

DRAFT

Evidence of Early Castle Defences at 4 Ely Place Wisbech Cambridgeshire



Excavation Report



May 2010

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Evidence of Early Castle Defences at 4 Ely Place, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire

Archaeological Excavation

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Summary

In mid January 2010, Oxford Archaeology East carried out an excavation within the cellar at 4 Ely Place, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire.

This work ties in with investigations carried out by OA East in the adjacent library building in 2008/2009. There, evidence of a large ditch-like feature, partly infilled with sterile deposits but with an organic water-logged primary fill was recorded in Trench 2. This feature is believed to represent a defensive ditch associated with the castle on a different alignment to the known position of the post-medieval castle moat. Evidence of the continuation of this feature with the same sequence of fills was recorded in this investigation.

As with the library site, the top of this feature was truncated by the cellar and neither edge was recorded, making a height above OD of construction impossible to establish, however pottery from the fills has been dated to the 11th-12th century. Due to both practical and health and safety conditions imposed on the site, it was not possible to excavate to the base of the feature, however, an auger survey indicated a large water-holding feature to a depth of at least 1.60m AOD.

One particularly rich, water-logged layer has been the subject of in-depth analysis which has revealed evidence of a highly compressed deposit containing plant material and seeds, charred grain and charcoal fragments. This layer also contained the best preserved sample of seeds for radio carbon dating- a date range of 1020 - 1160 (95.4% probability) was returned.

Despite the small size of the trench, the findings are significant in enhancing our understanding of the development of Wisbech castle and support and further the interpretation of the 2009 library site investigation.

Although a 1795 plan of the castle exists, this only shows the castle as it existed at the end of the 18th century, prior to the development of the area into its current form. The design and layout of the Norman castle, reputedly destroyed during a devastating flood of 1236, is unknown. However the radiocarbon dating of the large feature recorded at Ely Place corresponds with the period prior to the flood and may be direct evidence of a Norman castle moat or ditch destroyed in that period.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological excavation was conducted at 4 Ely Place, Wisbech in the north Fenland district of Cambridgeshire.
- 1.1.2 This archaeological excavation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Dan McConnell of Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC; Planning Application F/YR09/0614/LB), supplemented by a Specification (Mortimer 2010) 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 and Policy Guidance 16 - Archaeology and Planning* (Department of the Environment 1990). 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 Solid geology in the vicinity of Wisbech comprises Jurassic Ampthill clays, and pre-Flandrian gravels have been observed at below minus 15.0m OD. Settlement patterns, however, have been dictated by a complex and locally variable Flandrian sequence of marine transgressions, river channel (or roddon) formation, and reed swamp growth. These have led to the deposition of a thick accumulation of silts, clays, and peats overlying the solid geology.
- 1.2.2 The Flandrian deposits (deposits since the last Ice Age) covering the whole of Wisbech are Terrington Beds comprising marine clays, silts and sands (British Geological Society 1995), with most Roman and later activity occurring on an upper silt deposit. The silt area of northern fenland is associated with complex environmental change over the past two millennia. There is a relatively high band of silt running roughly west to east, from the estuary at Kings Lynn to the Lincolnshire border, that underlies the town of Wisbech. The entire island lies below 10m OD, and has been subject to repeated flooding episodes. To the south of this island lies the fresh water peat fen and to the north the salt waters of the Wash. The Nene estuary at Wisbech marks a salt water intrusion into the silt island.
- 1.2.3 The area within the town is relatively flat, with an average height of around 5m OD, ranging up to 7m OD at the east end of Hill Street. The ground level on the site itself is at c. 5.20m OD. The benchmark on the entrance of the church of St Peter and St Paul which lies to the east of the evaluation area is 5.10m OD, and is well over a metre above the floor level within the church itself. The church was built in the 12th century and therefore the floor is a good indicator of the ground level at that time. This is significant in estimating the early medieval ground level in the evaluation trenches (see discussion).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

Much of this section has been taken from the Extensive Urban Survey (EUS) carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council in 2002.

Prehistoric

- 1.3.1 Prehistoric remains are almost unknown in the parish, apart from generally unprovenanced stray finds.
- 1.3.2 Peat growth has been recently dated to the Late Bronze Age near Wisbech, and may have continued into the Romano-British period in some places (Waller 1994, 250). The area was almost entirely submerged during the Iron Age, and dry land only began to emerge in the Roman period.

Roman

- 1.3.3 Roman activity in the area is of two main types – salterns and agricultural settlements. The salterns lie on the roddons along the fen edge, and are fairly numerous. While the predominantly urban nature of the parish of Wisbech masks potential archaeological finds, occasional finds of coins and pottery from within the town suggest the possibility of a Roman predecessor to the Saxon and medieval town. Finds recorded in the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment record include a Roman coin hoard 600m to the south of the castle (CHER 03910), a single coin at the Reason Homes site on the South Brink, 500m to the west (CB 14764), a painted Roman pottery sherd 500m to the south-west (CHER 03891) and two other Roman coin findspots (CHER 03934, 08001). The main Roman communication route across the Fens, the Fen Causeway, lies approximately 12km to the south.

Saxon

- 1.3.4 There is very little evidence of Early Saxon activity which is limited to two brooches found at the Corn Exchange (CHER 04012). However, the island was likely to have been settled throughout the Middle and Late Saxon period - a series of Middle Saxon sites occupied similar sites to the northeast of Wisbech. At some point before the medieval period Wisbech became the primary settlement, probably due to its location at the confluence of the two principal rivers (the Nene or Wys Beck and the Great Ouse tributary known as the Well Stream). The recent discovery of a possibly Middle Saxon defensive site in the area of the later Norman and post-Medieval castle, allied to the Saxon brooches at the Corn Exchange, suggests that this area was a focus for occupation- from as early as the 7th century. This point was also the outfall of the two rivers until the beginning of the 14th century when violent storms caused the diversion of the Ouse from Wisbech to its present course via King's Lynn (Hinman 2002).
- 1.3.5 Saxon activity is again little recorded. It is known that by the Norman Conquest the entire silt isle supported around 50 households under the overlordship of the Abbey of Ely. Again the issue of marginal land comes into play, and the construction of the two sea defences either side of the estuary to protect the landscape from water incursions demonstrates the determination of the church to hold onto these fertile lands, and also proves that the island was subject to centralised authority.
- 1.3.6 Again, it is most likely that Saxon settlement is to be found in the north and west of the current town, i.e. into the silt island itself. That this area was noted as the Old Market by

the end of the 12th century is suggestive of the antiquity of this area as a settlement centre, as is the establishment of the administrative centre of the manorial estates on this side. It should also be noted that the main access route from Ely to Wisbech would have been along the Old Croft River, through Upwell to the settlement. The best disembarkation point for such a journey would have been the location of the Old Market.

