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## Fieldwork in Cambridgeshire 2010

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The work outlined below was conducted for a variety of reasons, including development control derived projects, emergency recording and research. All reports cited are available in the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record, Cambridge, for public consultation. Many of the reports are available in digital format from:

The Grey Literature Library at the Archaeology Data Service

<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>

Heritage Gateway

<http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>

Reference numbers for Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Listed Buildings are taken from the National Heritage List for England

<http://list.english-heritage.org.uk>

### *Abbreviations*

ALBION Albion Archaeology

ALL Allen Archaeology

AOC AOC Archaeology Group

APS Archaeological Project Services

ASC Archaeological Services and Consultancy

AS Archaeological Solutions

BUFAU Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit

CgMs CgMs Consulting

CAP Cambrian Archaeological Projects

CAU Cambridge Archaeological Unit

ECC FAU Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit

HN Heritage Network

NAU NAU Archaeology

NPA North Pennines Archaeology

NHA Northamptonshire Archaeology

OA East Oxford Archaeology East

WITHAM Witham Archaeology

### *Barrington, Orwell Road*

TL 3864 4968 (CAU report 917)

S Hogan

An archaeological evaluation prior to development revealed evidence of 19th century quarrying in Hooper's Field, north of Barrington village.

### *Babraham, Rowley Lane*

TL 4952 5142 (CAU report 962)

A Slater and S Timberlake

A series of test pits were excavated within the footprint of a proposed ford and access road through the River Granta at Babraham. A Romano-British riverside track or riverbank consolidation deposit was identified as well as a full alluvial and colluvial sequence for the formation of the site.

### *Bassingbourn cum Kneesworth, Kneesworth House Hospital*

TL 3499 4413 (AOC report 30595)

C Edwards

Further to evaluation in 2009, an archaeological excavation was carried out revealing a ring of postholes, a group of small pits and a large line of postholes, possibly forming a palisade-like structure of probable prehistoric date. A possible Roman field system and evidence of animal husbandry were also encountered along with episodes of chalk quarrying within a large enclosure. Medieval features included a series of quarry pits and a possible rectilinear structure. The most notable post medieval feature excavated was a large curvilinear feature interpreted as remains of the ornamental lake dating from the building's previous usage as a country house by Lord Knutsford and his family.

### *Bottisham, Bendyshe Farm, High Street*

TL 5441 6042 (CgMs Consulting report GLA-032)

R Lewis

The farm buildings stand within the former cartilage of Bendyshe Farm, although now divorced from the main property with which they were historically associated. They form a linear range of narrow structures adjacent to the northern site boundary, and comprise an open-fronted cart shed, two brick stables

and a further structure of similar brick construction at the eastern end, arranged at 90 degrees to the main range. The structures, all single storey, are constructed of cream coloured Cambridgeshire bricks laid in Flemish bond. The roofs are for the most part covered with Welsh slate and the cart shed with cream pantiles. Apart from the eastern building, which is in separate ownership, all of the buildings were unused and in poor condition. The range is typical of a mid 19th century range of stable buildings.

***Buckden, 21 High Street***

TL 1906 6743 (AS report 3678)

G Barlow

An archaeological evaluation comprising two trial trenches totalling 20m revealed modern and undated features, including furrows, pits, postholes and a gully. Artefacts recovered from the fill of the gully included fragments of clay pipe, glass and a small iron fragment, all of post medieval date.

***Burwell, 118 Low Road***

TL 5851 6668 (CAU report 926)

M Collins

During archaeological evaluation of the site at Low Road, Burwell, the foundations of a 19th–20th century wall were located. Artefacts recovered included a quantity of 19th–20th century items such as a shovel head and a door knocker. The site was heavily disturbed during the 19th and 20th centuries, evidenced by a thin topsoil layer across much of the site. The lack of a subsoil suggests it may have been stripped down to the underlying chalk during the modern period and also account for the lack of earlier features or artefacts despite the proximity to the area of known activity at Parsonage Farm to the south.

***Burwell, Adventurers' Fen***

TL 5640 6901 to TL 5568 6781 (APS report 55/10)

M Peachey

An evaluation consisting of eleven trenches revealed a palaeochannel, a possible buried soil and several probable ancient tree throws, sealed by peat, two of which contained Neolithic flint flakes. Several marling trenches of 20th century date were also revealed. Finds consisted of Neolithic flint flakes and modern material. A subsequent monitoring and recording investigation involved excavating a further trench adjacent to trench 6 and extensions to both ends of trench 11; however no further flints were retrieved. The environmental evidence collected subsequently indicated past marsh, open water and wooded environments.

***Burwell, Burwell Fen Hundred Acres***

TL 554 686 (APS report 96/10)

M Peachey

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Burwell Fen Hundred Acres in order to assess the impact upon archaeological remains of development undertaken as part of the Wicken Fen Vision Strategy. Comprising 19 trenches, the evaluation stage revealed a Mesolithic flint scatter suggestive of a short episode

of flint working by a mobile population, involving repair and maintenance of hunting equipment. The scatter reflects previous evidence of a prehistoric presence on the low sand and gravel knolls in the vicinity, lying close to a large palaeochannel, a tributary of the River Cam. A further undated palaeochannel was also revealed. Several undated tree throws were identified while part of a late post medieval to early modern drainage system was also revealed. A mitigation phase comprising a programme of excavation, test pitting and sieving for artefacts was also undertaken, revealing further struck flints of Mesolithic date, animal bone and late medieval to post medieval ceramic building material.

***Cambridge, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge Centre for Applied Learning***

TL 4324 6041 (CAU report 977)

S Timberlake

An archaeological excavation was carried out at Addenbrooke's Hospital in advance of the construction of the new Cambridge Centre for Applied Learning (CCAL) building. This examination of the site involved the re-exposure of the Iron Age enclosure ditch first dug by Mary Cra'ster in 1967. A well preserved 12m section of this ditch and part of the north-western corner of this enclosure were exposed. The location of this feature would appear to confirm the accuracy of Cra'ster's survey and also her plotted projection of this enclosure. At the same time it was possible to re-examine one of the original 1967 excavation trenches. Further evidence relating to the density and distribution of artefacts, the sequence of ditch construction and infilling, plus new evidence of a re-cut were found, which may correlate with re-occupation or re-use of this enclosure during the Middle-Late Iron Age. Further examination of the ditch fill accumulation suggests this site may well have been a banked enclosure surrounded by a ditch.

***Cambridge, Botanic House***

TL 4576 5730 (CAU report 973)

M Collins

Phase one of an archaeological evaluation; prior to the redevelopment of the site of Botanic House was undertaken in May 2010. Of four test pits excavated, two exposed Victorian basements.

***Cambridge, CB1 development, Hills Road***

TL 4597 5706 (CAU report 933)

A Slater

A small archaeological evaluation was undertaken and identified a low density of prehistoric activity, as well as Romano-British and medieval quarrying, medieval and post medieval agricultural practices and 19th century industrial activity.

***Cambridge, Jesus College***

TL 4523 5890 (CAU report 991)

R Newman, D Webb, C Evans and DAH Richmond  
Archaeological monitoring was undertaken during refurbishment works within the former eastern

claustral range of the Benedictine Nunnery of St Mary and St Rhadegund and externally across the western portion of Chapel Court at Jesus College, Cambridge. Although limited in scale, the investigations contributed new information with regard to the original architectural form of the northern end of the range (formerly the nuns' dayroom). The lower portions of two *in situ* wall shafts – which appear to have comprised part of a colonnade or a wider scheme of arcading / vaulting were revealed. Further to the south, partial elevations of the extant medieval fabric of the chapter house and sacristy/vestry, previously recorded in 1995, were also re-examined. During the course of the external service works, the southern wall of the demolished east end of the chapter house was identified, and the remnants of an ancillary timber-framed structure of probable monastic date uncovered. Finally, deposits associated with the late 15th century conversion of the nunnery for collegiate use along with three 17th century refuse pits were encountered.

**Cambridge, 30 Long Road**

TL 4617 5549 (CAU report 965)

L James

An open area excavation was undertaken at 30 Long Road, north of a series of previous archaeological investigations which revealed Iron Age and Romano-British enclosures and field systems. A single linear feature that followed the same alignment as the Late Iron Age/early Roman features from the previous excavations was encountered.

**Cambridge, Clay Farm House, Long Road**

TL 4500 5564 (CAU report 945)

M Collins

Evaluation carried out in advance of the construction of six dwellings found a single modern linear ditch feature containing the articulated remains of a cow, but no earlier archaeological activity.

**Cambridge, Harris Road**

TL 4476 6054 (OA East reports 1167 and 1181)

J Fairbairn and J House

Two slots were excavated across a Bronze Age ditch which probably formed part of a much larger enclosure. The ditch fills were dated both by pottery and the radiocarbon dating of a Bos tibia fragment to a calibrated date of 1460–1260 BC 95.4% probability (SUERC 29309:1360±100 BP). No other features of this period are known in the immediate vicinity.

