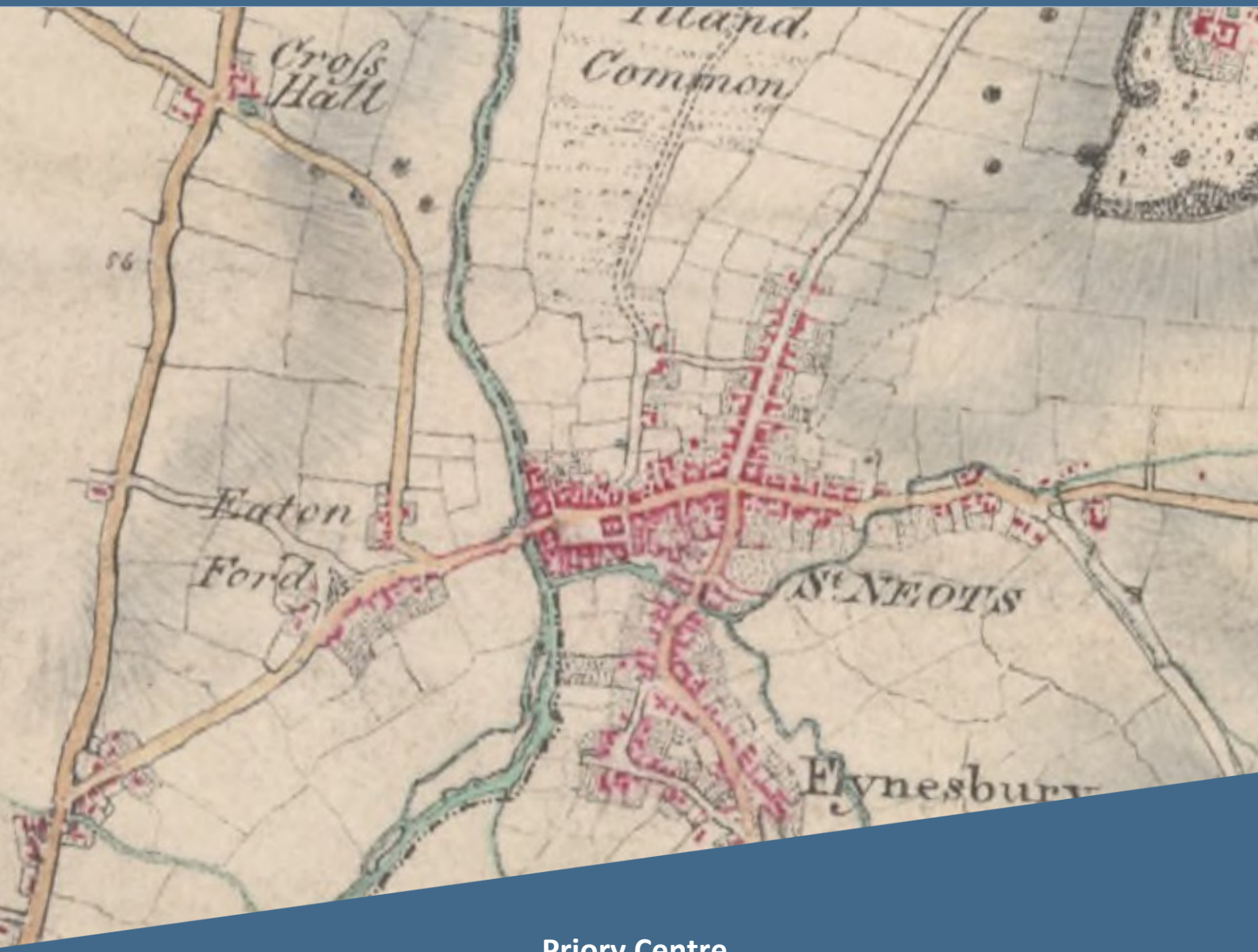
border archaeology

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Field Evaluation



Priory Centre
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On behalf of

AOC Architecture

October 2024

border archaeology

archaeology & built heritage
working throughout the UK

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Contents:

1 Introduction 1
2 Site Description 1
2.1 Soils and Geology 1
3 Aims 5
3.1 Palaeolithic & Mesolithic Research Agenda 5
3.1.1 Pal-Meso 04: How best can we retrieve ephemeral artefact scatters? 5
3.1.2 Pal-Meso 05: How can East Anglian sites contribute to our understanding of the Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods nationally? 5
3.1.3 Pal-Meso 13: How can we better understand taphonomy and artefacts in secondary contexts? ..5
3.1.4 Pal-Meso 18: What can we infer about patterns of raw material use? 6
3.1.5 Pal-Meso 24: What do we know about the Mesolithic/Neolithic transition in the region? 6
3.2 Neolithic Research Agenda 6
3.2.1 Neo 23: How can we better characterise the variability of the Neolithic landscape? 6
3.3 Late Iron Age & Roman Research Agenda 6
3.3.1 LIA-Rom 05: How can we better understand the Late Iron Age to Roman transition? 7
3.3.2 LIA-Rom 06: How can we increase our understanding of the Iron Age and Roman environment? .7
3.3.3 LIA-Rom 19: How can we make greater use of metal-detecting during the excavation of Roman sites? 7
3.4 Middle to Late Anglo-Saxon 7
3.4.1 MSax-Lsax 21: How can we better understand the region's Late Anglo-Saxon monastic houses? .7
3.4.2 MSax-Lsax 11: How do we characterise the relationship between churches and settlements? 7
3.4.3 MSax-Lsax 15: How did the climate change during the Middle and Late Anglo-Saxon periods? 7
3.4.4 MSax-Lsax 21: How can we better understand the region's Late Anglo-Saxon monastic houses? .8
3.4.5 MSax-Lsax 23: How can faunal remains and environmental samples be used more effectively? ...8
3.4.6 MSax-Lsax 26: How can we increase our understanding of Middle and Late Anglo-Saxon craft production? 8
3.4.7 MSax-Lsax 27: How can we increase our understanding of Middle and Late Anglo-Saxon coinage? 8
3.5 Medieval (Urban) Research Agenda 8
3.5.1 Med (Urban) 11: Are we making the most of good-quality human skeletal assemblages when they are discovered? 8
3.5.2 Med (Urban) 22: What can we do to increase our understanding of medieval craft and industry .8
3.5.3 Med (Urban) 27: What can archaeology tell us about pilgrimage? 8
3.5.4 Med (Urban) 29: What can medieval urban archaeology tell us about climate and the environment 8

3.6 Postmedieval Research Agenda 9
3.6.1 P-Med 04: What can we learn about the provenance of timber used in post-medieval buildings?9
3.6.2 P-Med 07: How can we increase our understanding of post-medieval bricks and brickwork in the region? 9
4 Historical & Archaeological Background 9
4.1 Previous Archaeological Investigations 9
4.2 Prehistoric 10
4.3 Romano-British 11
4.4 Medieval 12
4.5 Postmedieval 13
5 Historic Environment Record Gazetteers & Maps 19
6 Scheme of Works 28
6.1 General 28
6.2 Scheme of works 28
6.3 Recording 30
6.4 Recovery, Processing & Curation of Artefactual Data 31
6.4.1 Conservation Requirements 32
6.4.2 Treasure 32
6.5 Recovery & Assessment of Palaeoenvironmental/Palaeoeconomic Data 32
6.5.1 Other environmental sampling 33
6.5.2 Sampling for scientific purposes 33
6.5.3 Building materials 34
6.5.4 Waterlogged wood 34
6.5.5 Faunal Remains 34
6.5.6 Geoarchaeology 34
6.6 Human Remains 34
7 Archive Review 35
8 Archive Preparation & Compilation 36
8.1 Selection, Retention & Discard 38
8.2 Archive Deposition 38
9 Reporting 39
10 Staff & Timescales 40
11 Border Archaeology Ltd Operating Standards 40
12 Monitoring 40
13 Copyright 41

14 References 41
15 Appendix 1: Specialists 45
16 Appendix 2: Border Archaeology Digital Data Management Plan (DMP) v.3.3 46

1 Introduction

Border Archaeology Ltd (BA) has been instructed by AOC Architecture to carry out an Archaeological Field Evaluation (AFE) in connection with the refurbishment and extension of the existing community building and town council offices comprising the Priory Centre Priory Lane St Neots Cambridgeshire PE19 2BH (Huntingdon District Council Planning No **24/00515/HDC**) (*Fig. 1*).

The proposal comprises: *Refurbishment and extension of existing community building and town council offices to include demolition of existing single storey extension and replacement two-storey extension with screened plant at roof level, first floor extensions to east and west elevations, glazed dormer window to east elevation, creation of external ramps and steps, canopies over entrances, glazed ground floor link extension on west elevation, installation of solar panels, replacement chimney, new balcony to west elevation, alterations to balustrade on riverside and replacement fenestration and doors*.

This document has been compiled in response to a brief issued by Lewis Busby BA MSc Archaeological Officer Historic Environment Team Place and Sustainability Cambridgeshire County Council (CHET) and is for submission to him as a methodology for the proposed programme of archaeological work.

2 Site Description

The Priory Centre stands at an elevation of 17m AOD overlooking the Great River Ouse to the W of Priory Lane and St Neots Library, with a small boatyard located to the N. The building stands within the precinct of St Neots Priory, founded between AD972 and 975, and was latterly the site of an 18th to 19th century brewery, with an associated malting kiln surviving to the W. Both the priory and the malting kiln are designated Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)

The site lies within the St Neots Conservation Area and there are a number of designated assets within close proximity to the site, including three Listed Buildings (The Maltings – Grade II, Priory House – Grade II and The Priory – Grade II) and 2 Scheduled Monuments (The Malting(kiln) and St Neots Priory).

2.1 Soils and Geology

The British Geological Survey (BGS) records the underlying solid geology as belonging to the Oxford Clay Formation. This represents a sedimentary bedrock consisting of mudstone formed between 89.8 and 83.6 million years ago during the Jurassic period. Superficial river terrace deposits associated with the River Great Ouse, consisting of sand and gravel are recorded across the site. These represent sedimentary superficial deposits formed between 11.8 thousand years and the present day during the Quaternary period. Superficial sedimentary deposits of alluvium, consisting of clay, silt, sand and gravel, are recorded to the immediate W of the site, associated with the river. These deposits were also formed between 11,800 years ago and the present during the Quaternary period (BGS 2024).

The nearest relevant (i.e., not within the river) borehole listed on the BGS, in relation to the site, is recorded at St Neots Bridge (115m to the S of the site). This borehole recorded 0.6m of made ground overlying 7m of stiff to hard grey silty clay with chalk, flint and gravel fragments. This overlay 2.9m of chalk, flint and gravel with grey silty fragments and 8.2m of stiff to hard grey silty clay with chalk fragments (BGS 2024).

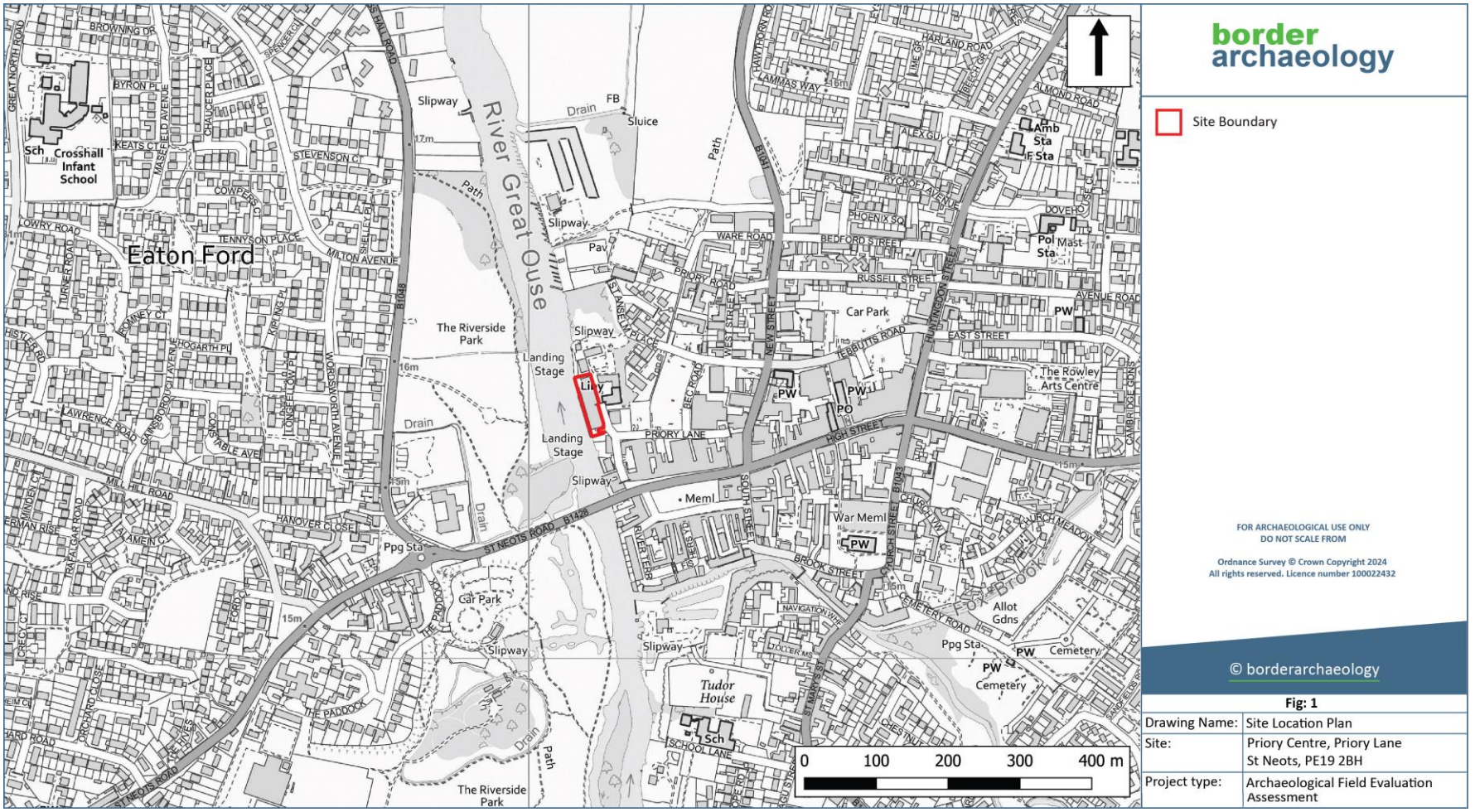


Fig: 1

Drawing Name:	Site Location Plan
Site:	Priory Centre, Priory Lane St Neots, PE19 2BH
Project type:	Archaeological Field Evaluation Assessment


001
002
Oast House
St Neots Library
The Priory Centre
Priory Lane
River Great Ouse
The Priory
N
Site Boundary
Ownership Boundary
New Development
To be Demolished
Evaluation Trenches
FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL USE ONLY
DO NOT SCALE FROM
© borderarchaeology
Fig: 2
Drawing Name: Trench Plan
Site: Priory Centre, Priory Lane, St Neots PE19 2BH
Project type: Archaeological Field Evaluation
0 5 10 15 20 25m

3 Aims

The evaluation aims to:

- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits; Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
- Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.

