

# Land south west of Triangle Farm, Angle Common, Soham



## Archaeological Evaluation Report



August 2014

**Client: Cambridgeshire County  
Council**

OA East Report No: 1652

OASIS No: oxfordar3-187914

NGR: TL 5790 7240

## **Land south west of Triangle Farm, Angle Common, Soham**

*Archaeological Evaluation*

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## Summary

*Between 11th and 15th August 2014, Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) carried out an archaeological evaluation on Land south west of Triangle Farm, Angle Common, Soham, Cambridgeshire. The area evaluated covered approximately 27 hectares and lay within the historic limits of Soham Mere. A total of forty-six evaluation trenches (50m x 2m) were opened.*

*A total of fifteen shallow linear ditches were revealed across the site. Seven of these ditches respect the current field boundary layout and are therefore considered to be drainage ditches from the later post-medieval period. The remaining eight are on a differing alignment (north to south/east to west) and represent an older layout of land management, possibly associated with the drainage of Soham Mere earlier in the post-medieval period.*

*No artefacts were recovered from any of these features or the subsoil and topsoil extending across the site. No lacustrine (lake) deposits that may have masked archaeological evidence from the prehistoric period were encountered during the excavation of the trenches.*



## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted at Land south west of Triangle Farm, Angle Common, Soham, Cambridgeshire (TL 5790 7240; Fig. 1).
- 1.1.2 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Kasia Gdaniec of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET) (Gdaniec 2014). This was issued in response to a Pre-application from Savills on behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council. CCC HET requested that the results of an archaeological evaluation (by trenching) be submitted with the planning application so that an informed and reasonable planning decision can be taken when the results of the evaluation have been considered (CCC HET ref.: ECB4226). The Brief was supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East (Macaulay 2014).
- 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 *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012). 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 site comprises five flat agricultural fields to the south west of Triangle Farm in the Parish of Soham at approximately 1m above Ordnance Datum (OD) (Fig. 1).
- 1.2.2 The underlying geology of the proposed development site comprises Gault Clay Bedrock. Superficial deposits are indicated to lie immediately to the east of the site comprising recent River Terrace Gravels: sand and gravel (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html> accessed 20th August 2014).

### 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The proposed development site lies to the west of the historic core of the town of Soham.

#### Prehistoric

- 1.3.2 The fen-edge around Soham and the Snail Valley have a long history of human activity. Sites and findspots include Mesolithic and Neolithic remains recorded to the north west of Broad Hill, where a large quantity of worked flints, including axes, knives and scrapers were recovered (Hall 1996). To the north east of the village the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) records Neolithic artefacts at MCB8560, 12952, 12953 and 14568 and a Late Bronze Age brooch at MCB12953. An evaluation in the town centre at St Andrew's House produced a single Bronze Age ditch (Casa Hatton 2000). Archaeological investigations in advance of residential development at Cloverfield Drive in 2004 (CHER ECB2139) recorded Bronze Age occupation and field systems.



- 1.3.3 Evidence of Iron Age activity in and around Soham is relatively scarce. A site was located on the hilltop at Henney, on the periphery of Stuntney (Hall 1996). Iron Age features were found on Clay Street and may represent an enclosure (Nichol 2002) and a large evaluation at the Fordham Road allotments produced settlement remains dating to the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age (Connor 2001). An Iron Age soil horizon was excavated on Market Street which yielded an assemblage of predominantly Early Iron Age pottery (Phillips 2012). Further remains were recorded in Soham at St Andrew's House (Atkins 2004a).

#### **Roman**

- 1.3.4 Coins of Roman date have been found southeast of the site (MCB8554), in the vicinity of an undated ring ditch (MCB8561). Human skeletal remains of possible Roman date have been found in the area of White Hart Lane (MCB8413). Closer to the development area, 100m to the northwest, further Roman finds were noted (MCB8559). The evaluation at Fordham Road allotments also produced Romano-British settlement remains (Connor 2001).

