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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD**

**22 CHURCH STREET, WHITTLESEY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE PE7 1DB**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION**

(Version 4)

CHER ECB 4723

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NGR: TL 2666 9717	Report No:5135	
District: Fenland	Site Code: ECB 4723	
Approved: Claire Halpin MfA	Project No: 6692	
Signed:	Date: 31 May 2016 Revised: 08/07/2015	

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**OASIS SUMMARY SHEET**

<b>Project details</b>			
Project name	22 Church Street, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, PE7 1DB		
<p><i>In May 2016 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation at 22 Church Street, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire. The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of a dwelling (Fenland Ref. F/YR15/1063/F), based on the advice of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET).</i></p> <p><i>The site had potential for medieval and post-medieval remains associated with the settlement of Whittlesey. In the event the evaluation revealed two pits (F1007 and F1009) of 18<sup>th</sup> century or later date. A third pit (F1005) contained finds including small fragments of post-medieval peg tile, while a stratigraphically later gully (F1013) yielded a single sherd of residual medieval pottery (medieval quartz and limestone ware of probable 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century date). Subsoil L1001 yielded one sherd of residual 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century Lyveden type ware. Of particular interest is a fragment of probable bone ice skate form Pit F1009.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	19/05/2016 – 26/05/2016		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work	TBC
P. number	6692	Site code	ECB 4723
Type of project	Archaeological trial trench evaluation		
Site status	-		
Current land use	Dwelling and garden		
Planned development	Single new dwelling		
Main features (+dates)	Pits 17 <sup>th</sup> /18 <sup>th</sup> century or later		
Significant finds (+dates)	Pottery 12 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup> century 14 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> century 17 <sup>th</sup> /late 17 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> century Late 18 <sup>th</sup> to 19 <sup>th</sup> century Early 19 <sup>th</sup> to early 20 <sup>th</sup> century Bone ice skate 18 <sup>th</sup> century or later		
<b>Project location</b>			
County/ District/ Parish	Cambridgeshire	Fenland	Whittlesey
HER/ SMR for area	Cambridgeshire HER		
Post code (if known)	PE7 1DB		
Area of site	c. 560m <sup>2</sup>		
NGR	TL 2666 9717		
Height AOD (min/max)	c. 6m		
<b>Project creators</b>			
Brief issued by	Gemma Stewart, Historic Environment Team, Cambridgeshire County Council		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Thomas Muir		
Funded by	Denny Plastering Services		
Full title	22 Church Street, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire PE7 1DB. An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation		
Authors	Muir, T. and Wilson, L.		
Report no.	5135		
Date (of report)	31 May 2016 (Revised 08/07/2016)		

## 22 CHURCH STREET, WHITTLESEY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE PE7 1DB

### AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

#### **SUMMARY**

*In May 2016 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation at 22 Church Street, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire. The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of a dwelling (Fenland Ref. F/YR15/1063/F), based on the advice of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET).*

*The site had potential for medieval and post-medieval remains associated with the settlement of Whittlesey. In the event the evaluation revealed two pits (F1007 and F1009) of 18<sup>th</sup> century or later date. A third pit (F1005) contained finds including small fragments of post-medieval peg tile, while a stratigraphically later gully (F1013) yielded a single sherd of residual medieval pottery (medieval quartz and limestone ware of probable 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century date). Subsoil L1001 yielded one sherd of residual 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century Lyveden type ware. Of particular interest is a fragment of probable bone ice skate form Pit F1009.*

#### **1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 In May 2016 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological trial trench at 22 Church Street, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 2666 9717; Figs. 1-2). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of a new dwelling (Fenland Ref. F/YR15/1063/F), based on the advice of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET).

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by CCC HET (Gemma Stewart; dated 19/04/2016), and a specification compiled by AS (05/05/2016) and approved by CCC HET. It should be noted that the approved trial trench length (10m), as stated in the section 4.6 of the specification was not adhered to; the overall trench length was 8.5m. The evaluation adhered to the ClfA document *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014) and 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 recognise that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. The NPPF requires applications to describe the significance of any heritage asset, including its setting that may be affected in proportion to the asset's importance and the potential impact of the proposal.

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

## **2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE**

2.1 The Fenland market town of Whittlesey is located approximately 6km east of Peterborough (Fig. 1). The site – comprising an irregular plot (c. 560m<sup>2</sup>) containing a former factory workshop and dwelling – is located within the historic core of Whittlesey, on the western side of Church Street (Fig. 2). The site fronts Church Street at its eastern extent and is bounded by similar urban plots on all other sides.

## **3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS**

3.1 Whittlesey lies within a fenland environment, some 1.3km to the south of the River Nene. The Whittlesey Dyke is located c. 400m to the south of the site. The site lies at approximately 6m AOD on solid Oxford Clay and March Gravels (British Geological Survey 1991); the Whittlesey 'island' sits above the former, lower-lying fens. The site's soils are freely draining, slightly acidic and loamy (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

## **4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **Prehistoric**

4.1 Stonald Field (to the north-west of the site) appears to have been a focus of prehistoric activity including a Bronze Age ring-ditch and a middle Iron Age enclosure (CHER 11047). Other prehistoric features are also present (CHER MCB17514).

## **Romano-British**

4.2 Romano-British activity is represented by the Fen Causeway (CHER CB15033), a Roman road or track which follows an earlier route through the Fens. It passes through Whittlesey and its route follows much of the length of Low Road. Romano-British features and a large assemblage of pottery have been recorded at The Showfields (CHER MCB20178), while other finds include a cooking pot (CHER 01963A) and a 3<sup>rd</sup> century silver coin of Carausius, found c. 260m to the north-east of the site (CHER MCB16746).

