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## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**LAND OFF CORNFIELDS, BURWELL,  
CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB25 0AX**

### **AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

Authors: Kerrie Bull (Fieldwork and report)	
NGR: TL 5954 6611	Report No: 5450
District: East Cambs	Site Code: ECB 5195
Approved: Claire Halpin MCIfA	Project No: P7235
	Date: 29 September 2017

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## OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

<b>Project details</b>			
Project name		<i>Land off Cornfields, Burwell, Cambridgeshire CB25 0AX</i>	
<p><i>In September 2017 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land to the rear of 35 Cornfields, Burwell, Cambridgeshire CB25 0AX (NGR TL 5954 6611). The evaluation was undertaken to provide for the initial requirements of a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of a new development of 14no residential dwellings (East Cambs Council Ref. 17/00419/FUM), based on the advice of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team.</i></p> <p><i>Archaeological features were present in Trial Trenches 2 – 3 and 5 – 6, and not 1, 4 and 7. The features were predominantly post holes: Trench 2 (2), Trench 3 (5) and Trench 6 (2). In addition a pit was recorded in Trench 5 (F1007) and a ?natural hollow or hollow way was recorded in Trench 2 (F1013). Finds were sparse: Hollow F1013 contained animal bone (2g), and Post Hole F1003 contained an abraded ?Roman pottery sherd, likely residual.</i></p> <p><i>Due to the confines of the trench it was difficult to define the hollow, F1013, located in Trench 2. It may represent a naturally in-filled depression but equally may represent a hollow way. It contained sparse and degraded animal bone (2g).</i></p> <p><i>The archaeological features recorded during the evaluation are largely undated and at some distance from the known archaeological remains. The possible exception is F1013 (Trench 2) which may represent a hollow way conceivably associated with the settlement at Melton Farm but this is conjecture.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)		September 2017	
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work	TBC
P. number	P7235	Site code	ECB 5195
Type of project	Archaeological evaluation		
Site status	-		
Current land use	Agricultural		
Planned development	Residential		
Main features (+dates)	Post holes		
Significant finds (+dates)	Residual sherd of Roman pottery		
	Cambridgeshire	East Cambs	Burwell
HER/ SMR for area	Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER)		
Post code (if known)	CB25 0AX		
Area of site	0.85ha.		
NGR	TL 5954 6611		
Height AOD (min/max)	c.21m AOD		
<b>Project creators</b>			
Brief issued by	Cambridgeshire County Council		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Archaeological Solutions Ltd		
Funded by	Hastoe Homes		
Full title	Land off Cornfields, Burwell, Cambridgeshire CB25 0AX. An Archaeological Evaluation		
Authors	Kerrie Bull		
Report no.	5450		
Date (of report)	September 2017		

**LAND OFF CORNFIELDS, BURWELL, CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB25 0AX**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

**SUMMARY**

*In September 2017 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land to the rear of 35 Cornfields, Burwell, Cambridgeshire CB25 0AX (NGR TL 5954 6611). The evaluation was undertaken to provide for the initial requirements of a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of a new development of 14no residential dwellings (East Cambs Council Ref. 17/00419/FUM), based on the advice of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team.*

*The site is located within an area of archaeological potential with nearby archaeological remains (particularly of later prehistoric date) recorded on the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER). A recent evaluation to the north of Newmarket Road and 700m to the north of the site at Melton Farm revealed extensive evidence of a late Bronze Age and early Iron Age settlement (CHER ECB4308). Evidence of Late Bronze Age settlement and a single cremation are also known (CHER MCB22070). This occupation extends south of Newmarket Road, with investigations to the north-west of the site at Summersfield Close and 58a-d Newmarket Road revealing contemporary storage pits and structural building remains (CHERs MCB17427 & 18199).*

*Archaeological features were present in Trial Trenches 2 – 3 and 5 – 6, and not 1, 4 and 7. The features were predominantly post holes: Trench 2 (2), Trench 3 (5) and Trench 6 (2). In addition a pit was recorded in Trench 5 (F1007) and a ?natural hollow or hollow way was recorded in Trench 2 (F1013). Finds were sparse: Hollow F1013 contained animal bone (2g), and Post Hole F1003 contained an abraded ?Roman pottery sherd, likely residual.*

*Due to the confines of the trench it was difficult to define the hollow, F1013, located in Trench 2. It may represent a naturally in-filled depression but equally may represent a hollow way. It contained sparse and degraded animal bone (2g).*

*The archaeological features recorded during the evaluation are largely undated and at some distance from the known archaeological remains. The possible exception is F1013 (Trench 2) which may represent a hollow way conceivably associated with the settlement at Melton Farm but this is conjecture.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In September 2017 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land to the rear of 35 Cornfields, Burwell, Cambridgeshire CB25 0AX (NGR TL 5954 6611; Figs. 1 - 2). The evaluation was undertaken to provide for the initial requirements of a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of a new development of 14no residential dwellings (East Cambs Council Ref. 17/00419/FUM), based on the advice of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team.

