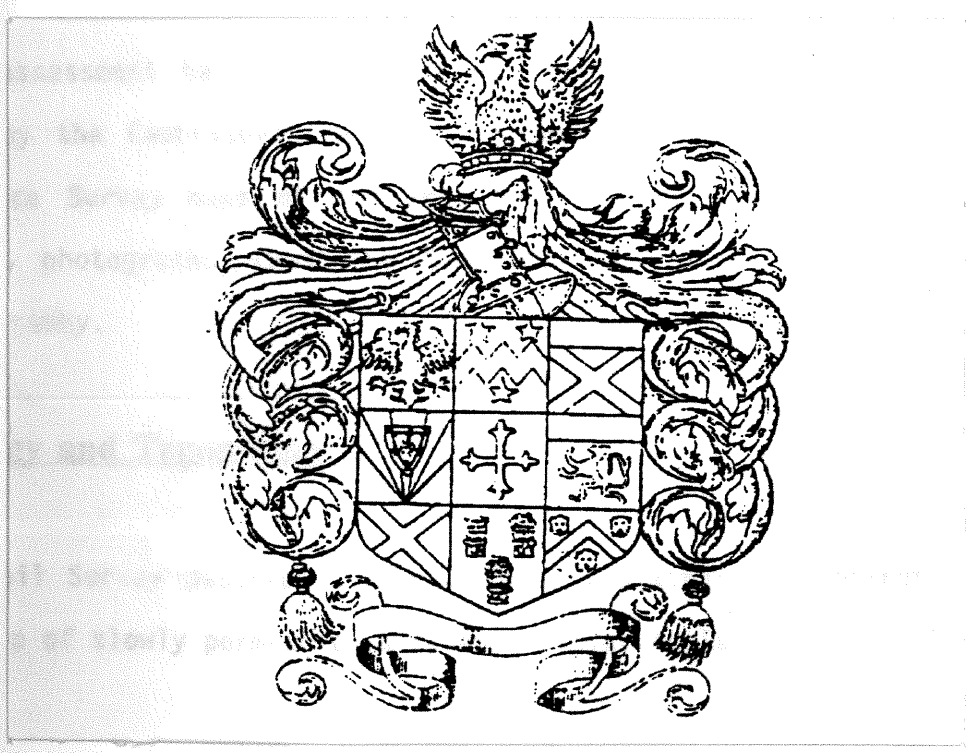


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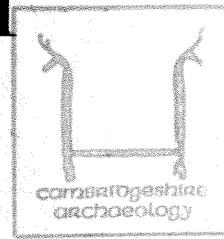
Glatton Hall and Roundhill Farms 1991



 Cambridgeshire
County Council
Rural Strategy

Glatton Hall and Roundhill Farms, Glatton 1991

by Steve Kemp



ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD OFFICE
FULBORN COMMUNITY CENTRE
HAYCIS GAP, FULBORN
CAMBRIDGE CB1 5HD Tel: 881614
(Fax 031678)

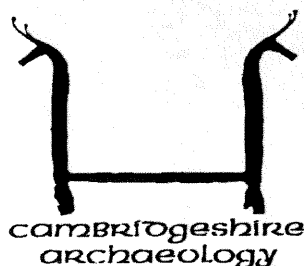
Report prepared on behalf of Marriotts (Ramsey) Ltd

Archaeology Section
Property Department
Room 303, Shire Hall
Castle Hill
Cambridge CB3 0AP
Tel. (0223) 317312



Report No 26

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The Archaeological Assessment for Glatton Hall and Roundhill Farms, Glatton.

Introduction

The village of Glatton lies to the south of Peterborough in the district of Huntingdonshire. Areas to the south and east of the village have been proposed for a change in land use, from arable and pasture to leisure purposes including country pursuits, golf course, riding, hotel etc.

The object of this assessment has been to define areas of archaeological and historical interest which will require preservation or further assessment prior to planning permission being granted.

This assessment has been carried out using the Sites and Monuments record held by the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Section, estate and Ordnance Survey maps of the area held by Huntingdon Records Office, and aerial photographs from the Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photography.

Geology and Topography

The Soil Survey describe the soils around Glatton and Conington as largely made up of slowly permeable calcareous clayey soils overlying chalky till.

The land within the parish of Glatton is undulating, rising from Holme brook in the east (12m OD), to a ridge of low hills (44m OD), from here the land falls towards the south (15m OD), rising again on the western boundary to 67m OD (VCH 1974)

Archaeological and Historical Records

The search for archaeological and historical monuments within the development area centred on the Sites and Monuments Record, aerial photographs, and maps of the area concerned.

