House of Fraser Plot
Great Haddon

Archaeological Investigation
and Recording Report

Client: CgMS Consulting
OA East Report No: 1975
OASIS No: oxfardar3-262987
NGR: TL 1542 9387
House of Fraser Plot, Great Haddon

Archaeological Investigation and Recording

By Nicholas Cox BSc

Editor: James Drummond-Murray

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Report Date: September 2016
Report Number: 1975
Site Name: House of Fraser Plot, Great Hadden
HER Event No:
Date of Works: September 2016
Client Name: CgMS Consulting
Client Ref: N/A
Planning Ref: N/A
Grid Ref: TL 1542 9387
Site Code: PET HOF 16
Finance Code: PET HOF 16
Receiving Body: Peterborough City HER
Accession No:

Prepared by: Nicholas Cox
Position: Supervisor
Date: September 2016

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Position: Senior Project Manager
Date: September 2016
Signed:

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Summary

Between 31st August and 7th September 2016, OA East carried out a programme of archaeological investigation and recording within the development area of a House of Fraser warehouse and industrial facility, Great Haddon, Peterborough. The investigation was carried out during stripping of topsoil and subsoil. The development was 134,000m² in area, (TL 1542 9387). Previous investigations to the north-west (OAE 2014) found Iron Age remains and a geophysical survey (Stratascan 2016) indicated the presence of further remains to the south and south-west of the development area.

The investigation revealed no archaeological features at all other than modern field drainage.
1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work
1.1.1 A programme of archaeological investigation and recording was conducted within the development plot for a House of Fraser warehouse and distribution centre, Peterborough. The plot had a total area of 134,000 sq.m (TL 1542 9387; Fig. 1 and 2).

1.1.2 The investigation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Rebecca Casa-Hatton of Peterborough City HER (2016), supplemented by a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by OA East (Drummond-Murray 2016).

1.1.3 The site archive is currently held by OA East. It will be deposited with Peterborough Museum in due course.

1.2 Geology and Topography
1.2.1 Great Haddon (the Site) is located approximately 1km to the south-west of Peterborough, Cambridgeshire. The Site lies within arable fields bisected by a track in an area of high ground (c. 22mOD), located within gently a rolling landscape.

1.2.2 The underlying geology of the site comprises Oxford Clay formation, overlain by river terrace deposits (British geological survey).

(http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html)

1.3 Archaeological Background
The following information is drawn from Iron Age Remains at Great Haddon (Stoats-Morgan 2015) and the Written Scheme of Investigation (Drummond-Murray 2016).

1.3.1 A full Historic Environment Record (HER) search was completed in a 1km radius of the site. A summary of the results is given below. A brief description of Iron Age sites within a larger radius of the Site is also provided, as these are contemporary with the archaeological remains revealed by the excavation.

HER Search
1.3.2 Two separate findspots, both of which comprise coins and pottery fragments, have been recorded c.100m to the east, while within 0.25km and to the north of the Site a small assemblage of post-medieval tile, pottery and an iron stud were found.

1.3.3 To the south-east of the site a multi-period settlement site (CHER10384; Ingham 2008) occupied from the Iron Age through to the early medieval period has been identified by geophysics and subsequent excavations. Further Anglo-Saxon finds were recorded at Haddon Lodge, to the south-west (CHER09748A).

1.3.4 Medieval ridge and furrow has been recorded to the west of the A1 (CHER08752), while more recent evidence includes a World War II bombing decoy to the east in Alwalton (MCB15176).

Middle Iron Age Sites in the Vicinity
1.3.5 Identified Middle Iron Age sites along the Nene Valley include Orton Longueville, Werrington, Yaxley and Fengate; specifically Vicarage Farm and Cats Water.

1.3.6 The remains of a farmstead and associated occupation features were encountered at Orton Longueville, 2.4km to the north-east (Mackreth 2001). Werrington, 10km to the north, comprised a square enclosure, approximately 70m by 70m which contained a roundhouse and large penannular ditch (Mackreth 1988). The settlement at Broadway,
Yaxley, located 3km to the south-east, consisted of a smaller square enclosure which contained a roundhouse and a possible metal-working area, with an outlying field system (Phillips 2014).

1.3.7 The site at Cats Water revealed remains of a significant farmstead, while at Vicarage Farm a smaller settlement mainly comprising ditches and pits was recorded (Pryor 1984).

Latest Iron Age / Early Roman in the Vicinity

1.3.8 All of these Middle Iron Age sites had later settlements within a 0.5km radius of them, suggesting a level of settlement shift. Perhaps significantly, in relation to the current site, is the presence of a large multi-phased settlement located 0.5km to the west in Haddon (Hinman 2003; Fig. 1). This site was composed of several structures and enclosures which continued in use for the majority of the Roman period.

1.3.9 The site was subject to geophysical survey which showed Iron Age occupation to the south (Richardson 2016) but little was evident on the House of Fraser plot itself.

1.4 Acknowledgements

1.4.1 The author would like to thank CgMs, which commissioned and funded the archaeological work. Thanks are also extended to Winvic, who undertook the excavation works and allowed sufficient time for archaeological recording. Rebecca Casa-Hatton of Peterborough City Historic Environment Record monitored the site and provided advice on the project. The project was managed by James Drummond-Murray, and the fieldwork was undertaken by the author.

