Archaeology between Cambridge & Ely
The A10 Corridor - 1992

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Denny Abbey, Waterbeach
## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summary</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Impact of Development Proposals</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Planning Policies Affecting Archaeologically Sensitive Areas</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Geological and Topographical Background</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Archaeological and Historical Background</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Parish Survey:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1 Cottenham</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2 Landbeach</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.3 Little Thetford</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.4 Milton</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.5 Stretham</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.6 Waterbeach</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Guide to the Gazetteer</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Gazetteer</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Areas of Local Archaeological Interest Identified by the Gazetteer</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Scheduled Ancient Monuments</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Discussion</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Recommendations:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.1 Scheduled Ancient Monuments</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.2 Areas of Local Archaeological Interest</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.3 Recommendations for Specific Areas of Local Archaeological Interest</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Acknowledgements</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 References</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix A: Aerial Photographs Consulted</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix B: Historical Maps Consulted</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glossary of Archaeological Terms</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LIST OF FIGURES

Fig. 1  Location of A10 Corridor and Modern Land-use                        2
Fig. 2  Geology                                                            4
Fig. 3  The 1721 Version of William Hayward's 1604 Map of the Fens          9
        before Drainage
Fig. 4  Key to Gazetteer Maps                                              18
Fig. 5  Milton                                                             20
Fig. 6  Landbeach and Waterbeach                                           22
Fig. 7  Landbeach                                                          24
Fig. 8  Landbeach and Waterbeach                                           26
Fig. 9  Cottenham and Landbeach                                            28
Fig. 10 Waterbeach, Cottenham, and Stretham                                30
Fig. 11 Cottenham                                                          32
Fig. 12 Stretham and Thetford                                              34
Fig. 13 Thetford and Ely                                                   36
Fig. 14 Ely                                                                38
Fig. 15 SAM 3 and 52                                                       46
Fig. 16 SAM 224                                                            48
Fig. 17 SAM 31                                                             50
Fig. 18 SAM 13605                                                          52
Fig. 19 SAM 82                                                             54
Fig. 20 SAM 60 and 257                                                     55
SUMMARY

An archaeological desktop study was commissioned by Coyne Associates for an area of the A10 corridor, between Cambridge and Ely. The study outlines National and Local archaeological policies, with particular reference to road schemes. The topographical and historical background are described to provide a basis for evaluating the known archaeology of the area, which is presented in the gazetteer. The area includes a large number of archaeological sites, some of which are particularly sensitive to development. There are also seven scheduled ancient monuments in the area. The areas of local archaeological interest and the scheduled ancient monuments are described and specific recommendations given for them in the light of the policies for road schemes previously outlined. The A10 corridor is rich in archaeological sites and caution must be exercised when planning road improvements for the A10.

1 INTRODUCTION

The applicants, Coyne Associates, approached Cambridgeshire Archaeology for a desktop study as part of a landscape and environmental evaluation of the A10 corridor between Cambridge and Ely. The route runs from the Milton roundabout north of Cambridge (TL470/641) to the by-pass roundabout south of Ely (TL531/789), including parts of Milton, Cottenham, Waterbeach, Landbeach, Streat and Little Thetford parishes. The desktop comprises an initial investigation into the archaeology of the A10 corridor, within which seven scheduled ancient monuments (SAMs) and a large number of areas of local archaeological interest occur. The study checks and verifies all these known sites, and combines this with historical research and assessment of current land uses to produce recommendations for further works in the area.

2 IMPACT OF DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

The proposal is for road improvements to the A10 Trunk Road. Road construction and improvement works can be highly destructive of archaeological remains. They involve the removal of large amounts of both topsoil and subsoil along the route, and also affect adjoining areas as a result of the need for cuttings, embankments, services and construction camps. Additional hazards include the excavation of borrow pits and dumping of materials along the route.

3 PLANNING POLICIES AFFECTING ARCHAEOLOGICALLY SENSITIVE AREAS

3.1 National:

Department of the Environment Planning Policy Guidance 16 (PPG16)
Para. 6. Archaeological remains should be seen as a finite and non-renewable resource, in many cases highly fragile and vulnerable to damage and destruction.
Para. 8. Where nationally important remains, whether scheduled or not, and their settings, are affected by proposed development there should be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation.
Para. 13. If physical preservation in situ is not feasible, an archaeological excavation for the purposes of 'preservation by record' may be an acceptable alternative. From the archaeological point of view this should be regarded as a second best option.
Para. 25. requires local planning authorities to request a prospective developer to arrange for an archaeological field evaluation before deciding upon a planning application on any site where important archaeological remains may exist. This evaluation may lead to requirements for preservation of all, or parts, of the site, or for further archaeological work.
Fig. 1 Location of A10 Corridor and Modern Land-use
3.2 Cambridgeshire County Council Guidelines:

Structure Plan
Policy P14/2 'All County road schemes in rural areas will be planned, designed and executed to
minimise undesirable effects on .... the landscape and will incorporate tree planting,
landscaping, and creative conservation measures where appropriate'.
Policy P14/3 Outlines 'areas of best landscape' which includes the area north and west of
Streatham, such as require 'special attention' to ensure their character is not adversely affected.
Policies P14/9 & 10 Relate to conservation areas (such as the centres of Landbeach,
Waterbeach & Streatham) and their protection from demolition and unsympathetic change, this
includes the safeguarding of their setting.
Policy P14/12 'The local planning authorities will exercise their powers of development control
to preserve scheduled monuments and other important archaeological sites in the County'.
Policy P14/13 'Where there is no overriding case for the preservation of an archaeological site,
opportunities will be sought prior to the granting of planning permission, for excavation and
recording of the site'.

The Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Section has also produced
guidelines for road schemes specifically:

Phase 1 (Route Selection, Pre-Public Consultation/Planning Application)
Desk-top assessment of known archaeological sites.
Assessment of aerial photographs.
Site visits to evaluate condition of known sites.
Field-walking of proposed corridor in suitable conditions.
Landscape historical summary.
Liaison with the DTP planners and engineers.
Recommendations for route alterations avoiding important sites which require preservation -
field evaluation may be necessary.
Requirements for further work, where damage to archaeological remains cannot be avoided, in
consultation with County Archaeology Office.

Phase 2 (After Route Selection)
Detailed site evaluation - earthwork survey, field-walking, trial trenching, geophysical survey.
Recommendations to engineers on known sites of high potential.
Excavation or preservation of newly identified sites of importance.
Sample excavation of other archaeological sites and features.
Post-excavation analysis, conservation of artefacts and publication of results.

Phase 3 (During Construction Work)
Provision for recording brief as necessary during soil stripping operations and construction
works.

4 GEOLOGICAL & TOPOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 General Character

The A10 corridor is an area of generally low relief, ranging from over 11.0 m OD in Milton to
below 2.0 m OD in parts occupied by fen, with an overall slope from west to east into the
valley of the Cam. There are raised areas representing boulder clay outcrops on which Streatham
and Little Thetford are placed, and a series of gravel islands which form the background of the
various settlements that grew up into Waterbeach Parish. Landbeach sits on a short, broad
Fig. 2  Geology
upland peninsula. All settlements except Waterbeach are placed to give access to upland arable and lowland fen resources such as water meadows, seasonal pasture, and fishing and fouling grounds (Pugh 1953; Ravensdale 1974; Wright & Lewis 1989).

The main drainage for the area are the rivers Cam and Great Ouse (Old West River), with a confluence between them east of Streatham. Many dykes and drainage ditches have been cut to drain the land between the rivers (Fowler 1933; Ravensdale 1974). The present 2 m contour line can be used to define the fen edge but this has been subject to variation through time as can be seen on a map of the area dated to 1602.

Communication has been based on the waterways, along the Roman Road, Akeman Street, which was superseded by a turnpike road in the 18th century, and on the present A10 which combines elements of both. The railway between Cambridge and Ely was built by the Great Eastern Railway Company and opened in 1845.

4.2 Geology (Gallois 1988; Worssam & Taylor 1969) (Fig. 2)

The geology of the area comprises two main components, Jurassic and Cretaceous marine sediments. These are overlain by a Quaternary series including Boulder Clay, glacial sands and gravels, 1st and 2nd Terrace River Gravels, with Gault, a shelly clay formation, present to the west of the area. The 1st Terrace River Gravel has been dated to 19,500±650 BP while the 2nd Terrace River Gravel is of late Ipswichian/Devenian age (Kemp 1992).

At Chittering Gault also occurs along with Kimmeridge Clay and Lower Greensand. Boulder Clay forms the rises on which Streatham and Little Thetford are built, whilst Nordelph Peat is found in the Ouse Valley to the south-east of Ely. The 1st Terrace River Gravel surfaces of the rivers also have varying degrees of Holocene alluvial cover, resulting from periodic flooding and fluctuations in sea levels.

4.3 Soils (Hodge & Scaile 1966; Scale 1975)

Resulting from the low-relief and the predominantly clay parent materials, most soils in the A10 corridor are poor draining. Thus the Landbeach series are described as slightly gleyed with coarse loamy upper horizons, the Milton series is also slightly gleyed and differentiated from the Landbeach series by the absence of coarse textured horizons in the bottom of soil profiles.

The Chittering series are better drained, reflecting the presence of the underlying Greensand, but are still described as humic gley soils.

In summary, the soils of the corridor may be described as follows:
Landbeach and Milton series are Brown Earth soils with gleying, derived from loamy and gravelly drift.
Streatham series soils are Brown calcareous soils with gleying, derived from chalky Boulder Clay.
Chittering series soils are Gley soils which are peaty and humic gley soils derived from ferruginous coarse loams.

4.4 Modern Land-Use (Fig. 1)

The predominant feature of the present landscape is its arable usage, crops grown include cereals and root crops. There has been gravel extraction at Cottenham, Milton, Denny and Landbeach, which has produced lakes. Those at Milton and Landbeach are now used for recreational purposes. Proposals in the County Minerals and Aggregates Plan allows for limited further gravel extraction and the area known as 'The Lots' near Chittering is shortly to be developed by Dickersons for this purpose. There is also a proposal for a small mineral extraction pit at Goose Hall Farm close to the present A10 and at Mitchell Hill Farm. There are
military establishments at Waterbeach, disused airfields at Waterbeach and west of the A10 at Cawdle Fen, between Witchford and Ely, the latter now is in industrial use.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The area of the A10 corridor has a long history of human settlement and use, but this occurs against a background of flooding and environmental instability. The corridor has two rivers running through it (the Cam and the Old West River/Great Ouse) and so was accessible from earliest times to water transport, whilst the natural resources of such an area were particularly favourable to a hunting and gathering lifestyle. It is likely, therefore, that the 1st and 2nd Terrace River Gravel deposits contain Palaeolithic remains and although few bifaces are known from the corridor itself, similar deposits have yielded flint handaxes at Milton and Girton (Baden Powell 1950; Roe 1969, 1981; Wymer 1977, 1985). The Great Ouse Valley in the Huntingdon area is one of the richest in Britain for handaxe finds and so the lack of handaxes in the A10 corridor probably reflects both a lack of large scale gravel extraction works and of archaeological investigation. Earlier Ice Age deposits would also have been removed by later ice ages and so the earliest material is unlikely to be present.

The Mesolithic would also appear to be under-represented in the A10 corridor, no finds are recorded in the CBA gazetteer (Wymer 1977) and a single blade is known from Milton. Changes in sea level are one reason for this, the sea level was some 30m below ordnance datum at the start of the Mesolithic (c.8,000 BC). The area was then dry and deciduous forest covered the region (Hall 1987). Thus, any sites in the area would have been flooded later and covered by subsequent build-up of alluvium, masking their presence to present day archaeologists (but see French 1992). Inundation by the sea began c.6000 BC, with a major period of flooding between 3000 - 2000 BC. This resulted in sea water covering the low-lying areas, and brackish- and fresh-water backing up inland with a subsequent development of peat. The Lower Barroway Drove Beds were formed at this time and a dendritic drainage pattern evolved. The River Ouse changed its course, possibly as a result of blockage by the Lower Barroway Drove Beds, so that it no longer discharged its water to the west of March, but instead cut a channel south and east of Ely.

The archaeology of the area then became directly related to the evolution of the landscape, for further marine transgressions occurred. The first, noted above, is dated to the late Neolithic, a second has been dated to the mid-late Bronze Age and lasted a few centuries c.1000 BC. A third transgression took place during the Iron Age and a fourth towards the end of the Roman occupation and before the Saxons.

The distribution of archaeological sites is in part a reflection of these changes in the water table, but is also partly a reflection of subsequent disturbances to the deposits these changes produced. Sites are both preserved and masked by alluvium, and so site distribution patterns do not necessarily present an accurate picture. This point is particularly important in relation to the gazetteer which follows; as many sites are known from cropmarks, but alluvial cover will prevent other features from showing through to be recorded. Thus the current distribution pattern is a minimal representation and many cropmark complexes may be linked by features between them which are hidden from aerial investigation.

Neolithic sites from the period of inundation will not be present as a result of flooding, with a few isolated Neolithic axes and flint scatters having been found in the Cam Valley along the A10 corridor (particularly in the interfluve area north-east of Chittering) and some of the cropmark complexes recorded in the County SMR may be of this date. The Neolithic farmers would, however, have been likely to have cleared the gravel terrace areas first as the soils there are better and relatively more free-draining.

Although no barrows (Bronze Age burial mounds) are recorded in the corridor cropmarks do show a number of circular features, ring-ditches, which could be the ploughed out remains of such features, but could equally be the remains of Iron Age houses (Taylor 1981). Wait (1988) suggests a circular feature near Denny Abbey might be a Bronze Age mound. A causeway
running from Little Thetford to Fordey identified by Lethbridge (1934) is of probable Bronze Age date, while a series of socketed axes and flint work in the northern part of the A10 corridor show a relatively important Bronze Age presence on the southern edge of the Isle of Ely.

The Iron Age and Roman periods are better represented in the corridor, with extensive cropmark complexes suggesting a pattern of dispersed farming hamlets amongst a well-ordered system of fields and trackways. Agriculture would have included elements of both pastoral and arable production, and fenland produce, such as fish and fowl, would have supplemented these. The area was opened up to more organised farming by the construction of Akeman Street (Margary 1967; Ozanne 1991; Walker 1910) and the Car Dyke, a canal linking the southern fens with Lincolnshire (Fox 1923; Phillips 1970; Simmons 1970, but see also Hall 1985 for a contrasting view) which would have facilitated construction by giving cheap transport for building stone. The corridor shows a distinct zonation of Roman usage, related to distance from Cambridge and topography. Close to Cambridge there was a zone of industrial use, including kilns at Milton and Horningsea. These would have exploited local clays, whilst the woodland on the higher ground (Ozanne 1991) would have provided fuel for the kilns. The River Cam provided cheap transport for the final products. Burials along the Roman road reduce in number with distance from the city of Cambridge, only two burials in Milton are recorded in the corridor area (Taylor 1993, forthcoming). Further along the corridor the industrial activity is continued at The Lots, Cottenham, where a rescue project in the 1980's recovered evidence for bronze smelting in a settlement site which was only 100m from a Romano-British temple (Taylor 1985, Pers. Comm.). Apart from this find, the remaining Roman exploitation of the corridor area was basically agricultural, with field systems present in areas where cropmarks are visible. The remaining areas have occasional find scatters of Roman pottery suggesting that the blank areas between the cropmarks do have similar field boundaries running through them.

