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**HALSTEAD LODGE, 4 WHITE HART LANE, SOHAM,
CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

CHER ECB 4538

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET			
Project details			
Project name	<i>Halstead Lodge, 4 White Hart Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire</i>		
<i>In late August/ early September 2015, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land at Halstead Lodge, 4 White Hart Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 5944 7320). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the proposed construction of a terrace of three townhouses with new access and parking (East Cambs Planning Ref. 15/00092/FUL). The evaluation was undertaken based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET) requiring a programme of archaeological work.</i>			
<i>The site is located adjacent to the recently excavated Church Hall site (Woolhouse et al. 2015), which contained a dense concentration of multi-period archaeological remains (Fig. 13). As such, it was considered to have good archaeological potential. In the event, the evaluation encountered a significant concentration of features and a notable finds assemblage. The earliest material comprises residual struck flint from early Iron Age Pit F1023 (Trench 2) and post-medieval Ditch F1005 (Trench 1). The earliest features (Ditch F1020, Gully F1027 and Pit F1023) were of early Iron Age date and were all recorded in Trench 2. Pit F1023 yielded a notable assemblage of early Iron Age pottery and animal bone. A residual post-medieval sherd was found in the upper fill of F1023. A single Roman feature (Ditch F1018) was also present in Trench 2.</i>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	28/08/2015 – 03/09/2015		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work	TBC
P. number	6361	Site code	ECB 4538
Type of project	Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation		
Site status	-		
Current land use	Garden		
Planned development	Residential		
Main features (+dates)	Gullies, ditches, pits, postholes		
Significant finds (+dates)	Prehistoric: Struck flint Early Iron Age: Pottery; animal bone Roman: Pottery		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	Cambridgeshire	East Cambs	Soham
HER/ SMR for area	Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CCC HER)		
Post code (if known)	-		
Area of site	580m ²		
NGR	TL 5944 7320		
Height AOD (max/ min)	c. 8.60m AOD		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	Gemma Stewart, Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Archaeological Solutions Ltd		
Funded by	Ros Mulvany		
Full title	Halstead Lodge, 4 White Hart Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire. An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation		
Authors	Orzechowski, K.		
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HALSTEAD LODGE, 4 WHITE HART LANE, SOHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In late August/ early September 2015, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land Halstead Lodge, 4 White Hart Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 5944 7320). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the proposed construction of a terrace of three townhouses with new access and parking on garden land to the immediate east of Halstead Lodge (East Cambs Planning Ref. 15/00092/FUL). The evaluation was undertaken based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET) requiring a programme of archaeological work.

The site lies within an area of Iron Age/ Romano-British and medieval/ post-medieval settlement. Investigations at the Church Hall site, immediately to the south, have revealed Iron Age, Roman and medieval settlement evidence (HERs MCB18184 and 5; Woolhouse et al. 2015). Evidence of human burials has also been recorded in garden areas along White Hart Lane, with remains found at Nos. 1, 11 and next to No. 46 (HER MCB17746; MCB13882 and MCB19457). The site thus had potential for further remains of Iron Age/ Roman, medieval and later date, including further burials.

In the event, the evaluation encountered a significant concentration of features and a notable finds assemblage. The earliest material comprises residual struck flint from early Iron Age Pit F1023 (Trench 2) and post-medieval Ditch F1005 (Trench 1). The earliest features (Ditch F1020, Gully F1027 and Pit F1023) were of early Iron Age date and were all recorded in Trench 2. Pit F1023 yielded a notable assemblage of early Iron Age pottery and animal bone. A residual post-medieval sherd was found in the upper fill of F1023. A single Roman feature (Ditch F1018) was also present in Trench 2.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In late August/ early September 2015, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land Halstead Lodge, 4 White Hart Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 5944 7320; Figs. 1-2). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the proposed construction of a terrace of three townhouses with new access and parking (East Herts Planning Ref. 15/00092/FUL). The evaluation was undertaken based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET) requiring a programme of archaeological work.

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by CCC HET (Gemma Stewart; dated 15/07/2015) and a written scheme of investigation

(specification) compiled by AS (18/07/2015) and approved by CCC HET. It followed the procedures outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (2014). It also adhered to relevant sections of Gurney's (2003) *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*.

1.3 The aim of the evaluation was to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development.

Planning Policy Context

1.4 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The NPPF aims to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions that concern the historic environment recognize that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognize that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. The NPPF requires applications to describe the significance of any heritage asset, including its setting that may be affected in proportion to the asset's importance and the potential impact of the proposal.

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

2 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Soham is located c. 9.3km to the south-east of Ely and c. 10km north-west of Newmarket. The site lies within the historic core of Soham and within the Soham Conservation Area (www.eastcambs.gov.uk).

2.2 The site comprised an existing sunken garden area with trees, immediately east of Halstead Lodge (Fig. 2). It is bounded to the north by modern White Hart Lane and

by residential property to the east. The recently excavated Church Hall site (Woolhouse *et al.* 2015) is located immediately to the south.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site is located in Soham, in the south-eastern part of the Cambridgeshire Fens. The core of the town occupies a low ridge of higher ground (c. 5-10m AOD), running broadly south-east to north-west. The ridge forms a peninsula extending into the former fen. To the east, west and south-west are areas of former fenland which were subject to large-scale drainage works between the 17th and 19th centuries. Soham Mere, to the west of the town, was a large freshwater lake until the 19th century. Soham Lode – the partially-canalized course of the river Snail – runs through the town centre. The Snail is a tributary of the River Great Ouse, which passes some 6km to the north-west of Soham.

3.2 The area's soils comprise lime-rich loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983). The underlying geology comprises Cretaceous chalk of the West Melbury Formation (British Geological Survey 1991).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric

4.1 Evidence for human activity as early as the Mesolithic period has been recorded in the vicinity of the site comprising four tranchet axes (Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) 07098) and a small number of flint flakes (CHER MCB 18106). Finds of antler mattocks and bone knives were recovered from Soham Fen (Reynolds 2000, 6). Neolithic flint artefacts have also been found in the area (CHERs 02097; 07087; 11019).

4.2 A find of a late Bronze Age to early Iron Age razor has been made (CHER 11019A). Lithic implements of Bronze Age date have also been recorded in the vicinity (CHERs 07101 and MCB 17961), for example at St Andrew's House (CHER CB 15776). A possible waterhole and a pit containing Bronze Age pottery have been recorded at Gimbert Road (CHER MCB 19766).

4.3 The Iron Age is particularly well-represented in the Soham area; an early Iron Age inhumation with an associated animal burial and a spearhead was recorded at an unspecified location (CHER 07086). An Iron Age ditch has been recorded at Weatheralls Close (CHER MCB 16872), a ditch and posthole of Iron Age date were excavated at 8 Market Street (CHER MCB 19683), a possible Iron Age field system has been identified at Gimbert Road (CHER MCB 19766), and part of a possible Iron Age enclosure has been identified at Clay Street (CHER MCB 19935). At the former Church Hall site (CHER MCB 18184), to the immediate south of the site (Figs.2 and 13), and in

particular at the former allotment site on Fordham Road (CHER MCB 19583) extensive late Iron Age to Roman settlements have been recorded.

Roman

4.4 In addition to the Roman period activity recorded at the former Church Hall site (CHER MCB 18184) and the former allotment site on Fordham Road (CHER MCB 19583), Roman archaeology has been recorded in the vicinity of the site in the form of coins (CHER 07097), seven skeletons and pottery identified at 9 White Hart Lane on the opposite side of the road to the site (CHER 06971), and an inhumation also recorded on White Hart Lane (CHER MCB 17746). Further human remains recovered alongside Roman pottery in the north of Soham (CHER 07100), a brooch (CHER 04843), ditches and pits at 49 and 49A Fordham Road, Soham (CHER CB 14630), and a ditch system at Paddock Street (CHER MCB 18200).

Anglo-Saxon to Medieval

4.5 The name Soham is thought to derive from Old English *Sægan Hamm*, meaning 'settlement or enclosure by the swampy pool' (Reaney 1943), likely a reference to Soham Mere. Soham is associated with St Felix who founded a monastery here in c. 630AD (Oosthuizen 2000). The monastery's judged location is occupied by St Andrew's Church (CHER 07124). Saxon pottery has been recovered from the churchyard (CHER 11386) and this is the location of a postulated Anglo-Saxon inhumation cemetery (CHER 07123a). Evidence for late Saxon settlement has been recorded at the former Church Hall site (CHER MCB 18185) and Saxon inhumations have been recorded at White Hart Lane (CHER 11789), possibly representing disturbed remains from the monastic cemetery. The site of a Saxon cemetery is recorded at Newmarket Road (CHER 07027), and a ditched enclosure has been excavated at Pratt Street (CHER 07099). Saxo-Norman features have also been recorded at Pratt Street (CHER 11932) and at 38 Station Road (CHER 11985). A beamslot and a posthole, representing a late Saxon building, have been recorded at 8 Market Street (CHER MCB 16868) In addition several finds of Saxon objects are recorded including a socketed spearhead and blade found at the High Street (CHER 02086) and a 6th century cruciform brooch (CHER 11019B).

4.6 The Domesday survey of 1086 describes Soham as a relatively wealthy rural settlement, some 13,500 acres in extent (Morris 1981). It comprised three manors, the principal one belonging to the king, a smaller one belonging to the abbot of Ely and a third in secular ownership; land was also held by (Bury) St. Edmund's Church. The survey records some 60 peasants resident in Soham, engaged in arable and livestock farming. The agrarian economy was serviced by two mills and augmented by the rights and holdings of fishermen, nets and renders of eels (Morris 1975). Soham appears to have flourished during the medieval period. The main street formed part of the route from Fordham to Ely and as a result the Saxon settlement extended into a ribbon development along the High Street, Churchgate Street and Pratt Street. A variety of evidence for medieval occupation is recorded. The extant St Andrew's Church is of 12th

century date (CHER 07123) and Netherhall Manor has its origins in the 11th century (CHER MCB 19369). As well as spot finds, such as coins (CHER 0797A), a variety of archaeological features representing medieval occupation and agricultural activity are recorded in the vicinity of the site. These include the moated site near Soham Mills (CHER 01068), the sites of two windmills at Hall Street North (CHER 06945) and Mill Croft (CHER 07105), evidence for possible sand extraction and burgage plot ditches at Ten Bell Lane (CHER MCB 16279), ditches representing occupation activity at the former Lion Mills (CHER MCB 17497), enclosures and possible retting pits at Paddock Street (CHER MCB 18201), and a medieval field system and associated structure identified at Weatheralls Primary School (CHER MCB 19459).

Post-Medieval

4.7 The post-medieval period is represented by a variety of extant buildings and the known locations of former buildings. Such buildings and structures include Netherhall Manor Walled Garden (CHER MCB 19370), cottages at 19-21 Hall Street (CHER MCB19874), a former summerhouse at Gardeners Lane (CHER MCB 19679), and the dismantled route of the Ely and Newmarket branch railway (CHER MCB 19610). Various religious structures of this date are present in the town including an Anglican cemetery chapel (CHER MCB 17213), the United Reform Church (CHER MCB 17130), a non-conformist cemetery chapel (CHER MCB 17233), and the Methodist church (CHER MCB 17133). “The Place” and the “The Moat” are post-medieval gardens (CHERs 12817 and 12188), post-medieval ditches have been recorded at Brook Dam Lane (CHER CB 15264). In addition, post-medieval quarrying activity has been recorded at High Street (CHER MCB 17349) and Lion Mills (CHER MCB 16612), a steelyard at Fountain Lane (CHER MCB 16611), and smockmill built in 1867 (CHER 07095) represent more recent industrial activity.

5 CARTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

Palmer’s Map of Soham (1656)

5.1 The earliest cartographic source of Soham records the town as a ribbon development along the main streets of the High Street and Pratt Street (Fig. 4). The following map is from the Victoria County History and shows the distribution of houses in c. 1650 (Fig.5) and there are no houses illustrated within the site.

First Edition Ordnance Survey Map (1887)

5.2 The first edition Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 6) records Soham as a ribbon development along the main thoroughfare. The site fronts White Hart Lane to the north.

1903 Ordnance Survey Map

5.3 St John the Baptist church has been renamed St Andrew's (Fig. 7). The site is within a plot fronting White Hart Lane. A malthouse and brewery are located to the north, and a windmill to the south-east.

1927 Ordnance Survey Map

5.4 The 1927 depicts No. 4 White Hart Lane, the house located directly to the west of the site. The town has expanded westwards towards the railway. White Hart Lane is referred to as East Street (Fig. 8). The following maps from the 1930s to 50s show little change. A chapel has been constructed to the south, fronting the High Street (Fig. 9).

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The evaluation focused on the footprint of the proposed development. Two trenches forming an L-shaped arrangement, each measuring up to 10m x 1.6m, were excavated (Fig. 10).

5.2 Topsoil was removed under close archaeological supervision and control using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. All subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. Exposed sections were cleaned and examined for archaeological features. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Open trenches and excavated spoil were manually/ visually searched and scanned by metal detector to enhance the recovery of archaeological finds.

5.3 The agreed written scheme of investigation (Section 4.9) stated the intention to excavate (by hand) a 1m square of any remaining topsoil/ subsoil at one end of each of the excavated trenches in order to characterise their artefact content. Investigation of the remaining subsoil (L1013) at the western end of Trench 2 (Sample Section 2B; Fig. 11) revealed no artefacts. Both ends of Trench 1 were excavated to Natural L1001 (no topsoil/ subsoil remained).

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

6.1 The individual trench descriptions are presented below:

Trench 1 (Figs. 11-13)

Sample Section 1A; <i>North end, West facing</i>		
0.00 = 8.72m AOD		
0.00 – 0.23m	L1000	Topsoil. Firm, dark grey/ black sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded stone
0.23 – 0.72m	L1013	Subsoil. Firm, dark grey brown clayey/ sandy silt with occasional small angular flint and chalk nodules
0.72m +	L1001	Natural. Firm, mottled mid yellow silty sand with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded stone

Description: ?Pit F1003, Ditches F1005 and F1007 and Postholes, F1014 and F1016 were recorded in Trench 1. Ditch F1007 contained one residual sherd (20g) of Roman pottery and Ditch F1005 contained post-medieval (18th – 19th century) pottery. The remaining features were undated. The topsoil in trench 1 contained a horse skull (see The Animal Bone, Appendix 4).

?Pit F1003 (? x 0.56 x 0.35m) was observed in the eastern section of Trench 1. It had a steep sides and a narrow concave base; this feature was revealed in section only and its overall size (in plan) was not ascertained. Although this feature may have been a gully or similar linear feature, it was not present in the western section of Trench 1. Its fill, L1004, was a firm, mid yellow clayey silt with occasional small sub-angular and sun-rounded flints. F1003 cut L1001, the natural, and contained no finds.

Ditch F1005 was linear in plan (1.5+ x 0.72 x 0.23m), orientated NE/SW. It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1006, comprised a firm, dark grey brown clayey silt with sparse sub-rounded chalk flecks and occasional small, sub-angular and sub-rounded flints. It contained post-medieval (18th – 19th century) pottery (23g), animal bone (147g) and struck flint (2; 7g)

F1005 cut Posthole F1016 and was cut by Ditch F1007. As F1005 contained a notable quantity of post-medieval (18th – 19th century) pottery (23 sherds; 216g) it suggests that the Roman pottery from Ditch F1007 is residual.

Ditch F1007 was linear in plan (1.5 x 0.66 x 0.19m), orientated NW/SE. It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1008, was a firm, dark grey brown clayey silt with sparse sub-rounded chalk flecks and occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded flints. It yielded one residual sherd of Roman pottery (20g) and animal bone (48g). F1007 cut post-medieval Ditch F1005.

Posthole F1014 was oval in plan (0.41 x 0.29 x 0.28m). It had steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1015, was a firm, mid yellow brown clayey sandy silt with sparse sub-rounded chalk flecks and occasional small sub-angular stones. It contained no finds.

Posthole F1016 was circular in plan (0.48 x 0.26+ x 0.13m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1017, was a firm, mid yellow brown sandy clayey silt

with sparse sub-rounded chalk flecks and occasional small sub-angular stones. F1016 was cut by Ditch F1005 and contained animal bone (185g).

Trench 2 (Figs. 11 - 13)

Sample Section 2A; East end, North facing		
0.00 = 9.38m AOD		
0.00 – 0.17m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.17 – 0.40m	L1013	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.40m+	L1001	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Sample Section 2B; South end, East facing		
0.00 = 9.17m AOD		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.25 – 0.50m	L1013	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.50m+	L1001	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Description: Ditches F1018 and F1020, Gully Terminals F1027 and F1029, Pits ?F1009 and F1023, Posthole F1033, and Feature F1031 were recorded in Trench 2. Most remarkable was Pit F1023 which produced a large Early Iron Age assemblage including 179 sherds (2666g) of pottery. Gully F1027 and Ditch F1020 also contained Early Iron Age pottery. Ditch F1018 contained Roman pottery (3 sherds; 52g) and residual Early Iron Age pottery (15 sherds; 65g). The remaining features were undated.

?Pit F1009 was oval in plan (1.40 x 1.10 x 0.47m). It had moderately sloping sides and flattish base. It contained three fills: L1010, L1011 and L1012. Its lower fill, L1010, was a friable, light yellow silt. It was overlain by L1011, a firm, light grey yellow sandy silt. Its uppermost fill, L1012, comprised a friable, mid yellow grey silty sand. All three fills contained occasional small angular stones and none contained finds.

