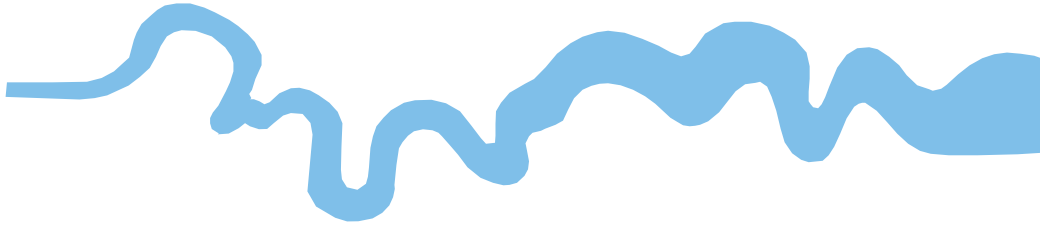


T V A S



EAST MIDLANDS

**16 The Lanes, Over,
Cambridgeshire**

Archaeological Evaluation

by Josh Hargreaves and Jo Pine

Site Code: LOC22/236

(TL 3733 7060)

16 The Lanes, Over, Cambridgeshire

An Archaeological Evaluation

For Bewick Homes

Event number: ECB7007

by Josh Hargreaves and Jo Pine

TVAS East Midlands

Site Code LOC22/236

February 2023

Summary

Site name: 16 The Lanes, Over, Cambridgeshire

Grid reference: TL 3733 7060

Site activity: Archaeological Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 13th – 14th February 2023

Project coordinator: Jo Pine

Site supervisors: Josh Hargreaves

Site code: LOC22/236

Area of site: c.1.05ha

Summary of results: The evaluation was carried out more or less as intended with ten of the twelve proposed trenches completed. No archaeological features were recorded in any of these ten trenches excavated and no finds of archaeological significance recovered. The site is therefore considered to have low archaeological potential.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at TVAS East Midlands, Wellingborough and will be deposited at Cambridgeshire County Council's Archaeological Archive Storage Facility and the Archaeology Data Service in due course.

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www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp.*

Report edited/checked by:	Steve Ford ✓ 23.02.23
	Steve Preston ✓ 23.02.23

16 The Lanes, Over, Cambridgeshire An Archaeological Evaluation

By Josh Hargreaves and Jo Pine

Report 22/236

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at 16 The Lanes, Over, Cambridgeshire (TL 3733 7060) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Josh Twigden of Bewick Homes, 26 New Street, St Neots, Cambridgeshire PE19 1AJ.

Outline planning permission (22/03042/OUT) has been gained from South Cambridgeshire District Council for a residential development. The consent is subject to a condition relating to archaeology, requiring a scheme of archaeological work to be undertaken at the site. This is in accordance with the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2021) and the District's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr Lewis Busby, Archaeological Officer for Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team, the archaeological advisers to the District. The fieldwork was undertaken by Josh Hargreaves on 13th and 14th February 2023 and the site code is LOC22/236. The archive is presently held at TVAS East Midlands and will be deposited at Cambridgeshire County Council's Archaeological Archive Storage Facility and the Archaeology Data Service in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located in the north-west of the village of Over. Over lies c.10km to the north of Cambridge. The site is 1.05 ha of pasture land to the west of 16 The Lanes and to the south of the High Street. The site lies at a height of c.7m above Ordnance Datum, with the underlying geology mapped as West Walton Formation and Ampthill Clay Formation (undifferentiated) Mudstone (BGS 1975). A blueish green or yellow-green silty clay was the geology observed in all of the trenches.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site has been highlighted in a brief for the project prepared by Lewis Busby, Archaeological Officer of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team drawing on records from

the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER). The site lies in an area of archaeological potential, situated within the historic core of the medieval village. It is 165m to the south-east of the 13th-century Saint Mary's Church (HER reference 03559). An extensive area of cropmarks to the north-east (PR08893) likely represent a complex series of Iron Age and Roman settlement enclosures and trackways. Undated inhumation burials (MCB11688) were revealed 120m to the north-west of the site and later archaeological investigations revealed Roman pottery within the disturbed ground (MCB11688). Further archaeological investigations to the south revealed evidence for Medieval horticultural activity (MCB14567).

