

Medieval Settlement at the
Former Police Station Site
Cambridge Road
Linton
Cambridgeshire



Excavation Report



November 2013

**Client: Sweett UK Ltd.
On behalf of Icení Homes**

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NGR: TL 5580 4659

**Medieval Settlement at the Former Police Station Site, Cambridge Road,
Linton, Cambridgeshire**

Archaeological Excavation

By Taleyna Fletcher BA MfA

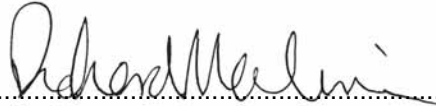
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Summary

In June 2013, an archaeological excavation was carried out by Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) on land at 9-15 Cambridge Road, Linton, Cambridgeshire (TL 5580 4659). Until recently, this had been the site of a former police station and police housing, which are scheduled to be demolished and replaced by eighteen new affordable homes.

An excavation area measuring approximately 25m by 11m was investigated, located as closely as possible to, and parallel with, Cambridge Road, a busy main road which skirts the south side of the village.

The site had previously been evaluated by OA East in May 2013. The evaluation recorded several post holes and pits, which contained several sherds of unabraded 13th-14th century pottery. It seemed likely that these features represented a medieval building of some form adjacent to Cambridge Road, and it was around these trenches that the excavation area was targeted. Other trenches on the site recorded several 19th century features which also appeared to have a structural origin. These are likely to relate to a structure shown on the 1838 enclosure map, as well as the first edition (1885) and second edition (1901) Ordnance Survey maps of the area.

The excavation revealed two phases of buildings in the form of post holes dating from the early medieval and medieval period, spanning approximately 300 years, and corresponds with that recorded in the evaluation of the site. Sufficient pottery was recovered from the features recorded to identify two separate phases, represented by two separate buildings: an early medieval building at the eastern end and a medieval building constructed within a deliberate terraced cut at the western end. The terraced cut was clearly visible within the edges of the excavation area, where soil coverage ranged from 0.15m thick at the eastern road-side baulk, up to 1.40m in the western corner.

The environmental results indicate that the material recovered from the post hole fills most likely accumulated during the early use of the structures. It is possible that the structures represent outbuildings used for the storage of grain and possibly stabling for horses. However, the pottery assemblage is broadly domestic in character and indicates domestic occupation on or close to the area of excavation from the mid 11th century onwards.

This area appears to have been part of the early medieval development of Linton, yet the relatively low levels of material recovered suggests that this part of the village was under-developed throughout the early medieval and medieval period with many of the features having been backfilled by the mid 13th century. The site had been completely abandoned by the mid-14th century.

The buildings are likely to have been part of the post-conquest expansion of the village, with the area being abandoned in the later 14th century.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological excavation was conducted at 9-15 Cambridge Road, Linton, Cambridgeshire (TL 5580 4659). This is the site of a former police station and police housing, which it is proposed will be demolished to make way for eighteen new affordable homes. The excavation followed an evaluation undertaken by OA East in 2013 (Gilmour 2013).
- 1.1.2 This archaeological excavation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Kasia Gdaniec of Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC; Planning Application S/2420/12/F), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East (Gilmour and Mortimer 2013).
- 1.1.3 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site is located to the south of the village of Linton, c.350m from the present course of the River Granta. The underlying geology is part of the new pit chalk formation, with river terrace gravels overlaying this just to the north of the site.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The site is located in an area rich in known archaeological features of Neolithic to post-medieval date. Two archaeological sites excavated nearby are of particular relevance; that at Linton Village College (Clarke 2007; Gilmour 2009; Gilmour 2011) and an Early Iron Age site, used as the type site for Darmsden-Linton pottery (Fell 1953). The background below is taken from Clarke 2007, with amendments, and is followed by a summary of these two sites as well as a summary of the evaluation undertaken in May 2013.

Prehistoric

- 1.3.2 Flint scatters and individual findspots indicative of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age activity have been found along the river valley gravels and surrounding chalk uplands. Locations include Linton villa (Ette and Hinds 1993; CHER 09841), Little Linton Farm (CHER 10186b; Shotliff 1992), Great Abington (Sealey *et al* forthcoming) and Bourn Bridge, Pampisford (CHER 11317). A Neolithic adze (CHER 06074) and polished stone axe (MCB 17060) were discovered a few hundred metres to the west of the site, whilst a flint axe was recovered close to a ditch on the higher ground to the south (CHER 06072) of these. Further along the valley a Neolithic spear head was also found (CHER 10154) in a field adjacent to the river. The relative density and distribution of these assemblages and findspots suggest that the Granta valley was a focus for the exploitation of natural flint and acted as a corridor for transient populations who may have visited the area on a seasonal basis.
- 1.3.3 There are also numerous prehistoric monuments within the vicinity of the site, mostly comprising barrows and ring ditches presumed to be Bronze Age burial mounds. These appear to be clustered along the high ground, valley sides and close to significant routes such as the Icknield Way, the southern branch of which passes through Linton. This series of important prehistoric tracks linked the northern coast of East Anglia with the Thames Valley (Margary 1973). Relatively few Bronze Age find spots are recorded

in the vicinity, although a bronze spear head (CHER 06116) was found close to the Hadstock Road junction to the south of the village.

- 1.3.4 Possible barrows have been recorded within the parish of Linton (CHERs 06179, 09365 and 9350), Bartlow to the east (CHER 11468), and Hildersham to the west (CHERs 09355 and 9351), whilst a barrow cemetery has been identified close to the Abingtons at Four Wentways (Leith 1997), near to where the main Icknield Way route crosses the River Granta.

Later Iron Age and Roman

- 1.3.5 Middle/late Iron Age sites frequently occur along the valley and its environs. Features of this date have been found c.0.7km to the north-west in a field located between Little Linton Farm and Linton Village College (CHER 10186C; Shotliff 1992). Also within the village, Middle Iron Age settlement remains were revealed on a small, dry plateau close to the river, during further work at Linton Roman villa (CHER 09841a; Ette and Hinds 1993, and see below). An Iron Age weaving comb was discovered to the south of the A1307, along with a sherd of contemporary pottery (CHER 06087), and could be indicative of another settlement in the vicinity.
- 1.3.6 Further afield, sites characterised by numerous pits have been investigated. Noteworthy among these are Abington Great Park where over 50 pits were recorded (Sealey *et al* forthcoming), whilst at Newmarket Road and Trumpington Park and Ride nearer to Cambridge, pits numbering c.200 and 600 respectively were revealed (Lyons forthcoming (a)). The latter site may also have had a ceremonial or funerary function given the presence of possible mortuary structures and shrines. A series of pits of possible later prehistoric date were also discovered during a watching brief between Borley Wood and Rivey Hill (CHER 06130) to the north of the village; these were interpreted as possible corn storage pits as small quantities of carbonised grain were recovered.
- 1.3.7 Also of note when considering the wider landscape, is the construction of several large enclosures or forts in this period, mostly along the upland ridge which includes the Gog Magog hills. Most prominent amongst these is the circular ringwork at Wandlebury (CHER 15254), a few kilometres to the north-west of the site, although similar monuments are known at Sawston (CHER 09742), War Ditches Cherry Hinton (CHER 04963) and Arbury camp (CHER 08479). Many of these were refortified after the late 1st century BC, perhaps indicative of tribal political unrest, lying as we know between the territories of the Catuvellauni and Trinovantes.
- 1.3.8 Evidence is emerging that there was a slight settlement shift in the Late Iron Age or Early Roman period in this area: at Abington Park this was attributed to rising water-levels (Sealey *et al* forthcoming). The distribution of Roman sites and finds along the valley and its surroundings suggest fairly dense settlement, concentrated on the river gravels in this period.
- 1.3.9 Cropmarks of a possible Roman building have been identified in the arable field to the west of the Village College (CHER 10171), and scatters of Roman pottery have also been recovered from a possible mound in this field (CHER 06084). Sherds of Roman pottery have also been found at Little Linton Farm (10705B), a multi-period site that is close to the probable location of Little Linton DMV (see below).
- 1.3.10 Roman villas are known throughout this area and two, both excavated by R.C. Neville in the mid-19th century, are located within a few kilometres of the site. Linton villa and associated walled cemetery (formerly Hadstock villa) was discovered to the south-east

of the village (CHER 09841; Neville 1851; 1857; associated remains found at CHER 06197, 06044, 06166 and possibly 11492), whilst another (CHER 06164) was investigated in the adjacent village of Bartlow. The latter was located close to a group of large conical burial mounds containing extraordinarily rich cremation burials known as the Bartlow Hills (CHER 09838; SM 3335; Hull 1963, 39-44).

- 1.3.11 Located a few miles to the south-west of these villas was the walled Roman town located at Great Chesterford in Essex. This important settlement may have been the nearest large trade centre for the Romano-British people living at Linton. Two Roman settlement sites were identified during excavations at Bourn Bridge, Abington to the east of the A11, where remains of ditches, pits, post-holes and field systems were revealed (Evans 1993; Pollard 1996). Late Iron Age and Roman settlements, along with burial and agricultural sites, have been found in comparable locations c.5km to the south-west of Abington, adjacent to the River Cam at Hinxtton (Lyons forthcoming (b))

Saxon and Medieval

- 1.3.12 The present-day parish of Linton represents an amalgamation of three main settlements: Great Linton, Little Linton and Barham. At the time of the Domesday Survey (1086) Great Linton is recorded as having 21 peasants and 6 servi, Little Linton 10 and 4 and Barham 18 and 2, when the lands passed from Eddeva to Count Alan of Brittany (VCH/Wright *et al* 1978). Although the manors were later combined, into one ecclesiastical parish they retained their boundaries. The granting of markets and annual fairs at Great Linton and Barham in the 13th century soon led to the demise of the settlement at Little Linton, although the manor continued to be occupied. Great Linton eventually outstripped neighbouring Barham and the combined settlements became one of the most successful commercial centres outside Cambridge (Taylor 1998, 58-60).
- 1.3.13 Saxon remains include at least two cemeteries (CHER 06179a and MCB16249) and occasional inhumations (CHER 06114b) and possible cremations (CHER 06114 mentions some on Rivey Hill). The site of a possible Deserted Medieval Village (CHER 10110), probably the remains of Little Linton, lies close to the remains of a medieval moated manor (CHER 02413), hollow way (CHER 11250) and later fishponds (CHER 02412). Evidence of earlier occupation was also found here, indicated by the discovery of two Early Saxon ditches (CHER 10705a). A medieval spearhead was found close to the site in the spoil from the excavation of a sewer trench in the 1980s, near to the pumping station to the north-east of the college (CHER 11495), and numerous findspots of Saxon and medieval date are scattered around the village, for example at MCB16250 c.350m to the north of the current site, adjacent to the river.

Post-medieval

- 1.3.14 The market at Linton continued to prosper in the post-medieval period. In the early 16th century rows of stalls were named after specific provisions such as bread and meat, whilst by the 17th century rows were dedicated to woollen and linen drapers; tanners, shoemakers and glovers also had stalls here. By the 18th century the market was mainly selling corn and by the 19th century it declined completely, although Linton continued to be important for local commerce. A wide range of shops was available in the 19th and 20th centuries and the annual fair at Barham was revived and in the 19th century became the largest sheep fair in Cambridgeshire (Taylor 1998, 58-9).

- 1.3.15 In 1648, during the second Civil War, a skirmish that was part of a wider East Anglian royalist uprising is known to have taken place in Linton; it was quickly suppressed by the parliamentary forces (Sutton 2000, 54).
- 1.3.16 Most of the parish's open fields, which were combined with areas of pasture, were enclosed by c.1840 and a railway line from Haverhill to Cambridge was opened in 1865 and later became the county boundary (*ibid*, 56).

Linton Village College

- 1.3.17 Recent excavations at Linton Village College, c.350m to the north-west of the current site, revealed several Late Neolithic Grooved Ware pits, containing significant quantities of struck flints, along with animal bone and pottery. Two Early Bronze Age ring-ditches, along with Beaker pottery attest to Early Bronze Age activity on the site. A large enclosure ditch of Middle Bronze Age date was also uncovered, the upper fills of which contained large quantities of Later Bronze Age struck flint.
- 1.3.18 A Middle Iron Age settlement, with associated field boundaries and a crouched inhumation burial, was also found within the college grounds. Of particular significance was evidence for iron smithing and bronze casting associated with this settlement.
- 1.3.19 In addition, significant Roman remains have been found within the college. A small group of five fairly rich Roman inhumation burials, comprising three children and two women, were discovered during the construction of the Warden's house in the 1930s (CHER 06165; Lethbridge 1937), and probably represent a family burial ground. The recent excavations found further evidence of Roman occupation, including a surfaced trackway, neonate burials and boundary ditches.
- 1.3.20 A single Early Saxon ditch was also recorded, along with a small and highly unusual Saxon cemetery. Five individuals, three of which had been decapitated, were excavated.

Hadstock Road Site

- 1.3.21 Discovered during chalk quarrying in 1948 (Fell 1953), the Early Iron Age site on Hadstock Road is best known for the pottery assemblage recovered. This was used as one of the principal assemblages to define the regional type series of Darmsden-Linton pottery. The site is now occupied by light industrial units and is located immediately to the south-east of the current proposed development area.