- 1.3.7 Nucleation of Anglo-Saxon settlement into the villages and towns that we see today tends to be a phenomenon associated with the reorganisation of the landscape that took place from the 10th to the 12th centuries. However other factors can take precedence, and it is likely that the island was a network of smaller hamlets and farms, with lands divided by drains and a central focus at the main point of water contact, where the market and manorial centres happened to be.
- 1.3.8 Whether a church existed in this later Saxon landscape is uncertain. Certainly a manor usually had an associated church, yet in Wisbech's case the church is across the river next to the castle. It has been shown above how the church could predate the castle, but this would place a later Saxon church effectively on a peninsula over the water from its manor. Whilst not unusual in itself for a Saxon development, it would require more evidence to prove this than is currently available.
- 1.3.9 Another possibility is that the late Saxon church was demolished and rebuilt next to the castle deliberately as a reaction to the support by Ely Abbey of Hereward the Wake. This would put an as yet undiscovered church to the north of the river, which again is not unknown in the area. A third option is that the scattered nature of the settlement did not justify the expenditure of resources on a church.

Medieval

- 1.3.10 Wisbech in Domesday Book was not a particularly large or important settlement, yet throughout the mediaeval period the core of the modern town that we know evolved.
- 1.3.11 The construction of the church, castle and new market moved the focus of settlement away from the north bank of the Nene, a process accentuated when the Nene outflow was finally blocked by silt in the earlier mediaeval period, leaving the Well Stream as the most important water course in the emerging town. The maintenance of two market places is indicative of a change in focus for activity on the Isle. The Old Market maintained its local connections, but it is likely that the new market became more associated with the commercial trade that was beginning to emerge during the 13th century.
- 1.3.12 The castle was first built by the orders of by William the Conqueror in 1086 (VCH Vol. II, 47). This castle was probably of Motte and Bailey or Ringwork and Bailey type - whether it had a mound or not is unknown.
- 1.3.13 Episodic flooding was a major problem in Wisbech and in 1236 a particularly devastating flood may have destroyed the castle and laid waste to the surrounding area. The *Flores Historiarum* described the 1236 flood: 'But on the morrow of the blessed Martin (November 12th)...the waves of the sea flooded in, transgressing their accustomed limits, so that in the confines of that same sea, and in the marsh, as at Wisbech and in similar small places, small boats, herds, and also a great multitude of men perished.' (FH, vol. 2, 219 as quoted in Hallam 1965, 127).
- 1.3.14 Given the problems afflicting the water flows out of the town, it is interesting to speculate as to why a port evolved here. It appears that the more reliable water flows

lead through Lynn, and certainly Cambridge and Ely regarded Lynn as their main trading town. Wisbech and its environs must have possessed some attribute that focussed trade here, and although it did afford access to the western fens (in particular Holme and Yaxley) presumably there was a commodity here that was traded. This could only have been the agricultural surplus generated by the fertile lands, especially when an ongoing programme of drainage created more of the same.

- 1.3.15 Agricultural surpluses have always been the main export from the town, in one form or another. First it was corn, then cole-seed and rape-seed, and in more recent times market gardening, especially fruit.
- 1.3.16 The town however, remained fairly small in size, compared to similar ones in the region. Only one church was built (compared to the 42 in Huntingdon during the mediaeval period). The population was centred around the two cores, the Old Market and the castle area, but the town did not stretch much beyond these areas. The marginality of the land may have had something to do with this, for despite the continuing existence of the sea defences, and the ongoing reclamation projects, the core area (around the castle) flooded on a regular and catastrophic basis. It is quite possible that the town existed as a focus for the area, but most of its population still inhabited the hinterlands in scattered settlements.
- 1.3.17 The castle was rebuilt after the flood of 1236, although in what form and with how many alterations is unknown. From the late 13th century the building was mainly used as a prison and as a place for holding the bishop's courts. In the 15th century the castle fell into ruin, and was rebuilt during the episcopate of Bishop Morton (1479-86) (VCH Vol. IV, 252), suggesting a further change in form of the castle.

Post-Medieval – Wisbech Castle

- 1.3.18 During the Civil War the town, generally on the side of Parliament, and the castle, were put into a state of defence. In 1643 £11 was spent on ironwork for the castle drawbridge. This is strong evidence that a moat was open in the mid 17th century and had presumably been there for a while already. However, it is possible the moat, being part of the defences, was re-worked at this time. Following the Civil War, John Thurloe (Secretary to the Commonwealth Government) purchased the manor and replaced Morton's palace with a mansion on the site in 1658 (ibid. 254).
- 1.3.19 The only plan of the castle in existence comes from a sketch made in 1794 when the site was finally cleared (Figure 4). This clearly shows the near circular form of the castle and the moat around the north-east of the enclosure fronting the market place. The moat is said to have been 40ft (12m) wide (VCH Vol. II, 47). Excavations on the site of the Tesco store in the market place (now QD Stores) during the 1950s encountered evidence of the existence of the castle wall and the extensive moat, the gradual filling in of which seems to have extended into the 16th century (Annis 1977). This is suggested by the pottery found during these excavations which included Bourne and Grimston wares of the late 15th – early 16th century (Moorhouse 1974, 58).
- 1.3.20 In 1793 the castle and grounds were sold to Joseph Medworth who turned the site into a residential development of Georgian houses formed around The Crescent and Ely Place, most of which still survives today. He also demolished Thurloe's mansion and replaced it with the current Wisbech Castle in 1816 (VCH Vol. IV, 254).
- 1.3.21 In summer 2009 Oxford Archaeology East carried out a community excavation within the grounds of the castle with the aim of finding evidence of the “Lost Bishops Palace”

(Fletcher, 2010). Four trenches and forty test pits were investigated, located in four different areas of the site: the lower gardens, the vaults, the upper garden and in the memorial garden. The trenches were located over targeted areas identified as anomalies and possible walls in the geophysics survey. The test pits were spread out across the site in search of any other archaeological evidence or remains. Trenches revealed the remains of a wall, large ditches and pits as well as flood silt layers dating to the period of the Bishops Palace and a significant deposit of building rubble. Test pits in the cellars gave an insight into structural techniques as well as potential evidence of an earlier structure pre-dating the vaults. Sequences of dated flood silts were also recorded in the vaults. Although unstratified, this investigation uncovered what is believed to be the first sherd of Middle Saxon Ipswich Ware to have been found in Wisbech and providing further evidence of middle Saxon occupation in the town.

Post-Medieval Town

- 1.3.22 The main growth of the town took place in the post-medieval period, when the population expanded rapidly. This could be down to several factors. Firstly, widespread drainage of the fens coupled with mechanical means of pumping water off the lands created wide swathes of very fertile agricultural land that could be used for crops or (in the case of marginal land) summer pasture. Secondly, there were deliberate attempts to free up the flow of the Nene through the town and improve access to the port facilities.
- 1.3.23 The impact of this was two-fold. The area could now generate larger agricultural surpluses to export, and also the access to the port was improved to permit larger vessels to ship it. The use of mechanical pumps generated a need for certain products, in particular wood and coal. Most of the port facilities were located below the Town Bridge, especially out towards the Horseshoe sluice to the north. Sutton bridge still provided a mooring for large vessels.
- 1.3.24 As the trade grew, so the town prospered. The creation of extensive and elaborate Georgian and Regency properties are a reflection of that. However there was also a requirement for housing for the growing number of labourers that served the port and the town, and there are several references to a lack of such housing in the 18th and 19th centuries. The areas around Walsoken were always regarded as the poorer areas, so it is unsurprising that this is the direction in which the town expanded from the mid-19th century.
- 1.3.25 It also grew southwards, and the terraces around Victoria Road, Milner Road were laid out at this time. The town expanded along Leverington Road and Lynn Road in a linear fashion, and in time Walsoken became totally absorbed. Expansion westwards was hindered by the fact that the wealthy families (especially the Peckovers) who owned the houses around here also owned the land, and would not permit much development in their vicinity.
- 1.3.26 As part of the development of The Crescent and Ely Place, a Baptist Chapel was built on the site of the library. The building was expanded or replaced by the time of the First Edition Ordnance Survey.
- 1.3.27 The town probably reached its zenith by the end of the 19th and into the 20th century. At the opening of the 21st, Wisbech is still recovering from the decline of its port and trade, and still is trying to find a new purpose for itself. Its population is static, and the whole area is economically depressed.

