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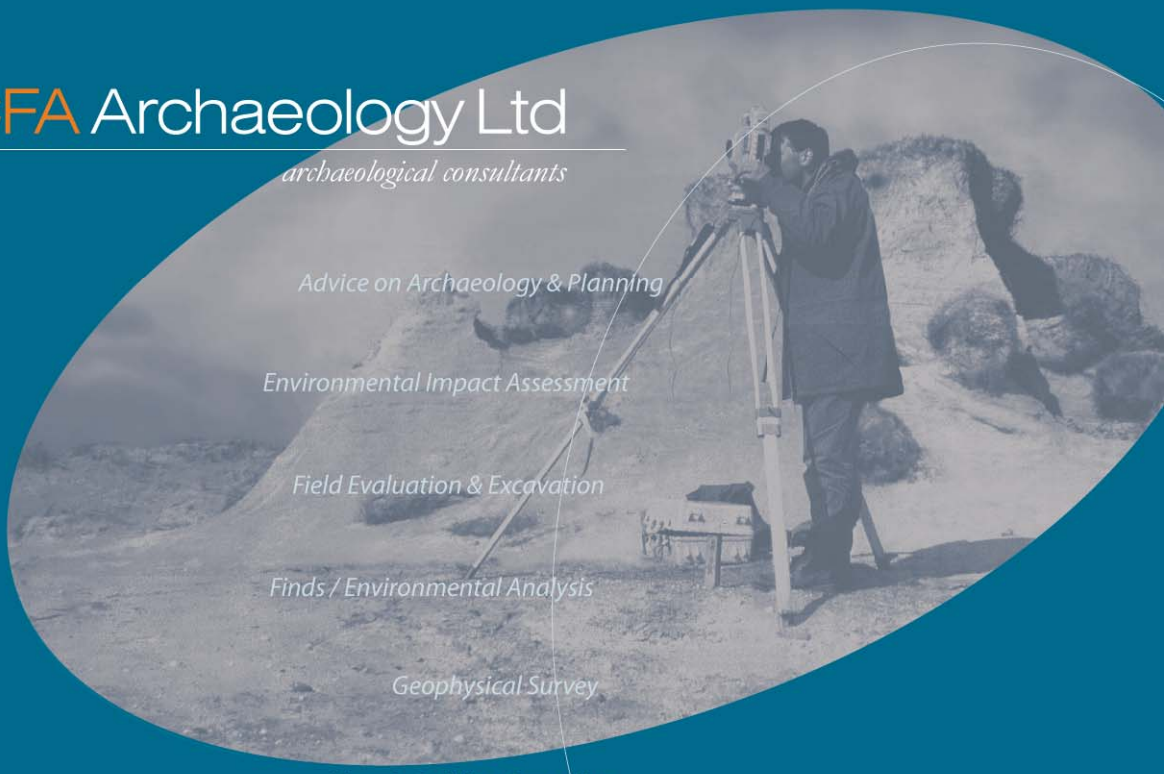

Advice on Archaeology & Planning

Environmental Impact Assessment

Field Evaluation & Excavation

Finds / Environmental Analysis

Geophysical Survey

Historic Building Recording

Site & Landscape Survey

Interpretation, Design & Display

Guntons Close, Soham, Cambridgeshire

Archaeological Excavation

Report No. MK040/16

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Guntons Close, Soham, Cambridgeshire

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CONTENTS

Illustrations (bound at rear)

1. SUMMARY

CFA Archaeology Ltd carried out an archaeological excavation in advance of a housing development on a site south of Guntons Close, Soham, Cambridgeshire (centred on NGR TL 5907 7340). The excavation area, measuring 2100 square metres, was located in a former garden to the rear of No. 52 Station Road, north-west of the town centre. An evaluation in 2008 had located three inhumations at the east end of the plot along with nearby postholes, stake holes and a large pit interpreted as a palaeochannel. Trenches in the centre of the plot uncovered postholes and a possible beam slot; those at the west end revealed a series of medieval ditches cut by postholes.

The palaeochannel from the evaluation was found to be a large waterhole or well filled with midden material containing animal bone and Early Iron Age pottery from a nearby settlement. This feature was very deep and could not be fully bottomed due to the water table. On the edge of the waterhole was a small pit filled with similar material and there was a rough line of pits and post holes running to the west which may be contemporary. The inhumations lay to the north. Three closely individuals were buried face down in a line, an adult female, a child of 6-8 buried with animal bone and tooth pendants and a child of 3. A bone sample dated the burials to the Early Iron Age (756-413 cal BC) apparently contemporary with the waterhole. One child was buried with four pendants; a sea eagle claw, a worked rib, a female boar tooth and one smaller bead.

The rest of the Site was dominated by north-south ditches of medieval date which align with plot divisions for houses fronting Station Road shown on a mid-17th century map of Soham. Pottery evidence did not provide a conclusive date for the boundaries but instead a range from the 9th to 15th centuries. A series of linear shallow gullies in one of the plots appears to represent medieval horticultural beds to the rear of the plot. The lack of any evidence for medieval structures or buildings in the excavation suggests these lay to the south closer to Station Road. Later activity was represented by a large post-medieval fence line aligned east-west and a later land boundary shown on the 20th century OS maps.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 General

This document presents the results of an archaeological excavation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) between January and February 2016 in advance of housing construction on a site south of Guntons Close in Soham, Cambridgeshire centred on NGR TL 5907 7340. The work was commissioned by Prospect Archaeology and was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated January 2016 produced by Prospect Archaeology and approved by CHET.

2.2 Background

Planning permission 14/00745/FUM has been granted by East Cambridgeshire District Council for the construction of 14 residential units on the land. As part of this development, a programme of archaeological works was required by the County Council leading to the excavation of approximately 2100 sq. m of the total development area of 3300 sq. m.

2.3 Location, Topography and geology

The Site is located south of Guntons Close and to the rear of 52 Station Road in the historic core of Soham (Fig. 1). The town is situated in the south-eastern part of the Cambridgeshire Fens located on a low ridge of high ground (5-10m aOD) running northwards from Fordham. This irregular peninsula comprising Bedford Lower Chalk and a gravel terrace was formerly located between a bay of water towards Isleham to the east and a larger and deeper area of open water, Soham Mere, to the west. These bodies of water were drained between the 17th and 19th centuries leaving open flat fenland. The river Snail flows to the south and east of Soham joining the Great Ouse 6km north-west; the route is now partly canalised, known as Soham Lode. The local bedrock geology to the rear of 52, Station Road comprises West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation overlain by River Terrace Deposits of Sand and Gravel. The land lies at approximately 9m AOD and has until recently been used as a large garden planted with fruit and vegetables.

2.4 Archaeological and Historical Background

Soham and its immediate hinterland has been subjected to many archaeological investigations and desk-based studies over the last 25 years. Consequently there is a relatively good understanding of early settlement of the area and development of the town. Site reference numbers quoted below derive from the Cambridgeshire Historic Environmental Record (CHER) and the National Monuments Record.

Mesolithic and Neolithic Periods

In the Mesolithic period, hunter-gatherer groups exploited the rich animal and plant resources of the wetlands which developed after the Ice Age. Evidence for this has been found along the fen-edge around Soham and the Snail Valley. At a site some 3km to the north near Broad Hill, axe heads and other flint tools were found (Hall

1996). Find spots of antler mattocks and bone knives have also been recovered from Soham Fen (Reynolds, 2000) along with four tranchet axe heads now in the British Museum and the Ashmolean museum in Oxford (07098).

Evidence for settlement around Soham in the Neolithic period is not very extensive though there has been a lot of findspots. Items discovered at the Broad Hill site included Neolithic knives, blades and scrapers. The CHER records Neolithic artefacts at MCB8560, 12952, 12953 and 14568. Neolithic axes, a hammerstone and blades are also recorded (02097, 07087, 11019, 07498) along with an axe and pestle (07087). At Ten Bell Lane c.300m north-east of the Site Early Neolithic pottery was recovered (CB1809).

Early to mid-Bronze Age

Early to mid-Bronze Age remains are similarly scant and are limited to findspots and funerary barrows. Relatively concentrated lithic scatters have been found at Eye Hill Farm 3km north of Soham (Hatton 2000) and again at Broad Hill. Near the town centre, an evaluation at St Andrew's House in 2000 produced a significant assemblage of flint debitage including one core and several flakes ascribed to the Bronze Age (Hatton 2000). Scatters of Bronze Age flints have also been found at The Weatheralls on the North East side of Soham (070101) along with a bronze razor (Rees 2009). Investigations at Cloverfield Drive recorded Bronze Age occupation and field systems including a 'waterhole' (Fletcher 2012). Two barrows are noted in the Greenhills area (Rees 2008) and further funerary mounds are located at Wicken and Fordham (Quinn 2012). The Victoria County History notes that the parish has 'yielded bronze weapons and tools, and some pottery, including two urns found near an uncremated skeleton in Clipsall field'.

Late-Bronze Age and Early Iron Age

Extensive settlement activity dated to the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age was identified at two evaluations near Fordham Road, 1.1km to the south-east of Soham town centre. The settlement had post-built structures or buildings accompanied with pits containing domestic refuse, and rectangular enclosures to the north-east (Connor 2001). The northern side of this site was revealed in a separate evaluation by Archaeological Solutions in 2012 (Quinn 2012). Closer to the town centre, a less dense concentration of features broadly dating to the early to mid-Iron Age was found to the south of St Andrews's Church. Limited excavations at Clay Street and at St Andrew's House identified ditches, pits and a few possible postholes which may tentatively represent agricultural use of the land here in this period. The ditches are thought to possibly indicate an enclosure laid out of the shores of Soham Mere (Nichol 2002; Rees 2008). Early Iron Age remains are also evident in the north-east at Weatheralls Close where a single sherd of pottery was found in a ditch. At 8 Market Street an old cultivation soil horizon containing a large quantity of pottery from this period was identified and possibly indicated settlement nearby. Further afield are remains on a hilltop at Henney on the periphery of Stuntney (Hall 1996). Findspots from this period include the early 20th century discovery of a supposed Early Iron Age warrior, a male buried with a spear and two dogs (07086). An early Iron Age scabbard and sword was also found in fen close to Isleham (Stead 1980). One of the most interesting finds from this period was located outside Soham was close to where the

river Snail joins the Great Ouze. Here a wooden causeway exposed in 1932 ascribed to the late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age was found to be associated with Middle Bronze Age pottery (Hall 1996).

Late Iron Age

Late Iron Age structural remains in Soham are limited to discoveries at the former Church Hall Site by Archaeological Solutions. Here was evidence of a ditched enclosure along with rubbish pits and a possible post-built structure (Woolhouse 2012). Findspots from this period include Iron Age coins found through metal detecting east of Soham and in the Greenhills area (Connor 2001). Dredging, metal detecting and field walking also found discovered Iron Age coins and pottery in an area adjacent to Soham Lode (04456b, 07602, 07560, 07503).

Roman period

Soham was part of an intensively settled landscape on the edge of the fens during the Roman period and villa sites have been identified around the town though none extensively excavated. One of these sites lies at East Fen Drove (07688) to the north-east where hypocaust tiles and 3rd to 4th century coins were found in the 1970s. Other sites lie east of Soham (Hall, 1996, Site 2) and to the north-west at Fordey Farm (Quinn 2012). To the south and west there have been finds of pottery tesserae and brooches (Connor 2001). Clipsall Field (04456a, 05568, 07560a, 07580, 07584, 07593, 07594, 07602, 07605) and Down Field area (07502, 07603, 07604, 07682, MCB17389, MCB 18080) have also produced large quantities of Roman finds (Quinn 2012). Various cropmarks around Soham may also relate to Villas and their estates.

The site off Fordham road (Connor 2001) revealed a Roman ditched field system, pits, possible building remains and a track which cut through the earlier prehistoric remains and may have belonged to one of the villa estates. A site west of this revealed a continuation of the field enclosures, some of which contained 2nd century pottery (MCB14630).

Roman occupation in the centre of Soham is less evident. A securely dated Roman ditch was identified at Paddock Street (MCB18200). At Weatheralls Close, Caistor ware pottery and a cordoned jar of 1st-2nd century date was found associated with a human skull (07100). Further skeletal remains were discovered at White Hart Lane where seven individuals were found (06971) with a further one (MCB17746) associated with a sherd of 4th century greyware. The former Church Hall site revealed Roman pits and evidence for quarrying (MCB18184). Phasing of this site showed that the site was initially used in the 1st century AD after which it was abandoned and then re-used in the 4th century AD. Pottery had not travelled far suggesting possibly settlement in the area.

Early to mid-Saxon period

Archaeological evidence for the early Saxon period is largely based on cemeteries and findspots. A pagan cemetery at Newmarket Road (07027) excavated in the 1850s/60s recovered brooches, spearheads and pottery vessels. Skeletons associated with brooches, beads and spearheads were also found in the 1920s in the graveyard of St

Andrew's Church (Fox 1923). A single skeleton uncovered in the garden of a house located on White Hart Lane (MCB13882) is thought to possibly have originated from this burial ground. Another cemetery was found south-east of Soham at Soham/Fordham Waterworks. Here 23 inhumations and 2 cremations were found and assigned to the 6th-7th centuries (Lethbridge 1933). Findspots from this period include a mid 6th century cruciform brooch in close to St Andrew's church (07123a) and a socketed spearhead from High Street (02086). Historical sources dating to the 12th century mention that a monastery was founded at Soham by St Felix, first bishop of the East Angles in AD 631. This is thought to have been subsequently destroyed by the Danes in the 9th century (Salzman 1948). It has been suggested that this may have been centred on St Andrew's Church with the circular morphology of surrounding roads and lanes evidence of the surrounding enclosure (Oosthuizen 2000), though no archaeological remains have yet been found for this. The name Soham is thought to be derived from Old Engliush *Soegan Hamm* or settlement by the swamp, possibly referring to Soham Mere (Reaney 1943). A single sherd of Ipswich ware recovered from the St Andrew's house excavation (Atkins 2004) shows evidence of Middle Saxon occupation in the town.

Late Saxon and Medieval period

Historical sources show that Soham was an import settlement by the late Saxon period. A manor at Soham was given to Ely Abbey in the 10th century (Conybeare 1897). A cathedral and palace were constructed in the 10th century by a nobleman called Luttingus and there are meant to be traces of the cathedral in the fabric of St Andrew's Church (12th century). In AD 972 there is a reference to the town about the grant of lands at Rettendon, Soham and Ditton (Hart 1966). The Domesday Book (1086) mentions three manors at Soham; one of these belonged to the King and another to the Abbot of Ely. Land at Soham was also held by Bury St Edmund's church.

In contrast to earlier periods archaeological evidence for this period is plentiful. At land off Clay Street to the south of St Andrew's church a Late Saxon enclosure was excavated thought to be for livestock (Nichol 2001). The enclosure was accompanied by two flanking ditches containing animal bone along with sherds of St Neots and Thetford Ware pottery. The quantities of pottery were taken to imply settlement nearby and the remains are thought to be within the south-east part of the original ecclesiastical enclosure associated with the founding of the Palace and Cathedral by Lutingus. At 9-13 Pratt Street shallow gullies, a posthole and large pit contained 11th - 12th century Thetford ware. At 38 Station Road an evaluation found linear ditches containing 10th to 12th century pottery on the alignment of the current street pattern interpreted as beam slots for structures. A substantial boundary or drainage ditch was also found along the line of Station Road containing residual Late Saxon pottery showing that this route was probably in use by this date. At Soham County Infant School an evaluation uncovered ditches of 10th to 13th century date which included St Neots and Thetford type ware (Bray 1991). An evaluation at Ten Bell Lane found a Medieval quarry pit and undated ditches which may be medieval (Atkins 2004a). Other excavations in the town centre have uncovered pits, ditches and posthole structures from later medieval occupation (12th to 16th centuries) including St Andrew's House (Hatton 2000), Market Street (Cooper 2004) and Clay Street (Atkins 2004).

Expansion of Soham is thought to have occurred in the 12th century. Evidence from Thorn Street north of the town centre close to Cloverfield Drive showed that house plots were set out around the junction of Thorn Street and Thorn Street Lane in the second half of the 12th century over what had been pasture containing field wells from earlier periods. Wells within the house plots contained 15th and 16th century assemblages. On the south side of Soham at Brook Street was a similar sequence suggesting initial 12th-mid 14th century settlement followed by a late medieval phase, mid 14th to 16th century (Fletcher 2012). Soham became an important trading town during the later medieval period and in the centuries that followed, essentially an inland port town on Soham Mere.

Post medieval and modern

During the 17th century attempts were made to drain the fens surrounding Soham by Dutch engineer Vermuyden though these were not very successful. Modification of the River Snail took place in this century and the waterway emerged as the drainage canal Soham Lode. By the 18th century pumping mills were established but it was not until the mid 19th century that drainage of the fens using steam pumps began in earnest. The result of this was that fenland that had been seasonal pastureland soon became arable and the agricultural economy of Soham was permanently altered. Soham Mere which had once taken large ships was eventually completely drained. The earliest houses in Soham are 16th century timber framed buildings, former shops and inns, located along Churchgate Street, Fountain Lane, High Street and Pratt Street. Later buildings in the town were built of locally produced gault brick and a brick factory was established in the town in the late 18th century (Sutcliffe 2009). By the late 19th century increasing industrialisation had led to four such factories which had benefitted no doubt from the construction of the railway in 1879. Growth of the town in this period appears to have been largely focussed on the main north-south road with some building taking place on connecting roads along with encroachment into former common land. However, despite formal enclosure of land in 1793 many of the fields around the town are still open. Archaeological investigations have revealed post-medieval ditches and pits at Market Street, Clay Street, Brook Dam Lane and Brook Street though there has been little systematic archaeological work on this period.

2.5 Previous archaeological work

A phased programme of archaeological evaluation was carried out on the Site by Lindsey Archaeological Services in 2008 comprising a desk-based assessment followed by fieldwalking and 4 evaluation trenches around the perimeter of the site. The results of this work identified several areas of archaeological activity. A large medieval ditch associated with postholes was found at the west end of the site in Trench 1. The two central trenches contained a small number of pits, postholes and possible a possible beam slot for a building was found on the south side (Trench 3). Trench 4 at the east end of the site uncovered a grave of unknown date containing a female, a child and baby presumed to be prehistoric (MCB18106). Various pits, postholes and stake holes were also present nearby.

2.6 Objectives

The archaeological aims and objectives of the excavation were to:

- Investigate the context of the undated burials, and determine an absolute date for the remains
- Characterise the rural Medieval occupation evidence of the site
- Determine the character and chronology of the site through the collection and analysis of artefact assemblages from features evidence and from relict old land surface soils
- Establish, as far as possible in the limited excavation area, economic and industrial activities that may further inform on the subsistence or trading nature of the inhabitants.
- Investigate the relationship of prehistoric burials to settlement remains.

3. WORKING METHODS

3.1 General

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance.

3.2 Excavation and Recording Strategy

All archaeological remains were recorded by means of photographs, drawings and written records conforming to CIfA standards (2014) and CFA's quality manuals. Features were planned and drawn in section at an appropriate scale, usually 1:20 and 1:10. Plans and sections were tied into the ordnance survey grid using a Trimble Geo7X, RTK initialized GPS equipment accurate to 8mm horizontally and 12mm vertically. The photographic record consisted of digital photographs and B&W negatives. Environmental samples were taken from significant archaeological deposits in accordance with relevant guidelines (AES 1995, Dobney et al 1992, Murphy and Wiltshire 1994 and EH 2011). Generally samples were taken from representative features and from securely stratified primary deposits along with any other deposits identified as showing palaeoenvironmental potential.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 General

The locations of features are shown on Figs. 1-4 and a summary of all contexts is listed in Appendix 1. Figures referred to in the text can be found at the back of the report. A site north was used, aligned north-north-east.

4.2 Topsoil, cultivation soil and drift geology

Grass and topsoil (**001**) covering the excavation area (Fig. 1) was removed with a tracked machine using a smooth-bladed ditching bucket. This topsoil had previously been cultivated for vegetables in a series of wide, parallel garden beds. The thickness varied across the Site from 0.1m along the southern and eastern sides of the excavation to 0.5m in the north-west corner. Below the topsoil was a grey-brown silty clay cultivation soil (subsoil) between 0.2m and 0.5m thick (**002**). This B-soil horizon appears to have formed through a process of illuviation during cultivation of the Site in the medieval period as well as by repeated digging of the garden beds in the 19th to 20th centuries. The deposit was thickest in the south-east corner of the site - the wettest area in the excavation - suggesting that the subsoil may have been partly created by the fluctuating water table in this area leeching humus out of the lower layers of the topsoil. Natural geology across the site was orange-brown sandy clays with irregular/braided channels of beige-brown clayey silts, the latter primarily on the east half of the Site.

4.3 Prehistoric features

The earliest features were located at the east end of the site (Fig. 2). The largest of these was a 5m wide sub-circular pit (**292,** Fig. 7) which extended east out of the excavation area, identified as a possible palaeochannel in the evaluation. Throughout most of the excavation this lay underwater. Attempts were made to drain and investigate the top of this feature by hand but the water table rose too quickly to make this feasible. Following this a deep machine-excavated sump and a channel were then dug to drain the water to the side of the feature, and a slot was carefully machined across it. During the excavation the contents of the machine's bucket was inspected and pottery and bone retrieved. A section was drawn (Figs. 8 and 6.2) and in situ inspection of the pit fills made at 1.2m below the level of the excavation.

Two fills were identified: the upper one (**287**) was a compact clayey silt layer 0.8m thick (max) containing occasional fragments of flint, some struck, and a variety of animal bone and Iron Age pottery. This layer was thickest in the centre of the feature. The lower layer (**313**) was less compact, a light-grey clay with frequent flint and other small sub-angular stones 0.01-0.03m in diameter. Mixed into this was animal bone, antler, Iron Age pottery and charcoal. A lens of yellow sand (**314**) devoid of artefacts had been incorporated into this deposit on the east side of the pit. Hand inspection could not take place below this level due to health and safety concerns, though the machine slot continued revealing layer **313** to a depth of 1.7m below the level of the excavation. Unfortunately it was not possible to bottom the pit as it was unsafe to continue machining below this level due to the high water table . Overall the slot revealed the pit to have moderately sloping sides which plunged steeply near the

centre. This narrow central part of the pit had a diameter of between 2.5m and 1.5m which narrowed with increasing depth. The sides here occasionally undercut the natural showing that the pit edges had slumped as it filled. The lowest cut lines for the pit cut were recorded in plan using GPS equipment before the slot flooded; these are marked on the plan (Fig. 2). The pit appears to be a waterhole which was infilled with Iron Age midden material.

Seven features containing no pottery were found at the east end of the Site to the west of pit **292** (Fig. 2). The similarities of the fills suggest that the pits were contemporary with the Iron Age features nearby. The largest of these was an oval pit (**026**) (Fig. 5.2) measuring 1.4m long, 0.8m wide and 0.22m deep with a convex to flat base filled with a dark-brown silty clay with small stones (**027**). On the east side of this was a very small pit (**028**) (Fig. 5.3) 0.2m in diameter that was just 0.05m deep filled with a similar dark-brown silty clay (**029**). Six metres to the east was a shallow oval pit (**04**2) (Fig. 5.5) with vertical sides and a flat base, 0.5m long, 0.4m wide and 0.15m deep that was filled a light-brown soft silt (**043**). A little to the east were two features, an elongated feature (**062**) (Fig. 5.8) with an uneven base 1.4m long, 0.6m wide and 0.1m deep filled with a dark-grey silty clay (**063**), possibly tree rooting, and a pit to the north (**060/202**) (Fig. 5.21) 0.5m in diameter and 0.3m deep filled with a grey-brown silty clay containing a blade of struck flint, that was cut by later gully **040**. Eight metres to the east, just north of pit **292**, was a circular pit (**304**) (Fig. 6.4) 1.1m in diameter and 0.21m deep with a dished base. Its fill, a mottled orange-brown sand and grey-brown silty clay (**305**) contained Iron Age pottery and animal bone at its base.

To the north of pit **292** was an inhumation group of three individuals aligned north-south, all buried face down and side by side (Fig. 2, 9 and 10) placed on top of the natural. The bones were surrounded by a grey-brown silty fill (**113**). No grave cut was identified despite careful removal of the geotextile from the evaluation and cleaning of the skeletons. The cut of the 'grave pit' ascribed in the evaluation appears to have been the edge of the silty fill around the remains. Nevertheless, the crowded nature of the remains suggests that they could have been laid in a pit and so cut number **112** was ascribed during excavation (not illustrated). It is possible that this cut was accidentally removed during the evaluation.

Cleaning of the remains exposed all non-fragile elements of the skeletons; in general the bone was found to be in poor condition. The middle individual, an adult female (**Sk2**, **115**) survived best though the legs below the knees had been truncated by a later pit (**110**). A radiocarbon date was obtained from the left humerus giving a date of 2445+/-34 BP giving a 95.4% chance that the skeleton dates to between 756 cal BC and 413 cal BC, i.e. Early to Mid Iron Age. The pit which truncated the legs was excavated in the evaluation and produced a Neolithic or Bronze age flint flake, apparently residual given the date of the skeletons. The head of **Sk2** (**115**) was removed in a soil block and excavated in lab conditions. Lying to the east of this skeleton was **Sk3** (**114**), a 6-8 year old child. The bones were in a much worse condition than **Sk2** and the only long bones that survived intact were the left femur and most of the left humerus. Three perforated pendants made from an animal rib, a pig tooth and an eagle bone along with a ceramic bead were found in a sample taken from the child's ribs (Fig. 11). These appear to be pendants hung around the neck of the child when it was buried. The head of this skeleton was removed in the same

manner as **Sk2** and excavated in the lab. The third individual, a 3 year old child (**Sk1**, **116**) was represented by a partly crushed skull and a few bone fragments to the east of **Sk2** below the shoulder. The lack of bones suggests that most of this skeleton had been lost prior to excavation. This skull was also removed in a block of soil and excavated in the lab.

Several features located in the evaluation on this side of the Site were not found. This included an irregular feature **427** interpreted as a quarry pit, 0.05m deep, to the south of **292**. A group of eight stake holes nearby were also not found, nor was shallow linear gully (**408**) to the west.

4.4 Medieval features

The largest features from this phase were five ditches running on the same north-south alignment (Figs. 2-4). At the west end of the Site three of these ran close together, ditch **044**, **050** and **057**. Only a small portion of **044** was exposed in the corner of the excavation area and this could not be investigated due to the height of the spoil heap located to the west. The ditch was more than 1m wide and was filled with a black charcoal-rich silty sand (**045**). A medieval date for this ditch is likely given its similarity to **050** and **057**.

The largest of the three ditches was **057** which was investigated in three slots (**275** (Fig. 12), **283** (Fig. 13), **048**) and a section exposed in the northern limit of excavation. Overall the ditch had a width of approximately 2.7m, a depth of 0.8m, a rounded base and was filled with three deposits (Figs. 5.7, 5.23, 6.1): Primary fill **058**/**049**/**276**/**284** was a dark silty clay containing lumps of charcoal and animal bone 0.46m thick. Pottery sherds of Medieval Stamford and St Neots type wares were found in this layer. Above was an orange layer with no charcoal (**052**/**058**/**274**/**273**). A black charcoal-rich upper layer (**054**) was revealed at the north end of the ditch similar to the fill of neighbouring ditch **050**, which may be contemporary. To the south this black upper layer was absent and instead a thin dark-grey silty clay (**266**/**291**) was present extending out over the sides of the ditch. This deposit seems to have been deposited during natural waterlogging of the area after the ditch had been infilled. The middle slot across the ditch showed it to have been cut by neighbouring ditch **050**.

Ditch **050** ran parallel to **057** but was narrower (1.3m) and shallower (0.5m). A single black charcoal-rich silty fill (**051**/**047**) was revealed in the northern end of the feature containing pieces of Medieval Stamford type ware. Post-medieval pottery was identified as a surface find when this area was initially stripped but this may have been derived from the topsoil or subsoil. Half way along the ditch the fill became a grey-brown silty clay with much less charcoal (**059**/**286**). The southern slot excavated across this ditch showed that it cut **057**.

