

The Windmill and Cambridge Union Workhouse on Mill Road, Cambridge



Archaeological Monitoring & Test Pitting Report



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The Windmill and Cambridge Union Workhouse on Mill Road, Cambridge

Archaeological Monitoring and Test Pitting

By Gareth Rees BA MA ACIfA

with a contribution by Carole Fletcher

Editor: Chris Thatcher BA

Illustrator: Séverine Bézie BA MA

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Prepared by: Gareth Rees
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Checked by: Stephen Macaulay
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Oxford Archaeology East,
15 Trafalgar Way,
Bar Hill,
Cambridge,
CB23 8SQ

t: 01223 850500
f: 01223 850599
e: oaeast@thehumanjourney.net
w: <http://thehumanjourney.net/oaeast>

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Summary

In July 2014 the Mill Road History Project proposed a community archaeology project in collaboration with Oxford Archaeology East (OAE), to investigate possible locations of the late 18th century Mill Road windmill. Based upon the historic mapping, this was known to be in the vicinity of Mill Street and Covent Garden.

During the planning stage of the test pit excavation it became apparent that the most likely site, at 56\56a Mill Road, was about to be developed into six self contained studio flats, of which four were to be new builds.

OAE and Lucy Walker, from the Mill Road History Project, conducted archaeological monitoring at 56\56a Mill Road, Cambridge (TL 46027 57943) during the demolition and partial conversion of the existing shops and rear extensions at the site.

A total of three monitoring visits took place between the 20th April and the 8th May 2015. These uncovered evidence of a large pit, containing some 19th century refuse, along with a linear feature and two short segments of brick wall footings. Although no direct evidence of the mill survived it is likely that some of the 18th\19th century material observed in the pit, and also recovered from the overburden, relate to occupation and use contemporary with the windmill.

As a result of the new development the community archaeology project was relocated to Ditchburn Place. This location, 90m to the south-east of the windmill site on the north-east side of Mill Road, was the site of the Cambridge Union Workhouse from 1837 (TL46153 57926).

Three test pits were excavated here between the 11th and 12th September 2015. Two test pits (1 & 2) were targeted on the remains of tramps' cells, built in 1879 on the street frontage of the plot. The third (3), was located in an area between the 19th century buildings in order to assess the presence and survival of earlier archaeological features.

Activity dating to the 20th century was recorded in Test Pits 1 and 2. Natural deposits were not reached here as a result of the depth of the modern overburden, primarily construction material associated with a car park dating from the mid-20th century. There is a possibility that archaeological remains lie below the level of the car park, although construction of this type is likely to have impacted on the 19th century remains.

No significant archaeological deposits were uncovered in Test Pit 3. Natural geological drift deposits were encountered here 0.40m below the turf.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 Archaeological monitoring was conducted at 56\56a Mill Road, Cambridge (Figure 1; TL 46027 57943). This was followed by a community excavation in the gardens at the front of Ditchburn Place, Mill Road (TL46153 57926).
- 1.1.2 In July 2014, analysis of historic maps of the area, by members of the Mill Road History Project, identified the probable location of the Mill Road Windmill, between Mill Street and Mill Road. After liaising with Oxford Archaeology East (OAE) regarding plans for test pit excavations, designed to uncover surviving evidence of the mill, it became apparent that the most likely site of the mill was about to be developed. The new development consisted of six self contained studio flats, four of which were new (13/1644/FUL).
- 1.1.3 As a result, archaeological monitoring was conducted by the Mill Road History Project and (OAE) during the demolition and partial conversion of the existing shops and rear extensions at the site.
- 1.1.4 The community test pitting project was moved to a new location at Ditchburn Place, Mill Road, the site of the Cambridge Union Workhouse from 1837. Original buildings are still standing and are currently used as sheltered housing.
- 1.1.5 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 The sites lie over Third Terrace gravel deposits overlying Lower Chalk (B.G.S 1981) at a height of 15-16m O.D. At 56/56a Mill Road the land was flat, primarily as a result of historic and modern build-up. The site was bounded by out buildings and gardens of adjacent plots to the north-west and south-east. The rear of the plot backed on to the gardens of no. 13 & 15 Mill Street.
- 1.2.2 The gardens of Ditchburn Place were bounded by a fence separating the plot from Mill Road to the south-west, the historic workhouse building to the north-east and modern additions to the building to the north-west and south-east.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The history of the windmill has been the subject of an in depth study by Brigham *et al.* (2015), some of which is summarised below. Background research in to Ditchburn Place has been conducted by Ian Bent and Allan Brigham (2015) of the Mill Road History Project. More information on the historic buildings is available from www.capturingcambridge.org.
- 1.3.2 Additional information has been sourced from a search of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER; Figure 2). These records are referred to below by either their CHER (CB) number, their Event number (ECB) or Monument number (MCB).

Prehistoric and Roman (3500BC- AD450)

- 1.3.3 The earliest finds recorded within the vicinity of Mill Road are two polished greenstone axes, dating to the Neolithic period. These were found near Malta Road in the 1970s (CHER04696) and near Warkworth Street in 1908 (CHER05142). The only other prehistoric evidence was that of a Ptolemaic (Iron Age) coin reportedly recovered from a gravel pit in Barnwell in the early 20th century (CHER04577).

- 1.3.4 There is sporadic evidence for Roman activity recorded along the length of Mill Road. This includes evidence for a cemetery at the western end of Mill road (CHER02303), excavated in the 1860s. A possible associated settlement is suggested to the west by the recovery of coins from near Mortimer Road (CHER04618) and Gonville Place (CHER04555). Two north to south aligned ditches, that may have been part of a Roman field system, were uncovered during an evaluation at Mantles Yard (MCB16296). Towards the eastern end of Mill Road a Roman fibula brooch was found in the vicinity of Thoday Street in 1900 (CHER04702). Roman pottery was also recovered from Vinery Road (CHER04627) and Coldham's Common (CHER05054).

Saxon and Medieval (AD450-AD1550)

- 1.3.5 Evidence of Saxon occupation near Mill Road is limited to two find spots. The first, a fragment of shield boss and spearhead found in the Mill Road cemetery in 1847, directly adjacent to the site of the workhouse (CHER04622). Several Saxon finds were also recovered from Coldham's Common (CHER05336).
- 1.3.6 A medieval seal was recorded from a coprolite pit (CHER04644), near the site of the windmill. A medieval Cross stood on Hinton Way (now Mill Road) close to the location of the workhouse. The Cross is frequently mentioned in Field Books and Terriers (CHER04701), whilst a gravestone from this period was found on Staffordshire Street (CHER04677).
- 1.3.7 A moated site (MCB17770) was constructed on the outskirts of Cambridge as a direct outcome of an outbreak of plague in the town in 1574. This was an attempt to isolate the victims and prevent the spread of the disease. The Vice Chancellor and Mayor of Cambridge leased "The Old Clay Pits", which is suggested to be at the south-west corner of Parker's Piece. Surviving accounts record the digging of a ditch around the site, costing £14 18s 4d, followed by the construction of a timber-framed and thatched house within the moat for the plague victims and their keepers, at a further cost of £3 6s 8d.

