
Fieldwork in Cambridgeshire 2009

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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.

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Abbreviations:

AS	Archaeological Solutions, previously Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust
CAU	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
ECC FAU	Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit
GSB	Geophysical Surveys of Bradford
HN	Heritage Network
NA	Northamptonshire Archaeology
NAU	NAU Archaeology, previously Norfolk Archaeological Unit
OA East	Oxford Archaeology East, previously CAM ARC

Balsham, Camgrain APC site

TL5673 5440 (OA East Report 1145)

J Fairbairn

Excavation revealed part of a series of posts forming a circular enclosure thought to be a prehistoric timber circle.

Bassingbourn cum Kneesworth, Bury Yard

TL 3287 4414 (Archaeology Rheesearch Group Report)

I Sanderson

Magnetometry and resistivity surveys were undertaken by Archaeology Rheesearch Group at the scheduled Bury Yard site, Bassingbourn. A trackway was suggested across the southern edge and eastern end of the survey area. The magnetometry results have a similarly aligned anomaly running part way across the eastern survey area, before abruptly terminating. Building foundations were suggested towards the centre and southern areas of the site. The

magnetometry results, but not the resistivity results, suggest some sort of link from these structures to the north. The areas covered in this survey were severely constrained by obstacles on the site and are only sufficient to form a very limited impression of any remaining features.

Bassingbourn cum Kneesworth, Kneesworth House Hospital

TL 3495 4415 (AOC Archaeology Group Report 30452)

L Capon

Archaeological evaluation revealed several large Roman features, probably field boundary ditches dating to the 3rd–4th centuries AD. Domestic Roman pottery was retrieved suggesting occupation during that period in the vicinity of the site along with residual flints. Several discrete post-medieval features were also encountered across the site.

Bassingbourn cum Kneesworth, the Causeway

TL 3385 4406 (Pre-Construct Archaeology report)

P Boyer

Archaeological evaluation revealed a number of sherds of prehistoric pottery located in several tree throws, and remnants of the 18th–19th century allotments that previously occupied the site.

Bluntisham, High Street, Baptist Chapel Sunday School

TL 3682 7460 (OA East Report 1118)

T Fletcher

An historic building survey of the former Sunday School building took place on the site of Bluntisham Baptist Chapel (also known as The Meeting House). Documentary evidence indicates that the earliest part of the building, the main hall, was constructed in 1842. This date is significant since most sources have referred to the building's date stone plaque of 1887 and dated interior carvings; it is now clear that the building is earlier than previously thought.

Four main phases of development were identified by the survey, the earliest of which was construction of the original Sunday School. An extension was added on the eastern side of the main building togeth-

er with a remodelling of the interior to commemorate the centenary of the first chapel. An external chimney stack was subsequently installed on the southern side as well as a small single room extension, perhaps for coal storage. Finally, internal alterations included the addition of a kitchen and storage facilities within the eastern extension together with the insertion/replacement of a number of windows. Interesting internal features include an elaborately carved screen, fire surrounds and ceiling detail which, according to historical sources were all the work of John Wheatley, a local carpenter to whom a memorial plaque in the Sunday School building is dedicated.

Subsequent archaeological excavation to the east and south of the Sunday School building revealed burial plots and pits (none of which were excavated). A single sherd of Late Iron Age pottery represents the earliest material recovered. The finds include a range of medieval and post-medieval pottery. Small amounts of disarticulated human skeletal remains were returned to the Baptist minister for reburial.

Bottisham, High Street

TL 5509 6016 (OA East Report 1121)

J House

Structural remains were uncovered, as well as a small number of pits and a ditch, all of which are highly likely to be contemporary with the current standing building, formerly known as the Swan Inn. Cartographic evidence indicates gradual modification and adaptations of the building over the course of time. A small quarry pit was found at the northern end of the development area.

Cambridge, Anglia Ruskin University

TL 4592 5829 (CAU Report 906)

E Beadsmore

Interim report for archaeological evaluation which revealed the remains of the 18th century 'South Street' and a series of terraced properties as seen on the 1886 OS map. The street and houses heavily truncated earlier deposits however, a small quantity of earlier quarry pits were found, which may be a continuation of previously recorded quarrying to the north.

Cambridge, junction of Benson Place and Westfield Lane

TL 4422 5955 (AS Report 3284)

K Higgs and M Brook

Evaluation identified a number of late post-medieval features comprising ditches, pits and a post hole. A single abraded sherd of medieval pottery was recovered.

Cambridge, Castle Hill Mound

TL 445 591 (OA East Report 1105)

J Fairbairn

Three test pits were dug at the base of a retaining wall skirting Castle Hill mound. Monitoring revealed that the ground had been heavily disturbed in the modern period. The disturbed fills contained pottery from the Roman and medieval periods, as well as post-medie-

val and modern ceramics.

Cambridge, Wilson Court extension, Fitzwilliam College

TL 4398 5945 (NAU Archaeology Report 2220)

P Crawley

An archaeological evaluation carried out on the footprint of the extension to the Wilson Court building at Fitzwilliam College revealed only 19th century planting or postholes with associated root disturbance despite Bronze Age and Roman remains being encountered just 50m to the north and east.

Cambridge, Former Regional College, Newmarket Road

TL 4604 5894 (OA East Report 1159)

R Atkins

Evidence from test pits shows that this site may have served as open fields until modern times. A possible medieval cultivation soil found within the north-western corner of the site contained rubbish and probably dates to the 13th–14th centuries. It may derive from middens associated with Barnwell Priory c. 200m to the east.

Cambridge, Little St Mary's Church

TL 4482 5797 (OA East Report 1156)

T Fletcher

Within the grounds of Little St Mary's Church, two test pits revealed the same sequence of top/garden soil over a compacted lighter gravelly soil. No burials were encountered and very few human bones from disturbed burials were recovered which were returned to the church for reburial.

