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**PROPOSED GRAIN STORE,
21 CAMBRIDGE ROAD, FOXTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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NGR: TL 4088 4913	Report No: 5326
District: South Cambs	Site Code: ECB 4945
Approved:	Project No: 7055
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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name		Proposed Grain Store, 21 Cambridge Road, Foxton, Cambridgeshire	
<p><i>In February 2017 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Bleak House Farm, 21 Cambridge Road, Foxton, Cambridgeshire CB22 6SH (NGR TL 4088 4913). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for a new grain store (South Cambs Council Ref. S/2331/16/FL). The evaluation was required based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET), and it represents the initial requirement in compliance with the planning condition.</i></p> <p><i>The site is located within a landscape known for multi-period archaeological remains, recorded on the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) and described in the brief (Section 1.2). Surrounding the site are cropmarks of linear features and enclosures (e.g. CHER 08632, 04042, 08927 and 08635). A Saxon cemetery is known some 100m to the south west at Barrington Road (CHER 04209) and further Saxon burials have been found 330m to the south west (CHER 03989). A Scheduled Ancient Monument of a Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman and Saxon settlement lies 900m to the north east (DCB173).</i></p> <p><i>Modern and undated features (ditches, pits and a gully) were recorded. A residual sherd of Late Iron Age – 1st century AD pottery was present in one of the upper fills of a modern pit (F1009 (Trench 1).</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)		February 2017	
Previous work (Y/N/?)		N	Future work (Y/N/?) TBC
P. number		7055	Site code ECB 4945
Type of project		An Archaeological Evaluation	
Site status		-	
Current land use		Farm	
Planned development		Grain Store	
Main features (+dates)		Modern and undated ditches, pits and a gully	
Significant finds (+dates)		Residual Late Iron Age - 1st C sherd	
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish		Cambridgeshire	South Cambs Foxton
HER/ SMR for area		Cambridgeshire HER	
Post code (if known)		CB22 6SH	
Area of site		c.1000m ²	
NGR		TL 4088 4913	
Height AOD (min/max)		c.16m	
Project creators			
Brief issued by		CCC HET	
Project supervisor/s (PO)		Archaeological Solutions Ltd	
Funded by		Bleak House Farm	
Full title		Proposed Grain Store, 21 Cambridge Road, Foxton, Cambridgeshire. An Archaeological Evaluation	
Authors		Walker, J.	
Report no.		5326	
Date (of report)		28 February 2017 (Revised 30/03/2017)	

PROPOSED GRAIN STORE, 21 CAMBRIDGE ROAD, FOXTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In February 2017 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Bleak House Farm, 21 Cambridge Road, Foxton, Cambridgeshire CB22 6SH (NGR TL 4088 4913). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for a new grain store (South Cambs Council Ref. S/2331/16/FL). The evaluation was required based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET), and it represents the initial requirement in compliance with the planning condition.

The site is located within a landscape known for multi-period archaeological remains, recorded on the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) and described in the brief (Section 1.2). Surrounding the site are cropmarks of linear features and enclosures (e.g. CHER 08632, 04042, 08927 and 08635). A Saxon cemetery is known some 100m to the south west at Barrington Road (CHER 04209) and further Saxon burials have been found 330m to the south west (CHER 03989). A Scheduled Ancient Monument of a Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman and Saxon settlement lies 900m to the north east (DCB173).

Numerous features were present within each trench. The features were primarily linear ditches. A gully, F1024 (Trench 1), was also present. Two discrete features (pits) were recorded in each trench (F1016 and F1018 (Trench 1) and F1005 and F1009 (Trench 2)).

Finds were few in number and animal bone was the most frequent find occurring in five features. A fragment of burnt flint was found.

Dating evidence was sparse. A sherd of Late Iron Age – 1st century AD pottery was present in one of the upper fills (L1010) of Pit F1009 (Trench 2). But the basal fill of this feature contained a lump of concrete (120g) and therefore the sherd is residual. Because Ditches F1003 and F1007 cut Ditch F1009 and therefore post-date F1009 the features are modern. And similarly because Pit F1005 cut Ditch F1003 it is modern. The other recorded features are undated.

No exact correlation was discernible between excavated features and the known adjacent cropmarks.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In February 2017 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Bleak House Farm, 21 Cambridge Road, Foxton, Cambridgeshire CB22 6SH (NGR TL 4088 4913; Figs. 1 & 2). The evaluation was

undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for a new grain store (South Cambs Council Ref. S/2331/16/FL). The evaluation was required based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET), and it represents the initial requirement.

1.2 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a brief issued by CCC HET (Gemma Stewart; dated 16/01/2017) and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 10/02/2017) and approved by HET. The project conformed to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014), and the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The evaluation aimed 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 site is located at the north eastern edge of Foxton, on the north western side of Cambridge Road at Bleak House Farm. It is within the farm complex and

immediately adjacent to an existing grain store, with hardstanding and rough ground. A new grain store is proposed, to be constructed on pad foundations.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site lies at c.16m AOD on the wide valley floor of the River Cam, whose slightly meandering course passes c.500m to the north-west as it flows towards Cambridge. The Hoffer Brook, a minor tributary of the Cam passes c.750m to the east as it flows from a spring to the east of the village to confluence with the river. The underlying geology of the site is of chalk bedrock overlain by superficial river terrace deposits.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND¹

4.1 The valley floor of the River Cam appears to have been conducive to activity in the Neolithic period, with several stone axes recorded close to the site, including flint axes c.100m to the north-west and south-west of the site (HER 03997 & 03991), as well as a jadeite axehead slightly further to the west (HER 03993). It has also been postulated that featured recorded beneath a colluvial layer c.1km to the south in the village of Foxton have origins connected to Neolithic tree clearance (HER CB15568).