Archaeological Investigations at Wisbech Library 2008-2009

- 1.3.28 Excavations were carried out by Oxford Archaeology East in 2008 and 2009 (Fletcher 2009) in the adjacent building, prior to the redevelopment of Wisbech Library. This comprised two trenches within the footprint of the building which took place in early 2008 and the following 2009.
- 1.3.29 The 2008 evaluation revealed evidence of what may have been part of the original, pre-Norman defences of the Castle area as well as post-medieval deposits including a mortar construction surface and two phases of brick-built wall.
- 1.3.30 The 2009 phase of investigations discovered evidence of a cellar which may relate to the Georgian houses previously located on this part of The Crescent. Large blocks of architectural stone were recovered from within the cellar backfill which may be demolition rubble from Thurloe's Mansion, built in the mid seventeenth century and demolished in the early nineteenth, which was located within the grounds of the current Wisbech Castle.
- 1.3.31 The most significant discovery however, was that of a large ditch-like feature, partly infilled with sterile flood deposits but with an organic water-logged primary fill. The top of this feature was truncated by the cellar and neither edge was recorded, making a height above OD of construction impossible to establish, however pottery from the fills has been dated to the 11th to 12th century. It was not possible to excavate to the base of this feature, however an extensive auger survey and orientation of the slumped deposits indicate a large water-holding feature on an east-west orientation. Radiocarbon dating was carried out on seeds recovered from what is thought to have been the primary fill obtained by the auger and a date range of 1220-1310 (80.9% probability) was returned. This feature may represent a defensive ditch associated with the castle on a different alignment to both that recorded in the 2008 evaluation and to the known position of the post-medieval castle moat.

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The author would like to thank Neil Ogden of GB Construction Limited who commissioned and funded the archaeological work. The project was managed by Richard Mortimer. The site was excavated by the author, assisted by Andrew Wood. Dan McConnell of CAPCA monitored the excavation.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The objective of this investigation 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 and to record these by excavation.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The excavation area was located in the cellar of 4 Ely Place (Figures 1 and 2, plate 1). The small size of the site and the lack of space to store spoil led to the decision to open a 1.65m x 1.25m trench (this was approved by a representative of CAPCA prior to the start of the works).
- 2.2.2 The trench was hand excavated using a mattock, shovel and trowel, initially to a depth of 1m. The trench was then shored for safety and hand excavated continued to a total depth of 1.90m from the cellar floor level which was calculated as 3.91mOD. During excavation, spoil was removed from the site, via buckets. Beneath the modern layers the deposits were moderately compact stable silts, which formed firm trench baulks. The water table was encountered at approximately 2.15m OD.
- 2.2.3 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.
- 2.2.4 Five environmental samples (ten x 10 litre buckets) were collected in total to investigate the possible survival of micro and macro botanical remains (see Appendix E).
- 2.2.5 Site conditions were favourable, although restricted room made excavation difficult. Excavation ceased at 12cm below the water table following which a hand auger was used to record the remaining deposits.

3 RESULTS

Introduction

The results are presented below starting with the earliest deposits. Apart from the natural flood silts encountered at the base of the excavation the results can be broken down into two broad periods; medieval and post-medieval. A full context summary can be found in Appendix B. Full interpretation is given in the discussion section. Deposits and layers are in normal text, cut numbers are shown in **bold**.

3.1 Medieval Layers

3.1.1 The layers recorded within the lower part of the excavation area appear to represent deposits which have accumulated at the base of a large feature. They represent a sequence of compressed water-logged highly organic silts (Figure 3).

The lowest and earliest recorded layer was 10. This was a light grey silty deposit with no obvious inclusions and a maximum thickness of 0.66m. This layer was recorded from auger survey as it was located beneath the level of the water-table. No finds were retrieved from this layer.

Layer 09 was a dark blackish brown organic layer, measuring approximately 0.10m in thickness. The only find retrieved during excavation was a piece of wood measuring approximately 14cm and 3cm wide with an oblique cut. A 20 litre soil sample was taken for environmental analysis and contained juvenile Mussel shells.

Layer 08 was a soft, mid grey silt with occasional charcoal flecks and small fragments of animal bone. This layer measured 0.14m thick and no finds were recovered.

Layer 07 was a thin deposit of brown plant and straw-like material, compacted into a thin layer no thicker than 0.02m. This layer was sampled along with layer 06 above.

Layer 06 was a dark blackish brown organic layer containing plant and straw remains. This layer had a strong organic smell and measured 0.14m in thickness. A 20 litre sample was taken for environmental analysis which revealed water-logged plant material and seeds as well as a small fragment of cut timber measuring 3cm x 2cm.

Layer 05 was a soft, dark, mixed grey clayey silt with occasional stones and oyster shell. This deposit measured 0.14m in thickness.

Layer 04 was a thin band of dark organic material measuring less than 0.03m in thickness. No finds were recovered during excavation, however the environmental bulk sample (sample 3) contained three small sherds of pottery. While small, with an average weight of 1g each, they were not heavily abraded and included one sherd of rouletted Thetford Ware, one fine Lincolnshire shelly ware and one sherd of fine medieval grey ware and give a context date of around the 12th century. The environmental sample revealed a fish bone (Perch) and other fragmentary fish and small mammal remains. Waterlogged plant material and seeds, charred grain and charcoal fragments were also recovered including a fragment of hazelnut shell. The preserved seeds from this context were sent for radio carbon dating which returned a date of 1020AD-1160AD (95.4% probability) (SUERC-28096 (GU-21000)).

Layer 03 was a soft, silty deposit measuring 0.82m in thickness. This context contained occasional fragments of brick, oyster shell, stone, animal bone and a single sherd of developed Stamford Ware, dating to AD1150 – 1250. A 20 litre soil sample was taken for environmental analysis which revealed portions of unfused pig tibia and cranium, along with a heavily gnawed sheep/goat tibia and cattle mandible. Charcoal, fishscale, snails and roots were also recovered along with small fragments of fired clay.

3.2 Post Medieval layers

- 3.2.1 The upper-most recorded layers (01 and 02) represent the post-medieval floor layers associated with the construction of the Georgian house and subsequent recent lowering of the cellar floor layer.

