

Post-medieval marling pits on land off Camel Road Littleport



Archaeological
Evaluation Report



September 2014

Client: Faithful+Gould on behalf of
Cambridgeshire County Council

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Post-medieval marling pits on land off Camel Road, Littleport

Archaeological Evaluation

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Summary

Between the 8th and 11th September 2014 Oxford Archaeology East carried out an archaeological evaluation on land off Camel Road, Littleport (TL 5658 8756) in advance of the construction of a new school.

The archaeological works revealed that the site contained a large quantity of 18th to 19th century marling pits which were cut through two layer of peat and a silt flood horizon, along with four parallel modern pipe trenches. The roddon was also identified across three trenches.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted on land off Camel Road, Littleport, Cambridgeshire TL 556179 287484 (Fig. 1).
- 1.1.2 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Andy Thomas of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET), supplemented by a Written Scheme of Investigation 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 *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012). The results will enable decisions to be made by CCC, 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 appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site is situated on the fen edge. There is a bedrock geology of Kimmeridge Clay Formation Mudstone, with superficial deposits consisting Tidal Flat Deposits of clay and silt with peat above this (BGS 2014). The roddon – the dried raised silt bed of a watercourse, also runs through this location.
- 1.2.2 The site sits at a height of between 0.15m OD (at the south-east corner) and -1.04m OD (to the north-west).
- 1.2.3 The topography of the site is broadly flat, with a slight rise toward the south-eastern corner. A linear ridge is also evident travelling north-south through the middle of the field.

1.3 Archaeological background

Prehistoric

- 1.3.1 Prehistoric activity is recorded in the parish of Littleport (Hall 1996). The Old Croft was the principal channel of the Ouse river system during later Prehistory and was a significant and determining factor for the location of archaeological settlement of all periods around Littleport. Archaeological remains in the parish are found either on the higher land or close to/on the watercourses to exploit the available resources.
- 1.3.2 Much of the most important early Prehistoric remains lie to the southeast of the parish on higher land/islands (e.g. Peacock's Farm – Clark *et al* 1935). This area represents the western extent of the intense Prehistoric activity at Hockwold and Mildenhall in Norfolk and Suffolk. Other notable Prehistoric activity in the parish is to be found at Apes Hall (which lies to the north of the development site), again on higher ground overlooking the Old Croft, where Mesolithic and Neolithic lithic scatters have been recorded.
- 1.3.3 Bronze axes and chance finds have been discovered in Littleport, with a settlement site at Plantation Farm excavated by Clark in 1932. Early Bronze Age material was also discovered at Peacock's Farm (Clark *et al* 1935). Again these sites are related to the

Prehistoric activity to the east in Norfolk and Suffolk. On Littleport island itself the Fenland Survey records two sparse lithic scatters recorded, both assigned to the Bronze Age and lying over 1km to the southwest of Camel Road. To the northwest, at Apes Hall, Bronze Age flints and settlement evidence is recorded beneath/close to the later Roman archaeology (see below). During the Bronze Age the landscape around Littleport would have consisted of a peat fen which would have covered the minor roddons and waterways, although the Old Croft remained active. Roddon silts were deposited along the edge of the Old Croft during the following Iron Age.

- 1.3.4 Until recently the Iron Age was very poorly represented at Littleport with only two sites recorded in the whole parish during the Fenland Survey. Recent archaeological investigations, has however changed this picture with Bronze Age and Iron Age sites being identified at Littleport, notably close to the development site off Wisbech Road (MCB 17425 and 19320). The excavations by Archaeological Project Services (MCB19320/ECB3373) in 2010 identified Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement remains, including a burnt mound, radio carbon dated to 1500-1380 cal BC.

Roman

- 1.3.5 Roman activity is very important within the Parish of Littleport, the focus of which lies to the north of the village, close to the proposed development site. The Fenland Survey (Hall 1996) identified the main Roman activity as an array of saltern sites which occur in great density along the roddon of the Old Croft River. There are potentially as much as thirty such sites along the Old Croft, the largest of which may cover over 3 hectares, although it is important to note that these sites have not been excavated, rather identified from field survey.
- 1.3.6 The largest site (No:36 in Fenland Survey, Littleport, Hall 1996:25) is considered a settlement in its own right and is linked to a 'Celtic' field system. It is thought to be of an early date (Hall 1996). The site was raised, surviving as an earthwork in the 1930's and 40's. In 1948 it was ploughed and a circular enclosure excavated (Fowler *et al* 1949) which produced 1st century coins and was interpreted as an 'altar' site. In addition, eighteen 'hut' sites were located, although this interpretation has been challenged, with the ring-ditches being potentially more saltern sites and briquetage mistaken for daub (Hall 1996:25). At Apes Hall a second concentration of Roman sites are present, again thought to focus on salt making and located on the roddons.
- 1.3.7 Immediately to the north of Camel Road, on the north bank of the modern Blackbank Drain, but on the *southern* bank of the Old Croft River (in Roman times) is located another potential Roman saltern site. This site (No:19 in Fenland Survey, Littleport, Hall 1996) would have been on the edge of Littleport itself, rather than upstream linked to the other roddon sites (e.g. CHER 07221, 07261, 10939). Hall interprets the site as a saltern and if this is the case, lying some 30km from the estuary at Wisbech, it would make this the farthest inland location of any saltern site. Aerial photography has revealed ditches and enclosures, to augment the existing earthworks. Both Roman and medieval pottery have been recovered.
- 1.3.8 The Roman road of Akeman Street is thought to run through Littleport. Beginning at Cirencester it runs through Verulamium (St Albans), connects Ermine Street with Cambridge and then runs northeast into the fens towards Ely and a possible final destination at Denver where it would meet with the Fen Causeway (Margary 1967). No trace of the road, however, has yet been found north of Ely.
- 1.3.9 Archaeological investigations, as a result of development, since the 1990's have shed a new light on the importance of Roman settlement at Littleport. Beginning with the 1997

investigations at Camel Road, Littleport (ECB 139, 1985, 1357) and subsequent work also at Camel Road (ECB 140) and off Wisbech Road (MCB 18585). This work, has revealed multi-phased Roman settlement (occupying the whole Roman period), including salterns and suggesting high status, initially interpreted as a putative villa type complex, and is now considered to be a possible Roman small town.

Anglo-Saxon and medieval

- 1.3.10 There is no evidence of post-Roman activity at Camel Road. To date there is no known Early Saxon sites in the parish. Saxon settlement at Littleport was probably based around the *hith* where the Old Croft ran close to the island. This would place the medieval settlement close to the site at Camel Road. The Domesday Book records a *vill* and it is assumed that the present town cover part (if not all) of the medieval centre. Littleport was allotted to the Bishop of Ely on the formation of the See of Ely in 1109. The church of St. George, to the south of the site, dates from the 14th century and was almost entirely rebuilt in the 15th century and restored in 1857. During the medieval period the island of Littleport was ploughed, evident as ridge and furrow, and the whole area (except the settlement itself) was given over to arable with summer pasturing along the fen edge (this includes the land at Camel Road).

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The author would like to extend thanks to Faithful+Gould for commissioning the archaeological works and to Cambridgeshire County Council for funding them.
- 1.4.2 The site was excavated by the author with the assistance of Alex Cameron, John Diffey and Toby Knight. The machine excavation was undertaken by LOC Plant Hire and Haulage.
- 1.4.3 Thanks also go to Kasia Gdaniec for monitoring the trenching.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The objective of this trial trench 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.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The Brief required that the building footprints be subject to investigation via trial trench. The investigation area is approximately 4 hectares in size. The area was evaluated with a 3.5% samples, resulting in fourteen trenches 50m in length. Trenches were positioned over a variety of anomalies identified from the geophysical survey (Bartlett 2014).
- 2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a tracked 360° type excavator using a 2m wide toothless ditching bucket.
- 2.2.3 The site survey was carried out by the author using a Leica GS08 GPS system.
- 2.2.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection.
- 2.2.5 Field survey by systematic bucket sampling of the topsoil, at the end of each trench, was also undertaken in order to determine the extent, date and significance of artefactual evidence within the plough soil and lower soil horizons.
- 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.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 Limited archaeology was revealed during the archaeological works and appeared to be of a post-medieval date. Due to the limited type of features revealed, the trenches will be discussed numerically (Fig. 2).
- 3.1.2 The stratigraphic sequence consisted of five deposits over the geology, which was encountered between 0.49m and 1.25m below modern ground level. The earliest deposit consisted of a dark red brown peat (04) which varied in thickness from 0.08m to 0.3m. Above this was a flood horizon of white silt (36) around 0.1m in thickness. This was only seen in Trenches 3, 4, 12, 13 and 14. Next was a second layer of peat (03), which was made up of a dark grey peat varying in thickness from 0.07m to 0.27m.
- 3.1.3 A mid grey orange subsoil layer (02) was present in Trenches 1, 3, 10 and 14. It varied in thickness from 0.1m to 0.5m. Finally, the topsoil (01) consisted of a mid grey silty clay approximately 0.3m in thickness.
- 3.1.4 Bucket sampling of the topsoil from each trench produced just three small fragments of 19th century ceramic.
- 3.1.5 Full details of context and trench descriptions can be found in Appendix A. Unless otherwise stated, no finds were recovered from feature fills.

3.2 Trench Results

Trench 1

- 3.2.1 Trench 1 was devoid of archaeological features. The south-eastern end of Trench 1 was 1.15m in depth (Plate 1), shallowing to 0.52m at the north-western end. The subsoil (02) was seen to gradually disappear approximately 25m across the trench.

Trench 2

- 3.2.2 Trench 2 contained a single north-south aligned modern pipe trench (05).

Trench 3

- 3.2.3 Trench 3 (Plate 2) contained a north-south aligned modern pipe trench and a circular marling pit. Neither feature was excavated. Section 302 (Fig. 3) illustrates the stratigraphic matrix of the overburden.

