

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

22 SPRING CLOSE, BURWELL, CAMBRIDGESHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING

CHER NO. ECB 3606

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NGR: TL 5875 6618	Report No: 3857	
District: East Cambridgeshire	Site Code: AS 1416	
Approved: Claire Halpin	Project No: 4438	
Signed:	Date: June 2011	



**INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE** | Bronze

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	22 Spring Close, Burwell, Cambridgeshire		
<p>In June 2011, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at 22 Spring Close, Burwell, Cambridgeshire (NGR: TL 5875 6618). The proposed development was the erection of a two-storey side extension and access to the existing residential property.</p> <p>The site lies within an area of archaeological potential in the southern historic core of Burwell. It fronts the western side of Spring Close, to the west of the High Street, and comprises the residential dwelling and plot of Spring Close. The 12th century Burwell Castle, a Scheduled Ancient Monument, lies immediately adjacent to the east (SAM 29382).</p> <p>The excavation of approximately overburden was monitored with the aim of identifying any archaeological remains revealed by the groundworks. An isolated rectilinear pit was identified, from which medieval pottery was recovered. No other archaeological deposits or artefacts were identified.</p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	27-28 June 2011		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work	N
P. number	4438	Site code	AS 1416
Type of project	Archaeological Monitoring & Recording		
Site status	Area of archaeological potential, adjacent to Burwell Castle (SAM 29382)		
Current land use	Garden		
Planned development	Two storey extension and side access		
Main features (+dates)	Rectilinear pit		
Significant finds (+dates)	Medieval pottery (10 – 12 th century)		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	Cambridgeshire	East Cambridgeshire	Burwell
HER/ SMR for area	Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CCC HER)		
Post code (if known)	CB25 0HF		
Area of site	Approximately 80m ²		
NGR	TL 5875 6618		
Height AOD (max/ min)	c.10m		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Tom Janes		
Funded by	Mr P Curtis		
Full title	22 Spring Close, Burwell, Cambridgeshire. Archaeological Monitoring & Recording		
Authors	Janes T., & Peachey, A.		
Report no.	3857		
Date (of report)	June 2011		

22 SPRING CLOSE, BURWELL, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING

SUMMARY

In June 2011, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at 22 Spring Close, Burwell, Cambridgeshire (NGR: TL 5875 6618). The proposed development was the erection of a new two storey side extension and access to the existing residential property.

The site lies within an area of archaeological potential in the southern historic core of Burwell. It fronts the western side of Spring Close, to the west of the High Street, and comprises the residential dwelling and plot of Spring Close. The 12th century Burwell Castle, a Scheduled Ancient Monument, lies immediately adjacent to the east (SAM 29382).

The excavation of approximately 80m² of overburden was monitored with the aim of identifying any archaeological remains revealed by the development programme. An isolated rectilinear pit was identified, from which medieval pottery was recovered. The pit is broadly contemporary with Burwell Castle located approximately 300m to the south (DP6, Fig.1). The debris recovered from the pit indicates the potential presence of occupation activity in the area, beyond the limits of monitoring.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In June 2011, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out archaeological monitoring and recording on the land for a proposed extension to 22 Spring Close, Burwell, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 5875 6618; Figs. 1 & 2). The monitoring was commissioned by the Clarke Smith Partnership on behalf of Mr P Curtis and was undertaken during ground works for the construction of a two storey side extension and new access for the existing residential dwelling. It was conducted in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval (East Cambs Planning Ref E/06/01322/FUL).

1.2 The monitoring was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET) (25/05/2011), and a specification compiled by AS (3/06/2011), and approved by CCC HET. The documents *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14 (Gurney 2003) and the Institute for Archaeologists' (IFA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations* (1994, revised 2008) were used for guidance.

1.3 The project objectives were:

- To ensure the archaeological monitoring of all aspects of the development programme likely to affect buried archaeological remains;
- To secure the adequate recording of any archaeological remains revealed by the development programme;
- To ensure a level of reporting commensurate with the findings of the investigation;
- To secure the analysis, long-term conservation and storage of the project archive.

Planning policy context

1.4 PPS5 (2010) states 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 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 The site is located in an area of archaeological potential within the southern historic core of the village of Burwell. The village comprises three distinct areas of settlement, of which southern part, known as High Town and containing the church and castle, is believed to be the early nucleus. The site fronts the western side of Spring Close, to the west of the High Street, and comprises the residential dwelling and plot of 22 Spring Close.

3 METHODOLOGY (DESK BASED RESEARCH)

Information was sought from a variety of available sources in order to meet the objectives of the assessment.

3.1 Archaeological databases

The standard collation of all known archaeological sites and find spots within Hertfordshire comes from the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CCC HER). Significant entries within an approximate 500m radius of the site are listed in Appendix 1. Where relevant, these sites and finds have been discussed in Section 3.2.

3.2 Secondary sources

The principal sources of secondary material were the Cambridgeshire Archives, the Fenland Survey (Hall 1987; 1996) as well as AS's own in-house library. Unpublished sources regarding the assessment area, such as previous field evaluation reports and desk-based assessments, have also been consulted. All sources are listed in the bibliography.

3.3 Geological/geotechnical information

A description of the superficial and solid geology of the local and surrounding area was compiled in order to assess the likely presence and potential condition of any archaeological remains on the site. This information was drawn from appropriate maps published by the Geological Survey of Great Britain (BGS 1978) and the Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW 1983).

4 THE EVIDENCE (DESK-BASED RESEARCH)

4.1 Topography, Geology & Soils

4.1.1 Burwell is situated at on the western slope of a shallow hill on the eastern edge of the Fens, with the site at c.10m AOD. The low-lying fenland to the west has been drained by the man-made Cambridgeshire lode waterways, notably the Burwell Lode, which promoted the historic growth of the town. The bulk of the modern town is situated to the north, and is surrounded by agricultural land.

4.1.2 The underlying geology of the area comprises the West Melbury marly Chalk Formation.

4.2 Archaeological & Historical Background

Prehistoric

4.2.1 The prehistoric landscape in the vicinity of the site included a water channel c.600m to the west from which late Neolithic/early Bronze Age worked

flint had been recovered within (HER MCB17708) and near (HER 04337). A Palaeolithic axe (HER 01775B) and a small Bronze Age hoard (HER 06769A) have also been recovered c.200m to the south-west close to Burwell Castle and St.Mary's Church.

Romano-British

4.2.2 The fen edge was a popular location for Roman settlement and large quantities of Roman pottery and CBM along with metalwork objects including a recorded c.250m to the north-east (HER 06764a and 06807) and south-west (HER 04663 and 06787) confirm that the area surrounding the site was no exception.

Medieval

4.2.3 The place name of Burwell has its origins in Old English (Anglo-Saxon), meaning 'spring by the fort or burg'. The southern part of Burwell comprises the historic core of the town and appears to have its origins in the Anglo-Saxon period, with an Anglo-Saxon cemetery located c.250m to the north-east of the site (HER 06764). An Anglo-Saxon brooch (HER 06768A) and penny (HER CB14760) have also been recorded close to the south of the site.