Post-medieval and modern (1550-20th century)

- 1.3.8 The earliest post-medieval remains recorded in the vicinity of Mill Road were 18th century houses on the former 'South Street', uncovered during an archaeological evaluation near Broad Street to the north of the eastern end of Mill Road (MCB18567). A 19th century well was uncovered in this area on Norfolk Street (CB15506/ECB1146).
- 1.3.9 Cartographic evidence shows that a windmill stood on the site of 56/56a Mill Road from at least 1830. Historical sources date the original mill to before 1786 (CHER04829; Brigham et al. 2015). It is shown on both Baker's (1830, Figure 3) and Richardson's (1832, Figure 4) maps. The CHER records the location of a second mill in the vicinity at Trumpington. This windmill was depicted in the plan of Colonel Pemberton's estate in 1847 (CHER04828).
- 1.3.10 Both the 1830 and 1832 maps depict the Ditchburn Place plot as a field with no development at this time. The Cambridge Union Workhouse (MCB20132) is depicted on the 1885 first edition Ordnance Survey map (Figure 5).
- 1.3.11 The Cambridge Union Workhouse, now Ditchburn Place Sheltered Housing, is the oldest extant building on Mill Road having been constructed in the 1830s (c.1837-1838) (MCB20132). The core of the building still remains today but several later additions were removed when the building was used as a maternity hospital in the 20th century. This included the addition of a car park at the front of the plot.

- 1.3.12 Major additions to the complex were made in 1879, 1897 and 1927 (Figure 6). The 1879 additions, adjacent to Mill Road, consisted of a suite of rooms later converted to so called “tramps’ cells” to house tramps. Both male and female quarters were constructed (see Bent and Brigham 2015). A significant addition in 1897 were the cells running along Ditchburn Place itself.
- 1.3.13 Activity dating to the 19th century can be found along the course of Mill Road. Gravel quarrying was particularly prevalent in the area in this period and evidence of this has been uncovered to the west at St Matthew’s Primary School (MCB18137) and at the Fire Station (MCB19909), and to the east at Malta Road (MCB20180). A limeworks was also established on Vinery Road in this period (MCB20110).
- 1.3.14 Several extant buildings date to the late 19th or early 20th century including the Tram Depot (built in the 1880s; MCB16549), and two of Bolton’s warehouses from c.1900 on Glisson Road (MCB16542) and Tenison Road (MCB16540). The Brookfields hospital (MCB20109), Playhouse cinema (opened 1913, now Sally Anne’s shop; MCB19846), and Dale’s Brewery on Gwydir Street (built in 1902 closed in 1958; MCB16542) also date to this period. The building at 119 Mill Road was probably built in the 1850s, originally called ‘Gothic Cottage’ but renamed ‘The Durbans’ in 1916 (I. Bent pers comm). This building is currently not recorded in the HER.
- 1.3.15 The buildings of the Kinema at Sturton Town Hall (built 1910; MCB19844) and the gaol on adjacent to Parker’s Piece (built 1880; MCB18225) are no longer present.
- 1.3.16 During the 19th century there were a considerable number of religious establishments founded or moved to premises on or near Mill Road. One of the earliest was that of the High Calvinist, Providence Calvinistic Baptist Chapel on Norfolk Street which was founded in 1833 and dissolved in 1837 (Rees 2014; MCB20350). A cemetery including 13 individuals was uncovered during building works for new school buildings in this location.
- 1.3.17 This chapel was superseded by the Zion Baptist Church (built 1837, extended 1877-79; CB14852) on the Petersfield common at the western end of Mill Road. Two other Baptist chapels were built along Mill Road; the Stockwell Street Baptist Chapel established in 1882 (CB14858) and the Strict Baptist Chapel opened in Tension Road in 1897 (now the Pentacostal Church; CB14857).
- 1.3.18 A methodist Chapel was also opened on Sturton street in the late 19th century (CB14851), whilst Seventh Day Adventists worshipped on Hobart Street (CB14947). A Brethren Meeting House built on Mawson Road (currently a mosque; MCB16290). The Anglican church of St Barnabas was built between 1869-88 (CB14820) with its congregation later expanding to form the new church of St Philips, on Thoday Street, in 1891 (CB14819).
- 1.3.19 In the modern era two air raid shelters have been recorded on Ross Street (MCB17098) and Hemingford Road (MCB17938).

Listed Buildings

- 1.3.20 Although the former workhouse itself is not listed, there are several listed buildings in the vicinity of Mill Road. Notably, Hughes Hall (CHER47895; MCB20129) near the western end of Mill Road, and the former Cambridge City Branch Library, adjacent to the Mill Road Bridge (now Bharat Bhavan; CHER47622). The Zion Baptist Church (CHER473420; CHER350344 and CHER47700) along with a 19th century gas lamp (CHER461913) are listed on Petersfield Common at the west of Mill Road. Various

tombs and buildings in the Mill Road Century, immediately north-east of the Ditchburn Place site, are also listed.

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 Multiple thanks are due for the success of both parts of this project. The author would like to thank the Mill Road History Project, particularly Becky Proctor, for commissioning Oxford Archaeology East (OAE) to work with them on their community projects, and for funding the projects. In-depth background research for the windmill was carried out by Allan Brigham, Gordon Clark, Peter Filby, leading to the identification of its location. Ian Bent contributed research towards the history of the Ditchburn Place site and commented on the draft report. Thanks are due to Richard Bettison of BBS Surveyors who allowed access to the site at 56/56a Mill Road during the groundworks in spite of no archaeological condition being imposed on the planning application. Lucy Walker of the Mill Road History Project visited the site on two occasions and assisted with the data collection.
- 1.4.2 The project was managed at OAE by Stephen Macaulay and directed on site by David Crawford-White and Gareth Rees with the assistance of Adele Lord. Thanks to the staff of Ditchburn Place who allowed us to excavate in their gardens and provided facilities during the project. The test pit excavations were carried out by Emma Bonsall, Claire Cameron, Faisal Elturki, Anne Horspole, Owen Hughes, Keith Jordan, Sebastian Jordan, Veronica Latham, Jacob Lewis, Joe McIntyre, Simon Middleton, Brenda Purkiss, Katherine Stewart, Lucy Walker and Caroline Wilson. Pam Russell provided photographs for use in this report.
- 1.4.3 Specialist advice on finds identification was provided by Carole Fletcher and Rob Atkins; Terry Mortlock identified the car light fragment. Luke Bonwick of Bonwick Heritage provided consultation on windmills and their archaeological imprint. The search of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record was carried out by Gabrielle Day. The illustrations were produced by Séverine Bézie and Chris Thatcher edited the report.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