Additionally, the AFE will seek to address a number of specific areas of research interest as set out in the East of England Research Agenda (https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/research-agenda), which updates *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011) incorporating revisions made following a series of workshop seminars held in 2018 and 2019.

The site lies within a significant multi-period landscape with potential to yield significant evidence likely to be of value in regional terms. Research potential is principally as follows:

3.1 Palaeolithic & Mesolithic Research Agenda

The evidence for this period within St Neots relates to the river terrace gravels which are of proven archaeological potential for human occupation during early prehistoric periods and nationally significant Palaeolithic remains have been identified in the wider landscape surrounding St Neots, such as at Little Paxton and at Hall Place (CEUS 2015, 19). Mesolithic activity in the form of a tranchet axe (HER: 00619) has also been recorded in the wider vicinity of the site. The following research aims have thus been identified:

3.1.1 Pal-Meso 04: How best can we retrieve ephemeral artefact scatters?

Should minimally disturbed/in-situ lithic scatters survive, BA will liaise with the archaeological officer to develop an effective strategy for recording and recovery with effective modelling and sampling of deposits.

3.1.2 Pal-Meso 05: How can East Anglian sites contribute to our understanding of the Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods nationally?

Should evidence of Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic activity be located, BA will obtain dating samples.

3.1.3 Pal-Meso 13: How can we better understand taphonomy and artefacts in secondary contexts?

Should results permit, there may be potential to help characterise in general the nature of lithic assemblages recovered from gravel terrace deposits.

3.1.4 Pal-Meso 18: What can we infer about patterns of raw material use?

Results may contribute to a deeper understanding of raw material sourcing and whether local availability was exploited or whether the evidence suggests material was being transported around the landscape and if so in what form.

3.1.5 Pal-Meso 24: What do we know about the Mesolithic/Neolithic transition in the region?

The Mesolithic/Neolithic transition is regarded as being key with both periods evidenced within the wider vicinity of the site. Should material representing both periods be encountered there may be significant potential to contribute to debate.

3.2 Neolithic Research Agenda

The potential for archaeological discovery for this period within St Neots is based largely on the remains that have been found in the Barford Road area.

3.2.1 Neo 23: How can we better characterise the variability of the Neolithic landscape?

A better sense of the structure and diversity of wider Neolithic landscapes is required and the opportunities for occupation afforded by different geologies, soils and topographies for occupation understood. The extensive Neolithic network of settlement and funerary activity unearthed at Barford Road shows the potential for further discovery on the undisturbed gravel terrace along the river.

3.3 Late Iron Age & Roman Research Agenda

Referencing once again the archaeology of the Barford Road area, the evidence for settlement during this transitional period relates to agricultural production, in contrast to the ritual/ceremonial land use of earlier prehistory. The EUS notes that Roman ditches and finds have been identified in the centre of St Neots suggesting the town lies over a field system of this period. Excavations in 1973 at Church Street found evidence of settlement in the form of a pit and a series of postholes. Subsequent fieldwork (HER: MCB18496; ECB326; ECB2597; Doel & Prosser 1999; Newton *et al.* 2011) recorded further Romano-British remains in the form of pits and numerous ditches which were interpreted as the remains of a small agricultural settlement (CEUS 2015, 26). Settlement activity was further attested at Tan Yard in the town centre. It is additionally observed that known Iron Age settlements remained active into the Romano-British period and notes that this is consistent with a pattern seen across in this area. However, the small evaluation programme herein proposed clearly offers little to no opportunity to assess the potential for field systems, although any particularly rich environmental deposits encountered may have the potential to clarify such aspects of the economy as land use and crop-processing.

3.3.1 LIA-Rom 05: How can we better understand the Late Iron Age to Roman transition?

Evidence for Iron Age settlement at Crosshall Manor, Brickhills and Bushmead Road was identified during the construction of the Eaton Socon bypass and the area around what is now St Neots appears to have been part of an extensive pre-Roman agricultural landscape. A series of Late Iron Age roundhouses with attached large enclosures has also been identified at Love's Farm (CEUS 2015, 19). At Wintringham (ECB3034, Late Iron Age enclosures, boundaries and roundhouse were revealed forming a settlement that seems to have transitioned to a Romano-British farmstead, attesting to continuity of settlement.

3.3.2 LIA-Rom 06: How can we increase our understanding of the Iron Age and Roman environment?

The presence of superficial river terrace deposits and alluvial deposits in the immediate vicinity of the site suggests the potential for paleoenvironmental deposits and the opportunity to assess for evidence to help characterise the Late Iron Age and Roman landscape and climate.

3.3.3 LIA-Rom 19: How can we make greater use of metal-detecting during the excavation of Roman sites?

It is acknowledged that the maximization of metalwork assemblages is considered a key priority of the research framework and trenches will therefore be scanned by an experienced metal detector user and any finds plotted on a suitable plan.

3.4 Middle to Late Anglo-Saxon

Given the location of the site in the precinct of the medieval priory, there is clearly potential to encounter associated finds and features, especially in view of the fact that evidence of early medieval occupation has been found to the immediate S of the site, where the neck of a black shelly-ware jug and a *sceatta* of a 7th to 8th century date were recovered from under the later monastic foundations (HER: 00548b; 10m to the S of the site).

3.4.1 MSax-Lsax 21: How can we better understand the region's Late Anglo-Saxon monastic houses?

This agenda items states that the archaeological potential of many of the region's Late Anglo-Saxon monastic houses remains very high and that further documentary research and fieldwork would be beneficial. This should examine the wider landscape holdings of the houses and examine their role in the Late Anglo-Saxon landscape.

3.4.2 MSax-Lsax 11: How do we characterise the relationship between churches and settlements?

Potential is obviously limited due to the small-scale of the proposed archaeological intervention; however, whether the foundation of churches acted as a focal point for nucleated settlement.

3.4.3 MSax-Lsax 15: How did the climate change during the Middle and Late Anglo-Saxon periods?

There may be opportunities for the recovery of samples for palaeoenvironmental assessment/analysis.

3.4.4 MSax-Lsax 21: How can we better understand the region's Late Anglo-Saxon monastic houses?

It is acknowledged in the research framework that the archaeological potential of many of the region's Late Anglo-Saxon monastic houses is very high but once again there is limited potential in the work as proposed to make any meaningful discoveries that would elucidate the role and operation of these houses in the Late Anglo-Saxon period.

3.4.5 MSax-Lsax 23: How can faunal remains and environmental samples be used more effectively?

Should well-preserved faunal assemblages be encountered in the trenching in conjunction with charred cereal remains and palaeoenvironmental data some further contribution to the emerging models of Anglo-Saxon agricultural practices may be possible.

3.4.6 MSax-Lsax 26: How can we increase our understanding of Middle and Late Anglo-Saxon craft production?

The black shelly-ware jug and a *sceatta* of a 7th to 8th century date just to the S of the Site suggest the potential for further artefactual discovery, potentially illustrative of technological innovation or the use of new materials.

3.4.7 MSax-Lsax 27: How can we increase our understanding of Middle and Late Anglo-Saxon coinage?

The *sceatta* of a 7th to 8th century date found nearby suggests that coin finds cannot be ruled and the use of a metal detector onsite will ensure any such items are recovered for incorporation into the PAS dataset and the Corpus of Early medieval Coin Finds.

3.5 Medieval (Urban) Research Agenda

3.5.1 Med (Urban) 11: Are we making the most of good-quality human skeletal assemblages when they are discovered?

The full extent of the Priory cemetery remains undetermined but some 44 burials were recorded during excavations in the Market Square (CHER ref. ECB50). The burial assemblage included both males and females as well as the high-status individuals interred in stone coffins (CEUS 2015; ECB48). Any good-quality human remains encountered during the proposed trenching programme could be lifted and submitted for osteological assessment for the recovery of information on pathology, demography and diet – and potentially geographical origin.

3.5.2 Med (Urban) 22: What can we do to increase our understanding of medieval craft and industry

Any artefactual assemblages or industrial residues recovered may contain items indicative of craft/industrial production, for example, textiles and metalworking.

3.5.3 Med (Urban) 27: What can archaeology tell us about pilgrimage?

Finds may include such items as pilgrim badges or other indicators of Christian pilgrimage.

3.5.4 Med (Urban) 29: What can medieval urban archaeology tell us about climate and the environment

Should well-preserved palaeoenvrionmental assemblages be encountered, assessment/analysis may provide information on the prevailing climatic regime of the immediate area during the Late Saxon and medieval periods.

3.6 Postmedieval Research Agenda

The Priory Centre stands on the site of a brewery built in 1780, which replaced an 18th century bell foundry site. The river wall beneath the modern structure appears to be formed from part of this earlier structure, with earlier brickwork noted during a site visit. An earlier landing station was also noted. Consequently, the works associated with the proposed development are likely to encounter evidence of post-medieval industrial activity associated with these earlier structures.

3.6.1 P-Med 04: What can we learn about the provenance of timber used in post-medieval buildings?

Any evidence pertaining to the use of timber in buildings will be assessed for information concerning its sourcing, whether local or imported.

3.6.2 P-Med 07: How can we increase our understanding of post-medieval bricks and brickwork in the region?

Any brickwork associated with the former brewery found onsite will be recorded in situ or recovered for assessment and may be of some value to any ongoing regionally based studies in assisting the analysis of historic building materials.

4 Historical & Archaeological Background

This section analyses the information obtained from the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) within a 1km radius of the Site, focused down to 500m (the 'study area'), in conjunction with available historical sources and records of archaeological work (*Figs. 3-5*; *Tables 1-4*).

4.1 Previous Archaeological Investigations

No previous archaeological investigations are recorded with the boundaries of the site on the dataset supplied by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record.

A programme of salvage recording undertaken in 1954 in connection with the installation of a sewage pipeline between Market Square and Huntingdon Street via Priory Lane (to the immediate E of the site) (HER: ECB6288;) was negative in archaeological terms (Tebbutt 1956, 82). Also in 1954, excavations undertaken in connection with urban clearance to the rear of 7-11 Market Square (HER: ECB6287; 40m to the SE of the site) revealed a number of medieval foundations considered likely to be associated with St Neots Priory (Tebbutt 1956).

Remains of a number of buildings associated with the priory were also encountered during excavations undertaken in 1959-61 on the E side of Priory Lane, between the factory and the garden of Priory House (HER: ECB6290; 26m

to the E of the site). Most were located to the E and N of Priory Lane, to the E of the site of the proposed development. The account of the excavations does not inidcate the depths of archaeology.

Whilst most of the reusable construction materials had been robbed enough remained to identify the building stone as Barnack limestone. A short length of marble pillar and a scattering of brick clearly related to later construction phases was also present. Window lead and broken glass, stone slates, clay pantiles and ridge tiles also remained on site while the absence of roofing materials within the western range lead to the suggestion that these building had been thatched. The surviving flooring was largely of clay or gravel but a few glazed tiles and areas of cobblestone surfacing were also identified (Tebbutt 1966).

The site lay within the immediate hinterland of St Neots Priory's main buildings and it is likely that some form of associated medieval occupation or activity took place within the boundaries of the site, particular given its riverine location and the importance to the priory of the Great Ouse.

There is, therefore, potential for further evidence of medieval occupation or activity to be preserved within the site boundaries, although it may have been heavily disuturbed by subsequent post-medieval developments within the site boundaries.

4.2 Prehistoric

No features of a positively identified prehistoric date are recorded within the boundaries of the site of the proposed development, according to the dataset supplied by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (*Fig. 2*).

The flat open valley of the River Great Ouse offers a landscape attractive to early human settlement where the boulder clays have been replaced by alluvial deposits and river gravels, with terraces of proven archaeological potential extending either side of the channel.

This riverine landscape has yielded nationally significant Palaeolithic remains in the wider area with finds made at Little Paxton and Hall Place (CEUS 2015, 19). Mesolithic activity in the form of a tranchet axe (HER: 00619) has also been recorded in the wider vicinity of the site.

Quarrying near the river in more recent times has revealed Neolithic and Bronze Age activity at Wyboston and an extensive network of Neolithic settlement and monuments is recorded at Barford Road (CEUS 2015, 19). However, finds in the historic core the town have been more limited. A pit identified during excavations at Church Street, approximately 465m to the SE of the site (HER: MCB18497; ECB2597; Newton *et al.* 2011) contained a near-complete grog- and sand-tempered collared urn dating from the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age. A funerary purpose was discounted and the vessel was thought to be associated with domestic settlement on the riverside (CEUS 2015, 25).

The recovery of this near-complete vessel has, however, indicated the potential for the survival of prehistoric remains within the historic core of St Neots and suggests that there may be some potential for uncovering such remains from similar locations (CEUS 2015, 33).

An incomplete bronze torc formed from a twisted single-strand of bronze, with a square section and a plain square terminal, was found on the surface of a field to the W of the Great Ouse in the 1970s (HER: 00670; 464m to the W of the site).

Despite the shortcomings of the archaeological works associated with construction of the Eaton Socon bypass, it was concluded that there was an Iron Age settlement in the area around Crosshall Manor, Eaton Ford, and in Bushmead Road and Brickhills, Eaton Socon to the S of the historic core of St Neots, whilst at Barford Road the ritual/ceremonial landscape of earlier periods had given way to agriculture. A series of Late Iron Age roundhouses with attached large enclosures have also been identified at Love's Farm (CEUS 2015, 19).

The subsequent reassessment of what was thought to be an Anglo-Saxon hut recorded in 1963 at School Lane concluded that it was likely to have been an Iron Age structure (HER: MCB514; 422m to the SE of the site). Excavations at Wintringham (HER: ECB3034), towards the E of St Neots, have also identified a series of late Iron Age roundhouses, enclosures and boundaries, as well as a Romano-British farmstead (Phillips and Hinman 2009).

4.3 Romano-British

No features of a positively identified Romano-British date are recorded within the boundaries of the site of the proposed development, according to the dataset supplied by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (*Fig. 3*).

However, finds within town point to a predominantly agricultural area and one consistent with the character of a Romano-British landscape of farms, small agricultural settlements and occasional villas (eg. around Ernulf Academy in Barford Road) found more widely across the well-drained soils of the Ouse Valley (CEUS 2015, 20).

Excavations in 1973 at Church Street uncovered the remains of a small Romano-British agricultural settlement denoted by a pit and a series of postholes with later investigations (HER: MCB18496; ECB326; ECB2597; Doel & Prosser 1999; Newton *et al.* 2011) recording additional pits and numerous ditches, as well as part of an infant's arm (CEUS 2015, 26).