4.2 The break of slope c.1km to the east, on the opposite side of the Hoffer Brook appears to have been a focal point for Bronze Age funerary activity, including a complex of ring ditches and burials (HER 04122C & 04025); however cropmarks have also indicated potentially isolated round barrows on the valley floor, including an example c.500m to the south-east (HER 08634).

4.3 The area around Hoffer Brook continued to be a focal point for activity in the Iron Age and Roman periods, including field systems and occupation evidence (HER 04122A & 04530), however cropmarks indicate track ways and enclosures extending close to the north-east of the site (HER 04042), with late Iron Age pottery vessels found on land adjacent to the west (HER 04209A) and enclosures adjacent to the east (HER MCB22269) indicating the site was part of this landscape. Further Iron Age to Roman enclosures and pits have also been recorded slightly further to the west on Barrington Road (HER MCB22271, 03247 & 03994). In the Roman period, a small villa was established c.900m to the north-east (HER 04181), and enclosures and pottery possibly associated with this settlement have been recorded on land adjacent to the west of the site (HER MCB22270 & 04209A), with bronze objects recorded further to the south-west (HER 07717).

4.4 A Saxon settlement was established on the opposite side of the Hoffer Brook c.1km to the north-west (HER 04122), including grubenhaus, potential graves and evidence for metal working. The area immediately to the south of the site has produced extensive evidence for Saxon burials, suggesting it may be the location of a cemetery associated with the settlement (HER 03989, 03996 & 04209), while

¹ Cropmark locations immediately surrounding the site are shown on Figure 3

dispersed metal finds close by, including a sword and bronze bowl may represent material disturbed from the cemetery (HER 03995 & 03995B).

4.5 In the medieval period, settlement shifted to the historic nuclei of the present day village of Foxton c.700m to the south of the site, focussed on St. Laurence's Church (HER CB14810), a moated site and tithe barn at Mortimers Farm (HER 01255 & 02975). Within this nucleus a hollow way, house platforms and trackways have been recorded (HER 09822), as well as several enclosures and other settlement remains (HER MCB15793, MCB17771 & MCB22268). Cropmarks c.500m to the north, in a loop on the opposite side of the River Cam have also been interpreted as earthworks associated with medieval enclosures or settlement (HER MCB22272). The core established in the medieval period continued to form the nucleus of activity into the post-medieval period, including Bury Farm c.500m to the south of the site (HER 04125). Numerous listed buildings, many of late 16th to 17th century date are situated within the core of modern Foxton, but none are close to the site. Former post-medieval field boundaries have been indicated by cropmarks between the village and River Cam (HER MCB22265).

4.6 Numerous un-dated cropmarks have been identified by aerial photography to the north of Foxton, including several within 200m of the site, including parallel linear ditches to the north (HER 08632), possible ring ditches to the south-east (HER 08635) and linear ditches (HER 08927).

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 Two trenches, 10m and 15m in length, were excavated using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket (Fig. 2).

5.2 The topsoil was removed 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.

5.3 Open trenches and excavated spoil were manually / visually searched and scanned by metal detector to enhance the recovery of archaeological finds.

5.4 A one-metre square of the topsoil below the existing surface was bucket sampled and sorted by hand at each end of the trenches to characterise their artefact content. No archaeological features were present.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

6.1 The individual trench descriptions are presented below:

Trench 1 (Figs. 2 - 4)

Sample section 1A 0.00 = 15.30m AOD		
0.00 – 0.24m	L1000	Gravel Yard Surface.
0.24 – 0.38m	L1001	Topsoil. Firm, dark brown clayey silt with occasional small stones.
0.38m +	L1022	Fill of F1021.

Sample section 1B 0.00 = 15.34m AOD		
0.00 – 0.15m	L1000	Gravel Yard Surface. As above.
0.15 – 0.52m	L1001	Topsoil. As above.
0.52m +	L1002	Natural. Mid orange yellow fine gravel with moderate sub angular flint

Description: Trench 1 contained Pits F1016 and F1018, ?Ditch F1014, Ditches F1020, F1022 and F1034, and Gully F1024. None of the features were dated. F1022 and F1034 contained animal bone.

?Ditch F1014 was ?linear in plan (1.50m+ x 0.50m x 0.36m+), orientated E/W. It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1015, was a friable, dark grey brown silty sand with small – medium sub angular flint. It contained no finds.

Pit F1016 was sub circular in plan (0.40m+ x 0.71m x 0.20m+). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1017, was a friable, mid grey brown silty sand with frequent small – medium sub angular flint. It contained no finds.

Pit F1018 was sub circular in plan (0.50m+ x 0.62m x 0.22m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1019, was a friable, mid grey brown silty sand with frequent small – medium sub angular flint. It contained no finds.

Ditch F1020 was linear in plan (1.30m+ x 0.48m x 0.50m), orientated NW/SE. It had steep irregular sides and a narrow base. Its fill, L1021, was a friable, dark brown silty sand with occasional small stones. It contained no finds. F1020 was cut by Ditch F1022.