## **Medieval**

4.3 Anglo-Saxon occupation of the area is represented by an inhumation cemetery located c. 980m to the north-east of the site (CHER 10594).

4.4 The site lies close to the historical core of Whittlesey. The medieval parish church of St Mary is located c. 440m to the south-east (CHER MCB3644), just to the south of the market place, while the 13<sup>th</sup> century church of St Andrew's is also nearby (CHER CB14921). Medieval features have been recorded across the town and include pits containing animal bone and pottery at Queen Street (CHER MCB17908), c. 280m to the east of the site. Further pits at Whitmore Street, c. 360m to the north-east of the site, contained pottery, tile and faunal remains (CHER MCB20123), while other finds from the vicinity include hooks, lead weights, buckles, a brooch, glass and coins (CHERs 01359, 01360, 01963B-H and 02291).

## **Post-medieval**

4.5 The Butter Cross, formerly known as the Market Cross, is a 17<sup>th</sup> century open market building located some 440m to the east of the site (CHER BCB267). Groundworks on land east of 9-17 Hallcroft Road recorded archaeology dating from the 17<sup>th</sup> century onwards (CHER ECB2034). Other recorded features/ finds from the area include boundary ditches, a timber structure and animal burials to the north-west of the site (CHER MCB15939), and four 16<sup>th</sup> century harness bells found on Church Street (CHER 02291A), a short distance to the south. Evidence of 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century brick structures is recorded c. 130m to the south-east (CHER MCB19220).

4.6 Historic cartographic sources suggest that the late 19<sup>th</sup> century site contained two structures fronting Church Street and extending to the west. These were replaced by a single dwelling in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century ([www.old-maps.co.uk](http://www.old-maps.co.uk)).

## **5 METHODOLOGY**

5.1 The evaluation was intended to provide for a c. 5% sample of the development area to be trial trenched. One trench, measuring 7 x 1.6m, was excavated across the footprint of the proposed new dwelling (Fig. 3). Subsequent to site monitoring the trench was extended northwards by 1.5m, to an overall length of c. 8.5m. However, this was less than the 10m stated in section 4.6 of the approved specification.

5.2 Topsoil and subsoil was removed under close archaeological supervision and control using a 180° 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. A programme of artefact characterisation was also undertaken (see below).

5.3 A continuous slot was excavated centrally along the base of the trench in order to produce running sections through the encountered features (DP 1; Fig. 4).

### Artefact Characterisation

5.4 Section 2.8 of the brief required that the 'artefact contents of the ploughsoil and any lower horizons...be examined as part of the evaluation'. In accordance with section 4.7 of the approved specification, a one-meter square area of Topsoil L1000 and Subsoil L1001 was bucket sampled at each end of the excavated trench in order to characterise their artefact content. This exercise recovered early 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery and CBM from L1000, and animal bone from L1001. Spoil from this exercise was metal detected in order to enhance finds recovery; spoil from L1000 yielded a single ferrous fragment.

## 6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

### Trench 1 (Figs. 3-4)

<i>Sample section 1A: South end, East facing</i> 0.00m = 6.11m AOD		
0.00 – 0.33m	L1000	Topsoil. Friable, dark grey brown sand silt with frequent small sub-rounded stones.
0.33 – 0.62m	L1001	Subsoil. Firm, mid, grey brown sand silt with occasional small sub-rounded flints.
0.62m+	L1014	Fill of F1013. Friable, mid grey brown sand silt.

<i>Sample section 1B: Northwest end, Northeast facing</i> 0.00m = 6.03m AOD		
0.00 – 0.22m	L1004	Modern building rubble within a matrix of light grey brown silt.
0.22 - 0.46m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.46 – 0.76m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.76m+	L1010	Fill of F1009. Firm, dark grey brown sand silt with occasional small sub-rounded stones and patches of clay.
0.76m+	L1012	Fill of F1007. Friable, dark grey brown sand silt with moderate small and medium sized sub-rounded flints.

*Description: Trench 1 contained Pits F1005, F1007 and F1009, and Gully F1013. Pit F1005 and Gully F1013 did not contain pottery, although F1005 yielded finds including small fragments of post-medieval peg tile. Gully F1013 truncated the fills of both F1005 and F1007 (Fig. 4). Pits F1007 and F1009 were 18<sup>th</sup> century or later in date, while the fill of F1007 also yielded a single sherd (7g) of residual medieval (12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century) pottery. Residual pottery of a similar date was also found in Gully*



F1013 (one sherd (15g)), while Subsoil L1001 yielded one sherd (13g) of residual 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century pottery.

Pit descriptions are tabulated below (Table 1). Dated Pit F1007 (DPs 4-5; Fig. 4) yielded a limited range of pottery fabrics with a combined date range spanning the mid 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. However, the largest sherd by weight from this feature (208g) is from a Staffordshire marbled slip ware handled bowl of late 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century date (Appendix 2). A residual 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century sherd (7g) of medieval quartz and limestone ware was also recovered from this feature. Although dated Pit F1009 (DP6; Fig. 4) yielded a broader range of pottery fabrics, collectively spanning the 13<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, the most abundant fabric by sherd count and weight (10 sherds; 453g) comprises glazed red earthenware of mid 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century date. F1009 also truncated the fill of Pit F1007, which strongly indicates an 18<sup>th</sup> century or later date for this feature. The encountered features were also physically cut into L1002, a possibly anthropogenic horizon containing finds including 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery (See *Deposit Model*).