Archaeological evaluation at Tan Yard St Neots (HER: 11935; ECB919) recovered sherds of 3rd century AD pottery (Roberts 1997). The suspected villa located in the vicinity of Ernulf Academy is thought to date from the 3rd and 4th centuries while coffined burials of a Romano-British date have also been recorded at Duloe Hill, although these burials appear to be in isolation (CEUS 2015, 20). Romano-British pottery was also recorded during excavations at the Wool Pack public house, although no further details are recorded on the HER dataset (HER: 00560)

It is therefore likely that the pre-Roman agricultural activity in the vicinity of St Neots continued into the Romano-British period and the survival of archaeological features associated within this period within the historic core of the town suggests that further evidence could be recovered (CEUS 2015, 33).

At Conygeare, Eynesbury, a number of features of a Romano-British date are recorded on the Historic Environment Record (*Table 1*) while investigation of the earthworks suggests a Romano-British origin, its form being suggestive of a marching camp. Building footings and hypocaust tile have also been identified nearby, suggesting the presence of a villa in the immediate vicinity.

Multiple findspots of Romano-British coinage are recorded within the vicinity of St Neots (*Table 1*). The number of numismatic findspots in the vicinity of St Neots suggests a relatively high level of activity, although there is no evidence for a substantial and cohesive settlement, with the exception of a possible focus close to a hypothetical river-crossing (CEUS 2015, 20). The closest numismatic findspot to the site of the proposed development is a brass coin from the reign of Trajan, recorded 285m to the NE of the site (HER: 00539). However, no further information or context is provided regarding this findspot.

The site of the proposed development is also approximately 430m to the S of the probably line of a minor Roman road (HER: MCB30152). This represents a route running W from Cambridge, with sections identified within gravel workings near Bushmead Priory.

4.4 Medieval

No features of a positively identified medieval date are recorded within the boundaries of the site of the proposed development, according to the dataset supplied by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (*Fig. 3*).

By the 10th century, the predominantly rural agricultural riverside landscape of earlier times was transitioning to a more urban character as settlement activity intensified on both sides of the river at St Neots (HDC 2006, 8). The intervening post-Roman period is not currently well understood but the area is likely to have remained a predominantly rural landscape. Middle Saxon activity attested to the immediate S of the site where Anglo-Saxon pottery (the neck of a black shelly-ware jug) and a *sceatta* of a 7th to 8th century date were found under later monastic foundations (HER: 00548b; 10m to the S of the site).

The urban focus of the Late Saxon town appears to have been to the N of the Fox Brook, from the medieval marketplace, which may explain the location of the parish church to the E of what appears to be the medieval settlement core (CEUS 2015, 26).

The site lies just to the W of St Neots Priory (HER: 00548; 24m to the E of the site) (Historic Core Plan Form Component STN 2), nearest to the western range (HER: MCB28850). In the 970s, probably between 972 and 975, land amounting to two hides was granted by the Earl Ælric, Lord of Eynesbury, and his wife Ælfleda to found the first monastery of St. Neot, the 9th century Cornish saint (Page, Proby and Ladds 1932). The first monks are said to have been posted to St Neots by St. Anselm, from Thorney and Ely (Page, Proby and Norris 1926). Its probable

destruction at the hands of Danish raiders in 1010 appears to have left little trace as no physical remains have yet been found (CEUS 2015, 26). Its location is therefore uncertain and it may have stood closer to the site of the parish church. The priory secured relics attributed to St Neot, from which the later medieval settlement obviously took its name.

In the late 11th century, Anselm, Abbot of Bec Abbey in Normandy and later Archbishop of Canterbury, despatched a deputation of monks to St Neots with the purpose of re-founding the priory as a Benedictine dependent of Bec. The priory was subsequently granted the entirety of the manor of St Neots. At some point, most likely at the time of its refoundation, the site of abbey moved to its later riverside location, to the N of the present marketplace. In fact, in 1113 the priory was granted a charter for a new settlement outside its precinct gates, with a weekly market (HDC 2006, 8). This had the effect of shifting the settlement focus of St Neots and led to the priory site defining the N extent of the later medieval town. It is also from the 12th century that the placename 'St Neots' is first recorded (Mills 2003, 404).

The suppression of the priory in 1539 resulted in its demolition and the sale of the building stone and other materials for the benefit of the Crown, some of the masonry being reused in the fabric of the bridge at St Neots (CEUS 2015, 27). The former priory site is designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM: 1006882).

Tebbutt's excavations in the 1950s resulted in his proposed recreation of the layout of the priory. The site of the proposed development is located to the immediate N of a section of possible surviving priory wall (HER: MCB32046; 9m to the S of the site) and is situated approximately 48m to the NW of the site of the priory gatehouse, the last remaining structure associated with the medieval priory, which was pulled down in 1814 (HER: 00548c).

A priory mill (HER: 00546) is also recorded on the waterfront near the gatehouse. Its presence demonstrates that there was monastic exploitation of the Great Ouse Riverfront next to the priory site, in the immediate vicinity of the site.

4.5 Postmedieval

No features of a positively identified post-medieval date are recorded within the boundaries of the site of the proposed development, according to the dataset supplied by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (see *Fig. 3*). However, the historic cartographic record and features noted during the site visit indicate evidence of post-medieval industrial activity prior to the construction of the modern Priory Centre.

The site visit demonstrated the proximity of an 18th century bell foundry site and the Priory Centre itself was located on the site of an earlier brewery. The river wall beneath the modern structure appears to be formed from part of this earlier structure, with earlier brickwork noted. An earlier landing station was also noted. Consequently, the works associated with the proposed development are likely to encounter evidence of post-medieval industrial activity associated with these earlier structures.

The closest post-medieval feature recorded on the HER dataset in relation to the site is the site of the priory kiln (HER: 00549; 21m to the E of the site). This represents a late 18th or early 19th century brick malting kiln, conical on a short cylindrical base. The kiln itself is structurally independent of the rest of the building. The kiln is designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM: 1006821).

The following map regression analysis is extracted from the archaeological desk-based assessment previously supplied in connection with the proposals in February of this year (BA 2024).

The earliest available accurate cartographic depiction of the landscape containing the site of the proposed development is provided by a map of the St Neots Priory Estate commissioned by the Earl of Sandwich and dated to 1757. Whilst it is not possible to accurately plot the location of the site on this map, based on the location of Back Lane, it appears to be on riverside land to the N of the bell foundry and to the W of the former priory site.

The bell foundry is recorded as the property of one Joseph Eayre, who established the foundry in the 1730s, having previously worked in Kettering. The works appear to have remained operational until the late 1780s, when the foundry was relocated. No details are provided on the 1757 map as to the use of the site of the proposed development, or any buildings contained within, although the plot is recorded as being in the possession of a 'Mr Chambers'. The 1757 map does, however, appear to show that the priory site still represents the N extent of urban settlement at St Neots in the mid-18th century, as was the case in the medieval period.

A wider landscape view is provided by the 1808 Ordnance Survey Surveyor's Drawing of Caxton and District. Although the scale of the drawing does not lend itself to accuracy, buildings are clearly shown. Therefore, it is clear that the site had been built upon by at least the start of the 19th century, if not earlier. However, no details are provided as to the functions of the buildings shown.

No tithe map is available for St Neots but the buildings present within the site boundaries in the 19th century are shown in greater detail on the 1889 Ordnance Survey 1st Edition 25-inch Survey of Huntingdonshire. This map shows a large building with an irregular plan on the southern two-thirds of the site, with a series of outbuildings and yards to the N. This site is identified as 'Brewery – Site of Priory' on the map, suggesting that this map depicts the site of the former brewery noted during the site visit. It is likely that this building is identifiable with that shown in 1808, making use of its riverside location for the transportation of materials and goods. It is therefore likely that the earlier brickwork noted during the site visit relates to this structure, and that any ground disruption caused by the works associated with the proposed development is likely to encounter further evidence of this structure.

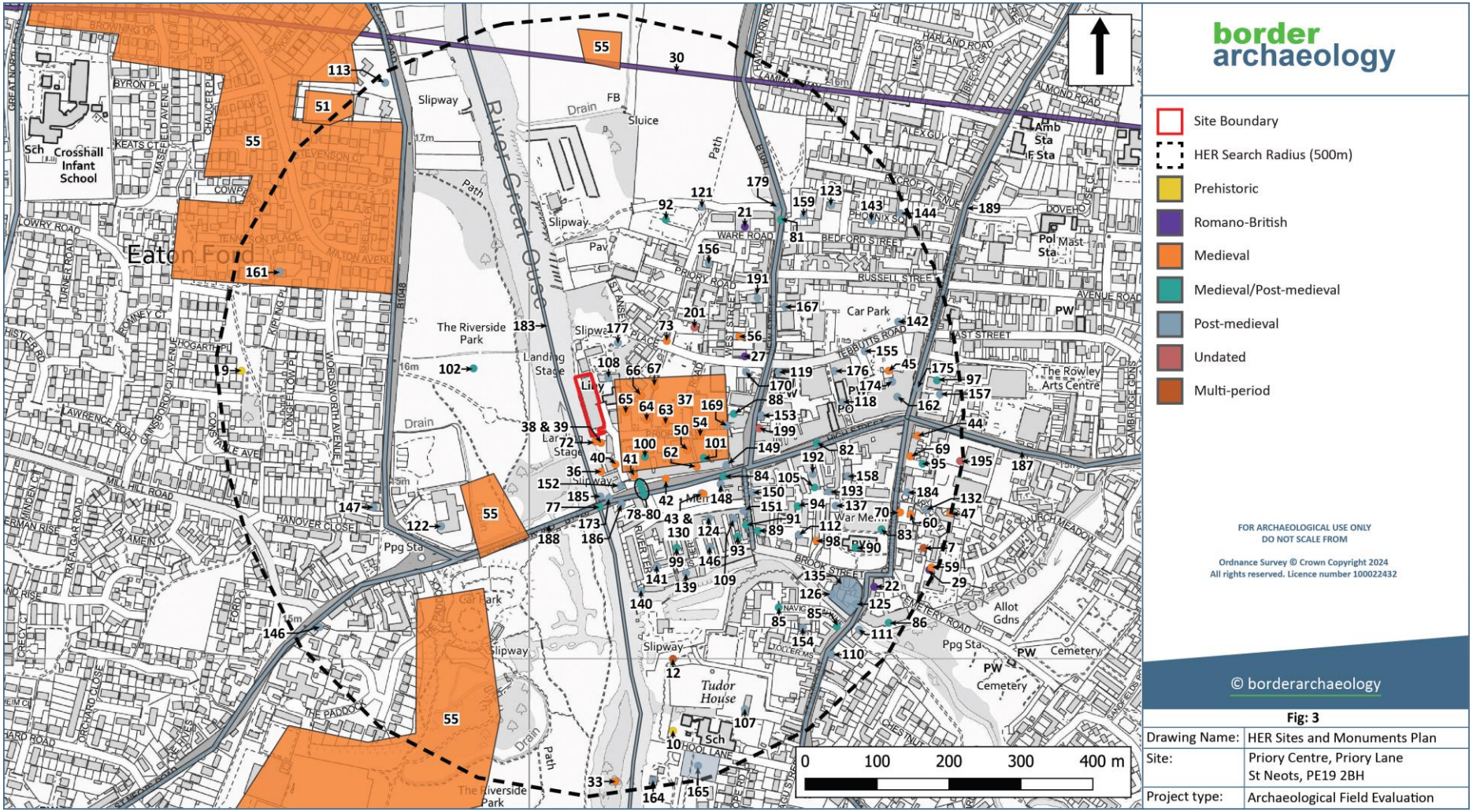
There is documentary evidence for brewing at the site (Francis Atwood followed by Edward Arnold) from the early 1700s and in 1780 the brewery was purchased by William Fowler, who expanded it to take over the former bell foundry site to the S. Fowler's brewery was bought in 1814 by John Hill Day (he who was responsible for the demolition of the Priory Gatehouse) and was sold on to Jordan and Addington in 1919.

A kiln is recorded to the N of the site, in a different location to the SAM located to the NE of the site. The site is surrounded by further buildings with an industrial appearance, possibly associated with the brewery or the foundry

identified on the 1757 map. The site of the former priory to the E of the site is shown largely undeveloped, with trees and a few isolated buildings recorded.

Little change is recorded in the layout of the site on the 1901 Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition 25-inch Survey of Huntingdonshire (*Fig. 11*), which depicts the buildings within the boundaries of the site unchanged from those recorded in 1889, suggesting it is the same brewery with little change in its size or form. Nor is any significant change seen to affect the landscape around the site of the proposed development, save for a slight increase in the number of buildings on the site of the former priory.

No change to the layout of the buildings can be seen on the 1926 Ordnance Survey 3rd Edition 25-inch Survey of Huntingdonshire but further information is provided regarding the nature of the buildings within the brewery site. The largest building within the boundaries of the site is listed as a 'Grist Mill', presumably powered by the river, and a large 'Malthouse' is recorded to the E of the site. No further changes are recorded on either the 1958 or 1968 Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 National Surveys, demonstrating that the brewery site survived into the second half of the 20th century. The brewery itself operated until 1962 and was redeveloped as the Priory Centre in the 1980s.


