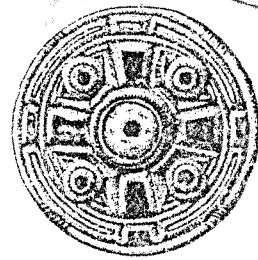


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Archaeological Field Unit

An Archaeological Evaluation  
at  
Lisle Lane, Ely

N Oakey  
1995

Cambridgeshire County Council

Report No. A 72

*Commissioned By Royal Mail Property Holdings*

**An Archaeological Evaluation  
at  
Lisle Lane, Ely  
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*Report No A72*

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## **SUMMARY**

*In August and September 1995 the Archaeological Field Unit of Cambridgeshire County Council carried out an evaluation of a site at the junction of Lisle Lane and Cresswells Lane, Ely (TL 5463/8025). This was commissioned by Royal Mail Property Holdings.*

*Sample trenches revealed an intense concentration of intercutting pits at the Lisle Lane (north) end of the site. These had been backfilled with domestic refuse in the 12th-14th centuries, as had a large pond or marsh to the south-east of the pits. The quantity of artefacts (pottery, animal bone) recovered, coupled with their good, undamaged condition, suggest that settlement remains, such as buildings, existed in close proximity to the development site. This confirms documentary evidence for houses and tenements on Lisle Lane in the 13th and 15th centuries.*

*Little evidence was found for activity on the site after the medieval period, but it was covered with fields or orchards in the 19th and earlier 20th centuries. In the late 20th century the existing factory units and standing were constructed and it is apparent that considerable alterations to the site resulted, including removal of soil near Lisle Lane and deposition of thick dumps further south.*

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## AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT LISLE LANE, ELY (TL 5463/8025)

### 1. INTRODUCTION

In August and September 1995 the Archaeological Field Unit of Cambridgeshire County Council carried out an archaeological evaluation of a site on the southern corner of Lisle Lane and Cresswells Lane, Ely (*Figure 1*) on behalf of Royal Mail Property Holdings. The scheme of works was based on a design brief produced by Rob Butler, former Development Control Officer in the Archaeology Section of Cambridgeshire County Council.

The development site comprised *c* 0.4 hectares of derelict land and buildings in occasional use as a recycling depot. A number of modern factory buildings and a large concreted standing covered much of the northern sector of the site. A strip of rough scrub and grassland separated the concrete and a line of trees which formed a shelter belt along the north-eastern edge of the site. The southern part of the site consisted of rough grassland, scrub and bushes (elderberry, blackberry).

### 2. TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

The site appeared to have undergone topographical changes at its north-western limit where the ground level within the site dropped by *c* 0.60m below the existing level of Lisle Lane. The central part of the development site was relatively flat, but a gradual and then sharper slope was evident to the south-east. The existing ground level at the south-eastern end of Trench D (*Figure 1*) was 3.66m AOD (Above Ordnance Datum) while the northern end was at 4.00m and the concrete 4.52m. To the south-east of Trench D the ground level sloped sharply again suggesting some artificial terracing at this end of the site.

The geology of the site is based on the Kimmeridge Clay which forms part of the Fen island of Ely (British Geological Survey, Sheet 173).

### 3. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Lisle Lane is mentioned in an episcopal survey of 1222. Robert de Insula (Lisle), one of the leading free tenants of the Bishop of Ely, is described as having his chief holding opening from Lisle Lane with smaller messuages around his gates (Owen, 1993, 15). A survey of 1417 describes Lisle Lane in some detail. It runs up to the gates of Lilesclose (*sic*) and on its eastern side has room for six tenements with two cottages at the gates and an empty plot. On the western side are three empty plots, two cottages, five tenements and a large building on the corner of Lisle Lane and Forehill (*ibid*, 24).

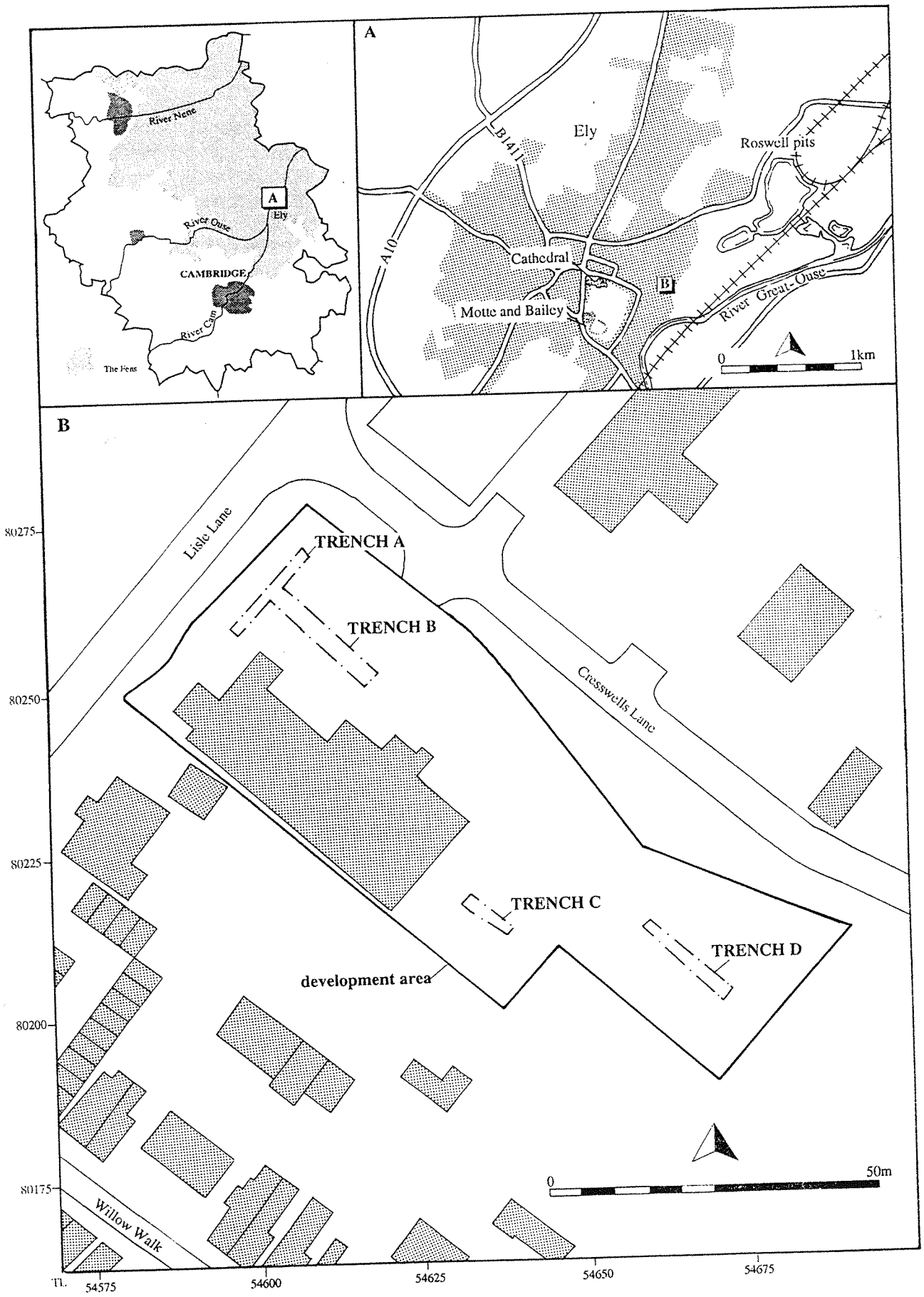


Figure 1 Lisle Lane, Ely. Location plan

The exact location and nature of Lilesclose is not clear from the documents. Until the later twentieth century Lisle Lane (also known as Bull Lane) ended at a gateway into a field at the point now occupied by the junction with Cresswell Lane and this may perpetuate the position of Lilesclose. What sort of buildings, if any, occupied the close is unknown, but the most easterly staithe on the Ely waterfront, Stokhithe, may have been privately promoted to serve the Lisle tenements (*ibid*, 16).

