# Prehistoric and Early Medieval Remains at Hi-Tech House Norwich

## Archaeological Evaluation Report

oxford archaeology east east east

March 2011

**Client: CgMs**

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Archaeological Evaluation Report

# Prehistoric and Early Medieval Remains at Hi-Tech House, Norwich

*Archaeological Evaluation*

*By Jonathan House BA*

*With contributions by Antony Dickson MA, Chris Faine BA MSc BABAO, Rachel Fosberry HNC AIFA, Paul Spoerry BTech PhD MIFA*

*Editor: Paul Spoerry BTech PhD MIFA*

*Illustrator: Andrew Corrigan BA*

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Signed: .....

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**Oxford Archaeology East,**
15 Trafalgar Way,
Bar Hill,
Cambridge,
CB23 8SQ

t: 01223 850500
f: 01223 850599
e: oaeast@thehumanjourney.net
w: http://thehumanjourney.net/oaeast

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***Summary***

*An evaluation carried out at Hi-Tech House, Norwich (TG 2328 0925) consisted of two trenches located within the proposed development area, towards its north-eastern corner close to the site frontage onto St Saviours Street and Blackfriars Street. The trenches revealed gravel deposits containing worked flints showing potential in-situ flint working and site occupation dated to the Upper Palaeolithic/Early Mesolithic. Evidence for structures and occupation were also identified dating to Late Saxon and Early Medieval periods, with successive posthole structures and a surviving floor surface.*

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was carried out by Oxford Archaeology (OA) East at the former site of Hi-Tech House (TG 2328 0925). It consisted of two 4m by 4m trenches located within the proposed development area.

1.1.2 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Ken Hamilton of Norfolk Landscape Archaeology, supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East.

1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (Department for Communities and Local Government 2010). The results will enable decisions to be made by NLA, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the Norfolk Museums Service county stores in due course.

## 1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The site is located on the gravel terrace of the River Wensum, which flows *c*.200m to the south (Fig. 1). Layers of alluvium overlie the sand and gravel terrace deposits, which are known to range from 5m-8m thick in this area, below which is capping Chalk (BGS Sheet 161; Adams 2003, 1).

## 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 A desk-based assessment (DBA) was carried out in 2003 by Northampton Archaeology (Northampton Archaeology 2003) and was included as part of an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) prepared by Suzanne Gailey of CgMs Consulting (Gailey 2010). These documents detail the archaeological and historical context of the site, the pertinent aspects of which are outlined below. An additional document of note is a report on an evaluation undertaken by the Norfolk Archaeological Unit in 2002, which comprised a single 4m x 4m trench excavated to the immediate south-west of the site to the rear of Gurney Court (Adams 2003a).

1.3.2 The site lies within the Middle Saxon settlement of *Norwic,* although few finds of this date have so far been discovered in this area. Excavations at nearby Fishergate recovered the largest group of Middle Saxon pottery, metal and bone artefacts so far recorded, that were within dumped deposits which presumably originate from nearby occupation areas (Ayers 1994). Residual Middle Saxon pottery sherds have been also found during recent evaluations at Gurney Court (Adams 2003a) and Anglia Square (Wallis 2010).

1.3.3 Also of significance is the site's location in relation to the Late Saxon or Anglo-Scandinavian defensive enclosure – a D-shaped construction to the north of the river that probably dates to the early 10th century. The western side of the enclosure has been traced to some extent by previous investigations (*e.g* Atkin *et al* 1985; Percival and Westall 2007; Wallis 2010), whilst the eastern side is less well-defined. This may conceivably be preserved in the line of Rotten Row (now Blackfriars Street) to the east

of the current site, which in turn may have incorporated a former watercourse known as the Dalymond.

1.3.4 The results of the adjacent evaluation (Adams 2003a) indicate that the area to the rear of the street frontages was open land, possibly pasture, in the medieval period and was probably relatively damp with the possibility of a nearby watercourse. By the late medieval period this marginal area was reclaimed by ground levelling and may have been utilised for tanning and possibly other craft/industrial activities.

1.3.5 Two nearby institutions of note are the site of St Paul's Hospital (founded in AD1119) to the east of Blackfriars Road and St Saviour's Church to the north-west of the site. Cartographic evidence suggests that the St Saviour's Lane frontage was built up by the late 17th century and the Blackfriars Street frontage by the 18th century, with backyards and gardens to the rear (maps [16] Thomas Cleer 1696 and [23] Thomas Kirkpatrick 1723, Frostick 2002); it is not known whether the houses had cellars. A large factory occupied most of the plot during the 20th century.

## 1.4 Acknowledgements

1.4.1 The author would like to thank CgMs for commissioning the work. Thanks are also extended to the fieldwork team, Vicky Skipper, Dave Brown, and Rachel Clarke, with further thanks to Giles Emery for metal detecting the site.

1.4.2 The author would also like to thank various visitors to the site, for their advice and valuable input: David Adams, Brian Ayers, Barry Bishop, Peter Robins and Heather Wallis. The project was managed by Paul Spoerry.

# 2 Aims and Methodology

## 2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

2.1.2 Special considerations were made to the research framework due the location of the site.

## 2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The brief required that all works were carried out in full accordance with the appropriate sections of *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (*Gurney 2003) and within IFA by-laws, standards and policies.

2.2.2 Both trenches were located in north-eastern corner of the development area close to the road frontage of St Saviours Lane, and Blackfriars Street.

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

2.2.4 The site survey was carried out by Rachel Clarke using a Leica GPS.

2.2.5 Spoil removed from the trench was metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.

2.2.6 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

2.2.7 Environmental sampling was carried out sequentially through the lower deposits, as well as from appropriate features encountered throughout the excavation.

2.2.8 The site conditions were favourable for excavation, however archaeological deposits continued below ground water level. Excavation below the water level was difficult and the gravel deposits were highly susceptible to subsidence in such conditions.

# 3 Results

## 3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 Two 4m by 4m trenches were excavated, the results are presented and described by trench, starting with the latest deposits.

## 3.2 Trench 1

3.2.1 Trench 1 was located at the northern edge of the development area, adjacent to St Saviours Lane (Figs 2-3 and 5-6, Plates 3-5 and 7). The trench was excavated to a total depth of 2.4m, encompassing relatively distinct archaeological deposits, showing multiple phases of occupation.

3.2.2 Including the modern car park surface (100), the upper 0.8m of deposits consisted of demolition material or made ground (101 and 102), with 19th- and 20th-century finds throughout. The remains of a brick wall (**103**) were observed between 0.3m to 0.8m below the modern surface. Post-medieval floor deposits and make-up layers survived from a depth of 0.8m to 1.2m (105, 106, 107 and 108, Fig. 5, section 101). Below this medieval features and deposits were observed from a depth of 1.2m, truncated in places by the post-medieval activity.

3.2.3 A series of medieval postholes were identified below the post-medieval layers (Fig. 2, plan 1a), exposed at variable levels depending on the extent of the post-medieval disturbance and truncation. Two parallel lines of postholes were distinguishable running broadly east to west and representing the remains of a structure. Occasional re-cuts of some of the postholes were also visible (Fig. 6). A robber trench (**141**) was also observed at this stratigraphic level (Fig. 5, section 130). The post holes and robber trench were cut through a made-ground deposit of mixed sand, chalk and silty gravels (210). This layer overlay a substantial floor surface, at which level all previously masked medieval postholes were visible. Measuring 0.12m in depth, the floor surface (167) comprised a mix of highly compacted chalk and sandy mortar, and was recorded at a depth of 1.55m below the modern ground surface.

3.2.4 Under the floor surface (167), a probable cultivated alluvial soil was observed (168, dark brownish grey clayey silt). A single feature (pit **171**) was sealed by this alluvial layer, and cut through a lower alluvial deposit (169, very dark brownish grey clayey silt ), which also exhibited signs of cultivation. Deposit 169 was excavated by hand in 0.1m spits, however the dating for the resulting pottery assemblage was similar throughout the deposit, with a date range of AD700 to AD1200. The earliest sherds in the assemblage consisted of a small amount of Ipswich Wares, but the majority of the assemblage were identified as early Thetford Wares. During the excavation of the spits, a probable pit **206** was recognised – no cut was visible, although a concentration of finds gave shape to a possible pit. The pit was likely to have been cut higher up in the sequence and represented a very quick excavation and reburial of waste material, mostly consisting of fish bones and some pottery.

3.2.5 Sealed beneath (169) multiple post holes were revealed (Fig. 3, plan 1c, Plates 4-5, Fig. 6, sections 116 to 128). The post hole cuts had very little variation with similar surviving depths, and slightly more variable widths, however the fills were indistinguishable, consisting of a very dark brownish grey, clayey silt. Datable material was recovered from only three of the post holes, with the fills of **186** and **191** dating between AD850 to AD1150, and **188** dating from AD1050 to AD1200.

3.2.6 A thin layer (170) was excavated by hand along with (169) but this deposit was cut by at least some of the post holes, the relationship being very unclear due to the similarity of the deposits; layer 170 was the final deposit overlying the natural gravels (174) and was dark brownish grey silty sand, with a very high proportion of the underlying gravels mixed into it, and pea grit. The frequency of finds recovered from layer 170 suggests a purposeful intervention into the gravels, rather than a leeching of silts into the underlying gravels (174).

3.2.7 Two 1m by 1m test pits were excavated into the gravel (174), located in areas identified as the least disturbed by the post holes (Fig. 3, plan 1d). The test pits were excavated in order to recover and three dimensionally record any surviving, potentially *in-situ* lithic material, as was encountered in Trench 2. The test pits recovered very little material, although a few worked flints were found (SF 10-12). Test Pit 1 was excavated to a depth 0.32m from the top of the gravels (Plate 7) and Test Pit 2 was excavated to a depth of 0.27m; the top of gravels was 0.92m OD. The excavated gravels were well sorted with loose, small angular pebbles and pea grit at the top, gradually increasing in size onto highly compacted gravelly sand.

## 3.3 Trench 2

3.3.1 Trench 2 was located to the north east of the development area fronting onto Blackfriars Street, formerly Peacock Street (Fig. 4, Plates 1-2). A similar sequence of layers was excavated within Trench 2, as was excavated in Trench 1.