Site Boundary
HER Search Radius (500m)
Prehistoric
Romano-British
Medieval
Medieval/Post-medieval
Post-medieval
Undated
Multi-period
FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL USE ONLY
DO NOT SCALE FROM
Ordnance Survey © Crown Copyright 2024
All rights reserved. Licence number 100022432
© borderarchaeology
0 100 200 300 400 m
Eaton Ford
The Riverside Park
River Great Ouse
Tudor House
Crosshall Infant School
Fig: 3
Drawing Name: HER Sites and Monuments Plan
Site: Priory Centre, Priory Lane St Neots, PE19 2BH
Project type: Archaeological Field Evaluation

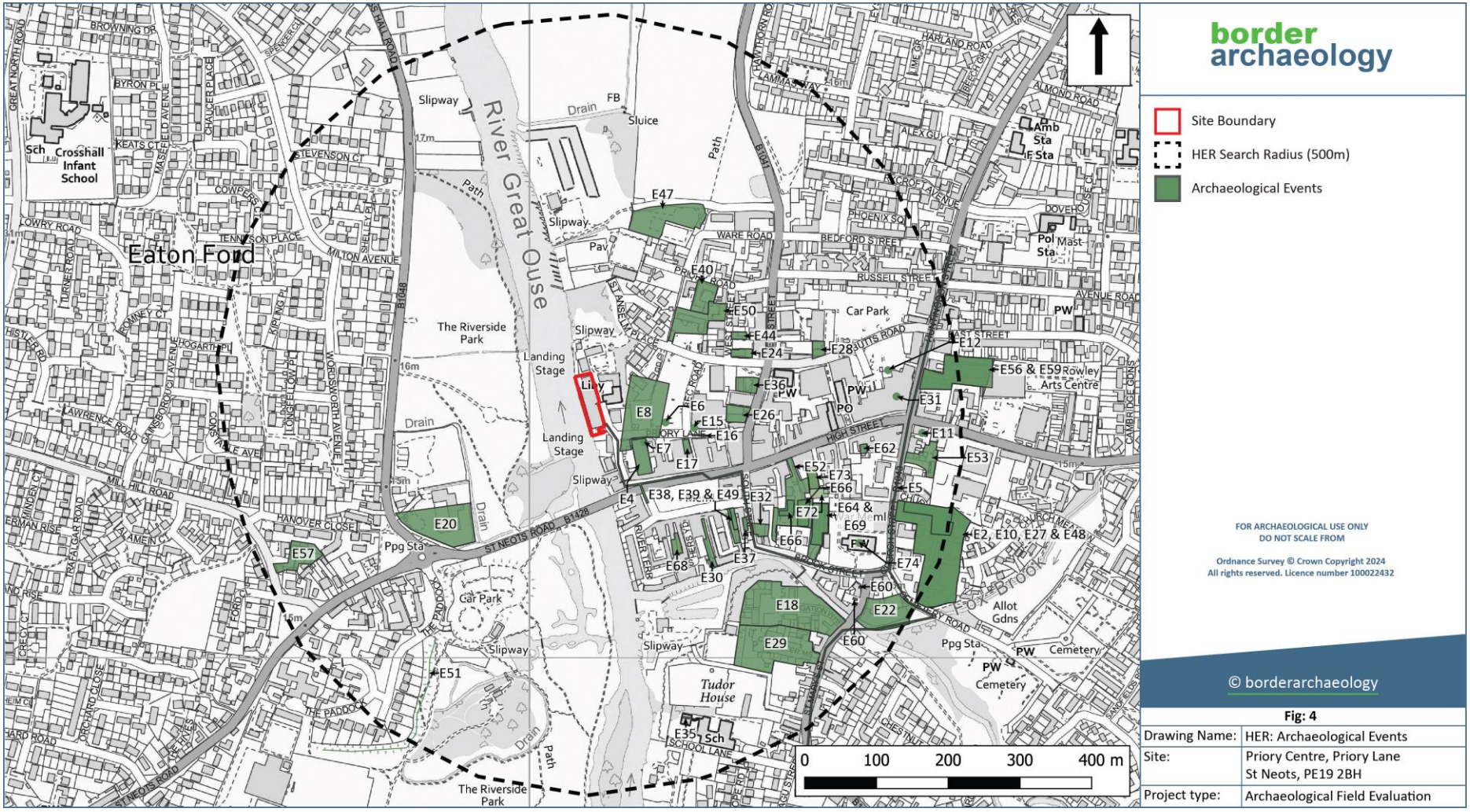


Fig: 4

Drawing Name:	HER: Archaeological Events
Site:	Priory Centre, Priory Lane St Neots, PE19 2BH
Project type:	Archaeological Field Evaluation

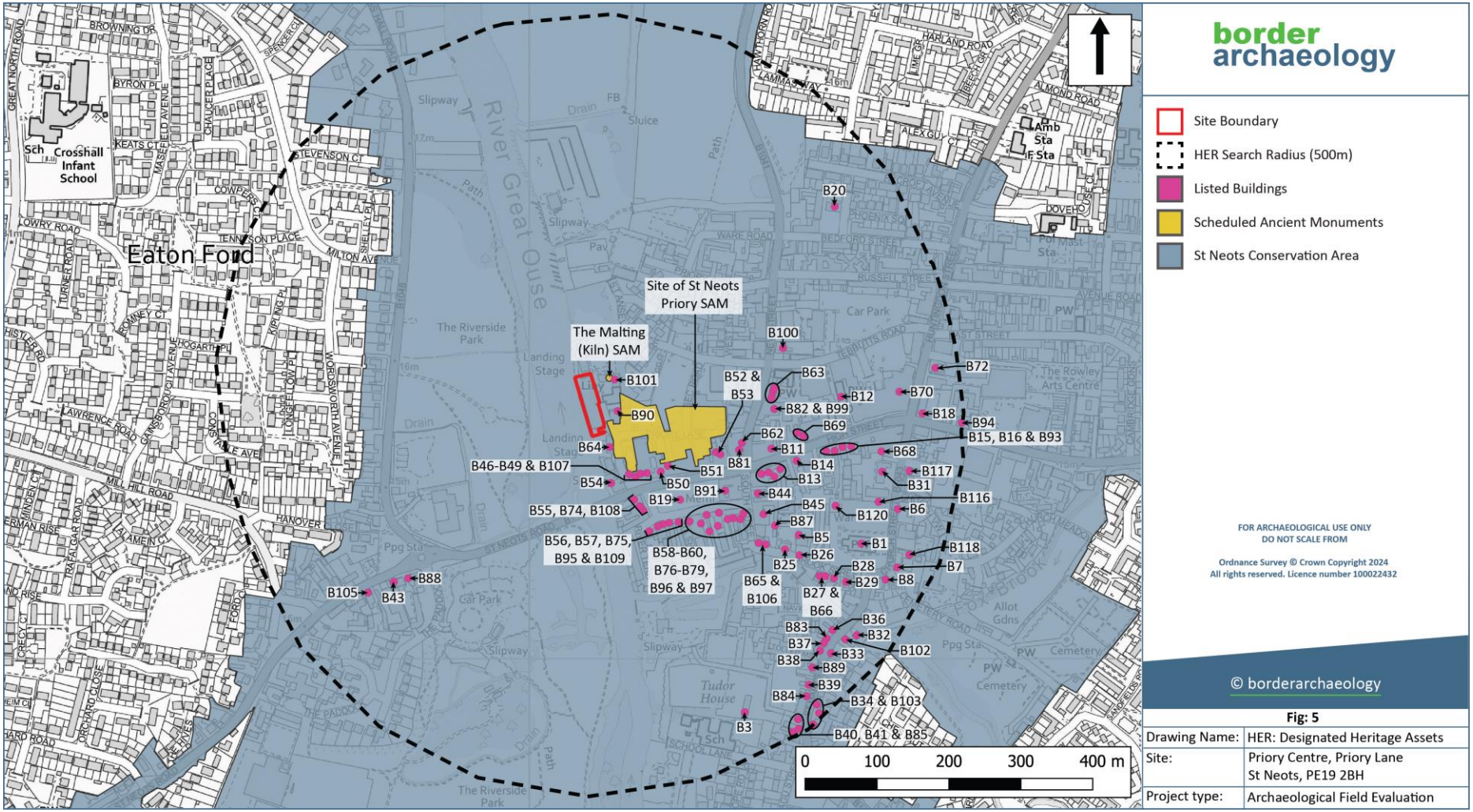


Fig: 5

Drawing Name:	HER: Designated Heritage Assets
Site:	Priory Centre, Priory Lane St Neots, PE19 2BH
Project type:	Archaeological Field Evaluation

5 Historic Environment Record Gazetteers & Maps

Table 1: Gazetteer of Archaeological Monuments recorded within a 1km radius of the Site based on consultation of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER)

#	MonUID	PrefRef	Name	Date
1	MCB737	00567c	Palaeolithic Find	Palaeolithic
2	MCB738	00568	Palaeolithic Finds, Hall Place	Palaeolithic
3	MCB803	00619	Mesolithic Tranchet Axe	Mesolithic
4	MCB674	00518	Leaf-Shaped Arrowhead	Neolithic
5	MCB18417	MCB18417	Possible Neolithic Feature, Eaton Ford	Neolithic
6	MCB520	00397	Neo. Axes & BA Beaker Fragments	Neo./BA
7	MCB18497	MCB18497	Late Neolithic/Early BA Pit, Church Street	Neo.-Med.
8	MCB684	524	Pit, Crosshall	Bronze Age
9	MCB874	00670	Bronze Torc, Eaton Ford	Bronze Age
10	MCB514	00395	Possible IA Hut	Iron Age
11	MCB685	00524A	IA Finds, Crosshall	Iron Age
12	MCB717	00550	IA & AS Pottery, St. Neots Junior School	IA - Med.
13	MCB510	391	Conygeare	Romano-British
14	MCB513	00394	RB Remains	Romano-British
15	MCB515	00396	RB Remains, Conygeare	Romano-British
16	MCB516	00396a	RB Hypocaust Building, Conygeare	Romano-British
17	MCB518	00396c	Rectilinear Earthwork Enclosure, Conygeare	Romano-British
18	MCB519	00396d	RB Coin, Buckley Road	Romano-British
19	MCB672	00516	RB Remains, Windmill Field	Romano-British
20	MCB686	00524B	RB Finds, Crosshall	Romano-British
21	MCB702	539	RB Coin	Romano-British
22	MCB727	00560	RB Pottery, Wool Pack PH	Romano-British
23	MCB741	00571	Coin of Constantine II	Romano-British
24	MCB742	00572	Coin of Diocletian	Romano-British
25	MCB7246	05957	RB Coin, Duloe Hill	Romano-British
26	MCB11076	09268	Roman Coins	Romano-British
27	MCB14044	11935	RB Features, Tan Yard	Romano-British
28	MCB18418	MCB18418	RB Ditches, Eaton Ford	Romano-British
29	MCB18496	MCB18496	RB Settlement Features, Church Street	Romano-British
30	MCB30152	MCB30152	Probable Roman Road, Cambridge to Bolnhurst	Romano-British
31	MCB15258	CB15258	RB & Late AS Features, Church Lane	RB/Med.
32	MCB511	00392	Probable AS Cemetery, Conygeare	Medieval
33	MCB512	00393	AS Finds, Willow Bank House	Medieval
34	MCB521	00398	C12 Building Remains, Montagu Court	Medieval
35	MCB673	00517	AS Inhumation w/ Scramasax	Medieval
36	MCB710	00546	Priory Watermill	Medieval
37	MCB712	00548	Site of St Neots Priory	Medieval
38	MCB713	00548a	St Neots Priory Graveyard	Medieval
39	MCB714	00548b	AS Sceatta & Pottery Finds, St Neots Priory	Medieval
40	MCB715	00548c	Site of St Neots Priory Gatehouse	Medieval
41	MCB718	00551	Late AS Inhumations, Barclays Bank & Cross Keys	Medieval
42	MCB721	00554	Med. Well	Medieval

Table 1: Gazetteer of Archaeological Monuments recorded within a 1km radius of the Site based on consultation of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER)

#	MonUID	PrefRef	Name	Date
43	MCB723	00556	Site of Old Parish Church, Market Square	Medieval
44	MCB732	00565	AS/Med. Ditch, Med. Tenements & Iron Working Site	Medieval
45	MCB733	00566	Med. Ditches	Medieval
46	MCB734	00567	Late AS Settlement, Hall Place	Medieval
47	MCB736	00567b	Med. Fishpond, Hall Place, Church Street	Medieval
48	MCB743	00573	Late AS Settlement	Medieval
49	MCB744	00574	Early AS Cremation, Avenue Road	Medieval
50	MCB13524	11509	Med. Burial Ground, St Neots Priory	Medieval
51	MCB13631	11587	Earthwork Remains of Ridge & Furrow	Medieval
52	MCB14098	11976	Human Remains & Shallow Linear Feature, Cedar House Car Park	Medieval
53	MCB14574	13051	AS Remains, Cambridge Street	Medieval
54	MCB15396	CB15396	Structural Remains & Burials, St Neots Priory	Medieval
55	MCB16714	MCB16714	Former Ridge & Furrow	Medieval
56	MCB17406	MCB17406	Med. Ditch, New Street	Medieval
57	MCB17661	MCB17661	AS Inhumation & Building, Hall Place	Medieval
58	MCB17662	MCB17662	AS Buildings, Hall Place	Medieval
59	MCB18498	MCB18498	Early-Middle AS Ditch, Church Street	Medieval
60	MCB18499	MCB18499	Med. Remains, Church Street	Medieval
61	MCB18500	MCB18500	AS Burial & Med. Features, Church Street	Medieval
62	MCB28842	MCB28842	Med. Inhumations, 23-35 High Street	Medieval
63	MCB28848	MCB28848	Eastern Range, St Neots Priory	Medieval
64	MCB28849	MCB28849	Cloister & Garth, St Neots Priory	Medieval
65	MCB28850	MCB28850	Western Range, Refectory & Kitchens, St Neots Priory	Medieval
66	MCB28851	MCB28851	Prior's Lodgings, St Neots Priory	Medieval
67	MCB28852	MCB28852	Possible Infirmary, St Neots Priory	Medieval
68	MCB28853	MCB28853	C13 Ditch, Russell Court	Medieval
69	MCB28859	MCB28859	Med. Ditch	Medieval
70	MCB28860	MCB28860	Med. Ditch	Medieval
71	MCB28861	MCB28861	Late AS Silver Penny	Medieval
72	MCB32046	MCB32046	Possible Priory Wall Remains	Medieval
73	MCB32047	MCB32047	Possible Tanyard Remains	Medieval
74	MCB523	00400	Nag's Head Inn	Med./PM
75	MCB524	00401	Saint Mary's Church, Eynesbury	Med./PM
76	MCB671	00515	Ford House, 140 St Neots Road	Med./PM
77	MCB709	00545	St Neots Bridge	Med./PM
78	MCB711	00547	Site of Bridge & Associated Finds	Med./PM
79	MCB719	00552	Med. Roadway, Market Square	Med./PM
80	MCB720	00553	Ditch & Finds, Market Square	Med./PM
81	MCB725	00558	Site of Pound	Med./PM
82	MCB728	00561	C15 House	Med./PM
83	MCB731	00564	Site of Stocks & Whipping Post, St. Neots Churchyard	Med./PM
84	MCB10739	08953	Med. Ditches & Former Road Surface, Market Square	Med./PM
85	MCB13529	11511	Med. Features & Post-med. & PM Tannery, St. Mary's Street	Med./PM
86	MCB13972	11871	Tanning Activity, 43-45 Church Street	Med./PM
87	MCB14317	12192	Priory Park	Med./PM

Table 1: Gazetteer of Archaeological Monuments recorded within a 1km radius of the Site based on consultation of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER)

