

Roman and Saxon Court, Coneygree road, Stanground

An Archaeological Excavation



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University of Cambridge

July 2012

Report Number: 1106

HER No.: RN 52190

Summary

From 11th to 29th June 2012 an archaeological excavation was undertaken at Roman and Saxon Court, Stanground (centred on TL 20775 97018) extending over c. 0.21ha. The work was commissioned by Davis Langdon on behalf of Cross Keys Homes in response to a request from the Peterborough City Council Archaeological Service (PCCAS). The site was situated within close proximity to a series of known Roman pottery kilns and the archaeological features recorded appeared to represent the outer limits of this activity. Two small funerary enclosures were excavated, a small circular barrow and a square barrow. A sub-rectangular pit was situated within the circular barrow, and although devoid of any skeletal remains, was most likely the remnant of a grave. Surrounding this barrow were a group of four discrete features that may have been associated. A single cremation was found within the square enclosure that along with the human bone contained a fragment of worked bone. Set to one side of the cremation was a small pile of animal bone, a pig mandible. Attached to the enclosure was a portion of a second, open enclosure of indeterminate use. With no direct association to either of the funerary monuments, a series of postholes and pits were recorded throughout the excavated area. The final phase of archaeological activity prior to the building of homes in the 20th century was a series of post-Medieval furrows.

INTRODUCTION

An archaeological excavation was undertaken on behalf of Cross Keys Homes on land at Roman and Saxon Court, Coneygree Road, Stanground, centred on TL 20775 97018 (Figure 1). The excavation was in response to activity recorded during a previous evaluation (Patten 2012) at the request of the Peterborough City Council Archaeological Service (PCCAS) (Casa Hatton 2012). The project followed a specification set out by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit (Beadsmoore 2012).

The site is located north of Coneygree Road, within Stanground on the southeast edge of Peterborough (Figure 1). The geology comprises Oxford clay overlain by Second Terrace river gravels (www.bgs.co.uk), with the site situated at 11m AOD. The development area was situated within an area originally occupied by Roman and Saxon Court, a retirement home. To the north, south, and west is post-war housing, while to the east are allotments. At the time of the excavation the retirement home buildings had been demolished with the foundations remaining and the associated trees cut down and their roots left in. An earthen bank had been formed around the inner perimeter of the site, from demolition material and subsoil.

Archaeological Background

A thorough assessment of the archaeological background for the area has been detailed in the desk top assessment for Stanground College (Appleby 2008a) and more relevantly Magna Park (Appleby 2008b). The reader is referred to these for a more detailed assessment of the known archaeology in the area. The known archaeology in the immediate area around the PDA is shown in Figure 2.

Stanground is sited on the western edge of the Flag Fen basin, an area rich in prehistoric archaeology with notable sites identified at Flag Fen (Pryor 2001), Bradley Fen (Gibson and Knight 2006) and Must Farm (Gibson *et al.* 2010). These sites attest to lowland activity and

responses to changes in the environment with activity recorded in, beneath, and along the edge of the fen. The development area is located *c.* 300m south of the fen edge on higher ground at 11m AOD with evidence for prehistoric activity recorded throughout Stanground. Stray finds of Neolithic flint implements have been recovered to the south (HER no.'s 02953 and 50514) while Bronze Age pottery is recorded to the northwest (HER no. 03150) and south (HER no. 50403) of the development area, along with a Bronze Age handaxe or palstave (HER no. 02950) and a sword (HER no. 02937) to the southeast. Prior to the construction of the Stanground bypass to the southeast of the development, a Bronze Age Urnfield cemetery of 19 cremation burials was excavated (Taylor & Aaronson 2006, Kenny 2007).

Roman activity is widespread across Stanground with the Historic Environment Record (HER) containing 18 separate records for the immediate area ranging from stray pottery and coin finds to evidence for pottery production and settlement. Of relevance to the development area is the record of a Roman pottery kiln, road, settlement, and wharf (HER no.'s 03130 and 03153) *c.* 50m to the north. The kiln site is recorded as having been found in 1908 along with the remains of a wharf and road 'covered' in potsherds close to the kilns. Roman pottery kilns were also excavated to the east of the development area at Park Farm in 1965 and 1967 (HER no. 03128). A watching brief was undertaken on the Park Farm site in 1989 when the remains of a rectilinear beam-slot structure were identified, along with ditches containing large amounts of pottery, kiln debris and ash (Dannell *et al.* 1993).

During the Medieval period the village of Stanground was focused on the church of St. John the Baptist to the north east of the development area. During this period the development area was in an area of open fields that were used for the grazing of sheep. Within the immediate area were rabbit warrens and it is from these that the name Coneygree Road is derived (an enclosure of managed rabbit warrens), while to the east were deer parks (modern day Park Farm). It was not until the post-war period and the rise of Peterborough as a New Town that this area was developed.

Methodology

An open area was excavated totalling 0.21ha within a zone that appeared to offer the greatest level of preservation and within which pertinent archaeological features were identified from the evaluation. At the time of the evaluation it was not possible to study an area of grassland outside of the enclosed portion of the development area, as a result a single trench (Trench 8) was excavated once the chain-link fence surrounding the disturbed portion of the development area had been breached (Figure 3). The site was stripped using a 360° tracked machine with a toothless ditching bucket and supervised by an experienced archaeologist. The open area and trench were excavated down to a level where archaeological features were visible and these were planned and hand excavated.

Standard CAU recording methods were employed. A 10m by 10m grid was laid out across the site using a Global Positioning System (GPS), and fixed to the Ordnance Survey (OS) grid with a contour survey undertaken. An initial base plan was created with a Total Station, which recorded all the archaeological features and the remains of the standing buildings. Scale plans of all archaeological features were produced at 1:50 and excavated features were recorded on these. Excavated sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10, which were complimented by digital photographs. The Unit-modified version of the Museum of London Archaeological Service (MoLAS) recording system was employed throughout with all

excavated stratigraphic events assigned feature numbers (F.#) and all contexts assigned individual numbers ([context #]). The Site was identified as RSC12.

RESULTS

As noted by the evaluation the development area had undergone varying levels of truncation as a result of the building of the retirement home and its subsequent demolition (Patten 2012). The southwest corner of the site, where Trench 1 was excavated during the evaluation, was subject to further study. A second trench, Trench 8, was cut at right-angles to the line of the earlier trench (Figure 1) and extended outside of a chain-link fence that enclosed part of the development area. The results of this trench were similar to that of Trench 1, the topsoil and subsoil profiles indicated that there had been no disturbance or truncation within the grassy area, but there were no evidence for archaeological activity.

The main area of excavation encompassed the portion of the site that the evaluation had shown to have been undisturbed, while also exposing some of the area that had shown signs of heavy truncation (Figure 2). The excavation revealed a set of features that dated from the Late Iron Age/early Roman period through to the present (Figure 3).

The present day archaeology will on the whole be ignored for this report, albeit to say that this comprised the foundations and infrastructure associated with the buildings that were present until recently. These had had a detrimental effect on some aspects of the archaeology as is identified below. It was apparent that preceding these buildings the area had been farmed. Cutting across the site were the remnants of five furrows, which were on average 2.04m wide and 0.11m deep aligned north-south (F.12, F.15, F.16, F.17, and F.18). Placed along the edge of some of these furrows were a series of field drains, an obvious attempt to improve the drainage on an area located on Oxford clay. Of more archaeological significance, and predating all of this activity were the remains of three enclosures, along with four separate and discrete features (F.13, F.14, F.23, and F.24). Although little material culture was recovered from any of these, the nature of the enclosures in particular suggests that they were most likely of Late Iron Age/early Roman origin.

Sited at the northern edge of the site F.13 was a sub-rectangular feature that extended from the edge of the excavation towards the south. This feature represented either the southern terminal of a linear feature or a sub-rectangular pit 1.70m by 1.20m and 0.45m deep. The primary fill was dark brownish/grey silt that contained traces of charcoal, while the upper more sterile fill produced the only artefact, a small fragment of pottery. Close to this was a small circular pit F.14 0.70m in diameter and 0.15m deep, no material was recovered from this feature. The third feature was a small posthole 0.35m in diameter and 0.14m deep, there were no other postholes within close association, and nothing to indicate that it was part of a structure. To the east was F.24, a pit 1.46m by 1.36m and 0.18m deep, however, neither feature produced any datable material. The three enclosures comprised what appeared to be two burial monuments, Barrows I and II, and an enclosure abutting Barrow II.

Barrow I

This was a circular enclosure 5.75m by 5.55m formed by ring gully F.3 (Figure 3 & 4). This ring gully was 0.43m wide and survived to a depth of between 0.15m and 0.21m. It was excavated in its entirety and contained mid-orange greyish brown silty clay with a few

charcoal flecks present throughout the fill. Three flint flakes and two fragments of early Roman pottery (dated AD43-100) were the only finds recovered, which was surprisingly 'clean'. There was no direct interaction between the gully and other features; however, there was a single feature, **F.11**, within the enclosure and a further four in the immediately surrounding area (**F.19**, **F.20**, **F.21**, and **F.22**). Feature 11 was a northwest-southeast aligned pit 2.30m long, 0.93m wide and 0.17m deep. Situated just off centre, this pit is thought to have been a grave; although, upon excavation there was no evidence for human remains, or any artefacts that may have been deposited in it. The acidic nature of the soil may have completely destroyed any human remains, at Adanac Park, Hampshire a series of similar barrow features were excavated none of which contained bodies (Leivers & Gibson 2010). Further to this, F.19 and F.21 were similar features situated outside of the enclosure. Feature 19 was 1.86m long, 0.80m wide and 0.28m deep; and F.21 was 2.70m long, 1.01m wide and 0.22m deep. The profiles and fills of all three of these features were similar; they contained an orange brown silty clay fill. There was no material culture recovered from any of the features, despite being 100% excavated, but it is possible that they all contained bodies that have been lost. Equally it is possible that the central feature was a cremation, similar to that recovered in Barrow II, and that F.11, along with F.19 and F.21 were remnants of a different form of activity unrelated to the ring gully and only through happenstance was it that one of them end-up within the confines of the gully.