Trench 4

- 3.2.4 Trench 4 was seen to contain six marling pits (three of which were excavated) and a geological feature. Pit 07 was sub-circular in plan, 1m wide and 0.25m deep with steeply sloping sides and a concave base (S.401, Fig. 3). It was filled with a single mid yellow grey peaty clay (08).
- 3.2.5 Pit 09 had a width of 1m and was 0.5m deep. It was sub-rectangular in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. It was filled with a mid yellow grey peaty clay (10).
- 3.2.6 Pit 11 was circular in plan. It had a diameter of 1.44m and was 0.3m deep with a gently sloping side coming in from the north and a near vertical side on the south. It was filled with a single mid grey brown peaty clay (12). A single sherd of 18th to 19th century porcelain was recovered from the fill.

- 3.2.7 The eastern end of the trench contained geological feature **13**. It extended for 5m and was 0.23m deep with a peaty clay fill (14).

Trench 5

- 3.2.8 A total of nine marling pits were seen in Trench 5 along with a modern pipe trench and two geological features. Only a sample of the features were excavated. Pit **21** was circular in plan with a diameter of 1.3m. It had undercutting sides and a flat base (S.502, Fig. 3). The pit contained two fills. The earliest fill (22) consisted of a dark brown grey peaty clay, 0.26m in thickness. Above this, fill 23 was a dark grey brown peat, 0.22m in thickness. A single sherd of 18th century Staffordshire White salt-glazed ware and a fragment of late 17th to 18th century CBM was recovered from fill 22.
- 3.2.9 Pit **26** was also circular in plan with a diameter of 1.3m. It had undercutting sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (27) of dark grey brown peaty clay, 0.37m in thickness.
- 3.2.10 Two broadly north-south aligned natural gullies were seen. One of which was excavated. Feature **19** was 0.65m wide and 0.09m deep with an irregular profile. It was filled with a dark grey brown peat (20).
- 3.2.11 A modern north-south aligned pipe trench (**24**) was also seen within the trench.

Trench 6

- 3.2.12 A total of eleven marling pits and a modern north-south aligned pipe trench were seen across the length of Trench 6.
- 3.2.13 Two of the marling pits were excavated. Pit **28** was sub-circular in plan, 1.42m wide and 0.37m deep. The western side of the pit was undercutting whilst the eastern break of slope was gentle. The pit was filled with a single dark grey brown peaty clay (29). Fragments of late 17th to 18th century CBM was collected from the fill along with 20th century glass. Pit **30** was sub-rectangular in plan. It was 1m wide and 0.47m deep with undercutting sides and a flat base. It was filled with a dark grey brown peaty clay (31). The fill also contained fragments of late 17th to 18th century CBM and fired clay.
- 3.2.14 Toward the north-eastern end of the trench, a machine sondage was dug to investigate the stratigraphic sequence of the geology. The predominant geology across the site was a brown blue chalky marl. In the machine sondage it had a thickness of 1.4m. Below this was a pure blue clay with rare shell inclusions.

Trench 7

- 3.2.15 In all, eight marling pits and two north-south aligned modern pipe trenches were seen across the length of Trench 7. Three of the eight pits were investigated. The roddon was also uncovered across the eastern end of the trench (Plate 3).
- 3.2.16 Pit **37** was sub-circular in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. The pit was 0.85m in diameter and was 0.6m deep. The pit contained a single mid grey brown peaty clay (38). Pit **39** was circular in plan with near vertical sides and a flat base. It was a diameter of 1.4m and was 0.6m deep. It was filled with a mid grey brown peaty clay (40). Pit **41** was sub-circular in plan with undercutting sides and a flat base. It had a diameter of 1.4m and was 0.5m deep. The fill (42) consisted of a mid grey brown peaty clay and contained fragments of CBM dating from the 18th to early 19th century.

Trench 8

- 3.2.17 A total of seven marling pits (two of which were excavated) and broadly north-west to south-east aligned natural gully were seen in Trench 8. The continuation of the roddon from Trench 7 as also seen across the eastern end of the trench.
- 3.2.18 Pit **32** was sub-rectangular in plan with undercutting sides and a flat base (Plate 4). It was 1.13m wide and 0.4m deep. It was filled with a single dark grey brown clay peat (33). Pit **34** was sub-circular in plan with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It was 1.1m wide and 0.16m deep and filled with a dark grey brown clay peat (35).

Trench 9

- 3.2.19 Trench 9 contained a single marling pit along with a geological feature.
- 3.2.20 Pit **17** was sub-rectangular in plan in steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It was 0.84m wide and 0.28m deep. The pit was filled with a single dark red brown clay peat (18).
- 3.2.21 A natural curvilinear feature (**15**) was seen at the northern end of the trench. It had a diameter of 0.75m and was 0.09m deep with an irregular profile. It was filled with a dark grey brown peat (16). The roddon was also identified across the northern extent of the trench.

Trench 10

- 3.2.22 A total of eight marling pits (one of which was excavated) and a north-south aligned modern pipe trench was seen across Trench 10.
- 3.2.23 Pit **53** was sub-rectangular in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. The pit had a diameter of 1.8m and a depth of 0.4m. It was filled with a single mid grey brown peaty clay (54).

Trench 11

- 3.2.24 Trench 11 was devoid of archaeology.

Trench 12

- 3.2.25 Trench 12 was seen to contain nine marling pits and a north-south aligned modern pipe trench. Two of the marling pits were investigated.
- 3.2.26 Pit **49** was sub-rectangular in plan with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It had a diameter of 1m and was 0.3m deep. It was filled with a single dark grey brown peat (50). A single sherd of bone china from the late 18th to 20th century was recovered from the fill. Pit **51** was sub-circular in plan with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It was 1.4m wide and 0.32m deep. The fill (52) consisted of a mid grey brown peat.

Trench 13

- 3.2.27 A total of eleven marling pits were seen across the length of Trench 13. Two of these were investigated.
- 3.2.28 Pit **44** was sub-rectangular in plan, 0.75m wide and 0.5m deep. It had vertical sides and a flat base. The pit was filled with a mid orange grey peaty clay (43). Pit **48** was circular in plan with a diameter of 1.14m, a depth of 0.52m and contained three fills (Plate 5). The earliest of the three fills (47) consisted of a 0.12m thick mid yellow brown peaty clay. Above this was a 0.3m thick dark grey brown peat (46). The latest fill (45) consisted of a mid red silty clay, 0.2m in thickness.

Trench 14

- 3.2.29 Trench 14 was devoid of archaeological features. The eastern end of the trench was 1.28m in depth (S.1401, Fig. 3), shallowing to 0.82m at the western end. The thickness of the subsoil (02) from 0.54m in the east, to 0.18m in the west end of the trench accounted for this change in depth. A flood horizon of white silt (36) was also seen at the easternmost end of the trench between peat deposits 3 and 4.

3.3 Finds Summary

- 3.3.1 The trial trench evaluation produced a very small collection of finds dating from the late 17th to 20th century (see Appendix B). The largest assemblage (by weight) was the CBM weighing 0.351kg. Two shards of glass (weighing 0.015kg) were collected along with 0.009kg of ceramic.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Marling pits

- 4.1.1 The archaeological works on the land off Camel Road, Littleport has revealed a large system of marling across the area. The purpose of marling is to spread clay over sandy soils in order to enrich the soil and improve its capacity to hold water. Marling pits were often dug in the middle of fields to make the spreading of the marl easier, with further pits dug close by. This can be seen here, where the marling pits are clearly dug in a series of lines, with a gap of approximately 0.5m between each pit.
- 4.1.2 There appear to be two phases of marling on the site, evident through the two different shapes of pit seen (sub-rectangular and circular) and their alignment. Generally, the sub-rectangular pits have been dug on a north-northeast to south-southwest alignment, whilst the lines of circular pits are orientated west-northwest to east-southeast. None of the pits were seen to intercut, therefore a definitive chronology for the pits cannot be ascertained. However, the finds recovered from the features show that the pits are of the same general 19th century date.
- 4.1.3 An evaluation carried out at May Farm (Boyer 2011), 3km to the east, produced very similar findings to those seen on the site off Camel Road. Here, 18th to 19th century marling pits were identified as having been dug in linear groups on two separate alignments. The alignments correspond with those seen on the land off Camel Road site. The May Farm evaluation however, determined a chronology for the marling pits, observing that the north-northeast to south-southwest aligned pits were earlier than those running on a west-northwest to east-southeast orientation. The parallel findings at May Farm reaffirm that agricultural land management was in place across the fen edge all round Littleport during the 18th and 19th centuries.

4.2 The roddon

- 4.2.1 Hall (1996:23 fig.11) shows there to be a prehistoric watercourse (Fig. 4) running across the southern limit of the site. There is a further watercourse with a number of small tributaries running through the field to the immediate north of the site. During the archaeological works, roddon was identified in Trenches 7, 8 and 9 across the central portion of the site. This location does not immediately tie with the results shown in the Fenland Survey, however it is viable that the roddon identified in these three trenches is the continuation of a tributary from the south or from the north.

APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

| Trench 1 | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|---------|
| General description | | | | Orientation | | NNW-SSE |
| Devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of marly clay. | | | | Avg. depth (m) | | 1.15 |
| | | | | Width (m) | | 2 |
| | | | | Length (m) | | 50 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | layer | - | 0.35 | topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | layer | - | 0.33 | subsoil | - | - |
| 3 | layer | - | 0.27 | peat | - | - |
| 4 | layer | - | 0.2 | peat | - | - |
| Trench 2 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | Orientation | | WNW-ESE |
| Trench contained a modern pipe trench. Natural consisted of marly clay. | | | | Avg. depth (m) | | 0.9 |
| | | | | Width (m) | | 2 |
| | | | | Length (m) | | 50 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | layer | - | 0.3 | topsoil | - | - |
| 3 | layer | - | 0.25 | peat | - | - |
| 4 | layer | - | 0.27 | peat | - | - |
| 5 | cut | 0.9 | - | pipe | - | - |
| 6 | fill | - | - | pipe | - | - |
| Trench 3 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | Orientation | | N-S |
| Trench contained a modern pipe trench and a marling pit (both unexcavated). Natural consisted of marly clay. | | | | Avg. depth (m) | | 0.6 |
| | | | | Width (m) | | 2 |
| | | | | Length (m) | | 50 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | layer | - | 0.3 | topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | layer | - | 0.1 | subsoil | - | - |
| 3 | layer | - | 0.16 | peat | - | - |
| 4 | layer | - | 0.22 | peat | - | - |
| 36 | layer | - | 0.11 | flood horizon | - | - |

| Trench 4 | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-----------|-----------|---------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| General description | | | | | Orientation | E-W |
| Six marling pits and a geological feature seen. Natural consisted of marly clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.7 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 50 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | layer | - | 0.35 | topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | layer | - | 0.12 | subsoil | - | - |
| 3 | layer | - | 0.15 | peat | - | - |
| 4 | layer | - | 0.2 | peat | - | - |
| 7 | cut | 1 | 0.25 | pit | - | - |
| 8 | fill | - | 0.25 | pit | - | - |
| 9 | cut | 1 | 0.5 | pit | - | - |
| 10 | fill | - | 0.5 | pit | - | - |
| 11 | cut | 1.44 | 0.3 | pit | - | - |
| 12 | fill | - | 0.3 | pit | Ceramic, CBM | 18th to 19th century |
| 13 | cut | 1.1 | 0.23 | pit | - | - |
| 14 | fill | - | 0.23 | pit | - | - |
| 36 | layer | - | 0.06 | flood horizon | - | - |
| Trench 5 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | | Orientation | E-W |
| Trench contained nine marling pits a modern pipe trench and two geological features. Natural consisted of marly clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.6 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 50 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | layer | - | 0.35 | topsoil | - | - |
| 3 | layer | - | 0.12 | peat | - | - |
| 4 | layer | - | 0.13 | peat | - | - |
| 19 | cut | 0.65 | 0.09 | geological | - | - |
| 20 | fill | - | 0.09 | geological | - | - |
| 21 | cut | 1.3 | 0.45 | pit | - | - |
| 22 | fill | - | 0.26 | pit | Ceramic, CBM | 18th century |
| 23 | fill | - | 0.22 | pit | - | - |
| 24 | cut | 0.45 | - | pipe | - | - |

| | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 25 | fill | - | - | pipe | Ceramic, CBM | not closely datable |
| 26 | cut | 1.3 | 0.37 | pit | - | - |
| 27 | fill | - | 0.37 | pit | - | - |
| Trench 6 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | | Orientation | NE-SW |
| Eleven marling pits and a modern pipe trench were seen in the trench. Natural consisted of a marly clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.55 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 56 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | layer | - | 0.35 | topsoil | - | - |
| 3 | layer | - | 0.1 | peat | - | - |
| 4 | layer | - | 0.1 | peat | - | - |
| 28 | cut | 1.42 | 0.37 | pit | - | - |
| 29 | fill | - | 0.37 | pit | Glass, CBM | late 17th to 20th century |
| 30 | cut | 1 | 0.47 | pit | - | - |
| 31 | fill | - | 0.47 | pit | CBM | late 17th to 18th century |
| 55 | layer | - | 1.4 | natural | - | - |
| 56 | layer | - | - | natural | - | - |
| Trench 7 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | | Orientation | NNW-SSE |
| Trench contained eight marling pits and two modern pipe trenches. Roddon was seen across eastern end of trench. Natural was marly clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.4 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 50 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | layer | - | 0.25 | topsoil | - | - |
| 3 | layer | - | 0.13 | peat | - | - |
| 4 | layer | - | 0.1 | peat | - | - |
| 37 | cut | 0.85 | 0.6 | pit | - | - |
| 38 | fill | - | 0.6 | pit | - | - |
| 39 | cut | 1.4 | 0.6 | pit | - | - |
| 40 | fill | - | 0.6 | pit | - | - |
| 41 | cut | 1.4 | 0.5 | pit | - | - |
| 42 | fill | - | 0.5 | pit | CBM | 18th to early 19th |

| | | | | | | century |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------------------|---------|
| Trench 8 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | | Orientation | NNW-SSE |
| Trench contained eight marling pits, a modern pipe trench and a geological feature. The roddon was seen extending across the eastern end of the trench. Other geology consisted of marly clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.7 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 50 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | layer | - | 0.35 | topsoil | - | - |
| 3 | layer | - | 0.12 | peat | - | - |
| 4 | layer | - | 0.1 | peat | - | - |
| 32 | cut | 1.13 | 0.4 | pit | - | - |
| 33 | fill | - | 0.4 | pit | - | - |
| 34 | cut | 1.1 | 0.16 | pit | - | - |
| 35 | fill | - | 0.16 | pit | - | - |
| Trench 9 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | | Orientation | NNE-SSW |
| Trench contained a single marling pit and a geological feature. The roddon was identified across the northern end of the trench. Other geology was made up of marly clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.5 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 5 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | layer | - | 0.35 | topsoil | - | - |
| 3 | layer | - | 0.1 | peat | - | - |
| 4 | layer | - | 0.5 | peat | - | - |
| 15 | cut | 0.6 | 0.09 | geological | - | - |
| 16 | fill | - | 0.09 | geological | - | - |
| 17 | cut | 0.89 | 0.26 | pit | - | - |
| 18 | fill | - | 0.26 | pit | - | - |
| Trench 10 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | | Orientation | NNW-SSE |
| Trench contained eight marling pits and a modern pipe trench. Natural consisted of marly clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.8 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 50 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |

| | | | | | | |
|----|-------|------|------|---------|---|---|
| 1 | layer | - | 0.25 | topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | layer | - | 0.1 | subsoil | - | - |
| 3 | layer | - | 0.2 | peat | - | - |
| 4 | layer | - | 0.2 | peat | - | - |
| 53 | cut | 1.08 | 0.4 | pit | - | - |
| 54 | fill | - | 0.4 | pit | - | - |

Trench 11

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|---------|
| General description | Orientation | NNE-SSW |
| Trench was devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of marly clay. | Avg. depth (m) | 0.5 |
| | Width (m) | 2 |
| | Length (m) | 50 |

Contexts

| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
|------------|-------|-----------|-----------|---------|-------|------|
| 1 | layer | - | 0.25 | topsoil | - | - |
| 3 | layer | - | 0.2 | peat | - | - |
| 4 | layer | - | 0.15 | peat | - | - |

Trench 12

| | | |
|---|-----------------------|---------|
| General description | Orientation | NNW-SSE |
| Nine marling pits were seen along with a modern pipe trench. Natural consisted of marly clay. | Avg. depth (m) | 0.5 |
| | Width (m) | 2 |
| | Length (m) | 50 |

Contexts

| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
|------------|-------|-----------|-----------|---------------|-------|---------------------------|
| 1 | layer | - | 0.3 | topsoil | - | - |
| 3 | layer | - | 0.07 | peat | - | - |
| 36 | layer | - | 0.12 | flood horizon | - | - |
| 49 | cut | 1 | 0.3 | pit | - | - |
| 50 | fill | - | 0.3 | pit | china | late 18th to 20th century |
| 51 | cut | 1.4 | 0.32 | pit | - | - |
| 52 | fill | - | 0.32 | pit | - | - |

Trench 13

| | | |
|---|-----------------------|-------|
| General description | Orientation | NW-SE |
| Eleven marling pits were seen. Natural consisted of marly clay. | Avg. depth (m) | 0.55 |
| | Width (m) | 2 |
| | Length (m) | 50 |

Contexts

| context | type | Width | Depth | comment | finds | date |
|---------|------|-------|-------|---------|-------|------|
|---------|------|-------|-------|---------|-------|------|

| | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| no | | (m) | (m) | | | |
| 1 | layer | - | 0.3 | topsoil | - | - |
| 3 | layer | - | 0.12 | peat | - | - |
| 4 | layer | - | 0.2 | peat | - | - |
| 36 | layer | - | 0.06 | flood horizon | - | - |
| 43 | fill | - | 0.5 | pit | - | - |
| 44 | cut | 0.75 | 0.5 | pit | - | - |
| 45 | fill | - | 0.2 | pit | - | - |
| 46 | fill | - | 0.3 | pit | - | - |
| 47 | fill | - | 0.12 | pit | - | - |
| 48 | cut | 1.14 | 0.52 | pit | - | - |
| Trench 14 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | | Orientation | NNW-SSE |
| Trench contained a single modern pipe trench. Natural consisted of marly clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 1.25 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 50 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | layer | - | 0.3 | topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | layer | - | 0.5 | subsoil | - | - |
| 3 | layer | - | 0.15 | peat | - | - |
| 4 | layer | - | 0.22 | peat | - | - |
| 36 | layer | - | 0.1 | flood horizon | - | - |

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Glass

By Carole Fletcher

- B.1.1 The excavation produced an assemblage of bottle glass weighing in total 0.015kg, from a single context (29), the fill of pit **28**. The glass is not closely datable however its condition suggests it is 20th century or later.

| Context | Weight (kg) | Description | Date |
|--------------|--------------|---|----------------------|
| 29 | 0.013 | Curved shard from the neck of a dark olive green glass bottle | 20th or 21st century |
| | 0.002 | Small slightly curved shard from pale green bottle | |
| Total | 0.015 | | |

Table: Glass

B.2 Pottery

by Carole Fletcher

Introduction

- B.2.1 Archaeological works produced a pottery assemblage of seven sherds, weighing 0.009kg. The assemblage span the early 18th-20th century. The condition of the overall assemblage is moderately abraded and the mean sherd weight is low at approximately <0.002kg.

Methodology

- B.2.2 The Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG) *A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms* (MPRG, 1998) and *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics* (MPRG, 2001) act as a standard.
- B.2.3 Recording was carried out using OA East's in-house system based on that previously used at the Museum of London. Fabric classification has been carried out for all previously described medieval and post-medieval types. All sherds have been counted, classified and weighed on a context-by-context basis. The assemblage is recorded in the summary catalogue. The pottery and archive are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition.