Ditch F1018 was linear in plan (3.00+ x 0.50+ x 0.24m), orientated NW/SE. It had gently sloping sides and a shallow concave base. Its fill, L1019, was a friable, mid brown grey sandy silt with occasional small sub-rounded stones. It contained Roman pottery (3 sherds; 52g), residual early Iron Age pottery (15 sherds; 65g) and animal bone (36g) (finds were split between adjacent Segments A and B; Fig. 11). F1018 cut perpendicular Ditch F1020.

Ditch F1020 was linear in plan (2.0+ x 0.7+ x 0.48m), orientated NE/SW. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained two fills: L1021 and L1022. Its basal fill, L1021, was a friable, mottled mid brown grey and mid yellow sandy silt. It was overlain by L1022, a friable, mid brown grey sandy silt. Both fills contained occasional small sub-rounded stones and animal bone (18g and 100g respectively); while L1022 also contained 19 sherds of Early Iron Age pottery (90g), fired clay (165g) and shell (7g). F1020 was cut by Ditch F1018.

Pit F1023 was sub-circular in plan (1.05 x 0.64 x 1.6m). It had with near vertical sides and the base was not reached, as its depth exceeded the safe excavation limit, but was

augured to a depth of c. 1.60m. It contained four fills: L1024, L1035, L1025 and L1026. Its basal fill, L1024, was a firm, mid blue grey sandy silt with occasional small sub-rounded stones. It yielded 17 sherds of Early Iron Age pottery (363g), animal bone (154g), burnt flint (9g) and struck flint (2g). It was overlain by L1035, a friable, light grey yellow silty sand with occasional chalk and small sub-angular stones; and contained 22 sherds of Early Iron Age pottery (280g) and animal bone (437g). Above L1035 was L1025, comprising firm, mid blue grey sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular stones. It contained 28 sherds of Early Iron Age pottery (591g), animal bone (27g) and a struck flint (2g). The uppermost deposit, L1026, was a firm mid brown grey sandy silt and contained the largest finds assemblage of the fills; yielding a total of 112 sherds of Early Iron Age pottery (1432g), animal bone (785g), slag (18g), five struck flints (12g) and burnt flint (76g). A single sherd (12g of post-medieval pottery was also present within L1026); the western edge of Pit F1023 was truncated by a post-medieval feature (F1031; Fig. 11). Finds from F1023 were split between adjacent Segments A and B; Fig. 11).

Gully terminus F1027 was linear in plan (0.40+ x 0.30 x 0.04m), orientated N/S with a sub-rounded terminal end. It had gently sloping sides and shallow concave base. Its fill, L1028, was a firm, mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-rounded stones. It cut L1001 and it contained Early Iron Age pottery (3; 75g) and animal bone (39g).

Gully terminus F1029 was linear in plan (1.2+ x 0.32 x 0.05m), orientated N/S with a sub-rounded terminal end. It had gently sloping sides and shallow concave base. Its fill, L1028, was a firm, mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-rounded stones. It cut L1001 and contained no finds.

F1031 was irregular in plan with gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1032, comprised a firm, mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones. F1031 cut Pit F1023. It contained no finds. F1031 was possibly a shallow pit or some form of disturbance, although it is hard to ascertain from the little remains that survive.

Posthole F1033 was oval in plan (0.64 x 0.31 x 0.19m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1034, was a firm, mid yellow brown, sandy clayey silt with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones. F1033 cut L1001 and contained no finds.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

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

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The site was commonly overlain by Topsoil L1000, a dark grey black, firm, sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones (0.17 – 0.25m thick). Below L1000, Subsoil L1013 was a dark grey brown, firm, clayey/sandy silt with occasional small angular flint and chalk fragments (0.23 – 0.49m thick).

8.2 The natural geology (L1001) was recorded at depths between 0.40 – 0.72m below the present day ground surface and comprised a mid yellow, firm, silty sand with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The excavated features are tabulated below:

Trench	Context	Fills	Description	Spot Date
1	F1003	L1004	?Pit	-
	F1005	L1006	Ditch	Post-medieval
	F1007	L1008	Ditch	Post-medieval
	F1014	L1015	Posthole	-
	F1016	L1017	Posthole	-
2	F1009	L1010	?Pit	-
		L1011		
		L1012		
	F1018	L1019	Ditch	Roman
	F1020	L1021	Ditch	Early Iron Age
		L1022		
	F1023	L1024	Pit	Early Iron Age
		L1035		
		L1025		
		L1026		
	F1027	L1028	Gully Terminus	Early Iron Age
	F1029	L1030	Gully Terminus	-
	F1031	L1032	?Pit	Post-medieval
F1033	L1034	Posthole	-	

9.2 A significant density/ number of archaeological features were present within Trial Trenches 1 and 2.

9.3 The earliest material comprises residual struck flint from early Iron Age Pit F1023 (Trench 2) and post-medieval Ditch F1005 (Trench 1). The earliest features (Ditch F1020, Gully F1027 and Pit F1023) were of early Iron Age date and were all recorded in Trench 2. Pit F1023 yielded a notable assemblage of early Iron Age pottery and animal bone. A residual post-medieval sherd was found in the upper fill of F1023. The Early Iron Age pottery (see The Pottery, Appendix 4) included at least six vessels in the post-Deverel-Rimbury tradition, including a single fine polished bowl and coarse calcined flint-tempered bowls with finger-top impressed decoration. The stylistic traits of these vessels appear most consistent with 'early' decorated post-Deverel-Rimbury

assemblages that develop in the earliest Iron Age (c. 800-600BC), but comparative data within the Fenland region is limited, and well-preserved groups such as this provide important contributions to defining the currencies of vessel types and styles. The animal bone (see *The Animal Bone*, Appendix 4) exhibited moderate abrasion but a low degree of fragmentation, and was notable for the high frequency of skull and partial limb bones derived predominantly from sheep/ goat and pig, as well as cattle and red deer. These bones exhibited clear evidence of butchery marks consistent with both the removal of meat and marrow, while sparse horn cores and a single un-worked antler tine were also present. In addition to the pottery and animal bone, Pit F1023 contained abundant environmental evidence (see *The Environmental Samples*, Appendix 4) in the form of carbonized plant macrofossils and charcoal. The carbonized plant macrofossils were predominantly cereal grains, dominated by hulled barley; with charcoal from diffuse porous wood types and oak, collectively consistent with a fully processed crop and fuel debris (see *The Environmental Samples*, Appendix 4).

9.4 A single Roman feature (Ditch F1018) was present in Trial Trench 2; it was dated based on the presence of three sherds (52g) of Horningsea reduced ware. Post-medieval Ditch F1007 (Trench 1) yielded a single sherd (20g) of residual Roman pottery. The Horningsea reduced ware is probably from jars but is limited to body sherds that could have been produced throughout the period (see *The Pottery*, Appendix 4).

9.5 Ditch F1005 contained post-medieval (18th – 19th century) pottery. A residual post-medieval sherd – probably from Pit F1031 – was found within the upper fill of Pit F1023 (L1026).

9.6 Based on the site's location in respect to the recently excavated Church Hall site (CHER MCB 18184 and 18185; Woolhouse *et al.* 2015; Fig.13), it was considered to have good potential for further archaeological remains. The Church Hall site yielded low quantities of residual pottery with coarse calcined flint temper, limited to non-diagnostic body sherds and assigned a probable Neolithic to Bronze Age date, but this chronology can now be refined to the Early Iron Age based on the recovery of a larger, better-preserved group with significant diagnostic vessel types.

Research Potential

9.7 A picture of quite intense and widespread Iron Age occupation is emerging in the Soham area and the identification of Early Iron Age archaeology at this site adds to the ever growing body of information regarding settlement of this period in the area. This site lies in close proximity to the fairly high status late Iron Age site at the former Church Hall site and so the Early Iron Age features recorded here could conceivably represent some kind of precursor to this later site. This indicates that further work at Halstead Lodge may have the potential to provide information regarding the development of Iron Age settlement in Soham. Settlement studies are identified as an important research subject for the Iron Age in East Anglia (Medlycott 2011, 31). In addition, the large pottery assemblage recovered during the evaluation indicates that the site may have the

potential to make a significant contribution to artefact studies for the period (*ibid.* 30). The early date of the Iron Age archaeology suggests that information relating to the Bronze Age/Iron Age transition may be present (*ibid.* 29) and the notable assemblage of animal bone indicates that there may be sufficient evidence to build up a picture of the early Iron Age agricultural economy (*ibid.* 31). Additionally, as a settlement site, it may be considered to have the potential to yield information regarding other important research subjects for the Iron Age in East Anglia, such as social organization and manufacturing and industry.

9.8 During the Roman period, Soham formed part of a complex and intensively settled landscape on the edge of the postulated Imperial fenland estate. A significant component of this local landscape was a villa at East Fen Drove (HER 07688 and 07578), as well as a settlement at Fordey Farm to the north-west of Soham. Some evidence for Roman occupation has also been found in the vicinity of the modern town centre. Recent excavation work at the adjacent Church Hall site (Woolhouse *et al.* 2015) revealed an affluent late Iron Age/ early Roman economy including imported Gallo-Belgic pottery. The late Roman period (3rd to 4th century) at this site revealed evidence of intensive occupation (*ibid.*) including enclosure ditches and pits. Finds included pottery, CBM, animal bone and two copper alloy coins. The Roman archaeology identified at the current site may help to further develop our understanding of settlement in Soham at this time. It may therefore be considered that the site has potential to provide information that may contribute to the achievement of important regional research aims associated with rural settlements and landscapes (Medlycott 2011, 47). The widespread Iron Age activity that has been recorded suggests that any Roman archaeology in Soham has the potential to provide information relating to the processes of Romanisation, another research subject identified as being of importance for the East Anglian region (*ibid.* 47).

10 CONCLUSION

10.1 The trial trench evaluation had good potential for archaeological remains. The adjacent Church Hall site contained a high density of multi-period remains (Woolhouse *et al.* 2015; Fig. 13), and it appears that the significant number of features present within the trial trenches represent a continuation of the same activity; not all periods represented to the south were present, however. The current site has further potential to refine and enhance the findings of the adjacent excavation, and our knowledge of Soham in general.

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

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

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APPENDIX 1 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DATA

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

HER	NGR SP	Description
Prehistoric		
11019A	TL 599 737	Bronze razor of late BA or early Iron Age type, with two perforat.
11019	TL 599 737	Neo axe found.
07101	TL 597 736	Scatter of Beaker flints.
07098	TL 59 73	Four Mesolithic tranchet axes found at Soham.
02097	TL 60 73	A flint hammer stone found in 1975 at East Fen.2, Also found in 1975 a grey f lint axe of lozenge shape, length 15cm, width 7,6cm at butt end.
MCB17961	TL 5969 7245	Evaluation revealed no features of archaeological significance, with the exception of post medieval pits and stakeholes. A small assemblage of struck and burnt flint, characteristic of material dating to the late 2nd or 1st millennium BC, was recovered from the subsoil. A single abraded sherd of Roman pottery was also recovered.
Iron Age		
07086	TL 59 73	The burial of a warrior with his spear and two dogs in a grave at Soham may be of the Early Iron Age period (La Tenel or II). The spearhead is in the BM. The burial seems likely to be AS to me.
MCB19683	TL 5942 7325	Three trial trenches were excavated and contained a preserved Iron Age soil horizon which yielded an assemblage of predominantly Early Iron Age pottery, along with several Late Bronze Age and Early Roman sherds. Several features truncated the agricultural soil, including ditches, a pit and a posthole and have been given a possible late Iron Age date. There were also several Post-Medieval features including a wall footing.
MCB18184	TL 59448 73175	1. Evidence for Roman pitting was recorded during evaluation towards the north-eastern area of the Parish Hall site, Soham. Sherds of pottery found in the fills of these pits were of Roman date and lacked significant abrasion, suggesting in situ deposition. 2. Following on from the evaluation, an open area excavation revealed well preserved and deeply stratified multi period settlement remains which have been divided into phases. The first phase was represented only by a scattering of handmade flint tempered pottery and struck flint which were residual finds recovered from across the site. The second and main phase represents a possible high status, late Iron Age to early Roman period settlement. This was represented by a ditched enclosure, with some evidence for associated structures. The ditched boundary enclosure also appears to have been reused in the late Saxon phase. The pottery recovered from this feature includes a large proportion of locally produced Belgic type vessels as well as imported Gallo-Belgic wares and some Samian wares, which are all high status pottery wares. The majority was recovered from the north western enclosure ditch. The boundary ditches contained smaller enclosures, scattered rubbish pits and an alignment of postholes along the southern edge of the excavation area. There were also a few pits located outside the larger enclosure as well.
Romano-British		
07100	TL 594 738	Roman pottery, Castor ware and cordoned jar (C1 and C2), and skull
04843	TL 603 735	Iron long brooch
06971	TL 594 733	7 Skeletons found in building trenches, 9 White Hart Lane lying parallel to each other, 1ft - 2ft deep. 2 Sherds of Roman pottery noted here. Others have been recorded in this area.
MCB17746	TL 59374 73207	Human remains were disturbed by building work. A single inhumation was partially uncovered. The individual was female and the grave contained animal bone and a piece of 4th century grey ware. This burial was probably a part of the White Hart Lane cemetery. The remains were left in situ.
MCB18200	TL 59614	An archaeological evaluation revealed evidence for Roman occupation of the area. The majority of the features excavated were found to the northern end of

	73120	the site, where the alluvium layers into which they were cut was found to be deepest. One ditch was securely dated to the Roman period by the pottery contained within its fills. A series of early medieval features were also recorded on the site (see MCB18201).
CB14630	TL 5993 7243	An articulated human skeleton was discovered during the excavation of foundation trenches of a patio at 6 Kings Parade, Soham, NGR TL 59939 72438. It was orientated east to west with the head to the east. The skull to the lower vertebrae were exposed. The grave was preserved in situ. Despite the presence of furnished Saxon graves to the south, no evidence of grave goods could be found within this burial which could indicate possible association with a Roman cemetery to the south east (MCB14630).
MCB19583	TL 6014 7250	Archaeological features were identified in all eight trial trenches of the archaeological evaluation. Early Iron Age features principally comprising pits, but also a posthole and cobbled surf ace were uncovered. A bone comb and pendant were recovered from the Iron Age features along with a small assemblage of pottery, animal bone and flint. Pits, ditches and gullies of Roman date were uncovered in trenches 6, 7 and 8. The gullies were part of a field system and the ditches were a continuation of enclosure ditches, alongside a trackway. Another cobbled surf ace was uncovered and appeared to be overlaying a Roman ditch dated to the early 2nd century. The early Iron Age pottery in fine flint-tempered fabrics were plain bowls contained in pits. The Roman pottery represents several phases of activity across the 2nd to 4 th centuries and includes central and east Gaulish Samian ware, and amphorae from the south of France.
Saxon		
11019B	TL 599 737	Head (fragment) of C6 small long or cruciform brooch brought to the Archaeology of fice f or identification. Donated to CCC Archaeology.
11789	TL 5943 7325	1. Investigation of the discovery of human bone at 11 White Hart Lane revealed a small assemblage of human and animal bone recovered from the rear garden during construction of a garden shed. Animal bone included dog vertebra, veal, calf and a sheep. Human bone comprised 1 skull fragment, 1 ulna fragment, 1 ankle, 1 lower part of adolescent femur. The human bone was not all from one individual. Burials likely to have been dragged from shallow graves within the cemetery of Felix's Anglo Saxon Abbey, dating 7th-9th centuries.
MCB16868	TL 5943 7327	1. Excavations revealed a beam slot and a posthole from a late Saxon house on this site. During the 12 th and 13 th centuries, ditches and pits were dug, probably representing later property boundaries. 2. A single evaluation trench revealed a late Saxon beam slot and posthole, indicating the presence of a building on the site. Later evidence, in the form of medieval property boundaries and pits, was also recorded.
07123a	TL 5930 7317	O1, AS inhumation cemetery. TC Lethbridge considers that there was an AS cemetery on the site of the cemetery at Soham Parish Church. (This must not be confused with the AS cemetery at the new cemetery. See TL 57 SE 05). A fine cruciform brooch has come from this site. O2, Nothing is definitely known of this site except that it is in the churchyard, and from it came a fine cruciform brooch (? c 550). The finds made in 1856 - 1867 (see TL 57 SE 05) may, however have been here and not at the cemetery site as Fox thinks. TL/5942/7323 Human remains found AD 1835. TL/5936/7320 Human Remains found about AD 1840. Also TL/5936/7318, TL/5937/7315, TL/5948/7319. O3, Mr. Gedney, clerk of the council for over 23 years could offer no additional information. R3, Meaney grid ref TL/593-/731- Soham A, Churchyard. R8. A trench outside the south porch of the church revealed a large amount of disarticulated human bone together with coffin handles and nails. A single burial was encountered, but it was not removed. No finds were noted with it, and it is thought to be post-medieval or later. No evidence was found regarding any earlier religious building or cemetery traditionally thought to have been located within the churchyard, and there was no evidence of the pagan Saxon cemetery supposed to be on or near the site. The lack of evidence may, however, be related to the restricted depth of excavation.