1.2 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a brief issued by Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (HET, Gemma Stewart; dated 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017), and a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by AS (dated 14<sup>th</sup> August 2017) and approved by CCC HET. It followed the procedures outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (2014). It also adhered to the relevant sections of *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The objectives of the evaluation were to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition significance and quality of any 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 on the far south eastern edge of Burwell, the rear of the Cornfields cul-de-sac and south of Barkways. The site lies south west of the B1103 Newmarket Road and south east of Isaacson Road. It comprises a parcel of agricultural land and extends to some 0.85ha overall.

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

3.1 The site lies on chalk deposits at c.21m AOD, above the former lower-lying fen to the west of the village.

## **4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

4.1 The site is located within an area of archaeological potential with nearby archaeological remains (particularly of later prehistoric date) recorded on the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER). A recent evaluation to the north of Newmarket Road and 700m to the north of the site at Melton Farm revealed extensive evidence of late Bronze Age and early Iron Age settlement (CHER ECB4308). Evidence of Late Bronze Age settlement and a single cremation are also known (CHER MCB22070). This occupation extends south of Newmarket Road, with investigations to the north-west of the site at Summersfield Close and 58a-d Newmarket Road revealing contemporary storage pits and structural building remains (CHERs MCB17427 & 18199).

4.2 Investigations at 67 Isaacson Road, 150m to the north-west of the site, revealed features which contained numerous sherds of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery (CHER ECB4346). Further to the south-west, close to Burwell Castle and St Mary's Church, a Palaeolithic axe (CHER 01775B) and a small Bronze Age hoard (CHER 06769A) have been recovered.

4.3 The fen edge was a popular location for Roman settlement and large quantities of Roman pottery and CBM along with metalwork objects are known to the south-east (CHER 04663 & 06807).



Approximately 500m to the west of the site is a recorded Roman settlement with associated finds such as animal bone and roof tiles, the latter suggesting a large building nearby (CHER 06764a).

4.4 The historic core of southern Burwell has produced numerous finds associated with the medieval period, notably metal objects (CHERs 06768B, 06843A and 06466). The parish church of St. Mary is situated c.700m to the west of the site and dates to the 12<sup>th</sup> century (CHER 00328). Burwell Castle, which is also located to the west (CHER 01175), comprises the earthworks of a 12<sup>th</sup> century incomplete castle and the site of a 13<sup>th</sup> century chapel. To the south-east of the site is the disused course of the Barnwell Junction to Mildenhall railway (CHER 07633).

## **5 METHODOLOGY**

5.1 The evaluation provided for a sample of the area to be subject to development to be trial trenched (overall site area c.0.85ha). The evaluation focused on the new houses, drives/parking areas and other areas of proposed ground disturbance.

5.2 The brief required a c.5% sample of the site to be investigated by trenching. Five trenches of 40m x 1.8m, and two trenches of 15m x 1.8m were excavated.

5.3 The archaeological investigation comprised the inspection of the subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features, the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Encountered features and deposits were cleaned by hand and recorded using *pro-forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was checked for finds.

5.4 A one-metre square of topsoil and subsoil were bucket sampled and sorted by hand at each end of the trenches to characterise their artefact content. Soil from this sampling procedure was kept separate from the main spoil heaps. Site records were completed to reflect this exercise and an on-site record was made of the finds recovered. A metal detector was used to enhance finds recovery. The metal detector survey was conducted when the trenches were opened, and the detector was not set to discriminate against iron. The spoil tips were also surveyed. The finds recovered during the sampling of the topsoil and the metal detecting survey were all of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century date.

## **6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS**

Individual trench descriptions are presented below:



## Trench 1 (Figs. 2-3)

Sample section 1A 0.00 = 18.94m AOD		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. Firm, Mid to dark grey brown clayey silt with sparse small and medium sub-angular and sub-rounded flint and chalk flecks
0.26 – 0.40m	L1001	Subsoil. Firm, pale – mid yellow/grey brown clayey silt with moderate small and medium sub-rounded chalk and sparse medium sub-angular flints
0.40m +	L1002	Natural deposits. Firm, blocky pale grey/white chalk with pale yellow grey chalky silt in places

Sample section 1B 0.00 = 18.98m AOD		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Topsoil. As above
0.25 – 0.41m	L1001	Subsoil. As above
0.41m +	L1002	Natural. As above

*Description: No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 1, although several natural silt patches and/or root disturbance were observed and excavated.*

## Trench 2 (Figs. 2-3)

Sample section 2A 0.00 18.74m AOD		
0.00 – 0.21m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.21 – 0.46m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.1
0.46m +	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

Sample section 2B 0.00 = 18.61m AOD		
0.00 – 0.31m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.31 – 0.44m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.1
0.44m +	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

*Description: Trench 2 contained Post Holes F1009 and F1011); and a large elongated ?natural hollow or hollow way, F1013. Several natural silt patches and/or root disturbance were also observed and excavated. Only F1013 contained finds (animal bone).*

Post Hole F1009 was sub-circular in plan (0.28 x 0.27 x 0.08m). It had near vertical sides and a shallow concave base. Its fill, L1010, comprised a friable, mid grey brown clayey silt with very occasional small sub-rounded chalk nodules. It was devoid of any finds.