#### **Anglo-Saxon & Medieval**

- 1.3.5 Early Saxon occupation at Soham is attested by funerary remains from three cemeteries. Burials were discovered in the church graveyard (TL 5998 7239) where grave goods and stray finds included brooches, several beads and spearheads (Fox 1923). Another cemetery was located at the Soham/Fordham Waterworks during excavations conducted in the 1930s (Lethbridge 1933). Some 23 furnished inhumations (and 2 cremations) were identified and assigned to the 6th-7th century. Further Anglo-Saxon human skeletal remains (MCB 13882) were uncovered in the rear garden of a house located on White Hart Lane. Evidence suggested that they were not *in situ*, and may have originally belonged to the same cemetery as the burials from the church graveyard (Robinson 1995).
- 1.3.6 Present day Soham is Early Saxon in origin. According to Reaney, the place name is derived from the Old English Soegan Hamm or 'swampy' settlement or enclosure (Reaney 1943). Documentary sources refer to the foundation in the 7th century AD of a monastery by St Felix, first bishop of the East Angles, who was buried in Soham. The monastery was destroyed during the Danish invasions of East Anglia (late 9th century) along with many other religious foundations in the area, never to be re-established (Salzman 1948). As yet there has been no definite archaeological evidence for Middle Saxon activity in Soham, though a single sherd of Ipswich ware was recovered during excavations at St Andrew's House (Atkins 2004a).
- 1.3.7 The manor of Soham was given to Ely Abbey shortly after the re-foundation of the latter in the 10th century (Conybeare 1897). The exact location of the monastery (see section 1.3.6) is unknown, although it is possible that the Parish church of St Andrew's (late 12th century) was founded on the site of its Saxon predecessor. The sub circular pattern of roads around the centre of the town may suggest a religious precinct (Oosthuizen 2000).
- 1.3.8 Evidence for occupation during the Saxo-Norman period has emerged through excavations at Nos 9-13 Pratt Street where an archaeological evaluation revealed shallow gullies, a posthole and a large pit containing 11th or 12th century Thetford Ware (Hatton and Last 1997). Evaluation trenches at the rear of No. 38 Station Road produced evidence of ditches dating from the 10th to 12th centuries (Heawood 1997). An evaluation conducted at Soham County Infants School revealed several ditches

containing 10th to 13th century assemblages, predominantly St Neots and Thetford type ware (Bray 1991).

- 1.3.9 The remains from the Infants School (and from High Street/Clay Street) represent a major phase of development and prosperity that is attested by the construction of St Andrew's Church in the late 12th century (Hatton & Last 1997). Soham is also thought to have held an unchartered market before the 12th century (Ridout 2000).
- 1.3.10 Evaluations in the town centre at St Andrew's House (Casa Hatton 2000), Market Street (Cooper 2004b) and Clay Street (Atkins 2004a) produced medieval (12th to 16th century) pits, ditches and posthole structures. A small evaluation at Ten Bell Lane produced one late medieval quarry pit and some undated ditches (Atkins 2004b) and another at Brook Dam Lane recorded a single medieval pit and a post-medieval ditch (Cooper 2004a).
- 1.3.11 Beyond the town centre little work has been undertaken, although at Brook Street, in a similar location south east of the centre as Cloverfield Drive is to the north west, evaluation has revealed a broadly comparable sequence of occupation (MCB15241). An initial phase of pits and ditches dated to the medieval period (mid 12th to mid 14th century), a second phase to the late medieval period (mid 14th to mid 16th century) and a third to the post-medieval period (mid 16th century to present). There was sufficient evidence to suggest that domestic structures had occupied the plot since at least the 14th century with the last of these buildings, from c. 1910 still standing.

