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**WHITTLESEY BAPTIST CHURCH, 32 GRACIOUS STREET,
WHITTLESEY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE PE7 1AR**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

ECB NO. 3771

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NGR: TL 2689 9736	Report No: 4088
District: Fenland	Site Code: AS1496
Approved: C Halpin MlfA	Project No: 4826
Signed:	Date: June 2012

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET			
Project name	<i>Whittlesey Baptist Church, 32 Gracious Street, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire PE7 1AR. An Archaeological Evaluation.</i>		
<p><i>In June 2012 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation at Whittlesey Baptist Church, 32 Gracious Street, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire PE7 1AR (NGR TL 2689 9736; Figs. 1-2). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed construction of a single-storey side extension to the existing church hall, reconstruction and extension of the existing car park including modification to access and the erection of brick wall and gates (Fenland DC Ref. F/YR11/0451/F & F/YR11/0509/CA).</i></p> <p><i>Archaeological features were present in each of the evaluation trenches. In each trench the features inter cut and were quite dense. The majority of features were pits (F1030, F1034 and 1036 (Tr.1); F1005, F1007 and F1013 (Tr.2)). Linear features, a gully (F1009 Tr.2)) and a ditch (F1032 (Tr.2)), are also present. F1027 (Tr.1) may be a quarry pit. The majority of features were medieval (1032, 1005, 1007 and 1013) or were cut by medieval features (F1030 and F1036 (Tr.1), and F1009 (Tr.2)). One post-medieval feature (F1034 (Tr.1) was present. The archaeology was generally well preserved. Some modern disturbance was evident particularly the modern pits in Trench 1.</i></p> <p><i>The site had a potential for medieval remains and medieval features, predominantly pits, were preserved with little evidence of modern disturbance.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>June 2012</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>TBC</i>
P. number	<i>4826</i>	Site code	<i>AS1496</i>
Type of project	<i>Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
Site status	<i>None</i>		
Current land use	<i>Car park – hard-standing/concrete</i>		
Planned development	<i>Single storey side extension to existing church hall, reconstruction and extension of existing car park including modification to access and erection of brick wall and gates</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>Pits</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>Medieval (14th – 15th century)</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Cambridgeshire</i>	<i>Fenland</i>	<i>Whittlesey</i>
HER for area	<i>Cambridge Historic Environment Record (CHER)</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>PE7 1AR</i>		
Area of site	<i>c. 438m²</i>		
NGR	<i>TL 2689 9736</i>		
Height AOD (min/max)	<i>c. 6.4m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>		
Funded by	<i>Whittlesey Baptist Church</i>		
Full title	<i>Whittlesey Baptist Church, 32 Gracious Street, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire PE7 1AR. An Archaeological Evaluation.</i>		
Authors	<i>Quinn, S., & Stoakley, M.</i>		
Report no.	<i>4088</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>June 2012</i>		

**WHITTLESEY BAPTIST CHURCH, 32 GRACIOUS STREET, WHITTLESEY,
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AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In June 2012 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation at Whittlesey Baptist Church, 32 Gracious Street, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire PE7 1AR (NGR TL 2689 9736; Figs. 1-2). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed construction of a single-storey side extension to the existing church hall, reconstruction and extension of the existing car park including modification to access and the erection of brick wall and gates (Fenland DC Ref. F/YR11/0451/F & F/YR11/0509/CA).

Archaeological features were present in each of the evaluation trenches. In each trench the features inter cut and were quite dense. The majority of features were pits (F1030, F1034 and 1036 (Tr.1); F1005, F1007 and F1013 (Tr.2)). Linear features, a gully (F1009 Tr.2)) and a ditch (F1032 (Tr.2)), are also present. F1027 (Tr.1) may be a quarry pit. The majority of features were medieval (1032, 1005, 1007 and 1013) or were cut by medieval features (F1030 and F1036 (Tr.1), and F1009 (Tr.2)). One post-medieval feature (F1034 (Tr.1)) was present. The archaeology was generally well preserved. Some modern disturbance was evident particularly the modern pits in Trench 1.

The site lies in an area of archaeological potential within the historic core of the town of Whittlesey, to the immediate east of the Baptist Church. The Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record records the presence of finds of much medieval pottery and other remains in the town (HER Nos 01963 & 11910). The discovery of trading tokens of medieval date indicates mercantile activity in the town.

The site had a potential for medieval remains and medieval features, predominantly pits, were preserved with little evidence of modern disturbance.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In June 2012 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation at Whittlesey Baptist Church, 32 Gracious Street, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire PE7 1AR (NGR TL 2689 9736; Figs. 1-2). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed construction of a single-storey side extension to the existing church hall, reconstruction and extension of the existing car park including modification to access and the erection of brick wall and gates (Fenland DC Ref. F/YR11/0451/F & F/YR11/0509/CA).

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a brief prepared by Dan McConnell at the Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET) (dated 18th April 2012), and a specification prepared by AS (dated 19th April 2012), approved by CCC HET. The project adhered to appropriate sections of Gurney (2003) 'Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England', *East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14*, and the Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (revised 2008).

1.3 The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to determine, as far as was possible,

the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. In addition it was hoped to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of survival of buried deposits and surviving structures of archaeological significance.

Planning policy context

1.4 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The NPPF 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. The NPPF requires applications to describe the significance of any heritage asset, including its setting that may be affected in proportion to the asset's importance and the potential impact of the proposal.

1.5 The NPPF aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, with substantial harm to designated heritage assets (i.e. listed buildings, scheduled monuments) only permitted in exceptional circumstances when the public benefit of a proposal outweighs the conservation of the asset. The effect of proposals on non-designated heritage assets must be balanced against the scale of loss and significance of the asset, but non-designated heritage assets of demonstrably equivalent significance may be considered subject to the same policies as those that are designated. The NPPF states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment, to record and advance the understanding of heritage assets and to make this publicly available is a requirement of development management. This opportunity should be taken in a manner proportionate to the significance of a heritage asset and to impact of the proposal, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

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

2.1 Whittlesey is a Fenland market town and civil parish in the northern part of Cambridgeshire. It is located c.7km to the east of Peterborough and c.14km to the west of March. Beyond the town are drains and dikes, with the Moreton's Leam Drain situated c.1km to the north and the Bevill's Leam Drain situated c.3.75km to the south-east. The River Nene runs NE/SW c.2km to the north of the site and the Briggate River runs west-east c.750m to the south.

2.2 The site is situated in the residential and commercial town centre of Whittlesey. It is adjacent and to the east of the Zion Baptist Chapel (MCB17198) at No. 32 Gracious Street. It comprises an irregular plot of hard-standing and concrete with bushes/shrubs located in the eastern part of the site. The area of the site comprises c.438m².

3 THE EVIDENCE

3.1 Topography, Geology and Soils

3.1.1 Whittlesey is surrounded by low-lying fenland or marshland that comprise fresh-water and sea-water wetlands which, since the 17th century, have been artificially drained and protected with drainage banks and pumps. The Common Wash and the River Nene lie c.1-1.75km to the north and drains/dikes channel water throughout the area. The River Briggate lies c.750m to the south which feeds into the King's Dike to the west. The site is situated on a slight rise at c.6.4m AOD, falling away to close to sea level to the east towards Eastrea, and south-east towards Inham's End. To the west the land is relatively level at c.5m AOD. .

3.1.2 The solid geology of the site comprises Callovian and Oxfordian (Jurassic) clay (jcjo) overlain by a drift geology of March gravels (BGS 1978). Approximately 1km to the south of the site, soils comprise the Downholland 1 series (851a) defined as deep, stoneless humose clayey soils (SSEW 1983). The soils of the site remain unsurveyed (*Ibid*).

3.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

Prehistoric

3.2.1 A Neolithic flint implement was found during an archaeological evaluation on Broad Street (ECB3382) c.350m to the south-west of the site (Trimble 2010). An undated prehistoric whetstone (CHER 01370) was discovered c.500m to the south-east of the site.