4.2.4 At the time of the Domesday Survey in 1086, Burwell was the property of the Abbot of Ramsey with the early nucleus of the town developing to include Burwell Castle immediately to the south of the site (HER 01775/SAM29382) and the Priory of St. John c.250m to the north (HER 06864). The priory was founded in c.1100 and the castle constructed in 1143, therefore the site would have been on land close to or within the medieval core of the settlement. The medieval church of St. Mary is situated c.250m to the south-east (HER 00328), while the site of St. Andrew's church is c.300m to the north-east (HER 06721). The historic core of south Burwell has produced numerous finds associated with this period of occupation, notably metal objects (HER 06768B, 06843A and 06466).

Post-medieval

4.2.5 The town of Burwell remained prosperous throughout the post-medieval period and included in the vicinity of the site: manor houses (HER 06722 and 06502), farms (HER 06863 and 06493), windmills (HER 06393 and 06495), inns (HER 06474, 06385 and 06476) and a malt kiln and granary (HER MCB16584).

5 METHODOLOGY (Archaeological monitoring and recording)

5.1 The archaeological monitoring observed the excavation of overburden for the proposed side extension; the ground was excavated to the formation layer at a maximum depth of 0.7m over an area of approximately 80m² (DPI1).

5.2 The mechanical excavation was undertaken using a tracked 360° mini excavator. The overburden was removed with a toothed bucket, and the formation layer was then levelled with a smooth bladed 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.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS Fig. 3

A sample section of the stratigraphy was recorded on the western edge of the excavation area. The results are tabulated below:

<i>Sample Section 1 (DP 2)</i> <i>West side, east facing</i> <i>0.00 = 10.86m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.37m	L1001	Topsoil. Light brownish-grey compact sandy silt with occasional angular and sub-angular flint gravel.
0.37m – 0.60m	L1002	Subsoil. Light brownish-grey compact silty sand with occasional angular and sub-angular flint and moderate angular and sub-angular chalk pebbles.
0.60m – 0.70m (extent of formation layer)	L1003	Natural Geology. Greyish-white compact clay-chalk.

Description: An isolated rectilinear pit, F1005, was identified on the northern edge of the site. Two slots were excavated across the feature; Slot A was in the approximate centre, and Slot B was at the south-eastern terminus (DPI3). The pit was rectilinear, measuring 2.6m northwest-southeast, 0.8m wide, and 0.44m deep in Slot A (DP4). The full north-eastern extent of the feature could not be defined as it lay beyond the site limits. The north-eastern side was vertical; the south-western side was steep. In Slot B the pit was 0.12m deep, indicating that the base sloped from southeast to northwest. Its fill, L1004, was a light brownish-grey, compact sandy silt with occasional angular and sub-angular flint pebbles, and occasional sub-angular and rounded chalk pebbles. It contained medieval pottery (10th – 12th century; 54g) and animal bone (36g).

A soakaway pit (DP1) filled with modern rubble (brick, breeze blocks, asbestos), were noted on the southern edge of the site.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 Topsoil, L1001, was a light brownish-grey, compact sandy silt with occasional angular and sub-angular flint pebbles (0.03m – 0.10m). It overlay subsoil L1002, a light brownish-grey, compact silty sand with occasional angular and sub-angular flint pebbles (0.03m – 0.10m), and moderate angular and sub-angular chalk pebbles (0.05m – 0.07m). L1002 sealed the archaeological deposits identified on site (F1005).

8.2 The natural drift geology was broadly uniform over the site, comprising a greyish white clay chalk.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The site lies within an area of archaeological potential in the southern historic core of Burwell. The village comprises three distinct areas of settlement, of which the southern part, known as High Town and containing St Mary's Church (part of whose tower is Norman) and the castle, is believed to be the early nucleus. The site fronts the western side of Spring Close, to the west of the High Street, and comprises the residential dwelling and plot of Spring Close. The 12th century Burwell Castle, a Scheduled Ancient Monument, lies immediately adjacent to the east (SAM 29382).

9.2 The monitoring identified a single rectilinear pit, F1005. The presence of animal bone and pottery in the fill, L1004, suggests domestic association, and the pottery is 10th – 12th century.

9.3 The pit is broadly contemporary with Burwell Castle located approximately 300m to the south (DP6, Fig.1). The debris recovered from the pit indicates the potential presence of occupation activity in the area, beyond the limits of monitoring.

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited at the Cambridgeshire County Store. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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APPENDIX 1 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD DATA

The following sites are those that lie within a 1km radius of the assessment site. The table has been compiled from data held by the Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Record (CCC HER).

HER	NGR SP	Description
<i>Prehistoric</i>		
01775B	TL 589 661	Palaeolithic axe find, Burwell Castle. While digging post holes for a new fence around the castle site a Palaeolithic hand axe was found. Map showing the area of the find is in the Parish File. The post holes were 2ft 6in deep the axe being found near the bottom of one of the holes. Drawings have been made of the axe, which is to be displayed in Burwell Museum, opening Easter 1992.
04337	TL 582 662	Worked flints, Burwell. Scatter of worked flints.
MCB17708	TL 583 660	Prehistoric and Roman remains, Reach Road, Burwell. Evaluation revealed a range of features spanning the prehistoric and Roman periods. A small quantity of worked and burnt flint was recovered, mostly from the deposits of a former water channel, indicating some activity in the area from the later Neolithic/early Bronze Age. Further artefacts recovered from the channel deposits indicate that the channel was open in the later Iron Age and Romano-British period, and may date back to the 2nd millennium BC. The partially articulated remains of at least two individuals were exposed along the S edge of the channel, with a radiocarbon date from one giving a date for deposition in the late Iron Age. The remains may indicate the late continuation of the tradition of burial in wet places, which has previously thought to be a Bronze Age practice. On the N side of the channel, heavy disturbance of the wet ground surface was observed, possibly caused by livestock concentrating at the river's edge. Two linear features, a possible 2nd-3rd century pond, and a pit containing fuel ash slag were also recorded, indicating agricultural and industrial activity in the vicinity. Molluscan evidence suggested a landscape primarily of short turfed open grassland, while an almost complete absence of charred plant remains suggest that the site may lie away from any settlement areas. The rising water table caused abandonment of the area, probably in the later Roman period.
06769a	TL 589 660	Bronze hoard, St Mary's churchyard, Burwell. Bronze axe found. Dug up in the grounds of St Mary's Church on the W of the tower. Small hoard of Late BA objects found in Burwell churchyard near the tower, comprising a socketed axe, a socketed spearhead and a tanged chisel. The finds are now in CAAM.
<i>Roman</i>		
06787	TL 587 658	Roman vat, Burwell. Roman lead vat found March 1977, 4ft down by metal detector. Roman sherds were found inside it and large quantities of pot lay all round the field. Decorated with applied strips and moulded circles and zigzags of twisted

