
Fieldwork in Cambridgeshire 2011

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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>
or Heritage Gateway

<http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway> Reference numbers for Scheduled Monuments and Listed Buildings are taken from the National Heritage List for England.

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

Abbreviations

AIRC Air Photo Services (Cambridge)
ALBION Albion Archaeology
ALL Allen Archaeological Associates
APS Archaeological Project Services
ARH Archaeology Rheesearch Group
AS Archaeological Solutions
ASC Archaeological Services and Consultancy
ASDU Archaeological Services Durham University
ASE Archaeology South East
AW Archaeology Wales Ltd
CAU Cambridge Archaeological Unit
CFI Cranfield Forensic Institute
CgMs CgMs Consulting
COT Cotswold Archaeology
HN The Heritage Network
NAU NAU report
NHA Northamptonshire Archaeology
OA East Oxford Archaeology East
OAT Oxford Archaeotechnics
PCA Pre-Construct Archaeology
STRAT Stratascan
WYAS West Yorkshire Archaeological Services
ULAS University of Leicester Archaeological Services

Abbots Ripton, land north of St Andrew's Church

TL 2305 7807 (NHA report 11/114)

E Taylor

An area corresponding to the footprint of the new almshouse was excavated. Three ditches were identified in the north-western part of the site, likely to represent a single boundary shifting over time, possibly dating from the medieval period with a final abandonment in the 19th century. In the southern corner of the excavation area the substantial wall of a north-west to south-east aligned brick building and associated cellar was identified. This building is likely to be the parsonage shown on 17th and 19th century maps.

Babraham, Babraham Research Campus

TL 5102 5072 (CAU reports 1008, 1042, 1044 & 1046)

M Collins and S Timberlake

Three development areas were investigated at the Campus in 2011 and Roman to medieval evidence was found throughout. Following the demolition of older laboratory and storage buildings, the truncated remains of metalled Roman and medieval roads and their drainage gullies were recorded with associated ditched enclosures. All were excavated in advance of new replacement buildings at the south western end of the Campus.

Medieval occupation evidence including wells, was found cutting through a Saxon 'sunken floor building' or SFB along with Roman landscape features in an extension to the staff car park on the west side of the main access road. One human burial was also excavated, presumably an outlier to a cemetery that had been excavated prior to the construction of the access road.

Ahead of construction works for a major new research building on the north-west side of the Campus, evaluation trenches defined the extensive remains of Roman fields and droeways associated with the settlement excavated at the ARES Building in 2005. Surface exposures of natural sands and marl on the upslope, northern bank of a palaeochannel had been quarried in the Roman period, the resultant pits being backfilled with kitchen midden deposits that will yield significant proxy evidence of the character of

the settlement when excavated and analysed. A number of Roman and medieval wells provided evidence of clean water sources for the settlement and its stock yards, as the palaeochannel area had become an overgrown bog by that time, although the present course of the River Granta is roughly 160m to the south west. Areas of relict prehistoric buried soils were found to contain worked flints and pottery in the evaluation. These areas formed a further focus of subsequent excavations that concluded in February 2012.

Barrington, Challis Green

TL 3983 5000 (OA East report 1269)

L Bush

A series of large medieval boundary and enclosure ditches containing domestic refuse were found at this site, along with a substantial moated ditch which has been tentatively identified as the moat and associated land of the Heslerton sub-manor. Several pit groups and the remnants of two clunch walls were also recorded. The finds assemblage dates to *c.* AD 1150-1350 and residual Late Saxon pottery found in several features suggests earlier activity in the vicinity. Parts of the site had been heavily truncated by post medieval coprolite quarrying.

Barrington, 17 Orwell Road

TL 3867 4956 (CAU report 1020)

J Tabor

Trial trench evaluation within the footprint of a proposed development revealed a small number of ditches which appear to denote plot or field boundaries and a small collection of pits. Pottery recovered included sherds of Essex Redware which suggests activity dating to the 14th-15th centuries. The archaeological features are an important addition to the local archaeological record. The limited finds assemblage suggests the site is not associated with domestic activity and it seems likely that it was located on the periphery of the medieval settlement.

Bluntisham, land south of Station Road

TL 3603 7339 (AIRC report 2011/7)

R Palmer

An aerial photographic assessment examining an area of 13 ha recorded a scatter of rectangular pits that indicated a strong possibility of sunken floor buildings of Saxon date. On the south-east side of the pit scatter, half an arc of a probable Bronze Age ring ditch was also recorded. Directly to the east of the development area, a ditched enclosure of roughly square shape was recorded within which were pits thought to be contemporary with the enclosure. These features may be of Iron Age and/or Roman date and attest to recurrent use of this relatively high ground in the locality. The probable sunken floor buildings cut into and lay within the ring ditch suggesting it was an insignificant feature by Saxon times and located on an area of slightly higher ground, possibly also of a more gravely nature than the surrounding clay-based bedrock. Hand-dug quarries occur in the area of the sunken floor buildings and overlap with some

of them. They are thought to be of shallower depth, allowing survival of the lower levels of the sunken floor buildings. Slight suggestions of ridge and furrow remaining from medieval cultivation also occur across the site and lengths of former field boundaries were identified.

Bluntisham, land south of Station Road

TL 3603 7339 (AS report 3867)

T Janes & A Peachey

Following on from an aerial photographic assessment, evaluation revealed no evidence to support features previously identified as Saxon sunken floor buildings. The aerial photographic assessment ascribed a probable Bronze Age date to an enclosure ditch but no evidence was found for this and sherds of pottery recovered from an upper fill indicated a possible Middle Saxon date. A small quantity of residual Neolithic pottery was recovered from across the site but finds recovered from the test pits ranged in date from Roman to modern. An enclosure, visible as a cropmark, in the field to the east has been interpreted as of an Iron Age/Romano-British date so the Roman pottery sherds are likely to be associated with this. Remaining cropmarks were shown to represent recent quarrying activity.

Bourn, Bourn Hall

TL 3230 5619 (NAU report 2852)

F Green

An archaeological watching brief undertaken during the renewal of drains and structural investigation works at the Hall (NHLE 1162529) revealed a section of wall, below the south-west facing wall of the kitchen. The hall lies on the highest point within an 11th century defensive ring work of ditches (NHLE 1014238) in the likely position of an associated 11th century timber castle although no remains associated with these were recorded. A tobacco pipe dating to the early to mid-17th century was found at the base of the construction cut of the upstanding kitchen wall but the wall remains undated and it is uncertain if it predates the kitchen wall; being part of the earlier hall construction or part of a now demolished outbuilding.

Boxworth, Mermaid Spinney

TL 3471 6425 (OA East report 1279)

G Clark

An early medieval ditch was recorded underlying a buried medieval plough soil that contained a bone comb fragment and a buckle indicative of moderately high status domestic occupation between the 11th and 16th centuries.

Burrough Green, Burrough Green Primary School

TL 6375 5580 (OA East report 1267)

J House

Four slots were excavated through the south-east corner of a 17th- or 18th-century ditched enclosure. No finds pre-dating the 17th century were recovered, suggesting that this feature represented a later exten-

sion to the scheduled moat (NHLE 1020059) associated with Burrough Green Hall to the south-west.

Bury, Valiant Square

TL 2783 8335 (OA East report 1308)

N Gilmour

Evaluation revealed a single furrow and two undated ditches. The latter were aligned parallel with each other, spaced 4m apart, and may have formed a trackway.

Cambourne, land west of Cambourne

TL 3077 5998 (AIRC report 2011/8)

R Palmer

An aerial photographic assessment examined 120 ha. Three pre-medieval adjacent enclosure groups that may have been part of a larger group were identified, and a complex of ditches indicating a site of long-term occupation including an entrance way and huts within the enclosing ditches was also recorded. Medieval ridge and furrow was identified across the study area.

Cambourne, Cambourne Secondary School

TL 3097 5996 (CFI report 061/2011)

C Enright

A fluxgate gradiometer survey was undertaken in advance of future site development revealing a significant linear anomaly which most likely represents a former field boundary. Two areas of possible burning were also identified.

Cambourne, Cambourne Secondary School

TL 3141 6025 (OA East report 1304)

C Thatcher

Further to aerial photographic assessment and geophysical survey, settlement boundaries and field systems dating from the late pre-Roman/Iron Age to the end of the 2nd century AD were found. These may have been associated with contemporary settlements recorded to the east at Lower Cambourne. Of note was a remnant of a ring gully in the southern part of the site. To the north-west, a possible palisade trench and a poorly preserved inhumation lay next to a relatively large boundary ditch. A feature identified in the northern part of the site by both the aerial photographic survey and the geophysical survey proved, on excavation, to have been a possible trackway.

