
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**PLOTS 7 & 9 PAPWORTH BUSINESS PARK,
PAPWORTH EVERARD,
CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

CHER EVENT: ECB313

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NGR: TL 2925 6244	Report No. 2891
District: South Cambs	Site Code: AS 1055
Approved: Claire Halpin	Project No: 2900
Signed:	Date: June 2007

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 - The Pottery by Peter Thompson MA*
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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Plots 7 & 9 Papworth Business Park, Papworth Everard, Cambridgeshire</i>		
Project description	<p><i>The site had a high potential for archaeology of the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman periods with a possible masking of such periods by the remains of a ridge and furrow cultivation which was reminiscent of the medieval period. A sophisticated Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement site which included a possible metal working area reached as far as the plot adjacent to the current site.</i></p> <p><i>Gullies and linears ran through the site on an almost unanimous north to south alignment, except for a single east to west gully as found in Trench 7. The linears revealed are mainly shallow and it was originally suggested onsite that these were truncated by ploughing activity which predates the modern redeposited clay overburden layer L1000. However, another interpretation of the site is that the linears themselves are the remains of a plough damage such as medieval ridge and furrow cultivation. This would account for their regular spacing, shallowness and uniform profile.</i></p> <p><i>This work represented a second phase of evaluation following that carried out by Northamptonshire Archaeology. These two phases of evaluation have demonstrated that the site fits into the wider landscape of this area to the south of Papworth Everard which is characterised by Iron Age occupation (preceded by Bronze Age activity that appears not have been identified during this project), Romano-British activity and medieval and later agricultural activity</i></p>		
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>18th – 30th May 2007</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>Y</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>TBC</i>
P. number	<i>2900</i>	Site code	<i>AS 1055</i>
Type of project	<i>Trial Trench Evaluation</i>		
Site status			
Current land use	<i>Vacant land within newly-developed business park</i>		
Planned development	<i>Industrial – construction of industrial / business units</i>		
Main features (+dates)			
Significant finds (+dates)			
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Cambridgeshire</i>	<i>South Cambridgeshire</i>	<i>Papworth Everard</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>HER ECB313</i>		
Post code (if known)			
Area of site			
NGR	<i>TL 2925 6244</i>		
Height AOD (max/ min)	<i>c. 50m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>Cambridgeshire Archaeology Planning and Countryside Advice (CAPCA)</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Weston, P.</i>		
Funded by	<i>Wrenbridge Land Ltd</i>		
Bibliography			
Full title	<i>Plots 7 & 9 Papworth Business Park, Papworth Everard, Cambridgeshire: An Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
Authors	<i>Hallybone, C & Pole, C</i>		
Report no.	<i>2891</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>June 2007</i>		

PLOTS 7 & 9 PAPWORTH BUSINESS PARK, PAPWORTH EVERARD, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

The site had a high potential for archaeology of the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman periods with a possible masking of such periods by the remains of a ridge and furrow cultivation which was reminiscent of the medieval period. A sophisticated Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement site which included a possible metal working area reached as far as the plot adjacent to the current site.

Gullies and linears ran through the site on an almost unanimous north to south alignment, except for a single east to west gully as found in Trench 7. The linears revealed are mainly shallow and it was originally suggested on site that these were truncated by ploughing activity which predates the modern redeposited clay overburden layer L1000. However, another interpretation of the site is that the linears themselves are the remains of a plough damage such as medieval ridge and furrow cultivation. This would account for their regular spacing, shallowness and uniform profile.

This work represented a second phase of evaluation following that carried out by Northamptonshire Archaeology (Fisher 2006). These two phases of evaluation have demonstrated that the site fits into the wider landscape of this area to the south of Papworth Everard which is characterised by Iron Age occupation (preceded by Bronze Age activity that appears not have been identified during this project), Romano-British activity and medieval and later agricultural activity

The finds and environmental evidence recovered during the second phase of evaluation was particularly sparse. No animal bone was recovered during the evaluation, and the finds assemblage was limited to a single heavily abraded Iron Age of earlier pottery sherd and sparse abraded sherds of CBM, one of which was clearly or Romano-British date. The earlier phase produced a small assemblage of pottery mostly dating to the later pre-Roman Iron Age with a small quantity of Romano-British sherds.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 During May 2007, Archaeological Solutions conducted an archaeological trial trench evaluation on Plots 7 and 9 of Papworth Business Park, Papworth Everard, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 2925 6244) (Fig. 1). The evaluation was commissioned by Wrenbridge Land Ltd prior to proposed construction of new industrial or business units on the site. A partial evaluation of the site carried out by Northamptonshire Archaeology in July 2006 (Fisher 2006) encountered deep made ground deposits up to two metres in depth, which led to the abandonment of six proposed trenches. The area of these abandoned trenches was the target of the current evaluation.