The Sites and Monuments record

SMR. no.	NGR.	Description
01468	TL 153/852	<p>A post-medieval moat and hunting lodge. The site forms a pentagonal enclosure with a partially wet moat and an inner bank on the NE and SE faces, each about 30m long.</p> <p>N. Pevsner suggest that the earth work was probably made for a house to be built by Sir Robert Cotton in the 17th century, others believe the site has hunting "associations".</p>
01469	TL 151/857	<p>Earthworks are known to survive in this area as banks around the inside of the field. It has been suggested that these maybe the remains of a Roman marching camp.</p>
01464	TL 154/861	<p>Romano-British pottery found near the Rectory by Rev. A. Cavell; now held by Huntingdon Museum. (This collection has since been moved to the Norris Museum, St Ives)</p>

- 01463 TL 153/862
A Roman glass cinerary urn and some Roman pottery was found during excavation for building foundations.
- 01477 TL 146/857
Two ring ditches (probably Bronze Age burial sites) recognised from aerial photographs.
- 10019 Earthwork in field directly north of Glatton Hall TL 155/863, of quarries, spoil heaps, and possible house platforms.

The Sites and Monuments Record is only likely to hold a sample of the much larger total number of sites considered to exist. New sites are continually being discovered and added to the record.

Aerial Photographs

A further understanding of the archaeological remains preserved as cropmarks was sought from the Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photography.

Ref. No.

- BEH 66-68 Shows the two ring ditches (SMR 01477) with various other field works around the ditches, including ridge and furrow. These appear to be restricted to the northern side of the B660 at NGR TL146/857.
- RC8-EF A vertical photograph of the south part of Glatton. The moated site of Roundhill shows as a wooded area, with the park boundaries to the east still intact. Within the park ridge and furrow, including headlands, can be observed as cropmarks.

Ridge and furrow has also been preserved north and south of the B660 immediately to the east of Flock farm and to the east of the Hall in Hill close.

Historical records

A map search in the Huntingdon Records Office was carried out for this assessment.

The earliest map of the area is for The Manor of Glatton dated 1613 (Map 2). The map shows the moated site of Roundhills in the parish of Conington with a centrally located house. Formal gardens appear to surround the house, these are divided into quadrants delineated by a circular walkway (which is also shown on the First edition OS map dated 1824). The gardens are bounded by the moat on three sides. The main access to the site appears to have been from the west, with the trees opening out to the north and south as one approached the house.

The map also shows that the land to the south of the B660 was largely marsh and meadowland at this time, with furlongs to the north. The land immediately to the west of Hill Close, presently occupied by the Hall, would appear to be divided into a number of plots of land with houses (Map 2 sheet 1).

A lane marked on the 1613 map connects Denton Road and the current B660. Immediately to its south, close to Glatton Hall two large buildings are marked, which may be banquetting houses or other large outhouses associated with an earlier hall.

The Ordnance Survey 2" map of the area, dated 1817, defines an area immediately to the east of Roundhill as an area of enclosed land or park, and both the First edition 1/2500 and a map of the Heathcotes estate dated 1847 (Map 3) show the remnants of what may have been a circular wood within the centre of the park, demarcated by trees.

The park was described in 1867 as a small park or paddock of 46 acres, enclosed before the year 1800, and containing a herd of 80-90 fallow deer. (Shirley 1867).

Glatton was enclosed in 1820, but no records are available. Conington appears to have been enclosed by agreement with the land owner over an unknown period of time. No details of enclosure survive.

Field Visit

The field visit was designed to check details recorded on the SMR record, and the archaeological landscape features recorded by the means of aerial photography.

The land immediately to the east of the Hall has been ploughed in the past, and recently put back to grass (NGR TL 156/863). The ridge and furrow observed on the aerial photographs does not survive above ground.

To the east and south the land is presently under arable, and no other features could be observed in the standing crop.

Earthworks (SMR No 10019) were observed in a field directly to the north of the hall (NGR TL 155/863) outside of the area of application. Some of these features were quite large (20m diameter) and may represent quarries with associated spoil heaps. Some of these features may be house platforms.

The moated site at Roundhill (NGR TL 153/852) is presently wooded and under going natural regeneration. There appears to be a certain amount of management, maintaining path ways through the site and around the pond. The use of heavy machinery is causing deep rutting along these route ways.

The interior of the monument is uneven, though no brick or stone work was observed. The concentration of tall nettles within the central area of the site suggests high phosphate levels, showing the likely location of features associated with the house.