Cambridge, Academy House

TL 4599 5683 (OA East report 1280)

G Rees

Two trenches were excavated in the car park of an existing building. Evidence of post medieval gravel quarrying was uncovered in trench 1. All of the deposits encountered in Trench 2 were associated with the mid 19th century engine sheds and goods yard.

Cambridge, Murray Edwards College, Orchard Court

TL 4414 5950 (CAU report 1054)

D Webb & R Newman

An excavation covering an area of 49m² revealed the

presence of a number of features of Roman date. Most significant amongst these was a portion of a metallised surface, constructed in a single phase, most probably during the 2nd century AD. This feature represents a direct continuation of a northwest to southeast-oriented surface that was first identified at the site in 2009. This metallising has therefore been identified as comprising part of the Cambridge to Godmanchester road. Flanking this road to the northeast were a series of intercutting quarry pits, which also contained 2nd century material along with residual Iron Age worked flint. It thus appears possible that these quarries were first utilised during the road's initial construction. In addition, four further features were also present at the site including a shallow gully forming part of a probable roadside enclosure, and three further intercutting pits all of which contained material dating to the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD. Finally, circumstantial evidence indicating the presence of a relatively high-status Roman building in the near vicinity was also recovered.

Cambridge, Cherry Hinton Junior School

TL 4936 5687 (OA East report 1248)

N Gilmour

Speculation that the development area intended for a school extension and new all-weather pitch lay on an old droving route was reinforced by the presence of ridge and furrow cultivation aligned perpendicular to Fulbourn Old Drift.

Cambridge, Parkside Fire and Rescue Station

TL 4572 5822 (CAU report 1049)

R Newman

An evaluation at the Parkside Fire and Rescue Station site revealed that the site had previously been subject to intensive gravel quarrying activity. Although no earlier, pre-quarry features had survived, two distinct types of quarry pit were identified. The first of these consisted of a series of haphazardly arranged sub-oval features, one of which was found to contain abraded Roman pottery (although the majority of these quarries appear most likely to have been medieval in origin). Subsequently, during the 17th century, the site became the focus of more intensive 'strip-type' extraction techniques. A large number of deep, straight-sided linear pits were inserted at this time, and between them these features removed almost all of the remaining natural gravel. Following the Inclosure of the site in 1807, the irregular and uneven terrain was landscaped and a relatively high-status villa – 'Peters Field (or Petersfield) House' – was constructed. This was finally demolished in 1963-4 to make way for the construction of the Parkside Fire and Rescue Station.

Cambridge, St John's College, First Court

TL 4479 5876 (CAU report 1057)

R Newman

Three phases of archaeological investigation consisting of a test pit evaluation, a watching brief and an investigative trench were undertaken within the

First Court of St John's College, Cambridge (NHLE 1332216). These works focused upon the location of the former college chapel, which was demolished in 1869-70. This building had previously served as the chapel of the Hospital of St John the Evangelist, an institution that had been founded upon this site by c. 1200 AD. Although limited in scale, the investigations produced a number of important results. In the first instance, a number of *in situ* masonry blocks were identified. These included the base of a stair turret, a door jamb and part of a clunch-built foundation, the latter of which most probably formed a footing for stalls within the medieval quire. Overall, it appears that the floor height of the chapel was raised by approximately 0.5m when the building was converted from ecclesiastical to collegiate use in 1514-6. The lower portion of this sequence thus appears to have remained relatively undisturbed when the chapel was demolished, and significant architectural remains of between two and four courses in depth lie preserved beneath the lawn of First Court.

Cambridge, Thompson's Lane, The Old Vicarage

TL 4480 5891 (CAU report 997)

R Newman

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at the Old Vicarage (NHLE 1331884) situated on Thompson's Lane, to the rear of St Clement's Church, Cambridge. Remains dating from the medieval to modern periods were identified at the site. In the first instance, a sequence of yard surfaces was present, interspersed with periods of backyard horticultural activity. These layers dated from the 13th to 15th centuries. Subsequently, a made-ground deposit was introduced. This may have been associated with building work undertaken at the nearby church during the 16th century, or the construction of the Old Vicarage itself in the late 16th/early 17th century. Most significantly of all, however, a minimum of three mid to late 18th century burials were present. One of these individuals had been encased, and a second had been interred within a coffin-shaped grave. Notably, these burials were all oriented north-south. Furthermore, they do not appear to have been situated within the bounds of the medieval churchyard, as no earlier burials were present. Therefore, they most probably relate to a brief period of cemetery expansion, perhaps precipitated by the construction of a new chancel at St Clement's Church. The churchyard appears to have rapidly returned to its former size, however, as no additional phase of burial was undertaken within the investigated area.

Cambridge, Neath Farm Business Park, Cherry Hinton

TL 4883 5743 (CAU report 1065)

A Slater

Two areas of Neath Farm Business Park in Cherry Hinton were evaluated prior to redevelopment of the site. The first area adjacent to Church End Road revealed a densely packed sequence of linear ditches and gullies dating to the 12th-15th centuries, run-

ning in the same alignment as the current Church End Road. Several sherds of pottery were recovered, predominantly of Saxo-Norman and early medieval date. The second area away from the road contained fewer features; a single undated ditch and four undated postholes. The alignment of the ditch corresponds with the ditches in the first area and the small quantities of animal bone also recovered from the excavations were comprised entirely of domestic species. Recent further evaluation works have revealed further domestic remains running away from Church End Road, with possible field systems spreading southwards. The development area will be subject to further investigation before a full analysis of the site is produced.

Cambridge, 59 Histon Road

TL 4428 5964 (CAU report 1027)

L James

An archaeological evaluation was carried out at 59 Histon Road revealing a single east-west orientated linear feature, across the site. This small ditch was dated to the late medieval period on the basis of recovered pottery. This feature was potentially a property or plot boundary perpendicular to Histon Road.

Cambridge, Porter's Lodge, Trinity College

TL 4479 5865 (CAU report 1059)

R Newman

An architectural and archaeological investigation within the Porter's Lodge of Trinity College (NHLE 1000633) was undertaken prior to its refurbishment. Architecturally, several elements of the Great Gate's primary, late 15th century fabric were identified. These included two substantial, clunch-built fireplaces along with two internal doorways. In addition, numerous later additions and alterations to the building's fabric were also recorded. Archaeologically, a range of features and deposits were investigated. In the first instance, associated with the initial construction of the Porter's Lodge in c. 1490 was the footing for an internal dividing wall and an extensive make-up/levelling deposit. Beneath the latter, the rubble-built footing of a timber-framed building was also encountered. This represents a vestige of the final phase of pre-collegiate occupation at the site.

Cambridge, 109 Glebe Road

TL 4659 5600 (OA East report 1314)

N Gilmour

Three ditches were identified here, one of which contained a sherd of Roman pottery. Post medieval pottery was also recovered from one of the ditches, which are likely to be part of field systems recorded elsewhere on Glebe Road.

Cambridge, Castle Street

TL 4457 5906 (CAU report 1064)

C Cessford

An archaeological excavation was undertaken at numbers 4 and 5 Castle Street, Cambridge (NHLE 1331827). Despite extensive 19th-20th century distur-

bance, 1st-4th-century Roman deposits and features – including a well-constructed cobbled surface – survived under the basements. In the rear yard a 3.3m deep stratigraphic sequence spanning the 12th/13th-20th centuries was present with features including a large 12th-13th-century quarry pit, a 14th-15th-century oven and a 16th-17th-century garden/horticultural soil, all features typical of the rear yard area of an urban plot. In the 17th-century a building with a substantial cellar was constructed which remained in place until the current standing buildings were erected in the mid 19th-century.

Cambridge, 208 Green End Road

TL 4678 6014 (CAU report 1043)

R Newman

An 'L-shaped' trench was excavated at 208 Green End Road, Chesterton revealing that the site had previously been subject to intensive gravel quarrying activity. Although no earlier, pre-quarry features had survived, two distinct types of quarry pit were identified. The first of these consisted of a series of haphazardly arranged sub-oval features, one of which contained abraded sherds of medieval pottery. Subsequently, however, during the Post medieval period, the site became the focus of more intensive 'strip-type' extraction techniques. A minimum of sixteen linear quarries were inserted, all of which were aligned northeast to southwest. Between them, these features removed almost all of the remaining natural gravel. Finally, a number of additional features relating to the most recent phase in the site's usage were also present. These included a sub-rectangular pit, a rubble-filled soakaway and a lead water pipe that were all associated with the construction of a nearby bungalow in the mid 20th century. In addition, the topography of the area suggests that a programme of landscaping/terracing may also have been undertaken at this time.