- 2.1.1 The primary objective of the monitoring at 56/56a Mill Road was to locate evidence for the windmill which is thought to have stood on the site. The works also aimed to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any other surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.
- 2.1.2 Machine excavation was carried out by a 1 tonne mini-digger with both toothed and flat buckets up to 0.5m wide. Three monitoring visits were conducted by Gareth Rees and Lucy Walker. Targeted cleaning of the foundation trench sections was carried out where possible and artefacts were recovered from stratified locations as well as the disturbed surface of the site. Working restriction imposed by the ongoing building works on site meant that the primary record of the remains comprised measured sketches and photographs.
- 2.1.3 The test pitting project at Ditchburn Place was located in an area of gardens fronting on Mill Road and had two specific aims. Firstly, to engage and communicate with the local community by means of archaeological excavation in order to illustrate the histories associated with Mill Road. Secondly to impart an understanding of the archaeological process.
- 2.1.4 The archaeological aim was to understand the history of the plot through excavations targeted on the location of the tramps' cells, and that of a garden where no prior development was known.
- 2.1.5 All test pits were excavated by hand. Turf was removed using a spade before excavation of the underlying deposits was carried out by volunteers and members of the Mill Road History Project, using trowels and mattocks, where appropriate. All excavations were supervised by qualified, experienced archaeologists.
- 2.1.6 The site survey was carried out using a Leica GS08/CS10 dGPS connected to SMARTNET. Excavation levels were established using an optical level tied in to a fixed TBM established with the dGPS.
- 2.1.7 The site conditions at Ditchburn Place were good. Two test pits were located in grassed areas (Test Pits 1 & 3) whilst one was located in a flower bed adjacent to the boundary fence bordering the Mill Road pavement (Test Pit 2).
- 2.1.8 Over the course of the project, a steady stream of visitors came in to the park and talked to the excavators and archaeologists about their activities, as well as taking part in other planned events.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The results of the fieldwork are detailed below, first those of the monitoring at 56/56a Mill Road and then those of the test pits at Ditchburn Place. A catalogue of contexts and trench depths can be found in Appendix A, cut numbers are shown in **bold**.

3.2 56/56a Mill Road: Archaeological Monitoring (Figure 7)

Deposit model

- 3.2.1 Much of the site had been truncated by post-medieval and later activity. However, several locations in the north-east and south-west of the site revealed a sequence of soils that may have related to the medieval fields and post-medieval orchard to the rear of this plot.
- 3.2.2 The natural deposits consisted of a mid orange-brown sand with frequent gravel inclusions. The subsoil consisted of dark orange-brown sandy-silt with occasional grit and gravel inclusions. A dark, humic, loose sandy-silt overlay the subsoil and may have been the remains of a garden soil. Post-medieval pottery and bricks were observed in this layer.
- 3.2.3 The entire site was overlain by mixed overburden that was up to 0.30m thick. This was the result of on-going building works and plant movement (Plate 1). Two modern drains were also uncovered at the site, one to the south-west and one to the north-east. Sherds of post-medieval redware, including a fragment of stone-ware flagon and yellow ware ceramics, were recovered from the overburden. These indicate use of the site from the late 18th until the 19th-20th century (Appendix B). A corroded iron object of indeterminate function, along with a 19th century codd bottle, were also recovered from this layer (Appendix C).
- 3.2.4 Archaeological remains uncovered at the site consisted of two short lengths of masonry (4 and 5), a linear feature which may have been a segment of a ditch (**2**), and a large pit observed in several of the modern foundation trenches (**4**).

Wall 5

- 3.2.5 Wall 5 consisted of four courses of bricks, laid length ways, bonded by cement that appeared to be late 18th or 19th century in origin. The wall had been covered by the overburden and was founded in the subsoil layer below the garden soil. Deposits to the south-west of the wall included charcoal and brick rubble. This may indicate that it was a small boundary wall demarcating an area of refuse dumping at the rear of the plot.

Wall 6

- 3.2.6 Located 3.17m to the north-east, wall 6 comprised up to four surviving courses of unfrogged bricks. These measured 220mm x 100mm 75mm and are most likely to date to the late 18th or 19th century, perhaps being locally produced at the Cambridge brick works (Plate 2; Rob Atkins pers. comm.).
- 3.2.7 The wall was overlain by the garden soil and appeared to have been truncated by a later pit (**4**). The corner of this wall was exposed in the modern foundation trenches, indicating that it was part of a structure orientated roughly north-east to south-west, parallel with the current alignment of the plot. It is possible that this may have been related to an out-building that could have been contemporary with the windmill.

Ditch 2

- 3.2.8 Ditch 2 (Figure 7, Section 1; Plate 3) was 0.50m deep by 0.78m wide, with steep sides, a 'U' shaped profile and a concave base. It was filled by a light yellow-brown sandy-silt fill (1) with frequent gravel inclusions. No artefacts were recovered from this fill.

Pit 4

- 3.2.9 A cut feature (4) truncated wall 5 and all other deposits in the north-east of the plot. The pit, measuring in excess of 8m east to west, 9.45m north to south and in excess of 2m deep, contained brick and ceramics dating to the 19th century, recovered from a dark brown silty-clay fill (3).

3.3 Ditchburn Place: Test Pits (Figure 8)

- 3.3.1 Three test pits were opened in the gardens of Ditchburn Place in order to investigate if any remains, including those relating to the workhouse, were present here (Plate 4). Volunteers were trained in archaeological methods during the excavation (Plate 5).

Test Pit 1

- 3.3.2 This test pit was 2m long on its north north-east to south south-east axis and 1m wide. It was located in a grassed area adjacent to the path leading towards the main entrance in to Ditchburn Place (Plate 6). This trench was targeted on the tramps' cells built in 1895 (Figure 6). It was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.87m below the surface (14.69m O.D.).
- 3.3.3 No natural/geological deposits were uncovered in this trench. The earliest layer uncovered was an orange-grey sandy-clay layer (16) in excess of 0.20m thick, excavated in a 0.50m sondage at the base of the trench (Plate 7). This was overlain by a 0.20m thick, mid brown-grey sandy-clay layer (14) that contained moderate amounts of grit and gravel as well as a fragment of salt glazed tile and welsh slate, common in roofing in the Victorian period (Appendix C).
- 3.3.4 Layer 14 was truncated to the north by the cut for a modern, but disused waterpipe probably relating to the services for the former maternity hospital. The waterpipe cut truncated to a depth of 0.9m at the northern end of the trench (Figure 9, Section 1) and was filled with rubble, sand and gravel.
- 3.3.5 At the southern end of the trench, layer 14 was overlain by a fine grey sand and yellowish-brown sandy-gravel deposit (9). This appeared to form a foundation comprised of concreted hard-standing, topped with tarmac and is thought to be the remains of the car park of the former maternity hospital. Modern brick and pottery was recovered from these layers. The foundation deposit, measuring 0.16m thick, extended to the north, overlaying layer 14, before being truncated by the modern water pipe cut. The irregular edges of the surviving tarmac surface and the extent of the foundation material tend to suggest that the car park had at one time extended northwards, probably to cover the area that is now used as gardens.
- 3.3.6 The majority of the car park, its footings and the fills of the waterpipe trench were then truncated (18) and a thick layer of humic silty-loam (6) was deposited before the turf (1 & 2) was laid to form the current garden. A half brick dating from the 17th to 18th century was recovered from this layer along with fragments of shell, animal bone and glass. Fragments of building material were also recovered, including a piece of cement floor. A fragment from the rear light of a car was identified as most likely being from a recent model of Vauxhall Antara.