#### **Post-Medieval**

- 1.3.12 Very little specifically post-medieval archaeological work has been undertaken in the area, but pits and ditches have been recorded at Market Street (Cooper 2004b), Clay Street (Atkins 2004a), Brook Dam Lane (Cooper 2004a) and Brook Street (Bailey 2006). A late 19th century brick kiln is recorded 500m north of Soham Bypass.
- 1.3.13 The large-scale drainage of the fenlands around the Isle of Ely began in 1629 and were undertaken initially by Vermuyden and subsequently by a string of other engineers. The main drain at this early stage was the Old Bedford River (dating from 1630). Parallel to this, to the south, runs the Hundred-foot Drain (or New Bedford river) constructed after 1649. An 18th century windmill (MCB8381) is known 500m north of Soham bypass.
- 1.3.14 The 1656 map of Soham and Fordham Manors shows the area to the south west of Soham as comprising 'Sandcroft Fenn'. This fen extends south west of Soham towards Soham mere and may have encompassed the site which lies only a little way beyond the extent of the map (Fig. 2).
- 1.3.15 The 1840 Tithe Map of Soham shows the site divided into a series of fields, the layout of which are almost identical to the present day (Fig. 3) and further evidenced by a search of Ordnance Survey maps of the site dating back to AD 1887 (<http://old-maps.co.uk> accessed 20th August 2014).

#### **Soham Mere**

- 1.3.16 Soham Mere was a prehistoric freshwater lake that lay to the west of Soham and was drained in the 17th century. The extent of Soham Mere in the medieval period is presented in Figure 4. Across Cambridgeshire prehistoric sites have been found associated with the Meres at Whittlesey and Willingham (which also have medieval archaeology). These wetland/waters were also the focus of the ritual deposition of metalwork in the Bronze Age (e.g. Flag Fen, Fengate and Must Farm).

- 1.3.17 On the Soham Mere shelf, at Bracks Farm, approximately 500m to the south of the development area, a 4-flanged Bronze Age golden torc was found in an arable field (MCB8549), perhaps suggesting either the ritual deposition of metalwork as noted above or the presence of burials.
- 1.3.18 Archaeological excavations have not taken place on Soham Mere to date. Saxon spearheads were discovered at Triangle Farm at the northern boundary (MCB8550, 8551) and Roman coins were found in the 19th century during dyke digging at North Farm (Wicken) to the south. A Mesolithic tranchet axe (MCB8534), also found during dyke digging was found 1km to the north. Finally, recent 20th century archaeology is present with a night-time bombing decoy for RAF Waterbeach to the north west (MCB15072).
- 1.3.19 During the post-medieval period a systematic drainage of the Fens was attempted. The Ely and Soham Fenland and surrounding landscape was designated the Bedford Level, which was further sub-divided into the North, Middle and South Levels in 1697 (Page *et al* 1936, 249-290).
- 1.3.20 The first Watt engine was applied to Fenland drainage efforts in 1820 at Bottisham Fen, which was followed in 1851 by the application of Appold's Centrifugal Pump. The disappearance of the last remaining extensive stretch of water in the Fenland in 1853 marked the final stages of the older economy of the Fens, and the success of the steam-driven mill (Page *et al* 1936, 249-290). It is likely that Soham mere was drained successfully between 1820 and 1853 with the introduction of these pumps creating the agricultural land that is present to this day (Moore 2013)

## 1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The author would like to thank Andrew Hodgson of Savills Ltd, who commissioned the work on behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council (the client). The Author directed the investigation and would also like to thank Mike Green, Kat Nicholls, Jon Diffey, David Browne and Kimberley Watt who assisted in the excavation of the site. Aileen Connor and Stephen Macaulay managed the project for OA East. Thanks should also be extended to Kasia Gdaniec of Cambridgeshire County Council who monitored the works.

## 2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The objective of this 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.

Specific Objectives will be:

- Evidence for the presence of any lacustrine (lake) deposits associated with the pre-existing Soham Mere that may mask archaeological evidence from prehistoric periods.

### 2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The Brief required that a programme of linear trial trenching to adequately sample the area and conform with the aims of the investigation. The site required forty six 50m x 2m trial trenches representing a 1.75% sample of the 26.66 ha development area.

2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a tracked back-hoe type excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.