1.2 The evaluation was conducted in accordance with a brief issued by Cambridgeshire Archaeology Planning & Countryside Advice (CAPCA), dated 10th April

2007, and a specification prepared by AS (dated 26th April 2007). The project followed the procedures outlined in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (revised 2001) and adhered to the relevant sections of *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

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

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 The village of Papworth Everard is located 17.5km west of Cambridge and 10km south-east of Huntingdon in the county of Cambridgeshire. The site itself is located south-east of the village and approximately 200m east of the Ermine Street Roman road (the modern A1198) at a height of *c.* 50m AOD. The site lies *c.*350m south east of a moated site adjacent to Papworth Hall in the grounds of Papworth Hospital, scheduled as an ancient monument. Papworth Hall and its adjacent moated site may represent the original manor house.

2.2 The site comprises Plots 7 and 9 of the Papworth Business Park which were subject to a previous phase of archaeological evaluation (Fisher 2006) along with Plot 10 and the perimeter landscaping bund of the Business Park. Plots 7 and 9 were located to the north of Stirling Way, the main road through the Business Park.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 Papworth Everard is located on poorly drained clay soils over patchy glacial boulder clay above Jurassic Oxford Clay. Papworth Everard lies in rolling countryside that rises from around 30m AOD in the north to 70m along the Cambridge to St. Neots Ridgeway, which runs through the parish just within its southern boundary (Taylor 1997, 94). To the north-east of the site lies a dry valley running broadly south-east to north-west.

3.2 The Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record notes that ridge and furrow earthworks are present in a pasture field south of Papworth Hall, running both on east/west and north/south axes. The ridges of medieval ridge and furrow have a tendency to be more pronounced on poorly drained clay lands (Muir 2004, 219) such as those in south-east Cambridgeshire. Ridge and furrow earthworks can mask earlier features.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Summary of previous archaeological work

4.1.1 An aerial photographic assessment, several desk-based assessments and evaluations have been undertaken in Papworth Everard between 1996 and 2004. Although evaluations in northern Papworth at Church Lane/Ermine Street (Cox 1996;

Guttmann 1996), the Village Centre (Prosser 1999; Ramsey 2000) and Papworth Hospital (Roberts 1998; Grant & Wilkins 2002) encountered no significant archaeological remains, a series of evaluations investigating cropmarks in the vicinity of the Business Park Unit 5 site found important settlement-related evidence. Late Bronze Age to early Iron Age pottery, pits and ditches have been recorded and possible evidence of metalworking has been identified (Alexander 1998; Kenney 2000). Aerial photographic survey complements the data from the intrusive archaeological work, providing an extensive view of the landscape (Cox 1996, fig. 3).

4.2 Bronze Age

4.2.1 An evaluation of the South West Quadrant of Papworth Business Park (Alexander 1998) produced evidence, which allowed the site to be tentatively interpreted as a temporary camp, possibly utilised by transhumant pastoralists in the late Bronze Age or early Iron Age. Pottery recovered during the evaluation of the Unit 5 site was thought to date to the Bronze Age or Iron Age, possibly with an element of residuality (Kenney 2000, 12-13). Environmental evidence suggests that in the late Bronze Age, the south Cambridgeshire area was forested, but had been cleared for farming c. 800BC (O'Brien 2005, 7).

4.2.2 Extensive excavations by Wessex Archaeology at the Cambourne New Settlement, south-east of Papworth, found evidence of a late Bronze Age building along with extensive later prehistoric activity on the area's heavy clay soils (Wessex Archaeology March 2000, March 2001 etc.). At Fenstanton, to the north-east, a Bronze Age ring-ditch and driveway have been identified along with other features, which produced an assemblage of late Bronze Age or early Iron age pottery. Associated cropmarks identified on aerial photographs may represent further elements of a wider Bronze Age landscape (Chapman *et al.* 2005, 14, 15, 19).

