Multi-period remains at the Former RAF Base, Brampton Cambridgeshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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August 2015

Client: JCAM Commercial Real Estate Property VII Limited

OA East Report No: 1813
OASIS No: oxfordar3-219512
NGR: TL 2087 7007

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Multi-period remains at the Former RAF Base, Brampton, Cambridgeshire

Archaeological Evaluation

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Report Date: August 2015

Report Number:	1813
Site Name:	RAF Brampton
HER Event No:	ECB 4503
Date of Works:	July 2015
Client Name:	JCAM Commercial Real Estate Property VII Limited
Client Ref:	NA
Planning Ref:	Pre application
Grid Ref:	TL 2087 7007
Site Code:	BRARAF15
Finance Code:	BRA RAF15
Receiving Body:	CCC Stores
Accession No:	NA
Prepared by:	Helen Stocks-Morgan
Position:	Project Officer
Date:	31/07/15
Checked by:	Matt Brudenell
Position:	Project Manager
Date:	01/09/15
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Summary

Between the 20th and 31st July 2015, Oxford Archaeology East conducted an archaeological evaluation at the former RAF Brampton RAF Base, Brampton, Cambridgeshire (TL 2087 7007). Thirty-four trenches were excavated within the proposed development area, prior to demolition of the existing buildings.

An area of Early Iron Age occupation was identified on part of the site, comprising three pits, two of which yielded pottery. Further potential prehistoric remains included a series of ditches possibly related to a field system in the same area. Evidence for later activity comprised remains of post-medieval garden and landscaping features including a probable drive or ride, a possible well and a backfilled pond close to Brampton House.

Within previously developed areas of the site, sub-soil survival between buildings was variable. In general, soil profiles were most intact in central and eastern areas of the site, although localised zones of disturbance were also noted in these areas. In the western and southern areas, soil profiles were truncated and heavily disturbed.

1 Introduction

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted at RAF Brampton, Brampton, Cambridgeshire (TL 2087 7007) (see fig. 1 for site location).

1.1.2 The work was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Andy Thomas of Cambridgeshire County Council (dated 20/01/2015), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East (Brudenell, 2015).

1.1.3 The evaluation 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 located on the southern outskirts of Brampton, c. 2.7km south-west of Huntingdon within the former envelope of the RAF Brampton site. It is bordered by Buckden Road (B1514) to the east, residential properties to the south and arable land to the north and west.

1.2.2 The site occupies an area c. 20.6 ha in extent, and is currently occupied by a network of houses, commercial buildings, car parks and roads bordered with areas of mature trees. The western and central parts of the site are open and comprise grass playing fields, c. 5.7ha in extent.

1.2.3 The solid geology of the site consists of Jurassic clays of the Oxford Clay Formation Mudstones. These are overlain by superficial deposits of Quaternary River Terrace sands and gravels. The site lies at about 10m OD and is relatively flat.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 A Cultural Heritage Assessment has been prepared for this site by AMEC Environment & Infrastructure UK Limited (Atkinson 2013). The following section draws on, and summarise the findings in this report, together with data from the Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Record and known historical sources.

Early Prehistoric

1.3.2 Brampton lies in the Ouse Valley which has several known early prehistoric monuments and finds spots. To the north of the village lay the Brampton cursus monument (CHER 02117c), and closer to the site, Neolithic axeheads have been found (CHER 11176). Bronze Age cremations have also been recovered close to the site (CHER 11176).

Late Prehistoric / Roman

1.3.3 Aerial photographs have identified rectilinear enclosures to the south-west of RAF Brampton (CHER 02731). These enclosures extend into the south-western part of the development area. Further aerial photographs show a series of similar enclosures to the north of the RAF base (CHER 19344).

1.3.4 Settlement remains dating to the Late Iron Age and/or Early Roman period have been excavated to the north in Brampton village, these settlement remains comprised pits, ditches and some evidence for metalworking (CB15265). A substantial settlement was recovered to the north of Brampton village, consisting of a series of enclosures along with houses, a corn dryer and an associated cobbled surface (MCB 20033).

Medieval

1.3.5 The core of the medieval village is centred in the area around the modern day High Street and is noted in the Domesday Book of AD 1086. At this time the settlement is recorded as having a manor house and two mills, suggesting an established and prosperous settlement.

1.3.6 Further medieval settlement is recorded to the west of the site (CHER 02550) and to the north-west in West End (CB15265).

1.3.7 The remains of open field agricultural systems, denoted by ridge and furrow surround the village. These ridge and furrow remains have been recorded immediately north of the RAF base (CHER 10068), as well as, to the north-west at Park Road (CHER 11176A) and to the north at Poplars Farm (CHER 09259).

Post-Medieval

1.3.8 Brampton House and Park (MCB15297) lies partially within the development area. The first house, the location of which is now lost, had twelfth century origins but by 1328 had fallen into disrepair and ruin (Page and Proby 1936). In the 16th century the house and park was bought by the Throckmorton family who rebuilt the house.

1.3.9 In the 19th century the house was owned by Lady Olivia Bernard Sparrow who commenced a series of building and landscaping work, designing the entranceway, woodland area and formal gardens. The house then became an institution for the cure of stammerers in 1889, but 18 years later it burnt down. After this incident the house was rebuilt on a smaller scale and became a private residence.

Modern

1.3.10 In 1942 RAF Brampton was commissioned as an intelligence centre for the Royal Air Force, comprising an area of 20.6 ha. The base was built to house RAF Support Command and JARIC: The National Imagery Exploitation Centre. Historical maps detail the development of the site (see figs. 2-7) with the construction of the majority of amenity buildings were shown to have occurred in the late 1940s to early 1950s.

1.4 Acknowledgements

1.4.1 The author would like to thank Andy Girvan of Campbell Buchanan, who commissioned and funded the work. The fieldwork was carried out by Steve Graham, Paddy Lambert, Chris Swain and Daria Tsybaeva. David Brown carried out the on-site survey. The illustrations were compiled by Daria Tsybaeva. The machining was undertaken by Chris Brown of Anthill Plant Hire. The project was managed by Matthew Brudenell and monitored by Andy Thomas of Cambridgeshire County Council.

2 Aims and Methodology

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The objective of the 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 This report provides an objective account of the findings of the archaeological evaluation, and presents a deposit model and a discussion of the project results.

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The Brief required that an adequate sample of the potential development area be investigated by means of trial trenching and test-pitting.

2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with both wheeled and tracked 360° type excavators using toothless ditching buckets.

2.2.3 The site survey was carried out using a Leica GPS fitted with *Smartnet* technology.

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, other than those which were obviously modern.

2.2.5 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.

2.2.6 Three environmental samples were taken in order to assess the environmental potential of contexts deemed to be of archaeological significance.

2.2.7 The site conditions were dry and sunny.

3 Results

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The trenches are presented below in numerical order (see Fig. 8) and are cross-referenced to zone, as discussed in section 4 (see Fig. 12). Trench dimensions are recorded in Appendix A and are noted in the text below where they are at variance for a standard 50m x 2m. Due to the nature of the site several trenches were moved from their planned location in order to avoid services or other obstructions, in some cases trenches were split into segments to avoid services.

3.1.2 The natural geology comprised river terrace sands and gravels. Full details by trench/context appear in Appendix A. A more detailed plan of the archaeological remains recorded in the eastern part of the development area (Trenches 3-7,11 and 18) are shown in Figure 9. Those in the central part of the development area (Zone B which encompasses Trenches 10,13-15,19-27) are shown in Figure 10, whilst those in the south (Zone G, Trenches 32-34) are shown in Figure 11.

Trench 1 (Fig.12, Zone C)

3.1.3 No archaeological features were encountered. The trench was contaminated with diesel and only the eastern 8m of the trench was excavated as a result. The natural, a very clean gravel, with no sand patches was recorded at a depth of 0.7m.

Trench 2 (Fig. 9 and Fig.12, Zone C)

3.1.4 No archaeological features were encountered. The trench was contaminated with diesel and only the eastern 14m of the trench was excavated as a result. The natural was recorded at a depth of 0.6m and comprised a discoloured mid yellowish grey sand.

Trench 3 (Fig. 9 and Fig.12, Zone A)

3.1.5 No archaeological features were encountered. The location of Trench 3 was moved immediately south of its original position due to the presence of a modern soakaway. The new trench measured 6m by 3.6m. The natural sand consisting of an orange sand with evident tree rooting was recorded at a depth of 0.85m. In the north-western corner of the trench was a modern sub-square pit measuring 0.8m across and was filled by crushed coal and dark grey clay. No archaeology was present in this trench

Trench 4 (Fig. 9 and Fig.12, Zone A)

3.1.6 Two undated features were present. The trench was located next to one of the former RAF amenity buildings and measured 6m by 4m.

3.1.7 At the southern end of the trench a small sub-circular posthole (**12**) was encountered measuring 0.52m in diameter. The pit had steep sides with a concave base and was 0.17m deep. It was filled by a mid orangish grey silty sand (11).

3.1.8 Immediately to the south lay a ditch (**14**) aligned north-west to south-east and measuring 0.78m wide. It had steepish sides and a concave base, which was 0.22m deep. This ditch was filled by a light orangish grey silty sand (13).

Trench 5 (Fig. 9 and Fig.12, Zone A)

3.1.9 No archaeology was encountered in this trench, which measured 8m by 4m. The southern half of the trench had a modern red brick structure present, which incorporated two narrow wall and a square brick lined pit and was filled by asbestos.

Trench 6 (Fig. 9 and Fig.12, Zone A)

3.1.10 Three undated features were found. The trench was only excavated for a length of 30m as a thick layer of concrete was capping the deposits. In the centre of the trench lay a small sub-circular posthole (**10**) which was 0.28m in diameter. The posthole had steep sides and a concave base which measured 0.11m deep. It was filled by a dark reddish brown silty sand (15), which contained no evidence of post packing or a post-pipe.

3.1.11 This posthole was truncated by a tree throw (**7**) which was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.56m in diameter. The feature had steep sides and a concave base which was 0.2m deep. It was initially filled by a dark reddish brown silty sand (8) which was 0.05m thick. This was overlain by a 0.15m thick light greyish brown silty sand (9).

