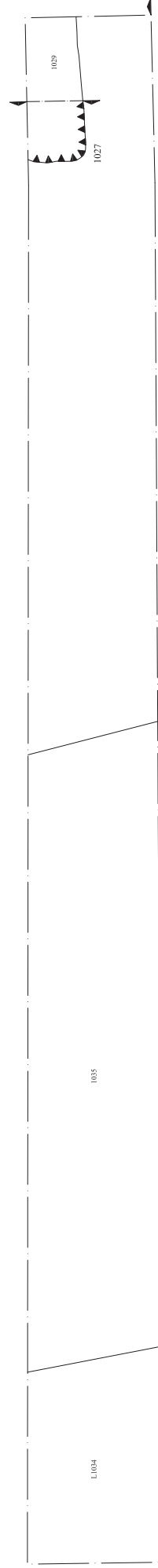
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Fig. 6 3rd edition OS map, 1921
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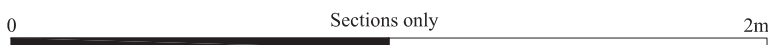
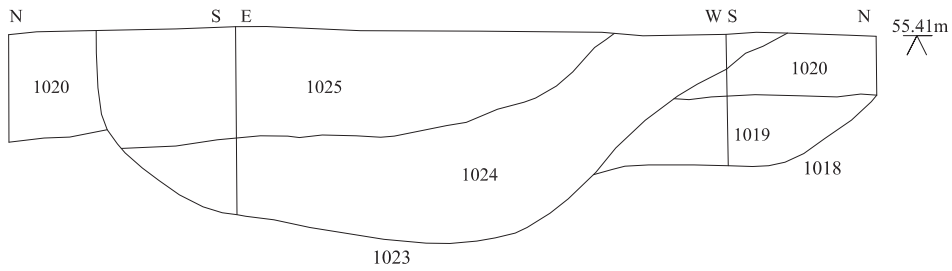
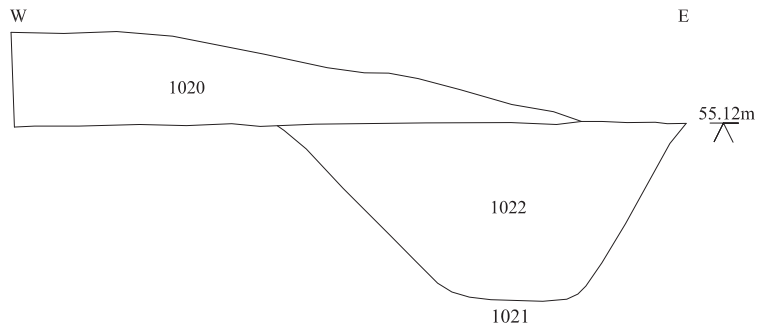
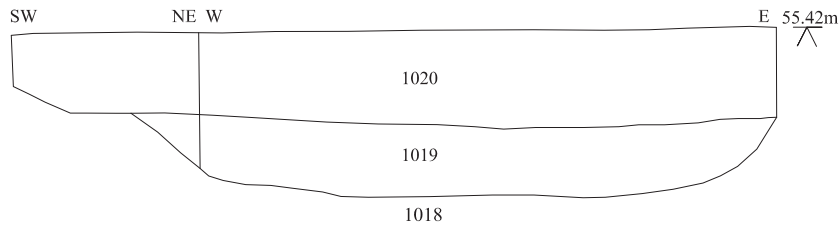
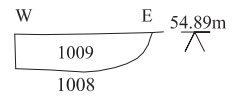
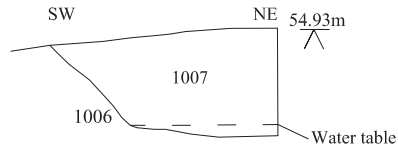
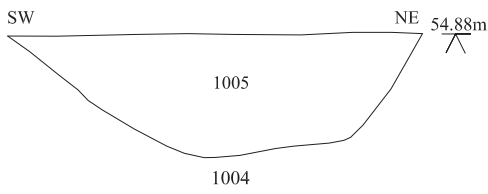
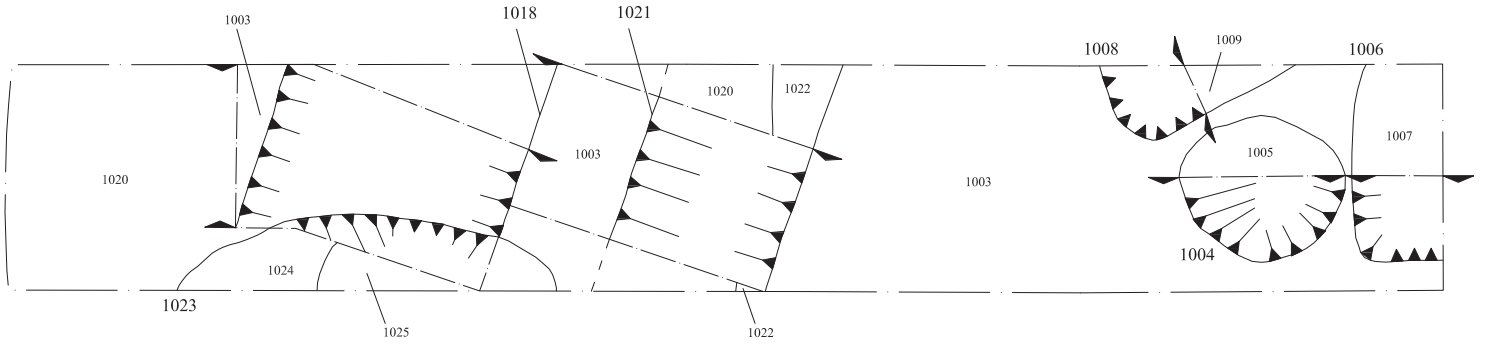
Trench 1



