

# Land South of Wilberforce Road, Cambridge

An Archaeological Evaluation



Marcus Brittain



**CAMBRIDGE  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT**



**UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE**

# Land South of Wilberforce Road, Cambridge

## An Archaeological Evaluation

commissioned by  
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Project Team:

Project Manager **Christopher Evans** / Author **Marcus Brittain** / Graphics **Andrew Hall**

Specialist Contributors:

Christopher Boulton, Craig Cessford, Vida Rajkovača.

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Approved by **Christopher Evans**

  
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## ***Project Summary***

*An archaeological evaluation was conducted on land (1.45ha) formerly occupied by Grange Farm (established in 1823 as St John's New Farm) and passing through which is Akeman Street, Roman Cambridge's southern approach. Seven trenches and four test pits were opened, in addition to four trenches previously opened and reported on in 2013.*

*No prehistoric features or artefacts were encountered, though colluvium may have begun to form across the site during the later Iron Age.*

*Akeman Street traversed the site over a northeast-southwest orientation. It was up to 15.0m wide between its roadside ditches, with an agger of gravel over sandy clay to a maximum thickness of 0.3m. The agger was constructed over the early colluvium. A small amount of Roman pottery and animal bone came from two of the three ditches. The road was sealed by a second layer of colluvium.*

*No historical occupation was evident prior to the construction of the post-Medieval farm buildings. This produced material and evidence for construction across the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.*

## **Acknowledgements**

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## INTRODUCTION

The Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) was commissioned by Savills on behalf of St John's College to undertake an archaeological evaluation of 1.45 hectares of land in the City of Cambridge centred on TL 4346 5843 (Figure 1). The development area is formed of six separate plots (Plots 1-6). This report concerns Plots 1 and 2 in which fieldwork occurred over six days in August and September 2020.

The development area lies south of Wilberforce Road some 2.5km southwest of the historic centre of Cambridge. To the west is the University Sports Ground; the east edge of the PDA borders on private residence gardens and an area of woodland; the south boundary lies upon Herschel Road and a tributary (Edwin's Ditch) of the Bin Brook that is situated some 150m to the southeast.

Plots 1 and 2 cover the north half of the PDA and comprise overgrown grassland bisected north-south by an iron bar fence. Plot 1 was the former site of buildings of Grange Farm, demolished in the 1990s. Plot 2 was a small unoccupied field next to the farm buildings.

The site is crested at 14.5m OD at its north edge sloping to 10.2m OD on its southern limit. The solid geology is Gault Formation clay, underlain at depth by grey chalk of the West Marlbury Formation.

### *Methodology*

The work followed specifications outlined in a design brief for archaeological evaluation issued by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team (Gdaniec 2020) and a project specification outlined by the CAU. Eleven trenches and four test pits were investigated. Trenches 1-4 were excavated in 2013 and reported in Roberts (2013); although much of the post-Medieval archaeology was not recorded in detail in 2013, the data from these trenches have where possible been fully integrated here into the overall results and discussion. The 2013 trenches totalled 202.5m<sup>2</sup>; the 2020 investigations amounted to 247m<sup>2</sup>. The 2020 trenches were excavated using a nine-tonne 360° excavator with a 1.5m wide toothless bucket; the test pits were opened as part of watching brief during a geotechnical survey using a mini-digger equipped with a 0.45m wide toothless bucket. At the ends of each trench a manual scan of full machine buckets of topsoil and subsoil was conducted, though this returned only demolition rubble relating to the former Grange Farm.

Data sheets were completed for each trench to record section profiles and geology. Archaeological features were hand excavated and manually recorded on context sheets and to scales of 1:10 (sections) in addition to digital survey of completed works. Features numbers (F.#) were used to group stratigraphic events recorded by individual context numbers ([context #]). Profiles of the Roman road in Trenches 6 and 7 were recorded using GPS and photogrammetry. All excavated features and trenches were photographed with a digital SLR in both high resolution JPEG and RAW format.

The manual and digital record has been catalogued together with the physical archive following procedures outlined in MoRPHE (Historic England 2015). This is stored at the CAU offices under the site code WFR20.

## *Historical and Archaeological Background*

Detailed overviews of the site's investigative history have been explored elsewhere and need not be replicated here (Appleby 2013; Dickens 2012; Wiseman 2020). Some backdrop to the site's main representative phases – Roman and post-Medieval – is outlined here.

### Roman

Running southwest-northeast through the PDA is the line of Akeman Street, a road established at least by Roman times and marked on historic maps (Figure 2). This is evident as a cropmark and registers as a low earthwork in LiDAR imagery further south from the PDA. The road connected Cirencester with Ermine Street and through to the heart of Roman Cambridge on Castle Hill from where it diverts slightly north from its alignment towards Denver (as Mere Way) and beyond. Noting Bishop Bennett's eighteenth century observation of the road being 'easily followed along the green balks in the fields at the back of the Colleges,' it was traced by Babington in the later nineteenth century as a raised camber 'close to the eastern end of the buildings of St John's College Farm' (i.e. Grange Farm; Babington 1883: 20-21) and then later by Walker (1912: 158) in the field southwest of the farmyard where, less distinct as an earthwork, the farm's labourers pointed out its hardness against the plough. There, between Barton Farm and Grange Farm, Walker collected 'bits of Roman pots and fragments of bronze' (*ibid.*).

A significant kink in the alignment of Akeman Street as it passes through the fortified centre of Roman Cambridge has raised a number of questions, notably whether or not the road had any impact at all on the layout of the earlier settlement there (Evans and Lucas 2020: 62 and 83). Detailing of its chronological inception and use is lacking and would undoubtedly aid to a positioning of the road within the town's historical narrative. Within Cambridge little of Akeman Street has been formally investigated – or at least reported – to any thorough degree (see Evans and Lukas 2020: 32 and 36, figure 2.8), and only a few trench-excavated slots have been opened across it to the north and south of the town. Opening a trench near to Barton early in the twentieth century, Walker exposed the road as defined by two parallel ditches 12 feet apart (c. 3.65m), framing an agger of chalk, gravel, cobbles and sand up to four feet in total thickness (*ibid.*: 159). More recently, on the north side of Cambridge at Milton, a machine-excavated section was recorded over the course of the road as part of a Water Main installation (Ozanne 1991). The distance between its flanking ditches came to 16m, between which a 10.0m wide agger of sand and gravel metalling over hard-packed clayey silt survived to a height of 0.45m. Investigations further north at Landbeach have found the roadside ditches to lie 14-16m apart and beside a 3.0-10.0m wide and heavily truncated agger surviving to a height of 0.3-0.5m (Macaulay 1997; Casa Hatton 2003). There, gravel and sand were immediately available and quarried for use in the agger. Dating evidence for the construction of the road and the duration of its use has been extremely limited from each of these investigations; pottery of the second to fourth century came from the roadside ditches and trackway ditches that preceded the road at Landbeach, and a post-Hadrianic date of construction was postulated (Macaulay 1997: 17).

Immediately northeast of the PDA on the line of the road a disturbed but undated inhumation was found at 17 Adams Road (Burnham *et al.* 1998: 400) and further burials are recorded in the vicinity at St John's cricket ground and along Grange Road (Walker 1912; CHER 04927A).

Domestic material found in association to this is suggestive of roadside settlement, either suburban or of a farmstead independent from the town (Evans and Lucas 2020: 80).

An increasing number of Roman settlements have been identified across the local area. The east edge to one of these was investigated in 2018 in advance to the construction of two hockey pitches at the University Sports Ground (Brittain and Evans 2018; Evans and Brittain, in Evans and Lucas 2020: 464-89). This three-phase Roman settlement of the first to third centuries AD was preceded by intermittent or 'casual' prehistoric activity and began as a coaxial field system oriented northeast-southwest. The second phase saw a farmstead with paddock features upon a slightly different and more northerly alignment with a ditched trackway that in the third phase was extended and the ditches enlarged. A pottery kiln was associated with this second phase. Less than 300m north of this settlement was another at Vicar's Farm approached by a driveway or track with a metalled surface.

### Post-Medieval

The development area is located on land formerly retained by the St John's Barns that since the thirteenth century oversaw the West Fields farmland owned by the Hospital of St John (Brown and Osborne 2003: 99). The 'Barns' were located on today's site of Westminster College between Madingley Road, Lady Margaret Road, Northampton Street and Pound Hill. This was referred to as the 'Grange' and henceforth became known as Grange Farm. This site became redundant in the first quarter of the nineteenth century on account of its proximity to the town. The development area became the site of the farm's new buildings in 1827 under the name of St John's New Farm, later then being referred to again as Grange Farm.

A lease signed by Thomas Woodward for land associated with St John's Barns in 1678 refers only to 'meadows and pasture' as well as arable fields.<sup>1</sup> The earliest pre-enclosure map of the Cambridge West Fields from 1789 gives little indication that the site was anything other than an arable field at this time. The lay of the fields however, aligned northeast-southwest with Berton Way, shows that the earthwork of the Roman road – perhaps also surviving in places as a tree line or hedge row – was pivotal to the physical ordering of the field allotment.

Enclosure of the West Fields occurred in 1805. A lease for the old Grange Farm in 1806, signed for 17 years between William Craven, Master of St John's College, and Thomas Atwood, a Cambridge farmer, covered some 223 acres and six perches of arable grass and garden grounds along with three acres of woods, as well as 18 perches of meadow at Granchester.<sup>2</sup> This all came to a sum of £163 and ten shillings along with various crop allocations. A map showing the farm holdings accompanied the lease, on which the PDA is marked with the letter 'd' to a scale of 25 acres, one rood and 15 perches. This was referenced as arable land and was registered within a stipulation that up to one third of the farmland would be laid to clover pasture after five years.

Hawkes' Cambridge map of 1830 shows the newly established buildings of 'St John's New Farm' as approached by tracks from the north and east with an orchard south of the buildings that are arranged on three sides of a central courtyard. This is again illustrated on a map accompanying the 1866 lease (Figure 3) in which the main approach to the farm is shown as directed from the east, crossing Bin Brook and connecting with Burrells Walk; another

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<sup>1</sup> SJC Archive ref. D24.229

<sup>2</sup> SJC Archive ref. MPS 112

trackway into the farm appears to project from the west.<sup>3</sup> Some remodelling of the east range of buildings appears to have occurred on the 1875 lease map, with an extension to the south range.<sup>4</sup> By the mid-1880s the central courtyard was bisected east-west by another range of buildings and the main access to the farm was re-routed from the north (what later became formalised as Wilberforce Road), though with the east and west lanes still present (Figure 3).<sup>5</sup> Greenhouses and a water pump are marked on the 1888 OS map in the southeast corner of the buildings arrangement, with gardens to the east of this. Various additions or amendments occur within successive OS maps thereafter into the 1920s (Figure 3). The 1970s OS indicates the removal of many of the buildings from the east aspect of the courtyard and the emergence of a new large building in the northeast corner (Figure 3), which may represent two phases of the main homestead.

The earliest reference to a tenant at St John's New Farm is Thomas Tofts in 1833 (Cooper 1833: 25). Tofts held various land leases with a considerable coverage across the region, including at Barton and Comberton, and the Tofts family maintained its connection to the farm into the early 1870s, after which Swan Wallis was the farm tenant until 1894. The farm continued in operation until the 1970s. Its final occupant was Bill Cook, who came to Grange Farm in 1966 from the Bury St Edmunds estate of the Rothschild family where he was the herdsman.<sup>6</sup> The University's Veterinary School used some of the farm's buildings for their horses after the farm's official closure. Falling into a ruinous state, the buildings were demolished in the 1990s.