4.3 Iron Age

4.3.1 Recent aerial photography (Deegan 1995) has revealed probable Iron Age and Romano-British cropmark enclosures around Hilton to the north; excavations here have located Iron Age and Romano-British features and recovered pottery of both periods (Crank, Grant & Williams 2004; Crank, Manning *et al.* 2004). Eltisley, to the south-west, is the site of an Iron Age pit alignment (CBA 1967) and more extensive Iron Age remains have been excavated at Highfields, Caldecote, to the east, where late Iron Age ditches, a pit and a group of possibly structural postholes were recorded (Leith 1996). The extensive Wessex Archaeology excavations at Cambourne New Settlement (Wessex Archaeology March 2000, March 2001 etc.) have found evidence of middle and late Iron Age roundhouses and enclosures. A series of ditched enclosures contained one or two roundhouses each. Six dispersed farmsteads were present, and 24 roundhouses were excavated. Environmental evidence from Cambourne suggests that wheat, peas and beans were cultivated, and livestock were herded along driveways.

4.3.2 The aerial photographic assessment of the Church Lane/Ermine Street area of Papworth Everard identified cropmarks predating the medieval cultivation; these were described as the 'remains of complex, probably prehistoric, ditched sites' and interpreted

as possibly Iron Age or Romano-British (Cox 1996). Within the area of the Unit 5 site Cox (1996) noted a cropmark group, of not particularly diagnostic morphology, consisting of a sub-circular ditched enclosure of approximately 75m in diameter, with breaks in the ditch to the east and west. Leading away from the eastern 'entrance' was a further ditch, while the western break was filled by a discrete, small circular enclosure. During the evaluation of the Unit 5 site (Kenney 2000), features corresponding to these underlying cropmarks were encountered.

4.3.3 The ensuing excavation revealed part of a middle to late Iron Age settlement of at least four roundhouses located within a possible banked enclosure ditch with an entrance to the north-east (Manning *et al.* 2005). A small 'C'-shaped banked enclosure lay against the western side of the large enclosure, which resembled a stock enclosure or animal pen in form. However, the area contained a concentration of residual metalworking slag and a cooking pit suggesting it may alternatively have served to delineate an industrial area.

4.3.4 The four roundhouses were defined by fragmentary semi-circular or penannular drip-gullies, generally about 10m in diameter. Some internal structural features were present such as postholes. Few features were present between the roundhouses and the putative enclosure entrance to the north-east, but a possible fence-line and clusters of domestic rubbish pits and cooking pits lay behind the buildings in the south-west of the enclosure. Part of a co-axial field boundary system lay outside the enclosure to the south.

4.3.5 To the west of Papworth, in advance of construction of the Papworth by-pass, late Iron Age to Romano-British features have been recorded representing enclosures and possible evidence for crop processing and industrial activity (Hatton & Kemp 2002).

4.4 Romano-British

4.4.1 The site lies within a triangle formed by Ermine Street and the *Via Devana* along with the possible Roman route along the ridgeway from Cambridge to St. Neots. Evidence for Roman activity is sparse within this triangle, although some remains of Roman settlement do exist (Hanley in Kirby and Oosthuizen 2000, 20). However, these all lie close to the *Via Devana*, being offshoots of a cluster of sites along the Great Ouse, which lies to the north of the Roman road (Crank, Grant & Williams 2004, 5). Six possibly Roman rectangular cropmarks are known to exist at Knapwell to the east (Taylor 1997, 42).

4.4.2 Excavations in the village of Hilton, to the north, indicate some possible settlement, with sparse Romano-British pits, yielding pottery, brick and tile (Crank, Manning *et al.* 2004). At Elsworth, to the north-east, a substantial medieval assemblage has been recovered, but only a single abraded Roman sherd was found (O'Brien 2003) although a surface scatter of Roman pottery has been identified at Croxton to the south. The excavations carried out by Wessex Archaeology at Cambourne have shown that the Iron Age settlement there continued in use into the Romano-British period; enclosures become more rectilinear in form and field boundaries changed, but roundhouses continued to be built.