Cambridge, Clay Farm

TL 4450 5500 (OA East report 1294)

T Phillips

An area covering 16.8ha, divided into six areas (A-F), was investigated. Excavations revealed multi-period remains spanning the Neolithic to modern periods. The earliest finds included Mesolithic microliths and Early Neolithic blades and cores. Extensive Middle Bronze Age field systems, enclosures and settlements covered large areas of the site. The earliest evidence for land division comprised north-west to south-east aligned ditches that were superseded by more intricate enclosures and field boundaries. Finally, three discrete areas of settlement were established within the system of fields and enclosures, from which large assemblages of Middle Bronze Age finds were recovered.

An Early Iron Age settlement – characterised by post built sub-circular structures, 4-post structures and pits – was located within the Middle Bronze Age field system in Area A. During the Middle Iron Age, settlement activity shifted onto the higher ground in

Area C and consisted of structures, an oven and areas of pitting enclosed by curvilinear ditches. This area of settlement endured into the Late Iron Age and included a possible 'cemetery garden', consisting of two enclosed cremation burials accompanied by at least eleven vessels and other grave goods. The cremated bone had been placed in a wooden box. Late Iron Age field systems and evidence for nearby settlement were also recorded in Areas B and E.

Early Roman land use consisted of a pattern of small rectilinear fields and paddocks. A double ditched, sub-circular Late Roman enclosure was recorded in Area F. While this yielded no evidence of domestic or agricultural use, the inner ditch contained the disarticulated remains of several adults, along with five Late Roman bracelets, large nails and butchered animal bones. During World War Two a series of ring ditches were constructed in Area B to create banked enclosures for the housing of searchlights and associated stores.

Cambridge, Corpus Christi College, Leckhampton House

TL 4363 5800 (CAU report 1038)

S Timberlake

Archaeological evaluation and open excavation within the footprint of a proposed new student accommodation block at Corpus Christi College (NHLE 1126003), adjacent to the college sports field. The investigation began with four evaluation trenches, two of which indicated the presence of Saxon-Early Medieval ditches and as a result an area of c. 180 sq m was opened up and excavated, revealing what appears to be the partly in-turned entrance of a sub-circular enclosure. Three of these ditches produced Middle Saxon pottery, fragments of weathered lava quern, burnt stone, daub, and considerable amounts of animal bone, most of the latter coming from the terminal ditch segment which may have been dug as a quarry pit just beyond the end of the original ditch. Another ditch dug across the inside of this entrance was constructed somewhat differently, and appears to be of a much later date. Little more can be said about the interpretation of this small enclosure, except that it confirms the relatively rare occurrence of a Middle Saxon settlement in this area.

Cambridge, Jesus College

TL 4520 5888 (Phoenix Exhumation Ltd report)

C Duhig & D Keen

In February 2011, a skeletal analysis was undertaken on a skeleton at Jesus College which had been used for anatomy teaching in the 1900s. Before examination, the skeleton was believed to be that of a female, and made from the skeletons of three individuals. The skeleton was presented for examination in a wooden case, strung with original 19th century wiring and pins with a circular hanging loop inserted into the skull. Examination showed that mainly one individual was represented, but with the right patella from another individual. The skeleton is male, with both Caucasoid and Negroid features, of medium

height and aged in the late-twenties to late-thirties at time of death.

Cambridge, Newnham Hall

TL 4410 5777 (ARH report)

I Sanderson

Geophysical survey including both resistivity and magnetometry survey was undertaken in order to determine if any subsurface features could be detected indicating the location of air raid shelters constructed in 1939. A Saxon grave was discovered during the building of air raid shelters in 1939 but no record of the exact position of that excavation has yet been discovered. The resistivity results gave a complex pattern of responses reflecting the intensive management of the lawns during the last century. The site was also not particularly suitable for magnetometry due to these high levels of interference and the extensive use of metal edging to the paths. A linear feature running parallel to and south of the present path in the south-west lawn showed in both the magnetometry and resistivity results. This is almost certainly an iron pipe with a bedding promoting the accumulation of moisture from the surrounding soil. There are indications of a higher resistivity band along the north edge which may represent the metalling of a footpath shown on the Baker map of 1821 (as well as on the inclosure map and later Ordnance Survey maps of the site). The low resistance values along some of the edges of the resistivity results could be due to path salting given that this survey was conducted not long after a period of frost and snow. Higher concentrations of salts in the soil increase conductivity and therefore reduce electrical resistance. A rectilinear feature in the north-west lawn is characteristic of building foundations. Features clearly detected on the sports field would seem to correspond to the boundaries of the 19th century pleasure gardens shown on the Baker and Ordnance Survey maps, although suggestions of earlier activities are discernible in the northern part of this site. A strong response half way down on the west edge of the survey does not correspond with a glass house shown on the 1886 OS map of the site but may represent a similar structure. The overall aim of locating the sites of air raid shelters was not achieved, which is not surprising given that they were fairly shallow structures in an area that has had extensive disturbance.

Cambridge, Old Court, Pembroke College

TL 4489 5809 (CAU report 1028)

R Newman

A lift pit measuring 1.55m by 0.88m was excavated within the cellar of the hall of Pembroke College (NHLE 1087104). Within the lift-pit, a series of four 19th to 20th century floor surfaces were identified. The earliest of these surfaces consisted of a layer of large limestone flags, which had subsequently been overlain by two succeeding layers of concrete. The sequence was finally capped by a layer of modern quarry tiles. No evidence of the original, 14th century hall, demolished and replaced with the present structure

in 1875-77 was uncovered. No evidence of pre-collegiate, domestic occupation at the site was identified either and so it therefore appears that the entire pre-19th century archaeological sequence was destroyed when the current structure was constructed.

Cambridge, Woodhead Drive

TL 4633 6077 (CAU report 1055)

R Newman

An evaluation covering an area of 43m² was undertaken on land situated near Woodhead Drive, Cambridge revealing the site had been subject to limited anthropogenic activity. Although the sequence was well-preserved, only two archaeological features, regular east-northeast to west-southwest aligned furrows with shallow, concave profiles were identified. Although undated, these features were most probably medieval in origin as they were associated with a well-worked subsoil deposit that contained 14th to 15th century pottery. This indicates that during the medieval period the site was situated within the open fields that constituted the rural hinterland of the nearby village of Chesterton. Above the subsoil, the remainder of the sequence comprised a layer of 19th century garden soil and a modern brick car park surface with associated hardcore.

Chatteris, Cromwell Community College

TL 3960 8540 (OA East report 1300)

T Lyons

Two phases of work were undertaken, the first within the footprints of proposed new buildings, the second on the sports pitches. During the initial phase, late medieval and post medieval pits, ditches and post-holes were recorded. The second phase revealed evidence for prehistoric settlement including an Early Iron Age pit cluster and a curvilinear gully. To the east, a headland of ridge and furrow agriculture was also present.

Chatteris, 19 Victoria Street

TL 39314 85862 (OA East report 1296)

R Clarke

This evaluation represented the first archaeological investigation within the presumed claustral nucleus of Chatteris Abbey. A series of insubstantial walls and between three and five articulated burials were revealed. The walls may be associated with the burials although a more substantial footing at the northern end of the trench could relate to the abbey buildings. The number and extent of inhumations and disarticulated human skeletal remains, combined with the mixture of age ranges of the individuals, strongly suggests that the proposed development is located within a secular or lay cemetery within the abbey precinct.

The depth and extent of the burial ground is not known and no finds post-dating the medieval period were recovered, suggesting that the burials are probably medieval and likely to be associated with the monastic phase of the site. All of the articulated burials were interred in the Christian manner: extended

with heads to the west and arms to the side. Grave cuts were not well-defined.

The results are of particular significance as they raise important questions regarding current models for the location of the abbey buildings. Furthermore they highlight how little is known about the plan, layout and extent of the abbey and the nature of the pre-monastic and post-Dissolution use of the site.

Chatteris, Tithe Barn Farm

TL 3972 8448 (OA East report 1297)

R Atkins

Trenches targeted over features identified by a previous geophysical survey revealed palaeochannels dating from the Holocene period. A small assemblage of residual Mesolithic/Early Neolithic flint tools was recorded along with Early Bronze Age settlement evidence in the form of a hollow and a well containing burnt flint, possibly derived from a 'burnt mound'. A Middle Bronze Age settlement with associated field systems was recorded. This included posthole structures, three large watering holes and ditches. Two ring ditches were also found and may represent the remnants of barrows.

The site was abandoned until the Middle/Late Iron Age when a new settlement was established, some of which was given over to copper- and iron-smithing. A second late pre-Roman or Iron Age/Early Roman farmstead was also recorded. Both sites endured into the Late Roman period. A probable Anglo-Saxon sunken floor building lay in a separate part of the site.