3.3.2 Including the modern car park surface (110), the upper 0.9m of deposits consisted of demolition material or made ground (111 and 112, Fig. 4, plan 2a). At the base of these deposits a garden feature was observed (**115**) with associated dark organic garden soils dated to the late 18th century. These deposits overlay a homogeneous, greenish grey, sandy silt layer seen across the trench (114, 116, 136). The top of this deposit was 1.25m down from the surface (at 1.50m OD), and the base of the deposit lay 1.6m below the ground surface (at 1.20m OD).

3.3.3 The next deposit (117=134) probably equated with layer 168 in Trench 1. It was of the same character, was stratigraphically comparable, and again appeared to overlie a period of activity. A sequence of deposits forming a low mound was recorded in the north-facing section of Trench 2 (Fig. 6, section 103). It consisted of multiple lenses (118, 119 and 120) of burnt materials, partially fired clay, and mortar. These deposits were observed to thicken outside the trench while being examined for environmental sampling (Plate 2); the feature could only be excavated to the edge of the shoring. Four features were recorded also cutting from this horizon; **125**, **127**, **129**, and **132** (Fig. 4, plan 2b; Fig. 6, section 105), which were small pits dating to AD1150 to AD1250.

3.3.4 The top of the next deposit (121=137), lay at 0.95m OD (1.78m below the ground surface). This deposit is consistent with layer (169) seen in Trench 1, but here in Trench 2 there was no deposit equivalent to (170). In this trench layer 121=137 appeared to directly overlie the gravels. The ground water level was reached while excavating this deposit, although water had been running in from the east section with a constant flow a little higher up.

3.3.5 The top of the gravels (122) lay 2.05m below the surface, at 0.7m OD, and appeared to be of the same make up as observed in Trench 1, but with some visible mid greyish brown silty sand patches. This deposit was only partially excavated, however it contained 268 struck flint objects, with an obvious concentration to the south-east. The flints had a very fresh appearance, with little or no signs of abrasion; objects in the concentration were running into the section, with blades lying directly on top of each

other. Due to the conditions more detailed recording and further excavation would have been extremely difficult due to the constant water flow and the instability of the gravel itself in such conditions, so the deposit was not fully excavated, however it seems highly likely the majority, if not all, of the worked flints lay at the top of the gravels.

# 4 Discussion and Conclusions

## 4.1 Upper Palaeolithic/Early Mesolithic

4.1.1 The first tentative evidence for the potential of such remains in the Wensum valley landscape was recognised in 1985 with the excavations at Fishergate. (Ayers 1994). This potential was realised at Carrow Road (Adams 2003b) and it is likely that many similarities between Carrow Road and this site could be drawn. The trenches within the subject site suggest that the local gravels may contain areas of *in-situ* flint knapping, which may have been partially disturbed and spread by later early medieval activity.

4.1.2 Trench 2 appears to have revealed a concentration of *in-situ* worked flints, represented by a dense and consistent collection of worked lithic material. The peripheries and surrounding gravels contain a sparse spread of flints, with comparatively few lithic objects being found in Trench 1, the majority of the worked flints here being found in the overlying deposits.

4.1.3 It is likely the knapping site was chosen for its strategic and accessible position on the north bank of the Wensum, with the Dalymond tributary feeding into the Wensum to the east. The site would have then been much closer to the main body of water, on the presumption that the earlier waterways were much wider than in modern times.

## 4.2 Early Medieval

4.2.1 The site produced a small assemblage of Middle Saxon pottery, however these sherds were only found amongst later ceramics in the earliest layers overlying the gravels. A similar dating problem was previously identified at the Fishergate excavation, leaving the site with a suggestion of Middle Saxon occupation but no securely dated features relating to the period, and a similar situation exists here. The earliest stratigraphic features are post holes **176** to **202**, only three of which were were dated. The fills of **186** and **191** contained pottery assemblages dating to the period AD850 – AD1150, whilst the fills of **188** contained pottery dating to the period AD1050 – AD1200. The evidence therefore suggests a structure of Late Saxon, or early medieval date, but the similarity of the fills and adjacent deposits made the stratigraphic sequence extremely unclear. With Middle Saxon pottery present alongside Late Saxon sherds at the next horizon there is clearly potential for an earlier construction date for this structure, even if its use and disuse encompassed the following two or three centuries.

4.2.2 The layer sealing the post holes, also seen in Trench 2 had a similar date range to the post holes, but as indicated the deposit also contained Middle Saxon sherds. The mix of finds suggests long occupation and/or perhaps a period of cultivation, although no sherds later than AD1200 were recovered.

## 4.3 Medieval

4.3.1 Structural evidence continued above the alluvial deposits in Trench 1, most notably the clunch floor surface (167) and a further posthole structure. The former was probably associated with a wall (**141**), seen only as a robber trench. This structure, and the later posthole structure, suggest the street frontage of St Saviours was likely to have been well established by the 13th century, with the later posthole structure dated to the period AD1150 to AD1250 by pottery recovered from the posthole fills. No later medieval structures were observed in the sequence here, this being perhaps counter to expectations. At this level, only post-medieval structures and truncation were visible, with both trenches showing very little evidence or pottery dating later than AD1400,

even amongst the residual and unstratified finds. Only in the 18th century is significant evidence for occupation again represented. The robber cut **141** contained sherds of AD1200 to AD1400, and no other features of medieval date were seen in Trench 1.

4.3.2 No evidence for medieval structural remains was seen in Trench 2, and the only features seen appear to be closer to an early medieval date. The low mound seen in section 103 (Fig. 6), contained a lens deposit (119) dating from AD1050 to AD1250. The overlying layers (117 and 116) contained later pottery, but seemingly respecting the AD1400 cut off.

4.3.3 The archaeological evidence appears to suggest at least an absence of domestic occupation of the site in the later medieval period, with occupation or land use restricted to activity that leaves little in the way of physical archaeological remains.

## 4.4 Post-Medieval

4.4.1 The post-medieval remains should not be neglected, as they represent a time of significant social and economic changes in Norwich. Little in the way of substantial evidence for the post-medieval period was recorded here, but it cannot be ruled out for other parts of this site. The presence in Trench 2 of a 'garden wall' constructed out of decorative 18th-century brick suggests a 'designed' landscape that might have been associated with major houses fronting Magdalene Street.

## 4.5 Significance

4.5.1 The lithic assemblage from context **122** is potentially of a Upper Palaeolithic/Early Mesolithic date and is thus significant at a regional or potentially national scale (Glazebrook 1997; Brown and Glazebrook 2000). A significant quantity of Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic lithic material has been recovered as surface finds or residual material within excavated features of a later date along the river valley of the Wensum (Emery 2008). Very few sites with *in-situ* remains (occupation sites, butchery/kill sites) have been confidently identified; therefore sites of Upper Palaeolithic/Early Mesolithic date with the potential to include *in-situ* remains are likely to be of regional or potentially national importance.

4.5.2 The posthole structure seen in the base of Trench 1 is at a horizon that also appears to be present in Trench 2. Late Saxon buildings on the periphery of the known settlement of that date are perhaps only of local significance, however, their association here with unstratified Middle Saxon pottery implies that the activity sequence here, and possible the structures themselves, started in the Middle Saxon period. As no unequivocal Middle Saxon structures are so far known from Norwich (Ayers 2011), much greater significance could be attached to these remains on the basis of this possibility.

4.5.3 As indicated in the 2008 draft revision of the regional research frameworks (Medleycott and Brown 2008 – web-based publication via EAA), recent large scale excavations in Norwich, at both Greyfriars and Castle Mall, have revealed considerable evidence for Late Saxon buildings and related activities. Hi-Tech House offers a complimentary position on the periphery of the town, and in that context the apparently long sequence of building remains dating from the Late Saxon period through to the 12th or 13th centuries is unexpected and intriguing. Additionally the apparent absence of post-1400 occupation is also unexpected. With such a small sample of this landscape such observations may be misleading as interpretations of the area as a whole, and there is clear local research potential and significance here, in terms of developing an understanding of urban development and use of space in medieval Norwich.

## 4.6 Recommendations

4.6.1 Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be made by the County Archaeology Office.

# Appendix A. Context Inventory

| Context | Trench | Cut | Category | Breadth | Depth | Feature Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 100 | 1 | | layer | | 0.1 | surface (external) |
| 101 | 1 | 2 | layer | | 0.28 | demolition |
| 102 | 1 | 0 | layer | | | demolition |
| 103 | 1 | 0 | masonry | | | wall |
| 104 | 1 | 0 | layer | | 0.9 | |
| 105 | 1 | 0 | layer | | 0.08 | floor |
| 106 | 1 | 0 | layer | | 0.08 | |
| 107 | 1 | 0 | layer | | 0.2 | |
| 108 | 1 | 0 | layer | | 0.1 | |
| 109 | 1 | 0 | layer | | | |
| 110 | 2 | 0 | layer | | 0.1 | surface (external) |
| 111 | 2 | 0 | layer | | 0.4 | demolition |
| 112 | 2 | 0 | layer | | 0.8 | demolition |
| 113 | 2 | 0 | layer | | 0.5 | buried soil |
| 114 | 2 | 0 | layer | | | buried soil |
| 115 | 2 | 0 | masonry | | 0.4 | wall |
| 116 | 2 | 0 | layer | | 0.5 | buried soil |
| 117 | 2 | 0 | layer | | 0.2 | |
| 118 | 2 | 0 | layer | 0.6 | 0.04 | mortar lens |
| 119 | 2 | 0 | layer | 0.6 | 0.15 | burnt deposit |
| 120 | 2 | 0 | layer | 0.4 | 0.1 | |
| 121 | 2 | 0 | layer | | 0.2 | buried soil |
| 122 | 2 | 0 | layer | | 0.1 | buried soil |
| 125 | 2 | 125 | cut | | | pit |
| 126 | 2 | 125 | fill | | | pit |
| 127 | 2 | 127 | cut | | | pit |
| 128 | 2 | 127 | fill | | | pit |
| 129 | 2 | 129 | cut | 0.6 | 0.24 | pit |
| 130 | 2 | 129 | fill | 0.6 | 0.14 | pit |
| 131 | 2 | | fill | 0.6 | 0.2 | pit |
| 132 | 2 | 0 | cut | 0.3 | 0.56 | pit |
| 133 | 2 | 132 | fill | 0.3 | 0.56 | pit |
| 134 | 2 | 0 | layer | | 0.4 | buried soil |
| 135 | 2 | 0 | layer | | | |
| 136 | 2 | 0 | layer | | | |
| 137 | 2 | 0 | layer | | 0.2 | buried soil |
| 138 | 2 | 0 | layer | | 0.1 | |
| 139 | 1 | 139 | cut | | 0 | foundation trench |
| 140 | 1 | 0 | fill | | | foundation trench |