The Roman settlement system is well described in Wilkes & Elrington (1978) and Phillips (1970). The settlement sites are placed on the edges of gravel areas with access to a water course. This gives upland areas of arable for cereals and dry pastures, whilst the alluvial and clay lands provided hay. The droveways and tracks show the routes taken during the seasonal movements of stock from summer to winter pastures.

There are a series of Romano-British rectangular temples to the west of the corridor area and a similar temple was recorded during rescue works at the gravel extraction site at Top Moor, Cottenham (Taylor 1985). This site yielded a double ditched rectangular enclosure in which were found a small mace handle and a votive bronze axe. Numerous Roman coins from the site ranged in date from AD 286-330.

At Stretham, the remains of a substantial Roman masonry building have been discovered and comprise the site of SAM 257. The large quantities of tile recovered have led to the site being called Tiled House Farm. A hoard of pewter and glass vessels and numerous coloured beads come from the site which appears to have been founded in the second century AD. The finds are the remains of a substantial Roman villa, which from the evidence of coins (over 860 were found in a single pot) has been said to be functioning well into the fifth century AD (Wilkes & Elrington 1978). Such late survivals of Roman villas are rare and this site is, so far, unique in the A10 corridor area.

Anglo-Saxon occupation in the area is relatively early. Lethbridge (1927; Lethbridge & Tebbutt 1933) suggested continuity of Saxon and Romano-British populations at the settlement site in Waterbeach. This site was on the Car Dyke which had, by that time, silted up. Further Saxon pottery scatters, also of the pagan period, are found further southwest along the Car Dyke at Waterbeach. A collection of weapons and human skulls was recovered from the Cam at the point Car Dyke meets it (Malim 1990). A Carolingian spear point was recovered from the river at Braham Farm in the northern part of the corridor and other weapons found there have been associated with William’s siege of Ely (Lethbridge & O'Reilly, 1931 and 1933). The Carolingian spear point was described as being associated with the Norse encroachments into the area.
The settlements at Cottenham, Landbeach, Little Thetford, Milton and Stretham all pre-date the Norman conquest, with manors and religious houses having been established prior to that time (Blake 1962; Dowdy 1974; Wright & Lewis 1989).

The Liber Eliensis (Blake 1962) refers to a village predating the settlement at Ely named Cratendune. It was located c. 1 mile south of the present city of Ely and had a church which predated the foundation of the monastery at Ely by Etheldreda in 673. The settlement shifted to Ely following the success of the monastery and by the twelfth century the site of Cratendune was barely known (Fowler 1948). An Anglo-Saxon cemetery of c. 30 graves believed to be associated with Cratendune was discovered during the construction of the airfield at Witchford (Fowler 1948; Meaney 1964; Murray & Garrood 1954). An impressive early Saxon pendant is also believed to have come from this site during the 1950's (Lethbridge 1952). The settlement site itself has yet to be discovered.

The Norman Conquest had little change on the economic structure of the corridor area, with arable farming on reliable upland and grazing of stock both in the lowland when water levels permitted it, and on the upland. Fishing and fowling were also important activities. There were causeways built to the south of Ely as William besieged Hereward the Wake, one of these may be that recognised by Lethbridge at Little Thetford (1934) although a Bronze Age date is more likely.

Major religious houses were established on three of the fen islands of Waterbeach: Waterbeach itself, Eleney, and Denny, the earliest being at Denny. The Roman road was still a passable route with a gap across the fens south of Stretham, but most trade would have been conducted by river and the land route from Cambridge to Ely was not well maintained. Communications were left in this state until a new turnpike road was constructed in the eighteenth century. This became the precursor of the present A10 route. The railway was constructed in the mid-nineteenth century.

Military works were constructed at Elford Closes, Stretham, during the civil war and possibly at Braham Farm, Little Thetford (Osborne 1990).

Drainage has always been an issue in the A10 corridor area; until the late medieval period drainage was essentially a locally organised matter. By the seventeenth century, however, more serious attempts were made to deal with the problem on a regional basis with the construction of the Bedford and New Bedford Rivers and the building of several minor cuts (Darby 1983). This, however, had a knock-on effect on the drainage problem. With successful drainage, the peat of the fens dried out and shrank, lowering the level of the ground. This made removing the surplus water even more difficult. Drainage in the late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries was effected by new cuts and by wind-powered pumps, the problem had become more serious by the nineteenth century and the use of stream-powered beam engines was required. these steam engines could move as much as ten wind pumps (Taylor 1973). The first steam pump was introduced at Upware in 1821, and the SAM at Stretham was opened in 1831. A series of diesel, oil, and electrically powered pumps still operate today.

The A10 corridor area is generally not geologically suited to the formation of phosphate nodules locally known as 'coprolites', and therefore, major coprolite digging as was widespread around Cambridge did not occur (Grave 1976). There are traces of ground disturbance said to be the result of coprolite digging, however, at Stretham (Phillips 1970).

Twentieth century development in the corridor has been substantial, two airfields were built at Waterbeach and at Witchford (Bowyer 1987). Gravel quarrying has occurred at Milton, Landbeach and Cottenham and substantial housing developments have been built at Milton (Kemp 1992; Oetgen 1990; Ozanne 1991). An additional settlement in the A10 corridor has been considered at Denny and Chittering (Darvill 1989; Hedges 1988; Walker 89).
6 PARISH SURVEY

6.1 Cottenham

The parish of Cottenham covers an area of 2,927 ha. and is bounded by Akeman Street in the east and the Ouse to the north. Intercommomniable pastures between Landbeach and Cottenham were divided in 1235. The Rampton boundary is formed by Beck Brook. The village lies on a shallow ridge of Lower Greensand just below 10m O.D. while clay and gravel deposits lie along the parish boundaries to the north-west and south-east. Peat beds occurred in the north-east but these have been worked out for fuel.

The name pre-dates the Norman Conquest as Cotanham and was Cottenham by 1246 (Raney 1947). Cottenham is a relatively large settlement and has been so since the medieval times, it is a successful settlement and agricultural site. The drainage of the parish is much altered, both by the Roman Car Dyke, and the medieval Clay Ditch. The Car Dyke, a SAM (see 10.1, SAM No. 224) in this parish, cut across the natural drainage which was, in part, based on the River Ouse. In the third century freshwater flooding breached the Car Dyke at its junction with the Ouse creating the visible system of meanders in the course of the Ouse to its junction with the River Cam. Cottenham lode which runs between the village and the Car Dyke could be a Roman work.

The present Cottenham ridge and its lower-lying land effectively correspond to former arable fields and the extensive meadows and fens. Some common pastures were inclosed in the sixteenth century but general field inclosure took place in 1847. The fens were embanked by 1600 to create summer grazing, but were still subject to winter floods. The area known as The Undertakers was allotted to the Bedford Level Corporation in 1663 and the fens were finally drained in 1842.

There is little pre-Roman evidence for occupation in the A10 corridor part of the parish, but in Roman times it was an important element in the farmstead system. Cropmarks indicate regular fields and hamlets were established by the Romans, while rescue work at Top Moor has revealed a more substantial settlement and a temple (Taylor 1985, Pers. Comm.). These two sites lie close to the junction between Akeman Street and the Car Dyke and are likely to have been an important local focus for trade and communications.

Lands in Cottenham were granted to Crowlands Abbey (Lincs.) c. 971 and remained under its control until the Dissolution (1539 in this case). Other lands were held, at Domesday, by Picot, sheriff of Cambridgeshire, although these were originally part of the land belonging to the Abbey at Ely, and were shortly returned to them. A number of manors are known in the village including Crowlands, which occupied a moated site 36.5 x 42.5m south of Broad Lane. A larger moated enclosure, presumably for outbuildings of Crowlands, was to its north-west and was destroyed in recent times. The Crowlands Estate was enlarged in the sixteenth century by addition of Lisles manor and half of Sames manor lands.

Ely Abbey controlled the manors of Lisles, Burdeleys, Pelhams and Sames, as well as the Rectory manor. These estates were built up during the late tenth/early eleventh centuries. Lisles manor has no recorded site but was possibly sited at Lordship House in the High Street. The latter was demolished in 1937.

Burdeleys manor was known from the twelfth century onwards but was destroyed by an uprising in 1381. Manor Farm, built in 1866, now occupies the site at the west end of the Green.
Pelhams manor was owned by Chamberlains of Landbeach for a time during the thirteenth century but passed back into possession of the Dean and Chapter of Ely. It was sited at Pelhams Cross in Lamb Lane.

Sames manor was first recorded as a manor in 1389 but there is no record of a manor house or its location.

Rectory manor existed by 1265 and its lands passed to St John's College, Cambridge in 1511. Parts were later sold to Kings and Corpus Christi Colleges, Cambridge.

The church, All Saints, has reused twelfth century masonry and is recorded under this dedication by 1403. There was possibly an earlier church, belonging to Crowlands manor on Church Hill. The tower of All Saints collapsed in 1617 and the present building was substantially reworked during the last century.

The parish has had a number of windmills, four in 1279, and the same number again in the last century. Two were demolished in 1890, one in 1912 and the last converted to a water tower in 1903.

There has been extensive peat digging in the north-east of the parish since the early fourteenth century and deposits are now worked out. Clay and gravel have been extracted from the seventeenth century onwards and a brickworks was active in Cottenham in the late nineteenth century. Gravel pits were active in 1910 and were also active in the 1930's at the north end of Twenty Pence Road. Dickersons have continued this extraction at The Lots to the present day, with Top Moor being worked out by 1980 and plans for small scale extraction at The Lots and Mitchell Hill Farm. Landbeach Marina has been established on the site of some of these pits.

Economically, the parish has been divided between arable farming and pasture. In the medieval period the most common type of livestock was sheep raised for wool, but in the last few centuries cattle and cheese were important. Orchards were established in the late sixteenth century and market gardening from the nineteenth century. During the present century, light industrial buildings, a business park and council estates have been constructed.

6.2 Landbeach

Landbeach parish covers some 900 ha. and is bounded by the Car Dyke and Akeman Street to the east (both are Roman monuments). Other boundaries follow later dykes and medieval furlong divisions. It is situated on gault, overlain in the eastern part by river gravels. The name Landbeach was established in the Twelfth century to differentiate it from its eastern neighbour Waterbeach (Reaney 1943). A settlement known as Utbeche at the time of Domesday (1086) probably refers to the present site of Landbeach (Ravensdale 1974; Wright & Lewis 1989). Prior to the Twelfth century the name Beche (or Bece) in records could refer to either Landbeach or Waterbeach. The separation between them almost certainly pre-dates Domesday, with Landbeach being a secondary foundation to Waterbeach. The area to the west of Landbeach was common ground for both Landbeach and Cottenham. Furlong names of Banworth in Landbeach suggest it was used as a shelter for sheep grazing away from the flood-susceptible lower ground. This is likely to be one factor in the origin of Landbeach, it was used for grazing stock seasonally when the low ground flooded. The main drains for the area lie along the parish boundary and include the Car Dyke from which an extension was cut in medieval times, linking the village centre to the extensive waterways of the fens.

The Landbeach parish has yielded a variety of pre-Roman finds but no clear settlement has been identified. Roman remains include Akeman Street to the west of the present village, and Car Dyke which runs east of the village to join the Roman road at Goose
Hall Farm. Extensive cropmarks in the parish are likely to be the remains of Romano-British farmsteads set out along the fen margin, and exploiting the presence of both Akeman Street and Car Dyke to transport supplies in and goods out. The fourth century rise in the water-table probably ended Roman use of the area which had concentrated on pasture and arable farming, for the Car Dyke had silted up by the time pagan Saxons established a settlement at Waterbeach. Landbeach is likely to have been redeveloped during the Saxon period as a more reliable area for arable farming than Waterbeach. Two manors, Chamberlains and Brays, were present by 1086 and after Domesday the former was held for the Sheriff, Picot, whilst the latter was held for the Abbey of Ely. Chamberlains passed to Corpus Christi College, Cambridge after some dispute in the fourteenth century. Chamberlains (See 10.5, SAM No. 82b) was a moated site with a fishpond and was connected to Car Dyke by a lode. The waterway system was not maintained after the fifteenth century. Brays, now a pocket park and a SAM will be described below (see 10.5, SAM No. 82a).

The church was known as All Saints by 1439, but parts of the present building date further back, to before 1300. The church has not been particularly remodelled in the last century.

Landbeach was a successful medieval settlement but seriously reduced by the Black Death in the early summer of 1349. The population continued to fall after this and the earthworks of the shrunken medieval village clearly show the effects on the village.

Communications in the parish were dominated by the waterways after the Roman road fell into disuse, although the latter could take wheeled transport seasonally, to Milton and Cambridge. The 1763 Cambridge to Ely turnpike road ran to the east of the village centre crossing the Waterbeach-Landbeach road. Landbeach fields were enclosed in 1813 and much of the Roman road was ploughed out.

The economy of the village is still dominated by arable farming but during the twentieth century extensive gravel workings occurred in the northern part of the parish. One of these has been turned into a marina. The centre of the village contains a number of listed buildings and is now a conservation area.

6.3 Little Thetford

The parish of Little Thetford developed as a subsidiary hamlet of Stretham. It lies on Kimmeridge Clay and Boulder Clay and was occupied in the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age when a causeway was constructed spanning the river between Little Thetford and Fordsy (Lethbridge 1934). The name derives from Theo-ford meaning ford of the nation (road) (Pugh 1953) which suggests it is based on the line of the Roman Akeman Street. In the Roman period the area was part of the regular field systems which ran the length of the present A10 corridor, with the gravel lands near water courses being the focus of attention. There is no evidence of Saxon occupation although a Carolingian spearhead was dredged from the river at Braham Farm (Lethbridge and O'Reilly, 1931). A will of c.1000 AD notes three plots of land in Thetford bought by Ely Abbey from an owner in Thorney (Hart 1966).

A number of weapons were dredged from the river near Braham Farm (separately from the spear noted above) and these are considered to date from William I attempts to capture Ely after the resistance of Hereward the Wake c. 1070 (Lethbridge 1934). Accounts of this campaign describe the building of causeways and these are likely to lie in the Little Thetford area, particularly at Braham Farm as this point is where the smallest gap between high ground occurs (Blake 1967; Lethbridge 1934).

Ely Abbey controlled the lands of Little Thetford until the seventeenth century. There was a chapel in Thetford, called the Harrimere chapel, near the river. It existed prior to
the fourteenth century and the present church of St George contains some masonry dated to this time. The dedication of the latter suggests it could have been newly built during the fourteenth century. The chapel was active by 1381 but was sold to property developers in 1571 and dismantled. The present church was heavily restored during the nineteenth century.

There is a rectangular enclosure adjacent to Braham Farm, now ploughed out, which was marked as a Roman camp in early Ordnance Survey maps but is now thought to be a civil war emplacement (Osborne 1990). The areas of ridge and furrow in this area are also now ploughed out. Earthworks do survive to the east of the farm buildings in an orchard. Some of these are ridge and furrow, others may relate to Braham Dock. This dock serviced the farm which provided produce for Ely Abbey and the present farm house contains some medieval masonry reflecting these origins. The dock would have been used to unload the stone for building the farm house.

Little Thetford was an independent manor by 1539 and its estates included arable and pasture lands in addition to gardens and orchards. The economy of Little Thetford was heavily dependent on fisheries and fen produce. It also provided seasonal grazing and arable farming is now of greater importance. The fields of Little Thetford were inclosed in 1844.