Results

- B.2.4 The assemblage is domestic in nature, indicating low levels of pottery deposition across the site from the early 18th century onwards.
- B.2.5 Topsoil (context 01) produced a sherd of Creamware and Refined White earthenware, and from pit **11**, in Trench 4, a single sherd of Porcelain (18th-19th century) was recovered. A partial base sherd from an 18th century Staffordshire White salt-glazed ware vessel was found in the fill of pit **21** (context 22, Trench 5) and a single small sherd from a terracotta plant pot was recovered from ditch **24**, also in Trench 5. In Trench 12 pit **49** (context 50) produced a single sherd of bone china.

4.2.2 The assemblage is domestic in nature, although the low levels of pottery recovered suggest those few sherds present are the result of a manuring scatter or perhaps incorporated into a trackway or hardcore rather than deriving directly from 18th century and later occupation.

| Context | Fabric | Basic Form | Sherd Count | Weight (kg) | Context Date Range |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|------------|-------------|--------------|------------------------|
| 1 | Creamware | Body sherd | 1 | <0.001 | 19th century |
| | Refined White earthenware | Body sherd | 2 | 0.004 | |
| 12 | Porcelain | Body sherd | 1 | <0.001 | 18th-19th century |
| 22 | Staffordshire White salt-glazed ware | Body sherd | 1 | 0.004 | 18th century |
| 25 | Terracotta | Body sherd | 1 | <0.001 | Not closely datable |
| 50 | Bone China | Body sherd | 1 | <0.001 | Late 18th-20th century |
| Total | | | 7 | 0.009 | |

Table: Pottery

4.3 Ceramic Building Material and Fired Clay

By Rob Atkins

B.2.1 Archaeological works produced small assemblage of ceramic building material including brick, tile and drain shards, weighing in total 0.351kg. The assemblage spans the late 17th-early 19th century.

| Context | Material | Form and Description | Weight (kg) | Date |
|---------|----------|--|-------------|------------------------|
| 1 | Ceramic | Undiagnostic fragment of oxidised red-orange brick or tile | <0.001 | Not closely datable |
| 12 | Ceramic | Undiagnostic fragment of oxidised red-orange brick or tile | 0.002 | Not closely datable |
| 22 | Ceramic | Fragment of yellow brick (with red clay swirls, poorly mixed) | 0.003 | Late 17th-18th century |
| 25 | Ceramic | Undiagnostic fragment of oxidised red-orange poorly mixed brick or tile | 0.004 | Not closely datable |
| | Ceramic | Undiagnostic fragment of oxidised hard fired red-orange brick or tile with a very angular fracture | 0.003 | Not closely datable |
| 29 | Ceramic | Fragments from a 2.5 inch (67mm) thick yellow brick (yellow clay with some red-pink swirls) | 0.123 | Late 17th-18th century |
| | Ceramic | Undiagnostic fragment of oxidised red-orange brick or tile | <0.001 | Not closely datable |
| 31 | Ceramic | Fragments of yellow brick, the | 0.042 | Late 17th-18th |

| | | | | |
|--------------|------------|--|--------------|-------------------------|
| | | brick is poorly mixed and somewhat friable (yellow clay with some red-pink swirls) | | century |
| 31 | Fired Clay | Fragment of soft, poorly fired pink-red clay | 0.001 | Not closely datable |
| 42 | Ceramic | Fragments of large clay drain pipe in yellow clay | 0.163 | 18th-early 19th century |
| | Ceramic | Fragment of roof tile in pink-red fabric with yellow swirls. | 0.009 | 18th-early 19th century |
| Total | | | 0.351 | |

Table: Ceramic Building Material

APPENDIX C. GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY REPORT

By Alister Bartlett

This geophysical survey has been undertaken as part of an archaeological field evaluation of a site which is to be developed as a school and playing fields at Littleport, Cambridgeshire.

The site is of high archaeological potential, with previous nearby findings indicating the presence of a Roman settlement and salt making activity. The survey detected considerable magnetic activity, much of it clearly of recent or natural origin, but including findings of potential archaeological relevance which could serve as targets for subsequent trenching.

Introduction

- C.1.1 The survey was commissioned from Bartlett Clark Consultancy, Specialists in Archaeogeophysics of Oxford, by Oxford Archaeology East on behalf of Faithful+Gould. Fieldwork for the survey was done on 26-28 August 2014. Plans showing the survey findings have previously been supplied to Oxford Archaeology, and are now included in this report.
- C.1.2 The site is located to the west of Camel Road on the northern edge of Littleport (at NGR TL 563875). The survey covered areas as defined in the WSI for the project, as prepared by Oxford Archaeology East (Wiseman 2014). Areas 1-3 are shown in blue, green and red respectively on the location plan inset in Fig. 1. The final survey coverage (excluding buildings and obstructions) amounted to 10.5ha.
- C.1.3 The location and condition of the site are described in the WSI, which also includes a summary of its archaeological potential. Extracts from the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record relating to the site and its surroundings are included in the brief for the evaluation issued by Cambridgeshire County Council (Thomas 2014). The notes in the following sections are summarised in part from these documents.

Objectives of the Survey

- C.1.4 The aim of the geophysical survey was to identify the extent and character of any archaeological remains capable of producing a magnetic response. The magnetometer responds to cut features such as ditches and pits when they are silted with topsoil, which usually has a higher magnetic susceptibility than the underlying natural subsoil. It also detects the thermoremanent magnetism of fired materials, notably baked clay structures such as kilns or hearths, and so responds preferentially to the presence of ancient settlement or industrial remains. It is also strongly affected by ferrous and other debris of recent origin.

Topography and Geology

- C.1.5 Area 1 is an existing playing field containing a fenced sports pitch, and Area 3 is a grassed area adjacent to the existing site entrance. Area 2 is currently arable land, and the fieldwork was therefore undertaken after the crop was removed.
- C.1.6 The geology of the site (as indicated by the BGS on-line viewer) is mainly Diamicton (clay, sand and silt) of the Oadby Member above a bedrock of Kimmeridge Clay. Peat

may also be present to the north and west of the survey area, and Tidal Flat deposits (also of clay and silt) to the south and east. A roddon (the raised former bed of the Old Croft River) is located to the south of the survey area in Area 3, and is stated to continue to the NE beneath the existing sports hall. The site is at a uniform elevation of 0-1m AOD.

- C.1.7 It has been found in previous magnetometer surveys on fenland silts that the soil is often strongly magnetic, and that superficial or natural displacements or variations in the composition of the soil (as well as archaeological features) may give rise to strong magnetic anomalies. Magnetic susceptibility measurements taken from soil samples collected during the survey gave high readings (of c. 100×10^{-8} SI/kg), and so confirmed that the soil here should again be highly responsive to a magnetometer survey.

Archaeological Background

- C.1.8 It is stated in the brief (Thomas 2014) that the site is in an area of intense Roman activity, as is indicated by the density of findings shown on the extract from a plan showing CHER entries, which is inset in Fig. 5.
- C.1.9 A number of the previously identified findings are located in or near to Area 3 at the east of the survey area. They include a group of cropmarks (CHER 08425) indicating linear features and enclosures. There have also been findings here of Roman pottery and flue tiles. There are remains indicating Roman salt making activity nearby to the north (CHER 07261), and to the south along the course of the Old Croft River (CHER 07261A). The field to the north of Area 3 (and east of Area 1) may contain undisturbed salterns and cropmark enclosures, although a previous geophysical survey here (by the EH Ancient Monuments Laboratory in 1992) apparently gave no clear response.
- C.1.10 There is additional evidence for Roman occupation and salt making a short distance to the south of the site (CHER 10939), and excavations have indicated a substantial dwelling (CHER 11961). Archaeological investigations (by Oxford Archaeology East since the 1990s) in the vicinity of Camel Road have together been interpreted as suggesting the presence of a Roman small town.

Survey Procedure

- C.1.11 The procedure used for the investigation was a fluxgate gradiometer survey across the evaluation area. Results are presented as described below.
- C.1.12 A survey grid was set out at the required locations, and tied to the OS grid using a GPS system with VRS correction to provide 0.1m or greater accuracy. The plans are therefore geo-referenced, and OS co-ordinates of map locations can be read from the AutoCAD version of the plans.
- C.1.13 The magnetometer readings were collected along transects 1m apart using Bartington 1m fluxgate gradiometers, and are plotted at 25cm intervals along each transect. The results of the survey are presented as grey a scale plot (at 1:2000 scale) in Fig. 1, and as a graphical (x-y trace) plot in Figs. 2, 3 and 4 (at 1:1250 at A3). Inclusion of both types of presentation allows the detected magnetic anomalies to be examined in plan and profile respectively.
- C.1.14 The graphical (x-y) plot represents minimally pre-processed magnetometer readings, as recommended for initial presentation of survey data in the 2008 English Heritage geophysical guidelines document. Adjustments are made for irregularities in line spacing caused by variations in the instrument zero setting (as is required for legibility in gradiometer data), but no further filtering or other process which could affect the

anomaly profiles or influence the interpretation of the data has been applied. A weak additional 2D low pass filter has been applied to the grey scale plot to adjust background noise levels.

- C.1.15 An interpretation of the findings is shown in Figs. 2, 3 and 4, and is reproduced separately to provide a summary of the findings in Fig. 5. Colour coding has been used in the interpretation to distinguish different effects. The interpretation is intended to categorize most of the identifiable magnetic anomalies, but cannot reproduce the detail of the grey scale plots.
- C.1.16 Features as marked include magnetic anomalies which may show characteristics to be expected from features of potential archaeological significance (in red), and stronger (perhaps recent) disturbances in grey. Small (and mainly natural) background magnetic anomalies are outlined in light brown. Broad irregular magnetic anomalies of a kind commonly seen in wetland soils are indicated in a light green. Some of the more conspicuous ferrous objects (identifiable as narrow spikes in the graphical plots) are outlined in light blue, and probable land drains are also marked.

