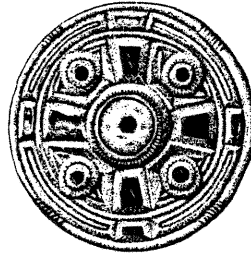


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Archaeological Field Unit

Mill Lane, Whittlesford. Archaeological Observations.

Aileen Connor

1998

Cambridgeshire County Council

Report No. B29

Commissioned By Mr. Andrew Locke

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1 Introduction

A basic archaeological investigation was commissioned by Mr. Andrew Locke on the site of a small development at Riverside Cottage, Mill Lane, Whittlesford (TL477 484) in response to a Brief set by the County Archaeology Office (Kaner 5/12/97). The objectives of the Brief were to :

Ensure that any archaeological features exposed during ground works are recorded and interpreted to an acceptable standard (CAO Brief 3.1).

Ensure that any significant discoveries of artefactual evidence are recorded and analysed to acceptable standard (CAO Brief 3.2).

2 Brief historical and Archaeological Background

Although not immediately within the original nucleus of the medieval village around the church and manor (Taylor C.C, 1989 and Taylor A, 1997), the development site is sufficiently close, both to the early village, and the river Granta that archaeological features may survive. Archaeological investigations by the Archaeological Field Unit of Cambridgeshire County Council within the moat revealed late medieval and early post-medieval remains and further archaeological work by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit to the south of the moat revealed medieval remains possibly relating to the original village nucleus. Much work has been undertaken on the development of the village of Whittlesford (Taylor C.C, 1989), direct reference to the Mill Lane area is not made, however, and present evidence does not suggest that the development site was within the original nucleus of the village.

3 Methods and results

A site visit was made by a Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Field Unit Project Officer on 16th May 1998. The site had been stripped of the turf only and the topsoil remained intact, there was no sign of any archaeological remains at this depth. Discussion with the Client (Mr Andrew Locke) concluded that no further excavation would take place and that the topsoil would be covered with hardcore. The foundations for the development are to be concrete beams laid on top of driven piles.

Since it will not be possible to observe the presence or absence of archaeological deposits (objective 3.1 above) by this method no further site visits will be made.

4 Conclusions

Although in an area of potential archaeological remains, the methods used for the construction of the foundations were not of a type to expose any archaeological features and it is therefore not known whether archaeological

deposits survive on the site. The limited stripping of turf, followed by a covering of hardcore is unlikely to have caused any damage to any surviving archaeological deposits. Piling may cause some damage to any surviving archaeological deposits, although this is likely to be limited and is often used as a method of mitigation on development sites.