Feature	Plan/ Profile (dimensions)	Fill(s)	Relationships	Finds
F1005 (DPs 2-3; Fig. 4)	Sub-circular/ near vertical sides, flat base (2.14+ x 0.85 x 0.46m)	L1006. Firm, dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-rounded flints	Cut by F1013	CBM (149g); animal bone (600g); shell (1g); glass (9g)
F1007	Sub-rectangular/ steep sides, ?concave base (1.60+ x 1.96+ x 0.64m+)	L1008. Friable, dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional small angular gravel	Cut by F1009 and F1013	Residual 12 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup> C pottery (7g); mid 16 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> C pottery (23g); late 17 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> C pottery (208g); CBM (49g); animal bone (497g); shell (57g); Fe fragment (10g); clay pipe (5g)
		L1011. Friable, mid green grey sandy silt with moderate small sub-angular flints		CBM (10g); animal bone (280g)
		L1012. Friable, dark grey brown sandy silt with moderate small and medium sub-rounded flints		17 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> C pottery (48g); CBM (111g); animal bone (142g); Fe fragment (42g); clay pipe (7g); shell (76g)
F1009	Sub-circular/ steep sides, irregular base (2.48+ x 1.60+ x 0.55m)	L1010. Firm, dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-rounded stones and patches of clay	Cut F1007	13 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup> C pottery (95g); 16 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> C pottery (585g); 17 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> C pottery (4g); 18 <sup>th</sup> C+ pottery (191g); 18 <sup>th</sup> to 19 <sup>th</sup> C pottery (31g); animal bone (1042g); CBM (178g); shell (2g); Fe fragments (96g); glass (2g); clay pipe (3g)

Table 1: The pits

Gully F1013 ( ) was linear in plan (5.70+ x 0.75+ x 0.44m), orientated north to south, with steep sides and an irregular/ flattish base. Its fill, L1014 comprised friable, mid grey brown sandy silt. L1014 contained a residual sherd of medieval (12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century pottery (16g) and animal bone (253g). F1013 cut the fills of Pit F1005 and 18<sup>th</sup> century or later Pit F1007.

## 7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features (in plan). During excavation, however, the features became rapidly inundated due to a high water table (see Photographic Index). Although it is not felt that this inhibited the recognition or recovery of finds, due to the sandy nature of the feature fills, it was difficult in some cases to accurately identify feature bases.

## 8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 Topsoil L1000 comprised friable, dark grey brown sandy silt with frequent small sub-rounded stone (0.22 - 0.33m thick). L1000 was ubiquitous and sealed Subsoil L1001, a firm, mid, grey brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-rounded flints (c. 0.30m thick). L1001 sealed L1002, a compact layer of light grey brown clay silt with occasional small sub-rounded stones. Although only exposed in small patches, finds from L1002 include seven sherds (105g) of 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery and suggest that this may have represented some form of anthropogenic layer. However, the limited exposure of L1002 within the base of the trench makes further characterisation difficult. At the base of the sequence was Natural L1003, comprising friable, mid orange brown clay gravel (c. 60 below the present day ground surface).

## 9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The site's location, close to the historic core of Whittlesey meant that any archaeological investigation had good potential to reveal evidence of medieval and later settlement activity. In the event the trial trench evaluation revealed three Pits (F1005, F1007 and F1009) and a single gully (F1013). Pit F1005 and Gully F1013 did not contain pottery, although the former yielded finds including small fragments of post-medieval peg tile. Gully F1013 truncated the fills of Pits F1005 and F1007 (Fig. 4). Pits F1007 and F1009 were 18<sup>th</sup> century or later in date, while the fill of F1007 also yielded a single sherd (7g) of residual medieval (12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century) pottery. Residual pottery of a similar date was also found in Gully F1013 (one sherd; 15g), while Subsoil L1001 yielded one sherd (13g) of residual 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> pottery. Artefact characterisation of the topsoil and subsoil yielded finds including early 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery, CBM and animal bone. All encountered features were physically cut into Layer L1002, a possibly anthropogenic material containing finds including 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery.

9.2 The encountered pits may represent small-scale quarrying or waste disposal to the rear of post-medieval or later buildings fronting Church Street. The site's underlying gravel (L1003) is the likely target of any quarrying activity and would have had a variety of uses, not least for the metalling of roads or other surfaces. An evaluation by Oxford Archaeology East at Rectory Farm, Great Shelford encountered evidence of similar extraction (Fletcher 2013), while within Whittlesey itself similar quarry pits of post-medieval date have been recorded at Stonald Road (CHER MCB16292) and Station Road (CHER MCB17675). Regardless of function, the current features appear to have been backfilled with a variety of domestic rubbish including pottery, CBM, animal bone, shell and clay pipe stem fragments. The animal bone was generally well preserved, with the largest collection of bones – comprising the partial articulated remains of a pig – deriving from Fill L1011 of 18<sup>th</sup> century or later Pit F1007. Part of a probable bone ice skate, fashioned from a red deer radius, was also present within the bone assemblage (from 18<sup>th</sup> century or later Pit F1009 (L1011)). This find is of particular interest as although radii were favoured for use as ice skates, red deer radii account for less than one per cent of known examples ((Küchermann and Zidarov 2005).

9.3 No evidence of medieval use of the site was identified, although a small number of residual medieval pottery sherds were found in later deposits.

## **10 CONCLUSION**

10.1 The results of the evaluation provide a useful insight into 18<sup>th</sup> century and later 'backyard' activity to the rear of Church Street. Possible gravel quarrying – albeit on a potentially modest scale – and domestic waste disposal are both attested, while part of a bone ice skate from Pit F1009 is of intrinsic interest, adding usefully to the known corpus of such finds. Although no medieval features were present within the trial trench, residual medieval pottery sherds from later contexts suggest settlement activity of this date in the near vicinity; in keeping with the site's central location within the town.