To the east the boundaries of the deer park appear to be intact (NGR TL 156/852). There is no ditch or bank, so it appears likely that the park pale was delineated by trees on three sides, and the moat on the fourth. Trees have recently been planted around the outside of the moat in this location. In time these will block the already limited view of the site.

The semi-circular clump of trees still survives within the centre of the park, and no features were observed within this area. Other trees have recently been planted around the edge of this landscape feature. Ridge and furrow observed on the aerial photographs survives as very slight earthworks, and can be seen as cropmarks within long grass.

Access could not be gained to the areas to the north of the moated site, to check on the condition of the earthworks associated with a possible Roman camp, although further earthworks were observed from the B660 road, showing that these features are not just isolated to TL 151/857.

Conclusion to the Archaeological and Historical Records

The records suggest a late medieval/early post medieval moated site with a house which was situated at Roundhill, possibly belonging to Sir Robert Cotton. During the post-medieval period, some time prior to 1800 and after the removal of the land from cultivation (late medieval or post-medieval), a deer park was created holding between 80 and 90 fallow deer. The moat and park lie largely intact, though remains of the house are no longer visible.

The Post-Medieval hall within the village of Glatton appears to be situated near to a series of earlier house plots (pre 1613). Other remains of the village may lie to the north of the Hall at NGR 155/863.

The lane and large buildings marked on the map of 1613 may also survive in this area. Further historical research and field work may be required to clarify the potential of this area.

The remainder of the area within the proposed leisure facilities appears to have passed through phases of arable and grassland between the medieval period and present day. Aerial photographs held by Cambridge University show traces of the medieval field systems visible as cropmarks.

Recommendations for further work

Management of moat and associated landscape features.

From an archaeological view point, the moat should be cleared of all dead wood and maintained in this condition. We would prefer this clearing to take place by hand, alternatively this may take place with minimal machining under the supervision of the County Council Archaeology and wildlife sections. The primary fills should remain intact.

At present the site is barely visible from the periphery of the monument, clearing of the moat may also improve the sites visual appeal.

Due to the fragile nature of the site access must be carefully managed. Discussions should be maintained with other specialists within the County Council concerning future access and management of the monument to ensure that both archaeological and nature conservation interests are recognised.

The use of the site by heavy vehicles is detrimental to the preservation of the monument. Should the present "pathways" need to be kept open they should be maintained by hand.

The parkland boundary to the east of the moat should be maintained intact. No development should take place within the area defined by the deer park boundary, unless subject to prior assessment (see below).

A valuable part of the historic landscape assemblage is the deer park. A further feature is the semi-circular wooded area within the deer park, which has been extended as an area of new woodland.

The car park and road defined in the planning application should be relocated to the north to avoid the deer park boundary.

It will be necessary to commission a more detailed historical and landscape report of the area as a means of understanding Glatton/Conington manorial sites and the deer park, including association with Sir Robert Cotton.

Archaeological Assessment

Further works carried out by professional archaeologists will be required to assess the entire area of landuse change. It is likely that new sites will be discovered during further stages of archaeological assessment. These may require preservation or further investigation.

The archaeological assessment should consist of the following elements. Initially, all arable land within the planning application for a change of use should be fieldwalked. This involves the collection of artifacts from the surface, and must be co-ordinated after the land has been ploughed but before new crop-growth is evident.

Areas of pasture, grasslands and woodland should be examined for traces of earthworks. Any such traces should be accurately surveyed. Any ground-penetrating (ie. bunkers, drains, etc) works on archaeological sites should be preceded by trial trenching (see below).

Assessment by trial trench excavation should be conducted on sites known or discovered, and on areas of pastureland, which would be affected by ground-penetrating development. This applies to areas adjacent to to Roman camp (1469) and the earthworks (10019) and back lane and buildings marked on the 1613 map, and the area proposed for a fishing lake. If possible ground-penetrating works should be sited away from those sites known or discovered; this would obviate the need for trial trench assessment.

Conclusion

A search of the Sites and Monuments Record, historical documentation and a site visit has defined areas of interest.

These include the moated site at Roundhill and the attached post-medieval deer park to the east. Conservation work is recommended to maintain these monuments before these features of the historic landscape are destroyed. Any ground disturbance within the gardens surrounding the hall will also require an archaeological assessment.

The full extent of the Roman Camp surviving as earthworks at NGR 151/857 and 150/858 requires further clarification, and development should avoid this area.

