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# **Proposed Wind Farm Development at Coldham Estate, Coldham, Near March A Desktop Assessment**

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2002

**Cambridgeshire County Council**

Report No. 204

Commissioned by West Coast Energy Ltd

**Proposed Wind Farm Development at Coldham Estate, Coldham,  
Near March: A Desktop Assessment**

(NGR TF 455-/010-)

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February 2002

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## **SUMMARY**

*This desktop assessment was commissioned by West Coast Energy Ltd in order to define the archaeological potential of land centred at NGR TF 455/010, to the south east of Coldham Hall Farm on the Coldham Estate. It also attempts to assess the impact of the proposed wind energy development scheme upon the local archaeological resources.*

*The investigation area comprises c 2ha of land which is partly in the parish of Elm and partly in the parish of Christchurch (formerly Upwell). The development scheme proposes the construction of nine turbines, each with a maximum height to blade tip of around 95m.*

*The object of this study was to assess areas of archaeological potential and the possible effects of the proposed development scheme by consulting a wide range of available sources. These included the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) information, cartographic evidence, secondary documentary sources and aerial photographic collections that were integrated to produce the general historical and archaeological background to the study. No surveys (e.g. field-walking, geophysical surveys and re-assessments of air photographs) were commissioned in advance of the present desktop assessment. Therefore no new information specifically aimed to the study of the area under investigation was available at the time of writing.*

*The development area lies within a rich Roman landscape. The records show the presence of industrial sites (salterns) and rural settlements both within and around the subject site. There is, therefore, high potential for Roman remains to be encountered during groundwork. In addition, there is moderate potential to uncover presently unknown late prehistoric features, which may be masked by Roman cropmarks. Finally, metal detecting may help to identify Saxon sites, although this type of surface scanning in the area has only produced metal finds of Roman date so far.*

*Disturbance of archaeological features and deposits will have been affected by the drainage schemes and ploughing during the post-medieval and modern periods. However, the preservation of undamaged remains should be good. Any intrusion below the present topsoil has the potential to destroy archaeological remains. Therefore, archaeological evaluation should be excavated on the sites of the proposed turbine before erection and construction of wind turbines.*

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**Proposed Wind Farm Development, at Coldham Estate Coldham, near March :**  
**A Desktop Assessment**  
(NGR TF 455-/010-)