## **DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE**

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

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) would like to thank Denny Plastering Services for funding the project and for their assistance (in particular Mr Paddy Denny). AS would also like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr Geoff Taylor.

AS is pleased to acknowledge the input and advice of Ms Gemma Stewart of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team.

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### **Websites**

[www.old-maps.co.uk](http://www.old-maps.co.uk) (consulted May 2016)

## APPENDIX 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

Feature	Context	Description	Spot Date (pottery only)	Pottery (quantity)	Pottery (weight)	CBM (weight)	Animal Bone	Other Material	Other Material (quantity)	Other Material (weight)
-	1000	Topsoil	Early 19 <sup>th</sup> to early 20 <sup>th</sup> C	11	81g	748g	3g	Clay pipe Glass Slate	1 3 1	3g 229g 50g
-	1001	Subsoil	14 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> C	1	13g	78g	181g	Shell	1	20g
-	1002	Layer	17 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> C	7	86g	27g	36g	shell	5	70g
1005	1006	Pit fill	-	-	-	149g	600g	Shell Glass	1 1	1g 9g
1007	1008	Pit fill	Late 17 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> C	5	238g	49g	497g	Shell Fe fragment Clay pipe	2 1 1	57g 10g 5g
	1011	Pit fill	-	-	-	10g	210g	-	-	-
	1012	Pit fill	17 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> C	3	48g	111g	142g	Fe fragment Clay pipe Shell	1 1 1	42g 7g 76g
1009	1010	Pit fill	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> to 19 <sup>th</sup> C	19	906g	178g	1042g	Fe fragments Shell Glass Clay pipe	3 1 2 2	96g 2g 2g 3g
1013	1014	Gully fill	12 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup> C (residual)	1	15g	-	253g	-	-	-
-	-	Unstratified (spoil heap)	-	-	-	-	-	Fe fragments	5	727g

## APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

### The Pottery

*Peter Thompson*

The archaeological evaluation recovered 46 sherds weighing 1387g. The assemblage includes seven medieval sherds all of which are residual. The remainder of the pottery assemblage is post-medieval to modern in date.

#### *Methodology*

The pottery was examined under x35 binocular microscope and recorded below (Table 2). The recording was carried out in keeping with the Medieval Pottery Research Group Guidelines (Medieval Pottery Research Group 1998; Slowikowski *et al.* 2001).

#### *The Pottery*

The medieval sherds comprise medieval shelly ware, medieval quartz and limestone ware and Lyveden type ware. Gully F1013 (L1014) contained a small wheel-made 14cm diameter cooking pot rim in medieval quartz and limestone ware which potentially dates the feature, and is of probable 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> century date, although potentially could be slightly earlier.

The post-medieval red earthenware (PMRE) of 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century date, is a fairly local calcareous ware containing oolites. A large fragment of a Staffordshire marbled slip ware handled bowl (late 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century) was present in Pit Fill L1008.

#### **KEY:**

MSHW:	medieval shelly ware 12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>
UPG:	Unprovenanced glaze ware 13 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> (sparse to moderate quartz, moderate fine to medium limestone inclusions)
MQLST:	medieval quartz and limestone 12 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup>
LYVE:	Lyveden type ware 13 <sup>th</sup> -mid 16 <sup>th</sup>
GRE:	glazed red earthenware mid 16 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup>
PMBL:	post-medieval black glazed earthenware late 16 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup>
STMBL:	Staffordshire marbled slip ware late 17 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup>
LPMWE:	Late post-medieval white earthenware 18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup>
LPMRE:	late post-medieval red earthenware 18 <sup>th</sup> +
ENGS:	English stoneware 18 <sup>th</sup> +
LGRE:	late glazed red earthenware late 18 <sup>th</sup> +
RFWE:	Refined white earthenware late 18 <sup>th</sup> +

<b>Feature</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Quality</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Topsoil	1000	2x15g GRE 2x25g ENGS 1x4g LPMRE 6x37g REFW	Early 19 <sup>th</sup> –early 20 <sup>th</sup>	GRE: jar rim  REFW: bowl or teapot with pink flower decoration
Subsoil	1001	1x13g LYVE	14 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> (residual)	
Subsoil	1002	2x8g MSHW 1x1g UPG 2x64g PMRE 1x13g GRE	17 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup>	
Pit 1007	1008	1x7g MQLST 1x208g STMBL 3x23g GRE	Late 17 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup>	STMBL: partial profile of handled bowl
	1012	3x48g GRE	17 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup>	GRE: clubbed bowl rim
Pit 1009	1010	1x95g LYVE 2x132g PMBL 3x144g LPMRE 1x31g LPMWE 10x453g GRE	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup>	LYVE: Lyveden ware sagging jar base PMBL: ?bowl rim LPMRE: inturned rim to barrel shaped jar, sagging base LPMWE: developed bowl rim GRE: MNV 8 vessels including clubbed bowl rim and hammerhead pancheon or dish rim
		1x47g ENGS 1x4g STMBL		
Pit 1013	1014	1x15g MQLST	12 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> (residual)	MQLST: everted cooking pot rim 14cm diam

Table 2: Quantification of pottery by feature

## References

Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG), 1998  
*A Guide to the Classification of Medieval Ceramic Forms* MPRG Occasional Paper No. 1

Slowikowski, A., Nenck, B. and Pearce, J., 2001  
*Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, MPRG Occasional Paper No. 2

## The Ceramic Building Materials

*Andrew Peachey MCI(A)*

The evaluation recovered a total of 18 fragments (1350g) of CBM, including very small, highly abraded fragments of post-medieval peg tile, and a range of modern construction materials (Table 3). The fragments were recorded by fragment count and weight per context, with all data entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that will form part of the site archive.