No.s 9-15 Cambridge Road, Linton (evaluated in May 2013)

- 1.3.22 The site was evaluated by OA East in May 2013. The evaluation recorded several post holes and pits, which contained a number of sherds of 13th-14th century unabraded pottery. It seems likely that these features represent a medieval building of some form and it was around these trenches that the latest excavation area was located. Other trenches on the site recorded several 19th century features which also appeared to have a structural origin. These are likely to relate to a structure shown on the 1838 Enclosure Map (Figure 2), as well as the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1885 (Figure 3) and Second Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1901.

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The author would like to thank Nigel McCreith of Sweett UK Ltd for commissioning the work on behalf of Icen Homes. The excavation was directed by the author, assisted by

Andy Greef and Steve Morgan, the 360 excavator was provided by Danbury Plant Hire. Thanks also to Rachel Clarke for surveying in the site location and for editing the report and to Severine Bezie and Lucy Gane for compiling the illustrations. The project was managed by Richard Mortimer and Kasia Gdaniec from Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team wrote the brief for the works and visited the site.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The objective of this excavation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.
- 2.1.2 The site specific research priorities were:
- To establish the character and location of medieval buildings and occupation in rural locations
 - To add to our understanding of the nature and range of domestic buildings dating to the 13th to 14th centuries
 - To ensure that appropriate excavation and the bulk sampling of contexts occurs in order to define the nature of the occupation along this former part of Cambridge Road at the south-west end of High Street.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a tracked “rubber duck” 360° excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. Topsoil and subsoils were removed to the level of undisturbed geology of sands and gravels, where archaeological features were revealed (Plate 1). Spoil was stored on site in separate piles of topsoil and subsoil ready for reinstatement.
- 2.2.2 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.
- 2.2.3 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits, supplemented by digital photographs using an Olympus M760 7.1mega pixel camera.
- 2.2.4 The excavation area was set out using tapes based on a drawing which was agreed in advance with Kasia Gdaniec of CCC HET. A site grid was set out at 10m intervals, on a local grid. The site was tied into the Ordnance Survey using a Leica GSP1200 which was also used to take levels on all features and to create a contour/topographical survey.
- 2.2.5 The site was planned by hand at a scale of 1:50 and sections of features were drawn at either 1:10 or 1:20.
- 2.2.6 A total of 22 environmental samples were collected from a representative cross-section of features. These samples were taken to analyse the preservation of micro- and macro-botanical remains. A full report is presented in Appendix B.
- 2.2.7 Site conditions were good throughout the excavation with almost constant sunshine and only one day of rain.

3 RESULTS

The results are presented below, by period and then feature type. Cut numbers are displayed in **bold** text, all other context in normal text. A plan of the excavation area is presented in Figure 4 and a phase plan in Figure 6. Selected sections are shown in Figure 5.

3.1 Phase 1 : Early medieval

- 3.1.1 This is the earliest phase of activity recorded on the site and comprises a group of 14 post holes, a beam slot and two pits on the eastern side of the excavation area (Figures 4 and 6). One of the pits in the southern corner of the area was truncated by a service pipe and heavily disturbed by tree roots. Pottery was recovered from three of these post holes and dated to the 11th -13th centuries (Appendix A).
- 3.1.2 The post holes and the beam slot are on a north-west to south-east alignment which corresponds with that of Cambridge Road to the north (Figures 1, 2 and 3). Together these features are considered to form a building, or part of a building, on the street frontage which dates to the early medieval period. Not fully revealed in plan, it is likely that remnants of this building and possibly others continue towards the immediate east.

Building 1 :

Post holes

- post hole **30** was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.45m wide, 0.38m in length and 0.13m deep. It had moderately steep sloping edges and a concave base (Figure 5, Section 10). The fill of this post hole (31) was a firm, dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small stone inclusions. There were no finds recovered from this deposit.
- post hole **32** was circular in plan, measuring 0.26m in diameter and 0.07m deep. It had moderately gentle sloping edges and a concave base. The fill of this post hole (33) was a firm, mixed white and orangish brown chalk and silty sand with no obvious inclusions. There were no finds recovered from this deposit. A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.10) which contained a small amount of cereals (Appendix B).
- post hole **34** was circular in plan, measuring 0.30m in diameter and 0.07m deep. It had moderately gentle sloping edges and a concave base. The fill of this post hole (35) was a firm, mid brown sandy silt with occasional small stone inclusions. There were no finds recovered from this deposit.
- post hole **36** was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.45m in length, 0.40m wide and 0.16m deep. It had gradual to steep sloping edges and an irregular base. The fill of this post hole (37) was a firm, mixed white and grey chalk with occasional small stone inclusions. There were no finds recovered from this deposit. A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.11) which contained a moderate amount of cereals (Appendix B).
- Pit/post hole **38** was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.84m in length, 0.67m wide and 0.18m deep. It had moderate sloping edges and a flat base. The fill of this post hole (39) was a soft, mottled orange and greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small flint and sand inclusions. A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.12) which contained a moderate amount of mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indeterminate small legumes (Appendix B). A single sherd of Early Medieval

Essex Micaceous Sandy ware was also recovered from this soil sample, which is dated early medieval, mid 11th-early 13th century (Appendix B).

- post hole **40** was circular in plan, measuring 0.44m in diameter and 0.20m deep (Plate 2). It had steep sloping edges and a concave base (Figure 5, Section 13). The fill of this post hole (41) was a firm, mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small flint stone inclusions. There were no finds recovered from this deposit.
- post hole **42** was circular in plan, measuring 0.22m in diameter and 0.08m deep. It had moderately steep sloping edges and a concave base. The fill of this post hole (43) was a soft, mid orangish brown sandy silt with no obvious inclusions. There were no finds recovered from this deposit.
- post hole **44** was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.28m long, 0.23m wide and 0.06m deep. It had moderately steep sloping edges and a concave base. The fill of this post hole (45) was a soft, mid orangish brown sandy silt with no obvious inclusions. There were no finds recovered from this deposit.
- post hole **46** was circular in plan, measuring 0.28m in diameter and 0.11m deep. It had very steep sloping edges and a narrow, pointed base. The fill of this post hole (47) was a soft, mid orangish brown sandy silt with no obvious inclusions. A single sherd (0.001kg) of pottery from a sooted South Cambridgeshire Smooth Sandy ware vessel, possibly a jar was recovered from this deposit which is early medieval, mid 11th-early 13th century in date.
- post hole **48** was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.45m in length, 0.35m wide and 0.10m deep. It had moderate sloping edges and a flat base (Figure 5, Section 14). The fill of this post hole (49) was a soft, mid orangish brown sandy silt with no obvious inclusions. There were no finds recovered from this deposit. A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.13) which contained an abundant amount of mixed cereals, mainly wheat and indeterminate small legumes (Appendix B).
- post hole **120** was sub-circular in plan measuring 0.45m long, 0.35m wide and 0.16m deep. It had moderate sloping edges and a rounded base. The fill of this post hole (121) was a light-mid orangish brown sandy silt with occasional small gravel stone inclusions. No finds were recovered from this deposit.
- post hole **128** was circular in plan measuring 0.65m in diameter and 0.20m deep. It had moderate sloping edges and a rounded base. The fill of this post hole (127) was a mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional flint stone inclusions. No finds were recovered from this deposit.
- post hole **132** was circular in plan, measuring 0.48m in diameter and 0.15m deep. It had moderately steep sloping edges and a concave base. The fill of this post hole (133) was a soft, mid orangish brown sandy silt with no obvious inclusions. There were no finds recovered from this deposit.
- post hole **136** was circular in plan, measuring 0.26m in diameter and 0.22m deep. It had very steep sloping edges and a concave base (Figure 5, Section 29). The fill of this post hole (137) was a firm, mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small flint stone inclusions. There were no finds recovered from this deposit.

Beam slot

- Beam slot **122** was linear in plan measuring 2.5m long, continuing beyond the south-eastern edge of the excavation area and truncated by pit **124** to the north-west. It measured 0.48m wide and 0.25m deep. It had steep sloping edges and a flat base (Figure 5, Section 28). The fill of this beam slot (123) was a firm, light, mottled greyish, orangey brown sandy silt with occasional small gravel stone inclusions. Despite 100% excavation at the end of the fieldwork, no pottery or other datable artefacts or ecofacts were recovered from this feature.

Pits

- Pit **124** was sub-circular in plan measuring 1.10m in length, 0.95m wide and 0.24m deep. It had gradual sloping edges and a concave base. This pit contained two fills. Upper fill 117 was a light greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small stone inclusions. Two small sherds of South Cambridgeshire Smooth Sandy ware, a single sherd from a Shell-Tempered ware jar and a residual sherd of prehistoric flint-tempered ware were recovered from sample 29. The primary fill, (125) was a mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional flint stone inclusions and contained a single sherd of an Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware jar. This pit truncated pit **126** and beam slot **122**.
- Pit **126** was sub-circular in plan measuring 1.25m in length, 0.95m wide and 0.30m deep. It had gradual sloping edges and a concave base. The fill of this pit (127) was a mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional flint stone inclusions. No finds were recovered from this deposit. This pit was truncated by pits **124** and post hole **128**.
- Pit **144** was located in the south-eastern corner of the site and had been heavily truncated by a gas service pipe and tree root disturbance. The pit was not fully revealed in plan, continuing beyond the edges of excavation (Figure 4). It had steep sloping edges and a flat base (Figure 5, Section 31).

3.2 Phase 2 : Medieval

- 3.2.1 This is the second phase of activity recorded on the site and comprises a group of 32 post holes on the western side of the excavation area, including a small area separated from the main site by a sewer pipe (Figures 4 and 6) Pottery was recovered from 20 of these post holes and from the pit, which were dated mostly to the 12th-13th or 12th-14th century (Appendix A).
- 3.2.2 Like the earlier phase of features, the post holes recorded are also on a north-west to south-east alignment which corresponds with that of Cambridge Road (Figures 1, 2 and 3). Together these features are also considered to form a building on the street frontage which dates to a slightly later phase of building on the site. Not fully revealed in plan, it is likely that remnants of this building, and possibly others, continue towards the immediate west and possibly south.
- 3.2.3 The topography of the site indicates that there may have been deliberate terracing for the building in order to create a flat platform. This platform “cut” was identified on site in the edges of the excavation area as well as in the slightly reduced levels at this western end which averaged between 0.30m and 0.60m lower than that at the eastern end. The edges of this terraced area have been outlined on Figure 6.

Building 2 :

Post holes

- post hole **50** was circular in plan, measuring 0.37m in diameter and 0.15m deep. It had moderate sloping edges and a rounded base. The fill of this post hole (51) was a soft, dark greyish brown sandy silt from which a single sooted sherd from a Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware jar and a small sherd of Shell Tempered ware were recovered from soil sample 14, which can be dated to the late 12th-end of the 14th century (Appendix A). A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.14) which contained a moderate amount of mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indeterminate small legumes. (Appendix B).

- post hole **52** was circular in plan, measuring 0.24m in diameter and 0.16m deep (Plate 3). It had moderately steep sloping edges and a narrow rounded base. The fill of this post hole (53) was a soft, dark grey brown sandy silt from which a sherd of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware was recovered, while sample 16 contained a sherd of Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware which can be dated to the late 12th-end of the 14th century (Appendix A). A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.16), which contained a moderate amount of mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indeterminate small legumes. (Appendix B).
- post hole **54** was circular in plan, measuring 0.51m in diameter and 0.18m deep. It had moderately steep sloping edges and a concave base (Figure 5, Section 16). The fill of this post hole (55) was a firm, mottled orangish brown sandy silt with occasional small flint stone inclusions and contained a sherd of South Cambridgeshire Smooth Sandy ware with a mid 11th-early 13th century date (Appendix A). This post hole truncated post hole **56**).
- post hole **56** was circular in plan, measuring 0.60m in diameter and 0.22m deep. It had steep sloping edges and a flat base (Figure 5, Section 16). The fill of this post hole (57) was a soft, dark orangish brown sandy silt with occasional small flint stone inclusions. The pottery assemblage from this post hole along with that from **58**, **62** and **19/70** is similar, with a late 12th to end of the 14th century date at its broadest, however it is possible that some fills date from the late 12th to early 13th if the pottery is contemporary (Appendix A). A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.17) which contained a moderate amount of mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indeterminate small legumes (Appendix B). This post hole was truncated by post hole **54**).
- post hole **58** was circular in plan, measuring 0.68m in diameter and 0.40m deep (Plate 4). It had very steep sloping edges and a concave base (Figure 5, Section 17). The fill of this post hole (59) was a compact, mottled pale grey and brown sandy silt with occasional small flint stone inclusions and contained a fragment of whetstone (SF no.2). The pottery assemblage from this post hole along with **56**, **62** and **19/70** is similar, with a late 12th to end of the 14th century date at its broadest, however it is possible that some fills date from the late 12th to early 13th if the pottery is contemporary (Appendix A). A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.18) which contained a moderate amount of mixed cereals; mainly wheat and barley (Appendix B).
- post hole **60** was circular in plan, measuring 0.40m in diameter and 0.30m deep. It had steep sloping edges and a narrow, rounded base (Plate 5). The fill of this post hole (61) was a soft, mid greyish brown sandy silt and contained a single sherd of externally sooted Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware jar (Appendix A).
- post hole **62** was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.70m in length, 0.64m wide and 0.32m deep. It had very steep sloping edges and a flat base (Plate 5). The fill of this post hole (63) was a soft, mid greyish brown sandy silt with no obvious inclusions. The pottery assemblage from this post hole along with **56**, **58** and **19/70** is similar, with a late 12th to end of the 14th century date at its broadest, however it is possible that some fills date from the late 12th to early 13th if the pottery is contemporary (Appendix A). A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.19) which contained a good assemblage; predominantly wheat grains with mixed cereals, small legumes and wetland plant seeds. This sample was subject to further analysis, the results of which are presented in Appendix B.
- post hole **64** was circular in plan, measuring 0.40m in diameter and 0.09m deep. It had gradual sloping edges and a concave base. The fill of this post hole (65) was a soft, mid greyish brown sandy silt with no obvious inclusions. Very small sherds of pottery were recovered from the fill of this post hole which were not closely datable.
- post hole **66** was circular in plan, measuring 0.35m in diameter and 0.20m deep. It had moderate sloping edges and a concave base. The fill of this post hole (67) was a soft,

mid greyish brown sandy silt with no obvious inclusions. No finds were recovered from this deposit.