Nineteen metres to the east of **057** was ditch **127**. Three slots were excavated across it (**139**, **141**, **165** (Fig. 14)) showing it to have a rather shallow (0.35-0.45m) dished profile and a single dark grey-brown silty clay fill (**140**/**142**/**166**, Figs 5.19 & 5.9) containing animal bone. Surface finds included a burnt fragment of brick, peg tile fragments and pottery indicating a medieval date for the infill. The ditch truncated two features, a very shallow rectangular feature (**167**) 0.1m deep filled with a black-

grey silt with no dating evidence and a shallow linear gully (**185**) which is described below. A group of postholes and a narrow gully were found on either side of the northern part of this ditch; both of these features ended 6m south of the northern edge of the excavation. Pit/posthole group **319** (Fig. 16) was located on the west side of the ditch. The pit/postholes (**072**, **074** (Fig. 5.12), **076**, **078** (Fig. 5.14), **080**, **082**, **084** and **096**) were irregular in position, size and shape though they were clearly related as they were filled with similar silty clays and all were of similar depths. Three of the pit/postholes (**074**, **078** and **084**) contained fragments of shell. The largest pit/posthole in the group was **078** measuring 0.77m x 0.39m and 0.16m deep located opposite gully **090**, which may be contemporary. The fill contained some charcoal. The three pit/postholes south of this (**072**, **074** and **076**) were small and more shallow than those to the north, between 0.06m and 0.1m deep. Postholes to the north (**080**, **082**, **084**) were larger and more elongated ranging from 0.54-0.6m long and 0.22-0.35m wide with depths of 0.2m. Pit/posthole **096** was smaller and more rounded, similar to those south of 078. This contained a fragment of Medieval SEFEN type pottery. Together the posts suggest some form of fencing was erected (as a barrier?) on the west side of the ditch.

Opposite this posthole alignment on the east side of ditch **127** was a shallow gully **175** filled with a light brown silt (**176**). Two slots were excavated across this feature (**147** (Fig.5.19), **173**) showing it to be 0.45m wide and 0.1-0.05m deep. The southern end of the gully was truncated by an irregular feature interpreted as a vegetation mark/bioturbation (**131**) and no trace of the gully could be found beyond this. The gully is most likely to be a depression left when constructing ditch **127**, perhaps created when moving ditch material elsewhere. Two features were located a little to the south of the gully. The largest was a shallow polygonal depression or pit 1.2m in diameter with a flat base (**151**) filled with a grey silty clay (**152**, Fig. 5.17). A jar fragment of Medieval SEFEN pottery was recovered from this fill. A small, shallow rectangular posthole (**149**) had been cut into the east side of this deposit and filled with black silty clay (**150**). Nearby was a shallow rectangular posthole (**163**) which may be contemporary, filled with a brown silty clay (**164**); however, this contained no dating evidence.

At the south end of ditch **127** were three round small pits or postholes, **161**, **159** and **155**. These were located at a similar distance from the ditch as posthole group **319** to the north. They may be a sign that a fence once extended right along the length of the ditch. Pit/posthole **155** was the largest (0.34 x 0.27 x 0.12m); the other two were smaller (0.2m x 0.17m x 0.04m (**159**) and 0.16m x 0.16m x 0.06m (**161**)). All were filled with similar grey-silty clay fills (**156**, **160**, **162**).

Twenty-eight metres to the east of ditch **127** was ditch **032** (Fig. 15). Two slots were excavated across this (**020, 033**) giving a width of 1.8-2.1m, depth of 0.34m and showing that it had a gentle rounded profile. The ditch had a single brown clayey silt fill (**021**, **034**) containing animal bones and occasional pieces of flint. No pottery was found in this ditch, however its similarity to the other wide ditches strongly suggest a medieval date.

Two small linear gullies were revealed on either side of ditch **032** running north-north-west to south-south-east across the site. Both of these features (**215** and **040**) were on a very slightly different alignment than the wide ditches crossing the site, a

sign that they may be from a different period, but neither contained datable material. The southern ends of these features could not be traced in the wetter parts of the excavation. The eastern gully (**040**) was investigated with three slots each revealing a silty grey-brown clay fill. The northern end (**064**) was extremely shallow (0.05-11m) with an irregular base and inconsistent width (0.3-0.7m) with a fill (**065**) that contained a few pieces of shell. The southern two slots (**200**, **209**) had dished profiles with more consistent widths (0.5-0.8m) and depths (0.15-0.2m). The central slot (**200**, Fig. 5.17) showed that the gully truncated an earlier posthole (**060**/**202**). The western gully (**215**) was also filled with a grey-brown silty clay but was divided by a 2m wide gap. The northern length had a straight but irregular appearance. A slot across the north end of this section against the excavation edge showed that the gully here had an uneven base and was originally 0.21m deep and 0.64m wide below the cultivation soil (**002**). South of the gap the gully was much straighter. The three slots excavated across this southern length had pointed to flat profiles and similar widths of 0.5m and depths of 0.11-0.13m.

An area of shallow medieval remains was located between ditches **057** and **127**. The largest of these were four gullies of similar dimensions. Gullies **090** and **092** were aligned east-west; **104** and **303** north-south (Fig. 4). Gully **092** (Fig. 18) was 10m long and 0.8m wide intersecting **104** at 90 degrees. Two slots (**068** (Fig. 5.10) and **086** (Fig. 5.15) revealed a shallow dished profiles 0.1-0.2m deep and the fill in both (**069** and **087**) was a grey-brown silty clay with some small stones. Medieval SEFEN type pottery was recovered in both deposits and two pieces of worked flint were recovered.

Gully **104** (Fig. 17) measured 12m long and 0.5-1m wide intersecting **092** at the south end and terminating just before gully **090** in the north. Three slots were excavated (**100**, **119** (Fig. 5.16) and **179/194**). The northern end of the gully (**100**) was very shallow, just 0.09m deep filled with a deposit similar to gully **092,** (**101**). Slot **119** showed the feature to have a similar dished profile as gully **092**; a similar fill (**120**) contained Medieval SEFEN type pottery fragments from a jar, drip tray and bowl as well as an undiagnosed sherd. Where gullies **104** and **092** crossed each other a slot was dug to find the relationship (**179**) but the features were too small and the fills (**189**) were too similar to come to any conclusion and it seems likely the two gullies are broadly contemporary. Pottery revealed from this slot included 29 fragments of Medieval SEFEN type from jars, a jug and an unknown vessel. Two sherds of glazed red earthenware and a single sherd of tin-glazed earthenware, all post-medieval, are likely to be intrusive given that the slot was located close to later posthole group **243** and cut by a later posthole (**177**).

Gully **090** measured 9m long and 0.5-1m wide and was investigated with four slots (**066**, **070** (Fig. 5.11), **088** and **211**). All of the slots showed the gully to have a dished to flat profile 0.12-0.2m deep but no pottery was recovered. Deposits in slots **066**, **070** and **088** (**067**, **071** and **089**) were similar to gullies **092** and **104** but contained gravel at the base and mixed patches of orange clay, a sign of bioturbation. The most heavily disturbed area was slot **070** where the gully narrowed and tree roots were noted. A sherd of modern glass was found in the fill (**071**). Slot **211** was excavated across a darker part of the gully. The fill here comprised alternating thin layers of grey, dark-grey and orange sandy silts (**212**) suggesting that this part of the gully had filled up much more slowly than other areas; presumably this had been a pool of stagnant water. A sherd of modern glass was also found in this fill. Despite revealing no

original dating evidence this gully has similar alignment, length and width to ditch **092** suggesting it was dug at the same time. It also aligns with the largest posthole in posthole group **319** (**078**) which may be contemporary.

Gully **303** was revealed below a spread of material ascribed to the post-medieval period (**253**) and was cut by a later posthole (**251**). The feature extended 12m south from the south end of gully **104** on the same alignment but offset to the east by 1.3m. The southern end went outside the excavation area. Two slots (**262** and **301**) revealed that the gully was 0.6-0.8m wide, 0.1-0.3m deep and had a dished profile. The fill was a brown to grey-brown clay with occasional charcoal lumps. Two sherds of Medieval SEFEN type pottery were recovered from fill **302**.

Several shorter gullies and features located around these four main gullies may be contemporary. To the south and parallel to **090** was a 4m long feature (**137**) measuring 0.4-0.8m wide and 0.09-0.19m deep. The two slots excavated at either end (**098**, **121** (Fig. 5.18)) revealed bioturbated edges and brown-orange clay fills (**099**, **122**) with no dating evidence similar to those in gully **090**. Just to the south was a shallow oval feature measuring 1.35 x 0.88 x 0.06m (**143**, Fig. 5.20). Its fill (**144**) contained charcoal and three sherds of Medieval SEFEN-type pottery and a lithic blade. To the south-east parallel to gully **092** but truncated by ditch **127** was a short linear gully (**185**) which could be traced for 9m. This had a similar width (0.9m) and depth (0.3m) to **092** with a similar dished profile and it is possible that this was a continuation of this feature to the east. A 3.5m long gully (**281**) to the south of **090** may also be contemporary with the main long gullies. This measured 0.6m wide and 0.25m deep, was located in a heavily bioturbated area and was cut by a later posthole (**289**). The fill contained a fragment of lava stone, probably from a medieval quern.

An isolated shallow depression (**309**) located at the south end of gully **215** on the eastern side of the site contained Medieval SEFEN-type pottery and may be ascribed to this date; however the pot could be residual. This oval feature was 0.6m in diameter with a 0.1m deep dished base.

4.5 Post-medieval features

A line of 18 postholes (**243**) crossed the site on an east-west alignment (**102**, **106**, **117**, **123**, **137**, **129**, **125**, **108**, **145**, **094**, **231**, **233**, **229**, **241**, **227**, **225**, **223**, **221**). These were spaced at similar intervals and were clearly part of the same feature, probably a fence line. The postholes, most of which were rectangular, ranged from 0.87m x 0.5m x 0.2m maximum to 0.39m x 0.25m x 0.07m minimum and all were filled with similar dark brown silty clays. Postholes **221**, **223**, **225**, **227**, **241** and **146** cut the large medieval ditches **050**, **057** and gully **104**. Medieval SEFEN type pottery was recovered from **125**, **137** and **117** and post-medieval glazed red earthenware from **123**, **129** and **108** showing that the fence line dates to the latter period with the medieval sherds being residual. A sherd of post-medieval bottle glass was also recovered from **227**. There was a notable gap in the line between **233** and **229** where gully **239** ran.

A 1m wide north-south gully (**239**) was identified running parallel to **303** for 15m, turning slightly to the north-west at its northern end. This ran through the gap in posthole alignment **243**. Four slots were dug across it, the southern one (**260**) found

the feature to be 0.12m deep with an irregular base. That to the north **(256**) was slightly deeper (0.16m) and had a more regular profile and dished base. At the gap in posthole alignment **243** a slot was dug (**254**) revealing no posthole but instead the irregular base of the gully (0.13-0.2m deep). It is likely that the gully cut posthole alignment **243** rather than it having been avoided by the fence line. The northern end (**245**) was shallow and also had rather irregular sides and flattish base. Next to this northern slot was an elongated depression similar to the gully (**247**) 2.5m long, 0.1m wide and 0.17m deep. Both **239** and **247** had similar grey silty clay fills and appear to be contemporary. The two features appear to be post-medieval as **239** is not cut by posthole alignment **243** and therefore must be contemporary or later. The function of the gullies is unclear; they may have been a path, boundary or drainage gully cut through the fence line.

A small (0.31m x 0.22m x 0.07m) oval posthole (**177**) was found cut into the south end of gully **104**. This was filled with a dark-grey compact silty clay containing no finds. A fragment from an iron stirrup or spur was found at the top of the fill when cleaning, though this may be from the cultivation soil above (**002**). The posthole could date to the same phase as fence line **243** or it could be later, contemporary with posthole **251**, see below.

Two features with post-medieval finds in their fills were found west of linear gully **215**. Pit **187** was circular, 0.9m in dia and contained fragments of CBM along with red-glazed earthenware. A rectangular pit to the south (**271**) contained red 19th century ceramic and may relate to a land drain (**018**) that was removed during initial stripping of the excavation area.

4.6 Undated features

An isolated pit (**306**) measuring 0.7m in diameter and 0.14m deep was located 6m west of pit **292**. This was filled with a mid to light-brown silty clay with occasional fragments of flint and some charcoal. The pit may be contemporary with the other prehistoric features on this side of the site.

To the south of ditch **092** and near **281** was a group of shallow features which were heavily disturbed by bioturbation including burrowing. Feature **317** was located to the south of gully **281** and had an irregular 'Z' shape, likely to be a tree-throw pit. Nearby was a shallow pit-like feature with a steep undercutting base also likely to be formed by tree growth (**311**). Medieval SEFEN-type pottery was recovered from its fill (**312**) but also a fragment of 19th or 20th century glass. To the east were several burrows and two shallow irregular pits (**171, 293**). Running north-east from these features was a 5.5m long shallow linear gully which may be the base of a drain cut towards ditch **127**. Two slots were dug across the feature (**152, 192**) revealed a slightly dished profile 0.11-0.2m deep and 1.1-2m wide filled with a grey silty clay.

To the north of gully **281** was an irregular spread of grey compacted clay with 50% small stones (**180**), a deposit dumped inside the area enclosed by gullies **281**, **104** and **092**. The feature was only very shallow (0.08m thick) and could not be traced far to the south.

Several isolated pits and postholes were located in the central part of the Site which could not be ascribed to any period. Three were aligned north-west to south-east close to modern pit **196**. Posthole **181** was 0.3m in diameter, 0.19m deep; **183**, 0.4m dia, 0.15m deep; **190** was 0.5m dia and 0.25m deep. All were filled with similar dark-brown silty clays and may well be contemporary. To the south near the edge of the excavation were two features, a sub-square pit feature (**267**) 0.5m in dia, 0.12m deep with an irregular base and beside it a small elongated feature (**269**) 0.35m x 0.14m, 0.11m deep. These were filled with similar dark grey clay fills with marl and were interpreted together as bioturbation/vegetation marks.

4.7 Modern features

The largest of these was a rounded pit (**196**) 1.2m in diameter which had vertical sides and a flat base. A machine-made bottle recovered from the dark brown silty clay fill (**197**) shows this was a 20th century rubbish pit or garden feature. To the south-east of this was the remains of a geotechnical pit, **198**.

A 19th century ceramic field drain (not illustrated) ran north-south across the Site for 7m immediately south of gully (**215**). This was dug into the **002** and was removed during the site stripping.

A layer of grey-brown silty clay with patches of yellow sand and charcoal (**253**) was found sealing some of the features at the south-west end of the excavation. This spread of material, only 0.02m thick, was found below the main cultivation soil (**002**) which was very thin in this area. The layer may have been formed when cultivating the garden beds at the rear of the existing property though its precise date is unclear. A single square post-hole was cut into **253** (**251**) containing an obvious post pipe in one corner (**250**) and filled with dark-brown silty clay. Together the spread **253** and **251** are considered to be from the same phase of garden activity. A feature of apparent similar date was **289**, a large posthole or pit (0.8m x 0.6m x 0.25m) cut into short gully **281**. The fill (**290**) was a black clayey silt.

5. THE FINDS

By Rebekah Pressler

5.1 Pottery

The small assemblage of 250 sherds of pottery recovered from the excavation, along with the further 23 from the walkover survey and 24 from the evaluation (making 297 sherds in total) provide most of the dating for the site overall. The majority of the sherds are medieval, dating the assemblage largely to the later Saxo-Norman period of the thirteenth century, with a smaller proportion of the pottery attributed to a later medieval and post-medieval date. The 36 sherds of Iron Age pottery recovered from the excavations are the earliest dated ceramics.

Fabric Code	**Sherd count**	**Body sherd**	**Base sherd**	**Rim**	**Handle**	**Unknown Form**	**Jar**	**Bowl**	**Dripping pan/tray or squared dish**	**Jug**	**Pitcher/ Jug**	**Flatware**	**Pancheon**	**Drinking vessel**
FSTW	32	32				1	31							
STWSF	2	2					2							
STW	1	1				1								
GRS	1	1				1								
CGSW	1	1				1								
SEFEN	192	158	14	19	1	153	15	5	2	2				
EMEMS/ MEMS	1	1					1							
THET	2	1		1			1	1						
NEOT/ NEOTT	2	2					2							
STAM/ DEST	4	2	2				1				3			
MICFS/ EAR	2	1		1		1							1	
BRIL	1	1												1
GRE	23	12	4	6	1	13	3(1)	5(4)						2
STAF	1			1				1						
TGE	2	2				1						1		
Total	297													

Table 1. Summary of pottery

5.1.1 Prehistoric pottery

The 36 sherds of prehistoric pottery from the excavation and evaluation make up 12.7% of the assemblage with a combined weight of 53.1g. The sherds were largely recovered from deposits **287** and **313** within waterlogged pit **292**. 13 sherds of Iron Age pottery were also derived from pit deposit **305**, with a single residual sherd noted in medieval ditch deposit **286**. With the exception of a large body sherd (25g) from **313**, most of the pottery is comprised of small fragments.

Fabrics and form

Flint and sand tempered ware (FSTW)
The sherds are comprised of a (moderate to fine) flint and sand tempered fabric with rare calcareous inclusions (both body sherds deriving from a jar) dating to the early Iron Age. The fabric is relatively comparable with those retrieved from 8 Market Street, Soham particularly fabric FQ6 (Brudenell 2012. P22-23).

Sand tempered ware, sparse flint (STWSF)
Similar to the above fabric with rare flint or chert.
The largest of the sherds (FSTW) is handmade and smoothed with a reduced blackish grey core and a varicoloured orange/brown to buff surface from deposit **313** (pit / watering hole **292**). Finger impressions were noted on both internal and external surfaces, as with the pottery from 8 Market Street (Brudenell 2012. P25). A sherd of sand tempered ware (STW) was also noted within the same deposit. Sooted body sherds of FSTW jar were also noted in the upper deposit of the pit (**287**).

Condition and summary of the assemblage

The sherds are in good, unabraded condition suggesting little or no disturbance to the deposit. The surface treatment on the largest of the sherds is particularly indicative of an early Iron Age date. The pottery sherds date the filling of the pit / watering hole feature **292** to no earlier than the early Iron Age and together with a quantity of animal bone may be indicative of ritual in and around the feature and Iron Age burials. However beyond suggesting that there may some prehistoric activity to the eastern edge of the excavations, the small quantity of the pottery does not add greatly to our understanding of the vicinity.

5.1.2 Roman Pottery

Sandy greyware (GRS)
A finely sand tempered micaceous greyware fabric with small blackish inclusions.

Central Gaulish Samian (CGSW)
Red fabric with fine quartz sand and occasional mica and limestone inclusions.

Condition and summary of the assemblage

The two sherds were both retrieved from soil samples with later pottery. The sherds are relatively abraded suggesting residual deposition within the soils.

5.1.3 Late Saxo-Norman to Medieval Pottery

The 192 sherds of late Saxon to medieval pottery make up the majority of the ceramic assemblage recovered from the excavations at 52 Station Road (79%), widely dating from the 9th century to perhaps the 14th or 15th century.

SEFEN (Spoerry 2016. P194) ware is the most common of the medieval fabrics, accounting for 72.3% of the total pottery assemblage. The majority of the sherds (86) are body sherds and thus not closely dateable, however it was sometimes possible to identify some of the vessel types. For example, sooting was noted on some of the

sherds indicative of a cooking vessel or jar, and rilling (Mynard 1971, P23) or grooving was noted on a jug sherd from the evaluation 0102. Otherwise, the diagnostic vessel sherds are largely comprised of jar and bowl rims, as well as a single jug handle. Some of the forms (unsurprisingly) appear to bear some resemblance to Ely ware, suggesting perhaps either that some potters (or indeed their apprentices) may have moved location or that (more likely) there was some form of cultural exchange of ideas between production areas. Part of a handmade and wheel finished jar of 12th to 13th century date with applied thumbed strips (Spoerry 2016, P191) and stabbed decoration under the rim bears some resemblance to sherds in HM101 and HM101 (Spoerry 2016, P191).

There is some indication, however that the SEFEN type pottery may in fact be earlier than the c.1150-1450 date range suggested by a number of handmade or handmade and wheel finished sherds. A hand or coil made bowl sherd from ditch deposit **120** (possibly with some wheel finishing or smoothing on the rim) with crudely incised bands under the rim, and a similar sherd from post-hole deposit **126** possibly date from the 11th to 12th century (albeit some hand or coil made pottery can be manufactured into the 13th century) . Sue Anderson similarly notes that; 'in the early medieval period (11th-12th century), pottery manufacture reverted to handmade forms. The causes of this are uncertain, but are possibly related to the collapse of urban industries and return to rural-based production, where wheels were never common' (Anderson 2000). A wheel finished SEFEN jar sherd with thumbed applied strips and an upright rim with a slightly everted and bevelled flat top from ditch deposit **189** bears some resemblance to the Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware (EMEMS) jar sherds EM71 and EM72 (Spoerry 2016, P133). It also bears some resemblance to Jar E in the Ely ware volume (Spoerry 2008, 46 no. 64), a vessel of Saxo-Norman date also suggested to be possibly SEFEN.

The squared fragment of a handmade vessel in the SEFEN fabric is possibly derived either from a dripping pan or possibly a squared dish. Squared, straight sided dishes have been noted in the South Cambridgeshire Smooth Sandy ware fabric (EM54-62 – Spoerry 2016, P126) dating from c1050-1225 and Huntingdonshire Fen Medieval ware fabrics (EM147/8 - Spoerry 2016, P154). Dripping pans or trays were first introduced to Britain during the early 13th century (Vince 1985, P56), possibly due to changes in culinary practices, such as collecting the meat juices for sauces (Jaine. 1988).

Stamford (c.875-1200) or Developed Stamford type ware (1150-1300) (1.85% of the pottery assemblage total) was noted both in ditch deposit **046** and post-hole deposit **097**. Three of the sherds are glazed with either a coppery green (**046**) or yellow glaze (**097**) and probably derived from either a jug or pitcher, with a further sooted sherd belonging to a cooking vessel. None of the sherds were closely dateable (Stamford type ware broadly dating from the 9th to the 13th century).

A small fragment of undiagnostic sooted St Neots (c.850/875-1100) or Developed St Neots type (1050-1250) (Spoerry 2016, P130/137) ware was noted from ditch deposit **049**. A possible Thetford type ware bowl sherd (about 11th or 12th century) was recovered from an adjacent ditch **051**/**050**. Other miscellaneous sherds include a fragment of either EMEMS LI (c.1050-1200) or MEMS (c.1200-1400) jar from pit deposit **188**, a sherd of EAR/MICFS (14th to 16th century) from the topsoil (trenches

1 and 4 in the evaluation) and a fragment of BRIL type ware (c.1200-1500 - probably from a jug) from the walkover survey **010**.

Condition and summary of the assemblage

The condition of the sherds is variable, with abrasion evident on some of the sherds and post-deposition burning on a few (particularly on some of the Stamford type ware), suggesting disturbance by later activity (possibly a bonfire?).

The pottery is largely relatively domestic and fairly typical of an assemblage found within the outlying areas of a town. The assemblage is the primary dating evidence from the deposits providing a *Terminus Post Quem* and suggests an Saxo-Norman presence within the area. The SEFEN pottery recovered is also interesting, suggesting potentially a much earlier (11th century or possibly earlier) date for the pottery and a wider range of vessel types. It also might be interesting in future to consider if in fact the SEFEN pottery preceded and influenced the Ely ware industry.

Fabrics

South-east Fenland Medieval Calcareous Buff ware (SEFEN) (Fig. 22)
Thin section analysis of the fabric was completed by Alan Vince in 2008 and described as containing 'a mixed, rounded sand including quartz, shell, limestone (?chalk), rounded red iron ore and flint, in a groundmass of light brown fine - textured clay. The core of the sherds is sometimes reduced and light grey but very rarely black. This fabric is very similar in appearance to Hunts Fen Sandy ware (HUNFSW) and the lack of black-cored vessels argues against an Ely source' (Vince 2007b).

Stamford type ware/Developed Stamford ware (STAM/DEST)
A fine hard fired smooth usually off white in colour, it has also been noted in grey or light brown with occasional fine inclusions and rare white mica.

Thetford type ware
A variable fine to coarse pottery, typically in a highly fired reduced usually in a grey fabric, although the surface variations from brown to grey are common (Spoerry 2016, P106).

St Neots ware/Developed St Neots ware
A relatively soft bodied varicoloured grey, black or purplish black fabric type with a crushed shell temper (a full thin section analysis was completed by Alan Vince in 2007). The St Neots ware fabric is usually has a finer shell temper and a smoother surface finish than the developed St Neots ware (Spoerry 2016, P138). Vessels in this fabric type are usually wheel thrown, although some larger vessels may be handmade.

East Anglian Redware (MICFS/EAR) (Fig. 23)
Close up photograph of the MICFS fabric (Vince 2008)
Thin section analysis of this fabric was completed by Alan Vince in 2008 who describes the fabric as: 'a micaceous, silty groundmass, with variable quantities of rounded quartzose sand. Wares of this type have been given various codes by Dr P Spoerry depending on the size and quantity of inclusions and the prominence of white

mica in the groundmass (Vince 2007a). The group was probably made in north Essex although a south-eastern Cambridgeshire source is also possible'.

Brill/Boarstall type ware (BRIL)
A fine slightly micaceous hard fired fabric with a reduced, light grey core and a buff/orange surface with iron and grog inclusions.

Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware/ Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy Ware (EMEMS/MEMS)
A buff/brown to dark grey sandy fabric (dependent upon reduction) with a variable fine to (in this case) coarse quartz temper and as Dr P Spoerry notes; 'the latter being decidedly 'pimply'' (Spoerry 2016, P130).

5.1.4 Post-Medieval Pottery

A total of 27 sherds of post-medieval pottery (16.7% approximately of the assemblage) were noted from the excavation and evaluation. The majority of the pottery (24 sherds) is comprised of post-medieval Redwares (PMRE) comprising largely unidentifiable body sherds, but also including bowl sherds, a possible jar and drinking vessels.

A small sherd of PMRE bowl with a mottled green glaze from ditch deposit **051** (probably intrusive) is a 17th century possibly Ely, Broad street example (BELGRE) example (Spoerry 2016, P265). A bowl from the evaluation (the fabric was thin-sectioned by Alan Vince in 2008) with a mottled glaze and a thickened rim with an internal bevel dates from the 17th to the 18th century. Two small fragments of TGE are difficult to date accurately and thus a wide ranging 16th to early 19th century date is applicable. A sherd of white/buff Staffordshire type slipware (Jennings 1981) bowl with a brown trailed slip was recovered from the subsoil (**002**).

Condition and summary of the assemblage

The condition of the pottery is generally fair to good, with abrasion evident on some of the sherds. The pottery is the primary dating evidence from the contexts, providing a *Terminus Post Quem*, as well as contributing to the evidence for the change in the land use in the post-medieval period.

Staffordshire type slipware
Typically a fine white, buff or pale pink-bodied fabric with either dark or white slips as well as combed, trailed or feathered decoration. Pottery of this type has also been noted in Bristol, Derbyshire (notably Ticknall) and Northamptonshire (Potterspury).

Tin-glazed earthenware (TGE)
Typically a fine white, buff or pale pink soft bodied fabric with a shiny bluish white opaque glaze. Production sites include Norwich, London, Bristol and East Malling in Kent.

Post-Medieval Redwares (PMRE)/Glazed red earthenware (GRE) (Fig. 24)

A generic term for red earthenwares of post-medieval date in variable fabric types. A thin section of a sherd PMRE from the evaluation was completed by Alan Vince in 2008.

5.2 Ceramic Building Materials

A total of eighteen pieces of CBM were noted from ten contexts, largely comprising undiagnostic fragments. Two partially reduced tile fragments from ditch deposit **128** in fabric 1 are probably peg tile fragment dating from around c.1250 to the 16th century. An abraded incomplete brick from the same context with external burning (possibly from a hearth or chimney) is probably later in date, but may be intrusive.

Condition and concluding remarks

The condition of the CBM is variable with abrasion evident on a few fragments and notably on the brick from **128**. The CBM adds to the general dating of the deposits, but otherwise tells us very little about the general vicinity.

Fabrics

Fabric 1
A hard fired mid-orange fabric, sometimes with a grey core and assorted large to small inclusions including ironstone, flint, chalk and quartz and very rare to occasional gold and silver mica.