07124	TL 593 732	<p>R4, A cathedral was said to be on E side of main street, opposite church. 01, TL/59--/73--. Alleged site of monastery founded c 630. A monastery is said to have been founded about the year 630 by St Felix, first bishop of the E Saxons, at Seham (identified by Tanner and EPNS with Soham). He is said to have had his episcopal see here for a short time until he moved it to Dunwich.</p> <p>R3, (Ely) of the neighbouring monastery of Soham were among the religious houses pillaged by the Danes in 870.</p> <p>R6, Probable site destroyed.</p> <p>R7. Soham is associated with a premier saint quoted in the annals of English Church history. He was St. Felix (meaning happy or joy ful). In 613 AD Sigebert, the exiled son of Redwald, the first Christian King of East Anglia, succeeded his brother Earpwald as King. Sigebert, who had been converted to Christianity in France brought with him to East Anglia, Bishop Felix of Burgundy, who was later consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury as the 'Apostle of the East Angles'. Felix is renowned as a great missionary and became the first Bishop of the East Angles. King Sigebert allowed him to establish his see at Domnoc, or Dommocceastre. There has always been uncertainty about the location of Domnoc, many historians believe it to be what was once the seaside port of Dunwich in Suffolk, which is now lost to the sea, but modern research has revealed that Domnoc may in fact be Soham. Domnoc had been a Roman station and, besides the advantage of its port, its walls may still have been strong enough to afford some protection for the new Bishop. It was, moreover, connected with the interior by ancient roads. St. Felix is said to have founded a monastery at Soham around 630 AD and was consecrated by Archbishop Honorius in 631 AD. According to the chronicler of the times his episcopate was full of happiness for the cause of Christianity and the admirable historian, Bede, described his work with an allusion to the good omen of his name. Bede wrote that St. Felix "delivered all the province of East Anglia from long-standing unrighteousness and unhappiness. As a pious cultivator of the spirited field, he found abundant faith in a believing people.</p> <p>In no part of England was Christianity more favourably introduced". Bede continues: "He (St. Felix) did not fail in his purpose and like a good farmer reaped a rich harvest of believers. He delivered the entire province from its age-old wickedness and infelicity and brought it to the Christian faith and works of righteousness, and in full accord with the significance of his own name, guided it towards eternal felicity ". An important feature of his mission was the combination of education with religion by means of a school such as existed at Canterbury in connection with the house of SS. Peter and Paul. This school, for which Felix provided teachers "after the model of Kent" was probably attached to the primitive East Anglian Cathedral but its actual location is not known. "He had the see of his bishopric appointed him in the city Domnoc, and having presided over the same province with pontifical authority for seventeen years, he ended his days there in peace." Whether this was in Soham or Dunwich we cannot be certain. St. Felix died on the 8th March 647 AD and is represented as a Bishop with three rings on his right hand. For 200 years the monastic settlement at Soham thrived until around 870 AD when the Danes made their destructive progress across the region, they destroyed the Abbey, stealing its treasures, killing the monks and burning the buildings to the ground. The Abbey was never rebuilt, and the actual site remains a mystery, although, in 1120 AD, William de Malmesbury records that the ruins here were still visible. Except for traces of Saxon masonry in the Norman Church of St Andrew, no physical evidence for the Abbey survives above ground. Stone remains may well have been exported to assist in the rebuilding of the more easily defended monastery of St Etheldreda at Ely, which was brought down at the same time. St Felix's remains were later removed by a monk named Etheric to Ramsey in Huntingdonshire, and there solemnly enshrined by Abbot Ethelstan circa 1030 AD. It has been supposed that subsequent to the Danish raid, Soham was relinquished as a religious site, but it is recorded that Luttingus, a Saxon nobleman built a Cathedral and Palace at Soham. The original Saxon Cathedral would have been a classic example in its construction, with a simple stone building, traces of which still exist within the structure of the present church, and a separate round bell tower which was pulled down when the late Norman tower was built in its</p>
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		stead. This would have been situated, along with other religious buildings, within a circular enclosure. Today the enclosure exists more or less in its original form although somewhat diminished in size. Vestiges of early buildings discovered on the opposite side of the road to the enclosure, along with further burials, may have existed within the enclosure in Saxon times. It is unlikely that this is the site of the original Abbey. R8. The early medieval evidence indicates that this may be a part of an Anglo-Saxon minster founded before 870 AD.
11386	TL 5935 7315	St Andrews churchyard was visited during the excavation of several 1sqm pits in preparation for the installation of Christmas lighting. 1 body sherd of mid to late AS pottery was recovered from a pit in the SE corner of the churchyard, apparently from a grave fill (natural was evident at 1,30m). There was no evidence of AS graves or grave goods. 3 further pits were dug to 1,30m, but all still in grave fills. Sherd was identified by DN Hall.
07027	TL 5998 7239	1. The cemetery in this parish is entirely an inhumation one, so far as is known. It is situated in the modern cemetery to the south east of the town and finds are recorded for the years 1856, 1865 and 1867. There is a small collection from the site in the British Museum, acquired in 1873; this includes 6 fibulae of common types, 2 being "horned"; girdle hangers, beads and spearheads (see 6 in OS map 35, NE; and Soc Antiq Proc 2 S, v p 496). 2. Meaney grid ref TL/599-/723-, Soham B, Newmarket Road (Modern Cemetery). 3. Several inhumations with pots, brooches and weapons found at various dates (one in 1930) in the new cemetery on the Soham-Newmarket road and also under the neighbouring houses on site marked on OS.
02086	TL 594 731	AS socketed spearhead with a leaf shaped blade found in High Street area of Soham. Donor E Morrell.
Medieval		
06945	TL 592 739	Windmill, depicted in Hall Street North Closes.
MCB16279	TL 59387 73633	1. Evaluation at Ten Bell Lane, Soham revealed a late medieval pit possibly associated with sand extraction, and two parallel shallow ditches, possibly the remains of burgage plot boundaries. Several fragments of abraded medieval pottery were recovered from the pit, along with a fragment of probable later medieval roof tile, a residual Roman sherd and a possible residual prehistoric sherd.
07099	TL 5939 7356	1. 2 ring ditches. 2. An assessment excavation of the site in May 1991 revealed at least two substantial ditched enclosures of Saxo-Norman Medieval date. Lined with stake / postholes which could represent either cattle corrals or settlements of some kind. Contemporary ditch systems run within and without the enclosure. A large backfilled pond is also evident to the SW of the site. A fuller excavation is recommended prior to planning permission being granted.
MCB19459	TL 5945 7356	1. Evaluation revealed evidence of an early medieval field system possibly associated with a settlement in the immediate vicinity. Boundary ditches and two pits were identified. The ceramic assemblage suggests a date of between 10th and mid-12th century. In addition, a background scatter of flints and an undated feature were also recorded. The undated features comprised a ditch or gully, which may be prehistoric in date. Monitoring during the groundworks found further evidence of the medieval field system, as well as a possible enclosure or funnelling driveway and an associated building represented by post and stake holes.
07097A	TL 597 735	4 Medieval coins.
11932	TL 5927 7346	1 and 2. In advance of residential development an archaeological evaluation took place of Pratt Street in Sept 1995. In three trial trenches (totalling 55m) linear and curvilinear ditches, pits and postholes were identified. Although finds were limited, because of the level of the water table, pottery recovered suggests a date between the 10th and 12th c. A.D. In addition late 19th or 20th c. rubbish pits were found.
11985	TL 5924 7340	Prior to the construction of 4 houses an evaluation took place in May 1997. Two trenches and a number of test pits were dug, providing evidence of Late Saxon/

		Saxo-Norman occupation. Four possible beam slots and a further possible foundation trench were discovered. The accompanying pottery suggests a date between the 10th and 12th c. AD. The orientation of the features discovered fits in with the alignment of Saxo-Norman features encountered during previous evaluations. In addition a couple of possible prehistoric or Roman ditch features were discovered.
MCB20346	TL 5885 7311	An archaeological evaluation was carried out consisting of one L-shaped trial trench. Modern truncation and petrol contamination was found to the east of the site, but to the south a sub-rectangular pit containing medieval pottery sherd and a small undated ditch were uncovered.
MCB17564	TL 5895 7300	An evaluation on the site of the Former Lion Mills identified three ditches of uncertain function and date in the SW part of the site. A struck flint, small quantities of animal bone and a sherd of Romano-British pottery were recovered from two of the ditches, although a medieval or post medieval date is favoured for the features.
MCB18618	TL 5910 7314	An archaeological evaluation undertaken on the site of the proposed redevelopment of the guide and scout hut, Soham. Two small trenches were opened revealing modern rubbish dumps and an east-west aligned ditch of probable medieval date. Several small fragments of human bone were encountered suggesting the medieval activity may have disturbed earlier burials. Medieval pottery sherds along with plant remains such as carbonised cereal grains suggest low density domestic refuse.
MCB17497	TL 5908 7308	An evaluation on the site of the Former Lion Mills revealed evidence for early medieval occupation along Clay Street, consisting of medieval ditches pits. An undated ditch parallel to the road frontage was also recorded.
01068	TL 5910 7280	3. Moated site near Soham Mills. The form of the site is shown as the plan. The northern part close to the Lode is now occupied by gardens. The whole area is level and the house in the southern enclosure is modern. 13th March 1972. No remains of a moat at the site. The enclosure to the south is for drainage, and it is likely the said moat to the north was landscaping 1st May 1976. No longer extant. A site visit on 17th January 1984 found no trace of the supposed east ditch. Status: not manorial building: yes Occupied: yes Water supply : stream, surface Associated mill no Surface finds none Aerial photos no Enclosure plan double? Enclosure type rectangular Enclosure banks no Wet moat Size: width: 4m depth: 1m to water Appendages: channels Ridge and furrow: none
07123	TL 5930 7317	2. Cruciform church of the late C12. Interior exhibits Late Norman and Early English decoration. The chancel is C13. The Decorated style of the early C14 includes the chancel in its present form. The W Tower is perpendicular (1502). The clerestory is an addition of the late Middle Ages. 3. A trench outside the south porch of the church revealed a large amount of disarticulated human bone together with coffin handles and nails. A single burial was encountered, but it was not removed. No finds were noted with it, and it is thought to be post-medieval or later. No evidence was found regarding any earlier religious building or cemetery traditionally thought to have been located within the churchyard, and there was no evidence of the pagan Saxon cemetery supposed to be on or near the site. The lack of evidence may, however, be related to the restricted depth of excavation. 4. The building of a great Norman Church at Soham is evidence that the Normans had a great presence here. In 1102 AD Hubert de Burgh, Chief Justice of England granted 'Ranulph' certain lands in trust for the Church of St Andrew. This confirms to us that a Church was already in existence here.

	<p>Recorded as the first Vicar of Soham, Ranulph had a hand in designing the new church which would incorporate some of the original Saxon building completed by Luttingus. The Norman design originally included a central tower, however, this was never built and it seems that the separate Saxon bell tower remained in use. It is apparent that the Saxon Rectory of Luttingus was still in use at this time. Records suggest that a separate Vicarage was created and endowed before 1291 when it is referred to for taxation by Pope Nicholas IV, and that the two were brought together in 1341AD during the reign of Edward III. In 1496, right at the end of the Norman period, William Yaxle bequeathed enough money to build a new church tower, and requested that the old tower be removed and the new one built on its foundation. The tower was built as specified, and a new bay was added to the Church in order to join it to the tower. On 3rd August 1451, Soham Parsonage and Vicarage were granted to Pembroke College. This was confirmed by the signature of King Henry VI in 1454. The College still maintains a strong connection with the Church today. The earliest church registers date from 1558 onwards. In 1638, on receipt of a large inheritance from his maternal uncle, Thomas Steward, Oliver Cromwell moved his family to Ely.</p> <p>His infamous rise to power is a celebrated part of English history. See Ely On-Line for more details about Oliver Cromwell in Ely. Although he died in 1658, his connection with this area lived on through his descendants. A large memorial situated to the left of the main door of St. Andrews Church marks the grave of his Great-grand daughter Mary D'Aye, daughter of Elizabeth Cromwell and William Russell, Elizabeth being the daughter of Henry Cromwell, Lord Deputy of Ireland. Perhaps the most famous marriage at St Andrew's Church was of Olaudah Equiano and Susannah Cullen (from Fordham) on the 7th April 1792. Slavery was still in force at the time of their marriage and it must have been one of the first ever legally registered marriages between a Black African and a White English woman performed in an English Church. Olaudah Equiano otherwise known as Gustavus Vassa was the African slave who gained his freedom and became an activist for the abolition of slavery in the 18th Century. He wrote his celebrated Autobiography - 'The interesting narrative of the life of Olaudah Equiano or Gustavus Vassa, the African 1789' which is still available to buy to this day. He died on 31st March 1797, aged 52 and is buried in Cambridgeshire. He had two daughters and one of them Anna Maria Vassa is buried in St Andrew's Church, Chesterton, Cambridge. She died on 21st July 1797, aged 4 Years, and there is a plaque outside the church there. Slavery was finally abolished in England, 10 years after the death of Olaudah Equiano in 1807.</p> <p>5. Dismounted bell - c.1510, founder T Bullisdon (London).</p> <p>6. The church was probably cruciform from the C12, comprises a chancel whose N. chapel was partitioned to make a vestry, a crossing below the stump of a central tower, an aisled, clerestoried nave with N. and S. porches and a W. tower.</p> <p>It is built of fieldstones, much patched with red and grey brick, and dressed mainly in clunch ashlar, partly renewed. All its roofs were leaded by 1746, save for stone-tiled S. porch. The earliest surviving part is probably the late C12 crossing, which retains four wide, pointed arches on separate massive round demi-columns. The chancel, whose S. wall retains one side of a blocked priest's door, and the transepts were probably reconstructed in the early to mid C13. An elaborately moulded and shafted C13 double piscina remains in the S. wall of the S. transept, which is linked to the nave S. aisle by a plain pointed arch, perhaps cut through the earlier transept wall, like the crooked arch from the N. transept to the N. aisle.</p> <p>In the early C14 the nave, whose earlier arcade was leaning westward, was extended west by one bay, leaving a short section of walling between, and the gabled S. porch was erected. Most of the aisle, transept, and chancel windows are also C14. Of the aisle windows, mostly of three lights, both those in the N. aisle, with tall lights and two reticulated ones in the S. aisle, one at each end, are the early C14, as is a three-light window in the chancel S. wall. Beyond a wall pierced by a C15 doorway containing a medieval door stands the eastern part of the N. chapel of two bays, possibly also C14. Perhaps built as a sacristy, it was used as a vestry by 1746, as until the C20 when it was made a 'lady chapel'. It contains a stone altar and resited fragments of medieval glass. In the</p>
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		<p>C15 the nave received a clerestory of five uniform three-light windows, two similar, taller, ones being inserted centrally among the easternmost three in each aisle. Perhaps c.1500 the north porch, smaller but more used, outside a C14 doorway, was reconstructed more ornately, being given an embattled parapet with flushwork, like its plinth, and pinnacles over its buttresses, also stone panelling on its interior walls. Aisles and clerestory were also embattled, along with the chancel N. chapel. The clerestory battlements have largely been renewed in red brick. The late C12 central tower presumably survived until the C15. A new tower, ascribed to John Wastell, who had worked at Great St. Mary's, Cambridge, was added west of the end of the nave. It is of three tall stages with angle buttresses and has a stair turret to the S.E. It is crowned with stepped battlements over arcaded flushwork: below the stringcourse flushwork, crowns of St. Etheldreda alternate with saltires for St. Andrew. There are four angle and four intermediate pinnacles. Inside, there is a lofty, moulded, tower arch. Presumably contemporary with the clerestory is the late C15 nave roof, which has massive tie-beams with arched braces supporting traceried struts each side, alternately with angels upholding hammerbeams. The aisles have simpler contemporary roofs with arched braces, also alternating on the S. side. An ornate, probably C15, parclose screen with ogeed arches, the outer two subdivided, supporting tracery and elaborate cresting, occupies, as in the 1840s, the arch from the N. transept to the N. chapel. The lower part of the roodstair survives N.E. of the crossing, under whose eastern arch a screen survived in 1746.</p> <p>7. Ten timbers from the nave roof, including one replacement jackpost supporting the westernmost truss of the nave roof, were sampled and assessed for suitability for dendrochronological dating in 2007. Five of the roof timbers were dated, and given a most likely felling date of AD 1477-1509, while the replacement jackpost came from a tree felled in winter AD 1626/7.</p>
MCB18201	TL 59614 73120	An archaeological evaluation revealed evidence for Roman occupation of the area. The majority of the features excavated were found to the northern end of the site, where the alluvium layers into which they were cut was found to be deepest. One ditch was securely dated to the Roman period by the pottery contained within its fills. A series of early medieval features were also recorded on the site (see MCB18201).
MCB16314	TL 59481 73017	An evaluation was carried out revealing a pit, tentatively dated to the medieval period alongside a ditch containing post-medieval pottery and a Victorian rubbish pit.
07105	TL 599 729	Wind mill, depicted in Mill Croft.
MCB19369	TL 5979 7280	<p>1. A recently restored manor with a courtyard to the east within a 1 acre walled garden (see MCB 19370).</p> <p>2. Two C11 manors in Soham were by the C13 combined into one, probably called Netherhall Manor, owned by the Lord of Soham.</p>
MCB19936	TL 5958 7262	Two trial trenches were excavated. Trench 1 did not contain any archaeological features or finds. The second trench contained 5 pits and a ditch. One of the pits and the ditch contained medieval pottery dating to the 12th-14th centuries. The rest of the pits dated to the post-medieval period. Finds recovered include 19th century pottery, CBM and animal bone.
Post-medieval		
MCB17213	TL 5996 7235	An Anglican burial chapel c.1855. The fabric is of knapped flint and stone dressings with a roof of slate having ornamental crestings. The nave and sanctuary are both under one roof; the entrance porch projects from ritual northwest and vestry from the south to form a T plan. The chapel is in a Gothic Revival style. There is a subordered entrance in the west elevation with a pair of two-light Decorated windows above. Carved corbel between support and attached rib that terminates in an uncarved block. A three-light Decorated window to the ritual east with tracery head; two-light windows with trefoil heads to nave. Setback buttresses at corners and marking bays. Each gable end has stone coping and a gable cross. The chapel has plank doors and metal hinges of original designs. It forms a pair with the Non-conformist chapel to the north (see MCB17233).
MCB17233	TL 5993 7237	Non-conformist burial chapel. On the north side of primary access road, c.1855.

