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**9 CHURCHGATE STREET,
SOHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB7 5AD**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

CHER ECB 5810

Authors: Keeley-Jade Diggons (Fieldwork and report)	
NGR: TL 5929 7331	Report No: 5800
District: East Cambs	Site Code: ECB 5810
Approved: Claire Halpin MCIfA	Project No: P7901
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Project details			
Project name	9 Churchgate Street, Soham, Cambridgeshire CB7 5DS		
<p><i>In March 2019 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land rear of 9 Churchgate Street, Soham, Cambridgeshire CB7 5DS (NGR TL 5929 7331; 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 two dwellings (East Cambs Council Approval Ref. 17/00495/FUL), based on the advice of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team.</i></p> <p><i>A residual struck flint was present in Ditch F1011, and L1015 contained a residual Iron Age sherd. L1015 also contained two residual medieval (13th – early 14th century) sherds.</i></p> <p><i>Layer L1015 encompassed the entire trench and it contained 18th – 19th century pottery. It overlay features (possible pits, post holes and ditches) and was cut by features (possible pits and wall foundations). The dating of the features pre-dating L1015 is tentative. Ditch F1011 contained one abraded sherd of medieval (11th – 13th century) pottery which may be residual, and Ditch F10149 contained a sherd of medieval (12th – 14th century) pottery in good condition which may be a primary deposit. Pit F1032 contained 18th – 19th century CBM. It may be quite simply that the features are of variable dates.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	March 2019		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work	TBC
P. number	P7901	Site code	ECB 5810
Type of project	Archaeological evaluation		
Site status	-		
Current land use	Former yard		
Planned development	Residential		
Main features (+dates)	Pits, ditches, post holes		
Significant finds (+dates)	Residual struck flint, residual Iron Age sherd, medieval pottery		
	Cambridgeshire	East Cambs	Soham
HER/ SMR for area	Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER)		
Post code (if known)	CB7 5DS		
Area of site	c.500m ²		
NGR	TL 5929 7331		
Height AOD (min/max)	c.20m AOD		
<i>Project creators</i>			
Brief issued by	Cambridgeshire County Council		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Archaeological Solutions Ltd		
Funded by	Mr Matt Johnson		
Full title	9 Churchgate Street, Soham, Cambridgeshire CB7 5DS. An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation		
Authors	KJ Diggons		
Report no.	5800		
Date (of report)	April 2019; revised 10 ma		

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CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB7 5DS**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In March 2019 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land rear of 9 Churchgate Street, Soham, Cambridgeshire CB7 5DS (NGR TL 5929 7331; 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 two dwellings (East Cambs Council Approval Ref. 17/00495/FUL), based on the advice of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team.

The site is located within an area of archaeological potential, with remains recorded on the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER). It is located the immediate north of the 12th century Church of St Andrew (CHER 07123), a Saxon burial ground has been recorded to the south of the site (CHER 07123a) and Saxo-Norman structures have been recorded at Pratt Street to the north (CHER 11932). Saxon Occupation has also been found at the recreation ground to the south (CHER ECB4739).

A residual struck flint was present in Ditch F1011, and L1015 contained a residual Iron Age sherd. L1015 also contained two residual medieval (13th – early 14th century) sherds.

Layer L1015 encompassed the entire trench and it contained 18th – 19th century pottery. It overlay features (possible pits, post holes and ditches) and was cut by features (possible pits and wall foundations). The dating of the features pre-dating L1015 is tentative. Ditch F1011 contained one abraded sherd of medieval (11th – 13th century) pottery which may be residual, and Ditch F10149 contained a sherd of medieval (12th – 14th century) pottery in good condition which may be a primary deposit. Pit F1032 contained 18th – 19th century CBM. It may be quite simply that the features are of variable dates.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In March 2019 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land rear of 9 Churchgate Street, Soham, Cambridgeshire CB7 5DS (NGR TL 5929 7331; 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 two dwellings (East Cambs Council Approval Ref. 17/00495/FUL), 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 5th December 2018), and a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by AS (dated 18th January 2018) 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 2018) 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 set back to the rear (west) of 9 - 9A Churchgate Street in Soham. It comprises a former yard area with outbuildings or garages, accessed by a driveway between the properties of The Viva Centre and 9 Churchgate Street.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site lies at c.7m AOD close to the centre and crest of the narrow elongate fen island (or promontory) upon which the historic nucleus of Soham developed. The loop of Soham Lode passes c.460m to the south, south-east and south-west; with the low-lying fenland over the former Soham Mere on the western side of the

water way. The urban extent of the town extends to the north-west and south-east, and gives way to fenland approximately 500m to the north-east.

3.2 The site is situated on solid geology of the Melbury Marly Chalk Formation, and is overlain by freely draining lime-rich loamy soils.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 A relatively dense pattern of late Bronze Age to early Iron Age occupation and funerary activity has been recorded in the vicinity of the site, notably occupation, rubbish pits and enclosures associated with a probable fen edge settlement adjacent to Fordham Road (CHER CB14631, MCB19583 & MCB20523). Contemporary pits containing substantial assemblages of pottery have also been recorded to the north-west, and north, and may indicate further focal points of occupation (HER MCB19683, MCB20849 & CB15776). An early Iron Age cemetery was recorded to the west (CHER MCB18106) and a scatter of late Bronze Age to Iron Age artefacts have been recovered from the fenland to the east, including pottery (CHER 07560 & 07503), a bronze razor (CHER 11019A), and late Iron Age Icenian and Trinovantian coins (CHER 04456b & 07602).

4.3 The fen island, Soham is situated on, appears to have been conducive to Roman settlement, with probable structures, rubbish pits and relatively high status pottery recorded to the south east (CHER MCB18184 & MCB18200), close to several inhumations on White Hart Lane (CHER 06971 & MCB17746). Ditched enclosures containing ovens, corn driers, metalled surfaces were recorded on Fordham Road (CHER CB14632 & CB14630) while a cropmark has been associated with a possible Roman villa in the East Fen (CHER 07578). The Green Hills area of fenland to the east of Soham (c.700m-1km to the east of the site) has produced a high quantity of Roman artefacts, principally metal work, including coins, brooches, rings and harness fittings (CHER 04456c, 04843, 05668, 05668a, 07097, 07580, 07584, 07593, 07602a, 07605 & MCB16684), as well as pottery, flue tile and quern stone fragments (CHER 07560a & 07594).

4.4 Two Anglo-Saxon cemeteries are located in the vicinity of the site. The first is a well-defined inhumation cemetery with numerous grave goods to the south (CHER 07027), while the second was recorded at St. Andrew's to the west in the early/mid 19th century, and there remains an element of doubt to its actual location (CHER 07123a). However, Anglo-Saxon pottery and a spearhead have been recorded adjacent to St. Andrews Church (CHER 11386 & 02086) and this is the location of the postulated monastery that was supposedly founded here in c.AD630 by St. Felix, to be succeeded by an Anglo-Saxon cathedral (CHER 07124). This foundation may have been associated with disturbed human bone from a Saxon cemetery recorded on White Hart Lane (CHER 11789), while Saxon brooches have also been recovered from the Green Hills fenland to the east of the village (CHER 04456d & 11019B).

4.5 The postulated Anglo-Saxon foundation appears to have formed the nucleus for the historic core of Soham, with a series of Saxo-Norman enclosures, wooden structures and rubbish pits recorded around Pratt Street (CHER 07099, MCB21801, MCB16868, 11932 & 11985), High Street (CHER MCB18185) and Clay Street

(CHER MCB19935), which appear to indicate the initial extent of medieval settlement. Two manors were associated with Soham in the 11th century, later subsumed as Netherhall Manor (CHER MCB19369). The current St. Andrew's Church was built in the late 12th century, possibly incorporating or on the site of an earlier Anglo-Saxon building (CHER 07123). This historic core remained the focus for subsequent medieval evidence with, medieval occupation recorded south of Paddock Street and on Brook Dam Lane (CHER MCB18201 & MCB16314), with pits probably dating to the 12th-14th century recorded north of the Oaks c.200m to the south-west (CHER MCB19936). Domestic activity may also be associated with phases of medieval quarrying on Brook Street (CHER MCB21804), while ridge-and-furrow cultivation has been identified further east of the village (CHER MCB21803).