Fabric 2
A varicoloured pinkish orange to dark orange-ish red fabric (purplish red when over-fired) fabric. Powdery when oxidised, the fabric has occasional to frequent calcareous inclusions and very rare mica.

Fabric 3
Streaky pinkish-buff fabric with white surfaces and rare inclusions such as white mica. Similar fabrics have been noted in Suffolk.

Fabric 4
Orange to red sandy fabric with sub-rounded quart inclusions and rare chalk flecking. Relatively similar to the SEFEN pottery fabric.

Context	Quantity	Type	Weight (g)	Description	Date
002	2	Roof tile	66.3	Fabric 1 with a reduced core. Handmade. Not closely dateable fragments but possibly medieval	Medieval-Post-Medieval
021	1	Roof tile	19.9	Fabric 1. Abraded. Handmade as above but without the reduced core.	Medieval-Post-Medieval
085	1	Roof tile	17.6	Fabric 2 fragment, otherwise as above.	Medieval-Post-Medieval
095	1	Brick	22	Fabric 4. Brick fragment. Burnt.	Medieval-Post-Medieval
128	1	Brick	707	Fabric 2. Incomplete. Burning along one edge suggests this may have been used in a hearth. Abraded.	C16th?

				W101mmxG46mm	
128	2	Roof tile	64.4	Fabric 1. Fragments – probably peg tiles.	13th -16th century
142	1	Brick	187.4	Fabric 3	Medieval-Post-Medieval
142	1	Brick	22.3	Fabric 2? G45mm	Medieval-post-medieval
166	1	Brick	59.8	Brick fragment. Fabric 3?	C15th-16th?
166	1	Roof tile	77.3	Fragment. Fabric 1	Medieval
242	2	Brick	4.1	Query brick fragment	C15th-16th
250	1	Brick	47.4	Fabric 1.	Medieval?
283	2	Brick	32.5	Fragmentary. Query fabric 4?	Medieval-Post-Medieval?
Total	17		1328		

Table 2. Summary of Ceramic Building Material

5.3 Iron

Seventeen fragments of iron were recovered, solely from the excavation. Most of the fragments are medieval iron nails or non-diagnostic artefacts. A medieval or post-medieval possible Stirrup and/or spur fragment was recovered from **178**.

Context	Quantity	Type	Weight (g)	Description	Date
U/S	1	Nail	24.4	Query nail	?
138	1	Query Nail	1.4	Query nail fragment	?
178	1	Stirrup/ spur	32.9	The remains of a stirrup and spur	Medieval?
189	2	Nail	12.5	Query nails – possibly from horseshoes? Hand wrought	Medieval
222	2	Nail	8.8	Nail fragments	Medieval?
222	1	Object	2.4	Unknown fragment	Medieval?
253	4	Nail	25.7	Query nail fragments. One fragment (square in section) probably dates c1480-1800	Early Post-Medieval?
257	1	Nail	18.2	Post 1480 date	Early Post-Medieval?
276	1	Object	27.2	Encrusted iron artefact	?
292	1	Object	-	Undiagnostic corroded fragment of iron	Iron Age?
294	1	Object	33.6	Encrusted iron artefact	?
296	1	Nail	12.1	Hand wrought	Medieval?
310	1	Query nail	7.1	Nail or pivot	Medieval?
312	1	Object	0.2	Unknown fragment	Medieval
Total	17		206.5		

Table 3. Summary of Iron

5.4 Glass

A total of five pieces of glass were recovered from the excavations, with none retrieved from the evaluation. The earliest dated glass comprises a slightly abraded

sherd of 17th to 18th century green (probably bottle) glass from post-hole deposit **228** with a slightly flaking patina. A complete machine bottle from pit deposit **197** with UGB on the base suggests United Glass Bottle Manufacturers. The rest of the fragments are fragmentary clear glass sherds dating from approximately the late 19th to 20th century. A fragment from deposit **312** is probably intrusive.

Condition and concluding remarks

The condition of the glass was generally fair to good, with a little more abrasion evident on the earlier dated sherd from post-hole **228**. The glass fragments add somewhat to the dating of the deposits, but otherwise say very little about the site in general.

Context	Total	Form	Weight	Description	Date
071	1	?	3.8	Fragment – vessel/window glass	C19th-20th
197	1	Bottle	151.7	Complete bottle – machine made. UGB on the base suggests United Glass Bottle Manufacturers?	C 1913-1959?
212	1	Bottle?	0.8	Fragment – possibly part of a bottle.	C19th-20th
228	1	Bottle	4.4	Fragment	C17th-18th
312	1	Bottle?	11	Fragment	C19th-early 20th
	5		171.7		

Table 4. Summary of Glass

5.5 Other Finds

Cu alloy

A small crushed copper alloy tube 10mm long was found in the fill of ditch **165**. Its function is unclear; however it may be part of 'point' or possibly a needle.

Lava stone

Seven fragments of grey volcanic lava stone were recovered from gully **281**. None of the surfaces are diagnostic and while it is possible the lava stone could be medieval it may be residual and of earlier date.

Bone Artefacts (Figs. 11 & 20)

Context 114, skeleton 3, Rectangular animal rib pendant
A polished rectangular animal bone pendant made from a medium mammal rib with a small perforated hole at the top of the pendant measuring 45.59mm by 14.6mm by x 3mm. Found in sample taken from upper spine of Sk3 (**114**).

Context 114, skeleton 3, Pig tooth pendant
A polished animal tooth pendant made from a female pig canine with a broken perforated hole at the top measuring 46.6mm x 9.6mm x 4mm. Found in sample taken from upper spine of Sk3 (**114**).

Context 114, skeleton 3, eagle phalanx pendant

A bone pendant made from the distal foot phalanx of an eagle with a large perforated hole half way along. Object, 23.8mm x 8.8mm x 3mm. Found in sample taken from upper spine of Sk3 (**114**).
Discussion

The pendants were entirely recovered a sample of the spine area from skeleton 3, thus making it impossible to determine whether they may have been threaded on separate 'thongs' or formed a single necklace. Bone artefacts of this type associated with burials are relatively uncommon within early Iron Age Britain. A similarly dated undecorated rectangular pendant was recovered from evaluation trenches along Fordham road in Soham (Quinn, 2012). Some early Iron Age tooth pendants were also noted from excavations at Cannings Cross Farm (Cunnington 1923).

Beads

Context 114, ceramic, from Skeleton 3 (Fig. 11)
A ceramic cylinder disc bead with slashed incised decoration in a quartz tempered fabric of relative similarity to the Iron Age sand-tempered fabric. Object, 8mm dia, 4mm thick. Found in sample taken from upper spine of skeleton 3 (**114**).

Context 189, glass or amber
Yellow glass or amber tubular seed bead, one end is rounded. Object, 2mm dia, 2mm thick. The object was found in the when sieving medieval gully deposit **189**.

6. FLAKED LITHICS

By Ann Clarke

A small number of struck lithics dating from the Early Prehistoric and Historic periods were recovered from various fills across the site (Table 5).

The Early Prehistoric lithics comprise three blades and a probable platform rejuvenation flake. Two blades were made of a mottled grey flint and the other of translucent brown flint. They were all struck from narrow platforms and two had blade ridges down the centre of the dorsal face. The platform rejuvenation flake was made of black flint and exhibited part of a truncated platform edge from a core. These struck lithics could have been made for use from the Late Mesolithic to the Late Neolithic – there are no specific forms which could date the occurrence of these lithics more precisely.

The blade made from translucent brown flint (7a) and the platform rejuvenation flake (7b) were found in the fill of pit **143**. Another blade (8) came from the fill of grave **112** and is clearly residual.

The smallest blade (6) came from the upper fill (**287**) of pit **292** and was the only lithic find in this layer. A number of flints were collected from the lower fill of this pit (**313**) but none were as clearly worked as the blade; these comprised two small, deliberately broken nodules of black flint (9a and 9b) and a small chunk of mottled grey flint (9h) which may, on the basis of material being the same as the blades, be

accepted as a deliberate inclusion. The remainder of the flints in this pit comprised natural chunks and flakes, all patinated and rolled to various degrees.

A flake fragment of black flint (5) was found in a posthole **202**. It had a pronounced bulb of percussion and no surviving platform and as such could be from any period.

Within the fill of the medieval gulley **086** there were two pieces of artefactual flint with a different character of working. A large, thick flake (3a) had three deep notches flaked on the curved distal end from the ventral face to form a coarse denticulate edge. Accompanying this tool was a chunky fragment of grey flint (3b) which had been used as a scraper along one steep, unretouched edge incorporating a deep, narrow, notch which might suggest it had been used as some form of spokeshave.

Humphrey and Young (1999) have demonstrated that flint was worked throughout the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age but that the knapping techniques were much cruder than those practised in the earlier prehistoric periods, and the range of tools was smaller being confined to coarse scrapers and awls. Flint was also occasionally used for tools in early medieval Ireland (Shaffer Foster 2014) and middle ages of Scotland e.g. Bretta Ness, Orkney (Clarke 2011) when it was often used together with a metal strike-a-light. At Guntons Close the two crudely worked flints were used for scraping (or as a spokeshave), and as some form of coarse edge tool. Given the nature of the working and shaping of these flints they are unlikely to be prehistoric and therefore there is no reason to think that the two worked and utilised flints from the gully **086** were not contemporary with their context of deposition and were therefore used as tools in the medieval period.

The remaining lithics are most likely natural flints with the exception of a robust primary flake of black flint (1b). This flake has a pronounced bulb of percussion – made with a stone or metal hammer - and could be the product of trimming flint nodules as decorative building stone or else as a hammerstone. This came from the cultivation soil / subsoil (**002**).

Summary

The lithics demonstrate an ephemeral prehistoric presence that could be Late Mesolithic or Neolithic. As well as the natural flint in Pit **292** there were two deliberately broken nodules and a chunk of grey flint together with the small blade from the upper fill. Two other blades came from a pit with charcoal and shell **143** which could date its use to the Late Mesolithic/Neolithic.

The use of flint for tools into medieval times is attested by the coarse denticulate tool and scraper from Gully **086**.

Context Fill/Cut	Catalogue No.	Material	Condition	Type	Cortex	Description	ML	MW	MTh
(002)	1a	Calcined flint	Burnt	Chunky fragment	Inner	Heavily burnt fragment/chunk.	25	19	11
(002)	1b	Black flint	OK	Flake	Primary	Large primary flake. Pronounced bulb of percussion.	59	63	15
(009) [008]	2	Mottled grey flint	OK	Irregular flake	Inner	Thick inner flake. Irregular outline because detached around flaw in flint. No clear detachment characteristics.	39	24	12
(087) [086]	3a	Flint	Heavily rolled and patinated orange	Retouched flake	Primary	Heavily patinated thick flake. Three deep notches flaked on distal end forming coarse denticulate edge. Flaking subsequently patinated.	61	40	11
(087) [086]	3b	Grey flint	OK	Utilised flake	Secondary	Thick irregular flake. Platform removed by breakage. Steep edge used as scraper - does not look deliberately retouched. Scraper edge is deeply notched - almost like a spokeshave.	broken 21	19	11
(257) [256]	4a	Flint	Heavily rolled and patinated orange	Irregular flake	Secondary	Probable natural flake.	27	23	9
(257) [256]	4b	Flint	Patinated white	Flake fragment	Inner	Fragment from flake. No platform surviving. Natural.	broken 19	21	8
(203) [202]	5	Black flint	OK	Flake fragment	Inner	Fresh inner flake. Thick. Segment survives. Pronounced bulb of percussion. No platform surviving.	broken 19	37	11
(287) [292]	6	Mottled grey flint	OK	Blade	Secondary	Small blade. Tiny cortical platform. Single blade ridge down centre of dorsal face.	16	8	2
(144) [143]	7a	Translucent brown flint	OK	Blade	Inner	Segment of parallel-sided blade. Single blade ridge down centre of dorsal face.	broken 19	12	4
(144) [143]	7b	Black flint	OK	Regular flake	Secondary	Possible platform rejuvenation flake. Small amount of truncated platform edge surviving.	17	35	8
(113)	8	Mottled grey flint	OK	Blade	Inner	Fine blade. Inner narrow platform. No blade scars on dorsal face.	19	13	2
(313) [292]	9a	Black flint	OK	Nodule	Secondary	Broken flat nodule revealing inner of black flint. Broken before being placed in pit?	52	37	13
(313) [292]	9b	Black flint	OK	Nodule	Secondary	Deliberately broken nodule revealing inner of black flint. Broken before being placed in pit?	53	41	20
(313) [292]	9c	Flint	Heavily rolled and patinated orange	Chunky fragment	Secondary	Heavily patinated natural chunk.	54	38	24
(313) [292]	9d	Black flint	Patinated and rolled	Chunky fragment	Secondary	Rolled damaged chunk.	59	29	18
(313) [292]	9e	Flint	Heavily	Chunky fragment	Secondary	Patinated chunk.	44	22	17

			patinated						
(313) [292]	9f	Flint	Patinated and rolled	Chunky fragment	Secondary	Patinated chunk.	35	22	12
(313) [292]	9g	Flint	Patinated orange and rolled	Chunky fragment	Secondary	Patinated chunk.	37	17	13
(313) [292]	9h	Mottled grey flint	OK	Chunk	Secondary	Chunk with icing sugar type cortex. ?Imported to site.	25	14	9
(313) [292]	9i	Mottled grey flint	OK	Flake fragment	Inner	Fragment. No clear detachment characteristics.	broken 35	22	8

Table 5. Summary of Flaked Lithics

7. HUMAN SKELETAL REMAINS

By Sue Anderson

7.1 Introduction

Three incomplete inhumations were recovered from a single grave, buried beside each other and lying extended but prone. The lower end of the grave had been truncated. All three skeletons were in fair condition, but the bone was stained brown and was extremely brittle, suggesting that much of the collagen had been lost. As a result, the skeletons had been severely fragmented and most bones were too broken and incomplete for reconstruction. The skeletons are summarised individually below, and a full catalogue is appended to this report.

7.2 Methodology

Measurements were taken using the methods described by Brothwell (1981), together with a few from Bass (1971) and Krogman (1978). Sexing and ageing techniques follow Brothwell (1981) and the Workshop of European Anthropologists (WEA 1980), with the exception of adult tooth wear scoring which follows Bouts and Pot (1989). All non-metric traits are listed in Brothwell (1981), and grades of cribra orbitalia can also be found there.

7.3 The skeletons

Skeleton 1 (116)

Sk1 comprised fragments of cranial vault and base, most of the teeth, a small part of the mandible, fragments of the cervical vertebrae, part of the left clavicle, two pieces of ?humerus and a fragment of femur (collected with Sk2). One small fragment of calcined bone, not identified to species, was recovered from a sample associated with this burial. The size of the individual and the state of eruption/calcification of the teeth suggested that s/he was c.3 years old at the time of death. Sixteen deciduous and unerupted crowns of eleven permanent teeth were present. Both upper first molars had clear examples of the non-metric (epigenetic) trait of Carabelli's cusp, and other non-metric traits were noted in the skull (retention of the metopic suture, lambdoid wormian bone). No pathological conditions were recorded, but the individual could not be assessed for cribra orbitalia.

Skeleton 2 (115)

Sk2 was near-complete, although truncation of the burial had removed the distal half of the lower legs and both feet. The skeleton was small and gracile, and the sciatic notch of the pelvis was wide with a clear pre-auricular sulcus present on both sides, suggesting that the individual was female. Attrition of the teeth was minimal, suggesting that she was relatively young at the time of death, although there was slight evidence of degeneration in the spine. An age in the range 20–30 years seems likely. The cranial vault was reconstructed and was long and narrow, with an approximate index of 64.9 (dolichocranial). Stature could be estimated from the length of the right femur at 1.549m (5' 1"). All teeth were present in the maxilla and mandible, with the exception of both lower second premolars. On the right side, the

deciduous second molar had been retained, whilst on the left there was a gap, suggesting that the permanent teeth were likely to have been congenitally absent. This individual did not have Carabelli's cusps of the upper first molars, but like Skeleton 1, her metopic suture had been retained and she also had a number of lambdoid wormian bones. The only pathology observed was the presence of small osteophytes on the mid vertebral bodies and some of the lateral rib facets, and Schmorl's nodes in the mid thoracic to lumbar region, suggesting some stress on the spine during life.

Skeleton 3 (114)

Sk3 had representative fragments of most bones apart from the lower right leg and both feet, which were truncated. Tooth eruption and calcification suggested an age of c.6-7 years, whilst the surviving length of the humerus suggested a slightly older age, perhaps 8+ years. Fourteen deciduous teeth were present, the lower first mesial incisors having been lost due to the partial eruption of the permanent ones. All four first molars were erupted and the second molars were also present. The upper first molars had pronounced Carabelli's cusps, and this individual had also retained the metopic suture. There was no evidence for lambdoid wormian bones, but the skull was heavily fragmented and they may have been lost. The pathological condition of cribra orbitalia was present, with thickening of the roof of both orbits and cribriotic pitting; this condition is associated with iron deficiency anaemia.

7.4 Radiocarbon dating

A fragment of humerus suitable for radiocarbon dating was selected from Sk2. This was dated to 2455 ± 34 BP (679-413 cal BC, 95.4%, SUERC-68385).

7.5 Summary

Three skeletons were recovered from a single grave, presumably indicating that they were buried at the same time and also that they had likely died at around the same time. Unfortunately the condition of the skeletons meant that they had a number of old breaks and many pieces had straight edges, so the potential for identifying any perimortem pathology, such as unhealed cuts or fractures, was low. It is therefore not possible to determine whether the individuals died as a result of violence, whilst any acute illness is unlikely to have left a trace on the skeleton, so their cause of death is unknown.

Of most interest in this small group is the presence of a relatively uncommon non-metric trait, retention of the metopic suture, in all three individuals. The metopic suture, which divides the frontal bone of the skull in infants, is usually closed by the age of 12 months and its retention is thought to be genetically determined. The two children had remarkably similar teeth in terms of size and morphology, and the presence of Carabelli's cusp in both adds to the evidence of the cranial non-metric traits to suggest that the three individuals were related, presumably a mother and her two children.

7.6 Catalogue

Notes

Methods of age and sex determination are generalised to give an idea of the bones used. Sexing based on the pelvis used more traits than entries might suggest. "DF" stands for discriminant function, a statistical method of determining sex, where +2.0 is very male, -2.0 very female (WEA, 1980).

Teeth are recorded in the form illustrated below:

Maxilla	R.	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1	2	3	4	5	X	7	U	L.
Mandible		O	7	6	5	4	-	-	-	/	/	3	4	5	6	7	C	
			A												C			

Code	Meaning
1 2 3 etc.	Tooth present in jaw.
X	Tooth lost ante-mortem.
/	Tooth lost post-mortem.
U, u	Tooth unerupted.
O, o	Tooth in process of erupting.
C	Tooth congenitally absent.
- - -	Jaw missing.
A	Abscess present (above/below tooth number).
C	Caries present (above/below tooth number).

Lower case letters a-e and u/o are used for deciduous teeth. Attrition patterns are coded according to the scores suggested by Bouts and Pot (1989, modified version of Brothwell's original tooth wear chart).

A few abbreviations have been used in the catalogue for commonly occurring pathological conditions and anatomical regions. These are as follows:

OA	osteoarthritis		MT	metatarsal	
OP	osteophytosis, osteophytes		MC	metacarpal	
C	cervical)		L.	left	
T	thoracic) vertebrae		R.	right	
L	lumbar)		DJD	degenerative joint disease	

Any other abbreviations should be self-explanatory, since they are simply shortened forms of bone names or anatomical areas (prox = proximal, lat = lateral etc.).

Tables of measurements for the major long bones are included after the catalogue. Tables of non-metric trait scores are also provided.

Articulated remains

Sk. 1 Child, c.3 years.

Description: Fragmentary skeleton comprising skull, teeth, cervical vertebrae, left clavicle, humerus and femur.
Condition: Fair but very fragmented.
Determination of age: Tooth eruption/calcification.
Determination of sex: -
Teeth:

-	-	U	E	d	c	b	a	-	b	-	d	e	U	-	-
-	-	U	E	d	c	b	a	a	b	c	-	-	U	-	-
Attrition scores:	-	-	-	2-	2	2-	2	2+	-	2	-	2+	2-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	3-	2	2-	2-	2+	2+	2	2-	-	-	-	-	-

Dental pathology: Calculus not assessable. No hypoplasia. Carabelli's cusp both upper first molars.
Non-metric traits: Metopic suture retained, at least one lambdoid wormian, parietal foramen right.
Pathology:
Cribra orbitalia: Not assessable.

Sk. 2 Female, 20–30 years.

Description: Near-complete skeleton, but distal halves of lower legs and feet missing.
Condition: Fair but very fragmented.
Determination of age: Slight tooth wear, minimal degenerative changes, cranial sutures open.
Determination of sex: Cranium DF -0.8; Pelvis DF -1.8; bones small and gracile
Stature: 1.549m from femur
Cranial index: 64.9 (dolichocranial)
Teeth:

8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8	7	6	E	4	3	2	1	1	2	3	4	Co	6	7	8
Attrition scores:	1	2+	3	2-	2	2+	2+	3-	3+	2+	2+	2	2	3	2+	2-
	1	3-	3+	6-	2	2+	2+	3-	3-	2+	2+	2+	-	3+	3	1

Dental pathology: Calculus slight-moderate; alveolar resorption slight. No hypoplasia. Second premolars probably congenitally absent.
Non-metric traits: Metopic suture retained, lambdoid wormian bones, parietal foramina.
Pathology:
Schmorl's nodes: T6–L3
Cribra orbitalia: None.
DJD: Small OP bodies T5–T9, L5. Slight OP lateral facets of mid ribs.

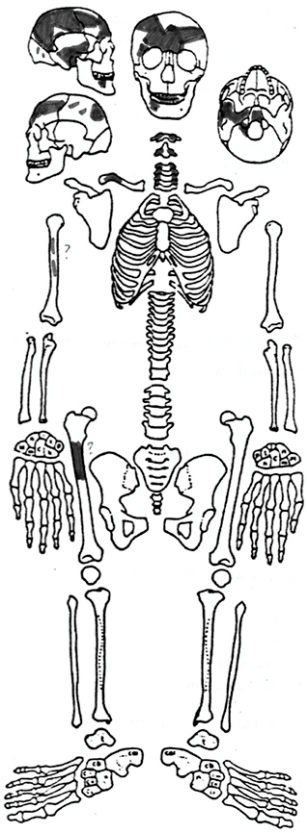
Sk. 3 Child, c.6–8 years.

Description: Fairly complete skeleton, but lower R leg and feet lost.
Condition: Fair but very fragmented.
Determination of age: Estimated diaphyseal lengths, tooth eruption/calcification.
Determination of sex: -
Teeth:

-	U	6	E	d	c	b	a	a	b	c	d	e	6	U	-
-	U	6	E	d	c	b	O	O	b	c	d	e	6	U	-
Attrition scores:	-	-	2-	3-	3	3	2+	3-	3-	2+	3-	3-	2+	2-	-	-
	-	-	2-	3-	3	2+	2+	1	1	2+	3-	3-	3-	2+	-	-

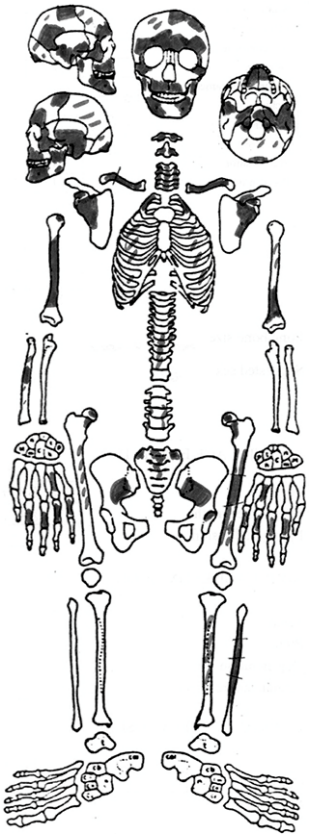
Dental pathology: Calculus slight–moderate. No hypoplasia. Carabelli's cusp both upper first molars.
Non-metric traits: Metopic suture retained.
Pathology:
Cribra orbitalia: Cribriotic both sides.

Skeleton diagrams



Sk. 1

Sk. 2



Sk. 3

Measurements

	Sk.	2
Cranium		
Max Length	L	194
Max Breadth	B	126
Max Height	H'	
Basi-nasal Length	LB	
Basi-alveolar Length	GL	
Upper facial Height	G'H	
Bimaxillary Breadth	GB	
Bizygomatic Breadth	J	
Nasal Height	NH'	
Nasal Breadth	NB	
Simotic Chord	SC	
Bi-dacryonic Chord	DC	
Orbital Breadth	O'1	
Orbital Height	O2	
Palatal Length	G'1	
Palatal Breadth	G2	
Min Frontal Breadth	B'	99
Biasterionic Breadth	BiastB	
Foramen Magnum Length	FL	
Foramen Magnum Breadth	FB	
Frontal Arc	S1	
Parietal Arc	S2	
Occipital Arc	S3	

Frontal Chord	S'1	111
Parietal Chord	S'2	126
Occipital Chord	S'3	94
Trans-Biporial Arc	B'Q	
Mastoid Process Height	MPH	28
Cranial Index	100(B/L)	64.9

Mandible

Bicondylar width	W1	
Bigonial breadth	GoGo	
Foramen mentale breadth	ZZ	
Symphyseal height	H1	
Mandibular length	ML	
Bicoronoid breadth	CrCr	
Min ramus breadth R.	RB’	32
Coronoid height R.	CrH	63/65
Condylar length R.	CyL	31
Gnathion-gonion length R.	GnGo	

Measurements in mm

	Sk.		**2**
Femur			
Maximum length	FeL1	R	408
		L	
Oblique length	FeL2	R	405
		L	
Head diameter	FeHead	R	40
		L	40
Bicondylar breadth	FeE1	R	
		L	
Min subtrochanteric A-P diameter	FeD1	R	23
		L	23
Max subtrochanteric M-L diameter	FeD2	R	31
		L	32
Minimum shaft diameter (A-P)	FeD3	R	25
		L	26
Maximum shaft diameter (M-L)	FeD4	R	27
		L	27
Meric Index 100(FeD1/FeD2)		R	74.2
		L	71.9
Robusticity Index 100((FeD3+FeD4)/FeD2)		R	12.8
		L	
Tibia			
Maximum Length	TiL1	R	
		L	
Bicondylar Breadth	TiE1	R	
		L	
A-P diameter at nutrient foramen	TiD1	R	31
		L	
M-L diameter at nutrient foramen	TiD2	R	21
		L	
Cnemic Index 100(TiD2/TiD1)		R	67.7
		L	
Fibula			
Maximum Length	FiL1	R	
		L	
Humerus			
Maximum Length	HuL1	R	
		L	
Head diameter	HuHead	R	

			L	
Epicondylar Breadth		HuE1	R	60
			L	
Radius				
Maximum Length		RaL1	R	
			L	
Ulna				
Maximum Length		UlL1	R	
			L	
Calcaneus				
Maximum Length		CaL1	R	
			L	
Clavicle				
Maximum Length		ClL1	R	
			L	
Sacrum				
Maximum Length				
Maximum Breadth				
S1 Width				
Breadth/Length Index				
S1 Width/Max Breadth Index				
Stature				1549

Cranial non-metric traits

	Sk.	**1**	**2**	**3**
Highest nuchal line	R	-	+	-
	L	-	+	-
Ossicle at lambda/Inca		?	+	-
Lambdoid wormian bones	R	?	+	-
	L	?	+	-
Parietal foramen	R	+	+	-
	L	-	+	-
Bregmatic bone		-	0	-
Metopism		+	+	+
Coronal wormian bones	R	-	0	-
	L	-	0	-
Epipteric bone	R	-	-	-
	L	-	-	-
Fronto-temporal articulation	R	-	-	-
	L	-	-	-
Parietal notch bone	R	-	-	-
	L	-	0	-
Asterionic ossicle	R	-	-	-
	L	-	-	-
Auditory torus	R	0	0	-
	L	-	0	0
Huschke's foramen	R	-	0	-
	L	-	0	-
Post-condylar canal	R	-	+	-
	L	-	+	-
Double condylar facet	R	-	0	-
	L	-	0	-
Precondylar tubercle	R	-	0	-
	L	-	-	-
Double hypoglossal canal	R	0	0	0
	L	-	0	0
Foramen ovale incomplete	R	-	0	-
	L	-	0	-
Extra palatine foramen	R	-	-	-

	L	-	-	-
Palatine torus	R	-	0	-
	L	-	0	-
Maxillary torus	R	-	0	-
	L	-	-	-
Zygoma-facial foramen	R	-	2	-
	L	-	2	-
Supra-orbital foramen complete	R	-	+	-
	L	-	+	-
Extra infra-orbital foramen	R	-	-	-
	L	-	-	-
Sagittal wormian		-	0	-
Squame parietal ossicle	R	-	-	-
	L	-	-	-
Multiple mental foramen	R	-	-	-
	L	-	-	-
Mandibular torus	R	-	0	-
	L	-	0	-

Post-cranial non-metric traits

	Sk.	**2**
Atlas bridge lateral	R	0
	L	0
Atlas bridge posterior	R	0
	L	0
Atlas double facet	R	0
	L	0
Suprascapular foramen	R	-
	L	-
Detached acromion epiphysis	R	-
	L	-
Sterno-manubrial fusion	R	-
	L	-
Septal aperture of humerus	R	+
	L	+
Epicondylar process of humerus	R	0
	L	-
Sacralisation of L5	R	-
	L	-
Four sacral segments		-
Six sacral segments		-
Acetabular crease	R	0
	L	0
Allen's fossa of femur	R	0
	L	0
Poirier's facet of femur	R	0
	L	-
Plaque formation of femur	R	0
	L	0
Third femoral trochanter	R	+
	L	+
Vastus notch of patella	R	0
	L	0
Calcaneus double facet	R	-
	L	-
Cuboid-navicular articulation	R	-
	L	-

8. FAUNAL REMAINS

By Poppy Hodkinson & Richard Madgwick

8.1 Introduction

Excavation at Guntons Close, Soham, Cambridgeshire recovered a faunal assemblage of 1980 fragments. These fragments consist mainly of bone, teeth, marine and terrestrial molluscan shell, with a small amount of antler also present. Of the 1980 specimens recovered, 282 of them are identifiable to taxon, or taxon size (in the case of ribs and vertebrae). This material spans from the prehistoric period to the modern day, but the majority of specimens originate from Iron Age and Medieval contexts. At least partially due to the waterlogged nature of the site, the level of preservation in this assemblage is excellent; as is evidenced by the presence of small mammal and amphibian remains.