Barrow II

Barrow II was a square or sub-square enclosure, 9.90m east-west and *c.* 9.75m north-south (Figure 3). The enclosure was formed by F.1 and F.9 that joined at the northeast corner sealing any potential entrance that may have existed. Unfortunately this enclosure had been heavily truncated by the foundations and services of the 20th century buildings. The southern half of the enclosure had been completely lost and little survived of the eastern side. The boundary formed by the two ditches was between 1m and 1.26m wide and 0.37m and 0.43m deep, it contained an orange brown silty clay fill with small quantities of charcoal present throughout. A small quantity of pottery totalling four fragments (9g) was recovered from various sections of the ditch that suggest an early Roman date for the enclosure (AD43-100). Although the pottery appeared very different in form it was comparable in date to that recovered from Barrow I indicating that the two enclosures were either contemporary or separated by only a short period of time. The ditch F.1 cut an earlier pit **F.10**, which was situated inside the northeast corner of the enclosure. The pit was 1.72m long, 0.40m wide and 0.12m deep with a mid to dark orange silty clay. The feature was similar to those associated with Barrow I and, if contemporary, would suggest that Barrow I predated Barrow II. Sited within the centre of Barrow II was a small human cremation, **F.8**. The cremation was of an adult and the remains had been placed within a small, shallow scoop 0.44m by 0.36m and 0.03m deep. The cremation was first identified in the evaluation and left unexcavated (F.2). Along with the cremated bone were 11 sherds (19g) of Roman pottery (dated AD43-69) and the remains of an item of decorated bone. The decorated fragment of bone was possibly part of a toggle/cheek piece and had been burnt, most likely on the pyre. The item was decorated with a series of incised lines along the length of the object and a single ring and dot towards one end (Figure 4). Situated to the east of the cremation was a small deposit of animal bone (**F.25**). This did not appear to have been placed within a specific cut but rather placed next to the cremation; however, it is possible that it was in similarly shallow cut. The bone comprised a fragmented and heavily eroded mandible from a female pig aged between 7 and 14 months. As with the cremation, this was first identified in the evaluation when it was seen

in the edge of Trench 6. The cremation and animal bone were sited towards the middle of the monument; with the exception of the earlier pit they were the only apparent features inside it.

Enclosure

Towards the southeast corner of the excavated area, and abutting Barrow II was what appeared to be the corner of an enclosure. In amongst the foundation walls and 20th century truncations it was possible to identify ditch F.7 that formed the southeast corner of an enclosure that extended to the south of the square monument. Unfortunately its relationship to Barrow II was ambiguous as this area had been heavily truncated by later activity. Initially F.7 was thought to represent a continuation of F.9; however, it did not follow the line of that ditch but rather appeared to extend out from a point offset from it. There was also no evidence for an extension of the west side of Barrow II, resulting in the interpretation that F.7 was the corner of a separate enclosure, or even possibly a third square barrow. It was a smaller boundary ditch than that of Barrow II at 0.59m wide and 0.30m deep with at least two distinct fills. Unfortunately, as a large percentage of this area of the site had been heavily disturbed it was not possible to further elucidate this enclosure, with the exception of its relationship to Barrow II there were no associated features and what little survived of F.7 produced no material culture.

THE FINDS

Roman Pottery

Katie Anderson

A small assemblage of Roman pottery, totalling 18 sherds and weighing 78g was recovered from the evaluation. All of the material was analysed and details of fabric, form and date were recorded along with any other information deemed significant.

The assemblage comprised small and generally abraded sherds with a low mean weight of just 4.3g. This indicates that much of the material is likely to be residual, or that it was left on the surface for a period of time before being deposited. The assemblage is characterised by local sandy ware fabrics and included just one diagnostic sherd (52), which was heavily abraded and thus an exact form could not be established. However, the fabrics identified suggest a predominately early Roman date for the assemblage of AD43-69. The lack of any sourced wares, in particular Nene Valley products, supports the view that this assemblage is indicative of earlier Roman activity.

Context	Ft	No.	Wt(g)	Spot date
17	1	2	8	AD43-69
52	13	2	9	AD43-69
20	9	1	1	AD43-100
40	3	2	41	AD43-100
15	8	11	19	AD43-69
TOTAL	x	18	78	x

Table 1: All Roman pottery by context

Assessment of the Human Remains

Natasha Dodwell

A single deposit of cremated human bone, F.6 was identified during excavations. The heavily truncated (0.03m deep) feature lay in the centre of a small square enclosure, F.1. The shallow feature was 100% sampled and the soil matrix was wet sieved and passed through a series of graded sieves. All extraneous material was separated from residues >5mm with the finer residue remaining unsorted although it was scanned for identifiable elements. Only 83g of well calcined, buff white human bone was recovered with roughly equal quantities being recovered from the 10mm and 5mm fractions. Given the degree of truncation it is highly probable that more bone was originally interred. Most of the identifiable fragments were limb shafts although small fragments of skull and a single tooth were identified; the remains are that of an older subadult/adult. Mixed with the burnt human bone were refitting fragments of burnt worked bone, thought to be part of a toggle or cheek piece, small fragments of unburnt and calcined animal bone (5g) and a tiny fragment of Cu alloy. A small quantity of pig mandible was recovered adjacent to the deposit of cremated bone.

	Largest frag.	Weight >10mm	Weight 5-10mm	Total	Total >5mm
Western half	42.88mm	27g	28g	55g	83g
Eastern half	40.57mm	17g	11g	28g	

Table 2: Weights of calcined human bone and degree of fragmentation

The Flint

Lawrence Billington

Three pieces of worked flint were recovered from the excavations; all from ring gully F. 3. A small, patinated, proximal flake fragment is probably of Mesolithic/earlier Neolithic date, whilst a small piece of irregular waste and a thick irregular flake, whilst not displaying any technologically diagnostic features, are likely to reflect later prehistoric activity probably post-dating the Neolithic.

Worked Bone

Two refitting fragments of burnt, worked and decorated bone were recovered from the cremation F.8 [15]. The object was manufactured from a cattle bone and measured 48mm in length with a surviving diameter of 17mm. A rectangular notch had been cut into what was probably the centre of the item and survived to a length of 22mm and was 8mm in width. The item was decorated with a series of incised lines in a chevron pattern along the length of the object and at either end of the notch is a line of single dots (Figure 4). Two parallel lines incised across the width of the object, with a single ring and dot towards one end. The rectangular groove is distinctive and suggests that the object was most likely a toggle or cheek piece, although it is possibly part of a sword guard (Riddler *pers. Comm.*). The decoration on the object, the dot and circle motif is a classic feature of bone working from the Bronze Age onwards; however, the indentations and oval incised grooves are unusual.

Animal Bone

A total of 17 fragments (26g) of animal bone were recovered from a single context [79] F.25. These were the fragmented and heavily eroded remains of a female pig mandible aged 7 to 14 months.

An Assessment of the Charred Plant Macrofossils and Other Remains

Val Fryer

Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from across the excavated area, and seven were submitted for assessment. The samples were bulk floated by the CAU and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 1. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Modern roots, seeds and arthropod remains were also recorded.

The recovered assemblages are all extremely small (<0.1 litres in volume) and very limited in composition. Individual seeds of common segetal weeds/grassland herbs, namely brome (*Bromus* sp.), a small legume (Fabaceae), a small grass (Poaceae) and chickweed (*Stellaria media*), are recorded within only four assemblages, and although charcoal/charred wood fragments are present throughout, the density of material recorded is very low and preservation is generally poor. The only other plant macrofossils noted are three small pieces of charred root or stem, present within the assemblages from samples 11 and 16.

All seven assemblages include small pieces of black porous or tarry material and/or minute fragments of coal (coal 'dust'), presumably later contaminants. It would appear that the features may have been recently disturbed by root penetration and/or rodent burrowing, with the latter being represented by numerous modern seeds of fat hen type (Chenopodiaceae), which are a common component of rodent food caches.

In summary, as these assemblages are so small and sparse, it would appear most likely that all of the recorded remains are derived from scattered or wind dispersed detritus, some of which had probably been exposed to the elements for some considerable time prior to accidental inclusion within the feature fill. Primary deposition of material is certainly not indicated. As none of the assemblages contain a sufficient density of material for quantification (i.e. 100+ specimens), no further analysis is recommended.