| Context | Trench | Cut | Category | Breadth | Depth | Feature Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 141 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.85 | 0.38 | robber trench |
| 142 | 1 | 141 | fill | 0.63 | 0.26 | robber trench |
| 143 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.38 | 0.21 | post hole |
| 144 | 1 | 143 | fill | 0.38 | 0.21 | post hole |
| 145 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.3 | 0.23 | post hole |
| 146 | 1 | 145 | fill | 0.3 | 0.25 | post hole |
| 147 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.27 | 0.14 | post hole |
| 148 | 1 | 0 | fill | 0.27 | 0.14 | post hole |
| 149 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.35 | 0.18 | post hole |
| 150 | 1 | 0 | fill | 0.35 | 0.18 | post hole |
| 151 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.26 | 0.18 | post hole |
| 152 | 1 | 151 | fill | 0.26 | 0.18 | post hole |
| 153 | 1 |  | cut | 0.2 | 0.26 | post hole |
| 154 | 1 | 153 | fill | 0.2 | 0.26 | post hole |
| 155 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.4 | 0.19 | post hole |
| 156 | 1 | 155 | fill | 0.4 | 0.19 | post hole |
| 157 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.3 | 0.15 | post hole |
| 158 | 1 | 157 | fill | 0.3 | 0.15 | post hole |
| 159 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.27 | 0.13 | post hole |
| 160 | 1 | 159 | fill | 0.27 | 0.13 | post hole |
| 161 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.23 | 0.13 | post hole |
| 162 | 1 | 161 | fill | 0.23 | 0.13 | post hole |
| 163 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.35 | 0.22 | post hole |
| 164 | 1 | 163 | fill | 0.35 | 0.22 | post hole |
| 165 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.34 | 0.21 | post hole |
| 166 | 1 | 165 | fill | 0.34 | 0.21 | post hole |
| 167 | 1 | 0 | layer |  | 0.12 | floor |
| 168 | 1 | 0 | layer |  |  | buried soil |
| 169 | 1 | 0 | layer |  |  | buried soil |
| 170 | 1 | 0 | layer |  |  | buried soil |
| 171 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.7 | 0.07 | pit |
| 172 | 1 | 171 | fill | 0.7 | 0.07 | pit |
| 174 | 1 | 0 | layer |  | 0.32 | buried soil |
| 176 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.35 | 0.18 | post hole |
| 177 | 1 | 176 | fill | 0.35 | 0.18 | post hole |
| 178 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.22 | 0.22 | post hole |
| 179 | 1 | 178 | fill | 0.22 | 0.22 | post hole |
| 180 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.33 | 0.17 | post hole |
| 181 | 1 | 180 | fill | 0.33 | 0.17 | post hole |
| 182 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.22 | 0.1 | post hole |
| 183 | 1 | 182 | fill | 0.22 | 0.1 | post hole |
| 184 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.25 | 0.15 | post hole |

| Context | Trench | Cut | Category | Breadth | Depth | Feature Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 185 | 1 | 184 | fill | 0.25 | 0.15 | post hole |
| 186 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.41 | 0.16 | post hole |
| 187 | 1 | 186 | fill | 0.41 | 0.16 | post hole |
| 188 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.21 | 0.15 | post hole |
| 189 | 1 | 0 | fill | 0.21 | 0.15 | post hole |
| 190 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.35 | 0.11 | post hole |
| 191 | 1 | 190 | fill | 0.35 | 0.11 | post hole |
| 192 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.19 | 0.14 | post hole |
| 193 | 1 | 192 | fill | 0.19 | 0.14 | post hole |
| 194 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.52 | 0.21 | post hole |
| 195 | 1 | 194 | fill | 0.52 | 0.21 | post hole |
| 196 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.2 | 0.18 | post hole |
| 197 | 1 | 196 | fill | 0.2 | 0.18 | post hole |
| 198 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.32 | 0.13 | post hole |
| 199 | 1 | 198 | fill | 0.32 | 0.13 | post hole |
| 200 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.31 | 0.14 | post hole |
| 201 | 1 | 200 | fill | 0.31 | 0.14 | post hole |
| 202 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.12 | 0.09 | post hole |
| 203 | 1 | 202 | fill | 0.12 | 0.09 | post hole |
| 204 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.31 | 0.09 | post hole |
| 205 | 1 | 204 | fill | | | post hole |
| 206 | 1 | 0 | cut | 0.45 | 0.08 | pit |
| 207 | 1 | 206 | fill | 0.45 | 0.08 | pit |
| 208 | 1 | 0 | cut | | | post hole |
| 209 | 1 | 208 | fill | | | post hole |
| 210 | 1 | 0 | layer | | | |
| 211 | 1 | 0 | layer | | | |
| 212 | 1 | | fill | | | robber trench |
| 213 | 1 | 0 | layer | | | floor |

# APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

## B.1 Lithics

*By Anthony Dickson*

### *Quantification*

B.1.1 A total of 380 struck lithics were recovered during the evaluation. Of the total, 268 are from context **122**, 7 are from context **174** (including two unstratified pieces from test pit 2), 32 are from context **170**, 38 from context **169**, 2 from context **144** and one each from contexts **130**, **152**, **164**, **192** and **210**. A further 28 were recovered as unstratified pieces (context **99999**). All the struck lithics were made of flint.

### *Assessment*

B.1.2 The lithics from contexts **130**, **144**, **152**, **164**, **169**, **192** and **210** are all residual within their depositional contexts. Taken as a whole they comprise a small assemblage dominated by unmodified flakes and chunks (Table 1).

B.1.3 The small assemblage from context **170** can also be considered as residual, however as it was recovered from a deposit interpreted as an interface between context **174** and an overlying later deposit it is likely that they were not far removed from their original depositional environment. This assemblage include mainly unmodified flakes, but also miscellaneous retouched flakes and more formal retouched pieces such as scrapers and a notch (Table 1).

B.1.4 The lithics from context **174** were recovered from a secure context and comprise a small assemblage of unmodified flakes and blades along with two miscellaneous retouched pieces (Table 1).

B.1.5 The largest collection of stratified struck lithics was recovered from context **122** (Table 1). The material is in a fresh condition and is dominated by unmodified flakes, blades and chips which can be classified as debitage produced during core reduction. That such activity took place within the excavated area or nearby is suggested by the number of chips and broken/shattered flakes and blades within the assemblage. The majority of the flakes are fairly narrow and regular in their overall form however there are several very large irregular examples (for example find 1124 which has dimensions of 84mm x 112mm x 14mm). The complete blades vary in size from c. 20mm in length up to a very large long blade which is over 180mm in length. Alongside the debitage one opposed platform core was also recorded. The maintenance of cores during reduction is also indicated by the presence of core trimming and rejuvenation flakes.

B.1.6 Beyond the debitage 25% of the context assemblage exhibits evidence for having been utilised and/or retouched. More blades (67% of the total of utilised and retouched pieces) than flakes show evidence for modification and use. Utilisation takes a variety of forms (Table 1) and includes flakes and blades with simple worn edges (pieces with consistent regular scarring on their lateral margins suggesting the scars occurred during use rather than edge damage from post depositional processes), edge use gloss, battered edges (irregular scarring along a prominent edge/ridge resulting from heavy use) and bruised edges on broad blades. The latter are representative of use during chopping and splitting activities (Barton 1998). These pieces are usually associated with long blade

assemblages dating to the Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene (Barton 1989; 1998). While the presence of two such pieces within the assemblage suggests that at least part of the assemblage could be of that date they do not adhere to the true classification of bruised blades as they are less than 120mm in length (Barton 1998). Beyond the three blades exhibiting a distinct edge use gloss associated with use, at least a further 40 pieces in the assemblage have bright spots/use gloss on one or both principle faces. It is unclear whether this phenomena is due to use wear or taphonomic processes and further work would be required to determine the processes responsible for its occurrence. Beyond the utilised pieces, intentionally modified flakes and blades are represented by a scraper, notches, awl/piercers and miscellaneous retouched flakes and blades (Table 1).

B.1.7 In terms of raw material flint is exclusively represented in the assemblage and given the the thin worn condition of the cortex on many of the pieces the majority of material was probably procured locally from gravel deposits. The colour of the raw material ranges across a variety of shades of brown and greyish/yellowish brown. It should be noted that the colour of many of the pieces relates to patination and where recent breaks have taken place the original colour of the flint can be detected and this tends to be brownish grey/dark brown. The latter observation indicates that a significant part of the assemblage has undergone patination. However, a distinctive yellowish brown material with a thin water worn cortex stands out from the rest of the raw material suggesting that the partial reduction of a nodule is represented within the assemblage.

B.1.8 When compared with Late Upper Palaeolithic/Early Mesolithic lithic assemblages the site assemblage exhibits a range of similar technological traits (Barton 1998, 159). This includes the presence of long blades and large narrow flakes and diagnostic utilised (bruised blades) and retouched pieces (awls/piercers). On that basis the assemblage can be provisionally dated to the same period. Additionally the range of debitage and the number and diversity of the utilised and retouched pieces suggests that the assemblage is representative of knapping activity and the modification and utilisation of the bi-products from such activity. With this in mind, and coupled with the fact that the assemblage is stratigraphically secure, this activity is probably insitu and may extend beyond the limits of the site area.

***Potential***

B.1.9 The River Wensum has been identified as a focal point for long blade sites (Robins and Wymer 2006). Most sites have come to light through casual surface collection of finds and very few sites have seen any controlled excavation (although see Adams 2003b). Therefore in the event of further archaeological work at Hi Tech House the site has the potential to add significantly to our knowledge and understanding of settlement activity during the Later Upper Palaeolithic/Early Mesolithic in East Anglia.