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<sup>3</sup> SJC Archive ref. MPS 495

<sup>4</sup> SJC Archive ref. DC20.265

<sup>5</sup> SJC Archive ref. MPS 760

<sup>6</sup> Bill Cook pers. comm. to Dr Christopher Jeans, Sept 2020

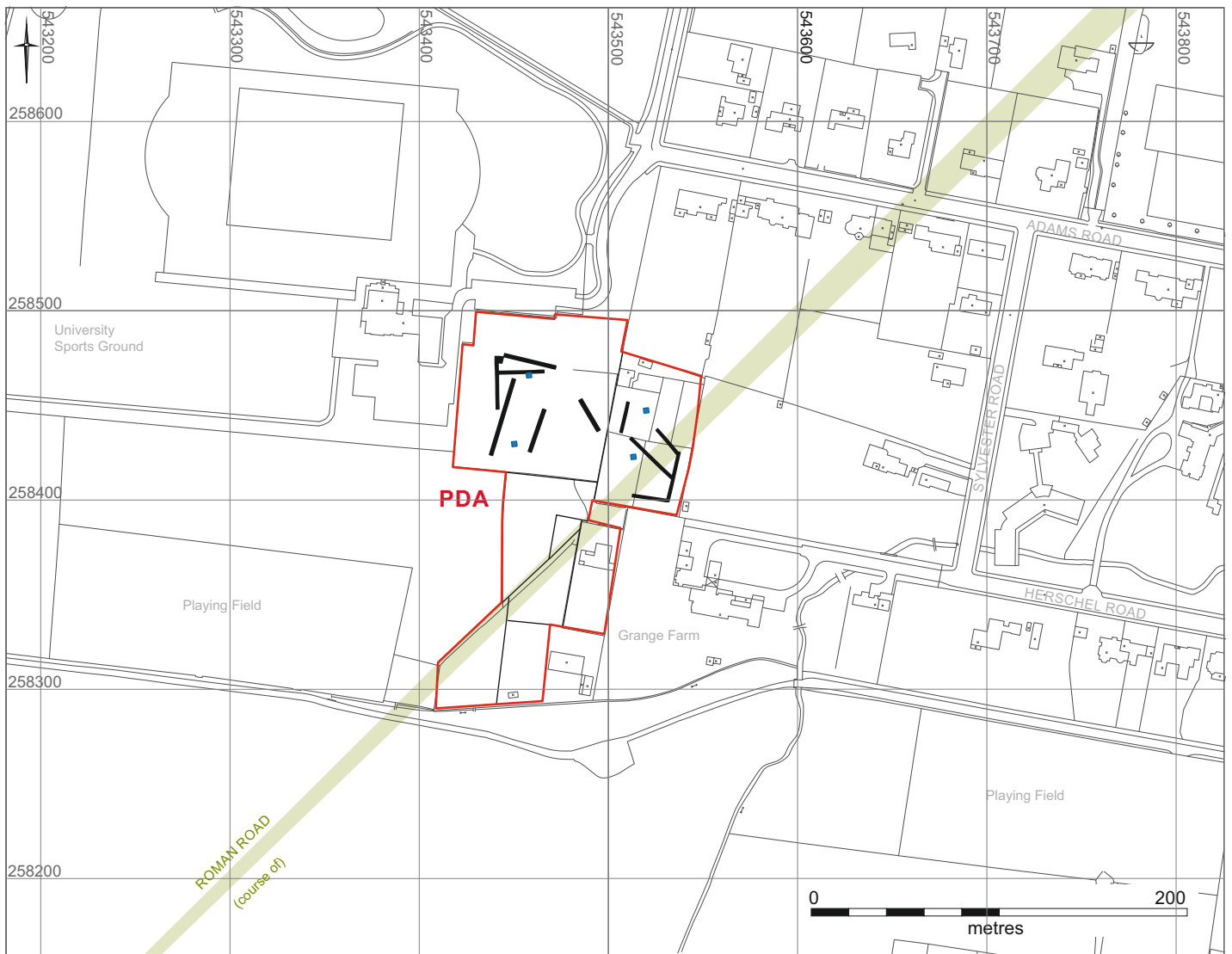
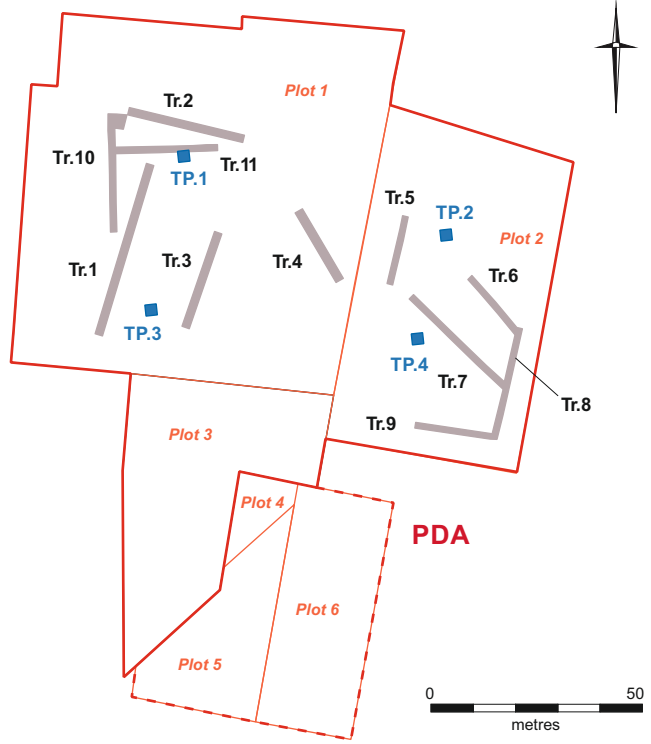


Figure 1. Site location

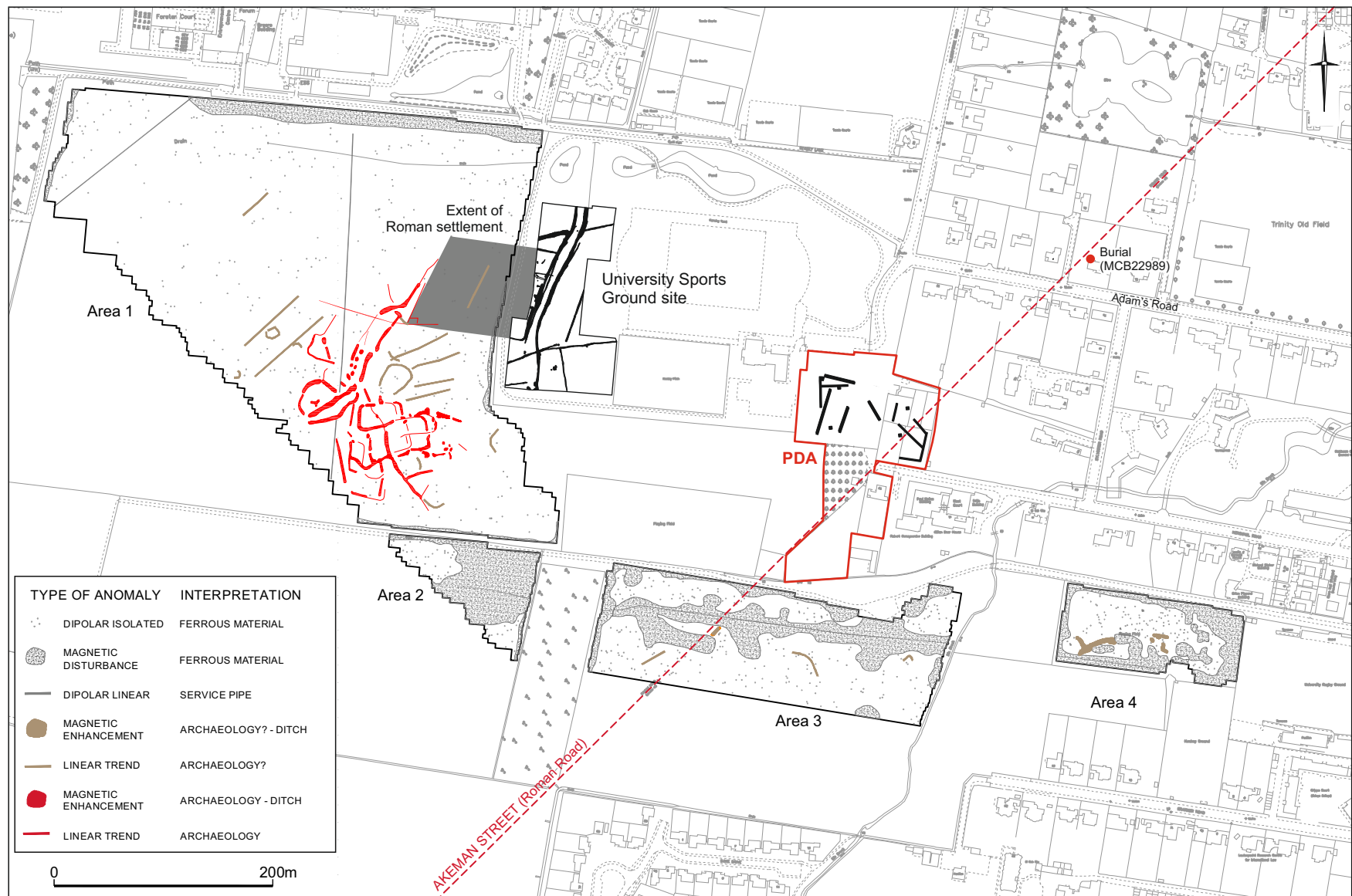
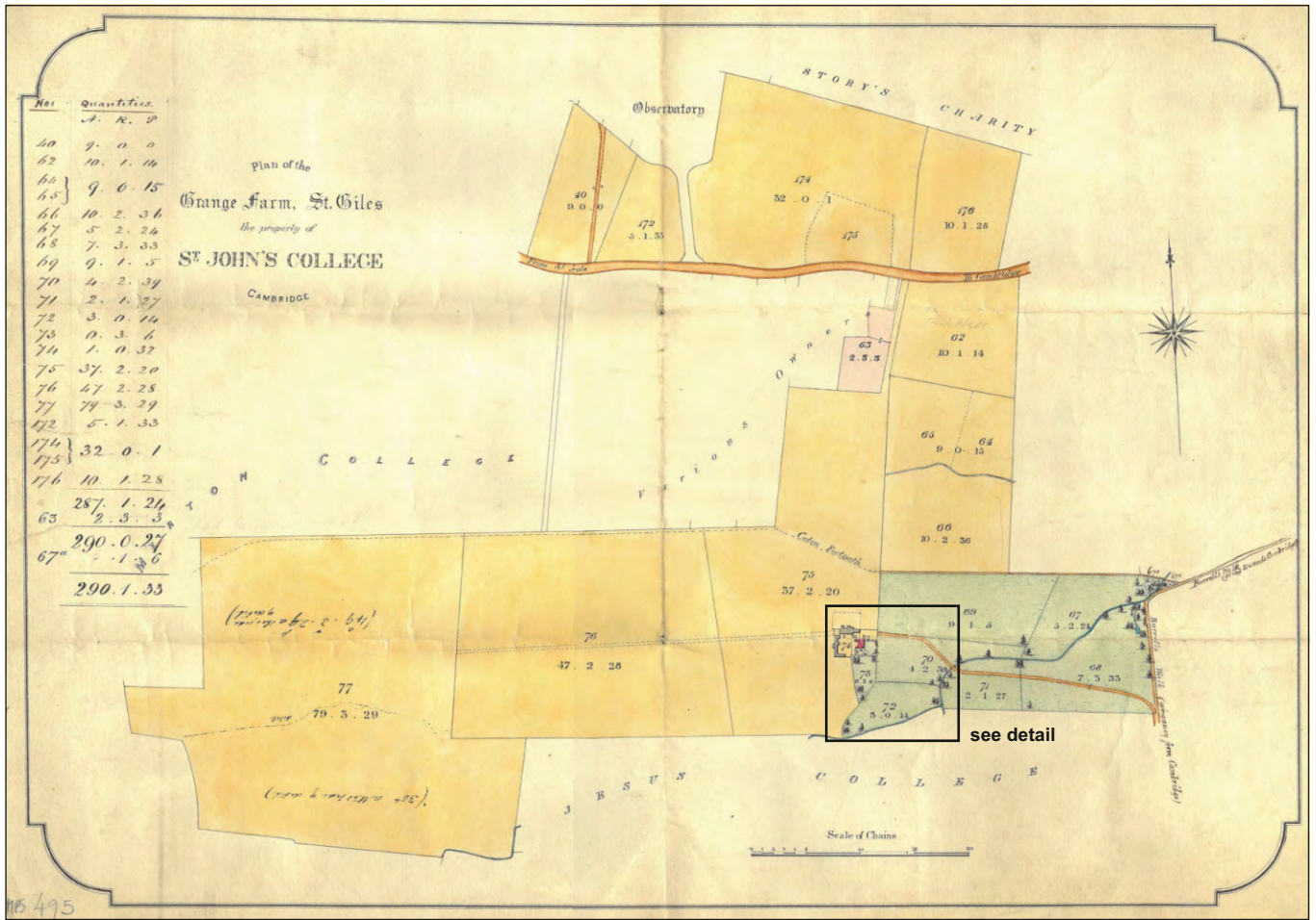
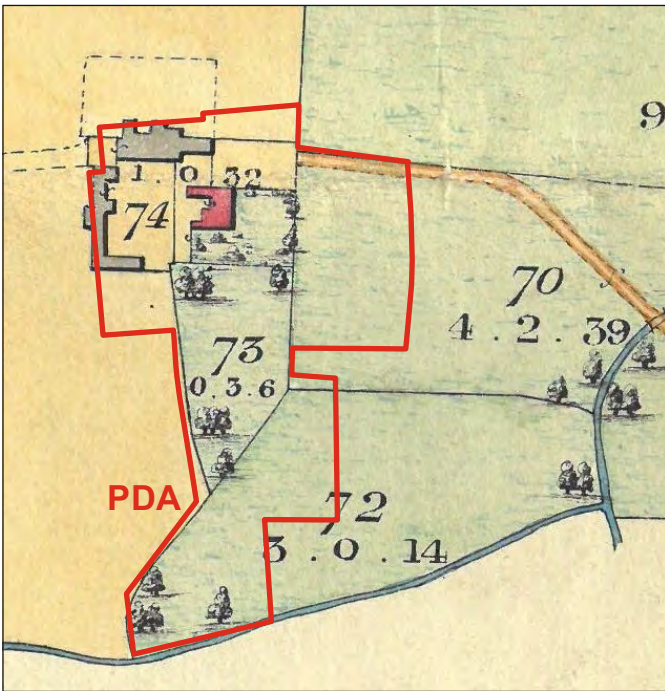