- post hole **68** was 100% excavated as it was also investigated in Trench 7 of the evaluation. Equal to **23** in the evaluation, it was circular in plan, measuring 0.47m in diameter and 0.15m deep. It had moderate sloping edges and a rounded base (Figure 5, Section 7). The fill of this post hole (69, equal to 21) was a soft, mid orangish brown sandy silt with occasional small flint and gravelstone inclusions. During the evaluation, 18 sherds of a South Cambridgeshire Smooth Sandy ware jar (mid 11th-early 13th century), were recovered from this deposit and the soil sample (sample no. 2) contained a single sherd of Shell Tempered ware suggesting a slightly later date for the feature of late 12th-early 13th century. By contrast, no pottery was recovered during the excavation from the other half of the feature. The jar sherds are from the same externally sooted vessel and are moderately abraded (Appendix A). A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature during the evaluation phase for environmental analysis (sample no.2) which contained an abundant amount of mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indeterminate small legumes and hazelnut shell (Appendix B).
- post hole **70** was 100% excavated as it was also investigated in Trench 7 of the evaluation. Equal to **19** in the evaluation, it was circular in plan, measuring 0.45m in diameter and 0.18m deep. It had moderate sloping edges and a rounded base (Figure 5, Section 6). The fill of this post hole (71, equal to 18) was a soft, mid orangish brown sandy silt with occasional small flint and gravelstone inclusions. The pottery assemblage from this post hole along with **56**, **58** and **62** is similar, with a late 12th to end of the 14th century date at its broadest, however it is possible that some fills date from the late 12th to early 13th if the pottery is contemporary (Appendix A). A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature during the evaluation phase for environmental analysis (sample no.1) and another during the excavation (sample no.15) which contained an abundant amount of mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indeterminate small legumes. This sample was subject to further analysis, the results of which are presented in Appendix B. A small unidentifiable iron object (small find no.3) and a small lead object (small find no.4) were recovered from soil samples 1 and 15.
- post hole **72** was circular in plan, measuring 0.40m in diameter and 0.15m deep. It had steep sloping edges and a concave base. The fill of this post hole (73) was a firm, mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small flint stone inclusions. A small sherd of Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware jar was recovered from this fill dated to the late 12th-end of 14th century (Appendix A).
- post hole **74** was circular in plan measuring 0.30m in diameter and 0.10m deep. It had moderately steep sloping edges and a concave base. The fill of this post hole (75) was a moderately firm pale, mottled white and grey chalky silty with occasional plant roots. No finds were recovered from this deposit.
- post hole/small pit **76** was circular in plan measuring 0.50m in diameter and 0.10m deep. It had gentle sloping edges and a flat base. The fill of this pit/post hole (77) was a firm light grey brown sandy silt with occasional small gravel stone inclusions. No finds were recovered from this deposit. This pit/post hole was truncated by pit/post hole **78**.
- post hole/small pit **78** was sub-circular in plan measuring 0.65m in diameter and 0.09m deep. It had gentle sloping edges and an irregular base. The fill of this pit/post hole (79) was a firm light grey brown silt with occasional chalk fleck inclusions. A small sherd of Lyveden A-type Shelly ware was recovered from this fill dated to the late 12th-end of 14th century (Appendix A). This pit/post hole truncated pit/post holes **76** and **80**.
- post hole/small pit **80** was circular in plan measuring 0.55m in diameter and 0.14m deep. It had moderate sloping edges and a concave base. The fill of this pit/post hole (81) was a soft dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional small gravel stone and charcoal inclusions. No finds were recovered from this deposit. A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.24), which contained a moderate

amount of mixed cereals; mainly wheat and barley (Appendix B). This pit/post hole was truncated by pit/post hole **78**.

- post hole/small pit **82** was circular in plan measuring 0.60m in diameter and 0.10m deep. It had gentle sloping edges and a flat base (Figure 5, Section 19). The fill of this pit/post hole (83) was a soft light grey brown sandy silt with occasional small gravel stone inclusions. A sooted body sherd from an Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware/Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy ware jar was recovered which can be dated to the mid or late 12th-early 13th century (Appendix A).
- post hole/small pit **84** was circular in plan measuring 0.60m in diameter and 0.35m deep. It had steep sloping edges and a flat base (Figure 5, Section 19). The fill of this pit/post hole (85) was a firm, dark reddish brown sandy silt with frequent charcoal inclusions. This pit produced the largest assemblage of pottery by count of any feature, 36 sherds. Most frequent among the fabrics are 13 sherds of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware, a further four sherds of which were found in sample no. 23. Next most common is Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware, of which eleven sherds were recovered, including four from sample no. 23. Other fabrics present include single sherds of Lyveden A-type Shelly ware and from a Hedingham Fineware jug. The pottery can be dated to the late 12th to mid 14th century or possibly earlier (Appendix A). A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.23) which contained a small quantity of mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indeterminate small legumes (Appendix B). Partial cattle and sheep radii were also recovered from this feature (Appendix C).
- post hole **86** was circular in plan measuring 0.70m in diameter and 0.11m deep. It had gentle sloping edges and a flat base. The fill of this post hole (87) was a firm, dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional small stone inclusions. Sherds of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware and Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware were recovered from the fill of this post hole. A sheep mandible from an animal around 6-8 years old at death was also recovered (Appendix C). A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.20) which contained a moderate amount of mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indeterminate legumes (Appendix B). This post hole truncated post hole **88**.
- post hole **88** was circular in plan measuring 0.60m in diameter and 0.07m deep. It had gentle sloping edges and a flat base. The fill of this post hole (89) was a firm, light grey brown sandy silt with occasional small stone and chalk fleck inclusions. No finds were recovered from this deposit. This post hole was truncated by post hole **86** and in turn truncated post hole **90**.
- post hole **90** was circular in plan measuring 0.75m in diameter and 0.12m deep. It had gentle sloping edges and a flat base. The fill of this post hole (91) was a firm, dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional small stone and chalk fleck inclusions. Sherds of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware pottery were recovered from this deposit (Appendix A). A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.21) which contained a moderate amount of mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indeterminate legumes (Appendix B). This post hole was truncated by post hole **88** and truncated post hole **94**.
- post hole **92** was circular in plan measuring 0.52m in diameter and 0.14m deep. It had gentle sloping edges and a flat base. The fill of this post hole (93) was a soft, light reddish brown silty sand with occasional small gravel stone inclusions. No finds were recovered from this deposit. This post hole was truncated by post hole **94**.
- post hole **94** was circular in plan measuring 0.50m in diameter and 0.10m deep. It had gentle sloping edges and a flat base. The fill of this post hole (95) was a light grey brown sandy silt with occasional small stone and chalk fleck inclusions. Sherds of Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware were recovered from this deposit (Appendix A). A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample

no.22) which contained a sparse quantity of cereals (Appendix B). This post hole was truncated by post hole **90**.

- post hole **96** was rectangular in plan measuring 0.30m in length, 0.20m wide and 0.36m deep. It had vertical edges and a narrow, tapered base (Figure 5, Section 22). The fill of this post hole (97) was a very dark, blackish grey sandy silt with rare flint stone inclusions and charcoal flecks. A moderate sized sherd of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware pottery was recovered from this deposit (Appendix A). A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.25) which contained a good assemblage; predominantly oat grains with mixed cereals, small legumes and crop weed seeds. This sample suggests a discrete deposit of charred material and may indicate that feature **96** is actually a pit dug for this purpose or that, if it was a post hole, that the post had been removed prior to deposition of the burnt grain. This sample was subject to further analysis, the full results of which are presented in Appendix B.
- post hole **100** was circular in plan measuring 0.40m in diameter and 0.09m deep. It had moderate sloping edges and a concave base. The fill of this post hole (101) was a firm, mid orangish brown silty sand with occasional small gravel stone inclusions. No finds were recovered from this deposit.
- post hole **102** was sub-circular in plan measuring 0.52m in length, 0.46m wide and 0.17m deep. It had steep sloping edges and a rounded base. The fill of this post hole (103) was a firm, mid orangish brown silty sand with occasional small gravel stone inclusions. No finds were recovered from this deposit. A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.26), which contained a moderate amount of sparse cereals (Appendix B). This post hole produced one of the few sherds of Developed St Neots ware (mid 11th-mid 13th-century) recovered from the excavation (Appendix A).
- post hole **104** was circular in plan, measuring 0.36m in diameter and 0.20m deep. It had steep sloping edges and a concave base (Figure 5, Section 26). The fill of this post hole (105) was a firm, mid orangish brown silty sand with occasional small gravel stone inclusions. No finds were recovered from this deposit.
- post hole **106** was circular in plan measuring 0.60m in diameter and 0.10m deep. It had moderate sloping edges and an undulating base. The fill of this post hole (107) was a firm, mid orangish brown silty sand with occasional small gravel stone inclusions. Four sherds of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware and a single small sherd of Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware were recovered from this deposit (Appendix A).
- post hole **108** was sub-oval in plan measuring 0.84m in length, 0.53m wide and 0.23m deep. It had gentle – steep sloping edges and a rounded base. The fill of this post hole (109) was a firm, mid orangish brown silty sand with occasional small gravel stone inclusions. A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.27) which contained a moderate amount of sparse cereals (Appendix B).
- post hole **110** was circular in plan measuring 0.24m in diameter and 0.14m deep. It had moderate sloping edges and a rounded base (Figure 5, Section 23). The fill of this post hole (111) was a very dark, blackish grey sandy silt with rare flint stone inclusions and charcoal flecks. No finds were recovered from this deposit.
- post hole **112** was rectangular in plan measuring 0.27m in length, 0.24m wide and 0.26m deep. It had vertical edges and a narrow, tapered base (Figure 5, Section 23). The fill of this post hole (113) was a very dark, blackish grey sandy silt with rare flint stone inclusions and charcoal flecks. Two small sherds of pottery were recovered from the environmental sample and have been tentatively identified as Early Medieval ware and Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware (Appendix A). A single 10l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.28) which contained mixed cereals; mainly oat and a small amount of indeterminable legumes (Appendix B).

- post hole **130** was circular in plan, measuring 0.40m in diameter and 0.10m deep. It had moderately steep sloping edges and a concave base. The fill of this post hole (131) was a soft, mid orangish brown sandy silt with no obvious inclusions. This fill produced 13 sherds from a Hedingham Fineware jug, possibly from a stamped strip jug which is the largest number of glazed ware sherds recovered, comprising c.90% of the medieval glazed assemblage. Also present is a single sherd from a Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware jar. The pottery can be dated to the 13th-mid 14th century with the identification of the stamped slipped jug (Appendix A).

3.3 Post-Medieval

3.3.1 There was no evidence for late or post-medieval features surviving within the excavation area and only a small quantity of pottery was recovered from the sections during cleaning.

3.3.2 Layer 140 (Figure 5, Section 25) (Plates 10 and 11) contained pottery which was dated to the 18th-20th century and thin deposits of a compacted sand and mortar mix above (layer 139) are thought to be associated with the construction of the police houses as there are no other post-medieval buildings identified from cartographic sources on the site after the 1830's.

3.4 Undated

3.4.1 The only features which were undated either through a lack of datable finds or group association are post hole **118** and pit **116** located towards the middle of the excavation area (Figures 4 and 6). Neither were located closely enough to either of the post hole building groups and both were outside of the terrace cut for the Phase 2 medieval building.

Post holes

- post hole **118** was circular in plan measuring 0.37m in diameter and 0.14m deep. It had moderate sloping edges and a rounded base. The fill of this post hole (119) was a mid greyish brown sandy silt with no obvious inclusions. No finds were recovered from this deposit.

Pits

- pit **116** was sub-oval in plan measuring 0.90m in length, 1.40m wide and 0.55m deep. It had very steep sloping edges and a concave/irregular base (Figure 5, Section 24) (Plate 6). The fill of this pit (117) was a mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional flint stone inclusions. This pit contained partial sheep/goat and cattle metacarpals, however no dating evidence was recovered. A 20l soil sample was taken from this feature for environmental analysis (sample no.29) which contained a small amount of mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indeterminable small legumes (Appendix B).