4.6 The medieval enclosures around the village appear to be respected and reinforced in the post-medieval period, such as drainage ditches on Brook Dam Lane (CHER CB15264) whilst quarrying continued in and around the village (i.e. CHER MCB17349 & MCB21390).

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The evaluation provided for a sample of the area to be subject to development to be trial trenched. One trench was excavated (Fig.2). The length of the trench was 13m, and its width was 2m (minimum) and 3.44m (maximum). The width of the trench varied due to the presence of Layer L1015. When the trench was opened by mechanical excavation the eastern half of the trench was over machined by up to 1m. The excavation of the deposit, L1015, had not been agreed with CHET. At the monitoring visit the planning archaeologist, Gemma Stewart, required the trench to be extended to the south so that heritage assets in this part of the site could be appropriately investigated. Test Pits A – H were excavated by hand through L1015. The latter was up to c.1m deep. Ditch F1011 and F1049 were exposed in plan when the trench was mechanically excavated, and the other archaeological features were exposed within the test pits.

5.2 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. The excavated spoil was checked for finds.

5.3 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 levelling layers and made ground were of 19th – 20th century date.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Individual trench descriptions are presented below:

Trench 1 Figs. 2 - 5

Sample Section 1.1 0.00 = 20.10 AOD		
0.00 – 0.07m	L1000	Yard surface. Friable, dark brown grey unconsolidated sandy asphalt with frequent small sub-angular gravel.
0.07 – 0.20m	L1001	Levelling Layer. Friable, mid yellow grey silty sand with frequent small to large sized CBM fragments.
0.20 – 0.27m	L1002	Tarmac.
0.27 – 0.42m	L1003	Levelling Layer. Friable, mid brown yellow coarse sand with occasional small sub-angular flints.
0.42 – 0.60m	L1004	Made Ground. Firm, pale brown grey, clayey silt with frequent medium to large flints and CBM fragments.
0.60 – 0.71m	L1005	Made Ground. Firm, pale brown grey clay with frequent small to medium sized chalk pebbles and clunch.
0.71 – 0.80m +	M1006	CBM Rubble. Fill of F1038.

Sample Section 1.2 0.00 = 20.17m AOD		
0.00 – 0.07m	L1000	Yard surface. As above.
0.07 – 0.12m	L1001	Levelling Layer. As above.
0.12 – 0.15m	L1002	Tarmac. As above.
0.15 – 0.23m	L1003	Levelling Layer. As above.
0.23 – 0.33m	L1004	Made Ground. As above.
0.33 – 0.53m	L1007	Levelling Layer. Firm, dark brown grey clay with spare small CBM fragments.
0.53 – 0.65m	L1008	Made Ground. Friable, dark grey silt with frequent small to medium sized CBM fragments.
0.65 – 1.31m	L1015	Layer. Firm, mid brown grey sandy silty clay with moderate small sized sub-angular flints.
1.31 +	L1010	Natural Deposits. Firm to friable, mid yellow brown clayey sand with frequent small chalk flecks and occasional small sub-angular flints.

Sample Section 1.3 0.00 = 20.18m AOD		
0.00 – 0.13m	L1000	Yard surface. As above.
0.13 – 0.17m	L1001	Levelling Layer. As above.
0.17 – 0.21m	L1002	Tarmac. As above.
0.21 – 0.36m	L1003	Levelling Layer. As above.
0.36 – 0.39m	L1004	Made Ground. As above.
0.39 – 0.44m	L1013	Sand & Asphalt
0.44 – 1.36m	L1015	Layer. As above.
1.36 – 1.59m	L1012	Fill of Ditch F1011.
1.59 +	L1010	Natural Deposits. As above.

Sample Section 1.4		
0.00 = 20.18m AOD		
0.00 – 0.08m	L1000	Yard surface. As above.
0.08 – 0.22m	L1001	Levelling Layer. As above.
0.22 – 0.25m	L1002	Tarmac. As above.
0.25 – 0.40m	L1021	Fill of F1022
0.40 – 0.51m	L1004	Made Ground. As above.
0.51 – 0.56m	L1013	Sand & Asphalt. As above
0.56 – 0.71m	L1023	Fill of F1022
0.71 – 1.25m	L1015	Layer. As above.
1.25 – 1.57m	L1035	Fill of F1032
1.57m +	L1033	Fill of F1033

Sample Section 1.5		
0.00 = 20.18m AOD		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1000	Yard surface. As above.
0.20 – 0.23m	L1001	Levelling Layer. As above.
0.23 – 0.26m	L1002	Tarmac. As above.
0.26 – 0.35m	L1003	Fill of F1022
0.35 – 0.39m	L1004	Made Ground. As above.
0.39 – 0.43m	L1013	Layer. As above
0.43 – 0.57m	L1028	Demolition Rubble. Mixed deposit of crushed yellow and red brick rubble within a friable, dark brown silt matrix.
0.57 – 1.33m	L1015	Layer. As above.
1.33m +	L1010	Natural Deposits. As above.

Description: Trench 1 contained ?Wall Foundation M1006, ?Pit F1016, ?Pit F1018, ?Pit F1020, ?Pit F1022, Brick Wall Foundation M1024, ?Post Hole F1025, Brick Wall Foundation M1027, ?Post Hole F1030 and ?Post Hole F1039 were recorded section only and post-dated L1015. Construction Cut F1038 for ?Wall Foundation M1006 contained 18th century pottery. Ditches F1011 and F1049 each contained a medieval (11th – 13th century and 12th – 14th century respectively) pottery sherd, and Pit F1032 contained 18th – 19th century CBM.

L1015 was a firm, mid brown grey sandy silty clay with moderate small sub-angular flints (0.66m thick), and it directly overlay the natural, L1010. When the trench was opened by mechanical excavation L1015 was partially mechanically excavated and Ditch F1011 and F1049 were exposed in plan. Test Pits A – H were excavated by hand through L1015. Ditch L1011, Pit F032, Post Hole F1041, Ditch F1043, Ditch F1045, Post Hole F1047, Ditch F1049 and Pit F1051 were revealed at the base of the test pits and they were located below L1015. The latter contained a residual Iron Age sherd (12g), residual 13th – early 14th century pottery (2; 29g); 18th-19th C pottery (9; 360g), CBM (2083g), animal bone (1832g), clay pipe (1; 8g) and oyster shell (43g).

On site Section 1.3 was drawn twice: once as a short one-metre sample section and once as part of a long trench section. The section drawings varied in the thickness and composition of the layers, and the profile of Ditch F1011 differs slightly. The long section has been presented within the report (Fig. 4).

Ditch F1011 was linear in plan (1.1+ x 0.5 x 0.21m), orientated N/S. It had gently sloping irregular sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1012, was a firm dark grey brown clayey silt with occasional sub-rounded flints. It contained 11th – 13th century pottery (1; 2g); animal bone (392g) and a struck flint (11g). It cut the natural, L1010, and was overlain by L1015.

?Pit F1016 was visible in section only (Section 1.4) and its plan was unseen (? x 32 x 16m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1017 was a firm, patchy mid grey brown clayey sand and pale yellow grey chalk clunch. It contained no finds. It cut L1013, L1014 and L1015, and was overlain by Made Ground L1004.

?Pit F1018 was visible in section only (Section 1.4) and its plan was unseen (? x 0.9 x 0.20m+). The feature cut L1015 which contained 18th – 19th century pottery. It was therefore of relatively recent date and was not excavated. It was recorded in section, and it had steep, near vertical sides. Its fill, L1019, was a firm, mid grey yellow brown clayey sand with occasional to moderate small sub-angular flint. It contained animal bone (73g). It cut the L1015 and was overlain by L1014.