8.2 Chronology

The phasing for Guntons Close is fairly comprehensive, as there are only eight specimens that are considered to have 'no phase'. In total, ten different phases were assigned to this material. Unfortunately, this created very small samples, limiting the interpretive potential of the assemblage. For the purposes of a cohesive report, these phases have been consolidated to maximize sample sizes (Table 6). It has also been assumed throughout this report that phases followed by a question mark can be assigned to their cited phase. Iron Age contexts solely refer to contexts from which Early Iron Age pottery was recovered: waterhole **292** and the pit next to it **304**. Features ascribed to the prehistoric phase are remains close to these features which contained no pottery: pit **306**, **026** and **203** which are probably also Iron Age.

Excavation Phase	Consolidated Phase
Prehistoric?	Prehistoric
Early Iron Age Iron Age	Iron Age
Medieval? Medieval Medieval-Post Medieval	Medieval
Post-Medieval Post-Medieval/ Modern	Post-Medieval
Modern	Modern
No Phase	No Phase

Table 6. Consolidation for phasing of Guntons Close

8.3 Methods

The material was analysed by the authors in the Osteoarchaeology laboratory at Cardiff University following Cardiff Osteoarchaeology Research Group (CORG) protocol (see Mulville 2005). Identification was aided by the CORG comparative collection and reference library. Every fragment was examined and recorded as identifiable to taxon, to taxon size for vertebrae and ribs (e.g. large [cattle-size], medium [sheep-size] or small [hare-size] mammals) or as unidentifiable. Fragments were considered identifiable if they comprised at least 50% of one zone (following Serjeantson 1996). Rib fragments with surviving vertebral articulations were recorded

to taxon size, as were vertebral centra (atlas and axis were recorded to taxon rather than size category). Of cranial specimens, only occipitals, zygomatics, maxillae with at least two teeth and nasals were recorded. Non-articulating carpals and tarsals (except for the calcaneum, navicular-cuboid and astragalus) were not recorded. Mollusc remains were recorded as identifiable if the shell apex was present, thus providing data for the calculation of the minimum number of individuals (MNI).

Data on dental age (following Grant 1982; Payne 1973), epiphyseal fusion (Silver 1969) and sex was recorded. Measurements of teeth and postcranial elements were taken according to Von den Driesch (1976). Burning was observed according to type: calcination (white, brittle bone) or charring (blackened bone). Butchery was recorded by the mark present (chop, cut, saw etc.) and its location on the specimen (by zone, following Serjeantson 1996). Gnawing was assessed via the appearance of the tooth mark, e.g. canid, rodent etc.

8.4 Assemblage Summary

The faunal assemblage from Guntons Close consists of 1980 fragments; only 14% (282) of these fragments are identifiable to taxon or taxon size (Table 7). These figures do not include the abundant molluscan remains (MNI: 734) in the assemblage. Terrestrial molluscs are most useful in determining the environmental conditions of a site, rather than highlighting issues such as diet and food economies. Consequently, they are considered separately to the rest of the faunal material (as are the 'unidentifiable shell' fragments) for the remainder of this report. With this taken into consideration, the number of recorded fragments is reduced to 836, making the overall rate of identification 34%. The relative percentage of identifiable specimens for each phase is presented in Table 8.

Phase	Cattle	Caprine	Pig	Horse	Dog	Red Deer	Chicken	Wild Bird	Clethrionomys	Microtus	Murid	Mustelid?	Amphibian	Fish	Snail	Mussel	Oyster	Large Mammal	Medium Mammal	Small Mammal	Unidentifiable Shell	Unidentifiable	Total
Prehistoric	1	1									1		4	5	20					2	26	63	123
Iron Age	16	10	6	3		3		1	2	2		1	3	6	427			4	5	2	10	237	738
Medieval	18	7	2	13	1		1	1	1	2			34	11	284	28	2	22	4	15	345	220	1011
Post-Medieval	4	2											10	3	2	3				6	15	22	67
Modern	2	1		1											1			3			14	11	33
No Phase	4													1		2						1	8
Total	**45**	**21**	**8**	**17**	**1**	**3**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**1**	**1**	**51**	**26**	**734**	**33**	**2**	**29**	**9**	**25**	**410**	**554**	**1980**

Table 7. All recorded specimens from Guntons Close faunal assemblage

Phase	Identifiable	Unidentifiable	%ID
Prehistoric	14	63	18%
Iron Age	64	237	21%
Medieval	162	220	42%
Post-Medieval	28	22	56%
Modern	7	11	39%
No Phase	7	1	88%
Total	**282**	**554**	**836**

Table 8. Relative percentage of identifiable fragments by phase

The level of preservation observed throughout the assemblage is excellent; many specimens are entirely intact, and there is a high number of fragments that are susceptible to fragmentation including those of small mammals, fish and amphibians. It is likely that the low percentage of identifiable remains is not due to poor preservation, but can instead be attributed to rigorous recovery methods. Through these methods, excavators have succeeded in recovering very small fragments, many of which are inevitably unidentifiable.

The Guntons Close faunal assemblage contains both domestic and wild taxa. Of the domestic taxa, cattle are the most abundant, followed by caprine and horse. Pig, dog and chicken are present in smaller numbers. Recorded wild taxa include red deer, wild birds, fish and amphibians. Small mammals, principally murids, have also been recorded. Marine molluscs, including oysters and mussels were also present.

The potential for investigating chronological trends in taxonomic representation is very limited due to the small assemblage size for some phases and the lack of material dating to between the Iron Age and Medieval period. For the same reasons detailed contextual analysis cannot be supported and only particularly noteworthy contexts are highlighted in the discussion. Ageing evidence in the form of epiphyseal fusion and dental attrition data, was present on only a limited number of specimens. Butchery evidence was also rare. Evidence of burning (both charring and calcination) was scarce, but was observed in every phase. Commensurate with the good preservation of the assemblage, animal gnawing was also rare, although a few instances of canid tooth marks were recorded. Metric data was recorded for 23 specimens.

8.5 Taphonomy

The Guntons Close faunal assemblage displays a very good level of preservation, which is in part due to the waterlogged nature of many of its contexts. The majority of the material was light brown in colour, with some darker specimens also present. The specimens displayed very low levels of degradation; low level abrasion and root action was visible upon the surface of some fragments. Slight excavation damage was also observed on a small number of fragments. In most cases, however, the surface preservation of each specimen was excellent. The survival of specimens susceptible to destruction such as those of small mammals and amphibians is further testament to the excellent preservation and recovery at Guntons Close.

		Burning			
Phase	**Mould**	**Calcined**	**Charred**	**Gnawing**	**Butchery**
Prehistoric		2	2		
Iron Age	5	3		1	2
Medieval	31	8	5	1	1
Post-Medieval		1			
Modern		2			1
No Phase					
Total	**36**	**16**	**7**	**2**	**4**

Table 9. Identifiable specimens recorded with taphonomic changes

Mould staining was present on 36 (4%) of the recorded specimens (Table 9). In most instances this staining was minor, only covering a small portion of each fragment, though some was more significant. Gnawing was present on only two specimens: a cattle metacarpal and a horse femur (Table 9). In both instances, the gnawing appeared to be that of a canid. Taken together, this taphonomic evidence suggests that faunal remains were deposited almost immediately, with very little exposure to agents of modification.

Evidence for butchery was limited throughout the assemblage (Table 9). It was observed on only four specimens: one horse, two large mammals and one medium mammal. Each of these fragments displayed signs of heavy chopping, and in all cases had resulted in the clean removal of a portion of bone from the specimen. No cut marks were observed. Though these modifications are more subtle, the good surface preservation of the bones would not preclude their recording and therefore their absence is considered a real pattern.

Little evidence of burning was observed in the assemblage, and all but two of the burnt specimens were small unidentifiable fragments. Both charring and calcination were evidenced throughout the assemblage, although calcined bones were more common (Table 9). This is indicative of burning at both high (calcined) and low (charred) temperatures, for either waste disposal or food preparation. The highly fragmented state of the calcined bone in this assemblage suggests that this burning occurred as a method of waste disposal. Charring was present on a horse tibia and a large mammal vertebra. Generally, this might be interpreted as the result of roasting joints of meat, however the horse specimen is from the medieval phase, when horse was not a common source of food. It may therefore have been an incidental inclusion at the edge of a fire.

8.6 Results

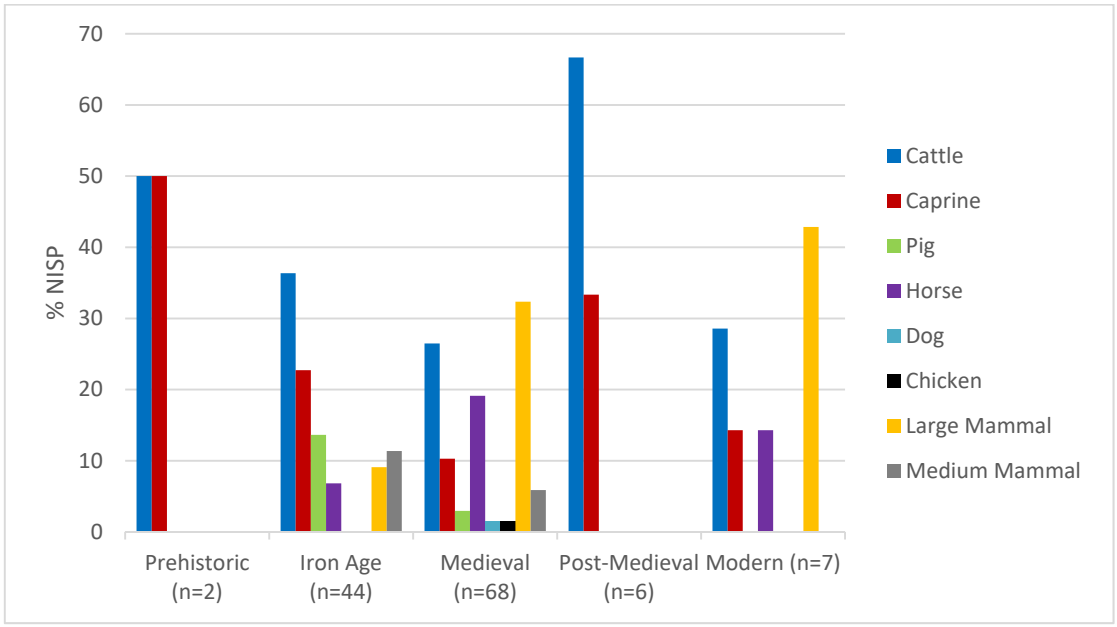
Taxonomic representation

A total of 20 different taxa were recorded in the Guntons Close faunal assemblage. For the sake of clarity, they are discussed in three groups: domesticates, wild taxa and molluscs. Specimens without an assigned phase have been recorded, but will not be discussed in detail, due to their limited interpretative potential.

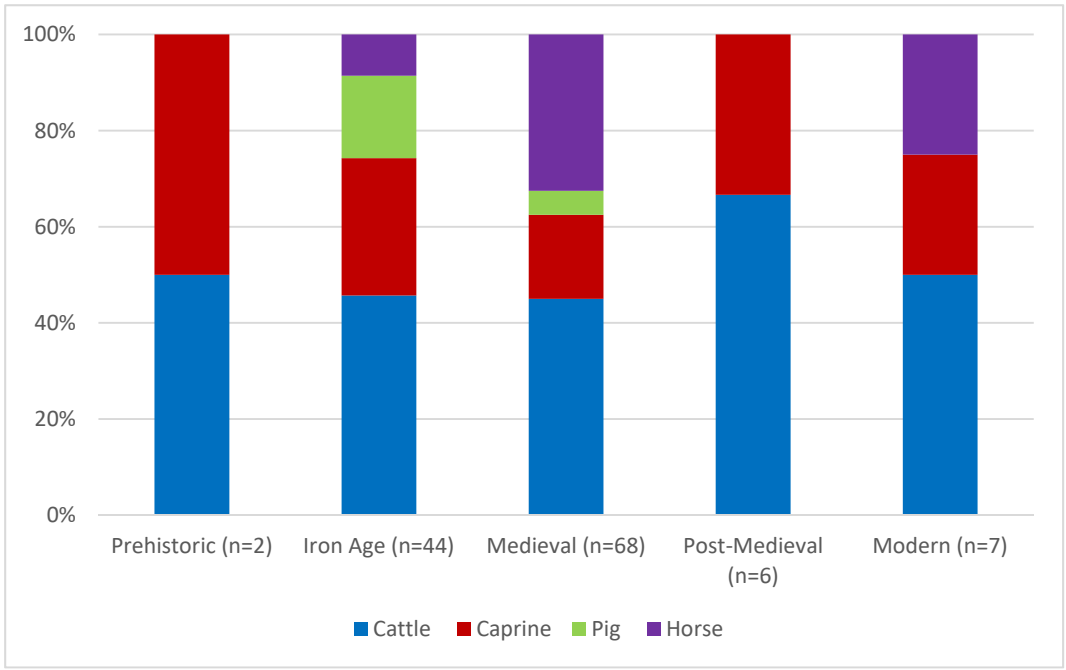
Domesticates

The assemblage contains a reasonable number of domesticate taxa across each phase, with cattle, caprine and horse being the most abundant (Graph 1). Dog and chicken are also present in the medieval period, but only one fragment of each species was recorded. The sample sizes for Prehistoric, Post-Medieval and Modern phases are very small, and as a result are of limited interpretive value. The assemblages of Iron Age and Medieval date are also small but can provide some, albeit very weak indications of inter-phase differences. The medieval phase is the most taxonomically diverse; at least one fragment of each domestic taxon is recorded in this phase. Cattle remains are less abundant in the medieval period, while horse specimens increase in number. However, the presence of numerous large mammal remains that could not be

identified to precise taxon in the medieval phase could account for this. Specimens of other taxa are present in too small a number to reflect any chronological patterns.



Graph 1. Relative percentage (by NISP) of domestic taxa by phase (nb large and medium mammal pertain to ribs and vertebrae only)

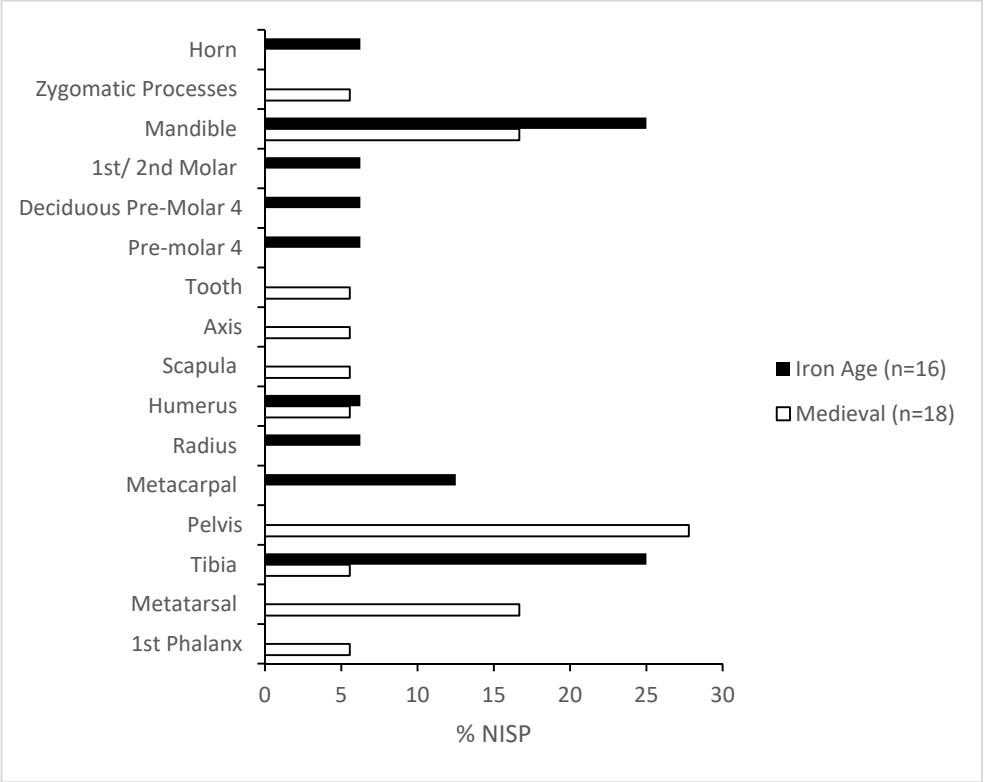


Graph 2. Relative percentage (by NISP) of main domesticates (cattle, caprine, pig, horse) by phase

Skeletal element representation

Analysis of the representation of skeletal elements was undertaken for cattle for the Iron Age and medieval phases. The assemblages for other taxa were too small to undertake this analysis. The main cattle skeletal elements present were from the head of the animal (Graph 3). However, some meat bearing elements, such as scapulae,

humeri and tibiae were also present. This is not indicative of any specific meat processing or consumption patterns in either the Iron Age or medieval phases. Patterns can largely be explained by bone density; as tibiae and mandibles survive particularly well archaeologically. The large number of pelvis fragments in the medieval assemblage is unusual but the samples are too small to provide the basis for interpretation.



Graph 3. Relative percentage (by NISP) of cattle skeletal elements, for the Iron Age and medieval phases

Ageing

Ageing evidence in the form of epiphyseal fusion and dental attrition was very scarce but brief comments are made here for the sake of completeness. Far more data would be required to make inferences concerning animal management. However, the absence of neonatal bones suggests that a breeding population may not have been present on site. Preservation and recovery is such that the remains would have survived. Their absence however may result from chance sampling. Epiphyseal fusion data provides a less precise method of age determination, generally giving minimum or maximum ages only. Whilst dental attrition is more precise, only four specimens could be analysed in this assemblage.

Fusion data for Iron Age cattle included one specimen from an individual of at least 12 months, one of at least two years and one that was slaughtered prior to the age of three (Table 10). Specimens exhibiting the same patterns of fusion were present in the medieval assemblage but included one further specimen for an individual that was slaughtered before the age of four (Table 10). Only Iron Age caprine specimens provided fusion data. They appear to be very mixed; with some animals culled before 18 months of age and others surviving beyond the age of three (Table 11). Fusion data

for medieval pigs shows one specimen form an individual slaughtered before the age of two and another that survived till the age of at least three (Table 12). Equid epiphyseal fusion data was gathered from both the Iron Age and medieval phases (Table 13). All specimens were fused, suggestive of at least sub-adult individuals except for a single Iron Age individuals that died before the age of 18 months. It must be noted that the medieval phase equid figures have been artificially inflated by the presence of three articulating bones, all originating from the same individual.

Cattle	**Iron Age**			**Medieval**		
	F	**UF**	**%F**	**F**	**UF**	**%F**
P. Radius	1					
P. Phalanx 1				1		
Total 12-18 Months	**1**	**0**	**100%**	**1**	**0**	**100%**
D. Metapodial	1	1		1	1	
Total 2-3 years	**1**	**1**	**50%**	**1**	**1**	**50%**
P. Tibia					1	
Total 3-4 years	**0**	**0**		**0**	**1**	**0%**

Table 10. Epiphyseal fusion data for cattle remains

Caprines	**Iron Age**		
	F	**UF**	**%F**
D. Humerus	1	1	
Total 10-18 Months	**1**	**1**	**50%**
P. Femur		1	
Total 1.5-3 years	**0**	**1**	**100%**
P. Humerus	1		
Total 3-4 years	**1**	**0**	**100%**

Table 11. Epiphyseal fusion data for caprine remains

Pigs	**Medieval**		
	F	**UF**	**%F**
D. Metapodial		1	
Total 2-3 years	**0**	**1**	**100%**
D. Radius	1		
Total 3-4 years	**1**	**0**	**100%**

Table 12. Epiphyseal fusion data for pig remains

Horse	**Iron Age**			**Medieval**		
	F	**UF**	**%F**	**F**	**UF**	**%F**
D. Metacarpal		1				
Total 9-18 Months	**0**	**1**	**0%**	**0**	**0**	
D. Tibia	1			1		
D. Metatarsal				3		
Total 1.5-3 years	**1**	**0**	**100%**	**4**	**0**	**100%**
P. Femur	1			2		
Total 3-4 years	**1**	**0**	**100%**	**2**	**0**	**100%**

Table 13. Epiphyseal fusion data for horse remains

Dental attrition could only be recorded on four specimens: three cattle and one caprine (Table 14). The caprine was of Iron Age date, and was slaughtered at the age of four to six years. Of the Iron Age cattle, one individual was between one and eight months old, and the other was an adult. A medieval cattle mandible was from an individual between 30-36 months.

Phase	Taxon	Element	Age
Iron Age	Caprine	Mandible	4-6 Years
Iron Age	Cattle	Mandible	Adult
Iron Age	Cattle	4th Deciduous Pre-Molar	1-8 Months
Medieval	Cattle	Mandible	30-36 Months

Table 14 – Tooth wear analysis of cattle and caprine specimens

Sexing

Sex could only be determined for two specimens: a medieval chicken tarsometatarsus and an Iron Age pig canine. The tarsometatarsus fragment displayed evidence for a spur scar, indicating that the individual was a young male. The morphology of the canine was clearly female and this specimen had a broken perforation and thus must have been used as a pendant.

Pathology

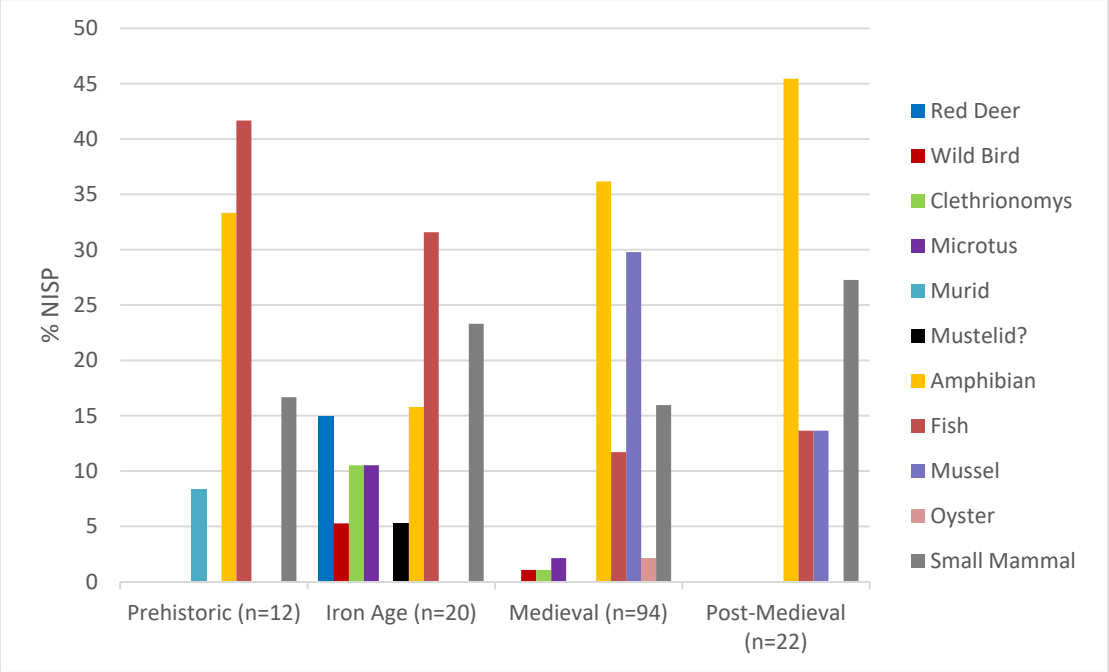
Only one fragment had evidence of pathology. A medieval cattle mandible displayed signs of exostosis around the alveolus of the deciduous fourth premolar.

Wild taxa

A number of wild taxa were recovered from Guntons Close: mainly small mammals, amphibians, fish and marine molluscs (Graph 4). Red deer and wild bird remains were also recorded. The Iron Age and medieval phases show the most taxonomic diversity, with eight taxa recorded in each. As was the case with domesticates, the prehistoric phase yielded a limited number of bones (murid, fish and amphibian remains), which have negligible interpretative value.

Iron Age contexts produced a small amount of red deer and wild bird fragments. The red deer specimens were found in a waterhole feature alongside some Iron Age pottery, a possible example of structured deposition. They consist of three antler fragments, two of which belonged to a single individual. The antler is present from its pedicle to the first tine, where it has been broken. It is along the first tine that the second fragment was originally attached. The antler was naturally shed, rather than being removed from a hunted animal. Finally, the point of a tine was recovered, which is approximately 11cm in length.

The wild bird specimen is a very large distal foot phalanx. The size (22.5mm) and sharp curvature of the fragment is suggestive of either a white tailed or golden eagle (Julia Best, pers. comm). A more precise identification is impossible due to abrasion on the articular surface of the specimen. A small hole is present at the proximal end of the phalanx, indicating deliberate modification for use as a pendant.



Graph 4. Relative percentage (by NISP) of wild taxa by phase

Small mammals are prevalent throughout Iron Age contexts: one probable mustelid pre-molar and four vole (two clethrionomys and two microtus) teeth were recorded.

Three amphibian and six fish fragments are present. The fish remains comprise both vertebrae and teeth. These teeth are from a fairly large species, ranging between 7mm and 15mm in length, while the vertebral fragments are less than 2mm in diameter, suggesting much smaller species. Further identification by a fish bone specialist is required.

Wild taxa are much more abundant in the medieval phase, totalling 94 fragments. Amphibian remains dominated this phase, with a total of 34 post-cranial long bones recorded. Mussels were also abundant; 28 specimens with an apex were identified, giving an MNI of 14 individuals. Two oyster fragments were also present.

A further wild bird distal foot phalanx was recorded, measuring less than 3mm in length, suggesting a very small species. Damage to the specimen made a definitive identification difficult.

A total of 18 small mammals, including one clethrionomys and two microtus fragments were recorded for this phase. A total of 11 fish specimens were present, mainly vertebrae (between 1-3mm) and teeth (7mm). The post-medieval contexts featured small quantities of fragmentary amphibian, fish, mussel and small mammal remains.