4.5 Medieval field system

4.5.1 The centre of medieval Papworth was probably located west of Ermine Street, focused around St. Peter's church. Little now remains of the early village, but standing earthworks are present in the area of Papworth Hall (Kenney 2000, 3). The Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record notes that ridge and furrow earthworks are present in a pasture field south of Papworth Hall, running both on east/west and north/south axes. Further earthworks, including platforms and possible ridge and furrow are present near the church. Substantial earthworks are present to the south of the church, probably representing the core of the deserted medieval village. Much of the Unit 5 site was located within the former arable open field to the south-east of the village, known as Woodbrook, formerly Crabbush, Field (Elrington 1989, 356) and was covered by the remains of ridge and furrow cultivation (Kenney 2000, 4). The ridges of medieval ridge and furrow have a tendency to be more pronounced on poorly drained clay lands (Muir 2004, 219) such as those in south-east Cambridgeshire. Ridge and furrow earthworks can, and in the case of the Unit 5 site, did, mask earlier features.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The archaeological evaluation adhered to the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (revised 2001), as well as *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

5.2 Six trial trenches were excavated in locations approved by Cambridgeshire Archaeology Planning & Countryside Advice (Fig. 2). The trenches were of various dimensions in order to allow for stepped sections in adherence to safety regulations and the safe stockpiling of overburden. The six trenches excavated were Trenches 1, 2, 3, 6, 7 and 9 which were omitted from the original evaluation by Northamptonshire Archaeology in July 2006.

5.3 Undifferentiated overburden was mechanically excavated using a 180° tracked excavator fitted with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket, under the close supervision of a professional archaeologist. Thereafter, all further investigation was undertaken by hand. Exposed surfaces were cleaned as appropriate and examined for archaeological features and finds. Deposits were recorded using *pro-forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed. Excavated spoil was checked for finds.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS (Figs 2, 3 & 4)

6.1 Results of the previous phase of the evaluation (Fisher 2006)

14 trial trenches were excavated within Plots 7, 9, 10 and the Perimeter Landscaping Bund of the Papworth Business Park.

Trenches within Plots 7 & 9

6.1.1 Trench 8

Two shallow north east to south west aligned gullies were recorded in this trench. No finds were recovered from either of these features.

6.1.2 Trench 10

The area in which this trench was located had previously been stripped of topsoil down to the natural as part of the South Park residential development to the north. During the first phase of the evaluation 3 ditches were observed cutting the natural clay. The first of these was aligned north west to south east and yielded pottery including a rimsherd from a Belgic jar. The remaining two ditches were orientated north east to south west. An amorphous feature, interpreted as modern, was located between two of the ditches.

A piece of Bronze Age rapier was found in the vicinity of Trench 10 during a metal detector survey. The blade fragment was considered to be of a type generally dated to the Middle Bronze Age.

Fisher (2006) noted that cropmarks indicating medieval ridge and furrow existed in the vicinity of Trench 10 but did not appear to extend into the trench.

6.1.3 Trench 11

Trench 11 contained narrow, shallow linear gullies, one aligned east to west and the other north west to south east. No finds were recovered from these features but their fills suggested that they were not of modern date.

6.1.4 Trench 12

No features were recorded within Trench 12 although evidence of modern dumping and disturbance to the natural and the western end of the trench through modern activity was observed.

Trenches within Plot 10

Plot 10 as a whole was observed to contain a modern dumping layer.

6.1.5 Trench 15

Trench 15 was excavated to a depth of 1.2m and modern makeup was still encountered. No archaeological features recorded.

6.1.6 Trench 16

Like Trench 15, Trench 16 was excavated to a depth of 1.2 m where modern deposits were still encountered. The natural substrate was observed, however, at a depth of 1.2m in a location 6m from the south western end of the trench.

6.1.7 Trench 17

The terminus of an east to west aligned ditch was recorded within Trench 17. A land drain on a north west to south east orientation was also identified.

6.1.8 Trench 18

Trench 18 contained 3 parallel linear features aligned north to south. Only one was investigated. No finds were recovered from these features and they are considered to be modern furrows due to the similarity of their fills to the topsoil. The topsoil was observed to overlie an makeup layer.

6.1.9 Trenches 19 & 20

No archaeological features were observed in either of these trenches. In several locations within them the underlying natural had been disturbed by modern activity

Trenches within the Perimeter Landscape Bund

6.1.10 Trench 4

A steep-sided linear feature, aligned north west to south east, was recorded in the north western part of the trench. A semi-circular feature was recorded extending beyond the limits of the trench and is considered to be a pit or a ditch terminus. This feature contained sherds of Romano-British pottery dated to the 1st and 2nd centuries AD. Five parallel linear features followed an approximate east/west alignment and have been interpreted as furrow bases. Documented cropmarks correlate with features observed in this trench. The trench was located beyond the extent of the modern made ground.