**1 INTRODUCTION**

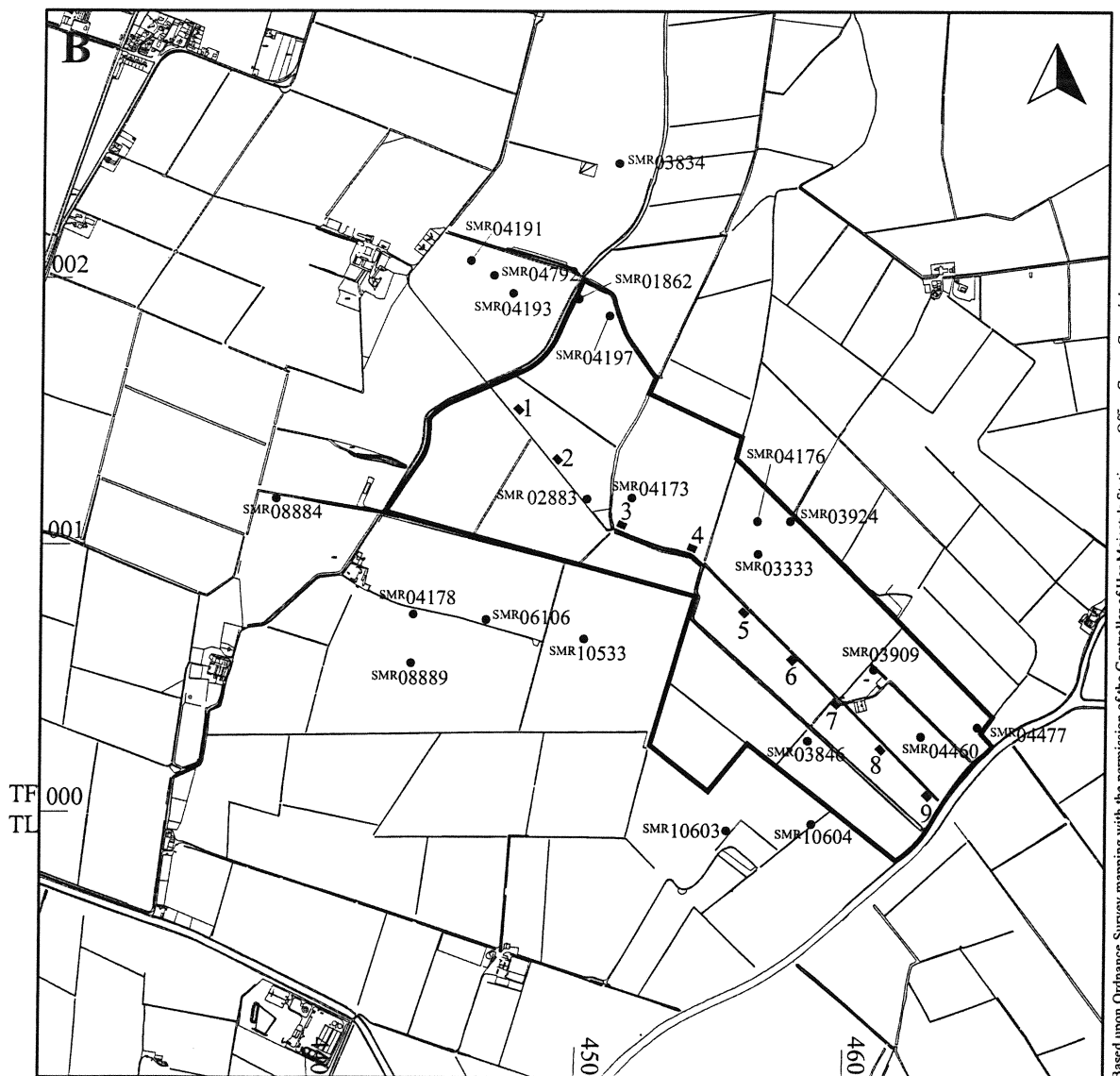
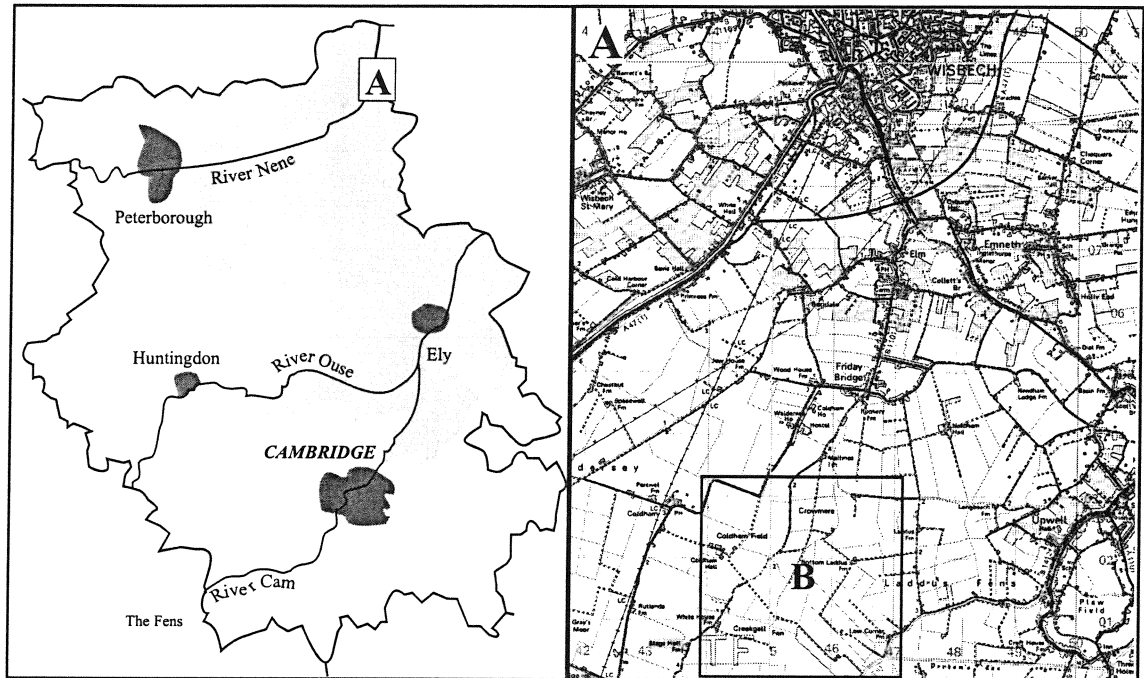
This desktop assessment was commissioned by West Coast Energy Ltd in order to define the archaeological potential of land centred at NGR TF455/010, to the south east of Coldham Hall Farm on the Coldham Estate. It also attempts to assess the impact of the proposed wind energy development scheme upon the local archaeological resources.

The investigation area comprises *c* 2ha of land which is partly in the parish of Elm and partly in the parish of Christchurch (formerly Upwell). The scheme proposes the construction of a maximum of nine turbines, each with a maximum height to blade tip of around 95m.

**2 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT SITE**

The proposed development area is some 5km to the north of March, some 4km to the west of Upwell and 5km to the south-east of Elm. It stretches from the old course of the River Nene which acts as the eastern limit of the site. The northern edge partly follows the present boundary between the two parishes of Elm and Christchurch. The southern and western edges of the development area follow drainage ditches associated with modern fields.

