



An Excavation on Land Rear of 1 Oakington Road Cottenham

Excavation Report



November 2011

Client: FE Peacock

OA East Report No: 1206

OASIS No: oxfordar3-81577

NGR: TL 4457 6708

Report Title

An Excavation on Land Rear of 1 Oakington Road Cottenham

By James Fairbairn

With contributions by Rachel Fossberry HNC (Cert Ed) and Nina Crummy (BA FSA)

Editor: James Drummond Murray BA MIFA

Illustrator: Andrew Corrigan

Report Date: November 2011

Report Number: 1206

Site Name: Land at the rear of 1 Oakington Road Cottenham.

HER Event No: CHER 3421

Date of Works: July 2010

Client Name: FE Peacock

Client Ref:

Planning Ref: S/1979/07/F

Grid Ref: TL 4457 6708

Site Code: COTOAK10

Finance Code: COTOAK10

Receiving Body: CCC Stores, Landbeach

Accession No:

Prepared by: James Fairbairn
Position: Supervisor
Date: November 2011

Checked by: James Drummond Murray
Position: Manager
Date: November 2011
Signed:

Disclaimer

This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

Oxford Archaeology East,
15 Trafalgar Way,
Bar Hill,
Cambridge,
CB23 8SQ

t: 01223 850500
f: 01223 850599
e: oaeast@thehumanjourney.net
w: <http://thehumanjourney.net/oaeast>

© Oxford Archaeology East 2010
Oxford Archaeology Limited is a Registered Charity No: 285627

Table of Contents

Summary.....	6
1 Introduction.....	8
1.1 Location and scope of work.....	8
1.2 Geology and topography.....	8
1.3 Archaeological and historical background.....	8
1.4 Prehistoric	8
1.5 Roman.....	8
1.6 Saxon.....	9
1.7 Medieval.....	9
1.8 Post Medieval	10
1.9 Acknowledgements.....	10
2 Aims and Methodology.....	11
2.1 Aims.....	11
2.2 Methodology.....	11
3 Results.....	12
3.1 Introduction	12
3.2 Ditch 201.....	12
3.3 Section 2 (machine slot 1).....	13
3.4 Machine slot 2.....	13
3.5 Feature 217.....	13
3.6 Feature 218.....	13
3.7 Feature 219.....	13
3.8 Finds Summary.....	13
3.9 Environmental Summary.....	14
4 Discussion and Conclusions.....	15
4.1 Ditch 201	15
4.2 Significance.....	15
Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory.....	16
Appendix B. Finds Reports.....	17
B.1 The Bone Awl.....	17

Appendix C. Environmental Reports.....	18
C.1 Environmental samples.....	18
4.3 Introduction and Methods	18
4.4 Results	18
4.5 Discussion	18
4.6 Further Work and Methods Statement	19
Bibliography	19
Appendix D. Bibliography	20
Appendix E. OASIS Report Form.....	21

List of Figures

Fig. 1 Location of excavations

Fig. 2 Trench plan and sections

List of Plates

Plate. 1 Ditch 201

Plate. 2 Wooden stakes

Plate. 3 Bone awl

Tables

Table 1 Environmental results

Table 2 Radiocarbon dates

Summary

Following an archaeological evaluation in June 2010 Oxford Archaeology East was commissioned by FE Peacock to undertake an open area excavation on land rear of 1 Oakington Road Cottenham. This work was carried out between the 26th and 29th of July 2010. A wide shallow ditch dating to the medieaval period and a series of modern features were found.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation followed by an excavation was conducted on land to the rear of 1 Oakington Road Cottenham.
- 1.1.2 This archaeological excavation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by [Dan McConnell of Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC; Planning Application No. S/1979/07/F), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East (formerly Cambridgeshire County Council's CAM ARC).
- 1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (Department for Communities and Local Government 2010). The results will enable decisions to be made by CCC, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.
- 1.1.4 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 village of Cottenham lies on a Greensand spur which stretches between the 10m and 5m contour. The village is surrounded by Setchel Fen, Michell Fen, Chear Fen and Top Moor to the North. Little and Great North Fen lies to the west and Cow Pastures to the east. The underlying bedrock to the south of the village is Gault Clay with Greensand running east-west underneath the village. To the north is a belt of Kimmeridge Clay (BGS Sheet 188).
- 1.2.2 The Fen consists of first and second Terrace Gravels. The peat is shallow and seems to have formed in the Roman period, the exception being Chear Fen where the deposits are deeper, suggesting a Prehistoric origin.
- 1.2.3 Alluvium is the most extensive deposit and is largely post-Roman. Deep Alluvial deposits occur along the West River and Oakington Brook. These deeper Alluvial deposits probably formed during the Saxon period when the water-table in the fen was higher (Hall 1994, 132).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 Cottenham Fen seems to have been densely occupied throughout the prehistoric and Roman Periods, when the water table was at a low level.

