

Archaeological Field Unit

**River Mill, Eaton Socon, Cambridgeshire**  
(TL 1733 5870)

Judith Roberts

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**Cambridgeshire County Council**

Report No. B77

*Commissioned by Archstone Developments*

**River Mill, Eaton Socon, St. Neots, Cambridgeshire**  
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### **Introduction**

Following a request from Archstone Developments to observe groundwork at River Mill, School Lane, Eaton Socon (Fig. 1), the author visited the site on 31st July 2000. The request was made in order to fulfil an Archaeological Condition (Condition 6, Huntingdonshire District Council response to planning application number 94/0515, dated 24 Nov 1994).

Archaeological evaluation had been carried out on the site (Roberts 1997) in response to a Design Brief for an Archaeological Evaluation, issued by the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Section on July 29, 1997. The evaluation revealed ditches containing sherds of medieval pottery (dated between 900-1200) but much of the site had been heavily disturbed by later activity. The geological sequence was determined, in boreholes (while members of Field Unit were on site) by Southern Testing Laboratories Ltd. The northern part of the site was not available for evaluation in 1997 as it was covered by Atcost warehouses.

A new Brief for Archaeological work had been issued by the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Officer (Andy Thomas, 24th July 2000) for further evaluation trenches (up to 5% sample of the site) in the development area.

### **Results**

The site visit revealed demolition debris from the former warehouses and clearance of vegetation and removal of approximately 0.5m of overburden across the site. The area had been sealed by Teram and imported sand. It was not possible to see any archaeological features in the section surrounding the excavated area.

Piles were bored (to a depth of up to 6 metres, diameter 0.3m) and immediately filled with concrete and reinforcing rods. No spoil was produced during this exercise and no form of archaeological observation was possible. Much of the remainder of the site (for roads, parking, etc.) will be built up and the service trenches are unlikely to penetrate more than 0.3m.

### **Conclusions**

The nature of the ground works and the level of modern disturbance made it impossible to see any evidence of archaeological remains.

### **Bibliography**

Roberts, J., 1997 Medieval occupation at River Mill, Eaton Socon, Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Field Unit Report No. A119

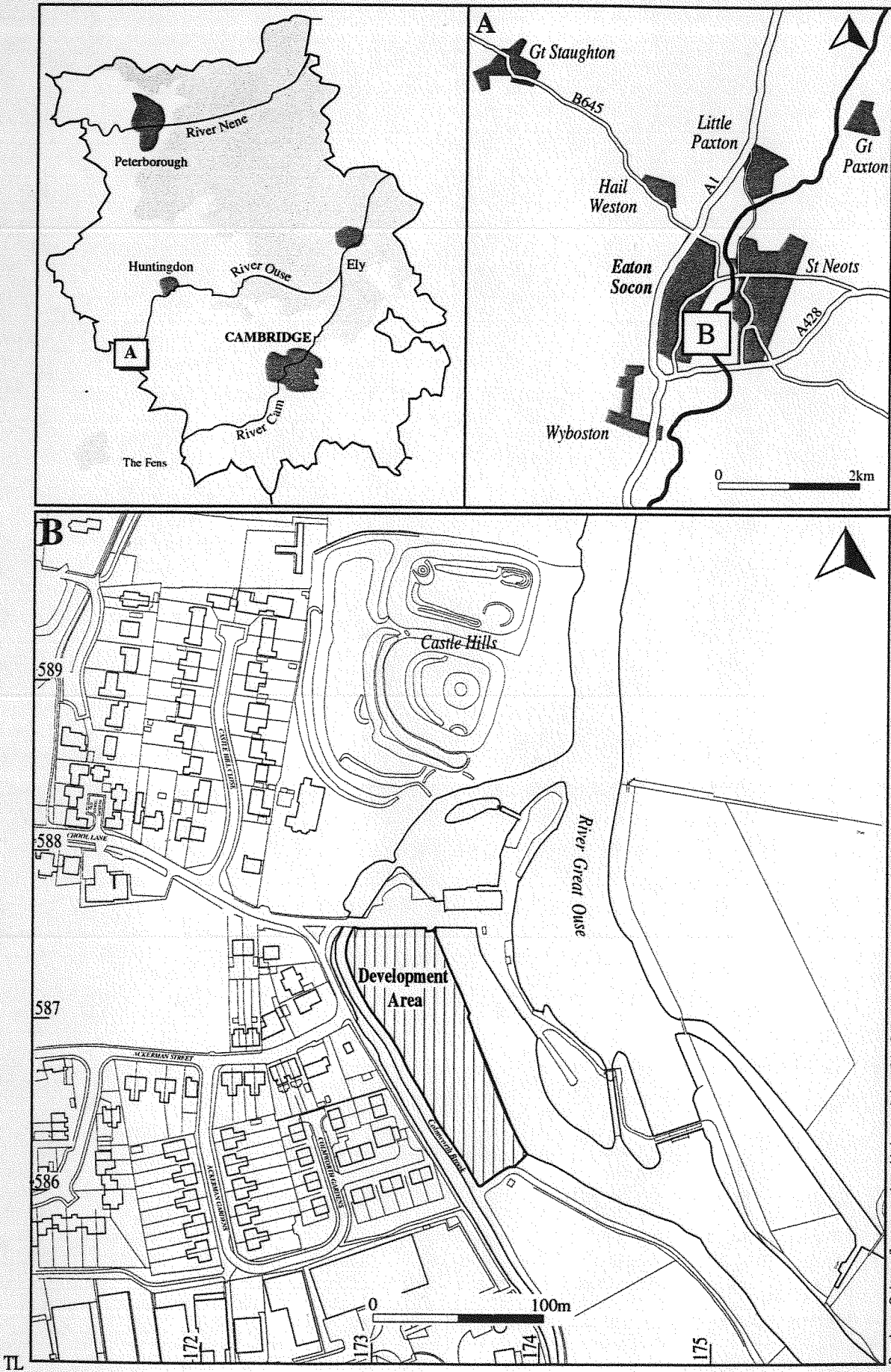


Figure 1 Site Location Map



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