Cottenham, land at Cuckoo Hill farm

TL 4270 6640 (OAT report 3330511)

BA Johnson

Geophysical survey was carried out in advance of proposed construction on site and comprised a gridded magnetometer survey. A group of parallel anomalies on a north-south alignment were identified and interpreted as the remains of ridge and furrow cultivation or an episode of steam ploughing. A few further anomalies were recorded which were indicative of silted hollows or pits.

Cottenham, Twenty Pence site

TL 4697 6989 (ARH report)

I Sanderson

Magnetometry and resistivity surveys were undertaken on the basis of known Roman archaeology in the vicinity and the proximity of the site to Bullock's Haste (NHLE 1006897) and Car Dyke (NHLE 1006813 and 1006930). The results indicate an area of intense habitation and activity. The general orientation of the features does not seem to respect the line of the Car Dyke and can therefore be presumed to pre-date its construction.

Cottenham, ACA test pits

TL 4507 6760

A series of test pits was excavated by the University of Cambridge Access Cambridge Archaeology programme (ACA, formerly HEFA). Nine test pits were

excavated at several sites across Cottenham from which pottery dating from the Roman to modern periods was retrieved.

Eltisley, Manor Farm

TL 2733 5931 (OA East report 1319)

J Fairbairn

This community archaeology project found evidence for activity within the moated enclosure at Manor Farm (NHLE 1309206) dating back to at least the 15th century and possibly much earlier. Aerial photography of the site also suggested that the enclosure may have been much larger than initially thought. Evidence for Roman occupation in the vicinity, perhaps a small farmstead, was also noted. Investigation of a mound or platform to the east of the present building revealed that it probably once supported a larger building and dispelled the idea that the sunken area in front of the farmhouse was once a medieval fishpond. A trackway or hard standing was recorded to north of the moat that may have led to an older entrance to the moated enclosure.

Ely, Highflyers Farm

TL 5539 8233 (NHA reports 11/26, 11/61, 11/84, 11/201, 11/214)

J Walford, A Butler, E Taylor, J Brown

Geophysical survey conducted over four phases revealed a large, double-ditched concentric square enclosure likely to represent a shrine or military site of Late Iron Age or Romano-British date. Two concentrations of sub-rectangular enclosures suggest minor settlement foci of similar date. A trackway linking the enclosures with the putative temple site to the north was also detected.

An initial stage of trial trench evaluation confirmed the presence of a complex of enclosures and a droveway which had been detected by the geophysical survey. Settlement at the site began in the Early to Middle Iron Age with the peak of activity occurring during the Romano-British period in the 2nd to 4th centuries AD. Parts of the enclosure complex were maintained into the Saxon period.

A further stage of fieldwork confirmed five principal groups of archaeological remains; a large isolated Middle to Late Iron Age pit, a rectangular enclosure, an area of scattered pits, a concentration of Late Iron Age and Roman enclosures and a post medieval brick kiln. Pits and enclosure ditches produced pottery which was predominantly Late Iron Age, representative of small localised features created from the 1st century BC, with perhaps some used into the 1st century AD. Up to four small rectangular and sub-rectangular enclosures may have been present, together with scattered groups of pits. A group of enclosures were established in the Late Roman period, probably during the 3rd to 4th centuries, but were abandoned by the late 4th century. A possible hoard of late 4th century coins was discovered and reported under the terms of the Treasure Act (1996). Other finds of pottery, metal and animal bone all suggested that they originated from domestic debris, but the lack of

evidence for building materials or structural features suggested that this was probably midden waste.

Ely, Lisle Lane

TL 5473 8026 (AS report 3725)

T Schofield

Ten trial trenches were excavated on land at Lisle Lane, in advance of construction of a supermarket revealing an undated gully, post medieval land drains and a modern pit. There had been some truncation to the site as a result of the previous modern light industrial buildings on the site.

Girton, Girton College, Ash Court

TL 4236 6105 (CAU report 1006)

R Newman, R Ferraby and J Hutton

Three phases of archaeological investigation including geophysical survey, geotechnical test pitting and trial trench evaluation were undertaken at Ash Court, Girton College (NHLE 1331334). The earliest features to be encountered during these works consisted of a series of tree-boles/tree-throws that showed no signs of anthropogenic involvement in their creation. These were overlain by a horizon of well-worked horticultural soil. As this latter deposit showed no evidence of bioturbation, it appears likely that the area was cleared prior to the commencement of agricultural activity. Overlying the horticultural soil was a compacted spread of ash and charcoal, deposited in the late 19th century during the early years of Girton College. Also dating to this period was a large gravel quarry pit, which appears to have been associated with the initial construction of Old Wing in the early 1870s. Finally, evidence of 20th century landscaping activity in the form of a rubble spread, and an upcast gravel bank flanking Orchard Drive was also encountered. These results clearly demonstrate that the large Anglo-Saxon cemetery that was previously identified a little way to the south during the late 19th century does not extend into this area.

Girton, 1 High Street

TL 4199 6204 (OA East report 1245)

N Gilmour

Evaluation of the site recorded postholes and ditches dating from the 12th to 16th centuries that contained pottery and a large assemblage of medieval worked stone objects. These included seventeen lava quern fragments, a possible lava millstone, two schist hones and two stone roof tile fragments. A Late Medieval cobbled surface overlay the medieval features.

Great Shelford, Granhams Farm

TL 4637 5302 (OA East report 1261)

N Gilmour

An Early-Middle Saxon ditch was sealed below post medieval dumped deposits. This may relate to probable Anglo-Saxon earthworks adjacent to the site.

Great Shelford, 49 Woollards Lane

TL 4605 5191 (AS reports 3707, 3909)

T Collins, K Higgs & K Henry, T Schofield

An historic building recording survey was undertaken on the former school building and associated buildings prior to demolition. The three buildings comprised a school building constructed in 1870, a domestic residence and modest commercial premises. Despite conversion to a garage and renovation during the 1960s, the school and residential building retained their 19th century timber cores, a fairly unusual, late example of timber construction. Evaluation by trial trenching revealed a number of undated linear features and pits and further investigation revealed them to be post medieval and modern in date, relating to the public house that previously stood on the site.

Godmanchester, 8 Earning Street

TL 2480 7026 (AS report 3746)

A Dyson

Archaeological monitoring and recording during an extension to the existing building revealed both Roman and post medieval finds. An unexcavated feature below the level of construction contained a fragment of a Gaulish amphora, suggesting the presence of undisturbed Roman features.

Harlton, Washpit Lane, land west of Manor Farm

TL 3854 5262 (AS report 3982)

L Smith, M Stoakley and T Woolhouse

A trial trench evaluation on land west of Manor Farm, Washpit Lane, Harlton was undertaken in advance of the construction of a new hay/straw and cattle store along with a reed bed and access. Archaeological features were encountered in six evaluation trenches, most containing artefacts of Saxo-Norman and medieval date although residual Roman sherds were also present. Large silt filled pits, possible outwash pits, or a series of ponds from an un-established industrial/filtration process were found, and a few smaller pits were also investigated. Whether these large ponds/pits are referred to in the name of the adjacent Lane (Washpit Lane) remains unknown.

Haslingfield, Cantalupe Farm

TL 4128 5380 (CAU report 1001)

J Tabor & R Palmer

A series of aerial photographic survey, fieldwalking and metal detecting was undertaken at Cantalupe Farm, to the north-east of Haslingfield in advance of the construction of a solar farm. The aerial photographic survey identified no archaeological sites within the proposed development area and the fieldwalking and metal detecting yielded comparatively few finds, the majority of which were post medieval in date.

Haslingfield, 30 New Road

TL 4085 5249 (OA East report 1235)

R Atkins

The excavation revealed significant evidence of occupation and activity over several periods. Features dating to the Iron Age, Roman and medieval periods were uncovered including an enclosure and possibly

a domestic building from the Late Iron Age period, with all features predominantly concentrated at the northern end of the site. From the 13th to mid 14th centuries the site became part of a pastoral field system with a droveway. A large assemblage of pottery was recovered from the excavations dating to the Early Iron Age through to a couple of fragments of 19th century vessels. A copper-alloy George II half-penny was also recovered.

Hinxton, Hinxton Genome Campus

TL 5442 6092 (OA East report 1323)

T Fletcher

The latest phase of works at this site corroborated earlier investigations in the locality, revealing further evidence for Neolithic flint working and the continuation of Iron Age and Romano-British agricultural activity in the form of extensive boundary ditches, enclosures and a fence-lined trackway that may have been used for animal husbandry. The pottery from previous excavations already forms a regionally significant group of 'Belgic' material and indicates that the wider settlement was of unusual status. A single burial of possible Iron Age or Roman date was placed within a ditch. Occupation of the site appears to have diminished during the Late Roman period.

