Archaeological Solutions Ltd

THE CROFT, WALSINGHAM WAY, EYE, PETERBOROUGH PE6 7XB

RESEARCH ARCHIVE REPORT

Authors:	Antony R.R. Mustchin (report) Samuel Egan (monitoring and recording) James Fairclough (excavation and monitoring and recording) Laszlo Lichtenstein (trial trench evaluation) Kamil Orzechowski (monitoring and recording) Zbyszek Pozorski (monitoring and recording)	
Illustrations:	Tansy Collins and Kathren Henry	
NGR: TF 22304 02533		Report No. 4526
District: Peterborough		Site Code: AS1657/ AS1670
Approved: Claire Halpin MIfA		Project No. P5571
Signed:		Date: 31/07/2014

Archaeological Solutions is an independent archaeological contractor providing the services which satisfy all archaeological requirements of planning applications, including:

Desk-based assessments and environmental impact assessments
Historic building recording and appraisals
Trial trench evaluations
Geophysical surveys
Archaeological monitoring and recording
Archaeological excavations
Post excavation analysis
Promotion and outreach
Specialist analysis

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

Unit 6, Brunel Business Court, Eastern Way,
Bury St Edmunds IP32 7AJ
Tel 01284 765210

PI House, r/o 23 Clifton Road, Shefford SG17 5AF
Tel 01462 817933

e-mail info@ascontracts.co.uk
www.archaeologicalsolutions.co.uk

twitter.com/ArchaeologicalS

www.facebook.com/ArchaeologicalSolutions

CONTENTS

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	*The Croft, Walsingham Way, Eye, Peterborough PE6 7XB*		
Between the 24th of February and the 14th of March 2014, Archaeological Solutions Ltd undertook an archaeological excavation on land at The Croft, Walsingham Way, Eye, Peterborough (NGR TF 22304 02533). The excavation was followed by a targeted programme of monitoring and recording (carried out between the 23rd of April and the 13th of July 2014). The project was commissioned by Lodge Park Ltd in compliance with an archaeological condition attached to planning approval for the construction of 14 dwellings (Planning Reference: 13/01165/FUL), and based on the advice of Peterborough City Council Archaeological Service. *A forerunning archaeological evaluation (Lichtenstein 2013) identified apparently early Romano-British features in the south and east of the site. These were predominantly linear ditches, numbering six in total, in Trial Trenches 1 (F1007), 2 (F1003) and 3 (F1011, F1013, F1015 and F1017). Trial Trench 2 also contained a Romano-British gully (F1009) and pit (F1005), while a second Romano-British pit (F1020) was present in Trial Trench 3. The features all yielded Roman pottery and/ or CBM, including a notable CBM handle, possibly from a 'lamp chimney' or 'testa'. The dates of some of the features identified by the evaluation were revised in light of the excavated evidence.* *In the event the excavation revealed three possible early Romano-British roundhouses together with sparse, contemporary pits, gullies and a posthole, and series of rectilinear field/ enclosure boundaries dating to the medieval period. The subsequent programme of monitoring and recording encountered modern demolition material and disturbance (from the former care home buildings), modern made ground, an undated pit and three ditches, two of which were intercutting. One of the latter yielded a single medieval pot sherd and two of the ditches appeared to represent continuations of boundary ditches recorded by the evaluation and/ or excavation.*		
Project dates (fieldwork)	*24/02/14-14/03/14 (Excavation); 23, 25 & 29-30/04, 11 & 18/06, 01 & 14/07 2014 (Monitoring & Recording)*		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	*N*	Future work (Y/N/?)	*N*
Project number	*5571*	Site code	*AS1657/ AS1670*
Type of project	*Archaeological Excavation*		
Site status	-		
Current land use	*Redundant care home*		
Planned development	*Residential development*		
Main features (+dates)	*1st century AD:*	*Roundhouses (x3), gullies, pits, posthole*	
	13th to 14th/ 15th centuries AD:	*Boundary ditches*	
Significant finds (+dates)	*1st century AD:*	*Pottery and CBM including the handle of 'lamp chimney' or 'testa'*	
	Post-Roman:	*Pottery*	
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	*Cambridgeshire*	*Peterborough*	
HER/ SMR for area	*Peterborough Historic Environment Record (PHER)*		
Post code (if known)	*PE6 7XB*		
Area of site	0.60ha		
NGR	*TF 22304 02533*		
Height AOD (max/ min)	*c. 10 m AOD*		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	*Peterborough City Council Archaeology Service*		
Project supervisor/(PO)	*James Fairclough (excavation); Antony R.R. Mustchin (post-excavation)*		
Funded by	*Lodge Park Ltd*		
Full title	*The Croft, Walsingham Way, Eye, Peterborough PE6 7XB. Research Archive Report*		
Authors	*Antony R.R. Mustchin*		
Report no.	*4526*		
Date (of report)	*31/07/2014*		

THE CROFT, WALSINGHAM WAY, EYE, PETERBOROUGH PE6 7XB

RESEARCH ARCHIVE REPORT

SUMMARY

Between the 24th of February and the 14th of March 2014, Archaeological Solutions Ltd undertook an archaeological excavation on land at The Croft, Walsingham Way, Eye, Peterborough (NGR TF 22304 02533; Figs.1-2). The excavation was followed by a targeted programme of monitoring and recording (carried out between the 23rd of April and the 14th of July 2014; Fig. 3). The project was commissioned by Lodge Park Ltd in compliance with an archaeological condition attached to planning approval for the construction of 14 dwellings (Planning Reference: 13/01165/FUL), and based on the advice of Peterborough City Council Archaeological Service.

A forerunning archaeological evaluation (Lichtenstein 2013) identified apparently early Romano-British features in the south and east of the site. These were predominantly linear ditches, numbering six in total, in Trial Trenches 1 (F1007), 2 (F1003) and 3 (F1011, F1013, F1015 and F1017). Trial Trench 2 also contained a Romano-British gully (F1009) and pit (F1005), while a second Romano-British pit (F1020) was present in Trial Trench 3. The features all yielded Roman pottery and/ or CBM, including a notable CBM handle, possibly from a 'lamp chimney' or 'testa' (see Peachey – The Ceramic Building Materials (below)). The dates of some of the features identified by the evaluation were revised in light of the excavated evidence.

In the event the excavation revealed three possible early Romano-British (1st century AD) roundhouses together with sparse, contemporary pits, gullies and a posthole, and series of rectilinear field/ enclosure boundaries dating to the medieval period. The subsequent programme of monitoring and recording encountered modern demolition material and disturbance (from the former care home buildings), modern made ground, an undated pit and three ditches, two of which were intercutting. One of the latter yielded a single medieval pot sherd and two of the ditches appeared to represent continuations of boundary ditches recorded by the evaluation and/ or excavation.

INTRODUCTION

The Site

The village of Eye was first recorded in the 10th century AD as 'Ege', a name indicating an 'island or dry ground' surrounded by marsh (Mills 1991). The Croft, located in the western part of the modern village, comprises a roughly sub-rectangular plot, measuring some 0.6ha, to the south-west of Walsingham Way and close to its junction with Ixworth Close (Figs. 1-2; Plates 1-2). At the time of excavation, the site contained a former care home (demolished prior to the monitoring and recording) and associated outbuildings, with lawned areas to the west/ south-west and east/ south-east.

The local soils are of the Shabbington Association, described as deep fine loamy soils, sometimes over sandy soils, variably affected by groundwater (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983, 20). The on-site strata have been previously described as topsoil and localised made ground (to a maximum depth of 1.10m) overlying localised head deposits above superficial deposits with lenses of river terrace drift (to a maximum depth of 2.00m (Lister Geotechnical Consultants; no reference available)). The solid geology of the area is Oxford Clay.

Strata encountered by the current project comprised Topsoil L3000 (=2000=1000) – a dark brown silty clay with occasional roots, CBM flecks and small angular flint – uppermost in the profile across the majority of the site (to a maximum depth of *c.* 0.40m). The topsoil sealed Subsoil L3001 (=2001=1001), a dark brown silty clay with occasional small angular stone/ flint, some 0.44m thick. The basal material encountered was Natural L3002 (=2002=1002), a mid orange brown silty clay with occasional angular flint. All archaeological features were cut into Natural L3002 (=2002=1002). The monitoring and recording observed localised areas of modern demolition material (L3003) and made ground (L3006), associated with the former care home buildings (Fig. 13). Also present was Layer L3015 (Plot 10), a clay-rich silt with moderate CBM and small stones, thought to represent a modern construction or demolition material.

Archaeological and Historical Background (Figs. 4-7)

Prehistoric

The earliest local evidence of human activity – a flint scraper found some 500m to the north-east of The Croft (PHER[1] 51181) – dates to the Mesolithic period. A Neolithic axe head and other, contemporary finds have also been reported within 4km of Eye, to the south. Antiquarian finds in the vicinity include possible Bronze Age spearheads and axes (PHER 50253), reported *c.* 330m to the south, while three Bronze Age barrows are located at Tanholt Farm, also to the south of the village (presentation to the society of Antiquaries of London by E. Thurlow Leeds Esq. M.A., F.S.A., 25th February 1915 (Evans 1914/ 1915, 80ff)). An archaeological assessment of land to the north of High Street (*c.* 380m north-east of The Croft), identified a prehistoric ditch and several pits (PHER 10702). Late Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age occupation evidence, including the eaves-drip gully of an Iron Age roundhouse and associated ditched enclosure, was also found during archaeological investigations on land at High Street (PHERs 51858 and 52292; Peachey 2009). Finds from the latter include pottery, loom weights, fired clay and sheep/ goat bones (*ibid.*).

Romano-British

Car Dyke, a *c.* 122km-long discontinuous waterway constructed in the 2nd century AD (Rogers 2013, 193), passes some 190m to the north-west of the current site. This monument, interpretations of which include a navigable canal and catchwater drain, skirts the western edge of the Wash Fenlands (Rogers 2013, 192-3). Romano-British evidence is otherwise scarce in the immediate environs.

[1] Peterborough Historic Environment Record

Post-Roman

An archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to 82 High Street, some 190m to the north-east of The Croft, identified a possible pre- AD 1899 pond (PHER 51180; Upson-Smith 2002). Trace pottery was recovered, mainly from the putative pond feature, dating from between *c.* AD 900 and the late 19th century. The earliest example was a sherd of Stamford ware bowl dating between *c.* AD 900 and AD 1200 (*ibid.*). An earlier evaluation, carried out *c.* 500m to the north-east of the current site, revealed two undated ditches and a late 19th to early 20th century midden (PHER 51181; Upson-Smith 2001).

A pre-AD 1857 Primitive Methodist Chapel once stood *c.* 250m to the north-east but has since been demolished (CHER[2] 53731). A neighbouring Wesleyan Chapel, now a private residence, dates from AD 1851 (CHER 53730).

No cropmarks are known within 500m of the site. The historic cartographic sources show that between AD 1886 and AD 1959 the site lay in open farmland to the south of the village, with no significant changes evident in that time (Figs. 4-7). The site remained undeveloped until the 1960's and the construction of The Croft Care Home.

Previous Archaeological Work at The Croft

A forerunning archaeological trial trench evaluation (Lichtenstein 2013) identified a number of apparently early Romano-British features. These were predominantly *c.* north/ south and east/ west aligned linear ditches, numbering six in total (F1007 (Trial Trench 1; Fig. 3), F1003 (Trial Trench 2) and F1011, F1013, F1015 and F1017 (Trial Trench 3)), although a north-west/ south-east aligned gully (F1009 (Trial Trench 2)) and two pits (F1005 (Trial Trench 2) and F1020 (Trial Trench 3)) were also present (*ibid.*). The encountered features consistently yielded material of Romano-British date including pottery and CBM. A small animal bone assemblage, including elements of horse and cattle was also recovered (Cussans 2013). The Roman CBM assemblage from the evaluation includes an unusual decorated handle, possibly from a 'lamp chimney' or 'testa' (see Peachey – *The Ceramic Building Materials* (below)). The dates and numbering of some of the features identified by the evaluation were subsequently revised in light of the excavated evidence.

RESULTS

Introduction

Features were recorded across Areas 1 and 2 of the site (Figs. 8-9). The evaluation also identified a single, undated, pit or putative ditch terminus (F1007) in Trial Trench 1, towards the north-west corner of the site (Fig. 3), while the programme of monitoring and recording encountered an undated pit (F3004) in Plot 12 of the residential development, a section of ditch (F3013=2038=1003) in Plot 10 and two, intercutting ditches (F3007 and F3010 (=2024)), one of which yielded medieval

[2] Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record

pottery, in Plot 6. Post-excavation analysis identified two chronological phases of activity (Table 1), dating to the Romano-British and medieval periods. A small quantity of post-medieval pottery also attests to later activity, though not on any significant scale.

Chronological Phase	Period	Date Range
1	Romano-British	1st century AD
2	Medieval	13th to 14th/ 15th centuries AD

Table 1: Chronological phasing

Phase 1: Romano-British (1st century AD)

Introduction

Features dating to the Romano-British period were most abundant in Area 2 of the site and included one complete penannular gully (F2042) and the partially exposed remains of two, possibly similar gullies (F2036 and F2046=1009). It is possible that these features represented the eaves-drip gullies of roundhouses. The remaining Phase 1 features comprised five pits, one putative posthole and two short, linear gully sections. Very little intercutting was observed between Phase 1 features.

The Phase 1 ceramic assemblage comprises 36 sherds (708g) and is typical of post-Roman Conquest (mid-late 1st century AD), low status occupation in the region. Other finds of interest include a decorated CBM handle, possibly forming part of a 'testa'.

Possible structural remains

Penannular Gully F2042, forming Structure 1 (Fig. 9), was roughly circular in plan with gently- to steeply sloping sides and a flattish to concave base[3] (Plate 3). An approximately 3.10m wide gap in the eastern side of this feature may have provided access to the 'interior' which measured some 4.90m in diameter at its widest point. It appeared that Structure 1 was intercut with Gully F2036 (Structure 2), with one post-dating the other, although their chronological sequence was obscured by later, undated Pit F2044 (Figs. 9 and 12).

Structure 2, represented by Penannular Gully F2036 (Fig. 9), was the largest of the three possible structures. However, much of F2036 lay beyond the edge of the excavation and, unlike Structure 1, no break in this feature was visible. However, the gently to steeply sloping sides and a flat to concave base of Gully F2036 closely mirrored Penannular Gully F2042 (Structure 1; Fig. 11). The fills of both features were also similar (see Appendix 1). The 'interior' of Structure 2 was much larger, however, measuring some 12.70m in diameter at its widest point. The fill of Gully F2036 was truncated by Phase 1 Pit F2051 and Phase 2 Ditch F3013 (=2038=1003; Figs. 9 and 11). A single 'internal' feature (Posthole F2056; see below) was present within the confines of Gully F2036, close to its north-western edge (Fig. 9). This feature contained packing material and a clearly defined post-pipe (Fig. 11), although its structural function within the context of Structure 2 (if genuine) remains uncertain.

[3] Lists of all features/ contexts are presented in Appendix 1

A short distance to the south of Structures 1 and 2 lay putative Penannular Gully F2046 (=1009), much of which was obscured by the edge of excavation (Fig. 9; Plate 4). That part exposed closely resembled Gullies F2036 and F2042 in plan and profile and it is possible that this feature represented the remains of a third structure (Structure 3). A single terminus of F2046 (=1009) was exposed within the excavated area and it is possible that, like Structure 1, this feature was penannular in plan with an opening along its eastern edge. Unlike Structures 1 and 2, however, Gully F2046 (=1009) contained two consecutive fills (see Appendix 1).

It is conceivable that F2036, F2042 and F2046 (=1009) comprised the eaves-drip gullies of early Romano-British roundhouses, probably constructed by the area's indigenous population. A similar eaves-drip gully, marking the outline of an Iron Age roundhouse, was found on land at High Street (PHERs 51858 and 52292; Peachey 2009), a short distance to the north-east of the current site. Six Iron Age 'eaves-gully' defined structures were also excavated at Wardy Hill Ringwork near Ely (Evans 2003, 39). Further Iron Age/ Romano-British roundhouses and possible roundhouses – all represented by their drip-gullies – are known from the Cambridgeshire site of Lower Cambourne (Wright *et al.* 2009, 14ff); an analogous 2nd to 3rd century AD example was also found at the neighbouring site of Ash Plantation (Abrams and Ingham 2008, 48-9, fig. 3.10).

Finds from Structures 1-3 at The Croft are sparse. Gullies F2036, F2042 and F2046 (=1009) yielded a total of just 334g of pottery (see Peachey – *The Roman Pottery* (below)). The combined animal bone assemblage (1388g) from these features is also comparatively small (see Cussans – *The Animal Bone* (below)). Structure 2 also yielded trace CBM (7g) and burnt bone (5g).

Linear gullies

Two possible Romano-British linear gullies (F2005=1011 and F2029) were encountered by the excavation (Figs. 8, 9 and 11). Gully F2005 (=1011; Fill L2006=1012) was first identified in the north-eastern corner of Trial Trench 3 (Area 1) and ran *c.* north-west to south-east. Only a short section (*c.* 3.00m) of this feature was present within Area 1 and its original extent remains unknown. Although F2005 (=1011) ran parallel to Phase 2 (medieval) Ditch F2010, located some 1.60m to the south (Fig. 9), the profiles of these features differed markedly and their apparent alignment was thought fortuitous. However, it is possible that the sparse Roman CBM (tegula; 165g) from Fill L2006 (=1012) represents residual material from a medieval feature.