3.5 Natural Features

- Natural feature **98** was excavated as it was initially thought to be a post hole given its circular shape in plan. On investigation, however, the "fill" was found to be extremely compacted and sterile in nature. It was therefore not considered to be archaeological.
- Tree throw/roots **114** was located in the south-east corner of the site and truncated pit **144**. A gas pipe also cut through this corner which had been drilled and fed horizontally across the site and therefore not identified as a cut from higher up during the initial machining. This tree root disturbance was most likely related to a tree which was still

present on the site. It did contain a single sherd of a Developed St Neots bowl and a Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware jar which probably derive from pit **144**.

3.6 Finds Summary

- 3.6.1 The evaluation and subsequent excavation produced a small pottery assemblage of 205 sherds, weighing 1.531kg (Appendix A). This total includes unstratified material. The assemblage is mainly early medieval and medieval, while also present are a number of post-medieval sherds and a moderate number of late 18th-20th century sherds, mostly recovered from the evaluation. In addition a single flint-tempered sherd, possibly early Iron Age, was recovered, as were four sherds of Roman Sandy Greyware, as residual elements from early medieval and medieval features and also from the subsoil.
- 3.6.2 A total of 245g of animal bone was recovered from the excavation phase (Appendix C) The assemblage consisted of 18 fragments with eight fragments identifiable to species. Identifiable fragments were recovered from four contexts.
- 3.6.3 The excavation area and all spoil heaps were scanned with a metal detector. This resulted in the recovery of one copper alloy disc-shaped object, possibly relating to horse decoration, from the surface of the excavation area, but not assignable to a specific feature. A whetstone fragment was recovered from post hole **60** and two further finds (small fragments of a lead and an iron object) were recovered from the environmental soil samples from post hole **70**.

3.7 Environmental Summary

- 3.7.1 Twenty-two bulk samples were taken during the excavation phase. These were assessed and found to have archaeobotanical potential. Three samples were chosen for full analysis based on their charred plant content with the aim of investigating the distribution of charred plant remains across the site and to characterise the individual assemblages and possible interpretation of any structures. The samples chosen were taken from 13th-14th century post holes. Different cereal varieties and densities were found within each sample. These three deposits cannot be expected to reflect the extent of the cultivation choices of the period of occupation but do perhaps suggest a general trend.
- 3.7.2 The samples from the site are dominated by charred cereal grains with occasional crop weeds and very little chaff. The assemblages recovered all contain grain that was burnt prior to deposition which means that a burning event took place. It is most likely that the cereal grains were accidentally burnt during food preparation or they may have been deliberately burnt during the disposal of stable waste or floor sweepings.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1.1 A single, abraded sherd from a flint-tempered vessel recovered from a pit at the eastern end of the site may indicate some prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the excavation. The Early Iron Age site on Hadstock Road, immediately to the south-east of the site, is well known for its pottery assemblage, used as one of the principal assemblages to define the regional type series of Darmsden-Linton pottery. It would perhaps have been surprising if the occasional Early Iron Age sherd had not been recovered.
- 4.1.2 Four sherds of Roman pottery were recovered as residual elements within a post hole at the far western end of the site, as well as from ploughsoil/subsoil layers and may similarly imply some Roman activity nearby. Roman remains are well attested along the Granta valley, notably at Linton Village College to the north-west of the site and Linton villa and the Bartlow Hills to the east (see Section 1.3 above).
- 4.1.3 Two spatially distinct phases of buildings were recorded, dating from the early medieval and the medieval periods and characterised by groups of post holes and a beam slot. Both buildings are oriented broadly parallel to Cambridge Road, which was the main road out to the west of the village in the medieval period, forming one of the main roads to Cambridge. This road is clearly shown on the earliest available map of Linton, Millicent's manorial map of the parish, dated 1600. The original of the map is held at Pembroke College, although a photostat is available at the Cambridgeshire Archives. This shows the current site as an open plot of land stretching back from the Cambridge Road with a narrow lane to the west; a similar arrangement to that shown on 1838 enclosure map (Fig. 2; see below). The road, which prior to the construction of the bypass in the late 20th century was the main route linking Haverhill to Cambridge, crossed the river, passed along the High Street and then dog-legged west in front of the current site.
- 4.1.4 The earliest building (Building 1), considered to be early medieval, located at the eastern end of the site (Plate 7) certainly has the potential to be much larger, continuing to the east beyond the investigated area. There is also the possibility that some shallower post holes or other features in this area have been lost through truncation as there is significantly less soil coverage here; less than 15cm in the north eastern corner (Plate 12).
- 4.1.5 The second phase of building recorded (Building 2) is considered to be slightly later in date (between 12th-13th and 12th-14th century), based on the pottery assemblage. Also characterised by post holes/small pits and on the same alignment as the road, this building may also have continued beyond the limits of the excavation area (Figures 4 and 6). This building also appeared to have been constructed within a deliberate cut or terrace. An area for this "cut" was identified within the excavation area (plotted on Figure 6) and within the section edges (Figure 5, Section 25) (Plate 9). The only pottery recovered from layer 141, within the top of the cut, contained two sherds of late 12th-early 13th century pottery. The rest of the soil build-up in this corner of the site is considered to be related to the widening of the road or levelling of a bank. Pottery from layer 140 was dated to the 18th-20th century and thin deposits of a compacted sand and mortar mix (139) (Plates 10 and 11) are thought to be associated with the construction of the police houses as there are no other post-medieval buildings identified from cartographic sources on the area of the excavation after the 1830s (see below).

- 4.1.6 The functions of the medieval buildings are unknown, however, the quantity of domestic pottery recovered would indicate that they were either domestic buildings or out-buildings associated with nearby domestic structures. Experimental archaeology has demonstrated that environmental material recovered from the post hole fills is most likely to have accumulated during the early use of the structure (Reynolds 1994) and it seems likely that the post holes found on this site were originally from out-buildings used for the storage of grain and maybe for stabling for horses. The pottery assemblage is broadly domestic in character and indicates domestic occupation close to the area of excavation from the mid 11th century to 14th centuries.
- 4.1.7 These buildings appear to have lain on the edge of the early medieval settlement of Linton, the core of which was focused on the river crossing to the north. By the 13th century the granting of markets and annual fairs at two of Linton's manorial centres (Great Linton and Barham) began the process of urbanisation of these settlements. Around this time these neighbouring manors appear to have coalesced into a large settlement that extended on both sides of the river along High Street, and which contained intermingled properties of the two original manorial estates. The Hundred Rolls record that out of a total of eighty tenants, thirty-five held their land by burgage tenure and over half had surnames 'which were both occupational and of an urban character' (Brown and Taylor 1995, 91; 99). Included in the latter were a cobbler, two bakers, a smith, two potters and a tanner, with similar surnames (albeit no burgage tenants) being recorded for the seventy-two tenants in Barham (*ibid*). The market south of the river became the most successful commercial centre, and was still in use when the 1600 Millicent map of the parish and village centre was produced.
- 4.1.8 The 12th and 13th century expansion of Linton, of which the buildings at the current site may have been part, may have heralded the demise of the third manor at Little Linton. The manor and its associated settlement are believed to have been centred around the moated site at Little Linton Farm to the west of the village. The moated site continued to be occupied, however, and became a manor house with elaborate gardens, used by the Parys family between the late 15th and early 17th centuries, following which it became a working farmstead (Taylor 1998, 58-60; Brown and Taylor 1995, 91; 99; 103; Wright *et al* 1978, 86). The current site is perhaps more likely to have been part of the Great Linton manor, thought to have been focused close to the site of the church of St Mary located c.350m to the north-east, within the medieval village core.
- 4.1.9 Evidence from the current site has expanded the area of known medieval settlement in Linton, which previously was thought to extend (south of the river) along the High Street up towards the junction with Cambridge Road (Taylor 1998, 59). The relatively low levels of material recovered may suggest that this part of the village was not heavily populated. At some point during the 14th century the site appears to have become uninhabited, evidence that tallies with historical sources which imply significant fluctuation in the population of the village. In 1279 the population is estimated to have been c.860, but by 1377 it had dwindled to c.200 people (Wright *et al* 1978, 81-2), the reasons for which are not certain but may be linked to more general depopulation following poor harvests and pestilence, notably the Black Death, in the 14th century.
- 4.1.10 A few scattered buildings are shown on the 1600 Millicent map to the south of Cambridge Road, but the plot occupied by the current site is shown as being unoccupied. The nearest Listed Building, known as Woodville Cottage, located further to the west along Cambridge Road, dates to the late 17th century. To the east are two Listed early 19th century cottages, originally the brewer's house of the former Linton Brewery; for a short time in c. 1840 this was utilised as the Unicorn public house.

4.1.11 During the later post-medieval period this part of Linton witnessed some redevelopment, perhaps linked to population increase within the village, which grew steadily in the 18th and 19th centuries, peaking at 1,858 people in 1851 (Taylor 1998, 60). The main road from Haverhill to Cambridge, which runs adjacent to the current site, was turnpiked from 1765 to 1876 and the railway line to the south of the village was opened in 1865. The 1838 enclosure map (Fig. 2) clearly shows the site as still open and in use as gardens at this time, although a long building or range is shown extending back from the road in the adjacent plot to the east. The 19th-century foundations and associated remains investigated within Trench 1 of the evaluation (Gilmour 2013) are likely to relate to this building, or buildings. Although its function remains uncertain, the relatively large quantities of pottery and other finds recovered imply a domestic use. More detail of this building is illustrated on the first edition Ordnance Survey map (1886; Fig. 3), which clearly shows it to be a row of small terraced cottages with gardens to the east. A number of buildings associated with brewing and malting (presumably the Linton Brewery) are located to the immediate east and south, implying that the houses may have been associated with these industries. During much of the early 20th century the plot within which the current excavation was located was in use as allotments, until the construction of the police station and houses in the late 1950s-1960s.

APPENDIX A. FINDS REPORTS

A.1 Pottery

By Carole Fletcher BA, AlFA

Introduction

- A.1.1 Evaluation and subsequent excavation produced a small pottery assemblage of 205 sherds, weighing 1.531kg. This total includes unstratified material, which is recorded in the summary table but excluded from the discussion of the phased assemblage. The assemblage is mainly early medieval and medieval, while also present are a number of post-medieval sherds and a moderate number of late 18th-20th century sherds, mostly recovered from the evaluation. In addition a single flint-tempered sherd was recovered, as were four sherds of Roman Sandy Greyware, as residual elements from early medieval and medieval features and also from the subsoil. The condition of the overall assemblage is moderately abraded and the average sherd weight (including unstratified material) is low at approximately 7g.

Methodology

- A.1.2 The Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG) *A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms* (MPRG, 1998) and *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics* (MPRG 2001) act as a standard.
- A.1.3 Recording was carried out using OA East's in-house system based on that previously used at the Museum of London. Fabric classification has been carried out for all previously described medieval and post-medieval types. All sherds have been counted, classified and weighed on a context-by-context basis. The pottery and archive are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition.

Sampling Bias

- A.1.4 The excavation was carried out by hand and selection made through standard sampling strategies on a feature by feature basis. There are not expected to be any inherent biases. Where bulk samples have been processed for environmental remains, there has also been some recovery of pottery. These small quantities of sherds are abraded, and though datable, are not necessarily reliable dating as many weigh only 0.001kg. A sherd of this weight could easily have become incorporated into a feature through means other than deliberate deposition by human action and have only been considered in this report where no other datable material was recovered or where they added to the interpretation of the date-range for the context.

The Assemblage

- A.1.5 Ceramic fabrics and abbreviations and a summary catalogue by fabric, sherd count and weight are given in Table A1. The unstratified material, including some evaluation contexts, has been excluded from this list and all calculations in the body of this report, although it is recorded in the catalogue at the end of this report. For the purpose of this report the stratified assemblage is 190 sherds weighing 1.431kg; the average sherd weight is low at approximately 8g.

<i>Full name</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Sherd Count</i>	<i>Weight (kg)</i>	<i>% Stratified Assemblage by Weight</i>
Developed St Neots	DNEOT	3	0.037	2.6
Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware	EMEMS	65	0.579	40.5
Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware (Shell Dusted)	EMEMS (S)	3	0.028	2.0
Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware/Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy wares	EMEMS/MEMS	6	0.131	9.2
Early Medieval Slightly Sandy Shelly ware	EMSSS	1	0.008	0.6
Early Medieval ware	EMW	1	0.001	0.1
Heddingham Fineware	HEDI	15	0.175	12.2
Lyveden A-type Shelly ware	LYVA	5	0.050	3.5
Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy wares	MEMS	38	0.194	13.6
Post-Medieval Black Glazed ware	MODR	1	0.005	0.3
Post-medieval Redware	PMR	3	0.010	0.7
Prehistoric Flint Tempered ware	PHIST-FLINT	1	0.001	0.1
Refined White Earthenware	RFWE	4	0.009	0.6
Roman Sandy Greyware	RSGW	4	0.012	0.8
Shell Tempered ware	SHW	5	0.011	0.8
South Cambridgeshire Grog Tempered Sandy ware	SCAGS	1	0.007	0.5
South Cambridgeshire Smooth Sandy ware	SCASS	29	0.141	9.9
Staffordshire Mottled ware	STMO	1	0.001	0.1
Staffordshire slipware	STSL	1	0.009	0.6
Unidentified	UNID	2	0.005	0.3
Yellow ware	YELL	1	0.017	1.2
Total		190	1.431	100

Table A1: Fabric abbreviations and summary by fabric, sherd count and weight for stratified assemblage.