Early map coverage of Ely is poor, but Speed's map of 1610 appears to show that Lisle Lane/Bull Lane did not extend beyond the junction with modern Willow Walk. By the time of the first Ordnance Survey map (1885) and again in 1925 (*Figure 2*), Lisle Lane (now known as Bull Lane), ended at a gateway into allotments with its line perpetuated as a footpath. The site of the excavations described below is shown with numerous trees and in the 1930s was an orchard (J A Oakey, *pers comm*). Part of this orchard survives to the south-west of the development area. A small cottage was positioned in the north-eastern corner of the site, fronting onto the road, with a garden and/or small paddock behind. This location coincided with a concentration of bricks and other building material seen lying on the modern ground surface.

Bull Lane reverted to its original name of Lisle Lane in the 1950s (Denton, 1983, 10) and since then considerable redevelopment has taken place in this area. Lisle Lane has been extended to the north-east as a tarmaced road with light industrial units to the south-east and residential developments on the opposite side.

Unfortunately, little archaeological work took place in advance of this activity, an all too regular occurrence during the post-war redevelopment of this important medieval town. Despite the potential revealed by the documentary records, the Lisle Lane area has, until recently, remained a blank spot in the picture of medieval Ely. However, recent archaeological evaluation and excavation 150m to the west of the subject site (on the corner of Lisle Lane and Forehill) by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit revealed a well-preserved sequence of structures fronting Forehill and related deposits of medieval and post-medieval date (Wait, 1993).

#### 4. METHODOLOGY

The evaluation was designed to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. This would involve the mapping and recording of an adequate representative sample of archaeological remains and, where appropriate, the collection of artefactual and environmental samples.

To this end, four trenches were opened by machine. The location of the trenches was constrained by the existence of standing buildings, recycling skips and, most significantly, a main sewer running diagonally across the site. Trench A (17 x 1.80m) was positioned to run parallel, and as close as possible to, Lisle Lane, with Trench B (19 x 3m) joining it at right angles. The south-eastern end of the site was investigated by means of Trenches C (8 x 1.80m) and D (16.50 x 1.80m).

A toothless ditching bucket mounted on a JCB excavator was used to remove topsoil and other modern deposits down to a level where preserved

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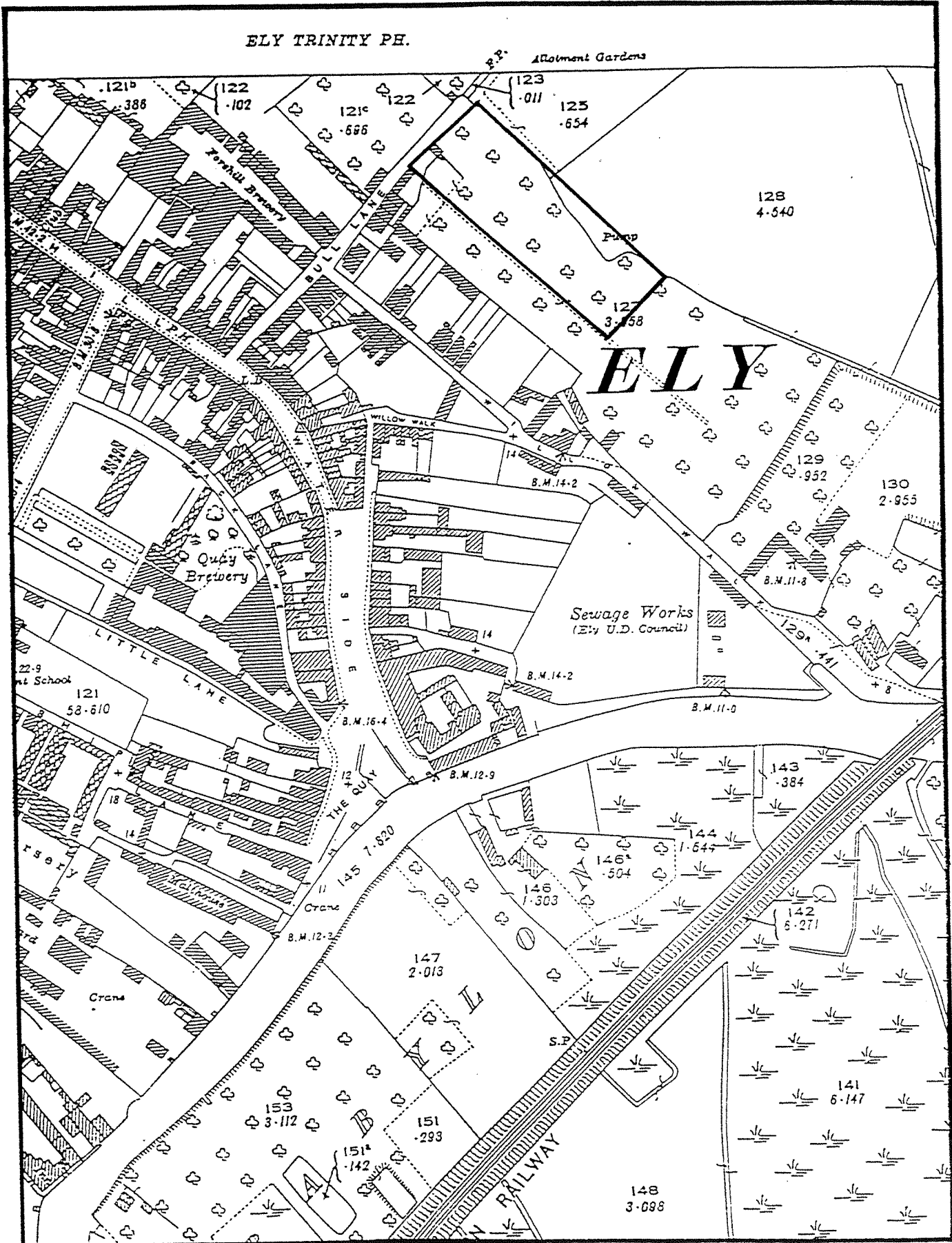


Figure 2 Detail from 1925 OS map



archaeological deposits were exposed. This was rendered particularly difficult in Trench A by the dessicated and compacted nature of the soil which resulted from the preceding very dry summer and the proximity of a line of trees.