Sample No.	4	8	11	16	18	19	20
Context No.	36	44	34	53	17	20	11
Feature No.	3	3	11	13	1	9	7
Feature type	RD	RD	Pit	P/T	RE	RE	Gully
Plant macrofossils							
Cereal indet. (grain frag.)					xcf		
<i>Bromus</i> sp.					xcffg		
Fabaceae indet.		x					
Small Poaceae indet.			xcf				

Sample No.	4	8	11	16	18	19	20
<i>Stellaria media</i> (L.)Vill		x					x
Charcoal <2mm	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Charcoal >2mm			x	x	x		
Charcoal >5mm					x		
Charred root/stem			x	x			
Other remains							
Black porous and tarry residues	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Small coal frags.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Sample volume (litres)	6	10	13	22	12	12	13
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
% flot sorted	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 3: x = 1 – 10 specimens xx = 11 – 50 specimens xxx = 51 – 100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens
cf = compare fg = fragment RD = ring-ditch P/T = pit/terminal RE = rectangular enclosure

DISCUSSION

The area of Stanground around Roman and Saxon Court is rich in known archaeological activity. The presence of several Romano-British pottery kilns along the northern edge of the island, and in particular to the immediate north of the development area, attest to its importance during the Roman period as a whole. Any settlement at Stanground would have been located within close proximity to several major route ways, Ermine Street, the Fen Causeway, the Car Dyke and Cat's Water, and was *c.* 6 miles from the town of Durobrivae and *c.* 3 miles from the fortress at Longthorpe. Closer to the development area, the record of a pottery kiln to the immediate north and excavated in 1908 situates the activity recorded here within this much wider network of Romano-British activity.

The archaeology recorded during the excavation of the development area is suggestive of either an Iron Age or early Romano-British cemetery. Although no skeletal remains were found, the form and nature of the features are indicative of graves and burial monuments. Barrow II contained definite human remains that had been deliberately placed within the centre of the barrow amongst which were the remains of a decorated bone object and alongside the cremation were placed the remains of a pig mandible. To the north of this, Barrow I was slightly more problematic due to the absence of any human remains. The internal feature F.11 was most likely a grave set off-centre within the ring. The almost complete absence of bone from across the site suggests that it is possible that any human bone in the grave may have been lost, destroyed by the conditions of the soil.

Barrows similar to those at Roman and Saxon Court are a recognised Late Iron Age phenomenon. At Adanac Park, Hampshire seven 'barrows' of various forms were recorded that included both round and square barrows (Leivers & Gibson 2010). These were similar to those recorded in the development area. Each contained a grave, although none contained any skeletal remains, with one of the graves containing grave goods. The lack of grave material made the dating of these features difficult, but material culture recovered from the enclosures and the size and their morphology suggested that they were later Iron Age. The form and character of these barrows is similar to those Roman and Saxon Court, suggesting that they may also have been Late Iron Age in date. This is further indicated by the presence of the decorated bone object in the cremation. Objects like this are often found in Late Bronze

Age/Early Iron Age contexts with local examples of cheek pieces having been found at Tanholt Farm, Eyebury (Riddler 2009) and at Flag Fen, where a bone toggle has also been recorded with ring and dot decoration (Brittain 2010). Together this 'package' would seem to suggest that the monuments are Iron Age reminiscent of the Aylesford-Swarling culture, however, the pottery recovered from the barrows suggests that they may have been early Roman in date.

At Stanway, Essex evidence of three mid-1st century (AD 40-60) enclosures with a single wooden burial chamber in them was recorded (Crummy *et al.* 2007). Within two of these enclosures was a single 'mortuary enclosure' that comprised a small square enclosure of which one measured 10.5m externally and the other 7m. A further six burials were identified including those of a doctor, a warrior and an assumed literate person. The smaller 'mortuary enclosures' are thought to have been the site of a pyre and/or the remains of a platform or excarnation platform, and in plan these are similar to the square Barrow 1 here. The square barrow enclosures excavated at Stanway were not places where the dead were deposited, however, but where they were prepared. The square and circular enclosures at Roman and Saxon Court had no evidence for a pyre or excarnation platform; rather they were the final resting place of the deceased.

The pottery recovered at Roman and Saxon Court indicates that this area was active during the earlier part of the Roman period, before the establishment of the town of Durobrivae at a time when the Roman army had moved into the region. About three miles to the west of the development area, Longthorpe Roman fort was established in *c.* 44 AD and was to become the focus for Roman power and the administrative centre for the region following the Roman conquest (Fincham 2004). The fort was a large military installation of *c.* 11 hectares that would have accommodated a legionary vexillation, the Ninth Legion (*Legio IX Hispana*). With a number of satellite forts throughout the region (*ibid.*) the presence of the fortress would have had a significant effect on the local population at this time. The fort would have been the symbol of Rome and responsible for monitoring and supervising the local inhabitants. It would have also opened up new trade options, and new opportunities for those that followed them. One of these groups would have been opportunistic potters who would have moved into the region and these people may have been the basis for the pottery industries that grew up within this area, including those associated with the pottery kilns identified at Stanground.

The burial monuments identified are an interesting conundrum and at this stage the dating of them is ambiguous. The form of the burials, in particular Barrow II would suggest that they are of Late Iron Age origin. Square barrows with central cremations are a recognised feature of the Aylesford-Swarling Culture; however, this culture is not thought to have extended this far to the north (Cunliffe 2010), with the most northerly known examples within southern Cambridgeshire (Evans *et al.* 2006). The pottery recovered from the monuments, however, suggests that they are of early Roman origin (AD43 to 69). The worked bone object within the cremation further confuses the matter, suggesting either an Iron Age or Roman date. Although we cannot be certain of the date of the burials, the early Roman pottery and the bone object, along with the presence of the Roman army at Longthorpe, could indicate a Conquest date. Either way this small site at Stanground would appear to be a very interesting site and a radiocarbon date on the cremation along with the further study of the bone object could help place these monuments within their context. The presence of the Roman fort at Longthorpe and its influence throughout the region would have played an early role in the Romanisation of the region and it is possible that the barrows at Roman and Saxon Court

could represent a mix of two cultures, a continuation of local burial rites practiced into the Roman period.

APPENDICES

Trench Descriptions

Although only one trench was excavated as part of the excavation, the details of the seven trenches from the evaluation are also included here.

Trench 1		
General Description	Orientation	NW-SE
Trench 1 was located within an area which had not been developed upon, therefore the topsoil and subsoil were undisturbed. No archaeological features were present. The natural was clay.	Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.30
	Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.17
	Width (m)	1.80
	Length (m)	15.00

Trench 2							
General Description				Orientation		NE-SW	
There was no surviving topsoil or subsoil and much of the trench showed evidence of disturbance during the demolition of the previous buildings. A single pit was present towards the SW end of the trench.				Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)		-	
				Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)		-	
				Width (m)		1.80	
				Length (m)		11.50	
Contexts							
Feature No.	Feature Type	Context No.	Cut/Fill/Layer	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Selected Artefacts	Comments
4	Pit	5	Fill				
		6	Cut	1.10	0.60		

Trench 3		
General Description	Orientation	NE-SW
There was no surviving topsoil or subsoil and much of the trench showed evidence of disturbance during the demolition of the previous buildings. Building foundations were present but no archaeological features.	Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	-
	Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	-
	Width (m)	1.80
	Length (m)	14.00

Trench 4		
General Description	Orientation	NE-SW
Topsoil and subsoil survived at the NE end of the trench where a single foundation wall and service was present. The SW end of the trench was within an area of disturbance where the topsoil and subsoil had been removed. No archaeological features were present.	Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.31
	Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.15
	Width (m)	1.80
	Length (m)	19.00

Trench 5							
General Description						Orientation	NW-SE
Topsoil and subsoil survived at the SW end of the trench where it was sealed by 0.3m of made ground, while the NE end the topsoil had been truncated. The terminal of a linear feature and a linear feature were recorded.						Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.20
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.18
						Width (m)	1.80
						Length (m)	19.00
Feature No.	Feature Type	Context No.	Cut/Fill/Layer	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Selected Artefacts	Comments
5	Linear	7	Fill				SE terminal of a ditch
		8	Cut	0.65	0.26		
6	Linear	9	Fill				
		10	Cut	0.65	0.15		

Trench 6							
General Description						Orientation	NE-SW
A well preserved trench with a layer of made ground sealing the original topsoil and subsoil. Two linear features were recorded and a cremation.						Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.55
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.25
						Width (m)	1.80
						Length (m)	25.00
Feature No.	Feature Type	Context No.	Cut/Fill/Layer	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Selected Artefacts	Comments
1	Linear	1	Fill				
		2	Cut	1.31	0.45		
2	Cremation			0.40			Unexcavated
3	Linear	3	Fill				
		4	Cut	0.70	0.27		

Trench 7							
General Description						Orientation	NW-SE
This trench was attached to Trench 6 and had a similar depth of made ground overlying a buried topsoil and subsoil. A modern drain cut through the majority of the trench. A single linear feature was recorded in the trench as a continuation of F.1 but was left unexcavated.						Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.60
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.27
						Width (m)	1.80
						Length (m)	9.44

Trench 8							
General Description						Orientation	NE-SW
This trench was cut during the excavation phase of the scheme, extending outside of the area enclosed by a chain-link fence. The minimum depth of the trench was 0.25m towards its southwest end, and its maximum was 0.56m. No archaeological features were present.						Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.33
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.20
						Width (m)	2.00
						Length (m)	18.30

Context Descriptions

The table below lists all of the contexts from both the evaluation and excavation phases of investigation.