3.1.12 In the southern end of the trench lay a small sub-circular posthole (**4**) which was 0.6m in diameter. It had steep sides and a slightly concave base measuring 0.35m deep. This posthole was filled by a dark reddish brown silty sand (6) and it had a postpipe located in the centre of the feature, suggesting that the post was left in situ. The postpipe was filled by a dark brownish red clayey silt (5).

Trench 7 (Fig. 9 and Fig.12, Zone A)

3.1.13 No archaeological features were encountered. The trench was restricted to 5m in length and 2m wide due to the presence of underground services and an overhead wire. The trench was excavated to a depth of 0.6m and encountered the remains of a modern service trench. The natural deposits or archaeological horizons were not encountered in this trench.

Trench 8 (Fig. 10 and Fig.12, Zone C)

3.1.14 No archaeological features were encountered. Petrol contamination was encountered in the centre of the trench and further excavation was stopped after 13m of trenching.

Trench 9 (Fig. 10 and Fig.12, Zone C)

3.1.15 Trench 9 was unexcavated due to the presence of underground services.

Trench 10 (Fig.10 and Fig.12, Zone A)

3.1.16 Five undated features were found. The trench was located to the south of Brampton House. The western end of the trench was excavated through grass and was machined down though modern build up layers to a depth of 1.2m without reaching the natural or archaeological deposits. At which point further excavation was stopped due to health and safety concerns.

3.1.17 The eastern part of the trench was located within a modern car park where the natural sand and gravel was exposed at a depth of 1m. The subsoil layer, which was 0.4m thick comprised a mid yellowish grey silty sand, which was overlain by a series of modern hardcore layers and a brick surface (124,125), totalling 0.7m thick.

3.1.18 At the eastern end of the trench lay a pit (**46**), which was only partially exposed due to truncation by later archaeology and modern disturbance. The pit was circular in plan and measured 0.7m in diameter. It had steep sides and a concave base which was 0.24m deep. This pit was contained a dark reddish grey clayey sand fill (48).

3.1.19 The pit was truncated on its southern side by a north-east to south-west aligned ditch (**45**), which was 0.6m wide. The ditch had steep side and a concave base which was 0.5m deep. It was filled by a mid brownish grey clayey sand (49) which contained occasional gravel.

3.1.20 To the east, lay a parallel gully (**47**) which was 0.29m wide. This gully had steep sides and a concave base which measured 0.12m deep. It was filled by a dark reddish grey clayey sand fill (48).

3.1.21 Adjacent to this gully was a large sub-circular pit (**25**) measuring 3m in diameter (Plate 1). The pit had near vertical sides and was excavated to a depth of 1m, further excavation was not undertaken due to the risk of collapse. An initial slump of light reddish brown clayey sand (30) was evident on the north-western side of the pit, which was 0.25 thick. The lowest exposed fill was a 0.4m thick mid reddish grey clayey sand (28) which contained four red deer metapodials. Overlying this was a dark greyish brown clayey sand (29), which was 0.62m thick (see plate 1).

3.1.22 Truncating this pit was a 1.2m wide ditch (**26**) which was aligned north-east to south-west. This ditch had steep sides, a flattish base and was 0.2m deep. It was filled by a dark reddish brown clayey sand (31).

Trench 11 (Fig. 9 and Fig.12, Zone A)

3.1.23 No archaeological features were encountered. The trench measured 3.5m by 2.5m and was located in the south-eastern part of the development area.

Trench 12 (Fig. 10 and Fig.12, Zone B)

3.1.24 No archaeology was encountered within this 24m long trench, however, modern concrete footings and a soakaway had truncated much of the trench.

Trench 13 (Fig. 10 and Fig.12, Zone B)

3.1.25 At the eastern end of the trench (26m in length) lay a slightly curvilinear ditch (**68**) which was mostly aligned west-north-west to east-south-east and measured 0.55m wide. This ditch had straight sides, a concave base and was 0.3m deep. It was filled by a light to mid greyish brown silty sand (67)

Trench 14 (Fig. 10 and Fig.12, Zone B)

3.1.26 One undated feature was found in Trench 14 which lay close to a modern building and has been subject to a high level of modern disturbance. The natural at the western end of the trench was not exposed due to the presence of an electricity cable. The middle and eastern end of the trench was not excavated due to a dump of asbestos being present 0.4m below the modern ground level.

Trench 15 (Fig. 10 and Fig.12, Zone B)

3.1.27 Six archaeological features were found in Trench 15, three are undated, one dates to the post-medieval period and two are likely to be modern.

3.1.28 In the centre of the trench was a 6.25m wide linear depression (**80**) aligned north to south. The feature had gradual sides and a flat base, measuring 0.1m deep. It was filled with a mid to dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent small gravel inclusions (81), possibly the remains of a surface suggesting it had been a path, track or possible drive. It contained ten sherds of pottery and five fragments of tile dating to the late medieval and early post-medieval periods, as well as an Iron spur (also post-medieval) and one sherd of residual Roman pottery. Fragments of animal bone were also found.

3.1.29 Two metres to the east lay a 0.6m wide ditch (**112**) which was aligned north-north-west to south-south-east. The ditch had steep sides and a concave base measuring 0.2m deep. It was filled by a dark reddish brown silty sand (113).

3.1.30 Truncating this ditch was a north to south ditch (**82**) which was 1.8m wide. An extension to the trench on the southern side was excavated to clarify that the ditch turned towards

the east. The ditch had steep sides and a concave base which was 0.44m deep. It was filled by a mid reddish brown sandy silt (83), which contained fragments of cattle and horse bone.

3.1.31 To the east lay a 0.9m wide ditch (**88**) aligned north-east to south-west. The ditch had gradual sides and a flattish base which was 0.1m deep. It was filled by a light reddish brown silty sand (89).

3.1.32 In the eastern half of the trench two sub-circular pits (**86**,**90**) were encountered, both of which were modern and contained steel and concrete.

Trench 16 (Fig.12 Zone, B)

3.1.33 No archaeological features were recorded in this trench.

Trench 17 (Fig. 9 and Fig.12, Zone A)

3.1.34 No archaeological features were encountered. The majority of the trench was subject to modern truncation with a modern service pipe running parallel with the trench. The only portion of the trench which was unaffected was the southern seven metres (see Plate 2). Within this section of the trench an irregular pit, probably a tree throw (**51**) was encountered.

Trench 18 (Fig. 9 and Fig.12, Zone A)

3.1.35 One undated ditch was found in Trench 18. The trench was 6.5m by 3.5m and the natural was exposed at a depth of 0.94m below the modern ground level. A slightly curvilinear ditch (**54**) was encountered in the trench which was broadly aligned north-west to south-east. The ditch had steep sides, with a concave base and measured 1.4m wide and 0.14m deep. It was filled by a mid greyish brown silty sand (53).

Trench 19 (Fig 10 and Fig.12, Zone B)

3.1.36 Two ditches, one certainly and one probably post-medieval were present in Trench 19 which was 50m x 2m.

3.1.37 In the centre of the trench lay two parallel ditches aligned north-east to south-west. The northern ditch (**56**) had concave sides and a flattish base, which measured 0.6m wide and 0.1m deep. It was filled by a mid greyish brown silty sand (57).

3.1.38 Two metres to the south lay the second ditch (**58**) which was 0.6m wide. The ditch steep sides and a flat base measuring 0.2m deep. It was filled by a mid greyish brown silty sand (59) which contained a fragment of post-medieval tobacco pipe within its fill.

Trench 20 (Fig. 10 and Fig.12, Zone B)

3.1.39 No archaeological features were recorded in this trench.

Trench 21 (Fig 10 and Fig.12, Zone B)

3.1.40 Two features, both undated were found in Trench 21.

3.1.41 At the northern end of the trench a north-east to south-west ditch (**62**) was encountered which was 0.8m wide. The ditch had gradual sides and a concave base measuring 0.1m deep. It was filled by a mid yellowish brown silty sand (61).

3.1.42 To the south, lay a sub-circular pit (**66**) which was 1.4m in diameter (Fig. 13). The pit had slightly convex sides, with a flattish base and was 0.7m deep. It had an initial fill of mid brownish orange silty sand (65) associated with side slumpage. The pit was then filled by a mid orangey brown sandy clay, which contained occasional charcoal flecks

(64). This was overlain by a mid to dark brownish grey silty sand which contained moderate charcoal flecks (63) (see fig. 7 for section).

Trench 22 (Fig. 10 and Fig.12, Zone B)

3.1.43 No archaeological features were recorded in this trench.

Trench 23 (Fig. 10 and Fig.12 Zone B)

3.1.44 Two features were found in Trench 23, one was probably natural and the other post-medieval in date

3.1.45 In the centre of the trench lay a tree throw (**20**) which was irregular in plan and profile. Five metres to the east, a north to south aligned ditch (**18**) was encountered which was 1.1m wide. The ditch had steep sides and a flattish base measuring 0.4m. This ditch was filled by a mid greyish brown silty sand (19) which contained a sherd of post-medieval pottery and a fragment of tobacco pipe.

Trench 24 (Fig. 10 and Fig.12, Zone B)

3.1.46 No archaeological features were recorded in this trench.

Trench 25 A, B, C (Fig. 10 and Fig.12, Zone B)

3.1.47 No archaeological features were recorded in this trench which was laid out as a cross-shape with an interruption in the south-east arm of the cross. The eastern arm of the trench (B) contained a modern pit which contained coal and brick rubble.

Trench 26 (Fig. 10 and Fig.12, Zone B)

3.1.48 Two features were found in this trench, one undated and the other probably medieval or early post-medieval.

3.1.49 At the northern end of the trench a large spread was encountered which is thought to be a pond (**69**). The overall spread measured 13m wide and three slots were excavated through this to investigate the profile and ill sequence. The pond was excavated 1.4m in depth when further excavation was stopped due to the risk of collapse.