Trench 2

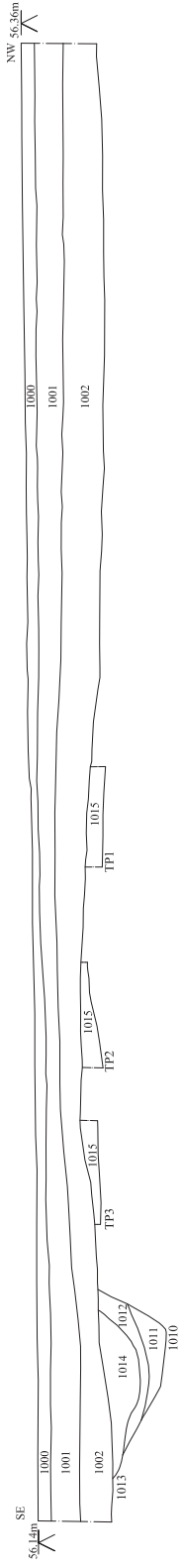


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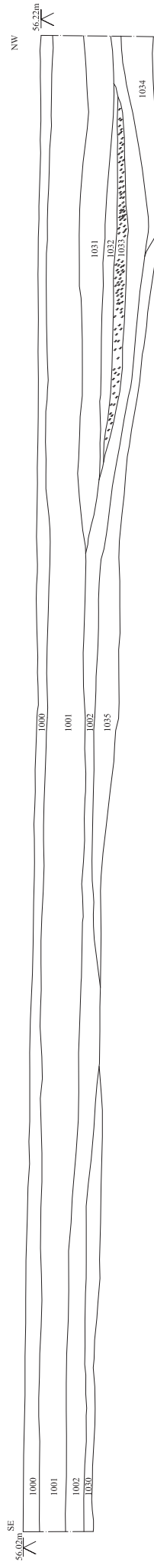


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Fig. 8 Trench plans and sections
 Scale 1:50 and 1:20 at A4

Trench 1 section



Trench 2 section



Trench 3 section