Test Pit 2

- 3.3.7 Located in a flower bed adjacent to the boundary fence with Mill Road, this test pit measured 1m by 1m and was orientated NE-SW (Plate 8). It was targeted on the internal space of a tramps' cell adjacent to the main entrance (Figure 6) and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.26m (15.02m O.D.).
- 3.3.8 No natural or geological deposits were uncovered in this test pit. The earliest deposit uncovered was a layer of compacted rubble (15) thought to be the remains of the car park foundation (Plate 9). This had been overlain by topsoil and sand and gravel lenses (11, 10, 8 & 7) in order to form the flower bed (Figure 9, Section 2). A wooden garden divide (4) was uncovered in the top layer separating the garden soil (5) from that formed over the modern path (3) (Plate 10).
- 3.3.9 Pieces of modern building material and corroded metalwork were recovered from this test pit as well as two coins – one dating to 1987 and the other 2001.

Test Pit 3

- 3.3.10 Orientated north north-east by south south-west, this test pit measured 2m by 1m and was located in an enclosed part of the gardens close to the main entrance of the building (Figure 6). This trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.40m (14.85 O.D) (Plate 11).
- 3.3.11 Natural/geological deposits were uncovered across the entirety of this trench, no archaeological features were uncovered. These consisted of dark orange-brown sandy-clay with moderate gravel inclusions (Plate 12).
- 3.3.12 At the northern end of the test pit the natural was overlain by a sand and gravel layer (17), measuring 1m long and 1m wide, which contained no artefacts. This layer was overlain by a dark brown-grey silty-loam layer (13), measuring up to 0.20m deep across the entire area, which may have been a former topsoil or garden soil (Figure 9, Section 3). This layer contained post-medieval and modern artefacts. A 0.18m deep layer of garden soil (12) overlay this deposit and contained pottery, brick, metal and glass artefacts.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 56/56a Mill Road

- 4.1.1 Archaeological monitoring of foundation trenches at this site uncovered four archaeological features, three of which date to the post-medieval period. Residual finds of late medieval/early post-medieval pottery indicate that there may have been some activity in this area during that period. Only a single sherd of pottery dating to this period was stratified in the subsoil in the south-western part of the site; this could have derived from midden spreading on fields in this period, rather than occupation.
- 4.1.2 The ditch (2) located in the north-west of the site may have been a boundary ditch for a former backyard plot since it aligned with the current road and plot divisions. Its gravel fill may indicate that it was a foundation trench, but no structural material was found associated with it.
- 4.1.3 The two brick structures (5 & 6) were insubstantial and at best may have been boundary walls or those of out-buildings (Luke Bonwick pers. comm.). The bricks used in wall 6 may indicate that this structure was contemporary with the windmill. However longevity of brick types and evidence of reuse of building material (see Brigham *et al.* 2015) means that this cannot be said with any certainty.
- 4.1.4 In the north-east of the plot the majority of deposits had been truncated by a large pit (4). This pit, measuring up to 9.45m in diameter, was primarily filled with post-medieval, 19th century rubble and refuse. Since the depth of the foundations of the windmill are unknown it is unclear whether this feature could be related to the demolition of the windmill – perhaps excavated in order to retrieve foundation material for re-sale.
- 4.1.5 However, this pit would appear to be too small in diameter to be associated with the footing for a substantial five storey windmill (Brigham *et al.* 2015, 16). It is more likely that, along with many other plots in this part of Cambridge, this yard was used for gravel extraction after the demolition of the mill. The refuse that was used to backfill this pit (3) may have contained material residual from the use and demolition of the windmill, and is likely to have been mixed with the finds from the overburden.

4.2 Ditchburn Place

- 4.2.1 Three test pits excavated in the front gardens of Ditchburn Place, Mill Road uncovered no archaeological deposits. Natural deposits were uncovered in Test Pit 3. Context 16 in Test Pit 1 may also have consisted of the same natural sand and gravels, but the scope of the sondage was too small to say this definitively. One major truncation was uncovered in Test Pit 1, that of the waterpipe at the northern end of the test pit. The car park layers uncovered in Test Pits 1 and 2 may have sealed archaeological deposits relating to the workhouse below them. These were not uncovered during the current works.
- 4.2.2 The depth of the natural and the sequence of modern activity on the plot, primarily relating to its use as a maternity hospital, were of interest. However, no finds, residual or otherwise, were recovered that could be linked to the former Cambridge Union Workhouse.

4.3 Significance

- 4.3.1 The results of both of these pieces of work are of local significance, adding to the post-medieval and modern history of Mill Road. It was fortunate that access was granted to the site of the windmill and that demolition of modern buildings in the rear of the plot had taken place. This provided not only a one-off opportunity to gather evidence but also a valuable and rare chance to visit an archaeological site relating to the early history of Mill Road. The fact that no direct evidence of the windmill was recovered does not undermine the significance of the findings but adds to the history of an important plot on Mill Road.
- 4.3.2 A major success of the Ditchburn Place excavations was the community archaeology and engagement that it facilitated. The excavation provided an opportunity to talk to many local people about the history of the site, and Mill Road in general. The surviving remains of the maternity hospital car park were of great interest to many visitors who used the physical reminder of the recent past to bring up other memories of Mill Road in the mid 20th century. Archaeologically, a knowledge of the site sequence and depth of natural deposits will be of use if any future works are to take place on the site.

APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

CAMMIR15: 56/56a Mill Road						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
The natural deposits consisted of a mid orange-brown sand with frequent gravel inclusions whilst the subsoil consisted of dark orange-brown sandy-silt with occasional grit and gravel inclusions. A ditch or foundation trench was uncovered (2), along with two short lengths of wall (4 and 5) and a large pit (6) which may have been used as a quarry.					Avg. depth (m)	1
					Width (m)	0.5
					Length (m)	-
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Fill	0.78	0.50	Fill of 2	-	-
2	Cut	0.78	0.50	Cut of ditch	-	-
3	Fill	9.45	>2	Fill of 4	-	-
4	Cut	9.45	>2	Cut of pit	-	-
5	Masonry	0.20	0.45	Wall – boundary?	-	19th cent?
6	Masonry	0.20	0.42	Wall – out building?	-	-

CAMMIL15: Test Pit 1						
General description					Orientation	NNE-SSW
A 20th century car park and service trench were uncovered in this trench overlying two sealed deposits (14 and 16) which may represent archaeological horizons. The latest activity was a truncation of the car park in order to create the current garden space.					Depth (m)	0.87
					Width (m)	1
					Length (m)	2
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer			Turf		20th cent
2	Layer			Topsoil		20th cent
6	Fill			Garden soil fill of 18		20th cent
9	Layer			Foundation material for car park		20th cent
14	Layer			Buried subsoil?		-
16	Layer			Natural?		-
18	Cut			Car park truncation		20th cent