The exposed surfaces were cleaned and planned before selective excavation of archaeological deposits took place. They were planned and recorded according to the Archaeology Field Unit single context recording system and all artefacts recovered during hand excavation were retained for cleaning and assessment. Measured section drawings were made of an elevation of each of the trenches.

All site records and artefacts are held currently at the AFU headquarters at Fulbourn and stored under the site code ELY LL 95.

## 5. RESULTS

### 5.1 Trench A (*Figures 3-5*)

Preserved archaeological deposits were encountered at c 4.40m AOD, only 0.50-0.60m below the modern ground surface. Natural clay, sands and gravels were uncovered at depths of 3.94-4.36m AOD, but considerable disturbance had truncated these deposits. The predominant activity appeared to have been the excavation of pits, perhaps initially to extract clay, but ultimately for the disposal of household rubbish such as broken pottery and animal bone. Prevailing soil conditions in this trench meant that organic and environmental material (such as wood, seeds, cloth, leather, etc) did not survive.

Pit digging had been intensive and only a sample could be excavated. The date of the pottery recovered (mostly 1150-1350) indicated that this activity had taken place over a relatively short period, but intercutting had taken place, suggesting several phases of pit digging. For instance, unexcavated pit fill 1050 had been cut by pit **1052** containing fill 1048 which, with 1051, had been truncated by later pit **1030** (*Figure 3*). However, the backfill of this cut, in turn, had been cut by the latest pit **1027** (*Figure 4*). The south-western end of the site showed a similar intensity of pits and intercutting.

Often only a small portion of each pit was available for examination within the trench, but most seemed irregular in form and relatively shallow (less than 0.40m). An exception was **1030** which survived to a depth of at least 0.65m (it could not be bottomed for safety reasons). It had regular, and evenly sloping sides suggesting that care had been taken in its excavation. Within one of its fills was a large (0.47m long x 0.37m wide x 0.14m thick) stone which had been burnt on one face and a smaller piece of worked clunch. A lower fill (1034) included 35 pieces of a single jug or pitcher of Shelly Ely ware dating to 1150-1350.

At the north-eastern end of the trench pit **1042** had a flat base and, after excavation, had been left open long enough for the accumulation of a thin layer (1047) of gravel which had probably washed in from the sides. The backfill (1041) of this pit had been cut later by shallow pit **1014** and the base of a possible ditch or foundation cut **1009**. The latter included pottery of a later date (1200-1500). Cut **1022** was probably a tree-root.

The pits at the south-western end of the trench were sealed by an artefact-rich layer (1006, *Figure 5*). This contained many small sherds of pottery, pieces