		cord decoration. Somewhat bent but in almost perfect condition. Probably C4. Roman pottery (Samian and Horningsea wares), roof tiles and parts of a glass bowl recovered. Cropmarks visible on the ground in Winter wheat.
06764a	TL 590 665	Roman settlement, N of Burwell Church. R1, Probable Roman settlement found during the excavation of the AS cemetery in 1927 and 1928, is 500yds N of Burwell church on chalk at 60ft above OD. Below the AS graves was found a pit, 12ft deep and 22ft in diameter, which was interpreted as a quarry. The upper part of the filling contained sherds of Roman pottery, box and roof tiles, burnt stone, animal bones and traces of wood and charcoal, suggesting a substantial building nearby.
04663	TL 585 659	Possible Roman settlement site, Burwell. Roman settlement lies 250yds WSW of Burwell Castle, on chalk at 20ft above OD. Deep ploughing has produced large quantities of Roman pottery, including Horningsea wares, box and roof tiles, within an area some 50yds square. Not much here. Might be a mistaken reference point for TL/587-/558- q.v.. Alison Taylor reports finding lots there.
06843	TL 587 658	Roman brooch, Burwell. Metal objects found. Scrap lead objects including... roundel. Brooch with intaglio.
06768	TL 587 660	Roman bronze object, Burwell. Bronze object, possibly part of a Roman toilet implement found by metal detector.
06807	TL 587 667	Roman occupation debris, Burwell Castle. Wide scatter of Roman pottery and occupation debris stretching underneath Burwell Castle site. Recently a decorated lead vat was discovered by a metal detector.
<i>Saxon and Medieval</i>		
06764	TL 590 665	Burwell Anglo-Saxon cemetery. AS burial ground, (Probably C7, pagan and Christian inhumation). AS cemetery discovered in 1884 during the working of the Victoria Lime Pits, Burwell. Probably C7 and not certainly all pagan. 150 inhumations excavated between 1925 and 1931. Cemetery first discovered in 1884 when at least 2 burials were found, followed in 1886 by the discovery of 3 more. From 1925 -1929. CAS excavated and found 127 skeletons in 123 graves. No object was found earlier than the late C6. There were no brooches except a so-called fibula found 1884 and no weapons except a scramasax. An ancient church is known to have stood near the site and Lethbridge therefore assumed this was a Christian cemetery. Mr. Gedney clerk of the council for over 23 years could offer no additional information. AS items discovered at the AS cemetery. 13 knives; 9 buckles (bronze); gold disc pendant set with garnet and shell inlays; silver wire ring bearing two tooth-picks and tiny perforated silver spoon; beaver's tooth mounted in a bronze base ornamented with five bosses and a dotted star; glass beads; decayed leather strap with a knife and a pair of shears; iron girdle hangers connected by an iron chain. AS cemetery lies 500yds N of the church, on the crest of a low chalk ridge at 60ft above OD. Between 1854 and 1929 at least 137 inhumations of both sexes and varying ages were found on the site. Most were discovered during excavations by TC Lethbridge between 1925 and 1929; the majority were in shallow graves, orientated E -W. There were no traces of coffins. Lethbridge excavated 127 burials of which 52 had no

		grave goods: 12 had knives and only four were richly furnished. The grave goods mostly consisted of iron chains, bone or bronze pins, iron buckles and beads; one scramasax and a single plain pot were found. Noteworthy objects were a bronzed rum-shaped work box and a gold disc pendant set with garnets. The cemetery probably dating from the late C6 and C7, seems to have been predominantly Christian. The excavator suggested that it lay near the site of St Andrew's church, but the connection is unlikely as the church lay 400yds to the S. Meaney gives grid ref TL/590-/665-
06768a	TL 587 660	Saxon brooch, Burwell. Fragment of ? AS brooch found by metal detector.
CB14760	TL 587 662	Late Saxon penny, Burwell. Silver penny of Eadred (AD 946-955) in fair condition, with text on reverse which would probably be readable. Reported as 'found under a stone' in Spring close. Brought into Burwell Finds Day (27/7/98) & museum wishes to keep it.
01775	TL 586 661	Burwell Castle (Scheduled Monument 29382). A rectangular moated site of some strength, with traces of outworks. A castle was almost certainly constructed by King Stephen during the Anarchy. Now pasture known as "Spring Copse". Excavation by TC Lethbridge 1935. Three distinct periods:- (a) Roman finds - see Rn 01755a, (b) The castle proper. This was never completed and the peculiarities previously thought to represent a siege works are merely due to the incomplete excavation of the moat, which never held water, and soil dumps. Clunch walling (recently reduced by fire brigade exercises) remained of a small keep or gatehouse. It was probably in taking this castle that Geoffrey de Mandeville received the wound from which he died at Mildenhall in 1144. (c) In 1246 the Abbot of Ramsey asked the Bishop of Ely if he might consecrate a private chapel in his manor of Burwell. This is probably represented by fragments of painted glass with part of its leaded framework, a graffito MARIA in a piece of dressed clunch and a part of a window frame with mason's mark XO. Finds in CAMM. This site is called Spring Close and is situated immediately to the W of Burwell Church at the end of the village. In its present form (see plan) it consists of a large rectangular moat, averaging 20ft wide at bottom, and 9ft deep, isolating an area 200ft by 125ft which now carries no traces of buildings, although until a year or two back the NE corner exhibited some remains of rubble walling, now destroyed. On the S side a small brook forms the boundary of the site and rises close by. This was undoubtedly intended to fill the moat. Certain large mounds on the outer edge of the moat on the northern and western side have long been a crux for Cambs archaeologists, together with the considerable mass of material in the bottom of the moat at the NW corner. The slight cuts leading from these mounds down into the moat have been interpreted as stations for catapults and the mass in the moat as the remains of an assault bridge. It is known that in 1143 Stephen ordered the building of a series of castles in this region to control the marauding Geoffrey de Mandeville, and this was one of them. Geoffrey attacked Burwell Castle in 1144 and received a fatal wound. It was formerly believed that the various features referred to above