2.2.3 The site survey was carried out by Pat Moan using a Leica GPS 1200.

2.2.4 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.

2.2.5 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.

2.2.6 No features or layers were encountered that had potential for environmental sampling.

2.2.7 The site conditions were good (Plate 6). The weather was good with occasional showers.

## 3 RESULTS

### 3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 Descriptions of the ground conditions encountered, features identified and artefacts recovered are given in this section. Full descriptions with dimensions, and elevations of features (m OD) are given in Appendix A, with locations shown in Figure 5.

### 3.2 Trench Descriptions

3.2.1 Excavation of the trial trenches revealed consistent deposits across the proposed development area.

3.2.2 The natural Gault Clay (3) in all the trial trenches was at a depth of 0.3m below ground level (Plates 1 and 2). This deposit comprised stiff greyish green clay with some thin patches of reddish brown sand and gravel overlying in places.

3.2.3 The natural Gault Clay was overlain by a topsoil (1) of very dark grey fine sandy silt with some gravel inclusions measuring 0.3m thick. No subsoil was present across the site.

### 3.3 Features Encountered

#### *Ditches*

3.3.1 Ditches cut the natural deposits in trial trenches 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 18, 19, 32, 38, 39, 42 and 44.

3.3.2 Ditch **8** in trench 8 comprised a shallow linear feature running north west to south east. The fill (9) consisted of firm mid brownish grey silty clay with rare gravel inclusions (Plate 3).

3.3.3 Ditch **6** in trench 9 comprised a shallow linear feature running east to west. The fill (7) consisted of firm dark brownish grey silty clay with rare gravel inclusions.

3.3.4 Ditch **14** in trench 11 comprised a shallow linear feature running south west to north east. The fill (15) consisted of firm very dark brown clay.

3.3.5 Ditches **16**, **18**, **20** and **22** in trench 13 comprised shallow linear features. The fills (17, 19, 21 and 23 respectively) consisted of firm dark brown clay. Ditch **16** ran north west to south east, ditches **18** and **22** ran north to south and ditch **20** ran east to west (Plate 4).

3.3.6 Ditch **12** in trench 15 comprised a shallow linear feature running east to west. The fill (13) consisted of soft mid-brown silty clay.

3.3.7 Ditch **24** in trench 18 comprised a shallow linear feature running north west to south east. The fill (25) consisted of soft orange brown silty clay.

3.3.8 Ditch **30** in trench 19 comprised a shallow linear feature running north west to south east. The fill (31) consisted of firm dark brown clay.

3.3.9 Ditch **42** in trench 32 comprised a shallow linear feature running south west to north east. The fill (43) consisted of soft dark brown silty clay.

3.3.10 Ditch **32** in trench 38 comprised a shallow linear feature running north to south. The fill (33) consisted of stiff dark brown clay with rare gravel inclusions.

3.3.11 Ditch **36** in trench 39 comprised a shallow linear feature running north to south. The fill (37) consisted of soft dark brown clay (Plate 5).

- 3.3.12 Ditch **38** in trench 42 comprised a shallow linear feature running north to south. The fill (39) consisted of soft dark brown silty clay.
- 3.3.13 Ditch **34** in trench 44 comprised a shallow linear feature running south west to north east. The fill (35) consisted of soft grey silty clay with occasional gravel inclusions.

### **3.4 Finds Summary**

- 3.4.1 No artefacts were recovered from the features encountered or the excavated subsoil and topsoil excavated during trenching.

### **3.5 Environmental Summary**

- 3.5.1 No deposits were identified with potential for environmental sampling.

## 4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

### 4.1 Conclusions

- 4.1.1 Ditches **8, 14, 16, 24, 30, 34** and **42** respect the current field boundary layout and are therefore considered to be drainage ditches from the later post-medieval period. The ditches **6, 12, 18, 20, 22, 32, 36** and **38** are on a differing alignment (north to south/east to west) and represent an older layout of land management, possibly associated with the drainage of Soham Mere in the earlier post-medieval period.
- 4.1.2 No lacustrine (lake) deposits that may have masked archaeological evidence from the prehistoric period were encountered during the excavation of the trenches.