6.1.11 Trench 5

Like Trench 4, this trench was located beyond the extent of the modern made ground. A linear feature was observed orientated north to south. A second feature, containing Iron Age pottery, and on the same alignment was located 0.3m to the north. To the east of these features lay a shallow, oval posthole. A ditch, initially masked by a layer of firm light brown loamy clay, was also recorded. Two further ditches were recorded cutting this loamy clay layer. These were deep in comparison to many other features recorded at the site. One had stepped sides and a flat base and contained middle to late Iron Age pottery. It was considered possible that that these features form part of a structure and that the layer of firm light brown loamy clay was an occupational deposit.

6.1.12 Trench 13

A total of seven features were recorded within Trench 13. Four ditches of varying size and profile all followed a north east to south west alignment. One of these, a deep feature (0.7m) with a rounded base, contained later Iron Age pottery and a single, probably intrusive, Romano-British potsherd. A second, even deeper ditch (1.2m) yielded Romano-British pottery. The remaining ditches both measured 0.6m in depth, one had steep sides and a rounded base while the other was 'V'-shaped in profile. A shallow gully, 0.4m wide and 0.1m deep followed a north to south alignment. A slightly deeper curvilinear gully was identified in the middle part of the trench and contained greyware pottery sherds. A pit measuring 1m in diameter was also observed.

6.1.13 Trench 14

Three parallel linear features were recorded and were interpreted as furrows. Two of these were investigated. They measured 1.04m in width and 0.4m in depth. No finds were recovered. A land drain was identified in the north-western part of the trench running

north to south.

6.2 Results of the AS phase of evaluation

Individual trench descriptions are presented below:

6.2.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was excavated on a north east to south west alignment on the south western edge of the proposed development site.

<i>North east end, south east facing</i>		
<i>Sample section: 0.00 = 10.15m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.38m	L1000	Redeposited clay overburden. Mixed grey brown compact clay with occasional chalk fragments.
0.38 – 0.60m	L1001	Buried topsoil. Mid to dark brownish grey compact slightly silty clay.
0.60m +	L1002	Natural boulder clay. Mid yellowish brown or grey blue compact clay with moderate to frequent inclusions of chalk, flint and pockets of gravel.

<i>South west end, south east facing</i>		
<i>Sample section: 0.00 = 10.26m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.40m	L1000	Redeposited clay overburden. As above.
0.40 – 0.65m	L1001	Buried topsoil. As above.
0.65m +	L1002	Natural boulder clay. As above.

Description: Trench 1 revealed a single linear feature which was aligned north to south and contained no finds and therefore cannot be dated. However, it is likely to be the same as Linear F1007 in Trench 7 which contained a single sherd of Iron Age pottery.

Linear F1018 (dimensions: 2.85m+ in length x 1.70m in width x 0.15m in depth) was aligned north to south with moderately shallow and irregular sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill, L1017 which was a light greyish brown soft sandy clayey silt with occasional small chalk and flint inclusions. It contained no finds although it is likely to be the same as Linear F1007 in Trench 7 which contained a single sherd of Iron Age pottery.

6.2.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was excavated on a north west to south east alignment on the northern edge of the proposed development site.

<i>North west end, south west facing</i>		
<i>Sample section: 0.00 = 9.26m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 1.00m	L1000	Redeposited clay overburden. As above.
1.00 – 1.31m	L1001	Buried topsoil. As above.
1.31m+	L1002	Natural boulder clay. As above.

<i>South east end, south west facing</i>		
<i>Sample section: 0.00 = 10.35m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 1.21m	L1000	Redeposited clay overburden. As above.
1.21 – 1.56m	L1001	Buried topsoil. As above.
1.56m+	L1002	Natural boulder clay. As above.

Description: Trench 2 revealed five gullies in total, four of which were aligned north to south and one of which was aligned east to west. All were extremely shallow, between 0.10 – 0.20m in depth with similar profiles. One gully on the north to south alignment contained finds of CBM and burnt stone, the others contained no finds. A modern field drain ran through the trench on a north west to south east alignment with various modern linears also running through on a north to south alignment.

Gully F1015 (dimensions: 7.10m+ in length x 0.44m in width x 0.20m in depth) was linear in plan and aligned east to west with moderate to steeply sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It contained a single fill, L1016 which was a mid greyish brown plastic silty clay with occasional inclusions of flint and chalk. It contained no finds.