Short (4.50m) Gully F2029 (Fill L2030) was located in the eastern part of Area 2, some 4.60m to the east of Structure 2 (Fig. 9). This approximately east to west aligned feature yielded just one sherd (10g) of early Roman pottery and, as such, was only tentatively assigned to Phase 1. Towards its eastern extent Fill L2030 was cut by undated Posthole F2031, while undated Gully F2033 was present *c.* 1.00m to the south-west. However, the two gullies differed in terms of their alignments and profiles, and the three features did not form a coherent arrangement in plan (Fig. 9). It is possible that Gully F2029 was related to the Romano-British structures in Area 2 of the site, although its exact function remains uncertain.

Non-linear features

Area 1

Two Phase 1 pits (F2022=1017 and F2026) were present within Area 1 of the excavation (Fig. 8). Large, shallow Pit F2022 (=1017; 6.40 x 3.50+ x 0.25m; Plate 5) was first identified within Trial Trench 3 and yielded Roman CBM, comprising imbrex roof tile (seven fragments, 2393g), bessalis brick (three fragments, 2268g) and a single handle (497g), most probably from part of a 'testa', a handled lid used in baking (see Peachey – *The Ceramic Building Materials* (below)). This feature also contained 1135g of animal bone. Pit F2022 (=1017) was relatively isolated from other Romano-British features and its function remains uncertain. Its shallow depth does not suggest that it was intentionally dug as a refuse pit; however, the associated finds assemblage may indicate the convenient disposal of waste into an open feature.

Pit F2026 was located 7.70m to the north-west of Pit F2022 (=1017; Fig. 8). The primary fill of this feature (L2027) was devoid of finds, while its secondary fill (L2028) yielded just 28g of pottery and 9g of burnt bone. L2028 was truncated by Phase 2 Ditch F2016 (=1013).

Area 2

Three Romano-British pits (F2048, F2051 and F2053) and a single posthole (F2056) were encountered in Area 2. Posthole F2056 was located within the 'interior' of Structure 2 (Gully 2036; Fig. 9) and contained a primary fill of silty clay 'packing' material (L2057) overlain by a dark orange brown clay silt with moderate charcoal flecks (L2058). A clear post-pipe was visible in section (Fig. 11). Although yielding Roman pottery (8g), the function of F2056 within Structure 2 remains unknown. No other clearly structural features were enclosed by Gully F2036.

Pits F2048 (L2049) and F2053 (L2054) were located to the west of the Phase 1 structures, while Pit F2051 (L2052) truncated Fill L2037 of curvilinear Gully F2036 (Structure 2) in the far north of Area 2 (Figs. 9 and 11). Although varied in plan and profile, all three pits contained single fills and yielded comparable assemblages of pottery (totalling 253g) and animal bone (totalling 133g). Although probably related in some way to the Phase 1 structural evidence, these pits were not closely clustered and may not have been directly associated with one another. It is also possible that they had different functions and/ or were not in use at the same time. However, the finds from these features – like the assemblage from Phase 1 Pit F2022 (=1017; above) – suggest that their eventual use was for the convenient disposal of refuse. However, the Phase 1 pottery assemblage is poorly-preserved, having been adversely affected by an acidic burial environment (see Peachey – *The Roman Pottery* (below)), and it is difficult to say whether it represents *in situ* or redeposited material.

Phase 2: Medieval (13th to 14th/ 15th centuries AD)

Introduction

Bar Pit F2008 (Area 1), the medieval evidence consisted entirely of six broad, linear ditches aligned roughly north to south (F2014=1015, F2016=1013, F3013=2038=1003 and F3007) or west to east (F2010 and F3010=2024). Ditches F2014 (=1015), F2016 (=1013), 3013 (2038=1003), F3007 and F3010 (=2024) ran parallel to the existing site boundaries and to field boundaries depicted on the early cartographic sources (Figs. 3-7). Based on the finds from their fills, it appears that these ditches formed additional landscape divisions (dating from the medieval period) that had gone out of use at some point prior to the late 19th century (based on field boundaries marked on the 1886-9 OS map; Fig. 4).

Ditches

One of the earliest Phase 2 ditches was F3010 (=2024), encountered in Area 1 of the excavation and Development Plot 6 of the monitoring and recording (Plate 6; Figs. 8 and 10). This reasonably substantial feature (26.00+ x 0.98 x 0.51m) was aligned *c.* west to east and its principal fill (L3011=2025) was truncated at its eastern extent by perpendicular Ditch F2016 (=1013; Plate 7; Figs. 8 and 11). No continuation of F3010 (=2024) was visible to the east of the latter and is likely that these ditches were broadly contemporary. To the west, Ditch F3010 (=2024) appeared to truncate the uppermost fill of Ditch F3007 (L3008; Plate 8; Fig. 10). Ditch F3010 (=2024) may have originally formed 'T'-shaped boundaries with Ditches F2014 (=1015) – an earlier demarcation of the alignment marked by Ditch F2016 (=1013) – and F3007 (Figs. 8 and 10). The latter was dated based on its appearance, alignment and apparent stratigraphic relationship with Ditch F3010 (=2024), the uppermost fill of which (L3011=2025) yielded a single sherd of St Neots type pottery dating to the 11th or 12th/ 13th centuries AD (see Thompson – *The Medieval Pottery* (below)).

Intercutting Ditches F2014 (=1015; 34.00+ x 1.20+ x 0.65m) and F2016 (=1013; 34.00+ x 1.10 x 0.56m) ran *c.* north to south across Area 1 of the excavation (Fig. 8). Both features were also identified in Trial Trench 3 of the evaluation. F2014 (=1015) was the stratigraphically earlier of the two and may have originally formed a 'T'-shaped boundary with Phase 2 Ditch F3010 (=2024); this possible relationship was masked by the cut of Ditch F2016 (=1013), however. The latter comprised a recut of F2014 (=1015) on the same alignment. Both ditches were alike in plan and section (Figs. 8 and 11-12), contained similar fills and yielded comparable finds assemblages including 12th to 15th century AD pottery (54g in total). The fill of Ditch F2016 (=1013; L2017=1014) was cut in the north of Area 1 by Phase 2 Ditch F2010.

Ditch F2010 (23.00+ x 1.10 x 0.38m; Plate 9) ran roughly west to east across the north of Area 1 and cut Fill L2017 (=1014) of stratigraphically earlier Phase 2 Ditch F2016 (=1013; Figs. 8 and 11). The single fill of F2010 (L2011) yielded 13th to 14th century AD pottery (13g). It appears that this feature was broadly contemporary to the other Phase 2 ditches in this area of the site.

Ditch F3013 (=2038=1003; 25.00+ x 1.40 x 0.43+m) was the only Phase 2 feature present in Area 2 of the excavation. This feature was first identified in Trial Trench 2 and also traversed Development Plot 10 of the archaeological monitoring and recording. In Plot 10, the fill of this feature (L3014=2039=1004) had been truncated and was sealed by a layer of clay-rich silt with CBM and small stones (L3015), not encountered elsewhere; this material was most likely the product of activity associated with the building or demolition of the former care home buildings. Ditch F3013 (=2038=1003) ran parallel to Ditches F2014 (=1015) and F2016 (=1013), some 56m to the north-east, and may have formed part of the same 'system' of medieval features. However, the only pottery from Fill L3014 (=2039 =1004) comprises two residual sherds (9g) of early Roman date. As such, the phasing of Ditch F3013 (=2038=1003) remains tentative.

The alignment of the Phase 2 ditches strongly suggests a relationship with the current site boundaries and/ or field boundaries depicted on the early cartographic sources. The size of these features suggests that they formed part of a broader, rectilinear boundary 'system', demarcating earlier fields or enclosures. The bulk of the datable pottery assemblage, although sparse, indicates that these features were infilled at some point between the 13th and 14th/ 15th centuries AD.

Pit F2008

Pit F2008 (1.02 x 1.00 x 0.24m; Plate 10) was present *c.* 3.50m to the west of Phase 2 Ditch F2016 (=1013) and *c.* 2.00m to the south of broadly contemporary Ditch F3010 (=2024; Fig. 8). It is possible that this pit occupied the north-eastern corner of a medieval field or enclosure. F2008 was irregular in plan with gently sloping sides and an irregular/ concave base (Fig. 12); it is possibly that this feature comprised a tree bole. Finds from the single fill of F2008 (L2009) include one sherd (24g) of late 9th to mid 12th century AD Developed Stamford ware (see Thompson – *The Medieval Pottery* (below)). This feature, whether natural or intentionally dug for some purpose, appears to have been eventually utilised for the small-scale/ casual disposal of refuse. The pot sherd from L2009 is in good condition and was most probably found in its original depositional context.

Undated

Undated features comprised five pits, two postholes, three gullies and a single, putative ditch terminus spread across Areas 1 and 2, within Trial Trench 1 and within the groundworks of Development Plot 12 (Figs. 3, 8-10 and 12). Full details of the undated features are presented in Appendix 1. No strong spatial patterning was evident between the undated features or between the undated and dated features, and only limited intercutting was recorded.

SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Roman Pottery
Andrew Peachey

Excavations recovered a total of 36 sherds (708g) of Roman pottery (Table 2), almost entirely comprised of early Roman coarse wares with a single Verumalium white ware flagon contained in pit and gully features, probably dating to the first half of the 1st century AD, although a single later Roman sherd was present as residual material. The pottery contained a low degree of diagnostic material and was poorly-preserved, having been badly affected by adverse (acidic) soil conditions.

The pottery was quantified by sherd count and weight (g), with fabrics analysed at x20 magnification, and all data entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that forms part of the site archive. The pottery fabrics are described, below, and quantified (Table 2).

ROB SH	Romano-British shell-tempered ware (Tomber and Dore 1998, 212), probably locally produced in the Lower Nene Valley (Rollo 2001, 59). Wheel-made with common-abundant, moderately sorted plate-like shell (typically <5mm but occasional to 10mm).
SOB GT	Southern British ('Belgic') grog-tempered ware (Tomber and Dore 1998, 214; Thompson 1982)
BSW1	Black-surfaced/Romanizing reduced ware 1. Black/dark grey surfaces, thin red margins and a dark grey core. Inclusions comprise common quartz and sparse iron ore (0.1-0.25mm), sparse clay pellets/grog (0.25-1.5mm) and occasional flint (0.5-3mm). A hard fabric with a slightly abrasive feel.
LNV CC	Lower Nene Valley colour-coated ware (Tomber and Dore 1998, 118)
VER WH	Verulamium region white ware (Seeley and Drummond-Murray 2005, 85)

Fabric	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	R.EVE
ROB SH	23	266	0.00
SOB GT	3	198	0.00
BSW1	7	202	0.10
LNV CC	1	29	0.00
VER WH	2	9	0.00
Total	*36*	*708*	*0.10*

Table 2: Quantification of Roman pottery

Commentary

The narrow range of coarse ware fabrics (ROB SH, SOB GT and BSW1) is typical of low status occupation in the post-Roman Conquest mid-late 1st century AD in the region, comparable to groups at Monument 97, Orton Longueville (Rollo 2001,57-59), where there is a contrast with pre-Conquest and early 2nd century AD wares. In this assemblage, Pit F2053 (L2054) contained a BSW1 carinated bowl with a bulging plain neck cordon comparable to mid-late 1st century AD examples at Monument 97 (Rollo 2001: vessel 50) and the fortress at Longthorpe (Dannel 1987: type 40A); while further BSW1 body sherds were contained in Gully F1009 (L1010).

The SOB GT is consistent with 1st century AD fabrics but is limited to relatively thick-walled body sherds, possibly from large jars or storage jars, including a vessel with a cordon decorated with inscribed oblique lines in Pit F2048 (L2049). The most

common Roman fabric is the locally-produced ROB SH, which represents a continuation of a late Iron Age ceramic tradition and continued in different forms throughout the Roman period. However the early Roman body sherds in this assemblage lack any diagnostic rim sherds, and have been particularly affected by the adverse soil conditions, with almost all the shell temper dissolved, resulting in friable, fragmentary body sherds. ROB SH body sherds were contained in Gullies F2029, F2036, F2042, F2046, Pits F2026, F2051 and Posthole F2057, including in association with BSW1 and SOB GT.

Ditch F1003 (L1004) contained two sherds (9g) of Verulamium region white ware (Seeley and Drummond-Murray 2005, 85), although closely comparable fabrics were also produced at Godmanchester (Evans 2003, 209: fabric P04.2), probably by migrant potters from Verulamium. The two sherds in this fabric would have formed part of a ring-necked flagon (Seeley and Drummond-Murray, 88: P14/P16), probably produced between *c*.AD100-140; potentially overlapping chronologically with the coarse wares at the beginning of the 2nd century AD.

A single body sherd (29g) of LNV CC was also contained as residual material in Pit F2008, alongside medieval pottery. LNV CC was produced between the mid 2nd and 4th centuries AD by the large pottery industry at Water Newton, near Peterborough.

The Medieval Pottery
Peter Thompson

The excavation recovered 11 post-Roman pot sherds weighing 198g recovered from four features and the subsoil, plus one unstratified sherd (Table 3). A single sherd was also recovered by the subsequent programme of archaeological monitoring and recording (Plot 6; reported separately (see below)).

The earliest sherd is a body fragment of Saxo-Norman glazed Stamford ware in good condition, recovered from Ditch F2008 (L2009). A sherd of Developed Stamford ware manufactured between the mid 12th and mid 13th centuries, and a sherd of high medieval glazed Ely-type ware with incised horizontal wavy line decoration were recovered from the Subsoil. The Ely fabric is fairly gritty containing common medium quartz sand and sparse rounded chalk inclusions, with occasional red angular inclusions.

Ditch F2016 (=1013) contained two unglazed medieval Ely-type sherds in a similar fabric to the example from the subsoil, and a glazed medieval Ely-type sherd with a black core containing fine sand and sparse to moderate fine white calcareous inclusions. Ditch F2014 (=1015; L2016) also contained a sherd of glazed medieval Ely-type ware in a similar fabric to that from Ditch F2016 (=1013). The pottery from the two ditches, therefore, indicates a 13th-14th centuries date.

Ditch F2010 contained three small abraded body sherds, two of Bourne 'A' ware and one of medieval shelly ware also indicating a 13th to 14th century date. The final sherd is an unstratified abraded twisted rod handle in medieval shelly ware.

Feature	Context	Quantity	Date	Comment
Subsoil	2001	1x22g MELG 1x8g DSTAM	Late 13th-14th	MELG: body sherd with wavy line deco, both sherds lightly abraded
Pit F2008	2009	1x24g STAM	Late 9th-mid 12th	STAM: patchy green glaze, good condition
Ditch 2010	2011	2x6g BA 1x5g SHC	13th-14th	Sherds abraded
Ditch 2014=1015	2015 (Seg.C)	1x21g MELG	13th-15th	MELG: good condition
Ditch 2016=1013	2017	1x10g MELG 2x20g MEL	Late 13th-15th	MEL(G) light to moderate abrasion
Unstratified		1x82g SHC	13th-14th	SHC: twisted rod handle, abraded

Table 3: Summary of post-Roman pottery from the excavation

Key:
STAM: Stamford ware late 9th to mid 12th
DSTAM: Developed Stamford Ware mid 12th to mid 13th
SHC: Shelly Coarse ware 11th to 14th
MEL: Medieval Ely-type ware 12th to 15th
MELG: Glazed medieval Ely-type ware late 12th to 15th
BB: Bourne B ware 13th to 14th

The pot sherd recovered by monitoring and recording, Development Plot 6

Archaeological monitoring and recording of groundworks for a detached dwelling in Development Plot 6 recovered one abraded pot sherd weighing 13g from Ditch F3010 (=2024). The sherd is a St Neots type ware and is from the base of a large vessel. The coarseness of the shell, presence of a small amount of sand, and orange colouring suggests that it is a later or transitional ware, of 11th to 12th or possibly 13th century date.

The Ceramic Building Materials
Andrew Peachey

Excavations recovered a total of 48 fragments (8193g) of CBM (Table 4), generally in a fragmented, slightly abraded condition. The bulk of the CBM is of Roman date, including a 'handle' of intrinsic interest contained in Pit F2022 (=1017), with the remainder very sparsely distributed.

CBM date	Fragment Count	Weight (g)
Romano	30	6427
Medieval	16	1560
Post-medieval	2	206
Total	*48*	*8193*

Table 4: CBM Quantification

Roman CBM

The Roman CBM occurred in two fabric types, with the more common type probably produced in the local area. This fabric (Fabric 1) has orange surfaces fading to red - orange margins and core, sometime contrasting with a thin mid grey core. Inclusions

comprise common sub-rounded quartz (0.15-0.25mm), occasional rounded red/white clay pellets (0.5-1.25mm), sub-rounded chalk and shell (0.25-0.5mm). The fabric is very hard-fired with a slightly abrasive feel. The second fabric (Fabric 2) is red-brown with inclusions of common to abundant shell, often plate like (1-7mm), which may have been produced locally in the Nene Valley area or possibly further west at kilns at Harrold, Bedfordshire.