### 4.2 Significance

- 4.2.1 The evaluation of land south west of Triangle Farm, Angle Common, Soham, indicated that no archaeological remains earlier than the post-medieval period are present on the site.

### 4.3 Recommendations

- 4.3.1 Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be made by the County Archaeology Office.

## APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.3
					<b>Width (m)</b>	2
					<b>Length (m)</b>	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 2						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.3
					<b>Width (m)</b>	2
					<b>Length (m)</b>	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 3						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.3
					<b>Width (m)</b>	2
					<b>Length (m)</b>	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 4						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 5						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 6						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 7						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 8						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay with one post-medieval ditch. Surface elevation at location of ditch <b>8</b> is 1.26m OD.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
8	Cut	0.39	0.12	Ditch cut	-	-
9	Fill	0.39	0.12	Ditch fill	-	-

Trench 9						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay with one post-medieval ditch. Surface elevation at location of ditch <b>6</b> is 1.37m OD.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
6	Cut	0.58	0.2	Ditch cut	-	-
7	Fill	0.58	0.2	Ditch fill	-	-

Trench 10						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 11						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay with one post-medieval ditch. Surface elevation at location of ditch <b>14</b> is 1.21m OD.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
14	Cut	0.6	0.25	Ditch cut	-	-
15	Fill	0.6	0.25	Ditch fill	-	-

Trench 12						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 13						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay with four post-medieval ditches. Surface elevation at location of ditch <b>16</b> is 1.23m OD. Surface elevation at location of ditches <b>18</b> and <b>20</b> is 1.17m OD. Surface elevation at location of ditch <b>22</b> is 1.23m OD.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
16	Cut	0.45	0.1	Cut of ditch	-	-
17	Fill	0.45	0.1	Fill of ditch 16	-	-
18	Cut	0.7	0.4	Cut of ditch	-	-
19	Fill	0.7	0.4	Fill of ditch 18	-	-
20	Cut	0.75	0.2	Cut of ditch	-	-
21	Fill	0.75	0.2	Fill of ditch 20	-	-
22	Cut	0.6	0.25	Cut of ditch	-	-
23	Fill	0.6	0.25	Fill of ditch 22	-	-

Trench 14						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 15						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay with one post-medieval ditch. Surface elevation at location of ditch <b>12</b> is 1.33m OD.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
12	Cut	0.56	0.17	Cut of ditch	-	-
13	Fill	0.56	0.17	Fill of ditch	-	-

Trench 16						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 17						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 18						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay with one post-medieval ditch. Surface elevation at location of ditch <b>24</b> is 1.56m OD.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
24	Cut	0.31	0.11	Cut of ditch	-	-
25	Fill	0.31	0.11	Fill of ditch	-	-

Trench 19						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay with one post-medieval ditch. Surface elevation at location of ditch <b>30</b> is 0.55m OD.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
30	Cut	0.8	0.2	Cut of ditch	-	-
31	Fill	0.8	0.2	Fill of ditch	-	-

Trench 20						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 21						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 22						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 23						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 24						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 25						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 26						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 27						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 28						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 29						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 30						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 31						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 32						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay with one post-medieval ditch. Surface elevation at location of ditch 42 is 1.46m OD.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
42	Cut	0.6	0.2	Cut of ditch	-	-
43	Fill	0.6	0.2	Fill of ditch	-	-

Trench 33						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 34						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 35						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 36						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 37						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 38						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay with one post-medieval ditch. Surface elevation at location of ditch <b>32</b> is 0.95m OD.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
32	Cut	0.55	0.1	Cut of ditch	-	-
33	Fill	0.55	0.1	Fill of ditch	-	-