Context No.	Type	Feature No.	Feature	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Brief Description
1	Fill	1	Ditch				Single fill, orange brown grey sandy clay
2	Cut	1	Ditch	1.00exc	1.31	0.45	East-west linear with steep sides and a sharp break of slope with a flattish base
3	Fill	3	Ring Ditch				Mid brown clayey silt
4	Cut	3	Ring Ditch	1.00exc	0.70	0.27	Curvilinear with steep sides with a sharp break of slope and concave base
5	Fill	4	Ditch				Mid brown silty clay
6	Cut	4	Ditch	1.10	1.10	0.60	Sub-circular in plan with gradual sides and a concave base
7	Fill	5	Ditch				Mid to dark brown clayey silt
8	Cut	5	Ditch	1.70exposed	0.65	0.26	Northwest-southeast linear with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and concave base
9	Fill	6	Ditch				Mid brown clayey silt
10	Cut	6	Ditch	0.70exc	0.65	0.15	Northwest-southeast linear with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and concave base
11	Fill	7	Ditch				Mid to dark greyish orangey brown silty clay
12	Fill	7	Ditch				Mid orange brown silty clay
13	Fill	7	Ditch				Mid orange brown silty clay
14	Cut	7	Ditch	0.50exc	0.59	0.30	Northeast-southwest linear with steep sides and a concave base
15	Fill	8	Cremation				Mid to dark orange grey silty clay
16	Cut	8	Cremation	0.36	0.44	0.03	Circular in plan with shallow sides and flat base
17	Fill	1	Ditch				Mid orange grey brown sand clay silt
18	Cut	1	Ditch	1.00exc	1.28	0.55	Corner of a linear with steep sides and a concave base
19	Fill	9	Ditch				Mid orange grey sand clay silt
20	Fill	9	Ditch				Mid brown orange sand silt
21	Cut	9	Ditch	1.00exc	1.20	0.58	North-south linear with steep east side and gradual west, sharp break of slope and concave base
22	Fill	1	Ditch				Mid orange brown sand clay silt
23	Cut	1	Ditch	1.00exc	0.70exc	0.45	North-south linear with steep side, sharp break of slope and concave base
24	Fill	7	Ditch				Mid orange grey sand clay silt
25	Fill	7	Ditch				Mid brown orange clay sand silt
26	Cut	7	Ditch	1.00exc	0.50exc	0.25	Corner of a linear with gradual sides and a concave base
27	Fill	10	Pit				Mid to dark reddish orange silty clay
28	Cut	10	Pit	1.72	0.40	0.12	Oval pit with gradual sides, a moderate break of slope and flattish base
29	Fill	1	Ditch				Mid to dark orangey brown silty clay
30	Fill	1	Ditch				Mid yellowish orange silty clay
31	Cut	1	Ditch	0.37exc	1.18	0.28	East-west linear with steep sides and a sharp break of slope with a flattish base
32	Fill	9	Ditch				Mid orangey brown silty clay
33	Cut	9	Ditch	1.12exc	0.80	0.15	Northeast-southwest linear with gradual sides, a gradual break of slope and concave base
34	Fill	11	Pit				Mid to dark greyish brown clayey silt

Context No.	Type	Feature No.	Feature	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Brief Description
35	Cut	11	Pit	2.30	0.93	0.17	Sub-rectangular in plan with moderate to gradual sides, a gradual break of slope and concave base
36	Fill	3	Ring Ditch				Mid orange greyish brown silty clay
37	Cut	3	Ring Ditch	1.00exc	0.53	0.14	Curvilinear with moderate sides, gradual break of slope and a concave base
38	Fill	3	Ring Ditch				Mid orange greyish brown silty clay
39	Cut	3	Ring Ditch	1.00exc	0.54	0.20	Curvilinear with moderate sides, gradual break of slope and a concave base
40	Fill	3	Ring Ditch				Mid orange greyish brown silty clay
41	Cut	3	Ring Ditch	1.00exc	0.54	0.21	Curvilinear with moderate to steep sides, sharp break of slope and concave base
42	Fill	3	Ring Ditch				Mid orange greyish brown silty clay
43	Cut	3	Ring Ditch	1.00exc	0.61	0.18	Curvilinear with gradual sides, moderate break of slope and concave base
44	Fill	3	Ring Ditch				Mid orange greyish brown silty clay
45	Cut	3	Ring Ditch	1.00exc	0.43	0.15	Curvilinear with moderate sides, gradual break of slope and a concave base
46	Fill	3	Ring Ditch				Mid orange greyish brown silty clay
47	Cut	3	Ring Ditch	1.00exc	0.45	0.16	Curvilinear with moderate sides, gradual break of slope and a concave base
48	Fill	3	Ring Ditch				Mid orange greyish brown silty clay
49	Cut	3	Ring Ditch	1.00exc	0.51	0.18	Curvilinear with moderate to steep sides, sharp break of slope and concave base
50	Fill	12	Furrow				Mid orange grey clay sandy silt
51	Cut	12	Furrow	1.00exc	1.55	0.18	Northeast-southwest linear with gradual sides, a gradual break of slope and flat base
52	Fill	13	Pit/Ditch				Mid orange brown slightly sandy silt
53	Fill	13	Pit/Ditch				Dark brownish grey-black sandy silt
54	Cut	13	Pit/Ditch	1.70	1.20	0.45	North-south linear/sub-rectangular in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and concave base
55	Fill	14	Pit				Orange brown sandy silt
56	Cut	14	Pit	0.70	0.70	0.15	Circular in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and concave base
57	Fill	15	Furrow				Pale brown sandy silt
58	Cut	15	Furrow	1.00exc	3.10	0.18	North-south linear with gradual sides, imperceptible break of slope and an undulating base
59	Fill	16	Furrow				Pale to mid brown sandy silt
60	Cut	16	Furrow	1.00exc	2.80	0.12	North-south linear with gradual sides, imperceptible break of slope and an undulating base
61	Fill	17	Furrow				Pale to mid brown sandy silt
62	Cut	17	Furrow	1.00exc	1.90	0.08	North-south linear with gradual sides, imperceptible break of slope and an undulating base
63	Fill	18	Furrow				Pale to mid brown sandy silt
64	Cut	18	Furrow	1.00exc	1.20	0.06	North-south linear with gradual sides, imperceptible break of slope and an undulating base
65	Fill	15	Furrow				Pale to mid brown sandy silt
66	Cut	15	Furrow	1.00exc	1.70	0.08	North-south linear with gradual sides, imperceptible break of slope and an undulating base
67	Fill	19	Pit				Mid orangey brown clayey silt
68	Cut	19	Pit	1.86	0.80	0.28	Sub-rectangular in plan with asymmetric steep sides (west side stepped), gradual

Context No.	Type	Feature No.	Feature	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Brief Description
							break of slope and concave base
69	Fill	20	Pit				Patchy mid orange/greyish/yellowish brown clayey silt
70	Cut	20	Pit	1.46	0.95	0.17	Amorphous in plan with moderate sides and break of slope and an undulating base
71	Fill	21	Pit				Mid orange brown silty clay
72	Cut	21	Pit	2.70	1.01	0.22	Sub-rectangular in plan with asymmetric sides, steep to southwest and gradual to northeast, moderate break of slope and concave base
73	Fill	22	Pit				Mid greyish orange brown silty clay
74	Cut	22	Pit	0.72	0.72	0.14	Circular in plan with asymmetric sides, gradual to southwest and steep to northeast, gradual break of slope and concave base
75	Fill	23	Posthole				Mid to dark brownish grey clayey silt
76	Cut	23	Posthole	0.35	0.35	0.14	Circular in plan with steep sides, a moderate break of slope and concave base
77	Fill	24	Pit				Mid yellowish brown silty clay
78	Cut	24	Pit	1.46	1.36	0.18	Sub-circular in plan with gradual sides, moderate break of slope and a flat base
79	Layer	25	Pile	0.25	0.25	0.06	A small pile of animal bone in a pale grey silty clay matrix

Site and Finds Gazetteer (Figure 5)

Norris = Norris Musuem Record; PMR = Peterborough Museum Record; WMR = Whittlesey Museum Record
Numbers in italics identify HER reference numbers unique to Cambridgeshire.