Ditch F1022 was linear in plan (1.30m+ x 1.22m x 0.62m), orientated NW/SE. It had steep irregular sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1023, was a friable, dark brown silty sand with occasional small stones and gravel. It contained animal bone (630g). F1022 cut Ditch F1020 and was cut by Gully F1024.

Gully F1024 was linear in plan (1.30m+ x 0.40m x 0.27m), orientated N/S. It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1025, was a friable, dark brown silty clay with occasional small stones and gravel. It contained no finds. Gully F1024 cut Ditch F1022.

Ditch F1034 was linear in plan (1.30m+ x 1.30m+ x 0.47m), orientated NW/SE. It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1035, was a friable, dark brown silty clay with occasional small stones and gravel. It contained animal bone (647g) and a fragment of burnt flint (28g).

Trench 2 (Figs. 2, 3 & 5)

Sample section 2A 0.00 = 15.33 AOD		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1000	Gravel Yard Surface. As above
0.20 – 0.36m	L1001	Topsoil. As above.
0.36 – 0.48m	L1011	Fill of F1009. Friable, mid grey yellow silt with gravel
0.48 – 0.59m	L1010	Fill of F1009. Friable, dark grey brown silt with frequent small stones
0.59 – 0.72m	L1038	Fill of F1009. Loose, dark brownish yellow chalky sand with occasional small stones and gravel
0.72 – 0.79m	L1037	Fill of F1009. Loose, dark greyish brown silty sand with occasional small stones and gravel
0.79m+	L1036	Fill of F1009. Loose, dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small stones and gravel

Sample section 2B 0.00 = 15.37m AOD		
0.00 – 0.18m	L1000	Gravel Yard Surface. As above.
0.18 – 0.42m	L1001	Topsoil. As above.
0.42m+	L1033	Fill of F1032. Friable, mid yellow brown chalk and silt clay.

Description: Trench 2 contained Pits F1005 and F1009, and Ditches F1003, F1007, F1012 and F1030. F1005 and F1007 contained animal bone. Only Pit F1009 contained dating evidence: a residual Late Iron Age – 1st century AD sherd and a lump of modern concrete within its basal fill.

A modern ditch (F1028) traversed the trench. Modern brick and rubble was evident within the fill of Ditch F1028. F1032 was the result of root disturbance.

Ditch F1003 was linear in plan (2m+ x 0.63m x 0.18m), orientated NE/SW. It had moderately steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1004, was a friable, mid yellow brown clayey silt with occasional chalk and sub angular stone. It contained no finds. F1003 was cut by Pit F1005 and F1007. F1003 cut Pit F1009.

Pit F1005 was sub circular in plan (0.52m+ x 0.25+ x 0.38m). It had steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1006, was a firm, dark grey brown clayey silt with occasional small stones. It contained animal bone (250g). F1005 cut Ditch F1003.

Ditch F1007 was linear in plan (1.30m+ x 0.58m x 0.13m), orientated NW/SE. It had moderately steep sides and a narrow base. Its fill, L1008, was a friable, mid grey brown sandy silt. It contained animal bone (4g). F1007 cut Ditch F1003 and Pit F1009.

Pit F1009 was sub circular in plan (1.50m+ x 3.70+ x 1.05m). It had steep sides and a flattish base. It had five fills which are tabulated below. F1009 was cut by Ditches F1003, F1007 and F1012. F1009 contained a sherd of Late Iron Age – 1st century AD pottery (1; 18g), but the basal fill of the feature, L1036, contained a fairly sizeable lump of concrete (120g). The latter was examined to ensure that it was not opus caementicium (Roman concrete), and it was not. Pit F1009 extended beyond

the edge of the trench so its southern extent could not be defined. Pit F1009 was cut by Ditches F1003 and F1007.

Fill	Description	Finds
L1011 Upper	Friable, mid grey yellow silt with gravel	-
L1010	Friable, dark grey brown silt with frequent small stones	Late Iron Age – 1 st century AD (1; 18g)
L1038	Loose, dark brownish yellow chalky sand with occasional small stones and gravel	-
L1037	Loose, dark greyish brown silty sand with occasional small stones and gravel	-
L1036 Basal	Loose, dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small stones and gravel	Lump of concrete (120g) Animal bone (19g)

Ditch F1012 was ?curvilinear in plan (1.30m+ x 1.64m x 0.74m), orientated NW/SE. It had steep sides and a flat undulating base. Its fill, L1013, was a friable, light grey brown silt. It contained no finds. F1012 cut Pit F1009.

Ditch F1028 was linear in plan (1.30m+ x 1.54m+ x 0.16m+), orientated NW/SE. It had steep sides and its base was not seen as the feature was not fully excavated. Its fill, L1029, was a friable, mid grey silt and rubble. It contained modern brick and rubbles. F1028 cut Ditch F1030.

Ditch F1030 was linear in plan (1.30m+ x 0.64m+ x 0.37m), orientated NW/SE. It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1031, was a firm, dark brown silty clay. It contained no finds. F1030 was cut by modern Ditch F1028.