Objectives and methodology

The aims of the evaluation were to determine the presence/ absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological or palaeoenvironmental deposits within the area of development.

The specific research aims of this project are:

- to determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on this site (for example not quarried or otherwise truncated);
- to determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present;
- to determine if any Iron Age or Roman settlement is present;
- to determine if any Medieval settlement or burial evidence is present; and
- to provide information to assist in the development of a mitigation strategy.

The potential and significance of any such deposits located were to be assessed according to the research priorities such as those set out in *Historic England Research Agenda* (HE 2017) and *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011) or any more local or thematic research priorities as necessary.

It was proposed to dig 12 trenches, each 25m long and 1.8-2m wide, comprising a 5% sample of the developable area of the 1.05ha site. The trenches were to be located in a largely stratified random arrangement, avoiding trees. Topsoil and any other overburden would be removed by a 360° type machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket to expose archaeologically sensitive levels, under constant archaeological supervision. Where archaeological features were certainly or probably present, the stripped areas were to be cleaned using appropriate hand tools. Sufficient of the archaeological features/deposits exposed would then be excavated or sampled by hand to satisfy the aims outlined above, without compromising the integrity of any archaeological

features or deposits which may warrant preservation *in situ*, or which might better be excavated under the conditions pertaining to full excavation.

Results

Ten of the twelve trenches were excavated but two could not be as they were located within an area of extant orchard trees. Subsequent information suggests these trees were to be left *in situ* and this area would be unaffected by the development. The trenches were excavated by a 360° type machine under constant archaeological supervision and all trenches were 1.80m wide (Fig. 3). A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1.

Trench 1 (Figs 2 and 3)

Trench 1 was aligned WNW-ESE and had to be shortened due to the presence of an overhead power cable. It was 20.10m long and 0.49m deep. The stratigraphy of the trench was a dark grey brown clayey silt topsoil, 0.25m deep, overlying a mid grey green clayey silt subsoil, 0.18m deep. This sealed a bluish green silty clay geology.

Trench 2 (Fig. 2; Pl. 1)

Trench 2 was aligned NE-SW and was 24.85m in length and 0.51m deep. The stratigraphy of the trench was topsoil of 0.24m depth which overlay a subsoil; this being 0.18m deep. This sealed a bluish green silty clay natural geology.

Trench 3 (Figs 2 and 3; Pl. 2)

This trench was aligned ENE-WSW and was 25.10m in length and 0.31 deep. The stratigraphy of the trench was 0.19m of topsoil above 0.12m of subsoil which sealed the natural geology; a mid yellowish green silty clay.

Trench 4

This was not excavated because of extant trees.

Trench 5 (Figs 2 and 3; Pl. 3)

This trench was aligned SE-NW and was 25.25m in length and 0.41 deep. The stratigraphy of the trench was topsoil, 0.22m deep which overlay subsoil, 0.13m deep which sealed the mid yellowish green silty clay natural geology.

Trench 6

This was not excavated because of extant trees.

Trench 7 (Figs 2 and 3; Pl. 4)

Trench 7 was aligned NE-SW and was 25.10m in length and 0.41 deep. Topsoil 0.22m deep overlay subsoil which was 0.17m deep which in turn sealed a mid yellowish green silty clay natural geology.

Trench 8 (Figs 2)

This trench was aligned ESE-WNW and was 25.10m in length and 0.41 deep. The stratigraphy of the trench was topsoil, 0.19m deep over subsoil, 0.14m deep. This sealed a mid yellowish green silty clay geology.

Trench 9 (Figs 2 and 3; Pl. 5)

This trench was aligned close to North–South and was 25.10m in length and was 0.31 deep. The stratigraphy of the trench was topsoil, 0.19m deep overlying subsoil, 0.12m deep. This sealed a mid yellowish green silty clay natural geology.

Trench 10 (Fig. 2; Pl. 6)

This trench was aligned NNE-SSW and was 24.95m in length and was 0.41 deep. Topsoil 0.21m deep overlay 0.111m of subsoil which sealed the natural geology, a mid yellowish green silty clay.