Trench 39						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay with one post-medieval ditch. Surface elevation at location of ditch <b>36</b> is 0.97m OD.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
36	Cut	0.4	0.25	Cut of ditch	-	-
37	Fill	0.4	0.25	Fill of ditch	-	-

Trench 40						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 41						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 42						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay with one post-medieval ditch. Surface elevation at location of ditch <b>38</b> is 1.01m OD.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
38	Cut	0.55	0.25	Cut of ditch	-	-
39	Fill	0.55	0.25	Fill of ditch	-	-

Trench 43						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 44						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay with one post-medieval ditch. Surface elevation at location of ditch <b>34</b> is 0.95m OD.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
34	Cut	0.6	0.21	Cut of ditch	-	-
35	Ditch	0.6	0.21	Fill of ditch	-	-

Trench 45						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 46						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil overlying natural Gault Clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

## APPENDIX B. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## APPENDIX C. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

### Project Details

OASIS Number	<input type="text" value="oxfordar3-187914"/>			
Project Name	<input type="text" value="Land southwest of Triangle Farm, Angle Common, Soham"/>			
Project Dates (fieldwork)	Start	<input type="text" value="11-08-2014"/>	Finish	<input type="text" value="15-08-2014"/>
Previous Work (by OA East)	<input type="text" value="No"/>	Future Work	<input type="text" value="No"/>	

### Project Reference Codes

Site Code	<input type="text" value="SOHTRF14"/>	Planning App. No.	<input type="text" value="na"/>
HER No.	<input type="text" value="ECB4226"/>	Related HER/OASIS No.	<input type="text" value="na"/>

### Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	<input type="text" value="Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS 5"/>
Development Type	<input type="text" value="Rural Commercial"/>

### Please select all techniques used:

<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - interpretation	<input type="checkbox"/> Grab-Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Gravity-Core	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sample Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Annotated Sketch	<input type="checkbox"/> Laser Scanning	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure
<input type="checkbox"/> Augering	<input type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Dendrochronological Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal Detectors	<input type="checkbox"/> Test Pits
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documentary Search	<input type="checkbox"/> Phosphate Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Topographic Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Vibro-core
<input type="checkbox"/> Fieldwalking	<input type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Rectified Photography	

### 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
<input type="text" value="Ditches"/>	<input type="text" value="Post Medieval 1540 to 1901"/>	<input type="text" value="na"/>	<input type="text" value="None"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Select period..."/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Select period..."/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Select period..."/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Select period..."/>

**Project Location** Land to the southwest of Triangle of Triangle Farm, Angle Common, Soham

County	Cambridgeshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	
District	East Cambridgeshire	Land to the southwest of Triangle Farm, Angle Common, Soham	
Parish	Soham		
HER	Cambridgeshire		
Study Area	26.66 ha	National Grid Reference	TL 5790 7240

**Project Originators**

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Kasia Gdaniec (CCC HET)
Project Design Originator	Stephen Macaulay (OA East)
Project Manager	Stephen Macaulay (OA East)
Supervisor	Graeme Clarke (OA East)