Pottery by period

- A.1.6 A single, abraded sherd from a flint-tempered vessel recovered from pit **124** represents the earliest find from the site, indicating some prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the excavation. Four sherds of Roman Sandy Greyware were recovered as a residual element from post hole **62** and from ploughsoil/subsoil layers and likewise indicate some Roman activity in the vicinity of the excavation.
- A.1.7 Early medieval fabrics form the bulk of the assemblage (56% by weight) comprising 103 sherds (0.801kg). The majority of these are Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware, including a number of jar sherds and a small number of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware shell-dusted vessels. Also present are 29 sherds of South Cambridgeshire Smooth Sandy ware and a single sherd of South Cambridgeshire Grog Tempered Sandy ware alongside Developed St Neots-type ware including a rim sherd from a bowl and sooted body sherds from several jars. A single sherd of what has tentatively been identified as Essex Early Medieval Sandy Shelly ware was also

recovered. A small number of sherds are transitional early medieval-medieval and these are all sherds of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware/Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy wares, the equivalent perhaps of Essex fabric 13t.

- A.1.8 Medieval fabrics form 30% of the pottery recovered, comprising 63 sherds (0.430kg), the largest group of sherds are Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy wares and include jar rim and body sherds, the majority of which are sooted. Hedingham Finewares form the second largest group of medieval sherds (15 sherds, 0.175kg), due to the presence of 13 body sherds from a single stamped strip jug (c.1200-1350), other fabrics present include Lyveden A-type Shelly ware.
- A.1.9 No late medieval pottery (produced only after the mid 14th century) was recovered and only five sherds of post-medieval pottery were identified including sherds from two Post-Medieval Redware drinking vessels. Also present are a number of 18th and 19th or 20th century sherds, including sherds of Refined White Earthenware and a Yellow ware jar.

Fabrics and Provenance

- A.1.10 There are a limited number of fabrics present in the post-Roman and pre-18th century assemblage. There are few local Cambridgeshire fabrics and of those only South Cambridgeshire Smooth Sandy ware is present in significant numbers, forming c.10% of the total stratified assemblage (by weight). The majority of the assemblage, both early medieval and later, originated in Essex, with fabrics falling mainly within the broad range of variation encompassed by the Essex type series Fabric 13 (Sperry forthcoming) and Fabric 20, alongside Hedingham Fineware (Fabric 22).
- A.1.11 The post-medieval fabrics may have been locally sourced from the kilns at Ely or from elsewhere while the 17th, 18th century and later fabrics had their origins in the industrial Midlands.

Assemblage in relation to excavated features

Early Medieval-Medieval (Late 12th-end of the 14th century)

- A.1.12 The majority of the features excavated on site were post holes which mainly produced small numbers of sherds that are moderately abraded to abraded. Almost all of the features contained Medieval Essex type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware alongside Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware, the Medieval pottery suggests a late 12th to end of 14th century date. However, the presence of large sherds of early Medieval Essex and with similar levels of abrasion to that of the Medieval Essex Micaceous Grey Sandy ware and the lack of glazed wares in the assemblage suggests an earlier date for the contexts than the Medieval Essex Micaceous Grey Sandy ware alone might indicate. It is likely therefore that the overall date for many of the features is late 12th to early 13th century or early 13th century, although the pottery recovered is recorded as being late 12th to end of the 14th century in the database, this being the broadest date range available for the fabric types present where sherds are undiagnostic. The Hedingham Fineware stamped strip jug c.1200-1350 (Cotter 2000, p85, fig 52), when considered against the large number of early medieval sherds, is perhaps the best indicator of date for the assemblage as a whole, suggesting that the infilling of the features occurred sometime in the early to mid 13th century and that the site had been completely abandoned by the mid 14th century.
- A.1.13 The material these features produced is as follows:

- A.1.14 Pit/post hole **38** produced a single sherd of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware weighing 0.001kg from sample <12>, no other pottery was recovered. post hole **46** also produced a single sherd (0.001kg) of pottery from a sooted South Cambridgeshire Smooth Sandy ware vessel, possibly a jar. Both fabrics are early medieval, mid 11th-early 13th century.
- A.1.15 Post hole **50** produced a single sooted sherd weighing 0.003kg from a Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware jar and a small sherd (0.001kg) of Shell Tempered ware recovered from soil sample <14>. From post hole **52** a sherd of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware (0.001kg) was recovered, while sample <16> contained a sherd of Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware weighing 0.008kg. The fill of both post holes can be dated to the late 12th-end of the 14th century.
- A.1.16 From post hole **54** a moderately sized sherd of South Cambridgeshire Smooth Sandy ware weighing 0.012kg was recovered (mid 11th-early 13th century).
- A.1.17 A line of four similarly-sized post holes (**56, 58, 62** and **19/70**) on the northern side of the excavation area may have once formed a fence line or other boundary. The pottery assemblage from these post holes is similar, with a late 12th to end of the 14th century date at its broadest, however as discussed previously it is possible that some fills date from the late 12th to early 13th if the pottery is contemporary.
- A.1.18 Post hole **56** produced both Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware sherds and a small sherd of Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware (0.003kg). post hole **58** also produced Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware and two sherds of Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware, alongside a single externally sooted sherd from Lyveden A-type Shelly ware jar.
- A.1.19 Post hole **62** produced an assemblage including two small sherds of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware, one of which came from sample <19>, recovered alongside a sherd of Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware. Other fabrics represented are Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware (Shell Dusted) 1 0.001kg, South Cambridgeshire Smooth Sandy ware and a residual sherd of Roman Sandy Greyware. All the sherds are small, the largest weighing only 0.005kg and dating is given its broadest range at late 12th-end of the 14th century; the sherds are not in their place of primary deposition and are related to disuse.
- A.1.20 Post hole **70** produced the largest assemblage from this group of post holes (13 sherds, 0.083kg) and was partially excavated during the evaluation as feature **19**, producing a total of 15 sherds weighing 0.252kg including 12 sherds weighing 0.226kg. These came from Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware jars including rim sherds from three separate jars. Other fabrics are Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware and a sherd of South Cambridgeshire Smooth Sandy ware. During the excavation as **70**, the remainder of the post hole produced seven sherds of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware, four of which are from jars; a further two sherds were recovered from sample <15>. Also present are single jar sherds in South Cambridgeshire Smooth Sandy ware, Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware and Lyveden A-type Shelly ware. A single sherd has been tentatively identified as Early Medieval Slightly Sandy Shelly ware. The large number of early medieval sherds were recovered from this feature, 24 sherds weighing 0.300kg, by comparison with 4 sherds weighing 0.035kg of pottery produced after the mid 12th century, suggests that the medieval pottery is from the earlier part of its range and that the pottery may be contemporary dating the context to the late 12th-early 13th century. In total, the sherds from **19/70** form the largest assemblage by weight from the site.

- A.1.21 From post hole **60** a single sherd (0.005kg) of externally sooted Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware jar was recovered. post hole **68** was partially excavated as **23** during the evaluation, producing 18 sherds weighing 0.063kg of a South Cambridgeshire Smooth Sandy ware jar (mid 11th-early 13th century), while the soil sample <2> contained a single sherd of Shell Tempered ware weighing 0.001kg suggesting a slightly later date for the feature of late 12th-early 13th century. By contrast, no pottery was recovered during the excavation from the other half of the feature. The jar sherds are from the same externally sooted vessel and are moderately abraded.
- A.1.22 From post hole **72** a small sherd (0.001kg) of Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware jar was recovered. While the post hole/small pit **78** produced a small sherd (0.003kg) of Lyveden A-type Shelly ware. Both features can be dated to the late 12th-end of 14th century. However the post hole/small pit **82** produced a sooted body sherd from an Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware/Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy ware jar weighing 0.025kg, as a possible transitional vessel it can be dated to the mid or late 12th-early 13th century.
- A.1.23 Post hole/small pit **84** produced the largest assemblage by count of any feature, 36 sherds weighing 0.204kg. Most frequent among the fabrics are 13 sherds of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware, a further four sherds of which were found in sample <23>. Next most common is Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware, of which eleven sherds were recovered, including four from sample <23>. Other fabrics present include single sherds of Lyveden A-type Shelly ware and from a Heddingham Fineware jug. The pottery can be dated to the late 12th to mid 14th century or possibly earlier if the pottery is contemporary.
- A.1.24 Post holes **86** and **90** both produced sherds of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware and Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware, while post hole **94** produced only sherds of Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware. post hole **96** produced a moderately sized sherd of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware.
- A.1.25 Post hole **102** produced one of the few sherds of Developed St Neots (mid 11th-mid 13th-century) recovered from the excavation, a sherd weighing 0.006kg was found in sample <26>. post hole **106** produced four sherds of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware (0.032kg) and a single small sherd of Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware.
- A.1.26 Pottery from post hole **112** was only recovered from sample <28>, the two small sherds recovered weighed approximately 0.001kg each and have been tentatively identified as Early Medieval ware and Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware.
- A.1.27 Post hole **130** produced 13 sherds from a Heddingham Fineware jug, possibly from a stamped strip jug (0.157kg), which is the largest number of glazed ware sherds recovered, comprising c.90% of the medieval glazed assemblage. Also present is a single sherd from a Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware jar. The pottery can be dated to the 13th-mid 14th century with the identification of the stamped slipped jug.
- A.1.28 Pit **124** had two fills that contained pottery: fill 117 produced two small sherds of South Cambridgeshire Smooth Sandy ware, a single sherd from a Shell-Tempered ware jar and a residual sherd of Prehistoric flint-tempered ware recovered from sample <29>. Fill 125 contained only a single sherd of an Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware jar. Overall the pottery from the context dates to the late 12th to early 13th century, however all the sherds are small and abraded so may be residual.

- A.1.29 Pit **144** produced a moderately sized sherd (0.017kg) of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware and a small sherd of a Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware jar. Tree throw **114** contained single sherds of a Developed St Neots bowl and a Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware jar.

Post-medieval and Later

- A.1.30 The ploughsoil/subsoil was assigned several different context numbers at different times and in different areas of the site. As layer 10, it produced four sherds of Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware, three sherds of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware and single sherds of Developed St Neots, Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware, and Hedingham Fineware. In addition two residual sherds of Roman Sandy Greyware were also found. As layer 20, it produced three sherds of an Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware jar, two sherds of a South Cambridgeshire Smooth Sandy ware jar, a single sherd of an Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware (Shell Dusted) jar and a residual sherd of Roman Sandy Greyware. Finally as layer 141, two sherds were recovered, single sherds of Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware jar and from a South Cambridgeshire Grog-Tempered Sandy ware jar.
- A.1.31 In addition, from the evaluation, pit **6** contained two contexts that produced pottery, context 4 which contained three sherds of Refined White Earthenware and single sherds of Staffordshire slipware and Post-medieval redware, while context 5 contained single sherds of Yellow ware, Staffordshire mottled ware, Post-medieval redware, Post-medieval Black-Glazed ware and Refined White Earthenware, dating the features infilling to the 20th century. Pit **8** contained a sherd of Post-Medieval Redware dating from the 16th-19th century.

Conclusion

- A.1.32 The assemblage is a mixture of early medieval and medieval material, with early medieval fabrics dominant although on the whole found alongside medieval material suggesting a date of late 12th to early 13th century for much of the assemblage and perhaps as narrow a date range as the first part of the 13th century. The assemblage is broadly domestic in character, although it appears to represent mainly rubbish deposition with much of the material becoming incorporated into the features at their point of disuse; this is especially true for many of the post holes.
- A.1.33 The material indicates domestic occupation close to the area of excavation from the mid 11th century onwards. The moderate levels of medieval glazed wares, c.12% (of the total assemblage) are due almost entirely to the presence of 13 sherds from one vessel recovered from feature **130**. The jug sherds appear to be from a stamped strip jug the estimated date range for this type of jug as suggested by Cotter (Cotter 2000, p85, fig 52) is c.1200-1350. The absence of other glazed wares and dominance of early medieval pottery would indicate that the assemblage is early, or the small number of medieval glazed wares possibly representing later rubbish disposal from settlement located elsewhere. The area appears to be part of the early post-Roman development of Linton, yet low levels of material recovered suggests that this area was under-developed throughout the early medieval and medieval period with many of the features backfilled by the mid 13th century, suggesting a change in layout of boundaries and settlement pattern at this time.