The Cambridge to Ely railway runs to the east of the present village while the village itself lies just outside the Cambridgeshire County Council 'area of best landscape'. It contains a number of listed buildings including an eighteenth century conical brick and thatch building, The Round House.

6.4 Milton

The parish of Milton comprises an area of 830 ha. north-east of Cambridge, bounded by the River Cam on the east and by Akeman Street on the west. It lies on gault but along the river the gault is covered by alluvium. In the west the gault is overlain by gravels. Along the east the land is drained by a series of channels into the River Cam. The parish is low-lying (generally under 10m O.D.) and is virtually flat. The name of Milton stems from the Anglo-Saxon name of Middel-tun, but few Saxon remains have been found in Milton (Haig 1975; Kemp 1992; Reaney 1943).

The area was traversed by Akeman Street and seems to have had a significant industrial use in Roman times, as kilns have been discovered during gravel extraction to the south-east of the present village (Swan 1975). Agricultural settlement during Roman times was also present, but of lesser importance than the potteries, when these are considered along with kilns across the river at Horningsea.

Land in Milton was in religious possession prior to Domesday. 4.5 hides passing from the canons of St. Paul's in London to the Abbey of Ely in 984. Much of the land in Milton was granted to the Abbey of Ely, but was seized by Sheriff Picot by 1086. The Abbey's claim was recognised again in 1166 when the manor of Milton was held for the Bishop of Ely. There seems to have only been one major manor in Milton although another manor site does exist, visible as earthworks north of Fen End. It was identified by the local antiquarian William Cole as a manorial site because it possessed foundations for a building, fishponds, a rectangular moat and ditches when he examined the site in 1780. The site at that time was known as Hall End, it was probably abandoned for another site nearer the church in 1550.

The modern Milton Hall was completed in 1794 and has a park designed by Repton. In 1794-5, the Cambridge-Ely turnpike road was diverted to allow an extension to the park.
A mill belonging to the manor existed by 1310 and lasted until c.1666. It probably stood in the northern part of Mill Field. Another windmill was built later as a windpump to drain the fen but was dismantled in 1841.

The village church of All Saints has structural remains dating from the fourteenth century. The church was substantially reworked between 1847 and 1850, with a new roof designed by Pugin.

Fields were enclosed in 1799/1800 and the village economy has been based on arable farming and horticulture. Communications have concentrated along the river and a road into Cambridge. Akeman Street, known locally as Mere Way, also served to link Milton with Landbeach.

Milton has grown markedly during the twentieth century with an expansion of Cambridge suburbs and gravel extraction. In the 1980's a significant amount of new housing was constructed, along with a new shopping complex and improvements to communications along the A10 and A45.

6.5 Streatham

Streatham parish covers c. 4780 acres and lies on the southern edge of the Isle of Ely. The present village is placed on a Kimmeridge Clay and Lower Greensand ridge with a capping of boulder clay. This ridge connects Streatham with villages to the west. The name derives from its location, a ham (settlement) on the street (the Roman road), it was Stratham by c.970 and Straetham in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle of c.975 (Reaney 1943). The parish is bounded by the Old West River and the Cam on its south and east but changes to the courses have resulted in local deviations from the present waterways.

There is evidence of prehistoric occupation in the area of neighbouring Little Thetford where a late Bronze Age/early Iron Age causeway was built and Streatham is likely to have been occupied as a point from where this crossing could be controlled. Stray finds of bronze axes and flint scatters from the surface and Bronze Age pottery from excavation (Hoyland 1991) support this.

There is substantial evidence for a Roman occupation of the area, but in contrast to the later and present settlement, the Roman use of Streatham focused off the ridge, near the gravels and the watercourse which is typical for Roman settlements in the area. In this case, however, the settlement is not actually on the gravel, but on Kimmeridge Clay. The arable use of land in the area is shown in the discovery of two puddingstone querns at Gravel and Grange Farms respectively. Both are south of Streatham village. The pottery from these sites and others nearby indicates occupation from AD 150 to the fifth century.

There are extensive cropmarks showing agricultural activity and at Starlock Hay Fen an upstanding bank which yields AD second century pottery when ploughed can still be traced (Phillips 1970). The Roman road, Akeman Street, runs parallel to and east of the present A10 which it crosses to run west of Streatham church. The name of Elford Close means 'The Old Ford which has been suggested as the location for the Roman road crossing of the River Ouse. The name can only be traced back to the thirteenth century, however. A considerable Roman settlement, now a scheduled ancient monument (see 10.6, SAM No. 257), is located east of the river at Tiled House Farm. This site lies on Lower Greensand and is very rich in materials, including a hoard of over 100 pewter and glass vessels and numerous coloured beads. A substantial building is indicated by the large numbers of tiles and amount of building rubble which still occurs, despite attempts to clear the site in the 1880's. A group of 865 coins from a single pot show the
site continued in use as a villa settlement into the third decade of the fifth century (Wilkes & Elrington 1978).

In late Saxon times lands in Streatham were given to Ely Abbey in c. 971 (Blake 1967), after larger bequests by Wulfraed and Wulfstan c. 925 (Hart 1966). Streatham became a small episcopal manor in 1109. The church is dedicated to St. James and contains some twelfth century reused masonry. Excavations by Cambridgeshire Archaeology in the Rectory gardens indicate the original building was a possible tower house in the twelfth century which was replaced by a more conventional rectangular building in the fourteenth century (Horton 1989; Horton & Lucas 1990; Hoyland 1991; Oetgen & Sholiff 1990).

Streatham was at its peak as a medieval settlement at the beginning of the fourteenth century but parish lands were often lost to flooding. In 1607 the holder of Streatham manor inclosed his fields with 1,600 acres set aside for common pasture, further field inclosure took place in 1837.

The southern approaches to Ely were defended by Parliamentary forces at Elford Closes during the civil war (Osborne 1990). The site being a semi-permanent sentry post.

There is a fine fifteenth century cross in the main road to the east of the church.

The economy of Streatham has been based on a mixture of arable and pasture agriculture while fens produce such as fish, fowl, osiers, reeds, etc. were also important. The Streatham Pumphouse (see 10.7, SAM 60) was built in response to the problems of flooding which had long been an issue in Streatham. In the seventeenth century a weir was present and a gravel had been laid down to make a ford. A copy of Hayward's map of the fens of 1604 shows a ferry operating at Streatham across the Old West River while maps by Jansson (1646) and Moor (1740) do not show any crossing south of Streatham. Bowen's map printed in 1751 does show the effective establishment of the land route with a crossing south of Streatham. The seventeenth century was marked by disputes between individuals interested in draining the fens (including Miles Sandys, holder of Streatham manor) and those wishing to maintain the waterways (particularly Cambridge University). A new cut at Streatham was one subject of controversy, as was the gravel laid down to make a ford (Darby 1983).

Land communications between Cambridge and Ely broke down at Streatham after the Roman road fell into disrepair, and waterways were the main routes for transport. A ford and a ferry at Streatham would have permitted a limited land traffic. The building of the 1763 Turnpike Road would have increased this traffic and carriages would have been able to pass between Cambridge and Ely. A railway crossing Streatham parish was built in 1845 with a route between Ely and St Neots opening in 1866, the latter had a station for Streatham, although it was actually in Wilburton parish. This station closed to passenger traffic in 1931 (Pugh 1953).

Streatham expanded in the nineteenth century with ribbon development along the road and two areas of council housing have been built in the twentieth century. The centre of the present village contains several listed buildings and is now a conservation area. The village lies within the Cambridgeshire County Council 'area of best landscape'.

6.6 Waterbeach

The parish of Waterbeach covers 2327 ha. and has boundaries along the Car Dyke, Akeman Street and the River Cam. It lies mostly on a gault spine with river gravels along its east and west sides. The northern part is mostly peat. It all lies below 10m O.D. and as such contrasts the other parishes in the area. The main village is on a fen
island, with outlying settlements on smaller islets. Settlement in Waterbeach is, therefore, based on a small archipelago and in earlier times the higher grounds were linked by causeways. The original name of Beche (Bece) was altered in the twelfth century to distinguish it from Landbeach. There are substantial Roman remains in the parish, ranging from the earthworks of a large farmstead at Chittering, and the Car Dyke (a 40m wide canal linking the Cam with the Great Ouse, see 10.1, SAM No. 3 & 224), to the agger of Akeman Street and numerous cropmarks which show additional Roman farmsteads running along the fen edge.

Early Saxon settlement was discovered at Waterbeach Lodge adjacent to the Car Dyke, which had, by Saxon times, filled in. Additional evidence of the pagan Saxons is found in pottery scatters in fields along the Car Dyke (Malim 1990). It is from such settlements that modern Waterbeach derives. At Domesday two main manors were present, one in Waterbeach village and one at Denny. The church of St. John the Evangelist was founded c. 1160.

The Abbey of Ely was founded in 673 (Blake 1962; Dowdy 1974) and after the See of Ely was created in 1109, a Benedictine establishment was built at Denny with a church dedicated to St. James & St. Leonard. Further religious houses were built at Waterbeach (founded c.1294) and at Elmeney where a small community was set up but only lasted a very short time (Ravensdale 1974). Waterbeach Abbey and Denny Abbey are both SAMs and described more fully below (see 10.2 and 10.3, SAM Nos. 52 and 31 respectively).

The development of Waterbeach was economically linked to the religious houses through tithes and land ownership but also markedly affected by flooding. Indeed, the development of Waterbeach until the last century has been dominated by changes to the water table. Flooding caused the loss of sizeable parts of the parish and it was Drainage Acts in the eighteenth century which led to embankments being built and the enclosure of the field systems. The economy has been dominated by arable produce, livestock and fen produce. Common lands were shared with Stretham and Thetford.

Water transport was important for Waterbeach with the bulk transport of goods between Cambridge and Ely using the Cam. The land route was re-established in the eighteenth century with the building of the turnpike road in 1763. Waterbeach was connected to the railway network in 1845 by the Great Eastern Railway Co.

The present village population was increased with the construction of Waterbeach aerodrome in the twentieth century and the barracks there now. A new township has been proposed for the Denny, Westmere or Chittering (Waterfenton) areas on the A10 as a response to the growth in population of Cambridge in recent years (Darvill 1989; Hedges 1988; Tempus Reparatum 1990; Walker 1989), and there are proposals for an Olympic-sized rowing lake in the County Council-owned farmland adjacent to Car Dyke. A golf course has also been proposed for the same land.
7 GUIDE TO THE GAZETTEER

The gazetteer is accompanied by a series of 10 maps covering the area of the A10 corridor (Fig. 4). These maps include all SMR (County Sites and Monuments Record) entries for the area, which refer to archaeological sites, individual finds, or scatters of artefacts. The SMR is a computer and map based database providing detailed information on known archaeological sites within the county. The data presented is based on currently available information, and therefore should not be seen as a definitive list of archaeological sites within the corridor. Other sites are likely to be discovered during further levels of archaeological evaluation. It is often through the disturbance of archaeological remains that they become observable to the archaeologist.

The information contained in the SMR is only as accurate as the original source material. Finds scatters with a six figure grid reference (based on a 1:10 000 map) should be seen as coming from an area of approximately 50 m in radius centred on the indicated grid reference to give an appropriate scale of accuracy of information.

Each entry in the Gazetteer is preceded by its SMR number and OS grid reference. Areas of local archaeological interest have been outlined on the maps in blue and are referred to as Areas A to T. Although these boundaries are artificial, they outline the areas that have a particularly dense coverage of archaeological sites, finds and cropmarks. However, it must be noted that the distribution of sites is not necessarily accurate as other areas of cropmarks and finds may be masked by alluvial deposits.

A series of six more detailed maps have been included to show the SAMs and other earthworks in greater detail. The SAMs have their boundaries marked in red.

8 GAZETTEER

8.1 Cottenham

00187 - TL 4671/6979 - Stray find: Roman glass bead.

03187 - TL 4769/7000 - Earthwork, finds scatter: Poor condition hollow-way leaves site in line with soilmarks and cropmark tracks to the east. Finds include Roman pottery.

05218 - TL 468/607 - Stray find: Pottery, possibly prehistoric date.

05225 - TL 4669/6699 - Cropmark: Traces of a small sub-rectangular enclosure visible on aerial photographs.

05226 - TL 469/689 - Finds scatter: Roman coin of Gordian and Roman pottery.

05237 - TL 470/689 - Finds scatter: Roman building material, one iron ballista bolt and sling stones, four coins dating from AD 330-375, and pottery, including coarse ware, one 2nd century Norfolk mortarium, and colour-coated ware of the late 3rd and 4th centuries.

05263 - TL 476/683 - Stray find: Roman pot sherd of Castor ware.

05264 - TL 475/693 - Finds scatter: Roman pottery.

05265 - TL 4723/6959 - Stray find: Human cremation found in a jar unearthed in Car Dyke in 1881, possibly Roman date.

05266 - TL 478/680 - Cropmark, stray find: Roman pottery, coarse ware rim of late 3rd or 4th century, associated with cropmark.

05267 - TL 476/691 - Stray find: Roman pottery dredged from Car Dyke in 1969.
05268 - TL 4779/6986 - Stray find: Human remains and Roman pottery found in 1842.

05296 - TL 478/697 - Cropmark: Enclosures and linear features, period unknown.

05296a - TL 478/697 - Finds scatter: Abundant finds of Roman pottery.

05302 - TL 479/697 - Stray finds: Roman pottery.

05313 - TL 482/646 - Finds scatter: Roman pot sherds.

05320 - TL 474/683 - Finds scatter, cropmark: Roman pottery, including Samian bowl and coarse ware, associated with cropmark.

05321 - TL 4742/6823 - Finds scatter, cropmark: Rectangular cropmark, with Roman pottery over a wide area. Pottery includes: handmade ware in native tradition, Flavian mortarium, cordon-jar of late 1st early 2nd century, Hadrianic Samian, and the rest is 2nd century coarse ware from local kilns.

05335 - TL 481/686 - Cropmark, stray find: Double rectangular ditch system, associated with a scatter of 2nd century Roman sherds and some colour-coated ware from c. AD 220-230.

05342 - TL 465/692 - Stray find: Prehistoric macehead and knife.

05360a - TL 480/687 - Stray find: Roman pottery of late 2nd to 4th century.

05364 - TL 481/685 - Soilmark, stray find: Roman ditches with coarse ware probably from the 2nd century.

05365 - TL 482/688 - Cropmark, earthwork, and finds scatter: Roman site including rectangular soilmarks, ditches and possible foundations. Associated with pot sherds dating from the 2nd to 4th centuries, including coarse ware, Samian Castor ware and tiles.

05367 - TL 483/688 - Finds scatter: Roman finds including animal bones (pig, sheep, and cattle), fragment of puddingstone quern, and pot sherds. Wares include Castor ware, Horningsea type coarse wares and fine wares.

05395 - TL 484/694 - Stray find: Prehistoric worked flint.

05396 - TL 483/689 - Cropmark, finds: Roman enclosure and habitation site with two transverse ditches and one rectangular corner. Finds include roof tiles, glass, some stone, and pot sherds including 2nd century and later Samian, and all normal pot types up to the end of the Roman period.

05398 - TL 480/697 - Cropmark, finds scatter: Straight ditched drove from old water course, very small pot group from side of drove, including: coarse jar (possibly Hadrianic), coarse ware colour-coated sherd c. 4th century.