		The fabric is of knapped flint and stone dressings, with roofs of slate retaining original ornamental cresting. The nave and sanctuary are of three continuous bays with south porch and vestry projecting from the returns to form a T-plan. The chapel is in the Gothic Revival style. East wheel window. There is a decorated tracery light over the west entrance. There is a carved stop to the gable face and over the south porch entrance in vesica piscis. Coping to gable ends terminated by gable crosses. Plank doors and iron hinges of original designs. The interior is plain plastered, devoid of original fittings but retaining an exposed rafter roof; the bays are marked by doubled rafters linked by a carved fascia. There are passing braces to each rafter pair. The chapel forms a pair with the Anglican chapel to the south (see MCB17213).
CB15264	TL 59528 72961	Drainage ditches of post-medieval and modern date were recorded during an evaluation. Some residual Medieval material was found, but no evidence of occupation on the site. No widespread deposits of alluvium were recorded, suggesting that the Brook Dam is likely to be an artificial cut, dating from post-Saxon times.
12188	TL 593 729	"The Moat" with gardens.
MCB16612	TL 5892 7294	1. On this 17th century watermill site, a previous watermill of c.1820, and 19th century steam roller mills burnt down in 1945. The present large mid-20th-century mill with several large storage silos produces pet foods and specialist animal feeds. 2. An archaeological evaluation comprising of 10 trial trenches revealed the remains of the mill leet shown on the tithe map of 1841. It contained 18th and 19th century pottery, brick and tile.
MCB17131	TL 5940 7298	Originally built registered in 1783, the chapel was rebuilt in 1837, it stood N. of Clay Street. It is a plain grey brick building of two-stories, with slated roof and corner pilasters. From the c.1825 the Baptists ran a Sunday school, still kept up in the 1970s. It celebrated a '215th' anniversary in 1967.
MCB17349	TL 5940 7304	A desk-based assessment demonstrated that the site lies within the medieval and post-medieval core of Soham, with considerable potential for backyard activities. Subsequent evaluation revealed a number of post-medieval and modern remains typical of backyard activity, comprising several postholes, pits, two dog burials and a shallow gully. A partially quarried outcrop of sandstone was located in the southern sector of the site, and silt deposits overlying the outcrop may represent the silting up of a large quarry pit. The finds assemblage dated the quarrying activity to the early post-medieval period, and was consistent with domestic refuse.
12187	TL 595 732	"The Place" - designed grounds - possibly related to the vicarage?
MCB16611	TL 5930 7325	Steelyard, to lift wagons up to 3 tons. Perhaps eighteenth century, rebuilt in the twentieth. Rare survivor, the one on its original building.
MCB19679	TL 5910 7325	Probable site of the former summerhouse for 'The Place's' grand house.
MCB15832	TL 59033 73309	An evaluation revealed 17-19th C ditches and pits, a brick-lined cellar and drain. Ceramic evidence suggests intensive use of the site in the 17-18th C. Some residual late medieval material was present.
MCB17130	TL 5918 7338	Built in 1841, built north of Cock Lane, later Station Road. Of grey brick, its sides have four bays, all with square-headed windows, in two storeys; the three-bayed front has a pediment over pilasters, with a wooden doorway on Ionic columns. A smaller building of 1881 to the N.W. served a long-established Sunday school. Joined the United Reform Church in the 1970s. The chapel closed in 1994 and was up for sale in 1997.
07095	TL 586 735	S1, Site of windmill 'Mere Mill'. Smock mill built 1867 destroyed 1948.
07096	TL 588 735	R1, Brick kiln.
07097B	TL 597 735	Collection of Post Medieval metal objects, including thimbles, buckles, bells, curtain rings, lead weights, finger ring, ear ring, decorative bronze objects. Ca 80 Post Medieval coins, Charles I - Victorian.
MCB17133	TL 5913 7359	Built by Primitive Methodists in 1841 south of Bury Croft, holding 250. It was rebuilt in 1869, in grey brick trimmed in red, in four bays with round-headed windows and a three-bayed north front. A gallery was installed in 1883. A similar building for their Sunday school was put up to the west in 1890. In the 1850s the chapel had belonged to the Primitive Methodists Ely circuit, but in 1886 they started a new one centred on Soham. They continued into the C20 to hold

		occasional outdoor 'camp meetings', gaining 60 adherents in 1882. The chapel was refurbished in the 1940s when a vestry was added. It was chosen, because with its 294 sittings it was the larger one, to serve Soham's Methodists after the Methodist re-union of 1932. The Wesleyan chapel was sold for commercial use in 1942. The chapel was still open in 1997.
MCB19874	TL 5923 7378	A row of cottages built at different periods in the 18th-early 19th centuries. The cottages are timber framed with roughcast render, the left hand gable end is of clunch and the right hand gable end is of brick, the roofs are of pantiles. The cottages are of one storey with an attic, there is a single storey shop wing, with a mansard roof, to the right hand gable end.
Modern		
MCB19370	TL 5978 7280	1 acre walled garden surrounding Manor House (see MCB 19369). The garden includes part of a larger orchard to the west which has now been developed for housing. Along the perimeter wall grow many herbaceous plants distributed by keen gardeners to their friend in the 1960s before many garden societies were established. Several rarities have been nurtured by the owners for many years and have been saved from extinction.
MCB19456	TL 5916 7379	Despite the site's potential for archaeological remains, only modern postholes, three throws and an undated gully were identified. A residual sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from one of the tree throws. It is probable that the site has been used for agricultural purposes for some time. The 1845 Tithe map depicts trees in this area.
Undated		
11169	TL 601 737	Probably ploughed remnants of sand wiggles which tend to form rectangular-like shapes showing as negative marks in crop.
07102	TL 598 735	Ring ditch.
MCB19457	TL 5947 7319	Human remains were reportedly found at this site in 1840.
MCB19462	TL 5930 7325	Human remains were reportedly found at this location in 1881.
07090	TL 59 73	Cinerary urns found at Clipsel fields, Soham.
MCB20416	TL 5993 7243	An articulated human skeleton was discovered during the excavation of foundation trenches of a patio at 6 Kings Parade, Soham, NGR TL 59939 72438. It was orientated east to west with the head to the east. The skull to the lower vertebrae were exposed. The grave was preserved in situ. Despite the presence of furnished Saxon graves to the south, no evidence of grave goods could be found within this burial which could indicate possible association with a Roman cemetery to the south east (MCB14630).
Multi-period		
MCB16872	TL 5954 7377	Archaeological evaluation revealed little information. One furrow running north-west to south-east was found, relating to medieval ridge and furrow. A single ditch with one sherd of early Iron Age pottery running north-east to south-west was also found, probably from a field system. The alignment of this ditch is different from the field systems seen at Ten Bell Lane.
MCB19766	TL 5910 7367	An evaluation consisting of six trial trenches was carried out, followed shortly by a full excavation of the area. Three phases of activity were identified. A waterhole containing Late Bronze Age pottery, animal bone and burnt flint was uncovered. Late Iron Age and 1st-2nd century AD pottery was recovered from a number of northwest southeast aligned ditches, forming elements of a field system. There were also remains on an early Medieval field system on the same alignment containing 10th-14th century pottery.
MCB18106	TL 59108 73424	An archaeological evaluation revealed two concentrations of archaeological remains in the east and west part of the site, mainly dating to the prehistoric and medieval periods. A smaller number of features, some medieval, were exposed in the central part of the site. A single grave containing three inhumations, a mother, infant and child, was found in Trench 4. No metal artefacts were recovered from the grave and associated dating was limited but the northeast-southwest aligned grave was suggested to be Prehistoric or Saxon in date and may be associated with pits to its south and south-west.
MCB18105	TL 59091 73405	A systematic fieldwalking survey was undertaken to the rear of 52 Station Road, Soham. Twenty-six artefacts were collected from a fieldwalked area. Finds comprised a single Roman greyware sherd, medieval and post medieval pottery

		(all sherds were abraded), a fragment of roof tile and clay pipe stems, probably representing domestic ref use introduced to the site through manuring. Late nineteenth/twentieth century sherds were not collected.
CB15776	TL 59299 73058	<p>1. Four phases of activity were identified during an archaeological evaluation. Prehistoric activity was represented by a shallow ditch that produced Bronze Age flint debitage. Late Saxon evidence emerged from a boundary ditch which may have represented the rear boundary of properties flanking High Street. The medieval period (13-16th C) is represented by quarrying, postholes, slots and ditches, the later of which may have represented property boundaries. No evidence for post-medieval activity was revealed.</p> <p>2. An excavation along the road corridor revealed further archaeological remains dating to the Iron Age and Medieval periods. A small concentration of Early Iron Age features was recorded, consisting of two possible postholes, ditches and a few pits. The site was reoccupied in the 10th-12th centuries with ditches and domestic pits of this period found during the excavation. In the 13th-14th centuries ditches and rubbish pits were dug in the southern part of the site, whilst the northern part was used for chalk quarry pits and a posthole structure. For c.1600 activity on the site increased, with more chalk quarrying and backyard pits. Finally archaeological features were identified which correspond with structures on 19th century maps of the area, including a 17th century coach house, 18th century clunch well and boundary ditch.</p>
MCB19935	TL 5934 7304	<p>1. The excavation identified an Iron Age ditch that may have formed part of an enclosure. After a short hiatus in occupation, a later enclosure, probably for stock was created in the Late Saxon period. Mid-medieval period numerous quarry pits and wells excavated on the site attest to an intensive building programme during this period. The area of the site was laid out as formal gardens in the 18th century, which characterised the site at the time of the excavation.</p> <p>2. An archaeological excavation revealed two sub-circular pits dated to the Late Saxon period but cut by an enclosure ditch also containing pottery sherds of the same date. During the medieval period there appears to have been the digging of several pits across the whole site, one pit was large enough to be considered a quarry pit and two wells, one clay-lined and the other stone-lined were also attributed to this period. Pits dated to the post-medieval period were also identified.</p>

APPENDIX 2 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

Date	Description	Fig No.	Scale	Location
1656	Palmer's map of the manors of Soham and Fordham	4	-	CALS
c. 1650	Soham village map (VCH X: 491)	5	1: 10,000	CALS
1887	First Edition Ordnance Survey map	6	6": 1 mile	CALS
1903	Ordnance Survey map	7	6": 1 mile	CALS
1927	Ordnance Survey map	8	6": 1 mile	CALS
1930-50	Ordnance Survey map, provisional edition	9	6": 1 mile	CALS

APPENDIX 3 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

Feature	Context	Segment	Trench	Description	Spot Date (Pot only)	Pot Qty	Pottery (g)	CBM (g)	A.Bone (g)	Other Material	Other Qty	Other (g)
	1000		1	Topsoil	18th - 19th C	9	62		3797	C.Pipe Sn.Shell Fe.Frags	1 2	4 1 272
1005	1006		1	Fill of Ditch	18th - 19th C	23	216		147	Str.Flint	2	7
1007	1008		1	Fill of Ditch	Roman	1	20		48			
1016	1017		1	Fill of Posthole					185			
1018	1019	A B	2	Fill of Ditch	Roman Early Iron Age	3 15	52 65		6 30			
1020	1021		2	Fill of Ditch					18			
	1022		2	Fill of Ditch	Early Iron Age	19	90		100	F.Clay Sn.Shell		165 7
1023	1024	B	2	Basal Layer of Pit	Early Iron Age	17	363		110 44	Str.Flint B.Flint	1	2 9
	1025	A B	2	Fill of Pit	Early Iron Age Early Iron Age	24 4	552 39		27	Str.Flint	1	2
	1026	A B	2	Upper Layer of Pit	Early Iron Age Early Iron Age Post-medieval Early Iron Age	13 47 1 52	301 541 12 590		114 220 451	Slag Str.Flint B.Stone F.Clay B.Flint Slag Str.Flint	1 1 1 2 4	18 7 8 8 76 2 5
	1035	A	2	Fill of Pit	Early Iron Age	22	280		437			
1027	1028		2	Fill of Gully	Early Iron Age	3	75		39			
U/S	U/S		1+2	Unstratified						Fe.Frags Pb.Frag		177 4

APPENDIX 4 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Struck Flint

Andrew Peachey MCIfA

The evaluation recovered a total of nine pieces (23g) of struck flint in an un-patinated condition, predominantly contained as residual material within early Iron Age Pit F1023 (L1025 and L1026), as well as post-medieval Ditch F1005 L1006.

Methodology and Terminology

The flint was quantified by fragment count and weight (g), with all data entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that will be deposited as part of the archive. Flake type (see 'Dorsal cortex,' below) or implement type, patination, colour and condition were also recorded as part of this data set, along with free-text comments. Terms used to describe implement and core types follow the system adopted by Healy (1988, 48-9). The term 'cortex' refers to the natural weathered exterior surface of a piece of flint, and the term 'patination' to the colouration of a flaked surface exposed by human or natural agency. Dorsal cortex is categorised after Andrefsky (2005, 104 and 115) with 'primary flake' referring to those with cortex covering 100% of the dorsal face; 'secondary flake' with 50-99%; 'tertiary' with 1-49% and 'un-corticated' to those with no dorsal cortex.

Discussion

The struck flint, manufactured using dark grey raw material, includes a single end scraper manufactured on a blade in Pit F1023 (L1026), with the remainder in that feature comprising small blade-like, un-corticated debitage flakes in L1025 and L1026, also in post-medieval Ditch F1005 L1006. The end scraper has abrupt retouch applied around the distal end with a deliberately truncated butt; while the debitage includes a single flake with parallel dorsal scars, with the remainder comprising small trimming flakes or chips, probably from the maintenance of a striking platform. This residual material forms a very limited group, but the small blade technology may be indicative of potential Mesolithic to early Neolithic activity in the area.

References

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The Pottery

Andrew Peachey MCIfA

The assemblage contains a total of 263 sherds (3322g) of pottery, predominantly comprised of well-preserved early Iron Age form and fabric types in the post-Deverel-Rimbury (PDR) ceramic tradition, notably including a high concentration of sherds in a single pit (Table 1). Sparse Roman sherds in two ditches suggest that some early Iron Age sherds may be residual in linear features, while a single post-medieval sherd was present in the upper fill of Pit F1023 is judged intrusive. The PDR ceramic tradition spans the late Bronze Age and early Iron Age in the region, and although based on deposits limited by the extent of the trial-trench evaluation, the fabric and form types present may tentatively be identified with 'early' decorated PDR assemblages in the region (c. 800-600BC). This chronology may coincide with the earliest groups recorded at Fordham Road, Soham c. 900m to the south-east, as well as less diagnostic prehistoric sherds with calcined flint temper from features recorded adjacent to the south at the former Church Hall Site, High Street, Soham.

Feature	Spot Date (feature)	Pottery Date					
		Early Iron Age		Roman		Post Medieval	
		F	W	F	W	F	W
Pit F1023	Early Iron Age	179	2666	-	-	1	12
Gully F1027	Early Iron Age	3	75	-	-	-	-
Ditch F1020	Early Iron Age (residual?)	19	90	-	-	-	-
Ditch F1018	Roman	25	129	4	72	-	-
Topsoil L1000 and L1006	Post-Medieval	24	214	-	-	8	64
Total		250	3174	4	72	9	76

Table 1: Quantification of pottery by frequency (F) and weight (W, in grams) in feature groups

Methodology

The pottery was quantified by sherd count, weight (g) and R.EVE (including minimum number of vessels) with fabrics examined at x20 magnification. Rim type, profile and decoration were also recorded in separate fields and free-text comments in accordance with the guidelines developed by the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 1995). To reduce the repetition of references to general and particular form types, abbreviations (*italicised*) have been utilised for Barrett's (1980) classification of PDR vessel *Class*, and for the type-sites at *West Harling* (Clark and Fell 1953) and *Fengate* (Hawkes 1943). All data has been entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that will form part of the site archive.

The Early Iron Age Pottery

A total of 250 sherds (3174g) of early Iron Age pottery was present in the assemblage, of which c. 72% by sherd count (c. 84% by weight) was contained in Pit F1023, with further sherds sparsely distributed in linear features, including likely residual sherds. The group from Pit F1023 was well-preserved with an average sherd weight of 15g and intact surfaces and substantial profiles; the group includes the remnants of a minimum of six vessels (total R.EVE: 0.67), with fragments of each vessel often distributed between the multiple fills of the pit (L1024, L1025, L1026 and L1035). Within Pit F1023 there was little, if any bias in the distribution of sherds,

fabric or form types between the four fills. The remaining sherds contain only limited diagnostic material, including two small rim sherds (total R.EVE: 0.1).