		<p>were remains of siege works connected with this attack, but recent excavations carried out by Mr. TC Lethbridge, FSA, have shown that the castle was never finished and that the mounds are merely undistributed spoil heaps from the excavation of the moat, the small cuts being the runways up which the material was carried, while the obstruction in the moat is a mass of unexcavated chalk, a feature which was encountered in other places, especially along the N side of the island. It was also shown that very little building had been completed when the attack came. The curtain wall had been carried a little way round the eastern and southern sides and a small gatehouse had been begun, which probably controlled a bridge crossing the eastern part of the moat, but the whole thing was fragmentary. The castle site was raised some 5ft by the dumping of spoil and was divided across the middle by a slight depression, the purpose of which is unknown. It seems clear that when de Mandeville's death made the scheme of defence, of which Burwell Castle was intended to be a part, no longer necessary the completion of the castle was not carried through. From the restricted size of the area defended by the moat it is clear that the final result could hardly have been a motte and bailey castle, but rather a rectangular courtyard defended by a curtain wall, with perhaps a keep in the middle or at one end. The wet ditch is of quite disproportionate strength and is reminiscent of later medieval developments in military engineering. Burwell Castle lies immediately W of the church, on chalk at about 35ft above OD. The castle stands on ground sloping gently W to the fen edge; it overlooks open ground to the N, S and W, but on the E of the church, on higher ground, must have always dominated the site. In 1143 Earl Geoffrey de Mandeville, who had fallen from power, seized the Isle of Ely and from this base proceeded to devastate the countryside. In an attempt to contain him King Stephen fortified a number of posts on the edges of the fens; Burwell Castle was one. It was constructed partly on land already occupied by the village of Burwell. Traces of crofts and of two houses which were demolished to provide space for it remain N and NE of the castle. Sherds of Stamford ware, found under the castle during the excavation in 1935, may have come from these earlier houses. In August 1144 Earl Geoffrey 'came with his army to attack a certain castle which had been newly built at Burwell' (Chronicon Abbatiae Ramsiensis (Rolls Series, 83, 331)). While reconnoitring the position de Mandeville was wounded by an arrow fired by one of the garrison and died a few days later. The siege ended and the castle was abandoned. The excavations of 1935 exposed a stone range running the full length of the E side of the enclosure and returning along part of the S side. The building projecting slightly E near the centre of the range may be identified as the chapel, and the range on the N, with two latrine chutes in the thickness of the wall, probably contained the Abbot's camera on the first floor. The castle consists of a generally rectangular enclosure, 260ft by 160ft and between 5ft and 15ft high above the bottom of the surrounding ditch. The interior of the enclosure is uneven; the E and W ends slope towards the centre. Field evidence and excavations</p>
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		<p>indicate that this uneven nature is the result of spoil dumping from the moat in order to construct a raised platform, a process which was never completed. A gap in the middle of the S side of the enclosure is apparently where spoil from the moat was brought on to the platform until work was abandoned. On the E side and along the E part of the S side of the enclosure, the excavators found clunch footings of an outer wall and a diagonal buttress at the NE corner. Slightly N of the centre of the E side the foundations of a small rectangular building (1 on plan) were discovered; it measured 21ft by 15ft internally and had walls 5ft-6ft thick with an outer facing of flint nodules. It projected 3ft-4ft into the moat beyond the E wall and terminated with diagonal buttresses. In this wall, partly screened by the northern buttress were outlets of two garderobe chutes. Until the early 1930s a length of curtain wall about 8ft high stood near the NE corner. The enclosure is surrounded by a large moat, between 80ft and 100ft wide across its flat bottom. Low terraces, 6in - 1ft high, exist in the ditch on the N and S sides of the enclosure and a larger and more irregular one along part of the W side. Two of these were tested by excavation and proved to be of natural chalk, indicating that the moat was never completed or filled with water. The area immediately W of the moat is occupied by a large mound, 12ft high at its N end, with an uneven surface sloping towards the S. This mound is a spoil heap of material which was dug from the moat and allowed to remain. Its uneven appearance is the result of dumping small loads which were brought from the moat by way of two shallow cuts or hod runs in the side of the moat. (a and b on plan). Further dumps were intended S of this mound in order to form a dam and fill the moat, but this was not completed. On the N side of the moat is a larger spoil heap 8ft-10ft high in the centre and at its N end, but 2ft-3ft high at its E end. The scalloped appearance of its N edge is the result of dumping spoil brought out of the moat along hod runs which remain as shallow depressions across the sloping surface of the mound (c,d and e on plan). Immediately N of this spoil heap and bounded on the N by a low bank running E-W are four, perhaps five, rectangular closes delineated by low banks and shallow ditches. At their S ends three of these are overlain by the spoil heaps and must therefore be earlier than the castle. They appear to be the outer ends of long closes, familiar in deserted sites of Medieval settlements and are probably the only visible remains of the houses removed to make way for the castle. E and NE of the moat are slight earthworks which may be the sites of two buildings. NE of the moat (f on plan) is a raised platform, roughly U-shaped; a sunken platform on its E side is bounded by low banks and subdivided into two parts. E of the moat (g on plan) are the damaged remains of what is probably a Medieval long house, 50ft by 30ft overall, with a sunken rectangular interior divided into two by a low cross bank. Further E (h on plan) are the remains of what may have been a small embanked enclosure, perhaps half of which has been cut away by a sloping trackway, leading down into an old quarry. In the NW corner of the site are two rectangular dry ponds (j on plan) linked by a narrow channel, while another</p>
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		<p>channel links the W pond to the Mod stream, S is uncertain. Beyond the ponds to the N is a series of indeterminate ditches, banks and ponds extending for about 100 yards. Their date and purpose are unknown. The excavators in 1935 also found fragments of Medieval stained glass and part of the leaded framework, as well as two pieces of dressed clunch, one with a graffito ascribed to the C14, the other apparently part of a window jamb. The monument lies towards the southern end of the village of Burwell, immediately to the west of St Mary's Church. It includes a motte castle believed to have been constructed (but left incomplete) in the mid 12th century, the remains of an earlier settlement supplanted by the castle, and features related to a manor belonging to Ramsey Abbey which was later established on the site. Also included are traces of a Roman building found during sample excavation of the motte in 1935. The castle is thought to have formed part of a chain of defences constructed by King Stephen's forces in 1143-4, in order to contain the rebel Earl of Essex, Geoffrey de Mandeville, who had seized the Isle of Ely and made a stronghold in the fens. It is of unusual design, formed by the excavation of a broad flat bottomed moat to leave a rectangular island some 35m by 60m across. The surface of the island is uneven, the east and west ends rising c.4m above the base of the ditch, and sloping toward the centre. Evidence from TC Lethbridge's excavations suggests that this appearance resulted from an unfinished platform using spoil from the moat, which itself retains low terraces or shelves of unexcavated natural chalk. This incomplete state may be linked to a reference in the Cartulary of Ramsey Abbey which records that de Mandeville brought his army to attack a castle 'newly built at Burwell' in August 1144. De Mandeville is thought to have been wounded by an arrow shot from the ramparts and, with his death shortly after, the castle may no longer have been required. The bulk of the material from the moat forms two large mounds flanking the outer edges of the north and western arms. The irregular appearance of these mounds indicates an accumulation of small loads and even the hod runs remain evident. The northern mound overlies the southern parts of three rectangular enclosures within a line of four or five such features defined by shallow banks and ditches. These are interpreted as the curtilages of medieval houses, part of a settlement (perhaps belonging to Ramsey Abbey) abandoned when this relatively elevated position was appropriated for the castle. Structural evidence suggesting further settlement remains extend across the open pasture to the north, and further enclosures can be seen to the east of the castle where earthworks marking the foundations of two rectangular buildings, probably long houses, are visible. section of clunch walling stood to a height of some 2.5m along part of the eastern edge of the island, until destroyed whilst testing the village fire hose in the late 1920s. Lethbridge's excavations revealed more of the foundations of this structure which proved to be part of a narrow range running the length of eastern arm and half way along the southern side of the island. Near the centre of the eastern range stood a small</p>
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		<p>rectangular building projecting slightly over the line of the moat and supported by diagonal buttresses on this side. The walls did not enclose the entire island, and are unlikely to be related to the period of the castle's construction. It is more probable that the range formed part of a later manor of Burwell held by the Abbot of Ramsey who, in 1246, was licensed by the Bishop of Ely to erect and oratory therein. Fragments of painted glass and part of a leaded window frame were found during excavation, probably identifying the small structure in the eastern range with this chapel. Fragments of dressed stone, including one inscribed 'MARIA' also support this conclusion. Two latrine chutes in the wall of the range to the north imply a chamber perhaps the Abbot's camera, on the first floor. series of fishponds run to the north west of the castle, following the stream course which flows through the southern arm of the moat from the springs to the east. These may be contemporary with the occupation of the later manor, or with the settlement which preceded the construction of the castle. The clearest example lie approximately 30m north west of the moat forming a pair of rectangular depressions linked together and to the line of the stream by partly infilled channels. Further depressions, less well defined, continue along the stream course for approximately 100m, separated by low banks and scarps and flanked to the east by a broad and shallow ditch. Evidence of occupation in the Roman period was discovered during Lethbridge's excavations, including a section of rubble wall footings and a cobbled surface towards the western edge of the island. Part of a ditch containing tile and Romano-British pottery was found towards the eastern side of the island, and the old ground surface (buried by the mound on this side) was found to contain a quantity of painted wall plaster. The remains of the castle earthworks are in good condition, see 25in survey. There is no surviving masonry. No traces of the Roman building or chapel were noted. Although the site was supposedly never completed, the moat almost certainly held water. A rectangular moated site of some strength with traces of outworks of uncertain character. One fragment of rubble wall remains. The castle was almost certainly constructed by King Stephen during the Anarchy. Geoffrey de Mandeville met his death when attacking it in 1144. Interior 61m by 38m, height from bottom of ditch varies from 2.5m to approximately 5m. Grass covered irregular earthworks with some hawthorn scrub. Entrance appears to be to S. Moat approximately 17m wide, to S is dry, reeds to W. Brambles encroaching in E arm. Strong outerwork to E approximately 3m high. A secondary moat appears to enclose a possible bailey with earthworks standing to 75cm. Several areas of ditch and bank badly churned by cattle.</p>
00328	TL 589 660	<p>Saint Mary's Church, Burwell. Parish Church of St Mary stands in the S part of an irregularly shaped churchyard whose boundary follows the 50 ft contour. The present churchyard incorporates on the E & N the sites of houses which were removed in 1859. The church consists of chancel with crypt, nave with aisles, N & S porches, W tower and SW vestry. The walls are of field stones, flint rubble, with limestone dressings,</p>