Post Hole F1011 was sub-circular in plan (0.19+ x 0.26 x 0.17m). It had near vertical sides and a shallow concave base. Its fill, L1012,

comprised a friable, mid grey brown clayey silt with very occasional small sub-rounded chalk nodules. It was devoid of any finds.

The outline of ?Natural Hollow or Hollow Way F1013 was difficult to define in plan within the confines of the trench. It appeared to be elongated rather than sub-circular. It measured 1.80+ by 10m, and had a maximum depth of 0.40m. It had gently sloping sides and a flattish uneven base. Its fill, L1014, comprised a friable, dark grey brown clayey silt with moderate small to medium sub-rounded chalk nodules towards the base. It contained poorly preserved animal bone (2g).

### **Trench 3** (Figs. 2 & 4)

Sample section 3A 0.00 = 18.84m AOD		
0.00 – 0.29m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.29 – 0.49m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.1
0.49m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

Sample section 3B 0.00 = 18.61m AOD		
0.00 – 0.27m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.27 – 0.50m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.1
0.50m +	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

*Description: Trench 3 contained five undated post holes (F1015, F1017, F1019, F1021 and F1023). Plough scars were evident. Several natural silt patches and/or root disturbance were also observed and excavated.*

Post Hole F1015 was sub-circular in plan (0.51 x 0.42 x 0.42m). It had steep irregular sides and a narrow base. Its fill, L1016, comprised a friable, mid grey brown sandy silt. It was devoid of any finds.

Post Hole F1017 was sub-circular in plan (0.34 x 0.24 x 0.11m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1018, comprised a friable, mid grey brown sandy silt. It was devoid of any finds.

Post Hole F1019 was sub-circular in plan (0.30 x 0.25 x 0.06m). It had gently sloping sides and a shallow concave base. Its fill, L1020, comprised a friable, mid grey brown sandy silt. It was devoid of any finds.

Post Hole F1021 was circular in plan (0.26 x 0.26 x 0.18m). It had moderately sloping sides and a narrow concave base. Its fill, L1022, comprised a friable, mid grey brown sandy silt. It was devoid of any finds.

Post Hole F1023 was sub-rectangular in plan (0.27 x 0.30 x 0.12m). It had steep sides and a shallow concave base. Its fill, L1024, comprised a friable, mid grey brown sandy silt. It was devoid of any finds.

#### **Trench 4** (Figs. 2 & 4)

Sample section 4A 0.00 = 18.11m AOD		
0.00 – 0.34m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.34 – 0.44m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.1
0.49m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

Sample section 4B 0.00 = 18.57m AOD		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.25 – 0.37m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.1
0.37m +	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

*Description: No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 1, although several natural silt patches and/or root disturbance were observed and excavated.*

#### **Trench 5** (Figs. 2 & 4)

Sample section 5A 0.00 = 17.92m AOD		
0.00 – 0.34m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.34m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

Sample section 5B 0.00 = 17.81m AOD		
0.00 – 0.28m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.28 – 0.42m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.1
0.42m +	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

*Description: Trench 5 contained undated Pit F1007. Plough scars were evident. Several natural silt patches and/or root disturbance were also observed and excavated.*

Pit F1007 was sub-circular in plan (0.68 x 0.57 x 0.36m). It had steep irregular sides and a shallow concave base. Its fill, L1008, comprised a friable, mid grey brown sandy silt with very occasional small sub-rounded flint and chalk flecks. It was devoid of any finds. It was slightly truncated by a plough scar.

## **Trench 6** (Figs. 3-4)

Sample section 6A 0.00 = 18.44m AOD		
0.00 – 0.23m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.23 – 0.38m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.1
0.38m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

Sample section 6B 0.00 = 17.48m AOD		
0.00 – 0.28m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.28 – 0.44m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.1
0.44m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

*Description: Trench 6 contained Post Holes F1003 and F1005, and several natural silt patches and/or root disturbance were also observed and excavated. Post Hole F1003 contained an abraded ?Roman pottery sherd, likely residual.*

Post Hole F1003 was sub-rectangular in plan (0.26 x 0.38 x 0.11m). It had near vertical sides and a shallow concave base. Its fill, L1004, comprised a friable, mid grey brown sandy silt with very occasional small sub-rounded chalk nodules. It contained a small abraded sherd of ?Roman pottery (1; 1g), likely residual.

