EAST PARK ENERGY

East Park Energy

EN010141

Environmental Statement

Volume 2 – Technical Appendices

Appendix 6-2: Desk Based Assessment

Document Reference: EN010141/DR/6.2

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009: Regulation 5(2)(a)

September 2025

Version P01

EAST PARK ENERGY

Planning Act 2008

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

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Volume 2 – Technical Appendices

Appendix 6-2: Desk Based Assessment

APFP Regulation Reference:	Regulation 5(2)(a)
Planning Inspectorate Scheme Reference:	EN010141
Application Document Number:	EN010141/DR/6.2
Author:	AOC Archaeology

Version	Date	Status
P01	September 2025	DCO Submission

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Summary

1.1.1 This cultural heritage and archaeology desk based assessment (DBA) outlines the baseline cultural heritage and archaeological conditions for the East Park Energy project (the 'Scheme').

1.1.2 This DBA has been undertaken in accordance with best practice guidance as detailed in Section 2.1. Where appropriate, reference is made to other environmental topics and other chapters and appendices within the ES.

1.2 Site Location and Scheme

1.2.1 The Site is located to the north-west of the town of St Neots, and is across two administrative areas; Bedford Borough Council (a unitary authority), and Huntingdonshire District Council (a two tier authority with Cambridgeshire County Council). The Site location is shown on **ES Vol 3 Figure 1-1 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**.

1.2.2 The Order Limits extend to approximately 773 hectares (ha) and is hereafter referred to as the 'Site', as shown on **ES Vol 3 Figure 1-2 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**. The Site includes all land for the solar development areas, BESS, substation, landscaping, cabling, access and grid connection. The elements of the Scheme are described in full in **ES Vol 1 Chapter 2 [EN010141/DR/6.1]**.

1.3 Legislation, Planning Policy Context and Guidance

1.3.1 This DBA has been prepared in accordance with relevant legislation, national and local policy, and guidance on the historic environment which are outlined within Section 6.2 of **ES Vol 1 Chapter 6 [EN010141/DR/6.1]**.

1.4 Planning Considerations

1.4.1 Any requirement for archaeological work either preceding or during development will be determined by consultation with the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team (CHET) and Bedford Borough Council Historic Environment Team (BBHET), on behalf of their respective Local Authorities.

1.4.2 As outlined in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report a 1 km study area has been utilised for the identification of all known heritage assets and previous archaeological interventions in order to help identify the potential for direct impacts upon known heritage assets and in order to predict whether any similar hitherto unknown archaeological remains are likely to survive within the Site and thus be impacted by the Scheme.

1.4.3 Historic Environment Record (HER) extracts ordered from the Bedford Borough HER and Huntingdonshire HER in 2022 with updates received in February 2024, alongside additional information gathered via a walkover survey of the Sites, aerial photography analysis, cartographic analysis and LiDAR analysis have resulted in the identification of a total of 635 non-designated heritage assets and 102 'Events' (locations of previous archaeological investigations) within 1km of the Site. These non-designated heritage assets are depicted on **ES Vol 3 Figures 6-1 to 6-5 [EN010141/DR/6.3]** and the Events are depicted on **ES Vol 3 Figure 6-6 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**.

1.4.4 These non-designated heritage assets and Events include some which are located within the Site:

- Site A: 17 non-designated heritage assets and two Events;
- Site B: 34 non-designated heritage assets and three Events;
- Site C: 27 non-designated heritage assets;
- Site D: Five non-designated heritage assets and one Event;
- Cable Corridor – Site B to Site C: Three non-designated heritage assets and one Event;
- Cable Corridor – Site C to Site D: One Non-designated heritage asset; and

- grid connection: 20 non-designated heritage assets and ten separate sections of one Event.

1.4.5 As outlined in the EIA Scoping Report, a 3 km study area has been utilised for the assessment of potential impacts on the setting of designated heritage assets including world heritage sites, scheduled monuments, listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields, and conservation areas (**ES Vol 3 Figure 6-7 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**). The ZTVs produced for the Scheme (**ES Vol 3 Figures 5-3a, 5-3b, 5-3d and 5-3e [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) indicate that there is very low potential for any visibility beyond 3 km. Further consultation with CHET and BBHET in March 2024 agreed a shortlist of designated heritage assets that would need to be included within the assessment that are located beyond the 3km study area (as outlined in Table 6.7 within **ES Vol 1 Chapter 6 [EN010141/DR/6.1]**). These include the:

- Grade I listed Church of St Leonard (Asset 985);
- Grade II * listed Warren House (Asset 984); and
- Grade II listed Priory Cottage (Asset 983).

1.4.6 The National Heritage List for England (NHLE) records one scheduled monument which is located just beyond the southern boundary of Site C; Two bowl barrows 900 m and 1 km east of Old Manor Farm (centred Asset 13). The newly Scheduled Roman small town south of Great Staughton (Asset 991, scheduled in September 2024) is located within the northern part of Site C.

1.4.7 There are an additional 17 scheduled monuments recorded within 3 km of the Site. These include a prehistoric defensive and domestic monument (Asset 5); a Roman settlement (Asset 2); an early historic or Saxon settlement and defensive site (Asset 90); medieval moated sites (Assets 3, 4, 6 to 10, 91 and 95); medieval defensive and ecclesiastical monuments (Assets 1, 11, 12 and 89) and a post-medieval maltings (Asset 16).

1.4.8 The following conservation areas have been identified within the 3km study area:

- Swineshead (centred Asset 169) c. 820 m west of Site A. There is one grade I listed building, the Church of St Nicholas (Asset 755) and 16 grade II listed buildings within the conservation area.
- Upper Dean (centred Asset 170) c. 2.7 km north-west of Site A. There is one grade I listed building, Church of All Saints (Asset 804) and eleven grade II listed buildings within the conservation area.
- Riseley (centred Asset 171) c. 1.17 km south-west of Site A. Riseley conservation area is composed of three separate areas within the modern extent of the village. There is one grade I listed building, Church of All Saints (Asset 332); and 52 grade II listed buildings within the conservation area.
- Stonely (centred Asset 166) c. 2.36 km north of Site B. There are 18 grade II listed buildings within the conservation area.
- Kimbolton (centred Asset 168) c. 2.76 km north of Site B. There are three grade I listed buildings; Church of St Andrew (Asset 799); Gatehouse to Kimbolton School (Asset 796); and Kimbolton School/ Kimbolton castle (Asset 795) as well as six grade II* listed buildings (Assets 797, 798 and 800 to 803) and 75 grade II listed buildings within the conservation area.
- Great Staughton (centred Asset 164) c. 200m west of Site C. There is one grade I listed building; the Church of St Andrew (Asset 534); one grade II* listed building (Asset 805); and 16 grade II listed buildings within the conservation area.
- Staughton Highway (centred Asset 165) c. 270 m north Site C. There are 12 grade II listed buildings within the conservation area.
- St Neots (centred Asset 167) c. 400 m east of the grid connection. This conservation area encompasses 150 listed buildings largely grouped in the western and centre eastern area of the conservation area which include the grade I listed Church of St Mary (Asset 807) and six grade II* listed buildings (Assets 808 to 813).

1.4.9 Within the 3 km study area, not within conservation areas, there are an additional four grade I listed buildings:

- Church of St Mary the Virgin (Asset 19) c. 660 m south-west of Site B;
- Church of All Saints (Asset 38), c. 510 m south-east of Site B;
- Church of St Peter (Asset 48), c. 355 m north-east of Site A; and
- Bushmead Priory (Asset 80), c. 2.55 km south of Site C, located within the scheduled extent of Bushmead Priory (centred Asset 11)

1.4.10 Within the 3 km study area, not within conservation areas, there are an additional seven grade II* listed buildings:

- The Old Rectory (Asset 49), c. 200 m north of Site A;
- The Parish Church of St Denys (Asset 99), c. 2 km south-east of the grid connection;
- Gaynes Halls (Asset 117), c. 2.53 km north of Site D;
- Bassmead Manor Farmhouse (Asset 159), c.1.37 km south of Site D;
- The Parish Church of St James (Asset 205), c. 3km north-east of the grid connection;
- Litte Paxton Hall (Asset 256), c. 3km north-east of the grid connection; and
- The Parish Church of St Nicholas (Asset 806), c. 750m north-east of the grid connection.

1.4.11 This assessment has also identified 168 grade II listed buildings (Assets 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21 to 37, 39 to 47, 50 to 79, 81 to 88, 92 to 94, 96 to 98, 100 to 116, 118 to 163, 199 to 202, 204, 206, 207, 224, 238, 248, 255, 258 to 260, 263, 265, 266, 277, 278, 283 to 285, 293, 296, 306 to 308, 313, 317 and 526) within 3km of the Site which are outside the conservation areas discussed above (see **ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-1 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**). These listed buildings can largely be characterised as late medieval and post-medieval and comprise rural farmhouses, cottages, and village residential dwellings typical of a dispersed post-medieval agricultural landscape.

1.4.12 The grade II listed buildings that are located within conservation areas have not been assigned unique Asset Numbers as the potential impacts upon their settings will be considered as part of the assessment of the conservation areas within which they are located. All of the designated heritage assets

identified within 3km of the Site (with exception of grade II listed buildings within conservation areas) are depicted on **ES Vol 3 Figures 6-7 to 6-13 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**.

1.4.13 No world heritage sites, registered parks and gardens or registered battlefields have been identified within the 3 km study area.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Standards

2.1.1 The scope of this assessment meets the requirements of current planning regulations set out in the National Policy Statements for Energy (NPS EN-1[1]); Renewable Energy Infrastructure (NPS EN-3[2]); and Electricity Networks Infrastructure EN-5 (NPS EN-5[3]); the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979[4]; Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990[5] as amended by the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023[6]; and local planning policy. It also has reference to the National Planning Policy Framework[7] and Planning Policy Guidance[8].

2.1.2 AOC Archaeology Group conforms to the standards of professional conduct outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) Code of Conduct[9], Regulations of Professional Conduct[10]; and the CIfA Standards and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk Based Assessments[11], Standard and guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment[12] and other relevant guidance.

2.1.3 AOC Archaeology Group is a Registered Organisation of the CIfA. This status ensures that there is regular monitoring and approval by external peers of our internal systems, standards, and skills development.

2.1.4 AOC is ISO 9001:2015 accredited, in recognition of the Company's Quality Management System.

2.2 Data sources

2.2.1 The following data sources were consulted during preparation of this DBA:

- National Heritage List for England (NHLE) data obtained August 2025;
- Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER) data originally obtained July 2022, updated search in February 2024;
- Bedford Borough Historic Environment Record (HER) data originally obtained July 2022, updated search in February 2024;

- Huntingdonshire Council and Bedford Borough Council, for information relating to conservation areas within Huntingdonshire and Bedford Borough;
- Aerial Photographs and aerial photographic resources held by Historic England;
- Historic Maps held online and at Bedfordshire Archives;
- Bedfordshire Archives;
- 0.25-2m LiDAR data and imagery from the Environment Agency and processed by AOC Archaeology Group;
- Geophysical survey report for the Scheme produced by AOC (**ES Vol 2 Appendices 6-5 [EN010141/DR/6.2])**;
- Trial trench evaluation reports for the Scheme produced by AOC (**ES Vol 2 Appendices 6-6 to 6-9 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**);
- Other online sources;
- A walkover survey undertaken between the 16th of July and 26th July 2022 and during the geophysical survey undertaken between November 2022 and December 2023; and
- Site visits to designated heritage assets and identified non-designated heritage buildings to assess the potential impact of the Scheme on their settings, undertaken in July 2022.

2.3 Report Structure

2.3.1 Each heritage asset ('Asset') and previous archaeological investigation ('Event') referred to in the text is listed in the Gazetteer in **ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-1 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**. Each has been assigned an 'Asset/Event No.' unique to this assessment, and the Gazetteer includes information regarding the type, period, grid reference, HER number, protective designation, and other descriptive information, as derived from the consulted sources.

2.3.2 Each heritage asset or event referred to in the text is plotted on **ES Vol 3 Figures 6-1 to 6-13 [EN010141/DR/6.3]** using the assigned Asset/Event Nos.

2.3.3 All sources consulted during the assessment, including publications, archived records, photographic and cartographic evidence, are listed under references provided in endnotes.

2.4 Limitations of Scope

2.4.1 This assessment is based upon data obtained from publicly accessible archives as described in the Data Sources in Section 2.2.1. Data from the NHLE was downloaded in August 2025. Historic Environment Record (HER) extracts were originally obtained from Cambridgeshire County Council and Bedford Borough Council in 2022 with updated data obtained in February 2024. The information presented in the Gazetteer (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-1 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**) regarding known heritage assets is current to these dates.

2.4.2 A walkover survey and setting assessment was conducted between the 16th and 26th of July 2022 within fields that now form Sites A, B and C. Site D was added to the Scheme after the completion of the walkover survey but has been visited as part of the archaeological geophysical survey that was undertaken between November 2022 and October 2023 and trial trenching that was completed in September 2025.

2.4.3 There are areas within the Order Limits that have not been accessible for geophysical survey prior to the submission of the DCO. These include one field within Site B (sub-area B29). It is proposed that these areas would be surveyed as part of the *'Site Preparation Works'* described in **ES Vol 1 Chapter 2 [EN010141/DR/6.1]** prior to the relevant construction phase of the Scheme.

2.4.4 Liaison with the CHET and BBHET to establish the scope of any intrusive trial trench evaluation has been undertaken and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for evaluation within Sites A, B, C and D has been approved. AOC Archaeology Group have undertaken trial trench evaluation across Sites A, B, C and D within the Scheme between June 2024 and September 2025. The technical reports for the completed areas of trial trenching are included as **ES**

Vol 2 Appendices 6-6 to 6-9 [EN010141/DR/6.2], The brief jointly issued by CHET and BBHET required two phases of archaeological investigation prior to construction. Therefore, following the granting of the DCO, a second phase of trial trenching will be undertaken where geophysical survey has been carried out and not intrusively sampled, or not sampled fully, during the pre-application period. There are areas of the Order Limits that have not been accessible for trial trenching prior to the submission of the DCO. These principally include the cable corridors between East Park Site B to C and East Park Site C to D, the grid connection route, two fields within Site B (sub-areas B25 and B29) and one field within Site D (sub-area D02).

2.4.5 It is intended that a WSI for this additional trial trenching will be developed in line with the brief prepared by CHET and BBHET and in line with aims and objectives outlined in the **oAMS [EN010141/DR/7.15].**

2.4.6 The archaeological baseline (and assessment of potential direct impacts upon it), set out herein, is based on the work undertaken to date (September 2025). It should be noted that the report has been prepared under the express instructions and solely for the use of East Park Energy. All the work carried out in this report is based upon AOC Archaeology Group's professional knowledge and understanding of current (September 2025) and relevant United Kingdom standards and codes, technology, and legislation.

2.4.7 Changes in these areas may occur in the future and cause changes to the conclusions, advice and/or recommendations given. AOC Archaeology Group does not accept responsibility for advising East Park Energy or associated parties of the facts or implications of any such changes in the future.

3.0 BASELINE

3.1 Topographical and Geological Conditions

3.1.1 According to the British Geological Survey (BGS) GeoIndex[13] the entirety of the Site is underlain by a solid mudstone bedrock of the Oxford Clay Formation, which formed during the Jurassic period.

3.1.2 The superficial deposits recorded within the Site are more variable and include large areas of river terrace (sands and gravels) and sinuous areas of alluvial deposits (clays and silts) in the northern halves of Sites A, B and D. There are also isolated areas of glaciofluvial sands and gravels which extend in to parts of the southern half of Site A as well as a Diamicton of the Oadby Formation that is recorded as extending within the southern parts of Sites A, B, C and D. The grid connection is also underlain by this Diamicton deposit with the exception of one west to east aligned sinuous area of alluvial deposits (clays and silts).

3.1.3 The river terrace (sands and gravels) described above are predominantly associated with the route of the River Kym, which forms part of the northern boundary of Site C with the alluvial deposits also being recorded along its route. Further river terrace and alluvial deposits are recorded along the routes of minor watercourses including an unnamed brook, which runs through the northern part of Site A on a west to east alignment, Pertenhall Brook and an unnamed brook which run on a north-east to south-west alignment through Site B. The alluvial deposits recorded as crossing the path of the grid connection follow the west to east alignment of Duloe Brook.

3.1.4 There are no accessible borehole records recorded within the Site recorded on the BGS GeoIndex[14]. There are two inaccessible borehole records located either side of Green Hill within Site B (References: TL06SE23 TL06SE24) that were sunk as part of geotechnical works associated with the Willington to Kimbolton Pipeline in 2000. The nearest accessible borehole records held on the BGS GeoIndex include a record of a borehole sunk at Manor Farm,

Pertenhall (Reference: TL06SE22) to the north of Site B; three records of boreholes sunk within Green End (References: TL16SW22, TL16SW30 and TL16SW26) to the south-east of Site B; a record of a spring at Ash Spinney (Reference TL06SE22) to the south-west of Site C; and a record of a well at Mill View (Reference TL16SW29) to the north of Sites C and D.

3.1.5 The borehole record at Manor Farm (TL06SE22), sunk in 2006, records topsoil down to a depth of 0.7m below ground level (bgl), a boulder clay till down to a depth of 1m bgl, a firm brown clay down to 1.6m bgl, and a weathered grey mudstone down to the borehole's maximum depth of 2.2m bgl.

3.1.6 The borehole records within Green End (References: TL16SW22, TL16SW30 and TL16SW26), to the south-east of Site B, and at Mill View (Reference TL16SW29), to the north of Sites C and D, are all records of former well locations and do not include any detailed assessment of the geological sequence. The record of a spring at Ash Spinney (Reference TL06SE22 dating to 1960), to the south-west of Site C, notes that it rises at the base of the boulder clay and supplies Garden Farm but does not hold any other details of the geological sequence.