		<p>some Barnack, some of which are reused; except for the lower part of the nave piers, the interior is of clunch. The roofs are covered with lead and the porches are tiled.</p> <p>C12, the earliest parts of the fabric are the lower two stages of the tower which are C12; the scale of this survival points to a church of considerable size.</p> <p>C14, in the C14 a S aisle was built or partly built: only the W section of the present aisle survives of this date.</p> <p>C15, a new nave and chancel were eventually started in the mid C15. The tower was heightened by three additional stages and strengthened by buttresses; the SW vestry, probably a treasury originally, is integral with these alterations to the tower. The arms in the chancel of John Higham, vicar 1439 - 1467, indicate a general date for the building of the church, and constructional features suggest that the progress of building was sporadic; an inscription over the chancel arch states specifically that the E wall and the roof of the nave were completed in 1464. The stylistic affinities between the window tracery at Burwell and in the side-chapels of King's College Chapel lend support to the traditional attribution of the work to Reginald Ely. Also at Burwell is a C15 vaulted undercroft beneath the high altar and reached by a stair on the N of the chancel, this may have been accommodation for a hermitic priest allowed to celebrate at the high altar. C18, the spirelet is dated 1799. C19, considerable restorations were undertaken in the C19, a major one in 1862 & another to the chancel in 1877.</p> <p>Furniture and fittings: these include fragments of a C13 coffin lid (in the churchyard), a Medieval dial scratched on a buttress, a C15 font, a C15 door (to the SW vestry) and, in the N aisle, a C15 painting of St Christopher, largely obliterated. In the chancel is a sedile. Several C15 piscinas and other recesses are described in R1. The lower part of the rood screen is C15 but the screen was heavily restored in 1877. Panelling against the side walls of the chancel incorporates C15 work, as do the modern stalls. A palimpsest brass, the obverse of which shows the figure of a priest, of the mid C16, under a slightly earlier canopy, may be to John Lawrence de Wardeboys, last Abbot of Ramsey. In the W tower is a brass indent for the lower part of a figure with inscription plate and children, perhaps C16, and a floor slab of William Pamplin records a late C16 benefaction. Plate includes a C16 cup. In the N aisle are C17 monuments to Thomas Gerard and his wife Alice Elliot and to William Russell and an infant daughter. Also a C17 tomb chest with effigy in Greenwich armour, of Lee Cotton. For an architectural description of the church, together with a fuller description of fittings. There is contradictory and inconclusive evidence for a late Saxon minster at Burwell. This leaflet provides detailed descriptions of the various sections on the Church of St. Mary at Burwell. Black and white photographs are included and a brief history is discussed. In the appendix the details of the church register are noted, church plate is accounted for, bequests are discussed and a list of Vicars is provided.</p>
CB15739	TL 589 660	Medieval clunch quarry, Burwell. An evaluation was carried out revealing a single archaeological feature, a quarry for

		clunch extraction containing diagnostic medieval pottery. Quarry features were also identified in the area previously occupied by Old Pembroke Farm, so it may be concluded that the quarry was fairly extensive and may have destroyed most of the earlier features in this area.
06864	TL 585 666	Priory of St John. Parsonage Farm. Remains of Priory of St John (NR). The farm is stated to be all that remains of the Priory. Parsonage Farm house and outbuildings (see RN 06863). Grade 2.Med and later, incorporating remains of St John's Priory. Immediately to the right of the Manor House in Malting Corner(TL/590-/659-) where there is a long stone building originally no doubt connected with the Priory of St John, founded c 1100. ... (remainder illegible on photocopy).O1, Parsonage Farm exhibits no ecclesiastic remains; ... The building noted by Pevsner is described by RCHM Cambs as "Secular house, C14 origin, thought to be possibly a guest-house of the Priory. Not outstanding, see photograph. The Priory is not mentioned by Knowles and Hadcock (Medieval Religious Houses, 1953) and its site or existence was not determined. ... (previous OS card missing) which building Pevsner is referring, but the description and location fit the Medieval building atTL/5908/6591 (TL 56 NE 58). He also states that "the priory itself is supposed to have been where the vicarage now stands"(TL/5908/6601) but quotes no evidence for this assertion. There are no references to Burwell Priory in RCHM NE Cambs, 1972, or VCH Cambs, 1948. However Knowles and Hadcock refer to a Benedictine Priory at Burwell, Lincs, founded c 1100, but give no dedication (see TF 37 NE 01) and it is probably to this priory that the other authorities erroneously refer. The only authority to mention priory is Pevsner. Buttressed with blocked perpendicular windows, some corbels and an old circular window with two mullions. See also RN 06864a for building material ploughed up in a field close to this site.
06808	TL 590 659	6 High Street, Burwell. House of two storeys, cellar and attics, clunch walls with some later brick, limestone plinth-weathering, tiled roof with gable parapets, is probably early to mid C14 in origin. Direct documentary references to the site or its buildings have not been found, but the surviving range can be identified as lodgings probably forming part of a large domestic group which stood to the N and E. The range included three ground floor and three first floor apartments, each provided with a garderobe; the two N rooms had fireplaces. The S ground floor room, and possibly that above it, appears to have had a different use from the others. Accommodation extended to the attics which had dormer windows. In the C18, buttresses were removed from the main, or W, elevation, and the building generally received new windows and dormers; inside, the N ground floor room was panelled. The central and S chimney stacks in their present form are C18, as is an extension to the garderobe turret. The Mod conversion of the house into two dwellings resulted in the addition of new doorways and internal partitions. During the C18 and C19 the house was known as 'The Old Manor House' or 'Isaacson's' during its ownership by the family of that name. Grade 2.