The fen floor of the region is variable in depth. For instance, at Elm it lies below 4m OD at the north and rises out of Flandrian deposits at Grays Moor to the south where there is a gravel island. Further gravel islands occur near Coldham. Although presently buried, the gravel islands were probably exposed until the Iron Age, as suggested by the presence of prehistoric lithic materials on the gravel surfaces. Flandrian deposits consist of marine clays and silts that cover most of the region (with the exclusion of Grays Moor). Most of the Roman and medieval settlements occur on the upper silt deposit (Hall 1996, 164-165).



◆ Proposed Wind Turbine Foundations    ● SMR Sites

0 100m

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Figure 1 Site Location Map.

### **3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

#### **3.1 Sources and Confidence Rating**

##### *Abbreviations*

SMR	(Cambridgeshire) Sites and Monuments Record
CRO	County Record Office
CUCAP	Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photographs
NMR	National Monuments Record
RAF	Royal Air Force
VCH	Victoria County History

#### **3.2 Aerial photographs**

The SMR has a collection of maps showing overlays of aerial photographs plotted in the 1980s from photographs held in CUCAP and the NMR.

Aerial photographic collections (CUCAP, RAF) show a high density of features within and around the proposed development site. Of particular interest is the evidence for Roman ditches and enclosures. Some of the evidence has been re-assessed for recent surveys (e.g. Hall 1996).

#### **3.3 Cartographic and documentary sources**

##### **3.3.1 Sites and Monuments Records**

The SMR of Cambridgeshire County Council records finds within and around the development area (Appendix 1). Most entries refer to Roman, medieval and post-medieval occupation sites and field systems known from the Fenland Survey (below) and, in many cases, still visible on aerial photographs as cropmarks. Finds spots have also been identified through metal-detecting.

The information provided by the SMR is affected by the following:

Distribution of entries with a bias towards periods which are well represented by material culture, i.e. Roman, medieval and post-medieval remains. This bias has its roots in the kind of information provided by the Ordnance Survey records, i.e. the precursor of the SMR, that placed emphasis on extant remains, including earthworks, and important finds' spots.

The SMR collection represents a variable source of information that has been influenced by fieldwork strategies, collection of finds, antiquarian observations, local and professional interests.

The SMR entries for the parish of Christchurch still refer to Upwell. There is also some confusion about the boundary between Elm and Upwell (Christchurch).

There are twenty-two SMR entries within and around the proposed development site

### **3.3.2 Cartographic Evidence**

Estate surveys in the area date to the late eighteenth century (Bendall 1992). The first comprehensive map of the two parishes of Elm and Christchurch (Upwell) is the Tithe Map of *c.* 1841. Later maps include Ordnance Surveys from the end of the nineteenth century onwards.

As a whole, the cartographic evidence provides useful information for the post-medieval/nineteenth century history of the development area, and has relevance to understanding changes affecting land ownership and boundaries, and the implementation of drainage schemes in the fenland.

### **3.3.3 Documentary Sources**

The parishes of Christchurch and Elm are known through regional (VCH) and local documentary sources. These tend to be biased towards:

- The medieval ecclesiastical history
- The medieval origin and development of the villages with emphasis on extant monuments
- Social history

There are also regional and national studies that concentrate on specific research topics, e.g. place-names (Reaney 1943).

As a whole, the available documentary sources provide useful and reliable information on the historic, economic and social development of the parishes.

### **3.3.4 Archaeological Excavations and Surveys**

The area under investigation has benefited from the Fenland Survey conducted in the 1990s (Hall 1996). The survey provides information on the changing environmental conditions and its effects on both the natural and human landscape. It is based upon geological information and maps of the area compiled by the British Geological Survey of England and Wales. As a whole the survey is a very accurate source of information.

The area under investigation is not included in other county surveys such as the County Farm Survey (Malim 1990) and the survey of the river gravels (French and Wait 1988).

Excavation at Frank's Farm (Kenney,2000) was undertaken approximately 500m west of the nearest turbine at Stags Holt. Four trenches were excavated to trace field systems. No archaeological remains were encountered within the trenches.

An area of 40m x 40m was field walked within the development area. From



the results of the field walking survey it is evident that little ancient material exists within the plough zone (Britchfield 2001)

### **3.3.5 Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Scheduled Monuments**

There are no Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas nor Scheduled Monuments within the present development area. The closest conservation area is located in Upwell approximately 5km to the north-east of the turbine. The Upwell conservation area, which is centred on Town Street contains sixteen Listed buildings. The impact of the turbines on the conservation area at Upwell is minimal. The farmland is generally open in character and although the wind turbines will be seen from locations within the conservation area, orchards and other tree cover that are established around the village will help to interrupt views towards the wind cluster site.

### **3.3.6 Archaeological Remains on the Coldham Estate**

There are five SMR entries, which are located within 50m of the proposed sites of the wind turbines.

#### **SMR No. 04173**

This is 20m to the north of Turbine 3 and is the nearest SMR number to the proposed sites. Roman remains including pottery and corn drying ovens were uncovered in 1933. The discovery of these remains suggests that they may extend within the development area of Turbine 3.

#### **SMR No. 02883**

A number of second and fourth century coins were recovered approximately 30m to the north-west of Turbine 3. The discovery of these finds suggests that remains may extend within the development area of Turbine 3.