Figure 2. Roman Akeman Street, showing geophysical survey and excavation results in the immediate vicinity of the Proposed Development Area (PDA)

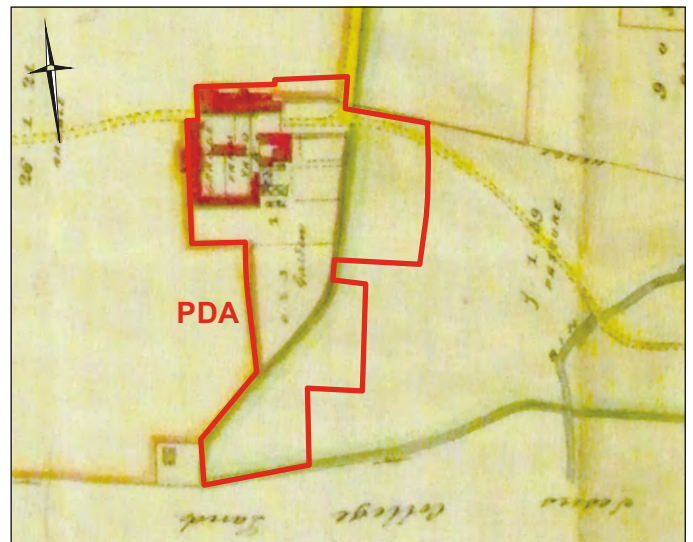




A: 1866 Lease map, SJC MPS495

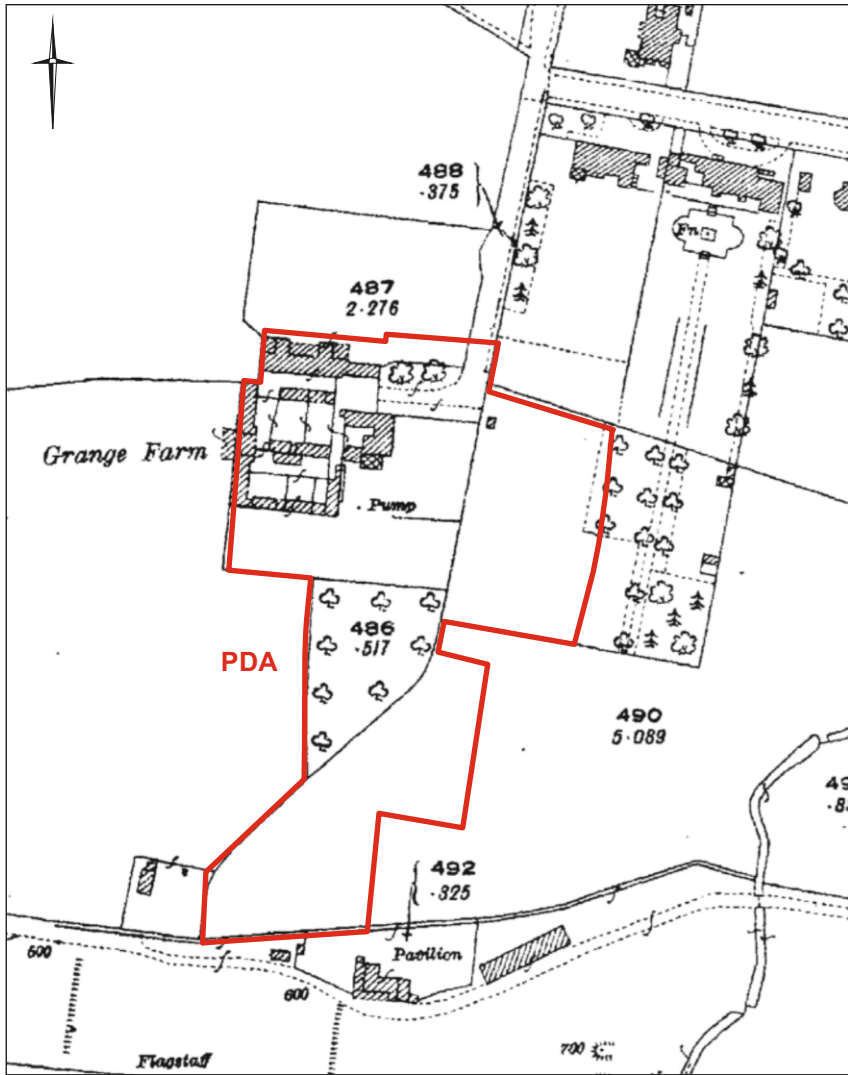


B: 1866 Lease map (detail), SJC MPS495

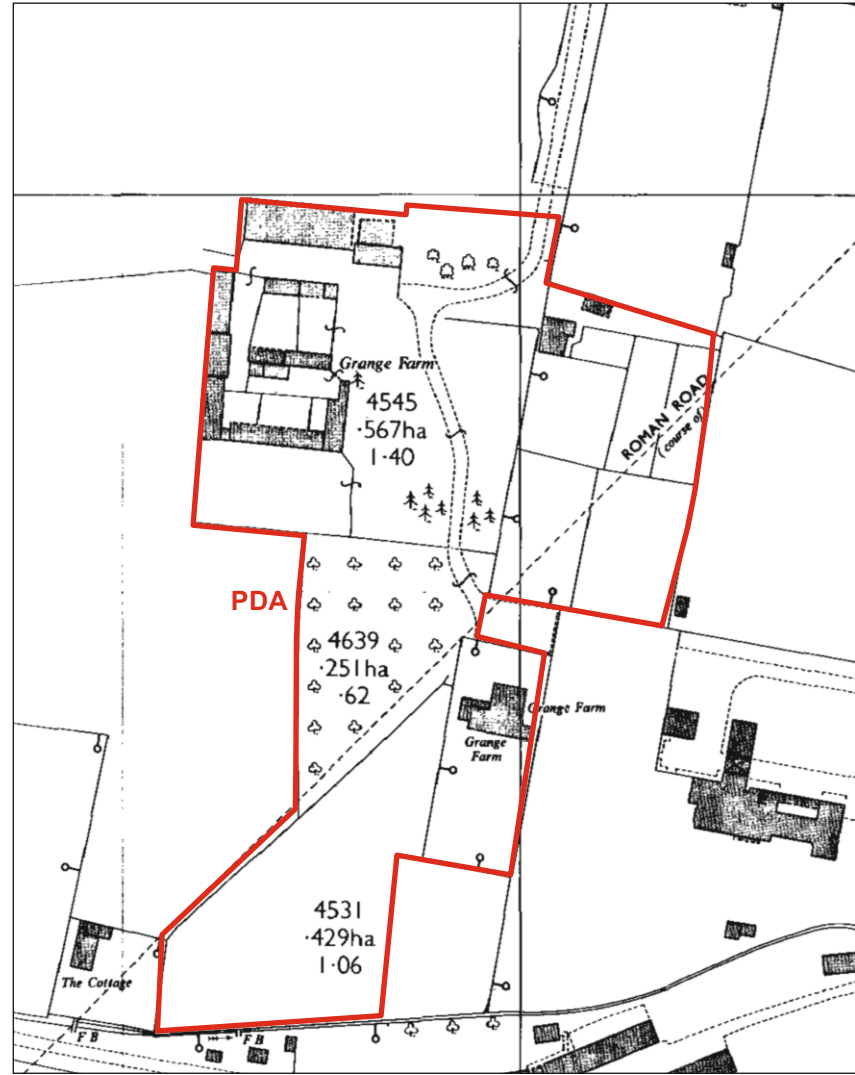


C: 1894 Lease map, SJC MPS496

Figure 3a. St. John's New Farm / Grange Farm historic mapping



A: 1920 OS map



B: 1970 OS map

Figure 3b. St. John's New Farm / Grange Farm historic mapping

## RESULTS (Figures 4-7)

No prehistoric features or finds were encountered. The Roman road was found buried with some upstanding preservation of its agger framed by one or two ditches on either side; no other associated Roman features were present. Minor evidence for pre-farm activity was visible that may indicate continued use of the road as a landscape feature and routeway. The overwhelming majority of the material archive derives from the occupation of the Grange Farm buildings and their demolition (Table 1).

Detailed in Table 2, colluvium was recorded from within the east half of the site in Trenches 4-9; although colluvium was reported as occurring in Trenches 1-3 (Roberts 2013) this was not present in Trenches 10 and 11 and, moreover, reassessment of the photographic record for Trenches 1-3 confirms that farm activities are likely to have significantly reduced the colluvium in the west half of the site, if not having removed it altogether. Two layers of silty clay colluvium were present, distinguished either by colour – the lower being of lighter yellow brown hue – or by stratigraphic relation to the Roman road that was constructed upon the lower colluvium and part encased by the upper colluvium.