Pit F2022 (=1017) contained a total of 11 fragments (5158g) of Fabric 1 CBM, including cross-joining fragments of imbrex roof tile and bessalis brick. The imbrex (seven fragments, 2393g) roof tile has a length of 330mm and thickness of 15mm, while the bessalis (three fragments, 2268g) is 40mm thick. However it is a single 'handle' (497g), manufactured in the same fabric as the other tile and brick that is of intrinsic interest. The handle is 200mm long and 45mm wide, with a relatively shallow profile and elliptical section except for the exterior which has been smoothed flat, presumably to allow for the effective impression of the stamps that decorate it (Plate 11). A single stamp remains extant on the handle, with traces of three more along its length, each identical and aligned in the same direction. The stamp is a leaf design, with close similarities to acanthus leaves that are familiar motifs on mould-decorated pottery (i.e. samian ware) as well as on carved stone. It is highly likely that this handle formed part of a 'testa', a handled lid used in the baking of bread, although alternative functions cannot be totally discounted including that it may have formed part of a 'lamp chimney' (Darling 1999, 122) or possibly a brasier, burner or fire guard.

Plate 11: Handle in CBM fabric with 'acanthus' stamps, possibly from a 'testa'

The remaining Roman CBM includes small fragments of Fabric 1 bessalis brick in Ditch F2014 (=1015), but is otherwise limited to Fabric 1 and 2 tegula roof tile. The only flanged fragments of tegula were contained in Ditches F2005 (=1011; L1012) and F2016 (=1013; L2017 (Seg.B)), while large flat segments of *c.* 20mm thick tile were also contained in Layer L2023 and Subsoil L2001. With the exception of Pit F2022 (=1017), no single context (or segment) contained more than two fragments of Roman CBM, with Ditch F2010 (Segs. A, B and C) only containing a total of three small fragments (107g).

Post-Roman CBM

Layer L2007 contained a total of 16 fragments (1560g) of medieval brick, possible representing the fragmented remains of a single brick, including a single fragment approximately 50% complete. The brick had partial dimensions of ?x110x55mm with a rough flat base, slightly irregular arises and faces, and with length-ways striations on the upper face. It was manufactured in a coarse fabric containing poorly-sorted temper of sparse red-brown iron rich grains and quartz (both <0.5mm), sparse fine mica, sparse burnt out organic voids (chopped straw) and shell (both <10mm). Bricks of this type were influenced by Flemish imports in the early 14th century and produced up to the 16th century and Tudor period.

Layer L2023 also contained isolated fragments of post-medieval peg tile and red brick, probably produced in the 19th century.

The Slag
Andrew A.S. Newton

Introduction

A total of 208g (2 pieces) of slag, originating from two medieval contexts, was recovered during archaeological work at The Croft, Eye. The slag was identified on morphological grounds by visual examination.

Results

F2010 (L2011): 1 frag (97g). Dark grey to black in colour with extensive orange staining. Dense material giving slight response to magnet. Slightly mammilated upper surface suggesting that the material cooled and solidified in the open air. Lower surface retains impressions of fuel. Possible a fragment of tap slag resulting from the iron smelting process (Crew 1995).

F2014 (L2015): 1 frag (101g). Light to mid grey with broad dark grey striation. Dense pumice-like material with frequent crystalline fragments throughout. Possibly the result of a high temperature process but perhaps more likely to represent a fragment of volcanic rock.

The Animal Bone
Dr Julia E.M. Cussans

Introduction

A small assemblage of bones is examined dating to the Romano-British and medieval periods. The assemblage is dominated by domestic mammal species with some data on animal age and butchery available. The majority of bone was hand collected but a small number of sieved samples are also examined.

Method

All of the bone from the trial trench evaluation and excavation was subject to an initial scan in order to assess its overall condition and species present. Additionally the presence of butchered, ageable, measurable and pathological remains as well as any other features of interest was noted. Data from the scan allowed contexts to be prioritised for detailed recording.

Detailed recording was only carried out on Romano-British (Phase 1) and medieval (Phase 2) contexts, only spot dated features were analysed beyond the scan stage and contexts containing no bones identifiable to species were also omitted from detailed recording. Full details of the bone scan results are available in the site archive.

Detailed recording took account of element, species, body side, bone part and zone, fragment size, bone fusion, tooth eruption and wear and the presence of any modifications such as butchery, burning, gnawing or pathology. All data were entered into an MS Access database. The majority of bone data were recorded using codes defined in NABONE (9th edition, NABO 2008), bone zones were assigned following Dobney and Rielly (1988) and tooth eruption and wear was recorded following Grant (1982). Mandible age stages were assigned following Halstead (1985) for cattle and Payne (1973) for sheep/ goat. No separation of sheep and goat remains was achieved due to a lack of appropriate parts. Unidentified fragments were counted but no further information such as fragment size was recorded. Some bones that could be identified to element but not species were recorded as large (cattle or horse sized) or medium (sheep or pig sized) mammal. Bones were identified using in house reference material and manuals such as Schmid (1972) and Hillson (1992).

Results

Taphonomy

During the scan, bone preservation for each context was rated on a scale from very poor (bone highly fragmented and friable, surface highly abraded, little identifiable bone) through to excellent (bone in near perfect condition) and these ratings, for fully recorded contexts, are presented in Chart 1. The majority of contexts were rated as having ok or good preservation, but a full spectrum of bone preservation was present, when taking the whole assemblage into account. For the Romano-British phase the majority of bone was rated as poor or ok and for the medieval Phase most of the contexts were rated as having good preservation.

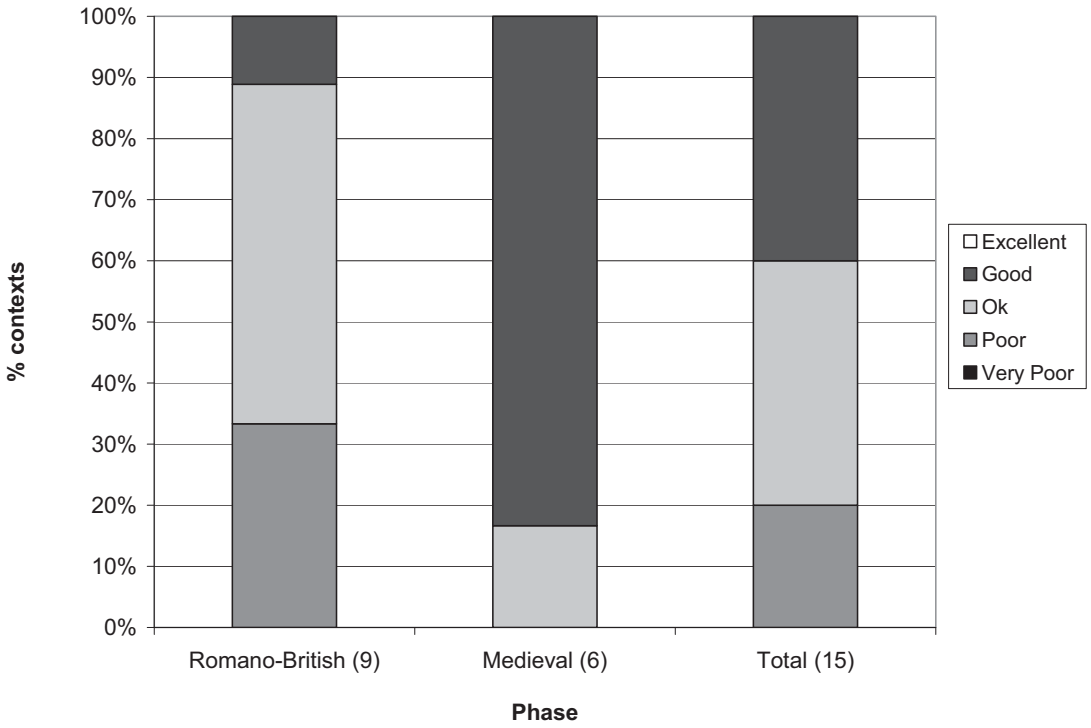


Chart 1: Bone preservation by context/ segment. Numbers in brackets refer to number of contexts/ segments examined

During detailed recording bone fragment size was recorded and also shows variation between the Romano-British and medieval phases. No identifiable bones under 2cm in their greatest dimension were present. Phase 1 was dominated by bone fragments of 2-5cm, with much fewer bones in the 5-10cm category where as this was the most abundant size category for Phase 2 with slightly more bones of this size than of 2-5cm. Phase 1, however, had a greater proportion of bones over 10cm than the medieval phase. This fragmentation pattern probably reflects the better bone preservation in the medieval deposits than in the Romano-British deposits.

The occurrence of gnawed bones was also recorded during detailed analysis and again shows differences between the two phases as well as between feature types within the Romano-British Phase (Chart 2); all of the medieval material derived from ditch deposits. Only dog gnawing was present in the assemblage, no rodent or other gnawing was observed. Gnawing was much more common in the medieval phase than in the Romano-British phase, indicating potential differences in waste disposal methods between periods. In Phase 1 there are distinct differences in the occurrence of gnawing between feature types. Dog gnawed bones were found in gully deposits but not in pit deposits. This would tend to indicate that material deposited in pits was more quickly and intentionally buried than that found in gullies, which may have accumulated more gradually from surface bone waste that was available for dogs to gnaw upon.

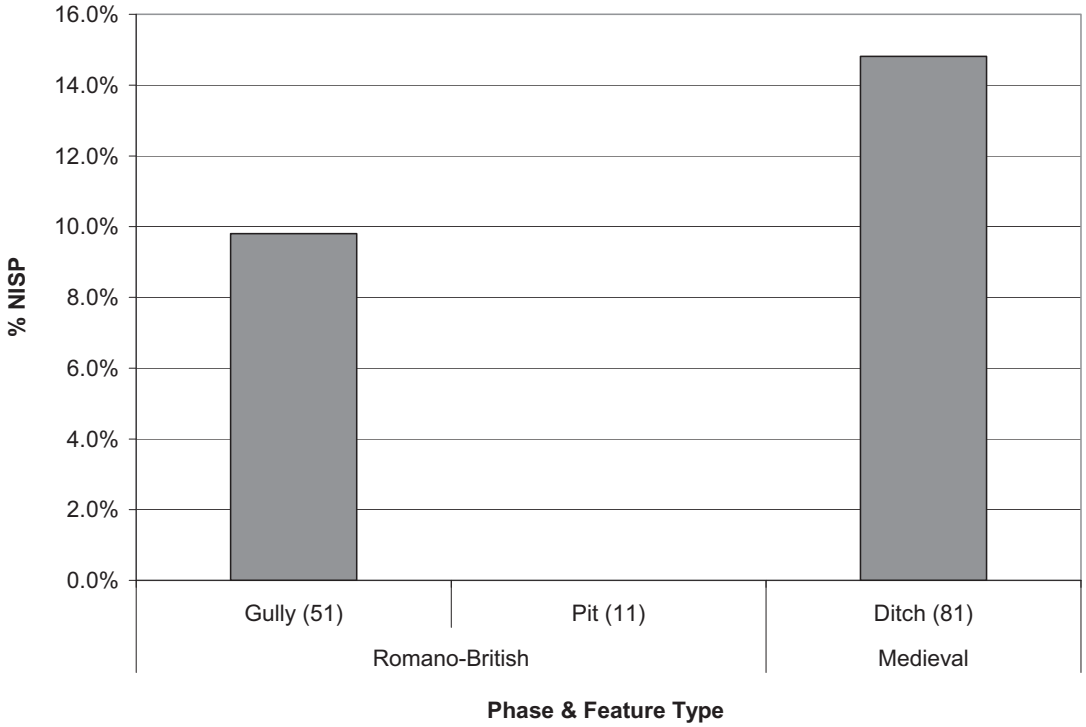


Chart 2: Occurrence of bone gnawing by feature type and phase. Numbers in brackets refer to total NISP

A very small amount of burnt bone was found within the recorded assemblage, all of which was Romano-British in date. Four fragments of calcined bone were present, one of which was thought to be a fragment of large mammal scapula or pelvis, while the remainder were medium mammal long bone fragments. The only other burnt bone recorded was a cattle tibia with a scorch mark on the shaft.

Species present and quantification

Species were quantified by the number of identified specimens (NISP) method. Further methods of quantification were not thought necessary or viable due to the small quantities of bone concerned; quantifications are shown in Table 5. Overall, less than 200 bones fragments were present in the assemblage and the majority of these (143) were examined at the detailed recording stage. Species present in order of overall abundance were cattle, pig, horse, sheep/ goat, dog, vole, duck and corvid (crow family). A large proportion of the assemblage could only be identified as large or medium sized mammal. Species present and their relative proportions vary somewhat between phases. In the Romano-British phase no dog, vole or bird bones were found, although the presence of dogs is attested to by their gnaw marks on some of the bones.

Domestic mammal species proportions for Phases 1 and 2 are shown in Chart 3. Cattle dominate in both phases but are slightly more numerous in the Romano-British period, making up nearly 50% of the domestic mammal assemblage. In this phase pigs are the next most abundant above sheep/ goat and horse is minimally represented. In Phase 2 horse is the second most abundant species after cattle, followed by sheep/ goat, pig and then dog. It should however be borne in mind that the overall numbers for this assemblage are small and hence samples are not likely

to be truly representative. The presence of small taxa such as vole, duck and corvid in the medieval assemblage may well result from the better preservation of bone from this phase rather than any real difference in environment or exploitation strategy between the two phases.

	Romano-British	Medieval	Total
Cattle	14	13	27
Sheep/ goat	5	4	9
Pig	9	3	12
Horse	1	10	11
Dog	0	1	1
Vole	0	1	1
Large mammal	17	30	47
Medium mammal	14	10	24
Unidentified mammal	2	7	9
Duck	0	1	1
Corvid	0	1	1
Total	*62*	*81*	*143*

Table 5: NISP by taxon and phase

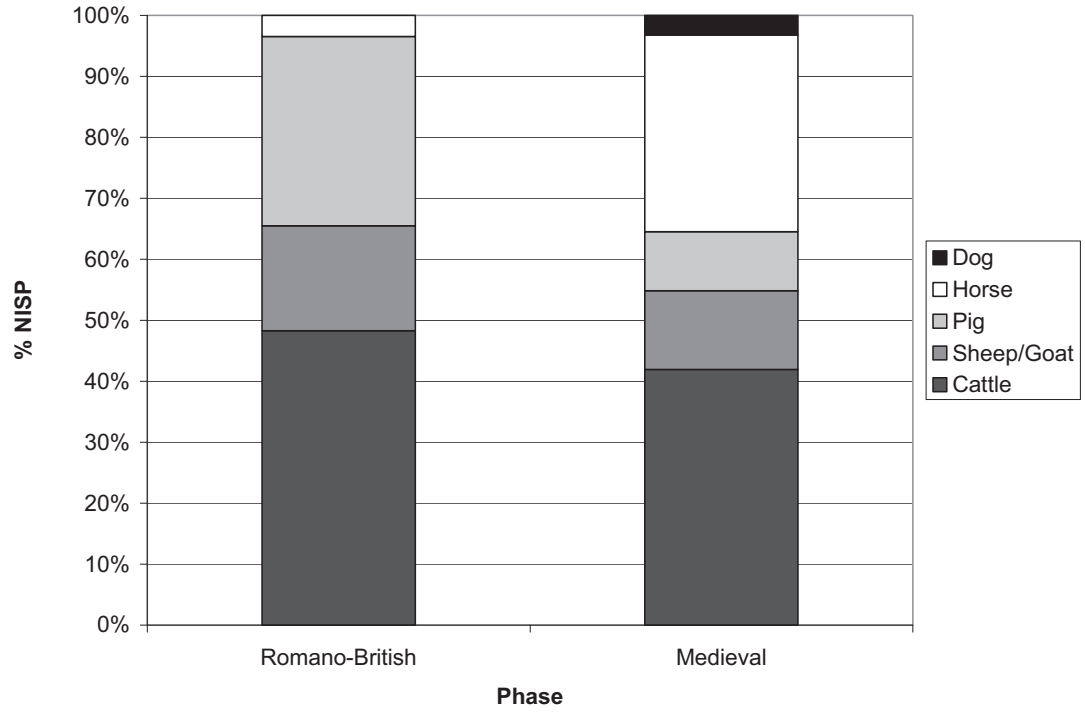


Chart 3: Proportional representation of domestic mammal species for the Romano-British and medieval phases

Ageing

Very little age data were available from either tooth eruption and wear or bone fusion and certainly not enough for detailed age profiles to be drawn. There was a small amount of tooth wear data available for cattle, however, all of which came from the Romano-British phase. Two mandible fragments, one left and one right, but from two separate contexts gave age stages of I (Senile) (Halstead 1985) and a loose

third molar from a third context gave an age stage of H (Old Adult) (*ibid*.). This indicates the presence of animals of advanced age at the site possibly used for traction, breeding or both. A fragment of sheep/ goat mandible was also present and included the fourth permanent pre-molar; Silver (1969) gives the age of eruption of this tooth as 21-24 months for improved breeds or 40 months for more primitive sheep indicating that this animal was at least 21 months old at death, but likely older. No tooth wear data were available for any other species.

The presence of some younger cattle at the site during the Romano-British period is attested by the presence of three unfused long bones. These are a distal metapodial which falls into O'Connor's (1989) Intermediate fusion group and which Silver (1969) quotes as fusing between 2-2½ years or 2¼-3 years, depending on if it is a metacarpal or a metatarsal; a proximal tibia and a distal femur which both fall into O'Connor's (1989) Late fusion group and both of which, according to Silver (1969), fuse between 3½-4 years. An unfused cattle occipital was also found indicating the presence of a relatively young animal. These data would tend to suggest the presence of some animals killed for prime meat at the site in addition to the older animals represented by the tooth wear data.