3.2 Archaeological and Historical Evidence

Site Context

Site A

3.2.1 No designated heritage assets have been identified within the extent of Site A. Previously recorded, non-designated heritage assets identified within Site A include prehistoric hut circles (Asset 210); the extent of a medieval deer park (centred Asset 515 and also recorded by the HER as Asset 514); and post-medieval remains typical of a rural, agrarian landscape including historically recorded buildings (Assets 178, 188, 321, 736 and 737), a fishpond (Asset 438), rabbit warren (Asset 335), extraction pits (Asset 173) and a field name '*Brick Pastures'* thought to be associated with a former brick

works (centred Asset 333). One of the historically recorded buildings within Site A was Middle Farm Lodge, a former grade II listed 16th century Farmhouse (Asset 737), which was de-listed and demolished in 2010.

3.2.2 National Mapping Project data provided by the Bedford Borough HER also records areas of levelled medieval ridge and furrow (centred Assets 814 and 816) and post-medieval steam ploughed cultivation remains within Site A (centred Assets 815) which are thought to be remnants of the former land enclosure within the parishes of Keysoe (centred Asset 862) and Pertenhall centred (Asset 864), as depicted on late 18th century enclosure maps. The Bedford Borough HER also records one of the historic routes (as recorded on post-medieval mapping) within the parish of Pertenhall running in to the north-eastern most field of Site A (Asset 860), as a no longer extant continuation of Green End, Pertenhall.

3.2.3 The only previous archaeological investigation recorded near to Site A was a large trial trench evaluation (centred Events 527 and 555) that is located within a field that is surrounded by, but not included within, the extent of Site A. This evaluation identified areas of Iron Age, early Roman, medieval, and post-medieval activity.

Site B

3.2.4 No designated heritage assets have been identified within the extent of Site B. Non-designated heritage assets identified within Site B include cropmarks interpreted as the remains of a Bronze Age and/or Iron Age ring ditch (Asset 279); as well as undated and Iron Age and/or Romano-British enclosures and settlements (Assets 218, 219, 237, 273, 274 and 275). Three buildings, all of which likely date from at least the post-medieval period (Assets 186, 322 and 738) and several extraction pits (centred Assets 338 and 340) have also been recorded within Site B. A number of findspots (Assets 740-749) including an Anglo-Saxon coin, as well as medieval and post-medieval metal items (largely coins) have been reportedly recovered during metal detecting activities within Site B. The Bedford Borough HER also records one of the historic routes

within the parish of Keysoe (Asset 858) running on the alignment of the B660 in the western part of Site B along with the recorded location of a former milestone (Asset 455). It also records a no longer extant route that ran through the parish of Little Staughton (Asset 861), running on a curving west to east alignment between Keysoe and Green End, which appears to survive as the line of some of the field boundaries in the southern part of Site B. These recorded post-medieval routes in the parish of Little Staughton that run through Area B also include the extant routes of Little Staughton Road and Staughton Road.

3.2.5 National Mapping Project data also records areas of ridge and furrow (Assets 817, 818, 826 and 829) and former boundary banks (centred Assets 819, 821 to 825 and 827 to 828). The site visit confirmed that most of these features appear to have been levelled with the exception of a low rise identified along a field boundary within the centre northern area of Site B which may correlate to Asset 822 and extant earthwork remains of an area of ridge and furrow in the south-eastern corner of Site B (centred Asset 829).

3.2.6 The Bedford Borough HER also records that a geophysical survey followed by a trench evaluation was undertaken within the north-western extent of Site B in 2014 (centred Events 530 and 532). The geophysical survey identified remains interpreted as possibly being associated with a Roman villa. However no Roman remains were identified during the evaluation. Ditches, furrows, and pits possibly associated with medieval and post-medieval agricultural land use (centred Asset 194) were identified during the evaluation. A series of investigations were also undertaken at targeted locations along the Huntingdon to Willington Gas Pipeline route, which crosses Site B on a roughly north to south alignment, and an evaluation is recorded within the southern extent of Site B (centred Event 521) which identified late Iron Age to Roman settlement remains.

Cable Corridor – Site B to Site C

3.2.7 Between Sites B and C, levelled ridge and furrow cultivation has been recorded from historic aerial photography (centred Asset 678). These remains as well as other parcels of reported ridge and furrow are thought to be associated with the historic and deserted settlement known as Garden Farm (centred Asset 593). An Iron Age ditch was recorded (Asset 652) during an evaluation at the Orchard, Garden Farm in 2018 (Event 735) in an area just to the north of the Site B to Site C Cable Corridor.

Site C

3.2.8 There is one scheduled monument located just beyond the southern boundary of Site C; Two bowl barrows 900 m and 1 km east of Old Manor Farm (centred Asset 13) which are considered likely to be Late Neolithic to Bronze Age in date. The only broadly contemporary activity identified takes the form of a findspot of a polished stone axe (Asset 676) which is documented as being located within Site C.

3.2.9 The remaining non-designated heritage assets identified within Site C are largely grouped in its northern half, which occupies relatively flat ground to the south of the River Kym. Remains in this area have been reported to include undated mounds associated with flints (Asset 584); undated square and rectilinear enclosures (Assets 629, 690, 707 and 710), which are considered likely to be of Roman date by the Cambridgeshire HER; a possible Roman Road aligned roughly north-east, south-west (centred Asset 691); an area of quarrying and possible structure (Asset 592), which may also be Roman in date and four findspots (Assets 585, 589, and 591 and 639) which are Roman in date. These non-designated heritage assets are located within the extent of the newly scheduled Roman small town south of Great Staughton (Asset 991, scheduled in September 2024), whose extent was identified via geophysical survey (see Section 3.7) and limited trial trenching (see Section 3.8).

3.2.10 Later activity is also identified within Site C in the form of the extent of a medieval deer park (centred Asset 668) and areas of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation (Assets 680 and 690). The Cambridgeshire HER also records the centre point for a former settlement, Garden Farm, Great Staughton (Asset 593) within the westernmost fields of Site C along with earthworks (Asset 987) and banks (Assets 988 to 990). Three post-medieval buildings including two possible farms or ancillary agricultural structures (Assets 184 and 185) and one mill (Asset 190), have also been recorded from historic mapping within Site C. National Mapping Project data also records areas of ridge and furrow and boundary banks (Assets 830, 937, 943, 944, and 987 to 990).

Cable Corridor – Site C to Site D

3.2.11 An area of mapped ridge and furrow (Asset 679) is recorded as extending into the Site C to Site D Cable Corridor.

Site D

3.2.12 No designated heritage assets have been identified within the extent of Site D. Non-designated heritage assets within Site D include a possible moated site (Asset 407); a number of ditches (Asset 644); and the eastern extent of a post-medieval quarry (centred Asset 674).

3.2.13 An aerial investigation and mapping project recorded an undated bank, wall or path (Asset 938) in the north-western part of Site D and a medieval boundary bank and earthwork remains of medieval ridge and furrow (centred Asset 773) as extending into the eastern area of Site D.

3.2.14 The route of another gas pipeline, the Huntingdon to Little Barford Gas Pipeline extends in a roughly north-south alignment through Site D. Archaeological works along the pipeline (points on line include Events 571 and 729) included fieldwalking, topsoil stripping and a watching brief. The Cambridgeshire HER record notes that nine archaeological assets, including Roman to post-medieval remains were found along the pipeline. A review of

the fieldwork report[15] indicates that none of these archaeological sites are located within the Site. An archaeological evaluation undertaken within fields to the immediate south of Area D (Event 843) between November 2022 and the 31st of January 2023 is recorded within its HER entry as having been undertaken subsequent to desk-based assessment and geophysical survey and identified a concentration of five main areas of archaeological activity; with the remainder of the site containing minor evidence of less important agricultural activity. The finds and features recovered dated from the Middle Iron Age, the Romano-British, the early medieval and the later medieval periods.

Grid Connection

3.2.15 No designated heritage assets are located along the grid connection. The presumed route of a Roman road between Cambridge and Bolnhurst (centred Asset 408/706) is believed to cross the grid connection on an east to west alignment. The road is thought to have been used in later periods and was known as Green Lane (Asset 418). Three areas of ridge and furrow cultivation (centred Assets 777, 778 and 785) are recorded at the northern end of the grid connection. Asset 778 is recorded as “former” suggesting that the ridge and furrow in that area has now been levelled, however the remains centred Asset 785 are noted as surviving as upstanding earthworks. The ridge and furrow recorded within the area centred Asset 777 has been recorded from cropmarks visible on aerial photography.

3.2.16 Further areas of levelled ridge and furrow, with associated banks and ditches, have been identified by aerial photographic and LiDAR analysis (Assets 832 to 834 and 836 to 841) in the central and southern portions of the grid connection, some of which are considered likely to be related to areas of enclosure (centred on Asset 865) depicted on a late 18th century map of Eaton Socon Parish[16].

3.2.17 A review of aerial photography also identified a subcircular enclosure of possible later prehistoric date and a circular ditched enclosure of Iron Age or

Roman date (Assets 244 to 247) within the southernmost extent of the grid connection as well as further cropmarks interpreted as Iron Age settlement remains (Asset 835) within the southern half of the grid connection.

3.2.18 The HER records ten sections of the Little Staughton airfield solar development and fibre optic cable trenching and access track (centred Events 565 to 570 and 976 to 980) within the grid connection area, or immediately adjacent to it, that were subject to watching brief.

3.2.19 A modern ditch and a residual medieval tile fragment were identified in Event 567, and an undated ditch containing three distinct fills was identified at Event 569 along with residual Early- to Mid-Iron Age pottery described as showing *"little signs of abrasion"*[17]. No archaeological remains of any date were identified in any of the other sections of the watching brief (Events 565, 566, 568, 570 and 976 to 982).

3.2.20 A geophysical survey undertaken on land to the immediate west of the southernmost part of the grid connection in 2021 (Event 844) identified numerous features including evidence for likely Iron Age to Roman settlement (round houses, pits and associated features, field systems), potential Bronze Age burials (barrow ditches) and extensive evidence for ridge and furrow cultivation and former field boundaries.

Palaeolithic to Mesolithic (c.500,000 to c.4,500 BC)

3.2.21 The earliest prehistoric activity recorded within the 1 km study area are findspots of Palaeolithic artefacts that were found during the excavation of some pits in what was formerly Paxton Park, c. 400 m south of the south-east corner of Site D (Assets 596 and 598) and further Palaeolithic artefacts that were found in St. Neots (Asset 895) and Eaton Socon (Asset 931).

3.2.22 The only Mesolithic activity recorded within the study area is also comprised of findspots. These include a tranchet axe (Assets 583 and 650 – which appear to be a duplicated entries in the HER), found c. 410 m west of the

south-west corner of Site C and flint tools (Assets 751 and 752) that were found next to Staughton Road, c. 240 m north of Site B.

Neolithic to Bronze Age (c.4,500 to c.800 BC)

3.2.23 The HER records the presence of excavated Neolithic Hearths and associated pottery (Assets 525 and 918 – possible a duplicated entry) in Eaton Socon. Further excavated features dating to the Neolithic have been identified within Eaton Socon in the form of ditches (Asset 928) and pits (Assets 922 and 933) that were discovered during various schemes of archaeological investigation at Alpha Park (Event 630), Colmworth Business Park (Event 965) and Great North Road (Event 969).

3.2.24 The remaining Neolithic activity recorded within the study area is limited to findspots which include a polished axehead (Asset 676) found within Site C; flints found c. 460 m north of Site B (Asset 264); flints found at Grange Farm (Assets 510 and 511) c. 420 m north of Site A; a flint arrowhead (Asset 847) found c. 660 m east of Site B; and further findspots of flint tools and polished stone axes in Hail Weston (Asset 877) and St. Neots (Asset 888 and 900) to the north-east and east of the grid connection.

3.2.25 The NHLE records the location of the two bowl barrows 900m and 1000m east of Old Manor Farm scheduled monument (Asset 13) just beyond the southern boundary of Site C. These are Bronze Age bowl barrows, a type of funerary monument formed of a central mound with an encircling ditch. The easternmost barrow survives as a plough damaged earthwork 0.4 m high with a diameter of 26 m. The westernmost barrow has been levelled by ploughing and survives as a buried feature (visible as a circular cropmark) with a diameter of c. 15 m.

3.2.26 Further potential Bronze Age Barrows are recorded by the HER in the form of circular cropmarks or earthwork features. These include a possible mound with associated flint finds within Site C (Asset 584) and a ring ditch cropmark on the south-eastern edge of Site B (Asset 279).

3.2.27 Further afield the HER also records three ring ditches to the north of Cherry Orchard Farm (Assets 578), located c. 790 m south of the south-eastern corner of Site C; a ring ditch (Asset 482) located c. 590 m north-east of Site D; a ring ditch to the north of the Carpenters Arms (Asset 854), c. 297m south of the grid connection; a ring cropmark site (Asset 682) located c. 540 m north-east of the north-eastern corner of Site B; a ring ditch cropmark (Asset 672) located c.425 m north-east of Site C and an area of former cropmarks including five probable ring ditches at Wyboston Lakes (Asset 848), located c.790m south south-east of the grid connection.

3.2.28 The remaining Bronze Age activity identified within the study area is limited to excavated features containing Bronze Age remains (Asset 887) and Bronze Age findspots (Asset 894 and 915) within St Neots and Eaton Socon; to the east of the grid connection.

Iron Age to Roman (c.800 BC to 410 AD)

3.2.29 Most of the later prehistoric activity recorded by the HER within the study area is comprised of cropmark evidence recorded in the form of rectilinear, square or D-shaped enclosures with associated tracks and field systems and sometime with internal features like ring ditches (thought to be round houses) and pits.

3.2.30 The only late prehistoric activity recorded within Site A by the HER is a group of prehistoric hut circle cropmarks (Asset 210), which have been interpreted as being representative of Iron Age round houses. The HER also records further areas of cropmarks thought to be related to Iron Age and Romano British Settlement in the areas around Site A in fields to the south (Assets 211 and 262) and west (Asset 262). There is also an area which includes excavated Iron Age to Romano-British features (Asset 209) within fields excluded (but surrounded) by Site A that were discovered during archaeological investigations at Manor Farm, Green End in 2014 and 2015 (Events 527 and 555).

3.2.31 There are further concentrations of cropmarks in the vicinity of the Kangaroo Inn (Asset 322) which includes settlement cropmarks (Asset 274) and a rectilinear cropmark (Asset 218) in the north-eastern part of Site B. The HER also records areas of potential Iron Age and/or Romano-British enclosures in the north-western and southern parts of Site B in the form of enclosure cropmarks to the south-east of Green End (Asset 273) and to the north of London End (Assets 219 and 275).

3.2.32 Potentially Iron Age to Romano-British settlement / enclosure cropmarks are also recorded in close proximity to the boundary of Site B which include an area to the west of Lower Rectory Farm (Asset 216), just to the east of its north-eastern edge (Assets 661 and 870) and just to the north of its northern edge (Assets 235 to 237). There is also a recorded findspot of a Roman Coin (Asset 749) recorded within Site B. Iron Age to Roman settlement cropmarks are also identified further afield in the areas surrounding Site B including, to the north (Asset 226 to 234 and 268), east (Assets 623 and 713), south (Assets 257 and 261), south-west (Asset 271) and south-east (Assets 280, 281, 702 and 715).

3.2.33 An Iron Age ditch was recorded (Asset 652) during an evaluation at the Orchard, Garden Farm in 2018 (Event 735) in an area just to the north of the Site B to Site C Cable Corridor.

3.2.34 The Iron Age to Roman activity recorded within Site C includes extensive cropmark evidence for settlement including areas of planned enclosure thought to be a small Roman town (Asset 707 and 710) and a further area thought to be related to contemporary quarrying and a possible structure (Asset 592). Site C also contains the route of a possible Roman Road, aligned roughly north-east, south-west (centred Asset 691) as well as several findspots of Roman pottery (Asset 589 and 639) and coins (585 and 591). These non-designated heritage assets are located within the extent of the newly scheduled Roman small town south of Great Staughton (Asset 991, scheduled in September 2024), the extent of which was identified via

geophysical survey (see Section 3.7) and limited trial trenching (see Section 3.8).

3.2.35 Iron Age to Roman settlement cropmarks are also identified further afield in the areas surrounding Site C including; to the north (Assets 645), north-east (Asset 689), west (Assets 641, 656 and 695) and south (Assets 681, 711, 719 and 723).

3.2.36 The area just to the south-east of Sites C contains the Roman site at Rushey Farm scheduled monument (Asset 2), which survives as two mounds thought to be remnants of Roman buildings due to the recovery of finds in the area including tegulae and box tiles as well as the recovery of domestic finds (pottery, food waste etc.) that dates from the Iron Age and Roman periods. The HER records a rectilinear cropmark (Asset 831) that is interpreted as being an enclosure associated with the scheduled remains. A square enclosure (Asset 874), recorded to the north-east of this group is also considered likely to be contemporary.

3.2.37 Site D contains cropmarks of a series of ditches (Asset 644) which appear to form an enclosure which is considered likely to be Iron Age or Roman in date. Iron Age to Roman settlement cropmarks are also identified further afield in the areas surrounding Site D including, to the north (Assets 618), north-east (Asset 507), and south (Assets 314, 590, 692, 705, and 794).

3.2.38 The grid connection also contains cropmark evidence for Iron Age and Roman activity which include circular ditched enclosures (Assets 244 to 247) as well as further cropmarks interpreted as Iron Age settlement remains (Asset 835), all located within the southern half of the grid connection. Further associated cropmarks (Assets 239, 241, 242, 366 and 852) are also identified in the areas to the west of the southern end of the grid connection near Eaton Socon Substation. There are also cropmark remains of Iron Age to Roman settlement recorded in the areas around the grid connection to the west (Asset 787), north-east (Assets 576, 879 and 880), south (Assets 850) and east (Assets 725, 919 and 924). Further remains of Iron Age to Roman date have

been identified in the form of excavated ditches (Asset 298) to the west of the grid connection and further excavated remains of Iron Age to Roman date (Assets 501, 609, 881, 890, 913, 923, 928, 929, 931 and 934) are recorded to the east of the grid connection and were identified during various phases of archaeological investigation within St Neots and Eaton Socon.

3.2.39 Further potential Iron Age to Roman farmsteads (Assets 398 and 549) have been identified by geophysical survey (Event 646) in an area to the east of the grid connection near Hail Weston.