Pottery Catalogue

Context	Fabric	Basic Form	Sherd Count	Weight (kg)	Sample Number	Context Date
2	RFWE	Bowl/Plate	2	0.006		Early 19-20th century
	RFWE	Jug	10	0.066		
	YELL	Jar	2	0.010		
4	PMR	Drinking Vessel	1	0.003		20th century
	RFWE		1	0.002		
	RFWE	Bowl/Plate	2	0.006		
	STSL	Bowl	1	0.009		
5	PMBL		1	0.005		Early 19-20th century
	PMR	Bowl	1	0.005		
	RFWE		1	0.001		
	STMO		1	0.001		
	YELL	Jar	1	0.017		
7	PMR	Drinking Vessel	1	0.002		16th-19th century
10	DNEOT	Jar	1	0.004		Late 12th-mid 13th century
	EMEMS		3	0.020		
	EMEMS	Jar	1	0.021		
	HEDI		1	0.011		
	MEMS		4	0.013		
	RSGW		2	0.006		
18	EMEMS		3	0.010	Sample 1	Late 12th-early 13th century
	EMEMS	Jar	9	0.216		
	MEMS		1	0.013		
	MEMS	Jar	1	0.011		
	SCASS		1	0.002	Sample 1	
20	EMEMS		1	0.006		Mid 11th-early 13th century
	EMEMS	Jar	2	0.017		
	EMEMS (S)	Jar	1	0.016		
	RSGW		1	0.004		
	SCASS		1	0.010		
	SCASS	Jar	1	0.009		
21	SCASS	Jar	18	0.063		Mid 12th-early 13th century
	SHW		1	0.001	Sample 2	
24	EMEMS	Jar	2	0.006		Late 12th-early of 13th century
	EMEMS (S)	Jar	1	0.011		
	LYVA	Carinated Bowl	1	0.037		
	MEMS	Jar	1	0.002		
	SCASS	Jar	2	0.028		
39	EMEMS		1	0.001	Sample 12	Mid 11th-early 13th century
47	SCASS	Jar	1	0.001		Mid 11th-early 13th century
51	MEMS	Jar	1	0.003		Late 12th-mid 14th century
	SHW	Jar	1	0.001	Sample 14	

Context	Fabric	Basic Form	Sherd Count	Weight (kg)	Sample Number	Context Date
53	EMEMS	Jar	1	0.001		Late 12th-end of 14th century
	MEMS		1	0.008	Sample 16	
55	SCASS		1	0.012		Mid 11th-early 13th century
57	EMEMS		1	0.014		Late 12th-early 13th century
	EMEMS		1	0.005	Sample 17	
	MEMS		1	0.003		
59	EMEMS		3	0.021		Late 12th-early 13th century
	LYVA	Jar	1	0.002	Sample 18	
	MEMS		2	0.006		
	UNID		1	0.003		
61	MEMS	Jar	1	0.005		Late 12th-end of 14th century
63	EMEMS		1	0.002		Late 12th- early 13th century (Mixed all small sherds)
	EMEMS		1	0.001	Sample 19	
	EMEMS (S)		1	0.001	Sample 19	
	MEMS		1	0.005		
	MEMS		1	0.001	Sample 19	
	RSGW		1	0.002	Sample 19	
	SCASS		1	0.004		
65	UNID		1	0.002		Not closely datable
71	EMEMS		2	0.015		Late 12th-early 13th century
	EMEMS	Jar	7	0.038		
	EMEMS	Jar	2	0.006	Sample 15	
	EMSSS	Jar	1	0.008		
	LYVA	Jar	1	0.006		
	MEMS	Jar	1	0.005		
	SCASS	Jar	1	0.005	Sample 15	
73	MEMS	Jar	1	0.001		Late 12th-end of 14th century
79	LYVA		1	0.003		Mid 12th-end of 14th century
83	EMEMS/MEMS	Jar	1	0.025		Mid 12th-early 13th century
85	EMEMS		17	0.064		Late 12th-early 13th century
	EMEMS		4	0.008	Sample 23	
	EMEMS/MEMS	Jar	3	0.076		
	EMEMS/MEMS	Jar	1	0.012	Sample 23	
	HEDI	Jug	1	0.007		
	LYVA		1	0.002		
	MEMS		7	0.021		
	MEMS		4	6	Sample 23	
	SHW		2	0.008		
87	EMEMS		1	0.005		Late 12th-early 13th century
	MEMS	Jar	1	0.005		
91	EMEMS		1	0.034		Late 12th-end of 13th century
	EMEMS/MEMS	Jar	1	0.018		
	MEMS	Jar	1	0.005	Sample 21	
95	MEMS	Jar	2	0.039		Late 12th-Late 13th century

Context	Fabric	Basic Form	Sherd Count	Weight (kg)	Sample Number	Context Date
97	EMEMS		1	0.015		Mid 11th-early 13th century
103	DNEOT	Jar	1	0.006	Sample 26	Mid 11th-mid 13th century
107	EMEMS		4	0.032		Late 12th-early 13th century
	MEMS		1	0.005		
113	EMW		1	0.001	Sample 28	Late 12th-early 13th century (All small sherds)
	MEMS	Jar	1	0.001	Sample 28	
115	DNEOT	Bowl	1	0.027		Late 12th-mid 13th century
	MEMS	Jar	1	0.018		
117	PHIST-FLINT		1	0.001	Sample 29	Late 12th-early 13th century
	SCASS		2	0.007		
	SHW	Jar	1	0.001	Sample 29	
125	EMEMS	Jar	1	0.004		Mid 11th-early 13th century
131	HEDI	Jug	13	0.157		13th-mid 14th century
	MEMS	Jar	1	0.005		
140	RFWE	Bowl/Plate	1	0.018		Late 18th-20th century
141	MEMS	Jar	1	0.008		Late 12th-early 13th century
	SCAGS	Jar	1	0.007		
145	EMEMS		1	0.017		Late 12th-early 13th century
	MEMS	Jar	1	0.005		

Table A2 Pottery Catalogue

APPENDIX B. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

B.1 Environmental Samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

- B.1.1 Twenty-two bulk samples were taken during excavations at the Old Police Houses site, Cambridge Road, Linton. These were assessed and found to have archaeobotanical potential. The results are produced in Table B1.
- B.1.2 Three samples were chosen for full analysis based on their charred plant content with the aim of investigating the distribution of charred plant remains across the site and to characterise the individual assemblages to assist in the interpretation of any structures.
- B.1.3 The samples chosen were taken from 13th-14th century post holes that appear to be unrelated. Different cereal varieties and densities were found within each sample. These three deposits cannot be expected to reflect the extent of the cultivation choices of the period of occupation but do perhaps suggest a general trend.

Methodology

- B.1.4 The total volume (up to seventeen litres) of each of the samples was processed by tank flotation. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve. The dried flots were subsequently sorted using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and a complete list of the recorded remains are presented in Table B2. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands* and the authors' own reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Stace (1997). Carbonized seeds and grains, by the process of burning and burial, become blackened and often distort and fragment leading to difficulty in identification. Plant remains have been identified to species where possible. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

Quantification

- B.1.5 Individual cereal grains, chaff elements and seeds have been counted and recorded on Table B2. Sample 25 fill 97 of post hole **96** produced a large charred plant assemblage that would have taken too long to analyse in its entirety. A 50% sub-sample was fully sorted and the counts of charred plant remains from this portion have been tabulated. Fragmented cereal grains have been counted if over half of the grain has survived. Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal has been scored for abundance according to the following criteria:

+ = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant

Key to tables B1:

Ph = post hole, u = untransformed by charring or waterlogging, possibly modern,

f = fragment. Indet = indeterminate (not identifiable to species)

Results

B.1.6 All of the samples contain plant remains preserved by carbonization and include charcoal, cereal remains, legumes and weed seeds.

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	Sample Size (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Charcoal	Legumes	Weed Seeds	Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal >2mm	Comments	Suitable for further study?
1	18	19	Ph	15	45	###	0	#	#	++	+	Mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indet. small legumes	possibly
2	21	23	Ph	12	30	###	0	#	#	++	++	Mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indet. small legumes, hazelnut shell	No
10	33	32	Ph	2	1	#	0	0	0	+	0	Sparse cereals	No
11	37	36	Ph	6	5	##	0	0	0	+	+	Sparse cereals	No
12	39	38	Ph	17	40	##	0	#	#	++	+	Mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indet. small legumes	No
13	49	48	Ph	8	15	###	0	0	0	++	++	Mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indet.	No
14	51	50	Ph	9	15	##	0	#	#	++	++	Mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indet. small legumes	No
15	71	70	Ph	9	20	##	0	0	0	++	++	Mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indet.	No
16	53	52	Ph	4	20	##	0	0	0	++	++	Mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indet.	No
17	57	56	Ph	9	15	##	0	0	#	++	++	Mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indet.	No
18	59	58	Ph	10	10	##	0	0	0	++	+	Mixed cereals; mainly wheat and barley	No
19	63	62	Ph	17	25	###	#	#	#	+	+	Good assemblage; predominantly wheat grains with mixed cereals, small legumes and wetland plant seeds	Yes
20	87	86	Ph	9	25	##	0	0	#	+	+	Mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indet.	No
21	91	90	Ph	9	5	##	0	0	#	+	+	Mixed cereals; mainly indet.	No
22	95	94	Ph	7	5	#	0	0	0	+	0	Sparse cereals	No
23	85	84	Ph	10	15	#	#	#	#	++	+	Mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indet. small legumes	No
24	81	80	Ph	9	10	##	##	0	0	++	+	Mixed cereals; mainly wheat and barley	No
25	97	96	Ph	14	80	####	0	#	##	++	+++ +	Good assemblage; predominantly oat grains with mixed cereals, small legumes and crop weed seeds	Yes
26	103	102	Ph	10	5	##	0	0	0	+	+	Sparse cereals	No

27	109	108	Ph	9	25	##	0	0	#	++	++	Sparse cereals	No
28	113	112	Ph	3	20	##	0	0	#	+++	+++	Mixed cereals; mainly oat and indet.	No
29	117	116	Pit	16	30	##	0	0	#	+++	+++	Mixed cereals; mainly wheat and indet.	No

Table B1: Environmental samples from LINOPH13

Sample No.		1	19	25
Context No.		18	63	97
Cut No		19	62	96
Feature type		Ph	Ph	Ph
Cereals:				
<i>Avena</i> sp. caryopsis	Oats [wild or cultivated]	5		159
<i>Avena/Poaceae</i> sp. caryopsis	Oat/large grass	6	9	134
<i>Avena sativa</i> L. floret base	cultivated Oat chaff		1f	1
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L. caryopsis	domesticated Barley grain	16	6	11
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L. rachis internode	domesticated Barley chaff		1	
free-threshing <i>Triticum</i> sp. caryopsis	free-threshing Wheat grain	46	72	25
<i>Triticum aestivum</i> rachis			2	
cereal indet. caryopsis	unidentified cereal grain	46	27	122
cereal indet. Rachis			4	
cereal indet. Awn				1
Other food plants:				
Legume <2mm	vetch/wild pea			2
Legume 2-4mm	Pea/small bean	2u	2	0.5
<i>Linum usitatissimum</i> L. seed	Flax		4	10
Dry land herbs:				
<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L. achene		7	19	1
<i>Brassica nigra</i> type seed	Black Mustard [coarse-textured seed]			1
<i>Bromus</i> spp. caryopsis	Bromes			1
<i>Centaurea cf cyanus</i> . achene			1f	
Chenopodiaceae indet. seed	Goosefoot Family	18	7	5
<i>Lithospermum arvense</i> L. nutlet	Field Gromwell			1
<i>Lolium cf. temulentum</i> L. caryopsis	Darnel			1
small <i>Poaceae</i> indet. [< 2mm] caryopsis	small-seeded Grass Family	1		
medium <i>Poaceae</i> indet. [3-4mm]	medium-seeded Grass Family	1		
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L. achene	Knotgrass			1
<i>Rumex acetosella</i> L. achene	Sheep's Sorrel			1
<i>Rumex</i> sp. achene	small-seeded Docks		3	3
<i>Spergula arvensis</i> L. seed	Corn Spurrey			2
<i>Viola</i> sp. Seed	violet		1	1
Wetland/aquatic plants:				
<i>Carex</i> spp. nut	medium triangular-seeded Sedges		1	2
<i>Eleocharis palustris</i> (L.) Roem. & Schult./ <i>uniglumis</i> (Link) Schult. nut	Common / Slender Spike-rush			1
Tree macrofossils:				
<i>Rosa</i> sp. Seed	Rose		1	
<i>Sambucus nigra</i> L. seed	Elder		2u	
Indet bud			1	
Other plant macrofossils:				

Charcoal <2mm	++	+++	+++
Charcoal 2-10mm	++	++	+++
Charcoal >10mm	+	++	++
Charred stems			
Culm nodes	4	6	
Indet. Seeds	1	2	
Sample Volume (l)	15	17	14
Volume of flot (ml)	40	25	100
% flot sorted	100	100	50

Table B2: Environmental samples 1, 19 and 25 from LINOPH13

Economic plant remains

- B.1.7 The charred plant assemblages in each of the samples are dominated by cereal grains. The cereal types present are free-threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum sensu-lato*), barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and oats (*Avena* spp.). It is not possible to ascertain whether all of the free-threshing wheat present is of the tetraploid (*Triticum durum/turgidum*) or hexaploid (*T. aestivo-compactum*) species. Both compact, rounded grains and longer, less-rounded forms were observed with chaff elements mainly identified as *T. aestivum*. Barley is the least common cereal type present within each of the the samples. Preservation of the barley grains is poor possibly indicating that the grains had partially degraded prior to burning.
- B.1.8 Oat grains have been identified by their characteristic morphology. The floret (chaff that encloses the grain) which allows distinction between cultivated and wild varieties are only present as single items in both Sample 19 and Sample 25 and can be identified as the cultivated form *A. sativa*. In some case, smaller size and degradation of the grain has resulted in identification as oat/grass (*Avena/Poaceae* sp.) although the grains do more closely resemble those of oats. Sample 25 contains the greatest number of oat grains. If both the firmly and tentatively identified counts are combined, taking into account the 50% sub-sample and original sample volume, a density of 42 oat grains per litre are calculated with a total cereal content of 64 grains per litre. Samples 1 and 19 have a total cereal count of 8 and 7 grains per litre respectively. Such a high cereal content in Sample 25 suggests a discrete deposit of charred material and may indicate that feature 96 is actually a pit dug for this purpose or that, if it was a post hole, that the post had been removed prior to deposition of the burnt grain.
- B.1.9 Flax seeds are present in both Samples 19 and 25, more commonly in the latter. Flax was a crop cultivated for both the seeds for consumption and for the fibre for linen. The seeds have a high oil content and can be pressed to produce linseed oil.
- B.1.10 Other economic food plants present include legumes. These circular pulses occur as two cotyledons and commonly split into two when cooked. Peas and beans are generally under-represented in the archaeobotanical record as they do not need to be dried through the application of fire like cereals do and are less likely to be accidentally burnt. The legumes recovered from each of the samples are poorly preserved and have lost their outer covering (testa). It is likely that some at least are peas (*Pisum sativum*) and possibly even beans (*Vicia faba*) as they tended to be smaller and rounder in the medieval period (Moffet 2006). The smaller legumes are likely to be vetches (*Vicia* sp) that were probably growing as weeds although vetches were commonly grown as a fodder crop and for their soil-enriching qualities.