1.4 Prehistoric

- 1.4.1 Early prehistoric activity in Cottenham Fen seems to be limited to stray lithics in the form of scatters of burnt flint and pebbles. This is indicative of occupation and cooking sites spanning the whole of the Bronze Age.

1.5 Roman

- 1.5.1 The Roman Period saw Cottenham Fen being densely occupied. The best known site is Bullocks Haste, which lies 2.5km to the north of the village. The site sits alongside the

Car Dyke, a water catchment/ navigable canal which crosses the parish on a north-north-west/south-south-east alignment to link the river Cam at Waterbeach and the West River. Roman finds from the village are almost exclusively coins (HER 05199 and HER 05207) these came from the northern and southern ends of the village. In addition unstratified sherds of Late Iron Age/Romano-British pottery were found during excavations at Denmark Road (Heawood 1997) and at Lordships Lane (Mortimer 1998; 2000).

1.6 Saxon

- 1.6.1 The water-table began to rise from the post-Roman period and the focus of settlement moved to the spur of Greensand located in the southern part of the parish.
- 1.6.2 Cottenham is first documented in 948 as *Cotenham*, from the personal name *cotta* and *ham* (Reaney 1943).
- 1.6.3 Archaeological excavations have produced evidence for occupation as early as the Middle Saxon Period. Excavations at Lordships Lane (HER CB15522, CB15523) have discovered remains of an “open” hamlet which seems to have moved progressively to the south-east. The settlement continued throughout the Late Saxon and Early Norman periods but was abandoned in the twelfth century and then reoccupied again in the fifteenth century. (Mortimer 1998).

1.7 Medieval

- 1.7.1 The Medieval village layout suggest two phases of settlement. The inorganic period of growth around what is known as the “Old Town” between High Street and Denmark Street and planned re development along High Street. (Ravensdale 1974,121-6)
- 1.7.2 Manors
- 1.7.3 At the time of the Domesday Survey of 1086 the two major landowners of Cottenham in Chesterton Hundred were the Abbots of Crowland and Ely.
Crowland
- 1.7.4 Tradition tells us that Crowland was given to the abbey at the end of the tenth century. It was held by the abbey until the dissolution of the monasteries in 1539. At the time of the Domesday Survey (1086) the manor had 11 hides, land for 8 ploughs and common pasture(Morris 1981,9.2). A building at Crowland Manor is documented as early as the middle of the tenth century. According to tradition, on the death of Abbot Ingulph, Geoffrey, prior of St Evroul in Normandy, was summoned by Henry 1 to succeed him at Crowland. To the Croyland manor at Cottenham he is said to have sent Gilbert de Cottenham (later Abbot of Westminster, d. 1140) who stayed in a building erected in 1032 by Abbot Brihtmer (information in HER 01118).
- 1.7.5 The later medieval manor house (possibly 13 century) stood in a double moated site south of Broad Lane (HER 01118). The site measures approximately 114m by 76m with a raised interior platform. The moat is up to 3m wide and is fed by a catch water drain stemming from the New Cut of the new Cottenham Lode. The entrance to the moated site is by a ramped causeway on the south-east side. A much larger moated area 110 by 75m existed to the north of the present moat. This was probably occupied by outbuildings. It was recently destroyed by the construction of a new sewage works. It has been suggested that Crowland Manor was the site of a castle which was part of the defences erected during the Anarchy Period (1135-1154) although the surviving

earthwork bear no similarities to known defence earthworks of this period such as those at Burwell in Cambridgeshire.

Lisle Manor

- 1.7.6 Ely built an estate at Cottenham with land granted to the Abbey in the late tenth century. At the time of the Domesday Survey (1086) the manor had 10 hides and land for 8 ploughs. There were 16 Villains and 10 Cottagers with 6 ploughs, 2 serfs, meadow for 8 ploughs and common pasture (Morris 1981, 5.42). The later manors of Lisles, Burdeleys, Pelhams, Sames and the Rectory Manor all derived from Ely's manor. After 1166 granted land to be held at a nights fee by Lisles. The manor descended with Rampton Manor until 1570 when Hindes, lords of Crowland Manor, acquired it.