Layer 02 was a dark brown mixed deposit with frequent inclusions of ceramic building material fragments, coal, animal bone and a single sherd of pottery dated to the sixteenth century. This layer measured a maximum 0.24m in thickness and the 20 litre soil sample revealed portions of butchered sheep/goat tibia and pelvis, along with three frog humeri and unidentified fish and small mammal remains. Untransformed plant remains and seeds, charred wheat grains were also recovered as well as fired clay, coal and burnt animal bone.

Layer 01 represents the recent, modern concrete floor layer. This floor surface has been lowered from the original Georgian cellar floor level by approximately 40cm (client pers. comm.)

3.3 Finds Summary

- 3.3.1 Two sherds of pottery were retrieved from hand excavation, one piece of tile, several oyster shells and a small sample of fragments of ceramic building material. A small number of small animal and fish bones were retrieved which were combined with those from the environmental samples for analysis. A further three pottery sherds were retrieved from sample 3, context 04, providing crucial further dating evidence.

3.4 Environmental Summary

- 3.4.1 A total of five samples were taken from various contexts during the investigation. For the full results of analysis see Appendix E.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 A Norman castle ditch?

- 4.1.1 This investigation revealed the same sequence of deposits as were recorded in Trench 2 of the library investigations in the adjacent building (Figure 3). This comprised a deep, wide ditch-like feature, thought to represent a defensive ditch associated with the castle, truncated by a cellar from the Georgian buildings above. The large ditch recorded in the library was partly infilled with sterile deposits and had an organic water-logged primary fill. Pottery from the fills of the feature in the Library trench has been dated to the 11th to 12th century and Radiocarbon dating carried out on seeds recovered from what is thought to have been the primary fill gave a date range of 1220-1310 (80.9% probability) (SUERC-23938 (GU-18845)).
- 4.1.2 The investigation at 4 Ely Place has provided additional information to support the interpretation of the feature recorded in the library investigations. Radiocarbon dating has again confirmed a C12th date for the basal fills of the feature (SUERC-28096 (GU-21000)) along with additional supporting dating evidence from pottery.
- 4.1.3 One of the difficulties with investigating this ditch in such small areas is that it has been difficult to establish any real dimensions or orientation for the feature. Trench 2 in the Library revealed a slumped edge of deposits and it was suggested at the time that this may indicate the close proximity of an edge on a west-northwest to east-southeast orientation. While the Ely Place trench has not identified an edge or any slumped material, it does indicate at this location that we are still very much within the fills of the ditch. Although the dimensions are still unknown, Figure 5 shows a suggested orientation of the ditch from evidence recorded in the library (**51**) and in the cellar at Ely Place (**12**). There are no maps of the early castle and therefore the feature recorded in Ely Place and in library Trench 2 represent defences, or at least a large ditch-like feature on an alignment not previously recorded or identified.
- 4.1.4 Unlike the part of the ditch recorded in the library, this investigation revealed a series of water-logged deposits within the ditch. They were overlying the primary silty fill and may have built up once the ditch had either gone out of use or simply failed to be maintained or cleaned out. Charred grains, which are probably derived from either agricultural or 'domestic' occupation were present, although at an insufficient density to be indicative of an intensive local agricultural regime. It is perhaps unlikely that the deposition of refuse would have been permitted within a ditch designed, and still being used for defensive purposes, which may be a further indication of disuse. The presence of duckweed and water crowfoot almost certainly indicates that any standing water was stagnant once the ditch had begun to silt up, there is nothing in the environmental assemblage to suggest that the feature had at any time contained running water - whatever interpretation is put on the feature, it does not appear to have been a natural stream.
- 1.1.1 The remains recovered from the soil samples appear to indicate that the landscape surrounding Wisbech Castle was mixed, with evidence for grassland, cultivated ground and weedy wasteland as the ditch sat open and unmaintained. Annual and perennial weeds commonly found on cultivated ground or within arable fields were predominant, although it is unclear whether these were derived from cultivation, from arable land or from land disturbed during the construction process (Appendix E).

4.1.5 Figure 4 is a copy of a 1795 sketch plan of the castle area prior to re-development, with the trench locations imposed upon it. This shows that both investigation areas and trenches lie just inside the castle grounds, a few metres to the west of the inner edge of the known moat. On a modern map the two lanes, Castle Mews and Wilderness Walk, mark where the 'ancient wall' and the side of the moat closest to the castle ran. The Crescent and Ely Place are clearly well within the grounds of the castle, in the area marked as 'the wilderness'. This however is a plan showing the site in 1795. What did it look like in previous centuries? Had the moat been re-worked, thus shifting its position slightly or even dramatically? Was the original Norman castle much smaller? Evidence that the 1795 plan shows a greatly modified moat comes from the fact that the moat only appears to encircle less than half of the castle wall. Obvious subsidence on the front of the buildings in Museum Square, the museum in particular, is evidence for the line of the underlying moat. This merely serves to illustrate that the 1795 plan is not a definitive record of the castle's fortifications and defences throughout history and this should be borne in mind when discussing the findings at the present site. This map, as with many historical maps and plans is not without its limitations and should not be relied upon as sole or accurate evidence of the layout of buildings or plots at the time it was drawn up. The map is from the deed acknowledged by Joseph Medworth in 1795. It was presumably drawn up to show the lands and buildings sold to Medworth by the Lord Bishop of Ely following an Act of Parliament in 1793, enabling him to sell the Castle and grounds (Annis, 1977). As such, this is a representative sketch rather than an accurately surveyed, measured map, however its significance remains as one of the earliest known maps of the estate at this time.

4.1.6 This investigation, alongside the library Trench 2, provides further substantiating evidence for the discovery of an early castle ditch or moat. The dates of ditch 51 and 11 could coincide with the destruction of the castle by flood in 1236. The radiocarbon analysis provides a date for the earliest in-filling of the ditch in the library between 1220 and 1310, however, the pottery recovered from all the subsequent fills of the ditch pre-date this, by anything up to 200 years. This may be explained by the continued flooding events in Wisbech which occurred during the medieval period despite the continuing existence of the sea defences, and the ongoing reclamation projects, with the core area (around the castle) flooded on a regular and catastrophic basis. During periods of flood, rubbish and debris would have been carried around the town in the flood waters and silts until finally resting in depressions and dips such as that of this large ditch. This latest investigation has provided a date of 1020 to 1160 in the water-logged deposits at the base of the feature which indicate a date range for when the moat might have fallen out of use or was no longer maintained. This is an earlier date than obtained in the library and supports the suggestion that this feature may represent the original Norman moat.

4.2 Significance

4.2.1 It is worth re-iterating the difficulty of drawing conclusions from such a restricted study area. However, it can be stated with confidence that the small trench investigated here when combined with the results of the library investigations has revealed evidence of a potential Norman castle moat. This greatly expands the previously limited knowledge relating to the castle and its defences, or at least suggests possibilities that can be followed up by further research or future excavation.

