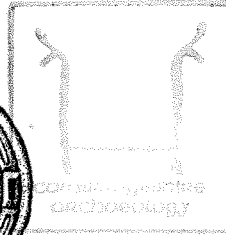
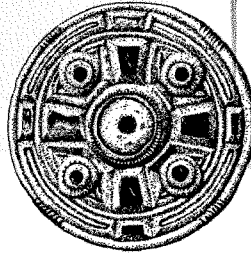


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Archaeological Field Unit

## Archaeological Recording Brief at No.40 High St., Foxton.

Steve Kemp BA AIFA

1994

**Cambridgeshire County Council**

Report No. A38

*Commissioned By  
Mills and Douglas (Builders) Ltd*

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# ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING BRIEF AT No. 40 HIGH ST., FOXTON

## **Introduction**

Recording of foundation trenches at 40 High Street, Foxton was undertaken by the Archaeological Field Unit of Cambridgeshire County Council for Mills and Douglas (Builders) Ltd. Field visits were undertaken during February 1994 to monitor trenching and record archaeological remains predicted expected to occur along the course of Foxton High Street.

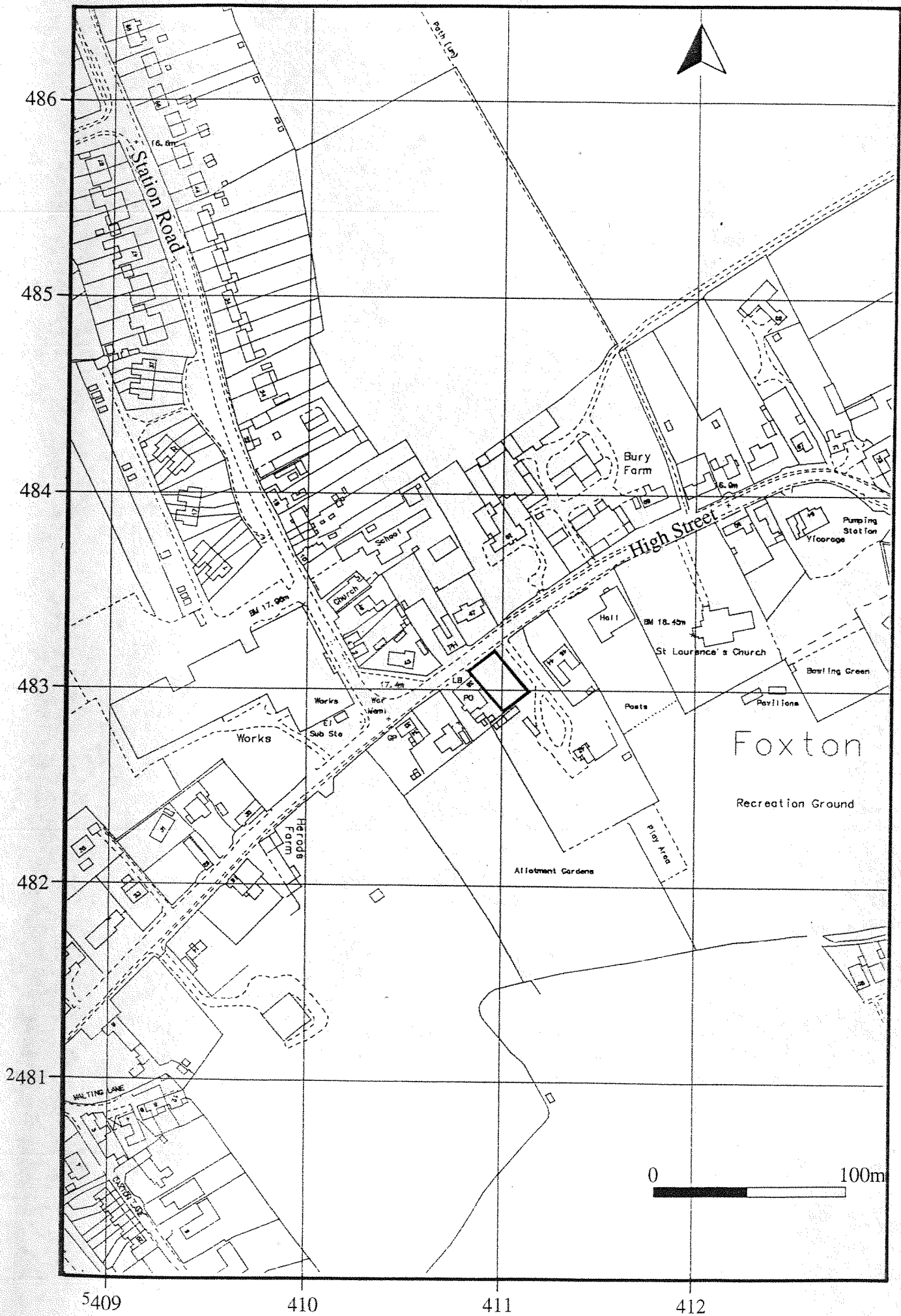
## **Background**

The Sites and Monuments Record for Cambridgeshire places the site in proximity to a number of medieval and post-medieval remains, including a moated medieval enclosure sited to the northeast at Mortimers Farm, and medieval settlement remains approximately 150-200m to the southwest. Here a hollow way (roadway) with adjacent house platforms are preserved within a field of pasture; this probably formed a focal point for medieval settlement.

## **Site Description**

The site was located to along on the south side of the High Street, Foxton close to the Post Office, church and school.

The area of trenching was set some 10-15m back from the present road way, and consisted of a series of square plan, inter-linked foundation trenches between 1m and 0.50m in width.



The soils consisted of grey brown clays with silty and sands with a high chalk component, these grade downwards to weathered chalky clay with a high flint component. The British Geological Survey drift map (Sheet 205, 1952) indicates that the site lies close to the boundary between the chalks and first and second terrace gravels. Jurassic chalks form an area of slightly higher land (up to 30m OD) through which the River Cam or Rhee has become entrenched, with the river depositing flood plain sediments and down cutting to form terraces. Post-glacial alluviation is restricted to the present course of the river approximately 1km north east of Foxton.

Sub-surface deposits were much affected by root action with soil depth reaching a maximum of 0.70m

### **Methodology**

A watching brief was maintained during the two week period of trench excavation undertaken by Mills and Douglas. This entailed the occasional visit to monitor excavation work and record sections where appropriate. No archaeology was recognisable within these trenches, although small quantities of tile and brick were found within the top soil.

### **Conclusion**

This area appears to have been unaffected by development of the village until recently. However, the site may have formed an integral component to the village in terms of its economic or social function, activities which did not leave artefactual or ground disturbing archaeological evidence. No documentary research has been undertaken as part of this study due to financial restrictions on the development, although such a study could help understand the utilisation and ownership of this and adjacent areas during the historic period.



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