Romano-British

3.2.2 Roman pottery (CHER 01963A & MCBs 15935, 17908 & 19220) has been recovered during several archaeological evaluations (ECBs 1616, 2911 & 3382) c.250m – 450m to the south and south-west of the site (Fletcher 2004, House 2008 & Trimble 2010). The Roman road of 'the Fen Causeway' is situated c.1.25km to the north-west of the site. The modern A605 roughly follows the route of this road to the north, connecting Whittlesey to Peterborough to the west and to March in the east. A 3rd century silver coin of Carausius (MCB16746) was also discovered c.70m to the west of the site.

Medieval

3.2.3 Late Saxon occupation is represented by finds of St Neot's ware pottery (CHER 11910 & MCBs 15935 & 19220) recorded during archaeological trial trench evaluations (ECBs 1616 & 3382) c.300m – 450m to the south of the site (Fletcher 2004, Trimble 2010).

3.2.4 The 13th century churches of St Mary (CHER 02928) and St Andrew (CB14921) are located c.400m – 500m to the south-east and south-west of the site respectively. A large quantity of metalwork (CHER 02291) were discovered at the park near St Andrew's Church. A significant quantity of 13th to 14th century archaeological remains is recorded c.400m to the south of the site including pottery, glass, bone implements, a brooch and a lead ampulla/phial (HERs 01963B-F & H, 01359, 01360 & 01727). A cluster of 19 refuse pits yielded a large amount of green glaze pottery, a bone knife handle and an iron knife (CHER 11910).

3.2.5 Archaeological evaluations c.400m – 450m to the south of the site (ECBs 1616 & 2979) revealed medieval refuse pits containing substantial quantities of pottery (MCBs 15935 & 17978) (Fletcher 2004, Thatcher 2008). Archaeological evaluations (ECBs 3382 & 2911) c.250m – 300m to the south of the site revealed a ditch and pits containing 13th century pottery (MCBs 16704 & 19220) (House 2008, Trimble 2010). An archaeological evaluation (ECB412) c.400m to the north revealed evidence of late medieval quarrying activity (MCB 16704) (Patten 2000) while an archaeological evaluation (ECB 2033) at Eastgate c.350m to the south-east revealed a late medieval ditch (MCB 16704) (Hatton 2004).

Post-medieval

3.2.6 Evidence of post-medieval occupation is represented by a 17th century pit (CB15239) discovered during an archaeological evaluation at Inhams Road (ECB 893) c.500m to the south-east of the site (Bamforth 2002). Whittlesey Butter Cross (CHER 02814, SAM 32 & LB 402679) is located c.370m to the south-east of the site and comprises a late 17th century open market house. Post-medieval archaeology comprising gullies containing pottery (MCB 16707) as well as a timber structure and boundary ditches (MCB15939) were revealed during archaeological evaluations at Hallcroft Road c.300m to the west of the site (ECB 1621) (M&MAS 2004, Cooper 2004). Post-medieval quarry pits containing worked antler and clay pipe (MCB 16292) were found during an archaeological evaluation (ECB 1821) at Stonald Road c.200m to the north-east of the site (Lyons 2004).

3.2.7 The 19th century Methodist church (MCB17199) and the United Reformed Church (CB14920) are located c.150m - 200m to the south of the site. Two trade tokens (MCB16747) were found c.70m to the west of the site. The Zion Baptist Chapel (MCB17198) is situated adjacent to the site flanking the western boundary. Documentation records an earlier building on the site of the Zion Baptist Church.

Cartographic Sources (Figs. 3 - 5)

3.2.8 The 1841 Tithe map of Whittlesey (Fig. 3) depicts development to the north and south of Gracious Street and Claygate. Long, narrow, rectangular plots to the south and south-east of Gracious Street may have originated as medieval burgage tenement plots. The site is located on the northern side of Gracious Street and is bounded by Orchard Street (not labelled) to its east and Ivy Lane to the west. The Zion Baptist Chapel (MCB17198) is visible adjacent to the site on its western flank. The site comprises several plots (Nos. 137, 167, 433, 439, 490 & 492) containing L-plan residential buildings in the eastern half and south-west corner of the modern assessment site with yards in the western part. The Wheatsheaf Inn (Plot 167), located in the eastern half of the site, comprises three L-plan buildings and was owned by Thomas Jackson at a value of 26 perches and leased to Maria Jackson.

3.2.9 The 1887 Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 4) depicts numerous changes. The Zion Baptist Chapel situated adjacent to the site has been extended to the south. Two buildings in the south-west corner of the site have been demolished. Several buildings comprising the Wheatsheaf Inn and residential houses previously depicted in 1841 (Fig. 3) have been incorporated into one open rectangular complex of dwellings.

3.2.10 The 1927 Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 5) depicts further changes to the site. Residential development has occurred on the eastern side of Orchard Street. A long thin rectangular building has been constructed along the western boundary of the site adjacent

to the Zion Baptist Chapel (MCB17198). The rectangular building fronting east on to Orchard Street (labelled) has been divided into two dwellings. The majority of the buildings on the site in the 1992 Ordnance Survey map (on line) have been demolished with the exception of a building located in the centre of the southern half of the site.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Two trial trenches were excavated (Fig.2). The trenches were 15m long x 1.60m wide, representing a 5% sample of the site.

4.2 Undifferentiated overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision using a 180° back acting mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.60m wide toothless ditching bucket. Thereafter, all further investigation was undertaken by hand. Exposed surfaces were cleaned as appropriate and examined for archaeological features and finds. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed.

5 RESULTS

Individual trench descriptions are presented below:

Trench 1 (Figs. 2 & 6)

<i>Sample section: West end, south facing.</i> <i>0.00 = 6.94m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.09m	L1002	Topsoil. Dark grayish brown, firm, sandy silt with occasional angular gravel, CBM and modern pottery.
0.09 – 0.25m	L1019	Made Ground. Dark blackish grey, very loose, sandy silt with frequent CBM and modern debris.
0.25 – 0.85m	L1003	Subsoil. Dark grey, firm, sandy silt with occasional angular gravel, CBM and modern pottery.
0.85m+	L1020	Natural deposits. Mid reddish yellow, firm, sandy silt with occasional patches of clay.

<i>Sample section: East end, south facing.</i> <i>0.00 = 6.54m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1002	Topsoil. As above.
0.25 – 0.57m	L1019	Made Ground. As above.
0.57 – 0.99m	L1003	Subsoil. As above.
0.99m+	L1020	Natural deposits. As above.

Description: Trench 1 contained two ditches (F1025 and F1032), three pits (F1030, F1034 and F1036) and a ?quarry pit (F1027). Four modern features were also present.

Ditch F1025 was linear in plan (1.60+ x 0.90 x 0.43m+) was aligned north/south. It had steep sides and its base was not seen due to the depth of the trench and the feature. Its fill, L1026, was a compact, dark blackish grey, clayey silt with occasional flint. It contained animal bone (169g). F1025 was cut by ?Quarry Pit F1027

?Quarry Pit F1027 was curvi-linear in plan (1.60+ x 1.70 x 0.41m+) was aligned north/south. It had steep sides and its base was not seen due to the depth of the trench and the feature. It contained two fills. Its basal fill, L1028, was a compact, dark blackish

grey, clayey silt with occasional small angular flint. It contained CBM (380g), animal bone (3735g) and glass (5g). Its upper fill, L1038, was a mid yellowish grey, compact, silty gravel with frequent chalk and angular flint. It contained no finds. F1027 was cut by Pit F1034 and cut Pit F1025. F1027 was a possible quarry pit.

Pit F1030 was subcircular in plan (0.13 x 0.45 x 0.10m). It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1031, was a compact, mid greyish brown, clayey silt. It contained no finds. F1030 was cut by Ditch F1032 and cut Pit F1036.