The early Iron Age pottery occurred in four hand-made, bonfire-fired fabrics, of which three represent calcined flint temper of varying coarseness (F1, F2 and F3), while the fourth (QZ1) is unusual for the region and is derived from a single vessel (plain body sherds only), possibly imported from the Midlands to the north-west of the Fenland. The fabrics can be described as:

- F1 Sparse-common flint-tempered ware. Black to pale red brown surfaces over a dark grey core. Inclusions comprise sparse-common calcined flint (0.25-2mm, occasionally to 5mm) with common sub angular quartz (0.2-0.5mm)
- F2 Fine flint-tempered ware. Black to dark grey throughout. Inclusions comprise sparse-common calcined flint (<1mm), sparse quartz (<0.5mm) and occasional grey ?rock/clay pellets (<1mm). Almost always with burnished exterior.
- F3 Coarse flint-tempered ware. Orange brown surfaces over a dark grey core. Inclusions comprise common calcined flint (0.5-5mm, occasionally to 5mm) with sparse sub angular quartz (0.2-0.5mm)
- QZ1 Quartzite and clay pellet-tempered ware. Pale-mid grey-brown surfaces over a dark grey core. Inclusions comprise sparse quartz (<0.25mm), fine mica, quartzite (0.5-2mm) and rounded red-brown clay pellets (0.2-1mm). Typically has internal wiping marks. Possibly an import, with inclusions suggestive of a source in the Midlands, potentially Leicestershire/Warwickshire/Staffordshire.

Fabric	Pit F1023		Other Features		Total	
	F	W	F	W	F	W
F1	127	1904	61	476	188	2380
F2	26	303	10	32	36	335
F3	23	355	-	-	23	355
QZ1	3	104	-	-	3	104
Total	179	2666	71	508	250	3174

Table 2: Quantification of fabric types in Pit F1023 and other features by frequency (F) and weight (W, in grams)

Vessels in all four fabrics were contained in Pit F1023, with 'medium' fabric F1 common, 'fine' and 'coarse' fabrics F2 and F3 sparse, and fabric F4 rare (Table 2); while only fabrics F1 and F2 were present elsewhere. Fabrics F1 and F2 are directly paralleled in the significant assemblage from Fordham Road, Soham (Peachey 2015), however in contrast this assemblage includes the coarse fabric F3 while lacking the sand or shell-tempered fabrics evident at Fordham Road, possibly indicative of a chronology in the early stages of the progression from flint to sand temper in early Iron Age PDR pottery (Needham 1996, 245), though this may be biased by a single deposit. Nonetheless, the coarser fabric F3 is consistent with the calcined flint-tempered pottery recorded at the former Church Hall Site, adjacent to the south, where diagnostic form types were absent (Peachey 2012, 33-4).

The classification of early Iron Age form types is framed by the development of chronologies for PDR pottery in eastern England. This framework is underpinned by the broad definition of PDR ceramic tradition spanning the late Bronze Age and early Iron Age by Barrett (1980), in parallel with the early Iron Age regional style zones defined by Cunliffe (1968; 2005), specifically the West Harling-Fengate group and the Ivinghoe-Sandy group (Cunliffe 2005, 94-7, figs. A:5 and A:7). Defining and refining a ceramic-based chronology within the late Bronze Age and early Iron Age has proved problematic, in part because inter- and intra-site comparisons often

appeared to show inconsistent patterns; and because in regions such as the fens and fen-edge, substantial diagnostic assemblages remained relatively uncommon therefore comprehensive data with which to determine a satisfactory resolution remained absent. However the compilation of new data (and associated radiocarbon dates) has allowed greater rigour and understanding to be applied to PDR chronologies in eastern England (Brudenell 2008a; Knight 2002), in particular northern East Anglia (Brudenell 2011), while recent excavations in the southern half of the fens/fen-edge have provided similar assemblages from sites such as Colne Fen (Brudenell 2013, 213). Therefore, it has proved possible to move beyond Barrett's, still applicable vessel classes, to recognise form and decoration types characteristic of early plain ware, early decorated ware and late decorated ware (i.e. Brudenell 2011, 13-22) associated with chronological phases within the PDR ceramic tradition.

The group from Pit F1023 includes five Barrett (1980) *Class III* coarse bowls and a single *Class IV* fine bowl; with further single examples of each type contained in Gully F1027 and Ditch F1020 respectively, but too small for further comparison. The absence of jars may result from the lack of sufficient profiles to allow them to be classified; however the rim diameters of the *Class III* vessels present (22-30cm) suggests that the group is more likely limited to bowls, in contrast to the generally slightly narrower jars that dominate the assemblage at Fordham Road, although examples there do occur in the same size range (Peachey 2015). The *Class III* bowls include a single F1 example with a plain body and a convex-walled profile (*West Harling IV*) comparable to late Bronze Age to earlier Iron Age vessels at Colne Fen (Brudenell 2013, 141: fig.4.25.1/6); but the bulk of the coarse bowls exhibit single rows of finger-tip impressed decoration on their neck or shoulder (*West Harling II*). Two of these bowls, an F3 example in L1024 and an F1 example in L1026 have a shallow shoulder decorated with a single row of finger-tip impressions comparable to vessels from Fordham Road (Peachey 2015: fig.98.5) and *Fengate Y1*. Another F1 bowl, from L1024 has a more strongly everted rim with finger-nail impressions on top comparable to a vessel from Fordham Road (Peachey 2015: fig.101.1), while F3 body sherds in L1026 indicate the presence of further vessels with finger-tip impressed shoulders. A single fabric F2 *Class IV* fine bowl (*West Harling VI*) was represented by a large fragment in L1026, although body sherds in other Pit F1023 fills are likely derived from the same vessel. The bowl has a high angular shoulder, an in-turned rim with an internal bevel and a burnished exterior, comparable to *Fengate K4*.

The associated vessels in Pit F1023 form a group of limited extent by context, but accepting this, parallels can still be made with chronological trends in the evolution of PDR vessels. The prevalence of bowls with limited finger-tip impressed decoration with a single convex-walled vessel, and the high-shouldered, angular profile of a fine bowl (not of Darmsden-Linton type) appear most consistent with PDR form types that develop in the earliest Iron Age (c. 800-600BC) in 'early' decorated PDR assemblages (Brudenell 2008a, 188-90; Brudenell 2011, 17-19). This pattern is most evident at West Harling c. 40km to the east, but has been identified in components of the assemblage from Fordham Road, Soham, notably in Phase 1, although activity appears to continue there longer through the early Iron Age. However; it is acknowledged that chronological differentiation in PDR assemblages is laced with difficulty due to vessel types maintaining long currencies that transgress

traditional divides (Brudenell 2008a, 191; Knight 2002, 127). On a broader scale it must be stated that these vessel types are distinct from the bi-partite vessels with a lower girth/shoulder recorded in the late Bronze Age assemblage from Addenbrooke's, Cambridge (Brudenell 2008b, 36), and the more rounded shoulder of the earliest middle Iron Age jars from Haddenham V (Hill and Braddock 2006). Based on a single pit as the principal depositional context, it is unclear if the early Iron Age pottery was associated with settlement activity, although it appears pertinent that the multiple fills of Pit F1023 represent a single act of disposal of vessels that do not exhibit any evidence of wear, including burning or residues.

Roman and Later Pottery

The assemblage included a total of four sherds (72g) of Roman pottery, contained as sparse sherds in Ditches F1007 (Trench 1) and F1018 (Trench 2). The Roman pottery is entirely comprised of plain body sherds of Horningsea Reduced Ware (Tomber and Dore 1998, 116), probably derived from jars or similar closed vessels produced c. 14km to the south-west between the late 1st and mid 4th centuries AD.

A single sherd (12g) of post-medieval glazed red earthenware was contained in Pit F1023 (L1026), the uppermost fill of a pit containing an otherwise secure concentration of early Iron Age material, therefore is probably the result of intrusive disturbance in the 18th-19th centuries. Activity on the site during this late post-medieval to early modern period is supported by the presence of a further eight sherds (64g) of post-medieval glazed red earthenware and transfer-printed ware in Topsoil L1000 and Ditch F1005 L1006 (Trench 1).

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The Slag

Andrew A. S. Newton

Introduction

A total of three pieces (20g) of slag, originating from a single context (L1026), was recovered during archaeological work at Halstead Lodge, Soham. The slag was identified on morphological grounds by visual examination.

Visual examination of metalworking residues allows them to be categorised according to morphology, colour, density, and vesicularity. It should be noted, however, that not all slags are diagnostic of a particular metalworking process or part of that process. Slags are also particularly susceptible to morphological and composition alteration by secondary corrosion products.

Reference was made to the National Slag Reference Collection (Dungworth *et al* 2009) where appropriate and to the relevant subject-specific (Bayley *et al* 2008) and regional (Medlycott 2011) research frameworks.

Results

F1023, L1026A *1 fragment, 18g.* Dark red-brown to mid grey. Rough, dull surfaces. Moderately dense. No response to magnet. Small inclusions of burnt stone. Undiagnostic, probably Fe, slag

F1023, L1026B *2 fragments, 2g.* Two fragments of dark grey to black coke-like material.

Discussion

The slag present potentially made its way into L2026 from which it was recovered through a variety of means. Its presence indicates nothing more than industrial activity in the wider area and does not, in itself, suggest past industrial activity within the bounds of the site itself.

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The Animal Bone

Dr Julia E.M. Cussans

A moderately sized assemblage of animal bone was recovered from trial trench excavations at Halstead Lodge. Animal bone came from a total of 16 fills and segments from eight features, the majority of which were spot dated to the Iron Age (Table 1). Bones were assessed on a context by context basis taking account of species present and general body area and noting the presence of ageable, butchered, measureable and pathological elements as well as taphonomic condition of the bone.

Bone preservation was mostly recorded as ok on a five point scale from very poor through to excellent. Bone abrasion was quite common, but fresh breakages were very rare (with the exception of bone from Topsoil L1000) indicating that the bone fragments were relatively robust. Dog gnawing was relatively common and noted on bones from a number of the deposits.

A total of 364 bones fragments were present but of these over 280 could only be identified as large (cattle or horse sized) or medium (sheep or pig sized) mammal, this was largely due to the highly fragmented nature of the assemblage. A large proportion of these bones (150) were large mammal skull fragments probably all belonging to a single horse skull from Topsoil L1000 (Trial Trench 1); of the remainder nearly twice as many were recorded as medium mammal than large mammal. This is quite unusual compared to the majority of bone assemblages examined by the author where large mammal fragments usually predominate. Identified taxa in order of abundance were horse, sheep/goat, pig, cattle and red deer. Horse however was only represented by a single tooth fragment (L1021) and many skull and mandible fragments likely deriving from a single animal (L1000) of relatively recent date. Red deer was only represented by a single un-worked antler tine that may have derived from a shed antler. The low numbers of cattle are also unusual compared to most assemblages examined by the author, for example Woolhouse *et al.* (2015) and Cussans (2015).

Cattle were represented by a mix of head, feet and limb bones. A horn core and skull fragments indicated animals of small stature although no measurable bones were present. A small number of bones displayed butchery marks.

Sheep/goat bones were dominated by head elements with limb and foot bones also present. Two small fragments of horn core were present but could not confidently be identified to species. Ageing evidence showed both juvenile and adult animals to be present and a small number of bones had clear evidence of butchery.

Pig was largely represented by head and limb bones but feet were also present. Animal age varied and included evidence for the presence of foetal/ neonatal animals suggesting on site breeding. Additionally both male and female animals were identified from mandible fragments. A number of butchery marks were present and one pig mandible showed evidence of ante-mortem tooth loss and possible infection of the bone.

Bones identified as large mammal included rib, skull, vertebrae and long bone fragments, some of which showed signs of butchery and one of which was burnt (charred). Medium mammal bone fragments were largely dominated by long bone shaft fragments although other elements, such as ribs, were also present. A number of these fragments displayed cut marks indicating the removal of meat from the bone. However the high occurrence of these long bone fragments and the near absence of any complete bones in the wider assemblage indicated the breaking up of bones to access marrow from the inside (marrow cracking) and the processing of bones to extract extra fats and nutrients. This practice would tend to indicate that the inhabitants of the site were operating under stressed and relatively marginal economic conditions (Outram 2004), where every resource had to be put to its fullest use.

This moderate assemblage provides excellent potential for elucidating aspects of site economy and from the current level of analysis indicates a relatively stressed economic situation.

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Feature	Context	Segment	Description	Spot Date	Cattle	Sheep/ Goat	Pig	Horse	Red Deer	Large Mammal	Medium Mammal	Total	
	1000		Topsoil	Post Med		2		37		150		189	
1005	1006		Ditch	Post Med	1	1				3	5	10	
1007	1008		Ditch	Residual Roman			1			1	4	6	
1016	1017		Posthole	\	2							2	
1018	1019	A	Ditch	Roman		1				1	3	5	
		B		Early Iron Age	1	1					4	6	
1020	1021		Ditch	\				1				1	
	1022			Early Iron Age	1	2	2			4	11	20	
1023	1024	B	Pit	Early Iron Age		1			1	1	5	8	
	1025	A		Early Iron Age		1	1			1	5	8	
		B		Early Iron Age						1	4	5	
	1026			Early Iron Age	1								1
		A		Early Iron Age		3	1			9	7	20	
		B		Early Iron Age	1	2	5			6	35	49	
	1035	A		Early Iron Age	3	2				24	3	32	
1027	1028		Gully	Early Iron Age			1			1		2	
				Total	10	16	11	38	1	202	86	364	

Table 3: Quantification of animal bone by context/ segment

The Environmental Samples

Dr John Summers

Introduction

During evaluation at Halstead Lodge, Soham, bulk soil samples for environmental archaeological assessment were taken and processed from two ditch fills (L1008 of F1007 and L1019 of F1018) and a secondary fill L1025 of Early Iron Age Pit F1023. This report presents the results from the assessment of the bulk sample light fractions and discusses the significance and potential of any remains 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 was 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.

The bulk samples were 50% sub-sampled for the purpose of the assessment. Samples with the ability to produce >30 items from their entire volume will be fully processed and retained with the site archive.

Results

The assessment data from the bulk sample light fractions are presented in Table 4.

Plant macrofossils

Carbonised plant macrofossils were abundant in the sampled deposits. Early Iron Age pit contained predominantly cereal grains, with hulled barley dominating. A number of asymmetric grains indicated the cultivation of a six-row variety (*Hordeum vulgare* var. *vulgare*). Also present was a smaller concentration of glume wheat grains (*Triticum dicoccum/ spelta*). No chaff remains or non-cereal taxa were noted, suggesting the presence of a fully processed crop.

The deposits L1008 (Ditch F1007 (Trench 1)) and L1019 (Ditch F1018 (Trench 2)) were a little richer in carbonised macrofossils, particularly the sample from L1008. Cereal grains were again most numerous, with glume wheat dominant in L1008 and barley dominant in L1019. A number of spelt wheat (*T. spelta*) grains and glume bases were recorded in L1008, which is to be expected during the Roman period. Also present were a small number of oat (*Avena* sp.) grains in L1019 and a single pea/ bean

(Fabaceae) cotyledon in L1008. These crop taxa together indicate a relatively mixed arable economy and, at the very least, the separate cultivation and processing of both spelt wheat and hulled barley crops. The presence of glume bases and non-cereal taxa indicates a contribution of glume wheat processing by-products.

Charcoal

Charcoal remains were common in the fills of Early Iron Age pit F1023. A large number of fragments from diffuse porous wood were recorded in the sample of L1025. Some larger (2-3cm) pieces of charcoal were hand collected from fill L1026, with oak (*Quercus* sp.) recorded in addition to diffuse porous wood types. It is most likely that this represents fuel debris.

Terrestrial molluscs

Snail shells were well preserved in the samples, with the greatest concentration in L1008 (Ditch F1007 (Trench 1)). Species characteristic of grassland and ground litter were represented, indicating grassland and waste ground/ scrub in the vicinity of the sampled features.

Contaminants

Although modern roots were common in the samples, other contaminants were sparse and it is unlikely that there has been significant biological disturbance of the sampled deposits.

Conclusions and Statement of Potential

The three samples assessed from the evaluation have demonstrated the excellent preservation of carbonised plant remains in early Iron Age and Roman deposits. The assessment has revealed a range of cereals and associated weeds, although it is likely that a greater range would be recovered from the detailed identification and quantification of the samples.

The high density of remains is indicative of the bulk handling of cereals in both periods, resulting in the carbonisation of remains through processing or storage accidents. Results from recent excavations in the plot adjoining the present site (Summers 2012) and a nearby site at Fordham Road (Summers 2015) have demonstrated large-scale arable production on or around the Soham peninsular. It is possible that access to river networks meant that Soham concentrated arable products from a wide area for re-distribution, at least during the Roman period, in a similar way to that seen at the fenland port of Camp Ground (Summers 2015; Ballantyne 2013).

Based on the richness of the three samples from the evaluation, it is almost certain that an analytically viable assemblage of carbonised plant macrofossils would be accumulated from any future excavation of Iron Age and Roman deposits at the site.