3.1.50 The fill sequence was similar in all three slots (**69**, **72**, **75**), having a lower fill of mid greyish blue clayey silt (76) which measured a maximum of 0.3m thick (Fig. 13 and Plate 3). The colour and consistency suggesting it was deposited in waterlogged conditions. This was overlain by a 0.2m thick mid grey clayey silt (137). The upper fill was a mid brownish grey silty sand (77) and similar in nature to the subsoil and thought to represent infilling and levelling of the pond once the pond went out of use (see fig. 7 for section). Two fragments of late medieval/early post-medieval roof tile was recovered from the upper fill of the pond (76).

3.1.51 Ten metres to the south lay a north-west to south-east ditch (**105**) which measured 1.2m wide (Plate 4). The ditch had steep sides and a slightly concave base which was 0.4 deep. It was filled by a mid greyish brown silty sand (106).

Trench 27 (Fig. 10 and Fig.12, Zone B)

3.1.52 Four features were found in this trench, two dated to the Early Iron Age, one probably post-medieval, and one undated. Residual Roman pottery was also found

3.1.53 At the eastern end of the trench two pits were encountered. The eastern pit (**102**) was sub-circular in plan measuring 0.4m in diameter (Fig. 13 and Plate 5). This pit had steep sides and a concave base which was 0.6m deep. It was filled by a dark brownish grey clayey sand (101) which contained three sherds of Early Iron Age pottery, which joined together (see fig. 7 for section).

3.1.54 Adjacent to this was a second pit (**97**), which was sub-circular in plan and measured 0.64m in diameter (Fig. 13). The pit had steep sides and a concave base and was 0.3m deep. It was filled by a similar dark brownish grey clayey silt (96) which contained burnt flint and ten sherds of Early Iron Age pottery (see fig. 7 for section).

3.1.55 Truncating pit **102** was an east to west aligned ditch (**95**) which terminated to the east. The ditch was 2.25m wide and had steep sides and a concave base, measuring 0.48m deep. It had an initial fill of dark brownish grey clayey sand (94) which was 0.05m thick. This was overlain by a 0.4m thick mid greyish brown silty sand (93) which contained seven sherds of Roman pottery and two sherds of post-medieval pottery.

3.1.56 At the western end of the trench a 3.75m wide ditch (**100**) which was aligned north-west to south-east (Plate 6). This ditch had steep sides and a flat base and measured 0.7m deep. It had an initial fill of mid to dark greyish brown silty sand (99) which was 0.2m and contained frequent gravel inclusions. This was overlain by a 0.5m thick mid greyish brown silty sand (98).

Trench 28 (Fig.12, Zone H)

3.1.57 No archaeological remains were present. Petrol contamination was encountered in the centre of the trench and further excavation was stopped.

Trench 29

3.1.58 Trench 29 was not excavated as it lay outside of the development area.

Trenches 30 and 31 (Fig.12, Zone F)

3.1.59 No archaeological remains were present in Trenches 30 and 31 which both showed severe truncation including concrete blocks pushed into the natural. Trench 30 lay within the footprints of the old RAF mess building.

Trench 32 (Fig 11 and Fig.12, Zone G)

3.1.60 No archaeological remains were present in Trench 32 which measured 16m in length.

Trench 33 (Fig. 11 and Fig.12, Zone G)

3.1.61 A single heavily truncated undated feature was found in Trench 33 which was 14m long.

3.1.62 In the centre of the trench a small curvilinear gully (**32**) was encountered. This gully was truncated with only the bottom 0.05m surviving. The gully was aligned north to south before turning towards the west. It had gentle sides, a flat base and measured 0.4m wide. This gully was filled by a mid greyish brown silty sand (33).

Trench 34 (Fig. 11 and Fig.12, Zone G)

3.1.63 Five features were located in Trench 34, three were post-medieval and two were modern.

3.1.64 At the western end of the trench lay a 0.7m wide ditch (**37**) which was aligned north-west to south-east (Plate 7). The ditch had straight sides and a concave base which was 0.3m deep. It had a mid greyish brown clayey sand fill (38) which contained two sherds of post-medieval pottery and two fragments of ceramic building material.

3.1.65 Towards the centre of the trench were two shallow linear features (**42, 44**) both of which were on a north to south alignment. These ditches were shallow sided with a flat base and measured 1.4m in width. They are probably the remnant of medieval ridge and furrow agriculture.

3.1.66 Two modern postholes were encountered in the trench (**34**, **40**) both of which were circular and measured 0.4m and 0.6m in diameter respectively (Plate 8).

Trench 35 (Fig. 10 and Fig.12, Zone B)

3.1.67 A single feature of possible Early Iron Age date was found in Trench 35 along with a residual Late Meolithic flint. The trench was 23m long and 2m wide.

3.1.68 At the northern end of the trench a ditch (**107**) was encountered on a broadly north to south alignment and measured 1.1m wide. The ditch had step sides and a slightly concave base which was 0.3m deep. It was filled by a light reddish brown silty sand (108) which contained a Late Mesolithic flint blade and a sherd of Early Iron Age pottery.

Trench 36 (Fig. 10 and Fig.12, Zone B)

3.1.69 No archaeological features were encountered in Trench 36 which was 25m long nd 2m wide. The trench was excavated to test whether any further pits were present within the vicinity of Trench 21.

3.2 Finds Summary

3.2.1 A total of fifteen sherds of prehistoric pottery, seven sherds of Roman pottery, fifteen sherds of medieval and post-medieval pottery and nine fragments of ceramic building material was recovered during the evaluation. Other finds from this evaluation include a flint blade, an iron spur and horseshoe.

3.3 Environmental Summary

3.3.1 A small faunal assemblage was recovered, with a total of 16 assessable specimens, 14 of which were identified to species

3.3.2 Three environmental samples were taken during the evaluation. One fragment of charred pea/bean seed was recovered along with sparse charcoal remains. The samples were considered poor in terms of preserved material.

4 Deposit Survival Model

4.1.1 The construction of the RAF base has differentially affected the potential for archaeological survival across the site. Both truncation and made ground are present across the site.

4.1.2 The survival of any potential archaeological deposits in each trench has been assessed and this information has been used to attempt to predict zones of archaeological deposit survival. This is intended as a guide only. The table below (Table 1) gives a trench by trench description of the depths of topsoil, subsoil, natural, modern deposits, modern disturbance and an assessment of how severely truncation is likely to have affected any archaeological deposits present, low being most likely to have been affected by truncation and good being little affected by truncation.

4.1.3 These results have been plotted and zones have been assigned to areas of differential survival of archaeological deposits as shown in Figure 6.

Trench /Zone	Topsoil (m)	Modern deposits (m)	Subsoil (m)	Depth to natural (m)	Modern disturbance of natural	Survival
1/C	-	0.7	-	0.7	Diesel contamination	low
2/C	-	0.6	-	0.6	Diesel contamination	low

Trench /Zone	Topsoil (m)	Modern deposits (m)	Subsoil (m)	Depth to natural (m)	Modern disturbance of natural	Survival
3/A	0.36	0.2	0.25	0.81	Modern drain and pit	good
4/A	0.26	0.17	0.47	0.9	Modern wall	good
5/A	0.26	-	0.40	0.66	Asbestos contamination	good
6/A	0.23	0.55	0.2	0.98		good
7/A	0.18	0.2	0.4	Not reached	Modern service	unknown
8/C	-	0.7	-	0.7	Petrol contamination	low
9/C	unexcavated					
10/A	0.3	0.2	0.4	1		good
11/A	0.1	0.7	0.1	0.9		good
12/B	0.2	-	0.3	0.5	Concrete footings	low
13/B	0.3	-	0.28	0.58		good
14/B	0.26	-	0.3	0.56	asbestos	good
15/B	0.4	-	0.2	0.6		good
16/B	0.29	-	0.32	0.61		good
17/A	-	0.55	0.2	0.75	building footing	low
18/A	0.4	-	0.54	0.94		good
19/B	0.16	-	0.26	0.38		good
20/B	0.3	-	0.3	0.5		good
21/B	0.25	-	0.4	0.65		good
22/B	0.36	-	0.32	0.68		good
23/B	0.28	-	0.16	0.56		good
24/B	0.3		0.26	0.56		good
25/B	0.32		0.34	0.66	Modern pit	good
26/B	0.34		0.34	0.64		good
27/B	0.35		0.34	0.65		good
28/H	-	0.1	0.6	0.7	Petrol contamination	low
29	unexcavated					
30/F	0.2	0.6	-	0.8	Concrete	low
31/F	0.2	0.3	-	Not reached	Concrete	low
32/G	-	0.52	0.4	0.56		good
33/G	-	0.43	0.43	0.66		good
34/G	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.75		good
35/B	0.2		0.35	0.55		good
36/B	0.25	-	0.4	0.65		good

Table 1: Deposit depths in trenches

4.1.4 ***Zone A:*** Is in the eastern part of the development area, (encompassing Trenches 3-7, 10, 11, 17 and 18). Here the ground level seems to have been built up and truncation is likely to be restricted to the footings of the buildings and services. However, the area has been extensively developed, so intact soil profile and any potential archaeological deposits will be localised and in dispersed patches.

4.1.5 ***Zone B:*** Lies within the central area (Trenches 12-16, 19-27, 35 and 36) in an area of open space (sports pitches etc). The soil profile seems to have suffered little disturbance and therefore the potential for survival of archaeological deposits is assessed as good. Some localised disturbance can be expected immediately adjacent to the amenity building to the north.

4.1.6 ***Zone C:*** Is located along the northern and north-western part of the development area (Trenches 1, 2, 8 and 9). The ground level here was recorded as being stripped to natural geological layers and then built up, with no subsoil surviving. There was also evidence for severe contamination from diesel in this area (see Plate 9). Therefore the survival of any potential archaeological deposits within this area is deemed to be low.

4.1.7 ***Zone D:*** Lies within the walled garden of Brampton House. No archaeological evaluation has taken place within this area and therefore the survival of any potential archaeological deposits are unknown.

4.1.8 ***Zone E:*** No archaeological evaluation has taken place in the area around Brampton House itself as no development is planned for this area.

4.1.9 ***Zone F:*** Is situated in the area around the former RAF mess building (Trench 30 and 31). The ground here was heavily disturbed and no archaeological deposits are likely to survive in this zone (Plate 10). The trenching results in this area provide an indication of the level of truncation likely to have been caused by building footings elsewhere on the site.