Gully F1019 (dimensions: 3.20m+ in length x 0.40m in width x 0.12m in depth) was linear in plan and aligned north to south with moderately sloping straight sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill L1020 which was a mid beige brown very firm silty clay with occasional small sub rounded inclusions of chalk and flint. No finds were contained within this feature.

Gully F1021 (dimensions: 6.50m+ in length x 0.35m in width x 0.11m in depth) was linear in plan and aligned north to south with moderately sloping straight sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill L1022 which was a mid beige brown very firm silty clay with occasional small sub rounded chalk and flint inclusions and it contained no finds.

Gully F1023 (dimensions: 4.20m+ in length x 0.60m in width x 0.10m in depth) was linear in plan and aligned north to south with gently sloping straight sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill, L1024 which was a mid beige brown very firm silty clay with occasional small sub rounded chalk and flint inclusions and it contained no finds.

Gully F1025 (dimensions: 8.50m+ in length x 0.65m in width x 0.15m in depth) was linear in plan and aligned north to south with moderately sloping straight sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill, L1026 which was a mid beige brown very firm silty clay with occasional small sub rounded chalk and flint inclusions. It contained CBM (37g) and burnt stone (37g).

6.2.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was excavated in the northern corner of the proposed development site.

<i>North east facing</i>		
<i>Sample section: 0.00 = 9.11m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.90m	L1000	Redeposited clay overburden. As above.
0.90 – 1.24m	L1001	Buried topsoil. As above.
1.24m+	L1002	Natural boulder clay. As above.

<i>South west facing</i>		
<i>Sample section: 0.00 = 9.11m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.81m	L1000	Redeposited clay overburden. As above.
0.81 – 1.13m	L1001	Buried topsoil. As above.
1.13m+	L1002	Natural boulder clay. As above.

Description: No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 3 although an area of modern disturbance was revealed in the eastern corner.

6.2.4 Trench 6

Trench 6 was excavated on the eastern edge of the proposed development site.

<i>North east facing</i>		
<i>Sample section: 0.00 = 9.51m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 1.06m	L1000	Redeposited clay overburden. As above.
1.06 – 1.44m	L1001	Buried topsoil. As above.
1.44m +	L1002	Natural boulder clay. As above.

<i>South west facing</i>		
<i>Sample section: 0.00 = 9.51m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 1.08m	L1000	Redeposited clay overburden. As above.
1.06 – 1.36m	L1001	Buried topsoil. As above.
1.36m +	L1002	Natural boulder clay. As above.

Description: No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 6.

6.2.5 Trench 7

Trench 7 was excavated on a north east to south west alignment in the centre of the proposed development site.

<i>North east end, south east facing</i>		
<i>Sample section: 0.00 = 10.39m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 1.54m	L1000	Redeposited clay overburden. As above.
1.54 – 1.81m	L1001	Buried topsoil. As above.
1.81m+	L1002	Natural boulder clay. As above.

<i>South west end, south east facing</i>		
<i>Sample section: 0.00 = 11.19m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 1.87m	L1000	Redeposited clay overburden. As above.
1.87 – 2.29m	L1001	Buried topsoil. As above.
2.29m+	L1002	Natural boulder clay. As above.

Description: Trench 7 revealed three linears aligned north to south all roughly equally spaced, between 7.5m and 8.5m apart. It is likely that these features represent plough marks maybe of a ridge a furrow system with the finds of CBM and Iron Age pottery being residual. A single posthole which contained burnt flint was also revealed between

two of the linears.

Linear F1003 (dimensions: 5.40m+ in length x 1.50m in width x 0.07m in depth) was aligned north to south with gently sloping shallow sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill L1004 which was a mid to dark yellowish brown plastic silty clay with occasional to moderate chalk and flint inclusions. It contained CBM of which one fragment was dateable to the Romano-British period (56g).

Linear F1005 (dimensions: 6m+ in length x 1.24m in width x 0.06m in depth) was aligned north to south with moderately shallow sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill, L1006 which was a mid to dark beige brown plastic silty clay with occasional to moderate flint and chalk inclusions. It contained CBM (4g).