**Cambridge, High Cross (Newnham Ward)**

TL 4252 5894 (CAU report 942)

S Timberlake and C Evans

An open-area excavation was undertaken in late 2009 – early 2010 on University land at the High Cross Site, West Cambridge. This excavation was undertaken prior to the development of these plots, which lay to the south of Charles Babbage Road; the latter to include the building of a University Sports Centre, accommodation and car parking facilities. Signs of Early Iron Age occupation including a substantial

Iron Age ditch, a number of Middle Iron Age pits and evidence of metalworking plus a large number of quern stones, Mesolithic/ Neolithic pits and a Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age rubbish pit and pit/well were revealed. A field system likely of Roman date was also identified.

**Cambridge, Parkside Fire and Rescue Station**

TL 4569 5828 (CAU report 955)

R Newman

A single test pit excavated in the car park of the Parkside Fire and Rescue station during its redevelopment revealed a relatively well preserved archaeological sequence, at the base of which a large quarry pit of medieval or earlier date was identified. This was overlain by ploughsoil containing post medieval material, which was in turn sealed beneath the remnants of a 19th century formal garden. The sequence was capped by modern overburden including material derived from the demolition of a prestigious 19th century villa that occupied the site prior to the Fire and Rescue Station.

**Cambridge, Former Regional College Site**

TL46045894 (OA East report 1159)

R Atkins

Evaluation including test pits at the former Regional College Site identified medieval cultivation soil containing a mixture of 12th–13th century refuse near the river which could possibly have been derived from middens associated with Barnwell Priory. Residual Neolithic worked flint was also recovered. Five late post medieval quarry pits were located to the north-east of the site, and a possible World War II air raid shelter was identified in the northern part of the site.

**Cambridge, 7 Severn Place**

TL46035860 (AS reports 1318 and 3576)

L Smith; P Thompson

An historical building appraisal and a trial trench evaluation were undertaken in advance of development prior to the demolition of a World War II Nissen hut. The structure was in good condition and a robust example of the Nissen hut construction technique of brick encased in semi-circular metal framework. The original interior fixtures and fittings had been removed to make way for its modern use as a garage. The trial trench evaluation revealed modern features including a wall and two post pads. The features may relate to a late 19th/early 20th century building which existed prior to the Nissen hut.

**Glebe Farm, Cambridge**

TL 4445 5401 (CAU report 1002)

M Collins

Two adjacent areas at Glebe Farm, located south of Trumpington on the outskirts of Cambridge, were subject to archaeological excavation prior to residential development. Both areas and the surrounding landscape had been subject to evaluation as part of wider scheme of works in 2005. The excavations revealed a dispersed scatter of features including a small group

of Early Neolithic pits, postholes and utilised tree throws, Early and Middle Iron Age pits and a continuation of a previously identified Early-Middle Iron Age boundary ditch system were also found. Also present were an undated ring-gully with a central inhumation, and a further, smaller, undated ring-gully with a central posthole. The Early Neolithic cluster of features, together with other scattered pits probably represent episodic, temporary/seasonal occupation of the area, although the size of the recovered pottery and flint assemblages (two pits, circular in plan with near vertical sides, contained 178 sherds of pottery and 187 worked flints between them) from such a relatively small number of features is significant.

**Cambridge, Great Eastern House, Station Road**

TL 5460 2573 (CAU report 979)

A Slater

A small evaluation and a watching brief of geotechnical investigations were undertaken concurrently, on land to the north of Great Eastern House at the corner of Station Road and Tenison Road, Cambridge. Trenching identified a post medieval agricultural soil horizon along with a full sequence of late 19th and early 20th century railway activity.

**Cambridge, 103 High Street, Trumpington**

TL 4460 5477 (CAU report 920)

M Collins

Two trenches and four test pits excavated in the grounds revealed two late 19th or early 20th century wells and a modern rubbish pit. A small quantity of Victorian and modern finds were also recovered from within the topsoil and subsoil.

**Cambridge, Little St Mary's Church, Trumpington Street**

TL 4482 5797 (OA East report 1156)

T Fletcher

A watching brief found human skeletal remains from burials disturbed by later activities within the churchyard. The remains were collected, bagged and returned to the church for appropriate reburial. Two brick-lined graves with vaulted brick tops were revealed, both being aligned northwest to southeast and less than 1m apart: both were broken open by the contractors to establish the date, content and depth of the features. Brickwork encountered above one tomb during machining suggests that there may have been a large grave marker or table tomb located above it, perhaps on a brick plinth. To the immediate west lies a repositioned table tomb which appears to have been moved when the extension to the Vestry was added in the 1990s. It seems probable that the names listed on the tomb top relate to those buried within the investigated tomb: Ann Watts (d. 1804), William Haughton (d. 1807), Elizabeth Haughton (d. 1819), William Watts (d. 1814) and Mary Watts (d. 1857).

**Cambridge, Veterinary School, Madingley Road**

TL 4280 5917 (CAU report 948)

J Hutton

Trial trenching produced evidence of furrows aligned north-south in the northern portion of the site which correlate with cropmarks of medieval ridge and furrow further north. These furrows lie in an area called "Le long furlong in le clay" as depicted on the Corpus Terrier (or *Terrarium Cantabrigiae*) compiled c. 1360.

**Cambridge, 5 Wellington Court**

TL 4602 5875 (AS report 3536)

G Barlow, P Thompson and C Davies

An archaeological evaluation prior to development identified the remains of a 19th century building including a herringbone brick tile floor along with modern rubbish pits. Fragments of post medieval clay pipe and 19th century pottery and glass were recovered. Large fragments of three 'Codd' bottles from the nearby Star Brewery were recovered, the largest fragment clearly displaying the embossed trading motif of the brewery, a five pointed star.

**Cambridge, Whittle Jet Propulsion Laboratories**

TL 54315 25905 (CAU report 939)

A Slater

Evaluation trenching and small open area excavation was undertaken prior to redevelopment. A Romano-British enclosure/ boundary ditch as well as post medieval brick manufacturing/ dump site and post medieval field boundaries were excavated.

**Caxton, Caxton Hall**

TL 3009 5830 (OA East report 1229)

T Fletcher

Excavation in advance of development revealed a shallow north-west to south-east orientated ditch. Pottery from its fill dates to the 12th-14th centuries.

**Chatteris, Furrowfields**

TL 3947 8657 (OA East report 1195)

T Fletcher

This site lay within the Furrowfields playing ground which is an area of significant surviving ridge and furrow. The evaluation was conducted with pupils from Cromwell Community College who assisted in the excavation of test pits. Children from nearby Kingsfield Primary School visited the excavations and took part in activities throughout the day. An archaeologist also visited classrooms, providing lessons about archaeology and opportunities to handle artefacts.

**Cottenham, 1 Oakington Road**

TL 4457 6708 (OA East reports 1193 and 1206)

J Fairbairn

Excavation revealed a wide shallow ditch and possible associated bank, both of which may date to the medieval period. These features perhaps relate to the nearby manor of Burdeleys, later called Harlestons.

**Cottenham, Girton and Great Shelford HEFA Test pits**

Cottenham, Girton and Great Shelford

A series of test pits were excavated in Cottenham, Girton and Great Shelford in 2010 by school chil-

dren, teachers and members of the general public as part of the University of Cambridge Archaeology Department Higher Education Field Academies Programme. Pottery sherds dating from the Roman to post medieval periods were recorded.

**Covington, 13 Church Lane**

TL 0544 7086 (ALBION report 2010/13)

D Ingham

Prior to residential development, an evaluation consisting of two 5m-long trenches revealed a medieval or post medieval furrow containing a small quantity of animal bone and two sherds of abraded late medieval or early post medieval roof tile.

**Coveney, Ouse Washes**

TL 4500 8390 (OA East report 1236)

C Heisterman

A watching brief took place on geotechnical boreholes and test pits associated with a 200ha Habitat Creation Scheme adjacent to the Ouse Washes, near Coveney. The purpose of the work was to provide base-line data regarding the character, extent and archaeological potential of the alluvial and peat stratigraphy that may be affected by the Scheme. The sedimentary sequences recorded broadly comprised a relatively shallow Holocene peat of probable Bronze Age and later date, overlying a complex sequence of late Devensian deposits. Although no archaeological features or artefacts were observed, a number of archaeological sites are known to be present within the Study Area and in the immediate vicinity. These include artefact scatters of Mesolithic and Neolithic date, probably associated with a relict dryland ground surface at the interface between the peat and late Devensian deposits. In the interventions observed, this interface lies on average within 0.5m and 1.0m below the current ground surface, although it locally reaches depths of up to 1.45m.

**Doddington, 50 Benwick Road**

TL 3957 9087 (AS report 3679)

M Adams

Prior to development of the site for a new cemetery and associated access and parking, an archaeological evaluation consisting of four trial trenches was undertaken. An undated gully and a ditch tentatively dated to the medieval period by pottery dating to 13th–15th centuries were recorded.