Trench 11 (Fig. 2; Pl. 7)

Trench 11 was aligned close to East–West and was 25.10m in length and 0.31 deep. The stratigraphy of the trench was topsoil, being 0.19m deep, overlying subsoil, which was 0.12m deep and sealed the natural geology, a mid yellowish green silty clay.

Trench 12 (Figs 2 and 3; Pl. 8)

Trench 12 had to be shortened due to the presence of trees. It was aligned east–west and was 15.70m in length and 0.40 deep. The stratigraphy of the trench was topsoil, 0.16m deep, over subsoil which was 0.17m deep and which in turn sealed the natural geology; a mid yellowish green silty clay.

Finds

No finds of archaeological interest were recovered.

Conclusion

Ten of the proposed 12 trenches were excavated as intended. However, no archaeological features were recorded and no artefacts of archaeological interest recovered. On the basis of these results, the site is considered to have low archaeological potential.

References

- BGS, 1975, *British Geological Survey*, sheet **187**, solid and drift, Keyworth
HE 2017, *Research Agenda*, Historic England, London
Medlycott, M (ed.), 2011. '*Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England*',
East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24
NPPF, 2021, *National Planning Policy Framework* (revised), Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local
Government, London

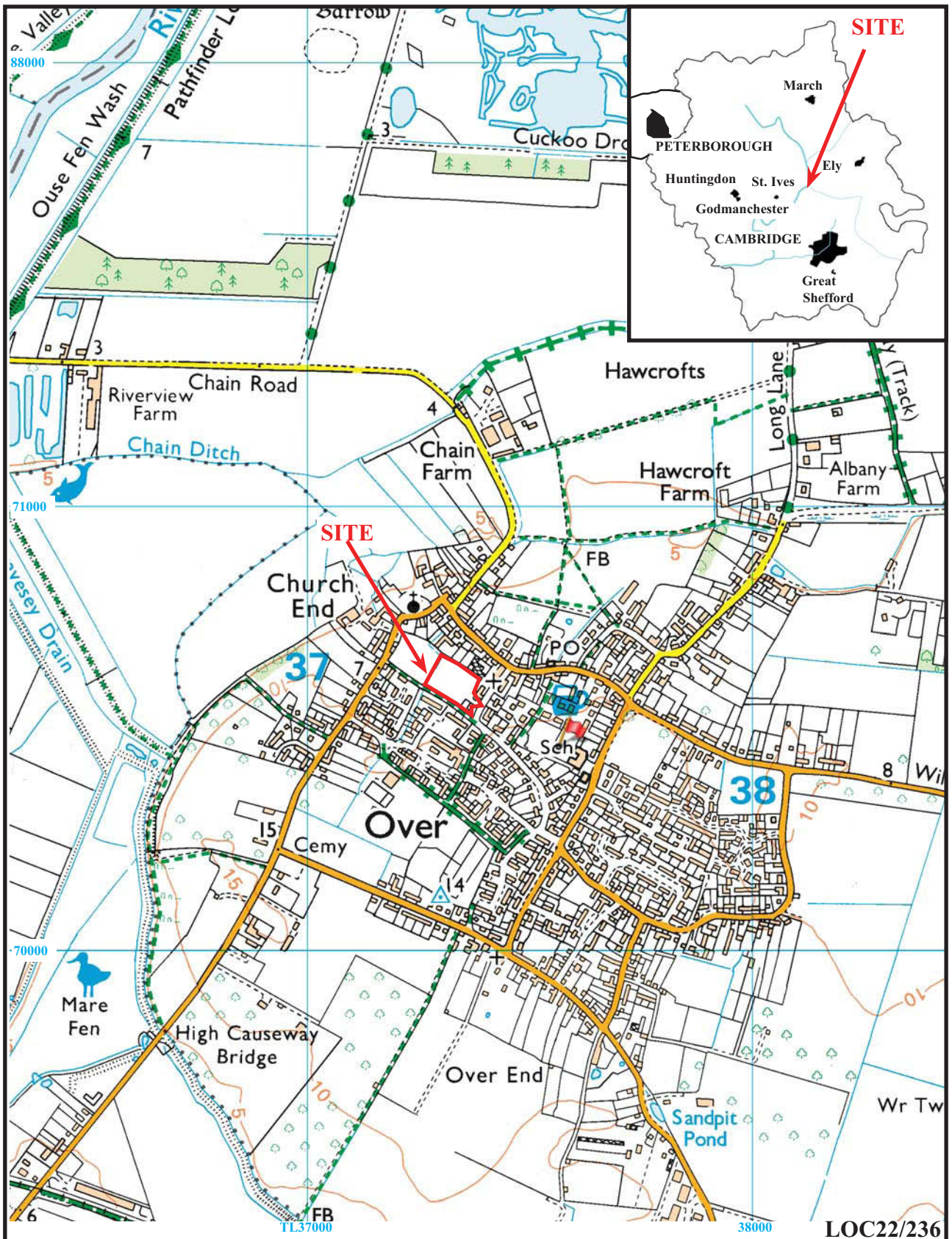
APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at South or West end