<b>CBM Type</b>	<b>Fragment Count</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>
Peg tile	12	426
Pantile	3	205
White flooring brick	1	536
Refined white earthen ware tile	1	34
Concrete	1	149
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1350</b>

Table 3: Quantification of CBM

The small peg tile fragments were very sparsely-distributed in Pits F1005, F1007 and F1009, with an average fragment weight of 35.5g. The 12mm thick peg tile were manufactured in an orange red, streaky calcareous fabric, typical of local production; however the poor preservation of the fragments suggests these are not associated with any structure in the close vicinity, but have been re-deposited as the pits were backfilled, or through agricultural processes. The remaining types of CBM were

recovered from Topsoil L1000, Subsoils L1001 and L1002 and are entirely comprised of 20<sup>th</sup> century building material, including a refined white earthenware, tin-glazed bathroom tile.

## **The Animal Bone**

*Dr Julia E.M. Cussans*

A moderately sized assemblage of animal bone was recovered from the trial trench evaluation at Whittlesey (Table 4). Overall bone preservation was good with contexts being rated from ok through to excellent on a five point scale from very poor through to excellent. Low levels of bone abrasion were noted and very few fresh breaks were present. Dog gnawing was noted in six of the nine contexts examined. The majority of the bone came from pit fills, but topsoil, subsoil and a gully fill also yielded bone (Table 4).

The largest collection of bones came from Pit Fill L1011 (F1007) which contained the partial articulated remains of a pig. A total of 88 bone fragments derived from this pit, of which 20 could be positively identified as pig, a further 65 were ribs and vertebrae fragments that were only identified as medium (sheep or pig sized) mammal but in all likelihood belonged to pig; three other bones were identified as cattle (2) and sheep/goat (1). No butchery marks were observed on the pig bones but a significant quantity of the bones had pathological lesions including additional bone growth on the pelvis, femur, tibia and calcaneus. In the medium mammal assemblage one of the vertebral pieces was three lumbar vertebrae which had fused together as a single piece, with an apparent misalignment between some of the vertebrae. Additionally between two of the vertebrae, where the two should have articulated there was a large cavity present. The reasons for all of these pathologies are currently unknown but it seems possible that they are all related in some way. These remains included a mix of fused and unfused elements. Fused bones included the pelvis, proximal calcaneus, distal tibia and distal metapodial, unfused bones were the proximal tibiae, both distal femora and one of the proximal femora, the second proximal femora was partly fused. According to O'Connor's (1989) fusion stages this would indicate that the animal had survived beyond the Intermediate II fusion stage (distal metatarsal and proximal calcaneus), but not long into the Late fusion stage (proximal and distal femur and proximal tibia) indicating the animal was of approximate adult sized but was not fully mature when it died.

Aside from the partial pig burial described above, several other taxa were identified at the site. In order of abundance these were cattle, sheep/ goat, pig, horse, dog and red deer; the remaining bones were recorded as large (cattle or horse sized) or medium mammal, a small collection of bird bones was also present. In the main the mammals appeared to be represented by a mix of body parts although only head and foot element were present for horse and only limb elements for red deer. Butchery marks were present on cattle, sheep/ goat, red deer and large and medium mammal bones, including both small knife cuts and large blade chops. A small quantity of ageable elements was present including a complete sheep/ goat mandible, which also had evidence of dental calculus deposits; no other pathological elements were present. A small number of measurable bones were present. One of the red deer limb bones, a distal radius, appeared to have been used as a skate or



sled runner (see worked bone, below). Bird bones included two goose bones (radius and ulna fragments) and three chicken sized limb bone fragments.

### Reference

O'Connor, T.P., 1989

*Bones from Anglo-Scandinavian Levels at 16-22 Coppergate*, Archaeology of York Series 15/3 (London, Council for British Archaeology/ York Archaeological Trust)

### The Worked Bone

Dr Julia E.M. Cussans

A single red deer radius fragment from the animal bone assemblage was recognised as being worked. It was contained in Pit F1009 L1010 which is dated to the late 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century. The distal radius, present up to approximately the mid shaft region had been slightly trimmed on the anterior of the distal articulation and was worn flat and smooth on the anterior surface of the bone. The flat wear surface had several longitudinal striations and a few groups of short diagonal striations. It is thought most likely that this was part of a bone ice skate following the criteria given by (Küchelmann and Zidarov 2005). As no hole is made through the articulation present it would follow that this was the rear end of the ice skate, where binding was not always necessary. Whilst radii are one of the bones particularly favoured for use as bone skates the use of red deer bones is not at all common, accounting for less than one per cent of known examples (*ibid.*).

### Reference

Küchelmann, H.C. and Zidarov, P., 2005,

'Let's skate together! Skating on bones in the past and today', in Luik, H., Choyke, A. M., Batey, C.E. and Lõugas, L. (eds.), *From Hooves to Horns, from Mollusc to Mammoth: Manufacture and Use of Bone Artefacts from Prehistoric Times to the Present*, Proceedings of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICAZ Worked Bone Research Group at Tallinn, 26<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> of August 2003, *Muinasaja teadus* 15, 425-45

### The Shell

Dr Julia E.M. Cussans

A small quantity of marine shell was recovered by hand during the trial trench evaluation at Whittlesey. These were a lower oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) valve and a mussel (*Mytilus edulis*) fragment from Layer L1002 and a cockle (*Cerastoderma edule*) valve from L1006. Other 'shells' present were fossilised fragments of *Gryphaea*, Jurassic oysters known as 'Devil's toenails'.