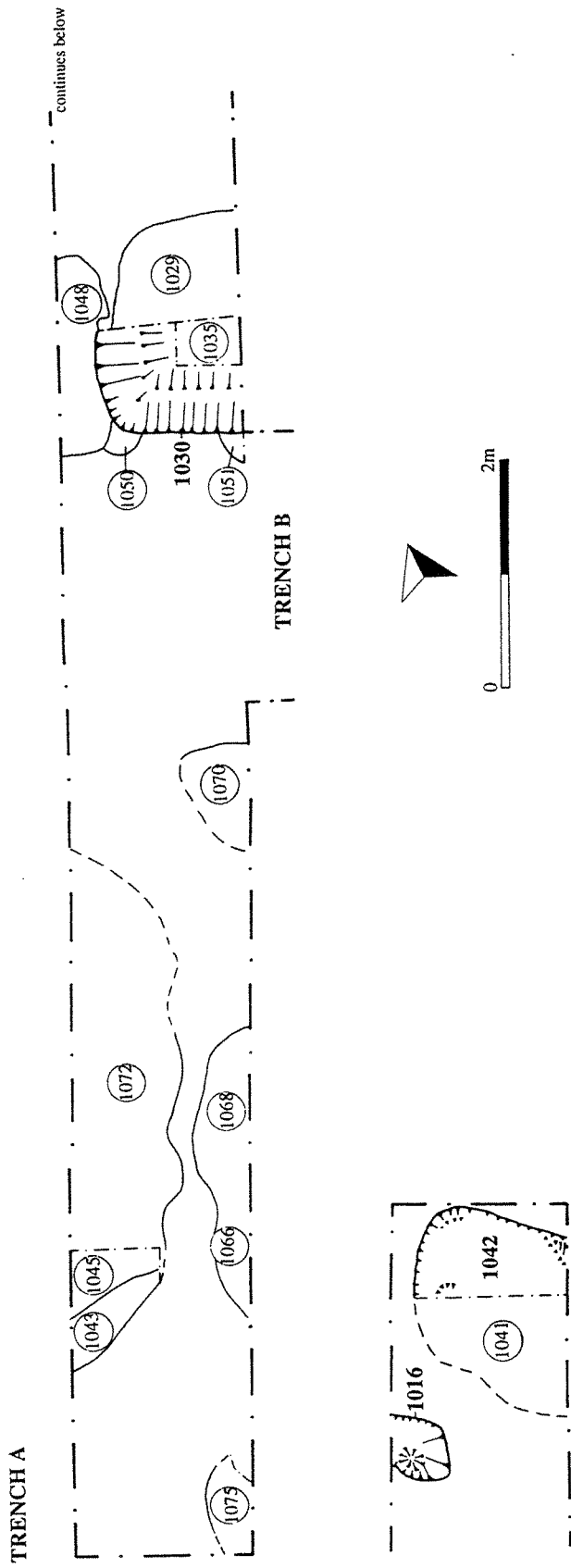


Figure 3 Trench A. Plan of earlier features

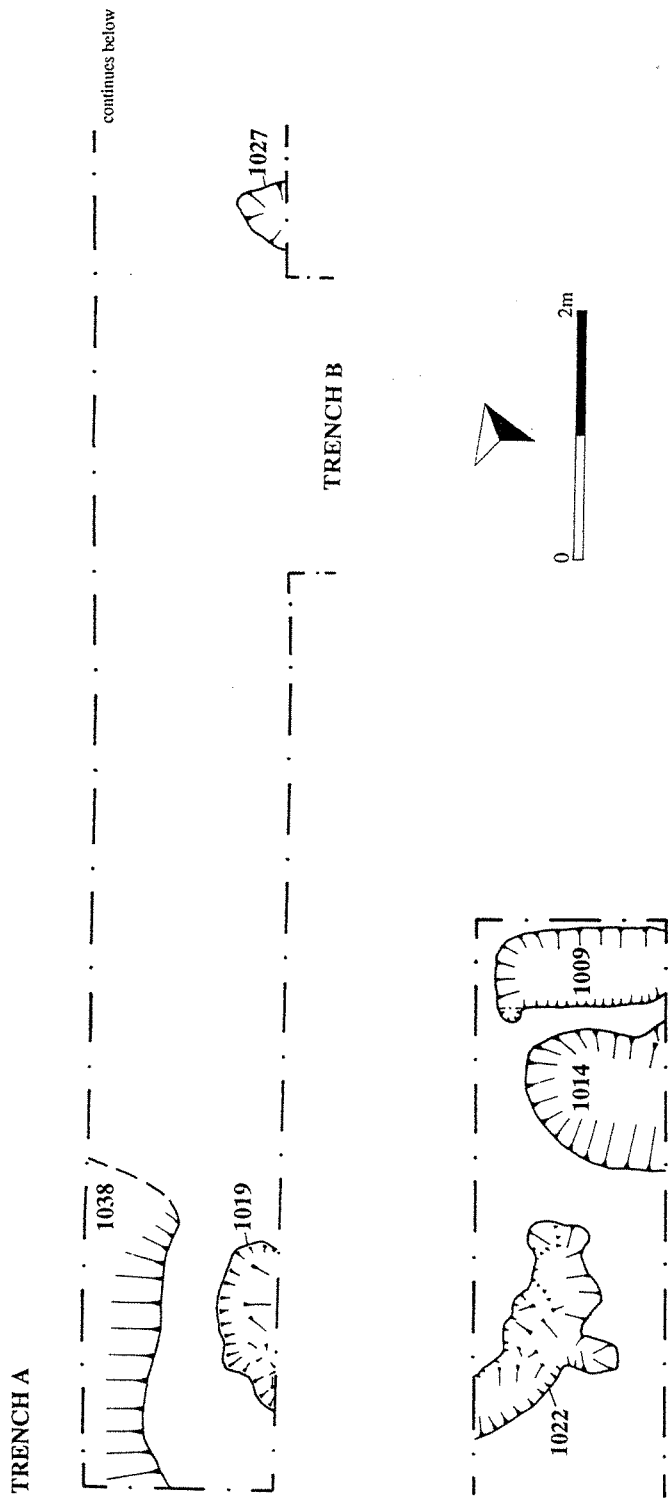


Figure 4 Trench A. Plan of later features

of animal bone and a dice made of either bone or antler. The pottery could be dated to 1200-1250 and although in small pieces it did not appear worn or to have been disturbed by activities such as ploughing.

The elevation of the side of the trench (*Figure 5*) suggested that considerable topographical change had taken place since the medieval period with the deposition of layers 1081 and 1082/1083 which included a high proportion of redeposited natural clay. These were sealed by topsoils 1079 and 1078 and modern hardcore 1077 and 1080.

## 5.2 Trench B (*Figure 6*)

Preserved medieval deposits were revealed only 0.26-0.33m (4.20m AOD) below the surface of the concrete and less than 0.60m below the modern ground surface at the north-western end of the trench. This end of the trench was covered by 1059 (not fully excavated), a layer very similar in nature to 1006 in Trench A. A trial sondage (**1033**) in this trench revealed contexts 1039 and 1040 which were very akin to the fills of the pits in Trench A, as were unexcavated contexts 1060, 1062 and 1064.

The south-eastern half of the trench was occupied by large cut **1058**, of unknown dimensions. A north-western edge to this feature was found and it cut layer 1059, but its relationship to layers seen only in section was unclear. The south-western half of **1058** was excavated by machine and revealed water-lain clay at a depth of *c* 3.50m AOD. Sample hand excavation of the north-eastern portion took place, but the cut was not bottomed and a series of sand and clay spreads (1055-1057) were left unexcavated. Sealing these was a thick (0.38m) layer of backfill (1031) containing pottery of 1200-1350. The succeeding layer (1010) may be slightly later in date (1250-1350) and contained some well-preserved tree branches. Worm penetration of this layer had introduced a few sherds of later pottery and the uppermost layer of backfill, 1004, contained much later wares including 19th century material.

The remaining excavated features in this trench produced 18th and 19th century pottery. The base of post pit **1023** bore post impressions **1025**, while pit **1012** contained the almost complete skeleton of a young pig (*c*13 months old).

All contexts were sealed by topsoil 1078 and hardcore 1077 with concrete and hardcore directly overlying 1004 at the south-eastern end of the trench.

## 5.3 Trench C

This trench was machine-excavated to a maximum depth of 1.85m (2.40m AOD) and the north-east facing elevation of the trench was drawn. Water-lain deposits were seen at 3.30m AOD, but above this was a sequence of post-medieval and modern dumps which may represent an attempt to either level the ground or to backfill a large feature. No significant archaeology was seen in this trench.

## 5.4 Trench D

Trench D was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.50m (2.46m AOD). Water-lain clay deposits were encountered at 2.86m AOD, but all overlying deposits