F1032 was the result of root disturbance. It was irregular in plan (1.30m+ x 1.20m+ x 0.15m). It had irregular sides and an irregular base. Its fill, L1033, was a friable, mid yellow brown chalk and silt clay. It 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 overlain by a gravel yard surface, L1000 (0.15 – 0.24m thick). L1000 overlay Topsoil L1001, a firm, dark brown clayey silt with occasional small stones (c.0.15 – 35m thick). L1001 overlay the natural, L1002, a mid orange yellow fine gravel with moderate sub angular flint. The natural was present at 0.24 – 0.52m below the existing ground level.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The recorded features are tabulated:

TRENCH	CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DATE
1	F1014	?Ditch	-
	F1016	Pit	-
	F1018	Pit	-
	F1020	Ditch	-
	F1022	Ditch	-
	F1024	Gully	-
	F1034	Ditch	-
2	F1003	Ditch	Cut Pit F1009 therefore modern
	F1005	Pit	Cut Ditch F1003 which cut Pit F1009 therefore modern
	F1007	Ditch	Cut Pit F1009 therefore modern
	F1009	Pit	Modern
	F1012	Ditch	Cut Pit F1009 therefore modern
	F1028	Ditch	Modern
	F1030	Ditch	-
	F1032	Root disturbance	-

9.2 Numerous features were present within each trench; Trench 1: seven features and Trench 2: seven features. In addition F1032 represented root disturbance.

9.3 The features were primarily linear ditches. A gully, F1024 (Trench 1), was also present. Two discrete features (pits) were recorded in each trench (F1016 and F1018 (Trench 1) and F1005 and F1009 (Trench 2)).

9.4 Ditches in the south-western ends of the trenches ran parallel to an adjacent cropmark (Fig. 3); specifically Ditches F1020 and F1022 (Trench 1) and F1007 (Trench 2). However, in neither trench was there an exact correlation between cropmark data and excavated features. Pit F1005 and Ditch F1003, located in the far south-west of Trench 2 (Fig. 5), intersected with the cropmark in this area but appeared unrelated to it; F1003 followed a north-east to south-west orientation, perpendicular to the cropmark (Fig. 3).

9.5 Finds were few in number and animal bone was the most frequent find occurring in five features (F1005, F1007, F1009 (L1036), F1022 and F1034). A fragment of burnt flint was found (F1034).

9.6 Dating evidence was sparse. A sherd of Late Iron Age – 1st century AD pottery was present in one of the upper fills (L1010) of Pit F1009 (Trench 2). But the basal fill of this feature contained a lump of concrete (120g) and therefore the sherd is residual. Because Ditches F1003, F1007 and F1012 cut Ditch F1009, and therefore post-date F1009, the features are modern. And similarly because Pit F1005 cut Ditch F1003 it is modern. Ditch F1028 was modern. The other recorded features are undated.

10 CONCLUSION

10.1 The site is located within a landscape known for multi-period archaeological remains.

10.2 Modern and undated features (ditches, pits and a gully) were recorded. A residual sherd of Late Iron Age – 1st century AD pottery was present in one of the

upper fills of a modern pit (F1009 (Trench 1)). No exact correlation was discernible between excavated features and the known adjacent cropmarks.

11 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

11.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with any donated finds from the site at Cambridge County Archaeological Store. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) would like to thank Mr Mead of Bleak House Farm for funding the project and for his assistance.

AS would also like to acknowledge the input and advice of Gemma Stewart of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team.

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APPENDIX 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

Feature	Context	Seg.	Trench	Description	Spot Date (Pottery Only)	Pottery (Qty)	Pottery (g)	CBM (g)	Animal Bone (g)	Other Material	Other (Qty)	Other (g)
1005	1006		2	Fill of Pit					250			
1007	1008	B	2	Fill of Ditch					4			
1009	1010		2	Fill of Pit	Late Iron Age-1st Century AD	1	18					
	1036		2	Fill of Ditch					19	Cement		120
1022	1023		1	Fill of Ditch					630			
1034	1035		1	Fill of Ditch					647	B.Flint	1	28

APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Pottery

Andrew Peachey MCIfA

A single sherd (18g) of pre-Roman late Iron Age to 1st century AD pottery was recovered from context L1010 in a slightly abraded condition. It comprises a body sherd of Southern British ('Belgic') grog-tempered ware (Tomber & Dore 1998, 214), manufactured or finished on a slow-wheel, and decorated with intersection comb strokes on the exterior. It appears highly likely this body sherd would have formed part of a medium to large jar or cooking pot, potentially of 1st century AD date, and within the northernmost zone of distribution for 'Belgic' pottery in south-east England (Thompson 1982, 17).

References

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

The Animal Bone

Mark S. Blagg-Newsome

A very small animal bone assemblage (1550g) was recovered from trial trench excavations at Cambridge Road, Foxton totalling 15 fragments (including the unidentifiable assemblage). Bone preservation was rate as generally ok on a five point scale from very poor through to excellent. The majority of the bone derived from ditch fill deposits (58%), with the remainder (42%) recovered from Pit Fills L1006 (F1005) and F1009 L2036, with none of the contexts datable to a specific chronological period. Bone abrasion was rare, occurring in only one of five contexts (L1023 F1022) where animal bone was recovered. Fragmentation was generally low with few fresh breaks. The vast majority of the assemblage was at least identifiable to a size category (80% of the assemblage), of which two-fifths (40%, 6 fragments) was identifiable to a specific taxa. Three bones each were identifiable to large (cattle or horse size) and medium (sheep or pig) mammal size categories.