Evidence for Anglo-Saxon activity during the 5th-century was uncovered in the form of two sunken floor buildings, one of which was particularly well-preserved, containing loom weights and other finds indicative of textile working. A Late Saxon or early medieval pit containing evidence for jet-working was also of note. Two small 13th-century ovens and a number of medieval ditches containing significant quantities of pottery were also recorded; a glazed tile recovered from one of the ditches is likely to have originated from a high status building, perhaps with an ecclesiastical association.

Histon, 49-51 Station Road

TL 4400 6326 (PCA report)

T Knight

Evaluation undertaken prior to development revealed a number of pits and ditches of medieval date along with a small assemblage of medieval and post medieval pottery. The lack of any direct evidence of dwellings would suggest that the location occupied a relatively marginal location in relation to the core of the settlement during the medieval and early post medieval periods, consistent with the current understanding of the village's development.

Huntingdon, Chequers Court Car Park

TL 2410 7182 (OA East report 1252)

M Webster & R Clarke

Well preserved, stratified archaeological deposits and features spanning the medieval to post medieval periods were recorded, including timber structures and pits containing evidence for industrial and domestic activities, low-level blacksmithing, butchery and food-preparation. Extensive cultivation soils underlying late 17th- or early 18th-century brick wall founda-

tions and a substantial posthole.

Huntingdon, land at Christie Drive, Hinchingsbrooke

TL 2200 7190 (CAU report 1076)

M Brittain

Archaeological investigation revealed Iron Age and Romano-British features forming part of the multi-phase landscape of Bob's Wood, along the Great Ouse Valley. Early Neolithic flint represented the earliest visitation to the site, although no features of this date were recorded. Two possible Mid to Late Iron Age ring gullies with a single sherd of East Midlands Scored Ware were superseded by at least three phases of 2nd-4th century AD Romano-British droveways and rectilinear enclosures, along with a kiln or bread oven pit and associated ring gully. Evidence of late medieval and post medieval agricultural use in the form of ridge and furrow also overlay the site.

Huntingdon, west of Town Centre Link Road

TL 2338 7194 (OA East report 1284)

M Webster

A deeply stratified medieval sequence dating from the early 11th to 15th centuries was recorded in the area fronting onto Ermine Street. Features including floors, pits, and remnants of timber structures yielded a large assemblage of finds broadly indicative of medieval domestic activity. Possible Roman or perhaps Anglo-Saxon deposits were also recorded. Of particular note was a human foetus of 28-36 weeks old that appeared to have been buried within a timber structure.

Kingston, The Old Rectory

TL 3466 5543 (CAU report 1056)

C Cessford

An archaeological evaluation in the vicinity of the Old Rectory (NHLE 1163215), Kingston; a high status 12th-13th century stone aisled hall with a 14th century cross wing revealed evidence of 12th-13th century activity contemporary with the aisled hall and a 14th-16th century metalled yard surface alongside a timber building also contemporary with the cross wing.

Kirtling, All Saints Church

TL 6868 5764 (AS report 3973)

C Leonard & L Smith

Monitoring and recording during the installation of new drainage works at All Saints Church (NHLE 1126290) recorded six inhumations of unknown date but conforming to the expected Christian burial practice. All remains were returned to the Church for reburial.

Leverington, Crosse Hall

TF 4463 1069 (OA East report 1313)

T Fletcher

Several phases of a range of storage barns were recorded by historical building survey. These were associated with the 16th-century Beechwood House, previously known as Crosse Hall. The barns were constructed from hand-made bricks although no ar-

chitectural features, original roof coverings, fixtures or fittings survived, which made dating and function of the various elements difficult to establish. Historical maps show buildings on the site as early as the 18th century and in their current layout by the late 19th century. Census data reveals that in the mid-late 19th century the owners of Beechwood House were seed merchants and the addition of windows throughout the building at this time may indicate alteration to accommodate living areas or to facilitate the storage and sorting of seeds.

Leverington, land to the west of 55 Dowgate Road

TF 4454 1068 (NAU report 2734)

S Westall

Two 10m x 1.8m trenches were excavated prior to the construction of a single dwelling within the former kitchen garden adjacent to 55 Dowgate Road, Leverington. Evidence of post medieval and medieval activity comprising pits and ditches, overlain by agricultural or horticultural furrows were identified. The remains of an old wall, thought to be associated with the kitchen garden was also recorded.

Leverington, land north of St Leonard's Church

TF 4443 1149 (ALL report 2011043)

Seven trenches were excavated in advance of the provision of additional burial ground at St Leonard's Church (NHLE 1160993). Activity dating from the 12th century was identified in the western half of the site. A series of ditches and pits were identified within the eastern part of the site and are likely to have been associated with a farmstead or other settlement dating from the 12th-14th centuries. At the north west of the site a large drain or boundary was identified and is probably contemporary with the medieval activity. All trenches contained an upper immature alluvial soil which suggests a period of wetland formation immediately post-dating the 12th to 14th centuries.

Litlington, Highfields Farm

TL 3172 4096 (AW report 1017)

C E Smith

Evaluation in advance of the construction of wind turbines uncovered a wide ditch of possible prehistoric date. The finds assemblage was very small but included a piece of prehistoric pottery, a worked flint fragment and three pieces of ceramic building material.

Little Downham, Park Lane

TL 5201 8394 (OAE report 1263)

R Atkins

An evaluation prior to residential development to the rear of 10 Park Lane identified a single undated ditch, roughly aligned north-south. It is likely the ditch was part of a Roman field system found adjacent to the east of the site in a previous archaeological evaluation in 2007.

Littleport, May Farm, Mildenhall Road

TL 6002 8724 (PCA report)

P Boyer

Five trenches were excavated in advance of proposed development. An extensive area of raised ground was identified running north-west to south-east across the centre of the site, and a smaller area of raised ground was also evident to the south. Both raised areas corresponded with natural roddon features. Post medieval field boundaries, drainage ditches and marl pits were identified cut into the surface of the roddons and are believed to have been associated with land reclamation and management.

March, land to the south of Gaul Road

TL 4079 9661 (CAU report 1061)

J Tabor

The trial trenching programme comprised seven trenches. Ten features, of which four were definitely archaeological in origin, were excavated and recorded, with a further six possible features recorded. Only one feature; an Early Neolithic pit could be securely dated. The pit contained sherds of Mildenhall style Early Neolithic pottery and a small assemblage of worked flint and animal bone. A series of topsoil-filled linear features occurring across the site were clearly associated with post medieval agriculture and appear to be related to either drainage or cultivation. Although the recorded archaeological features were relatively few and only one could be confidently dated, the results of the evaluation are significant and indicate the potential for further archaeological remains being present at the site. This site along with two nearby flint scatters to the north-west appear to form part of a zone of Early Neolithic activity in the vicinity of Gaul Road, which is the only known site of this period on the March 'island'.

March, 14 Market Place

TL 4176 9663 (NAU report 2737)

P Crawley

A single trench was excavated in advance of the proposed construction of four new houses. The evaluation revealed evidence of Roman salt production, and a sequence of largely naturally deposited layers that had probably formed on the edge of a channel in the earlier medieval period. A layer of peat had also formed on the edge of the channel in the 12th-14th centuries, which may mark the original course of the River Nene. Evidence of the ground being deliberately raised in the 17th to 19th centuries was also identified.

Meldreth, 15 Whitecroft Road

TL 3748 4543 (ASC report 1414)

M Cuthbert

Evaluation comprising eight trenches revealed two undated post holes and a raised trackway along the southern boundary of the site. This trackway is believed to be the remnants of the embankment of the early 20th century Meldreth Tramway. A structure was recorded in the southeast corner of the site and

was interpreted as a boiler house linked with World War II Nissen huts located southeast of the site.

Milton, Landfill site

TL 4623 6288 (CAU reports 1023)

M Collins

Cambridge Archaeological Unit undertook two open-area excavations at Milton Landfill in advance of its expansion in 2010 & 2011. The two phases identified significant evidence for Middle Iron Age activity which was overlain by a large area of Romano-British agricultural planting beds. An extensive area of inter-cutting probable Romano-British quarry pits was also identified. Both phases of excavation were overlain by post medieval furrows and ditches.

Molesworth

TL 0543 7653 (ASDU report 2611)

A geophysical survey was carried out in support of an application for a wind farm at Molesworth. Geomagnetic surveys were carried out in nine areas, and identified a possible ditched enclosure system, a possible pit alignment, former ridge and furrow, former field boundaries and land drains.

Morborne, former Rectory

TL 1391 9157 (APS report 14/11)

V Mellor

An evaluation undertaken in advance of proposed development at the Rectory, Morborne including trial trenching revealed post medieval deposits of 18th century date and later. Deposits associated with the landscaped gardens of the former Rectory were recorded including the remains of a wall and terrace. Artefacts associated with these features were all of 17th to 20th century date.