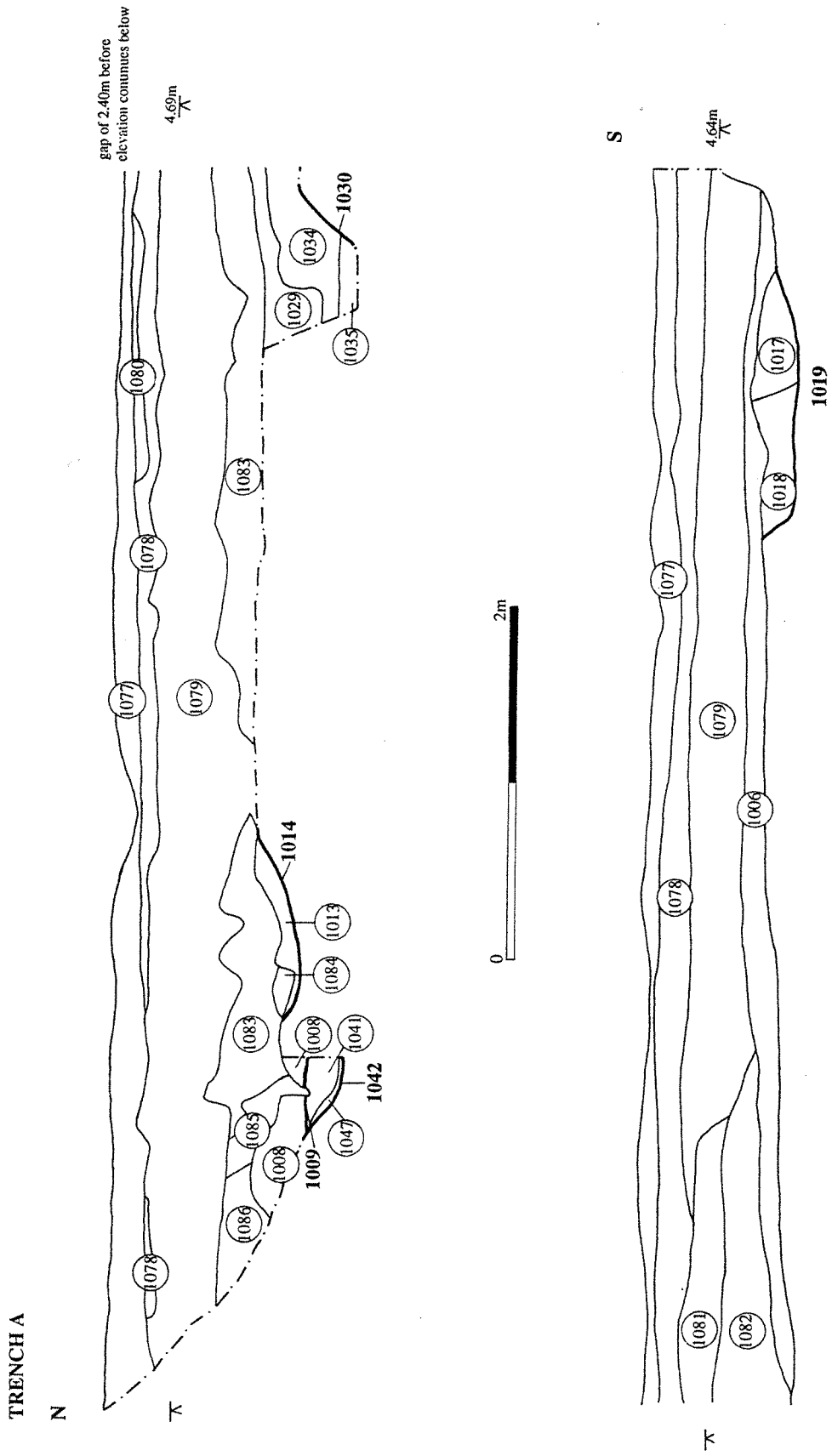


Figure 5 Trench A. North-west facing elevation

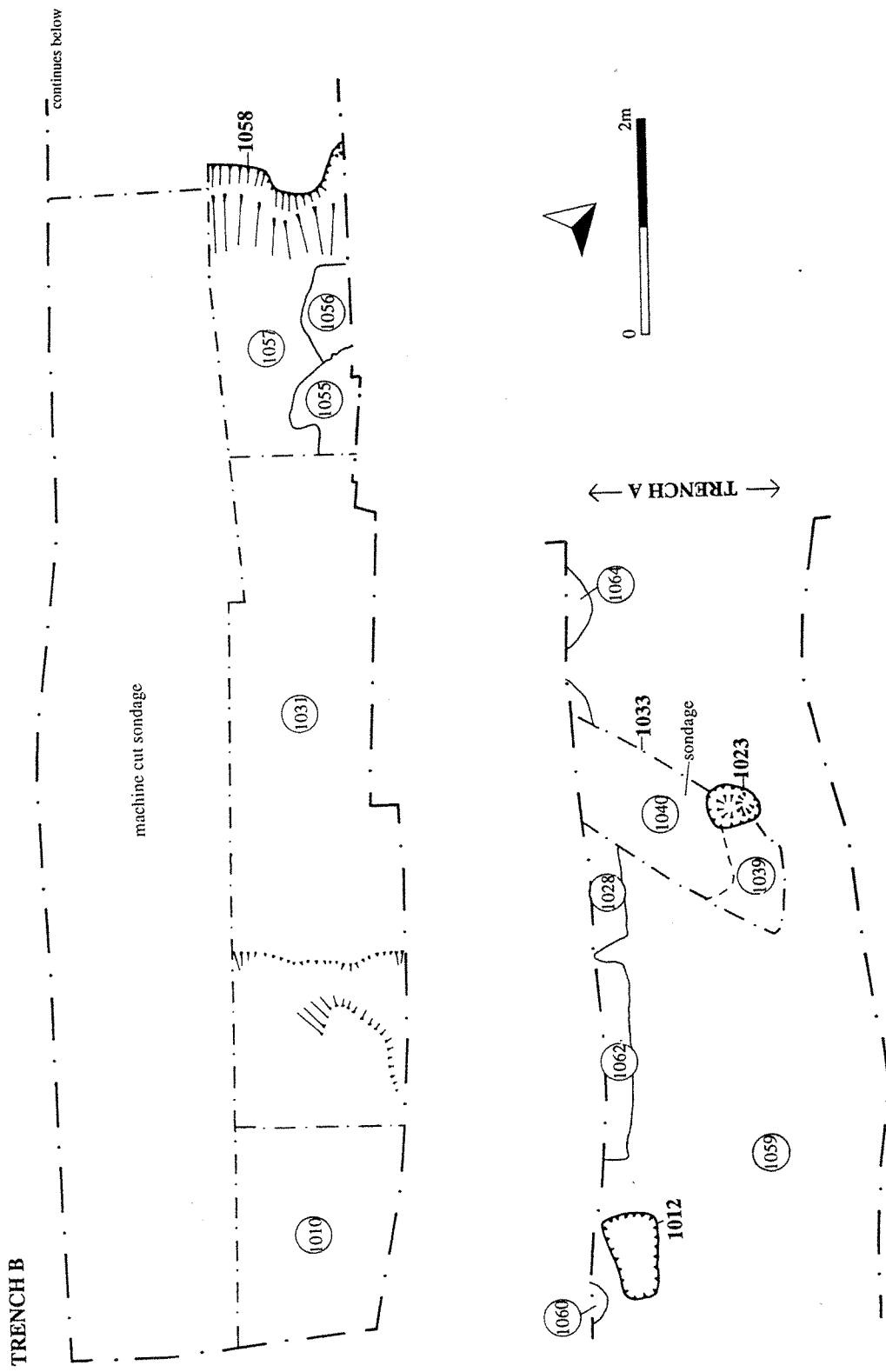


Figure 6 Plan of Trench B.

were modern, as demonstrated by the plastic bags and tin can found 1.45m below the current ground surface.

## 6. INTERPRETATION

### 6.1 Trench A

The intense concentration of cuts in this trench and their use as rubbish pits suggests that this site is very close to settlement and buildings of the 12th and 13th centuries. The presence of many pieces of the same vessel in 1034 and a large stone, probably a hearthstone, in 1029 reinforce the impression that the material had not travelled very far. Although some of the pits cut, and are later than, others, the pottery recovered was of a uniform date and it was difficult to identify discrete phases of activity within the date range of 1150-1300.

The regularity of pits **1030** and **1042** suggest that some of the pits may have been dug with other purposes in mind before being backfilled with household rubbish. These functions might have included clay extraction, external latrine pits or locations of large posts.

Layer 1006 sealed the pits at the south-western end of the trench and the quantities of pottery and animal bone in this context suggest that it is probably a deliberate dump of domestic rubbish. It may be part of the same land reclaiming operation which resulted in the backfilling of **1058** (see **6.2**).

Possible ditch or foundation cut **1009** seemed later in date, but is difficult to be specific about its function.

The nature and function of dumps 1081 and 1082/1083 is unclear, but they seem to be a by-product of excavation. They may represent spoil from the excavation of a ditch, heaped into a bank, but more would need to be exposed and examined before a firm conclusion could be reached.

### 6.2 Trench B

It is difficult to draw any conclusions about the nature of large feature **1058**. Where seen within the area of this trench, it appeared to be shallow and have a flat base. There is little to suggest that it was a ditch and it seems more likely to have been either a pond or open fen. It had been backfilled in the 13th or 14th centuries with large quantities of domestic refuse. There were few signs of abrasion or wear to any of this material, suggesting that either the marshy area was used as a convenient landfill site or rubbish was dumped as a deliberate attempt to reclaim a wet or boggy area.

The unexcavated pits lining the south-western edge of the trench seem similar to those sampled in Trench A and are probably of similar date (12th-14th century) and function. Post-hole **1023** and pit **1012** are of post-medieval date and probably date from a time when the site was used for agriculture or horticulture.