3.2.40 The remaining Iron Age to Roman Assets recorded within the study area include the possible route of a Roman Road between Cambridge and Bolnhurst (Assets 408 and 706) which passes through the grid connection on a west to east alignment.

3.2.41 The remaining Iron Age to Roman assets recorded within the study area are findspots which include an Iron Age Quernstone (Asset 606), an Iron Age coin (Asset 748), mixed Iron Age finds (Asset 885), a Roman hearthstone (Asset 372) and a multitude of other Roman domestic finds mostly comprised of coins and pottery (Assets 380, 429, 430, 478, 497, 500, 508, 535, 551, 601, 607, 624, 673, 886, 890, 921, 926 and 931).

Early Medieval (410 to 1066 AD)

3.2.42 The HER records the presence of Chadwell Spring (Asset 487), located just to the east of Site A, noting that its name was almost certainly derived from the Old English ‘Ceald-wielle’ meaning old spring. The only early medieval evidence recorded within the Site is a findspot of an Anglo-Saxon coin (Asset 740) that was recovered from within the southern part of Site B. The remaining early medieval evidence recorded within the study area are findspots including a brooch (Asset 267), a Saxon hanging bowl disc (Asset 512) and pottery and cobblestones (Asset 664).

3.2.43 The excavated features which date to the early-medieval period within the 1km study area include a series of settlement features including sunken

features, buildings and pits (Asset 548) that were discovered during an excavation at Alpha Park in 2006 (Event 630), early medieval ditches (Asset 914) which were discovered to the south of The Hillings during an evaluation at River Mill between 1997 and 2000 (Event 961) and settlement remains (Asset 889) and an inhumation (Asset 890) that were discovered during excavations in 1968 in the northern part of Eaton Socon (Event 948).

3.2.44 The NHLE records The Hillings, Castle Hills: a ringwork castle associated with a Saxon villa, shifted medieval village and a windmill mound scheduled monument (Asset 90), located c.1 km east of the southern end of the grid connection, which was thought to have been constructed in the early medievla period and was utilised up to the 12th century. The remaining early medieval activity recorded in the study area includes a cremation (Asset 883), discovered near Cross Hall in St. Neots and a findspot (Asset 930) of early medieval date recovered in Eaton Socon.

3.2.45 Although there is limited direct evidence for early medieval occupation in the study area (with the exception of St Neots and Eaton Socon) all of the nearby villages have names that have an early medieval etymology. Pertenhall, just to the north-east of Site A, is derived from an Old English personal name '*Pearta'* and an Anglian word for a nook of land *'halh'.* Swineshead to the north-west of Site A is derived from the Old English words for swine '*swin'* and a projecting piece of land *'hēafod'.* Keysoe, to the south-west of Site B, is slightly more uncertain with their being several potential derivations, but it also seems to be derived from Old English words for a key *'caeg'* (perhaps as a topographic description in this instance) and a projecting piece of land '*hōh'*. The settlements of Great Staughton, to the north of Site C, and Little Staughton, to the south-east of Site B, are both derived from Old English words for a place or secondary settlement *'stoc'* and a farmstead or enclosure *'tūn'.* Hail Weston, to the east of Site D, is also derived from Old English words that broadly translates to the farm settlement on the west side of the River Hail. Eaton Socon, to the east of the grid connection, is derived from Old English words for river '*Ea'*, place *'tūn'* and judicial power '*sōcn*'[18].

Medieval (1066 to 1580 AD)

3.2.46 The vast majority of the evidence for medieval activity recorded within the study area is related to agricultural activities in the form of cropmark and earthwork remains of ridge and furrow, plough headlands and former field boundaries. Many of these types of assets are difficult to distinguish from later post-medieval activity and most are, therefore, recorded as being medieval to post-medieval in date. In the interest of clarity where these types of agricultural features are briefly outlined in this section it is acknowledged that they may well belong to later periods of activity. Given the largely rural arable landscape that forms the study area this is not judged to be a large problem as many of these features are located in modern undeveloped arable fields demonstrating a continuation of land use that likely extends back to the earlier parts of the medieval period (if not beyond).

3.2.47 The medieval assets recorded within Site A include the extent of a medieval deer park (centred Asset 515, HER also records as Asset 514) and two areas of levelled medieval ridge and furrow (centred Assets 814 and 816). The areas of woodland (Assets 514 and 515) known as Beavers Park Wood are thought to be derived from the corruption of the name *'Peyvre'* who is known to have held land in the area during the medieval period and it is possible that these woods were once part of a deer park within the Peyvre estate[19]. The HER also records an area of medieval or post-medieval field boundaries (Asset 208) within the fields excluded from, but surrounded by, Site A.

3.2.48 The NHLE and HER also record several medieval assets within the nearby settlements of Pertenhall, just to the east of Site A and Swineshead, to the west of Site A. Pertenhall is recorded in the Domesday survey as being within lands held by the Bishop of Lincoln and had no recorded population (which may indicate that the settlement was abandoned) with the only recorded resources being ploughlands[20]. The NHLE records that the grade I listed Church of St Peter (Asset 48) in Pertenhall was constructed in the 12th century, however due to programmes of restoration most of the surviving element's date to the 15th century. The HER records five distinct areas of

shrunken and deserted medieval settlement associated with Pertenhall (evidenced by cropmarks and earthworks in fields surrounding the modern settlement); Wood End (Asset 287), to the north, Chadwell End (Asset 286), Church End (Asset 756) in the centre and Green End (Assets 288 and 292) to the south, along with a findspot of medieval pottery (Asset 434). The HER also records large areas of cropmark and earthwork remains (Assets 194, 305, 358, 390, 391 and 417) of ridge and furrow within the Parish of Pertenhall which are largely located to the north-east and east of Site A.

3.2.49 Swineshead is recorded in Domesday as a settlement with 14 households that were held by William of Warenne and recorded resources included ploughlands, meadow and woodland[21] (which may relate to the HER recorded Swineshead and Spanoak Woods – Asset 345), seemingly indicating a mixed arable and pastoral economy. The medieval core of Swineshead (Asset 289) is demarcated by its conservation area (Asset 169) with the principal surviving medieval building within the settlement being the grade I listed Church of St Nicholas (Asset 755), whose surviving elements mainly date to the 14th century. Its churchyard (Asset 376) is documented as being medieval in date with some early medieval burials also having been recovered from within its extent. The HER also records an area of medieval settlement earthworks to south of modern Swineshead (Asset 315), indicating that the settlement has shrunk. Further areas of ridge and furrow are also recorded within Swineshead Parish (Assets 316 and 414), located to the west of Site A.

3.2.50 The medieval features recorded within Site B include areas of ridge and furrow (Assets 817, 818, 826 and 829) and former boundary banks (centred Assets 819, 821 to 825 and 827 to 828). The site visit confirmed that most of these features appear to have been levelled with the exception of a low rise identified along a field boundary within the centre northern area of Site B (which may correlate to Asset 822), and extant earthwork remains of an area of ridge and furrow in the south-eastern corner of Site B (centred Asset 829). The other recorded features within Site B are medieval findspots comprised of a strap end (Asset 741) and coins (Asset 744, 746 and 747). The HER also

records the findspot of a medieval coin (Asset 750) just outside the Site to the north.

3.2.51 The NHLE and HER also record several medieval assets within the nearby settlements of Keysoe, to the south-west of Site B, and Little Staughton, to the south-east of Site B. Keysoe is recorded as a large settlement in Domesday with a population of 25 households held under four different entries (William of Warrene, Alwin of Devil, Hugh of Beauchamp and Osbern son of Richard). The recorded resources include ploughlands, woodlands, meadows and a mill again apparently reflecting a mixed arable and pastoral economy at the time[22]. The only surviving medieval buildings within Keysoe are the grade I listed Church St Mary the Virgin (Asset 19), constructed in the late 12th century with its associated churchyard (Asset 374) and the grade II listed Manor (Asset 136) which is noted to be 16th century or earlier in date. The HER also records documentary evidence for a medieval brickworks in Keysoe (Asset 348) but the location is given for later post-medieval structures that were subsequently demolished. As with the other settlements in the region the HER has recorded (largely via cropmarks and features detected via remote sensing) shrunken and deserted areas of settlement in and around Keysoe. These areas include shrunken settlement earthworks at Brook End (Assets 290 and 419) within modern Keysoe and the largely extant extent of medieval settlement along Keysoe Row (Asset 291), located to the south-east of Keysoe and c.900 m south of Site B. The HER has also recorded potential moated sites at Keysoe Row (Assets 193, 303 and 309) and on land to the north of Keysoe (Assets 311, c.100m south of Site A; and Asset 331). Moated sites usually enclosed manor houses and their associated buildings but may have also been surrounded farmsteads or granges. Further evidence for rural development within the Parish of Keysoe includes cropmark and earthwork evidence for ridge and furrow (Assets 383 to 389) and field boundaries (Asset 212).

3.2.52 Little Staughton has no entry in the Domesday book, though it is not thought that the settlement did not exist, rather that it was considered part of what is now Great Staughton. The surviving medieval features within the Little

Staughton area include the Old Manor House, Cretingsbury: a motte castle and moated manor house designated as a scheduled monument (Asset 4) which is located c. 610 m south of the Site B to Site C connection route. This is a Norman motte castle that was later incorporated in to an elaborate moated site and named after its owner Sir Adam de Creting who died in 1294[23]. The HER also records a park (Asset 712) that appears likely to have been developed alongside the Old Manor House, Cretingsbury. The only surviving medieval building is the grade I listed Church of All Saints (Asset 38), which has surviving elements from the 13th and 14th centuries and is located just to the east of Little Staughton situated between the modern village and the scheduled monument (Asset 4). The HER also records an area of woodland called the Lound (Asset 344), just beyond the southern boundary of Site B, which is documented as early as 1482 and may have formed part of the managed estate of Cretingsbury. As with the other settlements in the region the HER has recorded (largely via cropmarks and features detected by remote sensing) shrunken and deserted areas of settlement in and around Little Staughton. These areas include shrunken settlement earthworks at West End (Assets 249 and 301), Top End (Asset 295) and within Little Staughton itself (Asset 294). The HER also has also recorded potential moated sites in Little Staughton (Assets 220, 223, 342, 436 and 439), to the north-west of Little Staughton (Asset 378 – in fields surrounded but excluded from Site B), and to the south-west of Little Staughton (Asset 343). As noted above moated sites are usually enclosed manor houses and their associated buildings but may have also been surrounded farmsteads or granges. The remaining medieval activity recorded in the vicinity of Little Staughton includes cropmark and earthwork remains of field boundaries (Asset 221) and areas of ridge and furrow (Assets 299, 393 and 394).

3.2.53 Between Sites B and C, levelled ridge and furrow cultivation has been recorded from historic aerial photography (centred Asset 678) and extends across the Site B to Site C Cable Corridor. These remains as well as other parcels of reported ridge and furrow are thought to be associated with the historic and deserted settlement known as Garden Farm (centred Asset 593,

within the western part of Site C). Further to the south of this there are further possible medieval settlement earthworks which have produced surface finds dating from the medieval periods (Asset 666).

3.2.54 The medieval features recorded within Site C include part of the extent of a medieval deer park (centred Asset 668), a point recorded for the historic and deserted settlement known as Garden Farm (centred Asset 593) and areas of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation (Assets 680, 690, 830, 937, 943, 944). The deer park is recorded in the HER as being Rushoe Park which was originally imparked prior to 1245 and was re-imparked in the mid-16th century by Sir Oliver Leader, who held the estate at the time[24].

3.2.55 The NHLE and HER also record several medieval assets within the nearby settlement of Great Staughton, located directly to the north of Site C. Great Staughton is recorded in the Domesday survey as a large settlement of 21 households with the land held by the Bishop of Lincoln. The recorded resources include ploughlands, woodlands, meadow and a church[25], indicating that the extant church in the parish had an earlier precursor and a mixed pastoral and arable economy. The medieval core of Great Staughton is demarcated by its conservation area (Asset 164) with the principal surviving medieval building within the settlement being the grade I listed Church of St Andrew (Asset 534), whose surviving elements mainly date to the 13th and 14th centuries. The grade II* listed Place House (Asset 805) is also located within the medieval core of the village and was constructed for Sir Oliver Leader between 1539 and 1557 on the site of an earlier moated manor (Asset 654). The parish (and medieval estate) of Great Staughton is large and the HER records further potential moated manor sites at Rushey Farm (643), just beyond the eastern boundary of Site C; and at Basmead (Asset 633) and Cherry Orchard Farm (Asset 640), which are both located c. 875 m south of Site C. The remaining medieval assets recorded by the HER in association with Great Staughton and its parish are cropmark and earthwork remains associated with agricultural activities which include a potential droveway (Asset 617), field boundaries (Asset 603) and areas of ridge and furrow cultivation (Assets 698, 700, 720, 763, 772, 779, 783 and 789).

3.2.56 An area of mapped ridge and furrow (Asset 679) is as extending into the Site C to Site D Cable Corridor.

3.2.57 The medieval heritage assets identified within the extent of Site D include a possible moated site (Asset 407), with a further moated earthwork (Asset 610) recorded just outside the Site boundary to the west and an area of ridge of furrow just outside the Site boundary to the east (Asset 773). The NHLE and HER also record several medieval assets within the nearby settlement of Hail Weston, located to the east of Site C. Hail Weston is recorded in the Domesday survey as a settlement of 12 households under two owners (Eustace the sheriff and Robert son of Fafiton). The recorded resources include ploughlands, woodlands and meadow indicating a mixed pastoral and arable economy[26]. The only surviving medieval building within Hail Weston is the grade II* listed Parish Church of St Nicholas (Asset 806), which originally dates to the 13th century. The HER does record some excavated remains in the form of a medieval pit (Asset 513), that was discovered during a watching brief on Bird Lane in Hail Weston, but the rest of the identified assets are earthwork (Assets 367, 369, 381, 395 and 397) and cropmark features relating to agricultural activities, principally areas of ridge and furrow (Assets 502, 503, 686, 688, 696, 717, 721, 724, 734, 762 to 768, 770, 771, 774, 775, 781, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790 to 793 and 940).

3.2.58 The potentially medieval assets recorded along the grid connection include areas of levelled ridge and furrow, with associated banks and ditches (Assets 777, 778, 785, 832, 834 and 836 to 842). The grid connection is also crossed by Green Lane (Asset 418), a documented medieval route that seems to follow the alignment of the earlier Roman road (Assets 408 and 706) that passes through the area.

3.2.59 The medieval activity identified in the areas around the grid connection route is concentrated in Eaton Socon / St Neots to the east and Duloe to the west. The medieval core of St Neots is well defined by its conservation area (Asset 167) with the only surviving medieval building within the study area being the grade I listed Parish Church of St Mary (Asset 809), which is dated to the 14th

century. The remaining medieval activity recorded in this area by the HER includes a series of medieval and post-medieval remains (Asset 442) that were discovered during an excavation at Alpha Park in 2006 (Event 630), and findspots of medieval pottery (Asset 401), a crucible (Asset 901) and horse fittings (Asset 902). The HER also records tentative locations for a former Hospitaller Camera (Asset 903) and a leper hospital (Asset 904) within St Neots. The medieval activity in Duloe includes deserted medieval settlement remains in the form of surviving earthworks and cropmark features (Assets 240, 297 and 368).

3.2.60 The only other potentially medieval assets that are recorded within the 1km study area include further areas of ridge and furrow cropmarks and earthworks recorded in the vicinity of St Neots (Assets 893, 939 and 941), Eaton Socon (Assets 402, 405, 856 and 942), Riseley (Assets 252, 312, and 866) and Wyboston, Chawley and Colesden (Assets 776, 833 and 867).

Post-medieval (1580 to 1900 AD)

3.2.61 Most of the heritage assets that are recorded as being post-medieval within the 1 km study area are records of buildings, many of which are extant (including all of the post-medieval designated listed buildings). These structures are typically households, farmsteads or other agricultural buildings (barns) that were developed within the nearby settlements, and their outlying areas, as part of the growth of these villages between the late 16th and 19th centuries. It is not intended to discuss every individual building in detail within this part of the assessment as all of them are located outside the Site (mostly within the built up areas of modern day settlements) and are, therefore, not relevant to the establishment of archaeological potential within the Scheme that this assessment is informing.

3.2.62 The post-medieval heritage assets recorded within Site A are typical of a rural, agrarian landscape including historically recorded buildings (Assets 178, 188, 321, 736 and 737), a fishpond (Asset 438), a rabbit warren (Asset 335) and areas of levelled post-medieval steam ploughed cultivation remains (centred

Asset 815) which are remnant of activities within former land enclosures within the parishes of Keysoe (centred Asset 862) and Pertenhall (centred Asset 864). One of the historically recorded buildings within Site A was Middle Farm Lodge, a former grade II listed 16th century Farmhouse (Asset 737), which was de-listed and demolished in 2010. The Bedford Borough HER also records one of the historic routes (as recorded on post-medieval mapping) within the parish of Pertenhall running in to the north-eastern most field of Site A (Asset 860), as a no longer extant continuation of Green End, Pertenhall. Other activities are also recorded within Site A that are associated with gravel extraction in the form of a pit (Asset 173) and brick working in the form of a field name 'Brick Pastures' (Asset 333). Further post-medieval activity is recorded within the fields that are excluded from, but surrounded by, Site A in the form of three windmill mounds (Assets 326 to 328), two further ponds (Assets 175 and 177), former buildings (Asset 176 and 323) and another gravel pit (Asset 174). This excluded area also includes a record of excavated post-medieval features (Asset 209) which were discovered during archaeological investigations at Manor Farm, Green End in 2014 and 2015 (Events 527 and 555). The NHLE and HER also record numerous post-medieval assets within the nearby settlements of Pertenhall, just to the east of Site A and Swineshead, to the west of Site A.

3.2.63 The conservation area of Swineshead (Asset 169); centred on its medieval core, contains 16 grade II listed buildings (not assigned individual Asset numbers) which can be largely characterised as rural farmhouses, cottages, and residential dwellings. The HER also records the location of further non-designated buildings within the village which include the location of further residential and farm buildings (Assets 432 and 433). The road layout (Asset 859) in the area around Swineshead is also recorded in the HER, with these post-medieval routes largely surviving to the present day, though the separately recorded Sandy Or Spanoak Lane (Asset 413), to the north of Swineshead no longer appears to be extant. The remaining HER entries record activity in the area around Swineshead associated with extraction

activities and include a Gravel Pit (Assets 347), Quarry (Asset 406) and Sand Pit (Asset 346).