Results

- C.1.17 The survey plots show a dense and complex pattern of magnetic activity, much of which is likely to be of natural origin. Some of the more clearly defined findings include parallel linear markings indicated as drains in the interpretative plan (Fig. 5).
- C.1.18 Most of them are represented by continuous ditch-like magnetic anomalies (rather than the sequence of small disturbances which is characteristic of clay drain pipes), and so they could represent pipes set in trenches, or some could perhaps be former boundary ditches if Areas 1 and 2 were ever subdivided into strips.
- C.1.19 These precisely linear features are superimposed on a background of broad amorphous magnetic anomalies of a kind commonly seen on wetland or fenland soils (as outlined in light green in Fig. 5). These are likely to represent variations in the depth or distribution of silt deposits, although some of the more continuous features could possibly indicate small palaeochannels (as at the eastern edge of Area 2).
- C.1.20 There are perhaps also some narrower or more linear features of a kind which could represent archaeologically relevant ditches or enclosures, but they merge with or may be obscured by the natural effects. Examples which could indicate fragments of incompletely preserved or detected enclosures are marked in red (at A and B in Area 2 as labelled on Fig. 5, but there could be others). There is an increase in magnetic activity at the east of the field around C. This is difficult to categorise, but includes trench-like features which could be modern furrows with strongly magnetic fill. These are outlined in grey as possibly recent. An alternative explanation could be that there is a scatter of salt making debris in this part of the field which has been cut through or eroded by drains and cultivation, and so intensifies the magnetic response from these later disturbances.
- C.1.21 It is difficult to identify any additional possible ditch-like features (of the kind seen at A and B) in Area 1. The ground in Area 1 is likely to have been disturbed by levelling when the playing field was constructed, and there is interference from fences and floodlights around the football field. Linear features within the fenced pitch are perhaps more likely to represent drains rather than archaeological features, but the linear feature marked as a drain at D could perhaps be a former ditch.
- C.1.22 Similar uncertainties apply in Area 3, where there are strong magnetic anomalies on the line of a pipe or drain which enters the site at the south east corner. These are

superimposed on weaker magnetic anomalies which are indicated as mainly natural, although it is possible that some of the narrower and more linear features (as at E) could relate to the cropmark features (CHER 08425).

- C.1.23 One difficulty in identifying the sometimes dense scatters of briquetage and burnt debris which may be present at a salt making site is that the magnetic response from such material may be difficult to distinguish (except on the basis of context, or the presence of other identifiable archaeological features) from disturbances caused by modern rubble or concrete. The significance of the unusually strong magnetic anomalies at various locations in Area 3 therefore remains unclear

Conclusions

- C.1.24 Conditions at this site are highly responsive to magnetic surveying, but archaeologically significant findings are not always readily distinguishable from recent or natural disturbances. A possibility remains that ditches or enclosures (of a kind represented by cropmark site CHER 08425 in the next field to the east) could extend into Area 2, as is suggested by possible traces of ditch-like features A and B. The presence of unusually strong magnetic anomalies in this field around C could be consistent with the presence here of burnt material deriving from salt-making activity. It is more difficult to identify specific features of potential archaeological relevance in Areas 1 and 3, although the possibility of their presence (perhaps at D and E) cannot be entirely excluded on the survey evidence alone.

APPENDIX D. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|-------------|------------|
| OASIS Number | oxfordar3-189998 | | |
| Project Name | Post-medieval marling pits on land off Camel Road, Littleport | | |
| Project Dates (fieldwork) Start | 08-09-2014 | Finish | 11-09-2014 |
| Previous Work (by OA East) | No | Future Work | No |

Project Reference Codes

| | | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------------------|--|
| Site Code | LITCAM14 | Planning App. No. | |
| HER No. | ECB 4245 | Related HER/OASIS No. | |

Type of Project/Techniques Used

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Prompt | Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS 5 |
| Development Type | Public Building |

Please select all techniques used:

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

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

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

| Monument | Period | Object | Period |
|----------|----------------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| Pit | Post Medieval 1540 to 1901 | Brick/tile | Post Medieval 1540 to 1901 |
| Ditch | Modern 1901 to Present | Ceramic | Post Medieval 1540 to 1901 |
| | Select period... | Glass | Post Medieval 1540 to 1901 |

Project Location

| | | |
|------------|---------------------|---|
| County | Cambridgeshire | Site Address (including postcode if possible) |
| District | East Cambridgeshire | Land off Camel Road Littleport CB6 1PU |
| Parish | Littleport | |
| HER | CCC Store | |
| Study Area | 4 ha | National Grid Reference 556179, 287484 |

Project Originators

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Organisation | OA EAST |
| Project Brief Originator | Andy Thomas |
| Project Design Originator | |
| Project Manager | Stephen Macaulay |
| Supervisor | Louise Bush |

Project Archives

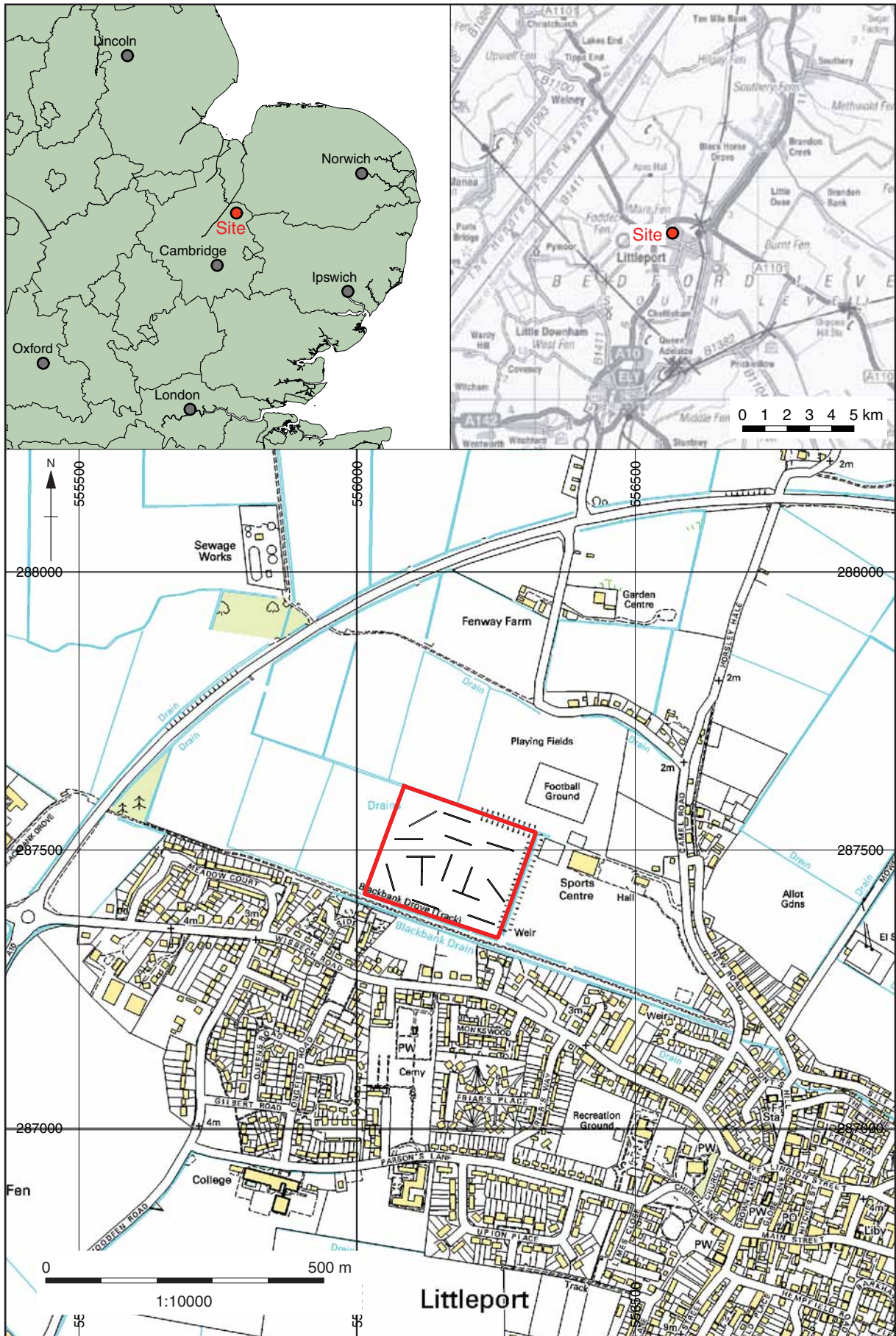
| Physical Archive | Digital Archive | Paper Archive |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| OA East | OA East | OA East |
| LITCAM14 | LITCAM14 | LITCAM14 |

Archive Contents/Media

| | Physical Contents | Digital Contents | Paper Contents |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Animal Bones | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ceramics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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| Stratigraphic | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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| None | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Digital Media | Paper Media |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Database | <input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photos |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GIS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geophysics | <input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illustrations | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moving Image | <input type="checkbox"/> Manuscript |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spreadsheets | <input type="checkbox"/> Map |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> Matrices |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text | <input type="checkbox"/> Microfilm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual Reality | <input type="checkbox"/> Misc. |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Research/Notes |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Photos |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plans |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Survey |

Notes:



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Figure 1: Site location showing archaeological trenches (black) in development area (red)