### **6.3 Trenches C and D**

Each trench revealed a considerable depth of modern dumping at the southern end of the site. In each trench there were discrete layers of brushwood, twigs and moss which may indicate the crushing of existing vegetation or the deposition of recently cut foliage before extensive dumping took place in a deliberate attempt to raise the ground level. In Trench C this was probably associated with the construction of the existing factory buildings, while activity in the area of Trench D may either be contemporary with this or have occurred within the last ten years when an artificial terrace was created for a small housing development to the south of this site.

### **6.4 Artefactual Evidence**

The pottery, flint, animal bone and environmental samples recovered from the site were all examined by specialists (see **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**) and their reports form part of the site archive.

#### **6.4.1 Pottery**

A good assemblage of c 650 sherds were recovered from this excavation. The quality of the assemblage is a function of its derivation from sealed undisturbed contexts. Sherds are in good condition with little abrasion and there are few examples of residuality (earlier pottery being disturbed and redeposited with later wares). Many of the sherds are from locally produced vessels and it is apparent that the main period of activity on the site is c 1150-1350.

The study of medieval ceramics from Ely is at an early stage, but the recovery of a number of assemblages from local excavations over the last year has provided the potential to advance our understanding and construct a sequence which will aid dating of archaeological deposits. The Lisle Lane assemblage is of importance as it provides a firm basis on which to construct a significant part of the ceramic sequence for this part of the city. The combination of lack of residuality and the good condition of the pottery means that any further archaeological investigation on the site will produce more detailed data upon which to develop our understanding of the sequence between 1150 and 1350.

#### **6.4.2 Flint**

A small number of flints were recovered from the excavation and, although there are humanly struck flints in the collection, no tools were recovered and it is therefore difficult to date the activity which produced them. They appear to be redeposited in material of a much later date and are either derived from a background scatter of prehistoric material in the vicinity or introduced from elsewhere. The latter is probably the case with 1004 which produced three struck flakes, but has probably been contaminated by the introduction of hardcore for the overlying concrete.

In summary, the potential for analysis of the existing collection of flints is very poor.

#### **6.4.3 Animal Bone**

Most of the contexts excavated by hand produced animal bone. Sieving for smaller bones was not carried out on site.

With the exception of a complete juvenile pig from pit 1012, the assemblage largely comprises food refuse. Cattle, pig and sheep or goat were all represented, but only cattle bones showed clear signs of butchery. Few



juvenile animals occurred and when present they were either pig or sheep/goat.

Bird bones represented an unusually high percentage of the assemblage. Chicken were the only immediately recognisable element, but lengthier analysis may reveal more detail, such as the presence of wild fowl from the nearby Fens.

Other fauna represented in small numbers included ?deer and hare/rabbit, both of which may have formed part of the diet. The tooth of a member of the weasel or stoat family was also found.

Most of the bone was recovered from sealed, well-stratified and closely datable contexts. As such, the assemblage highlights the potential of the archaeological deposits in this area to provide important data on the diet of local people in the 12th and 13th centuries and, in particular, the part played in it by the wild fauna present on the Fens.

#### **6.4.4 Environmental Evidence**

Soil samples were taken from contexts 1010 and 1031, the backfills of **1058**, as during excavation these were perceived to be the wettest contexts and the presence of preserved wood suggested that survival of organic material was more likely. The samples were floated, dried and any environmental evidence analysed. Some charcoal was recovered from 1031 and seeds were present in both samples, but in small quantities. The seeds probably emanate from the weeds and other vegetation present in the area at the time the contexts were deposited.

Most of the contexts in Trench A and the north-western end of Trench B were very dry and this area does not appear a good candidate for survival of organics.

In summary, the large backfilled feature **1058** presents the best potential for survival of environmental information, but, on the evidence of the evaluation, this data is restricted to the surrounding environment rather than bearing on the material dumped into the cut. The latter might have been expected to contain residues and waste from food production and consumption and such material may be present elsewhere within the feature.

## **7. CONCLUSIONS**

Despite finding little evidence of structures, the intensity of pit digging and the quantity of discarded domestic refuse found on this evaluation strongly suggest that buildings or occupation of some sort was present on or near the development site in the 12th-14th centuries. This confirms documentary evidence for buildings on Lisle Lane.

If it survives, evidence of structures is most likely to be located near to the current frontage of Lisle Lane. This may prove significant in light of the intention to divert the existing main sewer around the perimeter of the site.

Most of the artefactual evidence from the evaluation (pottery, animal bone etc) is of high archaeological value as it originates from sealed and datable contexts with little or no contamination from earlier or later periods. This renders this evidence and the remaining undisturbed archaeological deposits

on the site a valuable resource for understanding the domestic economy of this part of Ely and that of the city as a whole. It will provide data on the status and wealth of those who lived on Lisle Lane in the twelfth-fourteenth centuries and help elucidate such questions as how great a part the natural resources of the Fens played in the diet of the inhabitants of Ely and to what degree the city was self-sufficient in items such as household pottery. The archaeological dataset preserved on this site serves to complement and enhance the information derived from recent archaeological investigations elsewhere within this important regional centre.

Considerable landscaping on the site has resulted in only a thin protective cover over good surviving archaeological deposits at the Lisle Lane end of the site, but in the deposition of thick dumps of modern material over the more southerly part of the development area.

A little redeposited material of prehistoric and Romano-British date was recovered, but the quantities were insufficient to suggest sustained activity or occupation on the site before the medieval period.

## **8. ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT OF THE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL AND PROPOSED MITIGATION STRATEGY**

- 8.1** The evaluation has shown that medieval archaeological deposits of high quality survive 0.50m below the modern ground surface near Lisle Lane and, in places, only 0.26m below the surface of the concrete in the central area of the site.
- 8.2** The density of archaeological features and the quantity and good preservation of the artefacts strongly suggest the presence of buildings of the medieval period close to the development site.
- 8.3** Any surviving archaeological deposits in the north-western half of the site are at high risk of damage or destruction during demolition, breaking up of concrete, ground clearance, excavation of foundations and service trenches, landscaping and any activity on site by heavy machinery during these operations. The diversion of the main sewer is also likely to impact on surviving archaeology.
- 8.4** Groundworks and redevelopment on this site is likely to have both a short- and long-term impact on the survival of organic material within the archaeological deposits through alterations in the water-table.
- 8.5** Significant archaeological deposits threatened with unavoidable destruction by development proposals should first be recorded and the maximum information extracted from them through the pursuit of a clear set of research goals. The research programme would be informed by the data recovered from the evaluation. For example, bulk sieving of pit contents would take place in order to recover bird and fish bones which may better reflect the impact on local medieval diets of natural resources from the Fens.
- 8.6** In the south-eastern half of the site modern terracing and dumping have created a thick (1.00-1.50m +) layer of modern material which would protect any surviving archaeology from anything but the deepest disturbance.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author wishes to thank Royal Mail Property Holdings for commissioning and funding this project. Peter Smith of Peter Smith Associates acted as their agent, providing valuable assistance in setting up the project and taking a keen interest in progress and results.

The brief for the archaeological evaluation was composed for the Archaeology Section of Cambridgeshire County Council by Rob Butler, formerly Development Control Officer. Bob Sydes, Senior Archaeologist in the same department, provided advice on site.

Site accomodation was hired from Landsman (Co-Ownership) Ltd of Buckden. The trenches were opened by machinery hired through Huntingdon Plant Hire and backfilled by S/C Plant Hire Ltd of Wormegay, Norfolk.