Gaz. No	Grid Ref:	Period	Description	Bibliographic Ref	HER Ref:
1	TL 2150 9750	Roman	Grey ware bowl from Stanground North now in Norris Museum, St Ives. No more precise location.	No ref:	9806
2	TL 2060 9740	Roman	Hoard of fifteen mid-late 4 th century Roman coins (Trajan and Victorinus to Magnetius, and Barbarous radiates).	Phillips 1970	50404
3	TL 2065 9730	Roman	Roman pottery found by G Wyman Abbott. No further information.	RCHM 1969	2813
4	TL 2240 9710	Roman	At Horsey Hill. Roman pottery scatter south towards Horsey Toll Farm.	Phillips 1970	4019
5	TL 2084 9709	Roman	Roman pottery and coins found 1923 and kiln to the south of Sewage Farm. Roman pottery and wedge-shaped tile were found in 1907 and Roman pottery and coins in 1923 by G Wyman Abbott. The area is now occupied by a disused sewage plant and rubbish tip. See also 03127 - Roman finds, 03128, and 03129.	RCHM 1969, Phillips 1970	3130
6a	TL 2000 9700	Medieval, Post-Medieval	An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken in 2005 at 51-53 Church Street, Stanground on behalf of Urban Residential Development and Investment Ltd. The evaluation revealed evidence of archaeological activity near the site from the 10 th century. Evidence for the 10 th - 12 th centuries AD consisted of residual domestic pottery consistent with the location of the site within the historic core of Stanground which was recorded in the Domesday Book. Archaeological features consisted of two Medieval pits (filled by, or soon after, 1500 AD) which were covered by topsoil containing residual Medieval material and small amounts of 17 th and 18 th century pottery. The presence of topsoil suggests the site remained on, possibly as paddocks gardens during the early post-Medieval period. Evidence for extensive re-levelling and the removal of the topsoil from the 18 th century was uncovered, with the subsequent building up of the ground level and increased activity during the 19 th century. One 19 th century pit and two undated north-south boundaries (probably internal divisions) were also revealed.	Flavell & Leigh 2006	51350
6b	TL 2000 9700	Medieval	Late (9 th century) Viking sword found in the bed of the Old River Nene near Ravens Willow in 1825. Two other swords and two spears of the same date found in the same stretch of water. Lettering on the blade seems to be 'ULFBERHT,' a well-known weapon smith of the Viking period.	Page & Proby 1926	2946
6c	TL 2000 9700	Roman	Roman coin, an unidentified barbarous radiate, found at Stanground before 1884; 15 coins, probably a hoard (Trajan and Victorinus to Magnentius) deposited c AD 350 - 370.	Phillips 1970	2961
7	TL 2080 9700	Roman	Site of Roman Kiln found 1908. The remains of wharf and a road covered with Roman potsherds were found close to the kiln. The pottery dates from mid 1 st century to the end of the 4 th century. Coins (Trajan - Valentinian 1), pottery (including wasters) and kiln supports from the site are in the Peterborough Museum. Of three vessels found on the site in 1902, one is of the late 3 rd century with persistent Celtic traditions and another is of the late 3 rd century or early 4 th century. Peterborough Museum has a large quantity of Roman finds from this area but can offer no additional information. Investigations showed that there was a large settlement with kiln sites placed to the east on the steep fall to the Nene. Each complex of kilns could be clearly identified. A collection of sherds was made, many of them being large and freshly ploughed out. See also 03130.	Fox 1923, Page & Proby 1926, RCHM 1969	3153
8	TL 2150 9680	Roman	Surface finds from Park Farm, near river: 4 pieces kiln furniture. 10 grey ware jar rims, 3 grey ware bowl dish rims, 1 grey ware dish rim. 32 grey ware body sherds, 5 grey ware bases. 2 other grey bases - slightly unusual fabrics. 3 colour-coated sherds, 2 of which are rouletted. 2 pieces bottle glass. 2 pieces imitation black basalt ware. Piece of grey	PMR	3127

Gaz. No	Grid Ref:	Period	Description	Bibliographic Ref	HER Ref:
			ware with wavy line and vertical line decoration. D.N. Hall, Fenland Survey, ref STA S3. Parish formerly Stanground South. See also 03128 - Roman finds; and 03129 - 03131.		
10	TL 2220 9670	Roman	Five fragments which comprise upper part of a grey-ware plain jar. Everted rim and cordoned shoulder (diam. across rim 10.2cm), dating to the 1 st – 2 nd century, were found 1957 as an isolated find. Fragment from the base of a globular beaker. Brown orange colour coat. Nene Valley ware. Rouletting as decoration around girth. Height 7.4cm. Fragment of a straight-sided dish in grey ware with a thickened rim, one perforation in base suggesting it may have been a colander. Incised chevron decoration inside the vessel. Height 5.9cm. pedestal base of a vessel in orange ware, possibly from a candlestick. Diameter 6.5cm; found 1959. These four items presented by D Whittolm, Horsey Toll Farm, HorseyToll, Whittlesey.	WMR	1369
11	TL 2153 9669	Roman	3 rd century Roman pottery kilns excavated at Stanground Park Farm in 1965. One had been almost ploughed out but the other was mostly intact. Associated finds included much colour-coated ware. Further work 50 ft to the northeast in 1967 revealed another pair of kilns with an associated gully containing a kiln load of wasters, mostly samian ware with black colour coat on a grey paste. (This may be a duplication of TL 29 NW17). Excavation of a clay pit, southwest of the pottery kilns obtained from the filling large quantities of colour-coated and grey ware pottery of the late 3rd or early 4th century as well as broken fire bars, kiln fabric and wasters. Two more kiln sites discovered (50 ft east of the clay pit examined in 1966). An associated gully contained a kiln load of wasters including imitations in black colour-coat on grey paste of samian. D.N. Hall, Fenland Survey, ref STA 3. Site destroyed (DNH 1991). During the summer of 1989 the area of the kilns was directly threatened. A watching brief was carried out and the remains of a rectilinear beam-slot structure were identified, ditches with large amounts of pottery, many pieces of kiln debris and ash (possibly resulting from the kiln fires). It was possible to establish that the site had very clearly defined northwest and southeast sides. Beyond the ditch line on the southern side of the site only isolated features were visible. This site now largely developed. See also 03127 - further Roman finds from this area, 03129 - Roman pottery and skeleton, 03130 - earlier Roman finds from the area, and 10090 - Roman inhumations from nearby.	Dannell 1967, Phillips 1970, Meadows 1990	3128
12	TL 2140 9650	Roman	On Park Farm housing estate 3 rd century Roman pottery and a human skeleton were found 1964. The site is now built over. See also 03127 - Roman finds, and 03128 - 03131.	CBA 1965, RCHM 1969	3129
13	TL 2178 9632	Roman, Medieval	An aerial photographic assessment was carried out in advance of development, indicating several possible archaeological features. The results of three separate techniques of investigation indicate that the application site has a very low archaeological potential. Archaeological deposits are scarce and only present as isolated occurrences. Some Romano-British features were discovered in the south-east corner of the development area.	Anon 1994, Cox 1994, Meadows 1995	50561
14	TL 2240 9620	Roman	Horsey Toll Road. Building stone, flue tiles, etc, pottery 1 st – 3 rd century. TL 2242 9608 lot of red tile and limestone rubble (building stone sherds etc, 198) damaged by road widening. D.N. Hall, Fenland Survey 940, Sta S1.	Phillips 1970	4015
15	TL 2210 9610	Roman	Roman coins found at Horsey Bridge.		4016
16	TL 2243 9573	Roman	A 'burial site' is marked on the 'Map of Roman Sites' in the VCH to the south of Horsey Hill Fort, but no mention of it is made in the text. See also 04017 - Roman pottery.	Page & Proby 1926	4018
17	TL 2100 9570	Prehistoric, Roman, Medieval, Post- Medieval	A fieldwalking survey was carried out during the winter of 2002 2003, covering the greater part of a 95 hectare site, for which a housing development and new bypass are proposed. 'Light' scatters of artefacts were recovered over the entire area, including flint, pottery and tile, spanning the prehistoric, Roman, Medieval and post-Medieval periods. Four greater concentrations of artefacts were also identified, including a scatter of worked flint, a scatter of Roman pottery, a scatter of Roman pottery and tile, and a concentration of post-Medieval pottery. These are described individually under record numbers 51230 - 51233.	Upson-Smith 2003	51229
18	TL 2250 9565	Prehistoric, Neolithic, Iron Age, Roman, Medieval	During 2005 and 2006 a programme of archaeological investigations (desk-based assessment, evaluation, survey and area excavation) was undertaken on land at Stanground during the construction of a pipeline. Two areas of archaeological significance were identified, between Farcet Road and New Meadow Drove (51226), and to the south of Horsey Hill Fort. At the site south of Horsey Hill Fort, early prehistoric background activity was represented by		50514

Gaz. No	Grid Ref:	Period	Description	Bibliographic Ref	HER Ref:
			residual lithic artefacts and debitage dating from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age, together with a single small Neolithic pit. The site also contained a small group of Iron Age remains, including two clusters of small pits and postholes of uncertain function, which were not directly indicative of settlement. The majority of excavated features were dated to the Roman and Saxon periods, and comprised a Roman rectangular double-ditched enclosure with entrance to the north-east which was later re-cut in the Middle Saxon period. Finds from this phase mainly included pottery and building material (brick, cuneatus, tile, tegula, box flue tile) indicative of a structure of uncertain function nearby. A number of post holes and two gullies/beam slots of probable structural function dated to the Middle Saxon period. Saxon finds included a small amount of pottery, a biconical loomweight and metalwork (lead weights for commercial transactions, lead fishing weights, and a box fitting with zoomorphic terminal).		
19	TL 2064 9560	Roman	A fieldwalking survey was carried out during the winter of 2002-2003. A small concentration of Roman pottery was centred on the given grid reference. It is not thought to relate directly to buried settlement remains at this location. See also 51229, 51230, 51232, and 51233 for further fieldwalking finds.	Upson-Smith 2003	51231
20	TL 2170 9558	Roman	A fieldwalking survey was carried out during the winter of 2002 2003. A concentration of Roman pottery and tile, centred at the given grid reference, was recorded within the field named 'Field 8' for the purpose of this survey. The recovered pottery included Nene Valley Wares colour coated vessels (post 250 AD) and greywares. The pottery is not heavily abraded, suggesting recent plough disturbance of buried deposits. The presence of tile fragments suggests buried building remains survive here. See also 51229, 51230, 51231, and 51233 for other fieldwalking survey finds.		51232
21a	TL 2100 9545	Bronze - Iron Age, Medieval, Post-Medieval	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Stanground South in 2005 y. 257 trenches were excavated. Two principle areas of early occupation, Medieval and post-Medieval ridge and furrow were revealed and two large embayments of the fen edge were investigated (linked to 51374, 51375). See also 51156, 51229, 51230, 51231, 51232, 51233, 51234, 51235, and 51236.	Taylor & Aaronson 2006	51373
21b	TL 2100 9545	Bronze Age	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Stanground South between September and December 2005 in advance of proposed development. The earliest activity on the site comprised of a group of 19 cremation burials within a defined plot which appeared to be situated on a crest of a slight ridge, possibly drier land on the fen edge and may have represented a small cremation cemetery within the urnfield tradition. An undated east-west linear ditch running for a distance of perhaps 400m appears to pre-date much of the Iron Age and Romano British activity and may be part of an early land boundary running roughly parallel to the fen edge. Six postholes discovered in Trench 181 (with no recognisable pattern or alignment) may be related to the grouping of 20 postholes in Trench 129 to the west (linked 51373, 51375).		51374
21c	TL 2100 9545	Iron Age, Roman	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Stanground South between September and December 2005 in advance of proposed development. A complex of ditch systems were discovered spanning an area 150m north-south by 100m east-west. An alignment of closely spaced oak posts, dated to the Early Iron Age, were discovered at the eastern edge of this area and run parallel to a major ditch system. A shallower and narrower ditch ran parallel to it suggesting it may have once functioned as a droveway running towards the fen edge. A smaller complex of ditches on roughly east-west alignments and a pair of parallel ditches may have formed a transverse droveway, with possible field plots to the north and south. Middle Iron Age pottery has been found within the smaller ditches in the northern part of the area and may suggest that a small area of settlement overlies the earlier field enclosures. 20 postholes (with no recognisable alignment pattern) were discovered in Trench 129 and may represent part of a multi-phased post-built structure or fencing. Two pits were excavated with one producing Iron Age pottery (linked to 51373, 51374).		51375
22	TL 2100 9530	Prehistoric, Iron Age, Roman	During 2005 and 2006 a programme of archaeological investigations (desk-based assessment, evaluation, survey and area excavation) was undertaken on land at Stanground during the construction of a pipeline. Two areas of archaeological significance were identified, between Farcet Road and New Meadow Drove, and at Horsey Hill (50514). The site off Farcet Road consisted of an Iron Age settlement, and Roman field boundaries and a trackway. Earlier prehistoric background activity was represented by residual lithic artefacts and debitage dating from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age. The Iron Age settlement comprised two roundhouses, post holes, pits and a hearth, as	Kenney 2007	51226