Post Hole F1005 was sub-rectangular in plan (0.25 x 0.37 x 0.10m). It had near vertical sides and a shallow concave base. Its fill, L1006, comprised a friable, mid grey brown sandy silt with very occasional small sub-rounded chalk nodules. It was devoid of any finds.

## **Trench 7** (Figs. 2 & 5)

Sample section 7A 0.00 = 18.54m AOD		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.30m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

Sample section 7B 0.00 = 18.48m AOD		
0.00 – 0.24m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.24 – 0.39m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.1
0.39m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

*Description: No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 7.*

## 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 firm, mid to dark grey brown clayey silt with occasional small and medium sub-angular, sub-rounded flints and small to medium chalk pebbles (0.21 – 0.34m thick). L1000 overlay Subsoil L1001, a firm, pale to mid yellow/grey brown clayey silt with frequent small and medium sub-rounded chalk pebbles and sparse sub-angular to sub-rounded flints. This layer was not present throughout the entire site and varied between 0.00 – 0.25m in thickness.

8.2 The natural geology, L1000, was a mixture of firm, compact and blocky pale grey/white chalk, with pale yellow grey, chalky silt interweaved amongst the block chalk. L1000 was encountered between 0.30 and 0.50m below the current day ground surface.

## 9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The recorded features are tabulated:

Trench	Context	Description	Spot Date
2	F1009	Post Hole	-
	F1011	Post Hole	-
	F1013	?Natural Hollow or Hollow way	-
3	F1015	Post Hole	-
	F1017	Post Hole	-
	F1019	Post Hole	-
	F1021	Post Hole	-
	F1023	Post Hole	-
5	F1007	Pit	-
6	F1003	Post Hole	?Roman pottery sherd, likely residual
	F1005	Post Hole	-

9.2 The trenches contained naturally-formed silt patches and hollows likely caused by roots. Some of the features were excavated to determine that they were natural features as opposed to archaeological. The 'features' were planned so that their density and coverage was defined. Their fills differed from that of the archaeological feature fills, and comprised a mixture of firm and friable, pale brown to mid brown grey silts and sandy silts.

9.3 Archaeological features were present in Trenches 2 – 3 and 5 – 6, and not 1, 4 and 7. The features were predominantly post holes: Trench 2 (2), Trench 3 (5) and Trench 6 (2). In addition a pit was recorded in Trench 5 (F1007) and a ?natural hollow or hollow way was recorded in Trench 2 (F1013). Finds were sparse: Hollow F1013 contained animal bone (2g), and Post Hole F1003 contained an abraded ?Roman pottery sherd, likely residual.

9.4 Due to the confines of the trench it was difficult to define the hollow, F1013, located in Trench 2. It may represent a naturally infilled depression but equally may represent a hollow way. The latter is suggested by its profile: a slightly uneven but flattish base and gently sloping sides, and it appeared elongated rather than sub-circular in plan. In addition its dark clayey silt fill (L1014) suggests an archaeological feature as the fill differs from the pale to mid brown grey chalky silt fills associated with the natural features. The feature contained sparse and degraded animal bone (2g).

9.5 The principal archaeological site close to the development site was identified during an evaluation to the north of Newmarket Road and 700m to the north of the site, at Melton Farm. It revealed extensive evidence of late Bronze Age and early Iron Age settlement (CHER ECB4308). Evidence of Late Bronze Age settlement and a single cremation are also known (CHER MCB22070). This occupation extends south of Newmarket Road, with investigations to the north-west of the site at Summersfield Close and 58a-d Newmarket Road revealing contemporary storage pits and structural building remains (CHERs MCB17427 & 18199).

9.6 The archaeological features recorded during the evaluation are largely undated and at some distance from the known archaeological remains. The possible exception is F1013 (Trench 2) which may represent a hollow way conceivably associated with the settlement at Melton Farm but this is conjecture.

## **10 CONCLUSION**

10.1 The site is located within an area of archaeological potential with known nearby archaeological remains, particularly of later prehistoric date. The archaeological features recorded during the evaluation are largely undated and at some distance from the known archaeological remains. The possible exception is F1013 (Trench 2) which may represent a hollow way conceivably associated with the settlement at Melton Farm but this is conjecture.

## **DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE**

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 would like to thank Hastoe Homes for funding the project and Parsons + Whittle Ltd for their assistance.

AS would like to acknowledge the input and advice of Ms Gemma Stewart, Archaeological Officer, Cambridgeshire County Council.