01122	TL 584 664	Moat at The Hall, Burwell. O1, Not outstanding. Remains of the moat surveyed at 1:2500; Bordering a fen adjoining village - this report is of the W enclosure only : the E part is developed. Evidence exists of the NE inner corner of the moat - not shown on the OS 1:2500 survey. A drain leading from the SW corner of this moat has been infilled. This was presumably part of the W enclosure mentioned by the RCHM. Also the N boundary of this W enclosure appears to have been infilled soon after the RCHM report. There is a discrepancy between the existing SMR and RCHM reports as to which enclosure the house stands in. Farm buildings certainly stood to the E on OS 1:2500 map 1886 and Enclosure Award Map. The layout of the now infilled drain to the SW and the likely extension to the NW, given the current OS 1:2500 depiction, does suggest an enclosure to the W was likely. This is further supported by the 1886 map showing a line of trees possibly forming a W and N boundary of an enclosure to the W.
06768B	TL 587 660	Metal detecting finds, Burwell. Metal detecting collection:1, Iron dagger (broken) 2, Iron bolt head 3, Decorative bronze finger ring with turquoise or blue glass stone, 4, Plain silver finger ring 5, 3 small buckles 6, Lead seal, possibly Medieval, apparently with ship and a castle
06721	TL 589 666	Saint Andrew's Church, Burwell, (site of). According to the vicar of Burwell, the site of St Andrew's church is on the NE side of the churchyard where the girls' school is situated. The date of the church is not known. (R2) (There do not seem to be any other grounds for suggesting this. It is, however, near the late AS cemetery. AT).
01122a	TL 585 664	The Hall, Burwell. Farmhouse with original surviving medieval cross-wing and fragment of a larger building demolished c.1920 now forming the present north wing. South range possible C17 and partly rebuilt in C19. Side stack added in C16. Timber-frame rendered and replaced with clunch. Thatched roofs.
06843A	TL 587 658	Metal objects, Burwell. Metal objects found. Scrap lead objects including... lozenge.
06466	TL 586 660	Medieval arrowhead, Burwell.
06493A	TL 590 660	Site of Medieval Manor, Pembroke Farm, Burwell. Pembroke Farm house represents the Medieval manor of Castle St Martin. See RN 06493 for Post Medieval farm house.
06494	TL 590 661	C16 house, Burwell. House of C16 origin, one storey, attics, clunch walls, pantiled roof. Mod additions.
<i>Post-medieval</i>		
06863	TL 586 666	Parsonage Farm, Burwell. R2, Parsonage Farm consists of house of c 1600 ... and range of outbuildings of the C16. Non domestic buildings in the group indicate an industrial activity of some importance particularly during the C16. The house, of two storeys partly with attics, clunch walls, and tiled gabled roofs, incorporates at the W end the gable of a pre-existing barn and some thick walls at the E end, which are presumably Medieval but are beyond interpretation. The plan of c 1600 approximates to Class J but the slight difference of alignment in the E room may be due to the presence of an earlier building at that end; also of c 1600 is a projecting stair turret incorporating a porch. In the mid C17 a compartment,

		<p>apparently a small 'hall' with an upper storey, was added on the N between the stair turret and thick Medieval walls on the E; by adding a N - S wall between these parallel early walls, service rooms were provided for the new 'hall'. Extensive refitting took place in the late C18 and early C19, when sash windows were inserted in the main rooms on the S, and a tunnel was cut through the chimney stack to give access from a new S door. The Barn, of which much of the upper part and the W wall collapsed in 1955, is of two storeys with clunch walls. The ground floor walls are 6in thicker than the upper and are Medieval; the upper walls, floor beams and roof are perhaps early C16. The former W wall was probably a C17 replacement. The C16 alteration, incorporating high standard carpentry, was perhaps to provide a warehouse former chandise of special quality. Range of Outbuildings to E of house form a continuous row in three sections, the end sections being of the early C16 and the centre of the late C18. The earlier sections originally had jettied first floors on the N, but the E is now of one storey. The ground floor S wall of the row, in clunch rubble with a straight joint between middle and E sections, is perhaps an earlier boundary wall; it has no original openings. The W section has a timber framed N front with later brick nogging. The W wall, originally timber framed is brick faced; the E wall is clunch and contemporary with the range. The central section, of one storey and clunch walls, has a late C18 roof with cross beams and arch braces to short wall posts. The E section is now of one storey, but the jetty with brackets, of the former upper floor remains. On the N a wide four-centred doorway survives at the E end and a similar doorway is implied at the W end; originally there were no window openings on the ground floor. The timber framed W wall is original. Inside, three cross beams morticed for partitions, indicate two narrow end bays, aligned with the doorways, and two unequal central compartments; there is an axial beam. A high quality industrial use such as weaving may be conjectured for the well lit upper floor of the W section; on the ground floor were possibly offices; the E section, with its wider doorways may have been for storage. The original position of the stairs is uncertain. O2, Outbuildings "especially worthy of preservation". Parsonage Farmhouse and outbuildings, grade 2*. Incorporates remains of St John's Priory (see RN 06864). (R3)O1, Parsonage Farm exhibits no ecclesiastic remains; the outbuildings include a C16 industrial barn.</p>
06722	TL 589 659	<p>Manor House, Burwell. Manor House, of two storeys, attics and cellar, timber-framed, cased in Mod brick, with tiled gabled roof, has a Class-I origin of the first half of the C17. The central stack has been rebuilt to provide a cross passage between two fireplaces. Outbuildings include a Pigeon House, of clunch, late C18 or early C19; an aisled Barn of four bays, with clunch walls and thatched gabled roof, has building-date inscribed on stone panel, '1,11751'; a Granary and Malt-kiln. See Conservation Section. Dovecote of 19th century date. Squard building with clunch rubble walls and shallow pitched slate roof minus lantern. In fair condition when visited in 1974 and have been converted to dwelling or workshop.</p>