Cambridge, former Marshall Garage site

TL 4618 5665 (CAU Report 877)

R Newman

An archaeological evaluation revealed remains relating to the establishment of an open-field system in the 14th century and continued agricultural use in the post-medieval period. Pits and ditches dating from the late 19th century identified a move away from arable cultivation to a more horticultural environment. The absence of Roman activity in this area suggests that the route of the Colchester to Godmanchester road (Via Devana) lies further to the west than was previously believed.

Cambridge, Mill Road Cemetery Mortuary Chapel

TL 46169 58397 (OA East Report 1150)

N Gilmour

This project was part of a Your Heritage Lottery Funded initiative to regenerate and restore Mill Road Cemetery. The projects aims were to safeguard the fabric of the Grade II Victorian cemetery and to increase understanding of the site's history and value. The test pit evaluation was also part of a wider community and education project which involved local schools, volunteers, The Friends of Mill Road Cemetery and the wider community. Evaluation showed that the foundations of the mortuary chapel

are in good condition and revealed that part of the building originally had a lower floor level, resulting in the preservation of part of the internal fabric of the building.

Cambridge, Murray Edwards College, New Hall

TL 4414 5950 (CAU Report 901)

J Hutton

An archaeological excavation and watching brief was undertaken on land at Murray Edwards College (formally known as New Hall College). The archaeological investigations targeted the two areas of the development; the first area (Area 1) was located on the north-west side of the existing Grove Lodge and the second area (Area 2) was at the eastern end of the building. Area 1 started as a trench and was widened to a small excavation area, whilst the second area comprised a watching brief where contexts were investigated and recorded when archaeological features were encountered. In Area 1 the archaeological features consisted of three ditches, one pit and a roadway surface dated to the Roman period. The roadway surface was also recorded in Area 2. Roman, medieval and post-medieval pottery and a Roman bone hairpin were recovered from the site.

Cambridge, Old Schools lift shaft, University of Cambridge

TL 4475 5847 (CAU Report 903)

R Newman

Archaeological excavation was undertaken in advance of the construction of a lift shaft at the Old Schools, Cambridge. Four distinct phases of activity were identified, the first of which was identified as Roman agricultural activity dating from the 2nd/3rd centuries AD. Domestic occupation of the site was indicated by a timber framed building constructed in the 11th century, associated refuse pits and a timber lined well or cesspit, and continued until the late 14th century when the site was cleared for the construction of the University's School of Theology (or Divinity School). Work began on this structure in c. 1370 and at least two phases of construction have been identified. The building was completed in c. 1400. Later additions and modifications to the structure were also examined, including the foundations of the 1755–58 façade.

Cambridge, Ridley Hall

TL 4436 5782 (CAU Report 905)

M Brittain

Three evaluation trenches were excavated revealing remains dating from the early Neolithic to 18th centuries. Prehistoric activity comprised a relatively high number of residual finds, while extensive activity of Late Iron Age to Romano-British date was attested by two large ditches circling a cluster of pits. Eighteenth century remains comprised a double-walled linear post structure, foundations associated with the construction of the hall and substantial artefactual assemblages.

Cambridge, University Farm

TL 4262 6031 (CAU Report 921)

C Evans and R Newman

The second stage of this evaluation was undertaken by CAU on 140 hectares of land located in the north-western part of Cambridge between April and November 2009. In total 222 trenches were excavated producing archaeological remains from the prehistoric to post-medieval periods.

The earliest activity to be identified is Palaeolithic in date, and consisted of residual material recovered from post-medieval gravel quarries situated at the eastern end of the project area. Similarly, a number of Mesolithic and Early Neolithic artefacts were also recovered from residual contexts, their distribution being principally restricted to the area of the gravel ridge (although a small number of flints were also present within the Washpit Brook valley to the west). Although a single Late Neolithic and a small number of Late Bronze Age features were identified *in situ*, occupation only appears to have begun in earnest during the Middle Iron Age. At least one definite settlement of this date was identified. By the later/late Iron Age, occupation was well established in both geological areas, with a minimum of five settlements being present.

Five major Romano-British settlements were distinguished, of which two lay on the clays: an Early Roman farmstead on the south side of Washpit Brook and, down by Madingley Road, where it continues under the Park-and-Ride, what is probably a Late Roman villa. Settlements of this period extended almost continuously along the southern side of the ridge's gravels. Of these, the most impressive covered more than 9 hectares. This had both 'Early' and Late Roman components (and with an Iron Age precursor) and probably included a higher status building. High feature and artefact densities were recorded and included finely worked wood retrieved from a water-logged feature.

Only one feature yielded Anglo-Saxon material, a pit on the ridge gravels opposite the cemetery site of that date excavated within the grounds of Girton College.

Further east, evidence of the Howes Close Medieval settlement (known from documentary records) was found beside the former University Department of Applied Biology field station buildings on Huntingdon Road. Directly related to Cambridge's Medieval West Fields, traces of ridge-and-furrow agriculture were recovered across the lower clayland areas.

Cambridge, School of Veterinary Medicine

TL 4255 5902 (CAU Report 902)

J Hutton

An evaluation revealed traces of ridge and furrow, containing pottery dating from between the 16th and 19th centuries. No traces of Iron Age or Romano-British settlement or associated field systems were located. The material covered from the furrows suggest the re-deposition of topsoil or loam from elsewhere, perhaps linked to the infill of earlier ridge and furrow systems in the 19th century. The orientation of the furrows correlates with cropmarks to the north of Madingley Road.