1.8 Post Medieval

- 1.8.1 In the post medieval period the village expanded in the 17 and 18th centuries along the areas of High Street and Denmark Road and by the end of the nineteenth century Cottenham had expanded to almost 600 dwellings.

1.9 Acknowledgements

- 1.9.1 The author would like to thank the client FE Peacock who commissioned and funded the archaeological work. Dan McConnell wrote the excavation brief he also visited and monitored the site. The project was managed by James Drummond-Murray. James Fairbairn directed and supervised the fieldwork with the assistance of Steve Morgan. The illustrations were produced by Andrew Corrigan.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The object of the evaluation 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. The subsequent excavation aimed to determine further the extent, date and significance of these features.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The Brief required that 225sqm be subject to open area excavation.
- 2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a wheeled JCB-type excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.
- 2.2.3 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.
- 2.2.4 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.2.5 A total of 40L were taken from Archaeological features across the site.
- 2.2.6 The features were excavated during a period of hot dry weather. The water table was encountered at 2.50m.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 A single hand dug section was excavated through the large ditch **201** found at the eastern end of the excavation area. A further small machine dug slot was located adjacent to the ditch to try and determine the survival of any possible bank relating to the ditch and one small section was dug three metres to the north-west. Three further features **217**, **218** and **219** were all found to be modern intrusions. Fills are described from the earliest to the latest.

3.2 Ditch 201

- 3.2.1 Ditch **201** had steeply sloping sides and a flat bottom it contained twelve fills. The primary fill (202) consisted of a dark grey silty sand material with a maximum depth of 0.12m and a width of 4.00m. Into this fill were driven wooden stakes or fence posts 203. The only finds from the lower fills of the ditch came from 202, these being two pieces of tibia cattle tibia, a bone awl (SF1) and fruit seeds from the environmental sample taken from the fill. The colour of this fill (202) from around the posts was of a darker hue, this is most probably due to discolouration caused by the posts or stakes rotting in the ground. Fill 204 was a mid grey silty sand mixture very similar to fill 202. This fill had a maximum depth of 0.15m and a maximum width of 5.20m, no finds were found within 204. Fill 220 was a mid to light brown silty sand with a maximum width of 0.38m and a depth of 0.05m. This fill contained small occasional stones but no finds. Above this was fill 205 which consisted of a light grey silty sand with a maximum width of 5.20m and a maximum depth of 0.40m. With a similar consistency to the waterlogged layer 202. This suggests that the ditch probably contained water at this depth and may have been cleaned out on at least one occasion, visual evidence of this can be seen by the concave top of this layer in the centre of the ditch. A small thin layer 206 could be seen in the lower fill of the re cleaned area of the ditch as fill 205 rises on either side of this fill (see section 1). This consisted of a dark grey silty sand with a depth of 0.12m and a width of 1.30m.
- 3.2.2 The dark red silty sandy layer above this (207) suggests that the soil shows signs of oxidising at this depth. 207 had a width of 1.65m and a depth of just 0.10m. Another dark red silty sandy layer 208 with a very similar dimensions is probably a slump of material from the south-western edge of the ditch. Another probable slump on the north-eastern side of the ditch (209) consisted of a mid reddish grey orangey silty sand and seems to be a mixture of top and subsoils and its position within the section suggests that this material maybe from a bank that existed on the north-eastern side of the ditch. Layer 209 had a width 1.60m and a depth of 0.22m.
- 3.2.3 Above this two further layers were encountered-210 and 211. These both consisted of similar mid to light orangey brown silty sand with 211 containing some grey silty material both these layers were consistent with the top and subsoils that existed on the site. Both contained a moderate amount of small stones. Two pieces of post medieval pottery were found in the top fill 211. Given the amount of modern disturbance and truncation in the area of the ditch these are thought to be residual deposits. Layer 210 had a width of 5.0m and a depth of 0.18m and layer 211 had a width of 6.30m and a depth of 0.20m.

3.3 Section 2 (machine slot 1)

- 3.3.1 A small machine slot was excavated on the north-eastern side of the ditch to determine if any evidence of a bank relating to the ditch remained. The slot was excavated to a depth of 0.30m and a width of 1.50m. Within this three different layers of material were encountered. 212, 213 and 214. All of these layers were very similar in composition and consisted of a light orangey grey sandy silt mixture with just some variance in the grey silt content. These layers were similar to fill 209 in the ditch and could quite easily be the same material with 209 being the slumping of these layers.