05406 - TL 477/688 - 479/680 - SAM 224: Car Dyke (see below).

05456 - TL 496/707 - Stray find: Bronze Age palstave.

05458 - TL 495/709 - Stray find: Part of a trephined human skull and leg bone of a horse, found in the Great Ouse River bed in 1954.

05476 - TL 493/699 - Place name: Beach Points called Denny Point in 1834.

05523 - TL 487/691 - Romano-British temple and settlement with industrial site at Top Moor: This site was recorded during gravel quarrying in the 1980s (Taylor, 1985). The temple appeared on aerial photographs as a double ditched rectangular enclosure. During gravel extraction, the enclosure produced a number of finds, including a small mace handle, a votive miniature bronze axe, and 115 Roman coins dating mostly from the 3rd and 4th centuries. The site had suffered much plough damage and the pottery scatter in this area was sparse and all sherds were small and worn. The settlement site consisted of pits and ditches which produced much Roman pottery and animal bones, a puddingstone quern and a leather shoe from a deep waterlogged pit. A great deal of slag probably indicates an area of bronze working.
05524 - TL 485/690 - Finds scat: Roman coins, pottery, bronze slag, lead plumb bob and weight.

05525 - TL 486/691 - Finds scat: Roman pottery, tile fragments, and slag.

05526 - TL 486/692 - Finds scat: Roman oven or kiln and small pot sherds.

05585 - TL 496/700 - Stray find: Human skeletons from both sides of the Roman road, date unknown.

05598 - TL 499/711 - Wind pump: Post-medieval wind pump depicted on pre-Inclosure map.

05609 - TL 494/702 - Finds scat: Roman pot sherds found in 1955.

05629 - TL 496/703 - Stray find: Roman pottery, including late mortarium, and a human skeleton uncovered during ploughing.

05630 - TL 496/701 - Stray find: Roman pot sherds.

05632 - TL 4772/7004 - Stray find: Human skeleton, date unknown.

05632a - TL 4772/7004 - Stray find: Roman pot sherds found during gravel digging.

05703 - TL 4981/7022 - SAM 13605 - Roman earthworks, finds scat and cropmarks (see below).

05725 - TL 495/700 - Roman road: Last certain trace of Akeman Street, nothing visible north of this point.

05790 - TL 467/677 - Cropmark: Possible double-ditched enclosure and linear features, period unknown.

06155 - TL 4748/6820 - Stray find: Roman pot sherd: a large corn jar rim.

06156 - TL 4745/6830 - Finds scat: Possible tesserae found in field with 05322.

06157 - TL 4735/6830 - Finds scat: Fairly heavy scatter of Roman pottery.

06158 - TL 4778/6802 - Cropmark, stray finds: Roman pottery, coarse ware, and cropmarks at junction of Beach Ditch and Car Dyke.

06159 - TL 4748/6812 - Cropmark: Settlement area with multi-ditched tracks, fields and paddocks, possibly Iron Age and Roman.

08100 - TL 4672/6982 - Stray find: Roman bronze stud, found by metal detector in 1985.

08398 - TL 4804/7039 - Cropmark, finds scat: Cropmarks of a Prehistoric field system visible on aerial photographs, scatter of burnt flint.

08398a - TL 480/705 - Cropmark: Cropmarks of a field system visible on aerial photographs (see 08398).

08400 - TL 4740/6773 - Finds scat, soilmark: Iron Age pottery, dark area on gravel mound.

08400a - TL 4740/6773 - Soilmark, finds scat: Iron Age and Roman pottery, bone and burnt flint, associated with 08400.

08401 - TL 480/701 - Cropmark: Trackway and field boundaries visible on aerial photographs, period unknown.

08406 - TL 470/690 - Cropmark, finds scat: Bronze Age barrow and a few associated worked flints.

08656 - TL 4811/6970 - Finds scat: Iron Age pottery and bone.

08656a - TL 4811/6970 - Finds scat: Roman pottery and bone.
08656b - TL 4811/6970 - Finds scatter: Neolithic pottery.

08840 - TL 472/676 - Cropmark: Linear features, period unknown.

08841 - TL 476/688 - Cropmark: Linear feature, period unknown.

08843 - TL 477/680 - Cropmark: Some linear features, including parallel tracks, period unknown.

08851 - TL 482/697 - Cropmark: Probable field system and lazy beds, series of parallel ditched tracks linking with cropmark system at TL 478/697.

08853 - TL 492/699 - Cropmark: Linear features, possibly a field system, period unknown.

08866 - TL 496/705 - Cropmark: Cropmarks visible on aerial photographs, possibly Roman.

08867 - TL 495/702 - Cropmark: Trackways visible on aerial photographs, possibly Roman.

08877 - TL 474/695 - Soilmark: Visible on aerial photographs and appear to be modern or natural.

10482 - TL 4883/6952 - Stray find: Roman coin found by metal detector.

8.2 Ely

01069a - TL 5328/7773 - Cropmarks: A small rectangular area which, before being levelled for ploughing, was bounded by triple banks and ditches less than 0.5 m in height or depth. The enclosure is surrounded by cropmarks of ridge and furrow, which were traceable, before the site was levelled, not only within it, but also between the inner and centre banks on the west side. Five small mounds in the interior overlay the ridge and furrow, and there was an original entrance on the south side. Small scale excavations produced no evidence of date or function. The enclosure was constructed on the top of existing ridge and furrow, and is therefore medieval or post-medieval in date. It is generally assumed to be a stock enclosure.

01069b - TL 5328/7773 - Stray find: One barbed and tanged arrowhead, Bronze Age.

02104 - TL 522/779 - Excavation: During levelling off an aerodrome, a bulldozer revealed about 30 Anglo-Saxon graves. Pagan Anglo-Saxon grave goods, dating from AD 450-650, accompanied the burials. The site has been identified as the cemetery for the pre-Ely village of Cratendune (see 06935).

03159 - TL 52/77 - Stray find: Anglo-Saxon pendant made of crystal, gold, garnet, and amethyst-coloured glass, probably ploughed out near site of Anglo-Saxon cemetery. The pendant has been dated to AD 600-700.

06142 - TL 5356/7743 - Roman settlement.

06143 - TL 5325/7748 - Earthworks: Deserted medieval village with trackway, dock, water course, house platform, pond, and ridge and furrow.

06929 - TL 529/788 - Finds scatter: One hammer stone, one broken flint blade and 2 flint flakes found during fieldwalking on route of the Ely bypass, period unknown.

06935 - TL 52/77 - Site of the lost village of 'Cratendune', alleged to have been situated about 1 mile south of Ely. The village was supposedly founded by Ethelbert I (who reigned from AD 560-616), but the village was abandoned when Etheldreda founded a monastery a mile to the north, on the site which later became Ely. Site unknown, not located on map.

06961 - TL 532/787 - Finds scatter: Neolithic worked flint, including two retouched blades, one scraper, and seven flakes found during fieldwalking.

06961a - TL 532/787 - Finds scatter: Roman quern base and pottery, including one large combed jar of Horningsea ware, found during fieldwalking.
06962 - TL 532/788 - Finds scatter: Roman pottery, mostly 3rd and 4th century, including coat and grey ware, found during fieldwalking on route of the Ely bypass.

06962a - TL 532/788 - Finds scatter: One fragment of decorative bronze, period unknown, found during fieldwalking on route of the Ely bypass.

06963 - TL 532/788 - Finds scatter: Roman pottery, roofing tiles, nails and other building material found during fieldwalking.

10225 - TL 530/788 - Cropmark: Sub-circular enclosures and field boundaries, period unknown.

8.3 Landbeach

01163 - SAM 82c - Medieval earthworks (see below).

01262 - SAM 82a/b - Medieval earthworks (see below).

05231 - TL 4765/6511 - Site of medieval Market Cross.

05232 - TL 4769/6561 - Stray find: Medieval purse frame, from c.1500.

05233 - TL 4777/6566 - Stray find: Roman bronze brooch, fibula with half-tube hinge cover.

05234 - TL 478/650 - Stray find: Neolithic polished flint axe, found in 1954.
05235 - TL 473/666 - Stray find: Fragment of a Roman brooch.

05236 - TL 474/6764 - Stray find: Roman stone quern found during gravel digging in 1864.

05313 - TL 482/646 - Finds scatter: Roman pot sherds.

05315 - TL 485/652 - Finds scatter: Roman pottery, found in 1956.

05323 - TL 482/675 - Roman settlement: Found during gravel digging 1937-38, on northwest side of Akeman Street, just north of its crossing of the Car Dyke. Complex of cropmarks associated with animal bones and pottery, including Samian, coarse ware and one late 4th century colour-coated sherd.

05343 - TL 483/661 - Roman pottery from section through field ditch, excavated in 1955.

05346 - TL 481/669 - Roman road: Section of Akeman Street, excavated by J.Button in 1950.

05347 - TL 482/665 - Stray find: Neolithic flint axe.

05348 - TL 483/661 - Roman pottery: Found in section through field ditch excavated in 1955 by J.Button.

05349 - TL 485/665 - Roman pottery: Coarse ware, colour-coated ware and four Oxfordshire mortaria, dating mostly to the second half of the 4th century. Found in 1955.

05350 - TL 480/671 - Stray find: Roman pottery, coarse ware.

05354 - TL 481/678 - Finds scatter: Roman pottery, including 2nd century coarse ware, Nene Valley ware from the 4th century.

05355 - TL 481/671 - Finds scatter: Roman pottery, including Horningsea ware and Samian, found where Akeman Street crosses the Car Dyke.

05356 - TL 482/672 - Finds scatter: Roman Samian pot sherds found where Akeman Street crosses the Car Dyke.

05357 - TL 480/676 - Stray find: Anglo-Saxon brooch.

05359 - TL 480/681 - Finds scatter: Before destruction the site was topsoiled revealing pot sherds of at least three Horningsea type jars (mainly 2nd century but persist into the 3rd), one rare amphora fragment, and some colour-coated ware, probably from the 3rd century.

05361 - TL 481/681 - Finds scatter, soilmark: Roadway from Roman habitation site in Cottenham, also rectangular ditch system. From the latter came Roman 2nd century pot sherds and one Hadrianic Samian sherd.

05363 - TL 483/683 - Soilmark, stray find: Long ditch running approximately east-west and two shorter ones running south at right angles. Roman pottery including 2nd century coarse ware and 4th century Nene Valley ware found in ditches.

05366 - TL 482/684 - Soilmark, finds scatter: Ditch system containing Roman pot sherds.

05397 - TL 487/684 - Finds scatter: Roman pot sherds including Antonine Samian and 2nd century coarse ware.


05544 - TL 4../6.. - Cropmark and stray finds: Post-medieval pottery and coins, cropmarks to the south.

05766 - TL 477/660 - Cropmark: Linear feature, continuation of Roman road.

05888 - TL 482/644 - Finds scatter: Roman pot sherds dating from the 2nd and 3rd centuries, one coin from the 4th century.

08312a - TL 483/647 - Cropmark: Trackway, period unknown, continuation of 08317.

08314 - TL 482/644 - Cropmark: Rectilinear ditches, period unknown, linked to 08312a.

08402 - TL 477/673 - Cropmark, period unknown.

08403 - TL 479/670 - Cropmark, period unknown.


08592 - TL 4839/6493 - Cropmark and finds scatter: Roman pot sherds associated with the cropmark of a droweway, possibly a cattle ranch.

08593 - TL 4833/6596 - Cropmark and finds scatter: Roman settlement, pot sherds, bone, fire-cracked flint and quern. Hut-like cropmark near droweway.

08594 - TL 4857/6591 - Cropmark, soilmark and finds scatter: Roman pot sherds and burnt stone associated with enclosure cropmark north of droweway.

08594a - TL 4857/6591 - Finds scatter: Pot sherds, probably Iron Age.

08595 - TL 4814/6580 - Cropmark, soilmark and finds scatter: Rectangular cropmark, a few late Roman sherds.

08596 - TL 4738/6636 - Cropmark, soilmark and finds scatter: Roman settlement. Dark area near Roman road, associated with Roman pot sherds and bone.

08597 - TL 4733/6588 - Cropmark, soilmark and finds scatter: Dark area associated with late Roman pot sherds and bone.

08598 - TL 4655/6587 - Soilmark and finds scatter: Dark area on edge of medieval fields, probably on a midden. Associated with a few late medieval pot sherds.

08832 - TL 470/668 - Cropmark: Rectilinear enclosure and other features, period unknown.

08833 - TL 471/671 - Cropmark: Enclosure system, period unknown.

08834 - TL 477/664 - Cropmark: Enclosure system with tracks of Roman road.

08835 - TL 474/664 - Cropmark: Enclosure system and settlement, period unknown.

08838 - TL 478/666 - Cropmark: Double parallel trackway leading to the Roman road.

08839 - TL 479/673 - Cropmark: Semi-rectangular enclosures, period unknown.

08844 - TL 482/653 - Cropmark: Rectilinear enclosure complex and double parallel tracks, probable Roman date.

08845 - TL 480/655 - Cropmark: Trackways, period unknown.

08846 - TL 481/661 - Cropmark: Trackway, period unknown.
Fig. 9  Cottenham and Landbeach
08847 - TL 484/659 - Cropmark: Settlement area with parallel tracks, fields or paddocks, and enclosures, period unknown. Area includes periglacial features and geological disturbance. The causewayed ring ditch is probably natural.

08848 - TL 486/688 - Cropmark: Enclosures and tracks visible on aerial photographs, adjacent to Romano-British settlement.

08854 - TL 476/654 to 473/651 - SAM 82: Landbeach SMV (see below).

08855 - TL 474/650 - Earthworks: Associated with the shrunken medieval village of Landbeach. Three long closes, probably with house sites at the north end, and to the west of these are remains of ridge and furrow. Documentary evidence from a list of closes in 1548-49 seems to indicate that the combined closes of Martyrs and Cockfens lay in this area. The earthworks are well-preserved.

08856 - TL 475/657 - Cropmark: Trackway, period unknown.

08857 - TL 474/658 - Cropmark and earthworks: Double parallel tracks, enclosures and Romano-British ditches.

08908 - TL 479/675 - Cropmark: Sub-rectangular enclosures, period unknown.


8.4 Little Thetford

02103 - TL 524/769 - Stray find: Neolithic polished flint axe.

02103a - TL 524/769 - Stray find: Fragment of a Roman puddingstone quern.

06911 - TL 518/776 - Stray find: Bronze Age perforated stone macehead.

06924 - TL 526/762 - Windmill: Medieval or post-medieval windmill on 1605 map of Stretham.

06958 - TL 532/763 - Building: Post-medieval windmill, now converted into private a residence.

06960 - TL 534/775 - Earthwork: Earthwork, period unknown.

07125 - TL 531/763 - Building: Parish Church of St. George. Nave and lower chancel date from the 14th century, but were mostly rebuilt in the 19th century. 14th century font, octagonal with heads looking out from the four diagonal panels, badly preserved.

07125a - TL 531/763 - Building: Parish Church of St. George. Post-medieval elements include east gable of nave rebuilt in 1665, and much 19th century rebuilding of the church.

08410 - TL 5/7 - Finds scatter: Roman and Anglo-Saxon pottery, including one piece of Samian, found during digging footings in a garden. Exact find spot unknown, not on map.

09226 - TL 529/757 - Cropmarks: Linear features, circular feature and ridge and furrow, probably part of a deserted medieval village.