Cambridge, West Road

TL 4423 5810 (CAU Report 896)

M Collins

A small scale evaluation revealed two late medieval/post-medieval ditches and associated features which probably relate to field boundaries depicted on historic maps. No evidence was found to show that Saxon settlement activity recorded to the north-east and south-east extended into this area, although the presence of a fragmentary quern stone of potential Saxon date could indicate activity close by. Evidence for Victorian quarrying was identified and is comparable with that recorded at the Law Facility site to the south.

Chatteris, Tern Gardens

TL 3926 8657 (OA East Report 1151)

J House

Post-medieval backyard activity was identified, associated with the property fronting onto the High Street at the south-western end of the development area. The north-eastern end of the site had seen much disturbance and soil displacement due to the construction and subsequent backfilling of a large pond in recent decades.

Chatteris, Womb Farm

TL 3864 8709 (Air Photo Services Cambridge Report 2008/31, R Palmer) (Bartlett-Clark Consultancy Report, A Bartlett) (CAU Report 888, M Collins)

Aerial photographic assessment by Air Photo Services Cambridge revealed archaeological features of probable medieval date and several distinct areas of quarrying. Further geophysical survey recorded a number of strong linear anomalies, relating to cultivation or land drains. Two areas of possible magnetic disturbance were identified, but no clear evidence for archaeological remains was recorded. Evaluation demonstrated that the site had been used for intensive quarrying during the post-medieval and modern periods, and also during the mid to late Romano-British period. Other archaeological remains comprised former field boundaries, furrows and possible planting beds, dating to the post-medieval period.

Cherry Hinton, War Ditches

TL 484 556 (OA East Report)

A Pickstone and R Mortimer

War Ditches was a large, circular enclosure of c. 150m diameter which lay atop a spur of the Gog Magog hills overlooking South Cambridgeshire. A large part of the monument was destroyed by quarrying for chalk, chiefly for lime production, between the 1890s and 1970s. Despite repeated episodes of fieldwork spanning nearly 100 years the nature of the monument, its history and the exact location of the various excavations remain enigmatic or contradictory.

During the summer of 2008 local children trespassing on the site discovered human remains and Romano-British ceramics. This event coincided with the acquisition of the quarry by the Wildlife Trust, who planned to open it to the public as a nature reserve in the spring or summer of 2009. English Heritage provided the funding for a rescue excavation on the area of the ditch most at risk, both from gradual erosion and from the remodelling works about to be undertaken by the Wildlife Trust. Excavation revealed that the ditch was approximately 6m wide (although truncated by the quarry along its inner edge) and 4m deep. Dating for its construction and use relies substantially on ceramic evidence. The relatively large pottery assemblage (33kg) represents three fairly well-defined periods: Early Iron Age (c. 4th/5th century BC), late pre-Roman Iron Age and the Conquest period. The two latest periods are represented by material from the upper metre of the ditch. Other finds include a substantial Early Iron Age flint assemblage, quantities of kiln furniture from the Conquest period and two Late Iron Age brooches. No further burials were encountered, although disarticulated human remains were recovered. Three small test pits were excavated within what remains of the interior of the monument. No bank deposits or secure buried soils were encountered. One test pit contained a feature that produced significant quantities of Early Iron Age pottery.

Chippenham, Badlingham Manor Farm

TL 6878 6997 (CAU Report 910)

R Patten

A fieldwalking and trial trench evaluation at Badlingham Manor Farm revealed a mixed assemblage of struck flint, the distribution of which provides evidence for background prehistoric activity in the area. Despite the presence of flint objects across the site, no archaeological features were encountered during the trial trench evaluation.

Colne, Manor Farm

TL 3735 7887 (OA East Report 1113)

L Offord

Excavation revealed a Late Saxon sunken-featured building. A number of early medieval pits and post-holes may represent occupation, including a building, fronting East Street. Two undated ditches were recorded which may be contemporary. A number of other medieval pits and postholes were identified, along with a large medieval pond at the rear of the site. A rectangular feature with timber foundations set in clay may indicate an 18th-century building

close to East Street, set on an unusual alignment. Other post-medieval features relating to the site's use as a farm until 2008 were also recorded.

Ely, Lancaster Business Park

TL 5120 7824 (AS Report 3334)

W McCall, K Higgs, K Henry and A Newton

Evaluation recorded a single undated curvilinear ditch. A small rubbish pit and an asphalt surface were also encountered, probably associated with the former airfield.

Ely, near Canonry House, Ely Cathedral

TL 5409 8015 (CAU Report)

A Dickens

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the laying of a fibre optic cable between the Canonry House and Priory House, south of Ely Cathedral. The trench was too shallow to encounter any archaeological features but nine pieces of carved and moulded stone were found at a point mid way along the length of the cable.

Ely, Stirling Way, nr. Witchford

TL 5150 7890 (OA East Report 1134)

R Atkins

Several phases of activity were identified, dating from the Neolithic to the late 2nd century or early 3rd century AD. The evidence includes an Early Neolithic flint scatter and two pits containing Beaker vessels.

During the Late Iron Age a settlement was established on the plateau of a small knoll. A large Late Iron Age or early Roman boundary ditch meandered along the uppermost contour of a ridge which ran roughly parallel to and overlooked a strategic stream/drain route flowing from Grunty Fen into West Fen. The role of this ditch may be linked to the name Witchford which derives from 'the Watch on the Ford'.

Three burials lay within a small ditched enclosure close to the boundary. A mid 1st century AD cremation was placed within a late pre-Roman Iron Age grey ware vessel. Two 2nd or early 3rd century inhumations were also found. A mature woman had been buried on top of two bone spindle-whorls. The other burial, placed in a relatively deep grave, was a woman aged between 26–44 years old who had one tooth surviving (the rest having been lost naturally). She wore five copper alloy rings on her left hand including three on a single finger. Two pots, one of which was a complete Nene Valley folded indented beaker, were placed nearby within the enclosing ditch.