3.2.64 Pertenhall, to the east of Site A, contains the grade II* listed Old Rectory (Asset 49), which dates to the late 18th century, with its associated grade II listed Lodge Cottage (Asset 50) as well as the grade II listed Manor (Asset 47) which dates to the late 16th century but was altered considerably in the 19th century. The remaining 11 grade II listed buildings in Pertenhall (Assets 46, 51, 76, 129, 140, 149 and 150), Green End (Assets 43 to 45 and 130), and the surrounding area are comprised of farmhouses, barns, cottages and a dovecote that date between from the 17th to 19th centuries. The churchyard (Asset 375), associated with the medieval church of St Peter (Asset 48) is noted in the HER entry to be of probable post-medieval date.

3.2.65 The non-designated buildings recorded within Pertenhall Parish include the Village Hall (Asset 422), Pound (Asset 488), and an Old School House (Asset 496) with the remainder being recorded locations of rural farmhouses or cottages located in Pertenhall (Assets 423, 424, 431, 441, 486, 492, 494 and 495), Green End (Assets 425 to 428, 430 and 493) or in isolated locations to the east (Assets 352, 483, 484, 490, 753 and 754) and west of the village (Assets 476 and 758). The HER also records the centrepoint of a small area of landscape park (Asset 318), associated with the Manor (Asset 47) which has largely remained intact despite some later development. Further surviving open spaces in the area (as pasture or arable fields) are recorded in the HER as likely having been historic greens (Asset 361 and 362) or closes (Assets 350 and 351) and the remnants of former ponds (Asset 179, 203 and 365) also survive as cropmarks and earthworks in the area. Although most of the post-medieval activity recorded in and around Pertenhall is associated with its predominantly rural agricultural economy (an area of enclosure is recorded centred on Asset 864) there are also records of mineral extraction and industry taking place in the form of a gravel pit (Asset 485), quarry (Asset 225), a clay pit (Asset 349) and the field names *'Brick Kiln Field'* (Asset 357) and '*Brick Kiln Close'* (Asset 363).

3.2.66 The historic routeways within the parish (Asset 860 – elements of which are recorded within Site A), as recorded on late 18th century mapping, largely survive with the HER noting the main road though Pertenhall being associated with the Bedford and Kimbolton Turnpike Trust (Asset 760) who were active between active between 1795 and 1874. Other former minor routes recorded in the area from historic mapping either survive as extant roads (Asset 359) or appear to survive as field boundary access tracks (Assets 415 and 416). The remaining post-medieval assets recorded within Pertenhall include fragmentary remains of 23 skeletons (Asset 437) that were discovered during 19th century renovations of the Manor House and a findspot of post-medieval pottery (Asset 434) in Green End.

3.2.67 The post-medieval assets identified within Site B include the former locations of three buildings (Assets 186, 322 and 738) and several extraction pits (centred Assets 338 and 340) along with findspots of a post-medieval coin (Asset 742), whistle (Asset 743) and seal matrix (Asset 745). A further three gravel pits (Assets 172, 339 and 340) and findspot of a coin (Asset 356) are located just beyond the northern edge of Site B and the extant Kangaroo Inn (Asset 322) is located within a plot which is surrounded by the northern part of Site B. This plot also contained a further gravel pit (Assets 336) with another recorded to the west (Asset 337) outside the Site B boundary. The Bedford Borough HER also records one of the historic routes within the parish of Keysoe (Asset 858) running on the alignment of the B660 in the western part of Site B. It also records a no longer extant route that ran through the parish of Little Staughton (Asset 861), running on a curving west to east alignment between Keysoe and Green End, which appears to survive as the line of some of the field boundaries in the southern part of Site B. The former route of Scotts Street (Asset 412) is recorded as running along the south-eastern edge of Site B. The HER also records the locations of extant post-medieval farms including New Farm (Asset 635), just beyond the eastern edge Site B and Lodge Farmhouse (Asset 739), located within a plot surrounded by, but outside, the southern part of Site B; and the former location of a hovel (Asset 355) just beyond the north-western edge of Site B. The HER also records the

former location of a *'lane and small green'* (Asset 334) that is documented in 1806, located just beyond the southern edge of Site B. The NHLE and HER also record numerous post-medieval assets within the nearby settlements of Keysoe, just to the south-west of Site B and Little Staughton, to the south-east of Site A.

3.2.68 Keysoe is a settlement whose historic buildings are set along the main road that passes through (Pertenhall Road), or Riseley Road which extends from the main junction in the village towards the west, which form part of a surviving network of historic routes (Asset 857) recorded by the HER. The grade II listed buildings recorded within Keysoe include a centrally located former Baptist Chapel (Asset 30) with the remainder (Assets 24 to 31, 37, 62 to 64, 73, 84, 152 and 154 to 156) largely characterised as 17th to 19th century cottages and farmhouses within the village, along its main roads or surrounding fields. The settlement at Keysoe Row, to the south-east of Keysoe and south of Site B, also contains a listed building in the form of Row Farmhouse (Assets 143) of 17th century date.

3.2.69 The HER records a pair of burial grounds (Assets 310 and 467) that are considered likely to be associated with the former Baptist Chapel in the centre of Keysoe as well as a building of local interest, the Last Straw Cottage (Asset 192). The remaining designated buildings (all grade II listed) recorded in the area include two isolated grade II listed Farmhouses to the south of Keysoe (Asset 151 and 153) and three farmhouse in Keysoe Row East (Assets 66, 67 and 143). Most of the non-designated heritage assets recorded in the area are also buildings, or former locations of buildings, within Keysoe Row East (Assets 421 and 461 to 466) and surrounding fields (Assets 452 to 454). The HER also records the routes of historic tracks within the parish of Keysoe which include the no longer extant Donkey Lane and Mill Lane (Asset 410) to the south-east of Keysoe East Row and no longer extant tracks to the north-west of Keysoe (Assets 409 and 411). Most of the post-medieval activity recorded in and around Keysoe is associated with its predominantly rural agricultural economy with the documented enclosure in the parish of Riseley centred on Asset 863). There are also, however assets associated with gravel

extraction (Assets 325 and 329 to 330) recorded in the area as well as a documented brickworks (Asset 304) in fields to the east of Keysoe.

3.2.70 Little Staughton, to the south-east of Site B, is a settlement whose historic buildings are set along the main road that passes through (Colmworth Road or Spring Hill), or West End which extends from the main junction in the village towards the west, which form part of a surviving network of historic routes (Asset 861 – including the former route noted above as running through Site B between Keysoe and Little Staughton) recorded by the HER. These buildings include a series of grade II listed 17th to 19th century buildings (Assets 39 to 41, 131 to 134, 147 and 148), which can largely be characterised as farmhouses and cottages. Most of the post-medieval non-designated heritage assets recorded in the area are also buildings which include the location of a former Baptist Chapel (Asset 845), a school (Asset 846), Little Staughton Lodge (Asset 222 and 474), a cottage (Asset 443), a former pound (Asset 468), a former building (Asset 506) and the former locations of isolated farms to the west of the village (Asset 300, 472 and 473). The former location of a village green (Asset 341) is recorded at the northern end of Little Staughton but now appears to be located with gardens or an arable field.

3.2.71 The HER records a point for the Great Staughton to Lavendon (Riseley District) Turnpike Trust (Asset 697), who were active between 1802 and 1877, in the area to the north of the Site B to Site C Cable Corridor but it is unclear if the point has been mis-situated and should be atop the surviving route of Staughton Road.

3.2.72 The post-medieval activity recorded within the bounds of Site C includes the former location of a farm (Assets 185), the former location of a mill (Asset 190) and an extant barn (Asset 184). The former site of a mill, evidenced by the place name *'mill field'* (Asset 670) is recorded to the south of the southern boundary of Site C in the vicinity of the two bowl barrows 900m and 1000m east of Old Manor Farm scheduled monument (Asset 13). The HER also records Rushey Farm (Asset 594), located just to the east of Site C, as a post-

medieval asset. The NHLE and HER also record numerous post-medieval assets within the nearby settlement of Great Staughton (and its parish), just to the north of Site C.

3.2.73 The post-medieval designated assets within Great Staughton are, for the most part, located within the extents of the Great Staughton Conservation Area (Asset 164) and the Staughton Highway Conservation Area (Asset 165). These settlements are situated along historic roads that are documented as being associated with the Kimbolton Turnpike Trust (Asset 704), who were active between 1755-1877. These designated assets include the Village Cross scheduled monument (Asset 1), which is documented as having been erected in c.1637. The remaining post-medieval designated assets within the Great Staughton Conservation Area (Asset 164) are 16 grade II listed buildings (not assigned individual Asset numbers) whilst within the Staughton Highway Conservation Area (Asset 165) there are 12 grade II listed buildings (again not assigned individual Asset numbers). These listed buildings can largely be characterised as rural farmhouses, cottages, and village residential dwellings typical of a dispersed post-medieval agricultural landscape. The HER also records the locations (or former locations) of non-designated buildings within Great Staughton and the Staughton Highway section of the settlement as including a Baptist Chapel (Asset 658), a Methodist Chapel (Asset 619), the former location of blacksmiths (Asset 612 and 653), the former location of toll gates (Assets 599 and 662), the former location of a brewery (Asset 575), the former location of a school (Asset 669) and other residential and farm buildings (Assets 579, 580 and 655). The HER also records the location of the remnants a coach house (Assets 871), garden wall (Asset 872), barns (Asset 873) and a park (Asset 648) associated with Staughton Manor as well as the former location of the Vicarage Gardens (Asset 665), both of which survive to an extent as green open spaces with trees. The HER also records a mound (Asset 722), thought likely to have been for a Gazebo in the grounds of Place House (Asset 805), to the west of the village. The remaining heritage assets recorded in the vicinity of the

settlements of Great Staughton include the documented site of a postmill (Asset 622) and two quarries (Assets 602 and 659).

3.2.74 The NHLE records further post-medieval grade II listed buildings (Assets 101, 102, 106, 107, 109, 111, 112, 118, 119, 162, 526) within the parish of Great Staughton that are located outside the conservation areas but as above can largely be characterised as houses, cottages and farmhouses dating from the late 16th to 19th centuries. The HER also records further activity within the parish of Great Staughton but away from its principal settlements in the form of the locations of a quarry (Asset 627), a gravel pit (Asset 183) and a possible trackway (Asset 581), in fields to the south of Site C. Post-medieval enclosure cropmarks are recorded in fields to the north of Great Staughton (Asset 628) and further isolated buildings (or their former locations) are recorded within the parish (Assets 597, 625, 631 and 632).

3.2.75 The HER records that the northern portion of a post-medieval quarry (Asset 674) extends in to the western part of Site D. The former location an undated bank, wall or path (Asset 938), which is considered most likely to date to this period, is also identified in the National Mapping Project data within Site D. The HER also record two distinct non-designated post-medieval farmsteads, both named Weston Pastures (Assets 399 and 536) just beyond the eastern boundary of Site D The NHLE and HER record numerous post-medieval assets within the nearby settlement of Hail Weston (and its parish), to the east of Site D.

3.2.76 As with most of the settlements recorded within the study area most of the designated assets located within Hail Weston are grade II listed houses, cottages and farmhouses (Assets 82, 83, 127 and 160), with the one exception in this instance being a grade II listed milepost (Asset 163). The HER records further non-designated buildings within the settlement which include a school (Asset 373), a public house (Asset 875), a former malthouse (Asset 360), a Baptist chapel and burial ground (Asset 516), a house (Asset 615), the locations of milestones (Assets 354 and 611) situated along the main road that passes through Hail Weston and a post-medieval ditch (Asset

513) that was discovered during a watching brief on Bird Lane (no Event recorded by the HER). The remaining heritage assets recorded in the area include an isolated farm to the north of Hail Weston (Asset 400), a brick kiln to the north-west of Hail Weston (Asset 780), a farmstead located to the south of Site D (Asset 582) and the cropmarks of potentially post-medieval field boundaries (Assets 604 and 687).

3.2.77 The only potentially post-medieval heritage assets identified along the route of the grid connection are areas of ridge and furrow (discussed in the medieval section above) which may be related to later activity after the enclosure (area centred Asset 865) of Eaton Socon parish. The post-medieval activity identified in the areas around the grid connection route is concentrated in Eaton Socon / St Neots to the east and Duloe to the west.

3.2.78 Most of the designated assets within the St Neots Conservation Area are grade II listed buildings (none within conservation areas have been assigned individual asset numbers) that were originally constructed during the post-medieval period with the grade II* Crosshall (Asset 813), a 17th century timber frame building, being one of the most impressive surviving examples. Outside the St Neots Conservation Area, but within the study area, the NHLE records three further Grade II listed buildings; Duloe Hill Windmill (Asset 201), the Crown Inn (Asset 238) and Bell Farmhouse (Asset 283). The post-medieval non-designated heritage assets recorded within the western part St Neots in the 1km study area are comprised of roads associated with the Biggleswade to Alconbury Hill Turnpike Trust (Asset 694), who were active between 1724 and 1867, the location of a former quarry (Asset 882); and excavated features including ditches and pits (Asset 884) which were discovered during an evaluation at Eaton Court in 2015 (Event 954). Further to the south, within Eaton Socon the post-medieval non-designated remains include buildings (Assets 896, 897, 905 to 907, 911, 912 and 916), a milestone (Asset 899), excavated remains (Assets 909 and 929) and a findspot of a trade token (Assets 910).

3.2.79 The NHLE records three grade II listed buildings within the village of Duloe (Assets 14, 15, 157), that date from the 17th and 18th centuries and the HER records non-designated structures in the form of the former location of a Pesthouse (Asset 504) and a general point for the enclosure within the parish of Staploe (centred on Asset 865). The HER also records the Two Brewers Public House (Asset 182), to the south of Duloe, as a non-designated heritage asset.

Modern

3.2.80 The only modern heritage asset recorded within the Site is the former location of a mileposts (Asset 455) along the section of Kimbolton Road that passes through Site B. No other previously recorded modern remains have been identified within any other part of the Site. This is considered likely due, for the most part, to the fact that land within the Site continuing in agricultural use throughout the post-medieval and modern periods; and consequently, they have remained undeveloped.

3.2.81 There is a concentration of modern activity recorded to the south of Sites C and D in the form of the remains of Little Staughton Airfield (Asset 573). These recorded remains include the battlefield headquarters (Asset 420), part of the airfield (Asset 187), off site facilities (Asset 198), a blast shelter (Asset 620) and pillbox (Asset 574). This airfield opened in 1943 and closed in 1945 and during the war it was a bomber station for RAF Bomber Command's 8 Group[27].

3.2.82 The HER records modern remains in Keysoe, to the south-west of Site B, in the form stables at Grange Farm (Asset 757), a Pound (Asset 460) and Keysoe War Memorial (Asset 435) and a series of Lionhead Standpipes (Assets 444, 445 to 451, 457 to 459). The HER records these standpipes in several of the villages within the study area including Little Staughton (Assets 469 to 471), Pertenhall (Assets 480 to 481), Duloe (Assets 498 to 499) and Swineshead (Asset 475). The remaining modern built remains recorded within the study area include a grade II listed Telephone Kiosk (Asset 61) in Hail

Weston, a Sunday School (Asset 577) in Great Staughton and a war memorial in Eaton Socon (Asset 908). The HER also records the former location of a Royal Observer Corps Post in Eaton Socon (Asset 547); the former locations of mileposts (456 and 491), and the former locations of electricity pylons as earthwork mounds (556 and 586) located to the north-east (Asset 556) and south (Asset 586) of Site D.

Undated

3.2.83 Given the size of the study area there are a considerable number of heritage assets which have been classified as undated. These features are typically cropmarks which have not been investigated further and were not considered definitively of a type that would allow for speculative dating.

3.2.84 These undated heritage assets include the routes of historic watercourses; the River Kym/Till (Asset 868) and Pertenhall Brook (Asset 869) with the rest being cropmarks which will be briefly listed here in relation to the parish they are situated within.

3.2.85 The undated cropmarks within the parishes of Riseley, Bolnhurst and Keysoe (located to the west and south-west of Sites A and B) include circular cropmarks (Asset 251), linear features (Asset 215) and probable enclosures (Assets 213, 250, 253 and 254).

3.2.86 The undated cropmarks in Pertenhall (to east of Site A) include one possible mound (Asset 761) whilst the undated cropmarks in Little Staughton (to south-east of Site B) include potential enclosures (Asset 276 and 282),

3.2.87 The undated cropmarks within the parish of Great Staughton include linear features (Assets 371, 621, 651, 667, 709, 714), a circular cropmark (Asset 614), possible enclosure cropmarks (Assets 613, 616, 649, 671, 677, 699, 701 and 769) and a mound (Asset 572).

3.2.88 The undated features within Hail Weston and its parish include excavated undated pits and a ditch at 68 High Street (Asset 370), enclosure cropmarks (Assets 324, 353, 382, 538, 552, 595, 605, 647, 657 and 684), a ring ditch

cropmark (Asset 878), a linear cropmark (Asset 876) and a possible mound (Asset 553).

3.2.89 The remaining undated cropmarks include an uncertain point record to the south of Duloe (Asset 505), enclosure cropmarks in St Neots (Asset 708), enclosure cropmarks in Eaton Socon (Assets 920, 932, 935 and 936) and ditches (Assets 853 and 855), a ditch and pit (Asset 851) and enclosure cropmarks (Assets 849) in the areas around the southernmost end of the grid connection. The undated excavated features recorded to the east of the grid connection include a gully (Asset 898), quarry pits (Asset 917), ditches and pits (Asset 927) and other features (Asset 934) discovered during various phases of archaeological investigation in Eaton Socon.