CAMMIL15: Test Pit 2						
General description				Orientation	NE-SW	
No archaeological deposits or finds were uncovered in this trench. The remains of the 20th car park were covered by layers of topsoil and garden beds.				Depth (m)	.26	
				Width (m)	1	

					Length (m)	1
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
3	Layer	1	0.05	Garden soil		20th cent
4	deposit	-	0.06	Wooden divide		20th cent
5	Layer	1	0.10	Garden soil		20th cent
7	Layer	1.1	0.07	Gravel		20th cent
8	Layer	1	0.05	Garden soil		20th cent
10	Layer	0.58	0.06	Sand		20th cent
11	Layer	1	0.20	Garden soil		20th cent
15	Layer	1	0.46	Rubble		20th cent

CAMMIL15: Test Pit 3						
General description					Orientation	NNE-SSW
Layers of garden soil and a gravelly deposit ere uncovered in this test pit. All layers sloped gradually from north to south. A natural deposit of sandy clay with gravel inclusion was uncovered across the whole trench.					Depth (m)	.40
					Width (m)	1
					Length (m)	2
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
12	Layer	1	0.18	Turf and topsoil		20th cent
13	Layer	1	0.2	Garden soil		20th cent
17	Layer	1	0.15	Sands and Gravel		-

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

By Carole Fletcher

B.1 Pottery

B.1.1 The assemblages from both areas are predominantly domestic in nature. Many of the sherds are from glazed vessels, the majority of which are 19th century+, with some earlier material. The sherds are all moderately abraded and have mostly been reworked. The levels of pottery across the site are low to moderate and is most likely to have been deposited as rubbish. The glass recovered from the excavations is less closely datable, with fragments of window glass and vessel glass recovered from the overburden and subsoil at CAMMIR14 and vessel glass from test pits at CAMMIL15.

Pottery and Glass Catalogue CAMMIR14

Context	Fabric	Basic Form	Sherd Count	Weight (kg)	Pottery Date Range
Overburden	Post-medieval Redware (slip decorated)	Bowl base sherd	1	0.130	17th century +
	Post-medieval Redware (slip decorated)	Bowl rim sherd	1	0.054	17th century +
	Post-medieval Redware	Bowl/jar body sherd	2	0.068	Mid 16th-end 18th century+
	Post-medieval Redware	Jar/crock rim	1	0.245	
	Refined Redware – agricultural ceramics	Plant pot rim impressed below the rim [...]EY (most likely SANKE	1	0.014	c.1885+
	Refined Redware – agricultural ceramics	Plant pot rim	1	0.014	Late 19th century+
	English Stoneware	Bottle or flask rim sherd impressed on the shoulder [...]NPRICE [...]MERCHAN[.]	1	0.095	19th century+
	English Stoneware	Jug/flagon body sherd	1	0.082	19th century+
	Modern redware/Late Slipped Kitchen wares	Bowl body sherd	1	0.008	19th century
	White Stoneware	Jug/jar body sherd with moulded decoration	1	0.018	19th-20th century
	Refined White Earthenware	Jar rim	1	0.037	19th-20th century
	Pearlware/Refined White Earthenware	Body sherd transfer printed decoration	1	0.004	Late 18th-19th century
	Pearlware	Jar rim sherd	1	0.008	Late 18th-19th century
	Yellow ware	Bowl body sherd with slip/mocha decoration	1	0.005	19th century
	Yellow ware	Bowl rim	1	0.025	19th century+
		Window glass	2	0.004	Not closely

					datable
		Vessel glass body shard	1	0.121	19th-century
Subsoil	Post-medieval Redware	Bowl body sherd	1	0.026	Mid 16th-18th century +
		Window glass central shard from a sheet of crown glass (bullseye)	1	0.078	18th-19th century

Table 1: Pottery and Glass from CAMMIR14

Pottery and Glass Catalogue CAMMIL15

Context	Test Pit	Fabric	Basic Form	Sherd Count	Weight (kg)	Pottery Date Range
12	3	Refined Redware – agricultural ceramics	Plant pot body sherd	1	0.002	Late 19th century+
		Pearlware	Bowl/plate body sherd transfer-printed decoration (willow pattern type)	1	0.006	Late 18th-19th century
		Staffordshire White Salt-Glazed ware	Body sherd	1	0.002	18th century
		Post-medieval Redware	Bowl body sherd	2	0.006	Mid 16th-18th century +
		East Anglian Redware/Post-medieval Redware	Body sherd	1	0.009	16th-18th century
13	3	Post-medieval Redware	Bowl/jar body sherd	2	0.006	Mid 16th-18th century +
		Creamware/Refined White Earthenware	Bowl/plate body sherd	4	0.012	Mid 18th-19th century
		Creamware/Refined White Earthenware	Body sherd	1	0.002	Mid 18th-19th century
		Pearlware	Bowl/plate rim sherd transfer printed decoration (willow pattern type)	2	0.004	Late 18th-19th century
		Staffordshire White Salt-Glazed ware	Body sherd	1	0.001	18th century
		Staffordshire White Salt-Glazed ware	Base sherd	1	0.006	18th century
		Staffordshire White Salt-Glazed ware	Jar/drinking vessel base sherd	1	0.010	18th century
		English Stoneware	Body sherd	1	0.008	19th century+
		English Stoneware	Bottle/drinking vessel body sherd	1	0.003	19th century+
		Frechen Stoneware	Jug (Bartmann jug) body sherd	1	0.009	Mid 16th-end 17th century

			Vessel glass bottle body sherd	1	0.003	17th-18th century
			Vessel glass bottle body shard	1	0.005	18th-19th century
16	1		Vessel glass bottle base shard	1	0.045	18th-19th century