Farcet, Float Fish Farm Extension

TL 2289 9460 (AS Report 3387)

W McCall and C Davies

Evaluation identified several undated features comprising two linear features, 11 tree hollows and a fallen tree. A struck flint and two animal bones were the only finds recovered.

Great Paxton, Holy Trinity Church

TL 520986 264170 (OA East Report 1146)

A Corrigan

Holy Trinity Church has a long and interesting history dating back to the Late Saxon period. During works to improve facilities at the church, the stone floor of the tower was lowered. On commencement of the works it was discovered that many of the stones lifted from the floor had been worked and archaeological recording was therefore commissioned to examine the stone fragments. A fragment of a coffin slab was retrieved, thought to pre-date 1275 and on which a carved design had later been defaced. Many of the fragments appear to have been pieces of unfinished stonework that are probably associated with the periods of major refurbishment at the church.

Haslingfield, Cantelupe Farm

TL 4247 5425 (CAU Report 879)

R Newman

Evaluation encountered the southern fringe of a field system, associated with the scheduled Roman settlement immediately to the north (Roman settlement complex, SAM 27). Also investigated was a double ditched feature, previously known from cropmarks, which was found to be Late Iron Age or Early Roman in date.

Huntingdon Bus Station, Princes Street

TL 2383 7163 (Excavation in Progress)

R Clarke

A single 4m x 4m square test pit along The Walks found a cobbled surface (date not yet determined) sealed beneath approximately 1.6m of post-medieval make-up.

Huntingdon, the former Bus Depot, Stukeley Road

TL 2330 7250 (OA East Report 1112)

G Rees and N Gilmour

This plot fronted onto Ermine Street (now Stukeley Road) and the remains of medieval post-built structures were found along the street frontage during evaluation. To the rear of these structures a series of pits and a possible well were uncovered that appeared to represent domestic backyard activity. A large undated boundary ditch was found to the west of the plot. Subsequent excavation revealed medieval activity of 12th to 14th century date. Possible structural remains were identified close to Stukeley Road, which may suggest ribbon development stretching out from Huntingdon in this direction. No structural remains were, however, identified towards the south of the site and it is therefore possible that this was a separate settlement. A number of pits and wells represent backyard activity. A ditch running parallel to Stukeley Road approximately 40m from it appeared to mark the boundary of activity.

Impington, Unwins Nursery Site

TL 4430 6350 (OA East Report 1109)

T Fletcher

Evaluation revealed a number of ditches spanning at

least two phases of activity. The earliest activity dated to the Late Iron Age to 1st century AD and generally comprised large field boundaries. The second phase was attributed to the mid 1st century to the mid 2nd century AD and saw the re-establishment of these earlier ditches together with a greater density of ditches at the southern end of the site. These ditches, close to and almost parallel with the current Impington Lane, contained a large quantity of locally produced sandy coarseware storage and cooking vessels which may indicate close proximity to settlement. A brooch and a sherd of Samian pottery were also found. The earliest occupation found during the excavation phase is attributable to the late Iron Age (c. 100 BC), taking the form of the remains of a roundhouse containing pottery and animal bone and suggesting a local farming community. In the Roman period a series of enclosures and ditches dating to the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD were present. Finds include stamped Samian, fragments of amphora, utilitarian pottery types and quernstone fragments. Whilst the main building itself has not been uncovered, the range and density of the finds suggest that it lies nearby.

Isleham, Beck Road

TL 6462 7432 (ECC FAU Report 2018)

T Ennis

Evaluation identified only sparse and poorly dated archaeological features, including single pits of possible prehistoric and medieval date, a shallow chalk pit of probable 19th century date and post-pads for a modern structure.

Kimbolton, Bicton Wind farm

TL 100 704 (OA East Report 1155)

R Atkins

Features relating to a probable Late Iron Age to Roman farmstead and its outlying fields were found. In one trench, in addition to the large ditches identified by cropmarks, several smaller ditches, pits and a cobbled surface were found which may represent three phases of activity. Moderate quantities of pottery and animal bone were recovered. Secondary deposits of burnt material, and a piece of hearth lining with slag attached imply some localised industrial activity. Extending for a distance of about 150m beyond and to the north-east of the cropmarked area, further ditches (possibly field boundaries) were identified associated with occasional Roman pottery. The results of sampling for environmental evidence are awaited.

Kingston, High Cross

TL 4252 5894 (CAU Report 942)

S Timberlake

An open-area excavation in 2009–10 identified Early Iron Age occupation, a Mesolithic/ Neolithic pit, a Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age rubbish pit and pit/well, a substantial Iron Age ditch and a number of Middle Iron Age pits. A Roman field system was also identified on the south-facing slope.

Little Paxton, Riversfield

TL 1812 6193 (Stratascan Report J2657)

S Haddrell

A geophysical survey undertaken by Stratascan on behalf of Albion Archaeology in October 2009 revealed a series of positive and negative responses which may represent ditch and bank formations.

Littleport, 150 Wisbech Road

TL 5550 8743 (AS Report 3388)

W McCall, P Thompson & C Davies

Evaluation revealed a series of close set parallel ditches, orientated north-east–south-west. The ditches could not be readily traced from trench to trench, however, they were broadly contemporary and part of the same ditch system. Finds were sparse but late Iron Age and Roman pottery was recovered.

Littleport, Nos 98–120 Wisbech Road

TL 5592 8733 (OA East Report 1135)

L Bush

A slight scatter of prehistoric flints was found across this site, suggesting Neolithic activity in the vicinity, although no features were positively identified. Several phases of a Roman 'lazy bed' field system with associated boundary ditches were uncovered.