?Pit F1020 was visible in section only (Section 1.4) and its plan was unseen (? x 2.8 x 0.17m). It had gently sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1021, was a friable, mid brown grey silt with frequent fragments of CBM and chalk clunch. It cut L1003 and L1004, and was overlain by L1002.

?Pit F1022 was visible in section only (Section 1.4) and its plan was unseen (? x 2.06 x 0.15m). It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1023, was a friable, mid brown grey silt with frequent fragments of CBM and chalk clunch. It contained no finds. It cut the L1015, and was overlain by L1013.

Brick Wall Foundation M1024 was observed in section only (Section 1.5) and its plan was unseen (? x 1.0+ x 0.4m). It was constructed of mixed, randomly laid red and yellow bricks (70mm x 110mm x ?) with no visible mortar. M1024 was cut by ?Post Hole F1025. It cut the L1015, and was overlain by L1013.

?Post Hole F1025 was visible in section only (Section 1.5) and its plan was unseen (? x 0.25 x 0.34m). It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1026, was a firm, mid yellow grey clay with moderate chalk flecks and CBM fragments. It contained no finds. F1025 cut Brick Wall Foundation M1024 and L1015, and was overlain by L1013.

Brick Foundation Wall M1027 was observed in section only (Section 1.5) and its plan was unseen (? x 1.4+ x 0.22m). Because its plan was unseen the length of the feature is unknown and is listed as '?'. The section drawing and photograph show that it comprised brick fragments, and the Context Sheet records three courses of yellow bricks. It cut L1015 and L1028, and was overlain by L1013.

?Post Hole F1030 was visible in section only (Section 1.5) and its plan was unseen (? x 0.25 x 0.34m). It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1031, was a firm,

dark grey brown clay with occasional small sub-angular flints and chalk clunch. It contained no finds. It cut L1015, and was overlain by L1013.

Pit F1032 was recorded at the base of Test Pit A. It was ?subcircular in plan (1.0+ x 0.85 x 1.0m). It had steep sides and a concave base. It cut the natural, L1010, and was overlain by L1015. F1032 contained four fills tabulated below:

Layer	Description	Finds
L1037 (upper)	Friable mid brown clayey silt with occasional small sub-rounded flints.	
L1036	Friable, mid brown yellow silty clay with frequent small sub-rounded flints.	18 th – 19 th C CBM (91g), animal bone (862g)
L1035	Friable, dark brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and sub-rounded flints.	
L1033 (basal)	Friable, dark grey brown silty clay with occasional small sub-angular flints	

?M1006 was a possible wall foundation. It was visible in section only (Test Pit C) and its plan was unseen (? x 0.25 x 0.34m). Its construction cut, F1038, had gently sloping sides and a flattish base. It cut L1015 and F1039, and was overlain by L1005. M1006, comprised a compact, dark brown grey clayey silt with frequent CBM rubble throughout. It contained 18th century pottery (15; 549g); CBM (1813g); animal bone (60g); Slag (196g); clay pipe (1; 4g) and Fe Nail (1; 7g).

?Post Hole F1039 was partially visible in Test Pit C (? x 0.35+ x 0.58m). It had steep sides tapering and a concave base. Its fill, L1040 comprised a firm, dark grey silty clay. It contained no finds. ?Post Hole F1039 cut Ditch F1043 and L1015, and was cut by F1038.

Post Hole F1041 was sub-circular in plan and recorded in Test Pit C (? x 0.28 x 0.32m). It had steep, near vertical sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1042, was a firm pale yellow grey sandy clay with occasional small sub-rounded flints. It contained no finds. F1041 cut Ditch F1043 and was overlain by L1015.

Ditch F1043 was linear in plan and recorded in Test Put C (1.0+ x 1.04 x 0.24m), orientated NW/SE. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1044, was a firm pale yellow grey sandy clay with occasional small sub-rounded flints. It contained no finds. F1043 was cut by Post Holes F1039 and F1041 and overlain by L1015. It cut the natural, L1010.

Ditch F1045 was linear in plan and recorded in Test Pit B (1.0+ x 1.0+ x 0.80m), orientated NW/SE. It had gently sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1046, was a firm, pale yellow grey sandy clay. It contained no finds. It cut the natural, L1010, and was overlain by L1015.

Post Hole F1047 was sub-circular in plan and recorded in Test Pit D (? x 0.30 x 0.50m). It had steep to moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1048,

was a firm, pale to mid grey brown sandy clay with occasional small sub-rounded flints. It contained no finds. It cut the natural, L1010, and was overlain by L1015.

Ditch F1049 was linear in plan and recorded in Test Pit H (1.0+ x 0.7 x 0.3m), orientated N/S. It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1050, was a friable, dark grey brown silty clay with very occasional small angular flints. It contained 12th – 14th century pottery (1; 9g) and animal bone (20g). It cut the natural, L1010, and was overlain by L1015.

Pit F1051 was partially recorded in Test Pit E and it was ill-defined in plan due to the confines of the test pit (1.0+ x 1.0+ x 0.90m+). It had moderate to steep sloping sides and its base was not reached. Its fill, L1048, was a firm pale to mid grey brown sandy clay with occasional small sub-rounded flints. It contained pottery, animal bone (46g) and shell (43g). It cut the natural, L1010, and was overlain by L1015.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 Features recorded in section only and at the base of test pits were not fully defined.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 Uppermost was Yard Surface L1000, and below was a sequence of levelling layers, made ground deposits and former surfaces were recorded. Below these deposits and present across the whole of Trench 1 was L1015, a firm, mid brown grey sandy silty clay with moderate small sub-angular flints (0.66m in thickness).

8.2 At the base of the sequence were the natural deposits (L1010), a firm to friable, mid yellow brown clayey sand with frequent small chalk flecks and occasional small sub-angular flints. L1010 was approximately 1.30m below the current ground surface.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The recorded features are tabulated:

Trench	Context	Description	Pre dates L1015	Post dates L1015	Finds
1	M1006	?Wall Foundation	-	Post dates L1015	18th C
	F1011	Ditch	Pre dates L1015	-	11 th – 13 th C
	L1015	Layer			18 th – 19 th C
	F1016	?Pit	-	Post dates L1015	
	F1018	?Pit	-	Post dates L1015	
	F1020	?Pit	-	Post dates L1015	
	F1022	?Pit	-	Post dates L1015	
	M1024	Brick Wall Foundation	-	Post dates L1015	

F1025	?Post Hole	-	Post dates L1015	
M1027	Brick wall Foundation	-	Post dates L1015	
F1030	?Post Hole	-	Post dates L1015	
F1032	Pit	Pre dates L1015	-	
F1039	?Post Hole	-	Post dates L1015	
F1041	Post Hole	Pre dates L1015	-	
F1043	Ditch	Pre dates L1015	-	
F1045	Ditch	Pre dates L1015	-	
F1047	Post Hole	Pre dates L1015	-	
F1049	Ditch	Pre dates L1015	-	12 th - 14 th C
F1051	Pit	Pre dates L1015	-	

9.2 Ditch F1011 contained a residual flake of possible flint debitage. Post-medieval Layer L1015 contained a residual sherd of Iron Age flint-tempered pottery, and two residual sherds of medieval (13th – early 14th century) pottery. The pottery comprises local coarse wares including fragments of a jug and jar or cooking pot.

9.3 Layer L1015 encompassed the entire trench. It was thick (up to c.1m) and represents a made ground deposit. It contained residual Iron Age and medieval pottery, 18th – 19th century pottery and CBM, animal bone, oyster shell and a clay pipe fragment. It overlay features (possible pits, post holes and ditches) and was cut by features (possible pits and wall foundations). The dating of the features pre-dating L1015 is tentative. North/south aligned Ditch F1011 contained one abraded sherd of medieval (11th – 13th century) pottery, associated with cattle and dog bones, which may be residual. North west/south east aligned Ditch F1049 contained a single sherd of medieval (12th – 14th century) pottery in good condition. It was associated with a low quantity of indeterminate mammal bone and a modest concentration of carbonised cereal grains consistent with domestic activity. It may represent a primary deposit associated with medieval occupation in the adjacent core of the town. Pit F1032 which also pre-dated L1015, contained 18th – 19th century CBM. It may be quite simply that the features are of variable date and represent the re-cutting of boundary ditches and drainage channels in the historic nucleus of Soham.