**Ellington, Woolley Hill Wind Farm**

TL 1575 7301 (NA report 10/172)

J Burke and A Yates

A trial trench evaluation was undertaken on land at Woolley Hill, Ellington in advance of a proposed wind farm development. Archaeological remains were discovered in three of the nineteen trenches excavated. Part of an Iron Age square enclosure was identified on the lower lying land. On the crest of the ridge above an area of Middle Iron Age to Late Iron Age/early Roman settlement was present. Remnant furrows from areas of former medieval cultivation were seen.

**Elm, land at Waldersea House, Friday Bridge**

TF 45329 04122 (ALL report 2010055)

M Allen, C Clay and K Trott

An archaeological evaluation by trial trenching was undertaken within the former gardens of Waldersea House prior to development in Friday Bridge. The site was situated in an area where aerial photography has identified an extensive complex of cropmarks indicating field systems, watercourses, trackways and settlements. The evaluation and excavation works exposed a large natural palaeochannel aligned broadly west-north-west to east-south-east, through the southern part of the site, which influenced the layout of the medieval and later landscape in the area. The earliest activity was represented by a small group of residual 2nd century AD Roman pottery, probably from a disturbed feature or deposit of Roman date. Medieval features interpreted as possible animal water troughs of 12th to 14th century date were excavated in the eastern half of the proposed building footprint. Towards the north end of the site were two medieval boundary ditches, of 12th to 14th century date and 14th to 16th century date, both running parallel to the natural channel. The natural channel had silted up by the late 18th/early 19th century, and was recut by a wide shallow drainage dyke. Historic maps of the area show that this was disused and replaced by an orchard, which was also used for the burial of household waste and farm animals well into the 20th century.

**Ely, Carey Close**

TL 5507 8133 (OA East report 1183)

R Atkins

Evaluation found sparse shallow ditches, probably forming part of a field system belonging to a known Middle Iron Age to Late Roman settlement just to the north of the subject site. A single sherd of Roman pottery came from one of the ditches. Two pits lying close to a stream flowing along the western boundary of the site contained large quantities of shattered burnt flint and sandstone pieces, along with fired clay and debitage flint flakes. These features were probably pre-Roman and may relate to cooking, a sauna or the production of temper for pottery manufacture.

**Ely, Walsingham Way**

TL 5318 8061 (CAU reports 927 and 993)

J Hutton and A Slater

G Appleby

Evaluation was undertaken at the corner of West Fen Road and Walsingham Way prior to demolition and proposed development. Archaeological features were recorded in all of the trenches representing a multi-phased occupational site that correlates with the previously excavated adjacent Ashwell Site. The main focus of activity spans from the Saxon period, through to the 14th century with a prehistoric background presence; the archaeological features consisted of linear features, pits, postholes, a metallised surface and evidence of a buried soil.

Following on from the evaluation, further excavation revealed that the density of archaeological ac-

tivity known to the west of the site, extended to the east, providing further evidence for the Saxon and medieval settlement in the area. The earliest activity was represented by a single prehistoric or Romano-British boundary ditch. A very low quantity of residual Romano-British material culture indicated the presence of Roman-British activity near to the site. A strong Middle Saxon presence was identified with an organised system of land/property division aligned with a probable road/droeway. Reorganisation was evident during the Late Saxon/Conquest period with a notable re-alignment of boundary ditches respecting the alignment of the modern West Fen Road, with distinct properties and structural elements contained within the boundaries. Evidence of later, medieval occupation comprising house platforms and quarry pits was also identified as well as a continuation of boundary alignments up to the post medieval period.

***Fen Ditton, 66-74 Ditton Walk***

TL 4742 5957 (AS report 3548)

W McCall and P Thompson

An evaluation undertaken in advance of residential development on land occupying the rear gardens of houses 66 to 74 Ditton Walk revealed 31 postholes or stake holes in Trench 2. Their form and associated finds indicated a relatively modern date. An isolated, undated posthole was located in Trench 1. The nearby terraced houses were constructed on the site by 1903 and the site was fully developed between c. 1930 and 1950. The postholes and stakeholes revealed in Trench 2 correspond with the boundary depicted on the OS map of 1903, and the evidence suggests that they were regularly renewed by successive rows of standing posts.

***Godmanchester, Wood Green Animal Shelter, London Road***

TL 2619 6847 (AS report 3714)

P Thompson and L Smith

An archaeological trial trench evaluation at Wood Green Animal Shelter revealed nine features comprising two wall foundations, two possible ponds, three gullies and two ditches. The alignments of the linear features did not respect the modern site boundaries or those recorded on the cartographic sources dating back to 1885. The wall foundations could not be confidently dated however they may represent the remains of out-buildings relating to the adjacent King's Bush Farm. It is also possible that the ponds may be associated with the Farm too.

***Haslingfield, 30 New Road***

TL 4085 5249 (OA East report 1235)

R Atkins

Evaluation identified part of an Iron Age and early Roman farmstead. Elements of a droeway and adjacent fields were found, with two small structures lying in the fields. Related domestic occupation evidently lay beyond the site to the west. Moderate quantities of pottery, animal bone and other items were found, including a Late Iron Age coin and a copper alloy bead.

The site was re-occupied in the Late Saxon period and settlement continued into the medieval period with backplot features of former house(s) fronting onto New Road. Stone structures were present during the late medieval or early post medieval period. From at least 1665 most of the land within the excavation area was owned by Trinity College, Cambridge and was recorded as a farm. In 1928 the college sold the farm to its present owners, the Watson family.

***Haslingfield, Cantalupe Farm***

TL 4189 5440 (ALBION report 2010/90)

B Barker

An archaeological evaluation of an electricity cable trench diversion comprising a total of 280 metres of trenching identified archaeological features associated with a nearby Late Iron Age/Roman settlement complex. The majority of these correspond with cropmarks identified in an earlier aerial photographic study, although additional ditches and some possible pits and a posthole were also identified. The only dating evidence was six sherds of Early-Middle Iron Age pottery, although it is assumed that the majority of the features were Late Iron Age in date.

***Hauxton, 33 High Street***

TL 4424 5209 (NAU report 2474a)

P Crawley

Further to geophysical survey undertaken by North Pennines Archaeology in 2009, NAU Archaeology conducted an evaluation and further excavation in 2010 on land adjacent to 33 High Street, Hauxton. The development plot was situated on the north side of the High Street surrounded by extensive cropmark complexes thought to represent activity from the prehistoric to Roman period. Five trenches were excavated during the evaluation phase which revealed several irregular gullies, ditches and a collection of shallow pits. The excavation results consisted of additional linear features and shallow pits. The western half of the site contained two wide ditches previously noted during the evaluation which were of possible Iron Age and medieval date. A curving ditch at the north end of the site may also have been of Iron Age date. There were a further two small gullies of unknown date in the centre of the site. To the east were a large number of probable quarry pits, which may have been of medieval or later date (They had also been observed during the evaluation and medieval sandy ware was found within one of the fills during the evaluation). One sherd of Iron Age pottery and 17 sherds of Later Iron Age/Roman pottery were found during the excavation.

***Hemingford Grey, Galley Hill Farm***

TL 300 690 (CAU report 985)

J Hutton

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Galley Hill Farm revealing archaeological remains that consisted of two phases of post medieval quarrying. The first concentration was to the north-west of the investigation area and consisted of strip quarry

trenches, whilst the remaining bulk of the features related to a more extensive quarry of more recent date.

***Hemingford Grey, 19 The Thorpe***

TL 2885 7027 (AS report 3632)

M Adams

Archaeological trial trench evaluation in advance of residential development found a dense concentration of medieval features on the western side of the site including ditches, gullies, pits and a possible boundary ditch; dated by pottery to the 12th–4th century AD.

***Horningsea, Eye Hall Farm***

TL 499 636 (CAU report 953)

K Anderson

A series of ditches dating from the medieval to post medieval period were recorded during archaeological evaluation. Two of the ditches formed an enclosure. A small quantity of medieval pottery was recovered, alongside a small assemblage of animal bone. Despite the location of the site in close proximity to the well established area of Roman pottery production, no evidence for this was encountered.

***Linton, Village College***

TL 5565 4696 (OA East report 1209)

N Gilmour

A further phase of archaeological excavation and watching briefs took place at Linton Village College, revealing activity of prehistoric to post medieval date. A later Neolithic pit containing grooved ware pottery and substantial quantities of flint was found, along with probable Early Bronze Age ring ditch. Iron Age field boundary ditches and two pits containing burnt stone were also identified. A series of Roman ditches and several structural features were recorded, along with the burial of a neonate. A post medieval brick built building had a rammed chalk floor. These finds add to those identified in previous phases of work in 2004–5 and 2008, producing a more complete picture of past land use in Linton.