06393	TL 590 664	Stevens Mill, Burwell. Wind mill, of clunch, plastered and tarred, is early C19. The domed cap has a finial. The contemporary wooden and iron machinery drives 3 pairs of stones on the first floor. The second floor contains bins and the third floor has no fittings. Tower Mill. Derelict brick and clunch tower (tarred) 4 patent sails, black ogee cap: medium size, 4 storey. C18 last worked 1955, under restoration 1973. Still being restored. Four-storey clunch built tower mill. Two patent sails. Working order.
06495	TL 591 666	'Big Mill' Windmill, Milton Farm, Burwell. Tower mill. Preserved grey brick stump, 12 sided, 2 storeys high with conical thatched roof. Used as farm store. 200yds N of Steven's Mill. 1973. Base of C19 tower mill, said by the farmer to have been used for grinding coprolite. Now thatched and used for farm storage. See ground photographs.
06502	TL 588 663	Ramsey Manor, Burwell. Sited from location map. 2. Ramsey Manor of two storeys and attics, brown brick front wall, clunch gable walls, timber-framed rear wall where external, with tiled roofs and gable parapets, is mid C18. The rear wall may be a survival of an earlier building. The modern rear wing is a replacement.
06768C	TL 587 660	Post-medieval finds, Burwell. S1, Post Medieval finds (probably Victorian) made by a metal detector included the following: 3 plain lead discs, a penny whistle, 2 rings (one inscribed), decorative fittings.
06474	TL 588 662	White Horse Inn, Burwell. White Horse, inn, of two storeys, clunch and white brick walls, with slated roof, has been much altered. It possibly originated as a Class-T structure of the C18 although an ovolo-moulded cross beam of the C17 exists in one room. In c 1830 the building was widened towards the street by the addition of a three-bay range in white brick with a parapet; the central double doors are set in a frame beneath an elliptical head; soon afterwards the inn was extended at one side in the same style to provide a first-floor assembly room.
06385	TL 589 662	Five Bells Inn, Burwell. Five Bells, inn, of two storeys and attics, redbrick with tiled roofs and gable parapets, sash windows, was built in the mid C18 as a Class-T structure; early in the C19 assembly room in white brick, with slated hipped roof and large sash window, was added on the N. Later widening has led to the rear wall of the house being removed. The window sills of the three-bay front have been lowered.
MCB16584	TL 590 659	Malt kiln and granary, Burwell. A 12-bay Granary, of two storeys and attics, clunch walls and thatched gabled roof with braced tie beams, integral with a Malt-kiln which has a tiled roof, late C18. Large eighteenth-century two storey twelve-bay granary, built of clunch with thatched roof, with attached tile kiln. Now converted to housing.
06493	TL 590 660	Pembroke Farm, Burwell. Pembroke Farm consists of a house of two storeys with clunch walls, white brick dressings., slated hipped roof, and a group of outbuildings of similar date and materials. The farm was rebuilt C19 (between 1844 and 1853) except for the chaff-house.
06843B	TL 587 658	Post-medieval metalwork, Burwell. Metal objects found. Decorative scrap bronze (probably Victorian).

06476	TL 589 665	The Crown Inn, Burwell. The Crown, inn, of two storeys, clunch walls with brick dentil eaves course, pantiled gabled roof and sash windows, was built C19 (after 1842); it originally had a three-room plan but one partition has been removed.
CB14872	TL 588 664	Trinity Church, Burwell. In 1988 the Burwell United Reformed and Methodist churches merged to form Burwell Trinity Church. The united congregation still worshipped, using their two traditions' liturgies alternately, services were held in the former school from 1994, when a third of the 35 members were former Congregationalists. Their large disused chapel was sold by 1990 for business purposes.
<i>Undated</i>		
06843C	TL 587 658	Metal objects, Burwell. Metal objects found. Scrap lead objects including... nail head. Bronze buckle, bronze brooch.
11379	TL 585 665	Linear feature, Burwell. N - S linear depression about 10m wide and up to 0,6m deep, with suggestion of low, 5m wide bank to W, particularly at the N end, adjacent to Parsonage Farm. Probable modern blockage at S end stopping it joining moat of The Hall. Probable drainage and / or boundary feature. OS field nos 5154 and 5061.
06864A	TL 583 666	Parsonage Farm. Large pieces of clunch, and other materials, turned up when old pasture was ploughed for the first time in 1985.
06465	TL 582 665	Rectangular cropmark, Burwell
09243	TL 584 665	Soilmark site, Burwell

2 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

AS 1416: Spring Close, Burwell, Cambridgeshire

Concordance of finds by feature

Feature	Context	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	A.Bone (g)
1005	1004	Pit	10 th and mid - late 12 th centuries	(6) 54g	36

3 SPECIALIST REPORT

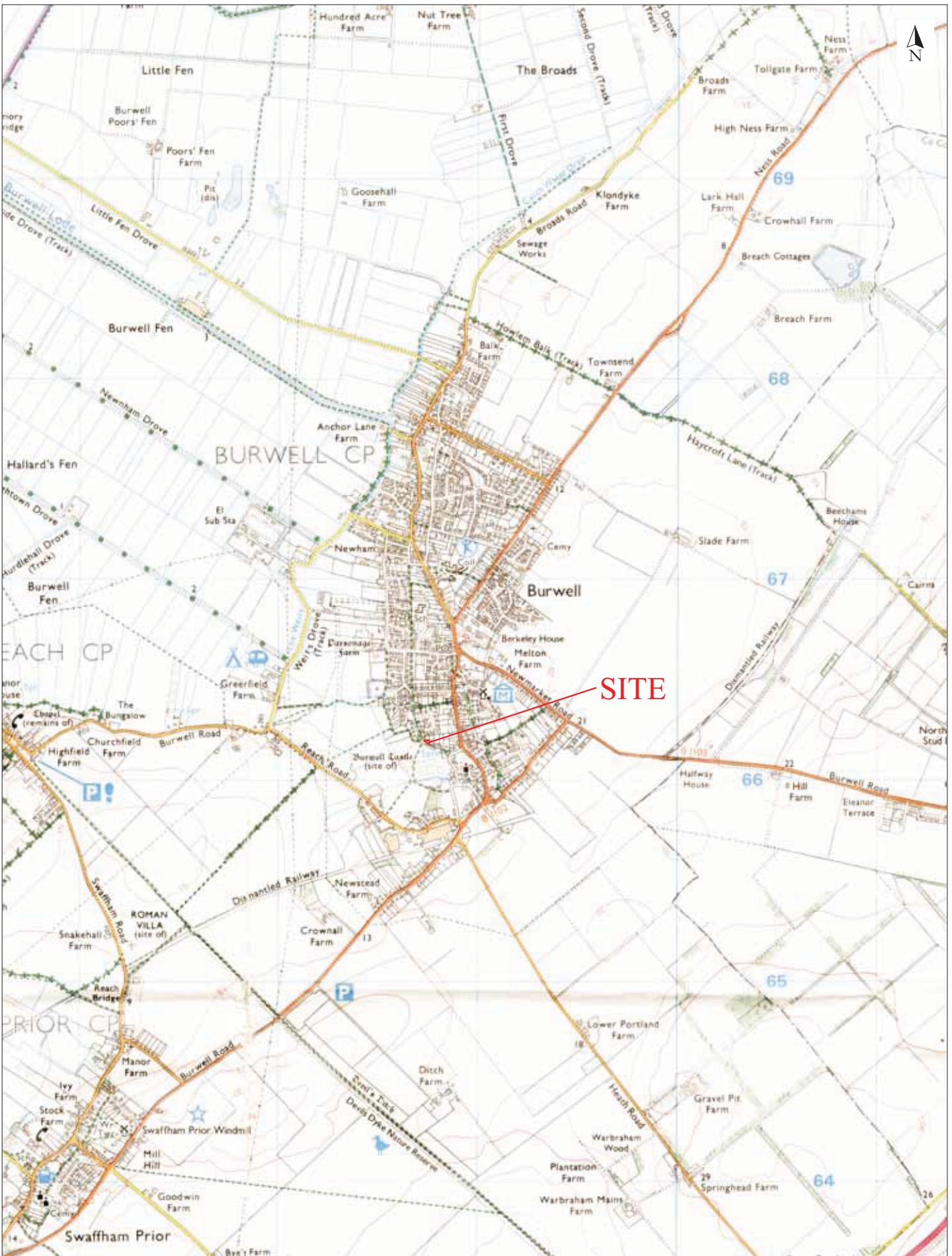
The Pottery

by Peter Thompson

The evaluation recovered six moderately to heavily abraded sherds of pottery weighing 53g from L1004. Five sherds (42g) are St Neots ware, including an inturned rim probably from a dish or shallow bowl similar to types excavated around St Neots (Addyman 1969, 85: 4 &6). The remaining sherd (11g) is a Thetford ware, and the assemblage can be dated between the 10th and mid to late 12th centuries.