10 CONCLUSION

10.1 Extensive evidence for medieval occupation has previously been recorded in the vicinity of the site including on Paddock Street, Brook Dam Lane and the Oaks. The results of this evaluation appear consistent with the historic narrative of the area and the evidence appears represent medieval and possibly post-medieval activity on the margins of plots. A relatively dense number of features (eight) were identified below L1015 but they contained few finds, for example, two sherds of medieval pottery. The dating of the features is tentative and they may date to the medieval and post-medieval periods; Pit F1032 which also pre-dated L1015, contained 18th – 19th century CBM. The requirement for the re-cutting of ditches and exploitation of the land relative to the historic core may be supported by the 1656 plan of the manor

of Soham by William Palmer, which identifies the plot containing the site as 'enclosures' (Fig.6) rather than by a specific field name or holding.

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. The archive will be deposited following the gaining of the transfer of title.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Web resources

www.old-maps.co.uk

Appendix 1 - Concordance of Finds

ECB5810 - P7901, 9 Churchgate Street, Soham

Feature	Context	Segment	Trench	Description	Spot Date (Pot Only)	Pot Qty	Pottery (g)	CBM (g)	A.Bone (g)	Other Material	Other Qty	Other (g)
1038	1006	C	1	Fill of Construction Cut	18th C	15	549	263	60	Slag Clay Pipe Fe Nail	1 1	196 4 7
								1550				
1011	1012		1	Fill of Ditch	11th-13th C	1	2		392	S.Flint	1	11
	1015	TP B TP C TP D TP E TP G TP H	1	Layer	18th-19th C 18th-19th C Residual Iron Age 18th-19th C Residual 13th- early 14th C	2 2 1 4 2	225 30 12 93 29	1758 325 43	1194 446 192 75	Clay Pipe O.Shell O.Shell	1	8 26 17
1032	1035	TP A	1	Fill of Pit				91	862			
1049	1050	TP H	1	Fill of Ditch	12th-14th C	1	9		20			
1051	1052	TP E	1	Fill of Post Hole					46	O.Shell		43

APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Struck Flint

Andrew Peachey

Ditch F1011 contained a flake (11g) of flint in an un-patinated and rolled condition. The flake of very dark grey flint has a broad squat profile with thin white cortex across the butt. It could conceivably represent an isolated piece of Neolithic to Bronze Age debitage, but it remains inconclusive if it was produced by human agency.

The Pottery Report

Peter Thompson

The archaeological evaluation recovered 28 sherds weighing 949g from three features and a layer. Ditch F1011 L1012 contained a single abraded sherd of early medieval grey ware of 11th-13th centuries date. Ditch F1049 L1050 contained a single sherd of sandy greyware in good condition in a fabric very similar to Grimston coarseware, and would indicate a date of 12th-13th centuries. Layer L1015 contained late post-medieval to early modern pottery, but also included residual medieval sherds and an Iron Age flint and sand tempered sherd. Feature F1039 contained 15 sherds of post-medieval pottery including creamware and Staffordshire type wares of probable 18th century date.

Methodology

The sherds were examined under x35 binocular microscope and recorded according to the Medieval Pottery Research Group Guidelines (Slowikowski et al 2001). Fabric codes are those used for the Cambridgeshire County Council pottery type series (Spoerry 2016).

KEY:

IAFT: Iron Age flint temper

MCW1: Medieval coarseware 1: fine and medium and occasionally coarse sub-rounded to rounded quartz, occasional rounded red iron ore and rare white calcareous and burnt organics 11th-13th

MCW2: Medieval coarseware 2: abundant sub-rounded fine and medium quartz, a little like Thetford type ware 11th-13th

MGSW: Medieval grey sandy ware 12th-14th

HEDI: Hedingham fine ware: mid 12th-early 14th

SEFEN: South-east Fenland Calcareous ware: mid 12th-15th

PMRE: Post-medieval red earthenware 16th+

GRE: Glazed red earthenware mid 16th+

STMBL: Staffordshire type marbled slip ware late 17th-18th

STMO: Staffordshire type mottled slipware mid 17th-18th

CREA: Creamware early 18th-late 19th

Feature	Context	Quantity	Date	Comment
1038	1006	2x13g CREA 2x16g STMBL 2x17g STMO 1x4g ENGS 8x499g GRE	18 th	
Ditch 1011	1012	1x2g MCW2	11 th -13 th	
Layer	1015	1x28g PMRE 1x197g GRE	18 th -19 th	
	1015 TP B	1x12g IAF 1x12g MCW1 1x18g GRE	18 th -19 th	IAFT: flint and sand temper MCW1: round beaded cooking pot rim 20cm diam (0.07 reve)
	1015 E	3x88g GRE 1x5g SEFEN	18 th -19 th	
	1015 TP H	1x7g HEDI 1x22g SEFEN	13 th -early 14 th	HEDI: stamped strip jug SEFEN: everted, flat topped external thickened jar rim with horizontal external line
1049	1050	1x9g MGSW	12 th -14 th	MCSW: fabric like Grimston coarseware

Table 1: Quantification of pottery by context

Bibliography

Slowikowski, A., Nenck, B. and Pearce, J. 2001 *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

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The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey

The evaluation recovered a total of 43 fragments (4030g) of late post-medieval to early modern (18th-19th century) CBM (Table 2) in a highly fragmented and abraded condition.

CBM type	Fragment Count	Weight (g)
Floor brick	10	2791
Peg tile	33	1239
<i>Total</i>	43	4030

Table 2: Quantification of CBM

The CBM was manufactured in a red-orange to pale cream-brown fabric with common calcareous/fossil shell inclusions (<5mm); typical of CBM produced throughout the Fenland region. The bulk of the CBM was contained in F1038 M1006 and Layer L1015, with a low quantity of very small fragments also

contained in Pit F1032. The CBM included floor brick with partial dimensions of ?x105x40mm, with fairly regular dimensions and a smooth base, as well as peg tile. However; it is too fragmented to preserve any further diagnostic technological traits and in such poor condition is unlikely to be directly associated with a structure in the close vicinity, and rather represents re-deposited rubble incorporated into backfilled soils and leveling layers.

The faunal remains and molluscs

Julie Curl

THE ANIMAL BONE

Methodology

The summary assessment was carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis, 1992) and Baker and Worley, 2014. All of the bone was examined to determine range of species and elements present. A record was also made of butchering and any indications of skinning, hornworking and other modifications. When possible ages were estimated along with any other relevant information, such as pathologies. Measurements were considered following Von Den Driesch, 1976, but no suitable bones were present. Counts and weights were noted for each context and counts made for each species. Where bone could not be identified to species, they were grouped as, for example, 'large mammal', 'bird' or 'small mammal'. Attempts were made, where possible, to refit possible fragments in the same bag and these were included in NISP counts.

The results were input into an Excel database for quantification and analysis. A summary catalogue is included with this report and a full catalogue (with additional counts) of the faunal remains is available in the digital archive.

The bone assemblage

Quantification, provenance and preservation

A total of 3287g of bone, consisting of 139 pieces, was recovered from this site. Remains were produced from all six features. Layer 1015 produced just under 56% of the bone assemblage, just under 39% from ditch fills, with considerably smaller amounts from other features. The assemblage is quantified by features, counts and weights in Table 3. Ditches 1011 and 1049 produced small amounts of medieval pottery, other fills produced later post-medieval pottery and some fills are undated.