#	MonUID	PrefRef	Name	Date
88	MCB14573	13050	Med./PM Remains, 11-13 New Street	Med./PM
89	MCB14643	CB14643	Med./PM Structural Remains, 15/17 South Street	Med./PM
90	MCB14932	CB14932	Saint Mary's Church	Med./PM
91	MCB16502	MCB16502	Med./PM Remains, Land Rear of 46 Market Square	Med./PM
92	MCB17570	MCB17570	Ditches, Priory Road	Med./PM
93	MCB18506	MCB18506	Features, 42 Market Square	Med./PM
94	MCB18584	MCB18584	Occupation, High Street	Med./PM
95	MCB19233	MCB19233	Med.-C19 Features	Med./PM
96	MCB19927	MCB19927	Features at The Old Fire Station, Huntingdon Street	Med./PM
97	MCB19928	MCB19928	Occupation at the Old Fire Station	Med./PM
98	MCB23237	MCB23237	Late AS-PM Features at Land off Windmill Row	Med./PM
99	MCB27757	MCB27757	Med. Pits & C18-C19 Structural Remains, Market Square	Med./PM
100	MCB28841	MCB28841	Priory Church, 7-11 Market Square	Med./PM
101	MCB28845	MCB28845	C16 Building, Med. Well & Inhumations, 33 Market Square	Med./PM
102	MCB28855	MCB28855	Med./PM Drainage Ditches	Med./PM
103	MCB29507	MCB29507	Med./PM Fields & Quarries, Lammas Meadow	Med./PM
104	MCB30674	MCB30674	Med. & PM Features, Huntingdon Street	Med./PM
105	MCB33017	MCB33017	Possible Saxon ditches and post medieval structures, Windmill Row, St Neots	Med./PM
106	MCB501	00382	7 Berkeley Street	Post-med.
107	MCB522	399	Tudor House	Post-med.
108	MCB716	00549	Priory Malting Kiln	Post-med.
109	MCB722	00555	Brick Sewer, South Street	Post-med.
110	MCB726	00559	Chequers Inn	Post-med.
111	MCB729	00562	Eynesbury Bridge Ford	Post-med.
112	MCB871	00667	Brook House	Post-med.
113	MCB14316	12191	Crosshall Lodge	Post-med.
114	MCB14318	12193	Cemetery	Post-med.
115	MCB14319	12194	Vicarage	Post-med.
116	MCB14644	CB14644	PM Riverside Structures, 30 Market Square	Post-med.
117	MCB14931	CB14931	Saint Joseph's Church,	Post-med.
118	MCB14958	CB14958	St. Neot's United Reformed Church	Post-med.
119	MCB14971	CB14971	St. Neots Baptist Chapel	Post-med.
120	MCB14972	CB14972	St. Neots Evangelical Church	Post-med.
121	MCB15200	CB15200	Pillbox	Post-med.
122	MCB15260	CB15260	Ditches, Crosshall Road	Post-med.
123	MCB16647	MCB16647	Paine's Flour Mill	Post-med.
124	MCB16649	MCB16649	Paine's Brewery	Post-med.
125	MCB16650	MCB16650	Paine's Chimney	Post-med.
126	MCB16651	MCB16651	Riverside Warehouse	Post-med.
127	MCB16974	MCB16974	42 Market Square	Post-med.
128	MCB17193	MCB17193	Eaton Ford Methodist Church	Post-med.
129	MCB17260	MCB17260	Former Open Air Swimming Pool	Post-med.
130	MCB17279	MCB17279	Site of the Battle of St Neots (1648)	Post-med.
131	MCB17426	MCB17426	PM Features, Huntingdon Street	Post-med.
132	MCB17655	MCB17655	Site of Hall Place, Church Street	Post-med.

Table 1: Gazetteer of Archaeological Monuments recorded within a 1km radius of the Site based on consultation of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER)

#	MonUID	PrefRef	Name	Date
133	MCB18501	MCB18501	PM Fish Ponds, Church Street	Post-med.
134	MCB19288	MCB19288	C19 Structures, Kings Lane	Post-med.
135	MCB19696	MCB19696	Former Brookside Steam Mills, Brook Street	Post-med.
136	MCB21928	MCB21928	War Memorial	Post-med.
137	MCB21929	MCB21929	War Memorial	Post-med.
138	MCB22457	MCB22457	Site of Former Structure Called Flagstaff, Little Paxton	Post-med.
139	MCB23992	MCB23992	Former Bower Engineering Works	Post-med.
140	MCB23993	MCB23993	Site of Former Kiln	Post-med.
141	MCB23994	MCB23994	John Bull Mill	Post-med.
142	MCB23995	MCB23995	Former Corn Mill	Post-med.
143	MCB23996	MCB23996	Phoenix Iron Works	Post-med.
144	MCB23997	MCB23997	Malthouse	Post-med.
145	MCB23998	MCB23998	Chemical Manure Works	Post-med.
146	MCB24006	MCB24006	Former Rose & Crown PH	Post-med.
147	MCB24008	MCB24008	Barley Mow PH	Post-med.
148	MCB24009	MCB24009	Former PH, Market Square	Post-med.
149	MCB24010	MCB24010	Former PH, Market Square	Post-med.
150	MCB24011	MCB24011	Kings Head Hotel, Market Square	Post-med.
151	MCB24012	MCB24012	Former PH, Market Square	Post-med.
152	MCB24013	MCB24013	The Bridge House, Market Square	Post-med.
153	MCB24014	MCB24014	Inn, New Street	Post-med.
154	MCB24015	MCB24015	Former Kiln, St Mary's Street	Post-med.
155	MCB24016	MCB24016	Former Kiln, Huntingdon Street	Post-med.
156	MCB24017	MCB24017	Former Wesleyan School, Wesleyan School Road	Post-med.
157	MCB24018	MCB24018	Former School, High Street	Post-med.
158	MCB24019	MCB24019	Former School, St Mary's Street	Post-med.
159	MCB24020	MCB24020	Site of Former Gas Works, Bedford Street	Post-med.
160	MCB24022	MCB24022	Former School, St Mary's Street	Post-med.
161	MCB24125	MCB24125	Former Eatonford Farm	Post-med.
162	MCB25198	MCB25198	Ditch & Wells, High Street	Post-med.
163	MCB25389	MCB25389	Former Methodist Chapel, Berkley Street	Post-med.
164	MCB25820	MCB25820	Willow Bank	Post-med.
165	MCB25821	MCB25821	C19 Cemetery	Post-med.
166	MCB25824	MCB25824	Crosshall Lodge	Post-med.
167	MCB25825	MCB25825	The Laurels	Post-med.
168	MCB26750	MCB26750	Late PM Quarries, Luke Street	Post-med.
169	MCB27748	MCB27748	Former Blacksmiths Workshop	Post-med.
170	MCB27749	MCB27749	Former Burial Ground	Post-med.
171	MCB28837	MCB28837	St Neots Union Workhouse, Eaton Socon	Post-med.
172	MCB28839	MCB28839	WWII AT Block, Cambridge Street	Post-med.
173	MCB28840	MCB28840	WWII AT Block, Cambridge Street	Post-med.
174	MCB28843	MCB28843	Former Methodist Chapel, Huntingdon Street	Post-med.
175	MCB28844	MCB28844	PM Well & Ditch, Huntingdon Street	Post-med.
176	MCB28854	MCB28854	Former Congregational Chapel	Post-med.
177	MCB28856	MCB28856	WWII Nissen Type Huts	Post-med.

Table 1: Gazetteer of Archaeological Monuments recorded within a 1km radius of the Site based on consultation of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER)				
#	**MonUID**	**PrefRef**	**Name**	**Date**
178	MCB28857	MCB28857	WWI AT Block, New Street	Post-med.
179	MCB28858	MCB28858	WWI AT Block, New Street	Post-med.
180	MCB28862	MCB28862	WWII Army Camp, Mill Hill Road	Post-med.
181	MCB29275	MCB29275	Former POW Camp, Huntingdon Road	Post-med.
182	MCB29426	MCB29426	River Great Ouse Navigation	Post-med.
183	MCB29506	MCB29506	Earthwork Drainage System, Lammas Meadow	Post-med.
184	MCB31118	MCB31118	Possible Site of Former Workhouse, Church Street	Post-med.
185	MCB31119	MCB31119	Cattle remains, Town Bridge	Post-med.
186	MCB31120	MCB31120	Former Wharf, Later Public Rooms	Post-med.
187	MCB31312	MCB31312	St Neots to Cambridge Turnpike Trust	Post-med.
188	MCB31381	MCB31381	Biggleswade to Alconbury Hill Trust	Post-med.
189	MCB31487	MCB31487	Godmanchester to St Neots Turnpike Trust	Post-med.
190	MCB32028	MCB32028	Early C20 Garage Buildings, Cambridge Street	Post-med.
191	MCB32606	MCB32606	Former Gospel Hall, St Neots	Post-med.
192	MCB33011	MCB33011	Light industrial buildings of a late post medieval date, Windmill Row, St Neots	Post-med.
193	MCB33016	MCB33016	19th century structure, Windmill Row, St Neots	Post-med
194	MCB735	00567a	Human Remains & Flint Implements	Undated
195	MCB739	00569	Unspecified Object	Undated
196	MCB740	00570	Cinerary Urns	Undated
197	MCB14933	CB14933	St. Neots Methodist Church, Berkeley Street	Undated
198	MCB14995	CB14995	Undated Gully, 12/14 Berkley Street	Undated
199	MCB16648	MCB16648	St Neots Museum	Undated
200	MCB17192	MCB17192	Cemetery Chapel	Undated
201	MCB17803	MCB17803	Undated Features, Land Between West Street & Tan Yard	Undated

Table 2: Gazetteer of Archaeological Events recorded within a 1km radius of the Site based on consultation of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER)			
#	**EvUID**	**Name**	**Date**
E1	ECB6548	Excavation: St Neots	1927-1946
E2	ECB2659	Excavation: Hall Place Gravel Quarry	1929-1932
E3	ECB632	Excavation: Conygeare	1934
E4	ECB6287	Investigations: Rear of 7-11 High Market Square	1954
E5	ECB6288	Salvage Recording: Market Square to Huntingdon Street	1954
E6	ECB6289	WB: Factory, Priory Lane	1958
E7	ECB6546	Excavation: St. Neots Priory	1958-1963
E8	ECB6290	Excavations: Priory Lane	1959-1961
E9	ECB630	Excavation: Montagu Court	1960
E10	ECB871	Excavation: Hall Place, Church Street	1961
E11	ECB6291	Salvage Recording: Corner of Cambridge Street & Church Street	1964
E12	ECB6547	Excavation: Huntingdon Street, East Street	1964
E13	ECB633	Excavation: Conygeare	1967
E14	ECB6550	Excavation: Duloe Road	1969
E15	ECB48	Rescue Excavation: St. Neots Priory	1985-1986
E16	ECB49	WB: St. Neots Priory	1989
E17	ECB50	Assessment: 25-27 Market Square	1993

Table 2: Gazetteer of Archaeological Events recorded within a 1km radius of the Site based on consultation of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER)

#	EvUID	Name	Date
E18	ECB319	Archaeological Investigations: St. Mary's Street	1994-1995
E19	ECB328	Eval.: Duloe Hill,	1995
E20	ECB922	Eval.: Crosshall Road	1995
E21	ECB1550	AP Assessment at Duloe Hill	1995
E22	ECB325	Eval. & WB: 43-45 Church Street	1996-1997
E23	ECB917	Eval.: Cedar House Car Park	1997
E24	ECB919	Eval.: Tan Yard	1997
E25	ECB330	Eval.: 50-52 Cambridge Street	1998
E26	ECB324	Eval. & Excavation: 11-13 New Street	1999
E27	ECB326	Eval.: Land at Church Lane	1999
E28	ECB331	Eval.: Tebbutts Road	1999
E29	ECB320	Eval.: St. Mary's Street (former Courtaulds Site)	2000
E30	ECB465	Eval.: 30 Market Square	2001
E31	ECB5463	WB: Westgate Store, High Street	2001
E32	ECB464	Eval. & Excavation: 15/17 South Street	2001-2002
E33	ECB746	Eval.: Land Rear of 12/14 Berkley Street	2002
E34	ECB1370	Eval.: Hardwick Road	2002
E35	ECB1159	Eval.: Eynesbury Primary School	2003
E36	ECB1713	Eval.: New Street	2004
E37	ECB1962	Eval.: Rear of 46 Market Square	2004
E38	ECB2205	Site Visit: 42 Market Square	2004
E39	ECB2206	Site Visit: 42 Market Square	2004
E40	ECB1960	Eval.: 1 Priory Road	2005
E41	ECB1949	Eval.: 42 Huntingdon Street	2006
E42	ECB2339	Eval.: 441-443 Great North Road	2006
E43	ECB2350	Eval.: Longsands Community College	2006
E44	ECB2355	Eval.: New Street	2006
E45	ECB2425	AP Assessment: Longsands College	2006
E46	ECB2448	Eval.: Longsands Community College	2006
E47	ECB2537	Eval.: Former Youth Centre Site, Priory Road	2007
E48	ECB2597	Excavation: Church Street	2007
E49	ECB2629	Eval.: 42 Market Square	2007
E50	ECB2871	Eval.: Land Between West Street & Tan Yard	2007
E51	ECB3169	Eval.: The St Neots Flood Alleviation Scheme	2009
E52	ECB3281	Eval.: 22A High Street,	2009
E53	ECB3449	Eval.: Former Dairy Depot, 11- 17 Church Street	2009-2011
E54	ECB3346	Eval.: Kings Lane Garage, Kings Lane	2010
E55	ECB3599	Eval.: The Merry Boys PH, 19 Berkley Street	2011
E56	ECB3611	Eval.: Old Fire Station	2011
E57	ECB3650	Eval.: Eaton Ford Green	2011
E58	ECB3684	Eval.: St Neots Camping & Caravanning Club, Hardwick Road	2011
E59	ECB3731	Excavation: Old Fire Station, Huntingdon Street	2012
E60	ECB3857	Eval.: Former ATS site, Brook Street	2012
E61	ECB4453	Eval.: Eaton Court, Great North Road	2015
E62	ECB4465	Eval.: Land at 48A & 50 High Street	2015

Table 2: Gazetteer of Archaeological Events recorded within a 1km radius of the Site based on consultation of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER)			
#	**EvUID**	**Name**	**Date**
E63	ECB4626	Eval.: Land W of 12 Kym Road	2015
E64	ECB4786	Eval.: Land off Windmill Row	2016
E65	ECB5274	Eval.: 69 Luke Street	2018
E66	ECB5459	Excavation: The Old Forge & 22 High Street	2018-2019
E67	ECB5563	Eval.: Land at 81 to 85 & 97 a,b and c, Huntingdon Street	2019
E68	ECB5809	Eval.: & Excavation: 22 Market Square	2019
E69	ECB6219	Excavation: Windmill Row, Brook Street	2020
E70	ECB6373	Measured Survey: Islands Common & Lammas Meadow	2006
E71	ECB6832	SBR: The Old Chapel, Berkley Street	2022
E72	ECB7206	Building recording at 30-32 High Street/Windmill Row, St Neots in 2023	2023
E73	ECB7205	Evaluation at 30-32 High Street/Windmill Row, St Neots in 2024	2024
E74	ECB1863	Site Visit: St. Mary's Church	N/R