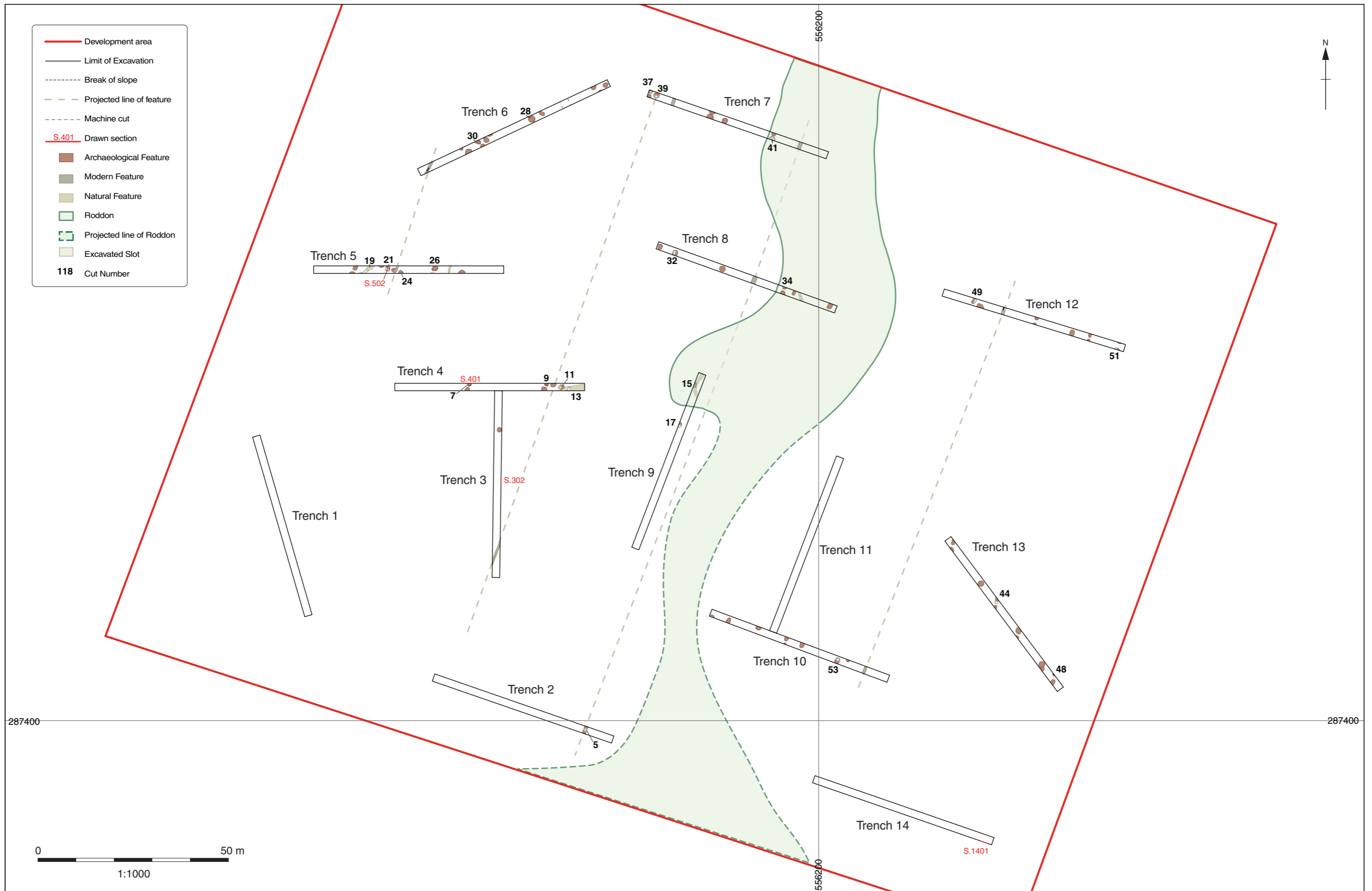


Figure 2: Trench plan

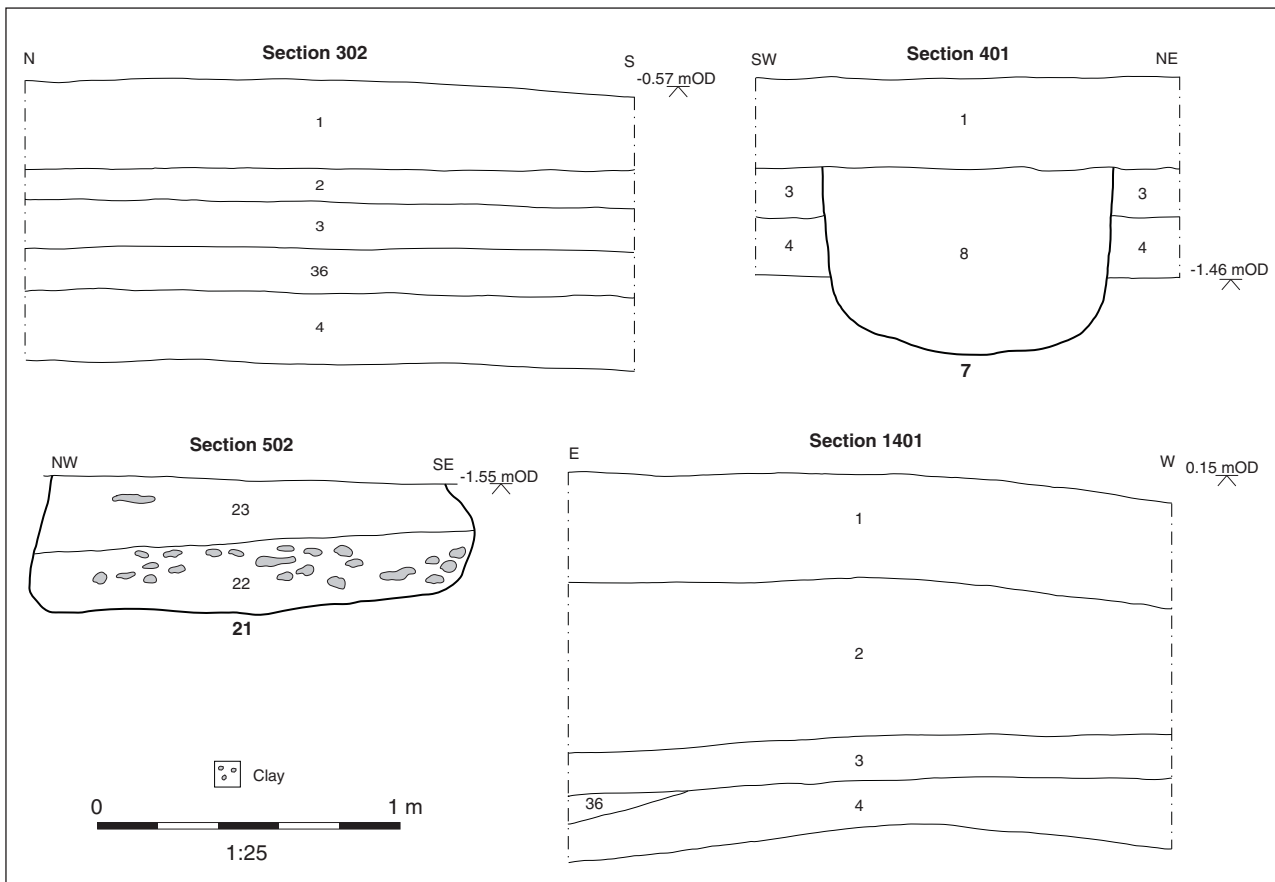


Figure 3: Selected sections

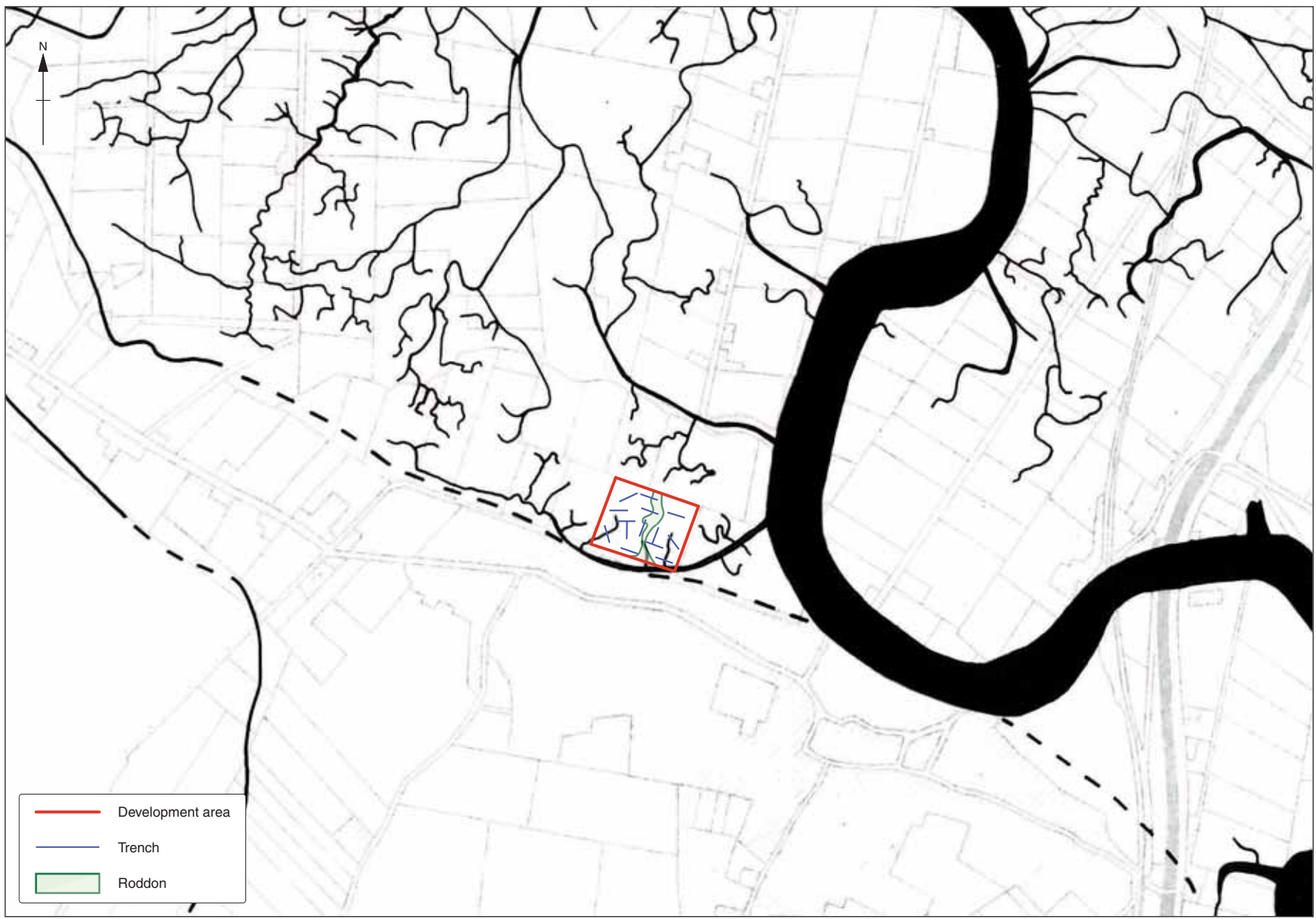


Figure 4: Trench locations and roddon around the prehistoric watercourse (after Hall 1996)