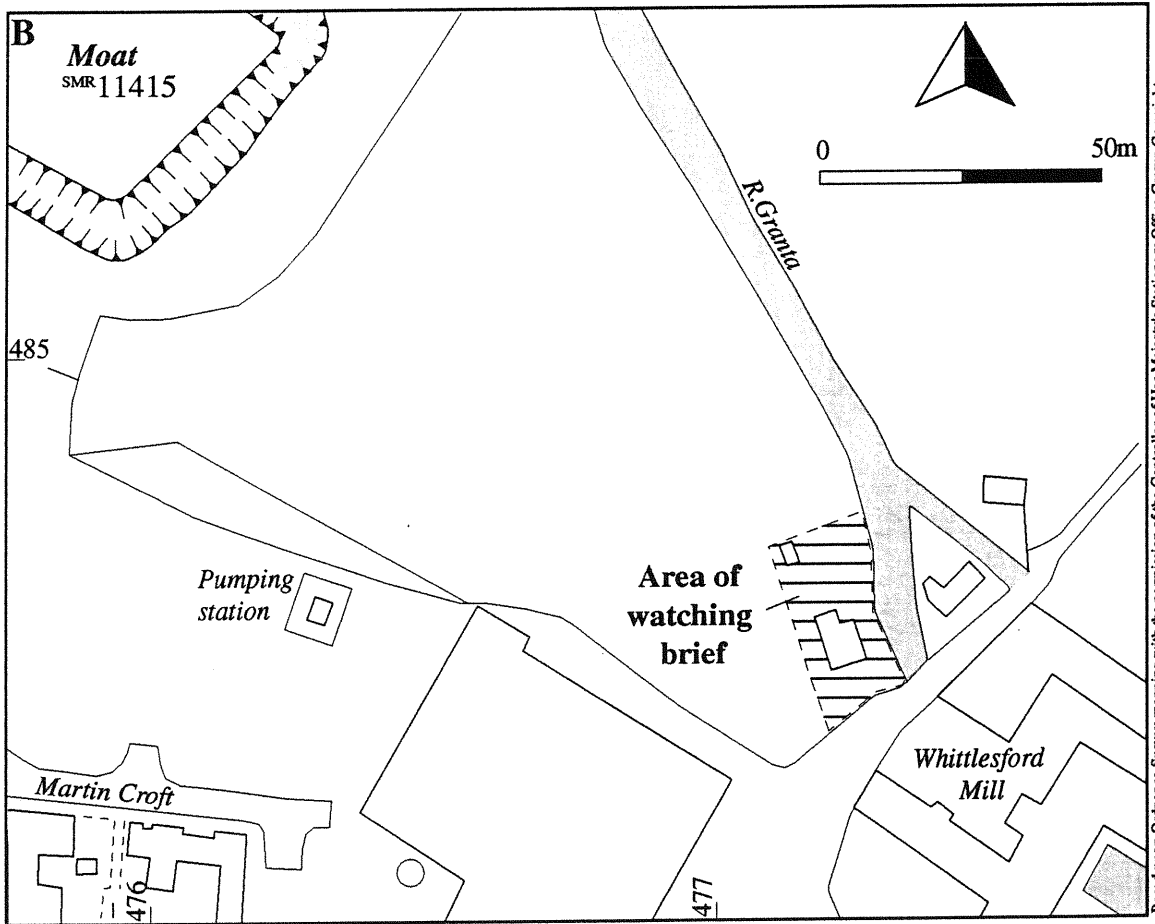
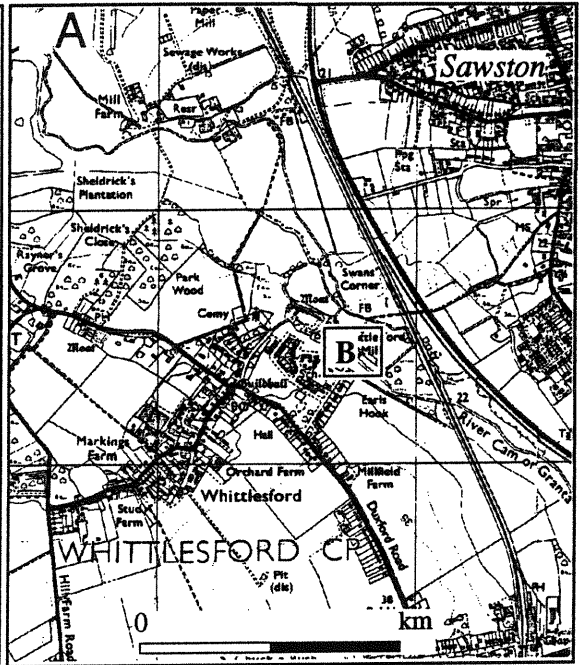
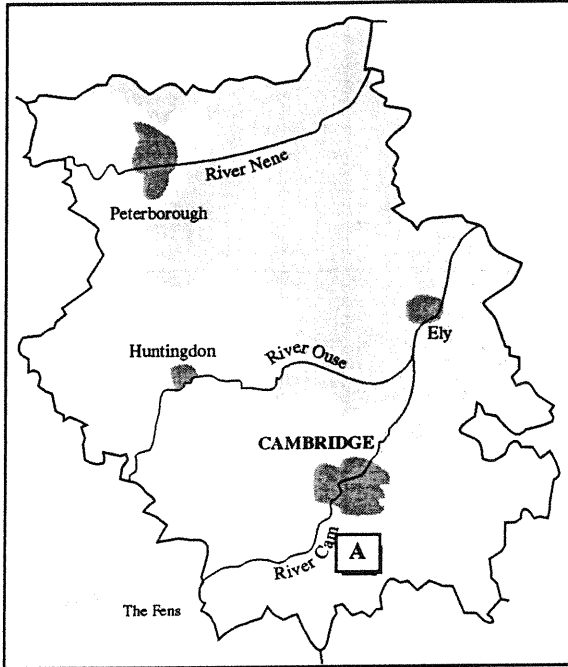
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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