Gaz. No	Grid Ref:	Period	Description	Bibliographic Ref	HER Ref:
			well as a ditch running parallel to the fen edge, which was later restated in the Roman period. The Roman phase consisted of field and trackway ditches, as well as a few pits. The finds assemblage (namely pottery and faunal remains) suggested that the settlement was probably located nearby.		
23a	TL 2000 9500	Post-Medieval	Possible site of Gazeley Hall and gardens?	Way 1998	12077
23b	TL 2000 9500	Roman	Pottery including kiln wasters, 'vases' and 'dishes'. This document covers the following sites at grid references TL 2150 9680, TL 2153 9669, TL 2084 9709, TL 2072 9807. See also 03127; 03128; 03131; 03130; - finds from Stanground.	PMR	7959
24a	TL 2300 9700	Neolithic, Bronze Age	A series of surveys including test pits, a borehole survey, environmental trenching and evaluation trial trenching was undertaken in 2005 at Must Farm, following a series of desk based assessments and aerial photographic appraisals. The investigations uncovered remains of a Late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age dispersed settlement 'swathe' represented by clusters of postholes (roundhouses), discrete pits, metalled surfaces and monuments (barrows). Site 1 contained the remains of a sandy ridge along the southern edge of the up r terrace. It had acted as a focal point for Late Neolithic activity with a series of tree-throws and pits containing small fragments of Peterborough Ware, flint blades, and domestic and wild animal bone. Site 2 (southern-central part of the site) contained the remains of an oval barrow located at the 0.25m contour of the sandy ridge. It was 30m by 38m in size, with the gravel mound surviving to a height of 1.22m. The barrow appeared to have been created from gravel extracted and upcast from the large encircling ditch. The ditch was cut through a buried soil. It contained depositions of large, unabraded sherds of Peterborough ware, worked flint and animal bone indicative of occupation nearby. Later deposits overlying the barrow suggests wetter conditions from the Early Bronze Age. Site 3 (north-western portion of the site) contained the remains of a round barrow c. 25m in diameter located just over 0.5km north-west of the oval barrow (Site 2), at the 0.25m contour. The mound (earth with gravel capping) survives to a height of 0.96m. It was built in two phase. The primary construction involved deturfing of the area, with the turf and soil being used to build the earthen core of the mound. The secondary construction consisted of the excavation of the barrow ditch, with the gravel upcast being used for capping the earthen mound. A post-ring 12-14m in diameter which predated the earthen mound and post-dated the gravel capping may have represented a revetment erected around a presumed central burial. Site 4 (north-eastern portion of the proposed development area) produced evidence for Late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age activity in the form of metalled surfaces, series of postholes, including a cluster possibly associated with a roundhouse, pits, a ditch with associated bank defining the eastern extent of the settlement and hoof prints. The ditch appeared to have been initiated by a series of intermittent posts driven into the ground through the visible buried soil. See also 51409 and 51410.	Evans et al. 2005	51413
24b	TL 2300 9700	Bronze Age, Iron Age	A borehole survey was undertaken in 2004 as part of a desktop study. The survey consisted of a series of pseudo-sections which contained the following lithographic sequence (from top to bottom): topsoil (modern), Nordelph Peat (950-550 BC), Barroway Drove Beds (1200-950BC), peat (post-glacial deposit), gravel sand silt (glacial deposits), Oxford Clay. A substantial water channel (maximum depth -5.40m OD) ran west-north-west to east-south-east along the southern side of the development site, with a further, minor channel running parallel to it across the site. The possible roddon recorded by aerial photographic assessment (see 51410) was not identified during the borehole survey. It was suggested that it may have represented a thin deposit situated quite high up in the peat.	Collcutt 2004, Cooper 2005	51416
24c	TL 2300 9700	Medieval, Post-Medieval, Modern	An archaeological assessment was conducted to define the archaeological potential of land along the route of the proposed A605 Peterborough to Whittlesey improvement scheme, as the study area ay within a zone of high archaeological potential which extends across the fen edge and is rich in finds from the later prehistoric to the Roman periods. An aerial photographic assessment was undertaken which showed the remains of Medieval ridge and furrow, a Medieval multi-ditched feature representing a trackway (see also 51325), and World War II airfield (50515). No additional information was interpreted from photographs showing Horsey Hill Civil War Fort at TL 223 960 (01996). Finally, there was no evidence of sub-surface features associated with a Roman structure or any other activity in the area at TL 2242 9608 (Hall's Site I).	Kenney 1997	51215
24d	TL 2300 9700	Modern	An aerial photographic assessment of the site was undertaken in 2004 as part of a desktop study. This is the site of the airfield at Horsey Toll licensed in 1930 as a private airfield. During the Second World War it was used as a landing	Cooper 2005	51410

Gaz. No	Grid Ref:	Period	Description	Bibliographic Ref	HER Ref:
			ground attached to a civilian repair depot run by Morrison's Aircraft Company undertaking repairs to Hurricanes. The site went out of use after the war and was used for pasture. Two hangers and one or two associated brick buildings survive. North of the airfield there is a crop-marked pit surrounded by a slight upcast, which was photographed by Ben Robinson in 2001. Nearby is a large lump of concrete with cables attached, possibly representing the mounting for a light beacon. Two features of similar appearance and on approximately the same alignment, had already been photographed in 1976. It is possible that the three pit-like features represent bomb craters. No conclusive evidence for early archaeological features was identified. Later remains included a large circle some 50m in diameter, possibly representing a compass swinging area, a 'T' feature interpreted as a moveable wind-direction indicator, ditches and numerous wheel marks. Besides the evidence associated with the airfield, the 1984 aerial photographs showed a roddon and the fen-edge, and possible post-Medieval small enclosures (pens?), some of which are likely to have been obliterated by recent quarrying. See also 51416.		
25	TL 2250 9565	Prehistoric, Neolithic, Iron Age, Roman, Medieval	During 2005 and 2006 a programme of archaeological investigations (desk-based assessment, evaluation, survey and area excavation) was undertaken on land at Stanground during the construction of a pipeline. Two areas of archaeological significance were identified, between Farcet Road and New Meadow Drove (51226), and to the south of Horsey Hill Fort. At the site south of Horsey Hill Fort, early prehistoric background activity was represented by residual lithic artefacts and debitage dating from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age, together with a single small Neolithic pit. The site also contained a small group of Iron Age remains, including two clusters of small pits and postholes of uncertain function, which were not directly indicative of settlement. The majority of excavated features were dated to the Roman and Saxon periods, and comprised a Roman rectangular double-ditched enclosure with entrance to the north-east which was later re-cut in the Middle Saxon period. Finds from this phase mainly included pottery and building material (brick, cuneatus, tile, tegula, box flue tile) indicative of a structure of uncertain function nearby. A number of post holes and two gullies/beam slots of probable structural function dated to the Middle Saxon period. Saxon finds included a small amount of pottery, a biconical loomweight and metalwork (lead weights for commercial transactions, lead fishing weights, and a box fitting with zoomorphic terminal).	"	50514
26a	TL 2100 9545	Bronze - Iron Age, Medieval, Post-Medieval	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Stanground South in 2005 y. 257 trenches were excavated. Two principle areas of early occupation, Medieval and post-Medieval ridge and furrow were revealed and two large embayments of the fen edge were investigated (linked to 51374, 51375). See also 51156, 51229, 51230, 51231, 51232, 51233, 51234, 51235, and 51236.	Taylor & Aaronson 2006	51373
26b	TL 2100 9545	Bronze Age	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Stanground South between September and December 2005 in advance of proposed development. The earliest activity on the site comprised of a group of 19 cremation burials within a defined plot which appeared to be situated on a crest of a slight ridge, possibly drier land on the fen edge and may have represented a small cremation cemetery within the urnfield tradition. An undated east-west linear ditch running for a distance of perhaps 400m appears to pre-date much of the Iron Age and Romano British activity and may be part of an early land boundary running roughly parallel to the fen edge. Six postholes discovered in Trench 181 (with no recognisable pattern or alignment) may be related to the grouping of 20 postholes in Trench 129 to the west (linked 51373, 51375).	"	51374
26c	TL 2100 9545	Iron Age, Roman	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Stanground South between September and December 2005 in advance of proposed development. A complex of ditch systems were discovered spanning an area 150m north-south by 100m east-west. An alignment of closely spaced oak posts, dated to the Early Iron Age, were discovered at the eastern edge of this area and run parallel to a major ditch system. A shallower and narrower ditch ran parallel to it suggesting it may have once functioned as a driveway running towards the fen edge. A smaller complex of ditches on roughly east-west alignments and a pair of parallel ditches may have formed a transverse driveway, with possible field plots to the north and south. Middle Iron Age pottery has been found within the smaller ditches in the northern part of the area and may suggest that a small area of settlement overlies the earlier field enclosures. 20 postholes (with no recognisable alignment pattern) were discovered in Trench 129 and may represent part of a multi-phased post-built structure or fencing. Two pits were excavated with one producing Iron Age pottery (linked to 51373, 51374).	"	51375