#### **SMR No. 03333**

Roman coins dating from the second century were recovered. approximately 40m to the north of Turbine 5. The discovery of these finds suggest that remains may extend within the development area of Turbine 5.

#### **SMR No. 03909**

Remains in the form of a Roman enclosure and saltern debris were discovered approximately 50m north-east of Turbine 7. The discovery of these suggests that features may extend within the development area of Turbine 7.

#### **SMR No. 03846**

A medieval wind-pump was located approximately 30m south-west of Turbine 7. There may be related features extending into the are likely to be affected by construction of Turbine 7.

Unless otherwise specified, the content of this section draws upon the Fenland Survey conducted by David Hall in the 1990s (Hall 1996, Ch. 23).

Cambridgeshire was connected to the sea until the Middle Ages via a 'funnel' opening out from the fenland at Wisbech. During its formation, the fenland

had been repeatedly inundated by the sea. The last major inundation occurred during the Iron Age when marine silts and clays were deposited in the Wisbech region. In the western and southern part of the region a fresh water phase caused the formation of peat on the edge of the silts and clays with watercourses that later became roddons. In the north-eastern area the silt (formerly assigned to the Terington Bed series) formed a 'plateau' of marine mud flats.

Variations in the formation of the silt deposits within the region gave rise to slightly different environments that conditioned human exploitation of the local resources.

### **Prehistoric**

Earlier prehistoric finds are known in very small numbers from the Wisbech region. They are concentrated on the pre-Flandrian gravel outcrops at Grays Moor and Coldham, Elm. The finds are mainly represented by lithic stray finds, i.e. two Palaeolithic hand axes, Neolithic and Bronze Age flint scatters together with Neolithic flint flakes from Coldham (Hall 1996, 169).

The later prehistoric period is also poorly represented. As with the earlier period, finds are mainly confined to the high gravel islands. For instance, on Grays Moor undated linear cropmarks may be associated with late Bronze Age occupation. A late Bronze Age faceted axe was also found on Grays Moor (Hall 1996, 169). Excavations at Estover (Philpot *et al* in Jackson *et al* 1996) in 1985 revealed evidence for late neolithic/early Bronze Age and Iron Age activity. Pits were excavated which produced Beaker pottery and Bronze Age flints. In addition Middle/Late Iron Age pottery and briquetage was recovered.

### **Roman**

The earliest settlement on the Flandrian marine silts are Roman. The Wisbech 'plateau' is occupied by sites of uncertain function that may have originally been near shallow watercourses obliterated by medieval and later agricultural practices. The fen-edge (including Elm and Upwell) is characterised by roddons which in Roman times were active watercourses running between levees (or banks). The roddons are the high spots on which activity was often concentrated. A major roddon to the north of the development site (Elm parish) was the main course of the river Nene in Roman times. The Fenland Survey shows a high density of salterns and related occupation sites which attest to the importance of the river as the main route between March and the sea. At the southern end of the development area (Christchurch parish) many similar sites are clustered around a minor roddon, and represent outliers of the Elm series (Hall 1996, *passim*; Figs. 93-94).

The saltern sites are characterised by the presence of briquetage, i.e. salt pans to evaporate the brackish water in the roddons. Many of the salterns are associated with cropmarks visible on aerial photographs. In particular, droveways and small enclosure systems appear to have been associated with a livestock-based economy that exploited the local grazing resources. The fen-

edge would have provided extensive summer pastures, and salt could have been easily used to preserve meat before transportation. The SMR records numerous saltern sites and associated cropmarks within and around the present development area (SMR 03909, 04173, 04178, 04191, 04192, 04293, 04197, 06105, 06106 and 08889).

Elm and Christchurch are also characterised by the presence of circles about 7-17m in diameter, visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs. The circles lie on or by the roddons and appear to be associated with the other cropmark features (i.e. paddocks, trackways, etc.) dating to the Roman period. It is possible that they were part of a managed landscape and represented drainage gullies for corn and haystacks. Ring-ditches of uncertain (Roman?) date are found near the development site (below).

Another distinctive feature of the Roman landscape is the presence of turbaries visible as earthworks on aerial photographs. A possible turbarry is off the south-western corner of the development site (SMR 10604). Turbaries are known in Upwell, with small areas in Elm. As with the roddons, the original features were cuttings that silted-up. Due to subsequent wastage and shrinking of peat between them, the turbaries now exist as ridges of silt that form a regular pattern of parallel and/or perpendicular bank-like features. Their interpretation is uncertain. It is possible that they related to the major routes across the fenland and, in particular, to the Fen Causeway, to transport peat, for fuel, to major settlements and salterns. The Fen Causeway ran some 1.5km to the south of the present development site, at TL46--/98--. In Roman times it was the major route across the southern fenland, from Durobrivae (Water Newton, Peterborough) across March to Denver and Caister by Norwich. It began as a canal, dug through peat, which rapidly silted-up. When it became blocked with silt, a road was built on the peaty bank of the former canal.