3.3 Cartographic Assessment

3.3.1 Early pre-Ordnance Survey maps of the Site tend to be schematic and lack detail. However, they can provide information about historic settlement patterns. Saxton's map of 1583[28] (**ES Vol 3 Figure 6-14 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) identifies the general location of the villages of '*Swineshead'*, '*Pertonhill'* (Pertenhall), '*Stoughton mag'* (Great). '*Stoughton una'* (Little), '*Hales Weston'* and '*Eaton'* and illustrates some of the areas to the south and north of the settlements as being wooded but does not appear to illustrate any of the areas of medieval deer park described in association with Sites A (Beavers Park – Assets 514 and 515) and C (Rushoe Park – Asset 668) discussed above. This map also depicts the major watercourses in the area with what appears to be the River Kym (Asset 868) meandering west to east from *'Pertonhill'* (Pertenhall) to its confluence with the River Great Ouse.

3.3.2 Speed's map of 1611[29] (not reproduced) does not show much more detail but does annotate (in addition to the settlements listed above) *'Cretingcfbery'* in the general location of the Old Manor House, Cretingsbury: a motte castle and moated manor house Scheduled Monument (Asset 4) and a '*Newpark'* directly to the south of '*Peterhill*' (Pertenhall) which may relate to the documented evidence for Beavers Park Wood (Asset 514). Blaeu's 1662

maps of Bedfordshire[30] (**ES Vol 3 Figure 6-15 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) and Huntingdonshire[31] (**ES Vol 3 Figure 6-16 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) also show the general layout of the settlements in the vicinity of the Scheme with both '*Cretingebury*' and '*Newpark*' still annotated.

3.3.3 Jeffery's map of the county of Bedford, dated 1760 to 1770[32] (not reproduced), is the first to show major roads in any detail in the area around the Site. This map no longer annotates *'Cretingebury'* or *'Newpark'* but does annotate *'Keysoe'* to the south-west of '*Staughton Parva'* (Little). The roads recorded on this map are recorded by the Bedford Borough HER (Assets 857 to 861) and appear to include major routes which survive to the present day in the form of *'Great Staughton Road'*, *'Kimbolton Road'* and '*Keysoe Row East'* and '*West End'*.

3.3.4 Hyetts map of Bedford, dating to 1815[33] (***ES Vol 3 Figure 6-17 [EN010141/DR/6.3]***) is the first to depict most of the Site (with exception of Site A) in great detail. This map shows most of the nearby settlements (Keysoe, Little Staughton, Great Staughton and associated isolated elements) noted in the discussion above.

3.3.5 Most of Site B is depicted on this 1815 map, with the exceptions being the areas to the west of Kimbolton Road and to the north of Great Staughton Road. This map depicts the course of Pertenhall Brook (Asset 869), running through the north-western part of Site B, on a north-east to south-west alignment and shows Green End Lane, running on a north to south alignment through the eastern part of Site B. The field boundaries depicted within Site B divide the area in to rectangular and sub rectangular fields with the area to the west of Pertenhall Brook comprised of four separate fields (partial and full); the area between Pertenhall Brook and Green End Lane was comprised of 28 fields (partial and full) and the area to the east of Green End Lane comprised of 10 fields with what appears to be the curving route of a minor watercourse running through them between Green End and Great Staughton Road. The access route between Sites B and C passes through six large

fields and crosses what appears to be an access route that runs from Great Staughton Road to Staughton Manor (Asset 4).

3.3.6 The entirety of the areas covered by Sites C and D is depicted on this 1815 map with the area being comprised of fifteen full or partial rectangular or sub-rectangular fields set along side watercourses. This part of the map does not appear to be rectified as well as the other parts, however, as the course of the River Kym appears to run through Site C rather than forming its northern edge (though the roads appear to correlate well with modern day routes). A former mill (Asset 190) is depicted on this map in the south-western corner of the Site and Rushey Farm (Asset 594) is depicted just beyond Site C's eastern edge in the location of the surviving farm complex of the same name. The access route between Sites C and D passes through two fields and Site D appears to be comprised of 13 fields and two wooded plots (along its southern edge). A '*Weston Lodge'* (Asset 399) is depicted just to the east of Site D with another building (Asset 536) of the same name depicted outside Site D, along the grid connection route. The grid connection runs through further areas of fields (23 partial or full along the entire route) crossing over the depicted routes of what are now Duloe Road and Bushmead Road from north to south.

3.3.7 The earliest available map to depict any part of Site A is Hyett's map of 1817[34] (**ES Vol 3 Figure 6-18 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) which shows the area being comprised of 20 full or partial fields with a wooded area in its southern part annotated as *'Beavers Wood'.* This map also depicts the parts of Site B to the west of Kimbolton Road (two fields) and north of Great Staughton Road (eight full or partial fields) with no other features being annotated. Elements of Site A are also depicted on part of a tithe map of the Parish of Keysoe, dated to 1840[35] (**ES Vol 3 Figure 6-19 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**). This map depicts that one large field in the northern part of the parish extends to within Site A. This Plot (Plot 1) is documented as having been owned by the President and Fellows of Corpus Christi College in Oxford, occupied by William Day and described as being arable and grassland in its tithe apportionment.

3.3.8 Ordnance Survey Maps dating to between 1883 and 1887 (**ES Vol 3 Figures 6-20 to 6-25 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) depict all of the areas covered by the Site. Site A (**ES Vol 3 Figure 6-20 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) is comprised of 20 partial or full fields on this map (indicating some subdivision of the Plot 1 shown on the earlier tithe map). This map also annotated the locations of an old gravel pit (Asset 173); fishpond (Asset 438) and buildings (Assets 736 and 737) in the southern part of Site A, as well as the remnants of a historic routeway through the parish (Asset 860) as a track or public footpath, in the northern part of Site A. The nearby settlement of Pertenhall and Green End are depicted in detail with several of the prominent buildings including the Church of St Peter (Asset 48) and the Manor (Asset 47) being annotated.

3.3.9 Site B (**ES Vol 3 Figure 6-21 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) is comprised of five partial or full fields between Kimbolton Road and Pertenhall Brook, 42 partial or full fields between Pertenhall Brook and Green End, 13 partial or full fields to the east of Green End and five fields to the north of Great Staughton Road indicating that there had been subdivision of the land plots since the earlier map of 1815. No buildings are annotated within Site B, but Kangaroo Inn (Asset 322) and Lodge Farm (Asset 739) are annotated within plots surrounded by parts of Site B. The access route between Sites B and C passes through nine fields (again indicating further subdivision since 1815) and the former access route that runs from Great Staughton Road to Staughton Manor (Asset 4) appears to be depicted as a public footpath running parallel to field boundaries up to a junction at Manor Farm (Asset 632).

3.3.10 Site C (**ES Vol 3 Figure 6-22 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) on the late 19th century OS maps is comprised of 19 partial or full fields, a plot which appears to be part of a Staughton House Park (Asset 648) in its north-western corner and two wooded plots are shown, one in its centre (annotated *'New Wood'*) and one along its southern edge. This indicates further reorganisation and subdivision within Site C (though as acknowledged above this is uncertain due to the apparent problem with the rectification of the 1815 map). The access route between Sites C and D (**ES Vol 3 Figures 6-22 and 6-23**

[EN010141/DR/6.3]) passes through four fields and Site D (**ES Vol 3 Figure 6-23 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) appears to be comprised of 14 fields with the wooded plots that were along its southern edge apparently having been cleared (though there is a larger block of woodland, '*High Wood'* just to the south). The buildings formerly named *'Weston Lodge'* (Asset 399 and 536) are still depicted but are now annotated as '*Weston Pastures'*. The grid connection (**ES Vol 3 Figures 6-24 and 6-25 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) runs through further areas of fields (27 partial or full along the entire route) again indicating some reorganisation and subdivision since 1815.

3.3.11 The only change on later OS maps, dated between 1958 and 1970 (**ES Vol 3 Figures 6-26 to 6-31 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) within Site A is the removal of one field boundary and the appearance of a farmstead called '*Beavers Park'* (Asset 178) in the southern part of Site A (**ES Vol 3 Figure 6-26 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) whilst within Sites B and C (**ES Vol 3 Figures 6-27 and 6-28 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) the only changes are a few field boundary removals. The plot of woodland along the southern edge of Site C is annotated as the '*Fox Covert'* while between Sites C and D (**ES Vol 3 Figures 6-28 and 6-29 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) the only change is that a *'Roman Settlement'* is now annotated in the location of the Rushey Farm Roman Site scheduled monument (Asset 2). There are no changes within Site D from the earlier mapping. Along the grid connection (**ES Vol 3 Figures 6-30 and 6-31 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) the farm formerly annotated as '*Weston Pastures'* is now renamed '*Wood Farm'* with the layout of the field systems it passes through being almost identical to that from the late 19th century mapping.

3.3.12 A review of modern satellite imagery and mapping[36] shows that there has been a reorganisation of the field layouts within Sites A to D, most likely in the latter part of the 20th century with increased automation of arable farming resulting in the desirability of large individual fields rather than smaller plots. The major modern changes in the area of the grid connection include the establishment of the A1 (and the expansion of Eaton Socon up to its eastern edge) and Eaton Socon Substation.

3.4 Previous Archaeological Investigations

3.4.1 The Bedford Borough and Cambridgeshire HERs record a total of 95 Events (previous schemes of archaeological investigation) within the 1km study area. The results of these investigations have typically been recorded in the HER data with one or more assets relating to features or finds that were discovered during the works. Consequently the results of these events have largely been discussed as part of the period by period discussion above and will not be outlined further here, though full descriptions of every Event (Events 319, 320, 517 to 524, 527 to 532, 537, 539 to 545, 554, 555, 557 to 571, 630, 634, 636 to 638, 642, 646, 660, 663, 675, 683, 685, 726 to 735, 843, 844 and 945 to 975) are recorded in the Gazetteer which forms **ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-1 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**. Several schemes have been undertaken within, or just adjacent to the Site and the results of these nearby investigations are discussed in more detail below.

Manor Farm, Pertenhall 2013

3.4.2 A desk-based assessment (Event 527) and archaeological field evaluation (Event 555) were undertaken in 2013 in relation to the proposed development of a solar scheme across 38.5 hectares of land at Manor Farm, Pertenhall. The desk-based assessment had identified a high potential for archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric onwards and an evaluation, comprised of 104 trial trenches was undertaken between the 17th of June and the 12th of July 2013. The trenches were excavated down to the horizon of naturally occurring clays which were encountered at a depth of between c. 0.3 m on the top of the hill and at c. 0.7 m in lower lying areas[37].

3.4.3 These investigations identified evidence of activity dating from the Iron Age onwards in two main areas of activity within the evaluated area; the south-eastern corner with extensive Late Iron Age to Romano-British remains and the central and southern areas where medieval remains were more prevalent. The Late Iron Age to Romano-British features identified were generally concentrated on the low ground in trenches 11, 12, 14 and 15 where an

enclosed settlement in the form of ditches and roundhouse remains were identified, though Iron Age to Roman features were also identified elsewhere. The medieval remains identified included a fairly dense area of intercutting ditches, pits and cobbled areas (likely an access route for a medieval farmstead) that were concentrated within trenches 59 to 61 and 105 as well as evidence for medieval cultivation in trenches 78 to 81. Post-medieval remains were also identified in the form of the remains of field boundaries (identified on historic mapping) and areas of ridge and furrow. A ring ditch, excavated within trench 76, located just off the crest of the hill was initially thought likely to be prehistoric in date but the finds recovered from its fills were mixed and included abraded sherds of Roman and medieval pottery[38].

Manor Farm, Pertenhall, 2014 and 2015

3.4.4 A geophysical survey (Event 554), archaeological field evaluation (Event 530 and 532) and desk based assessment (Event 529) were undertaken between 2014 and 2015 in relation to the proposed development of a solar scheme across 22 hectares of land at Manor Farm, Pertenhall. The geophysical survey undertaken in 2014 revealed little of archaeological interest over the majority of the site, with some suggestion that this may be due to the screening effect of modern overburden as the survey showed possible ridge and furrow and land drains across the site. One area to the north-west, produced positive results in the form of distinct rectilinear enclosures with internal features orientated north-west to south-east (suggestive of a Roman building) and, consequently, that area was removed from the scheme prior to trenching. The evaluation, comprised of 44 trial trenches and was undertaken between the 10th of December 2014 and the 22nd of December 2014. The trenches were excavated down to the horizon of naturally occurring clays which were generally encountered at a depth of c. 0.4 m below ground level with deeper areas of 0.6m below ground level only seen in the southern part of the northernmost field[39].

3.4.5 The archaeological evaluation revealed limited archaeological evidence with no particular foci of activity. The paucity of evidence led the authors to

conclude that the area has been predominantly open fields, largely pasture until recently. The whole evaluation only produced a limited assemblage of finds in the form of a Neolithic flint implement, solitary sherds of Iron Age, Roman and post-medieval pottery and two fragments of post-medieval ceramic building material. None of the trenches extend to within the extent the Site (Sites A and B) and the proposed solar scheme has subsequently been completed[40].

Archaeological Investigations: Huntingdon to Willington Gas Pipeline, 2001

3.4.6 Archaeological evaluations, excavations and a permanent presence watching brief took place during the construction of the 22.5 km Huntingdon to Willington Gas Pipeline for Transco during the months of April to July 2001. The pipeline runs in a roughly southerly direction, linking an existing installation 2km north-east of Kimbolton, Cambridgeshire to another near Willington, 7km east of the centre of Bedford and passes through the eastern part of Site B.

3.4.7 The HER records a rectangular area within the south-eastern part of Site B along this pipeline route which appears to be one of the eight areas of trial trench evaluation that were undertaken between April and May 2001, following desk-based assessment, field walking and geophysical survey in the Autumn of 2000.

3.4.8 Overall the HER records that the scheme identified a total of sixteen sites along the pipeline route which included substantial Romano-British field systems and settlement and isolated pits and a trackway, a prehistoric triple linear ditch monument, an Iron Age ring ditch and a roundhouse, a small early-medieval site with evidence of later medieval activity; and 18 areas of ridge and furrow along with 20 former field boundaries.

3.4.9 A review of the fieldwork report indicates one archaeological site (Site 1) was identified during the watching brief within Site B (centred on Asset 521). The report[41] notes that construction topsoil stripping revealed the remains of a late

Iron Age / Romano-British farmstead with large quantities of finds recovered during the works including 1550 pottery sherds, 646 animal bone fragments and smaller quantities of ceramic building material, daub and slag. This Site was stripped of its topsoil and subsoil to allow for targeted exaction to take place which revealed a multi-phase late Iron Age to Romano-British settlement comprised of roundhouses with associated enclosure remains which produced dateable finds ranging from the Late Iron Age through to the 2nd century AD. Later activity was also recorded in the form of medieval ridge and furrow and post-medieval land drains[42].

Excavations at Rushey Farm, Great Staughton, 1958-1959

3.4.10 Two corridor houses were excavated by E Greenfield for the Ministry of Works at Rushey Farm during 1958 and 1959 (Event 726 - just to the south of Site C) after the ploughing of two mounds had been reported. The first area of works identified three periods of occupation including a probable Iron Age roundhouse, a Roman corridor house and a possible later burial ground of unknown date, with the finds recovered including 856 coins, all dating to between 306 and 362 AD. The second area identified two phases of occupation, the first being use of a corridor house that dated to the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD and the second being its conversion to a smaller building in the 4th century AD. The finds recovered included coins of Constantine I to Valentinian II (306 – 392 AD).

3.4.11 These investigations led to the scheduling of the area as the Roman site, Rushey Farm scheduled monument (Asset 2).

Watching brief along Huntingdon to Little Barford Gas Pipeline, 1993

3.4.12 Archaeological investigations were undertaken in relation to the construction of a gas pipeline between Huntingdon AGI and Little Barford Power Station, which passes through the eastern part of Site D, between May and October

1993, with much of the initial survey having been conducted in the autumn and winter of 1992.

3.4.13 Archaeological works along the pipeline (points on line include Events 571 and 729) included fieldwalking, topsoil stripping and a watching brief. The Cambridgeshire HER notes that nine archaeological sites, including Roman to post-medieval remains were found along the pipeline. A review of the fieldwork report indicates that none of these archaeological sites are located within the Site[43].

Land South Of High Wood, Kimbolton Road, Geophysical Survey and Evaluation 2022 to 2023

3.4.14 A geophysical survey (Event 974) and subsequent programme of trial trench evaluation (Event 843) were undertaken in conjunction with a planning application for a solar development on land at High Wood, Cambridgeshire; located to the immediate south of Site D.

3.4.15 The evaluation was comprised of 204 trenches that were excavated between the 7th of November 2022 and the 31st of January 2023; with the trenches being located to target features identified in the geophysical survey and to investigate the moderate potential for prehistoric, Romano-British, and medieval archaeological activity identified in the desk-based assessment.

3.4.16 The HER entry notes that evaluation found a concentration of five main areas of archaeological activity across three different fields and encountered finds and features dating from the Iron Age, Roman, early medieval and medieval periods.

Geophysical survey at Willow Row Barrow in 2021

3.4.17 The HER records that a geophysical survey (Event 646) was undertaken in order to inform a planning application for an ecological burial ground in 2021. The survey area comprised c.12 ha, extending across part of the grid

connection route, and identified Iron Age to Roman farmsteads and medieval to post-medieval ridge and furrow.

Little Staughton Airfield Solar Development; Fibre Optic Cable Trenching And Access Track: Watching Brief 2019

3.4.18 A Programme of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording (Watching Brief) was undertaken during groundworks associated with the development for the eastern end of an access track and fibre optic cable trenching for a solar farm development at the former Little Staughton airfield and land at Top Farm in 2019.

3.4.19 The HER records ten sections of the Little Staughton airfield solar development and fibre optic cable trenching and access track (centred Events 565 to 570 and 976 to 980) within the grid connection area, or immediately adjacent to it, that were subject to watching brief.

3.4.20 A modern ditch and a residual medieval tile fragment were identified in Event 567, and an undated ditch containing three distinct fills was identified at Event 569 along with residual Early- to Mid-Iron Age pottery described as showing *"little signs of abrasion"*[44]. No archaeological remains of any date were identified in any of the other sections of the watching brief (Events 565, 566, 568, 570 and 976 to 982).