Table 2: Pottery and Glass from CAMMIL14

APPENDIX C. FINDS REPORTS

C.1 Other Finds

Site	Context	Find	No.	Description	Dating
CAMMIR15	Over-burden	Bottle (frag)	1	Glass bottle. "THE NIAGRA BOTTLE. BARNETT AND FOSTER MAKERS. LONDON. R.65433. ON the reverse is embossed: CAWOOD & CO. POTCHEFSTROOM	C19th
		Fe Obj	1	231mm long 20mm ø. Tapering to one end. Square profile	-
CAMMIL15	3	Coin	2	2 x one pence. One corroded. One dating to 2001	2001
	3	Fe nail	3	c.76mm long.	modern
	3	Fe nail	1	100mm	C20th
	3	Fe nail	1	c.76mm	
	3	Glass	4	1 x sherd of Bristol blue – poss. chemical\medicine bottle. 3 x clear sherd	C19th\20th
	3	Plastic	1	Fragment of rear car light. Possibly Vauxhall Antara 2013.	2013?
	3	Roof tile	1	c.69mm. misc	C19th\20th
	5	Rubber obj.	1	130mm x 31mm. misc	modern
	5	Shell	1	Mussel shell frag.	-
	5	Shell	2	Frag. Probably mussel	-
	5	Slate	6	Welsh slate, may be from Victorian roof tiles	C19th\20th
	5	Slate	2		C19th\20th
	5	Sn/Al	1	Metal fragment	
	6	Animal bone	1	Misc frag. small mammal bone	-
	6	Animal bone	3	All <35mm frags.	-
	6	Brick	1	Half brick. 95mm x 55mm x 64mm	C17th-18th
	8	Clinker	1	-	
	8	Coin	1	2 pence. 1987	1987
	11	CBM	2	One piece of salt glazed drain. 1 x misc CBM	modern
	11	CBM	1	Frag. Of brick.	C19th\20th
	11	CBM	4	Misc. frags.	
	11	CBM	2	Possible floor tiles.	C19th\20th
	11	Ceramic	1	Small fragment <10mm. misc	C20th
	12	CBM	2	1 x drain frag. 1x misc tile?	C19th\20th
	12	Plastic	1	Misc,	C20th
	12	Shell	1	Oyster	-

	12	Slate	1	Frag. Possible Victorian roof slate	C19th\20th
	13	Animal Bone	1	Misc frag. 36Mm long	-
	13	CBM	4	Frag. of brick and tile. max 30mm	C19th\20th
	13	Clay pipe	12	5 x stem frags External: 10mm ø Internal: 2mm ø 2 x stem frags External: 7mm ø Internal: 1.5mm ø 2 x stem frags External: 5mm ø Internal: 1mm ø 1 x stem and bowl frag. External: 10mm ø Internal: 2mm ø 1 x stem and bowl frag. External: 7mm ø Internal: 2mm ø 1 x bowl frag.	
	13	Fe	3	1x nail 60mm; 1x nail 16mm; 1x misc obj 42mm x 30mm	C20th
	13	Shell	11	Fragments of oyster shell	-
	14	Tile	1	c.44mm x 45mm	C19th\20th
	16	CBM	1	Misc, tile frag?	C19th
	16	Shell	2	Oyster	-

APPENDIX D. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-218669		
Project Name	56\56a Mill Road, Cambridge and Ditchburn Place, Mill Road, Cambridge		
Project Dates (fieldwork)	Start	20-04-2015	Finish 12-09-2015
Previous Work (by OA East)	No	Future Work	No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	CAMMIR14: CAMMIL15	Planning App. No.	13/1644/FUL
HER No.	ECB4519: ECB4518	Related HER/OASIS No.	-

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	Voluntary/self-interest
Development Type	Urban Residential

Please select all techniques used:

<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - interpretation	<input type="checkbox"/> Grab-Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Gravity-Core	<input type="checkbox"/> Sample Trenches
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annotated Sketch	<input type="checkbox"/> Laser Scanning	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure
<input type="checkbox"/> Augering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Dendrochronological Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal Detectors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test Pits
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documentary Search	<input type="checkbox"/> Phosphate Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Topographic Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Vibro-core
<input type="checkbox"/> Fieldwalking	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Rectified Photography	

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
Pits	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901	pottery	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901
Wall	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901	cbm	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901
Car Park	Modern 1901 to Present	metal	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)
District	Cambridge	56\56a Mill Road, Cambridge CB12AS Ditchburn Place, Mill Road, Cambridge CB12DR
Parish	Petersfield	
HER	Cambridgeshire	
Study Area	112m sq. and 1113m sq	National Grid Reference TL 46027 57943

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	n/a
Project Design Originator	Becky Proctor
Project Manager	Stephen Macaulay
Supervisor	Gareth Rees

Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
OA East	OA East	OA East
CAMMIR14\CAMMIL15	CAMMIR14/CAMMIL15	CAMMIR14/CAMMIL15

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:



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Figure 1: Site location



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Figure 2: Sites in the vicinity of Mill Road, recorded in the Cambridgeshire HER

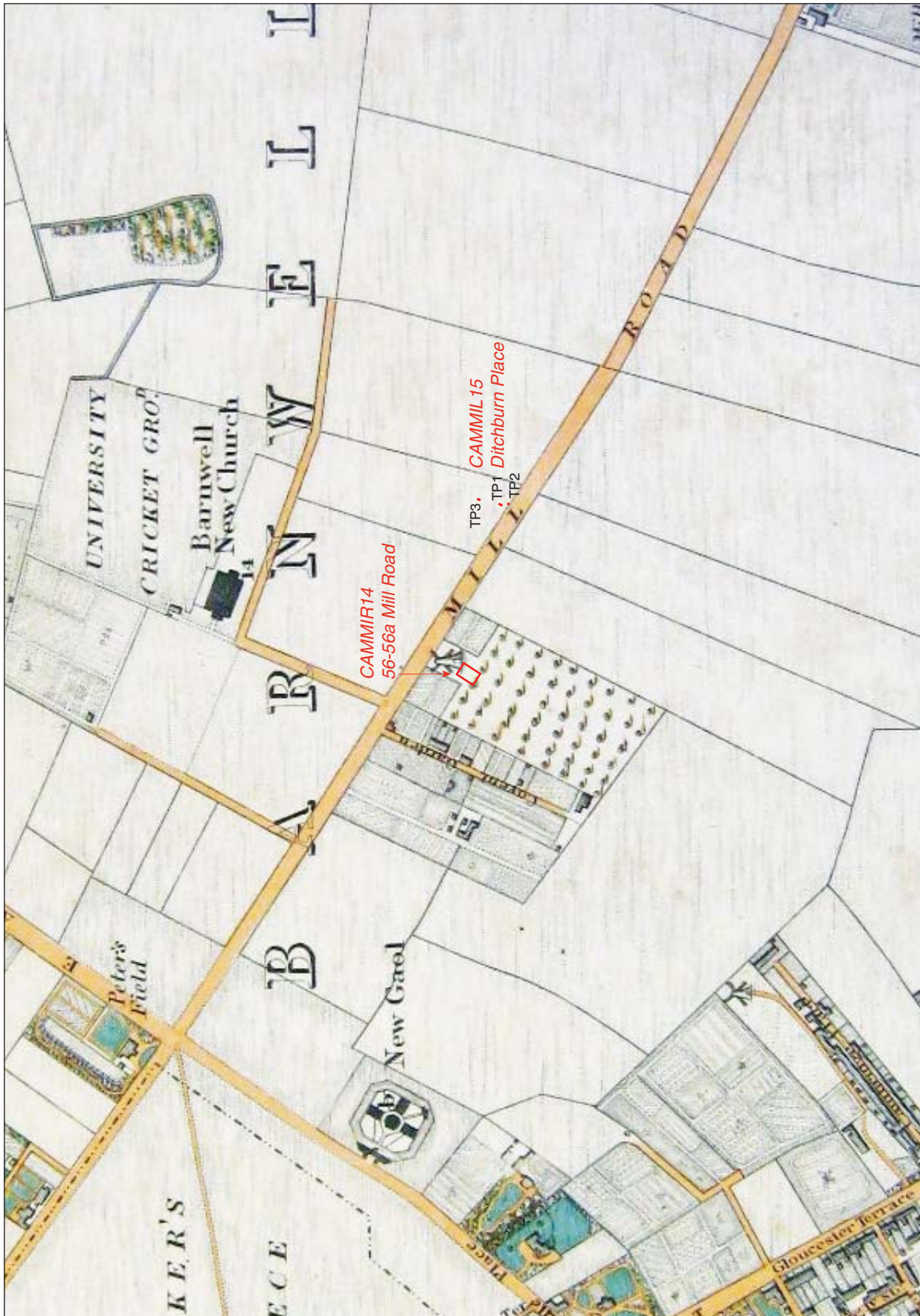


Figure 3: Extract from Baker's 1830 Map of Cambridge showing Windmill (CR0 23/Z14Z)