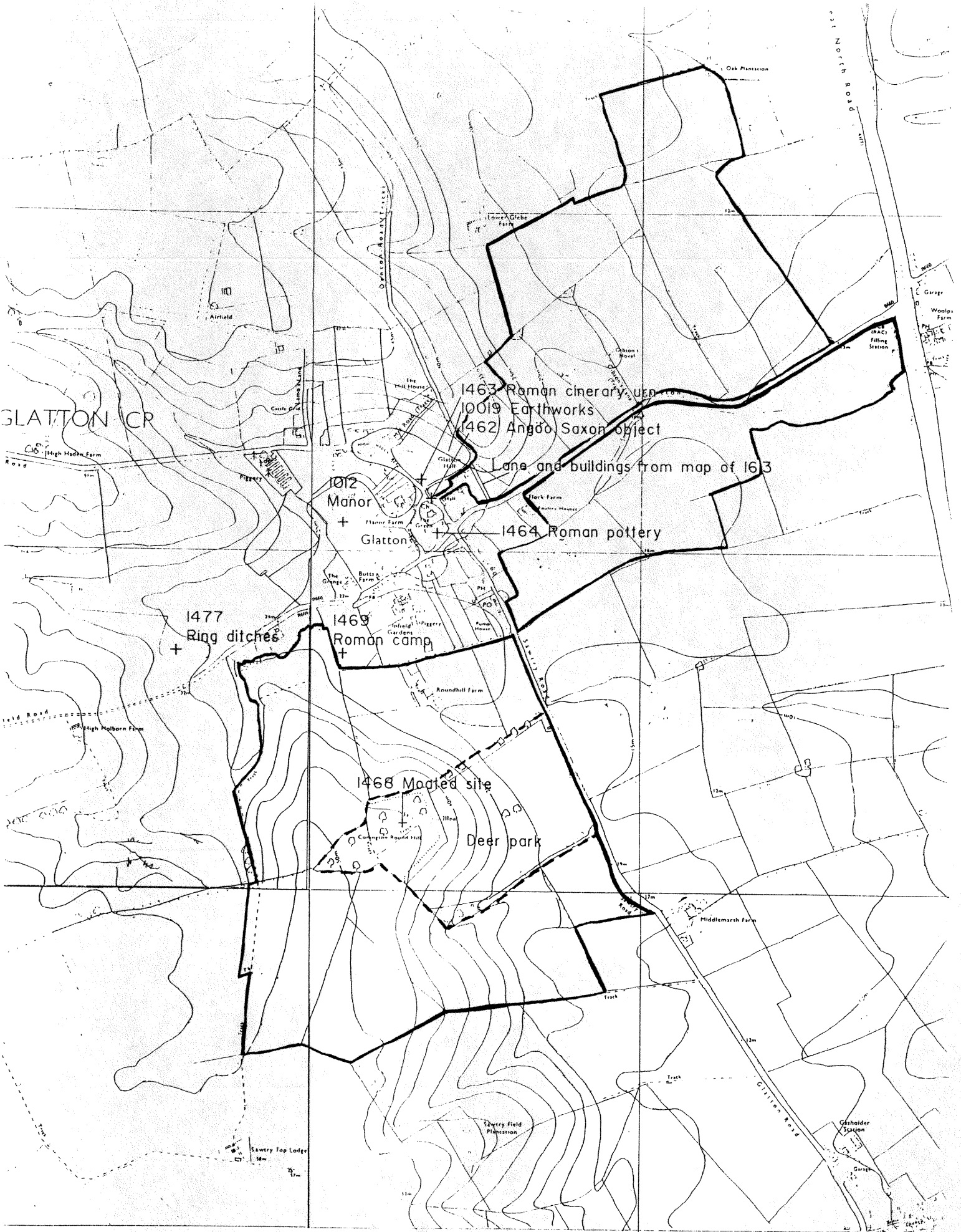
Within the remainder of the area all arable land should be field walked prior to granting of detailed consent as it is likely that other sites will be discovered. Limited trial trenching may be appropriate in areas of pasture or on other sites if they are affected by proposed development.

The assessment outlined here would allow the development of proposals to safeguard the archaeological heritage within the context of the proposed development.

Steve Kemp AIFA

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Map 1
Location Plan including recognised archaeological sites

--- boundary to Moated Site and Deer Park
 — Boundary to area of proposed land use change



SAWTBY

Map 3
Mr. J. M. Heathcotes Estate Map. 1847

Rural Management Division
Department of Property
Shire Hall
Cambridge
Tel. (0223) 317404