Linear F1007 (dimensions: 7.10m+ in length x 1.25m in width x 0.10m in depth) was aligned north to south with moderate to gently sloping shallow sides and an irregular base. It contained a single fill L1008 which was a mid to dark beige brown plastic silty clay with occasional to moderate flint and chalk inclusions. It contained a single sherd of Iron Age pottery (1g) and burnt stone (65g). It is likely that Linear F1007 is the same as Linear F1018 in Trench 1.

Posthole/ Pit F1009 (dimensions: 0.25m in length x 0.32m in width x 0.15m in depth) was circular in plan with moderately sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It contained a single fill L1010 which was a dark blackish brown plastic silty clay with burnt flint (93g), charcoal and friable CBM inclusions.

6.2.6 Trench 9

Trench 9 was excavated on a north west to south east alignment in the centre of the proposed development site.

<i>North west end, north east facing</i>		
<i>Sample section: 0.00 = 10.87m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 1.05m	L1000	Redeposited clay overburden. As above.
1.05 – 1.33m	L1001	Buried topsoil. As above.
1.33m+	L1002	Natural boulder clay. As above.

<i>South east end, north east facing</i>		
<i>Sample section: 0.00 = 10.12m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.50m	L1000	Redeposited clay overburden. As above.
0.50 – 0.76m	L1001	Buried topsoil. As above.
0.76m+	L1002	Natural boulder clay. As above.

Description: Trench 9 revealed a linear which was aligned north to south and a pit/posthole which was adjacent to the linear on its western edge. Neither feature contained finds therefore date and function remain unknown.

Linear F1012 (dimensions: 10m+ in length x 1.80m in width x 0.14m in depth) was aligned north to south with gently sloping irregular sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill, L1011 which was a mid greyish brown to light greyish yellowish brown nearer

the base, compact clayey silt with moderate sub angular inclusions of chalk and angular flint inclusions. It contained no finds.

Pit/ Posthole F1014 (dimensions: 0.60m in length x 0.60m in width x 0.11m in depth) was circular in plan with moderately sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It contained a single fill, L1013 which was a mid greyish greenish brown compact silty clay with occasional chalk flecks and small rounded stones and pebbles. It contained no finds.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

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

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The deposit model was uniform across the whole of the area evaluated by AS. Deep redeposited clay overburden L1000 covered the entire site and appeared to have been deposited during the construction of the earlier business plots (see section 6.1 for a detailed description).

8.2 Beneath L1000 was buried topsoil L1001, a mid to dark brownish grey compact slightly silty clay. It varied in thickness between 0.22 – 0.42m with no apparent pattern in this variation. Frogged London brick fragments were recovered from L1001.

8.2 At the base of the stratigraphic sequence lay L1002, the natural mid to light yellow brown or grey blue compact boulder clay, which became increasingly blue with depth. This contained moderate to frequent inclusions of chalk, flint and pockets of gravel. It lay at a depth of between 0.60 – 2.29m beneath the ground surface, i.e. between 8.90 – 9.55m AOD, sloping downwards from the south to north.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 Summary of the archaeology

9.1.1 Gullies and linears ran through the site on an almost unanimous north to south alignment, except for a single east to west gully as found in Trench 7. The linears revealed are mainly shallow and it was originally suggested onsite that these were truncated by ploughing activity which predates the modern redeposited clay overburden layer L1000. However, another interpretation of the site is that the linears themselves are the remains of a plough damage such as medieval ridge and furrow cultivation. This would account for their regular spacing, shallowness and uniform profile.

9.2 Interpretation of the site: archaeology and history

9.2.1 The site had a high potential for archaeology of the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman periods with a possible masking of such periods by the remains of a ridge and furrow cultivation which was reminiscent of the medieval period. A sophisticated Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement site which included a possible metal working area reached as far as the plot adjacent to the current site. Evidence of Iron Age activity was recorded during the previous phase of this evaluation (Fisher 2006) and this probably represents further occupation dating to this period.

9.3 Interpretation of the site: geology and topography

9.3.1 Cox's aerial assessment (1996) of the Papworth Everard area, showed the ridge and furrow to be on a north west to south east alignment with one deviation which was in the area of the Unit 5 excavations (Newton 2005). Here the ridge and furrow are shown on a north east/ south west alignment.