Gaz. No	Grid Ref:	Period	Description	Bibliographic Ref	HER Ref:
27	TL 2100 9530	Prehistoric, Iron Age, Roman	<p>During 2005 and 2006 a programme of archaeological investigations (desk-based assessment, evaluation, survey and area excavation) was undertaken on land at Stanground during the construction of a pipeline. Two areas of archaeological significance were identified, between Farcet Road and New Meadow Drove, and at Horsey Hill (50514). The site off Farcet Road consisted of an Iron Age settlement, and Roman field boundaries and a trackway. Earlier prehistoric background activity was represented by residual lithic artefacts and debitage dating from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age. The Iron Age settlement comprised two roundhouses, post holes, pits and a hearth, as well as a ditch running parallel to the fen edge, which was later restated in the Roman period. The Roman phase consisted of field and trackway ditches, as well as a few pits. The finds assemblage (namely pottery and faunal remains) suggested that the settlement was probably located nearby.</p>	Kenney 2007	51226

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author would like to thank Cross Keys Homes and Davis Langdon for commissioning the work. Particular thanks to Rebecca Casa-Hatton, Archaeological Officer for Peterborough City Council Archaeological Service (PCCAS). The CAU excavation team consisted of Lawrence Billington, Selina Davenport, Lizzy Middleton, Alisdair Wright, along with the author. The illustrations were produced by Andy Hall, and survey and digitisation was undertaken by Donald Horne. The project was managed by Emma Beadsmoore.

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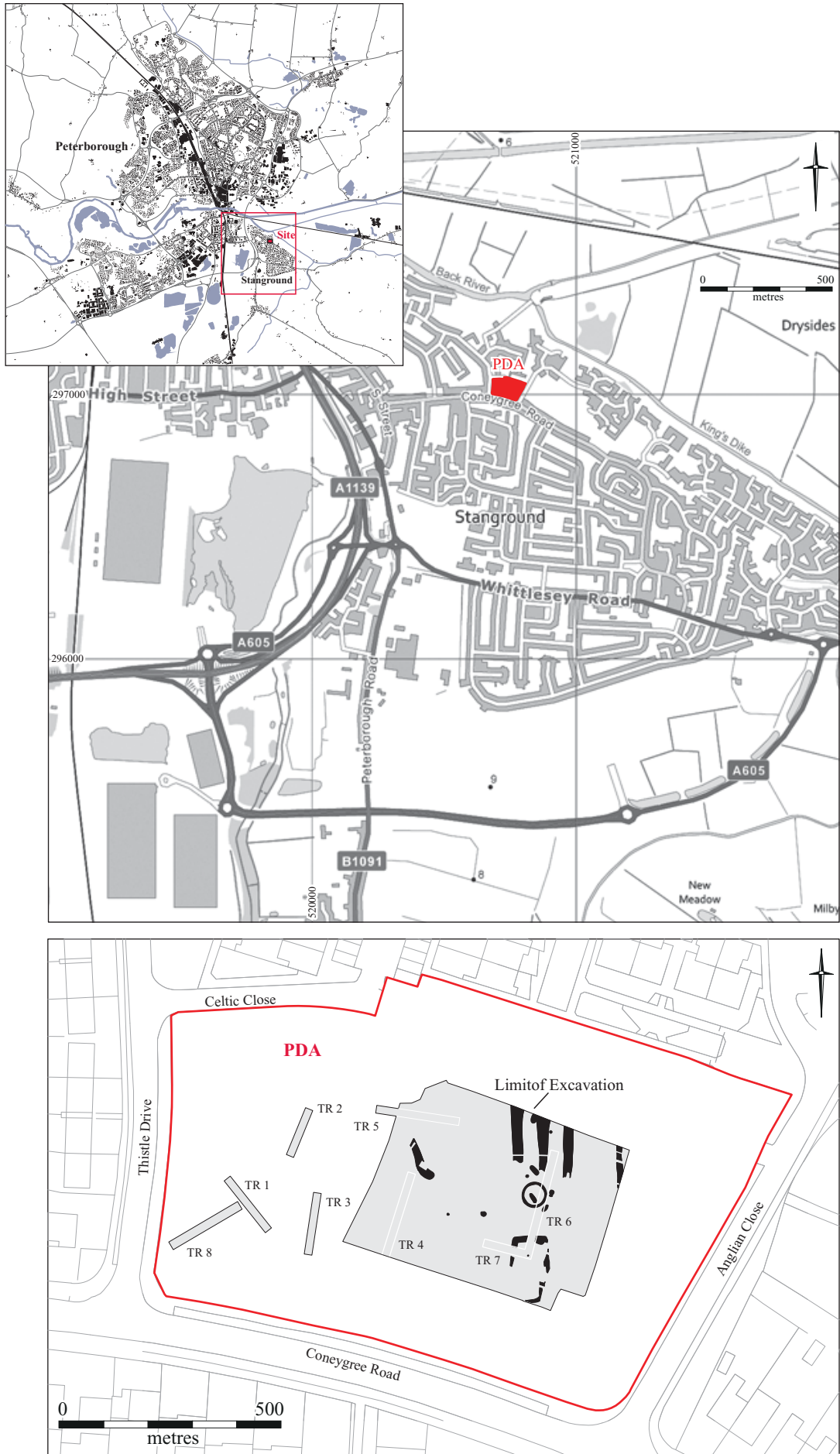