09228 - TL 526/747 - Soilmark: Enclosures and field boundaries visible on aerial photographs, period unknown.

09873 - TL 5277/7625 - Earthworks: Well-preserved medieval field system with ridges surviving up to 1m in height and orientated east-west.

10204 - TL 529/754 - Cropmark: Possible enclosure with three sides, period unknown.

10205 - TL 524/741 - Cropmark: Three sides of an enclosure, curving linear features, period unknown.
8.5 Milton

05230 - TL 4787/6286 - Site of medieval or post-medieval cross at junction of two roads.


05273a - TL 4657/6363 - Finds scatter: Roman pottery, including Samian and grey ware, found during fieldwalking in 1984.

05311 - TL 480/629 - Stray find: Roman bronze fibula.

05311a - TL 480/629 - Stray find: Two medieval bronze buckles.

05314 - TL 4884/6361 - Finds scatter, cropmark: Roman coarse ware sherds associated with cropmarks.

05455 - TL 480/629 - Medieval alabaster carvings from the Parish Church of All Saints. The mutilated statues were found c. 1837-1846 in a niche plastered over in the east end of the south aisle.

05460 - TL 480/629 - Building: Medieval Parish Church of All Saints. Norman chancel arch with one order of columns towards nave. Other workmanship c. 14th century.

05460a - TL 480/629 - Monumental brasses from the 16th and 17th centuries, in the Parish church of All Saints.

05533 - TL 478/626 - Stray find: Roman lead figurine of fully clothed emperor, 8 cm high with some traces of colour.

05536 - TL 479/622 - Cropmark, stray finds: Roman pot sherds associated with ditches, excavated in gravel digging.

05537 - TL 4799/6244 - Stray find: Roman pot sherds and two beads.

05538 - TL 473/634 - Finds scatter: Roman pot sherds dating from the 2nd to 4th centuries.

05676 - TL 482/623 - Stray find: Roman iron knife found in a pit beneath a calf skull, excavated during gravel digging.

05677 - TL 481/625 - Stray find: Roman pottery found during gravel digging.

05677a - TL 481/625 - Stray find: Tooth and tusk of mammoth found during gravel digging, 1962.

05678 - TL 4808/6216 - Cropmark, stray finds: ditches containing Roman pottery.

05679 - TL 482/624 - Finds scatter, kilns, soilmarks: Gravel working at Milton Fen End revealed a ditch system of circles within rectangles associated with a 2nd century pottery kiln. A pit containing kiln debris was discovered near by, and a scatter of Roman pottery. At Green's Gravel Pit a second kiln was uncovered, but was mostly destroyed in removing topsoil.

05865 - TL 481/626 - Cropmark, soilmark: Site of medieval moat and associated ditch system, now surviving only as faint cropmarks.

07610 - TL 462/633 - Roman road: A section was excavated through Akeman Street Roman road during building works. The flanking ditches of the road were 16 m apart between centres, 1.2 to 1.4 m wide and 60 to 70 cm deep. The agger was 45 cm high and 10 m wide, of hard packed clay silt covered by 15 cm of sandy gravel metalling.

08313 - TL 490/635 - Cropmark: Spread of rectilinear features along old stream course.

08315 - TL 475/632 - Cropmark: Rectilinear feature of unknown period.

08316 - TL 489/638 - Cropmark: Traces of linear features, period unknown.
08317 - TL 478/643 - Cropmark: Double parallel trackway running to cropmark at Landbeach, period unknown.

08320 - TL 469/629 - Cropmark: A few linear features, possibly part of enclosure but very fragmentary evidence. Period unknown.

08322 - TL 485/629 - Cropmark: Medieval enclosure system.

08329 - TL 475/623 - Cropmark: Ring ditch visible in aerial photographs, period unknown.

08471 - TL 487/634 - Cropmark: Complex system of enclosures, ring ditches, linear features, trackway and field system. Period unknown.

08778 - TL 467/637 - Stray find: One fragment of a Roman bronze jug handle found by metal detector.

08778a - TL 467/637 - Stray finds: One decorative bronze fragment, one fragment of bronze possibly from smelting, one lead shot. Period unknown, found by metal detector.

08779 - TL 466/638 - Stray finds: Four Roman bronze coins, probably late 3rd century.

08779a - TL 466/638 - Stray find: One bronze disc, possibly a coin, period unknown.

08873 - TL 489/634 - Cropmark: Small regular enclosures and linear features visible on aerial photographs, period unknown.

09257 - TL 478/643 - Finds scatter: Iron Age pot sherds and fire-cracked flint found during fieldwalking.

10211 - TL 4630/6280 - Finds scatter: Worked and fire-cracked flints found during fieldwalking.

10211a - TL 4630/6280 - Stray find: One sherd of possibly late Bronze Age or early Iron Age pottery found during fieldwalking.

10211b - TL 4630/6280 - Finds scatter: A small amount of Roman pottery found during fieldwalking.

10211c - TL 4630/6280 - Finds scatter: A small amount of medieval pottery found during fieldwalking.

10211d - TL 4630/6280 - Finds scatter: Post-medieval pottery and building material found during fieldwalking.

8.6 Streatham

02053 - TL 51/74 - Stray find: one unprovenanced Roman tile, not on map.

02075 - TL 51/74 - Stray find: Bronze Age bronze socketed axe with a flanged blade, a willow neck and oval-shaped socket hole, well-preserved rib and pellet decoration. Exact find spot unknown, not on map.

02078 - TL 51/74 - Stray find: Late Bronze Age socketed axe of bronze with a very wide flanged blade, collared neck and circular socket hole, with rib and pellet decoration. Exact find spot unknown, not on map.

02083 - TL 51/74 - Stray find: Bronze Age stone macehead with hourglass perforated socket hole. Exact find spot unknown, not on map.

02088 - TL 511/736 - Stray finds: Two sherds of Nene Valley colour-coated beakers.

02096 - TL 51/74 - Stray find: Neolithic worked flint. Exact find spot unknown, not on map.

02120 - TL 525/734 - Stray find: Late Bronze Age socketed ribbed axe.

02130 - TL 51/74 - Stray find: Neolithic polished flint axes. Exact find spot unknown, not on map.
02132 - TL 51/74 - Stray find: Neolithic flint scraper. Exact find spot unknown, not on map.

05670 - TL 499/723 - Cropmark, finds scatter: Romano-British field system and part of a double-ditched enclosure (possibly Roman-British). Finds include Roman tile, quern fragments and pot sherds of Samian from c. AD 150 to end of the 2nd century and colour-coated ware from the late 3rd century to the end of the 4th century. Coarse ware from the site also shows no evidence of 3rd century occupation.

06876 - TL 508/749 - Stray find: Neolithic worked flints and an arrowhead.

06877 - TL 507/734 - 507/7418 - Approximate line of Coprolite bank described as Roman road by F.G. Walker.

06878 - TL 506/719 - Stray find: Neolithic flint axe.

06880 - TL 512/749 - Earthwork and building: Post-medieval windmill shown on map of 1605. This site is occupied by a 19th century tower mill which stands on a circular mound 1.5m high by 18 m in diameter. The present structure is circular and built of brick, with no sails.

06881 - TL 526/741 - Wind pump: Site of post-medieval wind pump which was extant in 1834.

06882 - TL 515/742 - Stray find: Plesiosaurus remains discovered in clay pit.


06884 - TL 512/746 - Building: Site of almshouses of unknown date, now demolished.

06885 - TL 519/732 - Building: Site of post-medieval wind pump on 1835 Inclosure map.

06891 - TL 512/725 - Stray find: Medieval pottery, c. 13th and 14th centuries.

06892 - TL 513/727 - Building: Site of post-medieval wind pump on Waterbeach drainage map of 1834.

06893 - TL 516/722 - Stray find: Neolithic flint axes.

06897 - TL 517/725 - Stray find: Neolithic flint axe.


06905 - TL 513/732 - Cropmark, finds scatter: Cropmark continuing ditch marks and a small square enclosure produced some late 2nd and early 3rd century Roman pottery.

06906 - TL 519/738 - Finds scatter, soilmarks: 2nd century Samian and Roman coarse ware sherds and one 4th century colour coated sherd associated with soilmarks.

06907 - TL 516/745 - Stray find: Medieval pottery including one Thetford ware bar-lip spout, one wide sandy ware rim with stab decoration on top and impressed finger decoration on side.

06908 - TL 51/74 - Stray find: Neolithic stone axe-hammer made of a quartz dolerite from Northumberland. Exact find spot unknown, not on map.

06909 - TL 51/74 - Stray find: Late Bronze Age socketed sickle. Exact find spot unknown, not on map.

06910 - TL 51/74 - Stray find: Stone hammer and three beads, period unknown. Exact find spot unknown, not on map.

06914 - TL 520/725 - Stray find: Neolithic polished flint axe.

06915 - TL 523/729 - Stray find: Roman coin hoard. A total of 865 coins were found buried in a jar of hard grey fabric. The coins were mostly Theodosian 4th century brass dating after AD 430. The coins
were well worn and had long been in use, their burial can hardly be earlier than the third decade of the 5th century.

06916 - TL 522/732 - Cropmark, finds scatter: Cropmarks showed outbuildings around two sides of a square courtyard, enclosures and field boundaries, presumably Romano-British. Finds include very little Roman pottery, a bronze finger ring, and a worn brass coin of Hadrian.

06919 - TL 526/735 - Stray find: Roman quern fragment.

06920 - TL 526/737 - Cropmark: Traces of bridge and track across lode depicted on 1605 map, possibly Roman.

06921 - TL 526/738 - Building: Remains of post-medieval mill, known as Dollar or Dollard Mill.

06922 - TL 5206/7466 - Building: Manor Farm, 18th century building, with portions possibly of earlier date.

06925 - TL 512/730 - Soilmark: Lanes and field boundaries visible on aerial photographs, period unknown.

06928 - TL 512/733 - Cropmark, stray finds: i) Small rectangular ditched area, with some Romano-British sherds mostly from the 2nd and 3rd centuries; ii) Cropmarks continuing ditch marks, a few late 2nd and early 3rd century sherds.

06928a - TL 514/741 - Stray find: Some Roman colour-coated sherds from allotments.

06933 - TL 518/738 - Stray find, earthwork, soilmark: Soilmark and bank running parallel to the road, associated with Roman pot sherds, including Samian and colour-coated ware from the 2nd century, one 4th century colour-coated ware sherd, and some Nene Valley coarse ware.

06938 - TL 5165/7300 - SAM 60 - Streatham Pumping Station (see below).

06957 - TL 5226/7323 - SAM ? - Roman settlement at Tiled House Farm (see below).

06957a - TL 523/732 - Stray find: Neolithic worked flint, including one long knife blade, a few flakes, and 'many scrapers' said to have been found.

07114 - TL 511/745 - Building: Medieval Parish Church of St. James, parts dating to the 14th century.

07114a - TL 512/746 - Gravestone: One fragment of an Anglo-Saxon grave cover is now built into the inner wall of the south porch of St. James Church, Streatham.

07122 - TL 5123/7460 - Cross: Medieval village cross dating from c. 1400. A lantern-headed cross comprising head, shaft, socket stone and base, the whole mounted on a 19th or 20th century circular brick plinth.

08079 - TL ? - Stray find: Medieval small bronze hook with sacred monogram, therefore possibly from an ecclesiastical house. Not personal fastener because of the sharpness of the hook, possibly for a curtain. Exact find spot unknown, not on map.

08080 - TL ? - Stray find: Nine Roman pewter dishes and one of pottery found to the east of the probable course of the Roman road from Cambridge to Brandon, in the parish of Streatham. Exact find spot unknown, not on map.

09833 - TL 5115/7455 - Excavation: An excavation carried out in the garden of Streatham Rectory in 1990 by Cambridgeshire Archaeology (ref.) revealed a building 9m by 11m with walls 1m thick. Another building with thick stone walls cuts through one corner of this building. No record of the building exists, but it is most likely ecclesiastical. Most of the pottery was Saxo-Norman dating from before the 13th century.

09833a - TL 5115/7455 - Excavation: Three pagan Anglo-Saxon sherds were found during the excavation at Streatham Rectory (see 09833).
Excavation: An archaeological assessment was carried out by Cambridgeshire Archaeology in 1990 (Oetgen and Shotlife, 1990) on land to the rear of the Chequers Public House in Streatham. Apart from one abraded fragment of human cranium and a few sherds of St. Neots ware (see 10094a), the only finds were 19th and 20th century pottery and glass. The site has never formed part of the churchyard of St. James Church.

Excavation: Some small sherds of St. Neots ware were uncovered during the archaeological assessment at the Chequers Public House in Streatham (see 10094).

Excavation: An excavation was undertaken by Cambridgeshire Archaeology in 1991 (Hoyland, 1991) to assess the orchard area of Streatham Rectory prior to development. A complex of early medieval ditches and associated features was found in the central area of the orchard. These features probably relate to the domestic complex found in 1990 (see 09833). There were finds of early, but no late, medieval pottery.

Excavation: Saxo-Norman pottery found during the 1991 excavation in the orchard of Streatham Rectory (see 10199).

Excavation: Sherds of pottery, possibly Bronze Age, and struck flint flakes and blade fragments were found during the 1991 excavation in the orchard of Streatham Rectory (see 10199).

Excavation: Sherds of Iron Age pottery found during the 1991 excavation in the orchard of Streatham Rectory (see 10199).

Excavation: Sherds of Roman pottery, including Samian, during the 1991 excavation in the orchard of Streatham Rectory (see 10199).

Excavation: The area of the orchard of Streatham Rectory is shown on a map of the rectory dating from 1828 as a formal garden with paths and flower beds (see 10199).

Cropmark: Possible field boundary, period unknown.

Stray find: One Iron Age silver stater, AD 1 to AD 10, found by metal detector.

Stray find: 3rd and 4th century Roman coins found by metal detector.

8.7 Waterbeach

Stray finds: Neolithic stone axe-heads found in 1955.

Stray find: Beehive-shaped stone quern, Iron Age or Roman date.

Stray find: Neolithic flint axe. Exact find spot unknown, not marked on map.

Stray find: Roman coin of Faustina, c. AD 175.

Waterbeach Abbey (see below).

Settlement: Anglo-Saxon huts on the edge of Car Dyke, excavated by Lethbridge in 1926-27.

Roman pottery: Samian, Castor and grey wares excavated by Lethbridge in 1926-27 (see 05312).

Soilmark, finds scatter: Roman ditching system first ploughed in 1949. Finds include fragments of at least six stone querns and two complete. Two concentrations of pottery: i) to the south on a rectangular enclosure, includes Samian from mid to end of the 2nd century, and Nene Valley colour-coated ware possibly 3rd century; ii) to the north on a raised sandy ditch marked by large stones, includes quern fragments, Samian (mostly late 2nd century), Hadrianic mortarium from Verulamium, two Nene Valley mortaria of 4th century and another from the mid-3rd century, colour-
coated ware from the 3rd century, and a range of coarse ware from early 2nd century until end of the 4th century.

05345 - TL 489/656 - Windmill: Medieval or later windmill labelled 'Benson's Mill' on Inclosure map c.1813-1818.

05358 - TL 488/672 - Stray find: Palaeolithic hand-axe and animal bone.

05394 - TL 495/684 - SAM 31 - Denny Abbey (see below).

05405 - SAM 3 - Car Dyke: Roman canal (see below).