3.4 Machine slot 2

- 3.4.1 Further to the discovery of wooden stakes in ditch section **201** and the stakes found in evaluation trench **3** a small machine dug section measuring 1.5m by 1.5m and 1.0m deep was dug into the ditch at a point approximately half way between the two interventions (see fig 2). This was done to try and ascertain whether the wooden stakes were also present between these two points. The slot revealed a sharpened stake (SF4) embedded into a dark silty sandy layer almost identical to layer 202 in ditch section **201**. It is not unreasonable to assume therefore that these stakes run along the ditch base for a considerable distance and that they are most probably the uprights of a fence. Carbon dating of the wooden stakes gives us a date range of between 1640-1960 BP (see table 2).

3.5 Feature 217

- 3.5.1 A square feature measuring 1.0m by 1.0m and with a depth of 0.05m was excavated to the north of the ditch. This modern pit was very shallow with its single reddish brown silty sandy fill (223) containing plastic, wire and glass.

3.6 Feature 218

- 3.6.1 A small modern circular pit with steep sides and a flat base with diameter of 0.40m and a depth of 0.10m was also excavated to the north of the ditch. Its single reddish brown silty sandy fill (221) contained modern plastic and glass.

3.7 Feature 219

- 3.7.1 This feature was also found to be modern. It consisted of a sub circular pit with steep sides and a flat base and measured 0.38m in diameter and had a depth of just 0.05m. Its single reddish brown silty sandy fill (220) in common with features **217** and **218** contained plastic and glass. Until very recently the gardens on the northern side of the ditch backed on and were open to the excavation area. Consequentially the householders burned and buried rubbish in the area that the modern truncation was found.

3.8 Finds Summary

- 3.8.1 The excavation site produced a distinct lack of finds especially from the ditch. The exception being the bone awl thought to be of Saxon date (see appendix B) and the wooden stakes from the lower layers of the ditch. The awl (SF1) was found in fill 202 and stakes (SF2) in fill 203. Two small post medieval pot sherds thought to be residual were found in the uppermost fill 211. The lack of artefacts and pottery suggests either a great age for the ditch or that the ditch was only open for a short period of time. C14 analysis was carried out on three separate samples, bone, wood and fruit seeds. (see table 2)

3.9 Environmental Summary

- 3.9.1 The environmental evidence suggests that when the ditch was in use the area was open and uncultivated, seeds of bramble and stinging nettle along with wetland plants such as Water-Crowfoot, Pondweed and Gypswort were all found within the samples. The carbon dating of the wooden stakes seems to make it likely that the line of the ditch was at least visible in the post medieval period as the stakes have followed the course of the ditch but have been driven in to fills of an earlier date.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Ditch 201

- 4.1.1 The presence of a large wide but relatively shallow ditch within the excavation area raises the question as to its use and age. There are three possibilities. The first is that the ditch was part of the manorial boundary of *Burdeleys*, later *Harlestons* Manor. The manor house stood on the the west corner of the green approximately 152 mtrs to the east of the excavation area. A building of some sort has existed on the site since the mid 13th century although the present day building of Manor farm dates from 1866. A second possibility is that the ditch could be part of a defence constructed at the time of the great revolt of 1381. At this time the manor was held by Roger Harleston who owned a house on the site that was destroyed by rebels on June the 9th 1381. The ditch could be part of a hastily dug defensive earthwork. The ditch probably followed an easterly course that still seems to be visible as a slight depression in the ground that runs through the houses in Ellis Close. This has caused serious subsidence in the structure of at least one property. Another indication that ditch **201** may have had a defensive use may exist in the presence of a similar earthwork that can be seen in the frontages of properties on Rampton Road just to the north Here again a depression in the ground travels eastwards and seems to respect the course taken by the excavated ditch raising the possibility that a double ditched defensive enclosure could have existed. The presence of wooden stakes found in the base of the ditch and in the base of machine slot **2** strongly suggest that a fence ran for some distance. According to the Carbon dating (see table2) this fence was most probably erected in the post medieval period.

4.2 Significance

- 4.2.1 This excavation has produced evidence to suggest that a large ditch or ditches were present in this part of Cottenham in the medieval period. It is hard to suggest a use for the ditch but with a manor house existing in the medieval period slightly to the north and the damage done to the property during the peasants revolt of 1381 it could be surmised that a defensive earthwork relating to that time may exist on the site and under properties within the vicinity. If this is the case then the excavation has furthered the knowledge of Cottenham during this troubled period.

APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Contexts							
Context No.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width/ Dia	Depth	Finds
201		Cut	Ditch		9.30m	2.1m	-
202	201	Layer	Ditch		4.00m	0.12m	Wood, bone awl
203	201	Layer	Wooden Stakes				-
204	201	Layer	Ditch		5.20m	0.15m	-
205	201	Layer	Ditch		5.20m	0.40m	-
206	201	Layer	Ditch		1.30m	0.12m	-
207	201	Layer	Ditch		1.65m	0.10m	-
208	201	Layer	Ditch		2.20m	0.15m	-
209	201	Layer	Ditch		1.60m	0.22m	-
210	201	Layer	Ditch		5.0m	0.18m	-
211	201	Layer	Ditch		6.30m	0.20m	Post med Pottery
212	225	Layer	Bank		1.10m	0.30m	-
213	225	Layer	Bank		0.52m	0.12m	-
214	225	Layer	Bank		0.60m	0.14m	-
217		Cut	Modern pit	1.0m	1.0m	0.05m	-
218		Cut	Small modern pit		0.40m	0.10m	-
219		Cut	Small modern pit		0.38m	0.05m	-
220	219	Layer	Modern pit		0.38m	0.05m	-
221	218	Layer	Modern pit		0.40m	0.10m	-
223	217	Layer	Modern pit	1.0m	1.0m	0.05m	-

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 The Bone Awl

By Nina Crummy

- 4.2.2 The bone awl (Fig. 000, SF 1) was probably made from a metatarsal by removing the distal articulation, modifying the proximal articulation and shaping a point from the shaft. When used by leather-workers for making holes, many bone awls have highly polished shafts from use-wear, but although the surface of this example is worn it is not polished and it is possible that similar partly-worked examples may have been used in some other craft, such as textile-working (Wild 1970, 66, 133-4; Crowfoot 1945). Bone awls occur in both prehistoric and Anglo-Saxon contexts, although it is more usually the distal articulation that is intact on partly-worked prehistoric examples (e.g. Wainwright & Longworth 1971, 181; Needham & Serjeantson 1996, fig. 101, B15-16), suggesting that the later date is more appropriate here. Early Anglo-Saxon awls closely similar to SF 1 have been found at West Stow, Suffolk (West 1985, fig. 61, 12, fig. 135, 5 and fig. 247, 4).
- 4.2.3 **Fig. 4**, SF 1. (203), basal ditch fill. Bone awl, probably made from a metatarsal. The more prominent features of the articulation have been removed. The shaft is worn but not highly polished. The tip is missing. Length 105 mm.

References

- Crowfoot, G., 1945 'The bone 'gouges' of Maiden Castle and other sites', *Antiquity* 19.45 (September 1945), 157-8
- Needham, S. and Serjeantson, D., 1996 'Catalogue of the worked bone and antler' in S. Needham and T. Spence, *Refuse and disposal in Area 16 East Runnymede*, Runnymede Bridge Research Excavations 2 (London)
- Wainwright, G. J. and Longworth, I. H., 1971 *Durrington Walls: excavations 1966-68*, Soc. Antiq. London Res. Rep. 29 (London)
- West, S., 1985 *West Stow, the Anglo-Saxon village*, East Anglian Archaeology. 24 (Ipswich)
- Wild, J. P., 1970 *Textile manufacture in the northern Roman provinces* (Cambridge)

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

4.3 Introduction and Methods

- 4.3.1 Two bulk samples were taken from around and beneath items of worked wood from the basal deposit of an undated ditch. The samples were taken order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains, bones and artefacts and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations. In addition, suitable organic material was to be recovered for radiocarbon dating.
- 4.3.2 Ten litres of each sample were processed by tank flotation. The flot was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through a 0.5mm sieve. Both flot and residue were allowed to air dry. The dried residue was passed through 5mm and 2mm sieves and a magnet was dragged through each resulting fraction prior to sorting for artefacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds. The flot was examined under a binocular microscope at x16 magnification and the presence of any plant remains or other artefacts are noted on Table 1

4.4 Results

- 4.4.1 The results are recorded on Table 1

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Flot Contents	Residue Contents
1	203	201	Waterlogged seeds, wood	Plant material and wood
2	202	201	Waterlogged seeds, wood	Plant material and wood

Table 1: Results

- 4.4.2 Preservation is by waterlogging (anoxic conditions) and is generally good.
- 4.4.3 Both samples have an almost identical composition of waterlogged plant material. Seeds include those from plants commonly found on disturbed/waste ground such as bramble (*Rubus* sp.) and stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*), small nettle (*Urtica urens*) and also wetland plants such as water-crowfoot (*Ranunculus* subgenus *batrachium*), pondweed (*Potamogeton* sp.), rushes (*Juncus* sp.) and gypsywort (*Lycopus europaeus*). Sample 1, fill 203, also contains three seeds of *Prunus* sp. That have been tentatively identifies as sloe (*Prunus spinosa*).
- Numerous insect fragments and cladoceran eppiphia (egg cases), including those of the water flea (*Daphnia* sp.) were noted in both samples.