Molluscs

A total of 734 (MNI) snail specimens were recovered from Guntons Close. The majority of this material came from residue samples; while entire snails are abundant in these samples, there are also many instances of highly fragmented marine (mostly

mussel) specimens. These remains are considered too fragmentary to calculate MNI, and have thus been dealt with separately to the main assemblage.

Specialist malacological analysis of these specimens is required for precise taxonomic information. The material has been briefly scanned by Matt Law (malacologist). Of the 734 specimens, 468 were identified to their preferred environment (Table 15). Snails suited to both marine and grassland environments were present throughout the assemblage. Medieval contexts also featured snails with slightly more complex environmental preferences. These snails are indicative of a mixed habitat, subject to seasonal flooding. This is in accordance with the waterlogged nature of the site, during excavation. Additionally, some of these species were introduced to the British Isles after the Roman occupation.

Phase	Marine	Short Grassland	Complex Environment	Total
Prehistoric	13	7		**20**
Iron Age	74	141		**215**
Medieval	103	5	123	**231**
Post-Medieval	2			**2**
Modern				
No Phase				
Total	**192**	**153**	**123**	**468**

Table 15. All recorded snails (by MNI), according to their environmental preference

Worked Bone

Iron Age context **114** revealed a small number of modified faunal fragments (Fig. 20). Three specimens; a probable medium mammal rib, a female pig canine and the distal foot phalanx of an eagle, all display evidence of a drilled hole. These perforations are presumed to indicate the use of the elements for personal adornment, perhaps as single pendants or as part of a more complex ornament. The probable medium mammal rib has been worked into a slim rectangular shape, with smoothed corners. The hole is placed in the centre of the fragment, less than 2mm from the top. The perforations in the pig canine and eagle phalanx are near to the root apex and articulating end respectively. These pendants were discovered alongside a ceramic bead on the skeleton of a 6-8 year old child (context 114). The skeleton was in poor condition, but it is thought that the pendants were hung around the child's neck before burial.

A further example of bone modification was observed in a post-medieval context **246**. This specimen is likely to be part of the cranial vault of a medium mammal. The fragment has a slightly worn surface, where any rough edges have been abraded. This appearance is suggestive of a period of curation or extended ownership of the fragment, where it was modified by continual handling.

8.7 Discussion and Interpretation

The faunal assemblage from Guntons Close comprised both domestic and wild taxa. The domesticate assemblage is dominated by the standard taxa of cattle, caprine and

pig. Horse, dog and chicken were also recorded. Aquatic taxa appear throughout the assemblage: fish and marine molluscs (mussels and oysters) were deposited at the site. A small number of red deer and wild bird specimens were present in Iron Age contexts. Small mammals and amphibians were also recovered.

Small sample sizes mean that any interpretations from the remains can only be made with great caution and observed trends are speculative. The majority of identifiable material comes from Iron Age and medieval phases and this material therefore forms the focus of the discussion. As the phases are not sequential, it is not possible to discuss the assemblage in terms of chronological changes in practice. Instead the phases are treated as distinct assemblages. In addition, current dating resolution means that material deposited over a relatively long period may be being amalgamated in this report. Therefore, it must be stressed the discussion focuses on an assemblage commentary, rather than making firm inferences concerning husbandry and diet.

Inter-phase taxon composition

The relative abundance of taxa differs slightly between each phase of occupation. While cattle are abundant in both phases, caprine remains appear to have declined by the medieval period. A large proportion of cattle is typical for British Iron Age sites (Hambleton 1999), and those of medieval date (e.g. Crabtree 2012, 14; Rickett 1995, 142). The apparent decrease in medieval caprine remains could be considered unusual, as sheep rearing is extensive during the medieval period (Grant 1988, 151). However, there is increased evidence that cattle are more numerous than caprine remains at medieval town sites (Albarella 1999, 868). Pig remains are relatively scarce in both phases, although the number of identified fragments is too low to be of interpretive value.

More horse fragments are recorded in the medieval assemblage than for the Iron Age, though some specimens were from the same animal, thus inflating the NISP. This is consistent with the assumption that equids overtook cattle as the primary traction animal in the later medieval period (Albarella 1997, 22; Langdon 1986) and it is common for them to be less abundant in Iron Age assemblages. However, it cannot be ascertained whether these were traction animals, as no pathological evidence was present to support this (e.g. De Cupere *et al* 2000, 258; Stevanović *et al* 2015, 8).

Fish are not widely exploited in the Iron Age, even in coastal settlements, and so the presence of Iron Age fish remains can be regarded as unusual (Dobney & Ervynck 2007, 409, Jay & Richards 2006 and 2007). However, it is likely that the relative abundance of fish here is, to some degree, due to sample size. The quantity of bones and the meat yield they represent do not indicate that marine resources formed an important part of the diet. Fish remains are also present within the medieval period, which is consistent with the assumption that they were widely available and exploited during this time (Grant 1988, 172; Müldner & Richards 2005, 41). The appearance of marine molluscs (oyster and mussel) reflects the widespread exploitation of these taxa in medieval Britain (Grant 1988, 173; Müldner & Richards 2005, 2007).

Wild mammals constituted a very small part of the British Iron Age diet (Redfern *et al* 2010, Hambleton 2008, 37; Jay & Richards 2007) and this is reflected in the scarcity of these taxa at Guntons Close. The few wild mammals are present are unlikely to

have contributed to the diet of its population. For example, the shed antler specimens and the perforated eagle phalanx provide no evidence for meat exploitation.

Subsistence and Economy

The number of specimens in this assemblage means that only superficial comments can be made concerning subsistence strategies and the faunal economy. Skeletal element representation and analysis of butchery provide no clear patterns of processing. Similarly, limited data means that reliable age profiles cannot be reconstructed and therefore husbandry regimes cannot be established, but evidence suggests that animals in wide-ranging age categories were present on site. Additionally, the absence of foetal bones within the assemblage provides no evidence for animals being bred on site. Evidence of butchery and burning on two medieval horse specimens could be suggestive of their exploitation for meat. However, it is widely acknowledged that horse was not part of the medieval diet (Albarella 1997, 22; Poole 2013) and therefore the burning may be incidental.

Structured deposition and symbolic activity

The presence of placed antler fragments and pottery in a ditch deposit represents a possible example of structured deposition. The context **313** has been flagged up as unusual by the excavators. Structured deposition was common on Iron Age sites (e.g. Hill 1995; Wilson 1999), but the inclusion of the remains of wild species is much less common (Morris 2011). The presence of well preserved pendants also represents symbolic activity. They provide evidence for the importance of personal adornment but may have had a more symbolic, talismanic purpose. This is particularly likely for the eagle distal foot phalanx, as there are many examples throughout the archaeological record of raptor claws being used in this way (Serjeantson 2009, 225; Fig. 21). It would be conjecture to discuss the significance of the object to its owner, but in this case the size, power and rarity of this bird must have been significant. The deposition alongside a ceramic bead on the skeleton of a 6-8 year old child further reinforces the value of the pendants.

8.8 Summary

Evidence is limited and therefore interpretations must remain provisional, but patterns suggest a faunal economy with a focus on cattle in both the Iron Age and medieval period. Fish played a small role in Iron Age diet, and were combined with marine molluscs in the medieval phase. However, all of these patterns are based on very small numbers of specimens and therefore may result from chance sampling. The perforated pendants and the structured deposit of red deer antler are the most interesting features of the assemblage. Guntons Close constitutes an interesting, though small, faunal assemblage, which has shown the site to be broadly similar to other contemporaneous British examples in terms of the domesticate assemblage.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

By Mhairi Hastie

9.1 Methodology

Twenty soil samples were retained during archaeological investigations at Guntons Close, Soham, Cambridgeshire. The soil samples were processed through a system of flotation. The floating debris (flot) was collected in a 250um sieve and the remaining material (retent) in the tank was washed through a 1mm mesh. Both the flot and retent fractions were then air-dried under controlled conditions. The retents were sorted by eye for small finds and non-buoyant archaeobotanical remains and scanned with a magnet to pick up ferrous debris. Any archaeological significant material was removed and bagged. The flots were scanned using a binocular microscope (x10-x200 magnifications) and the presence of any charred plant remains recorded.

Identifications of archaeobotanical material were carried out with reference to seed atlases and in-house reference collection. The results are summarised in Table 16 (Composition of Flots) and Table 17 (Composition of Retents). The small finds (artefacts) recovered from the samples have been submitted to appropriate specialists for detailed analysis (see separate specialist reports) and these have not been discussed in detail below. This report concentrates primarily on the carbonised plant remains recovered from the samples.

9.2 Results

Small finds

Pottery and CBM: Fragments of pottery were recovered from the majority of samples; the largest amount of pottery being present in sample 71, fill of ditch **057**; a variety of different pottery types and fabrics were noted.

Lithics: What appears to be a fragment of worked flint was recovered from sample 4, fill of posthole **042**.

Bead: A small caramel coloured bead, 2 mm in diameter, was recovered from sample 32, fill of ditch **179**.

Glass: One small fragment of glass (<10mm in diameter) was recovered from each of sample 57, fill of ditch **262** and sample 73, fill of ditch **285**. The glass is well-preserved with sharp edges suggesting that the material was likely to be post-medieval or modern in date and probably intrusive.

Metal Finds: A small tube of copper alloy (c.10mm long) was found in sample 30, fill of ditch **165**, and a corroded fragment of iron, which may be the head of a nail, was present in sample 65, fill of pit **292**.

Bone: A small assemblage of bone, including animal bone, both unburnt and burnt, probable human bone and fish bone remains were

recovered from the samples. Most of the bone was recovered from a burial **112**, the fill of a ditch **283** and the fill of a pit **292**.

Shell: A large variety of snail shells were recovered from the majority of the samples (both from the retents and within the flots).

Magnetic Residue

Some magnetic residue was recovered from the majority of the samples. Initial scan of the material does indicate that there are small amounts of metal slag, or hammerscale, present within the magnetic residue.

Plant Remains

Cereal grains: Out of the 20 bulk soil samples 12 samples contained some carbonised cereal grains. In general the amount of grain recovered from each sample was low and the grains were much abraded and fragmentary. A variety of features across the site were found to contain cereal grains, including the fills of pits **027**, **078** and **143**, post-holes **042** and **202**, a burial **112** and ditches **033**, **057**, **165**, **179**, **262**, **283** and **285**. Many of the grains were too fragmentary and abraded to identify to species level, however, where preservation did allow hulled barley (*Hordeum* var *vulgare*) and bread/club wheat (*Triticum aestivo*/*compactum*) were noted. In addition, one possible glume wheat grain (for instance, emmer or spelt wheat (*Triticum dicoccum*/*spelta*)) and one possible oat (*Avena* sp.) were also recorded. No other cereal remains, such as chaff or straw (culm nodes), were found. None of the cereal grain would be suitable for AMS dating.

Other Plant Remains: The recovery of other plant remains was sparse. No seeds of wild taxa, nor fruits stones or nutshell were recovered. However, what may be the poorly preserved fragment of a bean (legume seed), tentatively identified as broad bean (cf. *Vicia faba*), was found in sample 59, fill of ditch (283).

Wood charcoal: Wood charcoal was present in all bar one of the samples, however in each case only small amounts of abraded and very fragmentary charcoal was recorded, with most of the charcoal fragments being below the level of identification (<4mm in diameter). None of the charcoal recovered would be suitable for AMS dating.

Distribution and Dating

The bulk of the pottery recovered from the site has been dated to the late Saxo-Norman to medieval period (see *Pottery Report*) and the presence of bread/club wheat, hulled barley and possible broad bean in the samples would be in keeping with this period.

There are no large concentrations of grain to suggest the presence of a burnt store. Given the distribution of the cereal grain, with low quantities of grain spread throughout many different features, and the abraded nature of the grains, it is likely that the debris is remnants of burnt grain from everyday processing and/or food preparation which have found their way into many unrelated features and deposits across the site.

Fill of	Sample number	Context number	Feature type	Approx. Flot vol (ml)	Cereal grain			Other plant remains	Charcoal	Snail shell
					Qty.	Id.	Pres.			
027	5	026	P	10	+	barley (cf. hulled)	poor/abraded		+ (SF)	+++
033	39	034	D	20	+	cf. wheat	abraded		+ (VSF)	++
042	4	043	PH	10	+	cf. glume wheat	poor/abraded		+ (SF)	+++
057	71	266	D	20	+	bread/club wheat, barley	poor/abraded		++ (VSF)	++
068	9	069	G	20					+ (SF)	+++
078	7	079	P	10	+	barley	poor/abraded		+ (SF)	+++
112	17	113	B	20	+	cereal indet	fragmentary/abraded		+ (SF)	++
	23			20					+ (SF)	+
143	25	144	P	10	+	cereal indet	fragmentary/abraded		+ (VSF)	++
165	30	166	D	20	+	cereal indet	poor/abraded		+ (VSF)	+++
179	32	189	D	20	+	cereal indet	fragmentary		+ (VSF)	++
202	44	203	PH	No flot	-	-	-		-	
262	57	263	D	20	+	bread/club wheat	abraded		+ (VSF)	++
283	59	284	D	20	++	wheat, oat	fragmentary/abraded	+	+ (SF)	++
285	73	286	D	20	++	bread/club wheat, barley	poor/abraded		+ (VSF)	+++
292	65	287	PC	10					+ (VSF)	+++
	74			20					+ (VSF)	++
	75	313		30					+ (VSF)	
305	69	304	P	10					++ (SF)	+
306	68	307	P	10					+ (SF)	++

Key: + = rare (1-10 items), ++ = occasional (11-50 items), +++ = common (51-100 items) and ++++ = abundant (>101 items)
SF = small fragments (<5mm in diameters)
P = Pit, D = Ditch, PH = Posthole, G = Gully, B = Burial, PC = Palaeochannel

Table 16. Composition of flots

				Small finds												Plant Remains		
Fill of	**Sample number**	**Context number**	**Feature type**	**Pottery**	**CBM**	**Lithic**	**Bead**	**Glass**	**Metal Finds**		**Bone**			**Shell**	**Metal working debris (poss)**	**Cereal grains**		**Charcoal**
									Copper Alloy	**Iron**	**Unburnt (some poss. human)**	**Fish**	**Burnt**			**Qty**	**Id**	
027	5	026	P	+							+	+		++	+			
033	39	034	D	+							+	+		++	+			+ (SF)
042	4	043	PH			+					+	+	+	+	+			+ (SF)
057	71	266	D	++							+	+	+	++	++			
068	9	069	G															
078	7	079	P	+							+		+		+			+ (SF)
112	17	113	B	+ (SF)							++		+	+	+			
	23										++		+	+	+			
143	25	144	P	+							+		+	+	+	+	bread/club wheat	+ (SF)
165	30	166	D	+					+		+	+	+	++	+	+	bread/club wheat	+ (SF)
179	32	189	D	+	+		+				+	+	+	+	+	+	cf. barley cf. oat	
202	44	203	PH								+			+				
262	57	263	D	+ (SF)				+			+		+	+	+			
283	59	284	D	+							++	+	+	+++	+			+ (SF)
285	73	286	D	+				+			+	+	+	++	+			+
292	65	287	PC	+						+	++	+	+	+++	+			+ (SF)
	74			+							+	+			+			
	75	313		+							++	+	+		+			+
305	69	304	P	+							+	+	+	+	+			+ (SF)
306	68	307	P	+							+	+	+	+	+			

Key: + = rare (1-10 items), ++ = occasional (11-50 items), +++ = common (51-100 items) and ++++ = abundant (>101 items)
SF = small fragments (<5mm in diameters)
P = Pit, D = Ditch, PH = Posthole, G = Gully, B = Burial, PC = Palaeochannel

Table 17. Composition of retents

10. DISCUSSION

10.1 Early Iron-Age remains

Three features have been dated to the early Iron Age: the large waterhole feature **292**, a pit next to it (**304**) and the skeletons to the north. Together these features show that Iron Age activity was present on the east side of the excavated area, an area with very little medieval activity which no doubt ensured the survival of some of the features.

Other features tentatively ascribed to this phase are features **026**, **028**, **045**, **060**/**202**, **062** and this is mainly due to their alignment with pit **304**, proximity to watering hole **292**, and **060**/**202** being cut by a later gully. Pit **306** is also likely to date to this phase as it had no pottery in its fill and is also relatively close to the watering hole.

The Waterhole

Pit **292** appears to be a large well or watering hole which filled up in two stages. Unfortunately the very deepest levels could not be investigated directly due to waterlogging and possible edge collapse. The lower clay-rich deposit undercut the pit edge showing that the sides of the pit had slumped as it originally filled with water. The later deposit was a more compact sandy silt suggesting it was less waterlogged than lower down and probably accumulated at a slower rate. Both fills included a variety of animal bone and fragments of pottery which probably derive from a settlement midden. Fragments of naturally shed red deer antler could be a sign that large wild animals may have also used the watering hole, but they may equally have been picked up by humans and deposited in the midden. The notable absence of cereal grain in the pit fills suggests that midden material may be from a specific part of a settlement, perhaps from an area where animals were processed rather than general settlement waste. On the whole, the rather fragmented nature of the pottery and animal bone is not suggestive of ritual deposition and it appears that the waterhole was deliberately infilled with waste when it went into disuse, perhaps preventing such a large feature becoming a hazard to people and animals.

A waterhole similar to **292** but slightly shallower was identified in an excavation 300m to the north-east on a site near Gimbert Road (Pankhurst 2012). This was sub-circular, 4.1m wide and 1.5m deep with sides that were moderately sloped then descended steeply in the middle. A wooden revetment and wattle lining had initially been constructed on the north-west edge of the deepest part of the feature, presumably to facilitate access or to prevent the sides collapsing. No such wooden lining was found in **292**, though only a small portion of this feature was investigated and there could have been similar remains on the south or east sides. The centre of the waterhole at Gimbert Road had initially infilled with blue clay-grey containing cattle bone, pottery and sand lenses. Later fills across the feature included a charcoal dump and brown to grey sandy silts with pottery and animal bone including cattle bone, pig, sheep/goat, horse and red deer. The pottery fragments found in many of the fills were flint tempered base sherds ascribed to the late Bronze Age or early Iron Age.

Similarities between the two waterhole features include the broadly contemporary pottery and the sequence of fills The grey-brown sandy silts containing mixed animal bone at the top of the waterhole at Gimbert Road are similar to layer **287**. The lower

layers - blue-grey clays with gravel fragments and animal bone - are also very similar to deposit **313** which contained small stones and a clay component. Similar sand lenses were present in the fills on both sites (**314** and layer **50**/**39** from Gimbert Road). Burning activity (charcoal and burnt flint) is not present at the Guntons Close waterhole though this deposit at Gimbert Road appears to have derived from an activity which took place in a nearby pit.

The function of the waterholes is likely to have been agricultural or domestic rather than ceremonial, judging from the nature of the material in the fills. Presumably they provided a reliable water supply for people and livestock. The waterhole at Gunton's Close, which is much larger than that at Gimbert Road, would have potentially provided a steady and ample supply of water if it had been cleaned regularly.

Large waterholes are quite common on sites from the late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age settlements in the region (Evans 1998, 26) and similar waterholes with Late Bronze Age material have been found elsewhere in around Soham, at Cloverfield Drive (Mortimer, 2004) and along the route of the Fordham Bypass (Mortimer 2005). Sites such as Lingwood Wells near Cottenham show how some of these can be complex, evolving into a well 'cluster' filled with animal bone, wood and pottery, formed through successive re-cutting of the well sides and reconstruction of wooden revetments (Evans 1998, 27).

The Burials

The burials have been radiocarbon dated to the Early Iron Age (679-413 cal BC, 95.4%) which is similar to the pottery dates from waterhole **292** and neighbouring pit **304**. The burials are important in that they are the first dated skeletal remains from this period to be found in Soham and are important more widely as Early Iron Age burials are uncommon. Their prone nature, a practice usually found in Roman contexts, make them even more so. The woman and children appear to be closely related and were buried in the same grave suggesting that they died at the same time. Many different interpretations for prone burials have been made (punishments for criminals, witchcraft, religious rejection, differences in social status) but overall there is agreement that the practice appears to reflect negative treatment of the dead, perhaps someone who was not a full member of society or had deviated from the norms of society (Arcini 2009, 34). The condition of the bones unfortunately was not good enough to see if the individuals were deliberately killed or died of natural causes, but it is interesting that the children and the woman were all buried face down in a line at the same time. Clearly, whatever burial ritual, judgement or punishment was carried/handed out was done to all three individuals. The pendants and bead found around the upper spine of one of the children were almost certainly hung around the neck of the child during burial. There are no obvious comparisons for the pendants on any Iron Age burials from Britain and the diverse nature of the pendants, an eagle, pig and mammal does have an interesting talismanic connotations. The relationship of the burials to the waterhole is not clear though it seems more likely that the waterhole was excavated first and was a local landmark chosen for the site of the burials.

Pits and post holes

Taken together the group formed by the six features **304**, **062**, **060**/**202**, **042**, **026** and **028** appear to be aligned on a roughly east-west axis. Pit **304** is filled with bone and pottery fragments similar to those found in feature **292** suggesting it is contemporary, though its purpose is unclear. This tentative alignment is uncertain but has been interpreted as a division between the area around the waterhole and the area used for burials to the north.

The infill material of the waterholes at both this site and at Gimbert Road suggests settlement activity close by. The lack of prehistoric features of this date from the west end of the excavation, besides a single residual pottery sherd in ditch **286** (ditch **050**), is a sign that such a settlement is more likely to have been located eastwards towards the High Street. No definite settlement remains from the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age have been excavated around the town centre, though a few sites hint that there may have been settlement in this period. Various features at 38 Station Road revealed flint-tempered pottery suggesting that Iron Age or Bronze Age activity extended east from the current development. Of importance are a residual prehistoric sherd from in a later ditch feature running along Station Road and a ditch in the rear of the plot on an orientation shared by no other feature (**28**). An excavation at 8 Market Street c.300m to the south-east uncovered a soil horizon containing 574g Early Iron Age pottery, interpreted as possibly deriving from a settlement in this period (Phillips 2012). Earlier and later pottery suggested the soil had been worked since the Bronze Age through to the Roman period. A group of features broadly dating to the early to mid-Iron Age was found south of St Andrews's Church in the excavations off Clay Street and at St Andrew's House. Here ditches, pits and a few possible postholes which could be a sign of settlement were exposed.

Other than these finds, the closest site which we can conclusively call a settlement is 1km south-east of St Andrew's Church at Fordham Road Allotments (Quinn 2012); however, this is too far away from the town centre to be responsible for midden material at Guntons Close and at Gimbert Road or the pottery at Market Street. We must conclude therefore that a late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age settlement near the centre of Soham is yet to be found.

10.2 Roman activity

Small fragments of residual Roman pottery were recovered from the processed soil samples. The Samian may derive from one of the Roman sites surrounding Soham, perhaps delivered via waste spread on surrounding fields. Interestingly investigations at 38 Station Road also found no securely dated Roman features. The lack of Roman activity shows that Station Road appears to have lain outside areas of Roman settlement. Such activity instead appears to have been located further south, to the west of St Andrew's Church at the former Church Hall Site (MCB18184), off White Hart Lane (06971), at Paddock Street (MCB18200), at the Fordham Road Site and also to the east (Weatheralls Close, 07100).

10.3 Saxo-Norman Period

Pottery evidence from most of the features on the Site provides a very broad date range spanning the 9th to the 14th or 15th centuries. The possible Saxo-Norman date for the some of the sherds confirms the presence of general background activity from this date but no features can be said to conclusively date from this period. At 38 Station Road late Saxo-Norman pottery did appear to date specific features including possible beam slots which may have marked buildings or timber-filled trenches for well-made wattle fences (Heawood 1997). These included a pit on the street frontage and a linear ditch running east-west, one of five such ditches behind the street front. A north-north-west to south-south-east ditch identified in three small trenches was also revealed running across the plot dated by Thedford Ware to the Saxo-Norman period. It is interesting to note that the orientation of this ditch feature is very similar to undated gullies **040** and **215** at Guntons Close which are not on the same orientation as later medieval boundary ditches **032**, **127**, **044**, **050**, **057**. Though gullies **040** and **215** are noticeable shallower than the feature at 38 Station Road (0.4-0.5m wide and 0.15-0.3m deep as opposed to 0.55-0.58m wide and 0.55m deep), the orientation is striking. A re-cut of the northern end of the feature at 38 Station Road is perhaps more comparable with the gullies at 0.34m deep. If the gullies do indeed represent an Saxo-Norman phase of activity this might go some way to explaining the broad range of pottery found in many of the Medieval features.

In summary the evidence for Late Saxon activity on the Site is not conclusive, though there does appear to be some pottery which probably dates to this period. This, taken with evidence of Saxo-Norman features at 38 Station Road, shows that the route of Station Road is likely to have been laid out and settled before the Norman conquest. This may seem surprising, given that medieval urban growth was focused along the high street; however, it has been suggested that Station Road is one of a number of roads and lanes forming a circular morphology around St Andrew's Church which may be the route of an enclosure once surrounding the Monastery of St Felix (Oosthuizen 2000) or the palace and cathedral in 900 AD (Martin 2000, 4).

10.4 Medieval Period

The large north-south ditches (**032**, **127**, **044**, **050**, **057**) running across the site are likely to be plot boundaries running north from properties fronting Station Road. The ditches correspond well with boundaries shown on the 1656 Soham and Fordham Manor map (Fig.19) attached to three properties along the road. The pottery types recovered from the ditches is evidence that the formal division of the land behind Station Road into plots appears to have first started in the Medieval period. Their function appears to have had a dual purpose: to mark the plot divisions and drain what is a very wet part of the town. The triple ditches at the west end of the excavation (**044**, **050**, **057**) show that this particular boundary was important to maintain; this is also clear from the depth of ditch **057**, by far the deepest feature on the Site. The estate map shows a gap between this boundary and a property to the west marking what is likely to be the line of a precursor to the current public footpath on the west side of the Site. This route appears to have provided access to a number of plots called 'Bury Crofts' to the north. This public boundary may explain the need for more than one ditch. Another possibility is that the ditches were part of a communal system of drainage for the crofts to the north which was maintained and re-cut several times.

None of the five linear shallow gullies between ditches **127** and **044**, **050**, **057** are of similar depths or have similar profiles to the Anglo-Saxon features identified at 38 Station Road. This along with their location - almost exactly in the centre of two of medieval plot divisions - shows they are likely be contemporary with the medieval plot boundary ditches rather than dating to an earlier period. Their shallow nature, meandering shape and dished profiles clearly did not form the base for a structure despite the rectilinear plan. Instead it seems much more likely that they could be the remains of horticultural beds. Few other interpretations make sense except possibly small drainage gullies for the plot. Bedding trenches only usually survive where poorly drained subsoil has led to double digging of the bed to break it up (Zeepvat 1991) and this seems very likely given the waterlogging problems that were encountered during excavation.

Postholes to the east of these beds on the west side of ditch **127** appear to have been a barrier or fence marking the plot boundary. There is a notable gap between posthole alignment **319** and gullies **090**, **137** and feature **143**. To the south, gully **092** and later posthole alignment **243** also terminate at this gap. It is likely that this was the location of a path running down the east side of the plot next to the ditch.

The lack of building remains in the excavation besides the possible beam slot noted in Trench 3 is to be expected as the main houses on medieval plots are usually built close to the street with the plots to the rear being used for storage, processing, horticultural activity and deposition of rubbish.

10.5 Post-medieval Period

On the 1656 estate map (Fig. 19) the three houses and associated plots running back from Station Road (then called Thompson Lane) are owned by Roger Tiler, Mr Tomson and Mr Robins. A fourth plot also owned by Roger Tiler corresponding to the space between ditches **127** and **044**/**050**/**057** in the excavation is not shown attached to a house and is instead part of 'Bury Crofts' along with plots to the north. Posthole alignment **243** was excavated across all preceding ditch and gully features in this land plot and clearly marks a change in land boundary orientation from north-south to east-west. Whether this new division relates to the status of the plot as a croft or whether it is some other more formal sort of land division is unclear. The large rectangular nature of the postholes does however suggest that the fence was a substantial barrier, something sturdier than a simple internal division put up by a tenant cultivating different areas in a plot. Perhaps then we are looking at a subdivision of the plot into areas used by more than one tenant. A similarly aligned division is shown on the 1902 OS map to the south just north of Nos 58 and 62 Station Road (Fig. 25). This division created a small plot of land detached from any houses with only a small shed-feature in the south-east corner.