**Project Archives**

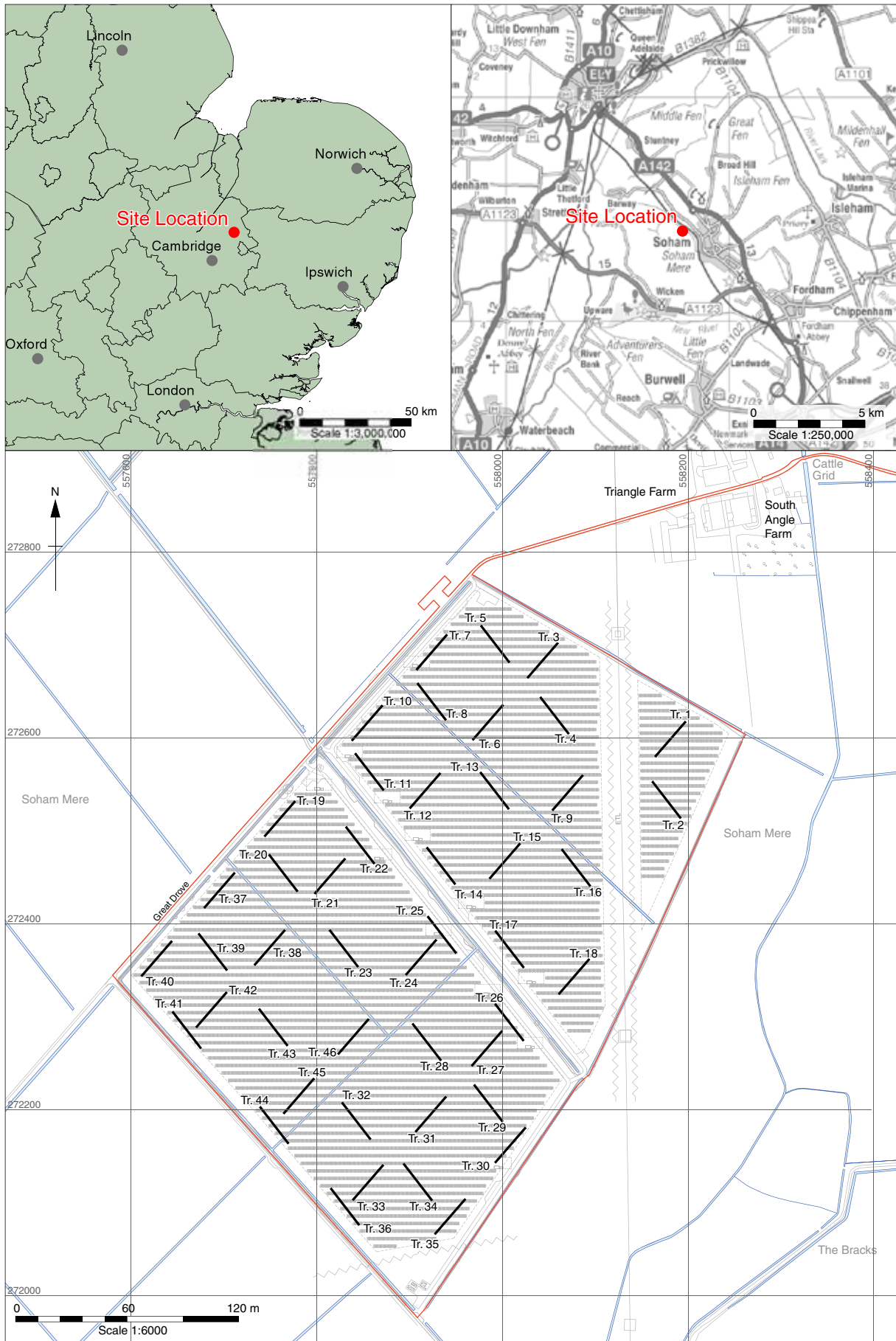
Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
na	OA East	Cambs. County Store
na	SOHTRF14	SOHTRF14

**Archive Contents/Media**

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

Digital Media	Paper Media
<input type="checkbox"/> Database	<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photos
<input type="checkbox"/> GIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Map
<input 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:**



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Figure 1: Site location showing trenches (black) and development area (outlined red)