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APPENDIX B. CONTEXT INVENTORY

Excavation Area						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
Excavation revealed large feature with organic, water-logged layers and silts and evidence of the 1236 flood event. This was truncated by the cellar of the Georgian house above.				Avg. depth (m)		1.91m
				Width (m)		1.45m
				Length (m)		1.65m
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Context Date
01	Layer	1.65m	0.14m		-	-
02	Layer	1.65m	0.12m		Pottery, oyster shell, brick, bone	C16th
03	Layer	1.65m	0.42m		Pottery	1150-1250
04	Layer	1.65m	0.02m		Pottery	Early C12th
04					Seeds and plant remains C14 dated	C11-C12th
05	Layer	1.65m	0.07m		-	-
06	Layer	1.65m	0.09m		-	-
07	Layer	1.65m	0.01m		-	-
08	Layer	1.65m	0.06m		-	-
09	Layer	1.65m	0.05m		-	-
10	Layer	1.65m	0.32m		-	-
11	Layer	1.65m	-	Natural	-	-
12	Cut	??	??	Cut of large feature (ditch?)	-	-

APPENDIX C. FINDS QUANTIFICATION TABLE

Context	Material	Object Name	Weight in kg	Comments
3	Ceramic	Vessel	0.005	
3	Bone	Bone	0.279	
3	Shell		0.123	Oyster
4	Ceramic	Vessel	0.010	Sample 3
2	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.024	
2	Ceramic	Vessel	0.015	
2	Shell		0.010	Oyster
2	Shell		0.001	Cockle fragment, less than 1g
2	Bone	Bone	0.041	
2	Bone	Bone	0.001	Small bones, less than 1g

APPENDIX D. FAUNAL REMAINS

By Chris Faine

Introduction and methodology

D.1.1 Twenty-eight fragments of animal bone were recovered from the excavation at Ely Place, Wisbech, with 11 fragments being identifiable to species (39% of the total sample). Identifiable fragments were recovered from 3 contexts. Table D1 shows the species distribution for the assemblage. Context 02 contained portions of butchered sheep/goat tibia and pelvis, along with three frog humeri and unidentified fish and small mammal remains. Context 03 contained portions of unfused pig tibia and cranium, along with a heavily gnawed sheep/goat tibia and cattle mandible from an animal around 1 ½ to 2 ½ years of age at death. A dentary bone identified as Perch and other fragmentary fish and small mammal remains were recovered from context 04.

	NISP	NISP%	MNI	MNI%
Sheep/Goat (<i>Ovis/Capra</i>)	4	18.2	3	37.5
Pig (<i>Sus scrofa</i>)	2	9	1	12.5
Cattle (<i>Bos</i>)	1	4.5	1	12.5
Perch (<i>Perca fluviatis</i>)	1	4.5	1	12.5
Common Frog (<i>Rana temporaria</i>)	3	13.7	2	25
Unid. Small mammal	3	13.7	N/A	N/A
Unid. Fish	8	36.4	N/A	N/A
Total	22	100	8	100

Table D1: Species distribution for the assemblage.

APPENDIX E. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

By Rachel Fosberry and Val Fryer

E.1 Introduction and Methods

- E.1.1 Five bulk samples were taken from layers within a large ditch thought to be the Norman moat around Wisbech Castle. The objective of this investigation was 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.
- E.1.2 A further aim was to retrieve an item suitable for radiocarbon dating from one of the lower layers of the ditch.
- E.1.3 Ten litres of each sample were processed by bucket flotation for the recovery of charred plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. 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 X.
- E.1.4 A further 1 litre of Sample 3, context 4 was wet floated, and the recovered flot was stored in water prior to full assessment by archaeobotanist, Val Fryer. Both the original dried flot and the wet retents were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 2. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). Unless otherwise stated, all tabulated remains were waterlogged.

E.2 Results

Sample No.	Context No.	Flot Contents	Residue Contents
1	2	untransformed plant remains and seeds, charred wheat grains	Fired clay, coal, burnt animal bone
2	3	Charcoal, fishscale, snails, roots, ostracods	Small fragments of fired clay
3	4	Waterlogged plant material and seeds, charred grain and charcoal fragments	Hazlenut shell
4	6	Waterlogged plant material and seeds	Timber 3cmx2cm
5	9	Waterlogged plant material and seeds	Two juvenile Mussel shells. Timber 14cmx3cm with oblique cut

Table E1. Results of air-dried samples from WIS ELP 10

Sample No.	3
Context No.	4
Cereals	
<i>Avena sp. (grains)</i>	xc
<i>Hordeum sp. (grains)</i>	xc
<i>Triticum sp. (grains)</i>	xc
(rachis internode frags.)	x
<i>T. aestivum/compactum type (rachis nodes)</i>	x xc
Cereal indet.(grains)	xc
(basal rachis node)	xc
Dry land herbs	
<i>Aethusa cynapium L.</i>	x
<i>Agrostemma githago L.</i>	xx xc
<i>Anthemis cotula L.</i>	xxx
Apiaceae indet.	x
<i>Atriplex sp.</i>	xxxx
<i>Brassica nigra L.</i>	xx
Brassicaceae indet.	xxx
(stem frags.)	xx
<i>Centaurea sp.</i>	x
<i>C. cyanus L.</i>	x
<i>Chenopodium album L.</i>	xxx
<i>C. ficifolium Sm</i>	x
Chenopodiaceae indet.	xxx
<i>Cirsium sp.</i>	x
<i>Daucus carota L.</i>	x
<i>Lamium sp.</i>	x
<i>Lapsana communis L.</i>	x
<i>Leontodon sp.</i>	x
<i>Lepidium sp.</i>	x
<i>Linum usitatissimum L.</i>	x
<i>Lithospermum arvense L.</i>	xcf
<i>Papaver sp.</i>	xx
<i>P. argemone L.</i>	xx
<i>P. dubium L.</i>	xx
<i>P. somniferum L.</i>	xcf
<i>Persicaria maculosa/lapathifolia</i>	x
<i>P. lapathifolia L.</i>	x
Small Poaceae indet.	x
<i>Polygonum aviculare L.</i>	x
<i>Potentilla anserina L.</i>	x
<i>Ranunculus parviflorus L.</i>	x
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum L.</i>	x
(siliqua frags.)	xx
<i>Rumex sp.</i>	x
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris L.</i>	x
<i>Silene sp.</i>	x
<i>Sinapis sp.</i>	xxx
<i>Sonchus asper (L.)Hill</i>	x
<i>S. oleraceus L.</i>	x
<i>Stellaria sp.</i>	x
<i>S. media (L.)Vil</i>	x
<i>Torilis japonica Houtt (DC)</i>	x
<i>Urtica dioica L.</i>	xxx
<i>U. urens L.</i>	x
<i>Valerianella dentata (L.)Pollich</i>	x
Wetland/aquatic plants	
<i>Bolboschoenus/Schoenoplectus sp.</i>	x
<i>Carex sp.</i>	x
<i>Cladium mariscus (L.)Pohl</i>	x
<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris L.</i>	x
<i>Iris pseudacorus L.</i>	xcf
<i>Lemna sp.</i>	xx
<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi L.</i>	x
<i>Lycopus europaeus L.</i>	x
<i>Mentha sp.</i>	xx
<i>Potamogeton sp.</i>	x
<i>Ranunculus flammula L.</i>	x
<i>R. subg. Batrachium (DC)A.Gray</i>	x
Scrophulariaceae indet.	xcf
<i>Zannichellia sp.</i>	x
Tree/shrub macrofossils	
<i>Sambucus nigra L.</i>	x
Other plant macrofossils	
Charcoal <2mm	xxx
Charcoal >2mm	xx
Charred root/stem	x
Waterlogged root/stem	xxxx
<i>Pteridium aquilinum (L.)Kuhn (stem)</i>	xcf
Indet. capsule frags.	x
Indet.culm frags./nodes	xxx
Indet.inflorescence frags.	x
Indet.moss	x
Indet.seeds	x
Other remains	
Black porous 'cokey' material	x
Cladoceran ephippia	xx
Compacted organic concretion	x
Fish bone	x
Waterlogged arthropods	xxx
Sample volume (litres)	11
Volume of flot (litres)	0.4
% flot sorted	50%

Table 2: Waterlogged remains in Sample 3

Preservation

- E.2.1 The samples from the lowest three layers (contexts 4,6 and 9) contain plant matter and seeds that have been preserved by waterlogging (in an anoxic environment). Sample 2, layer 3, appears to have been de-watered and Sample 1, layer 2 contains untransformed seeds. In addition, all of the samples contain plant material preserved by carbonisation.