Figure 1. Site location



Figure 2. Excavated area

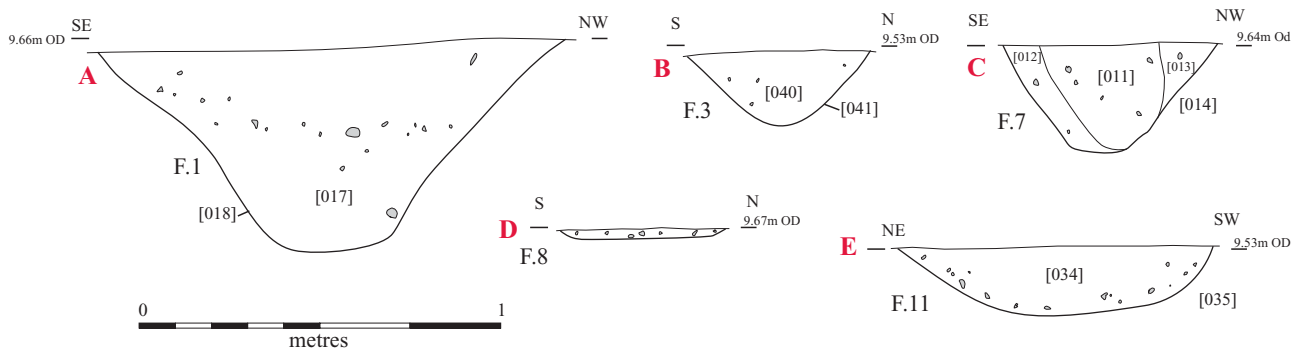
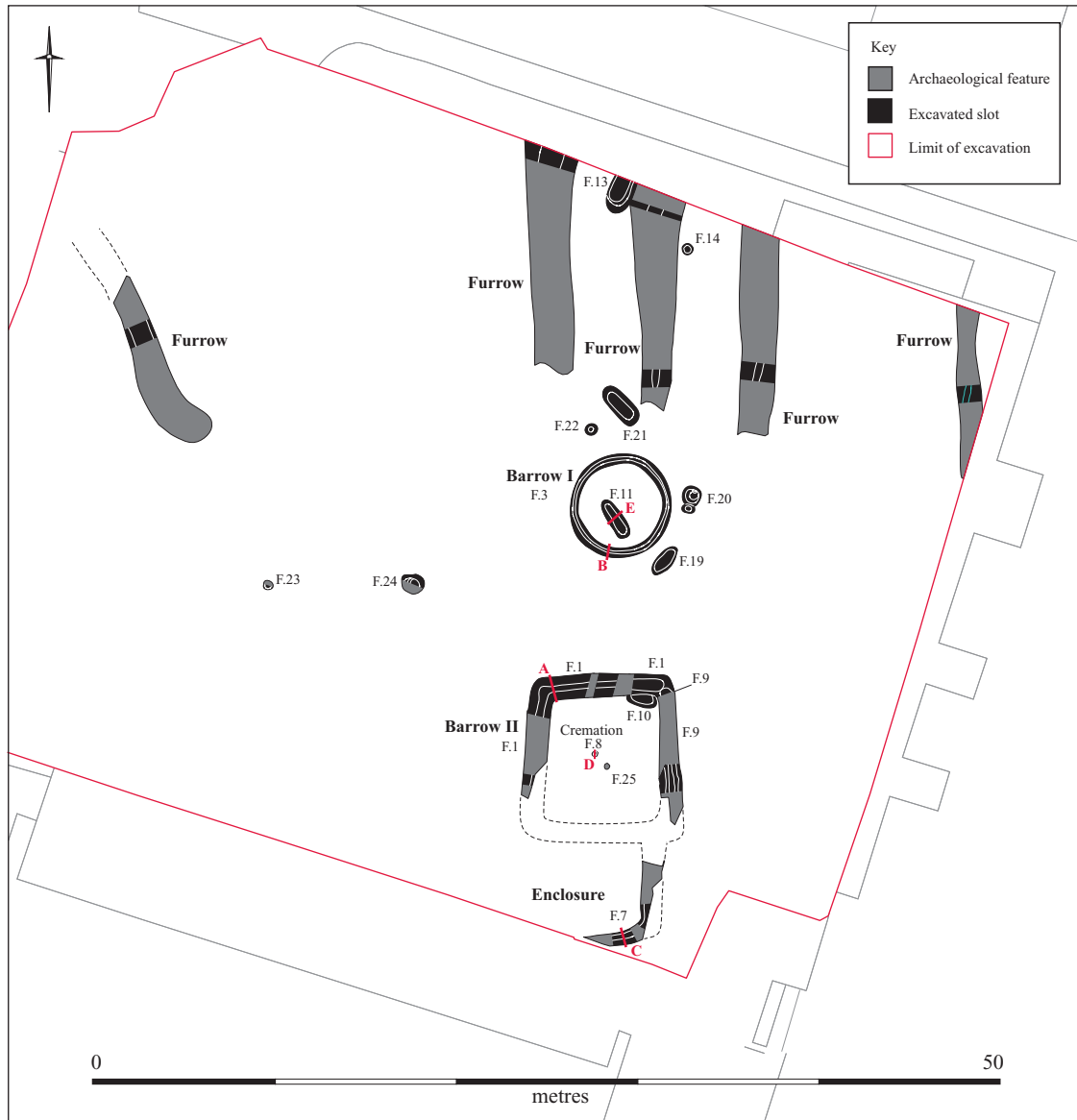


Figure 3. Plan of archaeological features with selected sections



Photograph of Barrow I (F.3) and F.11 looking South west



Photograph of bone fitting from F.08

Figure 4. Photos of Barrow I and bone fitting from F.08

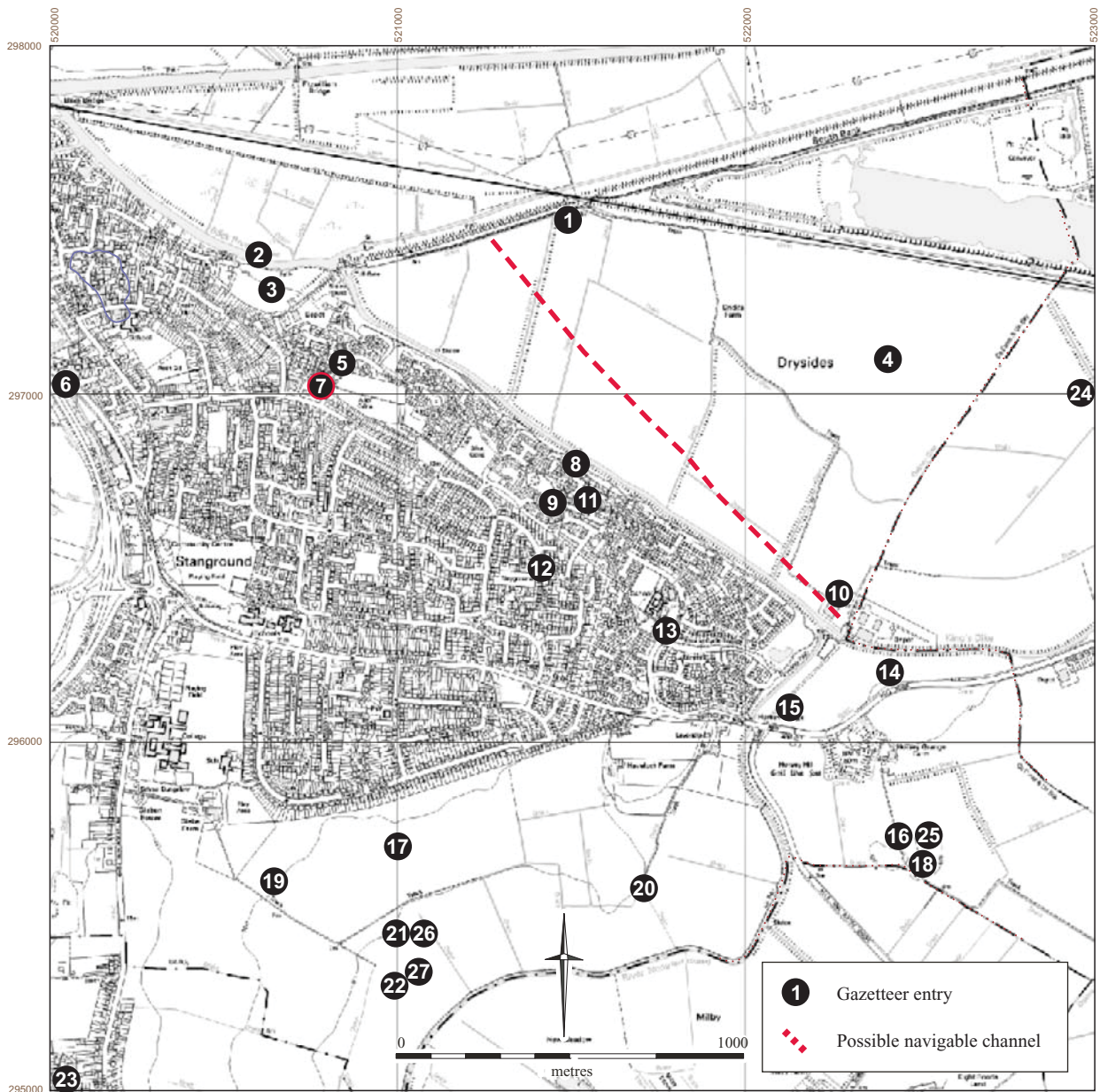


Figure 5. Iron Age and Roman sites / find spots within the wider vicinity

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OASIS ID: cambridg3-130830

Project details

Project name	An Excavation at Roman and Saxon Court, Stanground
Short description of the project	From 11th to 29th June 2012 an archaeological excavation was undertaken at Roman and Saxon Court, Stanground (centred on TL 20775 97018) extending over c. 0.21ha. The work was commissioned by Davis Langdon on behalf of Cross Keys Homes in response to a request from the Peterborough City Council Archaeological Service (PCCAS). The site was situated within close proximity to a series of known Roman pottery kilns and the archaeological features recorded appeared to represent the outer limits of this activity. Two small funerary enclosures were excavated, a small circular barrow and a square barrow. A sub-rectangular pit was situated within the circular barrow, and although devoid of any skeletal remains, was most likely the remnant of a grave. Surrounding this barrow were a group of four discrete features that may have been associated. A single cremation was found within the square enclosure that along with the human bone contained a fragment of worked bone. Set to one side of the cremation was a small pile of animal bone, a pig mandible. Attached to the enclosure was a portion of a second, open enclosure of indeterminate use. With no direct association to either of the funerary monuments, a series of postholes and pits were recorded throughout the excavated area. The final phase of archaeological activity prior to the building of homes in the 20th century was a series of post-Medieval furrows.
Project dates	Start: 11-06-2012 End: 29-06-2012
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	RSC12 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	RN52190 - Related HER No.
Any associated project reference codes	11/00107/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project

Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	SQUARE BARROW Uncertain
Monument type	ROUND BARROW Uncertain
Monument type	CREMATION Uncertain
Significant Finds	WORKED BONE Uncertain
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	WORKED FLINT Mesolithic
Investigation type	"Open-area excavation"
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE PETERBOROUGH STANGROUND NORTH Roman and Saxon Court
Postcode	PE2 8LE
Study area	0 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 20775 97018 52 0 52 33 25 N 000 13 05 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 9.50m Max: 11.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Project brief originator	Unitary Authority Archaeologist
Project design originator	Emma Beadsmoore
Project director/ manager	Emma Beadsmoore
Project supervisor	Ricky Patten
Type of sponsor/ funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/ funding body	Cross Keys Homes

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Human Bones","Worked bone"
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit

Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Plan","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Excavation at Roman and Saxon Court, Coneygree Road, Stanground
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Patten, R.
Other bibliographic details	Report Number: 1106
Date	2012
Issuer or publisher	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Place of issue or publication	Cambridge
Description	A4 wire bound with clear plastic cover and black plastic back
Entered by	Ricky Patten (rp257@cam.ac.uk)
Entered on	25 July 2012

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