Feature	Context	Description	Spot Date	Cattle	Sheep/ goat	Pig	Horse	Dog	Red deer	Large mammal	Medium mammal	Bird	Total
-	1000	Topsoil	E 19 <sup>th</sup> to E 20 <sup>th</sup> C	1									1
-	1001	Subsoil	Residual 14 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> C	2						9	3	2	16
-	1002	Subsoil	17 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> C		2			1		3			6
1005	1006	Fill of Pit		4		1	1			3	3		12
1007	1008	Fill of Pit	L 17 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup>	1			1	3		5	3		13
1009	1010	Fill of Pit	L 18 <sup>th</sup> 19 <sup>th</sup>	4	3	4	1		3	12	11	3	41
1007	1011	Fill of Pit		2	1	20					65		88
1007	1012	Fill of Pit	17 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> C		1		1			3			5
1013	1014	Fill of Gully	Residual 12 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup> C	1									1
			<i>Total</i>	15	7	25	4	4	3	35	85	5	183

Table 4: Quantification of animal bones

**APPENDIX 3      OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM**

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1  
Trench 1 looking south (scales = 1m)



2  
Pit 1005 looking east (scale = 1m)



3  
Pit 1005 and gully 1013 looking south (scale = 1m)



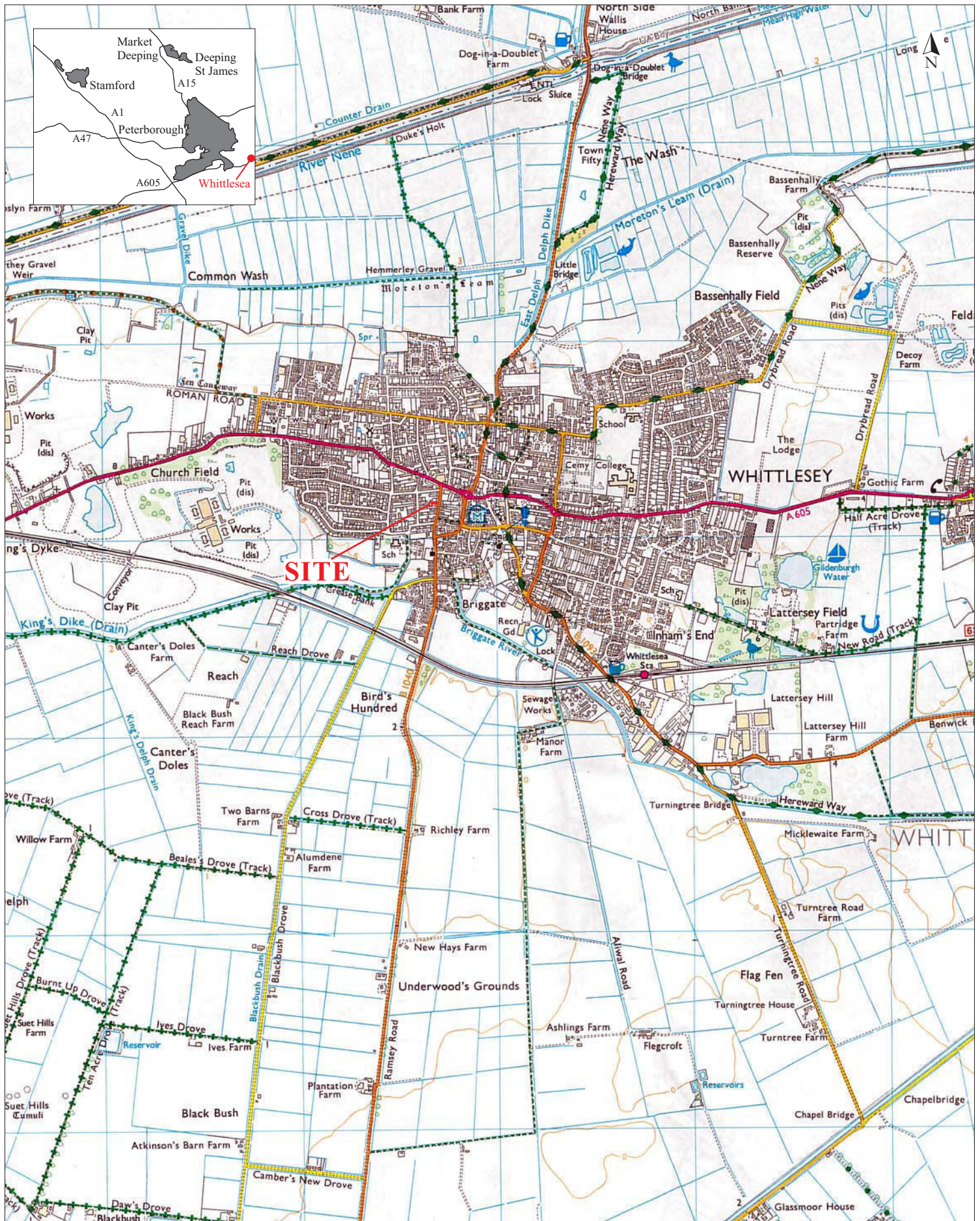
4  
Pit 1007 looking east (scale = 1m)