Table 3: Gazetteer of Listed Buildings within a 1km radius of the Site				
#	**NationalRef**	**DesigUID**	**Name**	**Grade**
B1	1128002	DCB2182	Church of St Mary	I
B2	1127993	DCB2176	Parish Church of St Mary	II*
B3	1128739	DCB3887	Tudor House	II*
B4	1128743	DCB3598	Ford House	II*
B5	1309921	DCB3779	Brook House	II*
B6	1127960	DCB2157	Garden Wall, Piers and Gate of Former Hall Place fronting the East Side of Church Street and Now Forming Part of the Curtilage of Numbers 19, the Vicarage and 29a	II
B7	1127961	DCB2158	Coach House in Vicarage Garden	II
B8	1127962	DCB2159	33 Church Street	II
B9	1127963	DCB3832	Duloe Hill Windmill	II
B10	1127964	DCB2160	2 Eaton Ford Green	II
B11	1127973	DCB2163	9 High Street	II
B12	1127974	DCB3537	St Neot's Congregational Church	II
B13	1127975	DCB2164	10-18 High Street	II
B14	1127976	DCB2165	24 & 26 High Street	II
B15	1127977	DCB2166	42 High Street	II
B16	1127978	DCB2167	44 High Street	II
B17	1127979	DCB2168	The Globe Public House	II
B18	1127980	DCB2169	2 Huntingdon Street	II
B19	1127981	DCB4089	Pillar	II
B20	1127988	DCB2171	Bedford Street Works of Payne and Company Limited and Corn Mill of Payne and Company Limited	II
B21	1127989	DCB2172	Church House	II
B22	1127990	DCB2173	Manor House	II
B23	1127991	DCB2174	23 & 25 Berkley Street	II
B24	1127992	DCB2175	The Ferns	II
B25	1127995	DCB2178	7-11 Brook Street	II
B26	1127996	DCB2179	Walls, Railings and Gates of Brook House	II
B27	1127997	DCB2180	14 Brook Street	II
B28	1127998	DCB4091	Church House	II
B29	1127999	DCB2181	20 Brook Street	II

Table 3: Gazetteer of Listed Buildings within a 1km radius of the Site				
#	NationalRef	DesigUID	Name	Grade
B30	1128000	DCB3538	Hall Place	II
B31	1128001	DCB4092	The Shrubbery	II
B32	1128731	DCB3595	1 St Mary's Street	II
B33	1128732	DCB2413	Chequers Inn	II
B34	1128733	DCB2414	31 & 33 St Mary's Street	II
B35	1128734	DCB3885	41 St Mary's Street	II
B36	1128735	DCB3886	4 & 6 St Mary's Street	II
B37	1128736	DCB4145	10 St Mary's Street	II
B38	1128737	DCB3596	12 & 12a St Mary's Street	II
B39	1128738	DCB2415	24 St Mary's Street	II
B40	1128740	DCB3597	36 St Mary's Street	II
B41	1128741	DCB4146	40-44 St Mary's Street	II
B42	1128742	DCB2416	Quaintways	II
B43	1128744	DCB3599	160 & 162 St Neot's Road	II
B44	1128745	DCB2417	Kings Head Hotel	II
B45	1128746	DCB4147	11 & 13 South Street	II
B46	1129889	DCB3890	3 Market Square	II
B47	1129890	DCB2422	7 Market Square	II
B48	1129891	DCB4149	9 Market Square	II
B49	1129892	DCB2423	11 Market Square	II
B50	1129893	DCB2424	Cross Keys Hotel	II
B51	1129894	DCB2425	15 Market Square	II
B52	1129895	DCB2426	35 Market Square	II
B53	1129896	DCB2427	39 Market Square	II
B54	1129897	DCB2428	Bridge Hotel	II
B55	1129898	DCB2429	Old Falcon Inn	II
B56	1129899	DCB2430	18 Market Square	II
B57	1129900	DCB4150	20 Market Square	II
B58	1129901	DCB2431	30 Market Square	II
B59	1129902	DCB2432	Paine's Brewery and Related Buildings Forming Two Courtyards to the rear	II
B60	1129903	DCB2433	40 & 42 Market Square	II
B61	1129904	DCB2434	St Mary's School	II
B62	1129905	DCB3891	3 New Street	II
B63	1129906	DCB3600	14-18 New Street	II
B64	1129908	DCB4152	The Priory	II
B65	1161850	DCB2650	3a & 3b Brook Street	II
B66	1161861	DCB2652	Hilary House	II
B67	1161866	DCB2654	30 Cambridge Street	II
B68	1161873	DCB4193	Garages at the Shrubbery	II
B69	1161977	DCB3927	21 & 23 High Street	II
B70	1161981	DCB3648	57 High Street	II
B71	1162026	DCB2671	2 Howitts Lane	II
B72	1162036	DCB2672	12 Huntingdon Street	II
B73	1162038	DCB2673	84 Luke Street	II
B74	1162069	DCB4194	Burnside	II
B75	1162076	DCB4195	16 Market Square	II

Table 3: Gazetteer of Listed Buildings within a 1km radius of the Site				
#	NationalRef	DesigUID	Name	Grade
B76	1162080	DCB2677	26 Market Square	II
B77	1162084	DCB2679	28 Market Square	II
B78	1162095	DCB2681	Bull Inn Public House at rear of Number 34	II
B79	1162130	DCB2684	44 Market Square	II
B80	1162167	DCB4198	Mrs Harvey's Cottage	II
B81	1162188	DCB2686	5 New Street	II
B82	1162193	DCB2687	Constitutional Club	II
B83	1162239	DCB2693	8 St Mary's Street	II
B84	1162265	DCB2696	26 St Mary's Street	II
B85	1162279	DCB2698	38 St Mary's Street	II
B86	1162295	DCB2699	Garden Wall to North East of No 140	II
B87	1162301	DCB3930	Smithy and Stables at rear of Numbers 15 and 17	II
B88	1309690	DCB4321	166 & 168 St Neot's Road	II
B89	1309710	DCB4034	20 & 22 St Mary's Street	II
B90	1309731	DCB4035	The Priory Club and the Priory House	II
B91	1309771	DCB3285	50 & 52 Market Square	II
B92	1309804	DCB4323	The Laurels	II
B93	1309825	DCB3286	38 & 40 High Street	II
B94	1309886	DCB3294	3, 5, 11 & 15-31 Cambridge Street	II
B95	1330600	DCB3801	24 Market Square	II
B96	1330601	DCB3391	Paine's Brewery	II
B97	1330602	DCB3392	46 Market Square	II
B98	1330603	DCB3393	Montague House	II
B99	1330604	DCB3394	Wrestler's Arms Public House	II
B100	1330605	DCB3395	Vernon House	II
B101	1330606	DCB3396	Malthouse behind the Priory Club	II
B102	1330625	DCB4346	Corner House	II
B103	1330626	DCB4056	23-29 St Mary's Street	II
B104	1330627	DCB3400	138 & 138a St Neot's Road	II
B105	1330628	DCB3401	156 St Neot's Road	II
B106	1330630	DCB3403	Number 19 Incorporating Former Nos 1 and 2 Brook Street	II
B107	1330636	DCB3406	Barclay's Bank	II
B108	1330637	DCB3803	6 Market Square	II
B109	1330638	DCB4059	22 Market Square	II
B110	1330994	DCB4082	5 Howitts Lane	II
B111	1330995	DCB4369	44 & 44a Huntingdon Street	II
B112	1331001	DCB3521	Berkley House and Berkley Lodge	II
B113	1331002	DCB3522	21 Berkely Street	II
B114	1331003	DCB4083	Shirdley House	II
B115	1331004	DCB3827	24 & 26 Berkley Street	II
B116	1331005	DCB3523	Garden Wall, Gate Piers and Gates of the Shrubbery.	II
B117	1331006	DCB4371	17 Church Street	II
B118	1331023	DCB3524	The Vicarage	II
B119	1331025	DCB4373	1 Eaton Ford Green	II
B120	1438089	DCB9513	St Neots War Memorial	II
B121	1438228	DCB9512	Eynesbury War Memorial	II

6 Scheme of Works

6.1 General

All archaeological Site works will be undertaken in accordance with BA's *Archaeological Field Recording Manual* (2023b) together with accepted professional standards including *Standard for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2023a), *Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2023b), *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2020a) and *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003). BA abides by the requirements of the CIfA *Code of conduct* (2022) and is cognisant of the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Lee 2015).

CIfA (2023a) defines AFE as:

> *…. a programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which seeks to determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts. It may form a single or final phase of work within a defined area or site on land, in an inter-tidal zone or under water.*

6.2 Scheme of works

BA will obtain a utilities map as available prior to the start of site.

Two trenches measuring 10m × 2m will be positioned to target the area of the extension and landscaping to the N of the building following demolition to floor plate level of the existing extension. Trench location will be flexible to take into consideration potential above/below-ground constraints and/or hazards, such as trees, utility trenches, overhead cables and areas of modern disturbance. However, no deviation from the agreed trenching plan will occur without prior discussion with CHET.

A contingency for additional trenching may be implemented on a judgemental basis should significant discrete remains or clusters of features be encountered, although it should be noted that this is a constrained site with limited potential for additional trenching. Similarly, where necessary and achievable, trenches may be extended laterally and/or longitudinally to fully characterise any such archaeological features/deposits encountered and to allow for deeper excavation and potential shoring of trench sides where soil-filled depressions in the substrate occur.

Trenching will take place following the cutting and removal of existing concrete and make-up levels. Once the concrete floor plate has been removed in specified trench locations, made-ground of recent origin and poorly stratified deposits will be removed in spits using a mechanical excavator and toothless bucket under archaeological supervision and, where appropriate, sampled and sieved for the recovery of artefacts and palaeoenvironmental materials, such deposits being generally subdivided into horizontally-gridded vertical spits to allow for vertical

separation of artefacts and ecofacts. Care will thus be taken not to machine away seemingly homogenous layers that may include the upper parts of archaeological features.

A metal detector will be used throughout the programme to include detection of iron objects. No unauthorised metal detecting will be permitted anywhere within the site area and all such activity will be carried out in accordance with BA's *Metal Detecting Policy* (2018) incorporating Historic England and Portable Antiquities Scheme guidance. Searches will be undertaken by Mr Graham Brandejs, as an experienced metal detector user,; metal detected finds will be plotted on a suitable plan for inclusion within the report.

Machine-use will cease when a clear archaeological or geological horizon has been reached. All features of archaeological potential will be identified, cleaned-off by hand, planned at a suitable scale, accurately located, and examined in accordance with established criteria for the investigation of archaeological remains, with the exception of repeating features in trench bases, such as furrows, a sample of which will be examined.

A sufficient sample of every archaeological and suspected archaeological feature or deposit will be excavated, including:

- 1m long sections excavated through linear features at approximately 90° to the longitudinal axis to provide a cross-section of the profile, with termini and relationships excavated as a matter of course.
- half-sectioning or quadranting of discrete features, with 50-100% excavated depending upon date and quantity of material culture present;

Structural Features (e.g. beam-slots/ring-ditches), surviving structural elements (e.g. walls, collapse/debris fields), and burials will be cleaned and recorded but, where possible, left *in-situ* for excavation in more appropriate circumstances (with specific protection against disturbance during backfilling if necessary).

It is anticipated that some naturally occurring layers and features, such as peat, alluvium, geoarchaeological deposits and palaeochannels, will be investigated. This is particularly likely when the deposits contain well-preserved biological remains and/or were laid down during periods of archaeological interest. In view of the riverside locale and the consequent likelihood of encountering such deposits, Amy Bunce BSc MCI*f*A Director: UK Operations & Palaeoenvironmental Sciences will direct on-site sampling procedures. In appropriate circumstances these investigations may be undertaken using a machine, with buried soils and associated deposits being inspected on Site by a suitably qualified geoarchaeologist where necessary. The use of an Edelman handheld auger may also be employed to gain information from very deep deposits/features.

If necessary, submersible pumps will be employed to ensure that trenches are kept water-free while works are being carried out.

A pre-excavation trench plan of all archaeological features revealed would be produced using Survey Grade Global Positioning System (GPS) and/or Total Station Theodolite (TST). Survey data will be available in Autocad or PDF format and printed at a suitable scale for on-site use.

The plan will be updated to reflect the progress of on-site work. Where necessary (for example, detailed structural features or burials) features will be planned by hand at a scale of 1:20 from the grid and then digitised to be included on the overall plan.

The excavation of pits and other non-structural intrusions will allow for their stratigraphic recording and for the identification of post-pipes, post-packing and any related material. Wells and other deep intrusions encountered below the surviving horizontal archaeological stratigraphy will be excavated to the likely maximum depth of 4m, where possible.

All BA staff are suitably qualified and experienced to discharge their project roles effectively, are fully cognisant of aims and methodologies and are suitably equipped to undertake the work.

6.3 Recording

The following reference numbers have been assigned to this fieldwork project:

- Site Code: PCP24.
- OASIS ID: borderar1-529217.
- HER Event Number: ECB7474.

The HER Event Number will be used throughout the project, including on all paperwork, finds bags and sample buckets.

Full written, graphic, and photographic records will be made in accordance with BA's *Archaeological Field Recording Manual* (2023b) and with established professional standards and practice, including paragraph 3.4 of *Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2023b, 6).

Records will include:

- a *pro-forma* trench record for each trench excavated;
- a *pro-forma* context record for each stratigraphic unit examined;
- a full graphic record of all excavated areas, with the primary record consisting, where practicable and strictly within established safety parameters, of hand-drawn plans and sections (produced on gridded, archive-stable polyester film), to show the extent of the area, the extent of all stratigraphic units and appropriate detail within stratigraphic units at scales of 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10, or as appropriate depending on the complexity to be recorded; trench sides will also be drawn in section to illustrate the vertical sequence. All levels will relate to Ordnance Datum. Drawings will be numbered and listed in a drawing register cross-referenced to the written record;
- Temporary Benchmarks (TBMs), which will be established as required;
- survey using a survey grade Global Positioning System (GPS) and/or Total Station (TS) where appropriate;

- a detailed photographic record of all stratigraphic units and representative photographs showing the progress of archaeological work. The record will be made using a high-resolution digital camera (20 MPX) with an APS-C or larger sensor. Digital photographs will comprise high quality non-proprietary raw files (DNG) or TIFF images of archaeological features and appropriate groups of features and structures. The initial photograph of each recorded feature will include a board showing context information, N arrows and a graduated metric scale of appropriate lengths, ensuring the use of vertical scales used against deep sections in combination with horizontal scales. All photographic records will be indexed and cross-referenced to the written record. Details concerning subject and direction of view will be maintained in a photographic register, indexed by frame number.

The progress of the works will be recorded and assessed using the Company's ISO 9001 procedures

At the completion of fieldwork and in advance of completion of the reporting phase, it is envisaged that discussions will be held with the Archaeological Officer to outline potential further mitigation works, if required; although the full nature and scope of such works will not be determined by the Archaeological Officer until the results of the AFE report have been fully considered.