Ditch F1032 was linear in plan (1.00+ x 1.10 x 0.37m+) was aligned north/south. It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1033, was a compact, mid greyish brown, clayey silt. It contained medieval (14th – 16th century) pottery (39g) and animal bone 179g). F1032 cut Pit F1030 and was cut by Pit F1034.

Pit F1034 was rectangular in plan (0.20 x 1.22 x 0.40m+). Its profile was not defined due to the depth of the trench and the feature. Its fill, L1035, was a loose, mid brownish yellow, sandy silt and gravel. It contained post-medieval (17th – 18th century) pottery (42g), and a clay pipe fragment (7g). F1034 cut Ditch F1032.

Pit F1036 was subcircular in plan (0.20 x 0.27 x 0.17m). It had irregular sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1037, was a compact, mid greyish brown, clayey silt. It contained no finds. F1036 was cut by Pit F1030.

Trench 2 (Figs. 2 & 6)

<i>Sample section: North end, west facing.</i> <i>0.00 = 7.19m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.10m	L1000	Tarmac.
0.10 – 0.54m	L1001	Levelling Layer. Compact, mixed sandy gravel with CBM
0.54 – 1.08m	L1003	Subsoil. Dark blackish grey, firm, slightly sandy silt with angular gravel, CBM and modern pottery.
1.08 – 1.32m	L1004	Subsoil. Mid brownish grey, firm, sandy silt with occasional angular gravel.
1.32m+	L1020	Natural deposits.

<i>Sample section: North end, west facing.</i> <i>0.00 = 7.08m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.09m	L1000	Tarmac. As above.
0.09 – 0.50m	L1001	Levelling Layer. As above.
0.50 – 0.80m	L1003	Subsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.80 – 1.20m	L1004	Subsoil. As above Tr.1.
1.20m+	L1020	Natural deposits. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 2 contained four pits (F1005, F1007, F1011 and F1013) and Gully F1009.

Pit F1005 was ill defined in plan (1.42+ x 3.00 x 0.60m+). It had shallow sides and its base was not reached. The pit was not fully excavated due to the depth of the trench and the feature. It contained four fills. Its basal fill, L1022, was a mid brownish grey, firm, sandy silt with occasional angular gravel. This layer was not fully excavated because of the depth of the feature. It contained no finds. Above L1022 was L1018, a loose, mid yellowish brown, sand and gravel. It contained medieval (14th – 15th century) pottery (7g),

animal bone (27g) and an iron fragment (8g). Above L1018, L1006 was a firm, dark brownish grey, slightly sandy silt with occasional angular gravel. It contained medieval (14th – 15th century) pottery (267g) and animal bone (35g). Above L1006 and the uppermost fill, L1021, was a mid yellow brown, loose, sand and gravel. It contained no finds. F1005 cut Ditch F1009 and Pit F1007.

Pit F1007 was also ill defined in plan due to its size and the confines of the trench (1.50+ x 2.72 x 0.50m+). It had near vertical sides and its base was not reached. The pit was not fully excavated due to the depth of the trench and the feature. Its fill, L1008, was a firm, mid grey, sandy silt with occasional angular gravel. It contained medieval (14th – 15th century) pottery (109g) and animal bone (27g). F1007 was cut by Pit F1005.

Gully F1009 (0.30+ x 1.74 x 0.49m) was aligned east/west. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1010, was a firm, mid brownish grey clay, sandy silt with occasional angular gravel. It contained animal bone (53g). F1009 was cut by Pit F1005.

Pit F1011 was highly irregular in plan (2.82 x 1.27+ x 1.20m+). Its profile was not defined. Its fill, L1012, was a loose, dark brownish grey, silty clay with occasional angular gravel. It contained modern pottery (196g).

Pit F1013 was ill-defined in plan due to its size and the confines of the trench (5.12+ x 1.60+ x 0.60m+). Its profile was not defined. It contained four fills (L1014 – L1017). Its basal fill, L1014, was a compact, mid brownish grey, clayey silt with occasional angular gravel. It contained no finds. L1015 overlay L1014 and comprised a light yellowish brown, very loose, lens of sand and gravel. It contained no finds. Above L1015, L1016 was a mid brownish grey, compact, clayey silt with occasional flint. It contained no finds. Above L1016 and the uppermost fill, L1017 was a light yellowish brown, loose, sand and gravel. It contained medieval (13th-14th/15th century) pottery and animal bone (493g). F1013 was cut by Pit F1011.

6 CONFIDENCE RATING

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

7 DEPOSIT MODEL

7.1 Uppermost in Trench 1 was Topsoil L1002, a dark grayish brown, firm, sandy silt with occasional angular gravel, CBM and modern pottery (0.10m). It overlay Made Ground L1019, a dark blackish grey, very loose, sandy silt with frequent CBM and modern debris (0.16m thick). In Trench 2 Tarmac L1000 overlay a leveling layer, L1001.

7.2 In Trench 1 L1019 overlay Subsoil L1003 and in Trench 2 L1001 overlay L1003. The latter was a dark grey, firm, sandy silt with occasional angular gravel, CBM and modern pottery (c.60m thick). In Trench 2 L1003 overlay Subsoil L1004, a mid brownish grey, firm, sandy silt with occasional angular gravel (0.24m thick).

7.3 The natural, L1020, was a mid reddish yellow, firm, sandy silt with occasional patches of clay (0.85 – 1.32m below the present day ground surface).

8 DISCUSSION

8.1 The excavated features are tabulated:

Trench	Context	Description	Spot date
1	1025	Ditch	Undated
	1027	?Quarry pit	Undated
	1030	Pit	Medieval or earlier
	1032	Ditch	14 th – 16 th C
	1034	Pit	17 th – 18 th
	1036	Pit	Medieval or earlier
2	1005	Pit	14 th – 15 th C
	1007	Pit	14 th – 15 th C
	1009	Gully	Medieval or earlier
	1011	Pit	Modern
	1013	Pit	13 th -14 th /15 th C

8.2 Archaeological features were present in each trench. In each trench the features inter cut and were quite dense. The majority of features were pits (F1030, F1034 and 1036 (Tr.1); F1005, F1007 and F1013 (Tr.2)). Linear features, a gully (F1009 Tr.2)) and a ditch (F1032 (Tr.2)), are also present. F1027 (Tr.1) may be a quarry pit. The majority of features were medieval (1032, 1005, 1007 and 1013) or were cut by medieval features (F1030 and F1036 (Tr.1), and F1009 (Tr.2)). One post-medieval feature (F1034 (Tr.1)) was present. The archaeology was generally well preserved. Some modern disturbance was evident particularly the modern pits in Trench 1.

8.3 The finds largely comprise pottery and the features contained between 1 (1013) and 10 or 11 sherds (F1005, F1007, F1011 (Tr.2)). The medieval features also contained animal bone, and Pit F1005 (Tr.1) contained an iron fragment. A medieval (14th – 15th century) brick fragment was found in ?Quarry Pit F1027 (Tr.1). Environmental samples were taken from three features.

8.4 The site lies in an area of archaeological potential within the historic core of the town of Whittlesey, to the immediate east of the Baptist Church. The Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record records the presence of finds of much medieval pottery and other remains in the town (HER Nos 01963 & 11910). The discovery of trading tokens of medieval date indicates mercantile activity in the town.

8.5 The site had a potential for medieval remains and medieval features; predominantly pits were preserved with little evidence of modern disturbance.

9 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

9.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with the finds from the site, at Cambridgeshire County Store. 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.

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APPENDIX 1 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DATA (HER)

The following sites are those that lie within a 500m radius of the site. The table has been compiled from data held by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER).