At the Archaeology Field Unit, Ben Robinson was the Project Manager. Niall Oakey, the Project Officer, carried out the excavation phase with excavators Glenn Bailey, Dawn Griffiths and Lorrain Higbee. Illustrations for this report were produced by Melodie Paice while Dr Paul Spoerry examined and commented on the pottery, Dr Tim Reynolds analysed the flint material, Lorrain Higbee identified the animal bone and Duncan Schlee processed and commented on the environmental samples.

Advice and assistance on the background cartographic research was provided by staff of the County Record Office, Cambridge. John Oakey provided information on Bull Lane/Lisle Lane in the 1930s.

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**Appendix A - Context List ELYLL 95**

**Trench A**

<u>Cntxt</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Nature</u>	<u>It is Above</u>	<u>It is Below</u>
1001	Machine clearance			
1006	Horticultural layer	Mixed silty clay	1017 1036 1066 1068 1070 1072	1082
1008	Fill of 1009	Dark greyish-brown (2.5Y 4/2) silty clay	1009	1086
1009	Gully/Ditch/Beamslot	Truncated linear cut	1041	1008
1013	Fill of 1014	Dark greyish-brown (2.5Y 4/2) silty clay	1014	1084
1014	Pit	Truncated sub-circular pit	1015 1041	1013
1015	Fill of 1016	Dark greyish-brown (2.5Y 4/2) very slightly silty clay	1016	1014
1016	Pit	Very shallow small sub-rectangular pit		1015
1017	Upper fill of 1019	Very dark greyish-brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay	1018	1006
1018	Lower fill of 1019	Brown (10YR 4/3) silty clay	1019	1017
1019	Pit	Sub-rectangular pit	1075	1018
1021	Fill of 1022	Dark greyish-brown (2.5Y 4/2) sandy silty clay	1022	1001
1022	?Tree root	Very irregular shallow cut	1049	1021
1026	Fill of 1027	Grey (5Y 5/1) clay	1027	?1083
1027	?Pit	Truncated, very shallow, small, sub-circular cut	1029	1026
1029	Fill of 1030	Dark greyish-brown (2.5Y 4/2) silty clay	1034	1027
1030	Pit/Post-hole	Deep, large, sub-circular pit	1048 1051	1035
1034	Fill of 1030	Dark grey (5Y 4/1) clay	1035	1029
1035	Fill of 1030	Dark greyish-brown (2.5Y 4/2) silty clay	1030	1034
1036	Upper fill of 1038	Light yellowish-brown (10YR 6/4) slightly silty clay	1037	1006
1037	Lower fill of 1038	Mixed grey (10YR 6/1) and pale brown (10YR 6/3) silty clay	1038	1036
1038	?Pit	Largely obscured by edge of trench	1045	1037
1041	Upper fill of 1042	Dark greyish-brown (10YR 4/2) clayey silt	1047	1009 1014
1042	Pit	Sub-circular, steep-sided pit		1047
1043	Fill of 1044	Yellowish-brown (10YR 5/6) silty clay	1044	1046
1044	?Pit	Unexcavated	?1074	1043
1045	Fill of 1046	Mixed dark grey (10YR 4/1) and brown (10YR 4/3) silty clay	1046	1038
1046	?Pit	Only partially excavated	1043	1045
1047	Fill of 1042	Yellowish-brown (10YR 5/6) sand	1042	1041
1048	Fill of 1052	White (2.5Y 8/1) and pale yellow (2.5Y 8/3) very soft, powdery clay	1052	1030
1049	?Natural	Grey (2.5Y 5/1) clay		1022 1052
1050	Fill of 1053	Olive brown (2.5Y 4/3) slightly silty clay	1053	1052
1051	Fill of 1054	Olive brown (2.5Y 4/3) silty clay	1054	1030
1052	?Pit	Unexcavated	1050 1049	1048
1053	?Pit	Unexcavated		1050
1054	?Pit	Unexcavated		1051

1066	Fill of 1067	Dark greyish-brown (10YR 4/2) silty clay	1067	1006
1067	?Pit	Unexcavated	1074	1066
1068	Fill of 1069	Brown (10YR 4/3) silty clay	1069	1006
1069	?Pit	Unexcavated	1074	1068
1070	Fill of 1071	Mixed grey (10YR 6/1) and yellowish-brown (10YR 5/4) very slightly silty clay	1071	1006
1071	?Pit	Unexcavated	1074	1070
1072	Fill of 1073	Mixed dark greyish-brown (10YR 4/1) and grey (10YR 5/1) silty clay	1073	1006
1073	?Pit or pits	Unexcavated	1074	1072
1074	?Natural	Yellowish-brown (10YR 5/8) gravelly sand		1067 1069 1071 1073 1076 ?1044
1075	Fill of 1076	Brown (10YR 4/3) silty clay	1076	1019
1076	?Pit	Unexcavated	1074	1075
1077	Modern hard-core. Levelling	Yellowish-brown (10YR 5/8) gravelly sand	1080	
1078	Topsoil	Very dark grey (2.5Y 3/1) sandy silt	1079	1080
1079	?Ploughsoil	Dark greyish-brown (2.5Y 4/2) silty clay	1081 1083	1078
1080	Dump	Very dark brown (10YR 7/3) sandy, gritty, loose mortar	1078	1077
1081	?Dump. Only seen in section	Dark greyish-brown (10YR 4/2) silty clay	1082	1079
1082	?Dump. Only seen in section	Dark grey (10YR 4/1) silty clay	1006	1081
1083	?Dump. Only seen in section	Dark grey (10YR 4/1) clay	1084 1085 ?1026	1079
1084	?Upper fill of cut 1014. Only seen in section	Dark greyish-brown (10YR 4/2) silty clay	1013	1083
1085	?Upper fill of cut 1009. Only seen in section	Mixed yellowish-brown (10YR 5/6) sand and greyish-brown (10YR 5/2) clay	1086	1083
1086	?Fill of cut 1009. Only seen in section	Brown (10YR 4/3) clayey silt	1008	1085

### Trench B

<u>Cntxt</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Nature</u>	<u>It is Above</u>	<u>It is Below</u>
1002	Machine clearance			
1003	Machine clearance of deeper deposits			
1004	Fill of cut 1058	Very dark grey (10YR 3/1) silty clay	1010	1002
1005	Upper fill of cut 1023	Very dark greyish-brown (2.5Y 3/2) silty clay	1024	
1007	Upper fill of cut 1012	Dark olive brown (2.5Y 3/3) silty clay	1011	
1010	Fill of cut 1058	Dark olive grey (5Y 3/2) slightly silty clay	1031	1004
1011	Fill of cut 1012	Complete skeleton of juvenile pig	1012	1007
1012	Pit	Oval pit	1059	1011
1023	Post-hole	Sub-oval	1028	1025
1024	Fill of post impression 1025	Very dark greyish-brown (2.5Y 3/2) silty clay. Very compacted	1025	1005