Weed plants

- B.1.11 Both segetal and ruderal weeds are represented; seeds of plants found growing amongst crops (segetal) include cornflower (*Centaurea* sp.), cleavers (*Gallium aparine*), brassicas (*Brassica* sp.), rye grass (*Lolium* sp.) and grass seeds (Poaceae). Also present are seeds of stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*) is a common crop weed but it has a specific habitat, preferring heavy clay soils whereas *Sheep's sorrel* (*Rumex acetosella*) and corn spurrey (*Spergula arvensis*) grow on sandy soils.
- B.1.12 Weeds such as dock (*Rumex* sp.) and goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp) have a broader habitat including disturbed and waste ground and are described as ruderals. Wetland plants including sedges (*Carex* sp.) and rushes (*Juncus* sp.) and spike-rush (*Eleocharis palustris*) occur rarely and are likely to be used for thatching, flooring and also for lighting in the form of rush-lights.

Discussion

- B.1.13 The charred plant assemblages recovered from this site are dominated by cereal grains. There is very little chaff present and quantities of weed seeds are low inferring semi-cleaned crop products. Wheat would have been the most staple cereal at this time as it was commonly used for grinding into flour for bread. Barley and oats were often grown as a mixed crop (dredge) and used for animal fodder although both cereals were also commonly consumed in soups, stews and porridge. There are parish records dating to 1420 that record that 'the great tithes yielded 60 qr. of barley, 20 of wheat, 4 of pease, and 3 of oats.'
- B.1.14 Legumes would have been an important protein source in the medieval diet and would have been dried for winter use. It is probable that peas were grown in rotation with cereal crops as their enrichment of the soil was appreciated. It is also likely that peas were grown along with culinary herbs and flavourings in kitchen gardens.
- B.1.15 The charred weed seed assemblages recovered from the site are typical ruderal/segetal species of this area and were probably from plants harvested with the crop. Weeds mixed in with the cereal crops would have been a major concern for farmers as they would have either have had to pull them out or hoe by hand. Inevitably the harvested crop would be contaminated with weed seeds which would either be picked out by hand or tolerated although this would have affected the quality of the flour.
- B.1.16 The weed seeds provide an insight into areas of cultivation around the site. Plants such as sheep's sorrel indicate continued cultivation of sandy soils, presumably close to the site itself. The introduction of stinking mayweed in the early medieval period indicates the exploitation of heavier clay soils through agricultural innovation and the use of more specialised machinery.

Conclusion

- B.1.17 In summary, the samples from the site of the Old Police Houses, Linton are dominated by charred cereal grains with occasional crop weeds and very little chaff. The assemblages recovered all contain grain that was burnt prior to deposition which means that a burning event took place. It is most likely that the cereal grains were accidentally burnt during food preparation or they may have been deliberately burnt during the disposal of stable waste or floor sweepings. Experimental archaeology has shown that material recovered from the post hole fills most likely accumulated during the early use of the structure (Reynolds 1994) and it seems likely that the post holes found on this site were originally from outbuildings used for the storage of grain and maybe for stables for horses.

APPENDIX C. FAUNAL REMAINS

By Chris Faine

Introduction

- C.1.1 245g of animal bone was recovered from the excavation at the Old Police Houses, Linton. The assemblage consisted of 18 fragments with 8 fragments identifiable to species.

Results

- C.1.2 Identifiable fragments were recovered from 4 contexts. Context **5** consisted of a partial sheep radius and scapula along with a portion of cattle inoninate. Partial cattle and sheep radii were also recovered from context **85**. The only ageable element was recovered from context **87** in the form of a sheep mandible from animal around 6-8 years old at death. Context **117** contained partial sheep/goat and cattle metacarpals.

Discussion

- C.1.3 The assemblage is too small to draw any significant conclusions from and most likely represents general settlement debris.

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APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-154561			
Project Name	Medieval Settlement on land at the former Police Station, 9-15 Cambridge Road, Linton, Cambridgeshire			
Project Dates (fieldwork)	Start	24-06-2013	Finish	01-07-2013
Previous Work (by OA East)	Yes		Future Work	No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	LINOPH13	Planning App. No.	S/2420/12/F
HER No.	ECB3961	Related HER/OASIS No.	n/a

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	Environmental (unspecified schedule)
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Please select all techniques used:

<input type="checkbox"/> Field Observation (periodic visits)	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/> Salvage Record
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Excavation (100%)	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Systematic Field Walking
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Recorded Observation	<input type="checkbox"/> Systematic Metal Detector Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Test Pit Survey
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open-Area Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/> Salvage Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/> Watching Brief

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

List feature types using the [NMR Monument Type Thesaurus](#) and significant finds using the [MDA Object type Thesaurus](#) together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Building/postholes	Medieval 1066 to 1540	pottery	Medieval 1066 to 1540
Pits	Medieval 1066 to 1540		Select period...
Beamslot	Medieval 1066 to 1540		Select period...

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	
District	South Cambridgeshire	Former Police Station, 9-15 Cambridge Road Linton, Cambs CB21 4NN	
Parish	Linton		
HER	Cambridgeshire		
Study Area	300sqm	National Grid Reference	TL 5580 4659

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Kasia Gdaniec, Cambridgeshire HET
Project Design Originator	Richard Mortimer, OA East
Project Manager	Richard Mortimer, OA East
Supervisor	Taleyna Fletcher

Project Archives

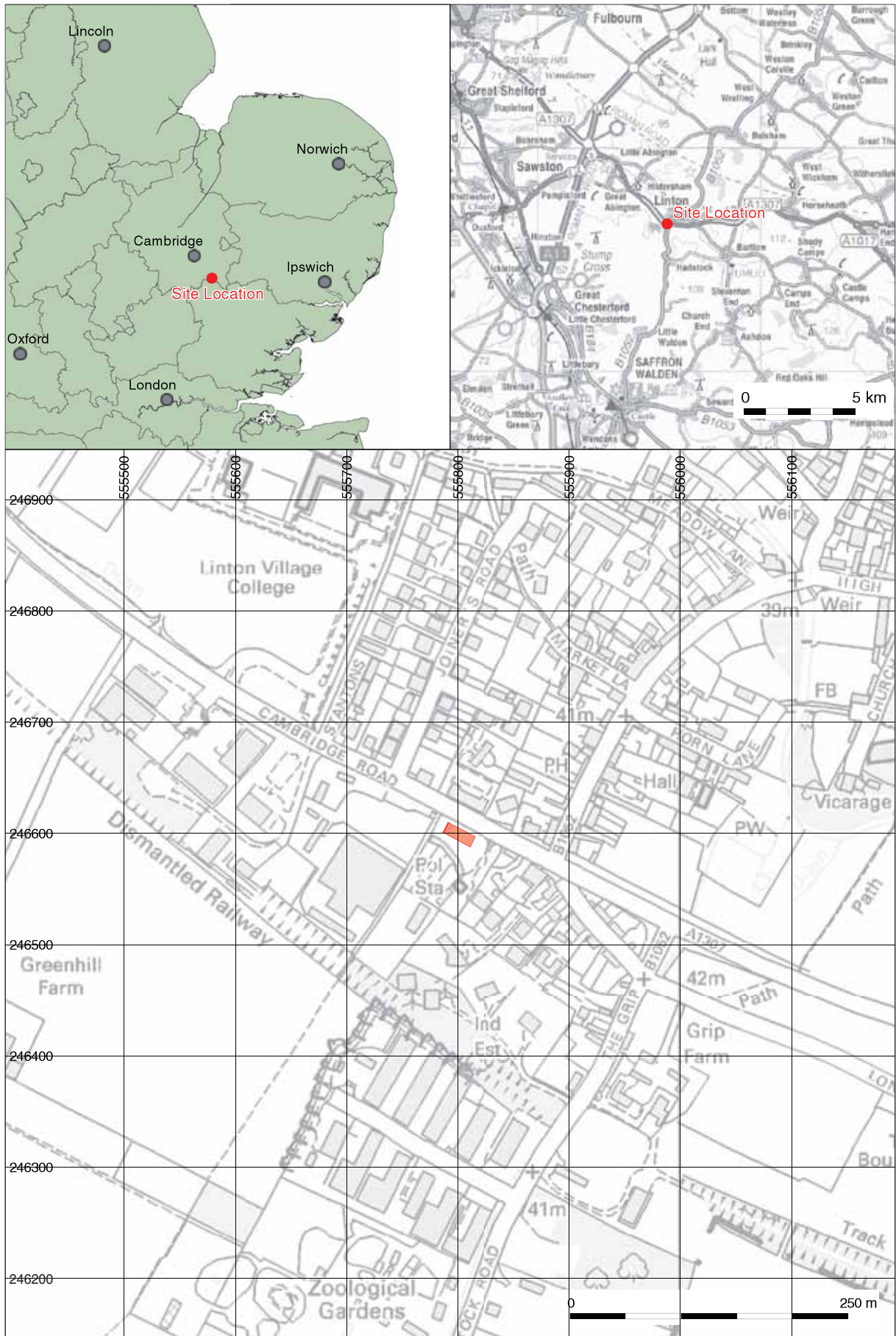
Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
Cambs County Stores	OA East Offices	Cambs County Stores
LINOPH13	LINOHP13	LINOPH13

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photos
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:



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Figure 1: Site location map



Figure 2: Extract from 1838 Enclosure Map showing location of excavation area (red)

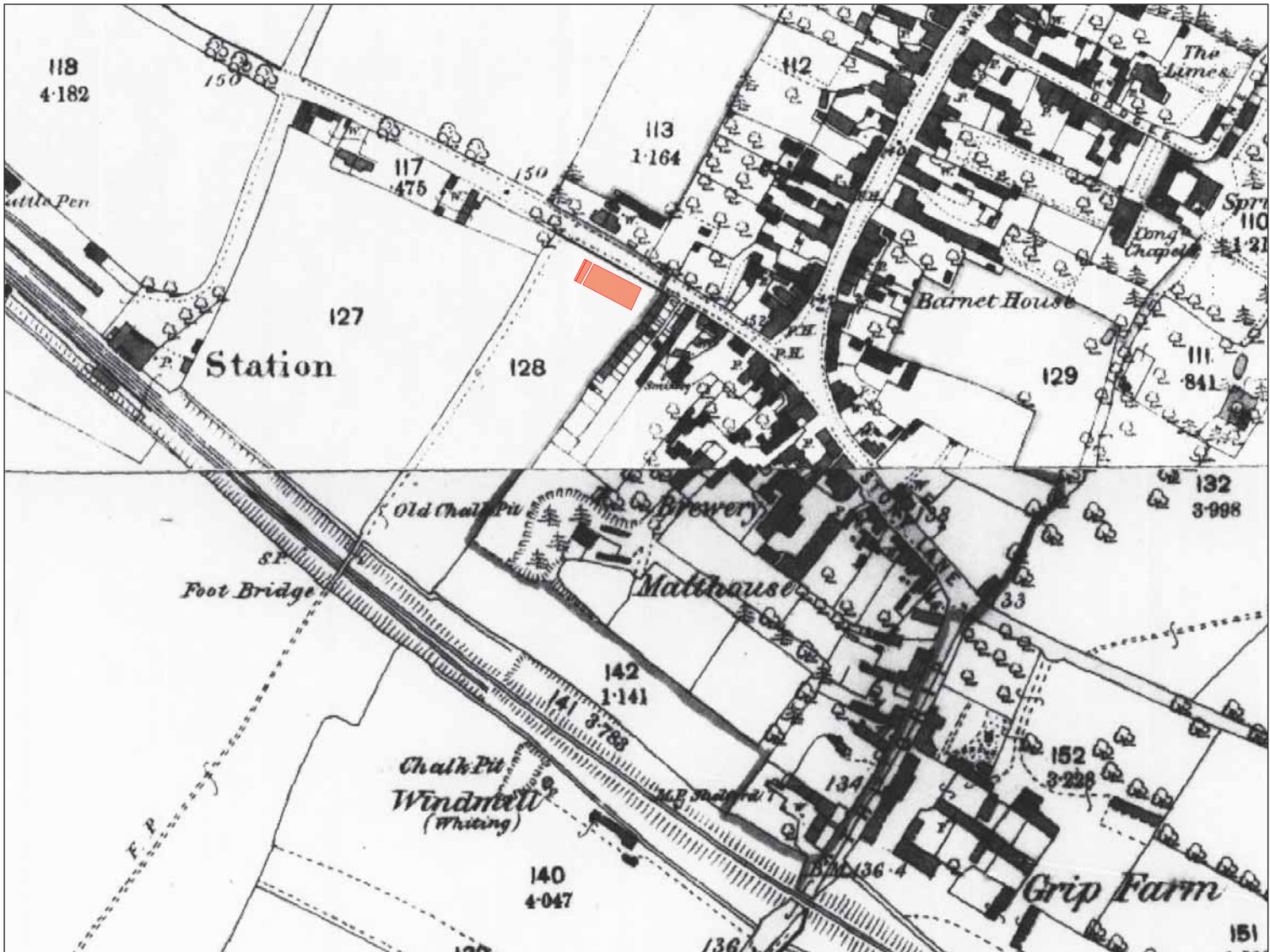


Figure 3: Extract from First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1886, showing location of excavation area (red)