HER No.	NGR SP	Description
Undated Prehistoric		
01370	TL 273 972	Honestone (micaceous schist), Churchfield Way, Whittlesey.
Roman		
01963A	TL 270 970	Roman cooking pot, Post Office yard.
MCB16746	TL 2680 9735	Silver coin of Carausius (287-293AD).
Medieval		
01359	TL 270 970	Glass fragments, Post Office yard.
01360	TL 270 970	Edward I groat, Post Office yard.
01368	TL 273 972	Early 13 th century medieval pottery, Ailsby's Yard.
01374	TL 273 972	Green glaze medieval pottery, Ailsby's Yard, High, Causeway.
01727	TL 270 970	Lead pilgrim's bottle or phial/ampulla. 14 th century. Barr St.
01963	TL 270 970	Glass and lead framework, Post Office yard.
01963B	TL 270 970	Pottery vessel, Post Office yard.
01963C	TL 270 970	Medieval brooch, Post Office yard.
01963D	TL 270 970	Bone implement, PO yard – possibly used for making pastry.
01963E	TL 270 970	Remains of a large cooking pot. PO yard.
01963F	TL 270 970	Tripod skillet, PO yard.
01963H	TL 270 970	Medieval pottery, PO yard.
02291	TL 2660 9700	Medieval metalwork finds, The Park, near St Andrew's Church. A lead weight, seal, 2 belt buckles & 3 garter hooks.
02915	TL 267 969	Medieval gravestone.
02916	TL 27 97	A Poor's Hospital is said to have been begun at Whittlesey in 1391 by Adam Rypp.
02928	TL 270 969	Saint Mary's Church. 13 th century. LB 403489.
11910	TL 2700 9700	19 medieval pits and associated finds, PO yard.
CB14921	TL 2667 9692	Saint Andrew's Church. 13 th century. LB 402370.
MCB15863 ECB412	TL 2655 9766	Late medieval/early post-medieval activity, Bassenhally Road. Two furrows and evidence for strip quarries were discovered.
MCB15935 ECB1616	TL 2697 9692	Manor View. Refuse pits, walls, ditches & post holes with pottery.
MCB16704 ECB2033	TL 2712 9710	Medieval ditch and modern features, Eastgate. Single ditch.
MCB17908 ECB2911	TL 2691 9717	Three larger pits with medieval pottery, which were attributed to late medieval gravel extraction.
MCB17978 ECB2979	TL 2701 9698	Medieval pits, Old Post Office. 13 th to 14 th century pottery.
MCB19220 ECB3382	TL 2678 9710	Medieval rubbish/extraction pits were densely located across the development area. Building debris to the north of the site was characteristic of 18th-19th century brick structures.
Post-medieval		
02918	TL 2703 9694	Manor House, Whittlesey. 17 th century, although west wing dates to 15 th century. LB 403190.
02291A	TL 2660 9700	Metalwork finds near St Andrew's Church. Finds include 4 harness bells.
02814	TL 270 970	Whittlesey Butter Cross. Late 17 th century open market house. SAM 32 & LB 402679.

02911	TL 264 975	Disused tower windmill, Whittlesey.
CB14920	TL 2680 9716	Whittlesey United Reformed Church.
CB15239 ECB893	TL 2721 9700	17th century pit, Inhams Road. Waster & clay pipe found.
MCB15939 ECB1621	TL 2650 9730	Hallcroft Road. A timber structure, an animal burial and boundary ditches.
MCB16292 ECB1821	TL 2692 9752	Post-medieval quarry pits at 11 Stonald Road. Worked antler & clay pipe.
MCB16624	TL 271 970	Maltings, Whittlesey.
MCB16707	TL 2654 9729	Post-medieval agricultural activity, Hallcroft Road. Gullies & pottery.
MCB16747	TL 2680 9735	Trade tokens.
MCB17198	TL 2686 9738	Zion Baptist Chapel, Gracious Street. The chapel dates from 1836 and replaced an earlier building.
MCB17199	TL 2698 9719	Whittlesey Methodist Church, Queen Street. 1826.
Undated		
01963G	TL 270 970	Stone object, PO yard.
12245	TL 272 973	"The Elms" - garden/grounds.

APPENDIX 2 DETAILS OF 1841 TITHE AWARD OF PARISH OF WHITTLESEY

Plot No	Owner	Occupier	Description	Value		
				A	R	P
134	William Merrett	James Brown & others	House & Yards	0	0	10
136	Elizabeth Hart	James Russell & others	House & Yards	0	0	6
137	Elizabeth Hart	William Hart	House & Yards	0	0	6
167	Thomas Jackson	Governors of the Public Revenues of Whittlesey	Wheatsheaf Inn	0	0	26
186	Ann Lamb (for life)	William Lamb	Farming Premise	0	2	0
433	Maria Jackson & another	William Burdock	Yards	0	0	6
490	John Bellamy	Himself & 1 other	House & Yard	0	0	12
493	James Morton	Himself & 1 other	House & Yards	0	0	21

APPENDIX 3 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

**AS1496,
Whittlesey**

Concordance of finds by feature

Feature	Context	Trench	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)	A.Bone (g)	Other
1005	1006	2	Pit	14th-15th	(11) 267g		35	
	1018				(1) 7g		27	Fe. Frag (1) - 8g
1007	1008	2	Pit	14th-15th	(10) 109g		27	
1009	1010	2	Gully				53	
1011	1012	2	Pit	19th-20th*	(10) 196g			
1013	1017	2	Pit	13th-14th/15th	(1) 7g		493	
1025	1026	1	Ditch				169	
1027	1028	1	?Quarry pit			380	3735	Glass (2) - 5g
1032	1033	1	Ditch	14th-16th	(2) 39g		179	
1034	1035	1	Pit	17-18th	(4) 42g			Clay Pipe - 7g

APPENDIX 4 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Pottery

by Peter Thompson

The evaluation recovered 38 sherds in mixed condition weighing 626g recovered from six features. The assemblage comprises 24 medieval sherds, 13 post-medieval sherds and one modern sherd. The majority of the medieval sherds (12), are Ely wares in quartz sandy and calcareous fabrics, some with a distinctive pimply green glaze. A further 7 sherds are Lyveden type wares from the Rockingham Forest area of Northamptonshire containing oolitic limestone, while another sherd in medieval Brill ware is imported from Buckinghamshire. The remaining 4 sherds are unsourced medieval sandy wares, although one sherd in an orange-red fabric with clear glaze could possibly be an import from Essex. The pottery is quantified by feature in the table below.

The Medieval Pottery

Pit F1005 (L1006 and L1018) included two sherds of Lyveden-type ware with glossy green glaze, and one sherd having dispersed rilling. A third sherd is in a hard, wheel-made fabric with a slight corky inner surface and contains sparse oolitic inclusions. These sherds are indicative of a late medieval date. The assemblage also included an unglazed Lyveden-type rod handle with stab decoration. Four sherds of Ely ware, one with internal green glaze, and the sherd of unglazed medieval Brill were also present. Three medieval sandy wares comprise two that are reduced throughout, and one in an off white fabric similar to Stamford ware but containing sparse dark ferruginous inclusions and occasional voids on the surfaces. A date of 14th to 15th century is likely for this group, although it is possible some of the sherds are residual from an earlier period

Pit F1007 (L1008) contained mainly Ely wares with green glaze. Three hard wheel-made sherds with pale orange surfaces and grey or pale orange cores and sparse white limestone inclusions are late medieval in date, and may be Lyveden 'D' type wares that were produced during the 15th century.

Pit F1013 (L1017) contained a single body sherd of medieval Ely ware.

Ditch F1032 (L1033) also yielded an Ely frilled base with tiny splashes of glaze, and a late medieval sandy orange-red ware with patchy clear glaze.

The Post-medieval Pottery

Pit F1034 (L1035) contained four sherds of post-medieval red earthenware. Pit F1011 (L1012) contained a further nine sherds of post-medieval red earthenware along with a modern sherd of whiteware. The latter may be intrusive in which case the earlier date stands otherwise the pit can be dated to the 19th-20th centuries.