5  
Pit 1007 and gully 1013 looking east (scale = 1m)

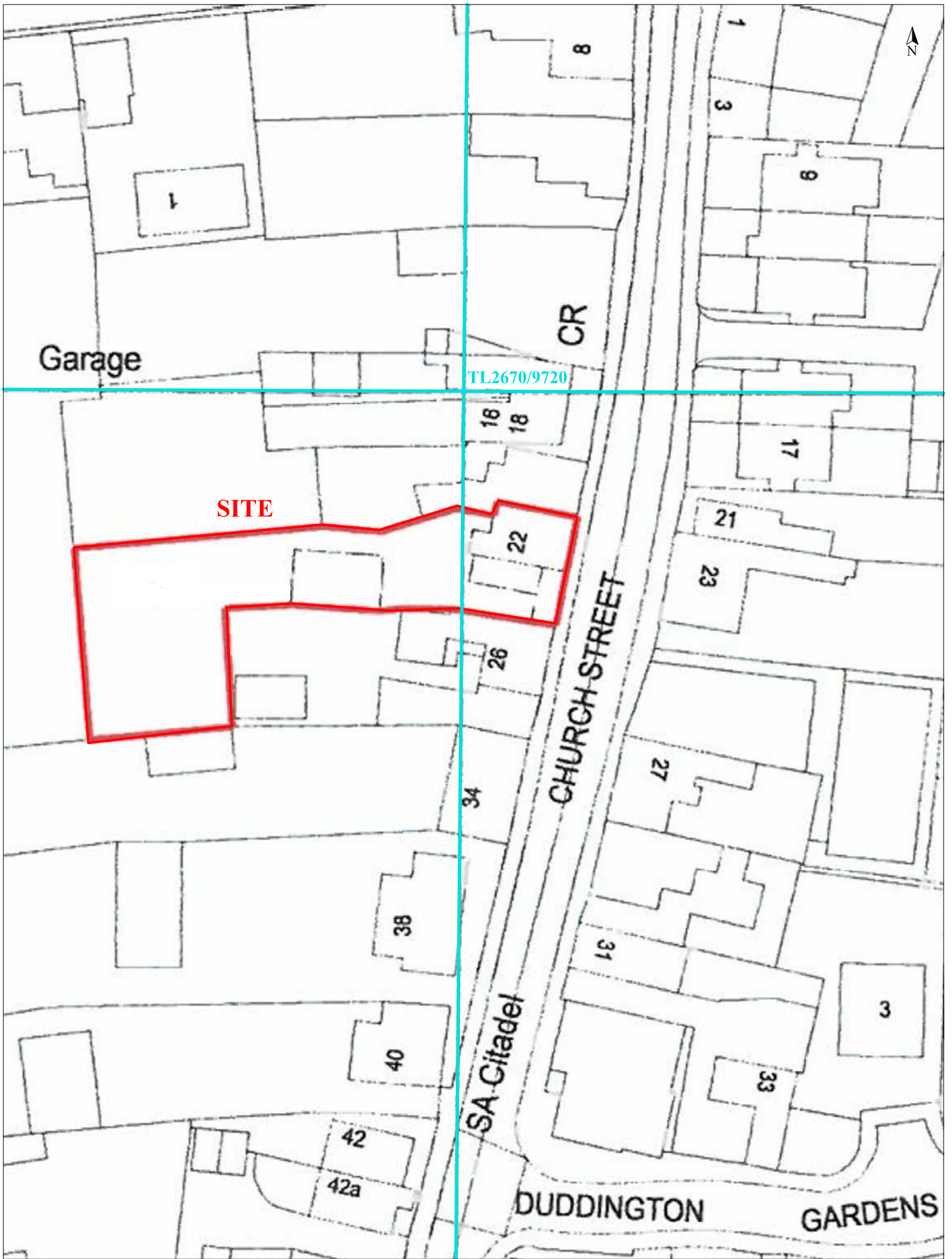


6  
Pit 1009 looking east (scale = 1m)



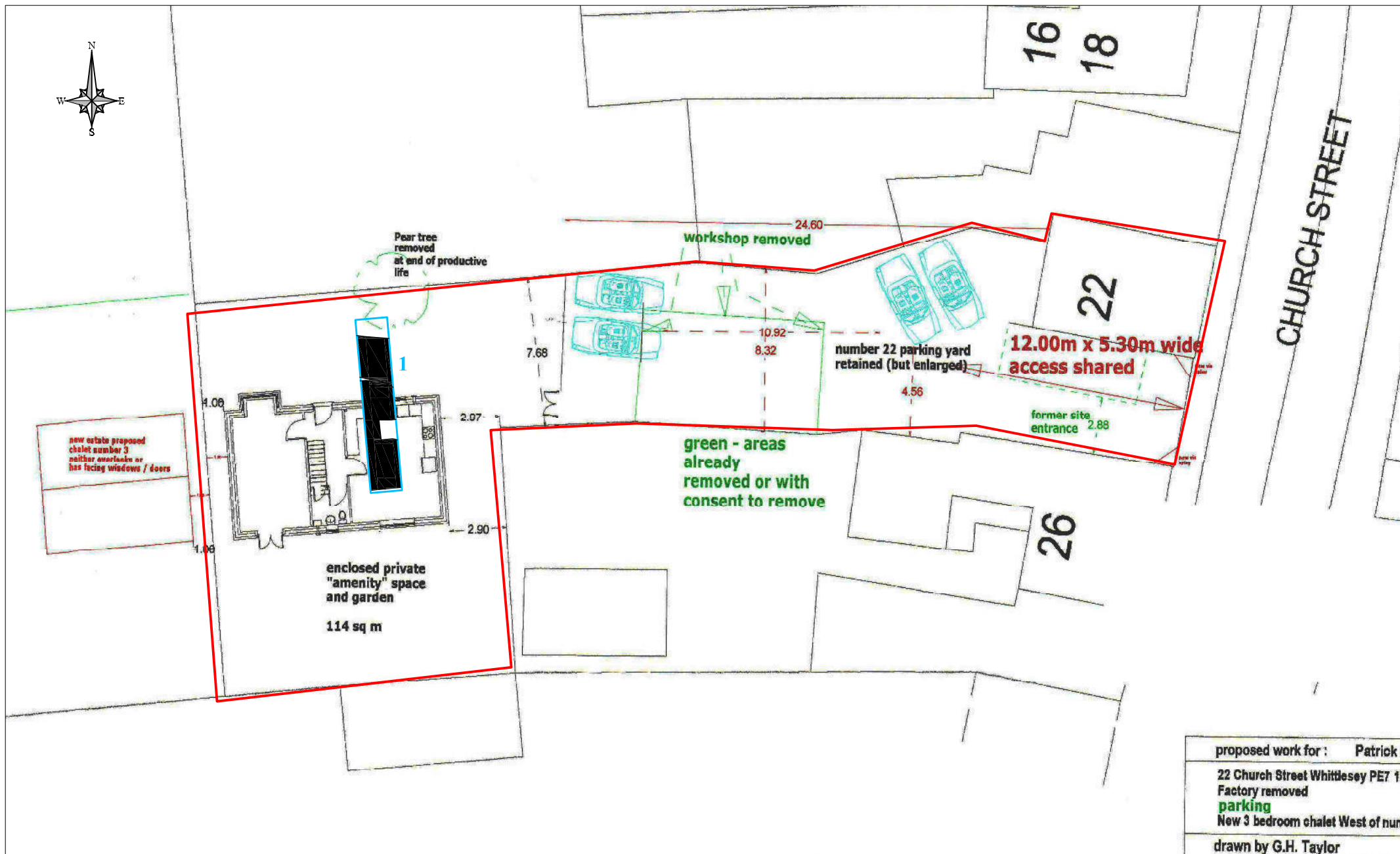
Reproduced from the 1999 Ordnance Survey 1:25000 map with the permission of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright Archaeological Solutions Ltd Licence number 100036680

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**Fig. 1 Site location plan**  
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4  
 Church Street, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire (P6692)



0 25m

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**Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan**  