The Site

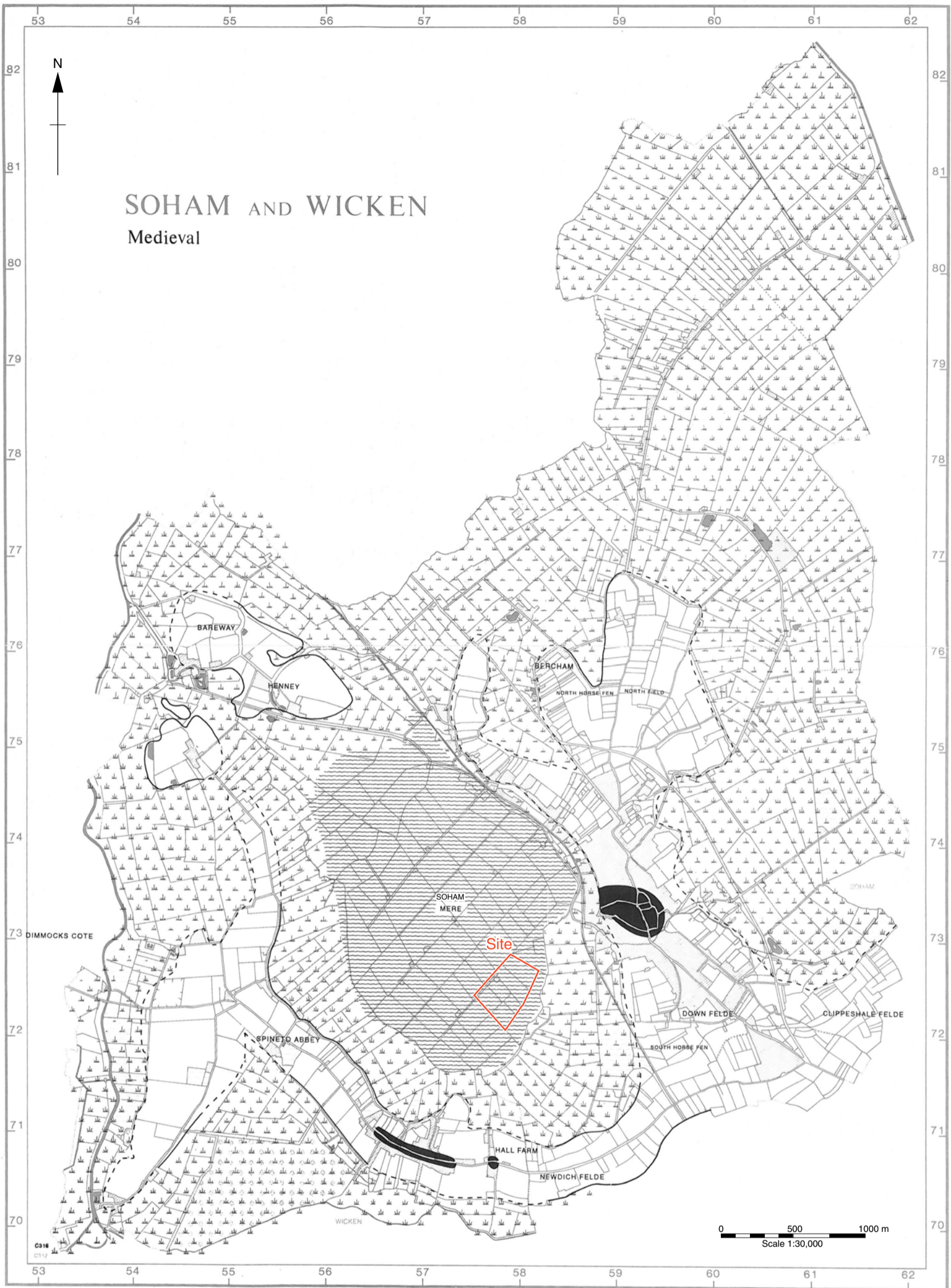


Figure 2: Map of Soham and Fordham Manors, 1656 (Cambridgeshire Archives Services, 107/P10(r))



Figure 3: Tithe map of Soham, 1840 (Cambridgeshire Archive Services, P142/27/2)





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Figure 4: The extent of Soham Mere in the Medieval period (EAA 79, Fenland Project N°10, pp 78)





Figure 5: Site layout



Plate 1: Trench 6 looking north east showing underlying Gault Clay Bedrock



Plate 2: Trench 36 looking north west showing underlying Gault Clay Bedrock





Plate 3: Trench 8 looking south east showing ditch 8



Plate 4: Trench 13 looking north showing ditch 22





Plate 5: Trench 39 looking north showing ditch 36



Plate 6: Working shot of site looking east



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