A number of excavations undertaken in the vicinity of the subject site have produced Roman remains. The site at Coldham centred on TF425/027, approximately 3.2 miles to the north-west of the site, has been recognised as a large Romano-British village comparable to Grandford, Flaggrass and Stonea (Potter 1981). Potter suggests that the extensive network of local drove-roads (Potter 1981) around Coldham may have covered an area of approximately 16 hectares, the focus of which would probably have been seasonal grazing.

Around 5km to the west of the development area, a large Romano-British settlement, Grandford (some twelve hectares), was on a right-angled bend of the Fen Causeway. Excavated by a team of amateur archaeologists between 1958 and 1964, this site produced evidence for sporadic long-term occupation in an economy based around small-scale industry, agriculture and animal husbandry. Occupation is thought to have started around AD65-75, possibly by a military unit, established after the Boudiccan revolt. In the latter part of the first century and early second century the settlement grew rapidly into a *vicus*-type settlement based on small-scale industry and large-scale agriculture.

A site at Norwood, excavated between 1959-1961 (Potter 1981), is on the northern extent of the March peninsula (TL418995). Excavation confirmed

salt manufacturing during the Antonine period (AD137-180) which relied on peat as primary source of fuel. A site excavated at Estover (3km to the south west of the development area) revealed remains of an extensive Roman field system (Phillpot *et al* in Jackson *et al* 1996).

Finally, coin hoards (SMR 01862, 02883, 03333 and 03834) and miscellaneous objects (SMR 04460 a pin; 04477 a brooch; 03924 leather sandals) are further evidence of Roman activity in the area.

### **Saxon and Medieval**

Apart from the evidence of early Saxon funerary activity from Wisbech, Saxon finds in the region are sparse. Mid-Saxon settlements have been identified on slightly raised silt areas. Based on documentary records, Elm may have had pre-Norman origin (Reaney 1943) although it is not mentioned in the Domesday Survey (AD 1088). The best evidence for a Saxon presence in the core of the Wisbech region is an inner phase of field systems and associated flood defences, i.e. inner banks and the Sea Bank through Elm. Pottery from the surveyed fields would indicate a late Saxon date.

Although the area was marshy during the medieval period villages developed on the higher silts. Progressive reclamation of land encouraged a pattern of dispersed settlements with distinctive linear layouts (droves) conditioned by the presence of ancient watercourses and roddons, as in the case of Elm and Upwell. It is known, from documentary sources, that there were turbaries associated with each village. The turbaries, however, have left no visible trace.

The medieval field-systems around villages were characterised by wide, ditched strips defended from flooding by earthen banks and artificial drainage channels called 'gotes' where main brooks ran through the Sea Bank (Hall 1996, 200). The medieval landscape was largely managed by the religious authorities at Ely. They were responsible for large-scale reclamation of land and the creation of 'outer fields' and associated banks, during the twelfth century. Remains of field systems survive near the western boundary of the proposed development site (SMR 04197A) where they mask some of the Roman cropmarks.

Some of the fen circles (described above) may have been post-Roman. In the Elm area these are part of the medieval landscape and lie within areas of strip fields.

Some of the place-names around the development area appear to originate in the medieval period. For instance, Creekgall Fen is *Creekefenne* (1597) and *Creek Gall Fen* (1840) where *Gall* derives from *galle* meaning 'wet place'. Together with Creek in March, the name is associated with a river called Crekelode that, leaving the old Nene between March and Upwell, flowed north through Creek and Creekgall Fen to Elm. The river had already decayed by 1550. Laddus Fen is first recorded in 975 as *Ladwere* meaning 'Lode (i.e. Creeklode, above) weir fen'. Stags Holt was known as *Steggesyerde* (1397) meaning 'hollow of Stegg' (associated with the family of John Stegg).

Finally, Coldham Field is first recorded in 1397 as Coldeham Felde (Reaney 1943, *passim*). Colham Hall was the site of a former manor house. In 1299 Richard de Melkesham conveyed his land in Elm, Upwell and Wisbech to Bishop Walter Langton of Ely by fine. The following year the bishop was granted right of free warren in his demesne, which included the manor of Coldham (Pugh 1967, 169-170).

### **Post-medieval**

Following centuries of small scale draining, the first large-scale schemes were carried out during the seventeenth century. By the end of the same century the whole project was in jeopardy for, on drying, the peat shrank and the surface of the fields began to waste away. Furthermore, accumulation of silt around the sluices caused the rivers to rise. There ensued a series of attempts to regulate the moisture of the fields and confine the rivers (James 2000).

An Act of 1834 was issued to deal with the droves, commons, banks and wastelands of some of the parishes in the region. Enclosure at Upwell took place gradually as the land was reclaimed and drained. At Elm, however, as in most marshland parishes, the amount of land to be treated was so small that the Enclosure was never carried out (Pugh 1967, 180).