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Breadth (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1	20.10	1.80	0.49	0.0-0.25m dark grey brown clayey silt topsoil; 0.-0.25m-0.43m mid grey green clayey silt subsoil; 0.43m+ bluish green silty clay.
2	24.85	1.80	0.51	0.0-0.24m dark grey brown clayey silt topsoil; 0.-0.24m-0.39m mid grey green clayey silt subsoil; 0.39m+ mid yellow green silty clay. [PI. 1]
3	25.10	1.80	0.31	0.0-0.24m dark grey brown clayey silt topsoil; 0.-0.24m-0.39m mid grey green clayey silt subsoil; 0.39m+ mid yellow green silty clay. [PI. 2]
4				<i>Not Excavated</i>
5	25.25	1.80	0.41	0.0-0.22m dark grey brown clayey silt topsoil; 0.-0.22m-0.35m mid grey green clayey silt subsoil; 0.35m+ mid yellow green silty clay. [PI. 3]
6				<i>Not Excavated</i>
7	25.50	1.80	0.41	0.0-0.22m dark grey brown clayey silt topsoil; 0.-0.22m-0.39m mid grey green clayey silt subsoil; 0.39m+ mid yellow green silty clay. [PI. 4]
8	25.60	1.80	0.41	0.0-0.22m dark grey brown clayey silt topsoil; 0.-0.22m-0.39m mid grey green clayey silt subsoil; 0.39m+ mid yellow green silty clay.
9	24.95	1.80	0.41	0.0-0.21m dark grey brown clayey silt topsoil; 0.-0.21m-0.32m mid grey green clayey silt subsoil; 0.32m+ mid yellow green silty clay. [PI. 5]
10	25.40	1.80	0.34	0.0-0.18m dark grey brown clayey silt topsoil; 0.-0.18m-0.30m mid grey green clayey silt subsoil; 0.30m+ mid yellow green silty clay. [PI. 6]
11	15.70	1.80	0.40	0.0-0.16m dark grey brown clayey silt topsoil; 0.-0.16m-0.33m mid grey green clayey silt subsoil; 0.33m+ mid yellow green silty clay. [PI. 7]
12	25.10	1.80	0.41	0.0-0.19m dark grey brown clayey silt topsoil; 0.-0.19m-0.34m mid grey green clayey silt subsoil; 0.34m+ mid yellow green silty clay. [PI. 8]

Summary for thamesva1-513662

OASIS ID (UID)	thamesva1-513662
Project Name	Evaluation at 16 The Lanes, Over, Cambridgeshire
Sitename	16 The Lanes, Over, Cambridgeshire
Activity type	Evaluation
Project Identifier(s)	LOC22/236
Planning Id	
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Pre application
Organisation Responsible for work	TVAS East Midlands
Project Dates	13-Feb-2023 - 14-Feb-2023
Location	16 The Lanes, Over, Cambridgeshire NGR : TL 37330 70600 LL : 52.3163342479794, 0.013275152266772 12 Fig : 537330,270600
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Cambridgeshire District : South Cambridgeshire Parish : Over
Project Methodology	Ten trenches were opened mechanically under archaeological supervision.
Project Results	No archaeological features were recorded in any of the ten trenches excavated and no finds of archaeological significance recovered.
Keywords	
Funder	
HER	Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	J, Hargreaves, J, Pine
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - ECB7007
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Cambridgeshire County Council County Archaeological Store;