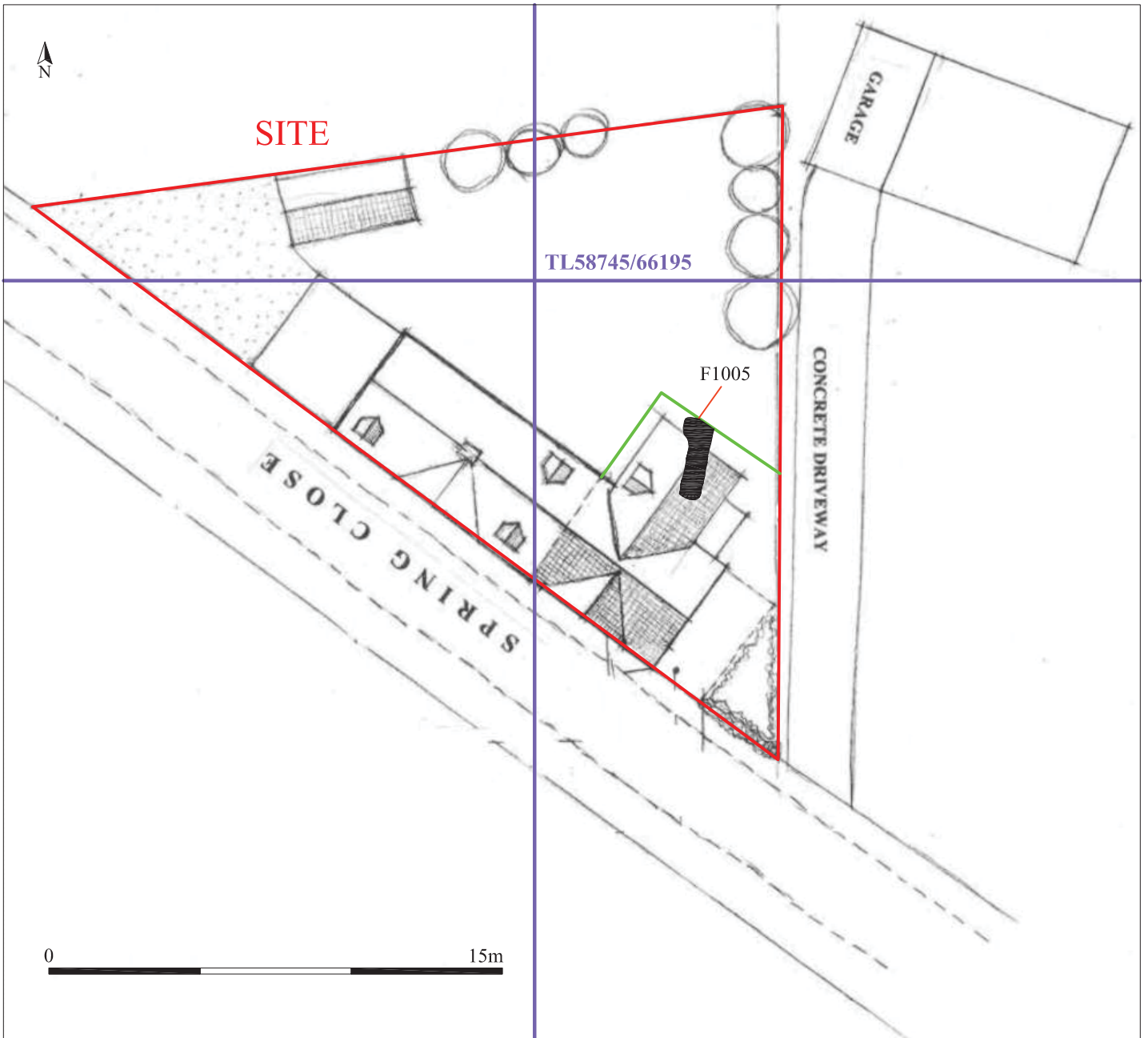
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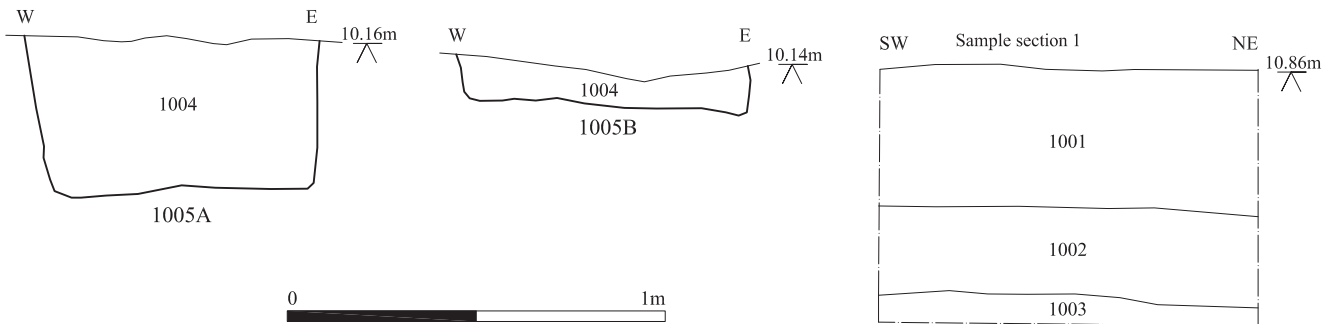
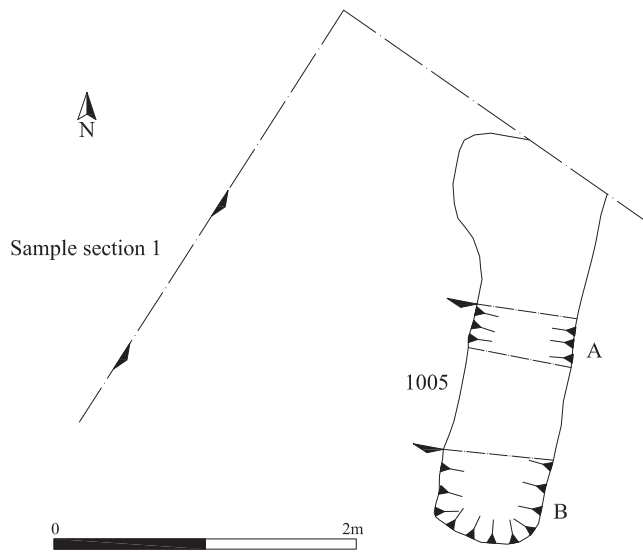


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Fig. 1 Site location plan
Scale 1:25,000 at A4



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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
Scale 1:200 at A4



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Fig. 3 Plan & sections

Scale Plan 1:50, sections 1:20 at A4