Offord D'Arcy, High Street

TL 2200 6659 (CAU report 994)

J Tabor

Excavations over an area measuring 1142 m² revealed pits, ditches and ponds, the majority of which were concentrated in the north-west corner of the excavation area. The finds assemblage recovered from the features indicates three broad phases of activity; the 13th-14th century, the 14th-15th century and the post medieval/modern period.

Over Narrows, Needingworth Quarry

TL 538 273 (CAU reports 1025)

C Evans & J Tabor

As part of a continuing programme of archaeological investigation, excavation of area VI following earlier evaluation revealed unexpectedly high surface finds with a large quantity of Late Bronze Age and Iron Age pottery also found in excess of what was anticipated. Several pit features were also found in addition to a buried soil. Several test pits were also excavated as part of the continuing sampling strategy of the buried soils found on the sand ridges located here that were intensively occupied or used during prehistory.

Peterborough, Itter Crescent

TF 182 018 (OA East report 1290)

S Henley & A Pickstone

A Late Iron Age enclosed settlement and a previously undiscovered Romano-British villa were found at this site. The Iron Age settlement was well established by the 1st century BC and comprised three roundhouse gullies, one of which had been rebuilt in the same location, numerous pits, postholes and an oven. These lay within a large, banked enclosure ditch. The bank was located on the outside of the enclosure, perhaps suggesting that defence was not its primary function.

The enclosure ditch remained in use into the Roman period and the subsequent Romano-British villa, which was continually extended and re-modelled over a period of 200 or 300 years, was built within its limits. At least three separate phases have been identified including an extensive, high status timber and stone building with a corridor on the western side; a substantial, possibly two-storey stone building and a later bathhouse and hypocaust system lay to the south. At its height the villa faced east onto a central courtyard with wings on three sides, two of which were visible within the development area. The western wing housed a possible kitchen and other domestic rooms along with a complex bath house and evidence for a hypocaust system located to the south. A garden wall formed the limit of the northern wing which ran east to west along the line of the boundary ditch and was associated with a large rectangular stone building of possible agricultural function.

Despite extensive robbing of the floor surfaces, large numbers of tesserae were recovered from demolition deposits and robber trenches including multi-coloured pieces from a decorative mosaic. Significant quantities of painted plaster fragments were also present with block colours, stripes and figurative designs all identified in a very good state of preservation.

To the west of the main villa complex lay a tile kiln that would have provided roof, floor and box flue tile for the villa. Two phases of use were identified that presumably represent re-use during expansion and modification of the villa.

Over 40 individuals were interred across the area. At least three groups of neonate and infant burials were located predominantly within the courtyard area and these are thought to have been contemporary with the working life of the villa. Many of the adult interments were presumed to be of Late Roman or Anglo-Saxon date as they were placed into robber trenches or cut through the floors of the villa rooms and associated buildings. A single burial recorded beyond the western limit of the boundary ditch was identified as Anglo-Saxon by its grave goods: two gilt brooches and a Baltic amber bead and copper alloy necklace dating to the 5th century AD.

Ramsey, 11a New Road

TL 2881 8520 (HN report 681)

J Snee

A single 4m by 4m trial trench evaluation was excavated in the footprint of the proposed development.

It revealed a sequence of water channels dating to the late medieval and post medieval periods, with an associated masonry pier. Two sherds of pottery were recovered from the evaluation dating to the 14th - 15th centuries, along with some ceramic building material and animal bone.

Stapleford, land to the east of z

TL 503 516 (STRAT report 2962)

S Haddrell

Geophysical survey undertaken by Stratascan in September 2011 revealed a circular and a number of curvilinear features of probable archaeological origin. A series of possibly ploughed out earthworks and embankments were evident to the west of the site.

St Neots, Footpath and Cycle Bridge

TL 176 592 (OA East report 1244)

N Pankhurst

Post medieval ridge and furrow and a number of possible Bronze Age pits and ditches were recorded on the eastern side of the river Great Ouse. To the west lay a series of early medieval quarry pits and a sequence of 12th-century banks and ditches that are likely to be associated with the castle to the south.

St Neots, Loves Farm, Phase 2

TL 2069 6075 (WYAS report 2221)

A Webb

A magnetometer survey identified traces of ridge and furrow throughout the site. A ladder settlement orientated north-east to south-west and extending from all but the northeast corner of the site was recorded, corresponding with aerial photography. A series of five enclosures located west of Tithe Farm were also identified. Three seemingly isolated archaeological features were noted, comprising a small sub-square enclosure in the south eastern corner of the site, a discrete ring ditch in the north-west corner and a further sub-square enclosure at the western edge of the site.

TL 2069 6075 (PCA report)

M Hinman

Fieldwalking and metal detecting survey yielded extremely low artefact densities across the study area and consisted of occasional pot sherds of Roman and medieval date. The Roman pottery was broadly dateable to the first and second centuries AD. A possible Roman pot mend, a fragment of an intaglio ring and a single Roman coin were recovered.

St Neots, Old Fire Station

TL 1868 6039 (CAU report 1029)

C Cessford

An archaeological evaluation covering a proposed development area including the former Old Fire Station, the former Household Waste Disposal Site, car park and recreation ground in St Neots. The earliest features encountered were Saxo-Norman with some form of activity probably beginning in the 12th century and continuing until around the 14th

century. There was possibly a roadside ditch along Huntingdon Street and in close proximity were post-holes relating to a fence or building, a pit or well and various other features. These remains appear to represent a short-lived expansion of St Neots, with domestic occupation fronting onto Huntingdon Street. Further to the east there was also evidence of contemporary sand/gravel quarrying and strip-agriculture. Activity apart from strip-agriculture appears to have ceased during the 14th-15th centuries, and activity only resumed in the 18th-19th centuries.

The Stukeleys, 67 Ermine Street

TL 2209 7453 (NHA report 11/106)

T Upson-Smith

An archaeological excavation was carried out on land at 67 Ermine Street, Great Stukeley revealing a series of gullies, pits and postholes dated to the 11th and 12th centuries. They probably lie on the periphery of an area of domestic activity. The features produced a small pottery assemblage, dominated by St Neots type ware, Huntingdon ware and 'Shelly' coarse ware. The pits contained an extensive range of charred cereal grains and some peas and pulses. The southern part of the site was overlain by a layer of colluvium built up as a result of agricultural activity as evidenced by the surviving ridge and furrow earthworks in the northern part of the site.

Sutton, West Lodge Lane

TL 4373 7862 (CAU report 1000)

S Timberlake

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken prior to residential development of the garden of the Georgian mansion; West Lodge in Sutton. The northernmost trench revealed clay geology close to the surface with a thin covering of gravel which thickened towards the base where evidence for post medieval (probably mid-19th century) quarrying and subsequent backfill was apparent. Towards the upper end of this trench an east-west aligned ditch or earlier quarrying feature was found from which probable 16th-17th century pottery was recovered. Further evidence of 19th century quarrying was revealed in the remaining trenches. A scatter of burnt limestone pebbles across the site may relate to evidence for former lime burning, perhaps using the ubiquitous limestone present as cobbles and pebbles within the gravel. The site was exposed to high levels of truncation caused by quarrying, planting and the burial of domestic rubbish.

Swaffham Prior, 37 Lower End

TL 5707 6460 (OA East report 1324)

R Atkins

Two Roman ditches and a series of 18th-century quarry pits were found. Although the evaluation was within the area of a moated medieval manor called Shadworth, recorded in documents from AD 1330, no features dating to this period were found and only three residual medieval and late medieval pottery sherds were recovered.

Waterbeach, Denny Abbey Farmland Museum

TL 4921 6847 (OA East report 1292)

N Gilmour

Two test pits were excavated in advance of an extension to a children's play area. One test pit revealed 19th century rubble, and the second test pit contained a wall which was overlain by a layer of rubble, possibly of 16th century date. This wall is likely to be medieval and potentially represents part of the remains of an annex to the refectory building (NHLE 1331328), which still stands on site.

Waterbeach, Denny Lodge Business Park Wind Turbines

TL 4974 6946 (APS report 133/11)

A Peachey

Archaeological evaluation comprising two trenches prior to wind turbine development at Denny Lodge Business Park revealed a single undated field boundary ditch present on the 1st edition 1887 Ordnance Survey map, parallel to the Upper Mill Drain to the east. Eight fragments of animal bone including vertebrae and a long bone from a possible sheep/goat were also recorded.