***Little Paxton, Riversfield***

TL 1814 6191 (ALBION report 2010/30)

D Ingham

Following a geophysical survey in 2009, an evaluation was undertaken comprising twenty trenches. A moderate concentration of pits, ditches and possible postholes was identified in the southern half of the site. The features could not confidently be dated due to paucity of artefactual evidence; however they are most probably of prehistoric date.

***Littleport, 1 Grange Lane***

TL 5620 8592 (APS report 102/10)

V Mellor

An archaeological evaluation in advance of development comprising 110 metres of trenching revealed prehistoric buried soil layers to the north of the site along with almost 100 sherds of Iron Age pottery, animal bone and a small collection of other finds. A single linear ditch feature was of probable Iron Age date

but this could not be confirmed by material evidence. Several undated features were identified to the south east of the site. Numerous 19th and 20th century refuse pits were also recorded in the north of the site.

***Littleport, 40–42 Wisbech Road***

TL 5649 8717 (APS report 129/09)

A Failes

Archaeological evaluation in advance of proposed development identified evidence for a body of water at the northern end of the site and a scatter of burnt stone near the water's edge. An ovoid or 'egg' shaped feature close to the burnt deposit contained a small amount of fire debris. A single sherd of Roman pottery was recovered.

***Lode, Anglesey Abbey***

TL 529 622 (OA East report 1158)

T Fletcher

Investigations took place within the dining room at Anglesey Abbey House, which was converted from the remains of an Augustinian Priory. The present dining room lies in the medieval undercroft, the vaulting for which is supported on two pillars. In recent years some spalling of these pillars has been observed which may be caused by rising damp. The purpose of the archaeological work was to help identify the cause of spalling which may result from a raised water table. Excavation only proved possible to a depth of 0.60m, since space was restricted once the original 13th century foundations were encountered and exposed. Subsequently, a hand-operated auger was used to bore into the soils for a further 0.40m. The water table was not encountered and no other evidence for the cause of the spalling was identified.

***Longstanton, Phase 3, Field 11***

TL 3919 6733 (BUFAU report 2069)

B Burrows

Following geophysical survey that confirmed the presence of archaeological features, further evaluation was undertaken prior to residential development at Longstanton (phase 3/ field 11). The evaluation provided evidence for archaeological remains dating from the Neolithic through to the post medieval period. Isolated features containing both Neolithic and Bronze Age pottery were uncovered and the upper fill of a crouched inhumation contained several sherds of Bronze Age pottery. Flints tools reminiscent of the Neolithic or possibly Mesolithic periods were also recovered from the site and although these finds may be residual they do serve to highlight the continued occupation or use of the site perhaps from the Neolithic period. Sections through the enclosure ditch visible on the geophysics results were excavated and pottery retrieved indicated Middle to Late Iron Age date. Several gullies were excavated, possibly representing internal divisions, perhaps defining space within the enclosure, demarcating stock boundaries from human habitation. However, they may be evidence for settlement along the gravel ridge which predates the enclosure. A previous excavation to the immediate east

of the site established the presence of a second enclosure dated to the Romano-British period, the south-west corner of which can be seen on the geophysics slightly overlapping with the Iron Age enclosure. The site therefore provides evidence for an apparent transition from one area to another during the Late Iron Age to Romano-British period. The evaluation illustrated that the site was reoccupied during the Late Saxon period. The geophysical survey exposed a network of linear features on the east side of the site generally aligned northwest-southeast and northeast-southwest. The ditches and gullies which were excavated may have represented the layout of Saxon field systems which are directly comparable to a Saxon field system recorded during excavations to the south of the site. With the exception of the plough furrows, the evidence relating to the medieval period was entirely confined to the southern area of the site, in the lower lying ground. A number of northeast-southwest aligned linear features proved to represent a series of ditches and plough furrows. The finds retrieved from these features indicated that the southern area of the site had been utilised for agricultural activity during the medieval period.

***Manea, 10-12 School Road***

TL 4780 8970 (NAU report 2496)

PE Crawley

Five trenches were excavated ahead of proposed residential development revealing several boundary ditches, gullies and pits; all of post medieval date.

***Manea, land west of 28 School Lane***

TL 4753 8996 (OA East report 1190)

J House

Two trenches opened during archaeological evaluation revealed ditches of post medieval date most likely to represent boundary ditches or be associated with drainage. Post medieval pottery was found in all of the ditches.

***March, 122-124 Creek Road***

TL 4207 9715 (NHA report 10/128)

T Upson-Smith

A single 10m long trial trench was excavated prior to development on the site. The evaluation identified an undated ditch and a late 19th century brick-lined sump, probably for a two-hole toilet.

***March, land south of Eastwood Cemetery***

TL 422 958 (APS report 74\10)

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land to the south of Eastwood Cemetery in advance of a proposed cemetery extension revealing a series of parallel ditches forming field boundaries and drains relating to previous agricultural use of the land.

***March, The Hundred***

TL 4075 9848 (OA East report 1180)

C Thatcher

Excavation uncovered the remains of a Bronze Age cemetery with an associated pyre structure, appar-

ently centered on a well or springhead. This was truncated by Middle Iron Age activity that included the excavation of a series of large watering holes. One of the earliest phases of this sequence was revetted with wattle paneling. The pollen samples taken from the watering holes revealed a changing floral sequence during the Middle to Late Iron Age with episodes of cultivation followed by periods of relative inactivity. A Roman phase of occupation was also recorded that suggested the site lay in the agricultural hinterland of a nearby settlement dating to the 1st and 2nd centuries AD.

***March, Neale Wade Community College***

TL 4164 9524 (OA East report 1186)

A Pickstone

Excavation uncovered evidence of a series of Late Bronze Age wells dug into a modified natural hollow and a single possible Iron Age ditch. Preserved timber and an antler pick were recovered from the wells along with rich environmental samples. Three phases of medieval activity were identified dating from the mid-12th to mid-16th centuries. Preliminary results suggest a series of boundary ditches with small internal sub-divisions with a later phase of large and perhaps industrial pits dug along the largest of the boundary ditches.

***March, Neale-Wade Community College, Eastwood House***

TL 4164 9524 (OA East report 1199)

T Fletcher

An historic building survey at Eastwood House, part of the Neale-Wade Community College, formed part of an ongoing series of archaeological investigations which are expected to continue into 2011. Two main phases of development were identified: construction of the original Eastwood House in the mid-19th century and internal and external alterations during the 1950s when redeveloped to accommodate March Grammar School. Few early records relate to Eastwood House, the earliest mention coming from Kelly's Post Office Directory of Cambridgeshire where under 'gentry' a John Pope Esq. is listed as the occupant, providing an approximate construction date in the early 1850s.

Since the building had been used as a school, many of the original features had been removed. All of the original windows had been replaced and internal partition walls inserted to create smaller rooms. Despite these alterations, numerous original features survived, including moulded door frames and original doors on the first floor, an impressive tiled front entrance, hinged window boxes, moulded ceiling cornices and an imposing dog-leg staircase with half landing, elegant turned balusters and carved brackets under each tread-end. The cellar was inspected and proved to contain the original wine store with vaulted brick ceiling and lime-washed walls. Parts of the cellars had also been blocked off and brick support pillars/plinths inserted using re-used brick. The building has since been demolished.

***March, Ravenhill Drive***

TL 4142 9656 (AS report 3507)

M Adams

Small scale evaluation revealed a series of archaeological features including pits, ditches and gullies. A sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from one ditch but none of the features could be securely dated.

***March, Former Whitemoor Marshalling Yard.***

TL 4123 9873 (NPA report 971/10)

M Railton

In February 2010 a topographic survey of land at the Former Whitemoor Marshalling Yard was undertaken in advance of the construction of a National Track Materials Recycling Centre (NTMRC) for recovered rail material. The survey recorded the extent and locations of all structural remains and earthwork features within the proposed development area, including building foundations, turntables, rail lines and in particular, the earthwork remains of the 'gravity hump'. The 19th and 20th century railway yards at Whitemoor are themselves considered to be of regional and national importance. From 1927 under the London and North Eastern Railway (LNER) Company the site developed into the largest marshalling yard in Great Britain, employing 25% of the population of March. The marshalling yard also contained the first bi-directional gravity hump, which used gravity and an innovative hydraulic breaking system to allow carriages to enter the sidings, where they were sorted automatically for transfer to their destinations. A number of 19th and 20th century earthworks and structures directly related to the former Whitemoor Marshalling Yards were recorded. These included the foundations of the Locomotive Repair Shed/Engine Shed, Running Shed, Water Cooling Tank, Examination Tunnel, and the Locomotive Oil Fuelling Plant, which are recorded on plans of the former railway sidings. Two railway turntables, a number of inspection pits, sections of rail track and concrete/brick structures were also identified, as well as a number of modern concrete railway platforms and floor surfaces. Earthworks were identified that correspond to the locations of 19th century railway sidings, as shown on the 1889 Ordnance Survey map of the site. The most notable feature is an earthwork platform that crosses the centre of the proposed development area and forms part of the bi-directional gravity hump. A series of World War Two air raid shelters about which relatively little is known were also identified. Five of the shelters were simple brick-built surface bomb shelters, with a reinforced roof. One shelter is of a different design, with L-shaped entrance and an escape hatch.