1025	Post impression at base of cut 1023	Circular	1023	1024
1028	Fill of large undefined ?pit. Upper fill of test sondage 1033	Olive brown (2.5Y 4/3) sandy silty clay	1032	1023
1031	Fill of cut 1058	Dark olive grey (5Y 3/2) silty, slightly sandy clay	1058	1010
1032	Fill of test sondage 1033	Olive brown (2.5Y 4/3) silty clay	1033	1028
1033	Test sondage	Rectangular	1039 1040 1059	1032
1039	?Natural	Olive brown (2.5Y 4/4) sandy clay		?1040 1033
1040	?Fill. Unexcavated. Seen at base of sondage 1033	Light olive brown (2.5Y 5/3) sandy silty clay	?1039	1033
1055	Unexcavated. Status unknown	Brown (10YR 5/3) slightly silty sand		1058
1056	Unexcavated. Status unknown	Brownish-yellow (10YR 6/8) clay		1058
1057	Unexcavated. Status unknown	Grey (10YR 6/1) clay		1058
1058	Cut. Ditch/Pond/Unknown. Only a small proportion excavated	Sharp slope on northern edge	1055 1056 1057 1059 ?1079	1031
1059	Truncated ?horticultural layer	Olive (5Y 4/3) silty clay		1012 1033 1061 1063 1065 1058 1002
1060	Fill of cut 1061	Dark greyish-brown (2.5Y 4/2) silty clay	1061	
1061	?Pit. Unexcavated	?Sub-circular	1059	1060
1062	Fill of cut 1063	Olive (5Y 5/4) slightly silty clay	1063	1002
1063	?Pit. Unexcavated	?Rectilinear	1059	1062
1064	Fill of cut 1065	Light olive brown (2.5Y 5/3) slightly silty clay	1065	1002
1065	?Pit. Unexcavated	?Sub-circular	1059	1064
1077	Modern hard-core. Levelling	Yellowish-brown (10YR 5/8) gravelly sand	1078	
1078	Topsoil	Very dark grey (2.5Y 3/1) sandy silt	1079	1077
1079	?Ploughsoil	Dark greyish-brown (2.5Y 4/2) silty clay		1078 ?1058

### Trench C

<u>Cntxt</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Nature</u>	<u>It is Above</u>	<u>It is Below</u>
1087	Dump/Backfill	Yellow (10YR 7/6) loose mortar incl demolition debris	1088	
1088	Dump/Backfill	Yellowish-brown (10YR 5/8) sandy clay	1089	1087
1089	Dump/Backfill	Very dark greyish-brown (10YR 3/2) sandy silty clay	1090	1088
1090	Dump/Backfill	Dark greyish-brown (2.5Y 4/2) slightly sandy clay	1091	1089
1091	Dump/Backfill	Yellowish-brown (10YR 5/6) sandy silt	1092	1090
1092	Root hole	Grey (2.5Y 5/1) clay	1093	1091
1093	Dump/Backfill	Very dark grey (10YR 3/1) sandy clayey silt	1094	1092
1094	Accumulation of material within water-filled feature	Grey (2.5Y 5/1) clay	1095 1096	1093
1095	Decayed wooden stake	Very dark grey (10YR 3/1) decayed wood		1094
1096	?Natural deposit	Mixed grey (2.5Y 5/1) clay and light olive brown (2.5Y 5/4) sandy silt	1097	1094

1097	Natural deposit	Greenish-grey (Gley 1 5/1) to light greenish-grey (Gley 1 7/1) clay	1096
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### Trench D

<u>Cntxt</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Nature</u>	<u>It is Above</u>	<u>It is Below</u>
1098	Topsoil	Dark greyish-brown (10YR 4/2) sandy silt	1105	1106
1099	Modern hard-core. Levelling	Yellowish-brown (10YR 5/8) gravelly sand	1100	1102
1100	Fill of cut 1101	Mixed very dark grey (10YR 3/1) sandy silt and yellowish-brown (10YR 5/4) clayey silt	1101	1099
1101	Modern ?post-hole. Seen only in section	Vertical, steep sides, dropping to rounded base	1105	1100
1102	Fill of cut 1103	Mixed very dark greyish-brown (10YR 3/2) slightly clayey silt and brown (10YR 4/3) slightly clayey sandy silt	1103	1099
1103	Modern cut. Seen only in section	Irregular sides. Pointed base	1105	1102
1104	?Fill/Dump	Dark greyish-brown (10YR 4/2) slightly clayey sandy silt	1105	1099
1105	Dump	Very dark greyish-brown (10YR 3/2) sandy silt	1108	1098 1101
1106	Fill of cut 1107	Very dark greyish-brown (10YR 3/2) sandy silt	1107	1103 1104 1098
1107	Modern ?pit. Seen only in section	Small, sloping sides, rounded base	1108	1106
1108	Dump	Very dark greyish-brown (10YR 3/2) sandy silt	1109	1105 1107
1109	Dump/?Fill of cut 1114	Very dark greyish-brown (10YR 3/2) slightly clayey sandy silt	1110	1108
1110	Dump/?Fill of cut 1114	Very dark greyish-brown (10YR 3/2) sandy silt	1111 1113	1109
1111	Fill of cut 1114	Very dark grey (10YR 3/1) slightly clayey sandy silt	1114	1110
1112	Fill of cut 1115	Very dark greyish-brown (10YR 3/2) sandy silt	1115	1113 1114
1113	?Fill of cut 1115	Mixed very dark greyish-brown (10YR 3/2) and brown (10YR 4/3) slightly clayey silt	1112	1110
1114	Modern pit. Seen only in section	Sides variable, falling steeply to a slightly concave base	1112	1111
1115	Large modern pit? Seen only in section	Northern edge stepped to a rounded base.	1116	1112
1116	Dump	Very dark grey (10YR 3/1) sandy silt	1117 1119	1115
1117	Fill of cut 1118	Mixed dark greyish-brown (10YR 4/2) sandy silt and very dark greyish-brown (10YR 3/2) sandy silt	1118	1116
1118	?Post-hole/Rabbit hole. Seen only in section	Almost vertical sides dropping to a rounded base	1120	1117
1119	Dump	Very dark grey (10YR 3/1) slightly clayey sandy silt	1120	1116
1120	Dump/Backfill	Mixed very dark grey (10YR 3/1) sandy silt and light yellowish-brown (2.5Y 6/3) clayey sand	1121 1124 1125	1118 1119

1121	Dump	Dark greyish-brown (10YR 4/2) silty clay	1122	1120
1122	Dump	Very dark grey (10YR 3/1) slightly clayey silt	1123	1121
1123	Dump	Very dark greyish-brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay	1127	1122
1124	Dump	Very dark greyish-brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay	1128	1120
1125	Dump/Backfill	Dark greyish-brown (10YR 4/2) silty clay	1126	1120
1126	Dump	Very dark greyish-brown (10YR 3/2) clayey silt	1128	1125
1127	Dump	Very dark grey (10YR 3/1) clayey silt	1128	1123
1128	Modern accumulation/?Dump in derelict ?osier bed	Very dark grey (10YR 3/1) very slightly silty clay. Included tin can and plastic bag	1129	1124 1126 1127
1129	?Naturally-deposited layer	Olive grey (5Y 4/2) clay	1130	1128
1130	Natural	Dark greenish-grey (Gley 1 4/1) clay		1129





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