4.1.10 ***Zone G:*** Lies immediately to the south of the former mess building (Trenches 32-34). Truncation of the upper layers was encountered, but as subsoil survived to a reasonable depth here it is likely that potential for survival of archaeological deposits would be good.

4.1.11 ***Zone H:*** This zone in the south-eastern part of the development area (Trench 28) has had the ground level built up, therefore protecting any subsoil and potential archaeological deposits. However, petrol contamination was noted here and may have had an adverse effect. The survival of archaeological deposits, and the potential for further investigation, would depend on how localised this contamination is.

4.1.12 ***Zone I:*** The JARIC building occupies this zone and although no archaeological evaluation has taken place here, the building is assumed to have had an adverse effect on any potential archaeological deposits.

4.1.13 ***Zone J***: No archaeological evaluation has taken place in Zone J owing to standing buildings, roads in use, live underground services and dense tree cover on the existing green spaces. However, much of area has been extensively developed, so intact soil profiles and any potential archaeological deposits are likely to be localised.

4.2 Deposit Survival Summary

4.2.1 The RAF base which currently stands on the site was constructed in the 1950s and has had a varying impact on the survival of archaeological deposits (see Fig. 6). In general it would seem that the open space to the south of Brampton House (Zone B) has not

been disturbed or landscaped to any significant degree, the soil profile is intact here and where archaeological deposits are present they are reasonably well preserved.

4.2.2 For the majority of the development area to the north and east of Zone B construction and landscaping has had an adverse effect on any archaeological deposits that may have been present. In broad terms the north-western part of the site has been truncated, and the eastern side of the site has been built up. Sub-soil survival was observed on the eastern area of the site but even so this is likely to be confined to the spaces between buildings and services. Indeed, given the area has been extensively developed, it is likely that any surviving archaeology will be patchy and dispersed.

4.2.3 In addition contamination from petrol and asbestos was found in several trenches, it is unclear how widespread the contamination is, but where it occurs it will have an adverse effect on archaeological deposits..

5 Discussion and Conclusions

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The discussion is presented in chronological format to help set the findings into context within their wider landscape setting.

5.1.2 Further discussion focuses on an assessment of the degree of survival of archaeological deposits across the development area.

5.2 Early Prehistoric

5.2.1 Evidence for the earlier prehistoric period was found only in Zone B in the form of a single residual Mesolithic flint blade found in Trench 35. The blade was in a relatively fresh condition suggesting that it had not moved far from its original context of loss/deposition. Its presence indicates the site was occasionally visited during the Mesolithic period.

5.3 Early Iron Age

5.3.1 Evidence for Early Iron Age activity was found in Zone B and comprised two small pits (Trench 27; **97**, **102**) that produced a moderate assemblage of pottery, comprising fresh unabraded sherds deriving from a number of different vessels. A third pit (**66**) in Trench 21 is undated, but based on its character may also belong to the same period.

5.3.2 In addition two ditches (Trench 13; **89**, and Trench 35; **107**) also in Zone B may belong to a prehistoric (possibly Iron Age) field system. The ditches were on a perpendicular axis (ENE to WSW and NNW to SSE). They both had a similar profile and fills suggest that they are of the same date and potentially belong to the same field system. The paleness of the ditch fills indicate a potentially prehistoric date for these ditches, but they are otherwise undated.

5.3.3 These features and associated pottery suggest that settlement evidence within an agricultural landscape may be present in Zone B. Settlement in this period was commonly unenclosed, often comprising dispersed buildings, pits and other settlement related features such as watering holes and hearths.

5.3.4 No previous evidence of Early Iron Age settlement has been recorded in Brampton parish, however, its location on the north side of the Ouse Valley would have been conducive to settlement at that time.

5.4 Roman

5.4.1 There is evidence for a Roman presence, but it is limited to severely abraded sherds of pottery from a broad date range found in two post-medieval features in Zone B. This pottery is likely to derive from manuring of fields in the Roman period. A system of enclosures located to the south-west of the development area have been interpreted as Roman and could be the source of the pottery found in this evaluation.

5.5 Medieval

5.5.1 Evidence for medieval activity was found in one Trench (26) in Zone B. A large pond (69) here was clearly being filled in during the post-medieval period but seems likely to be medieval in date. It may have been associated with the original 12th century Brampton House. The site of the former pond can still be seen as a slight depression within the modern landscape and was perhaps filled in during landscaping associated with the post-medieval Brampton Park. Further evidence for medieval activity is in the form of ridge and furrow which indicates arable cultivation.

5.6 Post-medieval

5.6.1 Farming probably continued to be a major influence on the landscape into the post-medieval period and east to west ditch **95** (Zone B, Trench 27) may have formed part of a field boundary.

5.6.2 Evidence for the post-medieval Park landscape was also found in Zone B in the form of a gravel ride or drive (Trench15; **80**). It was orientated north to south and follows the same line as an avenue of trees shown on the *c*. 1830 map of the Brampton Park estate (see Fig. 14). The width of the feature (over 6m) suggests that it was perhaps intended as a carriage drive and may be associated with the 19th century landscaping. The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map (1890, Fig. 2) shows a drive or ride leading northwards from the north-south Avenue intersected by another following the line of the east-west Avenue, perhaps indicating a post 1830 but pre 1890 date. Truncation has probably removed any evidence for it further north (in Zone A) since it was not visible in Trench 10.

5.6.3 Limited evidence for the post-medieval landscape was also found in Zone C (Trench 10) where a possible well (**25**) was located. Although undated, its position in relation to Brampton House and close to the pleasure garden, combined with the fresh condition of the animal bone from its fill, suggests a post-medieval date.

5.6.4 Despite extensive development the layout of the post-medieval estate can still be seen today by the positioning of mature trees, particularly those defining the east to west avenue. In addition some architectural elements still survive, including the wall around the pleasure garden and the walled garden.

5.7 Undated

5.7.1 Several small undated features were recorded at the east end of the development area (Zone A), including two small ditches (**14**, **54**) and a small pit (**12**) in Trenches 4 and 18. It is difficult to judge the significance of these features, though it seems likely that the ditches were field boundaries. The absence of finds suggests they were not near a focus of settlement. An undated curvilinear ditch in Zone G (Trench 34) may be further evidence for dispersed settlement features associated with an Early Iron Age landscape.

5.8 Significance

5.8.1 The evaluation has identified that large parts of the site have suffered truncation that will have had an adverse effect on archaeological deposits, however, Zone B has been shown to have reasonably good survival as has parts of Zone A. In these Zones archaeological deposits have been identified dating to the Early Iron Age and the medieval or post-medieval periods. In the north-eastern part of Zone B and west end of Zone A, close to Brampton House there is a good potential for archaeological remains associated with the medieval and post-medieval landscape associated with Brampton House. In the south-eastern corner of Zone B and possibly dispersed across it there is reasonably good potential for archaeological remains associated with an Early Iron Age landscape, possibly a settlement. There is slight evidence in Zone G for survival of other features of possible prehistoric and more certainly post-medieval date.

5.9 Recommendations

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

Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory

Trench 1						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench was contaminated with diesel, it was devoid of archaeology in excavated portion. Consists of tarmac, hardcore and a modern make up layer overlying a natural of orange gravel.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.7
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	8
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
114	Layer	-	0.1	Tarmac	-	-
115	Layer	-	0.3	Hardcore	-	-
116	Layer		0.3	Make up	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 2						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contaminated with diesel. Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of tarmac, hardcore and modern make up layer overlying a natural of orange gravel.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.6
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	9
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
117	Layer	-	0.41	Tarmac	-	-
118	Layer	-	0.1	Hardcore	-	-
119	Layer	-	0.4	Make up	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 3						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained modern services and devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange sand and gravel.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.85
					Width (m)	3.6
					Length (m)	6
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.45	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 4						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained one ditch and one pit. Consists of soil and subsoil					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.88

overlying a natural of orange sand and gravel.	**Width (m)**	2
	Length (m)	6

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.4	Subsoil	-	-
11	Fill	0.52	0.17	Pit	-	-
12	Cut	0.52	0.17	Pit	-	-
13	Fill	0.78	0.22	Ditch	-	-
14	Cut	0.78	0.22	Ditch	-	-
16	Layer	-	0.15	Make up	-	-
17	Layer	-	0.09	Make up	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 5

General description	**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained modern foundations, including asbestos and devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange sand and gravel.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.68
	Width (m)	4
	Length (m)	8.2

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.74	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 6

General description	**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained two postholes and a tree throw. Consists of tarmac and concrete overlying soil and subsoil. The natural was an orange sand and gravel.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.95
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	30

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
4	Cut	0.6	0.32	Posthole	-	-
5	Fill	0.1	0.30	Posthole	-	-
6	Fill	0.6	0.3	Posthole	-	-
7	Cut	1.1	0.4	Tree throw	-	-
8	Fill	1.1	0.4	Tree throw	-	-

9	Fill	1.1	0.35	Tree throw	-	-
10	Cut	0.28	0.11	Posthole	-	-
15	Fill	0.28	0.11	Posthole	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 7						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil, hardcore and subsoil overlying a natural of sand and gravel.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.8
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	4
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1	Layer	-	0.18	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.4	Subsoil	-	-
120	Layer	-	0.2	Hardcore	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 8						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of tarmac, hardcore and a make up layer overlying a natural of orange gravel					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.7
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	15
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
121	Layer	-	0.1	Tarmac	-	-
122	Layer	-	0.2	hardcore	-	-
123	Layer	-	0.4	Make up	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 9		
General description	**Orientation**	-
Trench was unexcavated due to the presence of modern services	**Avg. depth (m)**	-
	Width (m)	-
	Length (m)	-

Trench 10		
General description	**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained three ditches and one pit. Consists of a brick surface and hardcore overlying soil and subsoil. The natural was an orange sand and gravel.	**Avg. depth (m)**	1
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50
Contexts		