The large ditches **044**/**050**/**057** appear to have been filled in by this period as they are cut by the fence line, a sign that land boundaries and drainage had changed by this period in this part of Soham. The town would have become increasingly drier during the 17th to 19th centuries from drainage activities in the surrounding fens.

Gully **239**, which appears to cut through fence line **243**, is on a very similar alignment to the former boundary between No 52 Station Road and properties to the west shown

on the 1902 OS map (Fig. 25). The orientation of this is so striking that we can probably assume that the gully did indeed mark this boundary.

11. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Excavations at Guntons Close have revealed important evidence of early Iron Age activity north of the historic core of Soham focused on the eastern side of the Site, comprising a highly unusual family group buried together, a large waterhole feature and various associated pits and postholes. The infill of the waterhole contains material thought to derive from a nearby settlement which was probably located to the east towards the high street. Parallels to this waterhole can be found at Gimbert Road to the north and elsewhere in Soham and are not uncommon in the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age more widely. The Iron Age features do not appear to form any coherent pattern besides a few pits possibly marking a land division. The burials of a female and, presumably, her two children are highly unusual and rare in terms of their date, their prone nature and the animal bone pendants buried with one of the children three of which have no parallels from this period. The genetic malformation of their skulls indicates close relationship – possibly maternal.

There are no conclusively dated Anglo-Saxon remains on the Site despite the likely use of the Station Road route in this period. Two gullies on a different orientation to earlier Iron Age remains and later medieval features possibly date to this period based on a similar feature from 38 Station Road. The absence of conclusively dated Anglo-Saxon remains is perhaps not surprising given that any building remains would most likely have been focused along Station Road to the south.

A series of medieval ditches dug across the Site in the medieval period mark the division of land north of Station Road into formal plots associated with houses on the Road. This arrangement can be followed into 17th century when plot owners are named on an estate map. The ditches on the western side of the Site are closely spaced possibly due to wetter ground here or the need to drain land to the north along the public route which lay to the west. A series of shallow gullies in a rectangular arrangement on the west side of the Site centrally located in one of the plots appears to be evidence of medieval garden beds. Post holes on the east side of these may be a fence line built along one of the plot ditches.

In the post-medieval period the plot on the west was divided by a line of post holes running east-west marking a substantial fence. A gully marks the route of a path up this plot through the fence. Later features on the site date to the 19th and 20th centuries when the Site was used as an allotment for one of the houses fronting Station Road.

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Cartographic Sources

The 1656 Soham and Fordham Manor map.

The 1902 25 inch OS map (Cambridgeshire XXX.16, Revised: 1901, Published:1902).

APPENDIX 1: SUMMARY OF CONTEXTS

Context	Description	Date
001	Topsoil. A dark brown sandy silty loam with occasional flint fragments. Deposit contained 19th Century pottery fragments and 20th Century finds. 0.1-0.5m thick.	Modern
002	Cultivation soil / subsoil. A grey-brown silty clay with very occasional stones. Deposit contained pottery. Deposit 0.2-0.5m thick.	Modern
003	Natural drift Geology. A beige-brown silty clay / orange-brown sandy clay with occasional flint (1-5cm diameter) and occasional patches of gravel.	-
004	Cut of evaluation trench 1.	Modern
005	Fill of 004. A loose mottled dark brown and grey mix of natural, subsoil and topsoil.	Modern
006	Cut of evaluation trench 2.	Modern
007	Fill of 006. A loose mottled dark brown and reddish brown mix of natural, subsoil and topsoil.	Modern
008	Cut of evaluation trench 4.	Modern
009	Fill of 008. A loose mottled dark brown and light brown mix of natural, subsoil and topsoil.	Modern
010	Cut of rectangular geotechnical pit. Measures 1.5m long and 0.4m wide. Sides vertical.	Modern
011	Fill of 010. A yellow beige clay.	Modern
012	Cut of rectangular geotechnical pit. Measures 2m long and 0.4m wide. Sides vertical.	Modern
013	Fill of 012. A beige clay.	Modern
014	Cut of rectangular geotechnical pit. Measures 2m long and 0.4m wide. Sides vertical.	Modern
015	Fill of 014. A yellow beige clay.	Modern
016	Cut of rectangular geotechnical pit. Measures 1.8m long and 0.4m wide. Sides vertical.	Modern
017	Fill of 016. A yellow beige clay.	Modern
018	Cut for field drain. Measures 0.15m wide and 0.12m deep.	19th century
019	Fill of 018. A grey silt. Deposit contains ceramic field drain.	19th century
020	Cut of linear ditch, slot. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 2.1m wide and 0.33m deep. Sides gently sloping and base slightly rounded.	Medieval
021	Fill of 020. A brown silty clay containing medium and large stones. Deposit contained bone.	Medieval
022	Cut of rectangular geotechnical pit. Measures 1.5m long and 0.4m wide. Sides vertical.	Modern
023	Fill of 022. A yellow beige clay.	Modern
024	Cut of rectangular geotechnical pit. Measures 2.5m long and 0.35m wide. Sides vertical.	Modern
025	Fill of 024. A yellow beige clay.	Modern
026	Cut of oval pit. Sides steep, base slightly concave. Measures 1.4m long, 0.8 wide and 0.22m deep.	Prehistoric?
027	Fill of 026. A dark brown silty clay, containing small stones.	Prehistoric?
028	Cut of posthole. Sides steep, base concave. Measures 0.2m diameter and 0.05m deep.	Prehistoric?
029	Fill of 028. A dark brown silty clay containing 1% small stones.	Prehistoric?
030	VOID	-
031	VOID	-
032	Cut of linear ditch, see slots 020 and 033. Sides gently sloping, base concave. Measures 1.6-1.8m wide, and 0.4m deep (runs across site).	Medieval
033	Cut of linear ditch, slot 032. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 1.8m wide and 0.5m deep. Sides gently sloping and base slightly rounded. Sides gently sloping, base concave.	Medieval
034	Fill of 033. A dark brown clayey silt with occasional stones and 3%	Medieval

Context	Description	Date
	flint. Deposit contains bone.	
035	VOID	-
036	VOID	-
037	Fill of linear ditch, see fills 021 and 034	Medieval
038	Same as 062	Unknown
039	Same as 063	Unknown
040	Cut of linear gully, see 064, 200, 209. Sides gently sloping, base concave to uneven. Measures 0.2-0.4m wide, and 0.2-0.3m deep (runs across site).	Medieval?
041	Fill of 040, see 065, 201, 210. A grey-orange clayey silt containing occasional small pieces of flint.	Medieval?
042	Cut of oval posthole. Measures 0.5m long, 0.4m wide and 0.15 deep. Sides vertical, base flat.	Medieval?
043	Fill of 042. A soft light brown silt.	Prehistoric?
044	Cut of unexcavated linear ditch. Exposed part measures 3m long and 0.8m wide.	Medieval
045	Fill of 044. A firm black silty sand.	Medieval
046	Cut of linear ditch 050, slot. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 0.8m wide and 0.3m deep. Sides gently sloping, based concave.	Medieval
047	Fill of 046. A black silty clay containing 2% charcoal a few shell fragments and angular flints. Deposit contained pottery.	Medieval
048	Cut of linear ditch 057, slot. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 1.7m wide and 0.8 deep. Sides near vertical, base concave.	Medieval
049	Lower fill of 048. A firm grey-brown silty clay containing occasional fragments of sub-angular flint (1-3cm diameter). Deposit contains charcoal and animal bones.	Medieval
050	Cut of linear ditch, see 046 and 285. Measures more than +22m long, 0.9m wide, and 0.5m deep. Sides sloping, base concave.	Medieval
051	Fill of 050, see 047 . A dark grey silty clay containing occasial angular stones (1-4cm diameter).	Medieval
052	Upper fill of 048. A light orange brown sandy clay containing occasional fragments of sub-angular stone (1-2cm diameter) and occasional small flints. Deposit contains pottery.	Medieval
053	VOID	-
054	Upper fill of 057. A Black silty clay containing small stones (1-5cm diameter). Deposit measures 1.2m wide and 0.3m deep in N ditch section.	Medieval
055	Upper fill of 057. Same as 052. An orange brown sandy clay. Measures 0.8m-1.4m wide and 0.2m deep in section.	Medieval
056	VOID	-
057	Cut of linear ditch, see 048, 283, 275. Measures 1.4-2m wide and 0.8m deep (runs across site).	Medieval
058	Fill of 057. A dark brown grey silty clay containing frequent charcoal lumps. Same as 049. Measures 0.1m wide, and 0.1m deep. Same as 049, 284 and 258. Deposit contains animal bones and pottery.	Medieval
059	Upper fill of 050. Same as 286 and 278 A grey brown silty sand. Measures more than 6m long and 1m wide.	Medieval
060	Cut of posthole. Same as 202.	Prehistoric?
061	Fill of 060. Same as 203.	Prehistoric?
062	Cut of bioturbation. Measures 1m long, 0.4m wide and 0.2m deep. Sides gently sloping base irregular.	Unknown
063	Fill of 062. A loose dark grey silty clay.	Unknown
064	Cut of slot across linear gully 040. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 0.7m wide and 0.11 deep. Sides gently sloping, base almost flat.	Medieval?
065	Fill of 064. A dark brown silty clay containing 1% small angular stones and one shell.	Medieval?
066	Cut of slot across linear gully. Measures 1.3m long (slot), 1m wide and 0.15m deep. Sides sloping, base flat.	Medieval?

Context	Description	Date
067	Fill of 066. A hard mottled brown and orange clayey silt.	Medieval?
068	Cut of slot across linear gully. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 0.6-0.7m wide and 0.1m deep.	Medieval
069	Fill of 068. A grey brown clayey silt containing 1% sub-angular stones 1-3cm in diameter. Deposit contains pottery.	Medieval
070	Cut of slot across linear gully. Measures 1.54m long (slot), 0.7-0.9m wide and 0.13-0.2m deep.	Medieval?
071	Fill of 070. A firm mottled grey brown and orange clay with some sub-angular gravel (2cm diameter) at base. Deposit contained glass.	Medieval?
072	Cut of irregular stakehole/posthole. Measures 0.2m long, 0.2m wide and 0.1m deep. Sides gently sloping to steep, base concave.	Medieval
073	Fill of 073. A light brown silty clay containing small lumps of marl and one big stone in profile.	Medieval
074	Cut of posthole. Measures 0.33m long, 0.29m wide and 0.06m deep. Sides gently sloping, base concave.	Medieval
075	Fill of 074. A brown silty clay containing six angular flints and a fragment of shell.	Medieval
076	Cut of oval posthole. Measures 0.29m long, 0.13 wide and 0.11 deep. Sides steep, base concave.	Medieval
077	Fill of 076. A dark brown loose silty clay containing 1% small angular flints, and a larger stone (10x3cm).	Medieval
078	Cut of oval pit. Sides gently sloping, base slightly concave. Measures 0.77m long, 0.39 wide and 0.16m deep.	Medieval
079	Fill of 078. A firm dark brown silty clay with a few shell fragments, small angular flints and flecks of charcoal.	Medieval
080	Cut of oval pit/posthole. Measures 0.54m long, 0.31m wide, and 0.07m deep. Sides very gently sloping, base concave.	Medieval
081	Fill of 080. A loose mottled brown and orange clay mixed with silt containing angular flints.	Medieval
082	Cut of oval posthole. Measures 0.55m long, 0.22m wide and 0.20m deep. Sides stepped from gently sloping to steep, base round and pointed.	Medieval
083	Fill of 082. A very dark brown loose silty clay containing small angular flints.	Medieval
084	Cut of oval posthole. Measures 0.62 long, 0.35m wide and 0.22m deep. Sides gently sloping, base pointed.	Medieval
085	Fill of 084. A dark brown clayey silt containing 1% small angular flints, some small shell fragments and small lumps of marl. Deposit contained pottery.	Medieval
086	Cut of linear gully. Measures more than 1.5m long (slot), 1m wide and 0.05-0.1 deep. Sides gently sloping, base dished. Same as 068, 092.	Medieval
087	Fill of 086. A grey brown silty clay containing gravel at the base. Deposit contains pottery.	Medieval
088	Cut of slot across linear gully. Measures 1m long (slot), 0.9m wide and 0.12 deep. Sides gently sloping, base slightly concave.	Medieval?
089	Fill of 088. A firm greyish-brown clayey silt containing 5% lumps of natural clay.	Medieval?
090	Cut of East to West linear gully excavated in three slots, 066, 070 and 088.	Medieval?
091	Fill of linear gully 090 excavated in three slots, see fills 067, 071 and 089.	Medieval?
092	Cut of East to West linear gully excavated in three slots, 068, 086 and 179.	Medieval
093	Fill of linear gully 092 excavated in two slots, see 069, 087, 189.	Medieval
094	Cut of rectangular posthole. Measures 0.72m long, 0.31m wide and 0.19m deep. Sides steep, base flat.	Post-medieval
095	Fill of 094. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing some stones (0.5-5cm). Deposit contains CBM.	Post-medieval

Context	Description	Date
096	Cut of oval posthole. Measures 0.29m long, 0.2m wide and 0.08 deep. Sides steep, base concave.	Medieval
097	Fill of 096. A dark brown silty clay containing some small angular flints. Deposit contains pottery.	Medieval
098	Cut of slot across termination of linear gully. Measures 1m long (slot), 0.4m wide and 0.09m deep. Sides gently sloping, base concave.	Medieval?
099	Fill of 098. A firm greyish-brown silty clay containing lumps of orange natural clay.	Medieval?
100	Cut of slot across linear gully. Measures 2m long (slot), 0.5m wide and 0.3m deep. Sides very gently sloping, base concave.	Medieval
101	Fill of 100. A slightly soft grey-brown clayey silt containing very occasional flint, charcoal, and 1-2cm pieces of gravel. Deposit contains shell.	Medieval
102	Cut of irregular rectangular posthole. Measures 0.48m long, 0.29m wide and 0.13m deep. Sides gently sloping to steep, base oval. Damaged by digger.	Post-medieval
103	Fill of 102. A mottled grey silty clay and orange clay, with a few stones.	Post-medieval
104	Cut of linear gully excavated in three slots, 100, 119 and 179. Measures more than 10m long.	Medieval
105	Fill of linear gully (104) excavated in three slots, 101, 120 and 189.	Medieval
106	Cut of rounded rectangular posthole. Measures 0.39m long, 0.26m wide and 0.08m deep. Sides and base are irregular.	Post-medieval
107	Fill of 106. A mottled dark grey silty clay and orange natural containing 50% small angular flints.	Post-medieval
108	Cut of rectangular posthole. Measures 0.71m long, 0.35m wide and 0.17m deep. Sides steep and base flat.	Post-medieval
109	Fill of 108. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing stones. Deposit contained pottery.	Post-medieval
110	Cut of circular pit. Measures 0.8m long and 0.7m wide. Sides vertical.	Medieval?
111	Fill of 110. A firm grey silty clay.	Medieval?
112	Cut of burial pit.	Early Iron Age
113	Fill of 112. A grey brown silt above and below bones.	Early Iron Age
114	Fill of 112. Human remains.	Early Iron Age
115	Fill of 112. Human remains.	Early Iron Age
116	Fill of 112. Human remains.	Early Iron Age
117	Cut of rectangular posthole. Measures 0.55m long, 0.28m wide and 0.1m deep. Sides gently sloping, base oval.	Post-medieval
118	Fill of 117. A dark grey silty clay containing 30% small angular flints and small lumps of marl. Deposit contains pottery.	Post-medieval
119	Cut of slot across linear gully. Measures 1.8m long (slot), 0.9m wide and 0.2m deep. Sides shallow, base concave.	Medieval
120	Fill of 119. A grey-brown silty clay containing some small (1-3cm in diameter) stones.	Medieval
121	Cut of slot across linear gully. Measures 1.3m long, 0.8m wide and 0.16m deep. Sides gently sloping, base flat.	Medieval?
122	Fill of 121. A firm dark-brown clayey silt.	Medieval?
123	Cut of oval posthole. Measures 0.5m long, 0.27m wide and 0.095 deep. Sides very gently sloping, base oval.	Post-medieval
124	Fill of 123. A grey silty clay containing 10% small angular flints.	Post-medieval
125	Cut of rectangular posthole. Measures 0.69m long, 0.28m wide and 0.14m deep. Sides steep, base flat.	Post-medieval
126	Fill of 125. A dark grey-brown silty clay. Deposit contains pottery.	Post-medieval
127	Cut of north-south linear ditch excavated in three slots, 139, 141, 165. Measures more than 15m long.	Medieval
128	Fill of linear ditch (127) excavated in three slots, see fills 140, 142, 166	Medieval
129	Cut of rectangular posthole. Measures 0.72m long, 0.33m wide and 0.15m deep. Sides steep, base flat.	Post-medieval
130	Fill of 129. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing some flint. Deposit	Post-medieval

Context	Description	Date
	contains pottery.	
131	Cut of circular posthole. Measures 0.42m long, 0.31m wide, 0.11m deep. Sides gently sloping, base flat.	
132	Fill of 131. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing some stones.	Modern?
133	Cut for geotechnical pit. Measures 1.5m long and 0.4m wide. Sides vertical.	Modern
134	Fill of 133. A firm mottled light beige and orange mix of clay and topsoil containing occasional stones.	Modern
135	Cut of East to West linear gully excavated in two slots, 098 and 121. Measures 4m long, 0.8m wide and 0.16m deep.	Medieval?
136	Fill of linear gully (135) excavated in two slots, see fills 099 and 122.	Medieval?
137	Cut for rectangular posthole. Measures 0.61m long, 0.26m wide and 0.16m deep. Sides sloping, base flat.	Post-medieval
138	Fill of 137. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing some flint fragments and lighter clay.	Post-medieval
139	Cut of slot across linear ditch. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 2m wide, and 0.45m deep. Sides sloping, base concave.	Medieval
140	Fill of 139. A soft dark brown silty clay containing 1% stones and flint.	Medieval
141	Cut of slot across linear ditch. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 3.1m wide and 0.46m deep. Sides steep, base irregular.	Medieval
142	Fill of 141. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing 2% stones and some lumps of orange clay.	Medieval
143	Cut of irregular oval pit. Measures 1.34m long, 0.88m wide and 0.06m deep.	Medieval
144	Fill of 143. A dark grey silty clay containing some small lumps of marl, 2% small angular flints, small lumps of charcoal and a few small fragments of shell.	Medieval
145	Cut of rectangular posthole. Measures 0.8m long, 0.3m wide, and 0.2m deep. Sides vertical to sloping, base flat.	Post-medieval
146	Fill of 145. A dark brown clayey silt containing occasional small fragments of flint.	Post-medieval
147	Cut of slot across linear gully. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 0.45m wide and 0.1m deep. Sides very gently sloping, base concave.	Medieval
148	Fill of 147. A soft light brown silt.	Medieval
149	Cut of posthole. Measures 0.7m long, 0.4m wide and 0.1m deep. Sides gently sloping, base flat.	Medieval
150	Fill of 149. A black clayey silt containing 2% stones.	Medieval
151	Cut of square pit. Measures 1.2m long, 1.2m wide and 0.2m deep.	Medieval
152	Fill of 151. A grey silty clay containing some stone.	Medieval
153	Cut of slot across linear feature 157. Measures 1m long (slot), 1.1m wide and 0.11m deep.	Unknown
154	Fill of 153. A soft dark grey clayey silt.	Unknown
155	Cut of oval posthole. Measures 0.34m long, 0.27m wide and 0.12m deep. Sides sloping and base irregular.	Medieval?
156	Fill of 155. A mottled grey silty clay and orange clay containing small lumps of marl, one big flint fragment and some small angular flint fragments.	Medieval?
157	Cut of linear feature. Measures 5.5m long, 07m wide and 0.11m deep. Sides very gently sloping, base concave.	Unknown
158	Fill of 157. A dark grey silty clay.	Medieval?
159	Cut of round posthole. Measures 0.2m long, 0.17m wide and 0.04m deep. Sides very gently sloping, base rounded.	Medieval?
160	Fill of 159. A grey silty clay containing a few small angular fragments of flint and one lump of marl.	Medieval?
161	Cut of round posthole. Measures 0.16m in diameter and 0.06m deep.	Medieval?
162	Fill of 161. A grey clayey silt containing a very big stone (8x7cm).	Medieval?
163	Cut of oval posthole. Measures 0.47m long, 0.59m wide and 0.17m deep. Sides gently sloping, base flat.	Unknown

Context	Description	Date
164	Fill of 163. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing some flint and marl.	Unknown
165	Cut of slot across linear ditch 127. Measures 1.7m long, 2.6m wide and 0.35m deep. Sides sloping, base concave and pointed in parts.	Medieval
166	Fill of 165. A soft dark grey-brown silty clay containing occasional small flint fragments. Deposit contains animal bone.	Medieval
167	Cut of linear. Measures 0.5m long, 0.6m wide and 0.1m deep. Sides vertical, base flat. Possible vehicle track?	Modern?
168	Fill of 167. A dark grey-brown silty clay.	Modern?
169	Cut of irregular pit (burrow). Measures 2.2m long, 0.6m wide, and 0.15m deep. Sides slightly sloping, base concave.	Burrow
170	Fill of 169. A very dark grey soft silty clay containing small stones.	Burrow
171	Cut of rounded pit. Measures 1m long (uncovered), 0.6m wide and 0.1m deep. Sides gently sloping, base concave.	Unknown
172	Fill of 172. A soft light grey silty clay.	Unknown
173	Cut of southern slot across linear gully 175. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 0.4m wide and 0.05m. Sides gently sloping, base slightly concave. Parallel to slot 141.	Medieval?
174	Fill of 173. A grey sandy silty clay.	Medieval?
175	Cut of linear gully excavated in two slots, 147 and 173. Measures 8m long.	Medieval?
176	Fill of linear gully excavated in two slots, see 148 and 174.	Medieval?
177	Cut of round posthole. Measures 0.31m long, 0.22 wide and 0.07m deep. Sides gently sloping, base round.	Post-medieval?
178	Fill of 177. A firm dark grey silty clay containing small angular flints and some charcoal. Deposit contains metal at top.	Post-medieval?
179	Cut of slot across linear ditch. Measures 1m long, 1.28m wide and 0.15m deep. Sides very gently sloping, base flat.	Medieval
180	A spread below 002, a firm grey silty clay containing 50% small angular flints and stones, and lumps of marl 0.08m thick.	Medieval
181	Cut of circular posthole. Measures 0.3m long, 0.33m wide, 0.19m deep. Sides steep, base flat.	Unknown
182	Fill of 181. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing flint.	Unknown
183	Cut of oval posthole. Measures 0.38m long, 0.4m wide and 0.18m deep. Sides steep and base irregular.	Unknown
184	Fill of 183. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing stones (less than 3cm in diameter).	Unknown
185	Cut of slot across linear ditch. Measures 1.5m long, 0.9m wide and 0.3m deep. Sides sloping, base concave.	Medieval?
186	Fill of 185. A dark brown clayey silt containing 1% stones.	Medieval?
187	Cut of circular pit. Measures 0.9m in diameter and 0.18m deep. Sides gently sloping and base concave.	19th century
188	Fill of 187. A grey dark brown silty clay containing occasional flints (1-3cm in diameter). Deposit contains CBM.	19th century?
189	Fill of 179. A firm grey silty clay containing 2% small angular flints and lumps of marl. Deposit contains pottery, animal bone and metal. Same as 195 and 105.	Post-medieval or modern
190	Cut of a circular posthole. Measures 0.27m long, 0.25m wide and 0.25m deep. Sides gently sloping and base flat.	Post-medieval or modern
191	Fill of 190. A dark grey-brown sandy silty clay containing small stones (0.5-5cm in diameter).	Medieval
192	Cut of slot across ditch. Measures 1.2m long (slot), 0.8m wide and 0.11m deep. Sides gently sloping, base concave.	Unknown
193	Fill of 192. A dark grey soft silty clay.	Unknown
194	Same as 104	Medieval
195	Same as 104	Medieval
196	Cut of oval pit. Measures 1.2m diameter and 0.35m deep. Sides steep and base flat.	20th century

Context	Description	Date
197	Fill of 196. A soft dark brown silty clay containing less than 1% flint. Deposit contains a glass bottle.	20th century
198	Cut of Geotechnical pit Measures 0.7m long, 0.3m wide and 0.23m deep. Sides steep and base round.	Modern
199	Fill of 198. A dark grey silty clay containing reeds and seeds.	Modern
200	Cut of slot across linear gully. Measures 0.9m long (slot), 0.5m wide, 0.15m deep. Sides sloping, base concave.	Medieval?
201	Fill of 201. A grey-brown silty clay containing 2% small stones.	Medieval?
202	Cut of circular posthole. Measures 0.4m diameter and 0.3m deep. Sides vertical, base flat.	Prehistoric?
203	Fill of 202. A grey-brown silty clay containing small stones and lumps of marl. Deposit contained a struck flint medial flake.	Prehistoric?
204	Cut of slot across gully. Measures 1.5m (slot), 0.51m wide and 0.15m deep. Sides sloping and base flat.	Medieval?
205	Fill of 204. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing flint and stones.	Medieval?
206	VOID	-
207	VOID	-
208	VOID	-
209	Cut of slot across gully. Measures 1.5m (slot), 0.8m wide and 0.2m deep. Sides sloping and base concave.	Medieval?
210	Fill of 209. A grey-brown silty clay.	Medieval?
211	Cut of slot across gully. Measures 1m long (slot), 1m wide and 0.18m deep. Sides gently sloping, base flat.	Medieval?
212	Fill of 211. A mottled dark grey to grey and orange silty clay and clay containing 1% small angular flints and some charcoal flecks. Deposit contains glass.	Medieval?
213	Cut of slot across linear gully. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 0.5m wide and 0.17m deep. Sides steep, base pointed.	Medieval?
214	Fill of 213. A soft light grey silty clay.	Medieval?
215	Cut of linear gully excavated in four slots, 213, 217, 219 and 204	Medieval?
216	Fill of linear gully excavated in four slots, 214, 218, 220 and 204	Medieval?
217	Cut of slot across linear. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 0.51m wide and 0.13m deep. Sides sloping, base flat.	Medieval?
218	Fill of 217. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing 0.5-5cm flint cobbles and stones.	Medieval?
219	Cut of slot across linear gully. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 0.4-0.5m wide and 0.11m deep. Sides very gently sloping, base concave.	Medieval?
220	Fill of 219. A greyish orange silty clay containing 1% small angular flints.	Medieval?
221	Cut of oval posthole. Measures 0.5m long, 0.3m wide and 0.07m wide. Sides steep, base flat.	Post-Medieval
222	Fill of 221. A soft dark grey to black silty clay.	Post-Medieval
223	Cut of oval posthole. Measures 0.87m long, 0.35m wide and 0.18m deep. Sides steep to gently sloping, base round and flat.	Post-Medieval
224	Fill of 223. A dark grey silty clay containing occasional small angular flints.	Post-Medieval
225	Cut of rectangular posthole. Measures 0.73m long, 0.3m and 0.16m wide. Sides steep and base flat.	Post-Medieval
226	Fill of 225. A dark grey-brown silty sandy clay containing 2-5cm flints.	Post-Medieval
227	Cut of rectangular posthole. Measures 0.7m long, 0.5m wide and 0.2m deep. Sides sloping, base concave.	Post-Medieval
228	Fill of 227. A dark brown clayey silt containing small flints and flecks of charcoal.	Post-Medieval
229	Cut of oval posthole. Measures 0.8m long, 0.35m wide and 0.16m deep. Sides sloping to vertical, base concave to flat.	Post-Medieval
230	Fill of 229. A soft dark grey to black silty clay.	Post-Medieval
231	Cut of oval posthole. Measures 0.7m long, 0.25m wide and 0.1m deep. Sides steep to sloping, base flat.	Post-Medieval