Material	Roman		Post-Medieval	
	QTY	Wt (g)	QTY	Wt (g)
Pottery	3	17	511	5312
Bone	180	653	21	163
Glass	.	.	127	2078
Metal	.	.	24	719
Shell	.	.	13	153
Worked bone	.	.	2	58

Table 1. Summary of the material archive, not including CBM

To the immediate west of the site at the University Sports Ground the Gault clay was overlain by deposits of colluvium up to 0.5m thick; there, the lowest contour rested at 12.0m OD (Brittain and Evans 2018). The colluvium occurred in two layers. The lowest colluvial layer was found to seal archaeological features dated to the Early Iron Age and was cut by Roman features dated to within the first to third centuries that were subsequently sealed by a second, upper deposit of colluvium. It was concluded that the lower colluvium may therefore bear relation to later Iron Age clearance and land use.

The main archaeological features are overviewed here with more detailed feature descriptions listed in Appendix 1.

### *Roman*

All Roman features occurred in Plot 2 (Figures 4 and 5).

The course of Akeman Street was fully exposed in Trenches 6 and 7 with its south edge being partially clipped in Trench 9. The road was aligned northeast-southwest and comprised an 8.0m wide agger of 0.1m thick gravel [87] over a 0.05-0.2m thick foundation made of coarse yellowish brown silty sand [88]. The agger was laid directly upon the lower band of colluvium and was framed on its north side by ditches F.1 and F.2 that were each 1.0-0.72m wide and

0.47-0.2m deep; along the south side of the road was a single, larger ditch, F.5, that was 1.5m wide and 0.66m deep. The gravel capping the agger was present only between ditches F.2 and F.5; its sand foundation extended across the whole width of the road. The maximum distance between the outer edge of ditches F.1 and F.5 to either side of the agger totalled 15.0m.

Within each of the ditches was a basal fill of firm mid to light orangey-brown clay with rare instances of stone or marl inclusions. This may represent weathering into the ditches from the lower colluvium through which they cut, though this may also have developed as an outcome of continued colluvial formation. The nature of the fills overlying these basal clay deposits differed slightly for each of the roadside ditches. Gravel from the agger was seen to slump into ditch F.2 in Trench 7 [17] but was absent from this ditch in Trench 6 and also absent in ditch F.1. A small patch of sandy gravel [86] overlay the basal clay fill of ditch F.5 and was then sealed by sand [12 and 84] slumped from the agger foundation. Each ditch was subsequently capped by moderately compact mid to light yellowish grey-brown clayey silt from which a clutch of cow and sheep bone was recovered in F.2 as well as two sherds of sandy red ware from F.1 and F.5, probably of a broad second to fourth century date. The agger had evidently been impacted by various post-Medieval activities.

### *Post-Medieval*

A number of shallow features cut into the gravel agger of the Roman road. Some of these may relate to robbing of the gravel or to general farm-related activities (Figure 4). Feature 21 in Trench 7 was filled with dark grey stony silt and produced fragments of clay tobacco pipe, a nail and a sherd of sixteenth to seventeenth century pottery. Hollow F.44 truncated the centre of the agger in Trench 7 over a width of 3.0m, there removing the gravel to expose the underlying sandy foundation in which a sherd of post-Medieval tile and a nail were impressed into its surface. Filled with light yellowish grey 'subsoil', this may have formed through erosion by later use of the surviving earthwork as a passage through the West Fields. Almost one third of the entire agger had been removed in the south half of Trench 6. Two shallow linear features, F.3 and F.4, were present there, filled with mid to dark grey silt. These produced no finds, but F.3 was overlain by a ceramic field drain. Although it is possible that these underlay the road structure, they could equally – and more likely – be a later intrusion into it.

Two features in the south end of Trench 8 contained modern refuse, including a rubber-soled shoe.

All features in Trenches 1-5 and 10-11 relate to buildings or activities associated with Grange Farm (Figures 6 and 7). Very broadly, they may be distinguished by two overlapping phases of buildings that respectively correspond with the relevant maps of the nineteenth century and the twentieth century. The nineteenth century buildings were mainly built of red and yellow handmade unfrosted bricks with a straight (i.e. not off-set) foundation, roofed with slate. The later use of ventilated yellow brick and offset foundations appears in the twentieth century building phases along with pan tile roofing. There are four main feature groups that are of note.

- a) The east range of buildings, mid to late nineteenth century: Trenches 2, 3 and 11. The main excavated features comprise wall F.14 that forms part of what may have been the main nineteenth century residence, with Fs.31-34 and F.41. This surrounded a floor of red glazed tile over brick. Abutting the outer side of wall F.14 was an undisturbed dump deposit [51] containing mid to late nineteenth century ceramics (1851+); glass

Area	Length	Width	Depth	Topsoil	Subsoil	Other layers		Colluvium thickness		No. Features	Period
						Type / thickness		Upper	Lower		
TP1	2.7	0.45	0.5	0.3	.	Demolition material	0.25	.		1	Post-Med
TP2	2	0.45	0.66	0.2	0.2	.		0.26		0	n/a
TP3	2	0.45	0.47	0.47	.	.		.		0	n/a
TP4	2.5	0.45	0.7	0.25	0.15	.		0.3		0	n/a
Tr1	42.6	1.8	n/a			Demolition material	-	.		9	Post-Med
Tr2	28.4	1.8	n/a			Demolition material	-	.		7	Post-Med
Tr3	24	1.8	n/a			Demolition material	-	.		5	Post-Med
Tr4	17.5	1.8	n/a			.		0.3		0	n/a
Tr5	17	1.5	0.77	0.17-0.24	.	Made ground	0.2	0.1	0.23	5	Post-Med
Tr6	17	1.5	0.72	0.25	0.1-0.2	.		0.28	0.2	7	Roman & Post-Med
Tr7	31	1.5	0.72	0.25	0.1-0.2	.		.	0.3	8	Roman & Post-Med
Tr8	27.3	1.5	0.75	0.3	0.1-0.15	.		0.17	0.14	3	Roman & Post-Med
Tr9	18.3	1.5	0.6	0.28	0.1-0.15	.		0.17	0.13	1	Roman
Tr10	28.4	1.5	0.6	0.1	.	Demolition material	0.5	.		7	Post-Med
Tr11	24	1.5	0.6	0.1	.	Demolition material	0.5	.		11	Post-Med

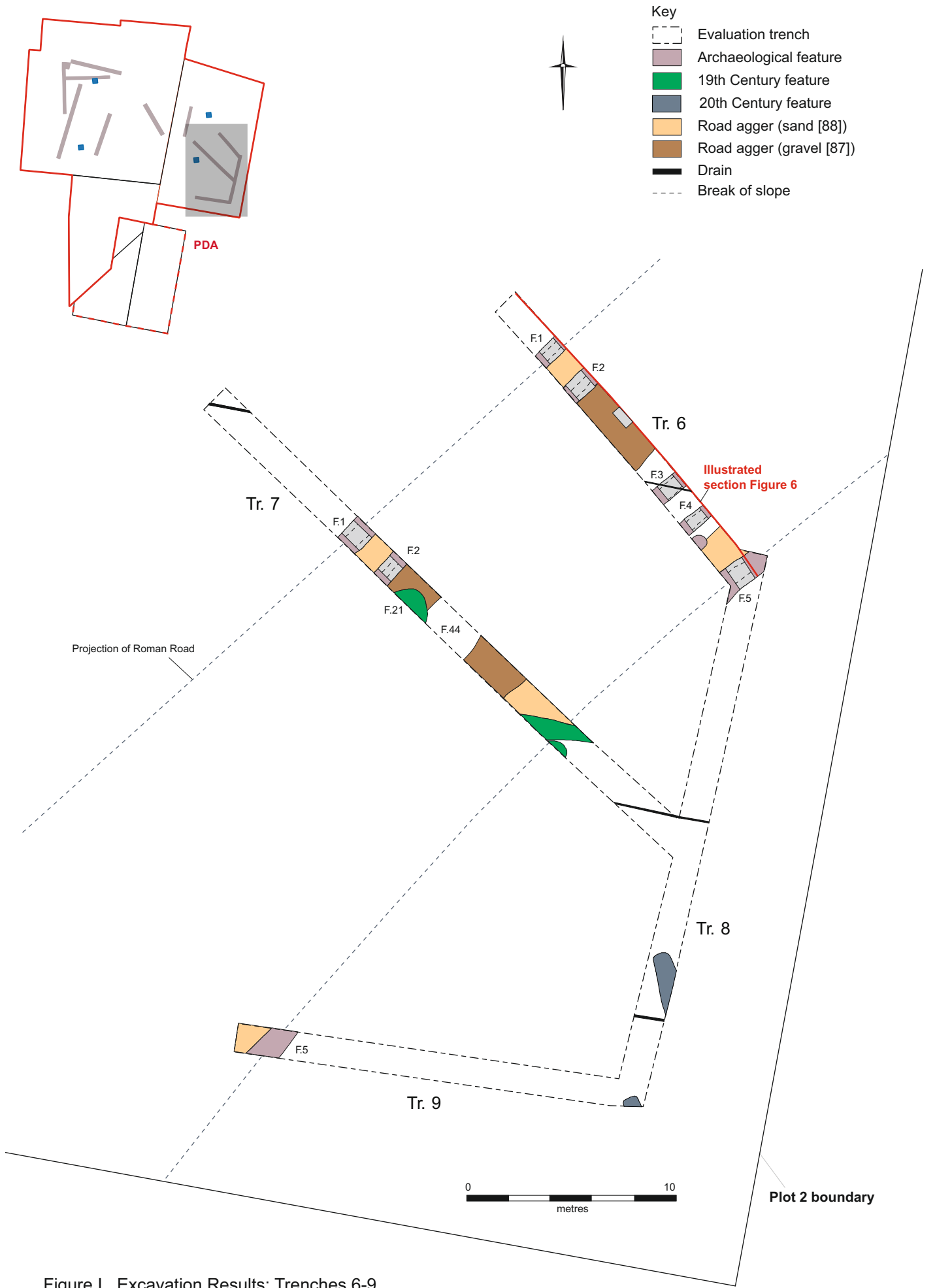
Table 2. Trench overview



including three drinking vessels, dairy bottles and mineral water bottles; a decorated worked bone culinary knife handle; fragments of tobacco pipe. Parts of the building may have been decorated with faced flint.

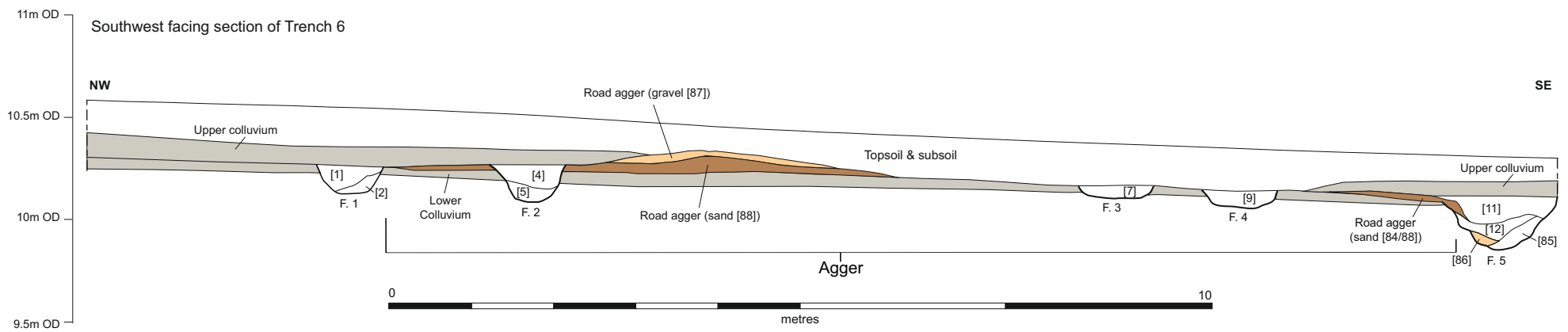
- b) Centre-south courtyard buildings, late nineteenth/ early twentieth century: Trenches 1 and 10. Feature 19 represented the foundation to a walled building with an interior c. 3.6m wide and 8.0m long floored with an edge-laid brick surface with inset drainage channel. A lead water pipe ran aside the north side of the building.
- c) Centre-north courtyard buildings, early twentieth century: Trenches 2 and 10. Walls F.17, F.29 and F.30 defined a twentieth century addition to the courtyard area divided into several rooms. Abutting wall F.17 was a shallow depression or pit F.16, 0.1m deep with a flat base pock-marked with large lumps of iron slag (occasionally containing green copper-like impurities) impressed into the natural basal clay and entirely filling the feature. The construction of Adams Road in 1898 required 'a nine-inch consolidated bed of large ironstone slag' with 'a two-inch consolidated bed of similar but finer material' (Guillebaud 2007: 36). Such material is present in the garden soil of residences on Adams Road today. The material in F.16, though seemingly a dumped deposit perhaps used to provide a solid footing, contained a ceramic assemblage with sherds that had been subject to secondary heating and had become adhered with the slaggy residue. A nearby source for the deposit is a possibility.
- d) Water source, nineteenth and twentieth century: Trench 3. Revealed in 2013 were various features that included a brick-lined culvert (F.36) and an animal burial (F.38?). The map evidence shows these to lie in proximity to a pump and, in the nineteenth century, related buildings (see F.37 and F.39). Visible through the ground surface is a 2.0m<sup>2</sup> brick foundation, F.42, that may represent the position of the pump or a well.