 Scale 1:500 at A4  
 Church Street, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire (P6692)

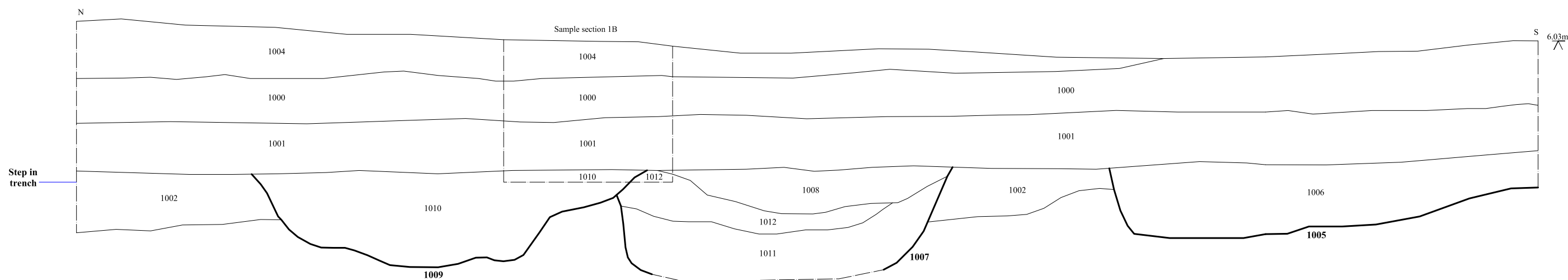
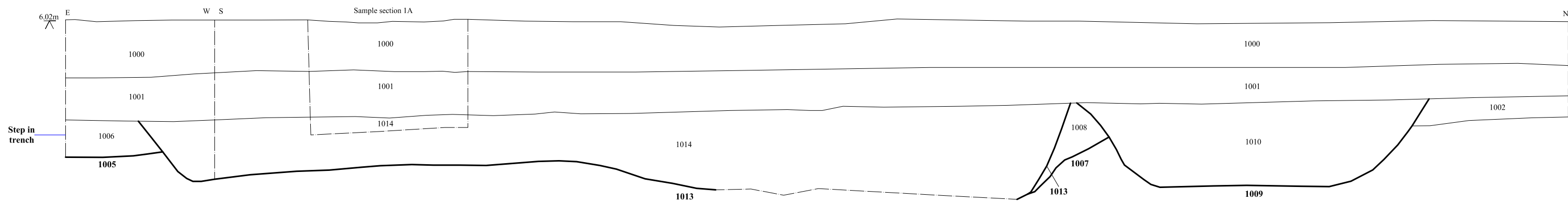
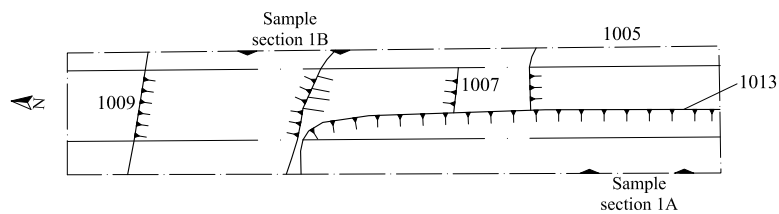


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**Fig. 3 Trench location on proposed plan**  
 Scale 1:250 at A4  
 Church Street, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire (P6692)



0 Plan only 5m



0 Section scale only 2m

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**Fig. 4 Trench plan and sections**  
 Scale 1:100 and 1:25 at A4  
 Church Street, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire (P6692)