Plant Remains

Cereals

- E.2.1 Charred cereal grains are present in all of the samples except in Sample 2. Cereals include wheat (*Triticum* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and oats (*Avena* sp) and are most frequent in Sample 3, context 4. Chaff elements include fragments of wheat rachis and culm nodes.

Weed seeds

- E.2.2 Weed seeds preserved by waterlogging are abundant in this assemblage. Samples 3, 4 and 5 all contain a diverse range of seeds; Sample 3 containing the most.
- E.2.3 Sample 1 contains untransformed seeds of *Sambucus* sp. These seeds have a tough outer coat (testa) and typically survive for long periods of time within archaeological deposits. These seeds are most likely contemporary with the deposit.
- E.2.4 Samples 4 and 5 both contain numerous weed seeds preserved by waterlogging including goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp), orache (*Atriplex* sp.) corn cockle (*Agrostemma githago*), stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), poppy (*Papaver* sp), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*), wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*), stinging nettles (*Urtica dioica*), black mustard (*Brassica nigra*), sow-thistle (*Sonchus* sp), dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*) annual nettle (*Urtica urens*), prickly oxtongue (*Picris echioides*), bistort (*Persicaria* sp), sedge (*Carex* sp.), saw-sedge (*Cladium mariscus*), duckweed (*Lemna* sp.), and water crowfoot (*Ranunculus* subg. *Batrachium*).
- E.2.5 Sample 5 also contains well preserved charred rachis fragments of wheat and barley.
- E.2.6 A single almost-complete hazlenut (*Corylus avellana*) shell was recovered from Sample 3.
- E.2.7 The assessment of Sample 3, context 4 revealed that the principal matrix of the assemblage comprises both large pieces of compressed culm and heavily comminuted fragments of fibrous root/stem and waterlogged seeds, mostly of common ruderal and segetal weeds were also abundant. In addition, a limited number of seeds of wetland/aquatic plants were recorded, but tree/shrub macrofossils were scarce, with only rare specimens of elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) 'pips' being recorded. A small number of charred oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains were also recovered along with both charred and waterlogged bread wheat (*T. aestivum/compactum*) type rachis nodes. Preservation was generally good, although some crushing and distortion of the waterlogged remains had occurred, probably as a result of the compression of the deposit.

Seeds of segetal weeds and plants commonly found on disturbed or cultivated ground were numerically predominant, with very high densities of both orache (*Atriplex* sp.) and fat hen (*Chenopodium album*) being recorded. Other taxa included corn cockle (*Agrostemma githago*), stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula* - a plant commonly found on heavier clay soils), cornflower (*Centaurea cyanus*), long-headed poppy (*Papaver dubium*), prickly poppy (*P. argemone*), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*), wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*), shepherds needle (*Scandix pecten-veneris*) and cornsalad (*Valerianella dentata*). Ruderal weeds/grassland herbs were also recorded although, with the exception of stinging nettles (*Urtica dioica*), at a lower density than the segetal weeds. Common ruderal/grassland taxa included fools parsley (*Aethusa cynapium*), black mustard (*Brassica nigra*), hawkbit (*Leontodon* sp.), silverweed (*Potentilla anserina*), spiny sow-thistle (*Sonchus asper*), milk thistle (*S. oleraceus*), hedge parsley (*Torilis japonica*) and annual nettle (*Urtica urens*). Wetland/aquatic plant remains were present, although rarely as more than one or two specimens within the assemblage. Taxa noted included sedge (*Carex* sp.), saw-sedge (*Cladium mariscus*), duckweed (*Lemna* sp.), gypsy-wort (*Lycopus europaeus*), mint (*Mentha* sp.) and water crowfoot (*Ranunculus* subg. *Batrachium*). Charcoal/charred wood flecks and fragments were reasonably common, but other plant macrofossils, including indeterminate capsule fragments and moss fronds, occurred infrequently.

With the exception of water flea eggs (Cladoceran ephippia) and fragmentary waterlogged arthropods, other remains were extremely scarce. However, fish bones were recorded along with a large fragment of hard, compressed organic material, which appeared to be animal dung.

Ecofacts and Artefacts

E.2.8 The two lower layers, 6 and 9, contain pieces of worked timber.

Two juvenile (1cm) shells of Mussel (*Mytilus* sp.) were recovered from the lowest deposit sampled, layer 9.

E.3 Discussion

E.3.1 Although the list of species present is somewhat comprehensive, any data regarding the landscape surrounding the moat and conditions within it is limited. Annual and perennial weeds commonly found on cultivated ground or within arable fields are predominant, although it is unclear whether these are derived from cultivation, from arable land or from land disturbed during the construction process. Charred grains, which are probably derived from either agricultural or 'domestic' detritus, are present, although at an insufficient density to be indicative of an intensive local agricultural regime. However, as it is very unlikely that the deposition of refuse would have been sanctioned with a feature designed for defensive purposes (see also the low density of other materials within the assemblage), the few grains recorded are probably derived from scattered or wind-blown refuse, which was accidentally incorporated within the deposit. The composition of the ruderal weed and grassland herb assemblage suggests that some areas were weedy, but predominantly dry. It should be noted that some or all of these weeds may have been growing around the edges of any cultivated land.

E.4 Conclusions

- E.4.1 In summary, the landscape surrounding Wisbech Castle appears to have been quite dry, and significant areas may have been tilled for agricultural use, although it is currently unclear whether this activity pre-dated the moat or whether it was contemporaneous. The moat was largely a dry feature, although some points along the base may have been damp or covered by shallow, muddy, stagnant water, and it would appear that it may have been well maintained, presumably for defensive reasons.

E.5 Recommendations for further work

- E.5.1 Charred cereal grains were separated from Sample 3 at the time of assessment and submitted for AMS dating.
- E.5.2 Although analysis of a single sample is rarely worthwhile, in this instance, if the AMS date shows that the feature is indeed of Norman date, quantification and further analysis is recommended, as the assemblage appears to be indicative of a progression of activities surrounding the construction of the castle and moat. However, as this is dependant on the dating determination, costs for any further work will be submitted at a later date.