Age data for the Phase 2 (medieval) cattle are even sparser but there is some indication of a number of different aged animals being present. One piece of cattle femur was recorded as neonate indicating the presence of some very young animals on site at this time. The presence of neonate cattle is often associated with dairying practices, which may have been carried out at the site during the medieval period. However, this single bone may also belong to a calf that died a natural, premature death. Two further femur fragments were also ageable on the basis of their fusion. An unfused proximal femur indicates an animal that did not survive to reach O'Connor's (1989) Late fusion stage; Silver (1969) quotes the proximal femur as fusing at 3½ years. A fused distal fragment of femur indicates the presence of an animal that did survive to or beyond the Late fusion stage; as noted above Silver (1969) quotes this epiphysis as fusing at 3½-4 years.

For sheep/ goat in the Romano-British phase a single fused proximal femur was the only indicator of animal age. This falls into O'Connor's (1989) Intermediate II fusion stage and Silver (1969) quotes this bone as fusing at 2½-3 years; the fact that this bone is fused indicates an animal of over this age or fusion stage. In Phase 2 an almost complete sheep/ goat radius (bar the distal epiphysis) which is fused proximally but not distally, indicates an animal which survived beyond the Early fusion stage but not as far as the Late fusion stage. According to Silver's (1969) age data this indicates an animal aged between 10 month and 3 years. A further unfused distal radius was also found in the medieval assemblage.

Age data for pigs are equally sparse. In the Romano-British period pigs of differing ages are indicated by the presence of two 1st phalanges, one which is fully fused and the other which is fused distally but not proximally. Fusion of the distal 1st phalanx occurs before birth but the proximal epiphysis does not fuse until the Intermediate I fusion stage (O'Connor 1989) or *c.* 2 years (Silver 1969). The two phalanges present here indicate one animal of less than this age and one animal of this age or older, possibly indicating the presence of prime meat animals and older breeding animals.

For Phase 2 the only indicator of pig age was a single unfused distal radius, which falls into the Late fusion group (O'Connor 1989) and according to Silver (1969) fuses at approximately 3½ years, this bone would indicate the presence of an animal of less than this age or fusion stage.

Butchery and body part

Butchery marks were fairly common for the size of the assemblage and their percentage occurrence by phase and taxon are displayed in Chart 4. Considerably more butchery was observed in the medieval phase than in the Romano-British phase and in the latter butchery marks were confined to cattle and large mammal bones. Knife marks were more common than chop marks which were more commonly found on the larger taxa. In addition to the data displayed in Chart 4 a single sawn pig bone was also recorded from the Phase 2. Given the small quantity of bones involved no distinct patterning of butchery marks could be discerned. However, evidence for skinning, dismemberment and filleting meat from the bone was present.

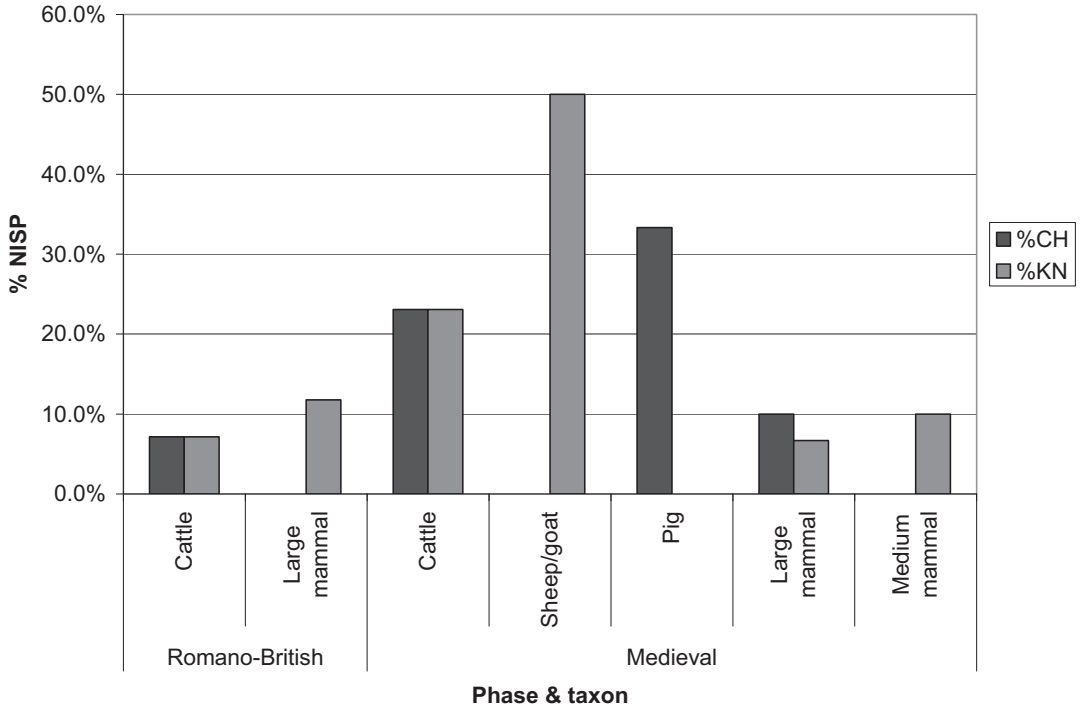


Chart 4: Percentage occurrence of butchery marks by taxon and phase

Examination of body parts present looked simply at fragment counts for four main body areas; head and neck, fore limb, hind limb and feet; these data are presented in Table 6. For cattle, sheep/ goat and pig in Phase 1 it appears that whole carcasses were being processed on site as both meaty and non-meaty elements are represented. Horse on the other hand is only represented by a single head element and may well have been disposed of differently as animals which are much less likely to have been used for meat production than the other main domestic species.

In Phase 2 cattle appear to have whole carcasses represented and sheep/ goat may do as the absence of foot bones may be a product of hand collection rather than

them having been removed from the assemblage prior to burial. Pigs are only represented by the fore and hind limbs and potentially may not have been bred on site, possibly only being represented by prime-meat joints brought onto the site from elsewhere. Horses again are primarily represented by head elements; however, a single foot bone is also present.

Phase	Species	Head and neck	Fore limb	Hind limb	Feet	Total
Romano-British	Cattle	7	1	3	3	14
	Sheep/ goat	2	0	2	1	5
	Pig	3	1	1	4	9
	Horse	1	0	0	0	1
Medieval	Cattle	6	1	5	1	13
	Sheep/ goat	1	2	1	0	4
	Pig	0	2	1	0	3
	Horse	9	0	0	1	10

Table 6: Body area fragment counts by phase and taxa

Pathology

Pathological remains were not common. In the Romano-British period (Phase 1) the only pathological bone was the sheep/ goat mandible fragment mentioned above (see *Ageing*) in which the fourth premolar was slightly impacted on the first molar.

The second incidence of pathology was on a collection of large mammal vertebrae from Phase 2. The majority of these came from Ditch Fill L2017 (Seg.C); however, an associated fragment also came from Ditch Fill L2015 (Seg.C). The main bones involved were a complete thoracic vertebra, which displayed a considerable quantity of osteophyte formation, particularly around the caudal articulation where it articulated with a second thoracic vertebra which had been chopped in two with one part being deposited in L2017 (Seg.C) and the other in L2015 (Seg.C). This second vertebra had a severe lesion within the cranial articulation resulting in considerable bone loss and remodelling (Plate 12). It is thought likely that this was the result of some form of infection in the spine, with osteophyte formation attempting to limit movement of the joint. Further large mammal vertebrae fragments were present in L2017 (Seg.C) displaying signs of osteophyte formation and small patches of eburnation and it is thought likely that these are associated with the two articulating thoracic vertebrae.

A final incidence of pathology, also from the Medieval Phase, was a medium mammal rib with remodelling of the articulation; the cause of this is unknown.

Plate 12: Large mammal thoracic vertebra showing lesion within cranial articulation and osteophyte formation around edges of articulations. Chop through vertebral body can also be seen

Sieved Samples

A small quantity of animal bone was collected through the sieving programme, details of which are given in Table 7. The majority of these were small fragments of calcined bone that could only be identified as belonging to medium (sheep or pig sized) mammal. These bones included fragments of ribs, long bones and skull, very few of which were over 2cm in their greatest dimension. Identified bones included three calcined pig bones from L2037 which formed a complete 1st phalange, a fragment of skull and a tooth fragment. The only unclacined bone was a cattle tooth from L2041 (an unworn upper first or second molar).

Sample No.	Context	Feature	Description	Phase	Cattle	Pig	Large mam.	Med. mam.	Comments
11	2037	2036	Gully	Romano-British	0	3	1	100	All calcined
14	2041	2040	Posthole	Undated	1	0	0	1	Medium mammal calcined
17	2055	2042	Gully	Romano-British	0	0	0	32	All calcined
				Total	*1*	*3*	*1*	*133*	***138***

Table 7: Animal bones recovered from sieved samples

Discussion

Given the small size of the assemblage one should be cautious about over interpreting the available data; however, it can be said that domestic mammals were exploited at the site during both the Romano-British and Medieval periods. The presence of butchery evidence indicates that the animals were used for meat, although no butchery evidence was available for sheep/ goat or pig in the Romano-British phase or horse in either phase. During the Romano-British period cattle appear to have been kept for both meat and traction and may have been bred on site. The presence of a neonate animal in the Medieval Phase also indicates that cattle were likely bred on site at this time. It seems likely that the exploitation of wild species was minimal, if any. The interpretation of the assemblage seems to certainly have been affected by the variable preservation of bone across the assemblage.

The Environmental Samples
Dr John Summers

Introduction

A total of 18 bulk soil samples for environmental archaeological assessment were taken and processed during the trial trench evaluation and excavation at The Croft. Twelve samples were from Phase 1 (Romano-British) features, five from Phase 2 (medieval) features and a single sample was processed from undated Posthole F2040. This report presents the results from the assessment of the bulk sample light fractions and discusses the significance and potential of any material recovered.

Methods

Samples were processed at the Archaeological Solutions Ltd facilities in Bury St Edmunds using standard flotation methods. The light fractions were washed onto a mesh of 500µm (microns), while the heavy fractions were sieved to 1mm. The dried light fractions were scanned under a low power stereomicroscope (x10-x30 magnification). Botanical and molluscan remains were identified and recorded using a semi-quantitative scale (X = present; XX = common; XXX = abundant). Reference literature (Cappers *et al.* 2006; Jacomet 2006; Kerney and Cameron 1979; Kerney 1999) and a reference collection of modern seeds were consulted where necessary. Potential contaminants, such as modern roots, seeds and invertebrate fauna were also recorded in order to gain an insight into possible disturbance of the deposits.

All samples from dateable deposits were processed. Processing was based on a 50% sub-sample in the first instance, with further processing conditional on the recovery of a significant concentration of carbonised plant remains.

Results

The assessment data from the bulk sample light fractions are presented in Table 8.

Plant macrofossils

Two wheat grains were present in un-dated deposit L2006. One grain was identifiable as emmer/ spelt wheat (*Triticum dicoccum/ spelta*). No other plant macrofossils were recorded.

Charcoal

A very small amount of charcoal (>2mm) was present in L2052, L2055 and L2058 but the assemblage is insufficient for further detailed comment.

Terrestrial molluscs

A small number of terrestrial molluscs were present in L1004, L2015 and L2028. The assemblage contained a small number of grassland taxa (*Carychium* sp., Helcidae and *Vallonia* sp.) and a single specimen of aquatic mollusc *Anisus* sp. in L1004. However, the assemblage is too small for detailed comment.

Contaminants

Modern rootlets, molluscs (*Cecilioides acicula*), insects and earthworm egg capsules were present, although not abundant, in the majority of samples. Although these agents could be a cause of biological disturbance of deposits, this is of little significance due to the paucity of material in the samples.

Conclusion and statement of potential

Although numerous deposits were sampled during the trial trench evaluation and excavation, environmental archaeological remains were very poorly represented. This indicates that the sampled features were not regularly receiving burnt waste from the processing and use of cereals or other economic plants.

Sample	Context	Feature	Context type	Volume (litres)	Cereals			Non-cereal taxa		Charcoal		Molluscs		Contaminants				
					Grain	Chaff	Notes	Seeds	Notes	>2mm	Notes	Molluscs	Notes	Roots	Molluscs	Modern seeds	Insects	Earthworm capsules
Phase 1 (Romano-British)																		
1.1	1010	1009	Gully fill	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-
2.2	2006	2005	Gully fill	10	X	-	E/S (1), Trit (1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-
2.7	2028	2026	Pit fill	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	*Vallonia* sp.	X	-	-	-	-
2.8	2030	2029	Gully fill	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	-	-	-	-
2.11	2037	2036	Gully fill	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	-	-	-	-
2.12	2037	2036	Gully fill	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	-	-	-	-
2.14	2049	2048	Pit fill	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-
2.15	2047	2046	Gully fill	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-
2.16	2052	2051	Pit fill	10	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-
2.17	2055	2042	Gully fill	20	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	XX	-	-	-	-
2.18	2058	2057	Posthole fill	10	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-
2.19	2054	2053	Pit fill	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	-	-	-	-
Phase 2 (medieval)																		
1.2	1004	1003	Ditch fill	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	*Anisus* sp., *Carychium* sp., *Vallonia* sp.	X	-	-	-	-
2.3	2011	2010	Ditch fill	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-
2.4	2009	2008	Pit fill	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-
2.5	2015	2014	Ditch fill	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	Helicidae	X	X	-	-	-
2.6	2017	2016	Ditch fill	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-
Undated																		
2.13	2041	2040	Posthole fill	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X

Table 8: Results from the assessment of bulk sample light fractions from The Croft, Eye, Peterborough. Abbreviations: E/S = emmer/ spelt wheat (*Triticum dicoccum/ spelta*); Trit = wheat (*Triticum* sp.)

DISCUSSION

Phase 1: Romano-British (1st century AD)

Introduction

The Roman pottery assemblage, bar a single residual sherd, is almost entirely comprised of early Roman coarse wares and indicates a 1st century AD date for the Phase 1 features. The most notable of these were three curvilinear gullies (F2036, F2042 and F2046=1009) in Area 2 of the excavation, thought to represent the eaves-drip gullies of possible roundhouses (Structures 1-3). The remaining Romano-British features were more difficult to interpret, however, although conceivably resulted from activity associated with the putative structures. The final use of the majority of the Phase 1 pits appears to have been for the convenient, small-scale disposal of refuse.

Animal bone evidence suggests livestock husbandry during the Romano-British period, including the possible on-site breeding of cattle for both meat and traction.

The Romano-British structural evidence

Phase 1 curvilinear Gullies F2042 (Structure 1), F2036 (Structure 2) and F2046 (=1009; Structure 3) were similar in plan and profile although varied greatly in terms of the areas they enclosed (Figs. 9 and 11). Gully F2042 was the only entirely exposed feature of this group and its 'interior' measured some 4.90m in diameter at its widest point. Although only partially revealed within the excavation, Structure 3 (Gully F2046=1009), a short distance to the south-east, appeared of similar size. It is possible, therefore, that these structures were also functionally related. Structure 2 (Gully F2036) was much larger, however, perhaps indicating that it was functionally and/ or chronologically distinct from its neighbours. Posthole F2056 was present within the western interior of Structure 2, and although a clear post-pipe was visible in section, this solitary feature cannot be assigned a meaningful structural function. Although the gullies forming Structures 1 and 2 intercut, their stratigraphic relationship was masked by the cut of later Pit F2044. As such, the precise structural sequence remains uncertain.

Although ephemeral in terms of their surviving elements, a number of regional, Romano-British comparisons exist to aid in the interpretation of the Phase 1 structures. Locally, the eaves-drip gully of a middle Iron Age roundhouse was also found on land at High Street, Eye (PHERs 51858 and 52292; Peachey 2009). Later examples include possible late 1st century roundhouses encountered at Brandon Road, Thetford (Atkins and Connor 2010). Late Iron Age/ early Romano-British and mid to late Romano-British roundhouses, all represented by their eaves-drip gullies, were also excavated at Lower Cambourne, Poplar Plantation, Little Common Farm and The Grange, Cambridgeshire (Wright *et al.* 2009, 19-20, 23, 31-3, 54-5 and 60-1, figs. 9-10, 13, 22 and 25). Middle to late Iron Age/ early Romano-British examples were also encountered at Knapwell Plantation, Cambridgeshire (Wright *et al.* 2009, 38-40, figs. 15-16). A further Cambridgeshire example, dating from the 2nd/ 3rd century, was excavated at the site of Ash Plantation (Abrams and Ingham 2008, 48-9, fig. 3.10). Later still was a putative 4th century roundhouse, represented by a short

section of eaves-drip gully and a few postholes, excavated at the former Smoke House Inn, Beck Row (Suffolk; Mustchin forthcoming). Like those at the current site, the Beck Row roundhouse occupied a low-lying position relatively close to the fens.