B.1.10 If further excavation of the insitu lithic bearing deposits at the site takes place then it is recommended that the 3d recording of all artefact types is undertaken by total station. This should be coupled with intensive sampling of lithic bearing deposits in order to recover smaller artefactual material. These methods should also be seen in tandem with the rigorous palaeo-environmental sampling of relevant deposits in order to place the artefactual material into a broader landscape setting. The recovery of suitable material from lithic bearing deposits for dating purposes should also be undertaken.

B.1.11 It has been noted that the lithic assemblage from context **122** is potentially of an Upper Palaeolithic/Early Mesolithic date and is thus significant at a regional and national scale

(Glazebrook 1997; Brown and Glazebrook 2000). A significant quantity of Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic lithic material has been recovered as surface finds or residual material within excavated features of a later date along the river valley of the Wensum (Emery 2008). Very few sites with i*n-situ* remains (occupation sites, butchery/kill sites) have been confidently identified; therefore sites of Upper Palaeolithic/Early Mesolithic date with the potential to include insitu remains are likely to be of regional to national importance.

B.1.12 If no further excavation takes pace at the site then it is recommended that the lithic assemblage from context **122** is the subject of detailed technological and typological analysis. The results of the analysis will form the basis of a technical lithic report.

B.1.13 The report will include illustrations of selected pieces to back up the statements made in the text.

B.1.14 It is also recommended that microwear analysis should be undertaken on a sample of lithic pieces from the assemblage. This work could answer several assemblage specific questions regrading flake and blade utilisation and site formation process: to identify the use of a range of different tool and utilised types; to confirm the high incidence of pieces provisionally identified as worn edge flakes and blades; to define the processes behind the formation of the bright spots/use gloss noted on a significant number of pieces in the assemblage.

B.1.15 The thermoluminescence (TL) dating of selected burnt lithic pieces from the assemblage should also be undertaken.

B.1.16 The results from the above work should then be abridged in a publication report for inclusion in a journal or relevant publication.

| | 122 | 130 | 144 | 152 | 164 | 169 | 170 | 174 | 192 | 210 | 99999 (unstrat) | totals |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **awl/piercer** | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | **3** |
| **blade** | 67 | | | | | 1 | 3 | 2 | | | | **73** |
| **bruised blade** | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | **2** |
| **chip** | 50 | | | | | | | | | | | **50** |
| **battered edge** | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | **3** |
| **chunk** | 2 | | | | | 7 | 2 | 1 | | | 16 | **28** |
| **core** | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | | | **3** |
| **core fragment** | | | | | | 4 | 4 | | | | | **8** |
| **core tablet** | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | **1** |
| **core trimming** | 5 | | | | | 2 | | | | | 1 | **8** |
| **flakes** | 74 | | 2 | 1 | | 16 | 12 | 2 | | 1 | 6 | **114** |
| **miscellaneous retouch** | 18 | | | | 1 | 4 | 5 | 2 | | | 3 | **33** |
| **notched** | 8 | | | | | 1 | 2 | | | | 1 | **12** |
| **scraper** | 1 | | | | | 3 | 2 | | | | | **6** |
| **use gloss** | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | **3** |
| **worn edge** | 32 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | **33** |
| **totals** | **268** | **1** | **2** | **1** | **1** | **38** | **32** | **7** | **1** | **1** | **28** | **380** |

*Table 1: Litics Assemblage*

## B.2 **Pottery**

*By Paul Spoerry*

***Introduction***

B.2.1 A total of 216 sherds of pottery weighing 1.553kg was recovered from fifteen contexts. Table 3 shows the quantification by fabric; a full catalogue can be found in the site archive and a summary is included as Appendix B2.1.

***Methodology***

B.2.2 Quantification was carried out using sherd count and sherd weight (kg). Other quantification indexes (e.g. EVES, MVE) were not calculated for this small assemblage. Fabric codes used are a combination of OA East's own series and in the case of local types those in common usage for Norfolk sites. Thetford-type ware fabrics are based on Dallas (1984), and forms on Anderson (2004). Form terminology is based on MPRG (1998). Data is held on an Access database.

***Quantification***

B.2.3 The pottery was for the most part of Late Saxon and early medieval date, but significantly for this part of Norwich, a small number of sherds of Ipswich ware were also present, albeit alongside later material.

| Period | No | Weight |
|---|---|---|
| Empot | 72 | 0.418 |
| Lmpot | 4 | 0.087 |
| Lspot | 117 | 0.808 |
| Mpot | 17 | 0.151 |
| Mspot | 6 | 0.089 |
| **Total** | **216** | **1.553** |

*Table 2: Pottery by period*

***Fabrics***

B.2.4 Table 3 indicates the amount of pottery of each fabric type present. The assemblage meets prior expectations of the periods represented in this location. It is dominated by local unglazed types, with regional glazed pottery and imports from around the North Sea also present.

*Forms*

B.2.5 The assemblage is dominated by jar type which reflects the date of the groups.

| Description | Fabric | No | Weight (kg) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Gritty Ipswich Ware | GIPS | 3 | 0.052 |
| Sandy Ipswich Ware | SIPS | 3 | 0.037 |
| *Total Middle Saxon* | | *6* | *0.089* |
| St Neots-type ware | NEOT | 1 | 0.001 |
| Thetford-type ware | THET | 116 | 0.807 |
| *Total Late Saxon* | | *117* | *0.808* |
| Early medieval sparse shelly ware | EMSS | 13 | 0.095 |
| Early medieval sandwich wares | EMSW | 10 | 0.068 |
| Early medieval ware | EMW | 48 | 0.246 |
| Pingsdorf Ware | PING | 1 | 0.009 |
| *Total early medieval* | | *72* | *0.418* |
| Local medieval unglazed | LMU | 12 | 0.090 |
| Scarborough Ware | SCAR | 1 | 0.002 |
| Unknown | UNK | 1 | 0.011 |
| Yarmouth-type shelly wares | YARg | 1 | 0.011 |
| Yarmouth-type glazed wares | YARg | 2 | 0.037 |
| *Total medieval* | | *17* | *0.151* |
| Dutch-type redwares | DUTR | 1 | 0.057 |
| Late medieval and transitional | LMT | 2 | 0.021 |
| Siegburg-type wares | SIEG | 1 | 0.009 |
| *Total late medieval* | | *4* | *0.087* |
| **Total** | | **216** | **1.553** |

*Table 3: pottery quantification by fabric*

***Provenance***

B.2.6 Ipswich ware is the expected regional type in Middle Saxon assemblages at this important settlement.

B.2.7 Thetford-type ware production sites are known only a few hundred metres away within Norwich (Atkin *et al* 1983) and thus it is no surprise that this type is dominant in the Late Saxon assemblage. Similarly early medieval wares are believed to have been produced in the City within the Castle Fee (E. Popescu, pers. comm.). The medieval assemblage is dominated by LMU; although perhaps made some miles away, this is still the key local type of the period. Regional glazed pottery is from Grimston and Yarmouth.

B.2.8 One possible fragment of Pingsdorf Ware and one of Scarborough ware are unexceptional in Norwich close to the waterfront. Similarly Dutch redwares are commonly found.

***Sampling Bias***

B.2.9 All pottery available through hand excavation has been assessed here and it is clear by the lack of later types that there is a cut-off in activity on the site as excavated, around 1500. None of the period or context groups appeared to be particularly fragmented or abraded, suggesting little re-working. Residuality exists mostly across single period boundaries only.

***Statement of Research Potential***

B.2.10 The Middle Saxon sherds are residual in Late Saxon contexts, but there may be continuity of activity here across perhaps two centuries. Thus there is potential for 8th-10th century activity here.

B.2.11 The largest group is from Context 169, which perhaps typifies the research potential of the assemblage. This contains pottery from the Middle Saxon to early medieval period (8th to 11th centuries at its widest). If occupation or deposition spanning this period is present the ceramics will not only provide key dating, but the presence of good, stratified assemblages can only enhance understanding.

***Further Work and Methods Statement***

B.2.12 None required for this assemblage.