2 Aim and Methodology

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The general aim of the investigation was to preserve by record any archaeological evidence revealed within areas of the scheme where topsoil was removed. More specific project aims were to:

- establish, as far as reasonably possible, the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the drill pits
- establish the impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits
- recover palaeo-environmental remains that could be used to determine local environment conditions
- recover artefacts to help develop a typological series within the region

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The WSI required the continuous observation of topsoil and subsoil stripping of development area, followed by the investigation and recording of any archaeological features revealed.

2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a tracked 360° excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.

2.2.3 No site survey was required.
2.2.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces, and features were scanned with a metal detector. No finds were found.

2.2.5 High-resolution digital photographs were taken of general views of the site.

2.2.6 Due to the lack of archaeological features no environmental samples were taken.

2.2.7 Site conditions were mostly dry.
3 RESULTS

3.1 Summary
3.1.1 The scheme consisted of a primarily rectangular area aligned west-south-west by east-north-east. A small extension of 50m by 200m was located in the north-west corner with a total area of 134,000 sq.m (Fig.2).

3.1.2 No archaeological features were found within the area of stripping. The only evidence of human activity were a regular series of modern field drains running roughly east-west with a spacing of 8 to 10m between them.

3.2 Finds Summary
3.2.1 No artefactual evidence was recovered from the site.

3.3 Environmental Summary
3.3.1 As no archaeological features were found no environmental samples were taken.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS
4.1.1 The investigation produced no evidence of archaeological activity within the House of Fraser building plot.

4.1.2 Evidence from other sources indicates that there is extensive activity in the surrounding area with the multiple phase iron age settlement to the north-west (Stocks-Morgan 2015) and two areas of activity to the south and south-west apparent on geophysics (Richardson 2016).

4.1.3 This would imply that the investigation area likely lies in an area of agricultural land between several separate settlements.
APPENDIX A. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Drummond-Murray, J., 2016, Written Scheme of Investigation Archaeological Watching Brief: House of Fraser plot, Great Haddon, Peterborough, OA East (unpublished)

Hinman, M., 2003, A Late Iron Age Farmstead and Romano-British site at Haddon, Peterborough. BAR British Series 358 / Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Field Unit Monograph 2


Mackreth, D.F., 2001, Monument 97, Orton Longueville, Cambridgeshire: A Late Pre-Roman Iron Age and Early Roman Farmstead. East Anglian Archaeology 97

Philips, T., 2014, Late Iron Age and Roman settlement at land off Broadway, Yaxley, Peterborough. OA East Report 1312


Richardson, T., 2016, Great Haddon, Peterborough, Geophysical Survey Report, Stratascan

Stocks-Morgan, H., 2015, Iron Age Settlement Remains at Great Haddon, Peterborough: Post-excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design. OA East Report 1732
APPENDIX B. OASIS REPORT FORM
All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details
OASIS Number  oxfordar3-262987
Project Name  House of Fraser Plot, Great Haddon, Peterborough
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start 31-08-2016 Finish 07-09-2016
Previous Work (by OA East) No Future Work No

Project Reference Codes
Site Code  PETHOF16 Planning App. No.
HER No.  Related HER/OASIS No.

Type of Project/Techniques Used
Prompt  Planning condition
Development Type  Urban Commercial

Please select all techniques used:

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

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods
List feature types using the NMR Monument Type Thesaurus and significant finds using the MDA Object type Thesaurus together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

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Project Location
County  Cambridgeshire
District  Peterborough
Parish  Orton Waterville
HER  Peterborough City
Study Area  134000 sq.m
Site Address (including postcode if possible)  PE2 6YN
National Grid Reference  TL 1542 9387
**Project Originators**

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<tr>
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**Digital Media**

- Database
- GIS
- Geophysics
- Images
- Illustrations
- Moving Image
- Spreadsheets
- Survey
- Text
- Virtual Reality

**Paper Media**

- Aerial Photos
- Context Sheet
- Correspondence
- Diary
- Drawing
- Manuscript
- Map
- Matrices
- Microfilm
- Misc.
- Research/Notes
- Photos
- Plans
- Report
- Sections
- Survey

**Notes:**

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Figure 1: Site location

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Probable archaeology:
- Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - probable cut feature of archaeological origin
- Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - probable bank or earthwork of archaeological origin

Possible archaeology:
- Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - possible cut feature of archaeological origin
- Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - possible bank or earthwork of archaeological origin

Medieval/Post-Medieval agriculture:
- Widely spaced curving parallel linear anomalies - probably related to ridge-and-furrow
- Closely spaced parallel linear anomalies - probably related to agricultural activity such as ploughing
- Linear anomaly - probably related to a former field boundary present on available mapping
- Linear anomaly - related to a former field boundary not present on available mapping
- Magnetic spike - related to former field boundary present on available mapping

Other anomalies:
- Linear anomaly - probably related to pipes, cable or other modern service
- Linear anomaly - possibly related to land drain
- Linear anomaly - related to fence
- Linear anomaly - unknown origin, likely modern
- Magnetic disturbance - possibly related to modern track way
- Magnetic disturbance associated with nearby metal object such as service or field boundary
- Strong magnetic debris - possible disturbed or made ground
- Scattered magnetic debris
- Area of amorphous magnetic variation - probable natural (e.g. geological or pedological) origin
- Magnetic spike - probable ferrous object

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Figure 2: Plan of investigation area