Context	Description	Date
232	Fill of 231. A soft dark grey to black silty clay.	Post-Medieval
233	Cut of oval posthole. Measures 0.46m long, 0.25m wide and 0.07m deep. Sides sloping, base oval and flat.	Post-Medieval
234	Fill of 233. A dark grey silty clay with 1% small angular stones.	Post-Medieval
235	Cut of oval posthole. Measures 0.52m long, 0.31 wide and 0.07m deep. Sides gently sloping, base oval and flat. Same as 145.	Post-medieval
236	Fill of 235. A dark grey clayey silt containing 1 angular stone (4x4cm). Same as 146.	Post-medieval
237	Cut of rectangular posthole. Measures 0.67m long, 0.26m wide and 0.08m deep. Sides steep, base oval and flat.	Post-medieval
238	Fill of 238. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing 0.5-3cm stones.	Post-medieval
239	Cut of linear gully excavated in four slots, 245, 254, 256 and 260.	Post-medieval
240	Fill of linear gully excavated in four slots, see fills 246, 248, 257 and 261.	Post-medieval
241	Cut of rectangular posthole. Measures 0.8m long, 0.25m wide and 0.2m deep. Sides steep, base concave.	Post-Medieval
242	Fill of 241. A dark brown silty clay.	Post-Medieval
243	Cut of posthole alignment, 102, 106, 117, 123, 137, 129, 125, 108, 94, 231, 233, 229, 221, 227, 225, 223 and 221.	Post-Medieval
244	Fill of posthole alignment, see fills 103, 107, 109, 118, 124, 138, 130, 126, 095, 234, 230 and 222.	Post-Medieval
245	Cut of slot across gully. Measures 2m long (slot), 1.1m wide and 0.1m deep. Sides gently sloping, base flat.	Post-medieval
246	Fill of 245. A firm grey silty clay containing 20% small and medium angular stones and less than 1% charcoal.	Post-medieval
247	Cut of oval pit. Measures 2.5m long, 1.m wide and 0.17m deep. Sides very gently sloping, base flat.	Post-medieval
248	Fill of 247. A soft light grey silty clay with rusty marks.	Post-medieval
249	'Cut' of circular post-pipe. Measures 0.3m in diameter and 0.15m in depth. Sides vertical, base concave.	Post-medieval
250	Fill of 249. A very dark brown clayey silt containing 1% stones.	Post-medieval
251	Cut of rectangular posthole. Measures 0.5m long, 0.3m wide and 0.25m deep. Sides sloping, base concave.	Post-medieval
252	Fill of 251. A dark brown silty clay containing occasional stones.	Post-medieval
253	Spread. Measures 10m long, 8m wide and 0.15-0.2m thick. A grey-brown silty clay containing patches of yellow mixed sand.	Post-medieval
254	Cut of slot across linear gully. Measures 0.5m long (slot), 0.65m wide and 0.13-0.2m deep. Sides sloping to steep, base irregular.	Post-medieval
255	Fill of 254. A firm dark grey silty clay containing 20% angular flints of various sizes, 1% charcoal and containing small lumps of rusty silt.	Post-medieval
256	Cut of slot across linear gully. Measures 1.1m long (slot), 1.11m wide, 0.16m deep. Sides sloping, base flat.	Post-medieval
257	Fill of 256. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing 0.5-5cm stones and 10cm cobbles.	Post-medieval
258	Cut of slot across 'Z' shaped feature. Sides sloping, base concave.	Unknown
259	Fill of 258. A very dark grey silty clay containing occasional 1cm diameter stones. Deposit contains bone	Unknown
260	Cut of slot across linear gully. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 1m wide and 0.12m deep. Sides very gently sloping, base concave.	Post-medieval
261	Fill of 260. A very dark grey silty grey containing a few 1-5cm diameter rounded flints and frequent flecks of charcoal.	Post-medieval
262	Cut of slot across linear ditch. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 0.8m wide and 0.2-0.3m deep. Sides gently sloping, based concave.	Medieval
263	Fill of 262. A brown silty clay containing occasional 1cm stones, and lumps of charcoal.	Medieval
264	VOID	-
265	VOID	-
266	Spread. Measures 10-15m long, 7m wide and 0.1m thick. A dark grey	Medieval to

Context	Description	Date
	silty clay containing very occasional stones. Deposit contains animal bone.	post-medieval
267	Cut of sub-rectangular post-hole. Measures 0.49m long, 0.51m wide and 0.12m deep. Sides sloping, base flat.	Unknown
268	Fill of 267. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing lumps of marl and some very small stones.	Unknown
269	Cut of semicircular posthole. Measures 0.14m long, 0.35m wide and 0.11m deep. Sides steeply sloping, base flat.	Unknown
270	Fill of 269. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing lumps of marl.	Unknown
271	Cut of rectangular pit. Measures 1.63m long, 0.4m wide and 0.14m deep. Sides sloping, base flat.	19th century to modern
272	Fill of 271. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing small stones, a fragment of shell and lumps of marl.	19th century to modern
273	Fill of 284. An orange-grey sandy silty clay containing occasional stones.	Medieval
274	Fill of 275. A grey-orange sandy silty clay with occasional small round stones 1cm in diameter. Deposit 0.3m thick.	Medieval
275	Cut of slot across linear ditch. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 2.6m wide, 0.8m deep. Sides steep on east side and sloping on West, base concave.	Medieval
276	Fill of 275. A dark grey silty clay with occasional 1-3cm diameter stones. Deposit contains animal bone.	Medieval
277	Cut of slot across linear ditch 050. Measures 1.5m long (slot) and 0.4m wide. Sides sloping, base concave. Not excavated due to possibility of collapse.	Medieval
278	Fill of 277. A light orange-beige silty clay containing fleck of marl and charcoal.	Medieval
279	Cut of animal burrow. Unexcavated.	-
280	Fill of 279. Unexcavated Burrow	-
281	Cut of slot across linear gully. Measures 1.7m long (slot), 0.6m wide and 0.25m deep. Sides gently sloping, base concave.	Medieval
282	Fill of 281. An orangey brown clayey silt. Deposit contains animal bone.	Medieval
283	Cut of slot across linear. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 2.3m wide and 1m deep. Sides steep, base concave.	Medieval
284	Lower fill of 283. A grey silty clay containing occasional lumps of charcoal. Deposit 0.6m thick. Deposit contains animal bone.	Medieval
285	Cut of slot across linear ditch. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 1.4m wide and 0.6m deep. Sides steeply sloping, base dished.	Medieval
286	Fill of 285. A beige-brown silty clay containing occasional small stones. Deposit contains animal bones.	Medieval
287	Upper fill of 292. A firm mottled light grey and brown sandy clayey silt containing 2-5cm diameter sub-angular stones. Deposit contains one piece of pottery.	Iron Age
288	VOID	-
289	Slot across bioturbation. Measures 0.8m long (slot), 0.6m wide and 0.25 deep. Sides sloping, base concave. Irregular in plan.	Post-medieval to modern
290	Fill of 289. A black clayey silt.	Post-medieval to modern
291	Fill of 273. A firm very dark grey silty clay. Deposit 0.15m thick. Deposit contains occasional animal bone. Same as 266.	Medieval to post-medieval
292	Cut of irregular pit. Measures more than 4m long, 5m wide and more than 3.2m deep. Sides steep and undulating, base unexcavated. Feature only partially exposed.	Natural sink hole
293	Cut of oval pit. Measures 1.21m long, 1m wide and 0.16m deep. Sides gently sloping, base narrow and concave.	Medieval?
294	Fill of 293. A loose dark grey clayey silt containing 1% small angular flints and some fragments of shell.	Medieval?
295	VOID	-

Context	Description	Date
296	VOID	-
297	Cut of slot across linear gully. Measures 1.8m long (slot), 0.6m wide and 0.14m deep. Sides shallow, base concave.	Unknown
298	Fill of 297. Dark grey-brown silty clay contains small stones and some lumps of orange clay.	Unknown
299	Fill of 298. Measures 0.5m long (slot), 0.25m wide and 0.11m deep. Sides sloping and base flat.	Unknown
300	Fill of 297. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing stone and lumps of clay. Deposit 0.1m thick.	Unknown
301	Cut of slot across gully. Measures 1.5m long (slot), 1.05m wide, 0.06m thick. Sides gently sloping, base flat.	Medieval
302	Fill of 301. A light grey-brown silty clay containing 5cm diameter cobbles and lumps of clay. Deposit contains pottery.	Medieval
303	Cut of linear gully excavated in two slots, 301 and 262.	Medieval
304	Cut of semicircular pit. Measures 1.2m diameter and 0.25m deep. Sides sloping, base concave.	Iron Age
305	Fill of 304. A mottled grey-brown clayey silt and reddish orange sand. Deposit contained animal bones at its base.	Iron Age
306	Cut of circular posthole. Measures 0.6m in diameter and 0.14m deep. Sides steeply sloping, base flat.	Prehistoric?
307	Fill of 306. A light grey silty clay containing small chips of flint and charcoal.	Prehistoric?
308	VOID	-
309	Cut of oval pit. Measures 0.6m in diameter and 0.1m deep. Sides steep to gently sloping, base flat.	Medieval?
310	Fill of 309. A soft light grey clay containing 20% sand. Deposit contained pottery and metal.	Medieval?
311	Cut of irregular pit. Measures more than 1.7m long, more than 1.2m wide and more than 0.3m deep. Contains glass and pottery. Possibly a tree throw pit.	Unknown
312	Fill of 311. A dark grey clayey silt containing 1% small angular flints. Deposit contains pottery and glass	Unknown
313	Lower fill of 287. A light grey clayey sand with some orange mottling containing frequent flint and small sub-angular stones (1-3cm in diameter). Deposit more than 1.5m thick. Deposit contains pottery and antler.	Iron Age
314	Fill of 292. A grey-orange-brown coarse sand and occasional gravel, lens in 313.	Iron Age
315	Cut of rectangular geotechnical pit. Measures 2.5m long and 0.35m wide. Sides vertical.	Modern
316	Fill of 315. A mottled black and grey mix of topsoil and natural.	Modern
317	Cut of "z shaped" feature excavated in two slots, 258 and 297.	Unknown
318	Fill of "z shaped" feature excavated in two slots, see fills 259 and 299.	Unknown
319	Posthole alignment, 096, 084, 082, 080, 078, 076, 074 and 072.	Medieval

APPENDIX 2: ARCHIVE SUMMARY

Contents	Number	Size	Medium
PAPER			
Context Registers	13	A4	Paper
Context Sheets	319	A4	Paper
Sample Sheets	75	A4	Paper
Field Drawing Registers	8	A4	Paper
Field Drawings	25	A3	Permatrace
Registered Finds Register	1	A4	Paper
Photographic Registers	15	A4	Paper
Black and White Negatives	6 x 36 shots	280mm x 260mm	Polyester wallets
WSI	13	A4	Paper
Weekly Log forms	7	A4	Paper
Metalwork Xrays	2	242mm x 100mm	Film
Report	82	101	A4 and A3
PHYSICAL			
Pottery, Glass, Brick	1	Standard	Box
Animal Bone	2	Standard	Boxs
Skeletons	3	Standard	Boxs
Metalwork	1	Stewart Sealfresh	Box
Worked bone items	1	Stewart Sealfresh	Box
Ceramic and glass / amber beads	1	Stewart Sealfresh	Box
DIGITAL			
Report	1	-	PDF/A
Interim Statement	1	-	PDF/A
Animal Bone Report	1	-	PDF/A
Animal bone data	1	-	.xlsx
Finds Report	1	-	PDF/A
Environmental Report	1	-	PDF/A
Human Skeletal Report	1	-	PDF/A
Lithics Report	1	-	PDF/A
Lithics Catalogue	1	-	.xlsx
C14 Results	1	-	PDF/A
Context List	1	-	.xlsx
Photos	246	-	.jpg
Photos	246	-	CR2 (RAW)
WSI	1	-	PDF/A
Pre-ex Survey	1	-	.dxf
Post-ex Survey	1	-	.dxf
Illustrations	2	-	.dxf

APPENDIX 3: OASIS SUMMARY

OASIS ID: cfaarcha1-266722

Project details	
Project name	Guntons Close, Soham, Archaeological Excavation
Short description of the project	CFA Archaeology Ltd carried out an archaeological excavation in advance of a housing development. An evaluation in 2008 had located three inhumations at the east end of the plot along with nearby postholes, stake holes and a large pit interpreted as a palaeochannel. Trenches in the centre of the plot uncovered postholes and a possible beam slot; those at the west end revealed series of medieval ditches cut by postholes. The palaeochannel from the evaluation was found to be a large waterhole or well filled with midden material containing animal bone and Early Iron Age pottery from a nearby settlement. On the edge of the waterhole was a small pit filled with similar material and a rough line of pits and post holes running to the west which may be contemporary. Three individuals were buried face down in a line to the north, an adult female, a child of 6-8 buried with animal bone and tooth pendants and a child of 3. A bone sample dated the burials to the Early Iron Age (756-413 cal BC) apparently contemporary with the waterhole. The rest of the Site was dominated by north-south ditches of medieval date which align with plot divisions for houses fronting Station Road shown on a mid-17th century map of Soham. Pottery evidence did not provide a conclusive date for the boundaries but instead a range from the 9th to 15th centuries. A series of linear shallow gullies in one of the plots appears to represent medieval horticultural beds to the rear of the plot. Later activity was represented by a large post-medieval fence line aligned east-west and a later land boundary shown on the 20th century OS maps.
Project dates	Start: 20-01-2016 End: 23-02-2016
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	GCSC - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	BURIAL Early Iron Age
Monument type	GARDEN Medieval
Monument type	WELL Early Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Early Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Investigation type	"Full excavation"
Prompt	Planning condition
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE SOHAM Guntons Close, Soham
Study area	2100 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 5907 7340 52.335165227391 0.334963488498 52 20 06 N 000 20 05 E Point
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	CFA Archaeology Ltd

Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Prospect Archaeology
Project director/manager	Mark Roberts
Project supervisor	Tamlin Barton
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team Store
Physical Archive ID	ECB4629
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Human Bones","Metal","Worked bone","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team Store
Digital Archive ID	ECB4629
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team Store
Paper Archive ID	ECB4629
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Diary","Drawing","Map","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Guntons Close, Soham, Cambridgeshire, Archaeological Excavation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Barton, T
Other bibliographic details	MK040/16
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	CFA
Place of issue or publication	Wolverton

Entered by	Tamlin Barton (tbarton@cfa-archaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	26 October 2016

Guntons Close

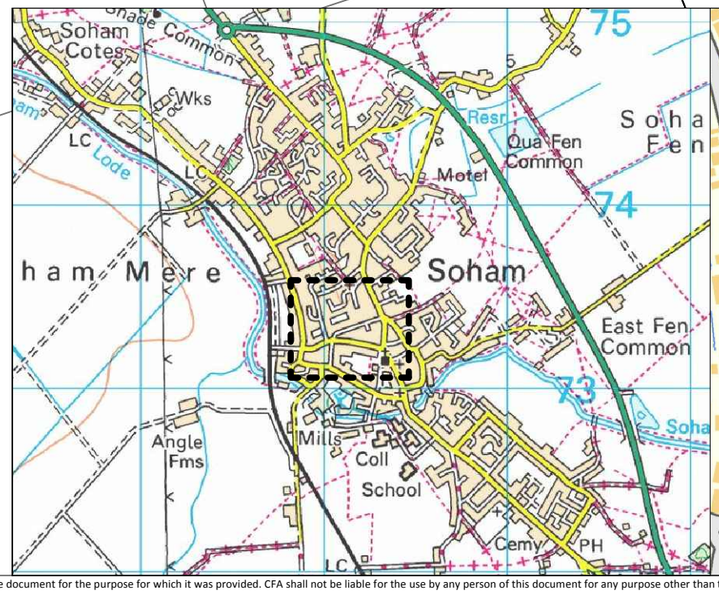
Trench 1

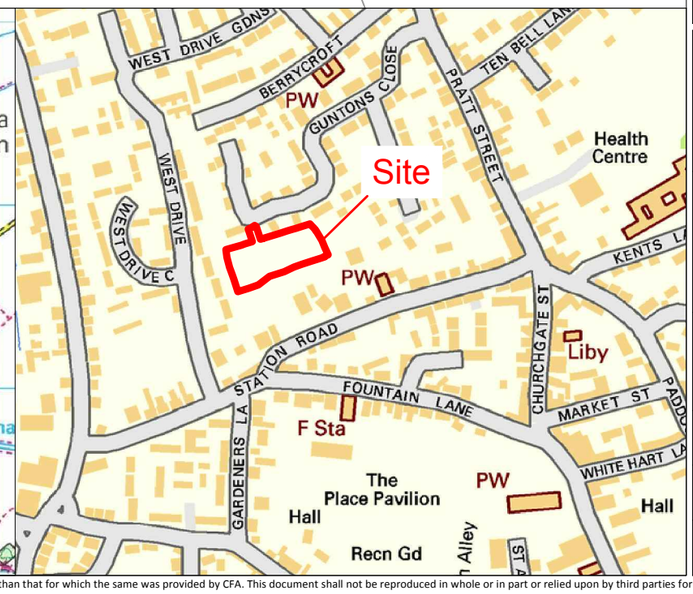
Trench 2

Trench 3

Trench 4

0 10m





Key:

- Site Boundary
- Area of Excavation
- Archaeology
- Evaluation trenches
- Archaeology (evaluation)

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www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Title:
Site location plan

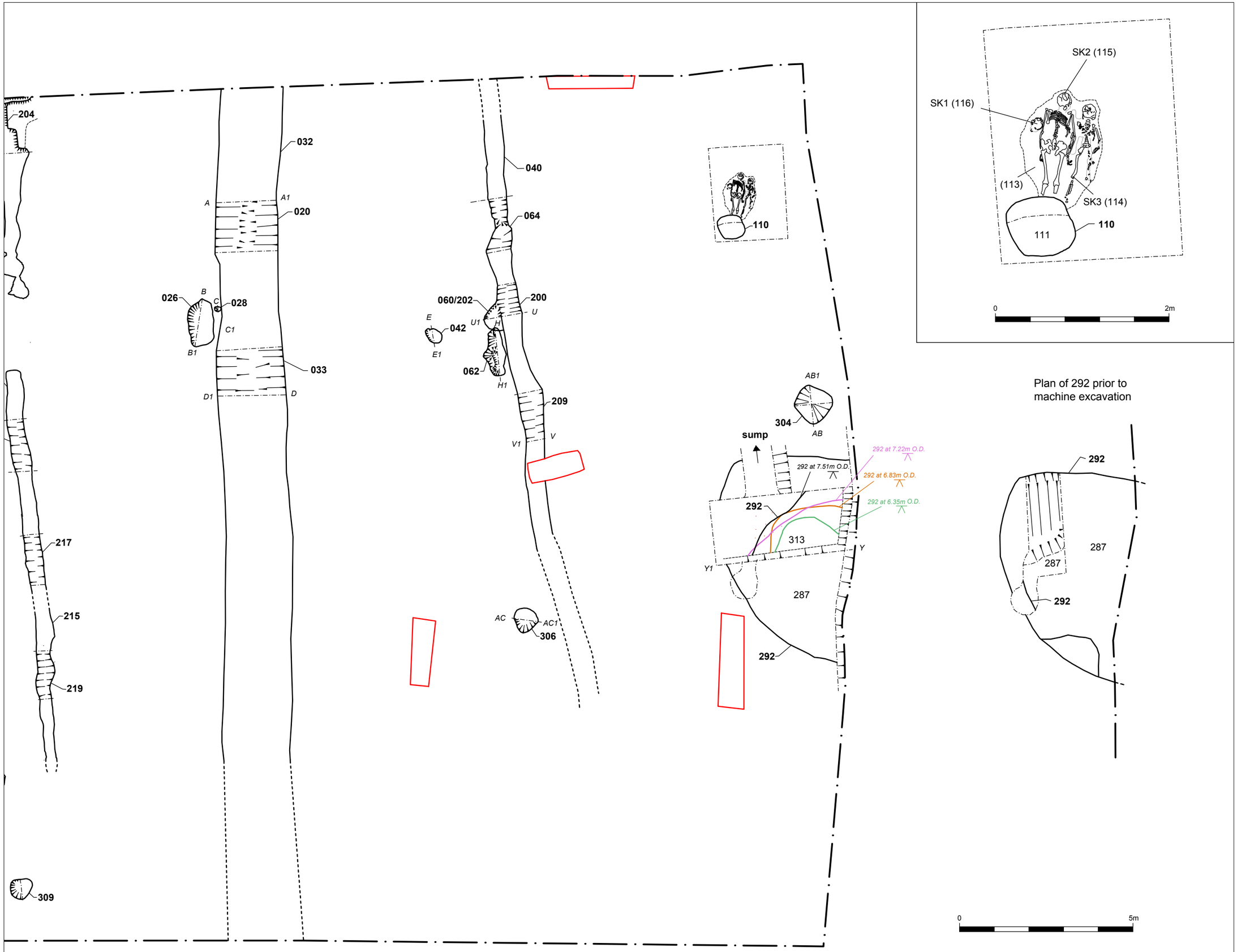
Project:
Guntons Close, Soham, Cambridgeshire – Archaeological Excavation

Client:
Prospect Archaeology Ltd

Scale at A3:
1:300

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
TB	MR	26/10/2016

Report.No:	Fig. No:
MK040/16	1



Plan of 292 prior to machine excavation

Key:

Site N / True N

Geotechnical Pit

Limit of Excavation

Limit of slot / sondage

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Title:
Excavated features, eastern part of site

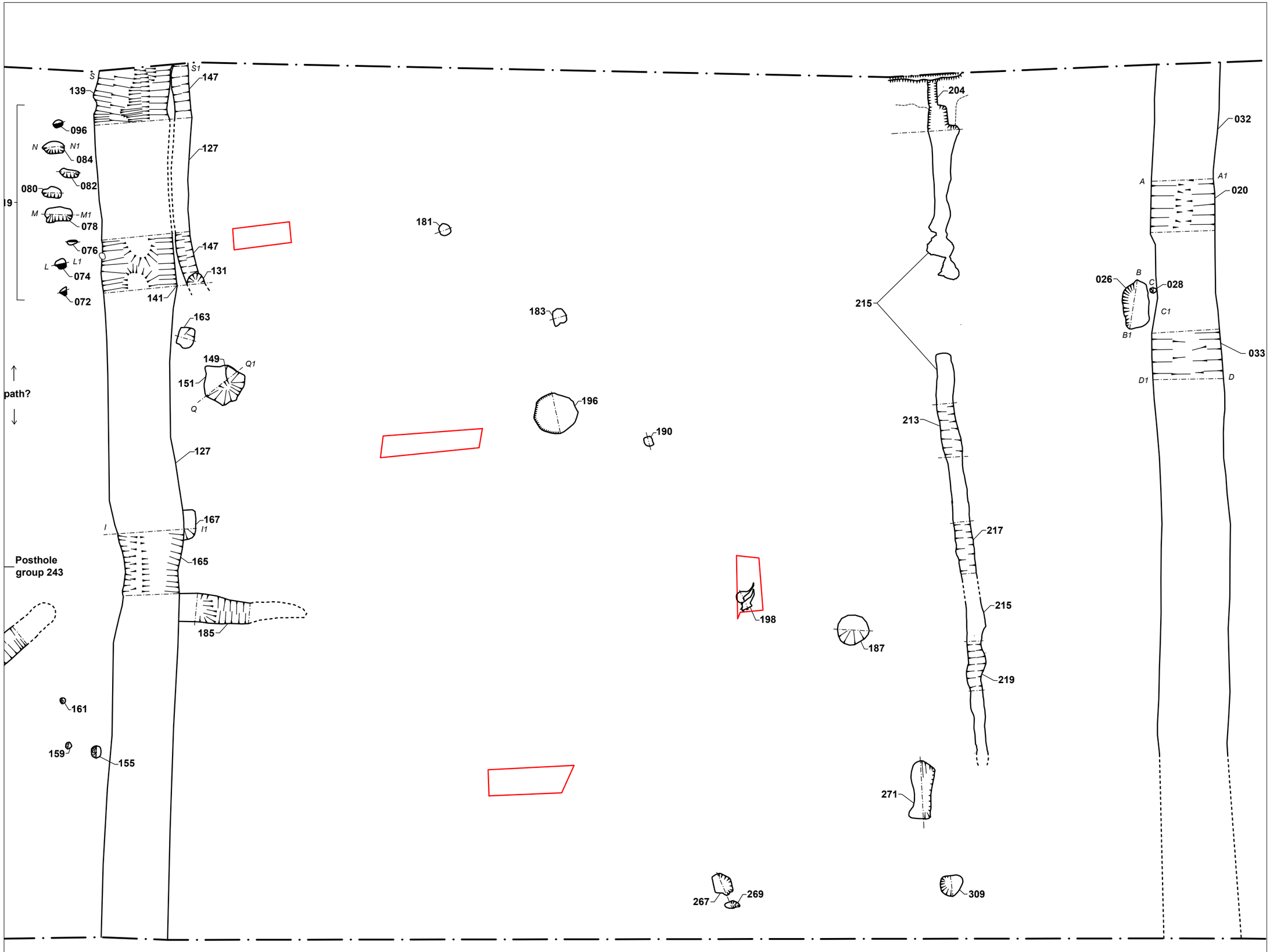
Project:
Guntons Close, Soham, Cambridgeshire – Archaeological Excavation

Client:
Prospect Archaeology Ltd

Scale at A3:
1:100, inset, 1:40

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
TB	MR	26/10/2016

Report.No:	Fig. No:
MK040/16	2



Key:

Site N / True N

- Geotechnical Pit
- Limit of Excavation
- Limit of slot / sondage

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Title:
Excavated features, central part of site

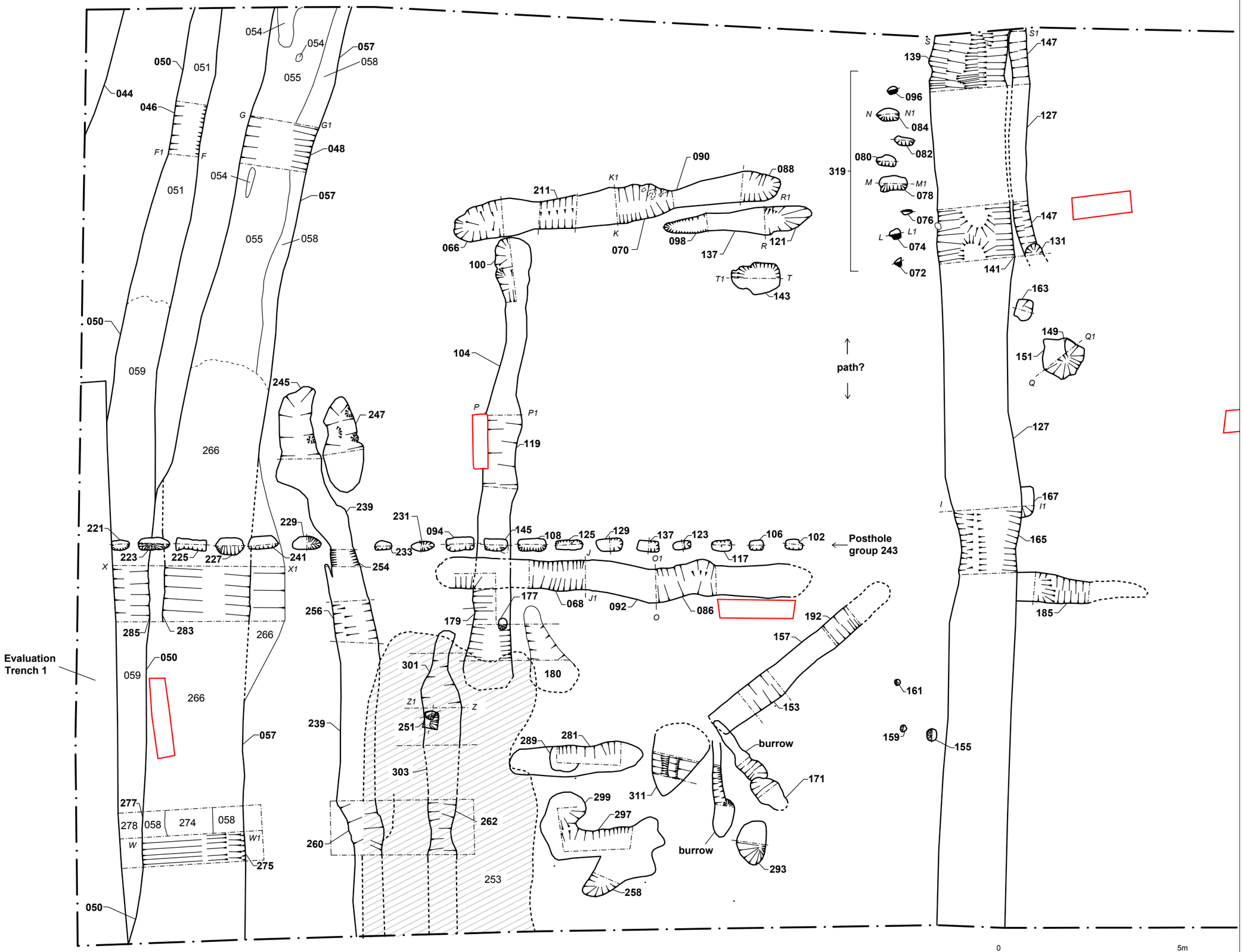
Project:
Guntons Close, Soham, Cambridgeshire – Archaeological Excavation