# Appendix B2.1 : Pottery Catalogue

| Context | Fabric | No | Wt (kg) | Basic Form | Specific Form | Rim | Base | Other | Earliest Date | Latest Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 116 | lmu | 1 | 0.01 | Jar | | | | | 1050 | 1350 |
| 116 | LMU | 1 | 0.01 | Jar | | | | | 1050 | 1350 |
| 117 | lmu | 1 | 0.01 | Jug | | | | | 1050 | 1350 |
| 117 | LMU | 1 | 0.01 | Jug | | | | | 1050 | 1350 |
| 117 | THET | 1 | 0.04 | sj | AC | | y | | 825 | 1150 |
| 117 | THET | 1 | 0.04 | sj | AC | | y | | 825 | 1150 |
| 119 | emw | 3 | 0.03 | Jug | | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 119 | EMW | 3 | 0.03 | Jug | | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 119 | EMW | 3 | 0.01 | | | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 121 | sips | 1 | 0.01 | Jug | | | | | 700 | 825 |
| 121 | SIPS | 1 | 0.01 | Jug | | | | | 700 | 825 |
| 121 | THET | 1 | 0.01 | Bowl | | flanged | | | 850 | 1250 |
| 121 | THET | 1 | 0.01 | Bowl | | flanged | | | 850 | 1250 |
| 121 | THET | 2 | 0.02 | | | | | | 850 | 1250 |
| 122 | emw | 1 | 0.01 | Jug | | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 122 | EMW | 1 | 0.01 | Jug | | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 126 | THET | 2 | 0.01 | Jar | | | | | 1150 | 1250 |
| 130 | NEOT | 1 | 0.00 | | | | | | 875 | 1150 |
| 130 | NEOT | 1 | 0.00 | | | | | | 875 | 1150 |
| 130 | THET | 1 | 0.01 | | | | | | 850 | 1150 |
| 130 | YARG | 1 | 0.01 | Jug | | | | | 1200 | 1500 |
| 142 | EMW | 2 | 0.01 | Jar | | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 142 | LMT | 1 | 0.01 | Jug | | | | | 1400 | 1600 |
| 142 | LMU | 1 | 0.01 | Jar | | beaded cupped | | | 1200 | 1400 |
| 142 | LMU | 1 | 0.01 | Jug | | upright, FT | | | 1200 | 1400 |
| 142 | LMU | 1 | 0.01 | Jar | | | angled | | 1200 | 1400 |
| 142 | LMU | 1 | 0.00 | Bowl | | flanged | | | 1200 | 140 |
| 142 | SCAR | 1 | 0.00 | Jug | | | | polychrome | 12000 | 1350 |
| 142 | THET | 1 | 0.01 | | | | | | 850 | 1250 |
| 144 | EMW | 4 | 0.01 | | | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 144 | PING | 1 | 0.01 | Bowl | | | | | 1100 | 1300 |
| 144 | THET | 1 | 0.02 | | | | | | 850 | 1150 |
| 152 | THET | 2 | 0.01 | | | | | | 850 | 1150 |
| 154 | THET | 1 | 0.01 | | | | | | 850 | 1150 |
| 169 | EMSS | 7 | 0.07 | | assorted | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 169 | EMSW | 10 | 0.07 | | assorted | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 169 | EMW | 18 | 0.10 | | assorted | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 169 | EMW | 1 | 0.03 | Jar | | thin base of large jar | | | 1050 | 120 |
| 169 | EMW | 2 | 0.01 | | | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 169 | GIPS | 1 | 0.03 | Jar | | | | rilled | 700 | 825 |
| 169 | SIPS | 1 | 0.02 | | | | | | 700 | 825 |
| 169 | THET | 58 | 0.29 | Jar | assorted | | | | 850 | 1150 |
| 169 | THET | 8 | 0.07 | Jar | assorted | mostly out-turned | | | 850 | 1150 |
| 169 | THET | 2 | 0.01 | Jar | | ginger jars | | | 850 | 1150 |
| 169 | THET | 2 | 0.08 | Jar | | large SJ | | | 850 | 1150 |
| 169 | THET | 1 | 0.02 | Jar | | thick angle | | | 850 | 1150 |
| 169 | THET | 5 | 0.01 | | | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 169 | UNK | 1 | 0.01 | | | | | buff sandy | 0 | 0 |
| 170 | EMW | 5 | 0.01 | | | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 170 | EMW | 2 | 0.01 | | | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 170 | EMW | 1 | 0.01 | | | | angled | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 170 | GIPS | 2 | 0.03 | | | | | | 700 | 825 |
| 170 | SIPS | 1 | 0.01 | Jar | | out-turned | | | 700 | 825 |
| 170 | THET | 16 | 0.10 | Jar | assorted vessels | | | | 850 | 1150 |
| 172 | THET | 2 | 0.01 | | | | | | 1150 | 1250 |
| 187 | THET | 2 | 0.00 | | | | | | 850 | 1150 |
| 189 | EMW | 1 | 0.00 | | | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 191 | THET | 1 | 0.00 | | | | | | 850 | 1150 |

| Context | Fabric | No | Wt (kg) | Basic Form | Specific Form | Rim | Base | Other | Earliest Date | Latest Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 207 | EMSS | 4 | 0.02 | | | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 207 | EMW | 2 | 0.01 | | | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 207 | THET | 1 | 0.06 | | | flat base, thin | | | 850 | 1150 |
| 207 | THET | 2 | 0.00 | | | | | | 850 | 1150 |
| 207 | THET | 1 | 0.00 | | | | | | 850 | 1150 |
| 207 | YARG | 1 | 0.03 | Jug | | | | thumbed strip under y glaze | 1200 | 1400 |
| 9999 | DUTR | 1 | 0.06 | Jar | Pipkin | | | leg | 1350 | 1550 |
| 9999 | EMSS | 2 | 0.01 | | | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 9999 | EMW | 3 | 0.02 | | | | | | 1050 | 1200 |
| 9999 | LMT | 1 | 0.01 | Bowl | | | | int gl | 1400 | 1600 |
| 9999 | LMU | 4 | 0.03 | | | | | bs | 1200 | 1400 |
| 9999 | LMU | 1 | 0.01 | Jug | | upright | | | 1200 | 1400 |
| 9999 | LMU | 1 | 0.01 | Jar | | out-turned | | | 1200 | 1400 |
| 9999 | SIEG | 1 | 0.01 | Jug | | | | | 1350 | 1550 |
| 9999 | THET | 1 | 0.02 | Jar | storage jar | | | | 850 | 1150 |
| 9999 | THET | 2 | 0.01 | | | | | | 850 | 1150 |
| 9999 | YAR | 1 | 0.01 | | | | | | 1000 | 1200 |

# APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

## C.1 Faunal Remains

*By Chris Faine*

### *Introduction*

C.1.1 A total of 2.3kg of animal bone was recovered from the excavations at Hi-Tech House, consisting of 86 fragments (60 of these being identifiable to species). All bones were collected by hand apart from those recovered from environmental samples; hence a bias towards smaller fragments is to be expected. Faunal material was recovered from pit fills and layers dating from the medieval to post-medieval periods.

### *Methodology*

C.1.2 Bones were recorded using a version of the criteria described in Davis (1992) and Albarella & Davis (1994). Initially all elements were assessed in terms of siding (where appropriate), completeness, tooth wear stages (also where applicable) and epiphyseal fusion. Completeness was assessed in terms of percentage and zones present (after Dobney & Reilly 1988). Initially the whole identifiable assemblage was quantified in terms of number of individual fragments (NISP) and minimum numbers of individuals MNI (see Table 4). The ageing of the population was largely achieved by examining the wear stages of cheek teeth of cattle, sheep/goat and pig (after Grant 1982). Wear stages were recorded for lower molars of cattle, sheep/goat and pig, both isolated and in mandibles.

### *The Assemblage*

C.1.3 Table 4 shows the species distribution for the assemblage in terms of identifiable fragments (NISP) and number of individuals (MNI). The assemblage is dominated by domestic mammals with cattle being being the most prevalent domestic taxon (28.3% of the total sample) along with smaller numbers of sheep/goat and pig remains. Other mammal remains are rare, consisting of single fragments of dog and cat respectively. Cattle remains consist largely of lower limb elements along with loose teeth and vertebral fragments. Several long bone and vertebral fragments show evidence of longitudinal chops. Although scarce, sheep and pig remains show similar body part distributions i.e. lower limb elements. A relatively large number of fish remains (NISP: 26) were recovered from contexts **170** and **207**. These consisted largely of cod thoracic vertebrae and cranial elements from at least two individuals along with two herring vertebrae. Frog remains were also recovered from context **130**.

### *Conclusion*

C.1.4 The proportions of the domestic mammals is similar to those seen at other similarly sized assemblages such as Music House Lane (Wallis 2007) and St Benedict's Street (Clarke, 2006). The body part distribution (i.e. non-meat bearing elements) and types of contexts in which the material was found suggests general occupation/butchery waste rather than food remains. The longitudinal butchery marks seen on the vertebrae are indicative of carcasses being processed strung up rather than laid on a flat surface. Herring and cod were the two main commercial species caught off the East Anglian coast, with herring fishing being documented as early as the 5th century (Albarella *et al*, 2009). Cod were caught year round both inshore and in deeper waters, with herring

being caught seasonally in the autumn. Herring was of particular importance during the medieval period as a protein source, even being taken as symbolic rent in the form of pie (Wilson 1973). The presence of cranial elements suggests the presence of whole fish rather than preserved specimens.

| | NISP | NISP % | MNI | MNI % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cattle (*Bos*) | 17 | 25.8 | 4 | 16.4 |
| Sheep/Goat (*Ovis/Capra*) | 7 | 10.6 | 2 | 8.3 |
| Pig (*Sus scrofa*) | 3 | 4.5 | 2 | 8.3 |
| Dog (*Canis familiaris*) | 1 | 1.6 | 1 | 4.2 |
| Cat (*Felis sylvestris*) | 1 | 1.6 | 1 | 4.2 |
| Rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) | 1 | 1.6 | 1 | 4.2 |
| Domestic Duck (*Anser sp.*) | 2 | 3 | 2 | 8.3 |
| Domestic Fowl (*Gallus sp.*) | 1 | 1.5 | 1 | 4.2 |
| Cod (*Gadus morhua*) | 24 | 36 | 5 | 21 |
| Herring (*Clupea harengus*) | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4.2 |
| Common Frog (*Rana temporaria*) | 5 | 7.6 | 2 | 8.3 |
| Unid. Fish | 1 | 1.6 | 1 | 4.2 |
| Unid. Bird | 1 | 1.6 | 1 | 4.2 |
| **Total:** | **66** | **100** | **24** | **100** |

*Table 4: Species distribution for the assemblage*

## C.2 Environmental

*By Rachel Fosberry*

***Introduction and Methods***

C.2.1 Seventeen bulk samples were taken from features within the excavated areas of the site in order to assess the their archaeobotanical potential. Features sampled include early medieval and Mesolithic deposits within Trench 2 and post holes from a late Saxon/early medieval structure in Trench 1.

C.2.2 At least ten litres of each sample were processed by tank flotation for the recovery of charred plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The flot was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through a 0.5mm sieve. Both flot and residue were allowed to air dry. The dried residue was passed through 5mm and 2mm sieves and a magnet was dragged through each resulting fraction prior to sorting for artefacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds. The flot was examined under a binocular microscope at x16 magnification and the presence of any plant remains or other artefacts are noted on Table 5. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands* (Cappers *et al* 2006) and the authors' own reference collection.

C.2.3 The full volume (up to 80 litres) of the bulk samples from the Mesolithic layer were processed and sorted for the retrieval of flints.

***Quantification***

C.2.4 For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as seeds, cereal grains and small animal bones have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories: # = 1-10, ## = 11-50, ### = 51+ specimens.

C.2.5 Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal, magnetic residues and fragmented bone have been scored for abundance: + = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant.

***Results***

C.2.6 The results are recorded on Table 5.