05405a - TL 494/650 - Pottery: Belgc pottery found under the bank of Car Dyke during the 1947 excavations, giving a date of not later than AD 50.

05409 - TL 495/643 - Stray find: Roman pottery.

05410 - TL 495/645 - Finds scatter: Roman pot sherds including platters and large Hornigsea ware storage jars. Found in pit filled with black earth and ashes.

05436 - TL 496/643 - Finds scatter: Roman pottery scatter on the edge of Car Dyke found during ploughing in 1963.

05454 - TL 492/652 - Stray find: Prehistoric wooden dug-out canoe, found in 1938. This entry is being further investigated.

05473 - TL 491/674 - Stray find: Palaeolithic stone axe.

05474 - TL 498/683 - Stray find: Roman stone rotary quern.

05475 - TL 498/691 - Stray find: Pottery, possibly Roman, from the area where a driftway enters the field.

05477 - TL 499/695 - Settlement: Causeway End Farm is probably the site of the 'small village' marked on Ogilby's 1675 map.

05521 - TL 491/680 - Earthwork, pottery: Soldiers' Hill, site of earthworks that were mostly destroyed during WW2. Tumulus may be spoil mound from original ditch construction. At the time of destruction, much Roman material was uncovered.

05534 - TL 4923/6840 - Stray find: Roman pottery found at Denny Abbey.

05543 - TL 4./6., - Stray find: Greek bronze coin, autonomous coin of Amisos, dating from the Roman period. Exact find spot unknown, not marked on map.


05724 - TL 498/706 - Excavation: Man-made gravel layer observed during deepening of Beach Ditch. Gravel layer, including Samian pot sherd, probably original metalling of Akeman Street some 6 feet below the modern road, and later cut by the ditch.

06357 - TL 507/684 - Stray find: Neolithic polished stone axe.

06358 - TL 509/681 - Stray find: Neolithic polished stone axe.

06359 - TL 505/694 - Windmill: Post-medieval wind pump or windmill on 1819 plan of Waterbeach level.

06672 - TL 5010/6940 - Earthwork, finds scatter: Romano-British settlement site at Causeway End Farm. A Roman ditch system in several fields was visible on aerial photographs before 1954 when most of the earthworks were ploughed and levelled. This site is considered a good parallel for the 'grid-iron' trenches at Chittering (SAM 13605). A brief excavation just before ploughing across one of the grid-iron ditches showed it to be shallow and lacking in datable finds. Where this ditch joined the main
ditch were geometric arrangements of stake-holes slantwise to the axis of the parallel banks, one rectangular, the other circular. These were possibly frameworks for vertical traps that could be raised or lowered into the water. The pottery from this area includes: Samian starting under Hadrian and continuing through the 2nd century, mortaria from Colchester from the late 2nd century, 3rd century Harthill ware, early and mid-4th century Nene Valley ware, 4th century colour-coated ware and 2nd century coarse ware. The lack of 3rd century material is marked.

06672a - TL 5010/6940 - Human remains: Skeleton found in 1867 on the site of the Roman settlement (see 06672).

06879 - TL 507/705 - Stray find: Roman child's bronze bracelet.

06887 - TL 512/702 - Stray find: Neolithic flint axe found after ploughing.

06888 - TL 512/704 - Stray find: Neolithic flint axe head.

06889 - TL 511/711 - Stray find: Neolithic flint axe with polished flanged end.

06890 - TL 511/725 - Building: Site of post-medieval wind pump labelled on 1819 map as Upper Mill.

06936 - TL 508/705 - Stray find: Neolithic axehead and arrowhead.

08002 - TL 4./6.. - Stray find: Flint handaxe, probably Palaeolithic. Exact find spot unknown, not marked on map.


08850 - TL 489/682 - Cropmark, parchmark: Enclosure, linear features and dots, period unknown.

08852 - TL 485/683 - Cropmark: Hollows, possibly water courses associated with the Denny Abbey system.

08865 - TL 501/702 - Cropmark: Ring ditch and field boundary, possibly Roman.

09049 - TL 4924/6417 - Finds scatter: Prolific Anglo-Saxon finds, including hand-gritted sherds, bone, burnt pebbles and one gilt-bronze decorated fragment. Possibly Grubben Hausen sites.

09239 - TL 506/697 - Cropmark: Ring ditch visible on aerial photographs, period unknown.

09655 - TL 4984/6857 - Earthwork, cropmark: Bronze Age barrow.

09656 - TL 4920/6910 - Finds scatter: Site of settlement, possibly Prehistoric.

09657 - TL 496/684 - Finds scatter: Medieval midden.

09658 - TL 4925/6816 - Finds scatter: Medieval midden, possibly associated with Denny Abbey.

09659 - TL 4925/6818 - Finds scatter: Roman pottery.

09702 - TL 4955/6595 - Stray find: Roman disc brooch, gilded and enamelled, c. 2nd century.

09928 - TL 4975/6856 - Excavation: A series of trial trenches were excavated in 1990 (Tempus Reparatum, 1990) in an area adjacent to Denny Abbey, the possible site of a proposed new settlement. The remains of a barrow, possibly 09655, are being severely damaged by ploughing. The excavation revealed that concentric ditches surrounded a shallow mound of re-deposited gravel sealing an ancient ground surface.
9 AREAS OF LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST IDENTIFIED BY THE GAZETTEER

9.1 Area A

This area comprises the present settlement of Milton and its surrounding gravel pits. Archaeological remains are dominated by various Roman finds including two pottery kilns. Other finds are mostly of medieval age although the single Mesolithic flint blade should be noted. Cropmarks in the north-east of the area consist of enclosures, probably related to the kiln site and to agricultural activities.

9.2 Area B

This area comprises agricultural field boundaries and enclosures, almost certainly of Roman date, running along the course of an extinct stream channel. Three ring ditches in the area could be Bronze Age burial mounds but are more likely to be Iron Age/Romano-British hut locations.

9.3 Area C

A series of cropmarks indicating trackways and field boundaries, which elsewhere are often of late Iron Age/Roman date. The latter is most likely in this case given the amount of Roman pottery recovered from the field scatters. These boundaries and trackways are likely to be the remains of Roman arable and pastoral settlements placed along the fen edge after the building of Akeman Street (Fox 1923; Margary 1967; Phillips 1970; Wilkes & Elrington 1978). Their date would span the 1st to 4th centuries AD. Where subject to ploughing, such cropmark features are unlikely to survive except as features cut into the subsoil, in situ surfaces are unlikely to be present (See evaluation work at Denny by Tempus Reparatum - Hedges 1988).

9.4 Area D

The Neolithic polished axe is probably a casual loss not a ritual deposit. Substantial Neolithic sites may exist but there is little evidence to support this. The cropmark features are again likely to be late Iron Age/Roman field systems and farming hamlets. The other SMR entries refer to the medieval settlement of Landbeach including some standing buildings.

9.5 Area E

These are a series of cropmarks associated with the Roman road at Landbeach, Roman pot sherds have been found on the surface of fields confirming this association. Once again they are the rural settlements of Roman times. Particularly interesting are the concentrations of enclosures surrounded by trackways of 08596, and the agricultural field system across the north of the area. The Car Dyke forms the northern boundary to this area and a large ring-ditch is present nearby.

9.6 Area F

The majority of finds and cropmarks in this area are, again, Roman period farming settlements. The excavations of Button in 1950 demonstrate the association of Roman pottery with field ditches. The Roman features are of various dates but that of SMR entry 05349 is more closely dated to the latter part of the fourth century.
9.7 Area G

This area includes the village of Waterbeach and the Car Dyke and the finds can be related to both. The Car Dyke is a scheduled ancient monument of Roman age and Roman materials have been both ploughed up and excavated along its line. The Dyke was infilled by pagan Saxon times hence the Saxon hut overlying the edge of the Dyke at Waterbeach Lodge (Lethbridge 1927, & Tebbutt 1933). Other Saxon finds are suggestive of small hamlets which had come together by the time of the Norman Invasion (1066) as the village of Beche (Bece). Some of the more regular enclosures seen in the cropmarks are likely to be a continuation of the Roman rural settlement system as described above (e.g. Area A).

9.8 Area H

This area is a continuation of the agricultural system seen in cropmarks in area E and is bordered by the scheduled part of the Car Dyke (SAM 224).

9.9 Area I

This area is very disturbed by gravel digging. The Roman temple shown as a double rectangular enclosure has now been destroyed. Remaining features are the surviving fragments of the Roman agricultural system, their importance is relatively greater than elsewhere as they are more closely associated with the settlement and temple at Top Moor.

9.10 Area J

This area comprises the earthworks, cropmarks and other features associated with Denny Abbey, and the preceding Roman settlement on the islet of Denny. A large part of the area is scheduled (SAM 31). Archaeological evaluations in the area suggest that little remains in the subsoil of Roman date except where features were cut into the underlying natural.

9.11 Area K

This area possesses a loose collection of cropmarks, mostly field boundaries and tracks of uncertain age.

9.12 Area L

This area has produced a number of querns (some now used as flower pots at Denny Lodge farm) and is probably a cereal processing area within the Roman agricultural system. A relatively substantial Roman settlement was present here which can be associated with the remains at Chittering (SAM 13605). Until recently, the area contained some rare Romano-British earthworks, but these are now subject to ploughing.
9.13 Area M

This area is bounded to the south by the Car Dyke and associated Roman agricultural features. The irregularly shaped ovoid features could be building/settlement areas. Also present are enclosures and droveways. Some of these features may pre-date the Roman period.

9.14 Area N

This area relates to area L, it comprises regular rectangular platforms and a grid-iron pattern of ditches, in part scheduled as SAM 13605. The ditches continue across the A10 to the west and cropmarks show major trackways and a circular enclosure. The latter may be a prehistoric feature. The Roman road is believed to run to the west of the A10 in this area.

9.15 Areas O and P

These areas are both places where Neolithic artefacts have been recovered. These are rare elsewhere in the A10 corridor. Their presence here attests to the lack of earlier agricultural disturbance of the deposits and the re-emergence of an earlier landscape following the drainage and shrinkage of peat. Settlements of the prehistoric period are likely to occur nearby but are as yet unknown because peat masks features from aerial survey. The number of axes from the area suggests that it was subject to intensive forest clearance at an early date.

9.16 Area Q

This is an area of intensive Roman occupation - a major villa settlement and its associated fields. Another villa is known further to the east at Dimmock's Cote indicating the wealth of the area. There is also another possible villa west of the river on the road from Stretham to Bridge House. The Tiled House Farm is a scheduled ancient monument (SAM 257).

9.17 Area R

This area includes the present settlement of Stretham, including the church, rectory and medieval cross. Excavations have shown Neolithic and Bronze Age occupation of the area prior to the placing of the Roman road which runs to the west of the church. There is also a number of listed buildings in the village.

9.18 Area S

This area comprises an SMV and associated medieval earthworks and some ridge and furrow. Cropmarks south-east of the Thetford catchwater indicate the Roman agricultural system is present again.

9.19 Area T

The area of Braham Farm used to possess a large number of earthworks, now sadly ploughed out. The earthworks were mostly ridge and furrow, and the rectangular work post-dated these as it overlay them. A circular enclosure cropmark may be a prehistoric
feature and a series of standing earthworks still survive to the east of Braham Farm towards Braham Dock.

9.20 Others

These are mostly stray finds pulled up by ploughing. Some could be accidentally discarded pieces and others may indicate underlying features. The Neolithic finds may reflect the original wooded nature of the upland area when the first farmers arrived. The Palaeolithic handaxes are very rare in this area and may repay re-examination.

Areas which should be considered important but lack specific location data are as follows:

9.20.1 The area south of Stretham and north of the Ouse has yielded a significant number of Bronze Age flints and Roman remains to fieldwalking by M. Young of Stretham (Pers. Comm.). These demonstrate the Roman agricultural system continues along the edge of the Cam round into the valley of the Ouse. Whilst land drains were constructed across fields south of Grange Farm no sign of the Roman road was seen in the top 1m of deposit. The route of the Roman road across the Ouse must lie some where in this area and should be considered if works are conducted here. North of Grange Farm a number of dark soilmarks indicate further Roman settlements, while north of Manor Farm a sandy knoll is producing prehistoric flintwork when ploughed.

9.20.2 A second area of interest is on the edge of the corridor to the east of Little Thetford in Hall Fen. Ploughed fields here are producing Bronze Age flintwork including a good series of well-made scrapers. These flint scatters occur in fields on both sides of the railway line.

9.20.3 The third area of interest lies around Bedwell Hey Farm, which is believed to be the location of Cratendune, an Anglo-Saxon settlement preceding that at Ely. A cemetery of c.30 graves was found on the southern edge of the airfield to the north of the farm, and three years ago a number of amber beads were recovered from the same area.

9.20.4 The final area of interest that may be defined is the length of the Roman road itself. The route is well known in the southern part of the A10 corridor and has had sections excavated through it (e.g. Özanne 1991). Once the road passes into lower-lying ground, however, it becomes less clearly recognised. The road is assumed to run to the west of the route of the present A10 after crossing Car Dyke at Goose Hall Farm and aerial photographic evidence supports this view, but other linear features occur to the east of the A10 at Chittering and north of the SAM (SAM 13605) which some have attributed to the presence of the road. The point where the road crosses the Ouse is not known but assumed to lie slightly to the west of the present A10 bridge. Observations of the field drains in fields at this location failed to identify the metalled road surface in the top 1m of deposit. This does not necessarily mean the road is on another alignment as it could be buried deeper than 1m by alluvium. Once the road crosses the Ouse it has been identified intermittently (Phillips 1970). It certainly runs west of the A10 at Stretham and crosses it to run behind the church in the village itself. The route of the road which joins Stretham back to the modern A10 runs on the approximate line of the Roman road. All proposed development works should take the uncertainty of the route in its northern part into account.

A further complicating factor is the possibility of features associated with the road, including trackways and droves, burials, and watch stations.

In all the above cases exact locations are lacking and no specific areas of interest have been mapped.
Fig. 15  SAM 3 and 52
10 SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS

There are four SAMs in Waterbeach parish and a series under one number at Landbeach. They are described below, whilst their boundaries are drawn in Figures 15-20.

10.1 SAM 3 - Car Dyke, TL 493/650, TL 495/642, TL 496/641 (Fig. 15) and SAM 224 - Car Dyke, TL 478/680 to TL 477/688 (Fig. 16)

The Car Dyke is a canal/drain constructed in the 1st century AD linking the Cam at Waterbeach with the Great Ouse at Earith. It is part of a series of such artificial waterways of Roman date running from the Cam to Lincolnshire, first identified by the antiquarian Stukeley in the seventeenth century (Clark 1949; Fox 1923). Little work has been conducted on the Dyke in Cambridgeshire (see however Clark 1949) but several studies have been made of it in Lincolnshire (Phillips 1970; Simmons 1975). It was originally some 40m wide with banks on both sides in parts and on one side or the other, in other places. It may be dated to the Roman period effectively in Cambridgeshire because during excavation at Cottenham its northern bank sealed Belgic pottery below it (Clark 1949), while at Waterbeach, excavation shows an early Saxon hut overlying the edge of the silted-up Car Dyke (Lethbridge 1927). However, other parts of the Dyke were navigable during the medieval period and parts of it still function as field drains. Clark’s excavations in Cottenham show a fourth century droveway across the Car Dyke, so at this point at least, it was out of use by that time. The intersection of Car Dyke and Akeman Street also suggests infilling of the Car Dyke during Roman times. Clark’s work showed the Dyke to resemble modern barge canals, having steep edges and a flat base, it was some 16 feet deep. Snails recovered from its basal silts showed that it had been kept relatively free of vegetation and so it must have been cleaned regularly.