Waterbeach, Waterbeach Lodge

TL 4900 6534 (CAU report 1016)

M Collins

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in advance of the redevelopment of a care home. The evaluation demonstrated that most of the site had been quarried for gravel in the 19th and 20th century. However, the Car Dyke Roman canal survives as an earthwork to the rear of the site and a trench positioned on the edge of this feature revealed the sequence of upper fills.

West Wratting, The Causeway

TL6050 5234 (ALBION report 2011/31)

R Gregson

One trial trench was excavated within the footprint of a proposed new building. A boundary ditch which appears to have been recut over a number of centuries was discovered. The dating of the earliest phase of the ditch was uncertain due to the recovery of only a single sherd of Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age pottery. The boundary was probably in existence during the medieval period but a prehistoric date cannot be ruled out. The most recent recut and subsequent infilling occurred in the 19th/20th century.

Whaddon, Church Street

TL 3478 4655 (AS report 3737)

M Adams

Four trial trenches were excavated, and six parallel ditches representing field boundaries or a potential trackway were recorded. The ditches ranged in date from the medieval to later post medieval periods. A post medieval stakehole and possible pit or tree hollow were also present.

Whittlesey, Bassenhally Farm

TL 2836 9746 (APS report 124/11)

S J Malone

A detailed magnetic gradiometer survey was undertaken. The area is dominated by linear features on a roughly east-west alignment. Traces of medieval ridge and furrow were aligned east-west, while a few north-south linear features may represent ditched enclosures.

Whittlesey, Crossway Hand

TL 2578 9770 (CAU report 999)

S Timberlake

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in advance of the demolition of an existing house and further residential development within the boundaries of the current 25 Crossway Hand. A trench to the rear of the house exposed the base of one small (0.5m diameter) undated pit cut into the gravel, the latter with a single cobble of burnt stone in it. A small amount of animal bone and a 30 cm long fragment of burnt clay (similar to briquetage) was noted within the lower subsoil exposed in the west-facing section of the same trench. No traces of Roman pottery or tile were recovered despite the proximity of this site from the Fen Causeway.

Whittlesey, Eastrea Road

TL 288 968 (CAU report 1070)

R Patten

The evaluation of a large plot of land to the south of Eastrea Road at the eastern end of Whittlesey provided new, though very plough-damaged, evidence of an earlier Bronze Age barrow with a central, urned cremation. A few shallow pits, thought to be contemporary, were located in the vicinity of the barrow. Towards the 'island's' edge were a series of Middle Iron Age enclosures and pits, which suggested two separate phases of human occupation. Although there was no evidence for ancient societies using or occupying this space, it was possible to record a series of marine and freshwater inundations, which spanned the Bronze Age through to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period.

Whittlesey, former Burdett Nurseries, Eastrea Road

TL 2830 9690 (NAU report 2923b)

J Ames

Ongoing archaeological evaluation works at the former Burdett Nurseries site, Eastrea Road, Whittlesey uncovered several enclosures and associated features dating from the Iron Age and Roman periods. Domestic refuse including pottery and butchered animal bone recovered from the archaeological features suggests the evaluated area formed part of a larger settlement site occupying the eastern end of a gravel/sand island.

Whittlesey, Sir Harry Smith Community College

TL 2763 9738 (OA East report 1274)

G Rees & J Diffey

Remains encountered at the front of the school pri-

marily consisted of the footings of a 19th-century workhouse known to have stood on the site. Three pits and two ditches found in the playing fields may relate to the Fen Causeway Roman road, lying to the north, or perhaps an Anglo-Saxon cemetery recorded to the west. A compacted gravel spread was also recorded, which may have been a track or surface associated with earlier occupation.

Whittlesey, Must Farm

TL 233 970 (CAU reports forthcoming)

This ongoing investigation's aims are to examine the inter-relationship of human activities and their environment in a uniquely well-preserved deeply buried Neolithic to Iron Age fluvial landscape, ahead of clay extraction at Hanson UK's brick clay quarry in Whittlesey. It is also intended to establish the sequence and use of the rivers prior to their final sedimentation and burial within and beneath the fen sequence of marine clays and alluvial silts interleaved with freshwater peats. The investigation area includes part of the prehistoric course of the River Nene and its associated gravel terraces to the north. Neolithic and Bronze Age burial monuments and successions of short term settlements and land divisions occurred in former dry land locations that became gradually wetter until submerged beneath the accreting Late Bronze Age fenland marsh.

Bronze Age and Iron Age metalwork was found; broken and tossed into the river silts, mirroring the deposits of metalwork found at Flag Fen and Bradley Fen (during a CAU investigated extension of the King's Dyke Quarry 1km to the north-east) or known finds on the Historic Environment Record from around the embayment. Swords with intact wooden grips and partially preserved scabbards were recovered from the river among a repertoire of other similarly well preserved items typologically dated to the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age and the end of the Iron Age. Horse harness turret rings with distinctive La Tène decoration (a horse skeleton was notably recovered from the top of the roddon) and Late Iron Age brooches occurred from the upper sequence of the river, while Bronze Age Wilburton-type swords, spears with their long shafts in place, and rapiers were found at greater depth.

However, the organic remains are the centre-piece of the discoveries. The preservation was such that repairs to the woven chevron weirs, constructed in pairs across the channel, were clear. In some places three replacement sections of weir denoted a sense of long-term management of the water's current and of the productivity of fishing in this place. A number of woven eel traps, or 'griggs', were also found.

Early results of the 2011 quarry phase has revealed the use of this particular areas of the river for fishing, though the recovery of other riverine resources is also to be expected – fowl, eggs, reeds, exposures of Oxford Clay in the scoured river banks for pottery making. The deposition of votive items into water is not unexpected for Late Bronze Age and Iron Age contexts, but it is not found everywhere. The location

of metalwork in this specific area of the river is not random but clearly focused on a productive part of the river and one with access afforded by the roddon 'causeway' while the presence of the boats in the river points to the wider use of the river as a conduit for transport and trade. Proximal contemporary habitation on the dryland slopes to the north-east (e.g. at Bradley Fen) and the erection of burial mounds just above the river floodplain at Must Farm combine to present, uniquely, a clear understanding of the favourability of this wetland/dryland landscape and capture the essential components of living and working in an around the Flag Fen embayment in later prehistory.

Above all, the discovery of six boats to date really sets this site apart. At 9m long a 'great boat' was once fitted with a transom board, though this is now absent from its beautifully grooved stern (a transom board decorated with a raised quatrefoil design was found isolated in the river – but could derive from a number of boats: its measurements may ultimately be a clue as to which it fits). Its bow end was perforated to enable mooring and/or manoeuvrability when on dry land. Log selection for this boat was unusual – hampered by a large knot that had to be cut out and replaced by a bung formed from a cross section of a smaller trunk, shaped to tightly fit the knot hole and to enable its pinning (with *trenails*, wooden pegs that swell when wet and are used to fasten timbers) within the base of the boat. The bung was subsequently caulked with fine white clay to seal the joint. The base of the boat was strengthened by four elevated, rounded ribs, the largest of which seated the inlet joint from the bung.

The 'great boat' was fully decorated by closely spaced cross-hatched grooves all over the external and internal sides of the boat – never before seen in prehistoric boats though continental medieval and North American canoes are known to have been decorated.

The remaining boats are smaller, between 4-6m in length. Some are punt-like in form – flat bases and shallow sided – while others have two bow ends. Some have internal handles while others are plain. No oars, paddles or poles have yet been found, or positively identified, so it is still uncertain as to how the boats were propelled. That there are perforations and internal handles in some prompt the question of them being towed from the roddon causeway.

The conservation and display of the objects is currently at the planning stage and through wide collaboration with enthusiastic local and regional museums, local councillors and Flag Fen, the intention is to display the boats and artefacts within the fenland area.

Whittlesey, Eldernell Lane, Coates

TL 3188 9783 (NHA report 11/37)

J Clarke

Evaluation carried out on land to the east of White Walls, Coates identified the former fen edge of Coates Island on the east side of the development

area. An undated ditch at the northeastern end was recorded and Middle Iron Age pottery was recovered from a colluvium deposit on the eastern edge of the gravels.

Whittlesey, 148-150 Stonald Road

TL 2628 9775 (APS report 3/11)

K Murphy

Archaeological evaluation revealed that the site had suffered from severe truncation from clay quarrying. Dumps of post medieval to modern material forming landfill were encountered, and brick rubble was present across the site, confirming cartographic references to brickmaking at this location.

Wicken, Dimmock's Cote Quarry

TL 5470 7240 (OA East report 1286)

N Gilmour

Two large solution hollows containing Early Neolithic and Late Bronze Age material were found, along with ditches representing a continuation of Roman field systems previously recorded in the quarry. Medieval ridge and furrow cultivation was present across the site and two silver pennies of Edward I were recovered.