C.2.7 Preservation is predominantly by charring and is generally poor. Charcoal occurs in all of the samples and is abundant in some. Sample 4, fill 130 of feature **129** Is preserved by waterlogging (survival due to anoxic conditions). Seeds of elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) occur in most of the samples and appear to be contemporary with the deposits. Elderberry seeds have an extremely tough outer coat (testa) that is quite resistant to decomposition.

C.2.8 Charred plant remains are relatively sparse. Cereal grains occur in low numbers, most often as single specimens and include barley (*Hordeum* sp.), wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and rye (*Secale cereale*). Other possible crop remains include a single cotyledon fragment of pea (*Pisum /Lathyrus sp.*). Charred weed seeds are extremely rare and are restricted to a single seed of rye-grass (*Lolium* sp.). Fragments of hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell were noted in Sample 1, layer 119.

C.2.9 Waterlogged plant remains from Sample 4, fill 130 include seeds of plants commonly found on wasteland and nitrogen-rich soils such elderberry, bramble (*Rubus* sp.), fig-leaved goosefoot (*Chenpodium ficifolium*), dead nettle (*Lamium* sp.), stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*). Sample 4 also has good preservation of insects including woodlouse (*Oniscus* sp.) and small beetles.

C.2.10 No plant remains other than sparse charcoal was recovered from the samples from the Mesolithic layers.

C.2.11 Numerous small bones including amphibian and fish bones were retrieved from the Late Saxon/early medieval samples.

***Discussion***

C.2.12 The plant assemblage from Trench 1 consists of sparse charred plant remains representing discarded cereal grains together with other dietary refuse if the form of fish bones.

C.2.13 The charred plant assemblage from the Late Saxon/early medieval structure in Trench 2 comprises of occasional cereal grains and a single pea that had accumulated in the post holes.

C.2.14 The waterlogged plant remains in Sample 4, organic deposit 130, provide a limited insight into the type of vegetation that would have been growing around this feature.

***Conclusions and Recommendations***

C.2.15 The environmental samples from excavations at Hi Tech House have produced limited evidence of the disposal of dietary refuse. No further work is recommended on this assemblage. The charred and waterlogged plant remains indicates that there is

potential for the recovery of archaeobotanical material. If further excavations are planned for this area, it is recommended that a schedule for environmental sampling should be appended to the updated project design.

C.2.16 The recovery of hammerscale and slag from the Saxon cultivation layer suggests that blacksmithing activities were taking place in the near vicinity. If further excavations are planned, specific sampling for the recovery of metalworking residues should be included.

| Sample No. | Context No. | Cut No. | Feature Type | Trench | Sample Size (L) | Comments | Flot Volume (ml) | Cereals | Chaff | Legumes | Charred Weed Seeds | untransformed Seeds | waterlogged seeds | Snails from flot | Fish Bones | Charcoal <2 mm | Charcoal > 2mm | Hammerscale | Small animal bones | Large animal bones | Fishbone | Pottery | Slag | Burnt flint | Flint debitage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 119 | | | 2 | 20 | layered deposit with charcoal, daub, mortar | 50 | # | 0 | 0 | # | ## | 0 | 0 | # | +++ | + | 0 | # | 0 | 0 | # | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | 122 | | | 2 | 20 | palaeolithic/mesolithic flint working deposit – sort for debitage | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ++ | + | 0 | # | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ### |
| 3 | 121 | | | 2 | 20 | dark grey stoney layer – no dating | 10 | # | 0 | 0 | 0 | ## | 0 | 0 | # | +++ | + | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | # | 0 | # | # |
| 4 | 130 | | | 2 | 20 | organic deposit with wood inclusions, shell and bone | 50 | # | 0 | 0 | 0 | ## | ## | 0 | 0 | + | + | 0 | # | ## | ## | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 | 167 | | floor | 1 | 20 | medieval floor surface | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | # | 0 | 0 | # | + | 0 | 0 | # | 0 | # | # | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 6 | 172 | 171 | post hole | 2 | | possible posthole fill. No excavated finds | 20 | # | 0 | 0 | 0 | # | 0 | 0 | ## | +++ | + | + | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 7 | 122 | | layer | 2 | 10 | spoil from a pile of flints – possible working spot – look for debitage – cf <2> | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ++ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | # | ### |
| 8 | 126 | 125 | pit | 2 | 10 | small pit cutting Saxon cultivation soil. Only dated stratigraphically. | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | # | 0 | 0 | 0 | + | + | + | # | ## | # | # | 0 | # | # |
| 9 | 152 | 152 | post hole | 1 | 10 | one of a series of post holes forming structure | 10 | # | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ## | +++ | + | + | # | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 10 | 169 | 169 | layer | 1 | 20 | Saxon cultivation soil | 20 | # | 0 | 0 | 0 | ## | 0 | 0 | ## | +++ | + | ++ | ## | # | 0 | # | # | 0 | 0 |
| 11 | 170 | | layer | 1 | 20 | interface between Saxon 169 and mesolithic layer 174 | 10 | # | 0 | 0 | 0 | ## | 0 | 0 | # | +++ | ++ | + | 0 | 0 | 0 | # | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 12 | 189 | 188 | post hole | 1 | 10 | ? Saxon post hole | 2 | # | 0 | # | 0 | # | 0 | 0 | # | +++ | + | 0 | 0 | 0 | # | # | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 13 | 179 | 178 | post hole | 1 | 10 | ? Saxon post hole | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ++ | + | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 14 | 177 | 176 | post hole | 1 | 10 | ? Saxon post hole | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | +++ | + | + | # | # | 0 | # | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 16 | 187 | 186 | post hole | 1 | 10 | poss mid-Saxon posthole | 1 | # | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ++ | ++ | 0 | # | 0 | # | # | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 17 | 191 | 190 | post hole | 1 | 5 | poss mid-Saxon posthole | 2 | # | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ## | ++ | + | + | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 18 | 207 | 206 | layer | 1 | 10 | concentration of animal bones in frontage layer | 10 | # | 0 | 0 | # | # | 0 | 0 | ### | ++ | + | + | # | 0 | ## | # | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 19 | 174 | | layer | 1 | | Test pit 1 – in mesolithic area | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 20 | 174 | | layer | 1 | | Test pit 2 – in mesolithic area | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

*Table 5. Results for plant macrofossils and other remains*

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# APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

## *Project Details*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OASIS Number | oxfordar3-95313 | | |
| Project Name | Early Medieval and Pre-Historic remains at Hi-Tech House | | |
| Project Dates (fieldwork) Start | 31-01-2011 | Finish | 14-02-2011 |
| Previous Work (by OA East) | No | Future Work | Unknown |

**Project Reference Codes**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Site Code | XNFHTH10 | Planning App. No. | 10/00907/F |
| HER No. | ENF125580 | Related HER/OASIS No. | |

**Type of Project/Techniques Used**

| | |
|---|---|
| Prompt | Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS 5 |
| Development Type | Urban Residential |

***Please select all techniques used:***

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

**Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods**

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

| Monument | Period | Object | Period |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lithic working site | Mesolithic -10k to -4k | Lithic implement | Mesolithic -10k to -4k |
| Post Holes | Early Medieval 410 to 1066 | Ceramics | Early Medieval 410 to 1066 |
| | Select period... | | Select period... |

## *Project Location*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| County | Norfolk | Site Address (including postcode if possible) | |
| District | Norwich | St Saviors Lane,<br>Norwich,]<br>NR3 1LQ | |
| Parish | Norwich | | |
| HER | NLA | | |
| Study Area | 3300m2 | National Grid Reference | TG 2328 0925 |

## Project Originators

| | |
|---|---|
| Organisation | OA EAST |
| Project Brief Originator | Ken Hamilton (NLA) |
| Project Design Originator | Paul Speorry |
| Project Manager | Paul Spoerry |
| Supervisor | Jonathan House |

## Project Archives

| Physical Archive | Digital Archive | Paper Archive |
|---|---|---|
| NMAS | OA East (Bar Hill) | OA East (Bar Hill) |
| ENF125580 | ENF125580 | ENF125580 |