***Milton, Long Meadow and Hill Close***

G Clarke, M Bullivant and D Booth

A series of six test pits were excavated in fields at Long Meadow and Hill Close following earlier programmes of fieldwalking and geophysical survey. A series of boundary ditches and a square feature containing Roman pottery were recorded in Long Meadow, whilst a large north-south boundary ditch

recorded in the eastern part of Hill Close contained fragments of animal bone and pottery of probable medieval date, probably relating to the eastern boundary ditch or moat of the medieval manor house site.

***Over, The O'Connell Ridge East - Site II Barrow***

TL 53 27 (CAU report 967, part V)

C Evans and J Tabor

Investigations at Hanson's Needingworth Quarry continued in 2010 with the excavation of barrow 6 at site II, located on the "O'Connell Ridge" (the two significant ridges on site were christened by CAU as the O'Connell Ridge and Godwin Ridge). Following initial evaluation in 2007 and subsequent excavations across the entire site, site II barrow was subject to a geophysical investigation and then excavated using the same quadrant method employed with the neighbouring Low Grounds Barrow Group in 2008-9. Pollen analysis, radiocarbon dating and geoarchaeological assessment were also undertaken. The excavation revealed not only upstanding remains of the round barrow itself complete with surrounding ditch, but also evidence of Late Neolithic activity comprising a number of pits and an intact pre-barrow buried soil (palaeosol) preserved beneath the barrow. The palaeosols of the Godwin and O'Connell ridges are generally well preserved over very large areas of buried landscape but it is rare to find an apparently untruncated and complete buried soil beneath a barrow as here, unlike the under the three mounds of the Low Grounds Barrow Group already examined. Conversely, like the three barrows of the Low Grounds Barrow Group, barrow 6 originated as a relatively small monument, becoming a fully ditched barrow with a total diameter of 35m over time. Geoarchaeological assessment suggested that the barrow's mound was primarily composed of turves. Three phases of barrow construction were identified with a primary inhumation identified in Phase II and a well preserved secondary pit-pyre in Phase III. Radiocarbon dating of charcoal associated with the primary cremation gave a date of cal. BC 1890-1680 (Beta 280341: 3460±40 BP). In addition, a burnt stone spread was identified adjacent to the northern flank of the ridge. No artefacts were recovered directly from either of the two cremations in the barrow; however artefacts recovered included Grooved ware and Beaker/Collared Urn pottery, Neolithic flint, charred wood and human cremated bone, a small quantity of animal bone including domestic species and red deer along with a single hammer stone.

***Parson Drove, Butcher's Arms, Main Road***

TF 3742 0853 (OA East report 1168)

R Atkins

This evaluation lay adjacent to the west and north of a previous large excavation which found a Roman to medieval rural settlement with salt-making and farming activities. The present evaluation found only a single shallow Roman ditch. Medieval activity consisted of numerous shallow ditches forming a continuation of agricultural features found to the east the

south of the site. One large 14th century ditch had a horse burial in its upper fill.

**Peterborough, Bretton, Bretton Way**

TF 1605 0080 (OA East report 1230)

A Pickstone

This site lay in north-western Peterborough and is notable for the presence of a Late Roman aisled barn which may have been associated with an enigmatic well-like feature dug down to reach the natural clay geology. This feature measured 2.2m square and 2.5m deep, and was lined with enormous pieces of reused stonework, apparently from a monumental building. These stones are unprecedented for this area with nothing similar of this date known to have been recovered within the region: thin section analysis may help to establish their provenance. While the site lies 5.5km from the Roman town of Durobrivae and 4km from a villa/palace in the village of Castor, these are quite large distances over which to transport such large pieces of masonry.

Preliminary examination of the items retrieved from the 'well' backfills has identified over 80kg of animal bone, four complete pots, up to six leather shoes and perhaps the earliest bone sledge runners in Britain. The pottery assemblage seems unusual in that a large number of trimmed pot bases were recovered. The function of the feature is currently unclear, although further analysis of potentially votive items and an interesting environmental assemblage are expected to aid interpretation.

**Ramsey, 40 High Street**

TL 2865 8506 (AS report 3683)

G Barlow

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken prior to proposed residential development within the historic core of the medieval town of Ramsey. Two trial trenches were excavated that revealed a former watercourse, a possible hearth, a possible causeway, two buried medieval soils, and a large post medieval pit.

**Ramsey, Biggin Lane**

TL 2784 8483 (CAU report 960)

J Hutton

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on land near the western edge of Ramsey on the route of a water main extending from the north of Biggin Lane to Canberra Close. Eight small pits were excavated which revealed evidence of a potential buried soil overlain by a deep layer of sub-soil. One posthole and one narrow linear feature were recorded in one pit but there was no further evidence of archaeological features in the remaining seven.

**Reach, Reach Lode New Bridge**

TL 555720 267690 (OA East report 1165)

T Phillips

This investigation comprised a combination of trenching, test pits and boreholes on either side of Reach Lode. Linear drainage ditches proved to have been cut through the peat and into the clay. Various

soil formations were recorded which varied to some extent across the site, including marsh and creek beds, although no buried soils were identified. The most significant results came from a series of augered boreholes and a core, positioned along the line of the proposed ramp and culverts for each approach to the New Bridge. The boreholes confirmed the presence of a large palaeochannel, up to 5m deep, in the vicinity.

**Sawtry, Gidding Road**

TL 1648 8335 (APS 52/11)

An open area excavation was carried out ahead of groundworks associated with residential development at Gidding Road. This excavation focused upon an area previously identified as containing Romano-British deposits. During the course of the excavation, late Iron Age and early Romano-British drainage features and clay extraction pits were identified. There was no evidence of settlement remains within the area. An isolated Romano-British human burial was uncovered. Two Bronze Age flints and two sherds of Saxon pottery were retrieved, indicating some limited activity in the area during these periods. Subsoil, modern land drains and modern topsoil formed the latest deposits encountered on site.

**St Neots, Longsands Community College**

TL 1905 6086 (OA East report 1192)

R Atkins

Investigations found Early Neolithic and Early Iron Age pits, a Late Iron Age boundary ditch and a probable Romano-British driveway. The Late Iron Age and Roman features probably relate to a known early Roman settlement found just to the west in 2006.

**St Neots, St Neots Priory**

TL 181 603 (OA East report 1173)

P Spoerry, N Gilmour and P Masters

Lottery funding for the St Neots Town Centre initiative enabled the commissioning of a Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey (GPR) over the site of the priory a medieval alien house that was partly excavated in the 1950s and early 1960s by CF Tebbutt. Most of the site now lies beneath modern buildings and car parks and much of it is designated as a Scheduled Monument (SAM1006882). The survey was carried out by Cranfield University and investigated the putative site of the west range, north range and kitchens, and east range/chapter house. Responses interpreted as buried wall foundations were identified in all locations but none could be precisely related to excavated features.

The identified anomalies generally appeared to be aligned ordinally with the cardinal compass points, unlike the excavated priory plan which was largely aligned about twelve degrees west of north. Explanations for these results include the possibility that the original excavated plan was mis-aligned, although this suggestion can be discounted in general terms since three surviving column bases that still lie below manhole covers are clearly correctly mapped. Re-analysis of Tebbutt's excavation report provides

some alternative explanations. His plan is in some cases based on a very limited view of structures. Additionally he observed but did not fully record other buildings, some of which were undoubtedly earlier phases of the priory and some were perhaps on differing alignments. He also planned a large structure to the north of the main convent that he identified as a late medieval infirmary and which was commonly aligned with the GPR anomalies. Clearly Tebbutt's plan, although undoubtedly quite accurate in its depiction of some buildings to the north and east of the cloister garth, was an over-simplification of a multi-phase complex and it should therefore be no surprise that below-ground GPR anomalies that represent important archaeological features exist on other alignments both within the area of the Scheduled Monument and perhaps beyond.

***Soham, Millcote***

TL 5893 7294 (NHA report 10/81)

E Taylor

An archaeological trial trench evaluation comprising two trenches totalling 20 metres was undertaken prior to the redevelopment of land at Millcote, Soham. The evaluation revealed the remains of the mill leet shown on the tithe map of 1841. The leet appeared to be parallel with Soham Lode and contained 18th and 19th century pottery, brick and tile.

***Soham, Weatheralls Primary School***

TL 5948 7353 (OA East report 1185)

T Phillips

Evaluation found evidence of an early medieval field system that may be associated with a settlement in the immediate vicinity. This was represented by a major ditched boundary which ran roughly parallel with both Pratt Street to the west and the 5m contour line to the east. Other trenches revealed further boundaries and two pits. The results should be viewed in conjunction with the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken in 1991, in the western part of the site, which encountered similar remains. The joint results present a more complete picture of a ditched rectilinear field system with settlement evidence represented by the pits and domestic debris deposited into the ditches. The ceramic assemblage from both evaluations suggests a date between the 10th to mid-12th centuries for the earliest activity.