The Tithe Map of *c.* 1840 shows the development site between Creek Gall Fen and Laddus Fen. Following the implementation of the eighteenth century drainage scheme, most of the area was subdivided into rectangular plots off a drain (later known as White Mill Drain, OS Map 1886). This drain represents the southern boundary of the development site. The southernmost fields on the Tithe Map appear on a different alignment, related to the course of the old Nene (not represented on the map). The Tithe Map also shows Stags Holt, off Coldham Bank, which bounds the development site to the west, and Coldham Hall, by then a farm house which had replaced the old manor around 1790 (Pugh 1967, 182). Later editions of the Ordnance Survey maps do not show dramatic changes within the proposed development area. The orientation of the plots is still influenced by the drain and by the course of the old Nene. The OS map of 1886 shows a drainage pump (Coldham White Mill) in the same location as a wind pump depicted on the 1832 map of Upwell and Welney (SMR 03846). A farm (White Mill Farm) in the southern corner of the site was probably demolished between 1903 and 1950 (OS Maps). A further structure, later Riverside Farm (OS Map of 1950), was in the middle of the southern half of the site. This no longer survives.

The part of Upwell parish in Cambridgeshire is now known as Christchurch whilst the village of Upwell is now in Norfolk.

### **Unknown Date**

Cropmarks of unknown date are noted off the southern boundary of the development site. They include channels and two circles (SMR 10533) and an enclosure associated with a roddon (SMR 10603). Two further ring ditches

(SMR 08884) are near the south-western corner of the site. Based on the known archaeological evidence from the area, the undated cropmark features are likely to be Roman in date (above).

## **Discussion**

To date, there is scant record of pre-Roman activity in the area, undoubtedly due to the environmental conditions of the fenland, which was unsuitable for occupation during the prehistoric period.

Few early prehistoric artefacts have been found within the area and are confined to the pre-Flandrian gravel areas.

The Roman period is attested by the presence of salterns and enclosure-systems visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs. Stock rearing and the salt industry in the fens were well balanced, with supplies of salt-water, peat for fuel and extensive pasture. There is evidence that these economic resources, from production to transportation, were managed by creation of water-routes and flood defences. It is possible that the Wisbech region was an imperial estate and that the economy was controlled from the large settlements near March (e.g. Stonea Grange), since there are no other major sites known in the region.

A Saxon presence in the region remains elusive, despite place-name evidence pointing to a Saxon origin for manorial estates in the area.

Development from the post-medieval period, with particular reference to drainage of the fenlands, and the introduction of modern farming techniques, is likely to have affected the medieval landscape. Medieval field systems survive as cropmarks (i.e. ridge and furrow). Turbaries have left little, if any, visible trace.

Mapping shows a bias towards the Roman period, which is represented by ubiquitous and durable material. It is however possible that many of the sites attributed to the Roman period started in the later Iron Age.

Medieval remains are likely to be mainly confined to field-systems, although reference to manorial estates in the area may suggest the presence of manor houses or dispersed hamlets.

## **4 POTENTIAL SURVIVAL AND RATING OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS**

### **4.1 Potential Survival of Archaeological Remains (Appendix B)**

Archaeological features and deposits will have been disturbed by the implementation of drainage schemes and ploughing during the post-medieval and modern periods. However, the preservation of deposits undamaged by drains, flood banks and ploughing should be good.

There is potential for the survival of remains of the Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods.

#### 4.2 Rating

Rating can be described as follows:

Mesolithic/Neolithic	low/unknown
Bronze Age	low/unknown
Iron Age	low/unknown
Roman	high
Medieval	high for field-systems/low for settlements
Post-medieval	high for field-systems/low for settlements

### 5 POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The potential impact of the proposed development on the local archaeological resources has been summarised in the NATA Table in Appendix B.

The proposed development area is presently under cultivation. It has not been the subject of intense field investigation. Field investigation (initially evaluation trenches) would identify some of the earlier remains (e.g. late Iron Age) and medieval fields systems among Roman cropmarks.

The overall assessment of the scale of effect on the resources within the development area has been represented as a matrix in Appendix B. In synthesis, the scheme will have a moderate to large adverse effect at a regional level although this can be mitigated through evaluation and/or excavation.

Any intrusion below the present level of the topsoil has the potential to destroy archaeological remains where present but a programme of excavation and recording would mitigate the destructive effects of the groundworks.

Any alteration of the ground level through extraction or abstraction will potentially result in a change of the water table. Changes in the water table can be particularly damaging to any sensitive remains preserved in wet conditions.

Any burden on the present ground surface will potentially cause compaction of the deposits underneath. Compaction can be damaging to small archaeological features and thin layers of soil. It can also destabilize environmental conditions and damage organic remains.

## **6 PROPOSALS FOR MITIGATION**

It is proposed that an archaeological evaluation (with excavation and recording of any features) of each turbine location is undertaken before construction of the wind turbines and any associated ground works. In addition it is proposed that a series of watching briefs should be undertaken during the construction and erection of the turbines. If evaluation identifies archaeological remains full excavation within the area affected by groundworks should be carried out.