Feature	Feature Type, count and weight				Totals
	Ditch	Layer	Posthole	Rubble Spread	
1011	8/392g				8/8/392g
1015		80/1907g			80/1907g
1032	39/862g				39/862g
1038				5/60g	5/60g
1049	2/20g				2/20g
1051			5/46g		5/46g
Totals	49/1274g	80/1837g	5/46g	5/60g	139/3287g

Table 3. Quantification of the faunal remains by feature type, counts and weights.

The bone is in good condition, although much has been fragmented from butchering and wear.

Several bones in the Layer 1015 show canid gnawing and a single bone in L1038 produced a gnawed fragment. Gnawing generally suggests scavenging, but the remains may have been from meat waste given to domestic or working dogs and then disposed of with other rubbish.

No burnt bones were seen in this assemblage, suggesting burial was the favoured method of disposal.

Species range and modifications and other observations

A total of six species were identified in this assemblage, which are quantified in Table 4. The assemblage is dominated by the main food mammals, along with a small amount of fish, bird and canid bone.

Species	Feature number and NISP						Total
	1011	1015	1032	1038	1049	1051	
Bird - Goose			1			1	2
Cattle	4	21	3	1			29
Dog	3						3
Fish - Perch						1	1
Mammal		44	23	4	2	1	74
Pig/Boar		7	4				11
Sheep/goat	1	8	8			2	19
Totals	8	80	39	5	2	5	139

Table 4. Quantification of the faunal remains by feature number, species and NISP.

Cattle are the most frequent in terms of NISP and were seen in four features. Most remains of the cattle are from adults, with five of the twenty-seven bones from juveniles. The bones in the layer L1015 included limb, foot, head, ribs and vertebrae, suggesting most parts were consumed and butchering was seen on many of the remains.

Sheep/goat were found in four fills. Most bones were of adults, with eight teeth and bones from a juvenile in ditch fill 1035. The most frequent bones from the ovicaprids were tibias, with some scapulas and other bones.

Pig/boar were found in two features. The remains from Layer 1015 included humeri, tibia, rib and tooth, along with a large tusk; these remains were very robust and the wear of the teeth suggest these were from a large male. Mandible fragments and teeth were seen in pit fill F1032 L1035.

Goose were seen in two features. A single goose tibiotarsus was seen in L1015 and one humerus fragment was found in the Post Hole F1051 L1052; both bones had been butchered. These geese are most likely to be from birds kept for a supply of eggs and feather as well as meat.

One fish vertebrae was seen in the Post Hole F1051 L1052, which was identified as **Perch**. This fish is common in larger rivers and commonly eaten.

The ditch fill F1011 L1012 produced sparse remains of cattle along with the skull, left mandible and calcaneus of a large **dog**. The dog skull size suggest a breed such as a large lurcher. The teeth of the dog were well worn, indicting a diet which included bones. Some periodontal disease was seen which may have been caused by infections into the gums as a result of damage from bone splinters.

Butchering and elements present

Butchering was seen throughout, with particularly heavy butchering on the larger cattle bones. Cuts from skinning were seen on cattle and sheep/goat. Chops from a cleaver noted on the larger limb bones from dismemberment and preparation of cuts of meat. Fine knife cuts were seen from removal of meat and cutting smaller bones. A range of elements were seen, with mostly main meat-bearing bones. Some mandibles were seen, one with knife cuts, which could have provided cheek meat and tongue.

Pathologies

Some wear and damage were seen on the dog upper and lower incisors and molars which is consistent with animals that have regularly gnawed on bones as well as age. A little periodontal disease was seen around the front molars, which may have been from infections from damage from bone splinters.

Discussion and conclusions

This is a small assemblage of a mixed or uncertain date. The assemblage is dominated by the butchering and food waste from the main domestic food mammals, with small amounts of goose and fish waste. The dog in this assemblage is a large animal of a large Lurcher size and build, which may have been a guard or hunting dog. The small amount of fish, the Perch, would have been readily available in local rivers, but could have been bought at market.

THE MOLLUSC ASSEMBLAGE

Methodology

The molluscs were identified to species using a variety of reference material. Shells were catalogued by species and where appropriate, counts were made of the number of individual species present (NISP), counts of top and base shells and an estimate of the minimum number of individuals (MNI). Bivalve shells are known to be used as painter's palettes and the remains are examined for any traces of pigments. Shells are also examined for any cut marks that would confirm their use for food from the prising apart of the shells or removal of meat with a knife.

Quantification, provenance and preservation

A total of 86g of shell, consisting of 13 pieces, was recovered from this site. Remains were recovered from two features. The assemblage is quantified in Table 5.

Context	Type	Feature	Date	Ctxt Qty	Weight	Species	NISP
1015E	Layer	1015	18th - 19th	6	26	Oyster	6
1015G	Layer	1015	18th - 19th	2	17	Oyster	2
1052E	Posthole	1052	Undated	5	43	Oyster	5

Table 5. Quantification of the mollusc assemblage.

The shells are in good condition with mostly complete or nearly complete shells. Those in Layer 1015G showed some sediment that suggests they had been with some cess deposits for time, leaving cessy deposits on the surface. Various marine organisms were seen on the surface, such as remains of sponge, which indicate they were taken from a marine environment, rather than being farmed.

The mollusc species

Common Oyster was found in three deposits but in small numbers. The remains of marine sponge and worms shows they were retrieved from a marine environment, rather than being farmed shells. A small number of shells showed cut marks from there they were prised open with a knife to remove flesh.

Discussion and conclusions

This is a small shell assemblage that contains the remains of the most frequent food species on archaeological sites. Common Oyster are found all around the British coast, even in quite shallow waters. Such molluscs could be collected by individuals, but are perhaps more likely to be sold at local markets.

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Tables 6 and 7

6 Summary catalogue of the animal bone.

7 Catalogue of the mollusc assemblage.

Table 6

Catalogue of the animal bone recovered from ECB5810

Listed in context order.

A full catalogue (with additional information) is available as an Excel file in the digital archive.

Key:

NISP = Number of Individual Species elements Present

Ctxt	Seg	FNo	Ctxt Qty	Wt (g)	Species	NISP	Ad	Juv	Neo	MNI	Element range	Meas	Cou	Butchering	Comments
1006		1038	5	60	Cattle	1					rib			chopped	
1006		1038			Mammal	4					fragments				one with canid gnawing
1012		1011	8	392	Cattle	4	4				P4 tooth, vertebrae, rib frags			chopped	
1012		1011			Sheep/goat	1	1				tibia		1	chopped	
1012		1011			Dog	3	3				calacaneus, skull, left mandible		2		
1015	H	1015	3	75	Cattle	2	2				metacarpal, distal and proximal fragments		1	chopped	
1015	H	1015			Sheep/goat	1	1				tibia		1	chopped	
1015	D	1015	4	192	Cattle	2	2				ulna, calcaneus		1	chopped	proximal end of ulna, calcaneus has some canid gnawing
1015	D	1015			Pig/Boar	2		2			humerus			chopped	some canid gnawing

														and rib				on humerus
1015	C	1015	20	446	Cattle	7	7			1	radius, humerus, ribs and fragments of same		1	cut, chopped				gnawed radius and shaft
1015	C	1015			Sheep/goat	3	3			1	metacarpal, radius, metatarsal			cut, chopped				
1015	C	1015			Mammal	10					fragments			butchered				
1015		1015	53	1194	Cattle	10	8	2		2	uf femur, mandible frags, talus, phalanges, teeth		2.5	cut, chopped				slight gnawing on phalange
1015		1015			Sheep/goat	4	4			1	tibia, metatarsal, ulna, scapula		2	cut, chopped				
1015		1015			Pig/Boar	5	4	1		2	humerus, tusk, tibia, tooth		3	cut, chopped				humerus gnawed, all adult bones and usk robust, adult male
1015		1015			Mammal	34					fragments			butchered				
1035	TPA	1032	39	862	Cattle	3		3			tibia and humerus fragments		1	cut, chopped				
1035	TPA	1032			Sheep/goat	8		8			mandibles, scapula, isolated teeth		2	cut, chopped				
1035	TPA	1032			Pig/Boar	4		4			mandible frags, atlas vert		1	cut, chopped				
1035	TPA	1032			Bird - Goose	1	1				tibiotarsus		1	cut				
1035	TPA	1032			Mammal	23					fragments			butchered				

The Environmental Samples

Dr John Summers

Introduction

During the archaeological evaluation at 9 Churchgate Street, Soham, three bulk soil samples for environmental archaeological assessment were taken and processed. It would have been preferable for more of the features sealed by L1015 to have been sampled, for example, Ditch F1049 which contained a medieval pottery sherd. The samples were from deposits spot dated to the medieval and post-medieval period.