Such data would complement that from other sites in the area and has the potential to add significantly to our understanding of the scale, intensity and spatial patterning of arable production and processing in Soham during the Iron Age and Roman periods.

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Sample number	Context	Feature	Description	Spot date	Volume taken (litres)	Volume processed (litres)	% processed	Cereals			Non-cereal taxa		Hazelnut shell	Charcoal		Molluscs		Contaminants					Other remains	
								Cereal grains	Cereal chaff	Notes	Seeds	Notes		Charcoal<2mm	Notes	Molluscs	Notes	Roots	Molluscs	Modern seeds	Insects	Earthworm capsules		
1	1008	1007	Fill of Ditch	Residual Roman	40	20	50%	XXX	X	HTB (X), HB (X), E/S (XX), E/S germ (X), Spelt (X), FTW (X), Spelt germ (X), Spelt GB (X), E/S GB (X)	XX	Large Fabaceae (X), <i>Rumex</i> sp. (X), <i>Bromus secalinus</i> (XX)	-	X	-	XXX	<i>Cepea</i> sp., <i>Cochlicopa</i> sp., <i>Discus rotundatus</i> , <i>Pupilla muscorum</i> , <i>Trichis hispida</i> group, <i>Vallonia</i> sp.	XX	X	-	-	-	-	Small mammal bone (X)
2	1019	1018	Fill of Ditch	Roman	40	20	50%	XX	X	HTB (X), HB (XX), E/S (X), Oat (X), E/S GB (X)	XX	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> sp. (X), <i>Cladium mariscus</i> (X), <i>Bromus secalinus</i> (X)	-	X	-	XX	<i>Cochlicopa</i> sp., <i>Vallonia</i> sp.	XX	X	X	-	-	Small mammal bone (X)	
3	1025	1023	Mid layer of Pit	EIA	40	20	50%	XX	-	HTB (X), HB (XX), E/S (X)	-	-	-	XXX	Diffuse porous	XX	<i>Discus rotundatus</i> , <i>Pupilla muscorum</i> , <i>Trichis hispida</i> group, <i>Vallonia</i> sp.	XX	X	X	-	-	Small tuber (X)	

Table 4: Results from the assessment of bulk sample light fractions from Halstead Lodge, Soham. Abbreviations: HTB = hulled, twisted barley/ 6-row barley (*Hordeum vulgare* var. *vulgare*); HB = hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.); Hord = barley (*Hordeum* sp.); E/S = emmer/ spelt wheat (*Triticum dicoccum*/ *spelta*); FTW = free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum*/ *turgidum*); Trit = wheat (*Triticum* sp.); Oat (*Avena* sp.); NFI = not formally identified (indeterminate cereal grain)

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1
F1003 in Trench 1 looking north-east



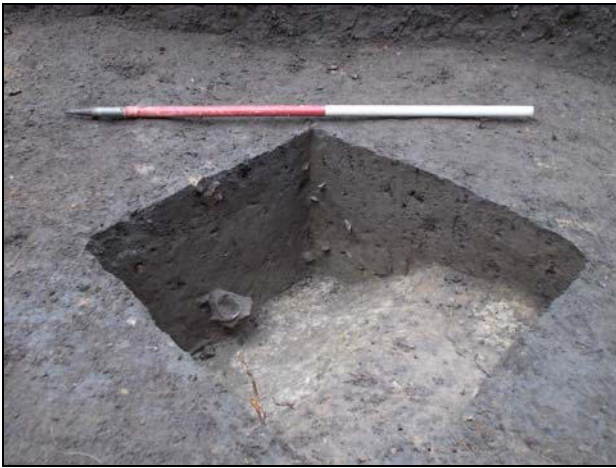
2
F1014 in Trench 1 looking south-east



3
F1007 in Trench 1 looking north-west



4
F1009 in Trench 2 looking north-west



5
F1018 and F1020 in Trench 2 looking north-east



6
F1023A in Trench 2 looking south-west



7
Sample section 1A in Trench 1 looking north-east



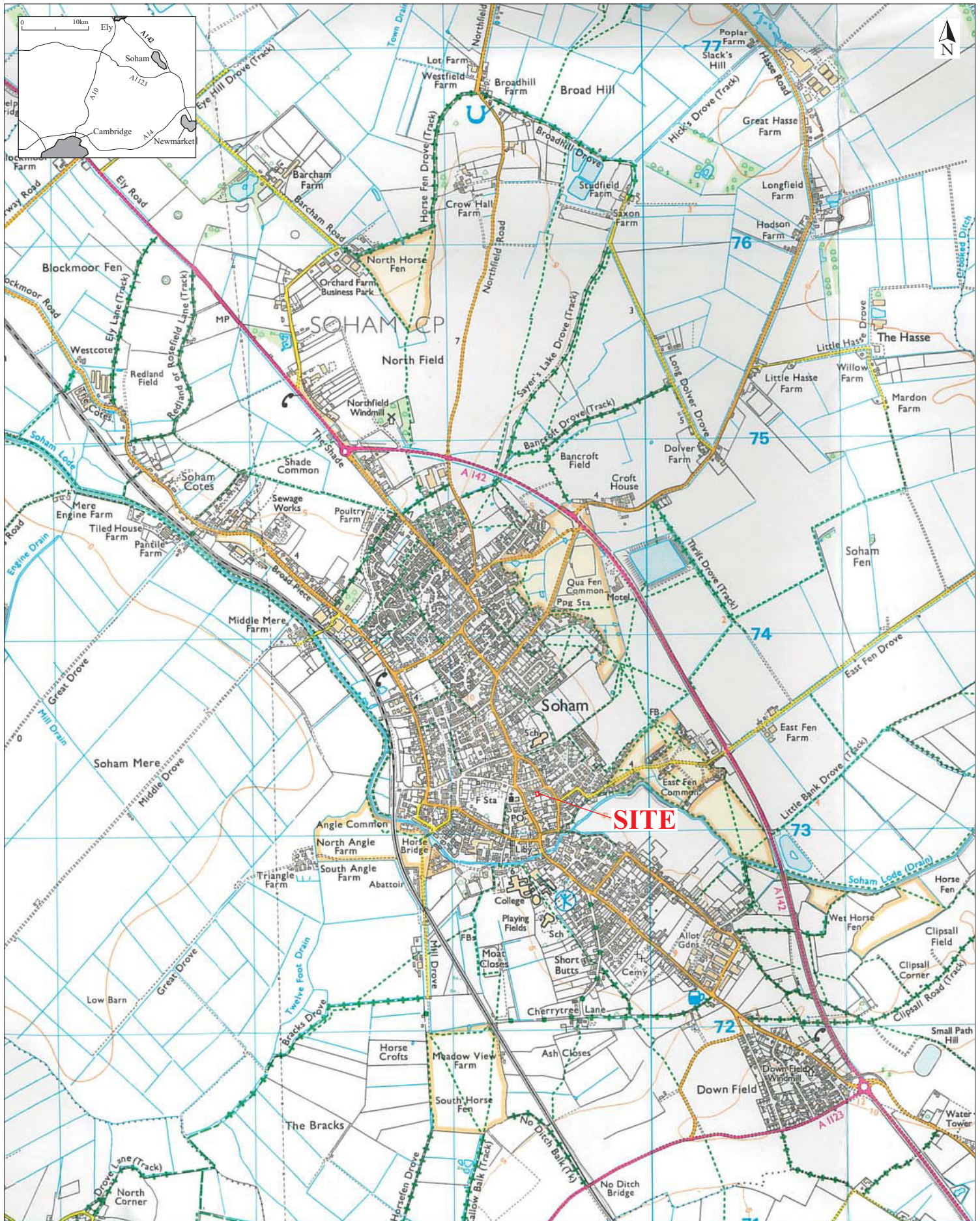
8
Sample section 2B in Trench 2 looking south-west



9
Post-excitation view of Trench 1 looking north-west

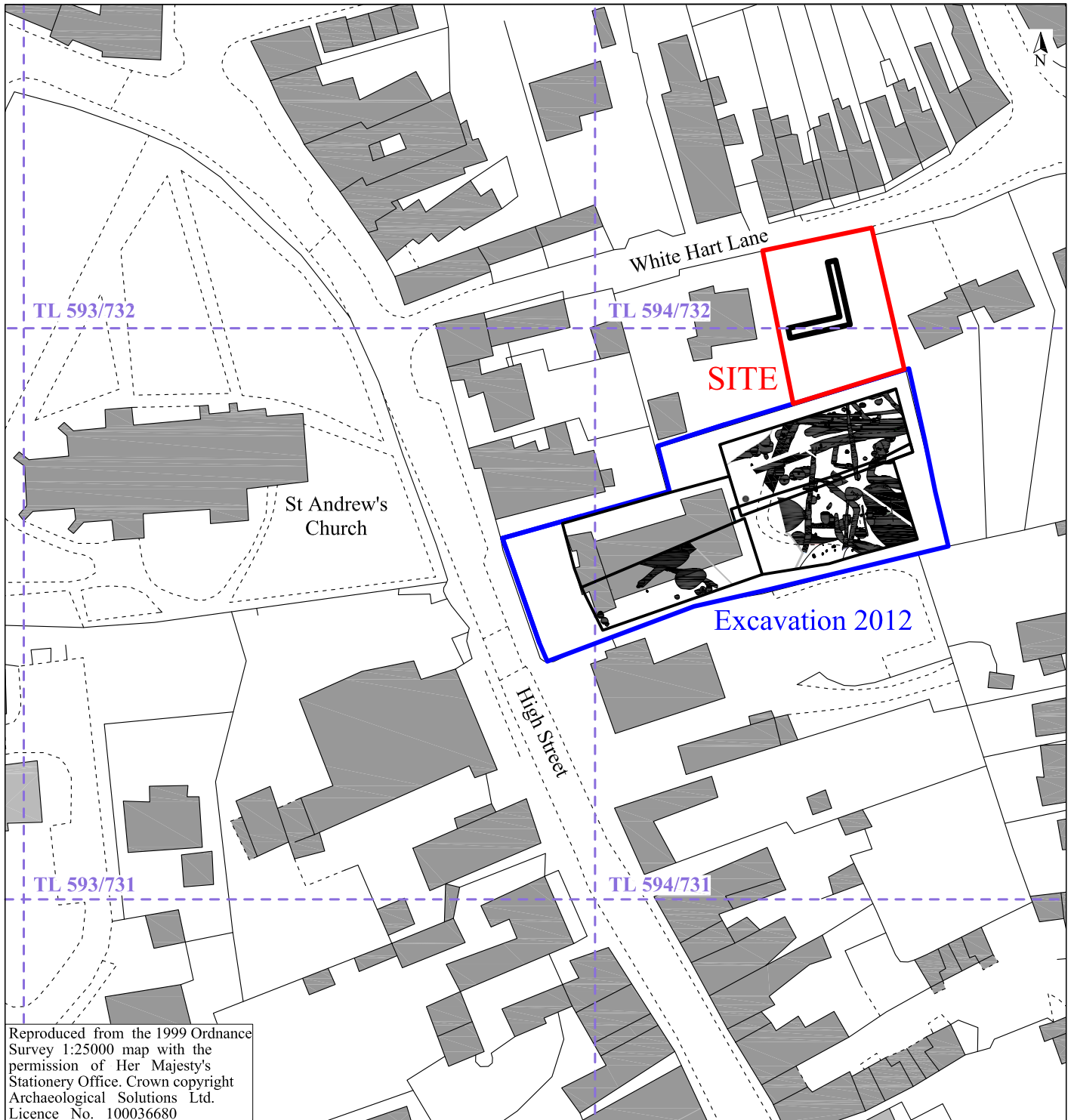


10
Post-excitation view of Trench 2 looking north-east



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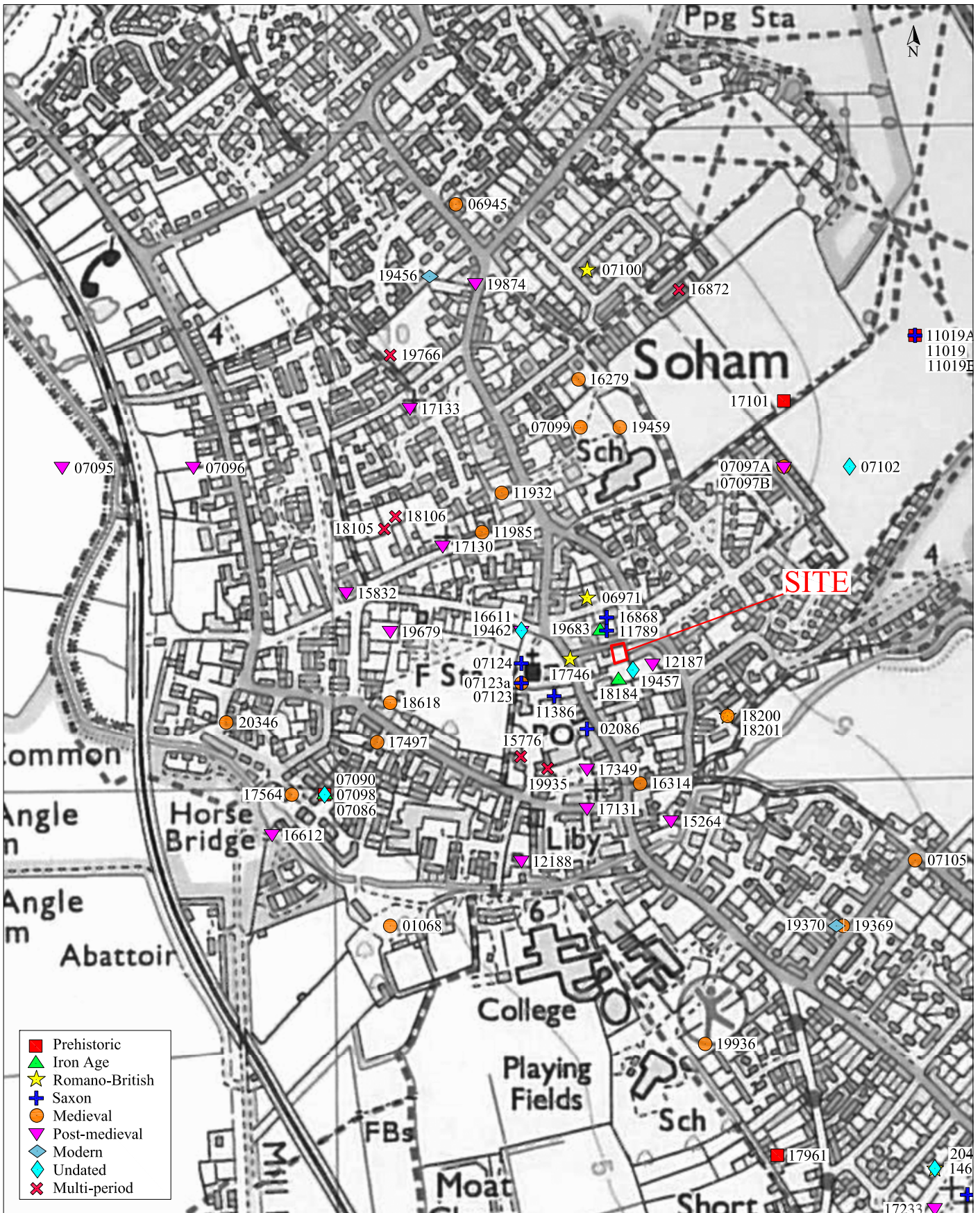
Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4
 White Hart Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire (P6361)