Cattle dominated this small assemblage, followed by horse which was represented by a single juvenile left mandible (Table 1). Cattle was represented by limb (tibia, humerii and an ulna) and frontal bone elements. Smaller, medium sized mammals were present in size categories (two ribs and one chopped long bone fragment), but this assemblage's bias towards large mammals is not thought to be as a result of preferential preservation due to post depositional or taphonomic activities. The lack of abrasion and fragmentation would suggest that the prevalence of large mammals is relatively representative of species ratios from the features excavated. However, a larger sample of the site would be necessary to confirm that the economic differences seen here are representative of the site as a whole. The animals bones here (with the exception of the horse) are most probably representative of animals

killed for food. The horse represents more complicated remains due to its juvenile nature (c.2 ½ years old based on tooth eruption, Silver 1969). Horse historically in Britain is seen as consumption taboo so it is unlikely that the mandible represents an animal that was slaughtered for its meat (e.g. Albarella 2004: 138-140). The young age of the horse would also possibly suggest that this animal was not a working beast, which leaves the possibility that this animal may have died of natural causes at a young age.

Butchery marks were evident on four of the bones recovered. One of the cattle humeri (L1006 F1005) displayed evidence of slice marks created by a knife on the shaft of the bone, possibly indicating that once jointed, smaller portions of meat were subsequently removed. From the same context, a single medium sized long bone fragment was chopped longitudinally, possibly as a result of bone breaking for the extraction of marrow. In Ditch Fill L1008B (F1007), a small scorched bone was chopped at either end of the fragment squaring it off, apparently to reduce the bone to certain dimensions. This re-sizing of the bone in conjunction with the scorch marks would suggest that this bone was “pot-sized” in order to be used in cooking. A large mammal sternal rib from Ditch Fill L1036 (F1009) also displayed numerous chop and knick marks probably made by a cleaver, that may have been produced during initial jointing of the animal carcass. No other comment can be made about this assemblage at this time.

References

Albarella, U. 2004. "Meat production and consumption in town and country", Giles, Kate and Dyer, Christopher (eds.), *Town and country in the middle ages: contrasts, contacts and interconnections, 1100-1500*, Maney Publishing, 131-148

Silver, I.A. 1969, "The Ageing of Domestic Animals" in Brothwell, D. and Higgs, E. (eds.) *Science in Archaeology (2nd edition.)*, Thames & Hudson, London, 283–302

Feature	Context	Segment	Trench	Description	Cattle	Horse	Medium Mammal	Large Mammal	Unidentifiable	Total (Not inc. Unid)
1005	1006		2	Fill of Pit	1		3		1	4
1007	1008	B	2	Fill of Ditch					1	0
1009	1036		2	Fill of Pit				1		1
1022	1023		1	Fill of Ditch	1					1
1034	1035		2	Fill of Ditch	3	1		2	1	6
				Total	5	1	3	3	3	12

Table 1: Quantification of animal bone from 21 Cambridge Road, Foxton, Cambs.

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OASIS ID: archaeol7-282480

Project details

Project name	Proposed Grain Store, 21 Cambridge Road, Foxton, Cambridgeshire
Short description of the project	In February 2017 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Bleak House Farm, 21 Cambridge Road, Foxton, Cambridgeshire CB22 6SH (NGR TL 4088 4913). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for a new grain store (South Cambs Council Ref. S/2331/16/FL). The evaluation was required based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET), and it represents the initial requirement in compliance with the planning condition. . The site is located within a landscape known for multi-period archaeological remains, recorded on the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) and described in the brief (Section 1.2). Surrounding the site are cropmarks of linear features and enclosures (e.g. CHER 08632, 04042, 08927 and 08635). A Saxon cemetery is known some 100m to the south west at Barrington Road (CHER 04209) and further Saxon burials have been found 330m to the south west (CHER 03989). A Scheduled Ancient Monument of a Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman and Saxon settlement lies 900m to the north east (DCB173). Modern and undated features (ditches, pits and a gully) were recorded. A residual sherd of Late Iron Age - 1st century AD pottery was present in one of the upper fills of a modern pit (F1009 (Trench 1).
Project dates	Start: 01-02-2017 End: 28-02-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	P7055 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECB4945 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	DITCHES Modern
Monument type	PITS Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY SHERD Late Iron Age
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches","Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition

Position in the
planning process

Pre-application

Project location

Country England

Site location CAMBRIDGESHIRE SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE FOXTON Proposed Grain Store, 21 Cambridge Road, Foxton, Cambridgeshire

Postcode CB22 6SH

Study area 1000 Square metres

Site coordinates TL 4088 4913 52.122073850607 0.058042269021 52 07 19 N 000 03 28 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 16m Max: 16m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Project brief originator CCC HET

Project design originator Jon Murray

Project director/manager Jon Murray

Project supervisor Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Cambridgeshire County Archaeological Store

Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics"

Digital Archive recipient Cambridgeshire County Archaeological Store

Digital Contents "Survey"

Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"

Paper Archive recipient Cambridgeshire County Archaeological Store

Paper Contents "Survey"

Paper Media available "Drawing","Photograph","Plan","Report","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Proposed Grain Store, 21 Cambridge Road, Foxton, Cambridgeshire