***Somersham, 52 High Street***

TL 36187 77859 (OA East report 1227)

T Fletcher

Evaluation in advance of proposed residential development revealed evidence of late medieval quarrying, dated to AD 1500–1650 on the basis of a small assemblage of pottery. Similar activities have been recorded at other locations within the village.

***Somersham, Knobb's Farm, Phase 7***

TL 3673 7988 (CAU report 986)

M Collins

A further phase of excavation was undertaken at

Knobb's Farm Quarry, revealing evidence for Middle Iron Age settlement activity and field systems, along with a later phase of Late Iron Age/Early Roman activity in the form of trackways and a substantial enclosure. Further excavations will follow.

***St Ives, St Ives Golf Course***

TL 3037 7220 (CAU report 947)

J Hutton

Following a geophysical survey in 2007, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken at St Ives Golf Course prior to the construction of a housing development. Archaeological features were recorded in sixteen of the nineteen trenches opened, the majority of which were the remnants of medieval agricultural practices; ridge and furrow. A few undated linear features and field boundary ditches that corresponded with cartographic evidence were also revealed. Limited quantities of artefacts were recovered from the site, further supporting the interpretation that the site was agricultural land outside the core activity areas.

***Steeple Morden, Primary School***

TL 28538 42531 (OA East report 1212)

J House

A possible track-side or boundary ditch found at this site may have been established during the Anglo-Saxon period, the route perhaps serving as an access between the nearby manor house that once stood to the west of the school and the church. Alternatively it may have been an early property boundary for a tenement fronting onto Hay Street to the east. During the post medieval period the boundary was re-established in the form of a clunch wall, constructed after infilling of the ditch and accumulation of a subsoil layer had occurred.

***Tilbrook, Brook Farm, Station Road***

TL 0802 6939 (AS report 3629)

T Collins, L Prosser, P and K Henry

An historic building recording was undertaken prior to proposed internal alterations at Brook Farmhouse, Tilbrook. Technical analysis established that the building probably originated in the later 16th or early 17th century, laid out on conventional lines with parlour/hall arrangement, and a separate but contiguous service wing to the north. The evidence suggests some augmentation and development in the early 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. Of most notable importance are several historic decorative wall-paintings, which were found in the four rooms of the south range, and represent a rare survival in the county, part of a local cluster of known paintings and an important indicator of local social and wider, East Anglian artistic influences.

***Waterbeach, Waste Management Park***

TL 486 688 (CAU report 974)

M Collins

Archaeological evaluation comprising 24 trenches was undertaken at the Waste Management Park. A number of archaeological features were identified including probable prehistoric burnt pits, a continuation

of several Romano-British ditches seen in previous excavations and a possible trackway. Several substantial undated features including a watering hole/well and probable enclosure ditch were also encountered.

**Westley Waterless, Orchard Cottage**

TL 6204 5622 (ASC report 1278)

K Semmelmann and B Zeepvat

An historic building recording and a series of test pits were undertaken at Orchard Cottage, Westley Waterless in order to inform proposals for the development of buildings on the site. Orchard Cottage is a Grade II listed building (Listed Building 1164469) and is timber framed with a thatched roof. The reception rooms surveyed have brick floors that appear to be modern despite the presence of earlier bricks in the house. There was no evidence in the test pits for earlier flooring material or archaeological remains. The timberwork shows evidence for earlier doorways between the two rooms, the clear re-use of the bridging beam in the dining room as well as later insertions to reinforce the walls and ceiling. The dining room appears to have undergone fairly substantial alterations, probably in the 18th century when the fireplace was partially rebuilt and elm panelling added to the north wall.

**Whittlesey, land to the rear of 11 Broad Street**

TL 2678 9710 (WITHAM report 19)

R Trimble

An archaeological evaluation prior to redevelopment of the site identified large cut features interpreted as medieval rubbish pits along with residual sherds of Roman and Saxon pottery and post medieval to modern demolition deposits relating to the former 18th and/or 19th century structures in the immediate area.

**Whittlesey, Eastrea, Coates Road**

TL 2969 9725 (APS reports 102/09, 105/09, 111/09, 87/10 and 35/11)

S Malone, M Peachey and G Taylor

A series of archaeological investigations was undertaken on land along Coates Road in Eastrea village in advance of proposed development. Detailed gradiometer survey revealed no clear archaeological features, however a number of linear features of possible archaeological origin and a series of parallel linears possibly indicate medieval ridge and furrow cultivation were recorded. Aerial photographic assessment examined a radius of 500m around the site in order to identify and accurately map archaeological and natural features. Cropmarks are very evident on the photographs within the site boundary and immediate environs however, most of the visible cropmarks were of geological origin and only a few archaeological features could be confidently identified within the site. A number of straight and narrow marks suggested elements of a rectilinear field system, including a possible double-ditched trackway along with two large ring-ditches to the north and a smaller one to the eastern end of the site were recorded. Evaluation trial trenching revealed a number of ditches, four of

which contained prehistoric pottery. These were located in the eastern part of the site and mostly appear to correlate with the features identified on aerial photographs. Further excavation revealed Iron Age field systems, with a probable sub-rectangular enclosure containing a ring ditch. A Late Bronze Age well/waterhole containing the lower part of a log ladder was also found. The log ladder was radiocarbon dated to cal BC 980-800. An isolated inhumation within a nailed coffin was also revealed. The skeleton was also radiocarbon dated to cal 20 BC – AD 130.

**Whittlesford, Nine Wells**

TL 45 47 (Independentus Excavatorum report)

R Scarle, P Cornelissen, L Cornelissen, W Hughes, S Reed and R Skeen

Following previous investigations by the Archaeology RheeSearch Group between 2003 and 2010, the probable remains of a Roman building were investigated. A 2010 survey by the Archaeology RheeSearch Group revealed an extensive area of features including a possible villa complex; subsequent test pit excavation explored these features, centred on a rectangular area of high resistance. At the outset of the investigations, surface finds of roof and hypocaust tile were made immediately. Test pitting revealed a concentration of building debris including lenses of densely packed roof tile, flue tile and brick fragments in many of the trenches. Incorporated within these demolition layers were degraded *opus signinum* and mortar, with plastered mortar fragments in considerable quantities. Of note was the residue of a mortar overcoat on some of the plastered surfaces, suggesting that the walls had been refurbished at some stage. Some of the flue tile shows evidence of smoke/burning and some flecks of charcoal were found at a relatively shallow depth in some of the trenches. The remains of an *in situ* mosaic were also recorded and loose tesserae were also found in the upper layers of that particular test pit. A large portion remained complete with only central parts of the extent uncovered being damaged. The edge of the mosaic was bordered by a red tile on edge.

**Whittlesford, Red Lion Hotel**

TL 5484 2473 (CAU report 969)

Hutton J

Archaeological excavation undertaken in two phases in 2009 and 2010, in the grounds of the Red Lion Hotel prior to proposed development revealed both linear and pit features; the majority of which were undated with the exception of two linear features that contained 15th century pottery. The features were overlain by a buried plough soil that contained material culture from the later prehistoric period through to the 19th century.

**Wicken, Dimmock's Cote Quarry**

TL 5450 7260 (OA East report 1223)

N Gilmour

Investigations on land to the north of a lime quarry at Dimmock's Cote revealed evidence of Iron Age occupation, in the form of postholes and pits. Later

activity was represented by possible early medieval structures and traces of medieval and later ridge and furrow and headlands.

***Wimpole, Wimpole Farm***

TL 3411 5132 (Archaeology Rheesearch Group report)  
I Sanderson

A magnetometry and resistivity survey was carried out to determine if any sub surface features could be detected which would help locate a building shown on historic maps prior to excavation. Several drainage channels and building foundations were identified.

***Wisbech, 4 Ely Place***

TF 4623 0960 (OA East report 1160)

T Fletcher

This work ties in with investigations carried out by OA East in the adjacent library building in 2008/2009. There, evidence of a large ditch-like feature, partly infilled with sterile deposits but with an organic water-logged primary fill was recorded. This feature is believed to represent an early defensive ditch associated with the castle on a different alignment to the known position of the later moat. Evidence of the continuation of this feature with the same sequence of fills was recorded in the new investigation.

As with the library site, the top of this feature was truncated by the cellar and neither edge was recorded. Pottery from the fills has been dated to the 11th–12th century. Due to both practical and health and safety considerations, it was not possible to excavate to the base of the feature, although an auger survey indicated a large water-holding feature to a depth of at least 1.60m OD. One particularly rich waterlogged layer proved to be a compressed deposit containing plant material and seeds, charred grain and charcoal fragments. Seeds from this layer were radiocarbon dated to cal AD 1020–1160 (SUERC: 28096).