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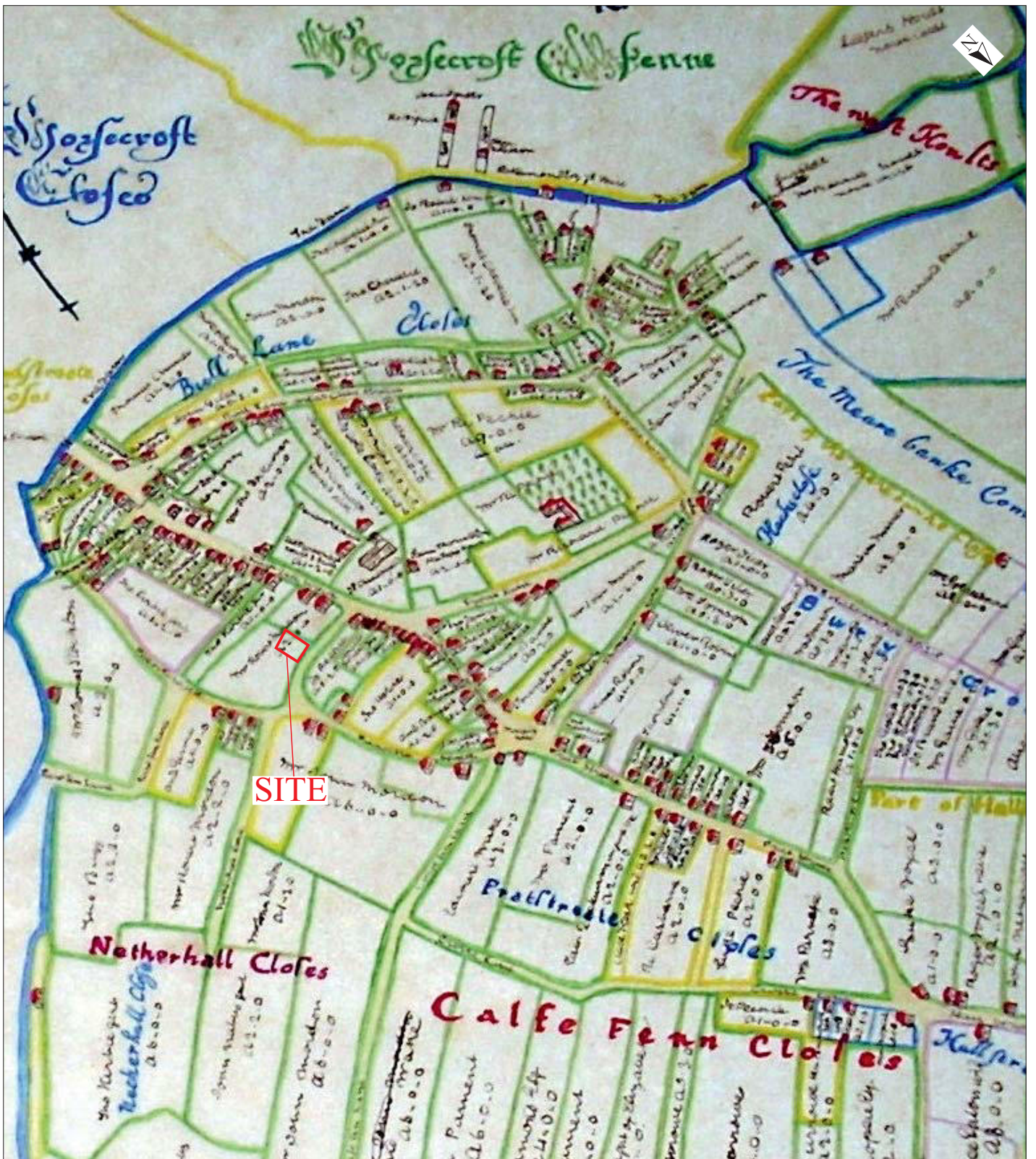
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Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
 Scale 1:1000 at A4
 White Hart Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire (P6361)

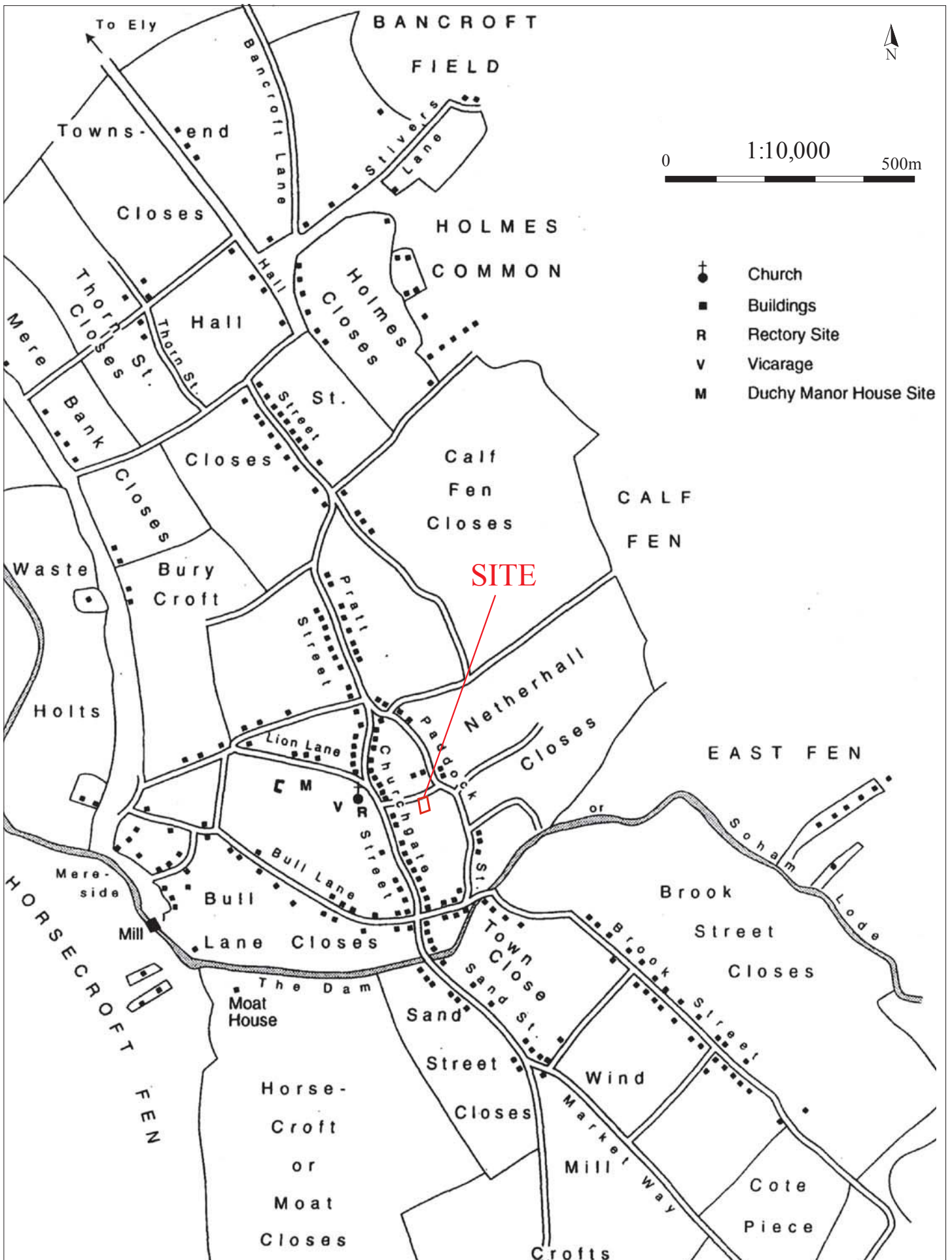


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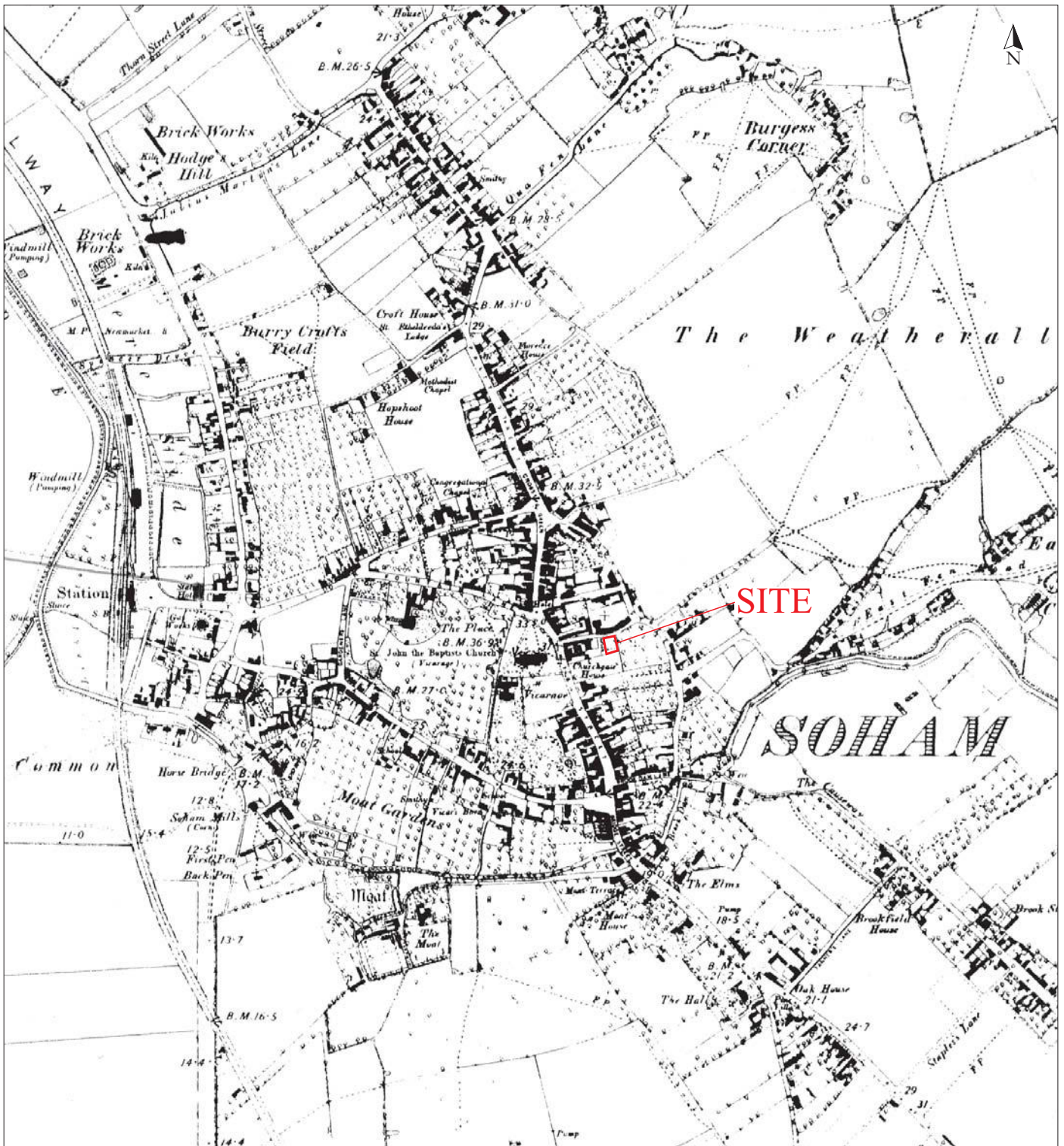
Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 3 HER data
 Scale 1:8000 at A4
 White Hart Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire (P6361)



<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
Fig. 4 Palmer's map of Soham, 1656 (1860 copy)
Not to scale
White Hart Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire (P6361)



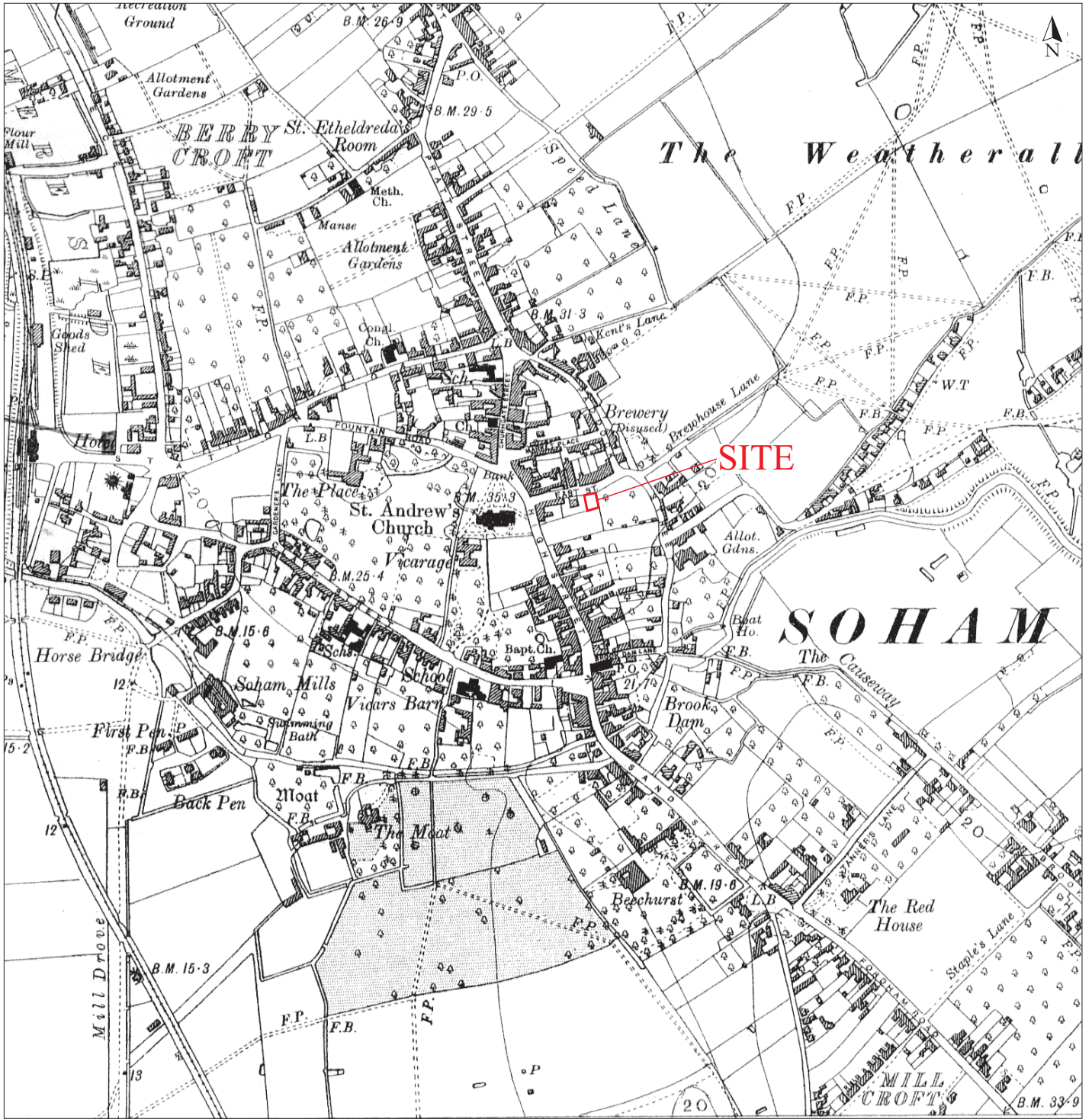
Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 5 Soham Village c. 1650
 Scale 1:10,000. Taken from VCH X: 491



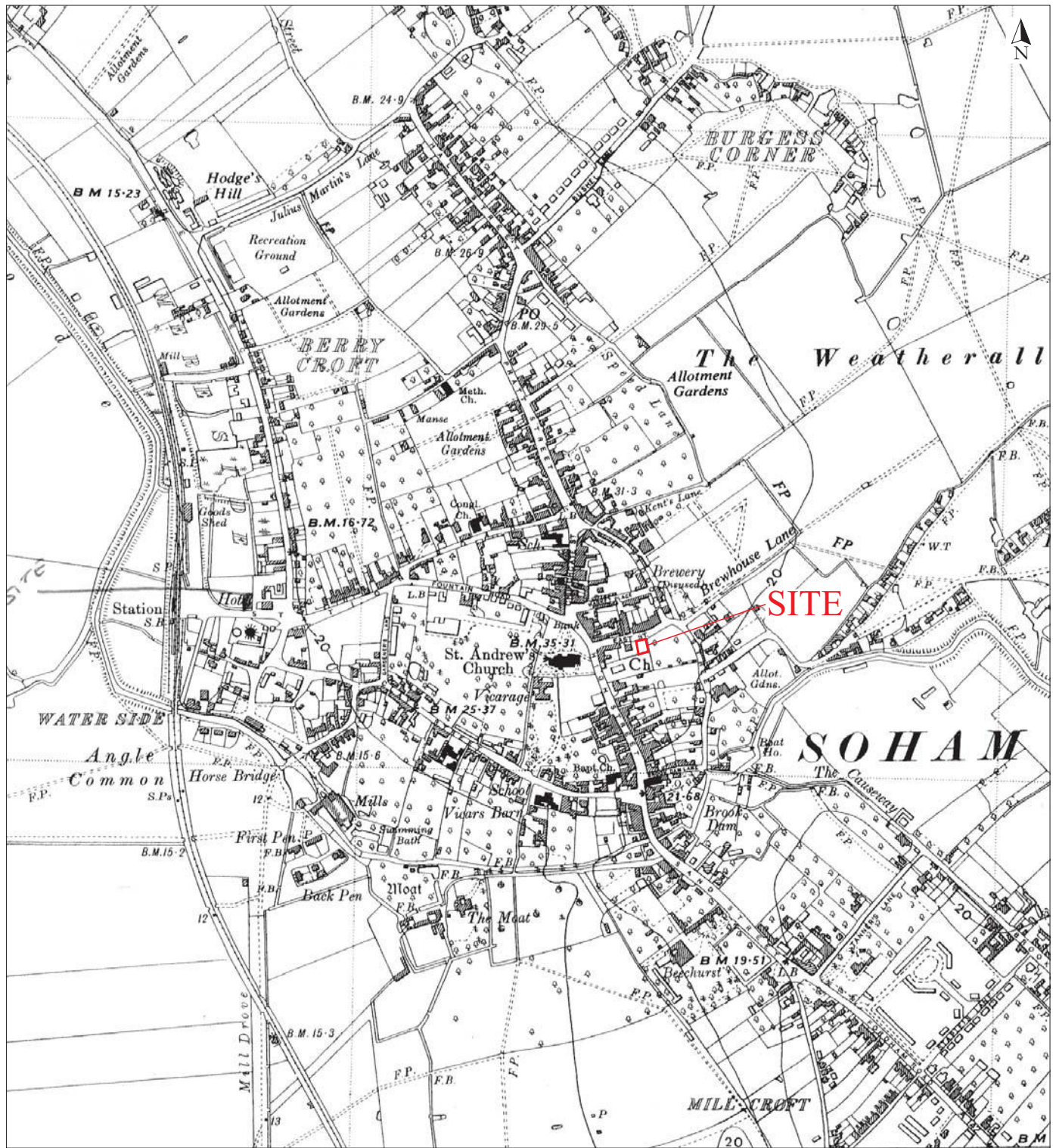
<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
Fig. 6 First edition OS map, 1887
Not to scale
White Hart Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire (P6361)