Plate 1: Section 101 (looking south)



Plate 2: Trench 3 (looking north-northwest)



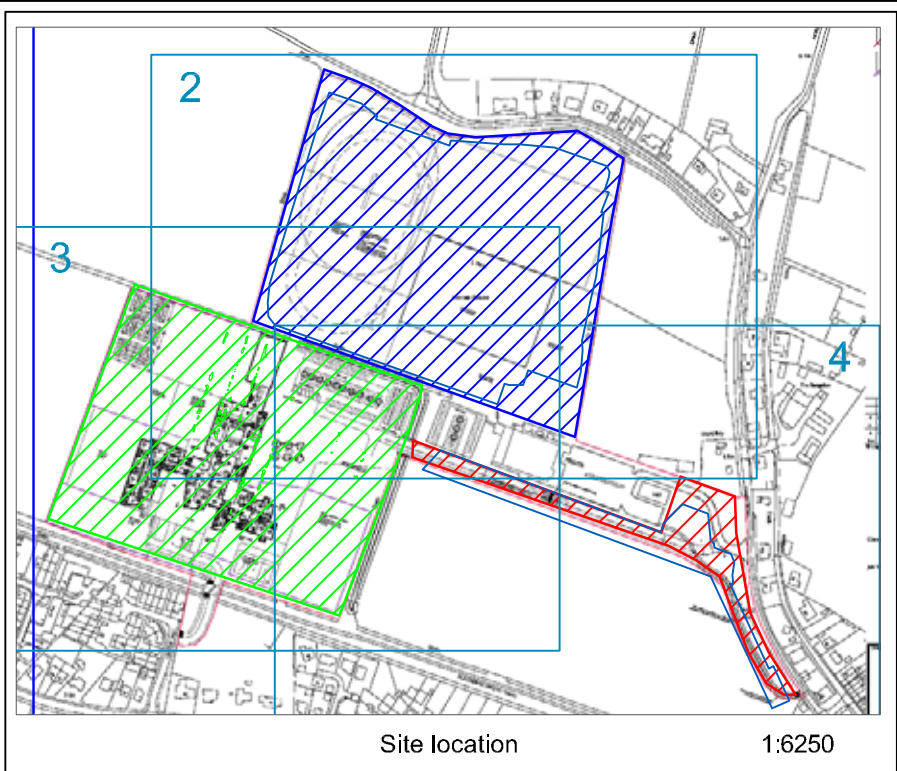
Plate 3: Trench 7 with the roddon in the foreground (looking west)



Plate 4: Marling pit 32 (looking east)

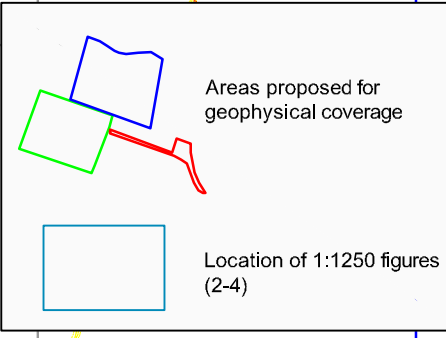
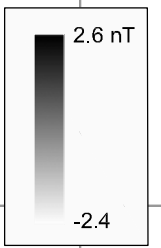
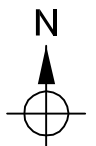


Plate 5: Marling pit 48 (looking north-east)

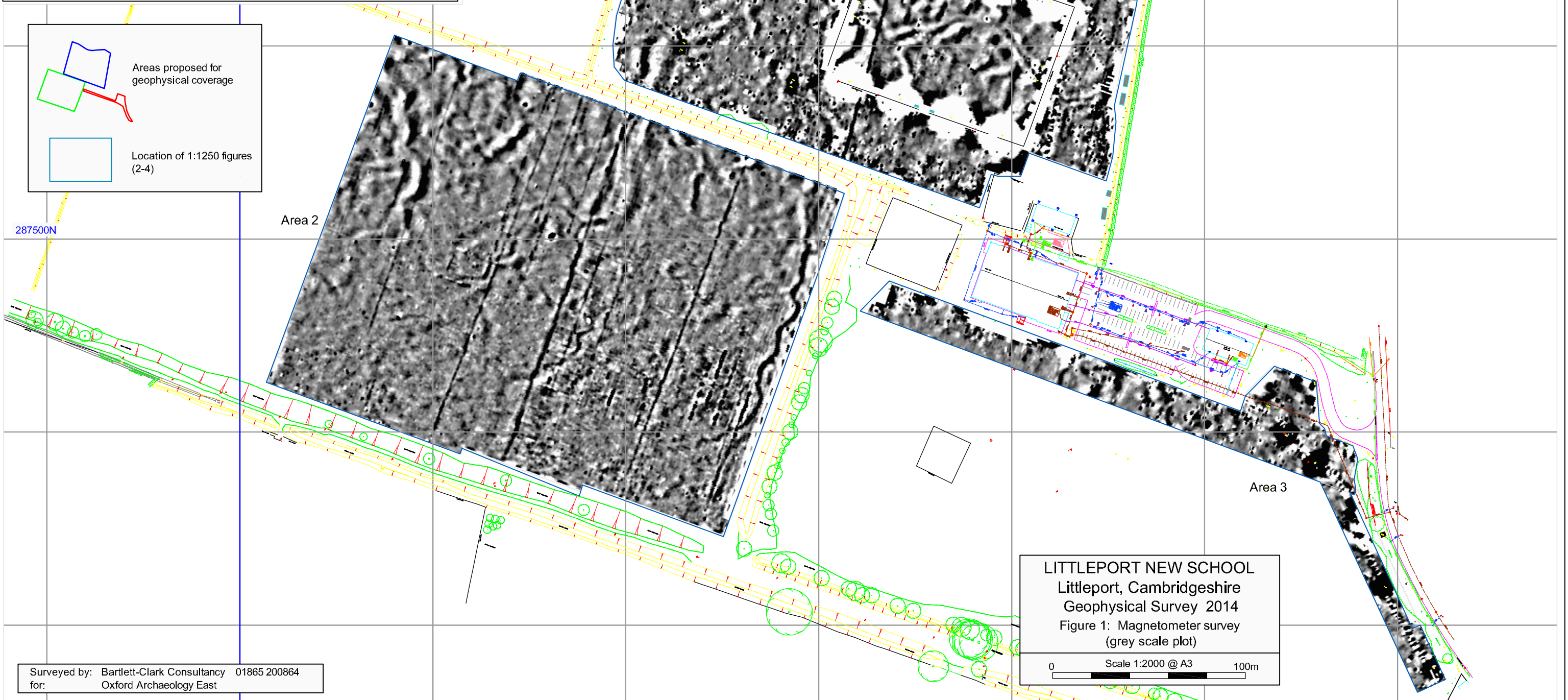


Background mapping based on site plan by mksurveys (supplied by Morgan Sindall)

556300E



287500N



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Littleport, Cambridgeshire
Geophysical Survey 2014
Figure 1: Magnetometer survey
(grey scale plot)









0 Scale 1:2000 @ A3 100m

Surveyed by: Bartlett-Clark Consultancy 01865 200864
for: Oxford Archaeology East

Background mapping based on site plan
by mksurveys (supplied by Morgan Sindall)



75 nT

-  magnetic anomalies
(archaeological ?)
-  recent magnetic disturbances ?
-  magnetic anomalies
(wetland / geology ?)
-  drains (or former ditches ?)
-  pipe
-  cultivation
-  strong (ferrous)
magnetic anomalies
-  small background magnetic anomalies
(mainly natural ?)









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for: Oxford Archaeology East

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Figure 2: Magnetometer survey
(with interpretation)

0 Scale 1:1250 @ A3 50m



Background mapping based on site plan
by mksurveys (supplied by Morgan Sindall)

-  magnetic anomalies
(archaeological ?)
-  recent magnetic disturbances ?
-  magnetic anomalies
(wetland / geology ?)
-  drains (or former ditches ?)
-  pipe
-  cultivation
-  strong (ferrous)
magnetic anomalies
-  small background magnetic anomalies
(mainly natural ?)