4.5 Discussion

- 4.5.1 The seed assemblage from these two samples are consistent with the local flora of a water-filled ditch in an area of uncultivated ground.
- 4.5.2 The presence of cladoceran eppiphia along with pondweed and water-crowfoot indicates that the ditch held slow-flowing water.

4.6 Further Work and Methods Statement

- 4.6.1 In conclusion, the assemblage appears to represent a mainly natural accumulation of plant remains from local vegetation. The *Prunus* seeds will be sent to SUERC for radiocarbon (AMS) dating.

4.7 Radiocarbon Dating

- 4.7.1 Radiocarbon dating suggested a broad date range from the three test pieces but the earliest dates relating to the seeds *Prunus* sp

Table 2 Radiocarbon results of samples from Ditch 201 and machine slot 2. Analysis was carried out by the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre, East Kilbride, Glasgow.

Laboratory Code	Fill No	Material	Radiocarbon Age BP	Calibrated Date (68.2% probability)	Calibrated Date (95.4% probability)
SUERC-31338	202	Bone	390 ± 30	1440AD (56.0%) 1520AD 1600AD (12.2%) 1620AD	1440AD (69.2%) 1530AD 1550AD (26.2%) 1640AD
SUERC-31339	Slot 2	Wooden Stake	190 ± 30	1660AD (14.2%) 1690AD 1730AD (41.6%) 1810AD 1930AD (12.4%) 1960AD	1640AD (22.3%) 1700AD 1720AD (53.5%) 1820AD 1910AD (19.6%) 1960AD
SUERC-31340	203	Seeds: <i>Prunus</i> sp.	600 ± 30	1305AD (55.1%) 1365AD 1385AD (13.1%) 1400AD	1290AD (95.4%) 1410AD

Bibliography

Stace, C., 1997 *New Flora of the British Isles*. Second edition. Cambridge University Press

APPENDIX D. BIBLIOGRAPHY

(fn1)*East Anglian*, N.S. vi. 169-72, 209-10; *Cambs. Village Doc.* 21, 26.

APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-81577		
Project Name	Excavation on land at the rear of 1 Oakington Road Cottenham		
Project Dates (fieldwork)	Start	26-07-2010	Finish 29-07-2010
Previous Work (by OA East)	Yes	Future Work No	

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	COTOAK10	Planning App. No.	S/1979/07/F
HER No.	3421	Related HER/OASIS No.	

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
--------	---

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
ditch	Uncertain	pottery	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901
pits	Modern 1901 to Present	Worked bone	Uncertain
	Select period...	Worked wood	Uncertain

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	
District	South Cambs	1 Oakington Road Cottenham. Cambridgeshire. CB24 8TW	
Parish	Cottenham		
HER	Cambridge		
Study Area	225sqm	National Grid Reference	TL 4457 6708

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	CAPCA
Project Design Originator	James Drummond Murray
Project Manager	James Drummond Murray
Supervisor	James Fairbairn

Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
CC Store	OA East	CC Store
COTOAK10	COTOAK10	COTOAK10

Archive Contents/Media





	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stratigraphic		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Survey		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Textiles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Bone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Database	<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photos
<input type="checkbox"/> GIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geophysics	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Images	<input type="checkbox"/> Diary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illustrations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing
<input type="checkbox"/> Moving Image	<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscript
<input type="checkbox"/> Spreadsheets	<input type="checkbox"/> Map
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Matrices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text	<input type="checkbox"/> Microfilm
<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual Reality	<input type="checkbox"/> Misc.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Research/Notes
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photos
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey



Notes:

Drawing Conventions

Plans

Limit of Excavation	_____
Deposit - Conjectured	-----
Natural Features	_____
Sondages/Machine Strip	-----
Intrusion/Truncation	-----
Illustrated Section	<u>S.14</u>
Archaeological Feature	
Excavated Slot	
Modern Deposit	
Cut Number	118
Wood	