## **7 CONCLUSIONS**

The object of this study was to assess areas of archaeological potential and the possible effects of the proposed development scheme by consulting a wide range of available sources. These comprised SMR information, cartographic evidence, secondary documentary sources and aerial photographic collections that were integrated to produce the general historical and archaeological background to the subject study. No surveys (e.g. fieldwalking, geophysical surveys and re-assessments of air photographs) were commissioned in advance of the present desktop assessment. Therefore no new information specifically aimed to the study of the area under investigation was available at the time of writing.

The development area lies within a rich Roman landscape. The available records show the presence of rural and industrial sites (salterns) and settlements both within and around the subject site. There is therefore high potential to encounter remains of Roman date during groundwork. In addition, there is moderate potential to uncover presently unknown late prehistoric features which may be masked by Roman cropmarks, and to identify further remains of medieval field-systems which could also be masked by possible Roman cropmarks. Metal detecting may help to locate Saxon sites, although this type of surface scanning in the area has only produced metal finds of Roman date. Fieldwalking will identify concentrations of artefacts and evaluation trenches will identify archaeological remains that may be affected by the development allowing preservation by record of any archaeological features.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The English Place-name Society XIX.

### **Maps Consulted**

#### Cambridgeshire Record Office (CRO)

Tithe Map of 1841: *A Plan of the Parish of Elm and of Sayers Field in Outwell Parish, Isle of Ely* (CRO, Photostats, p62/27/2)

OS 6inch to one mile

- First Edition 1887
- Second Edition 1902
- Provisional Edition Revision of 1925 with additions in 1950

#### British Geological Survey

BGS Huntingdon Sheet 159 (Wisbech) Solid and Drift Geology, 1:50 000

**APPENDIX A: LIST OF SMR ENTRIES**

SMR No.	Grid Ref.	Parish	Period	Description	Associated Ref.
01862*	TF/449-/017-	Elm	Roman	C4 coins, <i>fibulae</i>	
02883*	TF/451-/012-	Elm	Roman	C2 coins	
03333*	TF/457-/010-	Christchurch	Roman	C2 coins	
03834	TF/450-/021-	Elm	Roman	Coins	
03846*	TF/458-/003-	Christchurch	Med/P Med	Wind pump	
03909*	TF/461-/006-	Christchurch	Roman	Enclosures and saltern debris	
03924*	TF/456-/011-	Christchurch	Roman	Ditched enclosures, pottery	
04173*	TF/453-/012	Elm	Roman	Cropmarks	
04176*	TF/4571/0112	Christchurch	Roman	Site	
04178	TF/4453/0072	Elm	Roman	Enclosures, domestic debris	06105:briquetage 06106:briquetage 08889:cropmarks
04191	TF/4450/0180	Elm	Roman	Field ditches, briquetage	
04192	TF/4459/0195	Elm	Roman	Settlement enclosure system	04197:cropmarks
04193	TF/447-/017-	Elm	Roman	Enclosures, domestic debris, saltern debris	04190
04197*	TF/448-/017-	Elm	Roman	Field ditches, saltern	
04197A*	TF/448-/022-	Elm	Med	Ridge and furrow	
04460*	TF/462-/002-	Christchurch	Roman	Pin	
04477*	TF/465-004-	Christchurch	Roman	Brooch, C1-C2 pottery	
06105	TF/4479/0093	Elm	Roman	Saltern	04178
06106	TF/4462/0064	Elm	Roman	Saltern, briquetage	04178
08884	TF/440-/012-	Elm	U/Roman?	Two ring ditches, saltern?	
08889	TF/445-/006-	Elm	Roman	Possible ditches	04178
10533	TF/451-/007-	Elm	U	Two circles, saltern?	
10603	TF/456-/001-	Christchurch	U	Enclosure, field system, saltern?	
10604	TF/459-/001-	Christchurch	U	Turbaries?	