Despite being broadly considered a pre-Roman structural form, the above regional 'survival' of roundhouses within a post-Conquest setting is not entirely unexpected. Atkins and Connor (2010, 107) point out that the sites of Redcastle Furze (Andrews 1995) and Melford Meadows (Mudd 2002), both in Thetford, '…join a growing corpus of evidence which suggests that in some places an Iron Age building tradition continued long after the establishment of Roman rule'. Atkins and Connor (2010, 107) have also pointed out the apparently slow uptake of Roman building styles by the region's 'native' population.

The orientation of Structure 1 at the current site suggests an east-facing entrance to this roundhouse. If extrapolated, a similar orientation could be tentatively suggested for Structures 2 and 3. Broadly east-facing entrances have also been recorded for roundhouses at Lower Cambourne, Knapwell Plantation and Little Common Farm (Cambridgeshire), for example (Wright *et al.* 2009, 18, 23, 40 and 54). A putative east-facing entrance was also suggested for the possible 4th century roundhouse at Beck Row (Mustchin forthcoming). An east facing aspect, possibly towards the sunrise is recorded for some Roman villas (Perring 2013, 67). A similar orientation, thought to respect the sunrise – particularly the midwinter sunrise and the equinox – has also been suggested for pre-Roman roundhouses in Britain (Oswald 1991, after Perring 2013, 67). Alternatively, the entrance to Structure 1 (and possibly, Structures 2 and 3) at The Croft may have been placed to avoid the area's prevailing winds; predominantly westerly winds are recorded for Peterborough between 2001 and 2012 (www.windfinder.com).

Non-structural Romano-British features

Two short, linear Phase 1 gullies (F2005=1011 and F2029) were encountered in Excavation Areas 2 and 1 respectively. Although commonly orientated (*c.* north-west to south-east), these features differed in plan and profile and it is unlikely that they were directly related; they were also separated by a distance of some 66m. Only part of Gully F2005 (=1011) was exposed within the excavation; this feature appeared to continue to the north-west and south-east. The latter also mirrored the alignment of nearby Phase 2 Ditch F2010 and may, therefore, have been later in date than suggested. Only 165g of CBM was recovered from the fill of Gully F2005 (=1011). The assemblage from F2029 was equally sparse, comprising just 10g of Roman pottery. Owing to this paucity of evidence, no firm function can be assigned to these features. F2029 may, however, have been somehow associated with activity surrounding the Phase 1 roundhouses some 4m to the west.

Of the five Romano-British Pits present within the excavated areas, only F2022 (=1017; Area 1) yielded a noteworthy finds assemblage. In addition to 1135g of animal bone and 368g of worked stone, this feature contained the greatest assemblage of Roman CBM form the site (11 fragments; 5158g). No other feature yielded more than two fragments. The assemblage from F2022 (=1017) comprises pieces of imbrex roof tile and bessalis brick, including cross-joining fragments, and hints at the existence of a substantial Romano-British structure (possibly a *villa*

rustica) somewhere within the immediate landscape. Villas reflect a fully *Romanised* structural form (Plouviez 1999, 42), fundamentally different to the pre-Roman/ native vernacular. Pit F2022 (=1017) also yielded a single, stamped handle, most probably from a 'testa' (a lid used in baking).

The Romano-British economy

Although exhibiting variable rates of preservation, the Phase 1 animal bone assemblage attests to the exploitation of domestic mammals at the site, including the possible on-site breeding of cattle for meat and traction; no butchery evidence was available for sheep/ goat or pig. The environmental assemblage indicates that Phase 2 features were not regularly receiving the charred remains of economic species. However, a mixed farming economy is usual for the east of England at this time.

Phase 2: Medieval (13th to 14th/ 15th centuries AD)

Putative boundary features

The medieval evidence consisted almost entirely of six broad, linear ditches, five of which mirrored the orientation of existing site boundaries and field boundaries depicted on the early cartographic sources (Figs. 3-7). Pottery from the fills of these features suggests a medieval date spanning the 13th to 15th centuries. Overall, the Phase 2 pottery assemblage spans the 9th to 15th centuries with the majority of sherds being later within this range. Based on the 1886-9 OS map (Fig. 4) it appears that the Phase 2 ditches had become redundant at some point prior to the late 19th century. It is possible that they functioned as early boundary ditches, the orientation of which was emulated by later (post-medieval/ modern) landscape features.

The medieval economy

In very general terms, the Phase 2 economy mirrored that of the forerunning Romano-British period, with the rearing of domestic mammals attested by the animal bone assemblage. The presence of a neonate cattle bone in the medieval period again indicates that this species was likely bred on the site.

CONCLUSIONS

Besides Car Dyke, which passes some 190m to the north-west of The Croft, Romano-British archaeology is locally scarce. The current site therefore makes an important contribution to the known corpus of early Romano-British settlements in this part of Cambridgeshire. The presence of three putative 1st century AD roundhouses indicates the possible survival of pre-Conquest structural forms at the site, well attested elsewhere in East Anglia, while the Roman CBM assemblage hints at the nearby presence of a high-status, fully *Romanised* building, possibly a *villa rustica* or similar.

The presence of a series of ditched enclosures or fields is suggested by the medieval evidence. The orientation of these features is mirrored by later, less regular landscape divisions that appear to have evolved from the medieval pattern of enclosure identified by this project.

Livestock husbandry was the major economic activity during both the Romano-British and medieval periods, although the poor quality of the animal bone assemblage prevents any in-depth analysis of economic strategy at the site.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) would like to thank Lodge Park Ltd for funding the project, in particular Mr James Browning for his assistance.

AS is also pleased to acknowledge the input and advice of Ms Rebecca Casa-Hatton of Peterborough City Council Archaeological Service.

Small finds were curated by Adam Leigh. Illustrations are by Tansy Collins and Kathren Henry.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Abrams, J. and Ingham, D. 2008, *Farming on the Edge: archaeological evidence from the clay uplands west of Cambridge*, East Anglian Archaeology Report No. 123 (Bedford, Albion Archaeology)

Atkins, R. and Connor, A., 2010, *Farmers and Ironsmiths: Prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon Settlement beside Brandon Road, Thetford, Norfolk,* East Anglian Archaeology Report No. 134 (Bar Hill, Oxford Archaeology East)

Cappers, R. T. J., Bekker R. M. and Jans J. E. A. 2006, *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands. Groningen Archaeological Studies Volume 4*, Barkhuis Publishing, Eelde

Crew, P. 1995, *Bloomery Iron Smelting Slags and other residues*, Historical Metallurgy Society, Archaeology Data Sheet No. 5

Cussans, J.E.M. 2013, 'The Animal Bone', in Lichtenstein, L., *The Croft, Walsingham Way, Eye, Peterborough PE6 7XB. An Archaeological Evaluation (Appendix 2),* Archaeological Solutions Ltd Report No. 4481

Dannell, G. 1987, 'Coarse Pottery', in Dannell, G. and Wild. J. *Longthorpe II: The Military Works-Depot: An Episode in Landscape History*, Britannia Monograph Series 8, 133-68

Darling, M. 1999, 'Roman Pottery', in Colyer, C., Gilmour, B. and Jones, M. *The Defences of the Lower City: Excavations at the Park and West Parade 1970-2 and a discussion of other sites excavated up to 1994*, The Archaeology of Lincoln Vol. VII-2/ Council for British Archaeology Research Report 114, 52-135

Dobney, K. and Rielly, K. 1988, 'A method for recording archaeological animal bones: the use of diagnostic zones', *Circaea* 5, 79-96

Evans, A.J. (Chair) 1914/ 1915, *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London* XXVI

Evans, C. 2003, *Power and Island Communities: excavations at the Wardy Hill Ringwork, Coveney, Ely*, East Anglian Archaeology No. 103 (Cambridge, Cambridge Archaeological Unit)

Evans, C.J. 2003, 'Romano-British Pottery', in Jones, A. (ed.) *Settlement, Burial and Industry in Roman Godmanchester Excavations in the extra-mural area: the parks 1998, London Road 1997–8, and other investigations*, British Archaeological Reports (British Series) 346, Archaeopress, Oxford

Grant, A. 1982, 'The use of toothwear as a guide to the age of domestic ungulates', in Wilson, B., Grigson, C. and Payne, S. (eds.) *Ageing and Sexing Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites*, British Archaeological Reports, British Series 109, 91-108

Gurney, D. 2003, *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England,* East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper No. 14

Halstead, P. 1985, 'A study of mandibular teeth from Romano-British contexts at Maxey', in Pryor, F., French, C., Crowther, D., Gurney, D., Simpson, G. and Taylor, M. (eds.), *The Fenland Project: Archaeology and Environment in the Lower Welland Valley, Volume 1*. East Anglian Archaeology 27, 219-224

Hillson, S. 1992, *Mammal Bones and Teeth: an introductory guide to methods of identification*, Institute of Archaeology, London

Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) 2008, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations*, IfA, Reading

Jacomet, S. 2006, *Identification of Cereal Remains from Archaeological Sites* (2nd edn), Laboratory of Palinology and Palaeoecology, Basel University, Basel

Kerney, M. P. 1999, *Atlas of the Land and Freshwater Molluscs of Britain and Ireland*, Harley Books, Colchester

Kerney, M. P. and Cameron, R. A. D. 1979, *A Field Guide to Land Snails of Britain and North-West Europe,* Collins, London

Lichtenstein, L. 2013, *The Croft, Walsingham Way, Eye, Peterborough PE6 7XB. An Archaeological Evaluation,* Archaeological Solutions Ltd Report No. 4481

Mills, A.D. 1991, *English Place Names*, Oxford University Press, Oxford

NABO, 2008, *NABONE Zooarchaeological Database 9th Edition, Recording System Codes, North Atlantic Biocultural Organisation Zooarchaeology Working Group 9th Edition, 20th May 2008*.
http://www.nabohome.org/products/manuals/fishbone/nabo.htm

Peachey, A. 2013, 'The Ceramic Building Materials', in Lichtenstein, L. *The Croft, Walsingham Way, Eye, Peterborough PE6 7XB. An Archaeological Evaluation (Appendix 2),* Archaeological Solutions Ltd Report No. 4481

O'Connor, T. P. 1989, *Bones from Anglo-Scandinavian Levels at 16-22 Copppergate,* Archaeology of York Series 15/3, Council for British Archaeology/York Archaeological Trust, London

Oswald, A. 1991, *A Doorway in the Past: roundhouse entrance orientation and its significance in Iron Age Britain*, unpublished dissertation, Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge

Payne, S. 1973, 'Kill-off patterns in sheep and goats: the mandibles from Aşvan Kale', *Anatolian Studies* 23, 281-305

Peachey, M. 2009, *Archaeological Investigations on land at High Street, Eye, Peterborough (EHS 06)*, Archaeological Project Services Report No. 51/08

Perring, D. 2013, *The Roman House in Britain*, Routledge, London

Plouviez, J. 1999, 'The Roman Period', in Dymond, D. and Martin, E. (eds.) *An Historical Atlas of Suffolk* (Revised and Enlarged Edition), 42-3, Suffolk County Council (Environment & Transport)/ Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History, Ipswich

Rogers, A. 2013, *Water and Roman Urbanism: towns, waterscapes, land transformation and experience in Roman Britain*, Koninkijke Brill NV, Leiden (The Netherlands)

Rollo, L. 2001, 'The Iron Age and Roman Pottery', in Mackreth, D. *Monument 97, Orton Longueville, Cambridgeshire: a late pre-Roman Iron Age and early Roman farmstead*, East Anglian Archaeology No. 97, 46-79 (Peterborough, Nene Valley Archaeological Trust)

Seeley, F. and Drummond-Murray, J. 2005, *Roman Pottery Production in the Walbrook Valley: excavations at 20-28 Moorgate, City of London, 1998-2000,* MoLAS Monograph 25

Schmid, E. 1972, *Atlas of Animal Bones for Prehistorians, Archaeologists, and Quaternary Geologists*, Elsevier Publishing, London

Silver, I. A. 1969, 'The ageing of domestic animals', in Brothwell, D. and Higgs, E. (eds.), *Science in Archaeology: a survey of progress and research*, Thames & Hudson, London, 283-302

Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW) 1983, *Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales,* SSEW, Harpenden

Thompson, I. 1982, *Grog-tempered 'Belgic' Pottery of South-eastern England*, British Archaeological Reports (British Series) 108 (i-iii), Archaeopress, Oxford

Tomber, R. and Dore, J. 1998, *The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection*, Museum of London, London

Upson-Smith, T. 2001, *An Archaeological Evaluation of Land Adjacent to 32 High Street, Eye, Peterborough*, Northamptonshire Archaeology Report

Upson-Smith, T. 2002, *An Archaeological Evaluation of Land Adjacent to 82 High Street, Eye, Peterborough*, Northamptonshire Archaeology Report

Wright, J., Leivers, M., Seager Smith, R. and Stevens, J. 2009, *Cambourne New Settlement: Iron Age and Romano-British settlement on the clay uplands of West Cambridgeshire*, Wessex Archaeology Report No. 23

Wass, G. 2003, *Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery: standards for Archaeological archive preparation,* Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery, Peterborough

Web-Based Resources

www.windfinder.com (accessed 02/07/2014)

APPENDIX 1 PHASED FEATURE/ CONTEXT LISTS

Phase 1: Romano-British (1st century AD)

Feature	Context	Plan/ profile (dimensions)	Full description	Area/ Trial Trench	Comments/ relationships	Finds
2005=1011	2006=1012	Linear/ gently sloping sides, flat base (3.00+ x 0.70 x 0.20m)	Mid brown grey clay with occasional small sub-angular flints and rounded pebbles	1/ TT3	Gully; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L2006=1012 sealed by L3001=2001=1001	CBM (165g)
2022=1017	2023=1018	Sub-oval/ gently sloping sides, irregular base (6.40 x 3.50+ x 0.25m)	Mid brown grey silty clay with occasional small sub-angular stones	1/ TT3	Pit; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L2023=1018 sealed by L3001=2001=1001	CBM (5158g); animal bone (1135g); worked stone (368g)
2026	2027[P]	Sub-oval/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (1.80+ x 0.90 x 0.18m)	Dark grey black silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks	1	Pit; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L2028 cut by F2016=1013	-
	2028[S]		Mid orange grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks			Pot (28g); burnt bone (9g)
2029	2030	Linear/ gently to moderately sloping sides, flat base (4.50 x 0.30 x 0.15m)	Pale blue grey silty clay with occasional small angular stones	2	Gully; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L2030 cut by F2031	Pot (10g)
2036	2037	Curvilinear/ gently to steeply sloping sides, flat to concave base (23.50+ x 0.44 x 0.28+m)	Dark grey black clay silt with moderate charcoal flecks	2	Gully; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L2037 cut by F3013=2038=1003, F2044 and F2051	Pot (209g); CBM (7g); animal bone (273g); burnt bone (5g)
2042	2043=2055	Curvilinear/ gently to steeply sloping sides, flat to concave base (12.70 x 0.43 x 0.25m)	Mid grey black silty clay with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks	2	Gully; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L2043=2055 cut by F2044	Pot (31g); animal bone (966g)
2046=1009	2047=1010[S]	Curvilinear/ moderately to steeply sloping sides, concave to irregular base (6.00+ x 0.54 x 0.26m)	Mid to dark grey brown clay silt with moderate small sub-angular to angular stones and charcoal flecks	2/ TT2	Gully; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L2047=1010 sealed by L3001=2001=1001	Pot (94g); animal bone (149g)
	2050[P]		Light blue grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks			-

2048	2049	Sub-oval/ gently sloping sides, concave base (1.90m+ x 0.80 x 0.18m)	Mid brown black silty clay with occasional rounded and angular flint	2	Pit; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L2049 sealed by L3001=2001=1001	Pot (89g); animal bone (60g)
2051	2052	Sub-oval/ steeply sloping to vertical sides, base not reached (1.25+ x 1.60 x 0.30+m)	Dark blue grey silty clay with occasional angular flint and moderate charcoal flecks	2	Pit; cut L2037; Fill L2052 sealed by L3000=2000=1000	Pot (104g); animal bone (68g)
2053	2045	Sub-rectangular/ moderately sloping sides, flat base (0.90 x 0.60 x 0.18m)	Mid blue grey clay with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks	2	Pit; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L2053 sealed by L3001=2001=1001	Pot (60g); animal bone (5g)
2056	2057[P]	Oval/ steeply sloping sides, concave base (0.29 x 0.27 x 0.28m)	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional small angular pebbles	2	Posthole; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L2058 sealed by L3001=2001=1001	-
	2058[S]		Dark orange brown clay silt with moderate charcoal flecks			Pot (8g); animal bone (8g); burnt bone (1g)

Phase 2: Medieval (13th to 14th/ 15th century AD)

Feature	Context	Plan/ profile (dimensions)	Full description	Area/ Trial Trench	Comments/ relationships	Finds
2008	2009	Irregular/ gently sloping sides, irregular to concave base (1.02 x 1.00 x 0.24m)	Grey clay with occasional angular flint	1	Pit; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L2009 sealed by L3001=2001=1001	Pot (53g); CBM (3g)
2010	2011	Linear/ moderately to steeply sloping sides, flat base (23.00+ x 1.10 x 0.38m)	Mid brown grey silty clay with occasional small angular stones	1	Ditch; cut L2017; Fill L2011 sealed by L3001=2001=1001	Pot (13g); CBM (106g); animal bone (19g); slag (100g)
2014=1015	2015=1016	Linear/ moderately to steeply sloping sides, flat base (34.00+ x 1.20+ x 0.65m)	Mid brown grey silty clay with occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular flint	1	Ditch; cut L2019=2021 and L2025; Fill L2015=1016 cut by F2016=1013	Pot (21g); CBM (26g); animal bone (1010g); snail shell (3g); slag (103g)
2016=1013	2017=1014	Linear/ gently to steeply sloping sides, concave base (34.00+ x 1.10 x 0.56m)	Mid to dark brown grey silty clay with occasional angular flint and charcoal flecks	1	Ditch; cut L2015=1016, L2025 and L2028; Fill L2017=1014 cut by	Pot (33g); CBM (178g); animal bone (1018g); snail shell (14g)