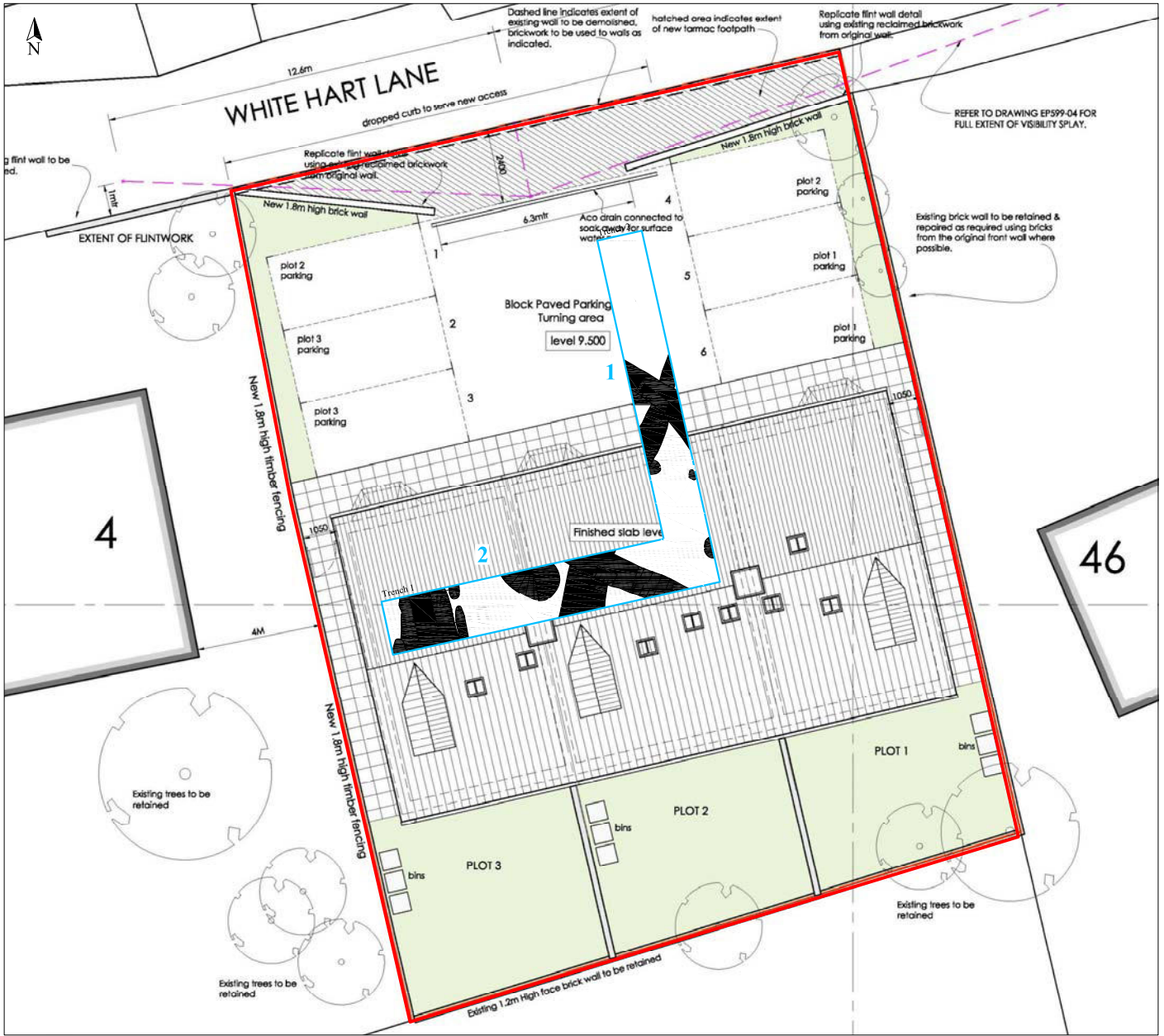
Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 7 Second edition OS map, 1903
Not to scale
White Hart Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire (P6361)



Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 8 OS map, 1927
Not to scale
White Hart Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire (P6361)

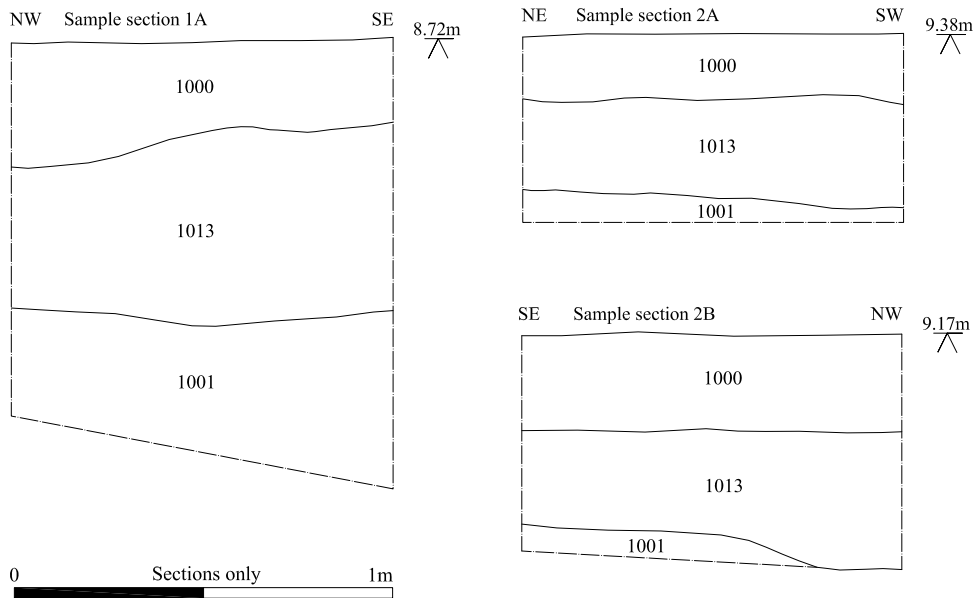
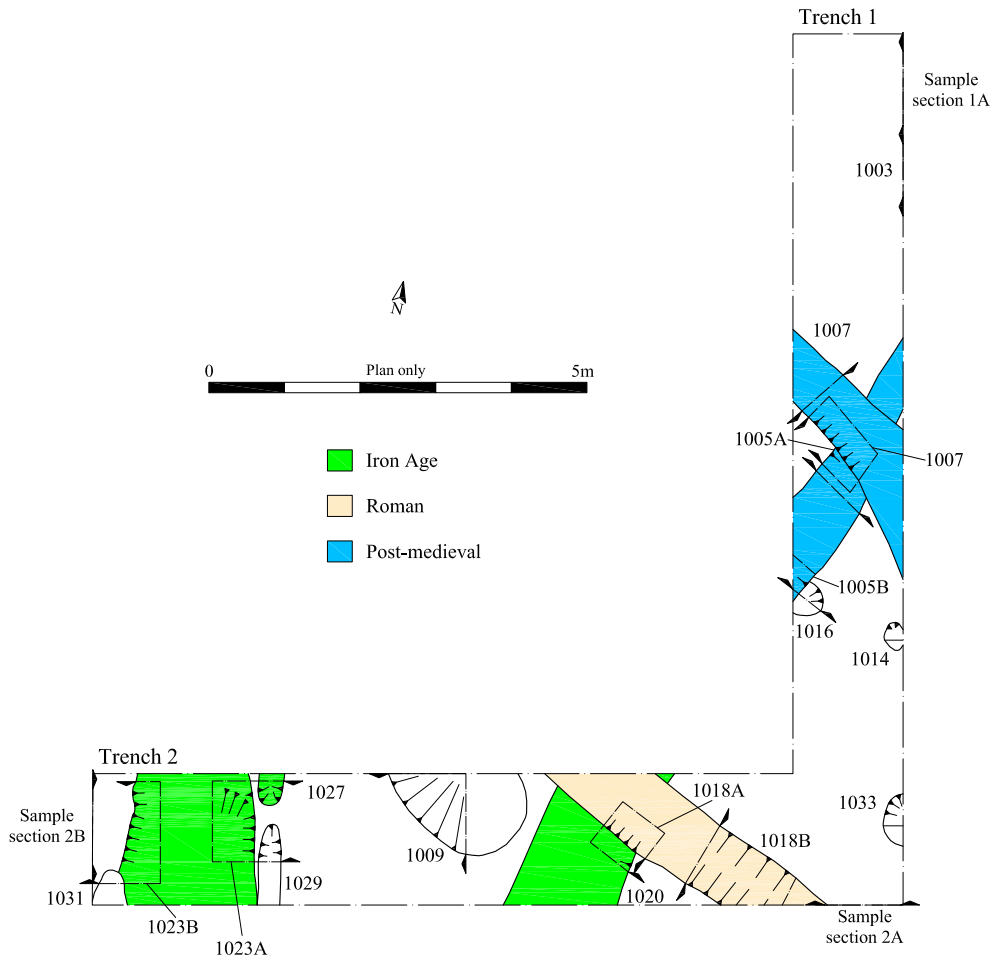


<p><i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i></p> <p>Fig. 9 1930s-1950s provisional edition OS map</p> <p>Not to scale</p> <p>White Hart Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire (P6361)</p>
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0 15m

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Fig. 10 Trench location plan
 Scale 1:8000 at A4
 White Hart Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire (P6361)

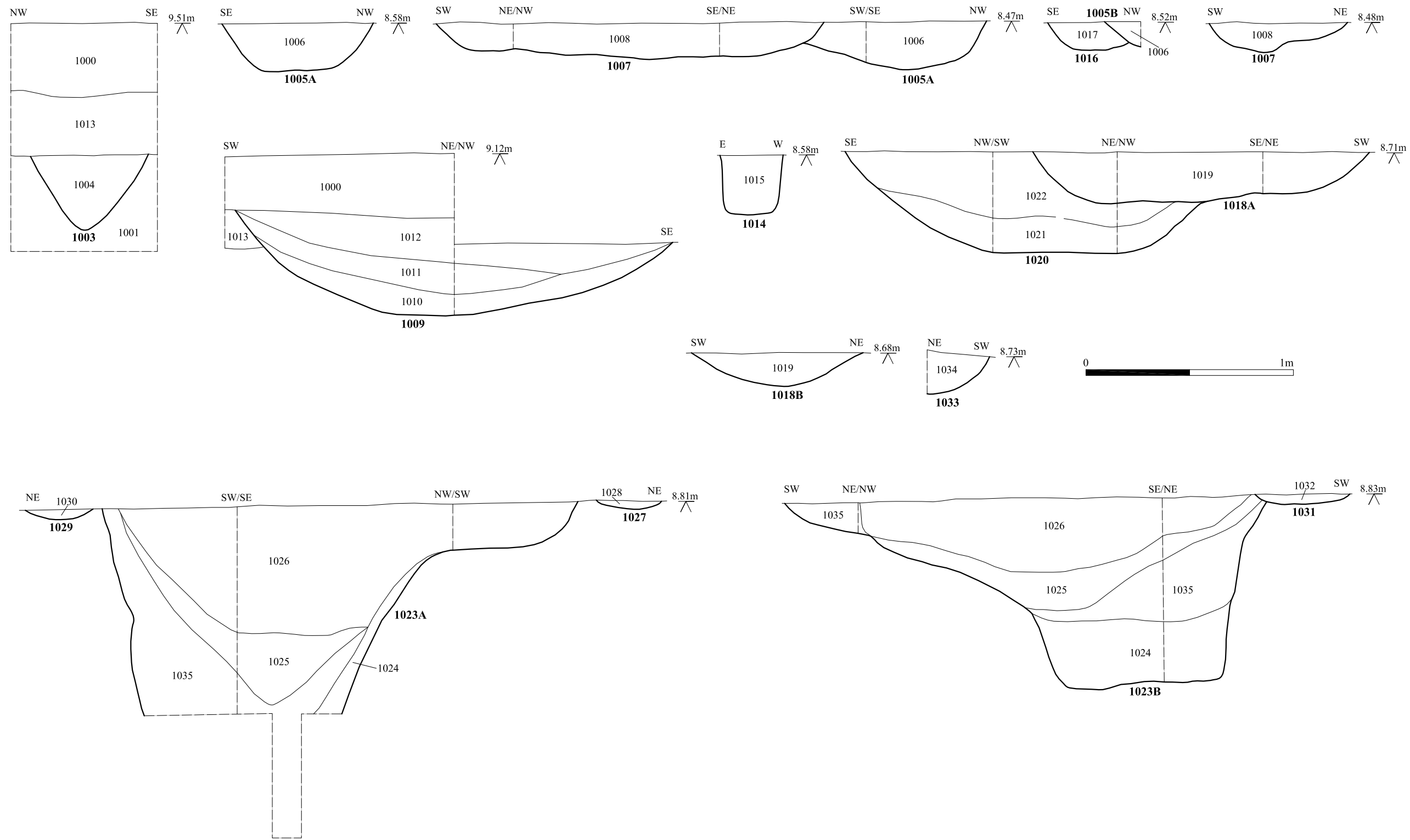


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Fig. 11 Trench plan and sample sections

Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A4

White Hart Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire (P6361)



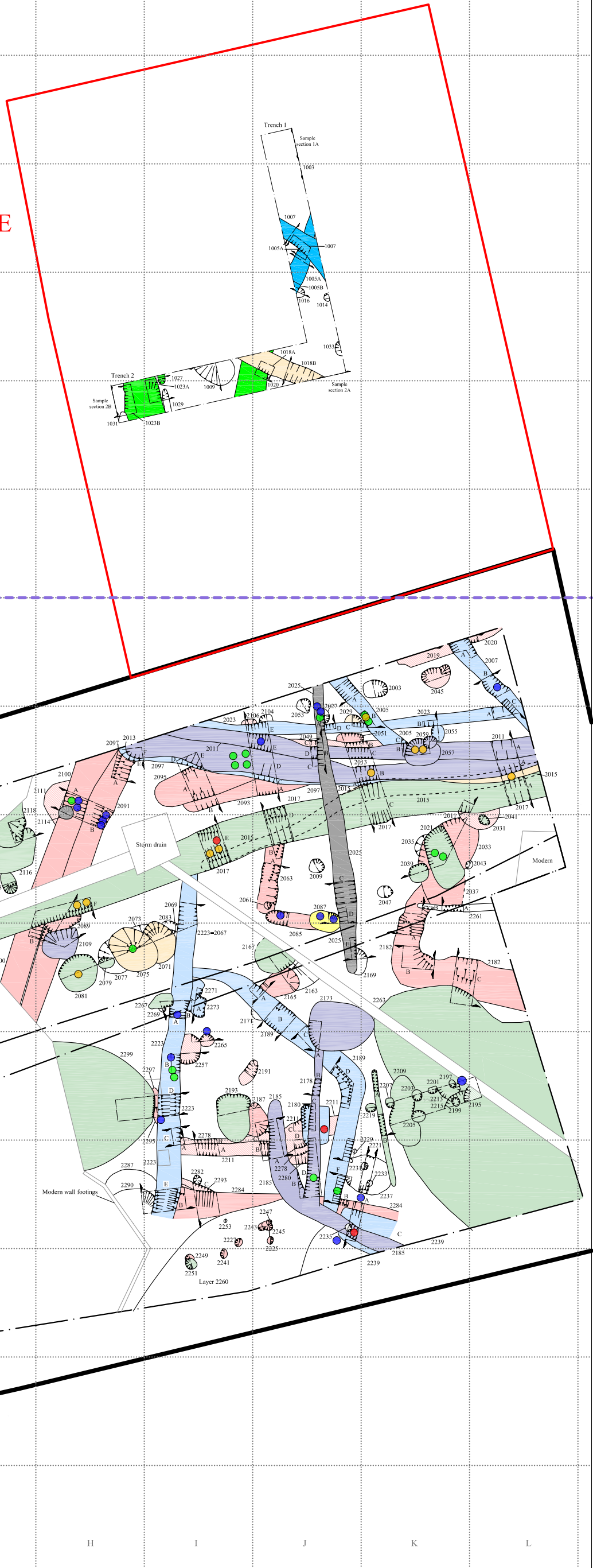
<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
Fig. 12 Sections
Scale 1:20 at A3
White Hart Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire (P6361)

- Phase 1: Neolithic - Bronze Age (no features)
 - Phase 1: Neolithic - Bronze Age residual struck flint
 - Phase 2: Early Iron Age
 - Phase 3: Late Iron Age - early Roman
 - Phase 4: Late Roman
 - Phase 5.1: Early - middle Saxon
 - Phase 5.2: Early to middle Saxon residual handmade pottery
 - Phase 6: Middle Saxon residual Ipswich ware
 - Phase 7.1: Late Saxon
 - Phase 7.2: Saxo-Norman - early medieval
 - Phase 8: High medieval
 - Phase 9: Late medieval - Post-medieval
 - Phase 10: Post-medieval
- Hatched colour indicates tentative phasing



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SITE



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Fig. 13 Site with 2012 excavation
 Scale 1:200 at A3
 White Hart Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire (P6361)