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### **Web resources**

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



**APPENDIX 1 - Concordance of Finds**  
**ECB5195, P7235 Cornfields, Burwell, Cambs**

Feature	Context	Segment	Trench	Description	Spot Date (Pot Only)	Pot Qty	Pottery (g)	CBM (g)	A.Bone (g)	Other Material	Other Qty	Other (g)
1003	1004		6	Fill of Post Hole	? Roman	1	1					
1013	1014		2	Fill of Hollow					2			

## **APPENDIX 2      SPECIALIST REPORTS**

### **The Pottery**

*Andrew Peachey*

Post Hole F1003 (L1004) contained a single very small, abraded sherd (1g) of pottery. The pottery was manufactured in a common shell-tempered fabric, though due to the limited size and abrasion it is impossible to discern if it is wheel-made or not. Given the thickness of the sherd (7mm), it is most likely of Roman date, but similar fabrics were manufactured in the Iron Age and medieval periods, which cannot be discounted based on such ephemeral evidence.

### **The Animal Bone**

*Julia E M Cussans*

A very small assemblage of animal bone was recovered from trial trench excavations at Burwell. This consisted of three bone fragments all from L1014 (Hollow F1013). Bone preservation was rated as very poor on a five point scale ranging from very poor through to excellent. All three fragments were quite severely abraded and eroded with significant surface loss, hindering identification and recoding of taxa and any bone surface modifications. The fragments appeared to be long bone shaft fragments likely deriving from a large (cattle or horse sized) mammal. There was nothing further of note about these fragments.

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### Project details

Project name	Land off Cornfields, Burwell, Cambridgeshire CB25 0AX
Short description of the project	<p>In September 2017 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land to the rear of 35 Cornfields, Burwell, Cambridgeshire CB25 0AX (NGR TL 5954 6611). The evaluation was undertaken to provide for the initial requirements of a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of a new development of 14no residential dwellings (East Cambs Council Ref. 17/00419/FUM), based on the advice of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team. Archaeological features were present in Trial Trenches 2 - 3 and 5 - 6, and not 1, 4 and 7. The features were predominantly post holes: Trench 2 (2), Trench 3 (5) and Trench 6 (2). In addition a pit was recorded in Trench 5 (F1007) and a ?natural hollow or hollow way was recorded in Trench 2 (F1013). Finds were sparse: Hollow F1013 contained animal bone (2g), and Post Hole F1003 contained an abraded ?Roman pottery sherd, likely residual. Due to the confines of the trench it was difficult to define the hollow, F1013, located in Trench 2. It may represent a naturally in-filled depression but equally may represent a hollow way. It contained sparse and degraded animal bone (2g). The archaeological features recorded during the evaluation are largely undated and at some distance from the known archaeological remains. The possible exception is F1013 (Trench 2) which may represent a hollow way conceivably associated with the settlement at Melton Farm but this is conjecture.</p>
Project dates	Start: 01-09-2017 End: 30-09-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	P7235 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECB5195 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	POST HOLE Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches","Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition

Position in the  
planning process

Pre-application

### Project location

Country England

Site location CAMBRIDGESHIRE EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE BURWELL Land off Cornfields, Burwell, Cambridgeshire CB25 0AX

Postcode CB25 0AX

Study area 0.85 Hectares

Site coordinates TL 5954 6611 52.269536860561 0.338401874943 52 16 10 N 000 20 18 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 21m Max: 21m

### 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 "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)

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Other bibliographic details Archaeological Solutions Report no. 5450

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## OASIS:

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Cite only: <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm> for this page

## PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1  
View of Trench 1 looking north-west



2  
View of Trench 3 looking north-east



3  
F1015 in Trench 3 looking north-west



4  
View of Trench 4 looking north-west





5  
Natural features in Trench 4 looking north-west



6  
View of Trench 6 looking south-east

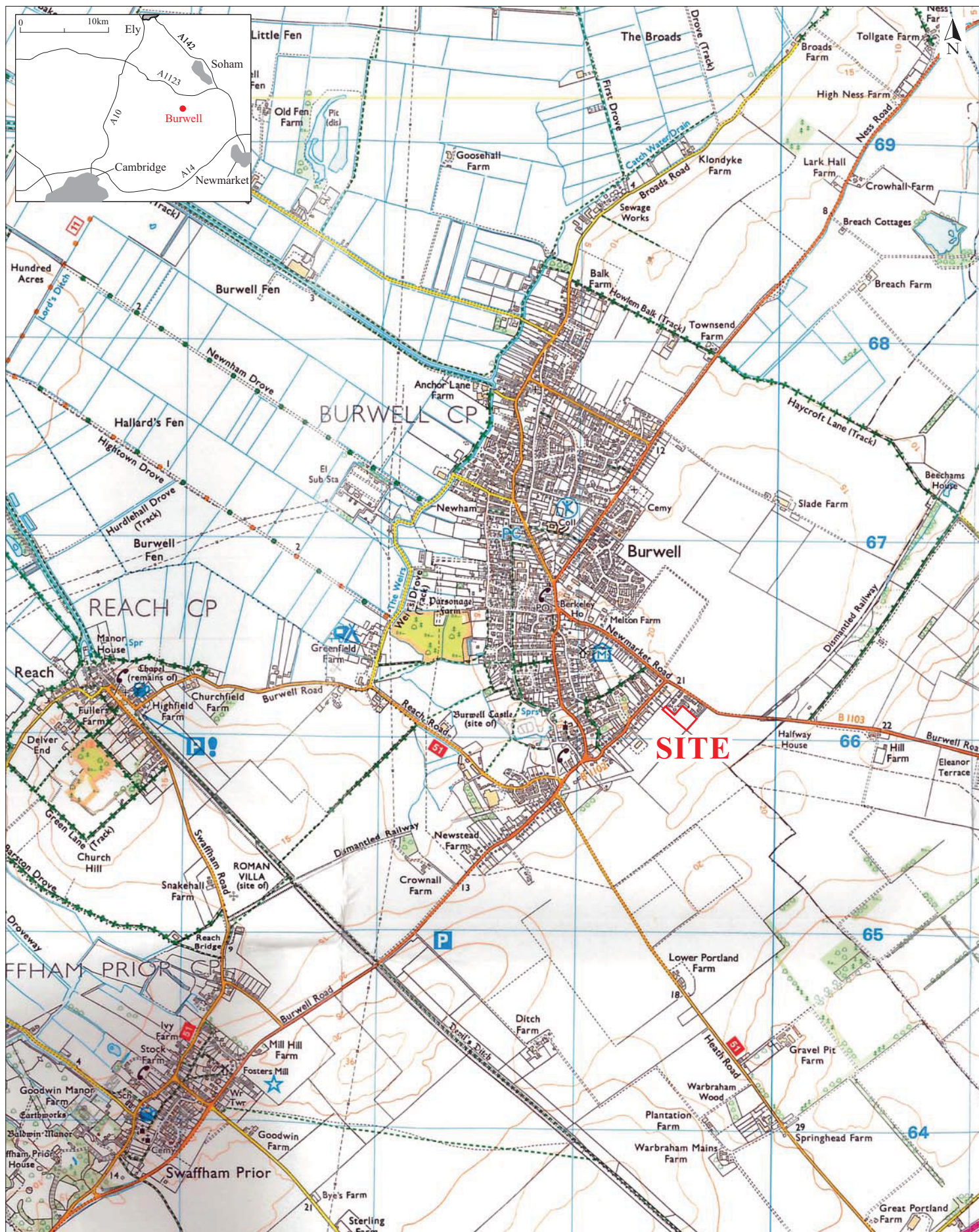


7  
F1003 in Trench 6 looking south-east



8  
F1005 in trench 6 looking south-east

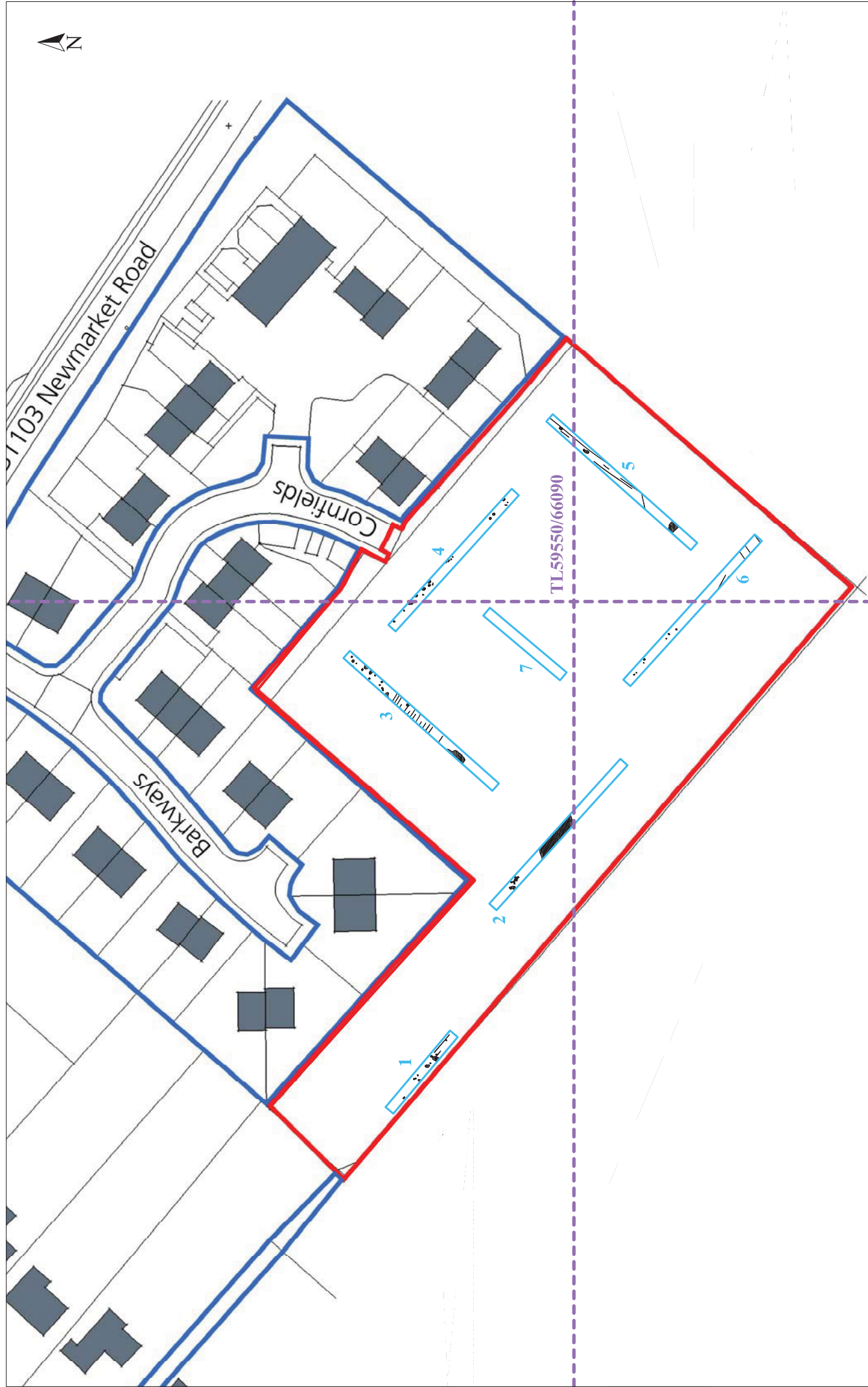