KEY:

MSW: Medieval sandy ware 11th-14th

MSCW: Medieval sandy ware 11th-14th

LYVE: Lyveden type ware: 12th-15th

MEL: Grimston type ware: 12th-15th

BRIM: Medieval Brill ware: late 12th-15th

LMR: late medieval red earthenware

PMRE: Post-medieval red earthenware late 16th-19th

RWE: Refined white earthenware late 18th-20th

(G denotes glaze, below)

<i>Feature</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Pit 1005	1006	3x119g LYV type (G) 1x89g LYV type 3x12g MSW 2x18g MEL 1x11g MEL (G)	14 th -15 th	Lyveden – green glazed, two vessels, x 1 with dispersed rill Lyveden – stab decorated rod handle, MEL: sagging base MEL: internal green glaze
	1018	1x4g MEL	13 th -15 th	
Pit 1007	1008	4x39g MEL(G) 2x14g MEL 1x1g MSW 3x47g LYV type	14 th -15 th	Mel: glazed, minimum of 2 vessels
Pit 1011	1012	9x185g PMRE 1x5g RWE	19 th -20 th (N.B. if RWE is intrusive it could be 18 th)	6x134g black glazed minimum of 2 vessels 3x51g apparently unglazed, but heavily abraded surfaces, min 2 vessels
Pit 1013	1017	1x6g MEL	13 th -14 th /15 th	
Ditch 1032	1033	1x28g MEL(G) 1x8g LMR (G)	14 th - mid16 th	MEL: frilled base, rounded, splash glaze LMR: patchy clear glaze
Pit 1034	1035	4x40g PMRE	17 th -18 th	Minimum of 3 vessels

The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey

A single fragment (380g) of medieval CBM was contained in Linear F1027 (L1028). The CBM comprises a fragment of 40-45mm thick brick with cream to pale-yellow-brown surfaces, a thick reduced dark grey core, and irregular/creased faces and arrises. The brick was produced in a fabric of calcareous clay with inclusion of sparse black iron ore (0.5-5mm) and occasional flint (<10mm). This type of brick is typical of CBM produced in region in the 14th century, possibly into the 15th century.

The Animal Bone

Dr Julia E. M. Cussans

A small assemblage of 75 animal bones was recovered from trial trench excavations at Whittlesey Baptist Church, from a total of eight deposits from seven features (Table 1); feature types included pits, ditches, a gully and a linear feature. The preservation for the majority of contexts was rated as good, for L1017 it was rated as excellent and for L1026 and L1033 it was rated as ok. Abrasion was generally low, fresh breaks were relatively few but dog gnawing was fairly common. Approximately half of the bones could only be identified as large (LTM – cattle or horse sized) or medium (MTM – sheep or pig sized) mammal, these included bones such as long bone fragments, ribs and vertebrae. A number of these bones had evidence of butchery including both cut and chop marks. Cattle were the most numerous of the identified species, followed by horse, pig and then sheep/goat (Table 1).

The majority of the cattle bones came from L1028, this was the largest collection of animal bones and was made up entirely of cattle and LTM bones, the majority of the latter were vertebrae and likely belonged to cattle. The cattle remains were made up of quite distinct body areas which included the skull and neck and the hind limb. The bones in this context were relatively complete with several measurable elements and no evidence of butchery. At least two animals were represented by the neck bones (atlas and axis) and some of the hind limb bones articulated, although it is not currently known if they were found articulated on excavation. All of the LTM vertebrae were unfused and a number of the cattle bones had epiphyses that were just fusing indicating that these bones probably came from prime meat age animals.

All of the other contexts contained fairly small numbers of bones; butchered bones were noted for sheep/goat, horse and possibly for cattle (a scapula with a possible perforation through the blade). No pathologies were noted on any of the bones. Other than the mammal bones a single bird bone was present. This was the humerus of a Corvid (crow family) and appeared slightly smaller than a crow; no butchery or other modifications were noted.

Feature	Description	Context	Cattle	Sheep/ goat	Pig	Horse	LTM	MTM	Bird	Total
1005	Pit	1006		1*			1	1		3
		1018		1			2			3
1007	Pit	1008					2*			2
1009	Gully	1010		1			1*			2
1013	Pit	1017				5	5	1*		11
1025	Ditch	1026			3	1*	1	3		8
1027	Linear	1028	21				21			42
1032	Ditch	1033	2*		1				1	4
Total			23	3	4	6	33	5	1	75

Table 1. Animal bones by feature and context from Whittlesey, * denotes presence of butchered bones.

The Environmental Samples

Dr John Summers

Introduction

During the trial trench evaluation on land at Whittlesey Baptist Church, three bulk soil samples for environmental archaeological assessment were taken. All three samples were 20 litres in volume and came from pits spot-dated to the medieval period. This report presents the results from the assessment of the light fractions, before discussing the significance of the results and the potential for further investigation.

Methods

The bulk samples were processed by water flotation using a Siraf-type flotation tank at the Archaeological Solutions Ltd facilities in Bury St. Edmunds. The light fractions were captured on a 250µm mesh, while the heavy fractions were retained in a 500µm mesh. Once dry, the light fractions were scanned under a low power stereomicroscope and any carbonised plant macrofossils, charcoal and mollusca were recorded. No plant remains preserved by other means (e.g. waterlogging or mineralisation) were present in the samples. Where necessary, reference literature (Cappers *et al.* 2006; Jacomet 2006; Kerney and Cameron 1979) and a reference collection of modern plant tissues were consulted to refine identifications. Modern contaminants, such as rootlets, seeds and invertebrate fauna were recorded using a semi-quantitative scale in order to assess the potential biological disturbance of the deposits.

Results

A range of carbonised plant macrofossils were present in the samples, with

the remains of cereals predominating. Three main types of cereal grain were recognised: free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum/ compactum* type), hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and oat (*Avena* sp.). The numbers of all three types were broadly comparable and it seems likely that all represent deliberately cultivated plants. A small range of non-cereal taxa were present in sample 1 of pit fill L1006 (F1005). These included knapweed (*Centaurea* sp.), sedges (*Carex* sp.) and wild grasses (Poaceae). These could all represent arable weeds. The presence of sedges could indicate wet areas within arable fields, although they could also have been gathered from other areas of wetland and wet grassland. No cereal chaff was present but the recovery of arable weed taxa could indicate some processing of cereals on or around the site.

Mollusca

Two types of terrestrial mollusc were noted (*Vallonia pulchella* and *Vitrina pellucida*). The former is typical of wet grassland, while the latter inhabits a range of moderately humid habitats, including woods, grassland and among rocks (Kerney and Cameron 1979, 96; 109). The limited presence of such remains indicates that, although preservation conditions appear adequate for mollusc shells, an analytically viable assemblage would not be gained through further sampling.

Contaminants

A small number of modern rootlets, seeds, molluscs and insects were noted in the samples. The low concentration of these remains suggests that there is unlikely to have been extensive disturbance of the deposits by biological agents.

Discussion

The results indicate that the use and processing of cereals was undertaken on or around the site during the 13th-15th centuries. A mixed cereal economy incorporating the cultivation of free-threshing wheat, hulled barley and oat appears to have been practiced. This is in common with other English medieval sites (e.g. Ballantyne 2005; Straker *et al.* 2007). It is likely that the range of cultivated plants was more extensive than this but three samples is insufficient to give a clear indication of the full arable economy. Only limited evidence of growing conditions was recovered but the presence of sedges may indicate some wetness within arable habitats. This would be likely if some heavier soils, more prone to waterlogging, were cultivated.

The density and preservation of the remains is suggestive of deposition as part of general refuse disposal, probably along with other hearth rake-out. There is no indication of discrete dumps of material from specific crop processing activities.