Wilburton, Wilburton solar farm

TL 4741 7378 (COT report 11095)

S Joyce and A Wilkinson

Archaeological investigations were undertaken prior to the construction of a solar farm near Wilburton revealing a series of pits and ditches of Iron Age and unknown date. The north-west/south-east aligned ditches were perpendicular to the parish boundary and other boundaries within the existing field system.

Willingham, 12 Green Street

TL 4074 7031 (ALBION report 2011/55)

R Gregson

Two trial trenches were excavated in the yard and garden of 12 Green Street, in advance of construction of residential dwellings. Two possible post medieval quarrying pits, five modern post holes and 20th century services trenches were identified. Both trenches contained several layers of redeposited material which contained medieval pottery sherds, indicating medieval activity in the area.

Willingham, Willingham Mere

TL 402 735 (CAU report)

C Evans, S Boreham, H Roberts, R Standring and J Tabor

Funded by a University of Cambridge Knowledge Transfer Project grant, Cambridge Archaeology Unit, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and Hanson Aggregates ran a project to allow members of the public to experience 'palaeo-environmentalism'. The investigation included the excavation of a 9m x 10m area on the north-eastern edge of Willingham Mere where the deposits encountered closely correlated with both the prior borehole sur-

vey carried out by S Boreham and represented two distinct phases of fen development separated by a period of wetter reed swamp conditions. The lower organic silt layer represents an alder carr fen environment and the upper layer a more open fen environment. Large amounts of preserved wood, including the detritus of alder carr woodland were retrieved from the lower layer as well as a number of disarticulated bird bones (preliminarily identified as coot) and from the upper layer; a small assemblage of bird and fish bones including mallard duck and pike.

Wisbech, 35 Kirkgate Street

TL 4746 1045 (APS report 1/12)

P Cope-Faulkner

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at 35 Kirkgate Street in order to determine the archaeological implications of proposed development of the site. The site lies in an area of Wisbech known as 'Walsoken' which existed as a separate settlement until it was subsumed within the suburbs of the town. Walsoken was first mentioned in the 10th century and probably derived its name from a Late Saxon sea-bank, the line of which crosses the site. The proposed area of development site also lies adjacent to the medieval core of the village. The evaluation identified a sequence of natural, undated, medieval and post medieval deposits. Undated layers include the sea-bank which is probably Late Saxon origin. The sea-bank comprised a simple mound with some evidence for remodelling, perhaps after the bank was breached. On the landward side of the bank, deliberate dumping had occurred into which a late medieval or early post medieval channel and pit had been cut. Post medieval pits and a ditch were also recorded close to the Kirkgate Street frontage. Layers of marine alluvium had been deposited against the sea-bank on its seaward side. A large assemblage including both medieval and post medieval pottery was found along with glass, brick, metalwork and clay pipe and quantities of animal bone and mollusc shell representing food waste.

Yaxley, The Broadway

TF 1914 9320 (OA East report 1312)

T Phillips

Late Iron Age and Late Roman activity were in evidence. The Late Iron Age occupation comprised a square enclosure, a roundhouse and parts of a field system. A smaller C-shaped enclosure within the square enclosure may have represented the remnant of a shelter; slag and hammerscale recovered from this feature suggest that it was the focus of craft industrial activity. Early Roman activity was noted, although most of the evidence dates to 3rd to 4th century AD and can be split into two phases. The first comprised a rectilinear field system on a north-east to south-west alignment. A rectangular 'tank' with parallel beamslots in its base was interpreted as having held water. The fields were partially abandoned during the later phase, evidenced by a narrow boundary ditch and a beamslot structure cut across the earlier

field system. A second beamslot structure and an aisled building that extended beyond the western limit of excavation were also recorded.

The following sites produced little of archaeological interest:

Alconbury, RAF Alconbury
TL 2026 7657

Bourn, Skylark Meadow Solar Park
TL 3216 5804 (ALBION report 2011/15)

Brampton, 48 Miller Way
TL 2028 7129 (AS report 3760)

Brington and Molesworth, RAF Molesworth
TL 0768 7719 (ASC report 1391)

Burwell, 22 Spring Close
TL 1902 8777 (AS report 3857)

Cambridge, Little Newnham, Malting Lane
TL 4444 5777 (AS report 3829)

Cambridge, 164-165 Coleridge Road
TL 4685 5691 (OA East report 1241)

Cambridge, 143 High Street, Cherry Hinton
TL 4888 5693 (ASC report 1400)

Cambridge, Perse Upper School
TL 4627 5603 (OA East report 1317)

Cambridge, Hills Road Sixth Form College Sports Pavilion
TL 4586 5573 (AS report 3978)

Cambridge, Old Maltings, Prospect Row
TL 4563 5842 (AS report 3938)

Colne, land adjacent to 4 Old Church Lane
TL 3697 7598 (NAU report 2635)

Comberton, The Valleys
TL 3853 5681 (AS report 3860)

Cottenham, land at Cuckoo Hill Farm
TL 4272 6638 (CAU report 1014)

Dullingham, Dullingham Motors, Brinkley Road
TL 6299 5775 (ASE report)

Ellington, Vine Row, High Street
TL 1597 7184 (AS report 3846)

Ely, 36a Forehill
TL 5439 8020 (AS report 3729)

Gamlingay, Community Wind Turbine, Castle Farm
TL 24920 51040 (HN report 691)

Godmanchester, 15 White Hart Lane
TL 2523 7038 (OA East report 1260)

Great Gidding, 61 Main Street
TL 1189 8346 (NHA report 11/130)

Huntingdon, Cromwell Square
TL 2392 7209 (OA East report 1311)

Huntingdon, 13a Hartford Mews
TL 2412 7172 (OAE report 1243)

Isleham, Isleham Priory
TL 6420 7435 (OA East report 1250)

Landbeach, Walnut Farm
TL 4783 6455 (OA East report 1239)

Leverington, Roman Bank
TF 4474 1130 (APS report 72/11)

Little Abington, Scout camp site
TL 5318 4911 (CAU report 1045)

Little Wilbraham, St John's Church
TL 5454 5860 (CAU report 1033)

Oakington & Westwick, Oakington Primary School
TL 4138 6449 (OA East report 1288)

Manea, Edwards Way
TL 4779 8949 (CAU report 988)

March, land adjacent to 128 Elm Road
TL 4198 9842 (AS report 3791)

March, Edward's Buildbase/ land north of Levante, St John's Chase
TL 4189 9724 (AS report 3717)

Molesworth, RAF Molesworth
TL 0769 7719 (ASC report 1391)

Murrow, land fronting Back Road and 49 Front Road
TF 3760 0707 (APS report 145/11)

Murrow, Back Road
TF 3779 0726 (NAU report 2814)

Ramsey, 86 High Street
TL 2886 8511 (HN report 643)

Sawston, former Moules Garage, 28 Cambridge Road
TL 4849 4996 (OA East report 1301)

Sawston, Spring Close, Church Lane
TL 4893 4925 (AS report 3865)

Soham, Windayle, 27 Hall Street
TL 5917 7381 (AS report 3775)

St Neots, 19 Berkley Street, Merry Boys Public House

TL 1854 5973 (ASC report 1424)

Steeple Morden, St Peters and St Pauls Church

TL 2855 4249 (OA East report 1285)

St Ives, St Ivo Outdoor Leisure Centre

TL 2988 72621 (OA East report 1251)

St Neots, Hardwick Road, Camping and Caravanning Club

TL 1781 5934 (ULAS report 2011-158)

St Neots, Former Dairy Depot, Church Street

TL 1854 6027 (AS report 1260)

St Neots, Eaton Ford Green

TL 1769 6013 (AS report 3948)

Whittlesey, Whittlesey Washes

TL 5208 2974 to TL 5396 3026 (OA East report 1255)

Wimpole, The Woodyard Complex

TL 346 516 (OA East report 1238)

Wisbech, 4a Cannon street and 17 – 19 West Street

TF 4640 0925 (NAU report 2477)

Wisbech St Mary, Nettle Bank Wind Turbines, Guyhirn

TF 4181 0476 (APS report 112/11)

Woodditton, Limes Farm

TL 6668 5775 (AS report 3913)

Yaxley, Eagle Business Park

ECB3620

Desk-based assessments were produced for the following sites:

Alconbury, Alconbury Airfield

TL 2010 7660 (CgMs report 12676)

Brampton, RAF Brampton

TL 2083 7026 (Defence Estates)

Cambridge, Park Terrace and Camden Court

TL 4535 5815 (OA East report 1318)

Soham, Gimbert Road

TL 5911 7371 (CgMs report 12888)

St Ives, Cromwell Works, New Road

TL 3158 7103 (AS report 3802)

Wisbech, College of West Anglia

TL 4675 0907 (OA East report 1253)