- Key**
- Evaluation trench
  - Archaeological feature
  - 19th Century feature
  - 20th Century feature
  - Road agger (sand [88])
  - Road agger (gravel [87])
  - Drain
  - Break of slope

Figure 1 . Excavation Results: Trenches 6-9



Close up of agger [87]  
30cm scale



Bone cluster in F. 1, Trench 7  
30cm scale



Ditch F. 5, Trench 6  
1.0m scale

Figure 1. Sections and photographs: Roman

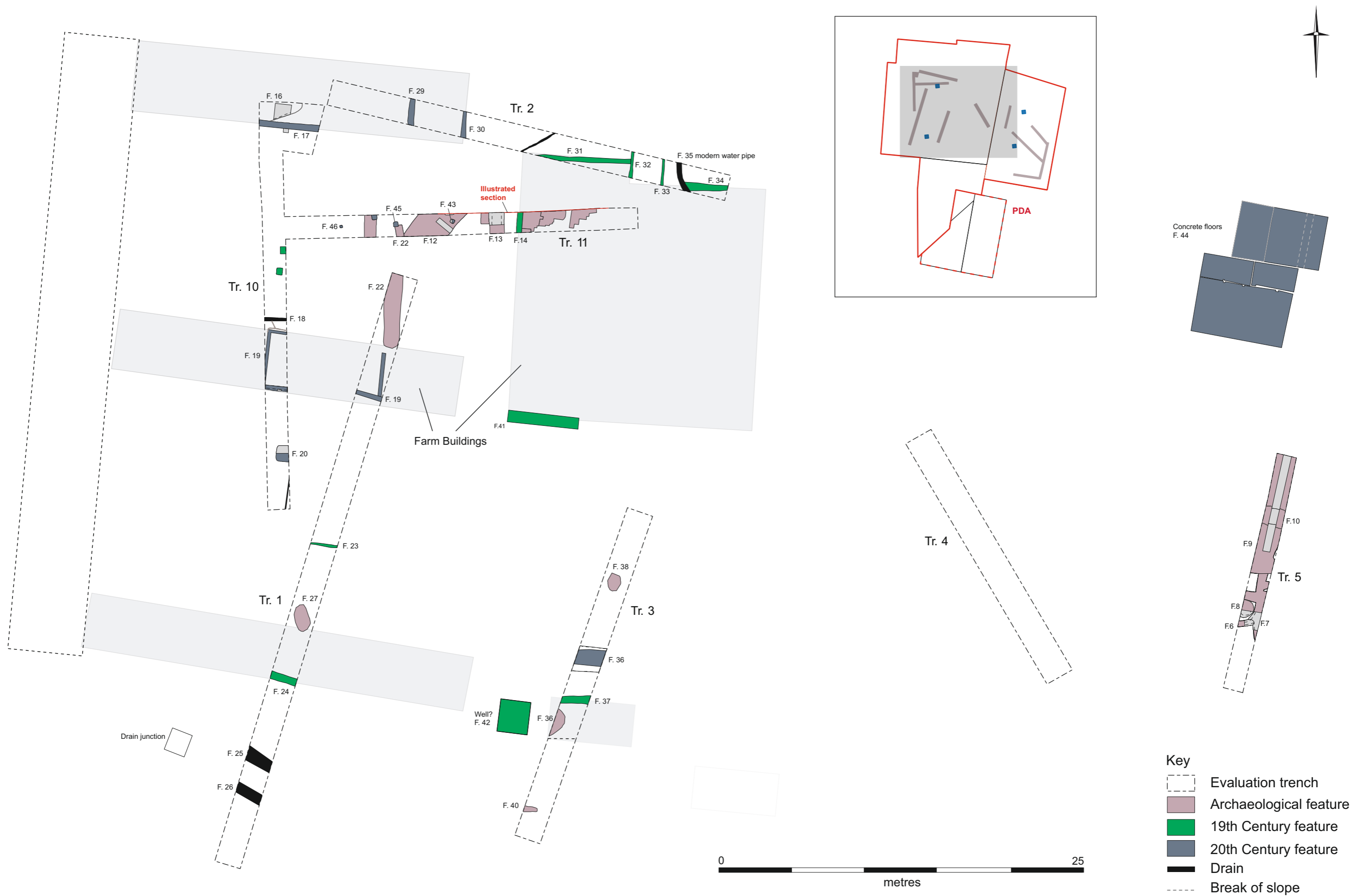
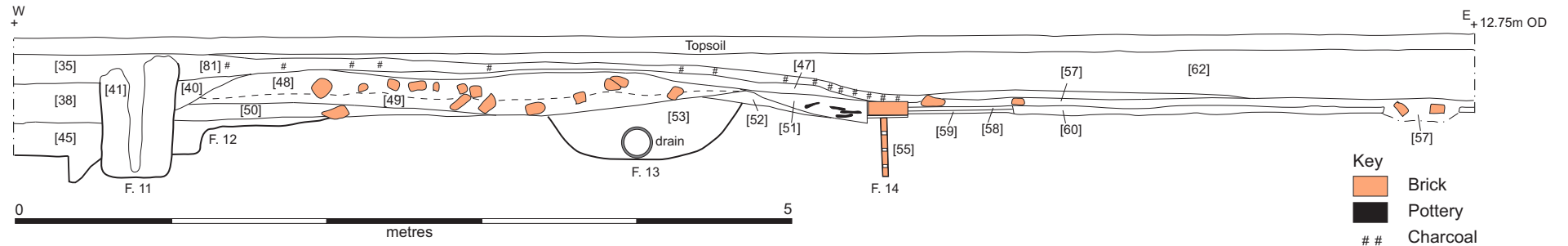


Figure 1. Excavation Results: Trenches 1-5, 10-11



South facing section of Trench 11



Trench 5, F.6 - F.10



Trench 10, F.18 & F.19



Trench 10, F.16 & F.17



Trench 11, F.14

Figure 7. Sections and photographs: Post-medieval

## MATERIAL CULTURE

### Roman Pottery

Just three sherds of Roman pottery were recovered totaling 17g. Two sherds of sandy red buff coarseware came from the upper fills of ditches F.1 [1] and F.5 [11] in Trench 6 and an abraded sherd of Colchester imitation samian was collected from the subsoil of Trench 9.

### Post-Medieval Ceramics by Craig Cessford

The evaluation produced a small assemblage of Post-Medieval ceramics: 511 sherds weighing *c.* 5.2kg (the exact weight is unknown, due to a slaggy material adhering to some of the pottery in F.16) (Tables 3-4). Most of the ceramics are of nineteenth to twentieth century date and although there is an absence of closely dateable material, the impression is of a predominantly mid/late nineteenth–early/mid-twentieth-century date. A small quantity of earlier material is present, although some of this appears to be curated/heirloom material that was in use at the same time as most of the assemblage. The nineteenth to twentieth century ceramics are all made of relatively common fabrics and forms and broadly typical of those found more generally in Cambridge at this time (Cessford, Hall and Hall in Cessford and Dickens 2019: 337–41). The ceramics are also comparable to other ceramic assemblages from sites of this period in the West Fields of Cambridge, such as Vicar’s Farm (Evans and Lucas 2020), North West Cambridge (Evans and Cessford 2014) and Merton Hall Farm (Newman 2017). There are some interesting elements to the assemblage, including the presence of collegiate pottery, items that can be linked to local businesses and some possible ‘heirloom’ and ‘personal’ items.

Fabric	QTY	Wt (g)	Date	Comments
Glazed red earthenware	1	19	C16-18	.
Art pottery	6	114	C19-20	.
Black Basalt	1	12	1760–1820	Engine turned lid
Blue bodied earthenware	7	76	Mid- C19-20	.
Bone china	36	130	1794+	Teawares
Chinese export porcelain	4	10	C18	Probably 2 vessels, 1 with Imari decoration
Late glazed red earthenware	5	117	C16-19	Appears predominantly C19
Iron glazed earthenware	2	30	C16-19	Probably C19
Late unglazed earthenware	8	77	Mid- C19-20	Flowerpots, one by Sankey’s of Bulwell which locally date to <i>c.</i> 1860+
Lead glazed earthenware	1	26	C19-20	.
Nottinghamshire/Derbyshire-type stoneware	10	368	C18-19	Probably all mid/late C19
Sunderland-type coarseware	19	252	Mid-C18–late C19	Locally appears to be only 19th century and predominantly <i>c.</i> 1860–80
Utilitarian English stoneware	46	1298	C19-20	Variety of containers, including ginger beer bottles
Whiteware	364	2767	1805+	Variety of forms. Range of patterns, some collegiate material. Predominantly mid-C19-C20, but some probably early C19
Yellowware	1	16	Late C18-20	Mainly 1870+
<b>Total</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>5312</b>	.	.

Table 3. Ceramic assemblage quantified by fabric.

Context	Feature	Area	Spot date
23	8	Tr5	C19-C20
53	13	Tr10	Mid- C19-C20
65	16	Tr10	1862+
67	17	Tr10	1879+, probably early C20
78	20	Tr10	Mid- C19-C20
91	21	Tr7	C16-C17
32	N/A	Tr11	1882+, probably early C20
51	N/A	Tr11	1851+
62	N/A	Tr11	Mid- C19-C20
92	N/A	Tr10	Mid- C19-C20
93	N/A	Tr10	Mid- C19-C20, probably 1882+

Table 4. Ceramic spot-dates.

There were two to four vessels linked to Selwyn College, founded in 1882: an eggcup and one or possibly two plates from context [32] and probably another vessel from context [93]. These are largely plain whiteware vessels with the college badge and name in red transfer print. A fragment from a similar vessel was found in an assemblage at North West Cambridge deposited *c.* 1896–1900 (Cessford and Evans 2014: 392. For Cambridge college ceramics see Cessford 2016). The presence of multiple vessels linked to one of the smaller Cambridge colleges suggests some specific linkage between the site and the college.