Land West Of Eaton Socon, Staploe, Bedfordshire; Geophysical Survey 2021

3.4.21 A magnetometer survey of a 114 ha area of land to the west of Eaton Socon Substation was undertaken in 2021 (centred Event 844) identified a number of archaeological sites and isolated features of archaeological interest. These features included evidence for likely Iron Age to Roman settlement (round houses, pits and associated features, field systems), potential Bronze Age burials (barrow ditches) and extensive evidence for ridge and furrow cultivation and former field boundaries[45].

3.5 Aerial Photography and LiDAR Assessment

3.5.1 A large number of the HER assets identified within the 1 km study area have been derived from a cropmark and earthwork digitisation project that utilised historic vertical and oblique aerial photography and LiDAR data which was completed in June 2018.

3.5.2 As part of this assessment AOC has reviewed online aerial imagery held by Historic England (Table 1) and have identified no new features within the Site that were not either already assigned HER asset numbers or were mapped as part of the 2018 programme and have been assigned Asset numbers as part of this assessment. The only other noteworthy thing noted in these images is that the locations of the trenches sunk as part of the 2013 evaluation (Event 555) at Manor Farm, Pertenhall are visible in a series of photographs dated to the July 5th, 2013 (Sortie 27771_001/003/004/005, Frame 2965).

Table 1: Aerial Photographs Reviewed by AOC

Sortie	Frame/ Flight	Date	Link
RAF_FNO_24_RV	6076	June 26, 1942	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/RAF_FNO_24_RV_6076
RAF/106G/UK/635	4027	August 10, 1945	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/RAF_106G_UK_635_RS_4027
RAF/CPE/UK/2272	6013	August 29, 1947	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/RAF_CPE_UK_2272_RV_6013
24357_018	2516	July 14, 2006	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/24357_018
24357_017	2516	July 14, 2006	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/24357_017

Sortie	Frame/ Flight	Date	Link
24357_013	2516	July 14, 2006	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/24357_013
26066_026	2671	July 21, 2008	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/26066_026
26066_025	2671	July 21, 2008	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/26066_025
26066_027	2671	July 21, 2008	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/26066_027
26066_024	2671	July 21, 2008	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/26066_024
26066_023	2671	July 21, 2008	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/26066_023
26387_011	2736	July 28, 2009	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/26387_011
26387_010	2736	July 28, 2009	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/26387_010
26387_009	2736	July 28, 2009	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/26387_009
26387_008	2736	July 28, 2009	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/26387_008
27277_016	2824	July 20, 2010	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27277_016

Sortie	Frame/ Flight	Date	Link
27277_024	2824	July 20, 2010	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27277_024
27277_023	2824	July 20, 2010	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27277_023
27277_025	2824	July 20, 2010	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27277_025
27060_024	2878	June 29, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27060_024
27060_027	2878	June 29, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27060_027
27060_028	2878	June 29, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27060_028
27060_029	2878	June 29, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27060_029
27060_025	2878	June 29, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27060_025
27060_026	2878	June 29, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27060_026
27060_034	2878	June 29, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27060_034
27060_041	2878	June 29, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27060_041

Sortie	Frame/ Flight	Date	Link
27060_042	2878	June 29, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27060_042
27094_011	2878	June 29, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_011
27060_033	2878	June 29, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27060_033
27060_032	2878	June 29, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27060_032
27060_030	2878	June 29, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27060_030
27060_031	2878	June 29, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27060_031
27090_015	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27090_015
27090_016	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27090_016
27094_029	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_029
27094_031	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_031
27094_030	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_030

Sortie	Frame/ Flight	Date	Link
27094_032	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_032
27094_034	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_034
27094_033	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_033
27094_023	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_023
27094_024	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_024
27094_026	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_026
27094_025	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_025
27094_027	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_027
27094_022	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_022
27094_021	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_021
27093_040	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27093_040

Sortie	Frame/ Flight	Date	Link
27094_018	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_018
27094_019	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_019
27094_020	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_020
27090_014	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27090_014
27094_014	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_014
27094_012	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_012
27094_015	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_015
27094_013	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_013
27094_036	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_036
27094_037	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_037
27094_038	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_038

Sortie	Frame/ Flight	Date	Link
27094_040	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_040
27093_038	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27093_038
27093_039	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27093_039
27093_036	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27093_036
27093_041	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27093_041
27093_028	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27093_028
27093_043	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27093_043
27094_007	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27094_007
27093_018	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27093_018
27093_019	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27093_019
27093_017	2880	June 30, 2011	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27093_017

Sortie	Frame/ Flight	Date	Link
27771_003	2965	July 5, 2013	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27771_003
27771_001	2965	July 5, 2013	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27771_001
27771_004	2965	July 5, 2013	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27771_004
27771_005	2965	July 5, 2013	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/27771_005
29450_046	3089	June 30, 2015	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/29450_046
29450_045	3089	June 30, 2015	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/29450_045
29450_041	3089	June 30, 2015	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/29450_041
29450_042	3089	June 30, 2015	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/29450_042
29450_052	3089	June 30, 2015	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/29450_052
29450_051	3089	June 30, 2015	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/29450_051
29450_047	3089	June 30, 2015	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/29450_047

Sortie	Frame/ Flight	Date	Link
29450_049	3089	June 30, 2015	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/29450_049
33508_033	3250	July 4, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33508_033
33508_032	3250	July 4, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33508_032
33508_024	3250	July 4, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33508_024
33508_025	3250	July 4, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33508_025
33508_026	3250	July 4, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33508_026
33508_027	3250	July 4, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33508_027
33508_030	3250	July 4, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33508_030
33508_027	3250	July 4, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33700_027
33508_028	3250	July 4, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33508_028
33508_036	3250	July 4, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33508_036

Sortie	Frame/ Flight	Date	Link
33508_018	3250	July 4, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33508_018
33508_031	3250	July 4, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33508_031
33508_034	3250	July 4, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33508_034
33508_035	3250	July 4, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33508_035
33700_054	3256	July 12, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33700_054
33700_050	3256	July 12, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33700_050
33700_048	3256	July 12, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33700_048
33700_014	3256	July 12, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33700_014
33700_012	3256	July 12, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33700_012
33700_011	3256	July 12, 2018	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/33700_011

3.5.3 Data produced by the National LiDAR Programme was used for this assessment. The National LIDAR Programme was undertaken by the Environment Agency on behalf of the Department for Environment Food and

Rural Affairs (DEFRA) with the aim being to provide elevation data at 1m spatial resolution for all of England by the end of 2021. The LIDAR data has mainly been gathered for flood risk mapping to better understand flood risk, focusing on high-risk areas first, and places where there's the greatest need for up-to-date topographical data, such as flood plains, urban areas and the coastal zone[46].

3.5.4 For this assessment 1m spatial resolution Digital Terrain Model (DTM) has been produced from manipulating the LiDAR Point Cloud, and subsequently enhanced by implementing different visualisation techniques. Analytical Hillshading (x16), Sky View Factor (SVF), Visualisation for Archaeological Topography (VAT), Simple Local Relief model (SLRM), Laplacian Filter and VAT and Analytical Hillshading (x16) have been produced by using the software Relief Visualization Toolbox 2.2.1 and SAGA GIS.

3.5.5 Hillshading is the most common visualisation technique for archaeological purposes and is effective for the identification of earthwork features[47]. Challis[48] and Doneus[49] note that reliance on a single technique can be detrimental and stated that whilst hill shading may be the most common form of visualisation its can be the least likely to identify, in detail, archaeological remains.

3.5.6 Simple Local Relief Model (SLRM) (also known as Local Relief Models) greatly enhances the visibility of small scale, shallow topographic features[50]. Visualisation for Archaeological Topography (VAT) is a method based on the fusion of hillshade terrain, slope, positive openness, and SVF, which can enhance the visibility of archaeological remains[51].

3.5.7 Processed LiDAR Imagery for this assessment (**ES Vol 3 Figures 6-32 to 6-34 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) clearly shows the varying topography across the Scheme with the higher ridgelines running through Site A and the southern parts of Site B and C being readily apparent (**ES Vol 3 Figures 6-32 and 6-33 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**).

3.5.8 The processed LiDAR imagery also clearly shows the former locations of a pond (Asset 438) and quarry (Asset 173) in the southern part of Site A (**ES Vol 3 Figure 6-32 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**), but no other features were noted.

3.5.9 The notable features within Site B (**ES Vol 3 Figure 6-32 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) are areas of cropmarks of ridge and furrow and possible boundary banks/headlands (Assets 273 and 817 to 828) that were identified during the 2018 mapping programme and have been assigned Asset numbers, either by the HER or as part of this assessment, as well as other similar, but fainter features, in the surrounding areas that appear to correlate well with former field boundaries visible on historic OS maps (**ES Vol 3 Figure 6-21 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**).

3.5.10 In contrast few of the ridge and furrow related features recorded within Site C (the exception being a bank (Asset 937)) appear to be extant as earthworks in the data (**ES Vol 3 Figure 6-33 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**). There are some linear trends visible in the eastern part of Site C (in the vicinity of the Roman enclosure complex – Asset 707) but otherwise any trends within the area seem faint and may be related to modern agricultural activities. The ridge of high ground on which the Two bowl barrows 900m and 1000m east of Old Manor Farm scheduled monument (Asset 13) are located is clearly visible but neither the mounds themselves, nor the other nearby non-designated mounds (Asset 670), appear in the LiDAR data.

3.5.11 The processed LiDAR data for Site D (**ES Vol 3 Figure 6-33 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) includes some faint hints of linear features in the area of the recorded ditches (Asset 644) in the southern part of the Site but otherwise modern ploughing regimes dominate the data. Along the grid connection (**ES Vol 3 Figure 6-34 [EN010141/DR/6.3]**) route modern ploughing regimes are very apparent with the only visible features being banks (Assets 834 and 837 to 842) that were recorded as part of the 2018 mapping programme.

3.6 Site Walkover

3.6.1 Most of the fields comprising Sites A, B and C were visited in July 2022 and Sites A, B, C and D were visited as part of a programme of geophysical survey between November 2022 and December 2023.

Site A

3.6.2 Site A was visited in July 2022 and was comprised of 11 fields which were assigned field IDs during a previous desk-based assessment (Fields A1, A3, A4, A6, A7 and A9 to A14) and another central field (Field A5) which was also visited but is now mostly located outside the Site (see ***ES Vol 3 Figure 6-35 [EN010141/DR/6.3]***).

3.6.3 Field A12, the northernmost plot, was noted to be quite undulating with general slopes downwards from north to south and west to east (***ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]****: Plate 6.1*). No features or earthwork remains were noted during the walkover which was conducted while the field contained a crop.

3.6.4 Fields A9 to A11 (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plates 6.2 to 6.5*) were noted to generally slope down from south to north, with Field A10 noted to be slightly more undulating. No features or earthwork remains were noted during the walkover, which was conducted while the fields contained crops, apart from the south-eastern corner of Field A9 which contained an area of grass.

3.6.5 Field A13, the easternmost plot, was noted to slope gently from west to east and south to north (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.6*). No features or earthwork remains were noted during the walkover which was conducted while the field contained a crop. The landowner of the A13 plot also noted that a butchers used to be located just to the east and the area was historically used as pasture.

3.6.6 Fields A6 and A7 are located within the western part of Site A. Field A7 was noted to occupy a relatively high topographic position with slopes downwards

from east to west and south to north (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.8*). Field A6 (the westernmost plot within Site A) was noted to slope gently towards the north and north-west (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.7*). No features or earthwork remains were noted during the walkover with most of the plots being occupied by crops; the exception being a rectangular plantation in the centre of Field A7 which was comprised of mature trees of mixed species and overgrown vegetation and covered an area which included a modern corrugated metal hut and pond (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.9*).

3.6.7 Only the easternmost and southernmost edges of the plot which was walked as Field A5 have been retained within the bounds of Site A. The highest points within this field were noted to be its north-western corner and southern boundary. The features noted during the walkover of the plot included a possible mound (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.10*) which may relate to the HER and LiDAR recorded windmill mound (Asset 328), a depression which may relate to the location of an old sand pit (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.11*; Asset 174) and the former locations of trenches excavated as part of the 2013 Manor Farm, Pertenhall evaluation (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.12*, Event 555). The plot contained wild grass at the time of the survey, and it was also noted that possible linear cropmarks relating to ridge and furrow (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.13*; centred Asset 816) were visible within the south-western corner of Field A5, when viewed from Field A6 to the north-west.

3.6.8 Fields A1 and A3 are located within the southernmost parts of Site A. Field A3 was noted to be occupied by trees and old building remnants and situated on a relatively high topographic summit with the land falling in all directions (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.14*). These building remnants included the ruinous brick built remains (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.15*; Asset 737) and extant structures of the Middle Lodge Farm buildings (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.16*; Asset 736). Field A1, the southernmost field in Site A, was noted

to occupy a ridge of higher ground which generally sloped downwards in all directions, and which was fallow at the time of the survey (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.17*). The features noted within Field A1 include differential patches of what appeared to be growth in the fallow field which may be related to the five prehistoric hut circle cropmarks (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.18*; Asset 210) recorded by the HER as well as a depression in the field which may relate to the documented location of a former fishpond (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.19*; Asset 438).

3.6.9 Fields A4 and A14 are located within the south-easternmost part of Site A and bound by the existing Manor Farm Solar Farm to the east (Field A4) and north (Field A14). Field A4 was noted to be undulating, with a slope down towards the north-east and was occupied by a dead crop at the time of the survey (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.20*). No traces of the HER documented woodland (Asset 514) or rabbit warren (Asset 335) were seen. Field A14 was relatively flat with a slight slope down to the north and was in crop at the time of the survey (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.21*). No features or earthwork remains were noted during the walkover.

Site B

3.6.10 Site B was visited in July 2022 and was comprised of 31 fields which were assigned field IDs A15, C2 to C22, D1 to D7, D9 and D10. Further fields which have now been excluded from the Scheme were also visited and three of the fields which are now included within the Scheme were not accessed at the time.

3.6.11 Field A15, the westernmost field of Site B, was noted to gently slope toward the north-east and be bound to the east by the B660 and to the north by the existing Manor Farm Solar Farm (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.22*). No features or earthwork remains were

noted during the walkover which was conducted while the field contained a crop.

3.6.12 Field C2 is located between the B660 and Pertenhall Brook (Asset 869), which forms its eastern boundary. This field was noted to slope slightly downwards towards the east and south from its centrepoint and is crossed by an overhead line which passes across its western and southern boundaries on broadly north to south alignment (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.23*). No features or earthwork remains were noted during the walkover which was conducted while the field contained a crop.

3.6.13 Fields C3 to C6 and C11 to C13 are located between Pertenhall Brook (Asset 869) and an unnamed Brook in the western half of Site B. Field C3 was noted to slope down to the east at its eastern edge (to the unnamed brook) and down to the west along its western edge (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.24*), which is formed by the Pertenhall Brook (Asset 869), along which manholes were noted indicating the presence of buried services. A slightly raised area was also noted during the survey which may relate to the HER recorded enclosure cropmarks (Asset 273), with no other features noted within the field which was in crop (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.25*). Field C4 was noted to slope gently down towards its western boundary, formed by Pertenhall Brook (Asset 869), with the only potential features noted being an area of differential crop growth when viewed from an adjacent high point in Field C5 (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.26*), possibly related to a recorded area of ridge and furrow (centred Asset 817). Field C5 was noted to be on ground that generally slopes down to the west, containing a dead crop with the LiDAR recorded bank (Asset 820) not appearing to survive as a significant earthwork feature (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.27*). Field C6 was noted to be relatively flat with its eastern boundary being formed by an unnamed brook and in crop at the time of the survey. The only potential feature noted was an area of differential crop growth that does not appear to relate to any HER or LiDAR recorded features and was likely caused by natural variation (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.28*).

Fields C11 to C13 form the southernmost plots of Site B in the area located between Pertenhall Brook (Asset 869) and an unnamed brook. These fields were noted to contain recently cut crops with Field C11 being relatively flat and bound by the unnamed brook to the east (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.29*); Field C12 noted to slope down towards the north-east (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.30*) and Field C13 noted to slope down towards the north-east with a steeper slope in the northern area (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.31*). No features or earthwork remains were noted during the walkover of these fields which indicates that the LiDAR detected bank (Asset 821) does not survive as a significant upstanding feature.

3.6.14 Fields C7 to C10 are located between the unnamed brook and Green End Lane. Field C7 was noted to slope gently toward the north and had its western boundary formed by the unnamed brook (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.32*). The field was fallow and weed ridden at the time of the survey with the features noted being an animal burrow in its north-western corner; a modern storage structure on its western boundary, and elements of the LiDAR recorded banks in the area surviving as a slight rise (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.33*; Asset 822). Field C8 was noted to be woodland with a public bridleway along its southern boundary which may relate to the line of a historic routeway (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.34*; Asset 861). Fields C9 and C10 were also fallow and weed ridden at the time of the survey, with C9 noted to be relatively flat (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.35*) and C10 (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.36*) noted to slope gently down to the west and north. No features or earthwork remains were noted during the walkover of these fields which indicates the area of ridge and furrow (Asset 818) does not survive as a significant upstanding feature.

3.6.15 Fields C14 to C22 are located in the area to the west of Little Staughton and to the north of Green End and form a block in the southern part of Site B. Field C14 forms the westernmost field of this block and was noted to gently slope

down to the east and north (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.37*) with its southern edge sloping down to the south. No features or earthwork remains were noted during the walkover of this field, which was fallow at the time. Field C15, in contrast, was in crop at the time of the survey and noted to slope down to the north-east (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.38*). The only feature noted within C15 were markers for a gas pipeline running along its south-eastern edge, indicating that the sub-rectangular enclosure cropmarks (Asset 275) recorded in the centre of the field do not survive as visible earthworks. Most of Field C16 could not be accessed at the time of the survey due to being in use as a horse pasture (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.39*) with the remaining areas being fallow and recently ploughed (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.40*). Fields C17 and C18 form the rest of the northern part of the block with C17 being relatively flat and in crop (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.41*) and C18 noted to slope gently down to the east and being grassland at the time of the survey (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.42*). No features or earthwork remains were noted within these fields. Fields C19 to C22 form the easternmost part of this block in the southern part of Site B. Fields C19 and C20 were both in crop at the time of the survey and noted to slope down to the west from a ridgeline (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plates 6.43 and 6.44*). The only features noted within these two fields were markers for the route of a buried gas pipeline, running on a broadly north to south alignment through the area. Field C21 was noted to slope down towards the north and had been recently harvested at the time of the survey (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.45*). Field C22 was noted to slope to the west and east from a central ridge and generally down towards the north and was fallow and weed ridden at the time of the survey (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.46*). No features or earthwork remains were noted during the walkover of these fields which indicates the identified area of ridge and furrow (centred Asset 822) does not survive as a significant upstanding feature.