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.4	Subsoil	-	-
124	Layer	-	0.2	Brick surface	-	-
125	Layer	-	0.5	Hardcore	-	-
25	Cut	3	>1	Pit	-	-
26	Cut	1.2	0.2	Ditch	-	-
28	Fill	1	0.6	Pit	Animal bone	-
29	Fill	1.8	0.6	Pit	-	-
30	Fill	0.6	1	Pit	-	-
31	Fill	1.2	0.2	Ditch	-	-
45	Cut	0.7	0.25	Ditch	-	-
46	Cut	>0.6	>0.5	Ditch	-	-
47	Cut	0.29	0.12	Ditch	-	-
48	Fill	0.7	0.25	Ditch	-	-
49	Fill	>0.6	>0.5	Ditch	-	-
50	Fill	0.29	0.12	Ditch	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 11

General description	Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil, make up and subsoil overlying a natural of orange sand and gravel.	Avg. depth (m)	0.9
	Width (m)	2.5
	Length (m)	3.5

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
126	Layer	-	0.7	Make up	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 12

General description	Orientation	N-S
Trench contained a modern soak away and concrete footings. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange sand and gravel.	Avg. depth (m)	0.45
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	24

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date

1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 13						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained one ditch. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange sand and gravel					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.52
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	29
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.28	Subsoil	-	-
67	Fill	1	0.3	Ditch	-	-
68	Cut	1	0.3	Ditch	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 14						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology, contained asbestos dump. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of sand and gravel.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.56
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	15
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1	Layer	-		Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-		Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 15						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained a path, three ditches, one pit and one posthole. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange sand and gravel					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
80	Cut	5.5	0.1	Path		Late Med / Early Post-Med
81	Fill	5.5	0.1	Path	Spur,	Late Med / Early Post-

					Pottery, CBM, animal bone	Med
82	Cut	1.8	0.45	Ditch	-	-
83	Fill	1.8	0.45	Ditch	Animal bone	-
84	Cut	0.8	0.4	Ditch	-	-
85	Fill	0.8	0.4	Ditch	-	-
86	Cut	0.56	0.42	Posthole	-	-
87	Fill	0.56	0.42	Posthole	-	-
88	Cut	0.9	0.1	Ditch	-	-
89	Fill	0.9	0.1	Ditch	-	-
90	Cut	1.4	0.12	Pit	-	-
91	Fill	1.4	0.12	Pit	-	-
92	Layer	5.5	0.05	Path surface	-	-
112	Cut	0.58	0.2	Ditch	-	-
113	Fill	0.58	0.2	Ditch	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 16

General description	**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of sand and gravel.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.65
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.4	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 17

General description	**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained one tree throw. Consists of a brick pavement, hardcore and subsoil overlying a natural of sand and gravel.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.7
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	30

Contexts

context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
2	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
51	Cut	2.5	0.2	Tree throw	-	-
52	Fill	2.5	0.2	Tree throw	-	-

127	Layer	-	0.2	Brick pavement	-	-
128	Layer	-	0.3	Hardcore	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 18

General description	**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained one ditch. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.9
	Width (m)	3.5
	Length (m)	6.5

Contexts

context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.64	Subsoil	-	-
53	Fill	0.4	0.14	Ditch	-	-
54	Cut	0.4	0.14	Ditch	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 19

General description	**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained two ditches. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of sand and gravel.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.36
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	48

Contexts

context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1	Layer	-		Topsoil	-	-
56	Cut	0.6	0.1	Ditch	-	-
57	Fill	0.6	0.1	Ditch	-	-
58	Cut	0.59	0.21	Ditch	-	-
59	Fill	0.59	0.21	Ditch	Tobacco pipe	post-medieval
60	Layer	-		Subsoil	Horseshoe	post-medieval
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 20

General description	**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of sand and gravel.	**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	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 21

General description	**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained one ditch and one pit. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of sand and gravel.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.6
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
61	Fill	0.6	0.1	Ditch	-	-
62	Cut	0.6	0.1	Ditch	-	-
63	Fill	1.5	0.36	Pit	-	-
64	Fill	1.3	0.26	Pit	-	-
65	Fill	0.15	0.15	Pit	-	-
66	Cut	1.5	0.74	Pit	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 22

General description	**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.55
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	47.5

Contexts

context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.36	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 23

General description	**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained one ditch and one tree throw. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of sand and gravel.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.46
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-

2	Layer	-	0.32	Subsoil	-	-
18	Cut	1.1	0.38	Ditch	-	-
19	Fill	1.1	0.38	Ditch	Pottery, Tobacco pipe	post-medieval
20	Cut	1.7	0.42	Tree throw	-	-
21	Fill	0.8	0.08	Tree throw	-	-
22	Cut	0.8	0.36	Tree throw	-	-
23	Fill	1.3	0.36	Tree throw	-	-
24	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 24

General description	**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of sand and gravel.	**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	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 25a

General description	**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of sand and gravel.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.55
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	10

Contexts

context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.34	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 25b

General description	**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained a modern pit. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of sand and gravel.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.55
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	18

Contexts

context	**type**	**Width**	**Depth**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**

no		(m)	(m)			
1	Layer	-		Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-		Subsoil	-	-
130	Fill	1.2	0.3	Pit	-	-
131	Cut	1.2	0.3	Pit	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 25c

General description	Orientation	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of sand and gravel.	Avg. depth (m)	0.55
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	18

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 26

General description	Orientation	N-S
Trench contained one ditch and one pond. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of sand and gravel.	Avg. depth (m)	0.64
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	41

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.6	Subsoil	-	-
69	Cut	> 1.7	0.7	Pond	-	Late Med / Early Post-Med
70	Fill	>1.7	0.5	Pond	-	Late Med / Early Post-Med
71	Fill	>1.5	0.2	Pond	-	Late Med / Early Post-Med
72	Cut	>1.6	0.9	Pond	-	Late Med / Early Post-Med
73	Fill	>1.6	0.6	Pond	-	Late Med / Early Post-Med
74	Fill	>0.8	0.3	Pond	-	Late Med / Early Post-Med
75	Cut	>1.2	1.05	Pond	-	Late Med / Early Post-Med
76	Fill	>1.2	0.6	Pond	Nail, CBM,	Late Med / Early Post-

					Animal bone	Med
77	Fill	>1.2	0.15	Pond	-	Late Med / Early Post-Med
105	Cut	1.1	0.28	Ditch	-	Late Med / Early Post-Med
106	Fill	1.1	0.28	Ditch	-	Late Med / Early Post-Med
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	Late Med / Early Post-Med

Trench 27

General description	**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained two ditches and two pits. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of sand and gravel.	**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	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
93	Fill	2.25	0.4	Ditch	pottery	Late Med / Early Post-Med
94	Fill	2.25	0.08	Ditch	-	Late Med / Early Post-Med
95	Cut	2.25	0.48	Ditch	-	Late Med / Early Post-Med
96	Fill	0.64	0.3	Pit	pottery	Early Iron Age
97	Cut	0.64	0.3	Pit	-	Early Iron Age
98	Fill	3.75	0.5	Ditch	-	Early Iron Age
99	Fill	3.25	0.2	Ditch	-	-
100	Cut	3.75	0.7	Ditch	-	-
101	Fill	0.8	0.4	Pit	pottery	Early Iron Age
102	Cut	0.8	0.4	Pit	-	Early Iron Age
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 28

General description	**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench was contaminated with diesel. Consists of tarmac, hardcore and subsoil overlying a natural of sand and gravel.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.9
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	11

Contexts

context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**

132	Layer	-	0.3	Tarmac and hardcore	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.6	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 29

General description

Trench not excavated.

Trench 30

General description	**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology, but heavily disturbed by modern occupation. Consists of soil and modern make up layer overlying a natural of sand and gravel.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.75
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	35

Contexts

context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
133	Layer	-	0.6	Make up layer	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 31

General description	**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology, but heavily disturbed by modern occupation. Consists of soil and modern make up layer, natural not reached	**Avg. depth (m)**	>0.5
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	8

Contexts

context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
133	Layer	-	0.5	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 32

General description	**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of tarmac and modern make up layer overlying a natural of sand and gravel.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.54
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	16

Contexts

context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
134	Layer	-	0.12	tarmac	-	-
135	Layer	-	0.4	Make up	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 33						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained one ditch. Consists of tarmac and modern make up layer overlying a natural of sand and gravel.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.6
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	14
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
32	Cut	0.4	0.03	Ditch	-	-
33	Fill	0.4	0.03	Ditch	-	
134	Layer	-	0.12	tarmac	-	-
135	Layer	-	0.4	Make up	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 34						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained one ditch, two postholes and two furrows. Consists of tarmac, soil and subsoil overlying a natural of sand and gravel.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.7
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
34	Cut	0.3	0.2	Posthole	-	-
35	Fill	0.3	0.14	Posthole	-	-
36	Fill	0.3	0.1	Posthole	-	-
37	Cut	0.6	0.26	Ditch	-	-
38	Fill	0.6	0.26	Ditch	pottery, CBM	post-medieval
39	Fill	0.6	0.18	Posthole	-	-
40	Cut	0.6	0.18	Posthole	-	-
41	Fill	1.7	0.24	Furrow	-	-
42	Cut	1.7	0.24	Furrow	-	-
43	Fill	1.4	0.2	Furrow	-	-
44	Cut	1.4	0.2	Furrow	-	-
136	Layer	-	0.3	Tarmac	-	-
1	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 35						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained one ditch. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.54

natural of sand and gravel.	**Width (m)**	2
	Length (m)	23

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
107	Cut	1.1	0.28	Ditch	Flint	-
108	Fill	1.1	0.28	Ditch	-	-
1	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.35	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 36

General description	**Orientation**	NNE-SSW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of sand and gravel.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.6
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	25

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Appendix B. Finds Reports

B.1 Flint

Identified by Barry Bishop

The assemblage

B.1.1 One worked flint weighing 8g was recovered from this evaluation. The flint was a Late Mesolithic crested serrated blade and was from sole fill of ditch **107**(Zone B, Trench 35).

B.2 Metalwork

By Carole Fletcher

the Assemblage

B.2.1 A small assemblage of iron artefacts, comprising, a horseshoe, a single iron nail and an incomplete spur were recovered. The iron objects are corroded but their forms recognisable. The artefacts are stored in plastic bags and/or crystal boxes within a Stewart box containing silica gel and humidity levels are monitored using a humidity indicator strip.