Key to Tables

x = 1 – 10 specimens xx = 11 – 50 specimens xxx = 51 – 100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens
c = charred cf = compare

APPENDIX F. RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE



Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre

Director: Professor A B MacKenzie Director of Research: Professor R M Ellam
Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park,
East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QF, Scotland, UK
Tel: +44 (0)1355 223332 Fax: +44 (0)1355 229898 www.glasgow.ac.uk/suerc

RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

9 March 2010

Laboratory Code	SUERC-28096 (GU-21000)
Submitter	Rachel Fosberry Oxford Archaeology East 15 Trafalgar Way Bar Hill Cambridgeshire CB23 8SQ
Site Reference	WISELP10
Context Reference	4
Sample Reference	3
Material	Charred Grain
$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ relative to VPDB	-23.0 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	955 \pm 30

- N.B.**
1. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.
 2. The calibrated age ranges are determined from the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program (OxCal3).
 3. Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Facility and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. Any questions directed to the Radiocarbon Laboratory should also quote the GU coding given in parentheses after the SUERC code. The contact details for the laboratory are email g.cook@suerc.gla.ac.uk or Telephone 01355 270136 direct line.

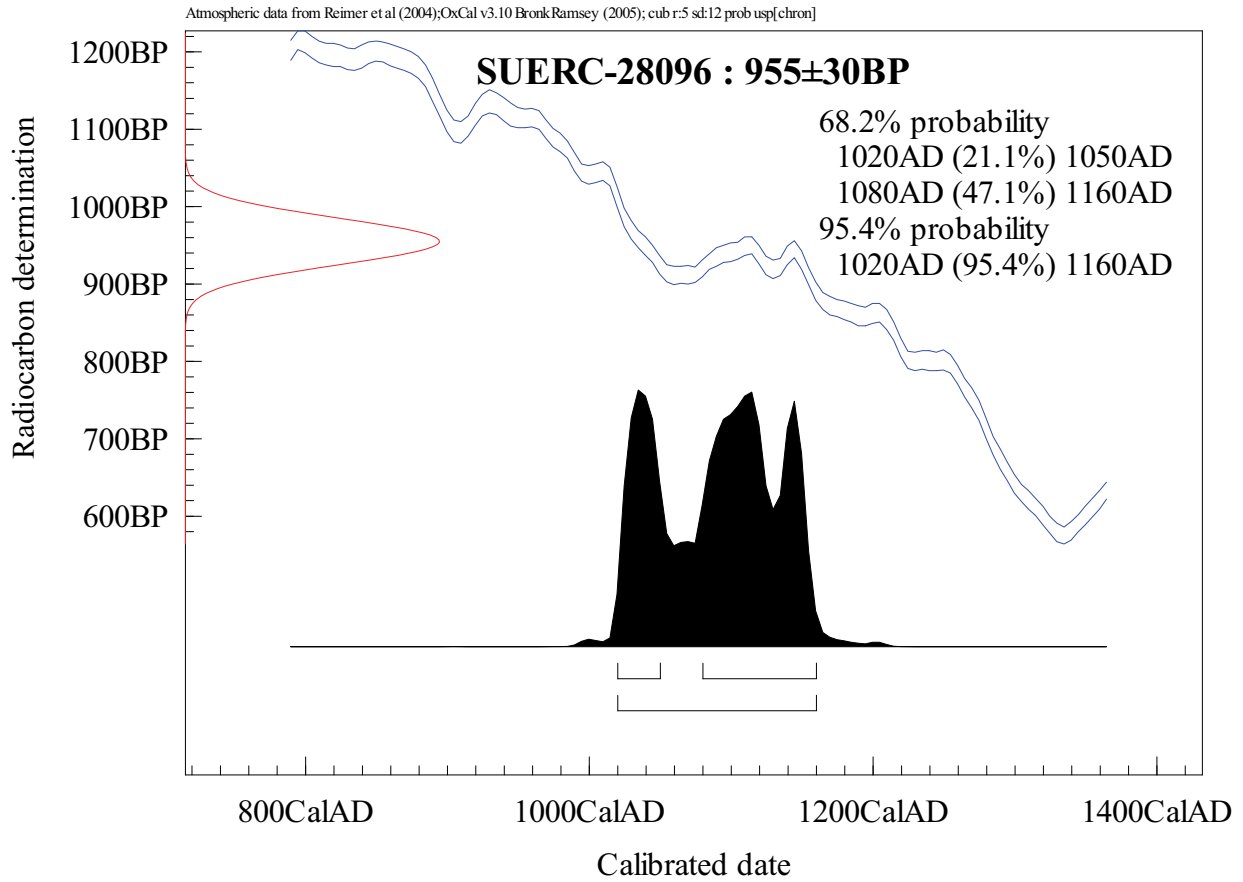
Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by :-

Date :-

Checked and signed off by :-

Date :-

Calibration Plot



APPENDIX G. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	Oxfordar3-71522		
Project Name	Excavation at 4 Ely Place, Cambridgeshire		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	14-01-2010	Finish	15-01-2010
Previous Work (by OA East)	No	Future Work	No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	WISELP10	Planning App. No.	F/YR09/0614/LB
HER No.	ECB 3332	Related HER/OASIS No.	n/a

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt

Please select all techniques used:

<input type="checkbox"/> Field Observation (periodic visits)	<input checked="" 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 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	Medieval 1066 to 1540	Pottery	Medieval 1066 to 1540
Cellar	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901		Select period...
	Select period...		Select period...

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	
District	Fenland	4 Ely Place, Wisbech Cambridgeshire, PE13 1EU	
Parish	Wisbech		
HER	Cambridgeshire		
Study Area	2.5msq	National Grid Reference	TF 4623 0960

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	CAPCA
Project Design Originator	Richard Mortimer
Project Manager	Richard Mortimer
Supervisor	Taleyna Fletcher

Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
CCC Stores, Landbech	OA East Offices	CCC Stores, Landbech
WISELP10	WISELP10	WISELP10

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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stratigraphic		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Survey		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Textiles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> GIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correspondence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Images	<input type="checkbox"/> Diary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illustrations	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research/Notes
	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:

Drawing Conventions

Plans

Limit of Excavation _____

Excavated Slot 

Cut Number **118**

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

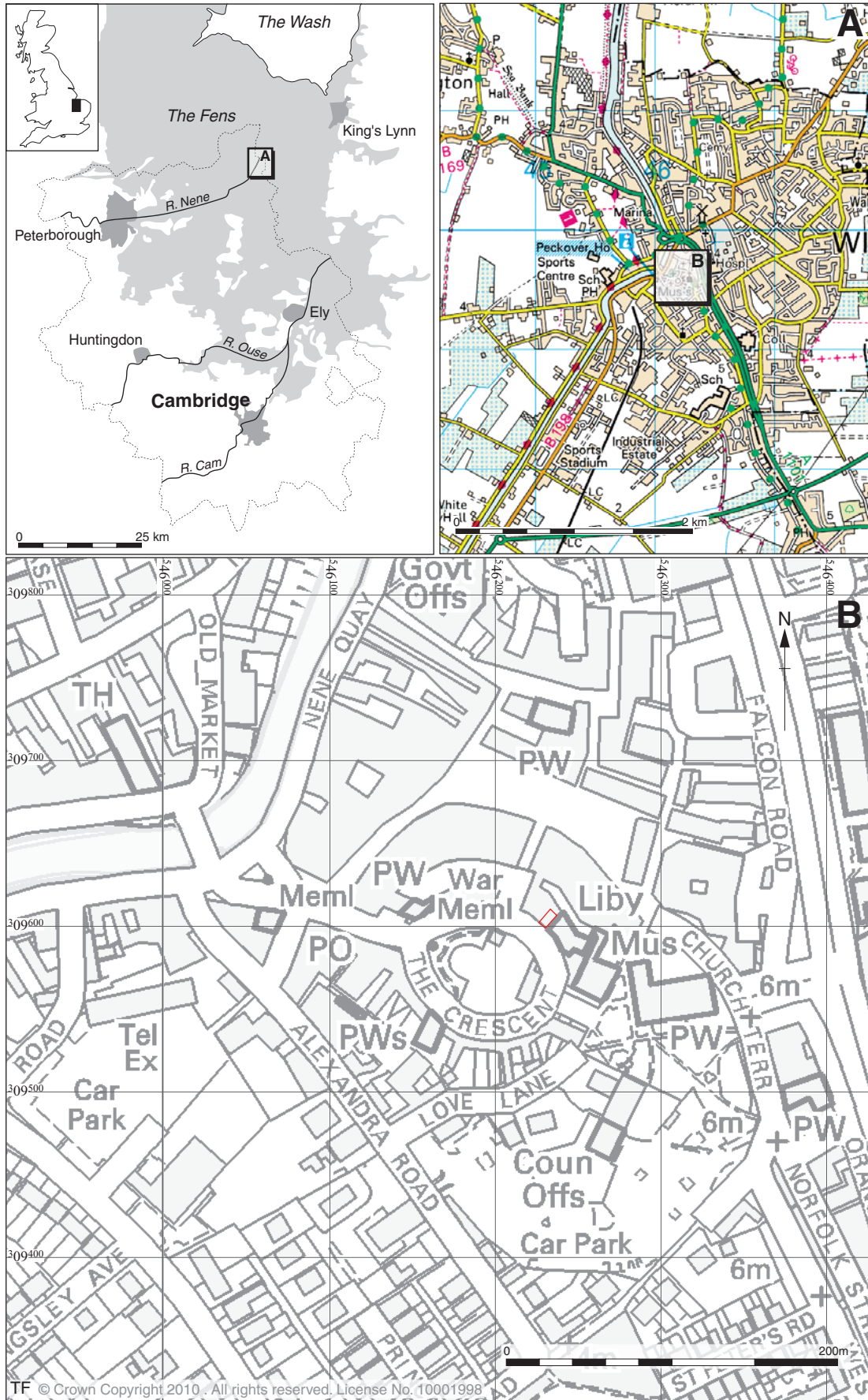
Ordnance Datum 18.45m OD
^

Brick 

Stone 

Gravel 

Convention Key



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

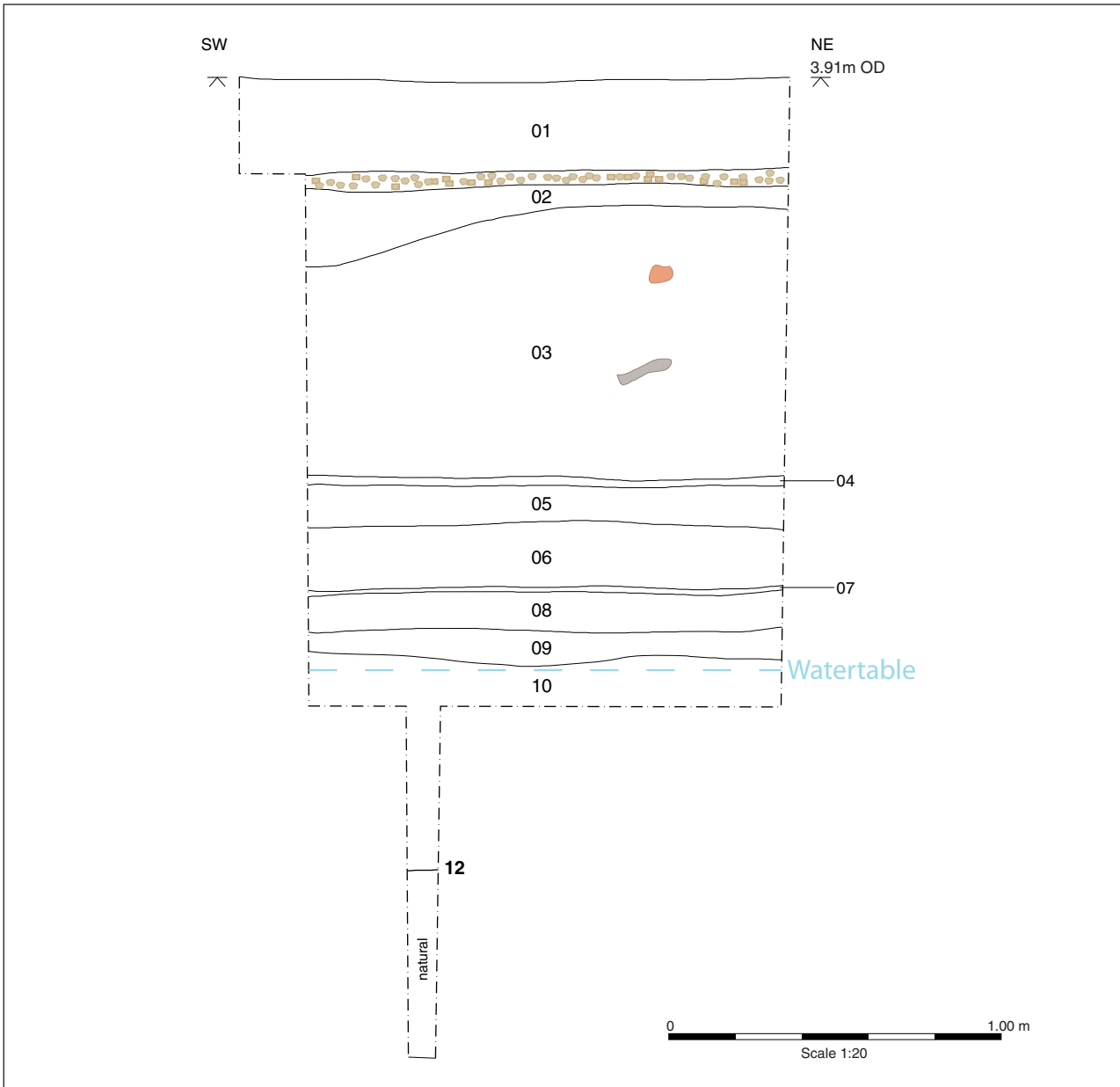


Figure 2: South-east facing section



Figure 3: Trench plan (investigation area outlined green) and trenches excavated at Wisbech Library in 2008 and 2009 (outlined red)



Figure 4: 1794 sketch plan of the castle with investigation trench (green) and library trenches (blue)



Figure 5: Plan showing the suggested lines of the large ditch as recorded in the library investigations (51) and in the cellar at Ely Place (12)



Plate 1: 4 Ely Place



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