The SAM 3 site has been suggested for monument management (Malim 1990; Taylor 1992). This will involve the excavation of sections, clearing rubbish from the monument, re-instatement of the banks, improving access and placing information boards at the site. This work is provisionally scheduled for late 1992/early 1993. The setting of this site is clearly important, and it has archaeological significance resulting from the potential waterlogged deposits which preserve organic materials not usually found on archaeological sites, and also because it is a particularly rare form of monument. The association of Saxon remains with it adds to its importance.

The part of Car Dyke which crosses Setchel Fen, in which SAM 244 occurs, has been subject to infilling and gravel extraction and was included in the survey of Cambridgeshire gravels (French & Wait 1988). The length of the Dyke between the two scheduled areas has been cleaned out for use as a modern drain and other parts infilled, so scheduling was not deemed appropriate.

10.2 SAM 52 - Waterbeach Abbey, TL 449/649 (Fig. 15)

The Abbey at Waterbeach was founded in 1294 by Denise Muchensey for 4 French sisters of the Franciscan Order dedicated to Our Lady of Pity and St. Clare. The foundation was opposed by Barnwell Priory of Cambridge and the site was not a success as it was subject to flooding (Cra’ster 1966; Haigh 1988). In 1339, therefore, the Countess of Pembroke, owner of the Denny Estate, sought permission to move the nuns to Denny. This process was begun in 1342 although some of the nuns tried to resist the move. By 1359 the Waterbeach site was deserted and a papal licence had been granted to move the bodies of dead nuns buried at Waterbeach to Denny. The structure of the old Waterbeach Abbey was robbed out after this date.
The SAM site covers an area between the River Cam and the Car Dyke. No buildings remain on the site but earthworks are present. These include a moat across the eastern half of the site and a second ditch running perpendicularly into it. There is a cart track along the west side of the site. The moat is 2m wide and has banks which are, at highest, 2m high. There are also mounds of spoil left from robbing out the walls and foundations. A series of trenches were excavated across the site in 1963 (Craaster 1966), prior to its becoming a scheduled monument. Rubble foundations and traces of wall plaster were found but no convincing site plan was identified.

10.3 SAM 31 - Denny Abbey, TL 495/684 (Fig. 17)

Denny Abbey was created by Robert, Chamberlain to Duke Conan IV of Brittany, as a dependent cell of the Abbey at Ely. In 1159 a church dedicated to St. James & St. Leonard was built. The church was occupied by a small number of monks of the Benedictine Order and subsidiary buildings were of wood (Blake 1962; Christie & Coad 1980; Dowdy 1974).

In 1170 the Knights Templar took possession of the site as an infirmary for their members. It was an atypically large Templar establishment and building works converting the original Benedictine house were undertaken.

On 10th January 1308 the Templars at the site were arrested and the building confiscated as part of the suppression of the Order. John de Creke, Sheriff of Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire took possession of the site. It reverted to the Crown in 1324 and was passed to Mary de Valance in 1327 who then used the site for a nunnery for the Franciscan Order of Minoresses in 1339. This community moved to Denny from Waterbeach Abbey (See below). The 1536 Act of Dissolution should have closed such a small community but it survived until 1539 when it was converted to a farmhouse by Edward Elrington. Most of the religious buildings were demolished at this time. It passed to Pembrooke College, Cambridge and thence to the then Ministry of Works (DoE) in 1947. It was excavated in 1954 and between 1968-1975 (Christie & Coad 1980).

Denny Abbey is unusual in having been occupied by three very different religious orders. It is also the only known Franciscan nunnery in England to have surviving architectural remains. Documentary evidence for the site is also exceptionally good and the excavations of 1968-75 yielded a sealed sequence of medieval ceramics, important for local medieval chronology. There is also potential for waterlogged remains in the surrounding earthworks.

In addition to the scheduled area, the surrounding fields are under the guardianship of English Heritage and the setting of the site is of great importance. There are earthworks of probable Roman rural settlements to the south and east of Denny Lodge which run up to the A10 and on aerial photographs appear on the west side of the road. Examination in the field failed to identify the latter features as extant earthworks.

10.4 SAM 13605 - Chittering, TL 4981/7022 (Fig. 18)

This monument is the site of a Romano-British settlement, covering c. 2.6 ha. (Taylor 1973). It is bounded on the west by the A10, although it probably ran originally to meet Akeman Street to the west of the A10. On the east and south it is bounded by shallow double ditches - in the south these are partly destroyed by a modern pond. To the north, the site is destroyed by a modern farm. The interior of the site is divided up into a number of sub-rectangular areas bounded by shallow ditches. Field examination of the area did not identify remains on then western side of the A10.
Adjacent ploughed areas have yielded Roman pottery dated between the 2nd and 4th centuries, indicating that the earthworks represent an extensive and long-lived settlement. The site is a fen edge agricultural settlement as are usually only known from cropmarks (e.g. in Areas A - E, described above). They were used for stock-rearing, arable farming and horticulture. It is an important site as such sites rarely survive as earthworks. It has not been ploughed and therefore has great potential for below-ground remains. It is low-lying and so waterlogging is possible and its proximity to Akeman Street and the fen edge are additional factors increasing the interest of this particular site.

10.5 SAM 82 - Shrunken Medieval Village of Landbeach, TL 474/650, TL 477/653, TL 477/655 (Fig. 19)

The scheduled monument comprises a number of different areas, 82b & 82c are the site of earthworks associated with Chamberlains Manor (Taylor & Brown 1978), whilst 82a & 82d are the area of, and around, Brays Manor (Malim 1990). Both manors are well described in Wright & Lewis (1989). Chamberlains Manor lies on the site of the present Manor Farm, but surviving earthworks of the outer part of the manorial farmstead lie to the east of the Manor Farm building. Chamberlains was extant by Domesday (1086) and passed to Corpus Christi College, Cambridge in the fourteenth century. The main feature of the site is a set of multiple ditches to the north and east of the area. It is believed that they functioned for drainage. There is also a 2m deep fishpond and associated ditches, and a series of ridges and furrows (Fourteen ridges in all). The placing of ridge and furrow within the manorial enclosure is unusual and they are also of notably short length.

One other feature is of particular interest: it is a narrow ditch on the east side of the enclosure and runs north beyond the limit of the enclosure for one mile where it meets the Car Dyke. This ditch could simply be for drainage, a function it serves at present, but there are records of a navigable lode to the Car Dyke and this is the most likely interpretation of this feature.

Brays Manor lies to the south of Chamberlains and the scheduled area includes the probable location of the market cross, the 40m sq. area of the manor within a 5m wide moat, a fishpond, a variety of probable house platforms and two areas of ridge and furrow. Brays Manor is the second of the two manors described in Domesday and after a turbulent history of disputed ownership and conflicts with other residents in the village passed to Pembroke College, Cambridge. The land is presently owned by Cambridgeshire County Council which has included it in its monument management scheme (Goldsmith et al. 1991; Malim 1990; Taylor 1992) and it is now a pocket park. Information boards will be erected shortly. Both areas are presently grass-covered and well-preserved. Their setting within the present village makes them a valued civic amenity and educational resource.

10.6 SAM 257 - Tiled House Farm, Stretham, TL 523/733 (Fig. 20)

This site has been known since the 1880's, when quantities of tile and rubble were removed. A substantial Roman settlement occurs at the site, which dated by pottery was certainly in place by the early second century. The evidence of coins suggests the site was still functioning as a villa into the fifth century AD. Such late Roman survivals are rare and this settlement is complex when compared to other Roman settlements in the area, which tend to be small nuclei of buildings within regular fields. The wealth of this site is indicated by the hoard of pewter and glass vessels and coloured beads found there. There are also a series of cropmarks associated with the site confirming its complexity and richness (Wilkes & Elrington 1978).
The site presently comprises open fields to the south-east of the present Tiled House Farm, and runs as far south as the Sixteen Foot Drain.

**10.7 SAM 60 - Streatham Pumping Engine, Streatham, TL 517/729 (Fig. 20)**

The Streatham Engine was built in 1831 by the Waterbeach Level Drainage Commission to deal with the increasing problems brought about by fen drainage. Seventeenth and eighteenth century drainage using wind-pumps was successful but caused increased shrinkage of the peat. This in turn meant that the ground level lowered making the task of pumping out excess water more difficult. The nineteenth century solution to this was to introduce steam powered beam engines which could each pump as much water as ten or more wind pumps. The first steam engine was introduced in 1821 at Upware (Darby 1983; Taylor 1973).

The Streatham Engine is the last remaining intact engine and buildings and has the typical tri-partite building comprising a tall central engine house with flanking boiler house and scoop wheel house. A more powerful engine was installed in 1909 and an oil powered Mirlees engine introduced in 1925 in a new brick building. The engine was last run in 1941.

The site lies next to the Old West River adjacent to Stow Bridge Farm at a point where a toll gate occurs on the east bank.

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**Fig. 18 SAM 13605**
11 DISCUSSION

11.1 A Review of the Archaeology of the A10 Corridor

11.1.1 The area of the A10 corridor possesses a large amount of archaeologically important materials, but cropmarks and a significant proportion of the find scatters indicate that a straightforward interpretation of the remains may be developed. The majority of cropmarks and scatters are of the late Iron Age/Roman farmstead system that grew up along the southern fen margin, and the services for them (Akeman Street and Car Dyke). The pattern shows a series of discrete hamlets set out in a well-ordered landscape of rectilinear fields. The Romano-British temple at Top Moor, Cottenham, and the associated settlement 100m away, now sadly lost, may have been a more substantial component of this system, as would have been Chittering, Causeway End Farm and Tiled House Farm. Rescue work at Top Moor revealed a religious centre with some evidence of specialist industry (bronze smelting) in the nearby settlement.

11.1.2 Pre-Roman remains are rare but indicate a clear concentration of Neolithic axes in two areas adjacent to the interfluve, and a series of Bronze Age finds spots on the southern edge of the Isle of Ely.

11.1.3 The Neolithic finds represent the re-emerging fossil landscape which has been submerged under peat for c.4000 years. Its archaeological potential is great, but as yet unrealised. Settlements are likely to exist near the interfluve but the overlying peat precludes cropmarks from forming, so aerial survey is not informative. The possibility of fine organic preservation at the emerging Neolithic sites is also strong.

11.1.4 The Bronze Age remains from the A10 corridor demonstrate the presence of a settled population at that time on the Isle of Ely, for the existence of the causeway at Little Thetford suggests some form of centralised organisation to construct and maintain it. Longer term settlement and stock movement would also be implied, otherwise fords could have sufficed. As yet no settlement sites are demonstrated, but the south-facing slopes of the valley below Stretham would be a favourable location for settlement, as would the east-facing slope of the Cam valley near Little Thetford - both are places where stray Bronze Age finds occur.

11.1.5 The Iron Age settlement of the A10 corridor is presently obscured by the succeeding Romano-British occupation. Further work is needed to differentiate the phases of the widespread cropmark field systems. The possibility of Iron Age origins for the Romano-British system needs to be addressed in this area. The Roman system itself is complex, there is an extensive system of isolated hamlets within rectilinear fields but central places within this do occur. Particularly important is the settlement and temple at Top Moor, the possibility of a centralised cereal processing area near Chittering and the rich villa sites at Stretham and Dimmock's Cote. The latter contrast the small hamlets and may reflect different patterns of land ownership and use.

11.1.6 The Saxon period is well documented in the Waterbeach area, but less so in other parishes. During this phase of settlement, the scattered hamlets coalesce to form the present villages, although the fate of Cratendune contrasts this. Early Saxon hamlets are, however, a factor to consider in the rural areas and investigation of the Saxon settlement pattern of the area is still at an early stage. The site of Cratendune could be sought by using topographical models of Saxon settlement known elsewhere.

11.1.7 The medieval period continues the pattern begun in the Saxon one, with the addition of isolated religious houses. Later developments continue the overall settlement pattern with later eighteenth and nineteenth building spreading along the newly established land routes.
A10 CORRIDOR - LANDBEACH

Based upon Ordinance Survey Map No. TI.17/63 with the sanction of the Controller of H.M.S.O. Licence No. 1A (17c) (PLX)

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SAM 82

Fig. 19  SAM 82
11.1.8 In terms of the present project, the areas of important archaeological sites within the existing settlements are mostly scheduled monuments, and even when not, should best be regarded as part of the setting of the conservation areas in the centres of villages. Therefore, developments in these areas should be avoided. In the rural areas, a number of options for road improvements are possible ranging from avoidance of sites, raising the level of roads to avoid disturbing sites and phased investigation of the sites it is not possible to avoid. The richness of the archaeological record in the A10 corridor makes the latter probable. The series of events to be considered are outlined in section 3 above and reflect a staged approach to information gathering, starting with known information and non-destructive techniques, and moving into increasingly invasive methods. These methods are outlined below.

11.2 Techniques of Archaeological Investigation

11.2.1 Initial desk-top study - essentially a documentary and cartographic research document. In this case, the present document also includes aerial photographic data and visits to some of the sites concerned to assess their survival.

11.2.2 Fieldwalking - surface collecting of materials by experienced archaeologists. At different scales of recording this provides different information. At broadest, it indicates the presence or absence of archaeological materials and their frequency can show the presence of sites. At a smaller scale, gridded recording over areas of numerous surface finds can isolate areas of different activities, provide a means of dating specific features, etc. It is a non-invasive and non-destructive technique. It is best conducted when crops have been removed and the field surfaces are freshly ploughed and drilled, usually in late Autumn/Winter.

11.2.3 Geophysical survey - devices such as magnetometers and resistivity meters can identify disturbed deposits under the ground and identify their positions. This can then provide a map of underground archaeological features such as pits, ditches, and kilns. It provides useful information about the presence of features and allows the accurate placing of trenches for excavation and so can improve the cost-effectiveness of later archaeological works. It is non-invasive and non-destructive. Geophysical survey is also best conducted when crops are low or absent, and level surfaces are preferred. Modern disturbance and roads can make the technique less informative.

11.2.4 Test pits/augering - these are methods of digging into the deposits over a limited area to identify their nature and depth. It can also identify the presence of features and indicate their state of preservation. It is useful for planning the logistics of further works. It is invasive and minimally destructive.

11.2.5 Trial trenching - this involves machine or hand removal of the topsoil to expose archaeological features beneath. The latter are then recorded and excavated. This provides the best information of the exploratory techniques but is invasive and destructive.

11.2.6 Excavation - full excavation is the last resort in investigation. It is invasive and destructive but provides a much broader and more detailed picture than can be obtained by the exploratory techniques.

11.2.7 An additional technique on sites with standing remains which is non-invasive and non-destructive is earthwork survey. It can clarify the nature of a site by producing a map of the extant features.
12 RECOMMENDATIONS

In reading these recommendations reference should be made to the policies outlined in section 3.0 above and the techniques described in section 11.2.

12.1 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (Fig. 15-20)

12.1.1 All SAMs have statutory protection and must be preserved. In exceptional circumstances scheduled monument consent may be sought from the Secretary of State in advance of works being carried out.