\* Sites within the proposed development area

APPENDIX B: NEW APPROACH TO APPRAISAL (NATA) OF RESOURCES

PART 1		PART 2			PART 3
Feature	Description	Scale	Significance	Rarity	Impact
<u>Form</u>	Roman cropmarks	Regional	The known Roman sites are of regional importance in the context of the fenland in the Wisbech area	There are several known Roman sites within the development area	Large adverse impact: Roman features within the development area will be destroyed by the scheme
	Roman salterns				
	Roman MD metalwork	Local	Unstratified and therefore only significant at a local level	Common	Unknown
	Medieval cropmarks (ridge and furrow)	Local	Ridge and furrow is a feature of the local medieval landscape	Ploughed out remains of ridge and furrow in the region are not uncommon.	Large adverse impact. Ridge and furrow within the development area will be destroyed by the scheme
	Post-medieval modern drains and banks	Regional	Remains of post-medieval drainage schemes are a feature of the fenland.	The continued use of post-medieval drains and banks adds to the rarity value	Neutral
	Undated cropmarks	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Large adverse impact. Undated features, within the development area will be destroyed by the proposed scheme
<u>Survival</u>	Roman cropmarks: good	Regional	Although cropmarks have been affected by ploughing and the implementation of drainage schemes, the degree of survival of Roman features is expected to be reasonably good and therefore, of regional importance.	Common	Large adverse impact. Roman features surviving within the development area will be destroyed by the proposed scheme
	Roman salterns: poor	Local	Salterns sites have been effected by ploughing and the implementation of drainage schemes. As a result, the degree of survival of salterns is only of local significance		
	Roman MD metalwork: good	Local	Roman finds originally in context have been disturbed by ploughing and therefore their significance is only local		
	Medieval cropmarks (ridge and furrow): poor	Local	Cropmarks have been affected by ploughing and the implementation of drainage schemes. As a result, the degree of survival of cropmarks is only of local significance	Common	Large adverse impact. Surviving ridge and furrow within the development area will be destroyed by the proposed scheme
	Post-medieval modern drains and banks: good	Local	The degree of survival of the post-medieval drainage is of local significance	Common	Neutral
	Undated earthworks and cropmarks: unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Large adverse impact. Surviving undated features, within the development area will be destroyed by the proposed scheme

PART 1		PART 2			PART 3
Feature	Description	Scale	Significance	Rarity	Impact
<u>Condition</u>	Roman cropmarks: poor	Local	Currently effected by ploughing	Common	Large adverse impact. Surviving Roman features within the development area will be destroyed by the scheme
	Roman salterns: poor				
	Roman MD metal finds				
	Medieval cropmarks (ridge and furrow): poor	Local	Currently effected by ploughing	Common	Large adverse impact. Surviving ridge and furrow within development area will be destroyed by the scheme
	Post-medieval modern drains and banks: good	Local	Currently used	Common	Neutral
Undated cropmarks: unknown	Unknown	Unknown. Possibly affected by ploughing	Unknown	Large adverse impact. Surviving undated features, within the road corridor will be destroyed by the proposed scheme	
<u>Complexity</u>	Roman cropmarks	Regional	Complex Roman landscape with likely survival of settlements, 'industrial' sites and field-systems	Common at a regional level	Unknown
	Roman salterns				
	Roman metalwork	Local		Unknown: unstratified	Unknown
	Medieval cropmarks (ridge and furrow)	Local	Although cropmark remains (ridge and furrow) gain great importance in the general context of the medieval landscape, they are likely to be of lesser complexity than the moated sites and the medieval earthwork remains in the Conservation Area	Common	Unknown
	Post-medieval modern banks and drains	Regional	Continued implementation of drainage schemes	Continued use of post-medieval drainage features adds to the rarity value	Neutral
	Undated cropmarks	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

PART 1		PART 2			PART 3
Feature	Description	Scale	Significance	Rarity	Impact
<u>Context</u>	Roman cropmarks	Regional	Regional significance in the analysis of the economic exploitation of the fenland around Wisbech (possible imperial estate?)	The association of 'industrial sites with settlements and evidence for animal rearing is common in the region	Unknown. It is however likely to be largely adverse having a major bearing on the survival of archaeological remains and possibly on the shift in the relational balance
	Roman salterns				
	Roman MD metal finds	Unknown	The finds are not in context due to disturbance	The recovery of metal finds on Roman sites is common	Unknown
	Medieval cropmarks (ridge and furrow)	Local	Unknown settlements or hamlets associated with field remains		Unknown. It is however likely to be largely adverse having a major bearing on the survival of archaeological remains
	Post-medieval modern drains and banks	Regional	Significant in the context of draining of the fenland	Common integration of post-medieval and modern developments	Neutral
	Undated earthworks and cropmarks	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
<u>Period</u>	Roman cropmarks	Local	Specific date: unknown	Presently unknown. However, results from excavations may affect the period rarity value	Neutral, no effect
	Roman salterns				
	Roman MD metal finds	Local	Known date. However, the finds are not stratified	Metal finds and, in particular, coin losses of the represented date are consistent with the general pattern of coin distribution in Britain	
	Medieval cropmarks (ridge and furrow)	Local	Specific date: unknown	Presently unknown. However, results from excavations may affect the period rarity value	
	Post-medieval modern banks and drains	Regional	Significant in the understanding of the development of drainage techniques in relation to environmental changes	Continued use further increases the rarity value	
	Undated earthworks and cropmarks	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	

#### ASSESSMENT SCORE GUIDANCE MATRIX

EFFECT		SCALE		
		INTERNATIONAL	NATIONAL	REGIONAL
PHYSICAL	MAJOR	-	No impact	No impact
	PARTIAL	-	Moderate/large adverse	Moderate/large adverse
VISUAL SETTING	MAJOR	-	No impact	No impact
	SLIGHT	-	No impact	No impact
CUMULATIVE	MAJOR	-	No impact	No impact
	SLIGHT	-	Moderate/large adverse	Moderate/large adverse