Longstanton, Striplands Farm (II)

TL 3948 6727 (CAU Report 900)

J Hutton

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land at Striplands Farm further to previous work in and around the same area prior to development. Primarily Saxo-Norman/early Medieval to post-medieval activity was identified including a number of enclosures and possible property boundaries dating from the 12–15th centuries AD. Numerous medieval quarry pits and a large post-medieval pond were also recorded. Possibly relating to the early origins of west Longstanton, these medieval features truncated Middle Saxon to Saxo-Norman features and a later Iron Age enclosure boundary ditch, with only a small quantity of residual Roman pottery found in the later features.

March, Knights End Road

TL 4027 9476–TL 4028 9486 (NA Report 09/89)

J Clarke

Investigations comprising geophysical survey, aerial photographic assessment and evaluation trenching were undertaken in advance of the construction of a crematorium. Extensive remains of ridge and furrow were recorded in the eastern part of the survey area, probably associated with medieval and post-medieval settlement on March island. The majority of the ridge and furrow was comparatively straight and narrow, probably created after the extensive drainage of the fens in the 17th century. A small group of cropmarks were also recorded to the north of Knights End Road, and are possibly of archaeological origin. An extensive network of roddons was also mapped to the west of the site. The evaluation revealed features relating

to post-medieval agriculture, modern land drainage and the demolition of agricultural buildings.

March, Neale Wade Community College

TL 4176 9590 (OA East Report 1142)

N Gilmour

Evaluation revealed several Iron Age ditches, containing pottery of the 5th–3rd centuries BC, which may represent the remains of a wider, inhabited field system. In addition several medieval ditches were recorded, three of which were parallel and may have divided the area into plots. A single very large ditch containing a significant amount of medieval pottery and domestic waste appears to represent a major boundary, and could potentially be related to a manor or religious house.

March, Smith's Chase

TL 4090 9754 (OA East Report 1108)

C Thatcher

Two possible Roman ditches were identified and may have formed part of an enclosure towards the centre of the development area.

Mepal Quarry

TL 4496 8427 (SLR Consulting Report)

G Kinsley & D Garton

A programme of detailed and scanning magnetometer survey was undertaken, recording the presence of two ring ditches already identified from aerial survey. A number of linear features were also recorded, most thought to relate to post-medieval field boundaries. Further to previous work, a fieldwalking survey was undertaken recovering a total of 17 flints, a single sherd of handmade pottery and the remains of a possible post-medieval midden.

Oakington & Westwick, the New Meeting Room, St Andrew's Church

TL 414 648 (OA East Report 1124)

R Mortimer

Three early ditches oriented approximately north-east to south-west were recorded during observation of works to the graveyard soils. The latest of these ditches dates to the late 12th or early 13th centuries.

Offord Darcy, High Street

TL 2204 6661 (CAU Report 908)

R Patten

An archaeological evaluation of twelve trenches was undertaken in Offord D'Arcy and revealed ditches and pits dating from the 12th–13th centuries. The concentration of the features is indicative of a settlement, bounded by an enclosure and a system of infields. The pottery assemblage suggests that the settlement was occupied for a relatively short period.

Over, Plot 5 Over Industrial Estate

TL 3790 6930 (OA East Report 1123)

J House

During an archaeological evaluation, Roman features and deposits were located across the develop-

ment area but were concentrated in the northernmost trench where at least two phases of activity were recorded, interrupted by an episode of flooding. The pottery assemblage from features in the northern half of the site is of particular interest and indicates settlement in the near vicinity. Deposits of charred seeds and other plant remains were found in abundance providing evidence that arable farming and associated primary crop processing were taking place on or near the site.

Perry, HMP Littlehey

TL 1500 6589 (NA Reports 09/128 and 10/103)

L Field and A Yates, J Brown

Area excavation revealed a watering hole dating from the 3rd century BC, with a sinuous ditch partitioning the two sides added by the 2nd century BC, forming an axial boundary. Pottery assemblages may indicate a settlement. A 1st century BC enclosure subdivided by a fence and containing scattered pits lay east of the axial boundary. Fragmentary remains of two possible roundhouses lay to the west. An area of possible pasture was enclosed by boundary ditches in the 1st century AD. A palisade enclosure was established with smaller ancillary enclosures nearby by the end of the 1st century AD. The site was abandoned by the mid 3rd century AD.

Ramsey, Hollow Lane

TL 2938 8485 (ASC Report 1103/RHL/2)

D Kaye

Archaeological excavation confirmed the presence of a ditch aligned north-south as suggested during previous evaluation along with a fence line, the base of a pit and a post hole. Artefacts recovered from the primary fill of the ditch included the base of a glass bottle and a band and gudgeon hinge, both of post-medieval date.

Ramsey and Willingham, HEFA Test pits

Ramsey and Willingham

A series of test pits were excavated in Ramsey and Willingham in 2009 by school children, 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.

St Neots, High Street

TL 1836 6022 (AS Report 3394)

Z Pozorski and L Smith

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken prior to development on the site. Despite modern truncation to many parts of the site, intercutting pits, post-holes and a gully all of medieval date were recorded towards the centre and southern end of the site. Well preserved medieval features including a pit were located towards the north of the site but generally little artefactual material was apparent.

St Neots, Flood Alleviation Scheme

TL 1785 5990 (OA East Report 1102)

J Fairbairn

Alluvial deposits found were associated with a flood plain, a gravel terrace or headland. Finds included an early Neolithic flint blade. There was also some evidence of Romano-British occupation in the form of shallow ditches and a small quantity of pottery.

Sibson cum Stibbington, Elton Road

TL 0851 9759 (APS Report 92/09)

P Cope-Faulkner

Archaeological evaluation revealed a series of post-medieval features probably representing limestone quarry pits, with fills containing 18th to 20th century pottery sherds were recorded as depicted on 19th century OS maps.