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**Fig. 1 Site location plan**  
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4  
 Cornfields, Burwell, Cambridgeshire (P7235)





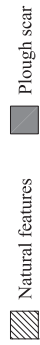
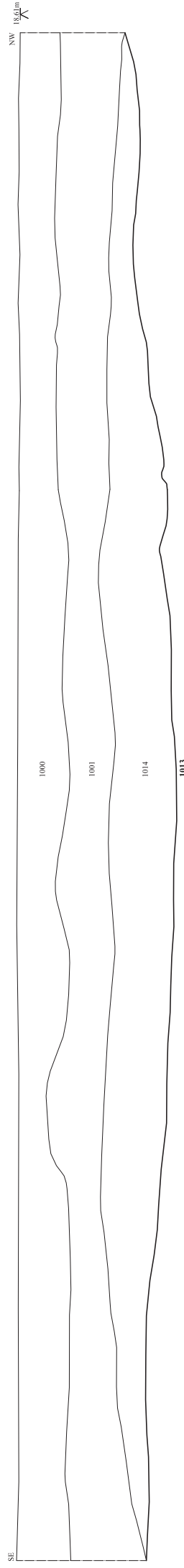
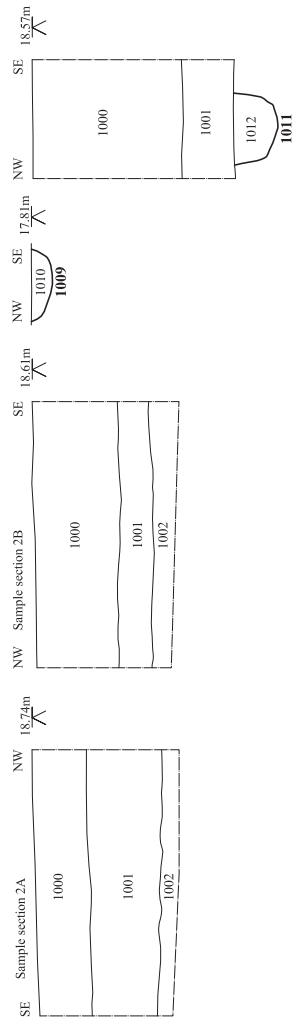
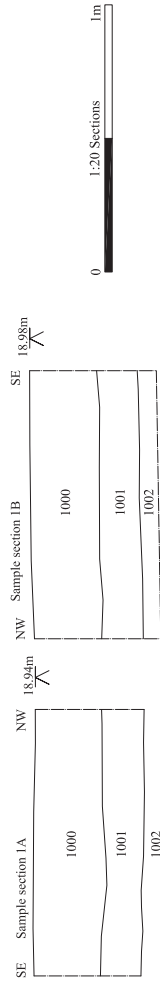
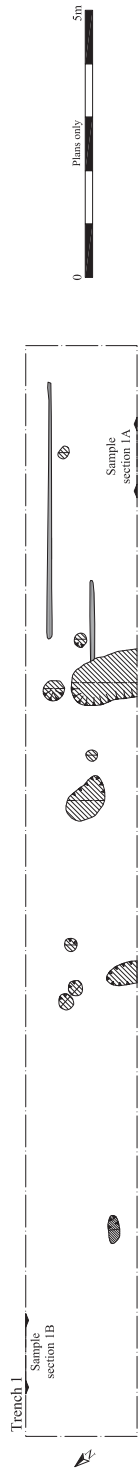
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## Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan

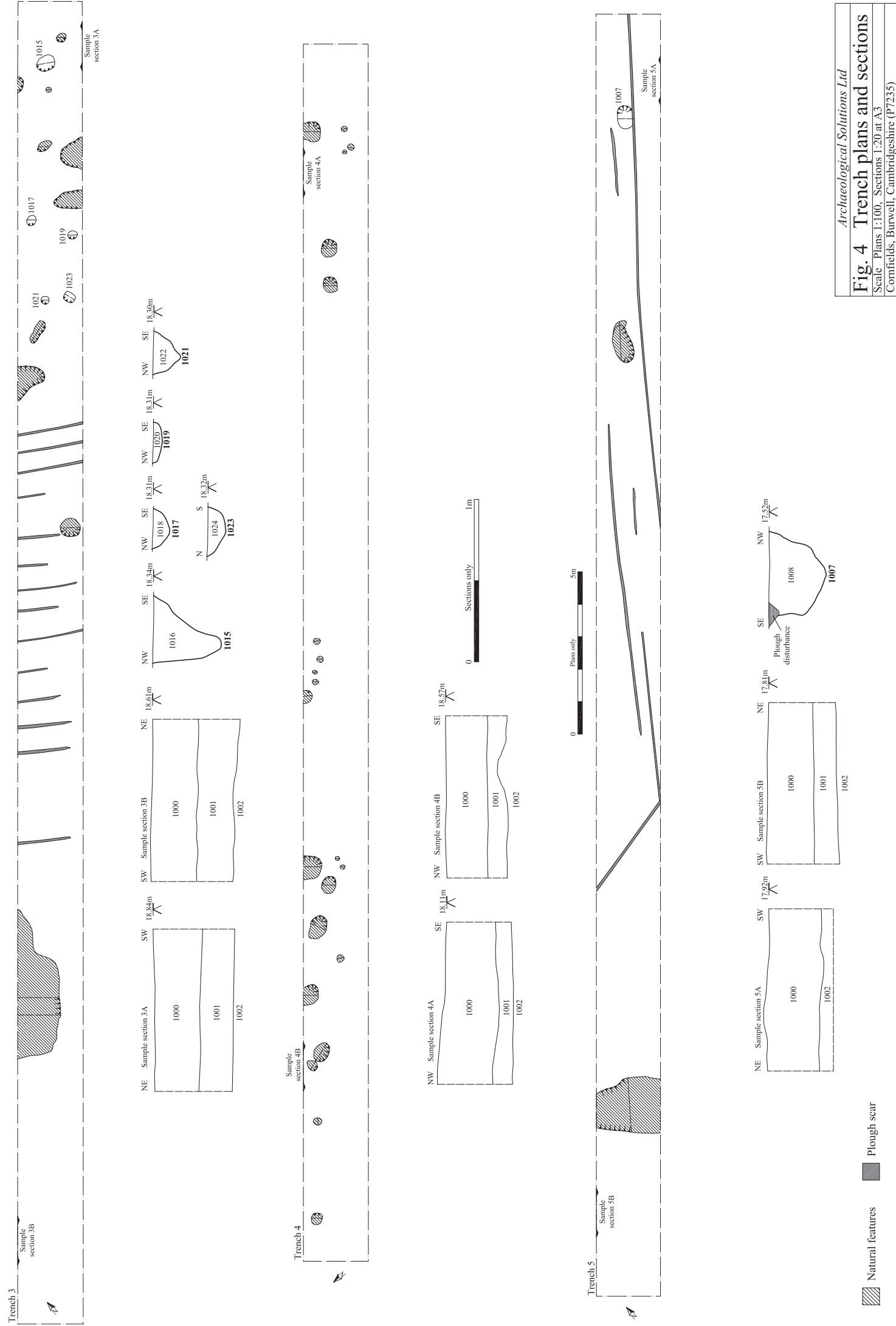
Scale 1:1000 at A4

Cornfields, Burwell, Cambridgeshire (P7235)

0 75m



**Fig. 3 Trench plans and sections**  
Scale: Plans 1:100, Sections 1:25 and 1:20 at A3  
Cornfields, Burwell, Cambridgeshire (P77235)







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**Fig. 6 Proposed development plan**

Scale 1:750 at A4

Cornfields, Burwell, Cambridgeshire (P7235)

0 50m