6.4 Recovery, Processing & Curation of Artefactual Data

Finds are herein defined as…

> *…all artefacts, building materials, industrial residues, environmental material, biological remains (including human remains) and decay products* (CI*f*A 2020a, 3).

In accordance with CI*f*A *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2020a) and *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson & Neal 2001), all such materials will be labelled with the Site Code and context number before being removed off-site; they will be stored in accordance with *First Aid for Finds* (*ibid*.) and with Historic England technical standards and other relevant sources of information, including standards for data-gathering set out by Brown (2011a, 18-20). Each retained assemblage will be examined according to typological or chronological criteria and conservation needs identified, with all ceramics referenced to the county type fabric series.

Kate Smith MA ACI*f*A, Director: Performance Delivery, will contact Cambridgeshire Archaeology Archive for any specific guidance requirements in respect of the collection and subsequent archiving of finds. Decisions regarding selection and retention of archaeological materials are generally made at the pre-analysis stage of the project. The process of selection and retention will reflect the requirements of Paragraph 8 of *Deposition of archaeological archives in Cambridgeshire* (Cambridgeshire County Council 2020) and will be informed by principles set out by Brown (2011a, 23), which in essence specify that this process should be sufficient to produce…

> *…a project archive that allows a full re-examination and interpretation of all the results of the project whilst avoiding replication, repetition or the retention of materials not germane to future analysis.*

BA refers additionally to *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections: Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland* (Society of Museum Archaeologists 1993) and the CI*f*A *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives* (https://www.archaeologists.net/selection-toolkit/toolkit).

6.4.1 Conservation Requirements

Janice McLeish MA (Hons.) ACI*f*A, Director: Post Excavation Services, will supervise on-site conservation for the lifting and treatment of fragile objects.

Post-excavation conservation work, including cleaning sensitive finds, will be carried out by BA's conservator and/or York Archaeological Trust (YAT).

Finds will be appropriately packaged and stored under the direction of BA's on-site conservation specialist. X-ray photographs of archaeological metalwork will be produced off-site by YAT.

6.4.2 Treasure

All finds identified in the Treasure Act (1996) and the Treasure (Designation) Order (2002) as being treasure will be recorded, removed to a safe place, and reported to Mole Architects, the Archaeological Officer, the Finds Liaison Officer (FLO) for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and the Cambridgeshire Coroner's Office. If the finds cannot be removed from Site the same day as discovery, provision against theft will be taken. A Treasure Receipt will be completed and a report submitted to the Coroner's Office and the FLO within 14 days of understanding the find is Treasure. The Treasure Receipt and Report will include the date and circumstances of the discovery, the identity of the finder (put as unit/contractor) and (as exactly as possible) the location of the find.

6.5 Recovery & Assessment of Palaeoenvironmental/Palaeoeconomic Data

Samples for palaeoenvironmental/palaeoeconomic purposes will be collected, where appropriate and practicable, according to guidance set out by English Heritage in *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (2nd Edition; Campbell *et al*. 2011), with any additional advice on sampling strategies, where required, available from the Historic England Regional Science Advisor for the East of England.

Where possible, results will be related to themes identified in the *East of England Regional Research Framework* (ALGAO East of England 2021), with specific reference to the region's geological and environmental background. The results of the palaeoenvironmental assessment, along with any additional scientific analyses undertaken, will be included in the report and a copy may be sent to the Historic England Science Advisor.

Samples of at least 40ℓ will be taken wherever possible and practicable using numbered sample buckets of 10ℓ capacity.

Processing will be undertaken by BA at its Palaeoenvironmental Processing Facility under the supervision and direction of Amy Bunce BSc MA MCI*f*A, Director: UK Operations & Palaeoenvironmental Sciences.

Wherever practicable, at least 40ℓ or 100% of each sample (both dry and waterlogged) will be processed by flotation using Siraf-style tanks with a 500µm retent mesh and 250µm flot sieve as standard, with smaller retent meshes to 250µm considered where carbonised material is less likely to float. Heavily waterlogged samples will be considered for analysis without prior processing by flotation.

Retents will be initially scanned by magnet to retrieve archaeometallurgical debris such as flake and/or spheroidal hammerscale. A sieve bank will be used to facilitate visual sorting with the smaller fractions sorted by means of magnifying lamp and/or illuminated stereo zoom microscopy. Non-archaeological, -archaeobotanical, -archaeoosteological and -archaeometallurgical material will be disposed of on site. Retents that are particularly rich in carbonised material may be re-floated once dry to assist the separation of archaeobotanical material.

Flots will be sorted using an illuminated stereo zoom microscope, which will have a trinocular head for digital microscopic photography where necessary. Charcoal will only be subjected to species identification where the contextual information suggests it would be advantageous in addressing aims set out in the *East of England Regional Research Framework* (ALGAO East of England 2021) or national research strategies. Archaeological, archaeobotanical, archaeo-osteological and archaeometallurgical material from flot and retent will be retained as part of the Site assemblage.

Sorting and identification of macro-botanical remains will use an in-house reference collection of botanical material, in conjunction with the consultation of academic, specialist reference books.

6.5.1 Other environmental sampling

Other environmental sampling, e.g. coring and monoliths for pollen, foraminifera, testate amoeba, diatoms etc., may be undertaken under the guidance of the specialist carrying out the further analysis.

Residue analysis on materials such as ceramics will be advised by the finds department.

Further investigation of environmental material, e.g. isotope analysis on bone or teeth, will be dependent upon national research strategies; this will be considered as part of the post-excavation analysis stage.

6.5.2 Sampling for scientific purposes

A range of scientific dating methods may be employed, as appropriate. In addition to techniques such as ^{14}C and dendrochronology, dating methods applied to inorganic materials exposed to firing or burning may be used, e.g. thermo-luminescence for ceramics, flint artefacts and hearth stones, and archaeomagnetic dating for fired structural remains, such as furnaces and kilns and possibly domestic hearths and ovens.

As luminescence and archaeomagnetic dating will require a specialist Site visit, this will be arranged by BA at the earliest possible opportunity when suitable features are encountered. Provision for other types of scientific analysis will be discussed with the Archaeological Officer and the Historic England Science Advisor for the East of England, should unexpected remains be encountered.

6.5.3 Building materials

Samples of construction materials including masonry, brick, roof tile, floor tile, wall-tile and hypocaust elements will be recovered for assessment of their potential to assist in the analysis of building palaeotechnology.

6.5.4 Waterlogged wood

Waterlogged wood will be treated in accordance with *Waterlogged Wood Guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood* (Brunning & Watson 2010) and left *in-situ* where this is practical and its long-term preservation is achievable.

6.5.5 Faunal Remains

Animal bone will be collected and assessed in accordance with *Animal Bones and Archaeology: Guidelines for Best Practice* (Historic England 2014) and *Animal Bones and Archaeology: Recovery to archive* (Baker and Worley 2019).

6.5.6 Geoarchaeology

Buried soils and sediment sequences considered to reflect the pedology of the Site will be analysed for information on site formation processes. Highly significant, well-preserved remains, when encountered, will be investigated in a considered manner in order to assess the archaeological stratigraphy. Geoarchaeological works will in general aim to understand how deposits were initially laid down and subsequently modified through time (Canti & Corcoran 2015).

6.6 Human Remains

Should human remains be discovered, BA will inform CHET and AOC Architecture, the remains being covered, protected, and left *in-situ* in the first instance (depending on the Site circumstances and depths of cover soils), although graves will be scanned by metal detector to assess whether any grave objects are likely to be present.

BA is cognisant of the deliberations by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) in 2011 in respect of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857 (Amended 2018) and any arrangements regarding the discovery of human remains will be at the discretion of HM Coroner, whose instructions/permission will be sought.

Any recording of such remains will be in accordance with *Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains* (Mitchell & Brickley 2017) using BA's *pro-forma* Skeleton Recording Sheet and Coffin Recording Sheet.

Should removal of remains be required, this would be carried out under the supervision of an osteology specialist (see Appendix 2), subject to the appropriate MoJ licence, environmental health regulations and coroner information, with adequate security provided. Assessment and analysis, where required, will be undertaken by the osteology specialist and will include a statement for the final deposition of the assemblage, together with options for reburial.

Human bone assemblages are treated at all times with due reverence and in accordance with the following guidelines:

- *Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed human remains* (McKinley & Roberts 1993);
- *Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains* (Brickley & McKinley 2004);
- *Human Bones from Archaeological Sites: Guidelines for producing assessment documents and analytical reports* (Mays *et al*. 2004);
- *Science and the Dead: A guideline for the destructive sampling of archaeological human remains for scientific analysis* (APABE; Mays *et al*. 2013);
- *Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England* (2nd Edition; APABE; Mays 2017);
- *Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains* (Mitchell & Brickley 2017);
- *The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project* (Mays *et al*. 2018);
- *Burial Law and Policy in the 21st Century: The way forward* (MoJ 2007);
- Statement on the exhumation of human remains for archaeological purposes (MoJ 2011).

Where appropriate, the results of any osteological analysis may be submitted to Historic England for inclusion on the database of human skeletal remains.

7 Archive Review

An archive review will be completed by the Site manager upon completion of Site works to comprise an audit of all archaeological materials recovered. If significant archaeological remains are recorded, assessment of the results will be carried out upon completion of the fieldwork by suitably qualified and experienced specialists (see Appendix 2), with reports compiled in accordance with paragraph 3.3 of *Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2023b, 6). Results will be placed in a local and regional context and address, where possible, specific research themes and priorities identified in the *East of England Regional Research Framework* (ALGAO East of England 2021).

8 Archive Preparation & Compilation

The HER Event Number **ECB7474** will be used throughout the archive as the key reference for curatorial use. This will be clearly stated on:

- The final report;
- The OASIS form;
- Every piece of paper created during on-site investigations and post-excavation;
- All finds bags/crystal boxes and marked finds;
- All finds and documentary archive boxes and folders.

All records created during fieldwork will be checked for consistency and accuracy and will form part of the Site archive. The archive will contain all data collected and other specialist materials and will be ordered, indexed, adequately documented, internally consistent, secure, quantified, conforming to standards required by the archive repository, and signposted appropriately to ensure future use in research, as detailed in *MoRPHE* (Lee 2015).

A completed cataloguing spreadsheet will be included as supplied by CHET at the beginning of the archiving process.

The archive will be assembled in accordance with paragraph 3.5 of *Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CI*f*A 2023b, 6), with specifications set out in Sections 17 and 18 of the *Deposition of archaeological archives in Cambridgeshire* (Cambridgeshire County Council 2020, 24-30 &, 30-44), and with *MoRPHE* (Lee 2015, 21). It will be consistent with guidance issued in *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (CI*f*A 2020b), *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage* (Walker 1990), *Standards in the museum care of archaeological collection*s (Paine 1992), *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown 2011a), *Safeguarding Archaeological Information: Procedures for minimizing risk to undeposited archaeological archives* (Brown 2011b) and *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives* (https://www.archaeologists.net/selection-toolkit/toolkit).

As relevant, the Site archive will contain the following elements:

- Artefacts, ecofacts;
- Scientific samples;
- Original context records and original sample records;
- Original site drawings (plans, sections, elevations);
- Original photographic records, negatives and prints;
- Original skeleton records;
- Survey reports (e.g. borehole, geophysical, documentary);
- Original artefacts records (e.g. registered finds, bulk finds, artefact dating catalogues);
- Records of conservation and x-rays undertaken;
- Site, specialist and artefact reports (including assessment reports, updated project designs, archive) and publication reports;
- Management data, Brief, original and revised project designs/WSI;
- Copies of correspondence;
- Digital borne archives (databases, photos, survey data, graphics) and relevant print outs.
- Detailed conservation proposals for artefacts;
- Estimates of archive size and content and any extraordinary storage requirements (e.g. large pieces of worked stone, waterlogged remains);
- Proposals for retention and discard, supported by statements from specialists;
- Initial outline of the research potential of the archive in relation to the research objectives;
- Confirmation of adequate resourcing for the archive process, including preparation, security copying, packing, cataloguing and transportation;
- Identification of intended publicly accessible CoreTrustSeal digital archive repository, namely the ADS;
- Details of any other claims to archive content (e.g. Treasure items, military remains);
- Timescale of archive deposition for inclusion in the final report.

BA undertakes that the following issues will be addressed and concluded to the satisfaction of the Archaeological Officer.

- The written, drawn, and photographic records will be of sufficient quality to facilitate publication in an appropriate specialist journal;
- Data concerning complete identifiable and itemised objects will be transferred to specified object record sheets.

File formats will be compatible with Microsoft Office, Adobe Acrobat and QGIS and, where appropriate, AutoCAD files will conform to a format that can be imported into GIS (e.g. .dfx) or will already be transferred to TAB of SHP files. GIS/mapping datasets will be provided in MapInfo or ArcGIS file formats. All datasets will be fully georeferenced to the Ordnance Survey national grid, where appropriate. The format for images is generally uncompressed TIFF or high-quality JPEG.

8.1 Selection, Retention & Discard

Prior to the discard of any material, BA will notify the Archaeological Officer of the following criteria:

- Recommendations made by specialists or finds report authors confirming the local, regional or national importance of material recovered, resulting in recommendations for retention and future use;
- Value to research frameworks;
- Assessments of local 'gaps in knowledge;
- Recommendations made by the relevant CHET Officer;
- The proximity of other archaeological work and known assemblages from the vicinity;
- Any further research potential of individual artefacts or the assemblage as a whole;
- If the material is of interest to a local community group.

The discard strategy will be agreed by the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Archive Facility and, if so directed, a supplementary, fully photographic record will be made of the artefacts being discarded for deposition with the digital archive.

8.2 Archive Deposition

Processed assemblages will be boxed according to Cambridgeshire Archaeology Archive guidelines. A register of contents will be compiled prior to deposition of the Project Archive and any exceptional or unusual archiving requirements identified during fieldwork will be raised with CHET as soon as possible.

The project archive will conform to specifications set out by the Cambridgeshire Archaeology Archive and AOC Architecture will be consulted for permission of the Transfer of Title of any artefacts discovered to CHET. Should the landowner wish to retain items recovered, all selected artefacts will be fully drawn and photographed, identified, analysed, documented and conserved in order to create a comprehensive catalogue of items to be kept by the landowner before deposition of the remainder of the archive.

In the event significant archaeology is found, the digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) or other digital repository in line with the deposition guidelines. BA will discuss the significance of the Site evidence with the Archaeological Officer to agree the need or otherwise for digital archiving. If required, CHET and the Curator of Archaeology will be notified upon the completion of deposition of the digital archive with the ADS, providing a link to the ADS archive. A DMP is included as Appendix 3 of this document.

The OASIS (Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations) data-capture form will be completed on deposition of the final archive.