Despite the small size of the trench, the findings are significant in enhancing current understanding of the development of Wisbech Castle. Although a 1795 plan of the site exists, this only shows the castle as it existed at the end of the 18th century, prior to the development of the area into its current form. The design and layout of the Norman castle, reputedly destroyed during a devastating flood of 1236, is unknown. The radiocarbon dating of the large feature recorded at Ely Place corresponds with the period prior to the flood and may provide direct evidence of a Norman castle moat or ditch destroyed in that period.

***Wisbech, 'The Sea Bank', Waterlees Road***

TF 4696 1095 (OA East report 1184)

T Fletcher

This site is bounded to the west by a bank which continues along the route of Waterlees Road towards the north. Although not precisely dated, the bank is known locally and on maps as the 'Roman Bank' and was probably constructed to act as a sea defence in the Late Saxon and medieval periods. Further along Waterlees Road the bank survives much higher, almost 2m in places, and it is likely that it originally

spanned the area now beneath Waterlees Road. Two trenches excavated though the bank revealed that it was constructed using imported silts. On its eastern side lay a large ditch with several fills, including re-deposited bank material. In a trench running parallel to the road, two pits and a ditch provided evidence of 11th to 12th century activity, while at the far eastern end of the site pits and evidence of possible industrial activity were recorded.

***Woodditton, new Gardener's Building, Dalham Hall Stud***

TL 6602 6080 (AS report 3934)

T Schofield

An archaeological evaluation including trial trenching in advance of construction of a new gardener's building identified a gully with a sherd of Iron Age pottery in the fill, along with a ditch containing a residual prehistoric struck flint and a post medieval posthole. Despite being in close proximity to the medieval moat, no features of this period were identified.

***Yaxley, 41 Middleton Road***

TL 1837 9229 (AS report 3642)

G Barlow and P Thompson

Evaluation prior to residential development identified three ditches, two pits, a cobbled surface and a possible tree throw. All features were dated to the medieval period, with the exception of the cobbled surface which is believed to be post medieval in date.

***Yaxley, Chapel Street***

TL 1805 9222 (APS report 101/10)

M Peachey

An archaeological evaluation comprising four trial trenches was undertaken prior to residential development within the property boundary of 52 Chapel Street, Yaxley. Medieval and post medieval ditches were recorded to the southern end of the site and have been interpreted as earlier property boundaries.

***Yelling, 158 High Street***

TL 2639 6240 (ASC report 1279)

C Rouse

Archaeological evaluation comprising two trenches within the footprint of the proposed dwellings revealed a pit and ditches of medieval to post medieval date. The pit contained 11th–12th century pottery and was cut by a linear feature containing 12th to early 14th century pottery. Most of the pottery recovered from the pit came from a single cooking vessel.

**Desk-based assessments were produced for the following sites**

***Brampton, RAF Brampton***

TL 2083 7026 (Defence Estates)

***Brampton, land to the south-east of St Mary's Church***

TL 2150 7060 (OA East report 1161)

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<i>Cambridge, MacKay's of Cambridge, 85 East Road</i> TL 4613 5872 (CAU report)	TL 1683 5938 (AS report 3704)
<i>Cambridge, Trinity College Chapel</i> TL 4477 5869 (CAU report 959)	<i>Foxton, Orchard Farm</i> TL 4222 4688 (ASC report)
<i>Litlington, Highfields Wind Farm</i> TL 3166 4119 (CAP report 617)	<i>Gamlingay, Green End Industrial Estate</i> TL 2345 5242 (CAU report 971)
<i>Stukeleys, Ermine Street, Huntingdon</i> TL 2229 7338 (OA East report 1205)	<i>Great Gidding, 23 Gains Lane</i> TL 1180 8295 (OA East report 1189)
<i>Wicken, Dimmock's Cote Quarry, Northern Extension</i> TL 5450 7260 (OA East report 1207)	<i>Godmanchester, Flood Defence Scheme</i> TL 524 270 (OA East report 1187)
<i>Wilburton, Station Road</i> TL 4854 7506 (OA East report 1215)	<i>Hail Weston, 68 High Street</i> TL 1640 6209 (AS report 3651)
<b>The following sites produced little of archaeological interest:</b>	<i>Huntingdon, Hartford, 2-6 Main Street</i> TL 2516 7249 (HN report 607)
<i>Balsham, Dotterall Hall Barns</i> TL 5538 5271 (OA East report 1178)	<i>Landbeach, Enterprise Nurseries</i> TL 4842 6415 (ALBION report 2010/88)
<i>Brington and Molesworth, RAF Molesworth</i> TL 0743 7758 (ASC report 1243)	<i>Mepal, 8 Bridge Road</i> TL 4436 8104 (HN report 591)
<i>Cambridge, Chesterton Community College</i> TL 451 598 (CAU report 925)	<i>March, Robingoodfellows Lane</i> TL 4135 9782 (AS report 3505)
<i>Cambridge, Cherry Hinton Infants School</i> TL 4893 5690 (OA East report 1204)	<i>Offord D'Arcy, Grove Farm</i> TL 221 663 (CAU report 980)
<i>Cambridge, Fitzwilliam College (Central Building)</i> TL 4395 5950 (NAU report 2291)	<i>Over, LEM, Longstanton Road</i> TL 3754 6907 (OA East report 1224)
<i>Cambridge, land between Kings Hedges Road and the Guided Busway</i> TL 4551 6179 (OA East report 1228)	<i>Papworth Everard, Papworth Hospital Heritage Centre</i> TL 2880 6288 (ALBION 2010/91)
<i>Cambridge, The Lensfield Hotel</i> TL 4524 5763 (CAU report 930)	<i>Peterborough, Castor, Castor Primary School</i> TL 12486 98453 (OA East Report 1201)
<i>Cambridge, NIAB frontage site, Huntingdon Road</i> TL 4324 6040 (CAU report 970)	<i>Ramsey, 143 Great Whyte</i> TL 2852 8558 (AS report 3686)
<i>Cambridge, St Botolph's Church</i> TL 448 581(OA East report 1171)	<i>Snailwell, British Racing School Manege</i> TL 6496 6586 (ECC FAU report 2218)
<i>Cambridge, Trumpington, Byron's Pool</i> TL 4354 5459 (ECC FAU report 2291)	<i>St Neots, Kings Lane Garage</i> TL 1899 6037 (OA East report 1169)
<i>Cambridge, Trumpington, St Faiths School</i> TL 4526 5671 (OA East report 1177)	<i>Stukeleys, Hinchingsbrooke School</i> TL 2261 7166 (OA East report 1200)
<i>Cheveley, 5 Ashley Road</i> TL 6857 6172 (OA East report 1222)	<i>Tilbrook, Brook Farm, Station Road</i> TL 0802 6939 (AS report 3633)
<i>Eaton Socon, land to the rear of 10a, 12 and 14 Bushmead Road</i>	<i>Warboys, 27 Station Road</i> TL 3122 8054 (AS report 3510)

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**Review: Borderlands**  
**The Archaeology of the Addenbrooke's Environs, South Cambridge**  
**by Christopher Evans, with Duncan Mackay and Leo Webley**

Kasia Gdaniec

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Cambridge, Cambridge Archaeological Unit Landscapes Archives: New Archaeologies of the Cambridge Region (1). 2008. 212pp, 108 black & white figures, some colour plates, 50 tables. ISBN 978-0-9544824-7-3 pb (£25)

Published in 2008, *Borderlands* heralded the analysis of multi-period settlement evidence recovered from a series of major planning related investigation campaigns in southern Cambridgeshire. Though widely reviewed in national journals and magazines at that time, this book on Cambridge's local archaeology had unfortunately slipped through the PCAS review section, an oversight that required redress given the valuable contribution that it has made to regional research.

With a primary focus on the expansion area of Addenbrooke's Hospital's Biomedical Campus since 2000, the results of wider landscape evaluations in the four allocated areas for the city's housing growth: the Cambridge Southern Fringe sites of Clay Farm, Glebe Farm, the Bell School and Trumpington Meadows along with a number of other development-led investigations, provided the opportunity to illustrate in some detail land use dating from the later Bronze Age through to the Saxon period, though with a focus on the dominant later Iron Age and Roman settlement patterns. As will be described, this seminal analysis of the archaeology of the Addenbrooke's environs constitutes an important reference in British archaeology for investigators of clay landscapes, of field methods and of the historiography of the 'archaeologies' of southern Cambridgeshire.