Soham, Guides and Scouts Hut

TL 5910 7314 (OA East Report 1144)

L Bush

During an archaeological evaluation, a post-medieval to modern rubbish pit containing an abundance of glass bottles and ceramic jars was uncovered, while a single Roman or medieval ditch was also found. Two fragments of human bone were recovered from the ditch and from the topsoil.

Somersham, Knobbs Farm

TL 3674 7989 (Archaeologica Report AC 3029/D9, I Lisboa and Bartlett-Clark Consultancy Report, ADH Bartlett)

A magnetic susceptibility and magnetometry survey were undertaken in advance of mineral extraction. Magnetometry identified a number of anomalies including enclosures, a double ditched trackway, linear features and pit like features. Considered with the cropmark evidence, the survey indicates the presence of settlement of probable Romano-British date along the western side of the development area, while some of the less regular ditches may indicate earlier features.

Stapleford, Little Trees Hill

TL 4884 5292 (Archaeology Rheesearch Group Report)

I Sanderson

A resistivity and Wenner array survey were undertaken on part of the recently cleared bowl barrow on Magog Down (SM 24422). A clear low resistance feature, thought to be a shallow relatively flat bottomed ditch approximately 1.5 metres wide was plotted lying around the barrow.

The Stukeleys, Ermine Business Park

TL 229 741 (OA East Report 1128)

T Phillips

Evaluation of 29 hectares of arable land revealed two discrete areas of middle Iron Age archaeology. The first was an 'industrial' area consisting of one or more large pits with a diameter of approximately 20m. The part of the cut that was exposed was square with vertical sides and a very flat base. It was cut into chalk

and contained metalworking waste. Associated with these features was a deliberately laid pebble surface which included some burnt stones. The second area was a settlement site. Features included several boundary ditches, some of a considerable size, two possible water holes, a pit and a curvilinear gully which could have been part of a roundhouse.

Sutton Gault, Blaby's Drove, North Fen

TL 4045 8132 (OA East Report 1130)

G Rees

This site was evaluated in advance of the proposed extension to an irrigation reservoir. It was located on a gravel island raised about 1.50m above the surrounding fen. Numerous trenches were opened in relation to known flint scatters and possible monuments identified from aerial photographic survey. Archaeological remains proved to be concentrated on a raised sand bar running along the southern side of the proposed development area. Features included a Late Mesolithic pit, Neolithic pits with associated ditches, four partial ring ditches and numerous pits of possible Early Bronze Age date. A buried soil was identified below the 'lower' peat to the north-west of the sand bar representing a former land surface. It contained evidence of Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age activity. To the north-east, the ground level dipped slightly and the presence of alluvium suggested that this was the location of a palaeochannel or an ancient marsh. These deposits contained flint-working debris suggesting seasonal occupation in a wet environment. Burnt hazelnut shells indicate the consumption of wild foods, suggesting that this site may have been seasonally occupied in the Late Neolithic. The cultivation of crops is indicated by the presence of cereal grains, while ditches provide evidence for livestock management and field systems. The Early Bronze Age saw the emergence of a more permanent settlement possibly linked to a funerary and ritual landscape.

Sutton, No. 87 High Street

TL 4421 7872 (OA East Report 1101)

S Cooper and G Clarke

Evaluation revealed post-medieval features including ditches, quarrying and possible garden activity. There was also some evidence, in the form of residual pottery, of prehistoric and Roman activity. Subsequent work revealed post-medieval boundary ditches and a large area of quarrying. Finds included medieval metalwork and early post-medieval pottery.

Thriplow Manor

TL 4390 4648 (HN Report 566)

M Winter

An archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to Thriplow Manor House showed that the grounds of the Manor have been levelled at some point in the post-medieval period with a probable yard surface and a thin layer of tarmac directly above.

Warboys, Red Barns Farm, Ramsey Road

TL 3022 8028 (OA East Report 1133)

N Gilmour

During evaluation excavation, medieval activity at this site took the form of postholes, pits and a ditch. A near complete bone sledge runner was recovered from the latter. A large post-medieval to modern pond was also found.

West Wratting, Wadlow Wind Farm

TL 5762 5327 (Air Photo Services Cambridge Report 2009/3)

R Palmer

Aerial photographic assessment recorded a number of archaeological features, including two linear ditches towards the north of the site and one to the south of the proposed wind farm site. Three ring ditches of possible Bronze Age date, one square enclosure to the north of Cambridge Hill plantation along with a complex of enclosures to the south and three medieval headlands to the east of the plantation were also mapped. The square enclosure to the north of the plantation appeared to have internal and external features and the more complex enclosure system to the south appeared to have a series of conjoined rectangular paddocks at its northern end.

West Wratting, Wadlow Wind Farm

TL 5758 5328 (Headland Archaeology Report WWW08)

E Jones

Predetermination evaluation identified three groups of features, concentrated largely on the south and east proposed turbine bases. A group of Neolithic flint quarry pits were found in the area of turbine 3, which contained primary flint reduction waste. Two small groups of features containing early Iron Age pottery were located in the southern part of the site on clay soils, probably outlying features associated with settlements in the area. A series of undated ditches, corresponding with cropmark evidence, were also revealed across a number of turbine bases in the south and east part of the area.