Author(s)/Editor(s) Walker, J

Other bibliographic details Archaeological Solutions Report No. 5326

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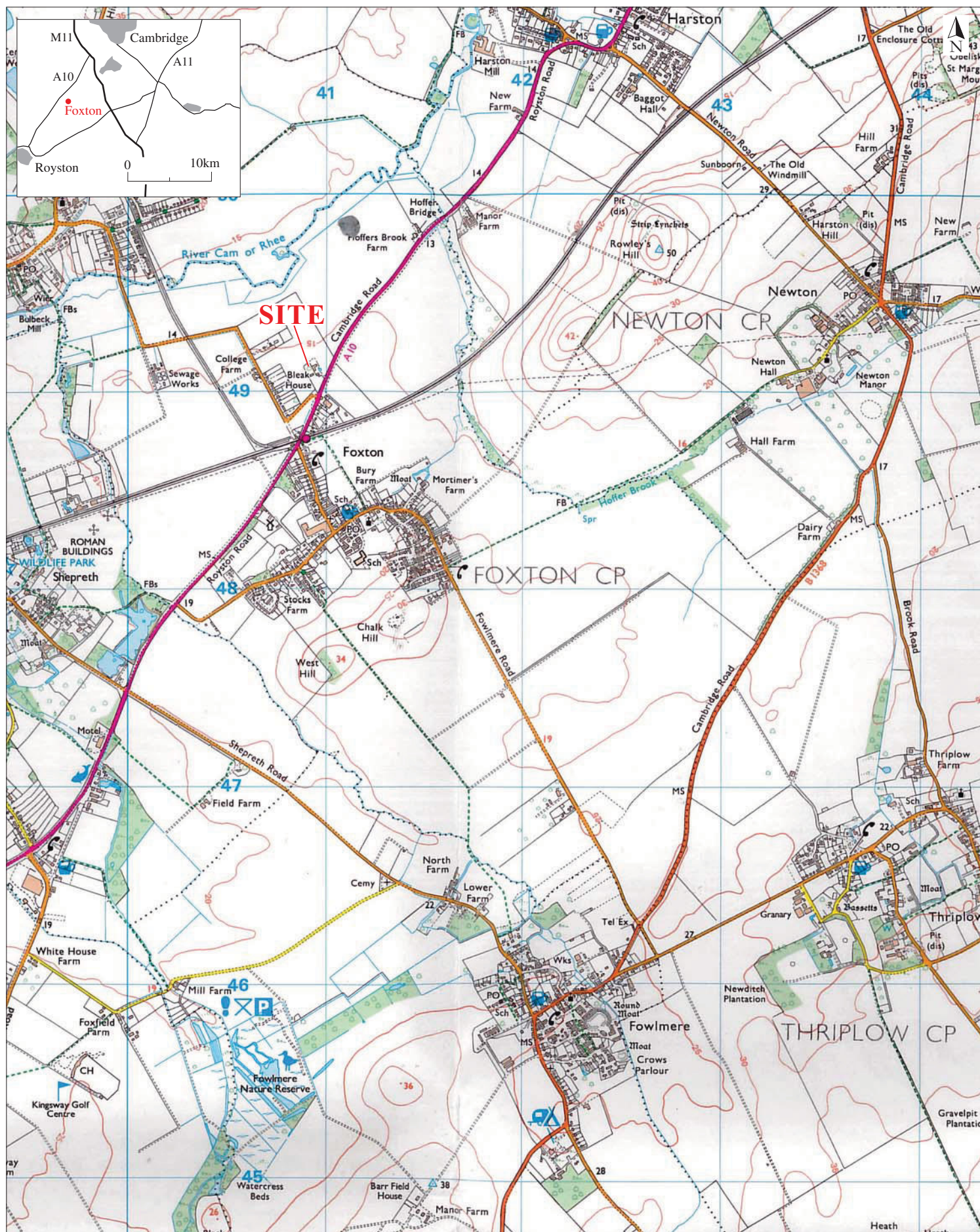
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Fig. 1 Site location plan

Scale 1:25,000 at A4

Foxton, Cambridgeshire (P7055)