Several vessels can be linked to local businesses. There were two stoneware bottles for YE OLDE HOME BREWED GINGER BEER, produced by Wadsworth's of Cambridge and manufactured at the Fulham pottery in London ([32] and [67]). Wadsworth's was originally based in St. Ives, with the Cambridge business opening in 1879. In the 1930s it went into partnership, becoming Barker and Wadsworth, and the name on its products changed. These bottles probably date to the twentieth century. A small whiteware jar is marked GEORGE PECK, CHEMIST. / 30, TRUMPINGTON STREET. / CAMBRIDGE. in black transfer print. This business started in 1851 and continued well into the twentieth century (Ellis 2002). The vessel is marked on the underside TOOGOOD / PATENT / LONDON. This is a common mark, which relates to a patented design with grooves on opposite sides of the lid and base through which string was passed to secure the two parts.

There are a few earlier pieces that appear still to have been in use in the late nineteenth–early twentieth century. Mainly from context [51], these include some of the whiteware, a Black Basalt vessel, and four thin-walled sherds from two Chinese export vessels dating to the 1740s–1760s, of which one was decorated with Imari pattern in overglaze red and underglaze blue, and the other in underglaze blue and white (pers. comm. Andrew Hall).

There is also a transfer printed plate depicting the Crystal Palace ([51]), which may represent some form of personal memento of the Great Exhibition of 1851. Both 'heirloom' and 'personal' elements are often found in 'clearance' deposits of this period (cf. Cessford 2017).

### **Tobacco Pipe**

The assemblage includes 12 fragments of clay tobacco pipe totalling 26.75g (Table 5). Of these, nine came from context [51], dated by ceramics to 1851+. All were unmarked stem fragments, only one of which partially turned to a bowl base.



Cat. No.	Feature	Context	Area	Qty	Wt (g)	Description	Length	Diam.	Aperture Diam.
60	18	73	Tr10	1	0.85	Fragment of pipe stem	20	6	2
60	18	73	Tr10	1	5.5	Fragment of pipe stem and base of bowl	45	7.5	2
61	21	91	Tr7	1	5	Fragment of pipe stem	66	7	1.5
59	.	51	Tr11	1	4.3	Fragment of pipe stem	43	10	3
59	.	51	Tr11	1	1.7	Fragment of pipe stem	45	5	1.5
59	.	51	Tr11	1	1.2	Fragment of pipe stem	29	5	1.5
59	.	51	Tr11	1	2.1	Fragment of pipe stem	23	8	2
59	.	51	Tr11	1	1	Fragment of pipe stem	18	6	2
59	.	51	Tr11	1	0.5	Fragment of pipe stem	16	5	2
59	.	51	Tr11	1	0.5	Fragment of pipe stem	23	4	1.5
59	.	51	Tr11	1	0.5	Fragment of pipe stem	14	6	2
59	.	51	Tr11	1	3.6	Fragment of pipe stem. Burnt and blackened exterior and on breaks.	36	8	2.5

Table 5. Summary of Tobacco Pipe with dimensions in *mm*.

## Glass

Coming entirely from Trenches 10 and 11, a small assemblage of glass was retrieved amounting to 127 shards weighing 2078g (Table 6). Amongst this were two intact vessels totalling 527g. The assemblage included 22 shards of window glass weighing 135.5g. The remainder of the assemblage comprised vessel fragments, mostly from bottles, with sherds from three drinking vessels and two decorative vessels. All the glass dates to the nineteenth to twentieth century; though few are datable to a specific calendar range, the majority may be attributed to the mid to late nineteenth century, although earlier nineteenth century window glass may be present.

Cat. No.	Context	Feature	Area	QTY	Wt (g)	Spot Date
39	53	13	Tr10	2	6	Late C19 - Early C20
41	65	16	Tr10	19	156	Late C19
47	32	.	Tr11	1	447	Mid-Late C19
37	37	.	Tr11	30	667	Mid-Late C19
38	51	.	Tr11	58	341	Mid-Late C19
40	62	.	Tr11	1	14	C19-20
42	80	.	Tr10	2	54	Late C19
43	92	.	Tr10	3	182	Mid-Late C19
44	93	.	Tr10	7	179	Early C20+
45	Topsoil	.	TP1	3	28	C19-20
46	Topsoil	.	TP3	1	4	C19-20
	<b>Total</b>	.	.	<b>127</b>	<b>2078</b>	.

Table 6 Summary of the glass assemblage.

## Bottles

Bottles in dark brown, dark green, clear and aqua green were dominant across the assemblage, also with a few examples of light green. A combination of blown and machine manufactured

glass is present, all being cork or plug sealed. Much of the bottle glass came from undisturbed context [51] and demolition layer [37].

Various inscriptions were perceptible and relate to local or regional businesses. The best example was an intact bottle in thick aqua green glass from [32], 215mm tall and with a base of 55mm diameter, on the main body of which was the following raised inscription set around an oval trademark insignia stating the company establishment to 1840: 'TALBOT & CO. MINERAL WATERS IPSWICH' (Figures 8-9). The company branded their name and trademark on all bottles after 1872; associated ceramics date the context to the late nineteenth to early twentieth century. The number 28 was registered in raised text on the indented base of the bottle. A sherd displaying the letters 'TAL' from [37] may also refer to Talbot & Co. A similar example in aqua green glass came from [51], displaying the partial wording of 'MINER'[al]. A second partial inscription of an intertwined JW indicates this as relating to the company of Joshua Wadsworth that was in St Ives until 1879, after which it moved to Cambridge. From the same context was the base to a bottle (also 55mm diameter) in aqua green glass with the letters 'AMBRI', presumably relating to CAMBRIDGE, and a clear glass shard displayed a green oval band rung with the letters 'AIRY' – presumably DAIRY – and 'PLEA'[se return] in raised moulded text to the side of the bottle.

Twentieth century glass was present in demolition context [93] in the south of Trench 10. A small brown glass bottle held a raised inscription that read '1oz BOVRIL LIMITED F105' and may be dated to c. 1900-1925. From the same context were clear glass sherds with 'CA' and another with 'RIDGE', both probably of local Cambridge origin.

#### *Drinking Vessels*

All three examples of drinking vessel came from [51] of Trench 11. Each of these was straight sided with rounded rims, probably representing tall glasses, two of which were 65-75mm diameter, c. 2mm thick. The third was a larger vessel of 75mm diameter and a thickness of 4mm that was decorated with indented vertical side fluting moulded into the glass. These probably date to the later nineteenth century.

#### *Decorative Vessels*

Two fragments decorative glass vessel were present. One, a 'wavy' rim from demolition layer [37], was of blended rose red and clear translucent colours. The other was a body shard blended in light blue and cream and came from F.16, probably dating to the early twentieth century.

#### *Window Glass*

All the 22 window glass shards are colourless. Nine shards were recovered from undisturbed deposit [51], dating no earlier than 1851. These ranged in thickness from 0.8mm to 2.0mm; the lower end of this range is extremely thin and may be more appropriately considered to be vessel glass, although window glass around 1.0mm thickness is possible from the early nineteenth century (Moir 1983; see also Herring and Brittain 2017). Seven shards were found in F.16, at 3.0-4.0mm thickness; whereas some ceramic material from this context was adhered with slag, the window glass was 'clean' and unaffected by secondary heat. The remainder of the assemblage derived from demolition layers [62] and [92] and was mostly c. 3mm thick. Two 5.0mm thick sherds of ribbed window glass, creating a frosted effect to one side, were found

in demolition layer [80]. Manufacture of this glass was first introduced in the late nineteenth century.

## Worked Bone with Vida Rajkovača

Two worked bones came from post-Medieval contexts.

<24> Context [62], Trench 11. An unusual large-mammal femur midshaft from context [62] that was chopped to create a tapering point which showed signs of use-wear. The exterior surface of the shaft is highly polished and there is a circular perforation below the point, measuring 2mm in diameter. Ceramics from the context are dated mid-nineteenth to twentieth century.

<87> Context [51] A handle made in two parts from a longbone midshaft (Figures 8-9). Possibly a culinary knife handle; part of the iron socket is wedged between the bone handle parts that have been further separated from one another by concretion, though it is evident that the iron fitting thickens towards the 'blade' end. The two bone elements are held in place by pegs (of unknown material) passing through two small circular perforations. The handle is polished and patterned with a diamond shaped lattice work framed by a border of diagonal incisions. Weight 27.6g. Ceramics from the context are dated to +1851.

## Metalwork

Cat. No.	Feature	Context	Area	MT	QTY	Wt (g)	Description
76	16	65	Tr10	Fe	2=1	15.5	Amorphous lump
77	20	78	Tr10	Fe	1	5	Nail, handmade, square profile, W5mm L35mm
78	21	19	Tr7	Fe	1	3.5	Nail, handmade, square profile, W8mm L35mm
82	44	SF1	Tr7	Fe	2=1	9	Nail, handmade, square profile, W8mm L85mm
74	.	51	Tr11	Fe	1	39	Flat, rectangular lump
74	.	51	Tr11	Fe	1	15	Nail, handmade, square profile, W8mm L60mm
74	.	51	Tr11	Fe	1	15	Nail, handmade, square profile, W8mm L50mm
74	.	51	Tr11	Fe	1	8	Nail, handmade, square profile, W8mm L50mm
74	.	51	Tr11	Fe	1	11	Nail, handmade, square profile, W8mm L50mm
75	.	57	Tr11	Fe	1	12	Nail, handmade, square profile, W6mm L76mm
75	.	57	Tr11	Fe	1	96	Decorative strap or structural fitting from L-shaped iron bar, tapered to a point at the long end, to a rounded droplet form at the other, short end; 150mm long, 23mm wide, 5mm deep
79	.	93	Tr10	Fe	1	342	Plough claw fragment
85	.	93	Tr10	Sn	1	6	Bottle screwcap with 'Gordons' emblem.
80	.	Subsoil	Tr5	Fe	2=1	3	Nail, handmade, square profile, W5mm L40mm
81	.	Subsoil	Tr5	Fe	1	13	Possibly a fragment from a manual tool, such as a rake. Round profile (6mm diam., L40mm) and arc-bent with a bulbous terminus.
83	.	Topsoil	TP4	Fe	1	7	Nail, handmade, square profile, W8mm L35mm
83	.	Topsoil	TP4	Fe	1	27	Fragment of hook or structural fastening

Table 7. Summary of metalwork.

The archive contains seventeen post-Medieval metal items (Table 7). All are iron, except for a tin screwcap from a gin bottle in demolition context [93] of Trench 10, bearing the inscription ‘Gordons’. The majority are handmade nails.

## Stone and Ceramic Building Materials

A small quantity of ceramic building material (CBM) was recovered from feature-attributed contexts (Table 8). Totalling 658.5g, these are described here to fabric. For comparison, a selected sample of building materials were recorded during the evaluation as a basic insight to the buildings’ character and chronological variability. Some of the feature-attributed material appears to differ to the material derived from demolition layers within Trenches 10 and 11. This may be on account of the formers’ fragmentary nature, and owing also to much of the buildings’ construction materials above foundation level having evidently been removed from site. Items in Fabric 1, for example, were noted in demolition layer [92] but not represented by *in situ* foundations or floor surfaces. Demolition layers [35] and [36], moreover, produced flint nodules of moderate size, a number seemingly having been roughly faced, that may have provided a decorative element to one of the buildings.

Cat. No.	Feature	Context	Area	Qty	Wt (g)	Fabric	Description
56	8	23	Tr5	1	30	2	Fragment of handmade brick
55	8	23	Tr5	2	13	3	Handmade tile fragments 12mm thick
54	10	25	Tr5	4	14.5	6	Fragments of handmade brick
51	10	25	Tr5	1	5	1	Fragment of handmade brick or tile
57	13	53	Tr10	3	36	1	Fragment of handmade brick
49	13	53	Tr10	1	106	4	Fragment of handmade brick, 50mm deep
49	13	53	Tr10	1	454	5	Fragment of handmade brick 80mm deep

Table 8. Summary of Feature-derived CBM

Six fabrics groups were identified within the feature derived CBM:

- Fabric 1 Clay with pinkish creamy colour and soapy texture; no inclusions.
- Fabric 2 Clay with pale green colour and soapy texture; no inclusions.
- Fabric 3 Yellow sandy clay with occasional grog.
- Fabric 4 Dark pinkish red sandy clay with slightly gritty texture but no obvious inclusions.
- Fabric 5 Yellow clay with occasional organic (straw?) temper and rare iron ferungus inclusions.
- Fabric 6 Coarse orangey red sandy clay with small crushed flint and ferruginous nodules.