Layer L1015 was a made ground deposit and it contained 18th – 19th century pottery. It was judged not appropriate to sample this layer as the provenance i.e. the on-site or off-site origin of its content is difficult to determine. There is a possibility that the material was brought to the site from elsewhere and remains within it may not represent activities undertaken at this specific site. In addition, as a made ground layer containing mixed material of multiple periods, any ecofactual remains within it are likely to originate from multiple periods or sources. It would be impossible to disentangle these pathways to arrive at any kind of reliable interpretation.

The purpose of the assessment was to determine the nature of preservation of macrofossil remains, their representation and distribution in deposits on the site.

Methods

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

Results

The assessment data from the bulk sample light fractions are presented in Table 8. Preservation of plant macrofossils was by carbonisation only. Medieval ditch fill L1012 (F1011) contained a modest number of cereal grains, including barley (*Hordeum* sp.), oat (*Avena* sp.) and rye (*Secale cereale*).

Richest was pit fill L1035 (F1032), which contained free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum/ turgidum* type) and hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.). This sample also contained a range of non-cereal taxa likely to represent arable weeds. These included medium Fabaceae (vetch/ tare), knotweed family (Polygonaceae), stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*), knapweed (*Centaurea* sp.) and brome grass (*Bromus* sp.). Rubble spread L1006C produced only a small number of carbonised plant macrofossils.

Charcoal was not present in significant density in any of the three samples, being represented by relatively small fragments. Mollusc remains were limited to a small number of *Vallonia* sp. shells in L1006C and are not likely to represent a viable resource for palaeoenvironmental investigations.

Conclusions

The presence of carbonised remains of cereals and associated non-cereal arable weed taxa in all of the sampled deposits indicates that cereals were in common usage at the site. The likely arable weeds in L1035 may indicate the presence of crop processing by-products, although the evidence is insufficient to be certain, particularly in the absence of cereal chaff. These remains could equally represent impurities within a processed crop. The location of the site close to the centre of Soham is likely to be reflected in sustained occupation during the medieval and post-medieval periods, which is, to a degree, borne out by the good recovery of carbonised plant macrofossils from the deposits. The presence of carbonised macrofossils appears to be greater than from medieval and post-medieval deposits at a recent evaluation at Brook Street (Summers 2019), although post-excavation work on material from recent excavations at this site are ongoing and may provide a useful comparative dataset.

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Site code	Sample number	Context	Feature	Feature type	Trench	Spot date	Volume taken (litres)	Volume processed (litres)	% processed	Cereals			Non-cereal taxa		Hazelnut shell	Charcoal		Molluscs		Contaminants					Other remains	
										Cereal grains	Cereal chaff	Notes	Seeds	Notes		Charcoal > 2mm	Notes	Molluscs	Notes	Roots	Molluscs	Modern seeds	Insects	Earthworm capsules		
ECB5810	1	1012	1011	Fill of Ditch	1	11th-13th C	10	10	100%	XX	-	Hord (1), Oat (2), Rye (2), NFI (2)	X	<i>Sambucus nigra</i> (1), Asteraceae (1)	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	Fish bone (X), Fish scales (X), Coal (X)
ECB5810	2	1035	1032	Fill of Pit	1	-	40	20	50%	XX	-	HB (3), Hord (6), FTW (6), Trit (3), NFI (7)	X	Medium Fabaceae (2), Polygonaceae (1), <i>Centaurea</i> sp. (1), <i>Anthemis cotula</i> (1), <i>Bromus</i> sp. (1)	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	XX	-	-	-	Fish bone (X), Fish scales (XX), Bird bone (X)
ECB5810	3	1006C	1038	Fill of Construction Cut	1	18th C	20	10	50%	XX	-	Hord (1),	X	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (1), <i>Carex</i> sp. (1)	-	X	-	X	<i>Vallonia</i> sp.	X	-	X	-	-	-	-

Table 8: Results from the assessment of bulk sample light fractions from 9 Churchgate Street, Soham. Abbreviations: HB = hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.); Hord = barley (*Hordeum* sp.); FTW = free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum/ turgidum*); Trit = wheat (*Triticum* sp.); Oat (*Avena* sp.); Rye (*Secale cereale*); NFI = not formally identified (indeterminate cereal grain).

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Project details

Project name	9 Churchgate Street, Soham (TT)
Short description of the project	In March 2019 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land rear of 9 Churchgate Street, Soham, Cambridgeshire CB7 5DS (NGR TL 5929 7331; 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 two dwellings (East Cambs Council Approval Ref. 17/00495/FUL), based on the advice of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team. A residual struck flint was present in Ditch F1011, and L1015 contained a residual Iron Age sherd. L1015 also contained two residual medieval (13th - early 14th century) sherds. Layer L1015 encompassed the entire trench and it contained 18th - 19th century pottery. It overlay features (possible pits, post holes and ditches) and was cut by features (possible pits and wall foundations). The dating of the features pre-dating L1015 is tentative. Ditch F1011 contained one abraded sherd of medieval (11th - 13th century) pottery which may be residual, and Ditch F10149 contained a sherd of medieval (12th - 14th century) pottery in good condition which may be a primary deposit. Pit F1032 contained 18th - 19th century CBM. It may be quite simply that the features are of variable dates.
Project dates	Start: 01-03-2019 End: 31-03-2019
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	P7901 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECB5810 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Monument type	PITS; POSTHOLES; DITCHES Uncertain
Significant Finds	SHERD Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country England

Site location CAMBRIDGESHIRE EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE SOHAM 9 Churchgate Street, Soham
 Postcode CB7 5SD
 Study area 500 Square metres
 Site coordinates TL 5929 7331 52.334292655883 0.338147259894 52 20 03 N 000 20 17 E Point
 Height OD / Depth Min: 20m Max: 20m

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
 Name of sponsor/funding body Mr Matt Johnson

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Cambridgeshire Council Archaeological Store
 Physical Contents "Ceramics","Metal","other","Animal Bones"
 Digital Archive recipient Cambirdge County Archaeological Store
 Digital Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","other"
 Digital Media available "Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Text"
 Paper Archive recipient Cambridge County Archaeological Store
 Paper Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","other"
 Paper Media available "Context sheet","Drawing","Map","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
 Title 9 Churchgate Street, Soham, Cambridgeshire CB7 5DS. An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation
 Author(s)/Editor(s) Diggons, KJ
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PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX (P7901)