Whittlesey, Kings Delph

TL 2425 9620 (CAU Report 915)

J Tabor

A programme of trial trenching and test-pitting was carried out following a desk based assessment. 54 pits and 33 trenches were excavated and a potential round barrow, a possible bank, a timber post and a wooden stake were identified. Prehistoric worked flints, pottery and animal bones were recovered from 11 of the trial trenches. Further excavation of the site revealed the barrow to be approximately 16.5m north to south and 17.25m east to west and was located at the centre of the most intensive area of archaeological activity recorded at this site. The barrow was associated with a ditch and large quantities of prehistoric pottery were recovered from the soil deposit sealing the mound. A shallow hollow was identified on the north-facing slope of the barrow, and a single sherd of

Peterborough Ware was recovered from this feature. A round wooden stake driven in to the ground was identified in a trench to the south-west of the barrow, but no further remains were encountered. The stake was radiocarbon dated as early Bronze Age. A timber post was identified in a trench to the east and was radiocarbon dated as late Neolithic. The abundance of tree throws in the area made distinguishing archaeological features difficult.

Wicken, Dimmocks's Quarry and Red Barn

TL 5449 7197 (Air Photo Services Cambridge Report 2009/11)

R Palmer

Aerial photograph interpretation identified cropmarks of medieval headlands at Dimmock's Quarry as well as a pre-medieval undated enclosure and circular feature at Red Barn

Wicken, Dimmock's Cote

TL 5451 7186 (OA East Report)

N Gilmour

Fieldwalking of a c. 20 hectare area showed a distinct concentration of later Neolithic flints and another of earlier Iron Age pottery. A background scatter of Roman pottery was also collected. Subsequent evaluation revealed a large area of fairly intensive earlier Iron Age activity. This included a number of pits containing a significant pottery assemblage, an iron pin and a clay loom weight. Much of this area had been preserved under a medieval headland, ensuring the survival of buried soils. Elsewhere within the site several postholes, one containing lava quern fragments, suggest structural activity at a later date.

Willingham, Spong Drive

TL 4181 7142 (CAU Report 890)

J Hutton

Numerous archaeological features were encountered during evaluation at Spong Drive comprising pits, postholes and linear features cut into a prehistoric buried soil, and midden-type deposits. A late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age ditch was encountered and may possibly relate to ring-ditches to the south-west of the site. The bulk of the site's archaeology dates from the Middle Iron Age to late Roman period. Black-burnt feature fills on the site suggest the occurrence of a substantial fire. A small sub-square cropmark feature was identified and may indicate the site of a possible shrine. Pottery from the site indicates occupation activity from the late Bronze Age through to the 4th century AD, whilst finds of Romano-British roof tiles may indicate a structure in the immediate vicinity.

Willingham, Primary School

TL 4049 7016 (OA East Report 1115)

N Gilmour

An evaluation identified a large 19th century pit which was probably the result of gravel extraction. A single piece of Anglo-Saxon pottery and two small fragments of lava quern were recovered but there was no indication of a continuation of Anglo-Saxon

archaeology known from nearby sites in Willingham.

Wimblington, No. 3 Eastwood End

TL 5420 2927 (OA East Report 1120)

L Bush

Enclosure ditches and postholes dating from the Roman period through to the later 12th century were uncovered. Roman pottery and features were recorded and seem to be associated with an agricultural landscape. A late Saxon posthole may represent domestic activity in the vicinity and possibly provide evidence for the deserted medieval village of Eastwood.

Wisbech, Wisbech Library

TF 4625 0959 (OA East Report 1091)

T Fletcher

The site occupied by the current Wisbech Castle (built 1816) has been the location of other significant buildings for nearly 1000 years. Wisbech Library now stands in this location. The first building, a Norman castle is thought to have been constructed around 1097, although its design and layout is unknown; the castle was reputedly destroyed during a devastating flood in 1236. Evaluation investigation on the library site in 2008 revealed evidence of what may have been part of a pre-Norman ditch, as well as post-medieval deposits including a mortar construction surface and two phases of brick walls. The 2009 phase of investigations discovered evidence of a cellar which may relate to the Georgian houses previously located on this part of The Crescent. Large blocks of architectural stone recovered from within the cellar backfill may represent demolition rubble from Thurloe's Mansion, built in 1656 and demolished in the early 19th century, which was located within the grounds of the current Wisbech Castle.

The most significant discovery however, was that of a large ditch-like feature, partly infilled with sterile deposits but with an organic water-logged primary fill. The top of this feature was truncated by the cellar and neither edge was recorded. Due to both practical and health and safety conditions imposed on the site, it was not possible to excavate to the base of this feature, although both an extensive auger survey and the orientation of slumped deposits indicate the presence of a large water-holding feature on an east-west orientation. Pottery from its fills has been dated to the 11th to 12th century. Radiocarbon dating on seeds from the primary fill returned a date range of 1220–1310 (80.9% probability; SUERC-23938, GU-18845). This feature may represent a defensive ditch associated with the castle, which was perhaps damaged or destroyed by the early 13th century flood noted above. It was on a different alignment to both the ditch recorded in the 2008 evaluation and to the known position of the post-medieval castle moat.

Wisbech, Wisbech Castle

TF 4621 0956 (OA East Report 1137)

T Fletcher

The Norman castle at Wisbech was replaced by a

palace for the Bishops of Ely in 1478 which was demolished and replaced by Thurloe's Mansion in 1656, elements of which survive in the present building. The aim of this recent investigation was to find any evidence of the remains of the Bishops' Palace or other related structures since little documentary evidence survives. A community excavation followed a building survey of the castle vaults. A total of 84 volunteers worked on the site, alongside five professional archaeologists from Oxford Archaeology East. Four trenches and 40 1m by 1m test pits were investigated within the lower gardens, the vaults, the upper garden and in the memorial garden. The trenches exposed large medieval ditches and pits, flood silts dating to the 13th to 14th century and a significant deposit of post-medieval building rubble. Sequences of 12th to 13th century flood silts were also recorded beneath the vaults. The test pits here gave an insight into the constructional techniques used in the vaults, as well as evidence of a possible earlier structure.