Sections

Limit of Excavation	-----
Cut	_____
Cut-Conjectured	-----
Deposit Horizon	_____
Deposit Horizon - Conjectured	-----
Intrusion/Truncation	-----
Top Surface/Top of Natural	_____
Break in Section/ Limit of Section Drawing	-----
Cut Number	118
Deposit Number	117
Ordnance Datum	18.45m OD 
Inclusions	

Convention Key

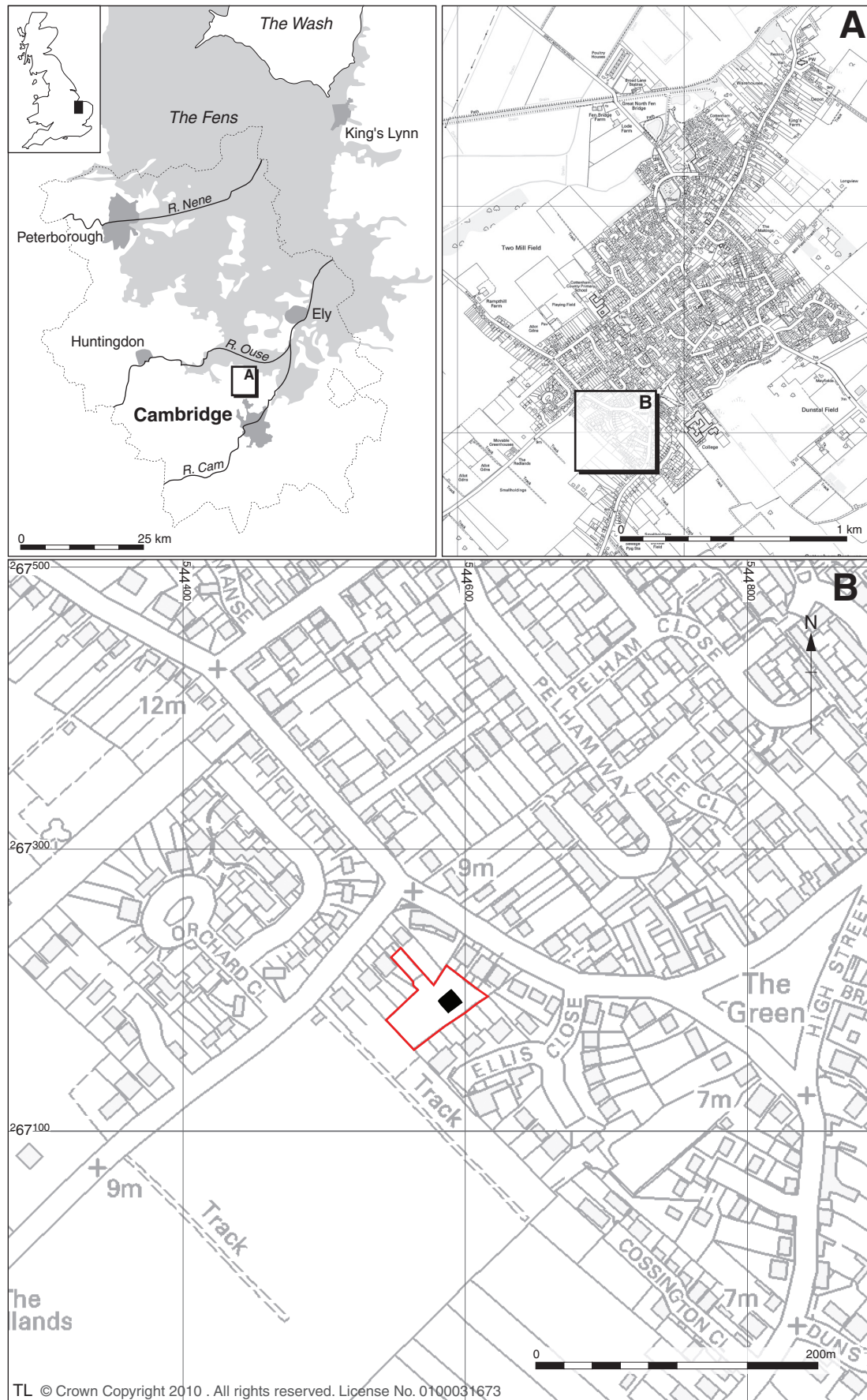


Figure 1: Location of excavation (black) with the development area outlined (red)