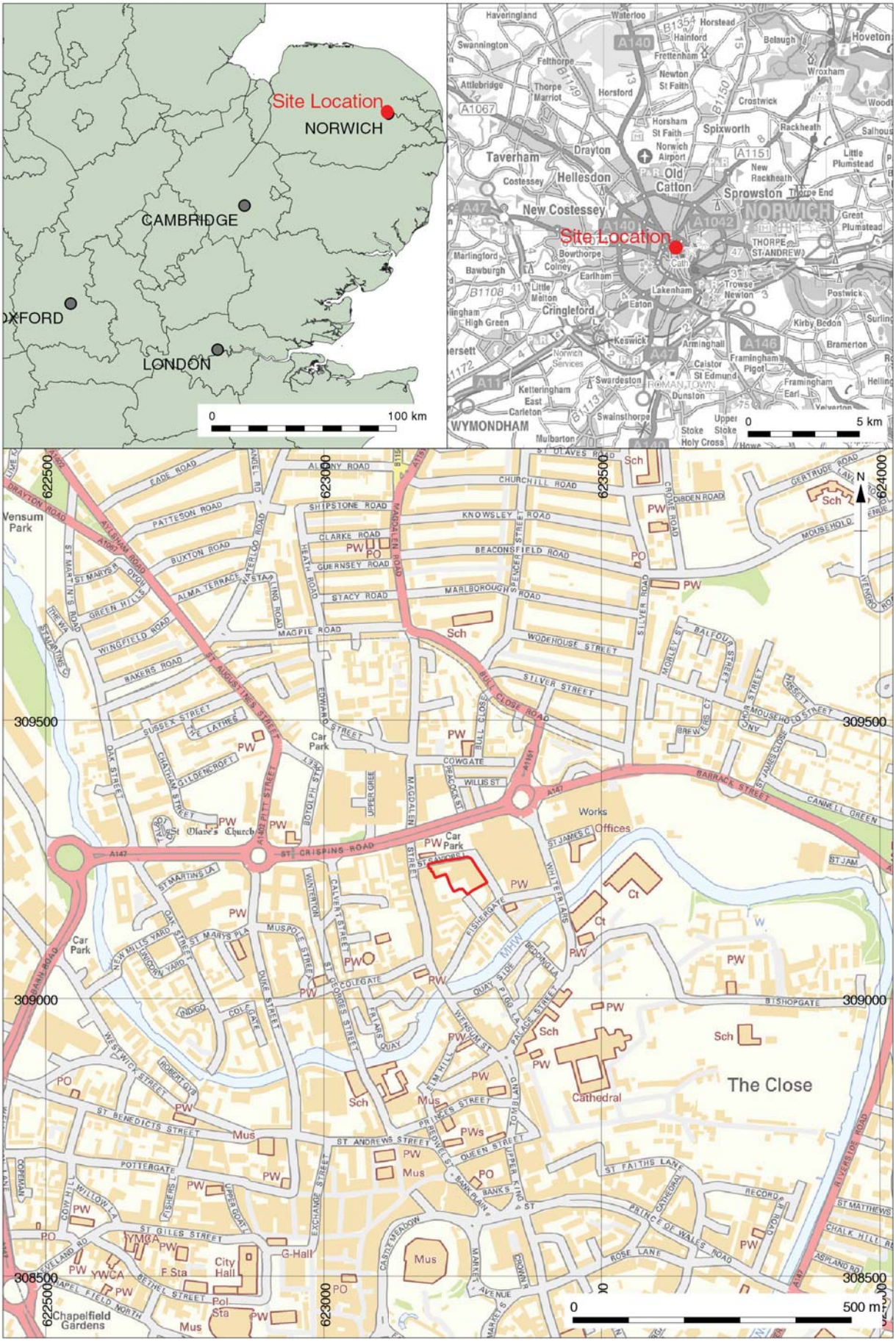
### Archive Contents/Media

| | Physical Contents | Digital Contents | Paper Contents |
|---|---|---|---|
| Animal Bones | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Ceramics | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Environmental | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Glass | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Human Bones | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Industrial | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Leather | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Metal | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Stratigraphic | | ☐ | ☐ |
| Survey | | ☐ | ☐ |
| Textiles | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Wood | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Worked Bone | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Worked Stone/Lithic | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ |
| None | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Other | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

| Digital Media | | Paper Media |
|---|---|---|
| ☒ Database | ☐ Aerial Photos | |
| ☐ GIS | ☒ Context Sheet | |
| ☐ Geophysics | ☐ Correspondence | |
| ☒ Images | ☐ Diary | |
| ☒ Illustrations | ☒ Drawing | |
| ☐ Moving Image | ☐ Manuscript | |
| ☐ Spreadsheets | ☐ Map | |
| ☒ Survey | ☐ Matrices | |
| ☒ Text | ☐ Microfilm | |
| ☐ Virtual Reality | ☐ Misc. | |
| | ☐ Research/Notes | |
| | ☒ Photos | |
| | ☒ Plans | |
| | ☒ Report | |
| | ☒ Sections | |
| | ☐ Survey | |

**Notes:**

The trenches revealed gravel deposits containing worked flints showing potential insitu flint working and site occupation dated to the Upper Palaeolithic/Early Mesolithic. Evidence for structures and occupation were also identified dating to Late Saxon and Early Medieval, with successive posthole structures and a surviving floor surface.




*Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2011*

Figure 1: Site location with development area outlined red

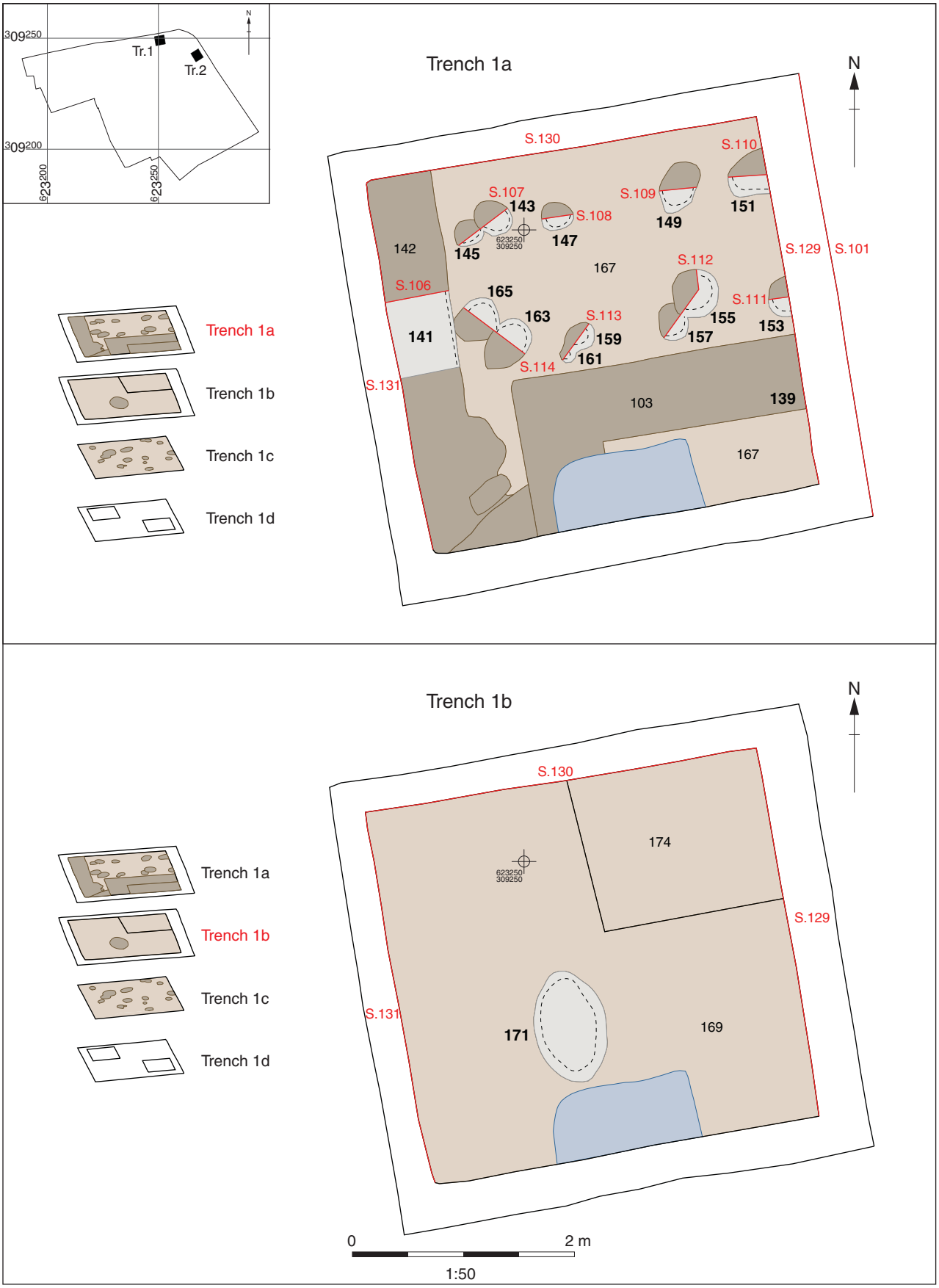



*Figure 2: Trench 1, plans 1a and 1b*

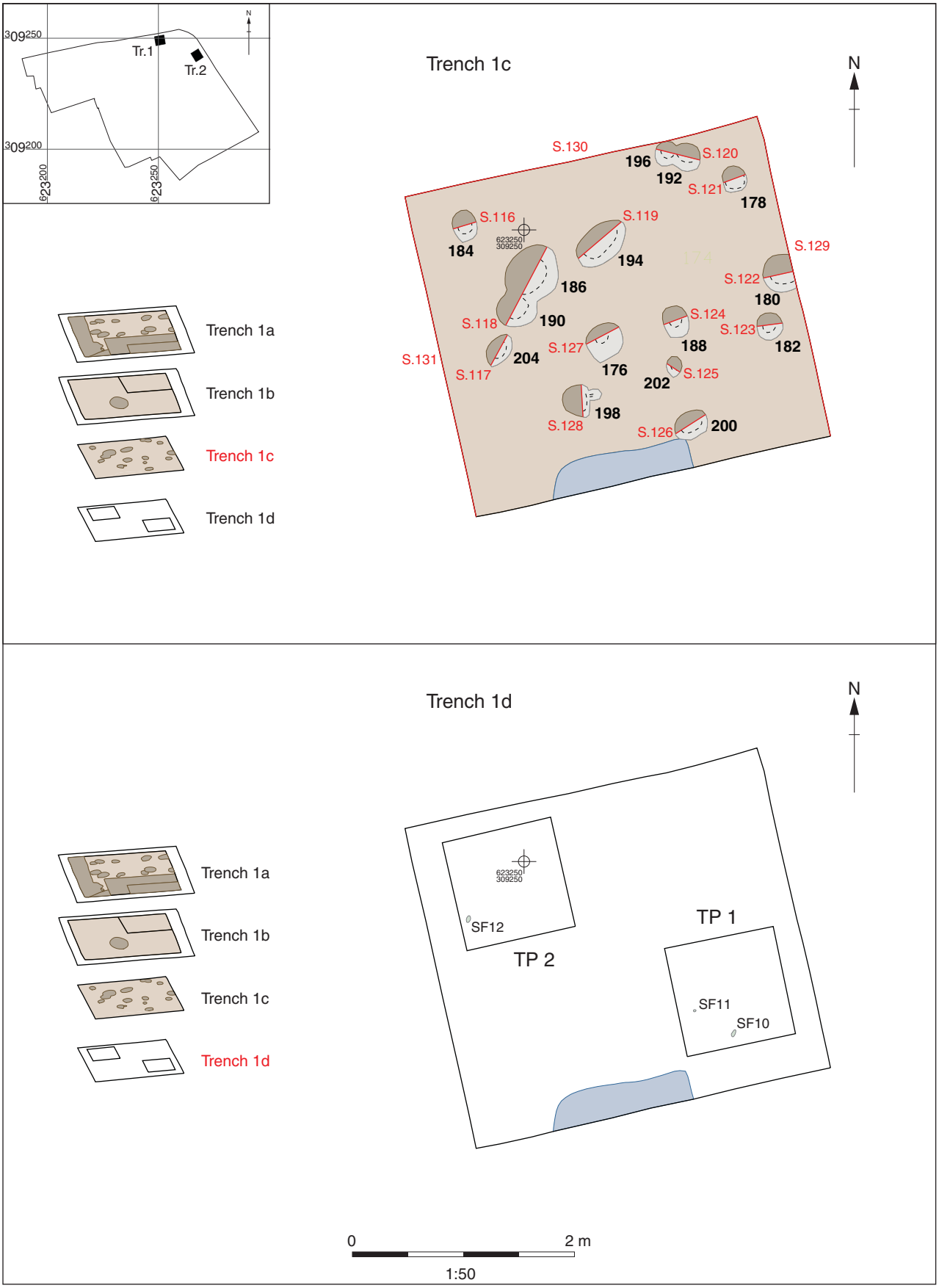



*Figure 3: Trench 1, plans 1c and 1d*


*Figure 4: Trench 2, plans 2a and 2b*

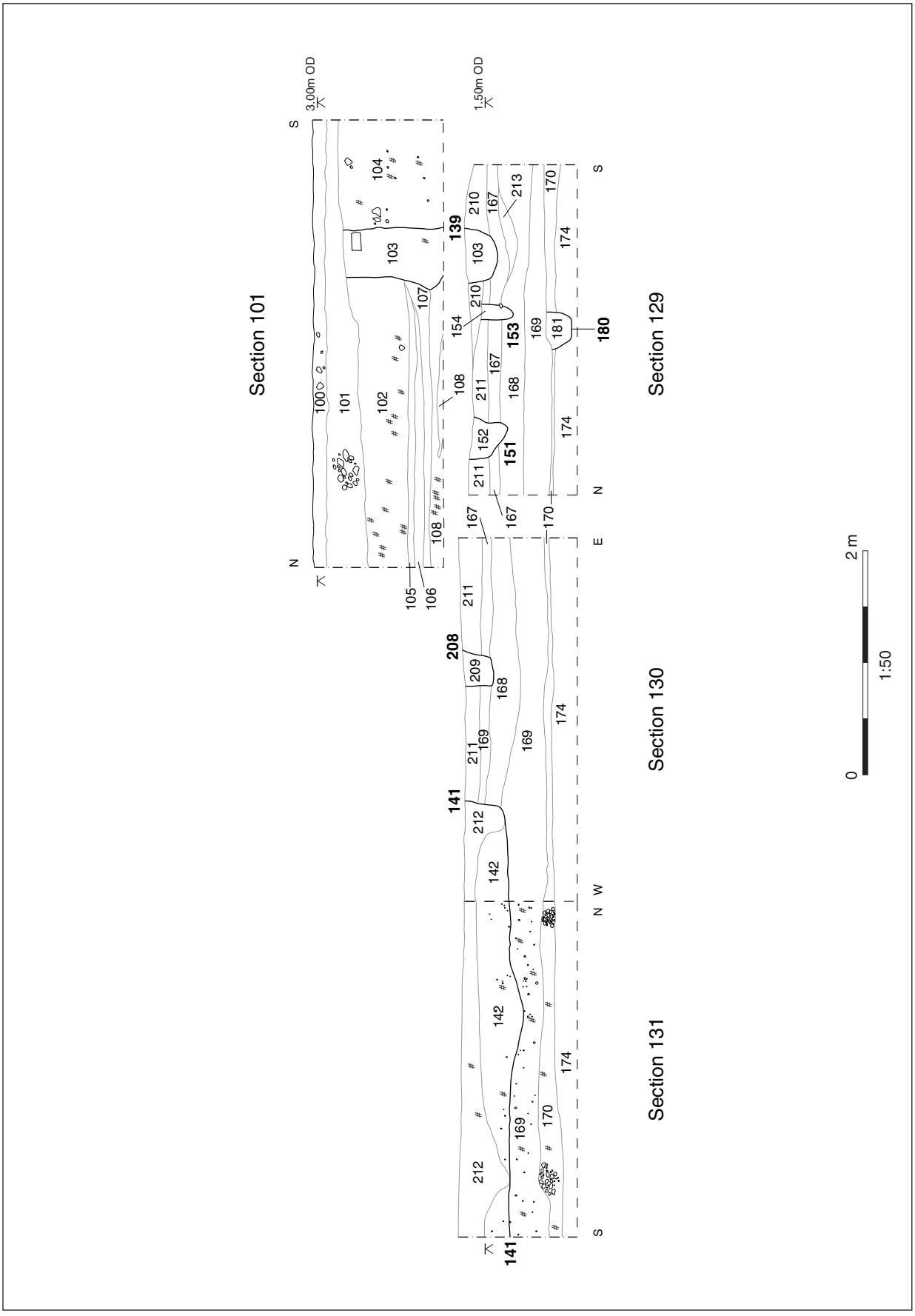
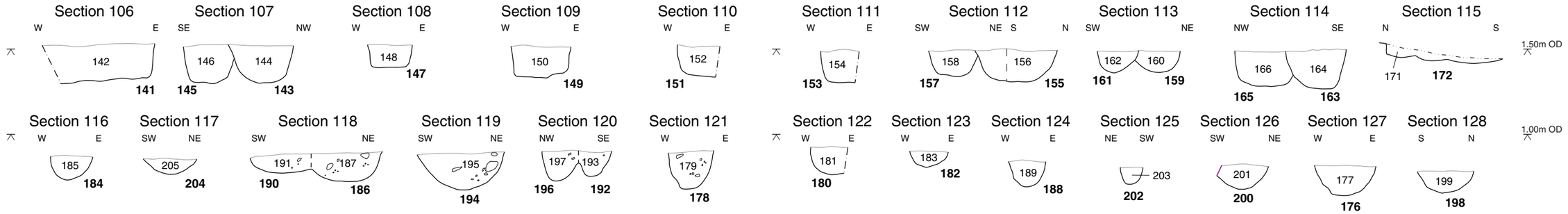



*Figure 5: Trench sections, Trench 1*

## Trench 1 Sections




## Trench 2 Sections

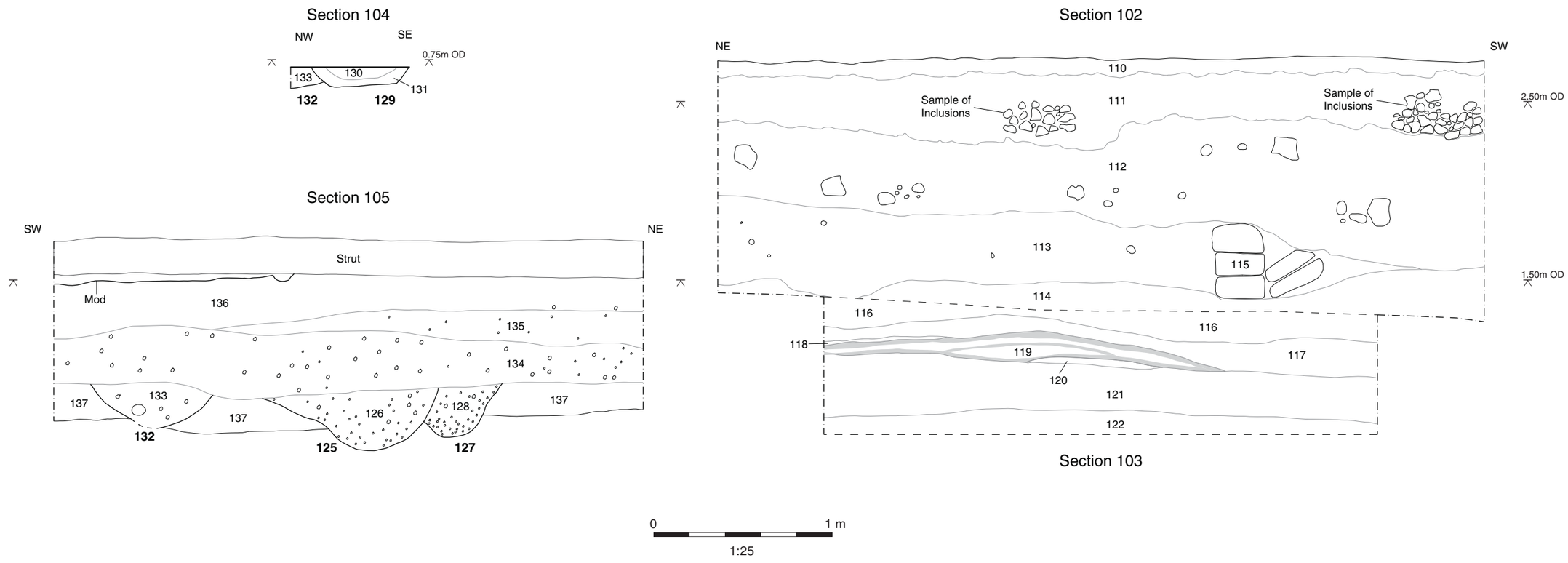



*Figure 6: Section drawings from Trenches 1 and 2*


Plate 1: Trench 2, lower section, looking South

Plate 2: Trench 2, lower section, after soil sample was taken, looking south


Plate 3: Trench 1, post holes 141 to 165, looking North

Plate 4: Trench 1, pre-ex shot of post holes 176 to 202, looking North

Plate 5: Trench 1, post holes 176 to 202, looking North


Plate 6: Trench 2, lower section, looking East

Plate 7: Trench 1, Test Pit 1 through (174), looking East


**Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South**

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk
**w:http://thehumanjourney.net**

**OA North**

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1GF

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: oanorth@thehumanjourney.net
w:http://thehumanjourney.net

**OA East**

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850500
f: +44 (0) 1223 850599
e: oaeast@thehumanjourney.net
w:http://thehumanjourney.net

**OA Méditerranée**

115 Rue Merlot
ZAC La Louvade
34 130 Mauguio
France

t: +33 (0) 4.67.57.86.92
f: +33 (0) 4.67.42.65.93
e: oamed@thehumanjourney.net
w: http://oamed.fr/

**OA Grand Ouest**

7 Rue des Monderaines
ZI - Ouest
14650 Carpiquet
France

t: +33 (0) 2 49 88 01 01
f: +33 (0) 2 49 88 01 02
e: info@oago.fr
w: http://oago.fr