Divided into four chapters, the first depicts the history of local research and describes the endeavours of two former curators of the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge. *Borderlands'* contextual setting uses Sir Cyril Fox's doctoral thesis, *The Archaeology of the Cambridge Region*, published in 1923, whose careful work remains widely used by local researchers to this day. Fox amassed and plotted the distribution of artefact collections, monuments and sites and discussed them, among other things, in terms of their physiographic setting, the implications of which led him to divide his 44 square mile study area (centred

on Cambridge) into 'primary settlement' or 'secondary settlement' areas: fertile, free-draining light soils on porous substrates with flowing water courses for the former, densely wooded clay and chalk plains, with large areas of drift till deposits for the latter. Centred on the Cambridge Southern Fringe, the investigation results gained through excavation and large landscape evaluation campaigns allowed Evans, Mackay and Webley to test Fox's geographic settlement determinism in roughly the same area and, furthermore, to reappraise his northern limit of the distinctive late Iron Age Aylesford-Swarling ('Belgic') zone, using the large evidence base acquired over the last 85 years of investigation. While Fox's distribution of settlements, and his conclusion that few sites would ever be found on the heavy clay soils, can now be significantly challenged in the light of current archaeological evidence gained mainly through planning-related excavation, we find that the plotting of subsequent late Iron Age material culture, notably 'prestige goods', does not much deviate from that published in 1923. Curator Mary Crafter's excavations at the then 'New' Addenbrooke's Hospital in the 1960s are also described, and although conducted very much under rescue conditions the results of her investigation of an enclosed late Iron Age settlement shaped an understanding of the character of local pre-Roman settlement that remained in place and unchallenged until recently.

Chapter 2, the largest in the book, presents the evidence from the main excavations at Addenbrooke's: the three-hectare excavation of the 'Hutchison Site'. Here the main occupation phases, the material culture, environmental and economic evidence is described from features and deposits dating from the late Bronze Age through to the seventh/eighth century AD. The dominant period of occupation dates from the late first century BC to the later first century AD and is characterised by an evolving arrangement of field and settlement enclosures, within some of which were rectangular buildings, laid out in respect of increasingly formalised roads; a cemetery, wells and an important new Conquest period kiln site: 11 kilns of six distinct types producing around half of the total assemblage of Late Iron Age and Romano-British pe-

riod ceramics (c. 273kg – 20,876 sherds). High levels of residual diagnostic artefacts occurring in later features serve to display the level of intensity of and, indirectly, the locations of earlier settlement. Plotting the residual material helped the authors to achieve their main objective of teasing apart the feature evidence to attempt to clarify the morphology of the settlements, ultimately assisting in “distinguishing what *The Conquest* meant in the local landscape” (p.40) – the crux of the investigation’s objectives. From the pottery evidence we learn that ‘handmade vessels’ (by which ones assumes ‘coil/slab-built’ is meant) in the kiln fabric continued to be made alongside wheel-thrown forms in the post-Conquest period, demonstrating that the Romanisation of the local traditions took a decade or more to establish – similar to evidence found at the Greenhouse Farm site near Marshall’s airport where further kilns were found just over a decade ago. Fulsome comparison of the site’s rectangular buildings, settlement axes, the cemetery evidence and the emerging road network with other sites in the vicinity of those newly examined around Addenbrooke’s – at War Ditches, Clay Farm, Vicar’s Farm and the villa site at Great Shelford – begin to define the organisation of people in the landscape, and while a re-organisation of their governance and changing cultural attitudes over time is apparent in both material repertoires and the aspect of ‘sites’, the earlier Later Bronze Age axial trends seem to persist to some degree, like a running stitch through the main ditch systems.

The Saxon evidence in this review of the book should not be overlooked: it is well developed and unexpected in its artefact repertoire, while conforming to the typical low pottery density (relative to earlier periods) common to Cambridgeshire’s Saxon period.

Spatial data and the site morphology of various sites is examined in the third chapter, where short descriptions of many later prehistoric and Romano-British sites in the environs of the Southern Fringe sites, together with those in other areas of Cambridgeshire’s chalk downs and clay plains, are discussed. Evans’ hallmark tenacity with distribution plotting of data from old and new archives is seen at its best in this chapter in which not only are the character of Conquest period settlement and burial rites discussed, but the articulation of the density of Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman and Saxon occupation sites and settlements on what Fox had termed ‘secondary settlement areas’ overturns former notions of the intractability of these landscapes for much other than pasture fields and light density settlement.

Combining a suite of non-intrusive surveys (rectification of air photographs, geophysical surveys, metal detections and fieldwalking/ ploughzone artefact testing) with trenching, the Longstanton landscape evaluation (650 ha) in the strategic planning site of a proposed new (eco-)town, “Northstowe”, furnished the historic environment record with 36 new sites of significant proportions and with artefact repertoires and site characteristics that match any

site in the “primary settlement areas” of the gravel terraces and at the fen edge. The last decade saw an unprecedented increase in multi-disciplinary landscape appraisals as developers lodged numerous environmental impact assessments with their planning applications to local authorities in response to the last Government’s agenda for regional residential expansion. Mostly greenfield developments, their locations on the clay plains to the south and west of Cambridge enabled similarly unprecedented archaeological exploration of these landscapes of unknown potential, which were in full swing when new analysis of archaeological evidence on the clays in Leicestershire was published by Patrick Clay (aptly named; Clay 2002). As a consequence of the increase in evaluations, the number of new archaeological sites in South Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire districts multiplied exponentially (“today there is a lot more past”: p.7), the bulk of which will not see publication perhaps for another decade – perhaps longer given current economic circumstances. Evans and his colleagues, however, understood the value of publishing survey results - to wire this evidence into the evolving regional research framework and the cognition of archaeologists working in Cambridgeshire, and to provide the background against which detailed excavation evidence can be compared and contrasted. Using the excavation evidence as templates for site definition along with air photo-mapped cropmark sites, evaluation survey site densities have been modelled and intervals between sites, mainly of Iron Age and Roman date, have emerged: 2.8 sites per sq km for the Iron Age and 1.9 for the Roman (see table 3.2 and pp.181ff), or at intervals between 300m and 500m. These are then viewed against Fox’s distribution maps and other valuable published analyses (e.g. Kirby and Oosthuizen 2000), but regrettably did not consider wider evidence of the up-to-date county Historic Environment Record – a minor criticism. That aside, it is as plain as the clay is hard to excavate that prehistoric to Saxon settlement occurred in high densities on all geological types in the Cambridge region, and it remains for future work to continue to commit to the study of the environmental and economic base of these sites to compare with those in the Great Ouse and Cam river valleys: to decipher their trading, resources and socio-political relationships to each other.

The ultimate chapter discusses evidence of the earliest settlement period evident in the survey area and depicts the presence and development of large, almost monumental, Middle Bronze Age ditched enclosures in the environs of Addenbrooke’s and the Southern Fringe area. Contemporary field systems at Clay Farm to the west of Addenbrooke’s endured into the Iron Age, when began the process of their modification and re-orientation to fit a new model of landscape organisation, peaking in the period before and after the Roman Conquest. What is interesting in this study of land-use progression is that Evans *et al*’s research endorses Fox’s conclusions of 1923, which seem to remain true today: that the limit of the

Aylesford-Swarling 'culture' seems to have been the Cambridge area. This is, again, in the process of being tested, as the major excavations in the growth development areas of Trumpington Meadows, just east of the River Cam, and Clay Farm (between Trumpington and the Addenbrooke's campus) are currently in progress. What has been learned from the survey methodology, and is propounded in this last section of the book, is that a determined effort to consistently interrogate soils of the plough zone, test cropmark and geophysical evidence, build phased land-use/site base plans based on detailed artefact studies will assist in focusing robust research agenda for future excavations that will enable the elucidation of the complexity of these past landscapes to emerge.

*Borderlands* is a well illustrated book, with clear, unfussy line drawings, computer graphics and photographs by the Unit's team of illustrators. These are complemented by selected reproductions of antiquarian views of the rural Cambridge landscape, air photographs of the pre-Addenbrooke's Hospital landscape showing its former short and long-term land-uses, and photos of Mary Cra'ster's 1967 investigations of the Iron Age and Roman settlement ahead of the construction of the first hospital buildings. What sets it apart from so many books of its kind is the use of insets and enlarged figure captions: departures and asides that pack the book with additional information that adds great value to the main story. Here there are short site summaries of excavations conducted long ago, and there are accounts of fairs, military occupation and biographies of archaeologists who themselves were part of the enquiry of this area. One inset carries an account of excavations of prehistoric and Roman houses and enclosures at Rectory Farm, Great Shelford, by John Alexander (and other notable Cambridge colleagues) an old friend and collaborator of Evans, to whom the book is dedicated. There is no index – lamented by this author whose copy is now beset with ribbons and tags marking key pages and passages, but that shortfall is off-set by a good array of absolute dates, most helpful for artefact chronologies and the key changes and structures within the sites (and probably kept the book at an affordable price!). The closing sentences of *Borderlands* inform us that the fieldwork projects described within it "mark a threshold in the region's practices and, certainly, today these are exciting times in archaeology". Written at some point prior to publication in 2008, we must hold that thought through these straitened times and determine to engage with these sites with the enthusiasm and sense of enquiry as that displayed in these pages by Evans, Mackay, Webley and their colleagues who contributed to the book, to add the requested nuances and make the inevitable corrections to the story that they have begun to tell.

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## References

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