3013=2038 =1003	3014=2039= 1004	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (25.00+ x 1.40 x 0.43+m)	Mid brown grey clay silt with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks	2	Ditch; cut L2037; Fill L2039=1004 sealed by L3001=2001=1001	Pot (9g); CBM (18g); animal bone (312g)
3007	3008[S]	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (10.00+ x 1.60 x 0.65m)	Mid grey clay with moderate charcoal flecks/ pieces and humic inclusions	Plot 6	Ditch; Fill L3008 appeared to be cut by F3010=2024	-
	3009[P]		Light brown grey clay			-
3010=2024	3011=2025[S]	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, flat base (26.00+ x 0.98 x 0.51m)	Mid blue grey silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded stones	1/ Plot 6	Ditch; cut L3002=2002=1002 and L3008; Fill L2025 cut by F2016=1013	Pot (13g)
	3012[P]		Mid grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks			-

Undated

Feature	Context	Plan/ profile (dimensions)	Full description	Area/ Trial Trench/ Plot	Comments/ relationships	Finds
1005	1006	Sub-circular/ moderately sloping sides, concave base	Mid brown silty clay	2/ TT2	Pit; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L1006 sealed by L3001=2001=1001	-
1007	1008	?Linear/ gently sloping sides, concave base (1.00+ x 0.85 x 0.12m)	Light yellow grey clay	TT1	?Ditch terminus; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L1008 sealed by L3001=2001=1001	-
1020	1021	Sub-circular/ steeply sloping sides, flattish base (0.80+ x 0.48+ x 0.31)	Dark brown silty clay	1/ TT3	Pit; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L1021 sealed by L3001=2001=1001	-
2003	2004	Circular/ moderately sloping sides, irregular base (0.77 x 0.76 x 0.23m)	Dark brown grey clay with frequent small angular stones and rounded pebbles	1	Pit; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L2004 sealed by L3001=2001=1001	Animal bone (20g)
-	2007	(3.00+ x 1.80+ x 0.20m)	Dark yellow grey silty clay with moderate small angular flint	1	Layer; sealed L3002=2002=1002; sealed by	-

					L3001=2001=1001	
2012	2013	Linear/ moderately to steeply sloping sides, flat base (11.00+ x 0.80 x 0.15m)	Dark brown grey clay with frequent angular stones and rounded pebbles	1	Gully; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L2013 cut by F2018=2020	-
2018=2020	2019=2021	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, flat to concave base (6.80+ x 0.60 x 0.16m)	Mid blue grey silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded stones	1	Gully; cut L2013; cut by F2016=1013	-
2031	2032	Circular/ steep sides, irregular base (0.40 x 0.40 x 0.20m)	Mid blue grey silty clay	2	Posthole; cut L2030; Fill L2032 sealed by L3001=2001=1001	-
2033	2034[S]	Linear/ gently sloping sides, concave base (3.10 x 0.81 x 0.15m)	Mid brown grey silty clay with frequent small angular and rounded flint	2	Gully; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L2034 sealed by L3001=2001=1001	-
	2035[P]		Light brown grey silty clay with moderate small angular and rounded flints and moderate charcoal flecks			-
2040	2041	Circular/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (0.25 x 0.20 x 0.10m)	Dark grey black clay silt with moderate charcoal flecks	2	Posthole; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L2041 sealed by L3001=2001=1001	Animal bone (6g)
2044	2045	Sub-oval/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (0.80 x 0.90 x 0.30m)	Dark grey black clayey silt	2	Pit; cut L2037 and L2043=2055; Fill L2045 sealed by L3001=2001=1001	-
3004	3005	Sub-oval/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (0.58+ x 0.90 x 0.40m)	Mid blue grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks	Plot 12	Pit; cut L3002=2002=1002; Fill L3005 sealed by L3000=2000=1000	-

Geology and modern layers

Context	Dimensions	Full description	Area/ Trial Trench/ Plot	Comments/ relationships	Finds
3000=2000=1000	? x ? x 0.40m	Dark brown silty clay with	Site	Topsoil; sealed	-

		occasional roots, CBM flecks and small angular flint		L3001=2001=1001 and L3005	
3001=2001=1001	? x ? x 0.44m	Dark brown silty clay with occasional small angular stone/ flint	Site	Subsoil; sealed L3002=2002=1002; sealed by L3000=2000=1000	-
3002=2002=1002	? x ? x 0.97+m	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional angular flint	Site	Natural; sealed by L3001=2001=1001 and L3006	-
3003	? x ? x 0.46m	Mid brown yellow silty sand with moderate red brick and large sub-angular flint	Plot 12	Demolition layer; sealed L3002=2002=1002	-
3006	? x ? x 0.35m	Dark grey blue clay	Plots 12 and 14	Made ground; sealed L3002=2002=1002; sealed by L3003	-
3015	6.00+ x 3.00 x 0.50m	Mid to dark brown clay silt with moderate CBM fragments and small stones	Plot 10	Construction/ demolition layer; sealed 3006 and 3014=2039=1004; sealed by 3003	-

PLATES

Plate 1: Area 1 (post-evaluation/ reinstatement), looking north

Plate 2: Area 2 (post-evaluation/ reinstatement), looking west

Plate 3: Phase 1 (Romano-British) Ditch F2042 (post-excavation), looking south-east

Plate 4: Phase 1 (Romano-British) Gully F2046 (=1009; post-excavation), looking north-west

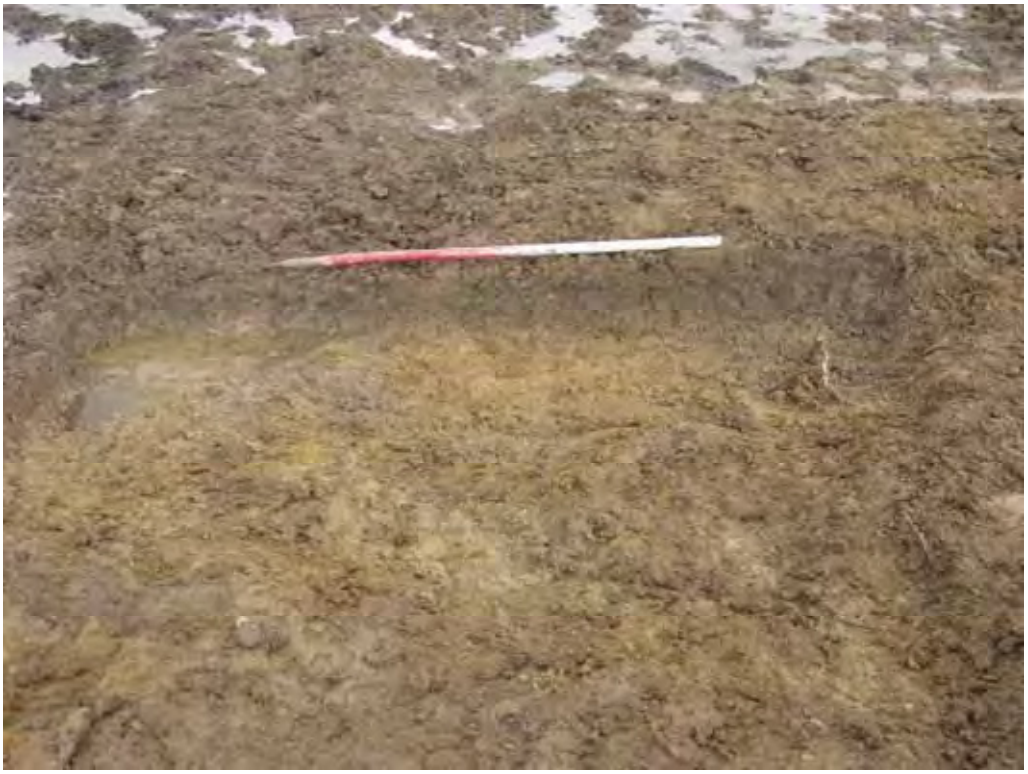


Plate 5: Phase 1 (Romano-British) Pit F2022 (=1017; post-excavation), looking south

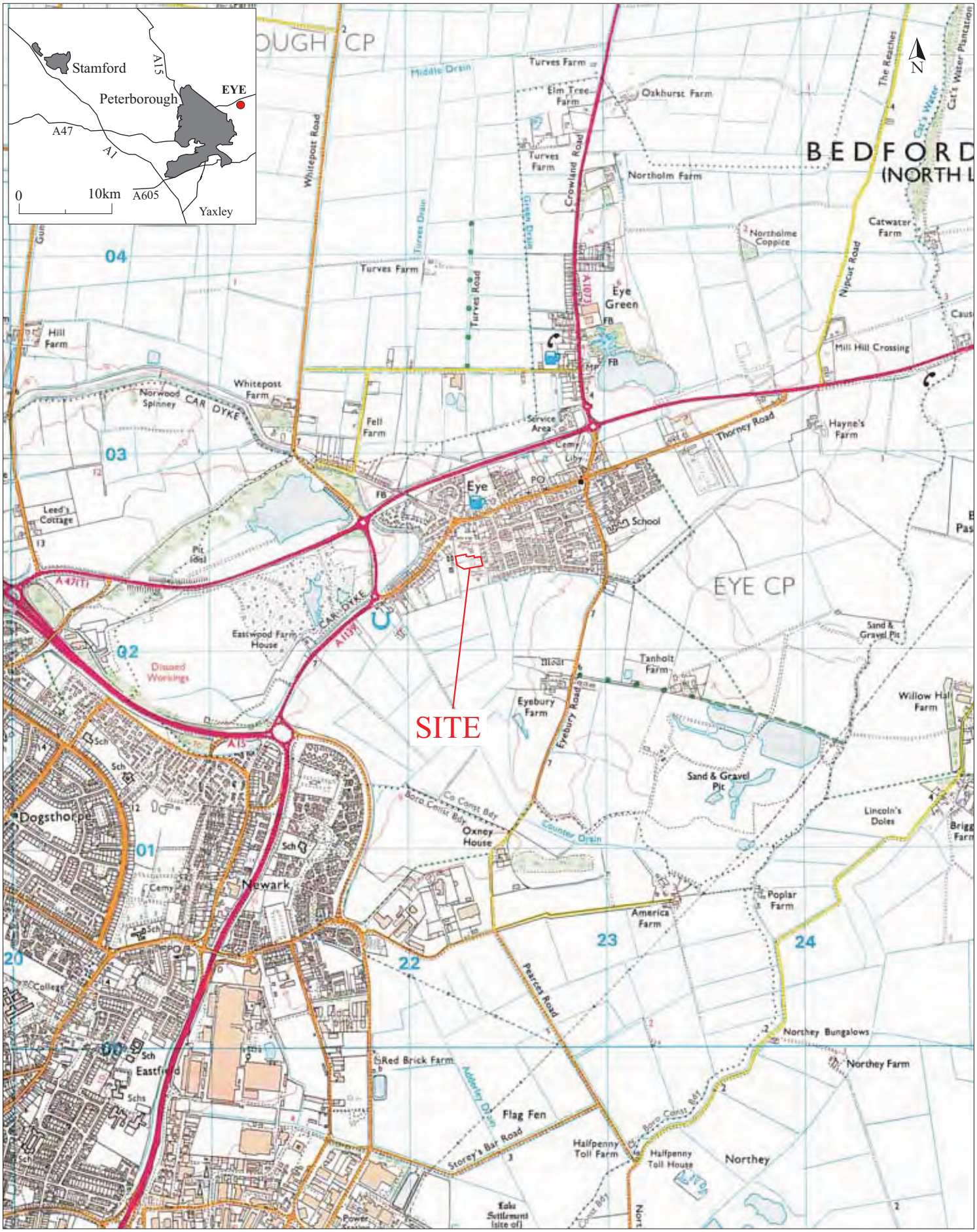
Plate 6: Phase 2 (medieval) Ditch F3010 (=2024) (post-excavation), looking east

Plate 7: Profile of Phase 2 Ditch F3010 (=2024), Development Plot 6 (post-excavation), looking south-south-east

Plate 8: Profile of Phase 2 Ditch F3007, Development Plot 6 (post-excavation), looking west-south-west

Plate 9: Phase 2 (medieval) Ditch F2010 (post-excavation), looking west

Plate 10: Phase 2 (medieval) Pit F2008 (post-excavation), looking east

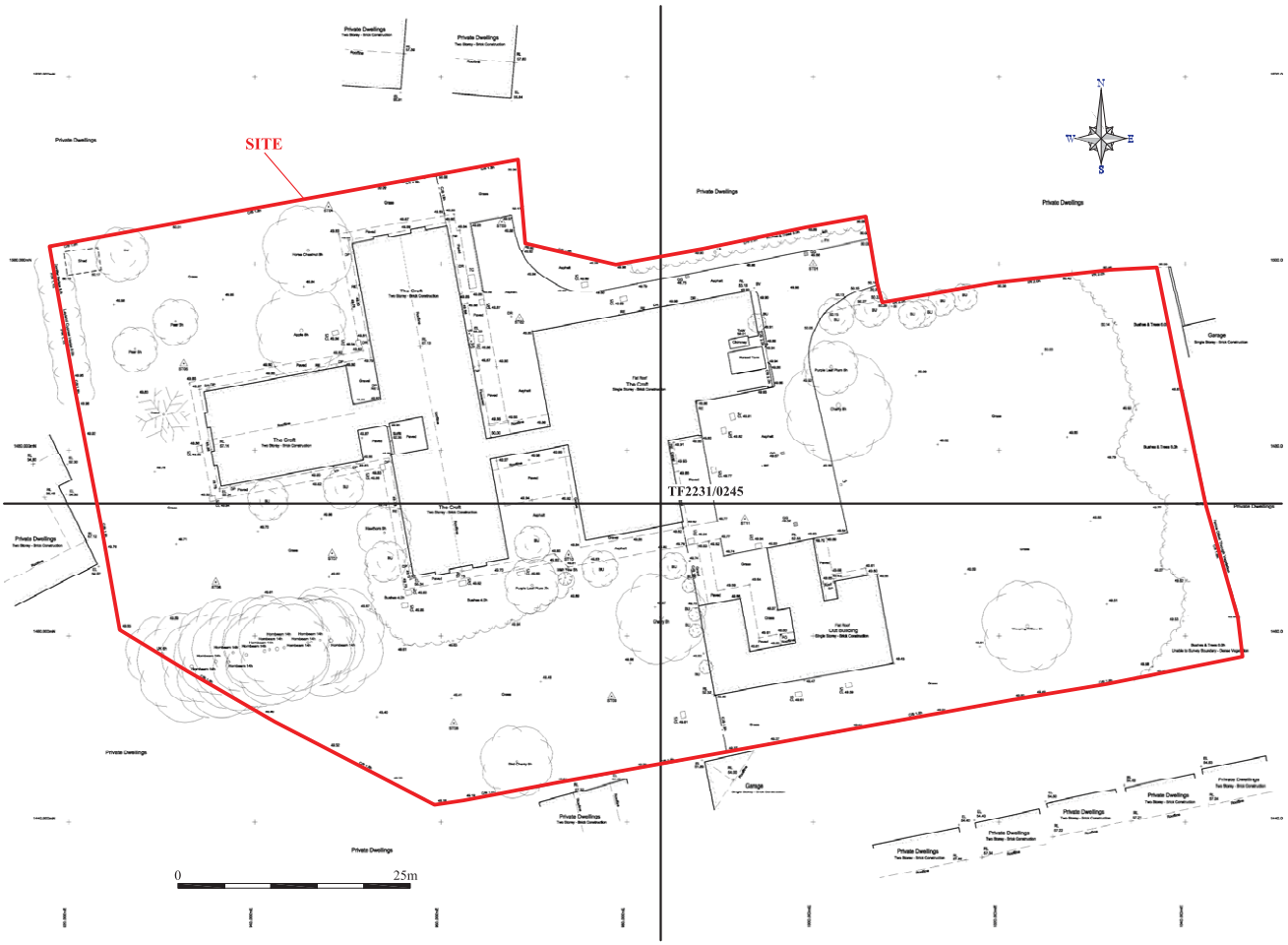


Reproduced from the 1999 Ordnance Survey 1:25000 map with the permission of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Crown copyright Archaeological Solutions Ltd Licence number 100036680

Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Fig. 1 Site location plan

Scale 1:25,000 at A4



Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan

Scale 1:400 at A3

Excavation area

Evaluation trenches

Foundation trenches

Sample section

1 Development plot number

S1 Structure

Phase 1 Roman

Phase 2 Medieval

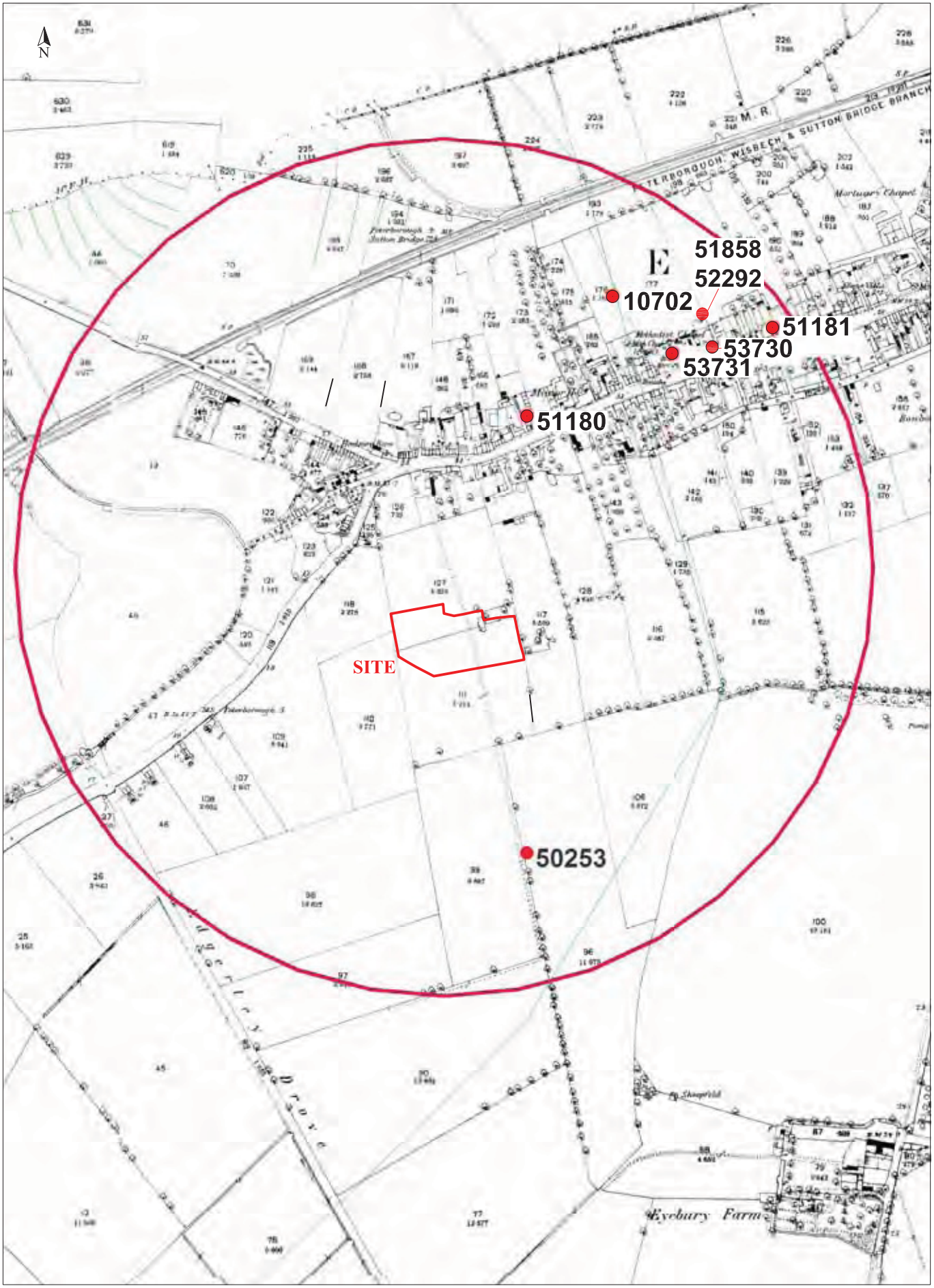
Undated

0 25m

Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Fig. 3 All features plan

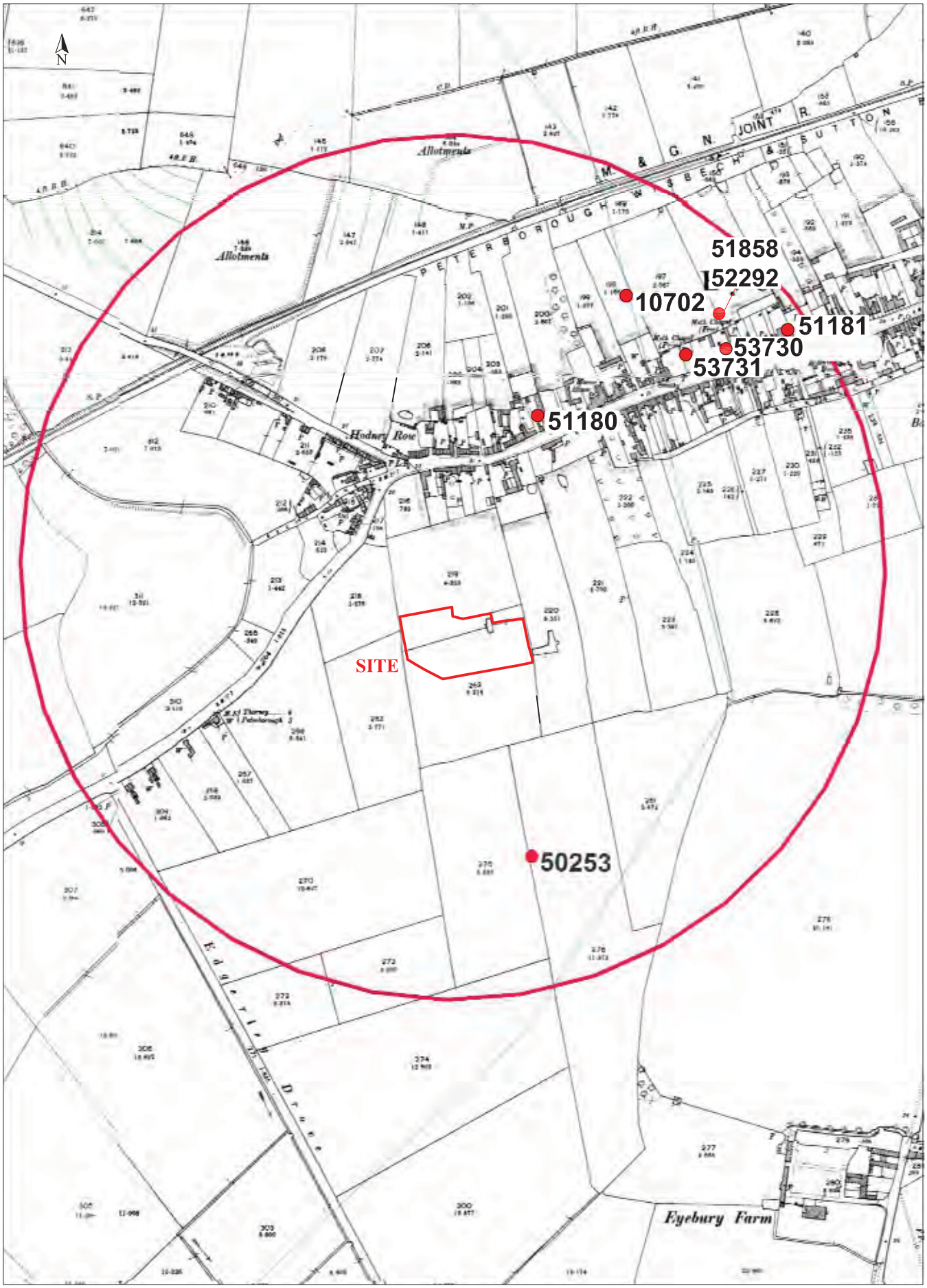
Scale 1:400 at A3



Archaeological Solutions Ltd

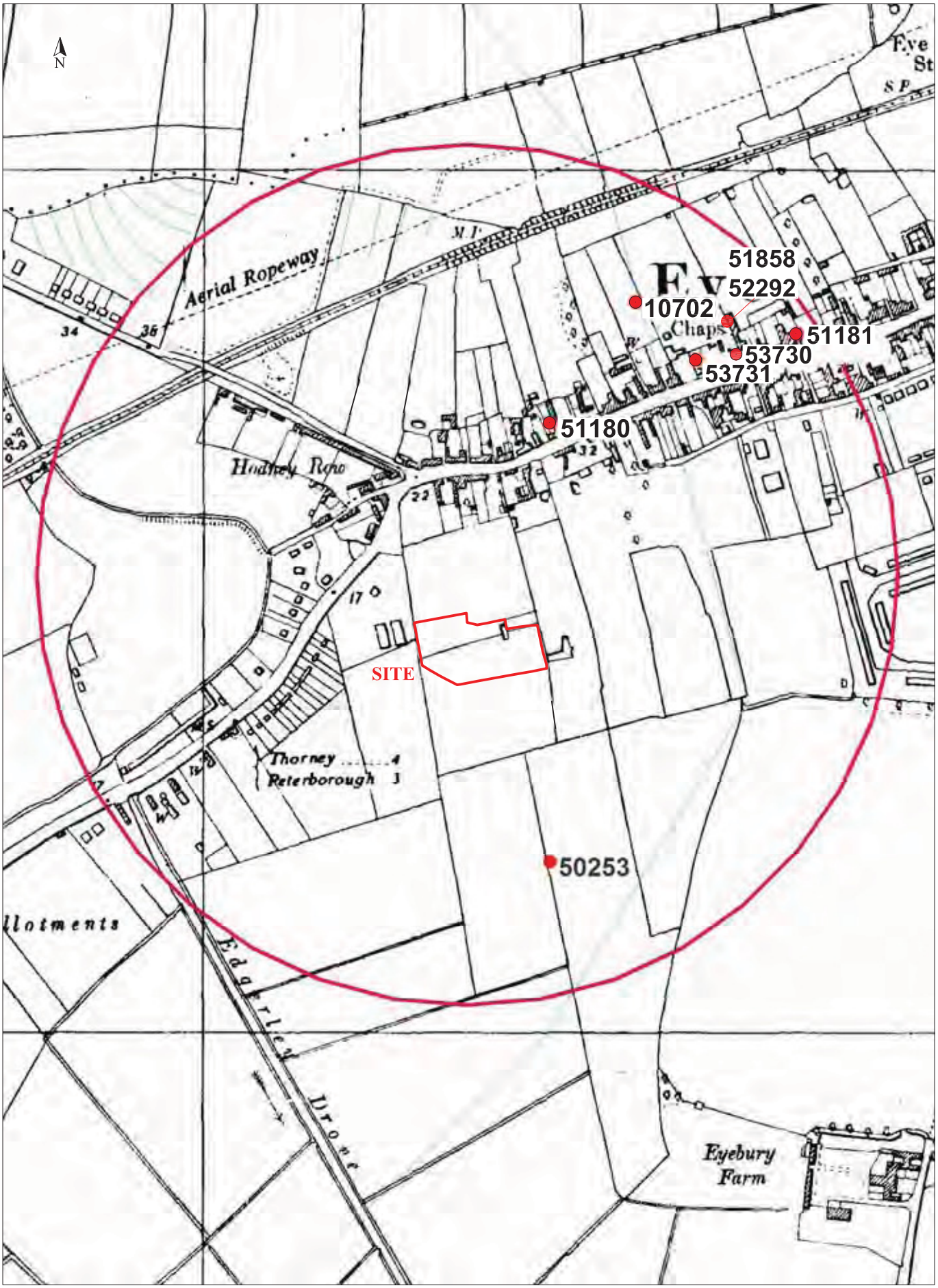
Fig. 4 OS map, 1886-9

Scale 1:5000 at A4

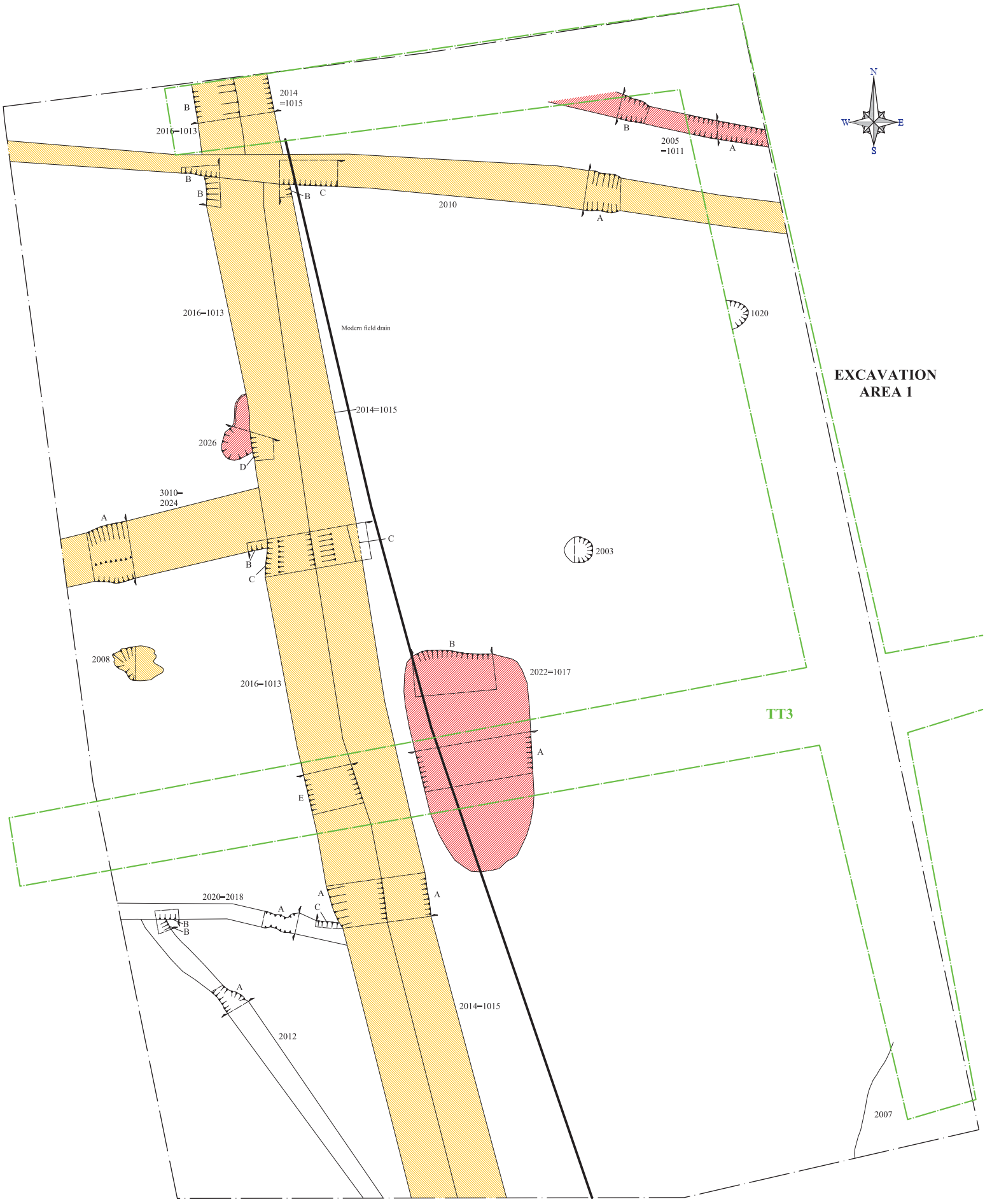


Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 5 OS map, 1900-1
Scale 1:5000 at A4

Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 6 OS map, 1926
Scale 1:5000 at A4



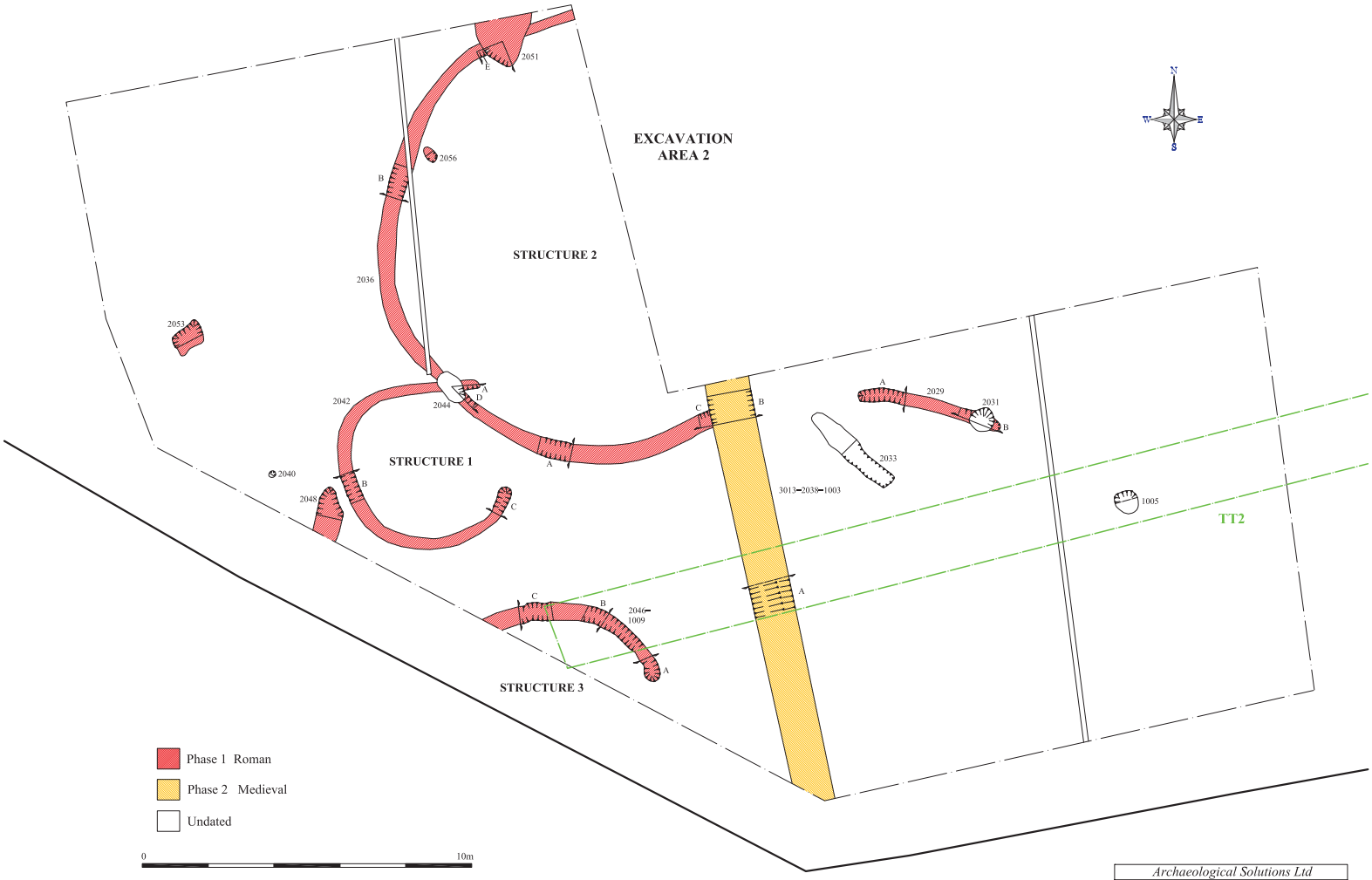
Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 7 OS map, 1958-9
Scale 1:6000 at A4



Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Fig. 8 Plan of Area 1

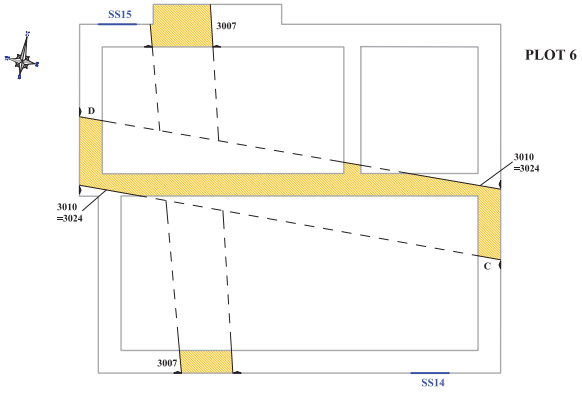
Scale 1:100 at A3

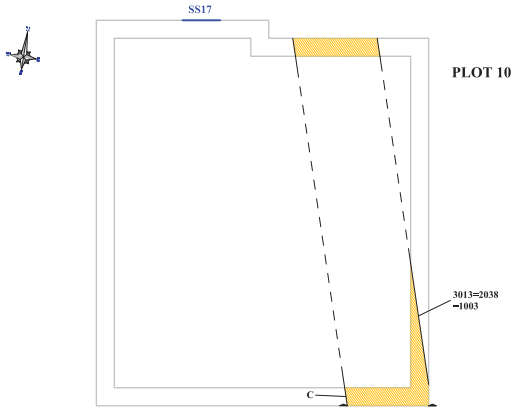


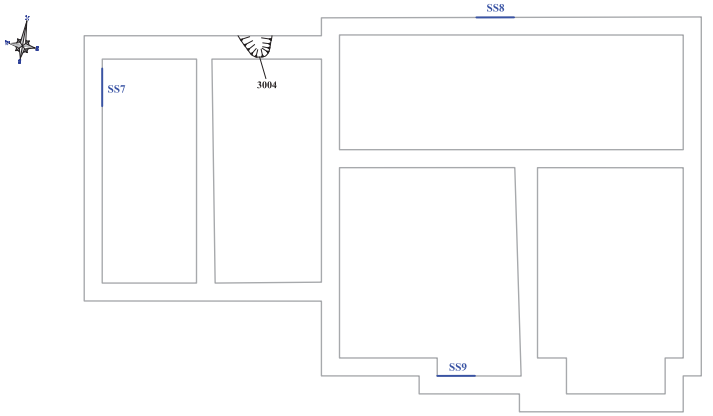
Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Fig. 9 Plan of Area 2

Scale 1:100 at A3







Phase 2 Medieval

Undated

Foundation trench

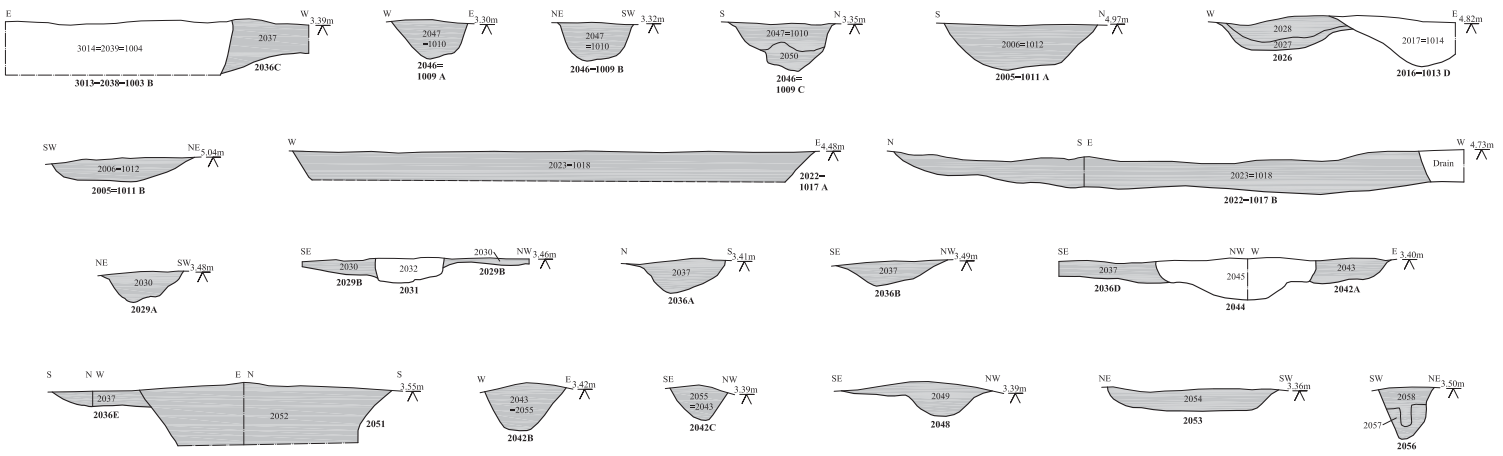
0 10m

Archaeological Solutions Ltd

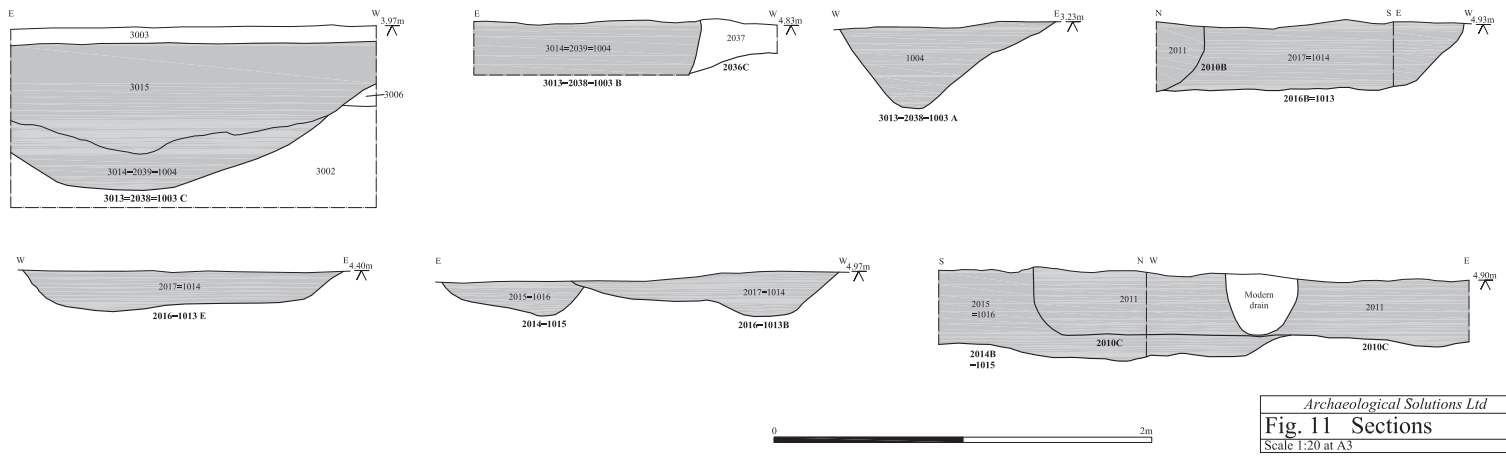
Fig. 10 Plans of Plots 6, 10 and 12

Scale 1:100 at A3

Phase 1: Romano-British (1st century AD)



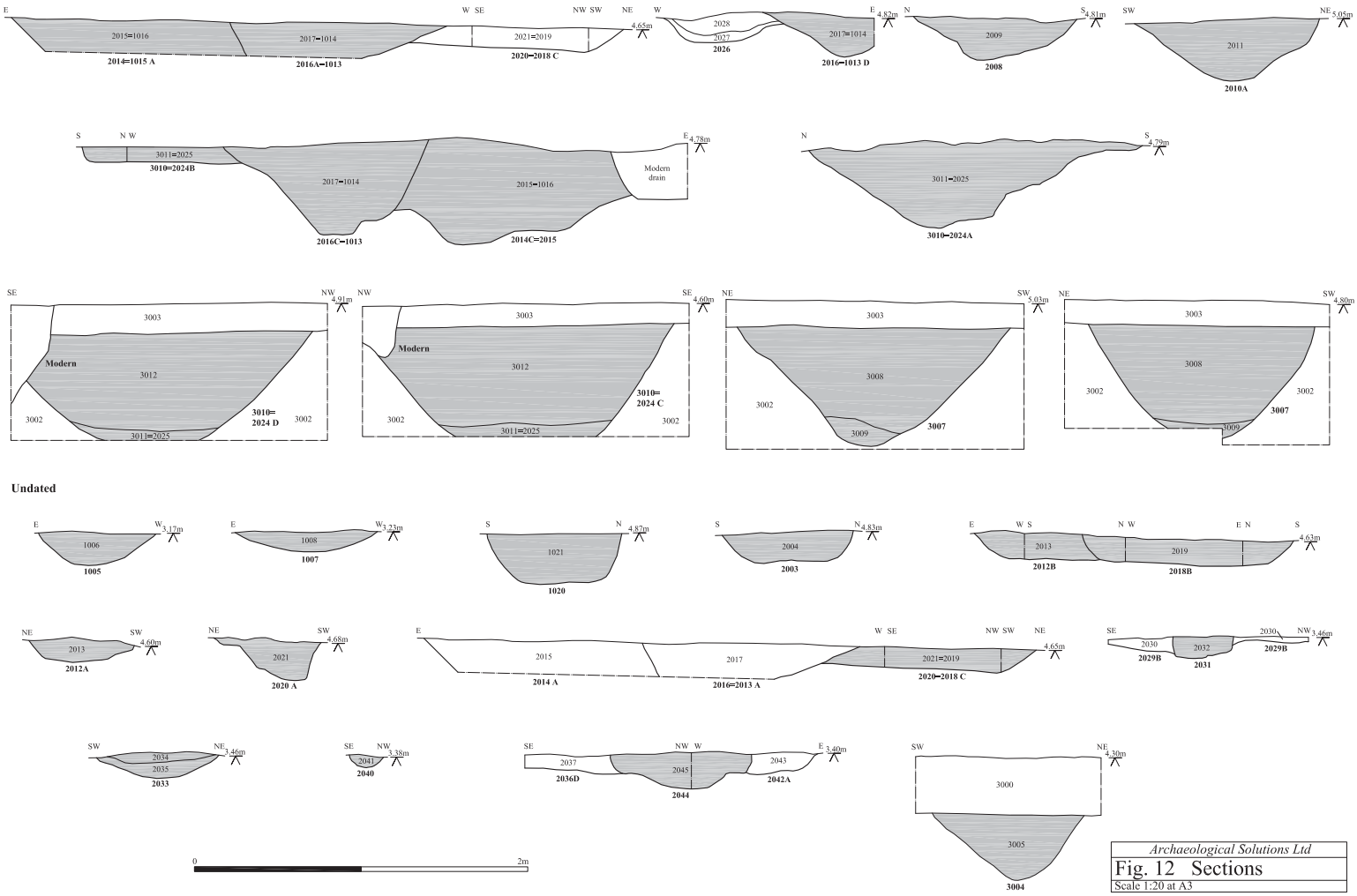
Phase 2: Medieval (13th to 14th / 15th century AD)



0 2m

Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 11 Sections
Scale 1:20 at A3

Phase 2 continued: Medieval (13th to 14th / 15th century AD)



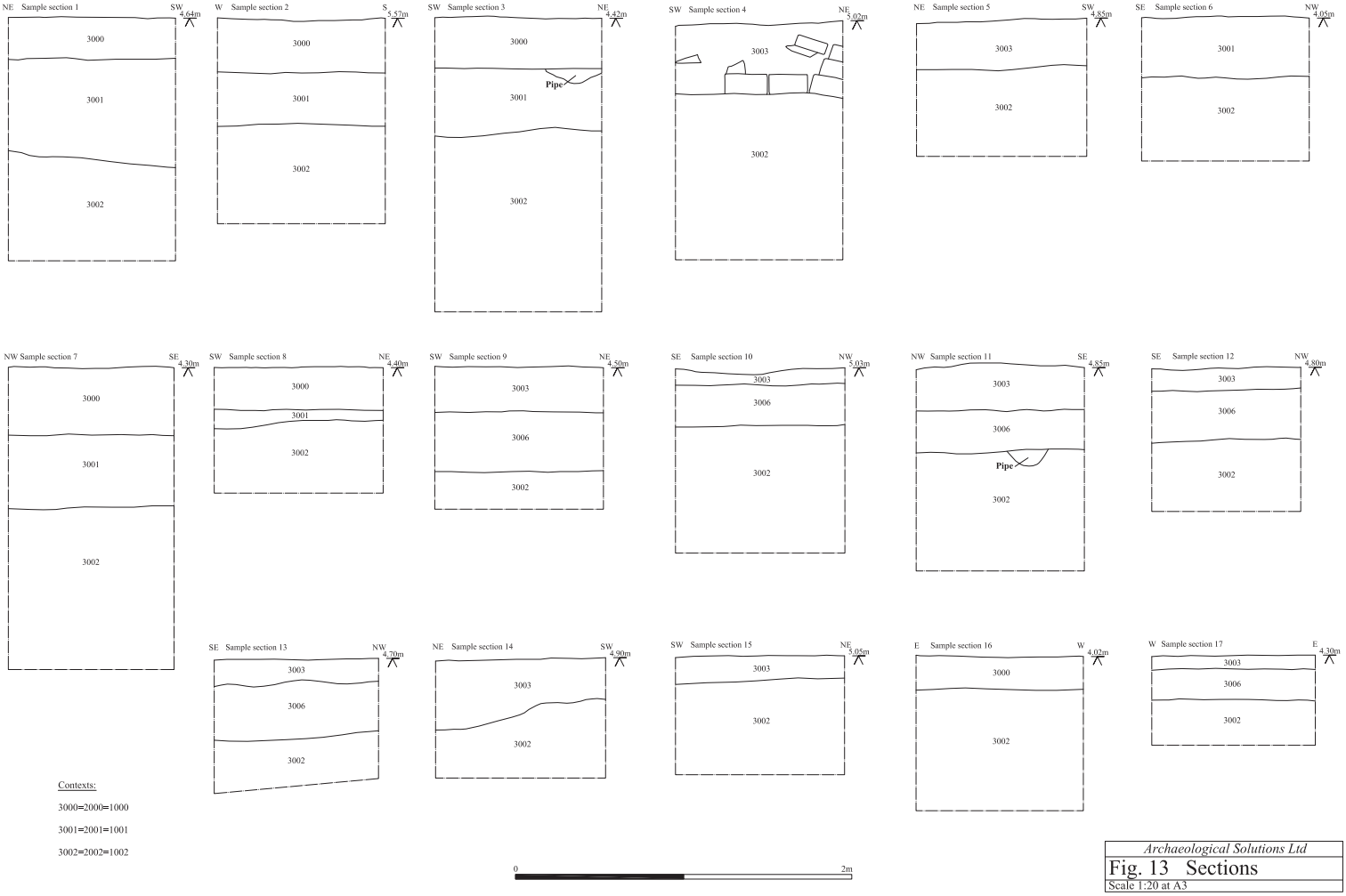
Undated

Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Fig. 12 Sections

Scale 1:20 at A3

Sample Sections: Monitoring phase



Contexts:

3000=2000=1000

3001=2001=1001

3002=2002=1002

0 2m

Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 13 Sections
Scale 1:20 at A3