Copyright arrangements will comply with Section 16.4 of the *Deposition of archaeological archives in Cambridgeshire* (Cambridgeshire County Council 2020) and a copy of the Confirmation of Acceptance Form will be completed.

9 Reporting

The specific requirements of the report will necessarily vary according to the scope of works, the nature of the results or other factors. However, the following sections and illustrative components will be included:

- Non-technical summary;
- Introduction;
- Site background;
- Aims & objectives;
- Methodology;
- Results (including the nature, location, extent, date, significance, and quality of any archaeological and environmental material uncovered);
- Discussion (summarising the method, results, interpretation and impact assessment, considering, where appropriate, the results of archaeological projects undertaken in the wider area);
- Conclusions (including any recommendations for further work);
- Archive locations (pre- and post-deposition, if known);
- Sources used;
- Appendices providing detailed context records;
- Appropriate illustrative material, including maps, plans, sections, drawings and photographs;
- Copyright.

If archaeological remains of interest are identified, the report will also include:

- Detailed description and plans (at appropriate scales) of the trenches providing notable archaeological information;
- Finds quantification and assessment;
- Environmental archaeology assessment;
- A summary of the extent, depth, and state of preservation of archaeological deposits across the Site.

All parts of the OASIS online form http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/ will be completed and a copy included in the final report and also with the Site archive. BA aims to produce the report within eight weeks of the completion of Site works, subject to any delays caused by post-excavation procedures.

Digital draft copies of the report in PDF/A format will be sent to AOC Architecture and CHET for approval, whereupon copies will be formally submitted in the requested format to the Cambridgeshire HER, along with a shapefile containing trench location data. Following approval of the report by CHET, a digital PDF/A copy will be deposited with OASIS (http://www.oasis.ac.uk/) the Archaeology Data Service Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations website within two weeks of approval.

Dependent upon discovery and where applicable, an appropriate report will be offered to the *Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society*, along with any relevant period journals, such as *Medieval Archaeology* or *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society*, for wider dissemination.

The archaeological advisory and planning role of Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team will be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

10 Staff & Timescales

Amy Bunce BSc MA MCI*f*A Director: UK Operations & Palaeoenvironmental Sciences Border Archaeology Ltd will be Site Director for this proposed works programme.

George Children MA MCI*f*A Director: Quality & Compliance will additionally provide overall technical and editorial guidance to all constituent aspects of the works programme.

The commencement of the fieldwork programme is subject to confirmation.

Overall project management remains the responsibility of Neil Shurety.

11 Border Archaeology Ltd Operating Standards

All projects are carried out in accordance with the Company's *Archaeological Field Recording Manual* (2023b) and with *Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CI*f*A 2023b).

A pre-works risk assessment will be completed and lodged in the Site Health & Safety File. Site reporting procedures are completed daily.

George Children MA MCI*f*A Director: Quality & Compliance retains overall responsibility for the qualitative elements of the project.

12 Monitoring

It is understood that the archaeological officer may wish to visit the site to ensure compliance with the Written Scheme of Investigation and to enable appropriate interpretation or variation, for example, in response to new discoveries or operational issues, and arrangements will be made as required.

13 Copyright

Border Archaeology Ltd shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, with all rights reserved, excepting that it hereby provides a licence to AOC Architecture and Cambridgeshire County Council for the use of the report by them in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification to use the documentation for their statutory functions and to provide copies of it to third parties as an incidental to such functions.

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15 Appendix 1: Specialists

The following specialists have been appointed to provide, where required, sampling, consulting, analysis & reporting services:

1. Geoarchaeology: Rob Batchelor BSc PhD MCI*f*A Director Quest University of Reading; ARCA, University of Winchester;
2. Pottery: Emily Edwards BA PgDip Freelance Specialist, Rob Perrin M.Litt MCI*f*A FSA Freelance Specialist, Jo Mills Freelance Specialist, Paul Blinkhorn BTech (Hons) Freelance Specialist;
3. Coins: Peter Guest BA PhD University of Cardiff;
4. Flint: Rebecca Devaney MA ACI*f*A Freelance Specialist;
5. Petrological Analysis: Imogen Wood BA MA PhD;
6. Glass: Nicola Powell MA MCI*f*A Freelance Specialist;
7. Clay Tobacco Pipes: Nicola Powell MA MCI*f*A Freelance Specialist;
8. Leather and Metal Objects: Quita Mould Barbican Research Associates;
9. Archaeometallurgy: Gerry McDonnell BSc PhD Gerry McDonnell Archaeometals;
10. Glass Working: John Shepherd BA FSA MCI*f*A Freelance Specialist;
11. Artefact & Materials Conservation: Ian Panter York Archaeological Trust;
12. Building Materials: Katherine Crooks BA PGCE Pottery Specialist Border Archaeology Ltd;
13. Worked Stone: Ruth Shaffrey BA PhD MCI*f*A Freelance Specialist;
14. On-Site Conservation: Janice McLeish MA ACI*f*A Border Archaeology Ltd;
15. Faunal Remains: Matilda Holmes BSc MA PhD ACI*f*A AFHEA Freelance Specialist & Janice McLeish MA ACI*f*A Director: Post Excavation Services Border Archaeology Ltd & Clare Rainsford Freelance Specialist;
16. Human Remains: Malin Holst HND BA MSC MCI*f*A York Osteoarchaeology Ltd;
17. Archaeobotanical, Charcoal & Wood ID: Amy Bunce BSc MA MCI*f*A Director: UK Operations & Palaeoenvironmental Sciences Border Archaeology Ltd.

Other specialist suppliers will be sourced, if deemed appropriate; suitable management time will be expended to ensure that such external suppliers' work complies with accepted national guidance.

16 Appendix 2: Border Archaeology Digital Data Management Plan (DMP) v.3.3

Date DMP initiated:	***Insert date***	***Initials of the editor***
Version: 1.0	**28th October 2024**	*GC*
Updated Version:	*TBC*	*TBC*

- **Section 1: PROJECT ADMINISTRATION**

Project BA Number:	BA24157(2419)PCP
Site Code:	PCP24
OASIS ID:	borderar1-529217
HER event number:	ECB7474
Accession number:	ECB7474 – same as HER number above
Project Brief:	No
Planning Ref:	N/A
Additional Unique Identifiers: (e.g. DOI number for ADS Grey Literature Library)	
Project Name/Location/Scheme number: Priory Centre Priory Lane St Neots PE19 2BH	
Project Description: (nature of the project / key techniques) **Archaeological evaluation**	
Investigation Techniques: (purpose of the investigation) **Archaeological Field Evaluation.**	
Project Funder/Client:	AOC Architecture.
Project Manager:	Amy Bunce BSc MA MCI*f*A Director: Director: UK Operations & Palaeoenvironmental Sciences, Border Archaeology Ltd.
Site Manager:	TBC.
Data Contact Person:	Kate Smith MA, ACI*f*A Director: Performance Delivery Border Archaeology Ltd.

Section 2: DATA COLLECTION

What data will you collect and create? How will the data be collected or created?

Methods of data collection are specified within the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) and will meet the requirement set out in the Project Brief; the organisation's *Archaeological Field Recording Manual* (August 2023) (BAFM21/REV5); relevant CIfA Standards and guidance; and are defined against ADS Guides to Good Practice.

The table below provides a summary of anticipated data types, formats and estimated volume for this project. This table will be updated as the project progresses.

Documents and Reports	**Word (.doc); pdf; pdf/a**	**1 pdf/a**
Photographs and images	Our baseline standard is jpeg but we are guided by CA's etc. and then use tif or raw accordingly	tbc.
Maps and Plans	AutoCAD (.Dwg); Illustrator (.ai);	Final export: Jpeg for inclusion in report
Spreadsheets	Excel (.xls); (.xlsx)	tbc
GIS	QGIS; ArcGis	tbc
GIS (Research data)	NB GIS data "bought in" for research reports will not be deposited as it is not our data.	n/a
Geophysics	None	

Please note: that this reflects the total digital data for the Working Project Archive, **not** the archived selection of project (Preserved Archive).

Where will the working project archive be stored?

The Working Project Archive will be stored in a project specific folder on the internal organisational server. The server is backed-up by our professional IT provider.

File naming conventions

File naming conventions follow established organisational procedures.

Quality assurance

Instruments and cameras used in the collection of data are calibrated prior to use and checked to ensure that are in full working order.

All site records and data collected will be checked during Project Delivery.

Section 3: DOCUMENTATION AND METADATA

What documentation and metadata will accompany the data?

Total station data/Digital location data is used for most projects (excluding AOs). The data is exported and transferred to our Illustrations Department.

Digital images captured during an archaeological programme of work are downloaded as soon as practicable from the camera memory card onto our internal server.

This is especially important for those sites that:

- Are large ongoing sites with multiple cameras.
- Stop/start sites where more than one site manager may be involved.

The paper Photographic Record form is completed every time a photograph is taken. This register will include the make and model of the camera, the initials of the individual(s) who took the image, date and details of the area photographed.

Post-Fieldwork Summary

As soon as fieldwork is completed the site manager completes an Archive Review Form (ARF), which provides an initial "snapshot" of the results of fieldwork. It quantifies the site paperwork, the unprocessed finds and samples collected and the number of digital images taken.

The site archive then undergoes a review by the field staff. The finds and samples are delivered to our Post Ex department. Digital images are uploaded to the internal server, if not already within the job folder. We retain the SD card until the archive is deposited.

The paperwork will be checked/audited prior to writing the report. The site manager will review the digital images and make an initial selection of those that warrant inclusion in the report and/or inclusion within the Preserved Archive. No images will be deleted at this stage.

Section 4: ETHICS AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE

How will you manage and Ethical, Copyright and Intellectual Property Rights (IPS) Issues?

Copyright for all data collected by the Project Team belong to Border Archaeology.

Formal permission to include data from external specialists and contractors is secured on the engagement of the specialist or contractor.
Personal data will be removed from the archaeological project archive and permission to include individual's names in any report is obtained prior to use.

Section 5: STORAGE AND BACKUP

How will the data be stored, accessed and backed up during the research?

The **Working Project Archive**:-

Site specific SD cards will be retained until the site archive has been deposited, at which point they will be recycled.

Downloaded data will be stored in a project specific folder on the internal organisation server.

- The server operates on permission-based access.
- The server is accessible by permitted staff on and offsite through secure log in.

Where internet access for data backup is not possible, the raw data will be backed up to a separate media device (such as a laptop and portable external hard drive).

Organisational Server

Organisational IT is managed by an external data management provider (who is also responsible for the management and verification of our daily back-ups and who support access to security copies as required.

The internal organisation server is backed up daily by our external data management provider. They ensure that there is sufficient storage space for our digital collection.

Any "archived" data removed from the server is kept in two locations away from the main office.

Section 6: SELECTION AND PRESERVATION

What should be retained, shared and/or preserved?

The Selection Strategy and DMP are reviewed and updated during the PEX Archiving process and with results from specialist reporting.

Prior to deposition, the Selection Strategy and DMP will be updated and finalised in agreement with all project stakeholders (including CHET, AOC Architecture, archive repository ADS).

Selection will be informed by the WSI, defined against the research aims, regional and national research frameworks, specialist advice and the significance of the project results.

The data archive will be ordered, with files named and structured in a logical manner, and accompanied by relevant documentation and metadata, as outlined in Sections 2 and 3 of this DMP.

What is the long-term preservation plan for the dataset?

It is understood that the reasons for selection of particular digital components will vary from project to project and will take into consideration the project aims as stated within the WSI, the significance of the results, research potential of the results, research framework requirements and relevant museum guidelines.

As with other aspects of an archaeological archive, it is unlikely that all digital files generated during an archaeological project will be retained as part of the deposited digital archive (Preserved Archive).

Consequently, a project specific Selection Strategy will be implemented:-

External dissemination of the digital archive will be with a CoreTrustSeal certified online depository (most likely the Archaeology Data Service (ADS)) if specified by archive repository, SAO etc., guidance, the components of which will be determined by the relevant museum deposition guidelines and correspondence with the necessary stakeholders.

- Therefore all final reports generated from interventive programmes of work will be uploaded to **OASIS V** following approval by principal project stakeholders- AOC Architecture and CHET.
- If appropriate digital images and supporting documentation will be uploaded to **ADS-Easy** complement grey literature reports.
- Research reports *may* be deposited on OASIS but only under the direction of the SAO, archive repository, etc.

BA will not preserve all digital files from the Working Project Archive on their internal company servers indefinitely.

- Internal preservation of selected digital data on BA's internal server will conform to internal Selection and Deselection standards[1].

Have you contacted the data repository?
The relevant museum will be contacted in the early stages of the project to request an accession number; to confirm current deposition guidelines (unless already contacted within the previous 3 months) and to establish current deposition costs.

The deposition guidelines will be consulted to confirm the situation with regard to the digital archive component and whether this should be deposited with a trusted digital repository.

If the investigation establishes that the site is negative, CHET, archive repository etc. will be contacted to establish whether this can be an OASIS only deposition.

Have the costs of archiving been fully considered?
Sufficient resources to allow for the preparation of the archive, and the cost of deposition of the physical and digital archive have been included in the project budget. A costing estimate may be produced for more complex sites, using the ADS Costing Calculator.

Section 7: DATA SHARING AND ACCESSIBILITY

How will you share the data and make it accessible?
A summary of the project will be included on the OASIS Index of Archaeological Investigation and the museum and digital archive repository, and will be updated as the project progresses.

The investigations are likely to result in a number of documents: Project Brief; Written Scheme of Investigation; Final Report; Journal Submission

A final version of the project report will be supplied to the Historic Environment Record via OASIS, and any data which they request can also be provided directly.

The location(s) of the final Archaeological Archive will be added to OASIS when appropriate.

The ADS will disseminate the digital elements of the Archaeological Archive online under a creative commons licence and the dataset will receive a unique identifier (DOI).

Any restrictions of data sharing required?
In certain situations a temporary embargo may be required on the sharing of the project results. If this is the case, specific details once agreed will be included in the updated version of this DMP and will be documented in the overarching Project Collection Metadata.

[1] BA Selection and De-selection Guidance 2021

Section 8: RESPONSIBILITIES

Who will be responsible for data management?

The Project Manager will be responsible for implementing the DMP, and ensuring it is reviewed and revised at each stage of the project.

Data capture, metadata production and data quality are the responsibility of the Project Team, assured by the Project Manager.

Storage and backup of data in the field is the responsibility of the field team.

Once data is incorporated into the organisations project server, storage and backup is managed by an external company

Data archiving is undertaken by the project team under the guidance of the Archives Officer, who is responsible for the transfer of the Archaeological Project Archive to the agreed repository.

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Document Title		**Document Reference**	
Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Field Evaluation: Priory Centre Priory Lane Str Neots PE19 2BH.		BA24157(2419)PCP/WSI	
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