During the investigations, more than 700 children from twenty local schools were allowed access to see the archaeologists at work and to take part in activities such as making clay pots and excavating in sand-pit boxes. A public viewing area was set up and the site was opened to the public for tours at weekends. An open day was held, where events such as story telling, historical re-enacting and displays of finds were available to visitors. Guided evening tours were also provided to local scouts, beaver groups and staff from the Wisbech Tourist Information office.

Woodditton, Moorley Farm, Saxon Street

TL 6643 5958 (AS reports 3329)

P Stone & T Schofield

An archaeological investigation was undertaken prior to the construction of a racehorse endurance track at Moorley Farm, Woodditton. The investigation comprised two areas within the footprint of the endurance track. Four phases of archaeological activity were identified. A possible ring ditch of late Bronze Age to early Iron Age date along with pits and ditches identified across the site indicated the first phase of activity recorded. A possible dew pond was also investigated and is thought to have been utilised from phase I onwards. One pit of Iron Age date was also located along with a series of Romano-British pits and ditches thought to derive from agricultural activity. The Romano-British features were concentrated in the south-eastern corner of the site suggesting the possibility that there was a more extensive Romano-British settlement to the east. The final phase of activity was post-medieval in date and comprised a single ditch in the south-eastern corner of the site and numerous field ditches and drains.

Yaxley, Yaxley Broadway

TL 5191 2931 (OA East Report)

T Phillips

An open area excavation covering approximately 1 hectare revealed evidence of Middle to Late Iron Age activity and a Late Roman farmstead. The Iron Age

activity consisted of outlying enclosures and field boundaries which may have belonged to a settlement previously excavated to the south-west. In the main, sub-square enclosure, was a smaller C-shaped enclosure which may relate to a shelter or structure, along with a partial roundhouse. The Roman farmstead formed part of a larger settlement to the south-west. A 'ladder' enclosure system was encountered with many of the ditches being backfilled with dumps of rubbish containing pottery, such as Nene Valley Colour Coated ware, animal bone, tile and twenty-six coins, dating mainly to the 3rd and 4th centuries. Six large stone-packed postholes marked the southern end of an aisled building, possibly a barn. The surrounding ditches contained quantities of sandy limestone, which may have come from the aisled building. A rectangular tank, cut into the geology with evidence of wood lining, was also discovered. This may have held water and was perhaps used for a particular industrial process.

Yaxley, Norman Cross POW camp

TL 1619 9118 (GSB report 2009/29)

A geophysical survey of Norman Cross Camp, Yaxley was undertaken as part of the Time Team programme and clearly showed the defensive ditches surrounding the camp. Barrack blocks with supposed punishment cells, hospital buildings, guard towers and other structures were identified. Anomalies located outside the camp, towards the northeast were identified as a potential area of interments.

Desk-based assessments were undertaken at the following sites:

Farcet, Float Fish Farm

TL 2275 9475 (AS Report 3283)

Little Barford to Hilton Cable Route, Cambridgeshire

TL 2080 6010–TL 2850 6450 (CAU Report 907)

Soham, Paddock Street

TL 5952 7305 (APS Report 90/09)

Whittlesey, Coates Road

TL 2969 9725 (APS Reports 102/09 and 105/09)

The following sites produced little or no archaeological evidence:

Bottisham, High Street

TL 5433 6061 (AS Report 3281)

Burrough Green, Primary School

TL 6375 5580 (OA East Report 1127)

Cambridge, Cavendish Avenue

TL 4636 5615 (ASC Report 1201/CCA/2)

Cambridge, Central Building, Fitzwilliam College

TL 4397 5958 (NAU Archaeology Report 2291)

Cambridge, junction of Huntingdon Road and Victoria Road

TL 4429 5940

Cambridge, Shelford Road

TL 4472 5461 (CAU Report 897)

Cambridge, Trumpington Meadows

TL431534 (ECC FAU 2069)

Ely, High Barns

TL 5461 8115 (HN Report 563)

Fowlmere, Pipers Close

TL 5422 2453 (OA East Report 1126)

Foxton, Orchard Farm

TL 4214 4689 (ASC Report 1239/FOF/2)

Grantchester, Manor Farm

TL 4327 5523 (OA East Report 1140)

Hemingford Abbots, Lattenbury Farm

TL 2762 6695 (CAU Report 895)

Holme, Primary School

TL 1901 8795 (OA East Report 1122)

Holywell cum Needingworth, Needingworth High Street

TL 3445 7241 (HN Report 822)

Huntingdon, Mayfield Road

TL 2496 7242 (AS Report 3297)

March, BSS Ltd, Foundry Way

TL 414 992 (OA East Report 1110)

March, Eastfield House

TL 3973 9908 (AS Report 3286)

March, Upwell Road

TL 4236 9619 (APS Report 36/09)

March, Wisbech Road

TL 4118 9715 (APS Report 28/09)

Peterborough, Old Coal Yard and Exhibition Centre

TL 140 954 (OA East Report 1103)

Ramsey, Community Centre

TL 2846 8569 (AOC Archaeology Group Report 30417)

Saint Neots, Community College

TL 1839 5899 (OA East Report 1106)

Soham, Station Road

TL 5882 7325 (AS Report 3257)

Soham, Land at Wetheralls

TL 5970 7365 (OA East Report 1136)

Whittlesey, Irving Burgess Close

TL 2625 9757 (NAU Archaeology Report 2169)

Wimpole, Miterdale Farm

TL 3341 4859 (HN Report 516)

Wisbech, Hawkins Drive

TF 4737 1004 (APS Report 118/09)

Wisbech St Mary, Guyhirn High Street

TF 4029 0408 (APS Report 34/09)

Wisbech, Thomas Clarkson Community College

TF 4655 0866 (OA East Report 1141)