3.6.16 The remaining fields visited during the 2022 walkover survey of Site B include Fields D1 and D2, located to the north of Great Staughton Road, and Fields D3 to D7, D9 and D10 located to the east of Green End Lane.

3.6.17 Field D1 was noted to relatively flat and fallow at the time of the survey (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.47*). The features notes included some areas of west to east aligned hardstanding (possibly trenches relating to an unknown modern intervention) and a slight depression in the vicinity of former quarrying (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.48*; Asset 340). Field D2 was noted to slope down from the centre to both the west and east and was fallow at the time of the survey (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.49*) with a wooden pole overhead line running along its eastern edge. No further features or earthworks were noted in Fields D1 or D2, indicating that the recorded settlement cropmarks (Asset 274) in Field D1; a LiDAR bank in Field D2 (Asset 825); and further cropmarks areas centred just to the north of Fields D1 and D2 (Assets 235 to 237), do not survive as upstanding features.

3.6.18 Fields D3 and D10 are located just to the east of Green End Lane. Field D3 was noted to be slightly undulating but generally sloping down towards the north and west and was in crop that was being harvested at the time of the survey (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.50*). Field D10 was noted to slope down to the east and was still in crop at the time of the survey (Appendix 6-3: Plate 6.51). The LiDAR bank or boundary recorded as passing though both fields (centred Asset 823) was visible as a very degraded c.10m wide low rise (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.52*) within Field D3 but was not visible as an earthwork within Field D10.

3.6.19 Fields D4 and D5 were both noted to be in crop at the time of the survey with Field D4 noted to slope gently towards the south (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.53*) and Field D5 noted to slope gently down to the east (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.54*). The features noted within this area include overhead lines and markers for an underground gas pipeline running along the western boundary of Field D5.

No further features or earthworks were noted in Fields D4 or D5 indicating that the recorded enclosure cropmarks (Asset 218) and LiDAR bank (Asset 824) in Field D5 do not survive as upstanding features.

3.6.20 Field D9 was noted to be relatively flat and was in crop at the time of the survey (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.55*). Recent ploughing in parts of the field had exposed some areas of broken brick and historic plough marks were visible within the field in the form of raised ground and differential plant growth which may relate to a mapped area of ridge and furrow in the area (centred Asset 299). A very low rise noted during the survey appeared to relate to a LiDAR recorded bank (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.56*, Asset 828); with the LiDAR recorded bank to the north (Asset 827) not being visible during the survey.

3.6.21 Fields D6 and the northern half of Field D7 are the easternmost fields within Site B. Both fields were noted to be relatively flat with Field D6 containing weeds and wildflowers (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.57*) and Field D7 containing a dead crop at the time of the survey (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.58*). The survey identified bricks within the soil in the north-eastern corner of Field D6, which may have been related to a demolished structure (possibly related to Asset 635) or deliberately placed for hardstanding. East to west aligned linear banks were visible (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.59*) running through both fields when viewed from higher ground at the Church Of All Saints (Asset 38) to the south which seem to relate to the recorded area of ridge and furrow (Asset 826) in the area.

Site C

3.6.22 Site C was visited in July 2022 and was comprised of six fields which were assigned Field IDs E1 to E6 for the purposes of the initial RAG scoring assessment.

3.6.23 Fields E1 and E2 were noted to be relatively flat and had recently been harvested at the time of the survey (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3**

[EN010141/DR/6.2]: *Plates 6.60 and 6.61*). The landowner had indicated that a *"stone 'coffin''* was identified in the fields to the north-east of the north-eastern corner of Field E2 but it was not investigated further at the time. No further features or earthwork remains were noted during the survey of these fields indicating that the late prehistoric to Roman settlement cropmarks (centred Assets 592, 629 and 710), medieval to post-medieval ridge and furrow cropmarks (centred Assets 690, 830 and 944), and a post-medieval structure (Asset 185) recorded within these fields do not survive as upstanding earthwork features.

3.6.24 Field E3 was noted to be wooded and contained modern corrugated steel open huts (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.62*). Field E4 was noted to slope downwards towards the north and had been partially harvested at the time of the survey (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.63*). No further features or earthwork remains were noted during the survey of these fields indicating that the former site of a mill (Asset 190) and field boundary crop marks (Asset 937), recorded within its extent, do not survive as upstanding earthwork features.

3.6.25 Fields E5 and E6 were both noted to be relatively flat during the survey and with Field E5 having been recently harvested (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.64*) and Field E6 still in crop at the time of the survey (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.65*). The former location of a post-medieval farm building (Asset 184) was thought likely to have been cleared and buried beneath a modern barn building (visible in **ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]***: Plate 6.65*) with no other features or earthwork remains identified during the survey.

Site D

3.6.26 Site D was visited during the geophysical survey and is comprised of five fields (Fields 48 to 52).

3.6.27 Fields 48, 49 and 50, the southernmost fields of Site D, were noted to be relatively flat and contained a very juvenile crop at the time of the survey (**ES**

Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]: *Plates 6.66 to 6.67*). No further features or earthwork remains were noted during the survey of these fields indicating that the area of coprolite mining (Asset 674) and ditch cropmarks (Asset 644), recorded within their extents, do not survive as upstanding earthwork features.

3.6.28 Field 51, the north-eastern field of Site D, was also noted to be relatively flat and contained a crop at the time of the survey (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.68 and 6.69*). No further features or earthwork remains were noted during the survey of this field indicating that the area of bank or path (Asset 938), recorded as passing through its south-western corner, does not survive as an upstanding earthwork feature.

3.6.29 Field 52, the north-western field of Site D, was also noted to be relatively flat and contained a very juvenile crop at the time of the survey (**ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-3 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**: *Plate 6.69 and 6.70*). No further features or earthwork remains were noted during the survey of this field indicating that the area of bank or path (Asset 938), recorded within its extent, does not survive as upstanding earthwork features. The remnants of a possible moated site (Asset 407) do, however, survive as an overgrown area of woodland containing remnants of the ditch and bank.

3.7 Geophysical Survey

3.7.1 AOC Archaeology Group have undertaken Archaeological Geophysical Survey across the Site in multiple phases between November 2022 and September 2025. The Archaeological Geophysical Survey has been undertaken in accordance with approved written schemes of investigation (WSI), and this WSI has been appended to the geophysical survey report which form **ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-5 [EN010141/DR/6.2]**.

3.7.2 The non-technical summary of the **ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-5: Archaeological Geophysical Survey Report [EN010141/DR/6.2]** notes that:

'Probable and possible archaeological activity has been detected across all sections of the survey area.

Within East Park Site A there are six main foci of archaeological activity. Known from HER assets a possible farmstead with round houses (MBB22222) has been detected, and further settlement/enclosure systems, and double-ditch trackways have been identified as well.

East Park Site B contains another eight foci of archaeological activity and those most likely represent well-structured settlement systems with double ditch trackways, enclosure systems and possible funerary activity.

An extensive area of archaeological activity has been detected within the northern part of East Park Site C spreading across approximately 31ha. It reflects a well organised and advanced settlement of probable Romano-British chronology with a network of roads, internal divisions, and possible central main square. It is likely that the area was used for production activity. Additionally, a separate focus of archaeological activity has been detected in the southern part of East Park Site C.

Within East Park Site D a scattered archaeological activity was recorded in forms of settlement/ enclosure systems and possible trackways.

Multiple linear and circular anomalies and trends classified as having an 'Unclear Origin' have been detected across all sections of the survey areas and archaeological interpretations for these cannot be excluded.

Anomalies of modern and historical agricultural origin have been identified across all sections of the survey area in a form of former

mapped field boundaries, former mapped footpaths, ridge and furrow cultivation, modern ploughing trends and drains.

Anomalies associated with mineral extraction have been detected across all sections of the survey area. These are especially clear within East Park Site D where historic coprolite mining has been recorded (MCB18722).

Natural variations have been identified across all sections of the survey area and reflect changes in local geology.

The impact of modern activity on the survey data is caused by fencing and other metal objects within, and at, the perimeters of the survey area, others relate to larger pipes and services as well as above ground pylons.

In the east of the internal cabling route between Sites C and D two parallel trends of a possible archaeological origin have been detected. These may indicate a trackway associated with enclosures detected to the north in Site D.

In the southern section of the grid connection corridor two concentrations of probable archaeology have been detected. These coincide with a known later prehistoric/Romano British settlement cropmark (MBB22334) and a recorded subcircular enclosure (MBB22339). Another group of linear anomalies, on generally north-south and east-west alignments have been detected. These appear to form a series of enclosures that extend beyond the survey limits and may be associated with the recorded later prehistoric/Romano British cropmark recorded to the north (MBB22339). Parallel curving trends have been noted in the northern half of the corridor. These have been categorised as having a possible archaeological origin as they coincide with the location of recorded square and circular enclosures (MCB19079), although agricultural origins are possible[52]*.*

3.7.3 Full details of the results of the geophysical survey are contained in the geophysics report which forms **ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-5 [EN010141/DR/6.2]** The results of the survey have helped to inform the assessment of archaeological potential outlined below.

3.8 Trial trench excavation of possible Roman Settlement

3.8.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by the Applicant to undertake a limited trial trench evaluation, following consultation with HE and CHET, within the possible Roman settlement identified within the northern part of Site C by the geophysical surveys noted above. This evaluation took place in June 2024 and was undertaken to provide supporting information for a scheduling application which was submitted in late May 2024 for the extent of the Roman settlement This evaluation was comprised of four trenches, each measuring 20m x 3.6m.

3.8.2 This results of these trenches are detailed in the report for the archaeological trial trenching within Site C **ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-8: Site C Trial Trench Evaluation Interim Report [EN010141/DR/6.2]** and is summarised below.

3.8.3 The archaeological remains found during the targeted trial trenching evaluation show evidence of activity in all four trenches excavated across the Site: the majority of which likely date to the Roman period. There may be some suggestion of earlier activity pre-dating the Roman period (in Trench 4), however this was not definitive within the confines of the trenches.

3.8.4 The archaeological features comprised ditches, pits and postholes and gravel surfaces that represent roads or yard areas; it was suggested during excavation some of the ditches may be associated with beam slots or even bedding trenches for vines.

3.8.5 Provisional results of the targeted trial trench evaluation indicate the majority of the features recorded dated to the Roman period. Although the archaeological features may have been truncated, most remains were fairly well preserved with the upper levels of Roman occupation lying directly

beneath the modern ploughsoil which was up to 0.30m deep. Overall, it was considered likely that the Roman settlement indicated by the geophysics is present across the Site with fairly good preservation.

3.8.6 The results of the Site C targeted evaluation trial trenching were shared with HE and CHET and led to the decision to protect the site of the Roman small town south of Great Staughton as a scheduled monument (Asset 991 -HE List Entry Number: 1491190), which was scheduled in September 2024.

3.9 Trial trench evaluation

3.9.1 AOC Archaeology Group have also undertaken trial trench evaluation across Sites A, B, C and D within the Scheme between June 2024 and September 2025. The technical reports for the completed areas of trial trenching are included as **ES Vol 2 Appendices 6-6 to 6-9 [EN010141/DR/6.2]** with their findings summarised below.

3.9.2 As noted above in Section 2.4 there are areas of the Order Limits that have not been accessible for trial trenching prior to the submission of the DCO. These principally include the cable corridors between East Park Site B to C and East Park Site C to D and the grid connection Route as well as one field within Site B and one field within Site D.

3.9.3 On completion of the geophysical survey of these areas it is intended that a WSI for this additional trial trenching will be developed in line with the brief prepared by CHET and BBHET as is outlined in the **oAMS [EN010141/DR/7.15].**

East Park Site A

3.9.4 The trial trench evaluation of East Park Site A was carried out between July and August 2025. For the purposes of the evaluation Site A was divided into nine sub-areas (sub-areas A01-A09). A total of 185 trenches were opened and of these, 56 contained archaeological features.

3.9.5 A total of 33 trenches were excavated in sub-area A01, five contained archaeological features (Trenches 11, 13, 23, 24 and 33). In Area A01, the archaeological features were centred in the area (with exception of Trench 33) and represent the heavily truncated remains of enclosures, likely for agricultural use (of a currently unknown date). The archaeological features identified appear to largely correspond with geophysical survey anomalies (Anomalies 34a and 34d) recorded in the area.

3.9.6 A total of 21 trenches were excavated in sub-area A02, ten contained archaeological features (Trenches 35, 37, 42, 43, 45-49 and 53). The archaeological features within A02 again largely correspond with the geophysical survey anomalies (Anomalies 36a and 36b) recorded in the area. These features took the form of ditches corresponding with what appears to be a large rectangular enclosure surrounding at least three circular enclosures (there were few discrete features so potentially animal enclosure rather than settlement) currently considered likely to date to the later prehistoric period.

3.9.7 A total of nine trenches were excavated in sub-area A03, three contained archaeological features (Trenches 59, 61 and 63). The archaeological remains recorded within A03 were characterised as ditches and furrows (with the furrows being visible in the geophysical survey) and trenching that targeted linear anomalies (Anomaly 35a) at the western end of the area identified no remains.

3.9.8 A total of 11 trenches were excavated in sub-area A04, five contained archaeological features (Trenches 66 to 69 and 71). The activity identified within A04 strongly correlated with geophysical anomalies (Anomaly 38a) recorded in the area and is characterised as ditches associated with field systems or enclosure (currently of unknown date).

3.9.9 A total of 15 trenches were excavated in sub-area A05 (Trenches 75-89) and a further five trenches were excavated in sub-area A06 (Trenches 90 to 94), none of which contained any archaeological features.

3.9.10 A total of 30 trenches were excavated in sub-area A07, seven contained archaeological features (Trenches 100, 101 105, 107-109 and 118). The archaeological remains recorded within A07 were characterised as field boundaries and enclosure (currently undated), which in the centre of the area corresponded strongly with geophysical anomalies (Anomaly 39a). The picture was more mixed in the southeastern part of the area with one ditch being identified where there was no corresponding geophysical anomaly (in Trench 118) whilst the trenching that was targeted upon anomalies (Anomaly 39b) in the southeastern part of the area identified no remains.

3.9.11 A total of 38 trenches were excavated in sub-area A08, 21 contained archaeological features (Trenches 125-130, 132, 134-136, 139-146, 148,158 and 162). The archaeological remains recorded within A08 include linear ditches, pits and a curvilinear enclosure (similar to those in A02 and A07) which were located in the centre and north of the area and which correlated with the recorded geophysical anomalies (Anomalies 41a and 41b) thought to be associated with HER recorded settlement cropmarks (Asset 210). The HER recorded quarry pit (Asset 173) in the northern part of the area was also identified in the trenching. Further features were identified within the southwestern part of the area (in Trenches 158 and 162) that have no corresponding geophysical anomalies. It is thought that the archaeology is representative of late prehistoric settlement activity (though this will need to be confirmed).

3.9.12 A total of 23 trenches were excavated in sub-area A09 five contained archaeological features (Trenches 166, 167, 172, 182 and 183). The archaeology recorded in Area A09 represents low density agricultural activity in the form of boundaries and furrows spread across this area. The recorded ditches in the east of the area have correlating geophysical survey anomalies (Anomaly 31a) and may be a continuation of the enclosures recorded within B01 in Area B.

3.9.13 Overall, the evidence retrieved from the trenching suggests a landscape utilised for farming within the late prehistoric and early Roman period, in the

form of enclosures, and beyond into the post-medieval period with agricultural use of the land. There has also been evidence of settlement recorded in the form of potential hut circles and settlement enclosures, with the main concentration being present in sub-area A08, but with similar archaeology visible in sub-area A02 and sub-area A07. Further post-excavation processing will need to be undertaken to revise the interpretation of this activity and its dates.

3.9.14 The report for the archaeological trial trenching within Site A forms **ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-6: Site A Trial Trench Evaluation Interim Report [EN010141/DR/6.2]**.

East Park Site B

3.9.15 The trial trench evaluation of East Park Site B was carried between July and August 2025. Area B is divided into 31 sub-areas (sub-areas B01 to B31). A total of 460 trenches were opened across 29 of the sub-areas (an additional 32 trenches have been excavated in sub-area B28, but their results are yet to be processed, and trenching has yet to be undertaken within sub-areas B25 and B29). Of the 460 trenches opened, 112 have contained archaeological features.

3.9.16 A total of three trenches were excavated in sub-area B03 (Trenches 253, 259 and 260), three trenches were excavated in sub-area B06 (Trenches 316-318), eight trenches were excavated in sub-area B07 (Trenches 319-326), twelve trenches were excavated in sub-area B08 (Trenches 312-315 and 327-334), four trenches were excavated in sub-area B09 (Trenches 335-338), nine trenches in were excavated sub-area B10 (Trenches 339-347), three trenches were excavated in sub-area B16 (Trenches 458, 459 and 460), four trenches were excavated in sub-area B22 (Trenches 544-547), 19 trenches were excavated in sub-area B24 (Trenches 539-543 and 594-608), and six trenches were excavated in sub-area B30 (Trenches 664-669); none of which contained any archaeological remains.

3.9.17 A total of 31 trenches were excavated in sub-area B01, 11 of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 193-198, 200, 201, 207, 210 and 211). The archaeological features were spread across the area and likely represent the heavily truncated remains of agricultural use of the site in the form of enclosure ditches (which correlate with geophysical anomaly 7a) with some more discrete features being identified in the form of potential waste pits. The dating is currently unclear, but it's suggested that a late prehistoric, early Roman date is most likely.