9.3.2 However, the excavation produced evidence of Medieval broad-rig plough furrows which crossed the site on a north-north-west/south-south-east axis, following the same alignment as ridge and furrow to the south-east and west of the excavation area. Newton (2005) suggested that this apparent contradiction may be due to two phases of ploughing being represented, with the earlier, medieval ploughing visible as below-ground archaeology, and more recent transient cultivation visible as cropmarks. The ridge and furrow earthworks recorded during the excavation, when viewed in conjunction with the ridge furrow on the same alignment outside of the excavation area identified by the aerial photograph analysis, are around 10m apart (centre to centre). The area of medieval cultivation present at Papworth Everard is therefore approximately of the typical dimensions of medieval broad-rig, which measured about 11 x 220 yards (c. 10 x 201m) (Muir 2000, 205; Rackham 1986, 168).

9.3.3 The shallow linears across the site are on a slightly different alignment of north/south to and are marginally closer together at between 7.50m – 8m from centre to centre than the Medieval broad-rig plough furrows that exist on the adjacent plot in the area of the Unit 5 excavations.

9.4 Finds and environmental evidence

9.4.1 The finds and environmental evidence recovered during the second phase of the evaluation was particularly sparse. No animal bone was recovered during the evaluation, and the find assemblage was limited to a single heavily abraded Iron Age or earlier pottery sherd and sparse abraded sherds of CBM, one of which was clearly of Romano-British date.

9.4.2 The pottery assemblage from the earlier phase of the evaluation is small with more than half coming from a single context; the broad ditch in Trench 13. This is later Iron Age in date and is of a date characteristic of the bulk of the assemblage as a whole. Small quantities of Roman pottery of the later 1st and early 2nd centuries were also

recovered. The find of the fragment of Bronze Age rapier, although recovered during metal detector survey rather than from an excavated archaeological context, provides evidence of the known Bronze Age presence in the area.

9.5 Research potential

9.5.1 The site has the potential for further study of the later prehistoric landscape revealed to date within the Papworth Business Park and for succeeding activity in the Romano-British and medieval periods.

9.6 Conclusions

9.6.1 Although this phase of the evaluation revealed only evidence of plough damaged features or ploughing, stronger evidence of Iron Age or early Romano-British settlement was identified during the first phase of this evaluation (Fisher 2006) when features indicative of structures or field boundaries were recorded. As a whole these two phases of evaluation have demonstrated that the site fits into the wider landscape of this area to the south of Papworth Everard where evidence of Iron Age occupation (preceded by Bronze Age activity that appears not have been identified during this project) and a Romano-British presence exists followed by evidence for medieval and later agricultural activity in the form of plough marks.

10 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

10.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with the finds from the site, at the Cambridgeshire County Archaeology Store. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. In addition to the overall site summary, it will be necessary to produce a summary of the artefactual and ecofactual data.

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APPENDIX 1
CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

AS1055: Papworth Business Park, Papworth Everard, Cambridgeshire
 Concordance of finds by feature

Feature	Context	Trench	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)	Other
1003	1004	7	Ditch Fill			56	
1005	1006	7	Ditch Fill			4	
1007	1008	7	Ditch Fill	Iron Age	(1), 1g		Burnt Stone, 65g
1009	1010	7	Pit Fill				Burnt Flint (2) 93g
1025	1026	2	Ditch Fill			37	Burnt Stone, 37g

APPENDIX 2

FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

The Pottery

Peter Thompson MA

The evaluation recovered one tiny abraded sherd weighing 1g. The fabric is mixed comprising shell, chalk and very coarse angular flint and mineral; surfaces are orange with dark grey core. The fabric is quite typical of prehistoric fabrics in the area where the local geology is varied and pottery inclusions can be very mixed. A date of Iron Age is suggested, but potentially it could be earlier. The thin sherd wall suggests the vessel was not large, a bowl or small jar.

The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey BA

A total of eight fragments (60g) of CBM were recovered from trial trench excavations and are in an exceptionally poor, highly abraded state of preservation. Ditch F1003 L1004 produced seven fragments (54g) of CBM including a single fragment (39g) probably derived from a Romano-British imbrex tile. The fabric of the fragment is reddish yellow (7.5YR 6/6) with inclusions of moderately sorted, common quartz (0.2-0.4mm), with sparse red grog/clay pellets and iron rich inclusions (<0.75mm). The remaining six fragments (15g) in the feature and a single fragment (6g) in Ditch F1005 L1006 are in inconsistently quartz-tempered fabrics in varying oxidised tones that do not allow any classification by fabric, or due to their very small size, by form.