B.2.2 The horseshoe was recovered from the subsoil in Trench 19 (Zone B), no other finds were recovered from the subsoil, and the only other find from the trench was a fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem from ditch **58**. The horseshoe has no visible nail holes and the broad overall U-shape, wide web and visible calkins suggest a post-medieval date.

B.2.3 Trench 15 (Zone B) produced a rowel spur recovered from feature **80**, a possible carriage drive or ride. The feature also produced late medieval and transitional pottery dating from the mid 15th-early 17th century.

B.2.4 A single iron nail was recovered from Trench 26 (Zone B), from a fill of pond **75**, no pottery was recovered from the feature, although late medieval-early post-medieval roof tiles were recovered, suggesting a similar date for the nail.

Discussion

B.2.5 Nails are a common metallic find on many sites, most are associated with construction, including roofing, suggesting some structure in the vicinity of the area evaluated. The horseshoe, although clearly not modern, could have been thrown by a working horse from the 16th century onwards.

B.2.6 Clarke describes the spur as being both a functional and fashionable object (Clark 1995 124). The rowel spur recovered from feature **80** appears plain and functional, and would have been worn by a rider while hunting, travelling or riding for pleasure. The spur is broadly post-medieval in date.

Catalogue

SF1 (60), subsoil. Broad U-shaped horseshoe, heavily corroded and no visible nail holes. The web is broad and only tapers slightly towards the heel. Calkins are present at the ends of both heels. Length 120mm, width (at heel) 119mm, maximum width of web 33mm, minimum 24 mm.

SF2 (81) path **80**. Incomplete and corroded iron rowel spur. The terminal is present and appears complete, however the rowel is absent. The rowel box is shallowly angled downwards while the sides are relatively flt one having been slightly twisted The sides of the spur are oval and curve narrowly around the position of the heel; both terminals are missing. Length 107mm, maximum width between the outside edges of the sides 52mm. The neck is about 48mm in length and is slightly oval in cross-section. Due to corrosion it is not possible to determine whether the rowel bar is *in situ*.

SF3 (76) fill of pond **75**. Compete iron, tapering, square-sectioned, domed-headed nail. Length 73mm.

B.3 Prehistoric Pottery

By Matt Brudenell

Introduction

B.3.1 A small assemblage comprising 15 sherds (244g) of pottery was recovered from the evaluation, displaying a relatively high mean sherd weight (MSW) of 16.3g. The pottery derived from four features in Trenches 27 and 35 (Table 2), including two pits and two ditches. The material can be assigned to the Post Deverel-Rimbury (PDR) ceramic tradition, with pottery from the pits dating to the Early Iron Age (c. 800-350 BC), and the side sherd from ditch (95), to the Late Bronze Age (c. 1100-800 BC). The ceramics are in a stable condition, and sherds are only moderately abraded. This report provides a quantified description of the assemblage.

Context	Cut	Feature type	Trench /Zone	No./Wt. (g) sherds	Fabrics (no./wt(g) sherds)	Date
93	95	Ditch	27/B	1/23	F1 (1/23)	Late Bronze Age, c. 1100-80 BC
96	97	Pit	27/B	10/135	FQ1 (7/127), FQ2 (3/8)	Early Iron Age, c. 800-350 BC
101	102	Pit	27/B	3/80	FQ1 (3/80)	Early Iron Age, c. 800-350 BC
108	107	Ditch	35/B	1/6	FQ1 (1/6)	Early Iron Age, c. 800-350 BC
Total				*15/244*		

Table 2: Pottery quantification by context

Fabrics:

Flint

F1: Moderate to common medium to coarse burnt flint (mainly 2-4mm in size)

FQ1: Sparse to common medium to coarse burnt flint (mainly 2-4mm in size) in a dense sand clay matrix

FQ2: Sparse to common medium burnt flint (mainly 1-2mm in size) in a dense sand clay matrix

Methodology

B.3.2 All the pottery was fully recorded following the recommendations laid out by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (2009). All sherds were counted, weighed (to the nearest whole gram) and assigned to fabric (sherds broken in excavation were refitted and counted as single entities). Sherd type was recorded, along with evidence for surface treatment, decoration, and the presence of soot and/or residue. Rim forms have been described using a codified system recorded in the catalogue, and are assigned vessel numbers. Forms have been classified using a series devised by the author (Brudenell 2011; 2012), and the class scheme created by John Barrett (1980). All pottery has been subject to sherd size analysis. Sherds less than 4cm in diameter have been classified as 'small' (6 sherds); sherds measuring 4-8cm are classified as 'medium' (8 sherds), and sherds over 8cm in diameter 'large' (1 sherd).

Assemblage characteristics

B.3.3 With the exception of a partial vessel profile from pit 102, the assemblage consisted entirely of plain body sherds, with all the ceramics in coarse flint tempered fabrics typical of the region's PDR tradition (Brudenell 2012). Sherds assigned to the Early Iron Age were in fabrics FQ, distinguished by the quartz sand in the clay matrix, which is also typical of the period. Those from pit 97 clearly derived from a number of different vessels, whilst the three sherds from pit 102 refitting to form the partial profile of a single plain coarseware jar (Class I, Form F3). The jar displayed a rounded shoulder and short upright neck with a rim diameter of c. 14cm (15% intact). The form is not especially diagnostic, but is a basic jar type found in most Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age assemblages. The sherd from ditch 108 was abraded and encrusted with iron pan, but was in fabric FQ1. That from ditch 95 was in fabric F1 and is more likely to be of Late Bronze Age date.

Discussion

B.3.4 Based on the character of the fabrics, and the presence of a single partial vessel profile, the pottery form context 96, 101 and 108 can be assigned to the Early Iron Age and belong to the Decorated ware phase of the PDR ceramic tradition, dated c. 800-350 BC (Brudenell 2012). The single sherd from context 93 is believed to be earlier, and it thought to be of Late Bronze Age origin, dated c. 1100-800 BC.

B.4 Roman Pottery

By Alice Lyons

Introduction

B.4.1 A total of 7 sherds, weighing 117g, of Romano-British pottery were found as a residual element with a post-medieval garden path **80** and ditch **95**. This assemblage is in a severely abraded condition and has an average sherd weight of only 16.7g.

Methodology

B.4.2 The Roman pottery was analysed following the guidelines of the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Darling 2004). The total assemblage was studied and a full catalogue was prepared (Table 4). The sherds were examined using a hand lens (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of inclusion types present. Broad fabrics forms (jar, bowl) were recorded. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram and recorded by context. Decoration, residues and abrasion were also noted. OA East curates the pottery and archive.

The Fabrics and Forms

B.4.3 The majority of this very small assemblage comprises locally produced (but unsourced) utilitarian coarsewares that can be broadly dated to the Romano-British period. Theses include two Sandy grey ware jar bases and a Sandy oxidised ware jar base. A small amount of undiagnostic reduced ware with fossilised shell as a natural component of the clay was also recorded, although these sherds were severely abraded and neither closely datable or possible to assign to source.

Fabric	Form	Quantity	Weight (g)
Sandy oxidised ware	JAR	1	18
Shell tempered ware	JAR	2	8
Sandy grey ware	JAR	3	81

Fabric	Form	Quantity	Weight (g)
Oxidised ware (grog)	BOWL	1	10
Total		**7**	**117**

table 3. The Romano-British pottery

B.4.4 A further fragment was retrieved of a sandy grey ware jar, with silver mica present as a natural component of the clay. This vessel was externally burnished and decorated with a single fine girth groove. Soot residue was present on the external surface and lime-scale on the internal surface suggesting it had been used to heat water. Micaceous vessels of this type were known to have been produced at Wattisfield on the Norfolk/Suffolk border, but a more local source cannot be discounted (Tomber and Dore 1998, 184).

B.4.5 Also found was one severely abraded soft oxidised, grog tempered, bowl fragment with large ovolo design, sometimes described as 'egg and dart', incised into the fabric (Webster 1996, 122). This bowl is imitating a Gaulish samian Dr37 bowl (Webster 1996, 47, fig. 32). The source of this material is not known although it is similar to pottery found in the Milton Keynes area which dates between the early 2nd and early 3rd centuries AD (Marney 1989, 175, Fabric 2b).

The Romano-British pottery catalogue

B.4.6 KEY: B = base, C=century, D = decorated body sherd, Dsc = Description, L=late, M=mid, RB= Roman-British, U=undecorated body sherd.

Context	Trench/ Zone	Cut	Feature	Fabric	Dsc	Form	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	Abrasion	Date
81	15/B	80	Garden path	Sandy oxidised ware	B	Jar	1	18	Severe	MC1-C3
93	27/B	95	Ditch	Shell tempered ware	U	Jar	2	8	Severe	?RB
93	27/B	95	Ditch	Sandy grey ware	B	Jar	1	38		?RB
93	27/B	95	Ditch	Sandy grey ware	B	Jar	1	25		RB
93	27/B	95	Ditch	Sandy grey ware (mica)	D	Jar	1	18		LC1-C2
93	27/B	95	Ditch	Oxidised ware (grog)	D	Bowl	1	10	Severe	C3-C4

Table 4: The Romano-British pottery catalogue

B.5 Post-Roman Pottery

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction

B.5.1 Archaeological works produced a pottery assemblage of 15 sherds, weighing 0.199kg. The assemblage spans the mid 13th to the early 19th century. The condition of the overall assemblage is unabraded to moderately abraded and the mean sherd weight is low to moderate at approximately 0.014kg.

Methodology

B.5.2 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 for the post-Roman pottery.

Assemblage

B.5.3 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.

B.5.4 Ditch **18**, trench 23, produced a single rim sherd from a Post-medieval Redware jar or bowl. Ditch **37**, trench 34 also produced a single sherd from a Post-medieval Redware bowl and a sherd from a Creamware vessel (*c*.1740-1830), suggesting an 18th century or later date for the context.