Fabrics utilised in the brick foundations were dominated by clays with few or no inclusions. The bricks were mid-red or mid to light yellow in colour and all unfroged.

F.14 wall foundation [70] bricks: 22x10x7cm, yellow and red, plain.

F.14 floor foundation [61] bricks: 22x11x4cm, yellow, plain.

F.17 wall foundation [68] bricks: 22x10x6, yellow and ventilated by seven columns of three rows of 1.5cm diameter holes.

F.19 wall foundation [77] bricks: same as [68] above.

F.19 floor bricks: 22x10x6cm, light yellow and plain

## ECONOMIC EVIDENCE

### Animal Bone by Vida Rajkovača

A small assemblage with 201 fragments and a weight of 846g was recovered. This amounted to 24 assessable specimens of which ten were identifiable to species level (Table 9).

Context	Roman	Post-Medieval/ 19th century Farmhouse				
	F.1 [14]	Topsoil	[51]	[62]	[82]	[92]
<b>Taxon</b>	Tr7	TP1	Tr11	Tr11	Tr10	Tr10
Cow	6	.	.	1	.	.
Sheep/ goat	.	.	1	.	.	.
Pig	.	.	.	.	2	.
<b>Sub-total to species</b>	<b>6</b>	.	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	.
Cattle-sized	.	1	.	1	.	.
Sheep-sized	.	.	.	1	.	2
Mammal n.f.i.	4	.	5	.	.	.
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

Table 9. Number of Identified Specimens for all species from all contexts – breakdown by context and trench number; the abbreviation n.f.i. denotes that the specimen could not be further identified.

Roman material from F.1, the roadside ditch excavated in Trench 7, was the largest bone deposit both by weight and by count (180 fragments, 653g) and included well preserved fragments of cattle first cervical vertebra, a thoracic vertebra spine and four ribs.

Post-Medieval contexts associated with the buildings of Grange Farm and their demolition also contained remains of livestock species. Fragment of pig rib from [82] displayed a short chop mark near to the rib head, probably made during the reduction of the carcass; evidence of rodent gnawing was also present.

### Oyster Shell by Christopher Boulton

A small assemblage of edible European Flat Oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) weighing 153g were collected from post-Medieval and surface contexts (Table 10). This consisted of four whole and three incomplete valves as well as small fragments.

Cat. No.	Feature	Context	Area	QTY	Wt (g)
31	8	23	Tr5	1	1
32	.	51	Tr11	6	34
33	13	53	Tr10	1	4
34	.	62	Tr11	2	36
35	.	Subsoil	Tr9	2	29
36	.	Subsoil	Tr5	1	49
Total	.	.	.	13	153

Table 10. Summary of shell recovered

The valves were in relatively good condition; only one showed evidence of any infestation in the form of three small boreholes on the under-side of the valve <36> consistent with the sponge, *Cliona celata*. On three valves (<34>, <35> and <36>) was evidence of early stage chambering – patches of white colouring inside the shell – that had not yet worn into cavities. The chambering can highlight possible salinity changes at the harvesting bed, which can cause the animal to shrink and alter shape (Winder 2015).

Oyster has been consumed in the vicinity of Wilberforce Road since Roman times (Boulton 2018). Oysters were available in large numbers and at relatively low cost during the nineteenth century. The contexts of their recovery as well as their relatively low numbers (too few for industrial purposes) suggest it was unlikely that oysters were present for anything other than consumption.





Figure 8. Various finds, Tr10-11. Bottom right [67]; Crystal Palace sherd [51]; everything else [32]



Figure 9. Various finds, Tr10-11. Top right [93]; bottom left [51]; everything else [32]

## Discussion

### *Roman Akeman Street*

The fresh view of Cambridge's southern portion of Roman Akeman Street that is offered by this evaluation confirms the road's course and shows this to have survived to a moderate degree with potential for determining a clearer dateline for its inception and use. Traversing Gault Clay, its entire material structure of clayey sand and gravel was imported to the site by considerable volume. There was a lack of obviously redeposited clay within the ditches that would be expected to form part of their filling sequence if the material excavated during their cutting was cast into low banks along the road's outer edge or used in the upper – now truncated – portions of the agger. Its removal and use in other projects are a possibility. The lack of any additional contemporary Roman features may reflect absence of nearby roadside settlement (or burial), though the deposit of disarticulated cow bone within roadside ditch F.1 may cast some doubt to such a view, which could not be tested by the limited scale of investigation.

The partial survival of the road's agger attests to the site's former arable/farmland use and perhaps also to the earthwork's later use as an opportune routeway into and across the Cambridge West Fields, as well as a source of solid aggregate.

### *St John's New Farm / Grange Farm*

Evidence for historical occupation of the site prior to the establishment of St Johns New Farm in the early nineteenth century was entirely absent and confirms the view from the cartographic and documentary sources.

The vast majority of the artefactual material was recovered from demolition-derived contexts. No cut rubbish pits were encountered, except for two burials of animal carcasses away from the buildings (Trenches 3 and 5). There was only one instance of undisturbed dumped material [51] that abutted the outer (west) face of wall F.14 of the east range of nineteenth century buildings. Its artefact assemblage reflects a not uncommon picture of modest prosperity at least into the middle of the nineteenth century. Local businesses are represented throughout, particularly by mineral water that became a fashionable product after becoming highlighted at the Great Exhibition of 1851 at Crystal Palace; this too is represented in the ceramic assemblage. Following the death of Richard Tofts in 1857, tenant of Grange Farm since 1844, an auction listing was advertised and provides some impression of the manner by which the farmhouse was furnished:

'Mahogany Dining, Pembroke and other Tables, Mahogany Chairs in hair seating, Mahogany-frame double-scroll Sofa in hair seating, Brussels and Kidderminster carpets, 4-post Bedsteads, Mahogany Chests of Drawers, Wash Stand, Dressing Tables, Chimney and Toilet Glasses, and six excellent bordered Goose Feather Beds in linen ticks, home made, very clean, and in capital condition; bedding, blankets, culinary utensils, and effects.'

Items of the farm listed for the auction comprised 466 Leicester ewes, wethers and lambs, 12 cart and nag horses and 13 cows, as well as an assortment of agricultural implements, dairy and brewing utensils.

Successive members of the Tofts family continued the farm's tenancy that, on account of declining income, changed to a yearly lease in 1860. This may be reflected in Trench 5 by the 'gardens' that appear to have fallen out of use by second half of the nineteenth century.

Moreover, during this time and into the early twentieth century the material assemblage is visibly ‘ordinary’.

Concerned by a perceived decline in the state of the farm, in 1866 the College commissioned John Carter Jonas to survey and value the property.<sup>7</sup> Its 252 acres of arable land (out of a total 287 acres) was deemed to be in a foul state ‘arising from a want of proper attention to weeding’ and a mismanagement of seeding. Used to grow barley and oats, the land west of the farm and over which today the University Hockey Pitches lie, was particularly highlighted. The buildings were also registered as in need of some minor repair, with brick work to the corners of some buildings having fallen out of place and several roof slates being either loose or missing; yard fences and gates were also drawn for need of attention to improve the homestead’s general appearance. The existing policy insured the house and buildings for £1200 but omitted one range of cattle sheds; a sum of £2000 was recommended.

The continued decline of the farm’s output propelled its development away from agriculture, first with the construction of Herschel Road in 1885 and then Adams Road and Sylvester Road, both in 1898 (Guillebaud 2007). When Swan Wallis relinquished his tenancy in 1894, he auctioned his stock of nine horses, two ponies, 31 head of swine and 26 head of cows – a considerably more limited stock than represented by the 1850s auction. Prior to this the donation of dining ceramics by Selwyn College may have occurred. There does however appear to have been some later investment into the farm, with new buildings appearing on the subsequent OS maps and represented by features in Trench 10.

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<sup>7</sup> SJC Archive ref. D110.211

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## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1. Feature Descriptions

Feature	No. of contexts	Area	Description	Phase
1	3	Trs 6 & 7	NW outer side ditch of Roman road, oriented NW-SW. Straight sides and flat base. Slot in Tr6 was 1m wide and 0.37m deep; slot in Tr7 was 0.72m wide and 0.24m deep. Gravel agger slumping into ditch in Tr7. Clutch of animal bone and one sherds of red sandy ware in upper fill.	Roman
2	3	Trs 6 & 8	NW inner side ditch of Roman road, oriented NW-SW. Straight sides and flat base. Slot in Tr6 was 0.94m wide and 0.47m deep; slot in Tr7 was 0.84m wide and 0.2m deep.	Roman
3	2	Tr 6	Linear cutting SE half of Roman agger, oriented NW-SW. Single dark grey clayey silt fill in 0.85m wide cut of straight sides to flat base 0.13m deep. Cut by ceramic land drain.	Med/Post-Med?
4	2	Tr 6	Linear cutting SE half of Roman agger, oriented NW-SW. Single dark grey clayey silt fill in 0.67m wide cut of straight sides to flat base 0.13m deep.	Med/Post-Med?
5	5	Trs 6, 7 & 8	SE side ditch of Roman road, oriented NW-SW. Straight sides to flat base at 1.5m wide and 0.66m deep. One sherd of red sandy ware in upper fill. Gravel and sand slumping from the road agger, with sequence of silty clay, possibly colluvium, deposits.	Roman
6	2	Tr 5	Shallow linear oriented E-W with flat base, 0.4m wide and 0.1m deep; possible garden feature.	Post-Med
7	2	Tr 5	Shallow linear oriented N-S with flat base, at least 0.54m wide and 0.14m deep; possible garden feature.	Post-Med
8	2	Tr 5	Circular pit with concave sides and shallow rounded base, at least 1.5m diameter and 0.1m deep. Finds of CBM and coal; possible garden feature.	Post-Med
9	2	Tr 5	Large sub-circular pit or general disturbance horizon underlying made ground. Covers much of central part of the trench to a depth between 0.05m and 0.2m; possible garden feature.	Post-Med
10	2	Tr 5	Pit cutting F.9 with vertical sides and flat base to a depth of c. 0.85m, but no clear shape in plan. Contained articulated adult pig remains; farm-related.	Post-Med
11	4	Tr 11	Remains of a wooden post held within a sub-circular concrete footing, totalling 0.5m diam. and to a depth of 0.6m. Visible mainly in trench edge section.	Post-Med
12	2	Tr 11	Short linear or pit 2.5m wide oriented NE-SW with sharp concave sides to an uneven near flat base 0.12m deep into which was a 'V'-shaped groove or drainage channel was a further 0.09m deep. The entirety was filled with compacted gravel with rare hand-made brick. Cut by F.11 and F.15 postholes and F.22 foundation. May be pre-farm.	Post-Med
13	2	Tr 11	Large ceramic drain 0.19m diameter in 1.05m wide flat-based shallow cut oriented N-S and 0.25m deep. Contained fragments of brick like that from F.12.	Post-Med
14	3	Tr 11	A wall foundation of four courses of brick in English Cross pattern, two stretches wide, with expedient use of yellow and red handmade unfroged bricks bonded with lime mortar. Foundation in narrow trench 0.33m deep. A fifth upper brick course was laid with half over the brick foundation and half over the clay backfill of the foundation trench. The wall marks the west side to a building, the interior of which comprises a base of bed laid yellow bricks [61] (22x11x4cm) in mortar over the	Post-Med