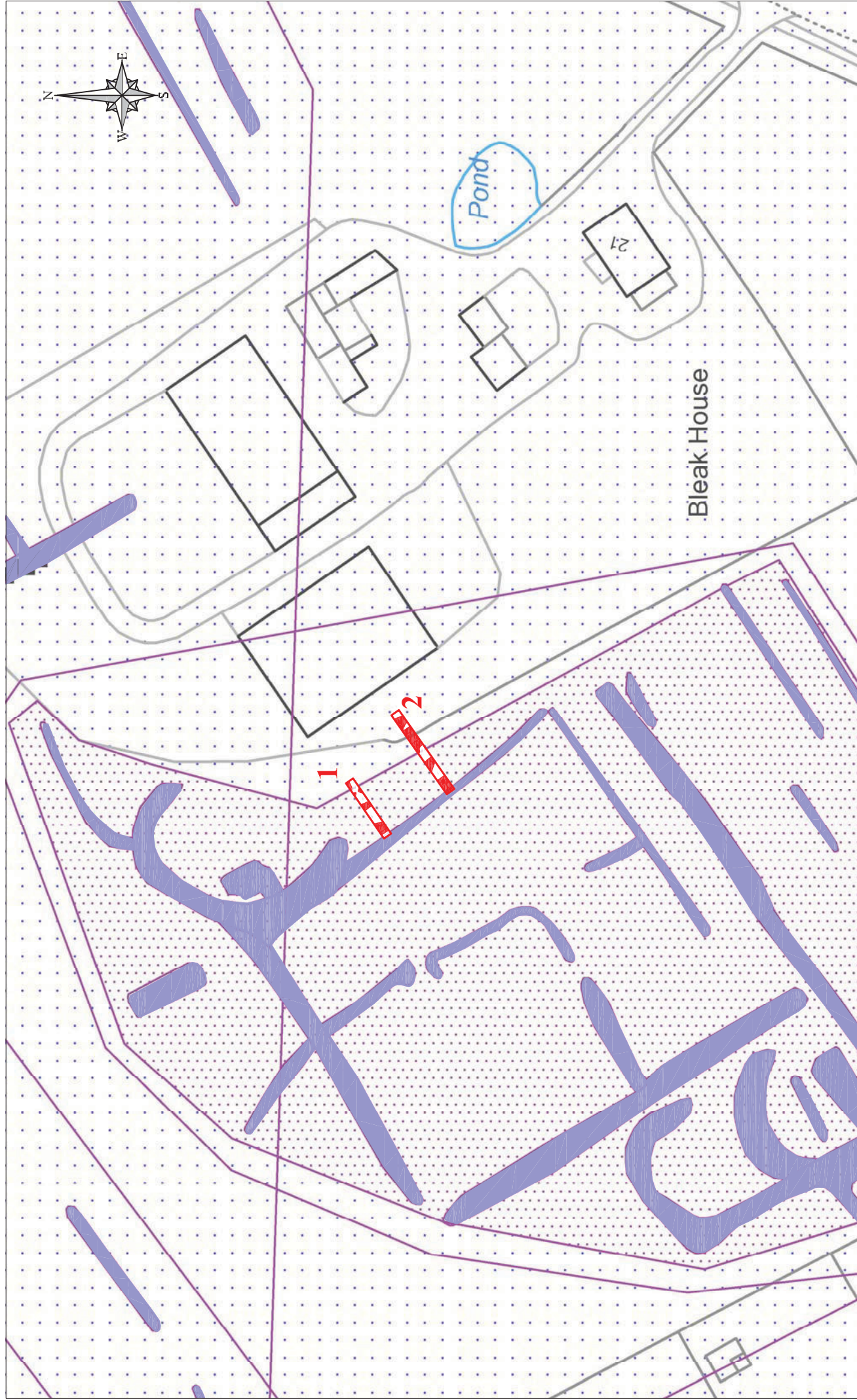


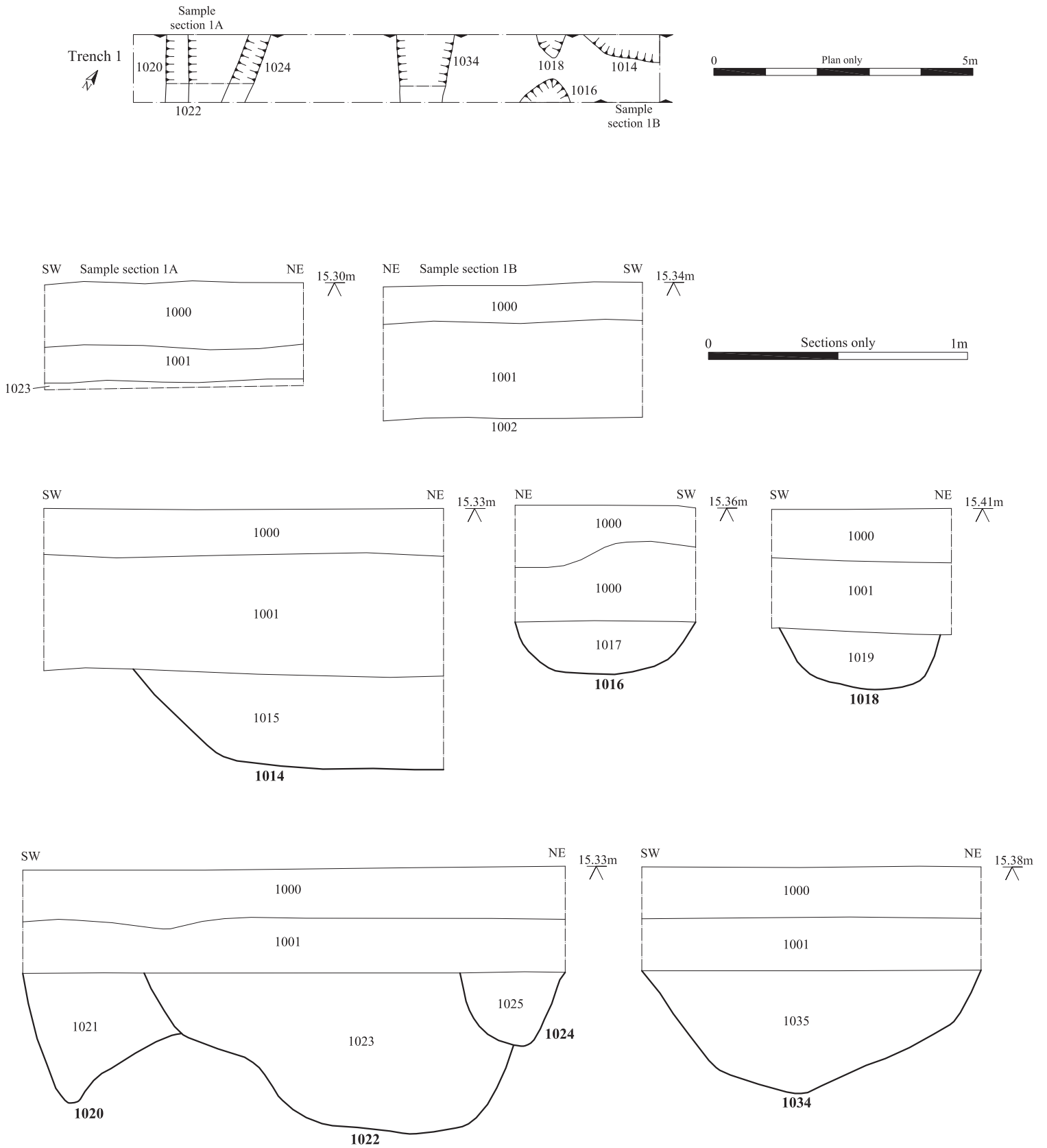
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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan

Scale 1:600 at A4

Foxton, Cambridgeshire (P7055)



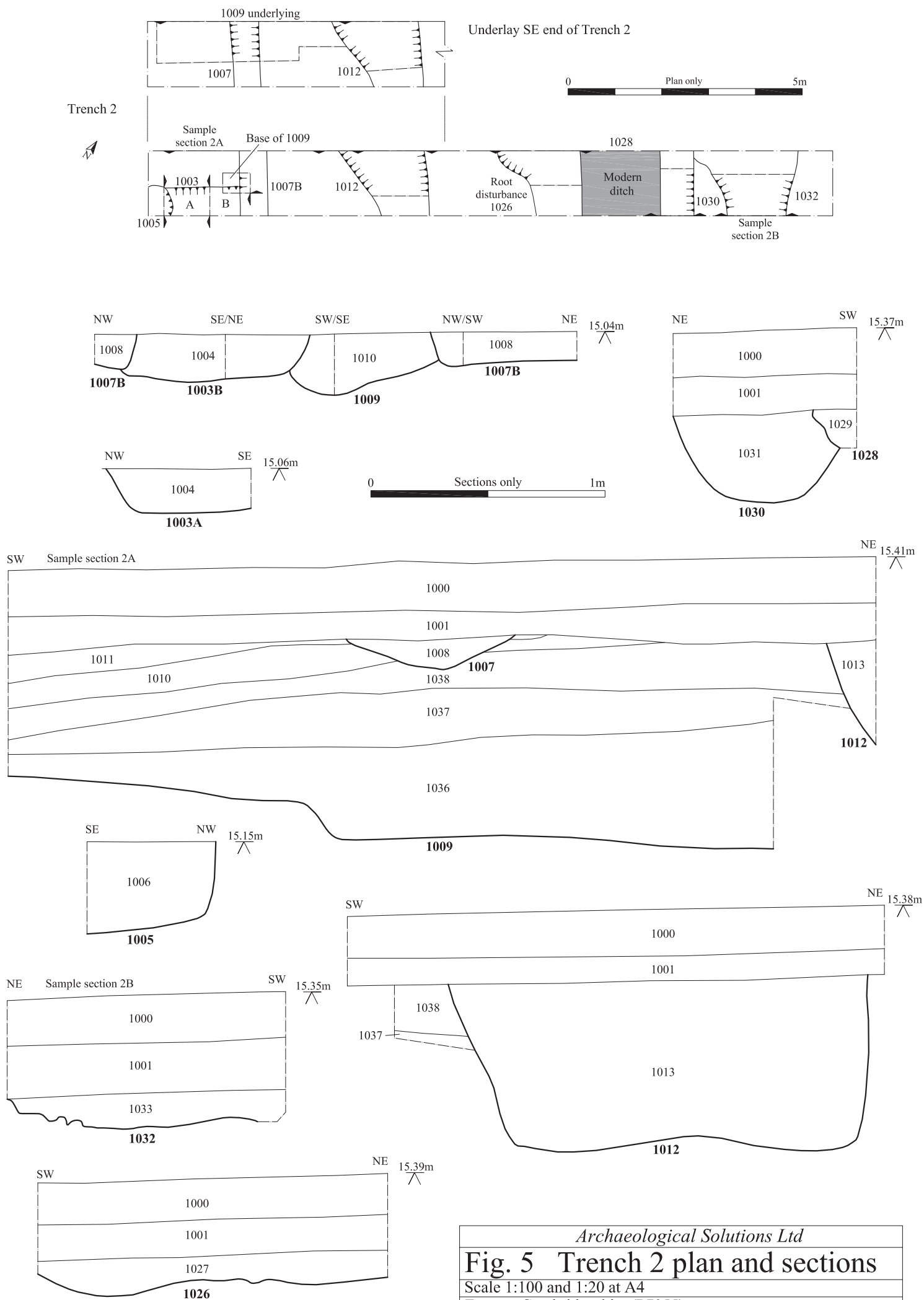


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Fig. 4 Trench 1 plan and sections

Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A4

Foxton, Cambridgeshire (P7055)



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Fig. 5 Trench 2 plan and sections
 Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A4
 Foxton, Cambridgeshire (P7055)