3.9.18 A total of 36 trenches were excavated in sub-area B02, six of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 220, 223, 225, 229, 236, and 243). The recorded features include ditches and the odd pit and post hole (none of which correlate to any geophysical anomalies identified in the area) with no clear dating evidence being retrieved.

3.9.19 A total of 27 trenches were excavated in sub-area B04, five of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 266, 268, 277, 279 and 280). All but one of the trenches contained evidence of a field boundary depicted on OS mapping, whilst the other feature, a gully (in Trench 268), was also likely associated with post-medieval agriculture.

3.9.20 A total of 25 trenches were excavated in sub-area B05, three of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 290, 297 and 300). These features included isolated ditches and the odd pit which are currently interpreted as being associated with post-medieval agricultural activities.

3.9.21 A total of 28 trenches were excavated in sub-area B11, eight of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 352, 357-359, 365, 368, 370 and 371). Most of the features identified appear to correlate to field boundaries depicted on OS mapping, though it was suggested in the field that activity recorded within Trench 359 may be related to earlier prehistoric activity based on the characteristics of some intercutting pits and ditches (a lack of datable material may make this difficult to interpret further).

3.9.22 A total of 11 trenches were excavated in sub-area B12, one of which contained archaeological features (Trench 393). The recorded features appear to correlate with geophysical survey anomalies (geophysical anomaly 12a) and may represent evidence for curvilinear animal enclosures (currently undated).

3.9.23 A total of 29 trenches were excavated in sub-area B13, four of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 398, 400, 407 and 409). The archaeological remains included ditches which appear to represent enclosures (currently undated), some of which were mapped as geophysical anomalies (geophysical anomaly 10a).

3.9.24 A total of 23 trenches were excavated in sub-area B14, five of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 427, 428, 438, 445, and 449). The archaeological remains included ditches which appear to represent enclosures (currently undated), all of which were mapped as geophysical anomalies (geophysical anomalies 11a, 11b and 11c).

3.9.25 A total of eight trenches were excavated in sub-area B15, two of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 452 and 453). These features were potential post-holes of unknown date with no other nearby recorded activity.

3.9.26 A total of 20 trenches were excavated in sub-area B17, one of which contained archaeological features (Trench 478). The only feature was a potential post-hole of unknown date with no other nearby recorded activity.

3.9.27 A total of 35 trenches were excavated in sub-area B18, 16 of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 376-379, 383, 387, 482, 484, 485, 490, 492, 494-497 and 502). The north of sub-area B18 contained evidence of field boundaries depicted on OS mapping, whilst the south of the area contained a vast amount of archaeological evidence which was in keeping with what was suggested by the geophysical survey (geophysical anomalies 18a, 18b and 18c). It has been suggested this activity is representative of a Romano-British ladder settlement with many ditches present, some of which present

multiple phases of use with ditch recuts, as well as more discrete features such as pits.

3.9.28 A total of 19 trenches were excavated in sub-area B19, 11 of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 506, 507, 512-514, 516, 517, and 519-522). Further archaeological activity was recorded in high quantities, again confirming the geophysical survey results in this area (geophysical anomaly 20a). These features also included ditches and pits, but the geophysics suggest more curvilinear enclosure to be present here which may suggest a different type of settlement or occupation of this area than is present in sub-area B18.

3.9.29 A total of seven trenches were excavated in sub-area B20 (Trenches 523-529), all of which contained archaeological features. The archaeological activity recorded in sub-area B20 (which had no corresponding geophysical anomalies) may relate to peripheral activities on the outskirts of the settlement recorded in sub-area B19, though this interpretation will be dependent on dating evidence retrieved and whether the activity in sub-areas B18, B19 and B20 are contemporary, or represent a landscape utilised over multiple periods.

3.9.30 A total of 10 trenches were excavated in sub-area B21, five of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 532, 535-537 and 605). The archaeological features in this area are interpreted as being representative of low density, currently undated, agricultural activity in the form of boundaries (which broadly correlate to geophysical Anomalies 26a and 26b) and furrows.

3.9.31 A total of 46 trenches were excavated in sub-area B23, twelve of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 548, 549, 551, 554, 556, 557, 563, 567, 568 582, 587 and 588). Most of the archaeological features in this area are interpreted as being representative of low density, currently undated, agricultural activity in the form of boundaries (some of which broadly correlate to geophysical anomalies 21b and 21d) and furrows. In the south of sub-area B23, there was an area of activity in the field suggested to relate to earlier

prehistoric enclosures (which correlate with geophysical anomaly 21a) based on the characteristics of some intercutting pits and ditches, though a lack of datable material may make this difficult to interpret further.

3.9.32 A total of seven trenches were excavated in sub-area B26, one of which contained archaeological features (Trench 609). The features recorded in this area are interpreted as being representative of low density, currently undated, agricultural activity in the form of a field boundary.

3.9.33 A total of sixteen trenches were excavated in sub-area B27, nine of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 618, 619, 621 and 625-630). The archaeological features in this area are also interpreted as being representative of low density, currently undated, agricultural activity in the form of boundaries and furrows. In the southwest of sub-area B27, there is a concentration of activity (correlating with geophysical anomaly 27a) including ditches and pits of uncertain date, with one of the ditches recorded containing a fragmented human skull within its fill alongside a large mandible.

3.9.34 A total of eleven trenches were excavated in sub-area B31, five of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 673, 675, 677, 678 and 679). The features recorded in this area are interpreted as being representative of low density, currently undated, agricultural activity in the form of a field boundaries and furrows.

3.9.35 Overall, the evidence retrieved from the trenching suggests a landscape utilised within the late prehistoric, early Roman period, and beyond into the post-medieval period with agricultural use of the land. Assessment of dating material in due course should aid in defining this activity.

3.9.36 The report for the archaeological trial trenching within Site B forms **ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-7: Site B Trial Trench Evaluation Interim Report [EN010141/DR/6.2]**.

East Park Site C

3.9.37 The trial trench evaluation of East Park Site C was carried out in three phases between May 2024 and April 2025. For the purposes of the evaluation Site C was divided into four sub-areas: C01, C02, C03 and C04. A total of 175 trenches (measuring 50m x 1.80m) were opened and of these, 57 contained archaeological features.

3.9.38 A total of 30 trenches were excavated in sub-area C01, 16 of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 682, 683, 687, 689, 690, 693-699, 702, 757, 760 and 761). The trenches within C01 displayed a cluster of archaeological features which matched the linear anomalies recorded by the geophysical survey (geophysical anomalies 66a and 66b) although nine trenches that were not targeting geophysical anomalies contained archaeological features (Trenches 682, 683, 693, 695, 702, 757, 760, 761 and 687). The majority of the features in this area were ditches dating to the Roman period, with four pits also dating to this period. A large portion of the ditches correlated with the linear geophysical anomalies (geophysical anomalies 66a and 66b) which represent a series of field systems and sub-square enclosure. Medieval activity within C01 is represented by six ditches, five gullies and two pits. A series of former field boundaries correlating with a 19th century OS map were excavated in Trenches 682, 693, 694 and 689. Additionally, over 16 slots through furrows were excavated in this area. A small number of ditches and pits produced no dating evidence.

3.9.39 A total of 28 trenches were excavated in sub-area C02, eight of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 704, 705, 707, 711, 714, 716, 717 and 720). Only one of the trenches (Trench 705) that was targeting a geophysical anomaly (geophysical anomaly 65b) encountered any archaeological remains with the other features being discovered in areas that contained no correlating anomalies. The recorded features in this area included four ditches and two pits dating to the Roman period as well as a post-medieval ditch and nine undated ditches.

3.9.40 A total of eight trenches were excavated in sub-area C03, two of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 767 and 769). The recorded features included one ditch, four post holes and two pits, however none contained dating evidence.

3.9.41 A total of 109 trenches were excavated in sub-area C04, 31 of which contained archaeological features (Trenches 730, 731, 736, 747, 754, 776, 779, 792, 794,797, 798, 801-804, 806, 808, 810, 814, 819, 821-823, 830-832, 839,840, 842, 843 and 847). While the most notable archaeological remains uncovered in sub-area C04 were Roman cremation burials (within Trench 803) most archaeological features were represented by ditches and pits, with some post holes and gullies (most of which corelated to geophysical anomalies 43a, 43b, 43c and 43d). One wall foundation overlain by a stone surface was also recorded during the archaeological investigations. Eleven of the trenches contained features dating to the Roman period (Trenches 736, 797, 798, 803, 808, 821, 822, 823, 830, 831 and 832). No datable material was uncovered from the majority of the remaining features in sub-area C04, although their proximity to the Roman settlement and to trenches with Roman archaeology suggests a Roman date, although a later date cannot be entirely ruled out.

3.9.42 The recorded features within the trenches listed above included ditches gullies and pits, many of which produced finds material with most of the ceramics identified dated to the Roman period (mostly to the mid/late 1st century AD, with some indication of limited continuity into the early/mid-2nd century AD). Two of the features recorded in one of the trenches (Trench 803) contained evidence for cremated remains, providing evidence for burial practices likely associated with the Roman Town. As well as these earlier features some trenches also recorded the presence of furrows that are likely medieval or post-medieval in date and some of the excavated ditches appear to align with field boundaries recorded on late 19th century historic mapping.

3.9.43 The report for the archaeological trial trenching within Site C forms **ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-6: Site C Trial Trench Evaluation Interim Report [EN010141/DR/6.2]**.

East Park Site D

3.9.44 The trial trench evaluation of East Park Site D was carried out in one phase in August and September 2025. For the purposes of the evaluation Site D was divided into five sub-areas: D01, D02, D03, D04 and D05. A total of 117 trenches were opened across D01 and D03 to D05 (measuring 50m x 1.80m) and of these, 47 contained archaeological features. The trial trenching of sub-area D02 is yet to be undertaken.

3.9.45 A total of 36 trenches were excavated in sub-area D01 (Trenches 857 to 865 and Trenches 870-897), with three of these containing archaeological features (Trenches 861, 872 and 874).

3.9.46 A total of 18 trenches were excavated in sub-area D03 (Trenches 898 to 915), with seven of these containing archaeological features (Trenches 902, 904 to 906, 910, 912 and 913).

3.9.47 A total of 47 trenches were excavated in sub-area D04 (Trenches 919 to 965), with 27 of these containing archaeological features (Trenches 919, 922, 924-925, 927, 930, 932-933, 935-936, 938, 940-952, 957 and 964-965). A further three trenches in sub-area D04 (Trenches 928, 934 and 939) revealed archaeological features that were recorded on the pre-excavation survey but not investigated further during the evaluation (it was agreed on Site with CHET that where linear features were present within two or more trenches and appeared to correspond with the geophysical survey the features were only investigated in one trench).

3.9.48 A total of 16 trenches were excavated in sub-area D05 (Trenches 966 to 981), with seven of these containing archaeological features (Trenches 966, 968-972 and 978).

3.9.49 The archaeological remains found during the trial trenching evaluation show evidence of past activity of later prehistoric to modern date, with a focus on the later prehistoric and Roman periods. It is possible that the trial trenching uncovered remains pre-dating the Iron Age as a small assemblage of worked flint was recovered. Further post-excavation processing will need to be undertaken to revise the interpretation of this activity and its dates.

3.9.50 The report for the archaeological trial trenching within Site D forms **ES Vol 2 Appendix 6-9: Site D Trial Trench Evaluation Interim Report [EN010141/DR/6.2]**.

4.0 SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

Site A

4.1.1 The results of the geophysical survey and trial trenching undertaken to date (September 2025) within Site A have been used to identify 10 Areas of Archaeological Constraint (AACs) where there is considered to be a high potential for further remains of at least regional (Medium) importance. These remains would most likely date from the Iron Age to Roman periods (concentrated in the areas of probable settlement cropmarks and geophysical anomalies) and from the medieval and post-medieval periods (most likely relating to agricultural activities).

4.1.2 Outside these AACs there is considered to be a Low potential for archaeological remains of at least regional (Medium) importance (of any date), with the identified isolated features (outside the AACs) generally corresponding to areas of ridge and furrow and former field boundaries of post-medieval date.

4.1.3 It is, therefore, considered that there is a Low potential for archaeological remains of any date in the areas without recorded anomalies or archaeological features within Site A, though the potential for remains cannot be entirely discounted.

Site B

4.1.4 The results of the geophysical survey and trial trenching undertaken to date (September 2025, results from sub-area B28 are yet to be processed, and trenching has yet to be undertaken within sub-areas B25 and B29) within Site B have been used to identify 19 AACs where there is considered to be a high potential for further remains of at least regional (Medium) importance. These remains would most likely date from the Iron Age to Roman periods (concentrated in the areas of probable settlement cropmarks and geophysical anomalies) and from the medieval and post-medieval periods (most likely relating to agricultural activities).

4.1.5 Outside these AACs there is considered to be a Low potential for archaeological remains of at least regional (Medium) importance (of any date), with the identified isolated features (outside the AACs) generally corresponding to areas of ridge and furrow and former field boundaries of post-medieval date.

4.1.6 It is, therefore, considered that there is a Low potential for archaeological remains of any date in the areas without recorded anomalies or archaeological features within Site B, though the potential for remains cannot be entirely discounted.

Cable Corridor – Site B to Site C

4.1.7 The results of the geophysical survey within the Site B to Site C Cable Corridor have revealed anomalies that appear to be correlate with the areas of ridge and furrow ploughing (Asset 678) as well as historic field boundaries visible on OS mapping.

4.1.8 Along the Site B to Site C Cable Corridor it is assessed that there is a High potential for remains dating from the medieval and post-medieval periods (most likely relating to agricultural activities in the form of recorded areas of ridge and furrow and former field boundaries), a Medium potential for remains of Iron Age to Roman date (due to nearby recorded features) and a Low potential for remains of any other date. Further investigation, in the form of trial trenching, may further revise this assessment of potential.

Site C

4.1.9 The results of the geophysical survey and trial trenching undertaken to date (September 2025) within Site C have been used to identify five AACs where there is considered to be a high potential for further remains of at least regional (Medium) importance. These remains would most likely date from the Iron Age to Roman periods (including the Roman small town to the south of Great Staughton Scheduled Monument – Asset 991, with associated roads

and a separate smaller area of settlement to the south) and from the medieval and post-medieval periods (most likely relating to agricultural activities).

4.1.10 Outside these AACs there is considered to be a Low potential for archaeological remains of at least regional (Medium) importance (of any date), with the identified isolated features (outside the AACs) generally corresponding to areas of ridge and furrow and former field boundaries of post-medieval date.

4.1.11 It is, therefore, considered that there is a Low potential for archaeological remains of any date in the areas without recorded anomalies or archaeological features within Site C, though the potential for remains cannot be entirely discounted.

Cable Corridor - Site C to Site D

4.1.12 The results of the geophysical survey within the Site C to Site D Cable Corridor have revealed a possible archaeological feature in the form of two parallel trends (geophysical Anomaly 105a) at the eastern end of the cable corridor which may be indicative of a trackway associated with the moated site (Asset 407) or enclosures detected in the northwestern part of Site D. An unclear anomaly (which may be archaeological) has been recorded within the western part of the cable corridor in the form of a linear trend (Anomaly 105b), which does not appear to extend in to Site C to the west and may have an archaeological origin. A feature correlating with a historic field boundary visible on OS mapping has also been recorded within the western half of the cable corridor along with hints of ridge and furrow cultivation (possibly correlating to Asset 679).

4.1.13 Along the Site C to Site D Cable Corridor it is assessed that there is a High potential for remains dating from the medieval and post-medieval periods (most likely relating to agricultural activities in the form of areas of ridge and furrow and former field boundaries), a Medium potential for remains of Iron Age to Roman date (due to nearby recorded features) and a Low potential for

remains of any other date. Further investigation, in the form of trial trenching, may further revise this assessment of potential.

Site D

4.1.14 The results of the geophysical survey and trial trenching within Site D (with trenching of sub-area D02 to be completed) have been used to identify seven AACs where there is considered to be a high potential for further remains of at least regional (Medium) importance. These remains would most likely date from the Iron Age to Roman periods (largely concentrated on the areas of probable settlement cropmarks and geophysical anomalies) and from the medieval and post-medieval periods (most likely relating to agricultural activities and quarrying).

4.1.15 Outside these AACs there is considered to be a Low potential for archaeological remains of at least regional (Medium) importance (of any date), with the identified isolated features (outside the AACs) generally corresponding to areas of ridge and furrow and former field boundaries of post-medieval date.

4.1.16 It is, therefore, considered that there is a Low potential for archaeological remains of any date in the areas without recorded anomalies or archaeological features within Site D, though the potential for remains cannot be entirely discounted.

Grid Connection

4.1.17 The results of the geophysical survey within the grid connection route have revealed archaeological remains in the form of fragmentary linear trends (geophysical anomaly 113a) which suggest possible enclosures and a potential trackway that coincide with a known later prehistoric/Romano British settlement cropmark (Asset 835). Further archaeology in the form of a weak, but well-defined, circular anomaly (geophysical anomaly 115a) which coincides with a recorded subcircular enclosure cropmark (Asset 247) has been recorded towards the southern end of the grid connection route. Further

possible archaeology anomalies have been identified within the survey data. These include several linear anomalies (geophysical anomaly 114a) which appear to form a series of enclosures that may be associated with a recorded later prehistoric/Romano British cropmark (Asset 241) and a partial curving feature (geophysical anomaly 115b) which may correlate to another sub-circular cropmark (Asset 245). Parallel curving trends (geophysical anomaly 109a) have also been categorised as having a possible archaeological origin as they coincide with the location of recorded square and circular enclosures (Asset 787), although agricultural origins are possible. Further anomalies correlating to historic field boundaries and hinting at remnants of ridge and furrow cultivation were found along the entire length of the grid connection.

4.1.18 Along the grid connection it is assessed that there is a High potential for remains dating from the Iron Age to Roman period (possible settlement remains – Assets 244 to 247 and 835 as well as a documented Roman Road – Asset 408 / 706); a High potential for remains dating from the medieval and post-medieval periods (most likely relating to agricultural activities in the form areas of ridge and furrow and former field boundaries); and a Low potential for remains of any other date. Further investigation, in the form of trial trenching, may further revise this assessment of potential.

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