B.5.5 From path **80** (trench 15) were recovered 9 sherds of pottery weighing 0.131kg, the largest post-Roman feature assemblage recovered from the trenching. The context assemblage includes a rim fragment from a possible Late Medieval Reduced ware jug dating from the mid 14th to end of the 15th century, also present were sherds from several Bourne D vessels (mid 15th-early 17th century). From pit **95** (trench 26) a single sherd was recovered from a Staffordshire-type Slipware bowl, most likely of 18th century or later date, alongside a residual sherd of Late Medieval Reduced ware.

Discussion

B.5.6 The assemblage is domestic in nature, there are a number of late medieval and early post-medieval sherds present that suggest some level of activity from the mid 14th century onwards in the area of trench 15. A number of the sherds relate to the consumption of liquids such as the Late Medieval Reduced ware jug; few sherds show evidence of sooting. These vessels may represent rubbish deposition relating to the tiled domestic building from which the late medieval-early post-medieval glazed floor tile also recovered from path **80** originated.

Pottery Catalogue

Context	*Cut*	*Trench/ Zone*	*Fabric*	*Form*	*Sherd Count*	*Weight (kg)*	Pottery Date Range
19	**18**	23/B	Post-medieval Redware	Bowl or jar rim	1	0.013	1550-1800
38	**37**	34/G	Post-medieval Redware	Bowl body sherd	1	0.026	1550-1800
			Creamware	Plate or Bowl body sherd	1	0.004	1740-1830
81	**80**	15/B	Bourne 'D' ware	Body sherd	2	0.015	1430-1650
			Bourne 'D' ware	Jug body sherd	1	0.006	1430-1650
			Bourne 'D' ware	Base sherd	1	0.043	1430-1650
			Late Medieval Reduced	Bowl rim	1	0.018	1350-1500

Context	Cut	Trench/ Zone	Fabric	Form	Sherd Count	Weight (kg)	Pottery Date Range
			ware	sherd			
			Late Medieval Reduced ware	Body sherd	1	0.004	1350-1500
			Late Medieval Reduced ware	Jug rim and body sherd	3	0.045	1350-1500
			East Anglian Redware	Body sherd	1	0.013	1200-1500
93	**95**	26/B	Staffordshire-type Slipware	Bowl base sherd	1	0.006	1700-1830
			Late Medieval Reduced ware	Jar rim sherd	1	0.006	1350-1500
Total					**15**	**0.199**	

Table 5: Post-Roman Pottery

B.6 Clay Tobacco Pipe

By Carole Fletcher

B.6.1 The excavation generated a small assemblage of clay tobacco pipe stems (0.0087kg) from two contexts. The fragment recovered from ditch **18** is relatively abraded the broken edges having become rounded, the ditch also produced a sherd of post-medieval pottery (mid 16th-end18th century). The pipe stem fragments are not closely datable.

Context	Cut	Trench/ Zone	No. Stems	Weight (kg)	Description	Date
19	**18**	23/B	1	0.005	Stem: unmarked	Not closely datable
59	**58**	19/B	1	0.002	Stem: unmarked	Not closely datable
Total			**2**	**0.008**		

Table 6: Clay Tobacco Pipe

B.7 Ceramic Building material

By Carole Fletcher with identifications by Robert Atkins

B.7.1 Nine fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered from three contexts, including two fragments of fully oxidised, sand and flint tempered CBM, most likely brick fragments, which were recovered from ditch **37**. The majority of the CBM is roof tile (peg tile), with several fragments retaining one or two sub-rectangular or sub-rounded peg holes. A single fragment of late medieval or early post-medieval undecorated glazed floor tile was also recovered from path **80**, suggesting a late medieval or early post-medieval domestic building in the vicinity of the site.

Context	Cut	Trench /Zone	Material	Form/Description	Count	Weight (kg)	Date
38	**37**	34/G	Ceramic	Undiagnostic fragments oxidised dull red sandy fabric	2	0.026	Not closely datable
76	**75**	26/B	Ceramic	Roof tile, peg tile with partial sub-rounded peg hole in a fine pale pink	1	0.065	Late medieval-early post-

Context	Cut	Trench /Zone	Material	Form/Description	Count	Weight (kg)	Date
				fabric with dull red-pink and yellow-cream (Fabric 1)			medieval
			Ceramic	Roof tile, peg tile with partial sub-rounded peg hole in Fabric 1	1	0.050	Late medieval-early post-medieval
81	**80**	15/B	Ceramic	Roof tile, peg tile with two relatively closely spaced sub-rectangular peg holes (upper surface) which taper to a sub-rounded hole on the base of the tile. The fabric is similar to that of fabric 1 but is more dull orange-red and both surfaces and to some degree the matrix contains voids and ?calcareous material (Fabric 2)	1	0.084	Late medieval-early post-medieval
			Ceramic	Roof tile (Fabric 2)	1	0.101	Late medieval-early post-medieval
			Ceramic	Roof tile (Fabric 2), upper surface slightly discoloured by heat/smoke.	2	0.090	Late medieval-early post-medieval
				Floor tile, glossy greenish-brown gaze partially covers the upper surface. The surviving edge is sightly uneven and in part shallowly chamfered, the lower surface is almost smooth, lightly sanded with fine sand fabric dull red-brown margins and dull red-orange core very fine quartz temper and rare calcareous or flint inclusion. The tile is 28mm thick (Fabric 3)	1	0.094	Late medieval-early post-medieval
Total					**9**	**0.510**	

Table 7: Ceramic Building Material

Appendix C. Environmental Reports

C.1 Faunal Remains

By Vida Rajkovača

Introduction

C.1.1 A small faunal assemblage was recovered, with a total of 16 assessable specimens, 14 of which were identified to species (Table 6). The preservation was quite good with almost half of the assemblage being represented by either complete or almost complete specimens.

Methods: Identification, quantification and ageing

C.1.2 The zooarchaeological investigation followed the system implemented by Bournemouth University with all identifiable elements recorded (NISP: Number of Identifiable Specimens) and diagnostic zoning (amended from Dobney & Reilly 1988) used to calculate MNE (Minimum Number of Elements) from which MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals) was derived. Identification of the assemblage was undertaken with the aid of Schmid (1972), and reference material from the Cambridge Archaeological Unit. Where possible, the measurements have been taken (Von den Driesch 1976). Withers height calculations follow the conversion factors published by Von den Driesch and Boessneck 1974. Taphonomic criteria including indications of butchery, pathology, gnawing activity and surface modifications as a result of weathering were also recorded when evident.

C.1.3 All four contexts containing animal bone were excavated in the eastern part of the investigated area and this is where the majority of underlying archaeology had been recorded. Remains of cattle, ovicapra, horse and red deer were positively identified.

C.1.4 A cow vertebra recovered from ditch **83** was chopped down the sagittal plane, slightly off centre, a mark consistent with splitting carcasses into left and right portions. From the same context, a cow mandible was recorded with a foramen on the lingual side, just under the first premolar (p2).

C.1.5 Red deer metapodials from pit **28** all appeared to have come from the same individual; the biometrical data available gave the shoulder height of 109cm. The right metatarsus had slight swelling on the midshaft, a sign of possible inflammation.

Trench/Zone	10/A	26/B	15/B	15/B	
Feature	28	76	80	83	
Taxon					**Total NISP**
Cow	.	.	1	4	5
Sheep/ goat	.	.	1	.	1
Horse	.	1	.	1	2
Red deer	4	.	.	.	4
Sub-total to species	**4**	**1**	**2**	**5**	**12**
Cattle-sized	.	.	3	.	3
Sheep-sized	.	.	.	1	1
Total	**4**	**1**	**5**	**6**	**16**

Table 6. Number of Identified Specimens for all species from all contexts.

C.2 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.2.1 Three bulk samples were taken from features within the excavated areas at RAF Brampton, Cambridgeshire in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations. Features sampled include a prehistoric ditch and pit and a post-medieval pond.

Methodology

C.2.2 The total volume (up to 16 litres) of each bulk sample was processed by water flotation (using a modified Siraff three-tank system) for the recovery of plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.25mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve. Both flot and residues were allowed to air dry. A magnet was dragged through each residue fraction prior to sorting for artefacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds. The dried flots were subsequently sorted using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and a complete list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 6. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands* and the authors' own reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Stace (1997).

Results

C.2.3 Sample 1, fill 77 of pond **75** contains organic material including roots and occasional seeds of bramble (*Rubus* sp.) and elderberry (*Sambucus* sp.), both plant species produce seeds with tough outer coats (testa) that are resistant to decay and are probably contemporary. It is likely that this represents differential preservation by which less durable plant material has decayed. A single fragments of clinker is consistent with the post-medieval dating of this feature.

C.2.4 Sample 2, fill 108 of ditch **107** contains a single fragment of charred pea/bean (*Pisum/Lathyrus/Vicia* sp.) and a single fragment of pottery.

C.2.5 Sample 3, fill 65 of pit **66** contains sparse charcoal only.

Sample No.	Trench/Zone	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	Volume processed (L)	Contents
1	26/B	77	75	Pond	16	Clinker, untransformed seeds and roots
2	35/B	108	107	Ditch	13	Fragment of charred pea/bean, pottery
3	21/B	65	66	Pit	16	Sparse charcoal

Table 7: Environmental samples

Discussion

C.2.6 The samples were poor in terms of preserved material. A single fragment of charred pea/bean in ditch **107** may be intrusive and would not be reliable for dating the deposit.

The scarcity of preserved plant remains in the prehistoric features precludes further interpretation of the site during this period.

C.2.7 The post-medieval pond deposit appears to have de-watered with loss of any plant remains that could have provided further information.

Appendix D. Bibliography

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Electronic sources

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Appendix E. OASIS Report Form

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-219512		
Project Name	Former RAF Brampton, Brampton, Cambridgeshire		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	18-07-2015	Finish	15-09-2015
Previous Work (by OA East)	No	Future Work	Unknown

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	BRARAF15	Planning App. No.	PREPLANNING
HER No.	ECB4503	Related HER/OASIS No.	