Client:
Prospect Archaeology Ltd

Scale at A3:
1:100

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
TB	MR	26/10/2016

Report.No:	Fig. No:
MK040/16	3



Key:

Site N True N

Geotechnical Pit

Limit of Excavation

Limit of slot / sondage

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Excavated features, western part of site

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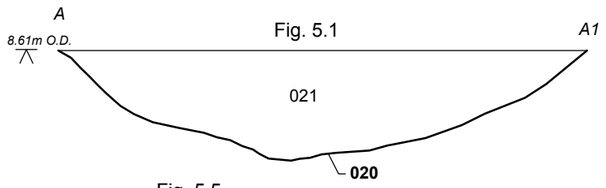

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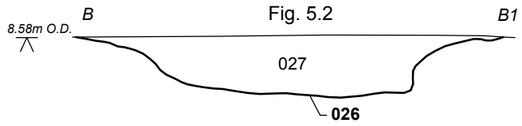

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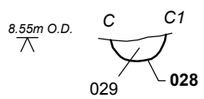

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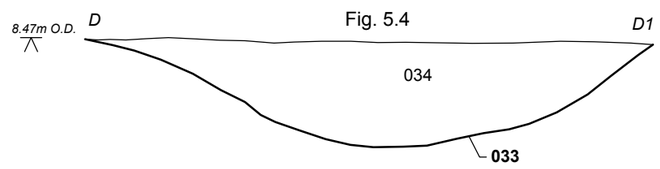

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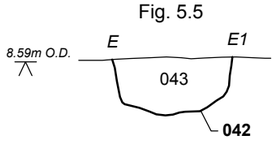

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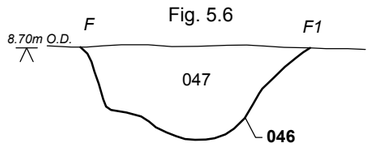

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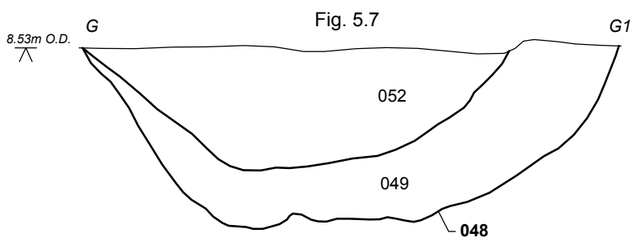

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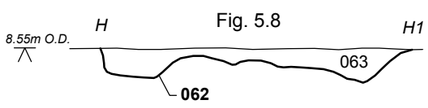

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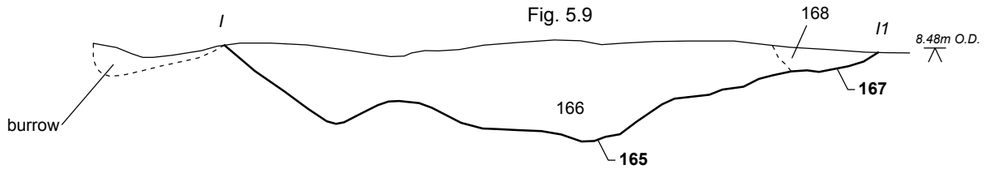
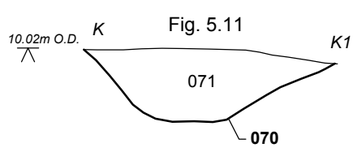


Fig. 5.9

Fig. 5.10



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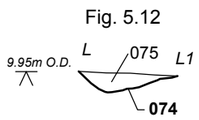

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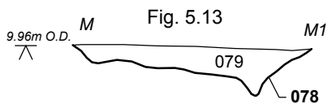

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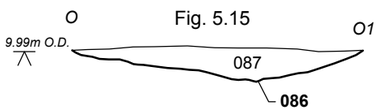
Fig. 5.14



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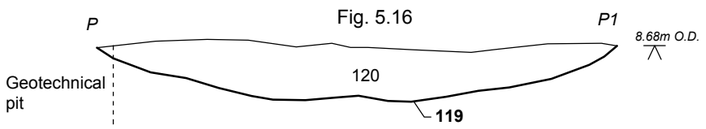

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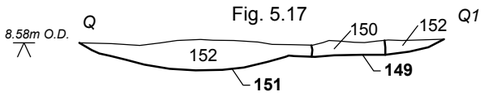

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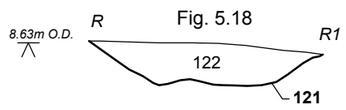

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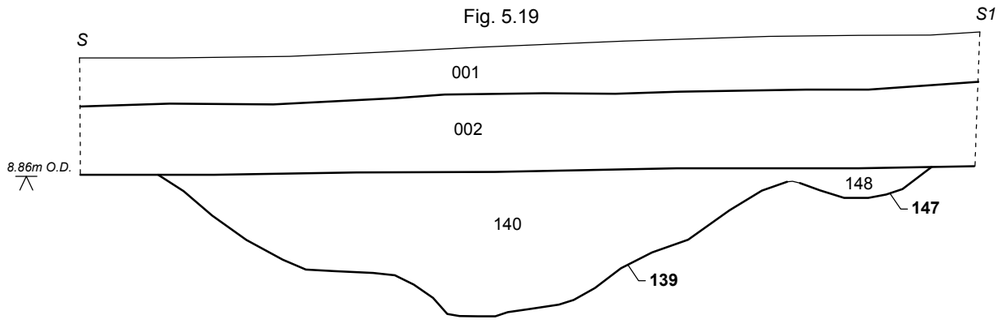

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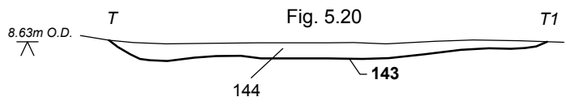

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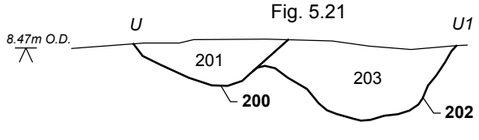

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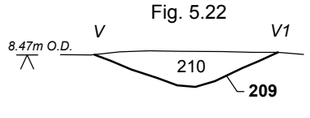

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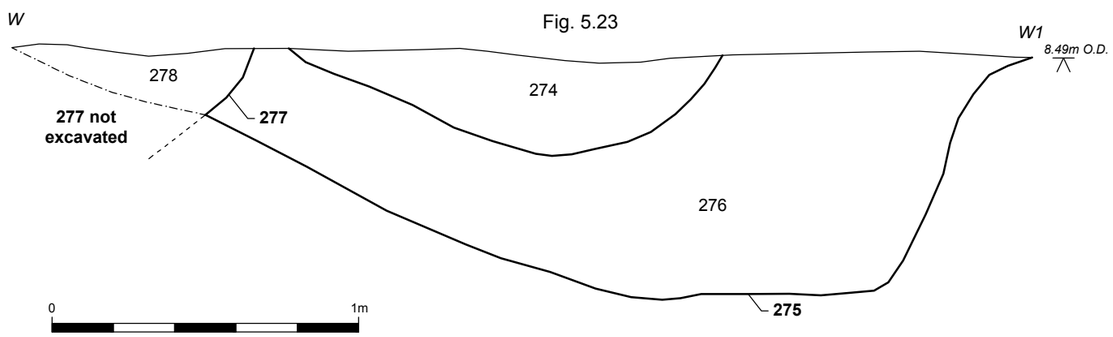

Fig. 5.23

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MK040/16	5.1- 5.23

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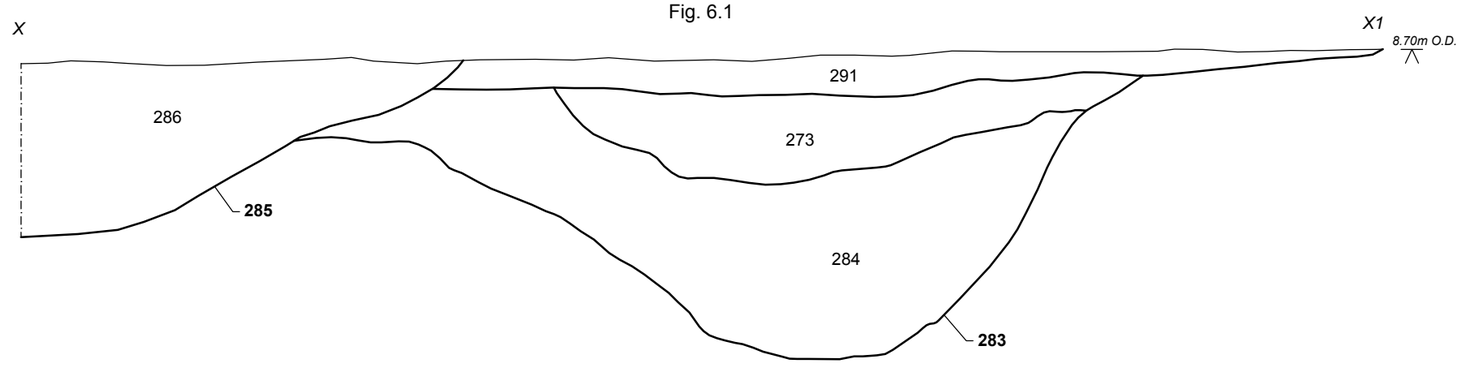

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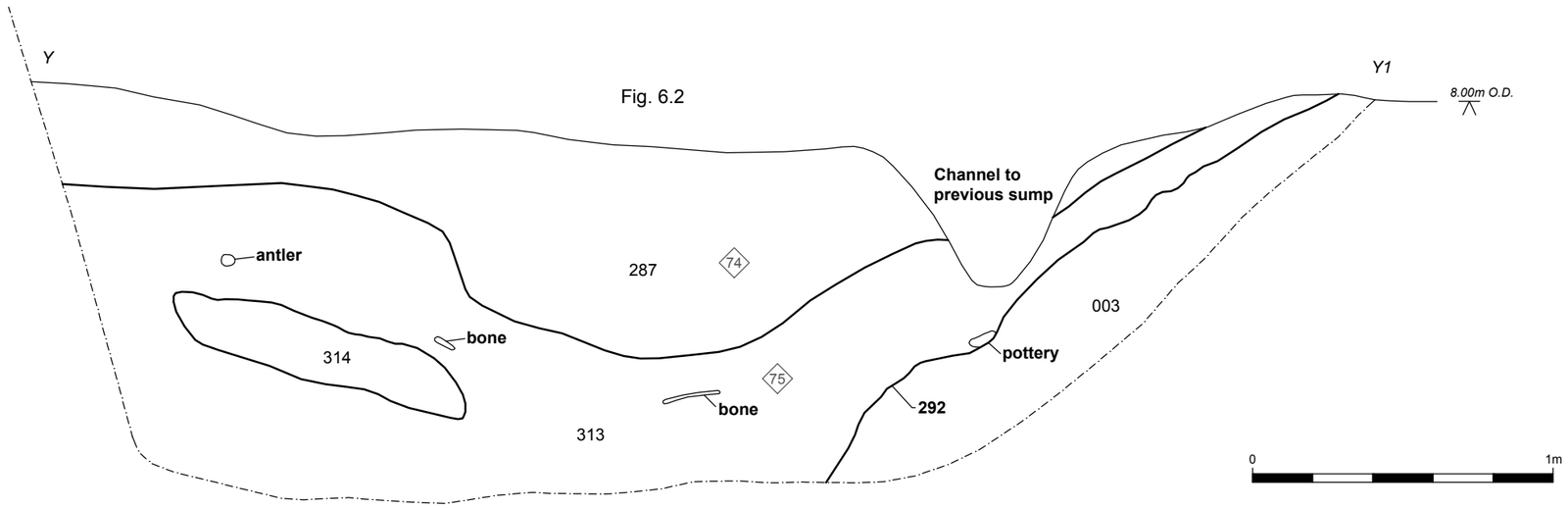

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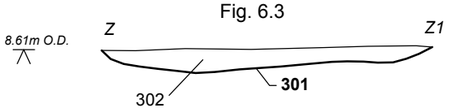

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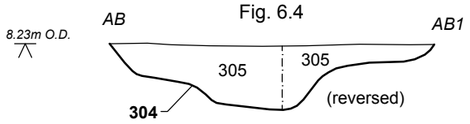

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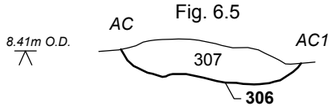

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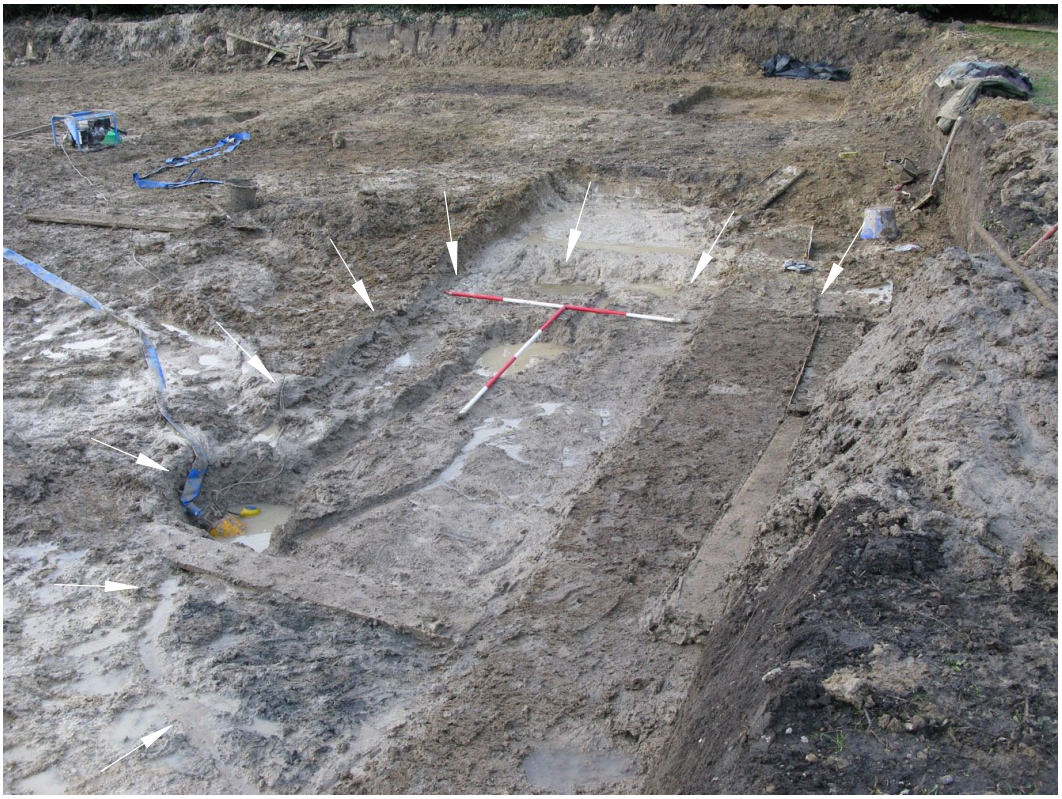

Fig. 7 - Shot of feature 292 prior to machine excavation, taken from the SE

Fig. 8 - Section of machine dug slot through feature 292, taken from the NW

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MK040/16		7-8

Fig. 9 - Photo of skeletons (114-116) cut by pit 110, taken from the S

Fig. 10 - Skeletons (114-116), taken from the E

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MK040/16		9-10

Fig. 11 - Pendants and bead found with ribs on Sk2 (114)

Fig. 12 - Southern slot across ditch 057 (275), taken from the SE

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MK040/16		11-12

Fig. 13 - Middle slot across ditch 057 (283) with post hole alignment 243 above, taken from the S

Fig. 14 - Southern slot across ditch 127 (165), taken from the S

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MK040/16		13-14

Fig. 15 - General shot of slots across 032, taken from the NE

Fig. 16 - Pre-ex shot of post hole alignment 319, taken from the S

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Report No:		Fig. No:
MK040/16		15-16

Fig. 17 - Photo of slot along gully 104 (100), taken from the N

Fig. 18 - Photo of slot across gully 092 (086), taken from the E

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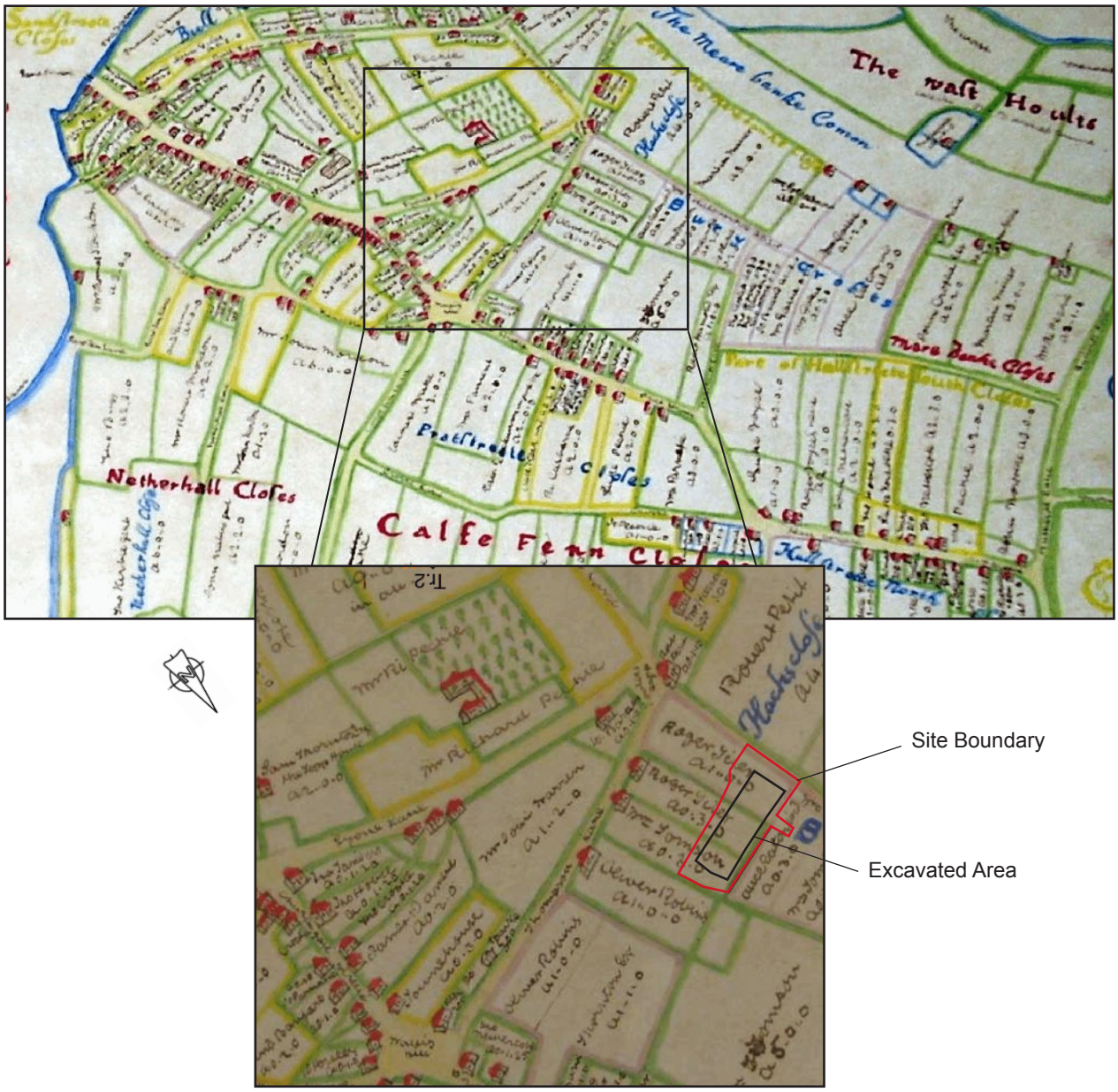

Fig. 19 - 1656 Soham and Fordham manor map,
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Report No:		Fig. No:
MK040/16		19

Fig. 20 - Modified Iron Age bone fragments. From left to right: eagle distal phalanx, probable medium mammal rib, female pig canine

Fig. 21 - Modified bone fragments on display in the National Museum of Scotland. claw amulets from Skara Brae and Jarlshof (photo: Matt Law)

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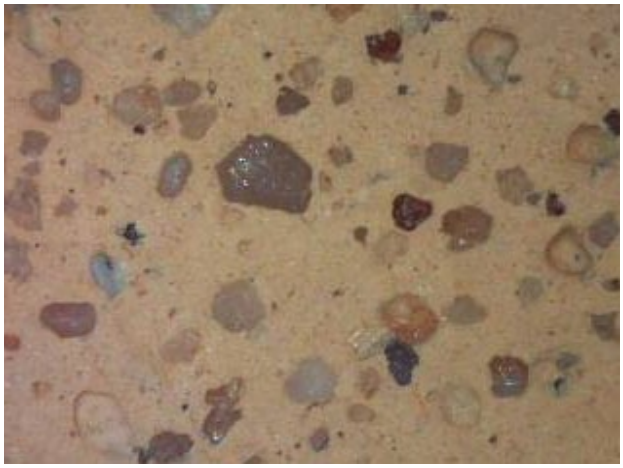

Fig. 22 - Close up photograph of the SEFEN fabric
(Vince, A. 2008)

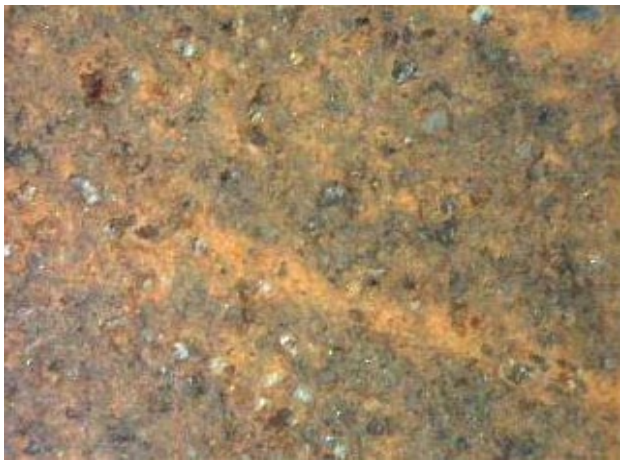

Fig. 23 - Close up photograph of the MICFS fabric
(Vince, A. 2008)

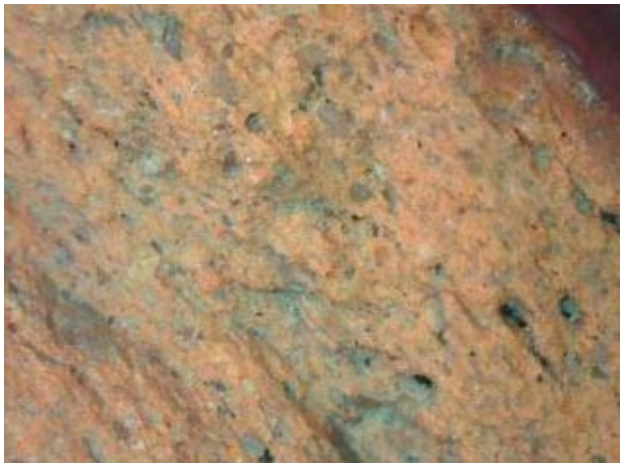

Fig. 24 - Close up photograph of one of the PMRE fabrics
(Vince, A. 2008)

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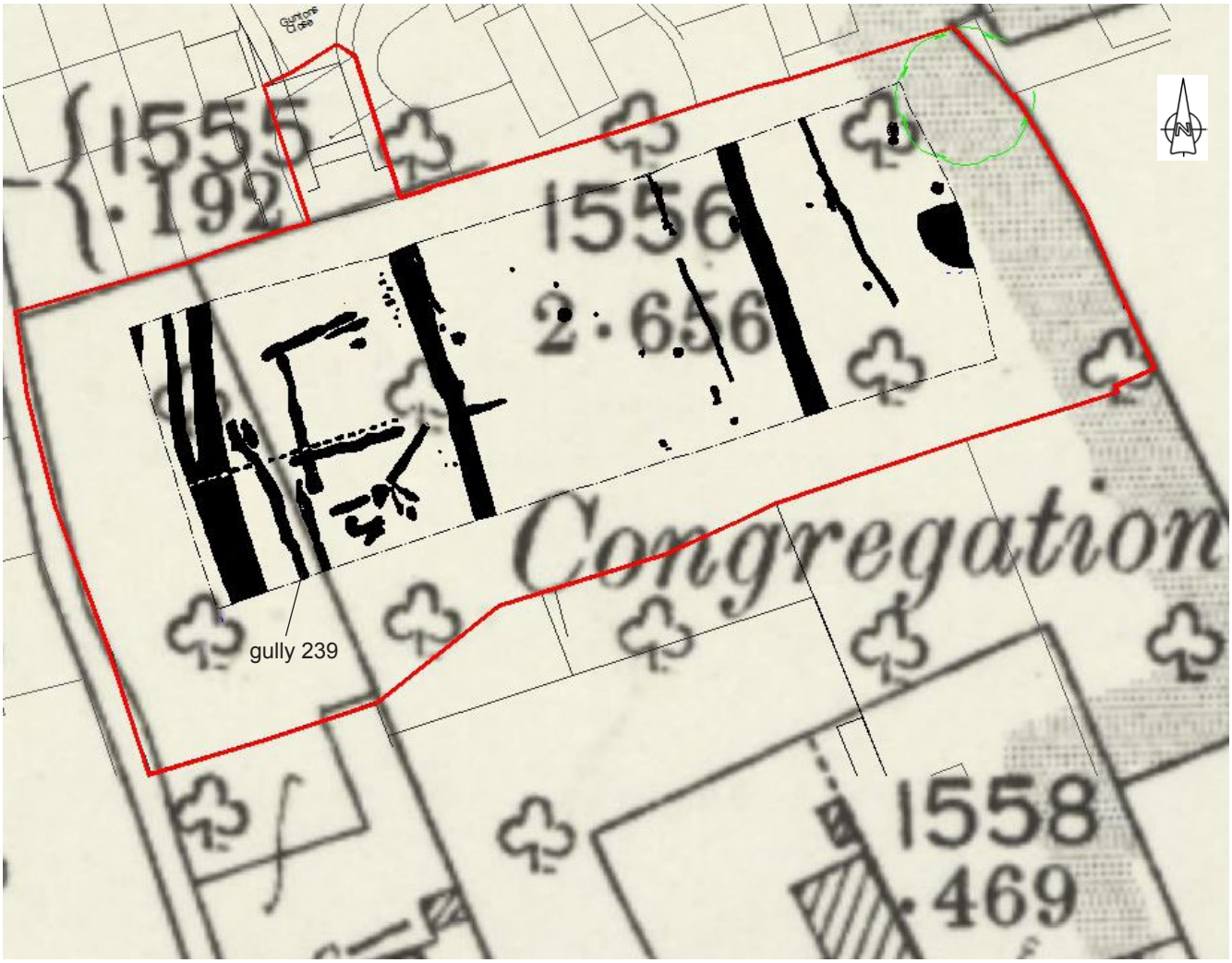

Fig. 25 - The 1902 25 inch OS map (Cambridgeshire XXX.16, Revised: 1901, Published:1902) and excavated features, not to scale

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