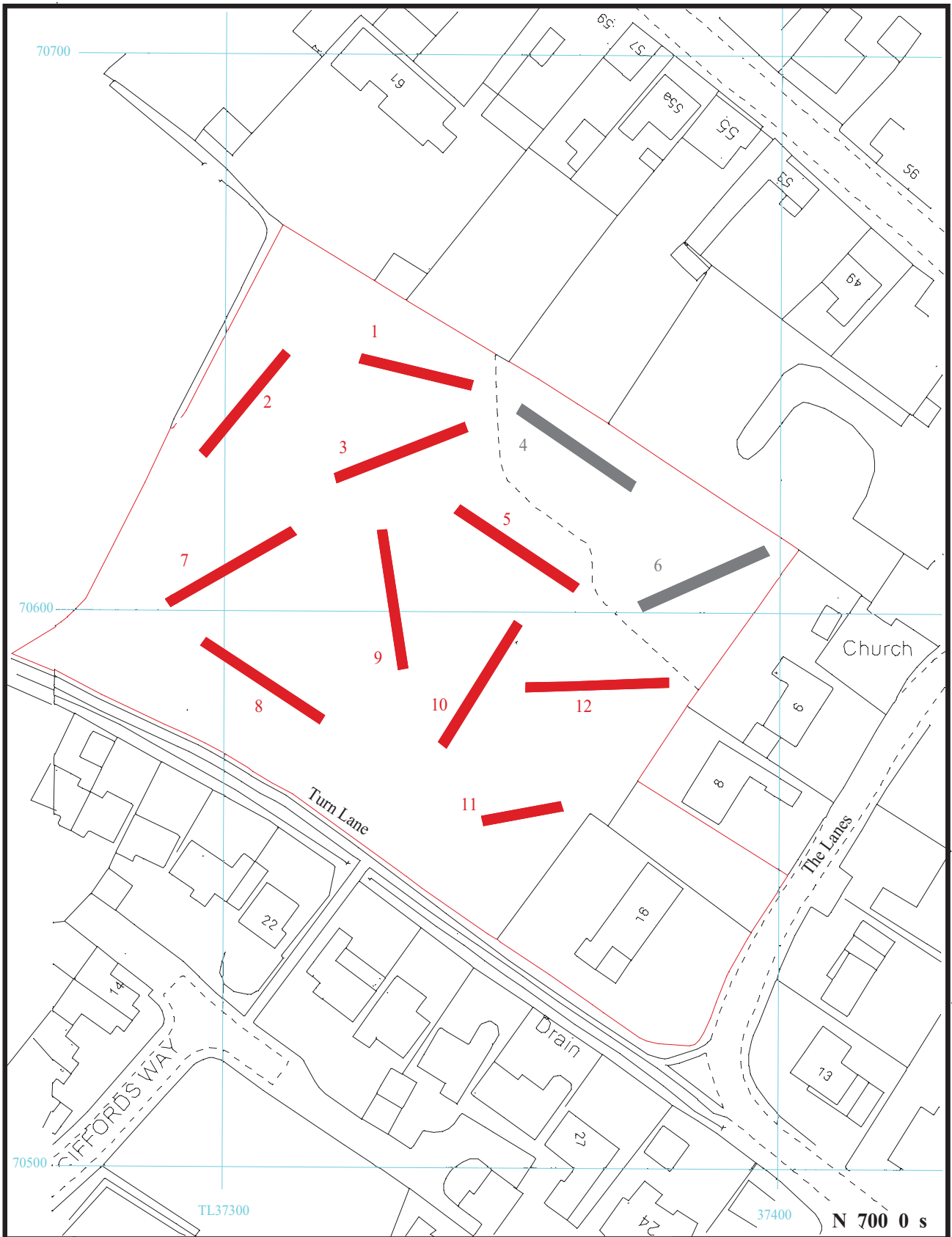


**16 The Lanes, Over, Cambridgeshire
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 1. Location of site within Over and Cambridgeshire.