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14
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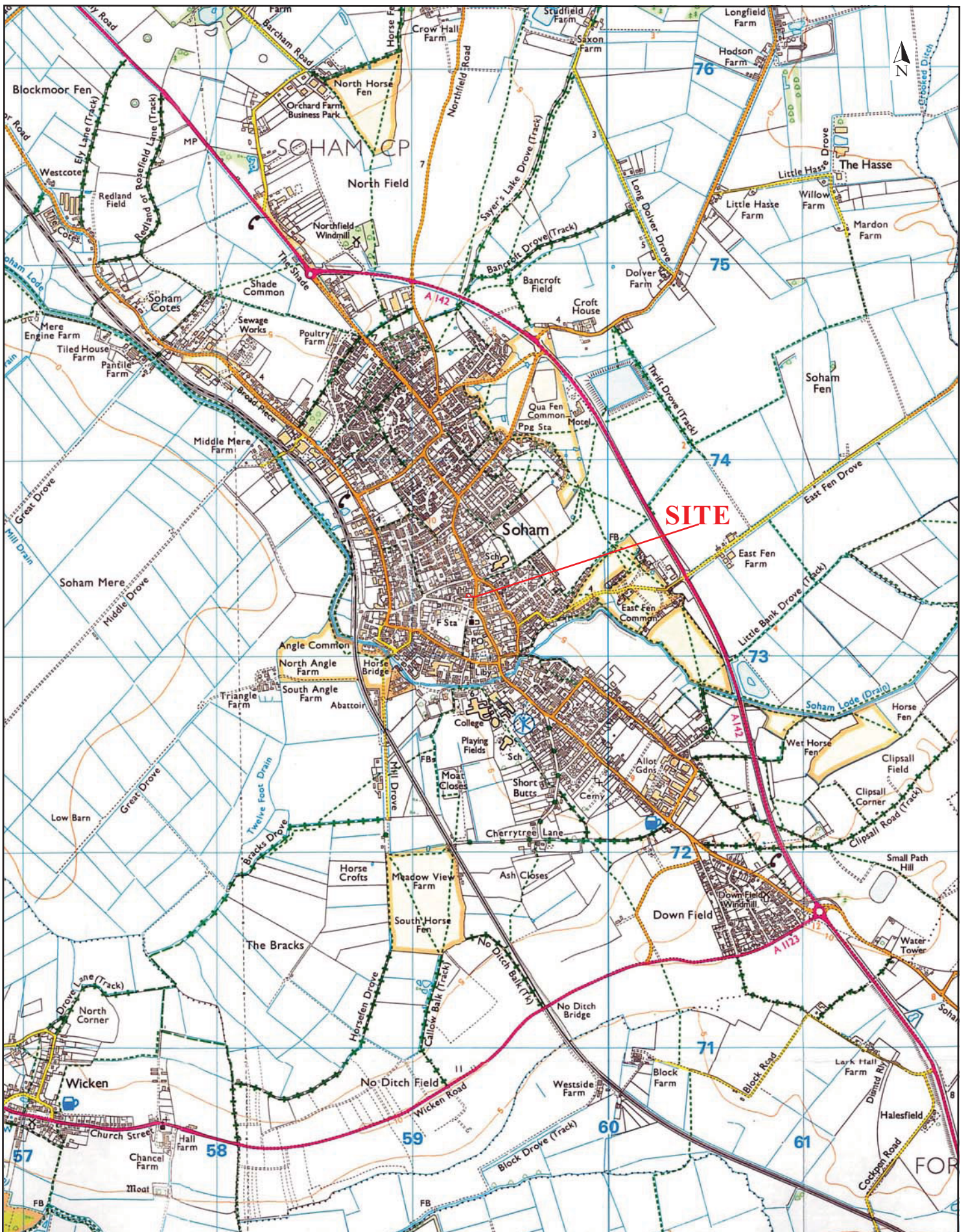
17
Ditch F1049 in Test pit H looking north



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Pit F1051 in Test pit E looking south



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Test pit F looking east



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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4
 9 Churchgate Street, Soham (P7901)

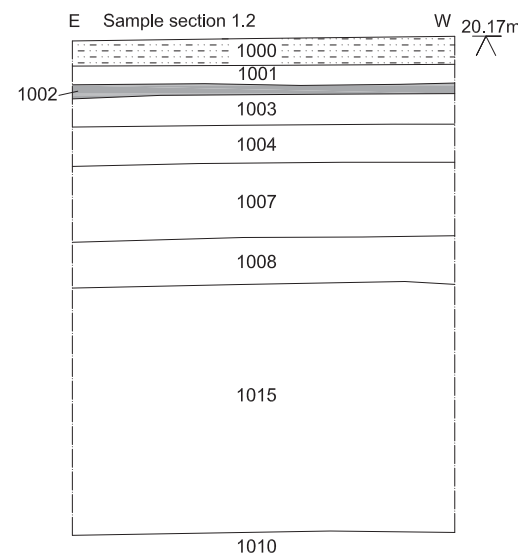
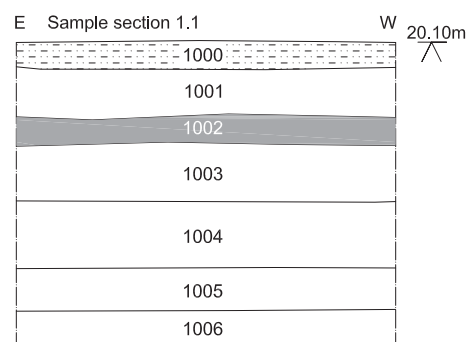
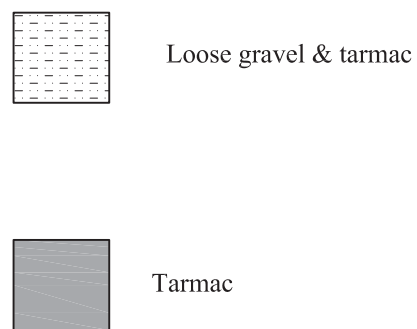
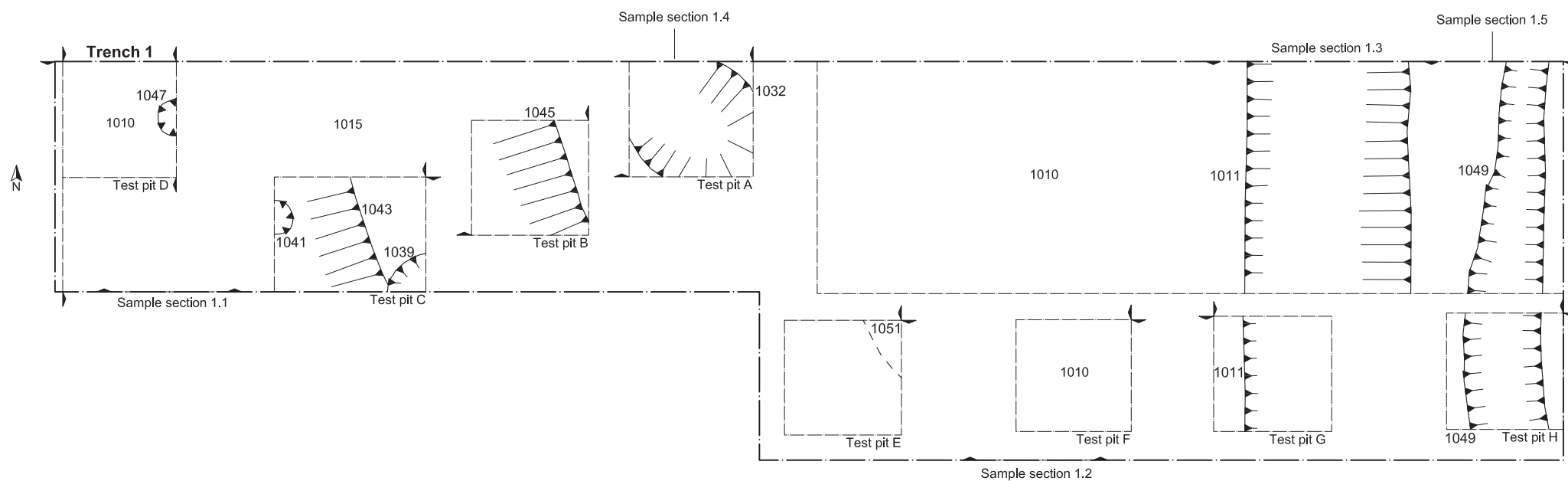