Statement of potential

Should further excavation and sampling be undertaken at this site, it is likely that a more analytically viable assemblage of carbonised plant macrofossils would be recovered. Since the present samples have been fully quantified, it is not recommended that any further analysis of the material from the evaluation is carried out.

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Context	Feature	Feature type	Spot date	Volume (litres)	Cereals				Non-cereal taxa		Charcoal		Molluscs		Contaminants			
					Cereal grains	Cereal chaff	Notes		Seeds	Notes	Charcoal>2mm	Notes	Molluscs	Notes	Roots	Molluscs	Modern seeds	Insects
1006	1005	Pit	14th-15th century	20	XX	-	HB (3), Hord (2), FTW (3), Trit (2), Oat (1), cf. Oat (2), NFI (10), Frag (X)	5	X	Centarea sp. (1), Carex sp. (2), Large Poaceae (1), Indet. (1)	-	-	X	Vallonia pulchella, Vitrina pellucida	X	X	X	X
1008	1007	Pit	14th-15th century	20	X	-	HTB (2), NFI (2), Frag (X)	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-
1017	1013	Pit	13th-14th/15th century	20	XX	-	HB (2), Hord (1), FTW (1), NFI (4), Frag (X)	5	-	-	X	Too small for ID	-	-	X	X	-	-

Table 2: Results of the assessment of bulk sample light fractions from trial excavations at Whittlesey Baptist Church. Abbreviations: HTB = Hulled, twisted barley grain (*Hordeum vulgare* var. *vulgare*); HB = Hulled barley (*H. vulgare*); Hord = Barley (*Hordeum* sp.); FTW = Free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum/compactum* type); Trit = Wheat (*Triticum* sp.); Oat (*Avena* sp.); NFI = Indeterminate cereal grain (not formally identified). Key: X = present, XX = common and XXX = abundant.