Figure 4: Extract from the Richardson 1832 Map showing Windmill (CR0 124/P34)



Figure 5: Extract from 1885 OS map showing Workhouse and tramps' cells



Figure 6: Plan of all features relating to the workhouse from 1837 to 1927

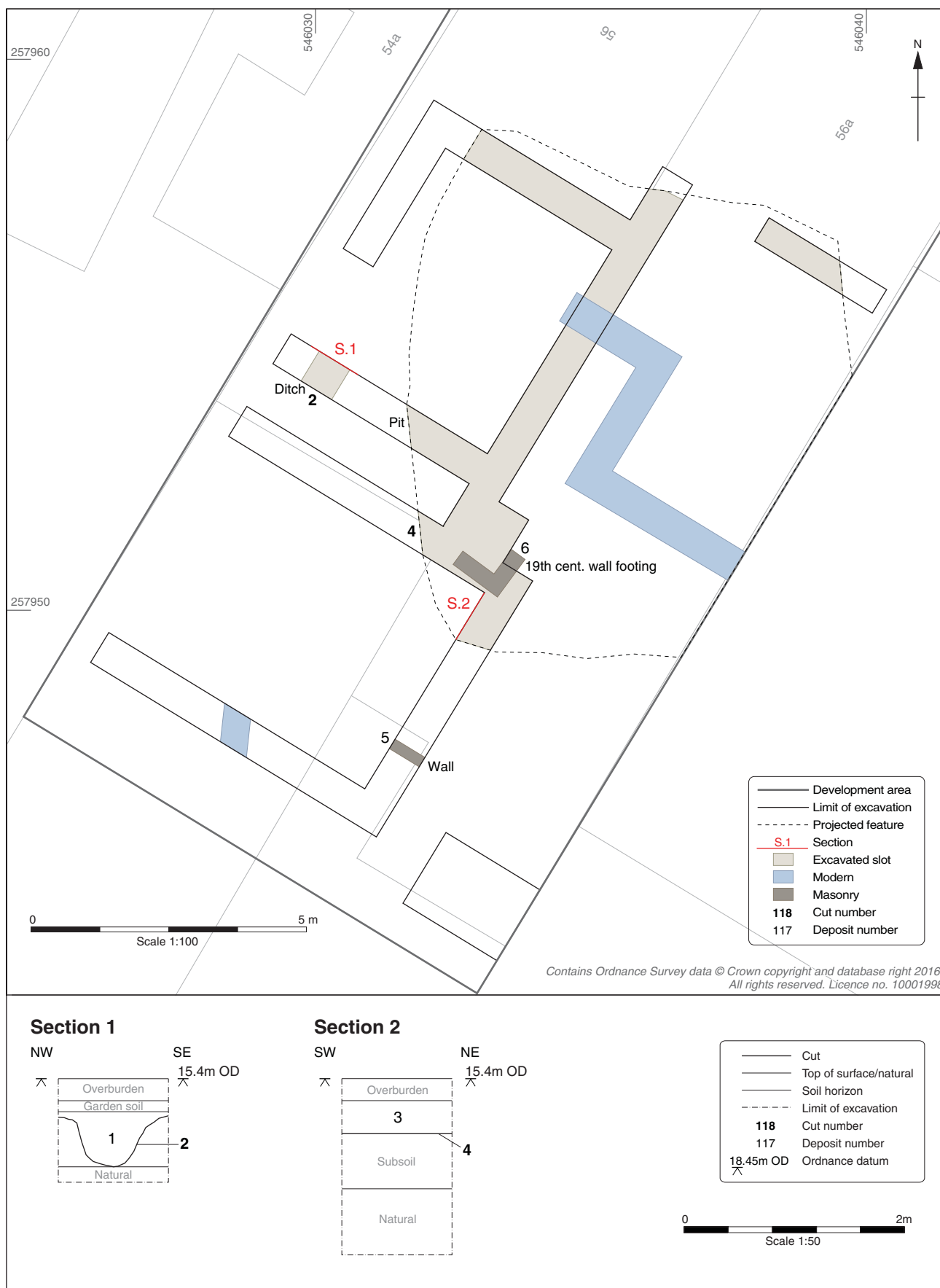


Figure 7: Plan of features uncovered during monitoring at 56/56a Mill Road

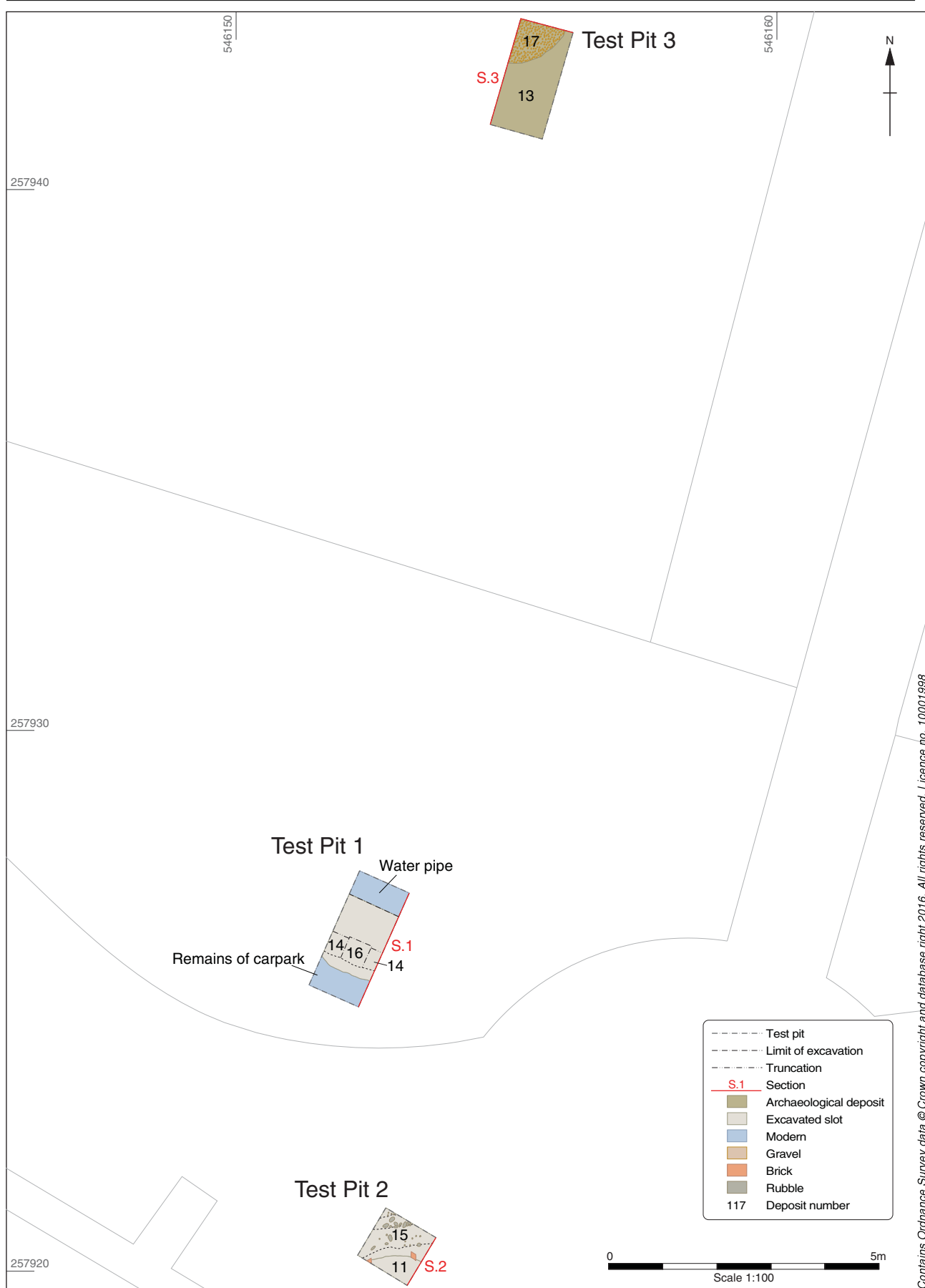


Figure 8: Plan of Test pits at Ditchburn Place

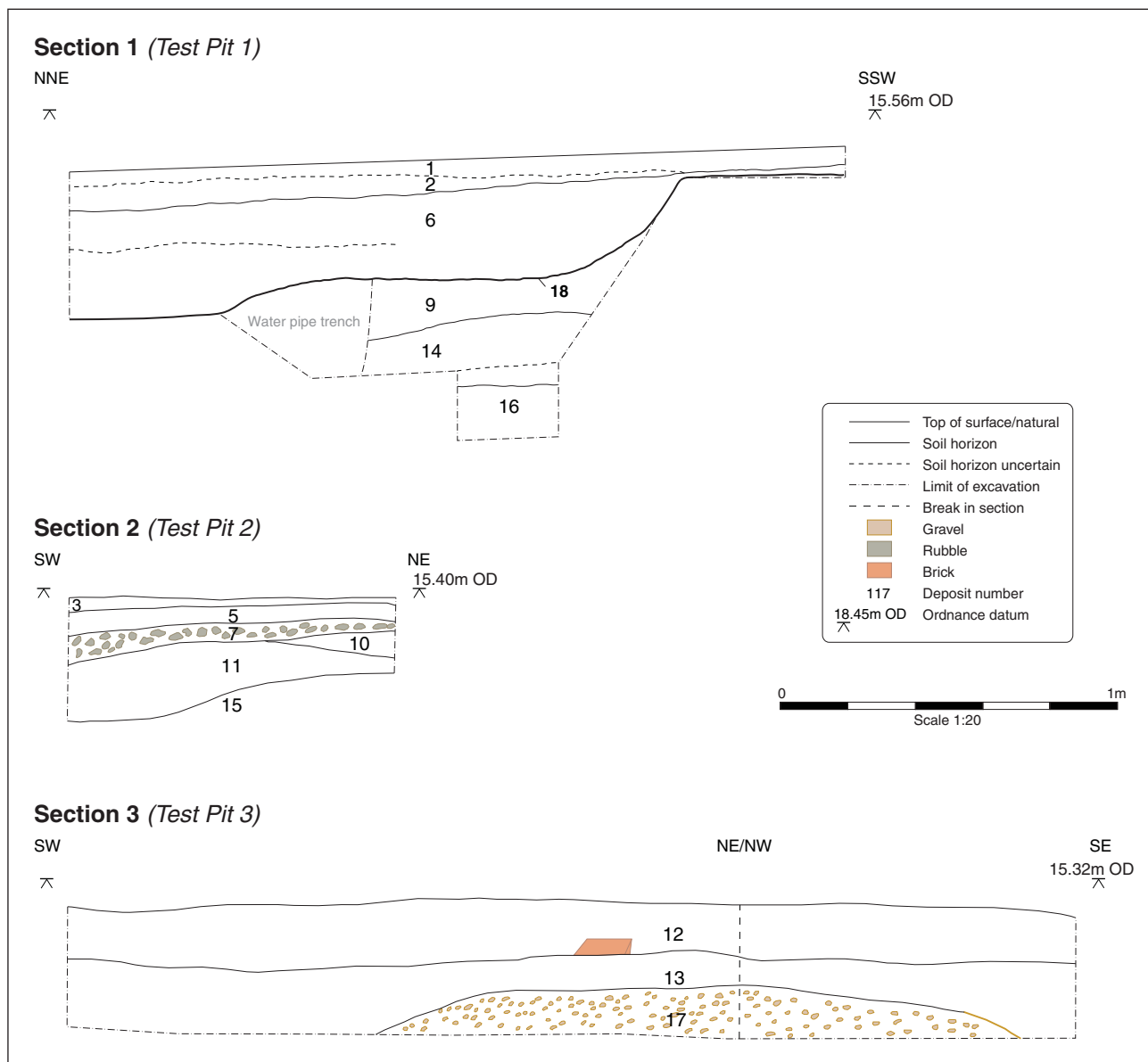


Figure 9: Section of Test Pits, Ditchburn Place



Plate 1: Footings under excavation at 56-56a Mill Road



Plate 2: Brick feature 6, located to the south of the large pit



Plate 3: Feature 2 facing north east



Plate 4: Visitors watching Test Pit 1 being excavated (Photo: Pam Russell)



Plate 5: Training using the dumpy level (Photo: Pam Russell)



Plate 6: Excavations underway in Test Pit 1 (Photo: Pam Russell)



Plate 7: Test Pit 1 post-excitation, facing south-south-west



Plate 8: Recording Test Pit 2 (Photo: Pam Russell)



Plate 9: Test Pit 2 post-excitation facing north-east



Plate 10: Test Pit 2 contexts 3 and 5, facing south



Plate 11: Excavations in Test Pit 3 (Photo: Pam Russell)



Plate 12: Test pit 3 post-excitation



Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1QD

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: [oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850 500
e: [oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>



Director: Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MCIFA
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