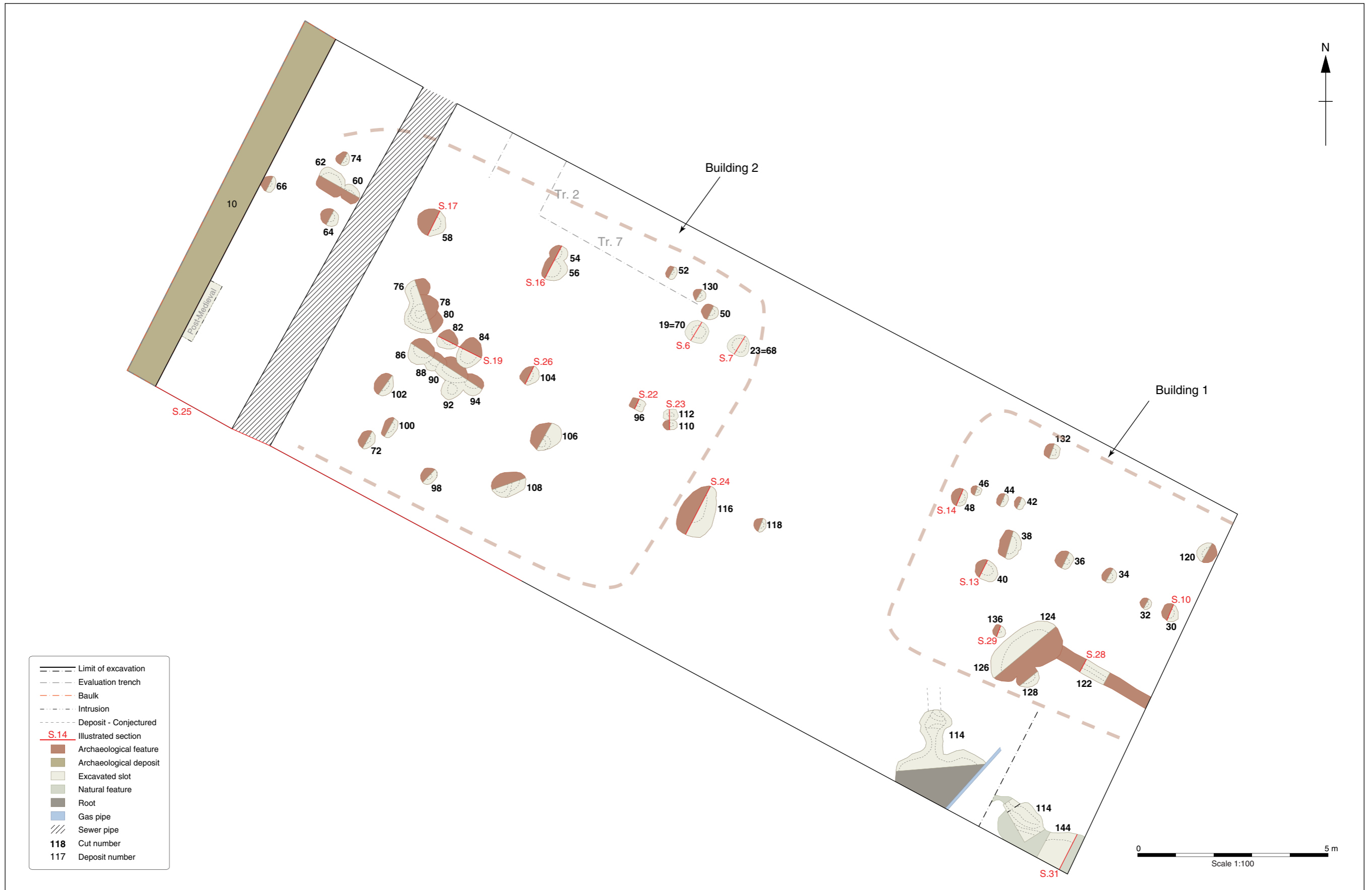


Figure 4: Plan of excavation area

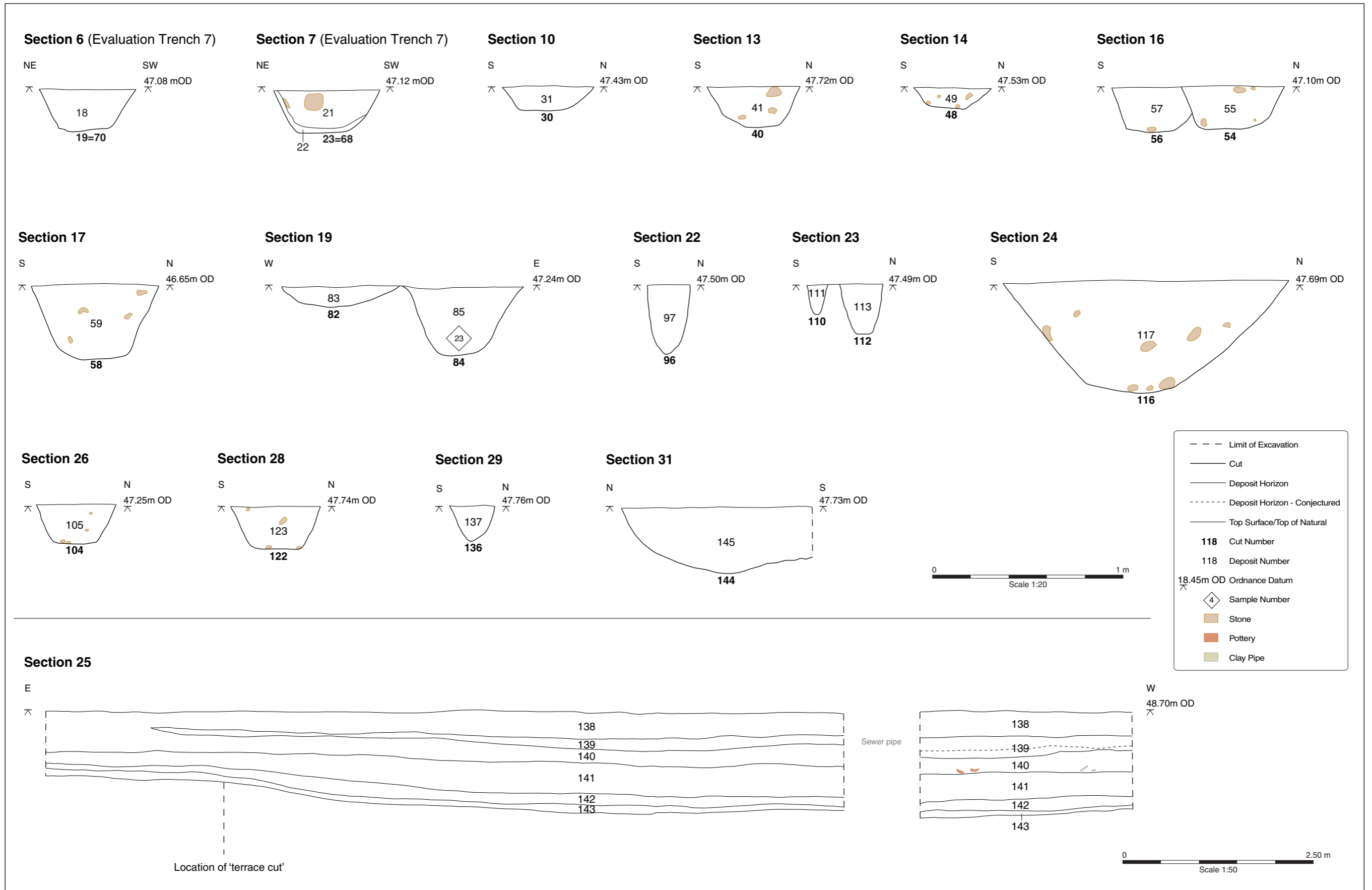


Figure 5: Selected sections

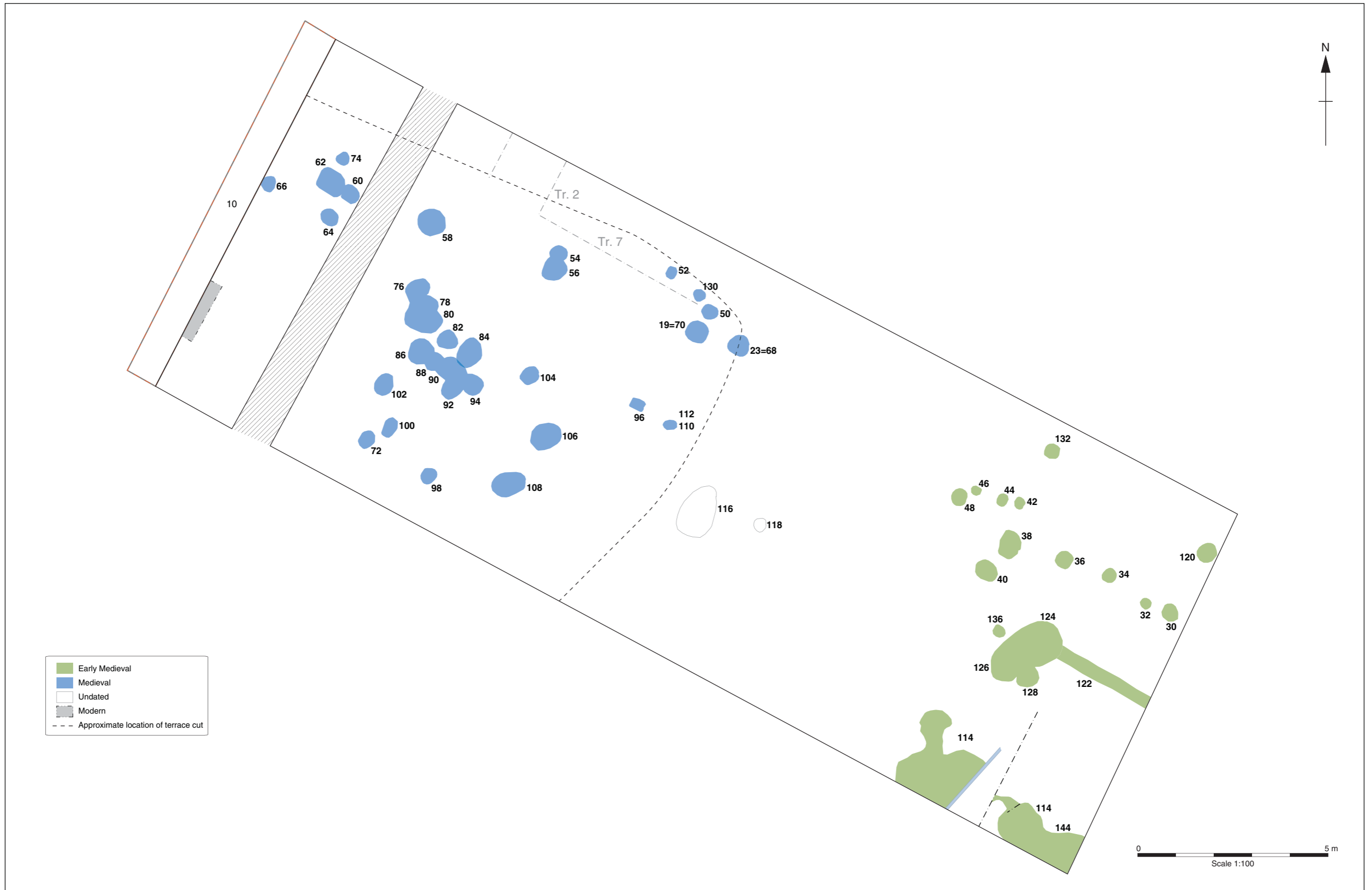


Figure 6: Excavation plan showing suggested phasing and location of terrace cut



Plate 1: Working shot : site during excavation, from east



Plate 2: Post hole 40



Plate 3: Post hole 52



Plate 4: Post hole 58



Plate 5: Post hole 60 and pit 62



Plate 6: Pit 116



Plate 7: Excavation area looking towards north-west



Plate 8: Excavation area looking towards north-east



Plate 9: Terrace cut in western edge of excavation area



Plate 10: North-east facing section, showing demolition layers and terrace cut



Plate 11: North-east facing section



Plate 12: Excavation area, looking towards north-east



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