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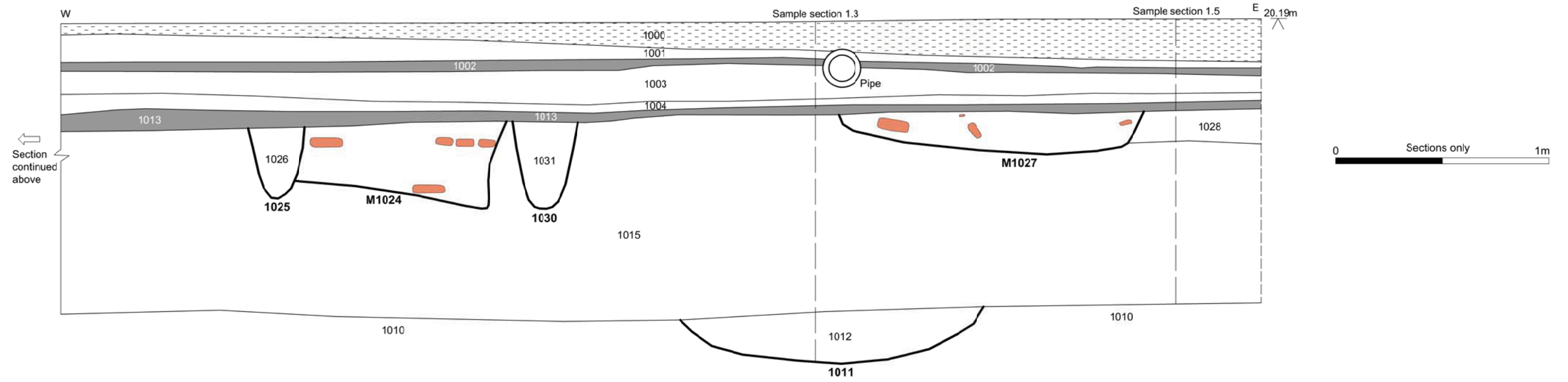
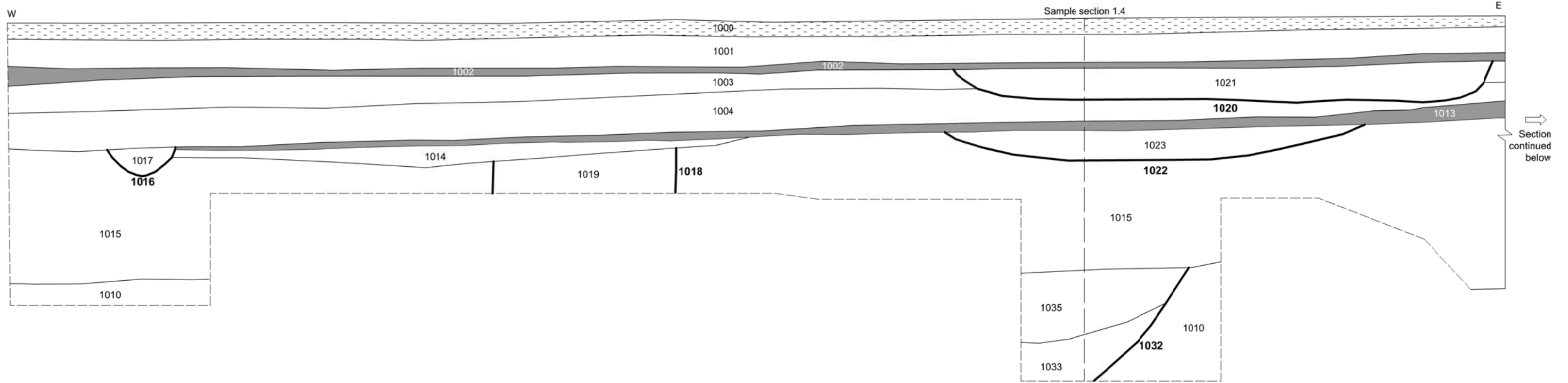
Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan

Scale 1:400 at A4

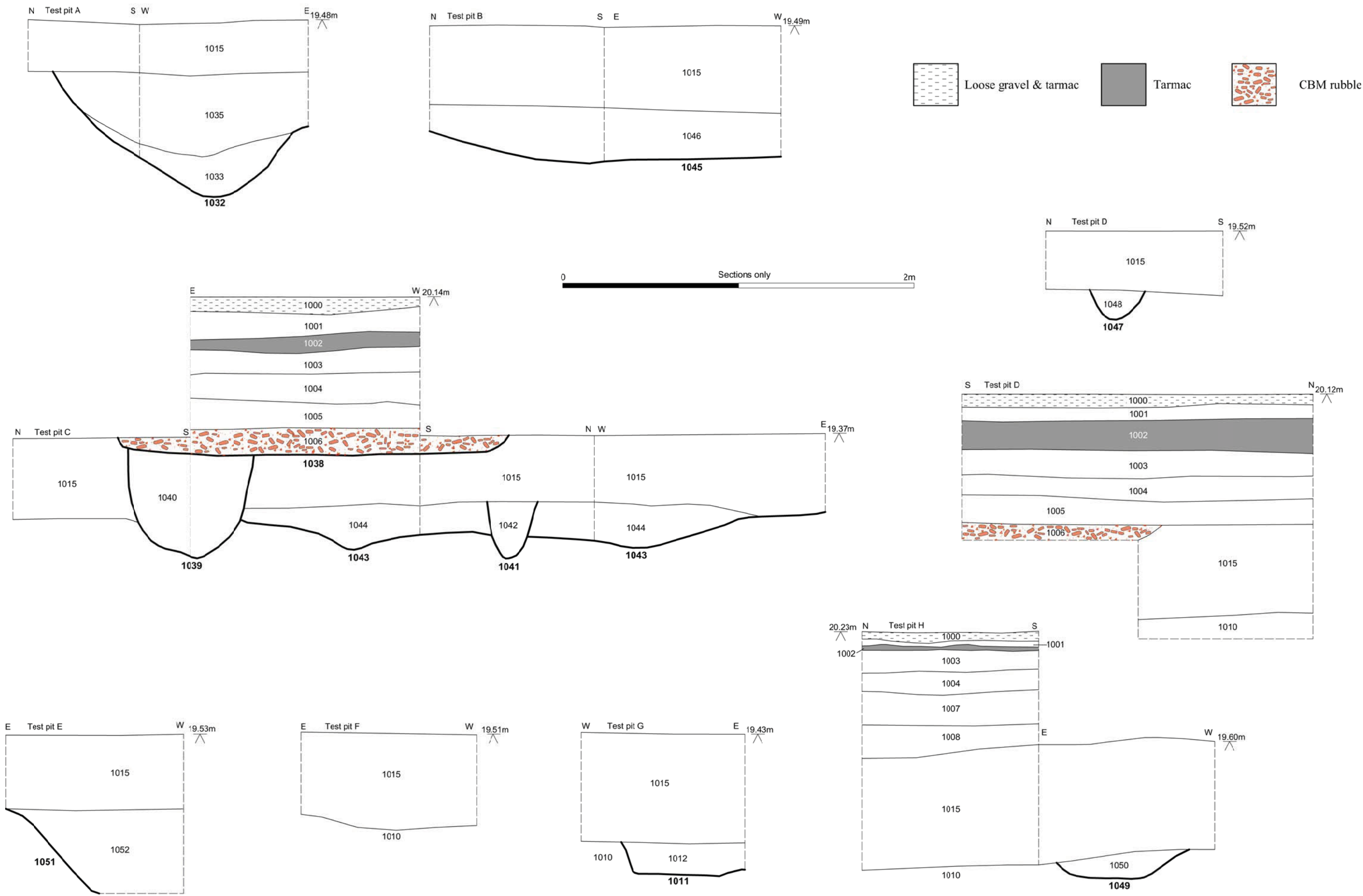
9 Churchgate Street, Soham (P7901)



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Fig. 3 Trench plan and sections
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 9 Churchgate Street, Soham (P7901)



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 9 Churchgate Street, Soham (P7901)



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Fig. 5 Test pit sections
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 9 Churchgate Street, Soham (P7901)