12.1.2 All the SAMs in the A10 corridor area are subject to 12.1.1 above.

12.1.3 The setting of SAMs is also an important factor in the planning process and should be considered if works are to be conducted adjacent to SAMs. This is particularly relevant for Denny Abbey and Chittering which are already along the route of the A10, and also for the monuments within existing settlements: Waterbeach Abbey and the earthwork sites in Landbeach.

12.1.4 As a precaution, any works near SAMs should be provided with protective fencing to prevent accidental damage, prevent tipping, etc.

12.1.5 Works near SAMs should be monitored to make sure such precautions as outlined in 12.1.4 above are carried out.

12.1.6 Additional consultation with the English Heritage Inspector, Philip Walker, should be sought in any areas of doubt regarding SAMs.

12.2 Areas of Local Archaeological Interest

12.2.1 Although not scheduled, these areas are also regarded as fragile and vulnerable (PPG16 para. 6).

12.2.2 PPG16 also states that there should be a presumption in favour of physical preservation for such areas if they are of national importance (para 8).

12.2.3 Although described above as 'local' archaeological interest, the aspect of landscape preservation is of greater importance and should certainly fall into the description as of national importance.

12.2.4 Following from 12.2.3, the cropmark complexes in the A10 corridor should, in the first instance, be preserved if possible.

12.2.5 Should preservation in situ not be possible, then PPG16 para 13, applies 'preservation by record may be an acceptable alternative'.reinvestigation scheme as outlined above (Section 11.2). The areas threatened should be gridded and fieldwalked in detail, geophysical survey undertaken where appropriate, and a strategy of trial trenching undertaken.

12.2.7 General fieldwalking has already been undertaken by the Fenland Survey in Landbeach and Waterbeach parishes and so need not be repeated there, contra the County Council Road Schemes Guidelines 'Fieldwalking of proposed corridor in suitable conditions'. However, site specific fieldwalking will still be needed.

12.2.8 PPG16 requires local planning authorities to seek developer funding for such works as are described above.
12.3 Specific Recommendations for Areas of Local Archaeological Interest

Detailed recommendations for each area assuming that preservation in situ is not possible follow:

12.3.1 Area A

As this area is a residential and partly disturbed area recommendations must be site specific, development in the area should be kept to a minimum.

12.3.2 Area B

This area requires feature specific fieldwalking, followed by geophysical survey and trial trenching if disturbance to archaeological features is planned. Blank areas should be trial trenched to confirm the lack of any archaeologically significant materials. The ring-ditches, if Bronze Age barrows, could contain human remains. Building up ground levels to avoid disturbing subsurface deposits may be a preferred alternative.

12.3.3 Area C

This is a particularly dense cropmark complex, it must be systematically fieldwalked, geophysical survey undertaken and trial trenching across the cropmark area carried out. The blank area to the north of the area should also be trial trenched to examine whether features continue into this area from that visible to aerial survey. Use of geotextile and building up the road above ground level could avoid all but the most basic assessment of these remains.

12.3.4 Area D

This area is built-up, it contains a pocket park, scheduled ancient monuments and a conservation area, no development should be programmed for it.

12.3.5 Area E

A less intensive series of cropmarks. If individually threatened, each should be fieldwalked, subject to geophysical survey and trial trenched. The blank areas should also be sample trial trenched to confirm they are indeed blank. Again building the road above the present surface might avoid damaging the remains necessitating minimal assessment of the below ground archaeology.

The Roman road bisecting the area. This has been subject to ploughing and is known from sections taken elsewhere, it can be regarded as less sensitive than the cropmarks. If threatened a section through it should be excavated and any areas to be destroyed outside that sectioned should be subject to a watching brief. The possibility of burials along the road must be considered. Work damaging the road should be monitored through a collaboration between the site engineer and the archaeologist, with contractors being prepared to halt work should human remains be discovered. This would be a site where the laying of a geotextile cover over the remains and the road built up on top of this would be appropriate once a section has been excavated.
12.3.6 Area F

Archaeological recommendations in this area are the same as for those in Area C.

An area of particular interest is the relationship of the trackways with the Car Dyke along the existing A10. Any work here should include gridded fieldwalking and trial trenching to assess the extent of disturbance associated with the building of the present A10, geophysical survey may be affected by the proximity of the A10 and so would be of limited use.

12.3.7 Area G

Area G can be divided into three areas, the north-east corner, the western boundary and the rest.

The north-east corner is made up of a scheduled ancient monument, Waterbeach Abbey, and the land running from it to another SAM, the Car Dyke. These two monuments and the proximity of the settlement of Waterbeach should suggest that no development takes place in this corner.

The western boundary has a rich cropmark assemblage and should be subject to gridded fieldwalking, geophysical survey and trial trenching, if threatened.

The remaining area is alluviated and so may possess archaeological sites, several Saxon pottery scatters come from this area. It will need fieldwalking, geophysical survey and trial trenching. It should also be noted that an Olympic-sized rowing lake and a golf course have been separately proposed for this area.

12.3.8 Area H

This area is a continuation of the field systems seen in area E and the recommendations given for that area can be applied here. The scheduled ancient monument (SAM 224) in the area should be avoided and protected from development works by fencing. If it is unavoidable to develop the SAM, scheduled monument consent must be sought in advance of works and English Heritage should be consulted as early as possible. Works affecting the setting of the monument should also only be undertaken in consultation with English Heritage.

12.3.9 Area I

The area is very disturbed and some of the gravel extraction in it has not been adequately recorded (particularly that of the last century and the period between 1939-1945). Each feature must be taken separately, therefore, and staged investigation outlined above (fieldwalking, geophysical survey, trial trenching and excavation) carried out.

12.3.10 Area J

This area is highly sensitive, as it includes the scheduled ancient monument of Denny Abbey (SAM 31), and its setting. The setting of this monument is particularly important as features associated with the SAM continue beyond the scheduled area. Development affecting such a site should be avoided, or if absolutely necessary, disturbance kept to a minimum. Scheduled monument consent should be sought prior to works starting and English Heritage should be consulted about any works that will affect the setting of the
monument. Due caution should also be exercised if works need to be carried out adjacent to such a site and protective fencing erected as needed.

12.3.11 Area K

The nature of these cropmarks is unclear and, therefore, site specific fieldwalking, geophysical survey and trial trenching will all be required if development threatens the features.

12.3.12 Area L

This area has a very rich series of features, many artefacts occur on the surface, and so detailed fieldwalking would be particularly informative here. Geophysical survey and trial trenching should follow if the area is to be affected by development. The use of geotextiles and banking to raise the surface for road works could obviate the need for much of the archaeological investigations.

12.3.13 Area M

This area abuts the Car Dyke which should be protected from development. The other features include forms of uncertain age and function and these should be avoided or subjected to the staged investigation as outlined above.

12.3.14 Area N

This area includes SAM 13605 which should be avoided, scheduled monument consent being required before any alterations to the site are made. Consultation with English Heritage about effects to the setting of the site should also be sought as soon as possible, if works are needed. Archaeological features continue beyond the scheduled area and so caution must be exercised. Earthwork survey will be needed to map any surviving earthworks, fieldwalking, geophysical survey and trial trenching will also be necessary should sites be threatened by development. The area west of the A10 is also sensitive and works will be needed to confirm the exact route of the Roman road in this area.

12.3.15 Areas O and P

Both areas contain rare Neolithic evidence and development should be limited. If necessary, fieldwalking, and geophysical survey will be required, followed by trial trenching. There will be a need to address certain questions of organic preservation, the effects of de-watering and erosion at such sites, and this should be included within planned evaluation. If lithic scatters are identified by fieldwalking, they should be test-pitted.

12.3.16 Area Q

This area includes a scheduled ancient monument (SAM 257) and so again development must be avoided or in sympathy with both the site and its setting. The area is also part of a Cambridgeshire County Council 'area of best landscape' and so all works should be considered in terms of their visual as well as their physical impact. The SAM should be avoided and scheduled monument consent obtained prior to works commencing if the SAM is affected. Other parts of the area are also rich in archaeological materials on
the surface and so fieldwalking, geophysical survey and trial trenching will all be needed if subsurface deposits are to be affected by development.

12.3.17 Area R

This area contains listed buildings and a conservation area, development should be avoided and where it is unavoidable, site specific investigations will be required, including historical research, geophysical survey and trial excavations.

12.3.18 Area S

This area includes the settlement of Little Thetford and also an SMV and earthworks. Prior to any development, earthwork survey and historical research should be carried out, followed by geophysical survey and trial trenching.

12.3.19 Area T

This area includes earthworks, as yet unsurveyed, near Braham Dock, which will need recording if they are to be damaged. Any area affected will also need fieldwalking, geophysical survey and trial trenching.

12.3.20 Others

The slopes south and east of Streatham are particularly sensitive and will contain evidence of Bronze Age and Roman activities which are presently poorly documented, even in the County SMR. Caution is needed in this area, therefore, and detailed fieldwalking, geophysical survey and trial trenching will all be required prior to development. The route of the Roman road will need to be clarified. Developments in the valley may not affect archaeological materials too seriously as alluvial deposits have been seen to cover a depth of 1m from the surface. It should, therefore, be possible to avoid damaging the archaeology here.

13 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors wish to thank Coyne Associates for funding the project, Nesta Rook for her assistance with the SMR, the County archivist Mr. Michael Farrar and the staff of the County Record Office for their help with the public records. Additionally, we wish to thank Crane Begg, Richard Heawood, Stephen Macaulay, Judith Roberts, and Sarah Ryan for work on the illustrations. Anglian Water have generously allowed us to reproduce the copy of William Hayward's map. We have benefited from the knowledge and experience of Michael Young of Streatham, David Hall of the Fenland Project, and Rog Palmer. We also wish to acknowledge the useful comments provided by Crane Begg, Tim Malim, and Alison Taylor.
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# APPENDIX A: AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS CONSULTED

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68
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* CROPMARK / EARTHWORK / SOILMARK
APPENDIX B: HISTORICAL MAPS CONSULTED

1721 Copy of William Hayward's 1604 Map of the Fens before Drainage (Anglian Water)

Christopher Saxon's Map of Cambridgeshire, 1607 (copy in Wisbech Museum)

Jenness, Map of 1646 (copy in Cambridgeshire Collection)

Ogilby, Map of the Fens, 1675 (copy in Cambridgeshire Collection)

Jonas Moor, Map of the Fens, 1740 (copy in Cambridgeshire Collection)

1785 Print of Bowen's 1751 Map (copy in Cambridgeshire Collection)

Inclosure Maps:

Landbeach, 1813
Milton, 1802
Streatham, 1837
Thetford, 1844
Waterbeach, 1818

County Record Office Reference No.:

Q/RDe 18
Q/RDe 4
(March)
283/
Q/RDe 31

Ordnance Survey Maps at 1:2500, 1836:

XXIX: 12, 16
XXX: 1, 2, 9
XXXIV: 4, 8, 11, 12, 15
XL: 3, 4, 7
GLOSSARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS

Anglo-Saxon: The period dating between the withdrawal of the Roman legions in 410 and the Norman invasion of 1066. Within this period several ethnic groups from northern Europe vied for control of the British Isles, including the Angles, Saxons, Jutes, Danes, and Norwegians. The latter two groups are collectively known as the Vikings and became involved in British politics from the eighth century, later than the others. The Vikings were successful in occupying a large part of the north and Midlands of England, before providing a King (Cnut) for the whole of England. For most of this time England was divided up into several kingdoms until Saxon resistance to Viking incursions led to the unification of England under Aethelstan and Alfred.

Artefact: Any object made by people. Generally, this word is used for finds such as pottery, stone tools, or metal objects, but it can be used in a much wider context in that the landscape we have today is a product of human activity and is thus an artefact itself.

Bronze Age: Prehistoric period c. 2000 - 700 BC when bronze was used for many types of tools and weapons.

Cropmarks: Archaeological features below the ploughsoil can affect the growth of sensitive crops through moisture retention or loss. For example, the planting of cereal crops over buried ditches or pits will encourage rapid growth leading to tall, dark coloured plants, whereas walls and roads in the subsoil will lead to stunting and faster yellowing of the crop. These discrepancies in crop growth can be easily detected from the air, and by taking photographs the cropmark patterns can be plotted onto maps and given provisional interpretation.

Droveway: A track used for driving livestock.

Enclosure: An area defined by a continuous surrounding ditch. These may be enclosures around human settlements, fields, or paddocks for stock. Rectilinear enclosures have straight sides and corners, whilst curvilinear enclosures have rounded sides.

Fieldwalking: Technique of archaeological survey. Walking over ploughed and weathered soil, an experienced observer can collect many ancient artefacts, and by plotting the distribution of such find spots on maps an idea of the use of the landscape can be built up for each period of the past.

Geophysical Survey: Investigation of changes occurring in the magnetic and electrical characteristics of the soil, which can often be induced by human activity.

Grubenhauses: A type of sunken featured building constructed by Germanic settlers arriving in Britain in the 5th and 6th centuries A.D. A wooden superstructure was built over a large shallow pit cut into the ground, which, in many cases, would have been intended to keep the floorboards well ventilated. Recognised as a large subrectangular cut feature, typically with one posthole at either end indicating a roof supported on two vertical timbers.

Iron Age: Prehistoric period c. 700 BC - AD 43 when iron was used extensively for tools and weapons. The period traditionally ends with the Roman invasions of AD 43 but in fact there was a considerable time of adjustment after this date when the Iron Age way of life continued with little change from Roman influence.

Lode: A ditch navigable to the narrow barges of the fenland.
Medieval: Historic period that begins with William the Conqueror's invasion in 1066. Post-Medieval is generally considered to date from 1500.

Mesolithic: Prehistoric period c. 8300 - 3500 BC, transition between the Palaeolithic and Neolithic, with the persistence of Palaeolithic hunting and gathering lifestyle. Flint industry is often distinguished by an abundance of microliths.

Neolithic: Prehistoric period c. 3500 - 2000 BC when farming and pottery were introduced. Stone tools of fine workmanship were produced and exchanged over long distances, but before the use of metals.

Palaeolithic: Prehistoric period beginning with the emergence of man and the manufacture of stone tools some 2 1/2 to 3 million years ago. The Palaeolithic lasted through the Pleistocene Ice Age until the retreat of the ice sheets in c.8300 BC.

Ridge and Furrow: Medieval cultivation techniques led to a phenomenon of corrugated fields. Strips of land were allotted to individuals and a furrow was left between one person's strip and the next, leading to a corrugated ridge and furrow effect. Ridge and furrow shows up as cropmarks on air photographs and more rarely as earthworks in pasture fields.

Ring-ditch: A continuous circular ditch which is all that remains of a ploughed out round barrow, or the drainage ditch (eavesdrip gully) that surrounded a round-house.

Roman: Historic period AD 43 - 410 when much of Britain was part of the Roman empire. The term Romano-British is now widely used to describe the people of this period, as few were Roman themselves, but they were a provincial manifestation of the empire developing in a unique way. AD 410 was the date the legions were withdrawn, but the Romano-British culture continued for some time into the 5th century in tandem with Anglo-Saxon migration.

SAM: Scheduled ancient monument.

SMV: Shrunken medieval village. For various reasons medieval settlements were sometimes abandoned or greatly reduced in size. Earthworks of the original village can often be seen around the modern village, showing the position of house platforms, crofts, lanes and ponds.

Soilmark: Archaeological remains often show in ploughed fields by reason of the different soil of which they consist. They can be visible at ground level but like cropmarks they are best seen from the air.