Feature	No. of contexts	Area	Description	Phase
			natural clay upon which a mortar slurry [59] held a floor [58] of red glazed tiles (15x15x2cm) .	
15	2	Tr 11	Posthole cutting F.12, 0.22m diameter and 0.15m deep. Square in plan with rounded corners. Fill of loose very dark silt with degraded wood fragments.	Post-Med
16	2	Tr 10	Shallow irregular cut 0.1m deep abutting wall F.17. Cuts through natural clay that is slightly reddened or scorched. The feature was filled with large lumps of slag, also in which were fragments of burnt ceramic to which slag had adhered, as well as other pieces unburnt and free from slag. Many slag pieces were impressed into the clay but not seemingly from any in situ activities of production.	Post-Med
17	3	Tr 10	An east-west aligned wall foundation of four courses of yellow and red ventilated brick (22x10x6cm). Set upon fragments of field drain within a shallow trench 0.25m deep, the lower two courses comprised an alternating pattern laid of stretch/header to header/stretch upon which was a centralised line of headed bricks overlain by a fourth brick course patterned as header-stretch-stretch-header. All were bonded by low quality sandy lime mortar.	Post-Med
18	2	Tr 10	Ceramic drain 10cm diameter in narrow 0.2m wide cut 0.16m deep oriented E-W. Orientation is slightly off (i.e. north) from the wall line of F.19. Fragments of clay tobacco pipe in fill. This may be a former field drain rather than building service.	Post-Med
19	3	Tr 1 & Tr 10	Brick wall foundation [77] with brick floor and outer 3cm diam. lead piping [75]. A foundation to the west, north and south sides of a walled building oriented east-west surviving to six courses upon an offset brick foundation within a narrow trench (>0.2m deep, not bottomed). The pattern of each course comprised a pair of stretch laid bricks with a headed brick at each end, although the sequence of each course displayed a mismatched arrangement. The interior floor comprised thin (22x10x6cm) edge laid bricks in a stretcher pattern. The floor design was interrupted on its south edge by a perpendicular brick drain away oriented east-west. The building interior was 3.66m wide; 4.06m wide between the outer face of the walls.	Post-Med
20	2	Tr 10	Rammed clunch and sand foundation pad in shallow 0.18m sub-rectangular cut, 1.06m wide. Fragments of CBM in fill.	Post-Med
21	2	Tr 7	Irregular disturbance within Roman road agger. This contained a sherd of 16th-17th century ceramic.	Post-Med
22	1	Tr 1 & Tr 11	Sand and pea-grit foundation, oriented N-S; cuts F.12.	Post-Med
23		Tr 1	Wall foundation, oriented E-W. Fabric details not known. Aligns with a wall (possible animal pen) on the 1920s OS map.	Post-Med
24		Tr 1	Wall foundation, oriented E-W. Fabric details not known. Aligns with outer wall of south buildings range on 1880s OS map.	Post-Med
25		Tr 1	Probable drainage cut aligned WNW-ESE and poss. connecting to drain junction located to the NW.	Post-Med
26		Tr 1	Probable drainage cut aligned WNW-ESE and poss. connecting to drain junction located to the NW.	Post-Med
27		Tr 1	Possibly disturbed footing for north side wall to south buildings range of the 1880s OS; i.e. return wall to F.24.	Post-Med

Feature	No. of contexts	Area	Description	Phase
28		Tr 1	Unknown feature near to foundation pad F.20.	Post-Med
29		Tr 2	Wall foundation (Possibly a concrete foundation setting) oriented N-S and aligned with north range buildings on 20th century OS maps. Maybe a return wall to F.30.	Post-Med
30		Tr 2	Wall foundation (Possibly a concrete foundation setting) oriented N-S and aligned with north range buildings on 20th century OS maps. Maybe a return wall to F.29.	Post-Med
31		Tr 2	Brick wall foundation, oriented E-W forming north side wall to buildings on the 1880s OS map, later removed. Possibly a part of the original 19th century farmhouse.	Post-Med
32		Tr 2	Wall footing parallel with F.33, both oriented N-S. May form part of the 19th century farmhouse.	Post-Med
33		Tr 2	Wall footing parallel with F.32, both oriented N-S. May form part of the 19th century farmhouse.	Post-Med
34		Tr 2	Brick wall foundation, oriented E-W forming north side wall to buildings on the 1880s OS map, later removed. Possibly a part of the original 19th century farmhouse.	Post-Med
35		Tr 2	Modern water service pipe.	Post-Med
36		Tr 3	Yellow brick lined stepped culvert probably connecting to a pump or well, marked on the 1920s OS maps; this may also be marked on the 1880s OS map. See also Fs. 37, 39 & 42.	Post-Med
37		Tr 3	Probable drain (unexcavated) connecting to a pump or well, marked on the 1920s OS maps; this may also be marked on the 1880s OS map. See also Fs. 36, 39 & 42.	Post-Med
38		Tr 3	Unexcavated 'animal burial' (Roberts 2013: 3)	Post-Med
39		Tr 3	Probably part of drain F.37 (unexcavated) connecting to a pump or well, marked on the 1920s OS maps; this may also be marked on the 1880s OS map. See also Fs. 36, 37 & 42.	Post-Med
40		Tr 3	Unknown feature.	Post-Med
41		Surface	Partial view of a yellow brick wall in the ground surface. This lines up with the buildings on the east side of the plot as marked on the 1880s OS map and may represent the southern aspect of this in connection with Fs.14, 31-34.	Post-Med
42		Surface	A square brick wall visible on the ground surface, approx. 2.5sqm. This may be related to a pump or well, marked on the 1920s OS maps; this may also be marked on the 1880s OS map. See also Fs.36, 37 & 39.	Post-Med
43		Surface	Poured concrete floor surfaces. This represents at least five separate surfaces. One (top centre) has a negative stepped frame with iron fittings and is probably a small Nissen hut type building. East of this is a similar floor, though framed with a low brick foundation; a flat based drain gully is oriented north-south within the floor, which may have been a small stable. The other three floor surfaces are edged with recesses in which upright roof supports would have been positioned. A single building (possibly the Nissen hut and 'stable') is marked on the 1920s OS map, with all buildings illustrated on the 1970s OS.	Post-Med
44		Tr 7	A late removal of the Roman road agger though to be a hollow way. A fragment of tile and an iron nail came from the base of this, illustrating its post-Roman origin.	Post-Med

Feature	No. of contexts	Area	Description	Phase
45		Tr 11	Posthole like and in line with F.15. Cutting F.22. Unexcavated.	Post-Med
46		Tr 11	Posthole like and in line with F.15. Unexcavated.	Post-Med

## Appendix 2. Context Summaries

Context	Feature	Type	Trench	Description	Phase
1	1	F	6	Roman roadside ditch (NW outer)	Rom
2	1	C	6	Roman roadside ditch (NW outer)	Rom
3	1	F	6	Roman roadside ditch (NW outer)	Rom
4	2	F	6	Roman roadside ditch (NW inner)	Rom
5	2	F	6	Roman roadside ditch (NW inner)	Rom
6	2	C	6	Roman roadside ditch (NW inner)	Rom
7	3	F	6	Linear cutting Roman road agger	Med/Post-Med
8	3	C	6	Linear cutting Roman road agger	Med/Post-Med
9	4	F	6	Linear cutting Roman road agger	Med/Post-Med
10	4	C	6	Linear cutting Roman road agger	Med/Post-Med
11	5	F	6	Roman roadside ditch (SE)	Rom
12	5	F	6	Roman roadside ditch (SE)	Rom
13	5	C	6	Roman roadside ditch (SE)	Rom
14	1	F	7	Roman roadside ditch (NW outer)	Rom
15	1	C	7	Roman roadside ditch (NW outer)	Rom
16	2	F	7	Roman roadside ditch (NW inner)	Rom
17	2	F	7	Roman roadside ditch (NW inner)	Rom
18	2	C	7	Roman roadside ditch (NW inner)	Rom
19	6	F	5	Gully - Post-Med garden feature?	Post-Med
20	6	C	5	Gully - Post-Med garden feature?	Post-Med
21	7	F	5	Gully - Post-Med garden feature?	Post-Med
22	7	C	5	Gully - Post-Med garden feature?	Post-Med
23	8	F	5	Pit - Post-Med garden feature?	Post-Med
24	8	C	5	Pit - Post-Med garden feature?	Post-Med
25	9	F	5	Pit or spread - Post-Med garden feature?	Post-Med
26	9	C	5	Pit or spread - Post-Med garden feature?	Post-Med
27	10	F	5	Pit with pig skeleton - post Med	Post-Med
28	10	C	5	Pit with pig skeleton - post Med	Post-Med
29	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
30	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
31	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
32	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
33	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
34	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med

Context	Feature	Type	Trench	Description	Phase
35	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
36	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
37	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
38	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
39	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
40	11	F	11	Concrete foundation - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
41	11	F	11	Concrete foundation - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
42	11	F	11	Concrete foundation - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
43	11	C	11	Concrete foundation - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
44	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
45	12	F	11	Early or Pre-Farmhouse pit or linear	Post-Med
46	12	C	11	Early or Pre-Farmhouse pit or linear	Post-Med
47	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
48	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
49	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
50	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
51	.	L	11	Layer (midden?) abutting wall F.14 - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
52	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
53	13	F	11	Ceramic drain - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
54	13	C	11	Ceramic drain - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
55	14	F	11	Wall - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
56	14	C	11	Wall - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
57	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
58	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
59	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
60	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
61	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
62	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
63	15	F	11	Posthole - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
64	15	C	11	Posthole - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
65	16	F	10	Pit - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
66	16	C	10	Pit - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
67	17	F	10	Wall - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
68	17	C	10	Wall - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
69	17	O	10	Wall - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
70	14	O	11	Wall - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
71	.	L	10	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
72	.	L	10	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
73	18	F	10	Ceramic drain - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
74	18	C	10	Ceramic drain - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
75	19	F	10	Wall - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
76	19	C	10	Wall - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
77	19	O	10	Wall - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med

<b>Context</b>	<b>Feature</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Trench</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Phase</b>
78	20	F	10	Marl foundation pad - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
79	20	C	10	Marl foundation pad - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
80	.	L	10	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
81	.	L	11	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
82	.	L	10	Demolition layer - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
83	1	F	7	Roman roadside ditch (NW outer)	Rom
84	5	F	7	Roman roadside ditch (SE)	Rom
85	5	F	7	Roman roadside ditch (SE)	Rom
86	5	F	7	Roman roadside ditch (SE)	Rom
87	.	L	6	Roman Road agger gravel	Rom
88	.	L	6	Roman Road agger sand foundation	Rom
89	.	L	6	Colluvium beneath Roman Road	Prehist/Rom
90	21	F	7	Pit cutting Roman Road - C19	Post-Med
91	21	C	7	Pit cutting Roman Road - C19	Post-Med
92	.	L	10	Demolition layer over F.19 - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med
93	.	L	10	Demolition layer in south half of Tr10 - C19 farmhouse	Post-Med

**OASIS ID: cambridg3-407612**

Project name	Land South of Wilberforce Road, Cambridge: An Archaeological Evaluation
Project dates	Start: 24-09-2020 End: 28-09-2020
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	ECB6270 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	WFR20 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 1 - Heathland
Methods & techniques	"Documentary Search","Targeted Trenches","Test Pits"
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Pre-application
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE CAMBRIDGE Wilberforce Road
Postcode	CB3 9AD
Study area	1.45 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 4346 5843 52.204973198592 0.09963589899 52 12 17 N 000 05 58 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 10.2m Max: 14.5m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Project brief originator	City/Nat. Park/District/Borough archaeologist
Project design originator	Christopher Evans
Project director/manager	Christopher Evans
Project supervisor	Marcus Brittain
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	St John's College, Cambridge