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP1

Trench 1, facing west



DP2

Trench 1, facing south-east



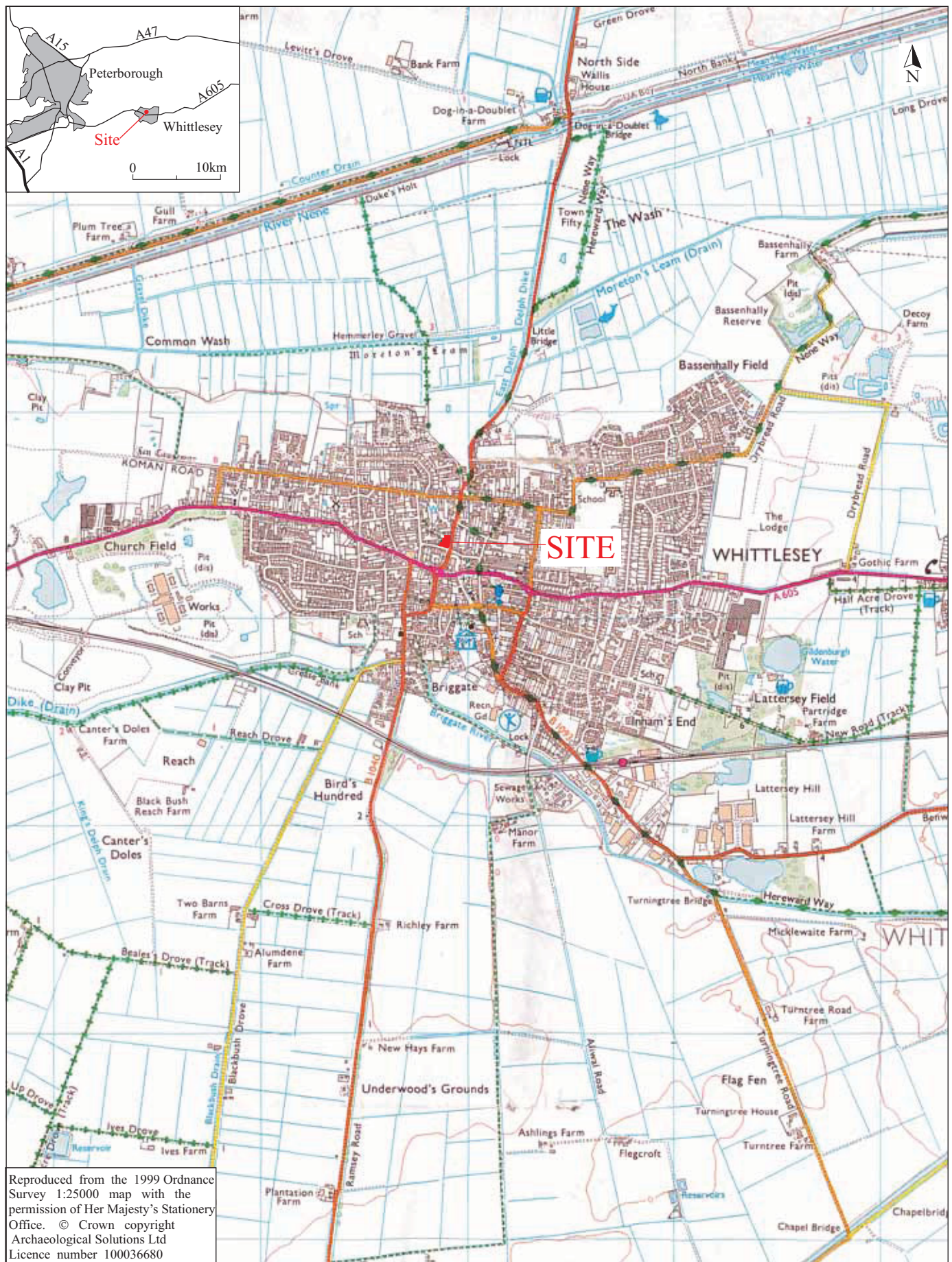
DP3

F2025 & F2027, facing south

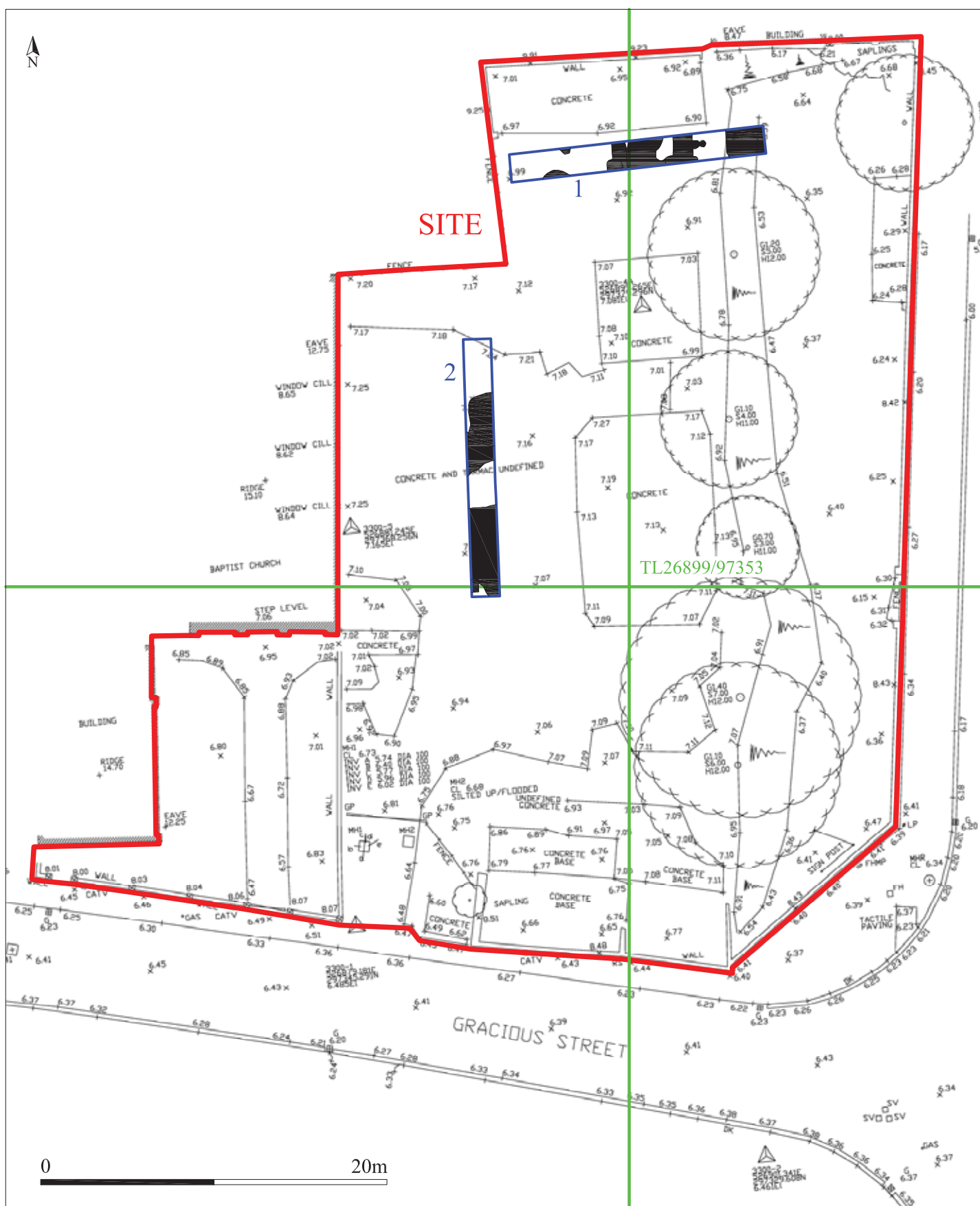


DP4

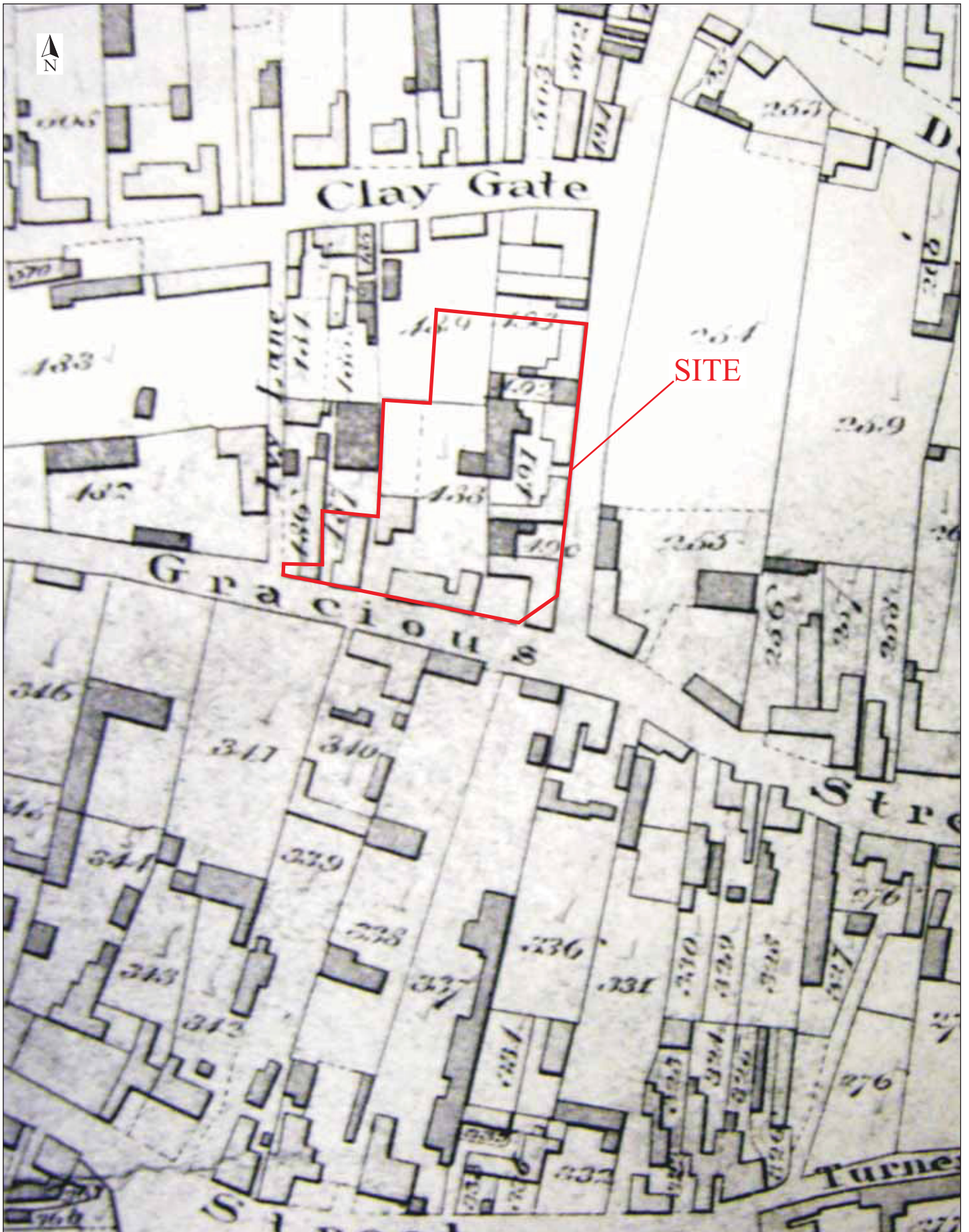
F1030 & F1032, facing north



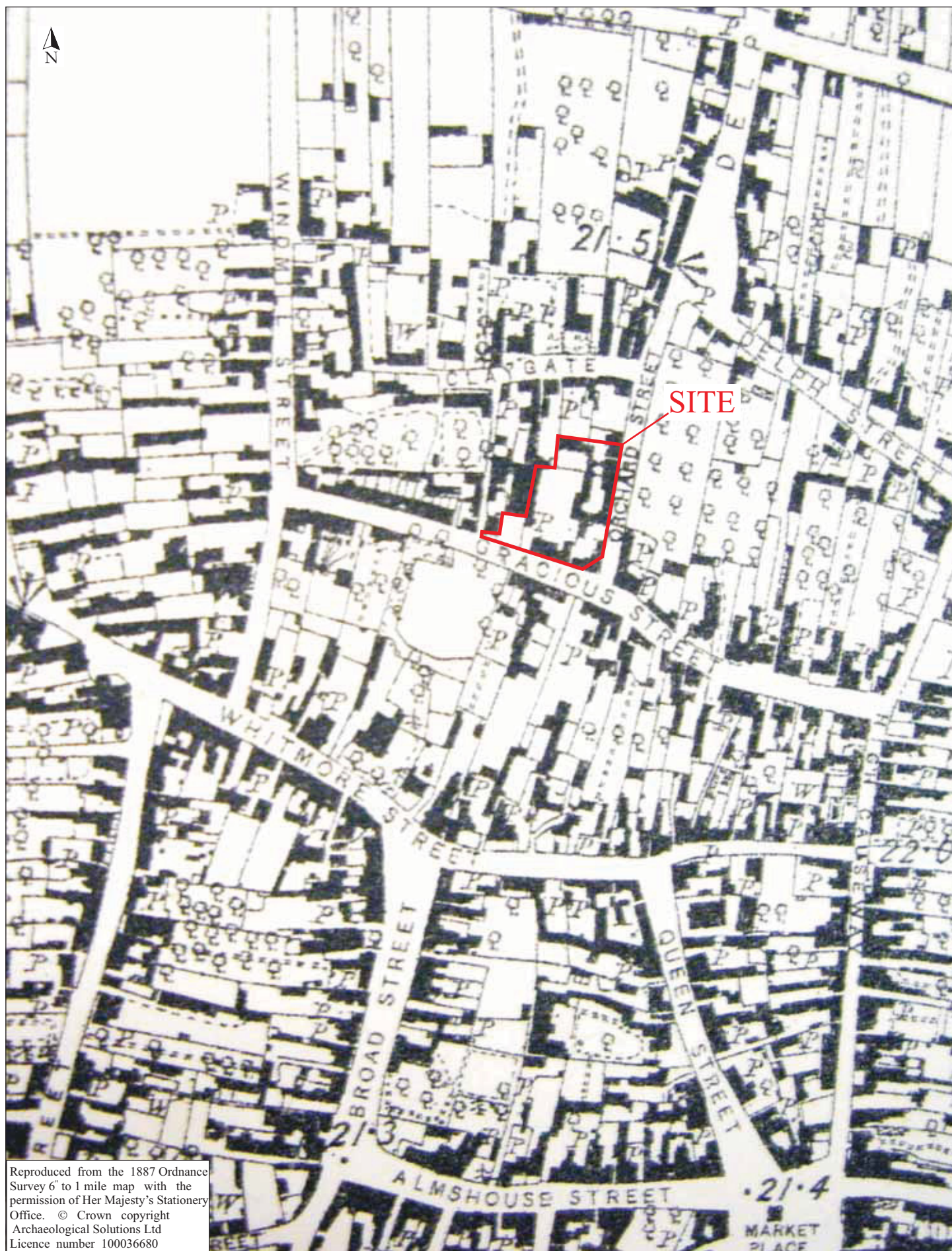
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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
 Scale 1:300 at A4