60nT

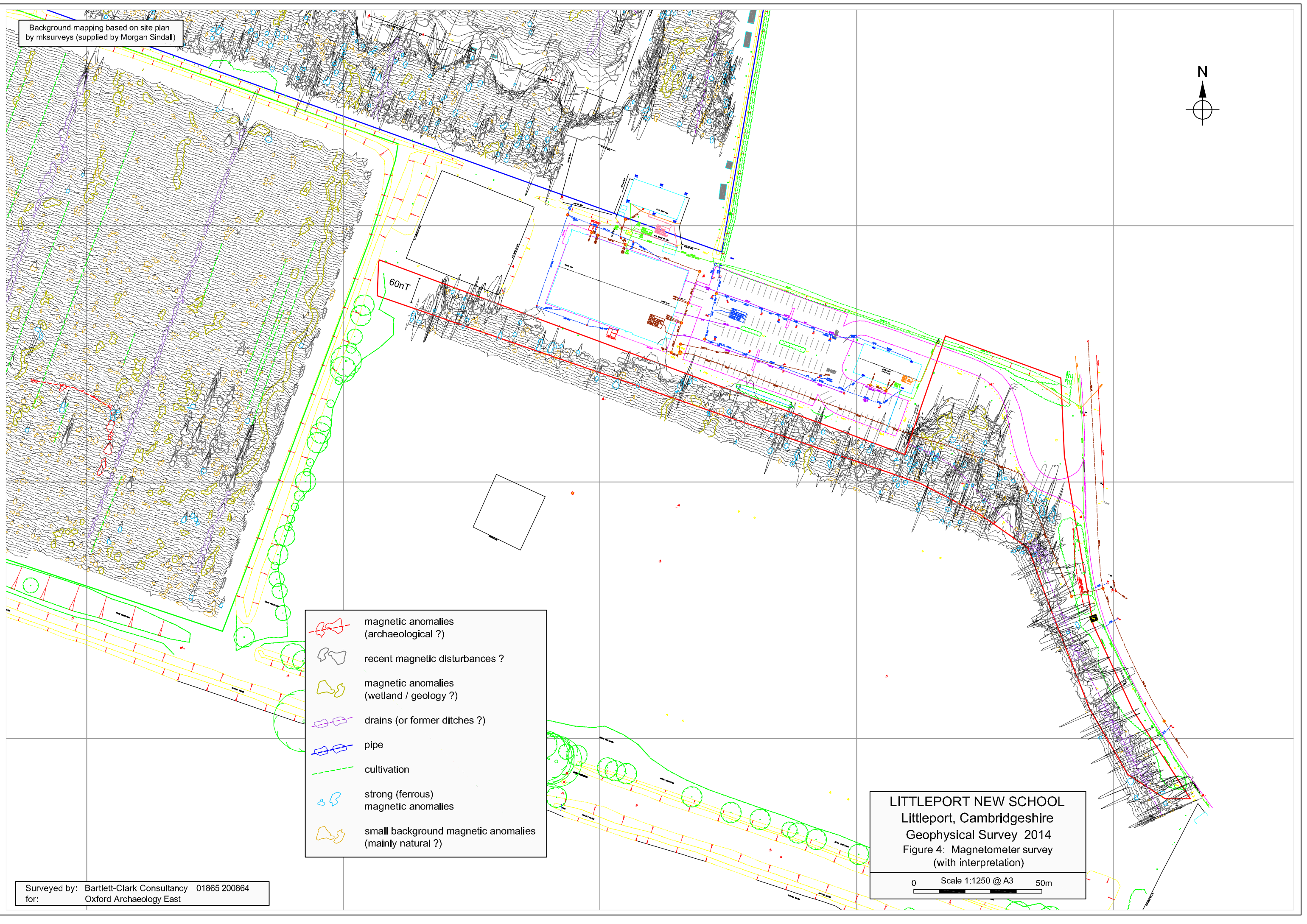
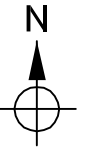










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Figure 3: Magnetometer survey
(with interpretation)

0 Scale 1:1250 @ A3 50m

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for: Oxford Archaeology East

Background mapping based on site plan
by mksurveys (supplied by Morgan Sindall)



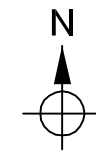
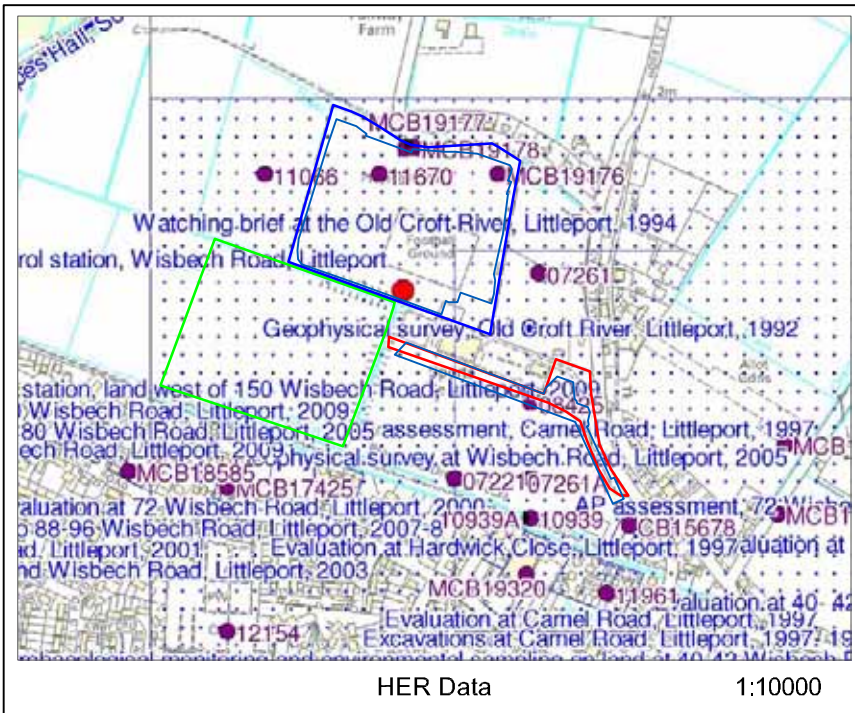
-  magnetic anomalies (archaeological ?)
-  recent magnetic disturbances ?
-  magnetic anomalies (wetland / geology ?)
-  drains (or former ditches ?)
-  pipe
-  cultivation
-  strong (ferrous) magnetic anomalies
-  small background magnetic anomalies (mainly natural ?)









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Littleport, Cambridgeshire
Geophysical Survey 2014
Figure 4: Magnetometer survey
(with interpretation)

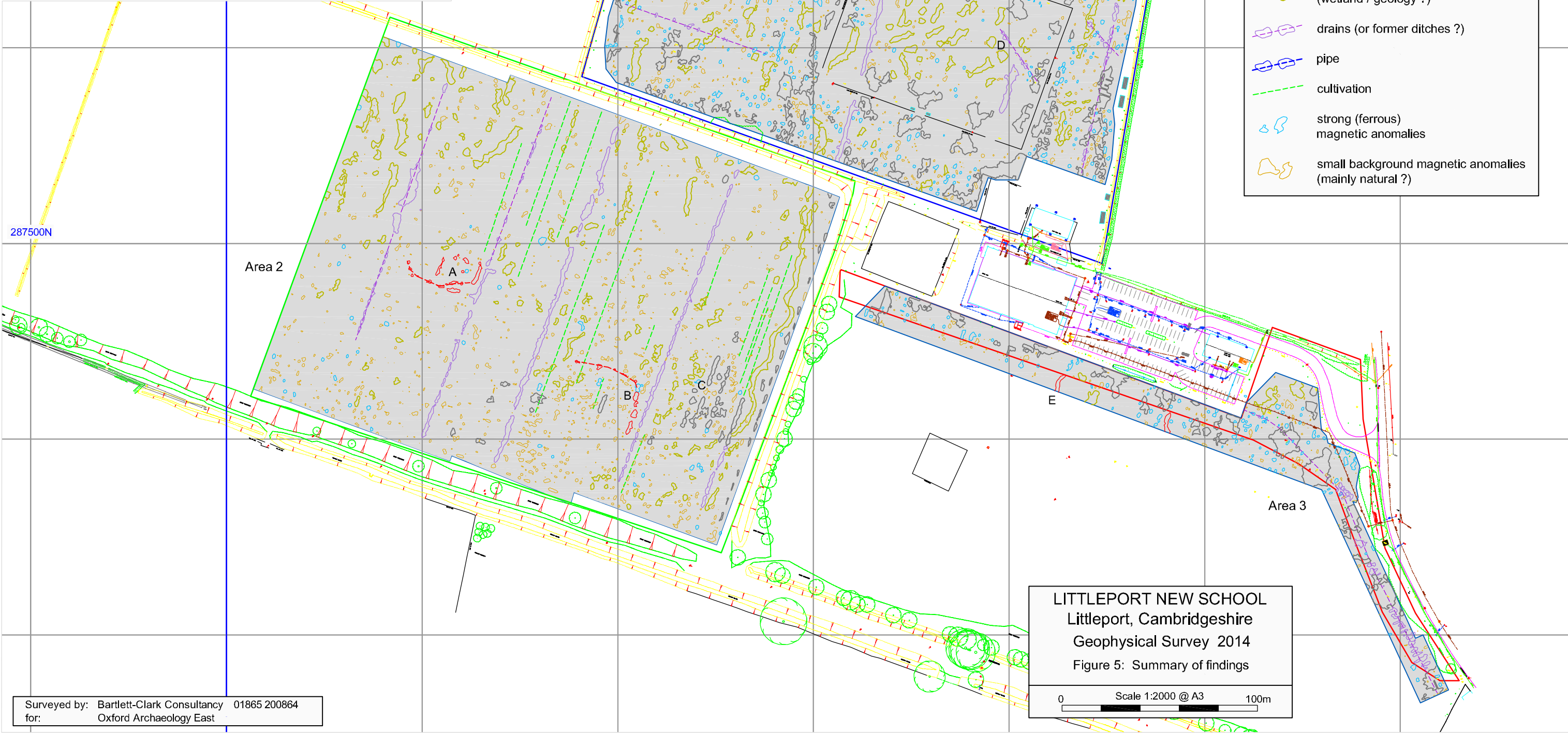
0 Scale 1:1250 @ A3 50m

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Background mapping based on site plan by mksurveys (supplied by Morgan Sindall)



-  magnetic anomalies (archaeological ?)
-  recent magnetic disturbances ?
-  magnetic anomalies (wetland / geology ?)
-  drains (or former ditches ?)
-  pipe
-  cultivation
-  strong (ferrous) magnetic anomalies
-  small background magnetic anomalies (mainly natural ?)



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 Figure 5: Summary of findings

0 Scale 1:2000 @ A3 100m

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