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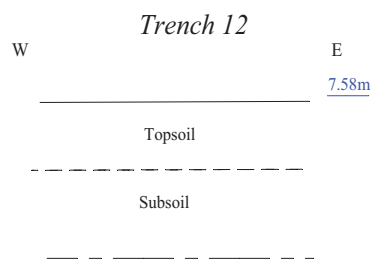
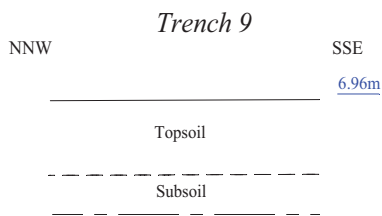
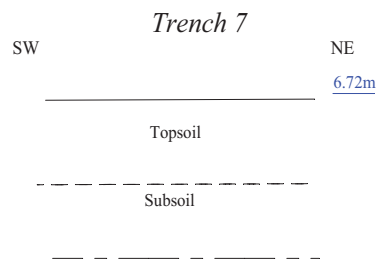
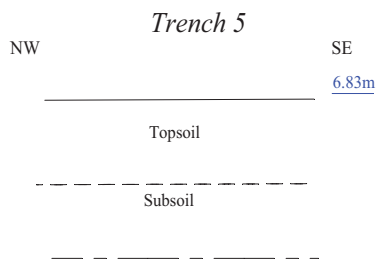
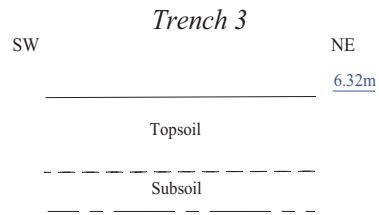
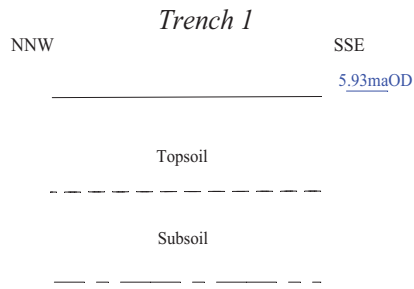




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Figure 2. Detailed location of site and location of Evaluation Trenches





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Figure 3. Trench sections





Plate 1. Trench 2, looking north-east,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.



Plate 2. Trench 3, looking east,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.



Plate 3. Trench 5, looking north-west,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.



Plate 4. Trench 7, looking south-west,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.

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Plates 1 to 4.





Plate 5. Trench 9, looking north,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.



Plate 6. Trench 10, looking south-west,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.



Plate 7. Trench 11, looking west,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.



Plate 8. Trench 12, looking east,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.

LOC 22/236

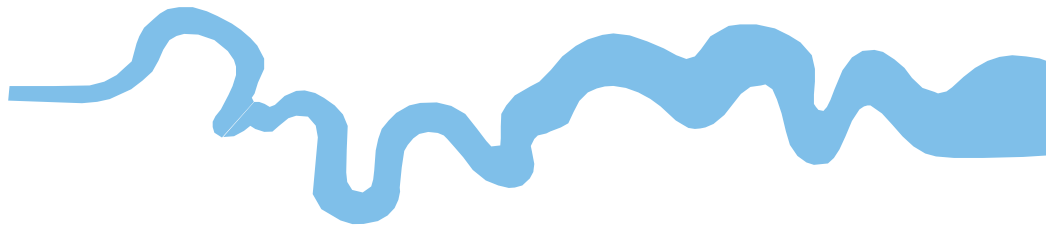
**16 The Lanes, Over,
Cambridgeshire.
Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 5 to 8.**



TIME CHART

	Calendar Years
Modern _____	AD 1901
Victorian _____	AD 1837
Post Medieval _____	AD 1500
Medieval _____	AD 1066
Saxon _____	AD 410
Roman _____	AD 43 AD 0 BC
Iron Age _____	750 BC
Bronze Age: Late _____	1300 BC
Bronze Age: Middle _____	1700 BC
Bronze Age: Early _____	2100 BC
Neolithic: Late	3300 BC
Neolithic: Early	4300 BC
Mesolithic: Late	6000 BC
Mesolithic: Early	10000 BC
Palaeolithic: Upper	30000 BC
Palaeolithic: Middle	70000 BC
Palaeolithic: Lower	2,000,000 BC





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