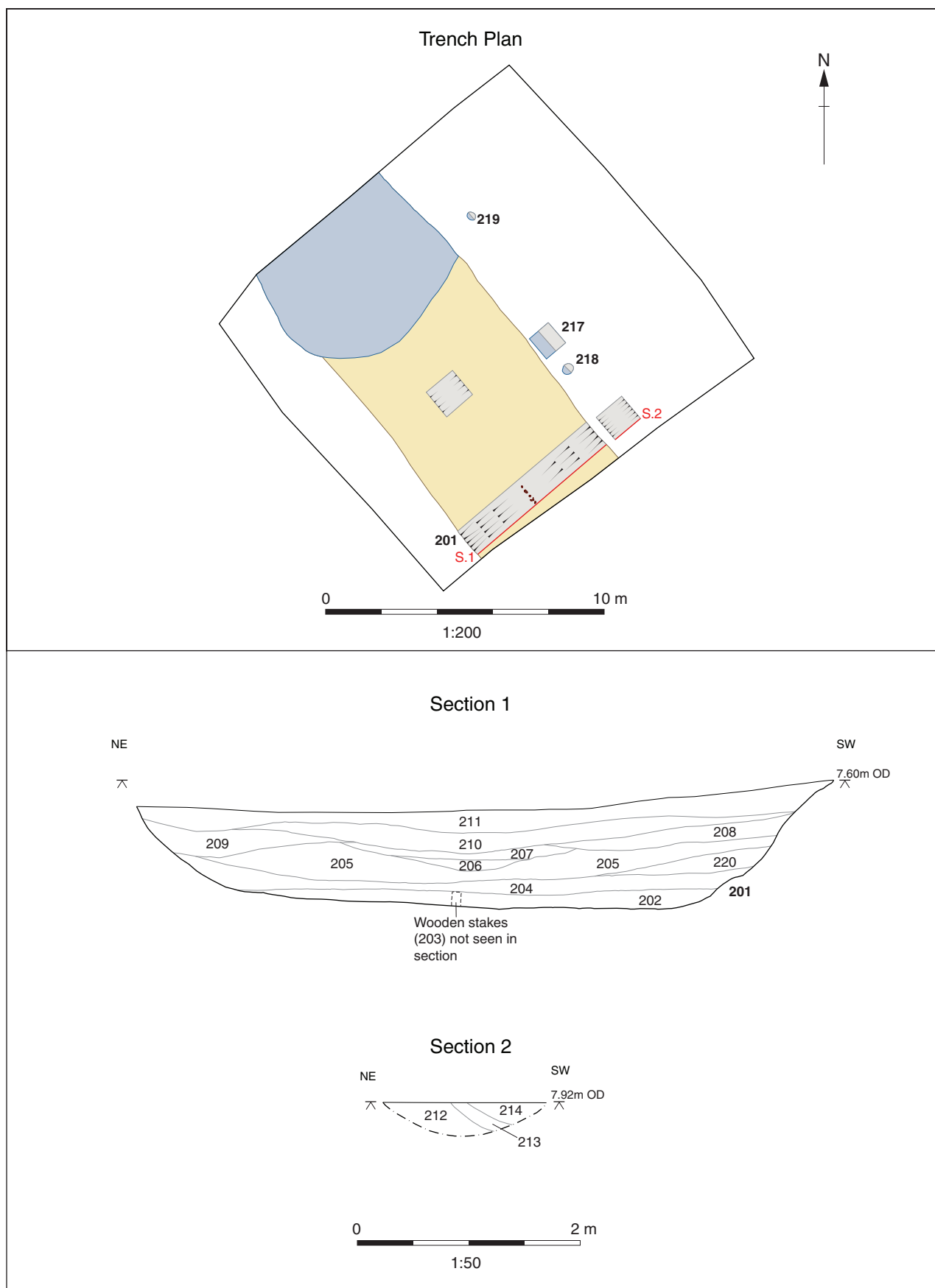


Figure 2: Trench plan and sections



Plate 1: Ditch 201



Plate 2: Wooden stakes



Plate 3: Bone awl



**Head Office/Registered Office/
OA South**

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk
w: <http://thehumanjourney.net>

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1GF

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: [oanorth@thehumanjourney.net](mailto: oanorth@thehumanjourney.net)
w: <http://thehumanjourney.net>

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850500
f: +44 (0) 1223 850599
e: [oaeast@thehumanjourney.net](mailto: oaeast@thehumanjourney.net)
w: <http://thehumanjourney.net>



Director: David Jennings, BA MIFA FSA

*Oxford Archaeology Ltd is a
Private Limited Company, N^o: 1618597
and a Registered Charity, N^o: 285627*