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Fig. 3 Tithe map, 1841
Not to scale



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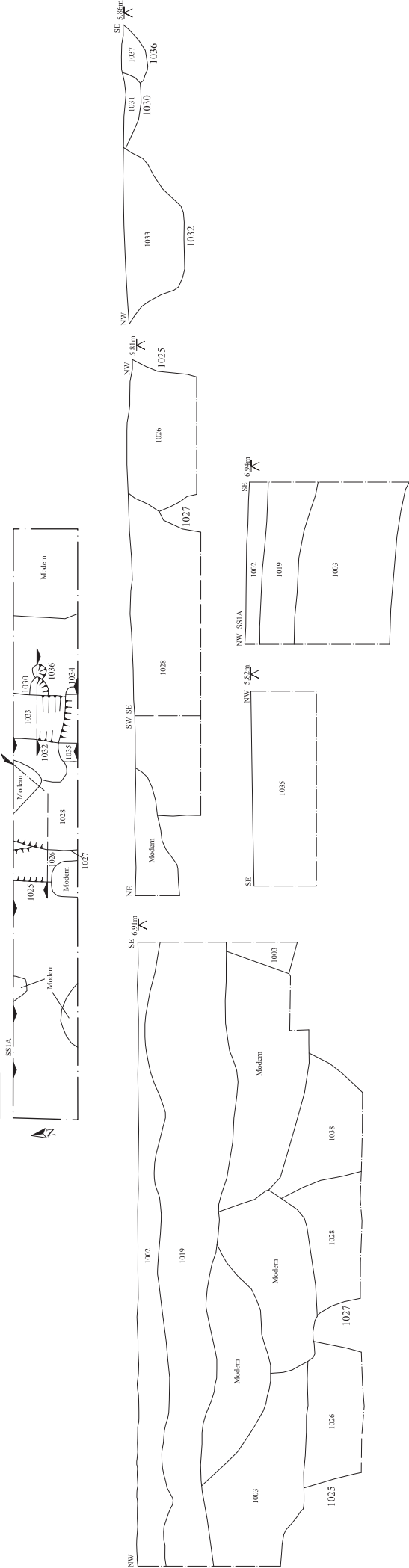
Fig. 4 OS map, 1887

Not to scale

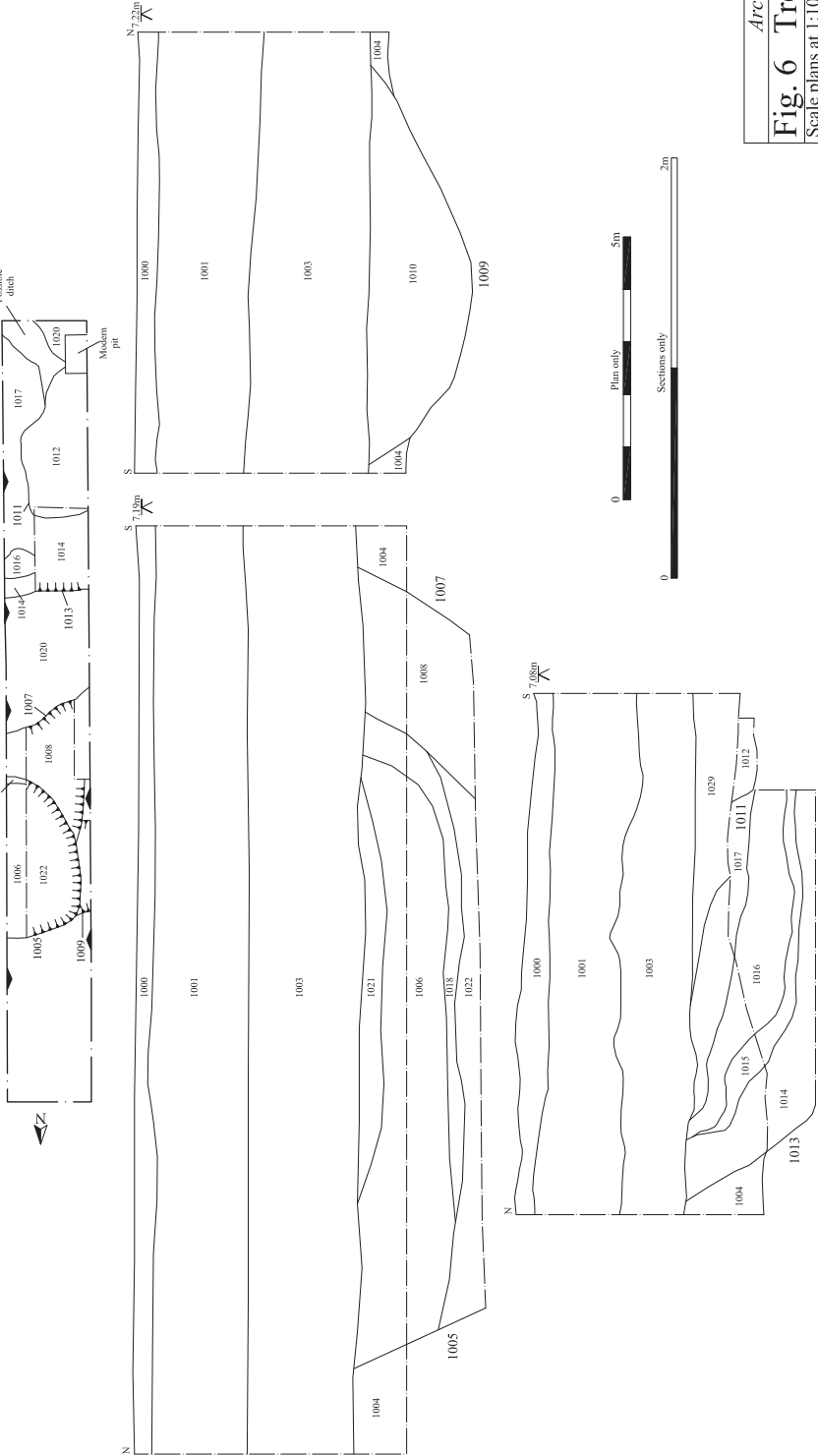


<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
Fig. 5 OS map, 1927
Not to scale

Trench 1



Trench 2



Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 6 Trench plans and sections
Scale plans at 1:100 and sections at 1:25 at A3