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG15
Development Type	Rural 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 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	Bronze Age -2.5k to -700	POTTERY	Bronze Age -2.5k to -700
DITCH	Roman 43 to 410	pottery	Roman 43 to 410
path	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901	pottery	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901

Project Location

County	cambridgeshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	Former RAF Brampton Buckden Road Brampton
District	huntingdonshire		
Parish	brampton		
HER	BRARAF15		
Study Area	20.6 ha	National Grid Reference	TL 2087 7007

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Andy Thomas (CCC)
Project Design Originator	Matthew Brudenell (OA East)
Project Manager	Matthew Brudenell (OA East)
Supervisor	Helen Stocks-Morgan (OA East)

Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
CCC Stores	OA East (Bar HIII)	CCC Stores
	BRARAF15	

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:

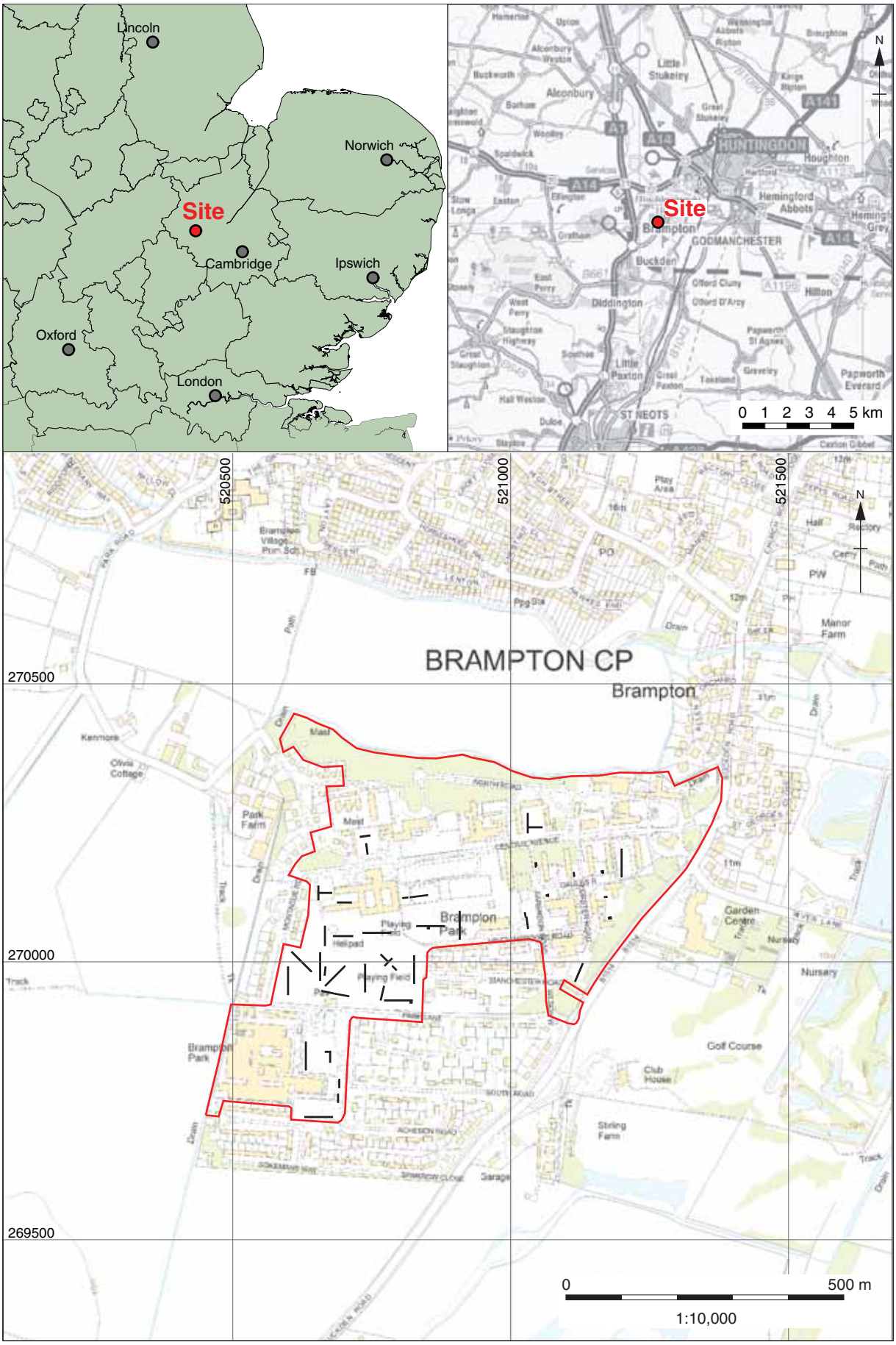

Figure 1: Site location showing archaeological trenches (black) in the development area (red)

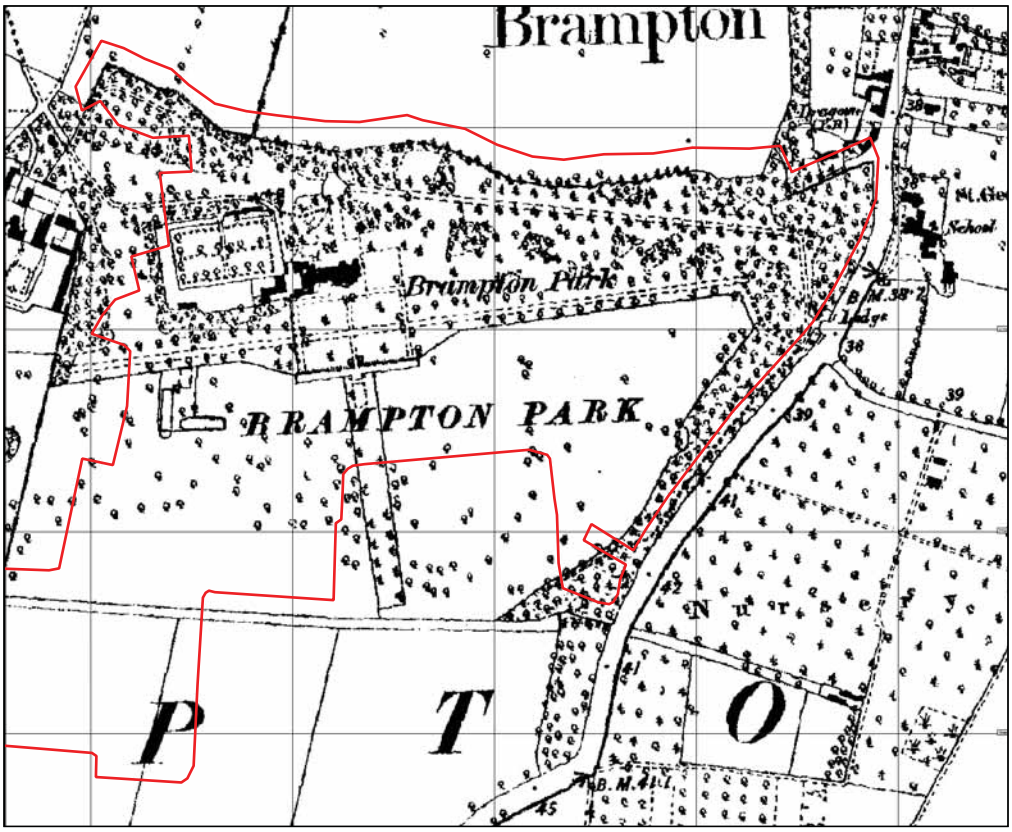

Figure 2: Historic map of 1888 of RAF Brampton

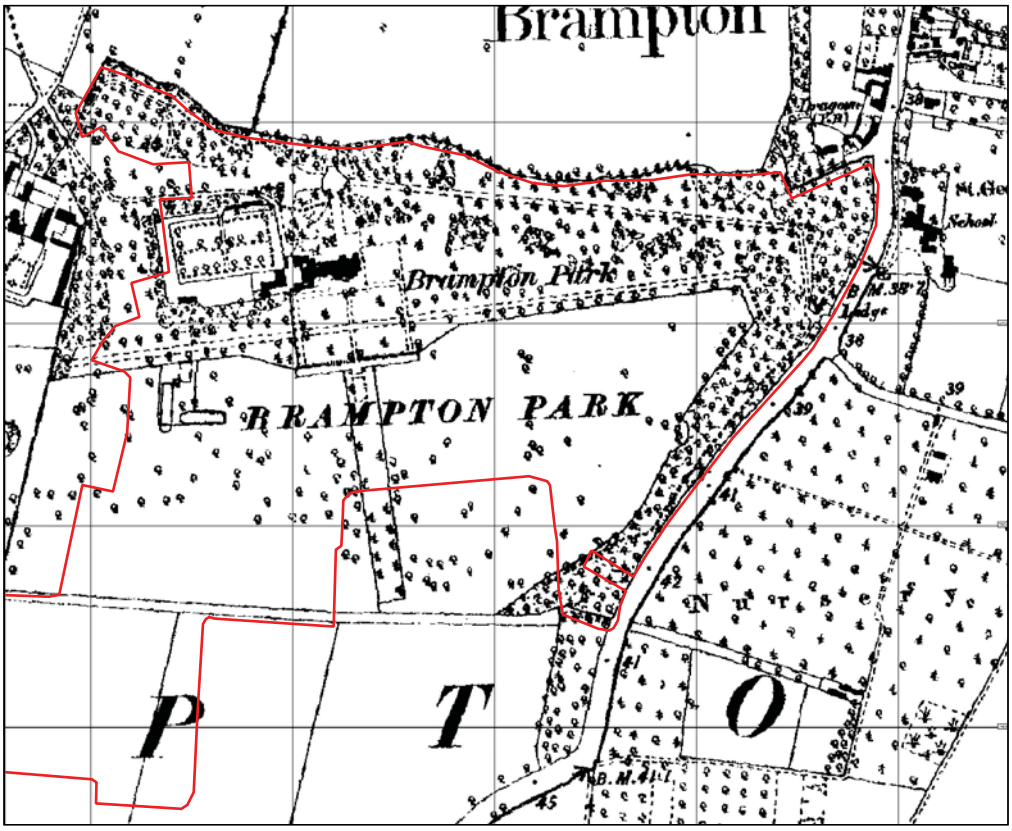

Figure 3: Historic map of 1890 of RAF Brampton

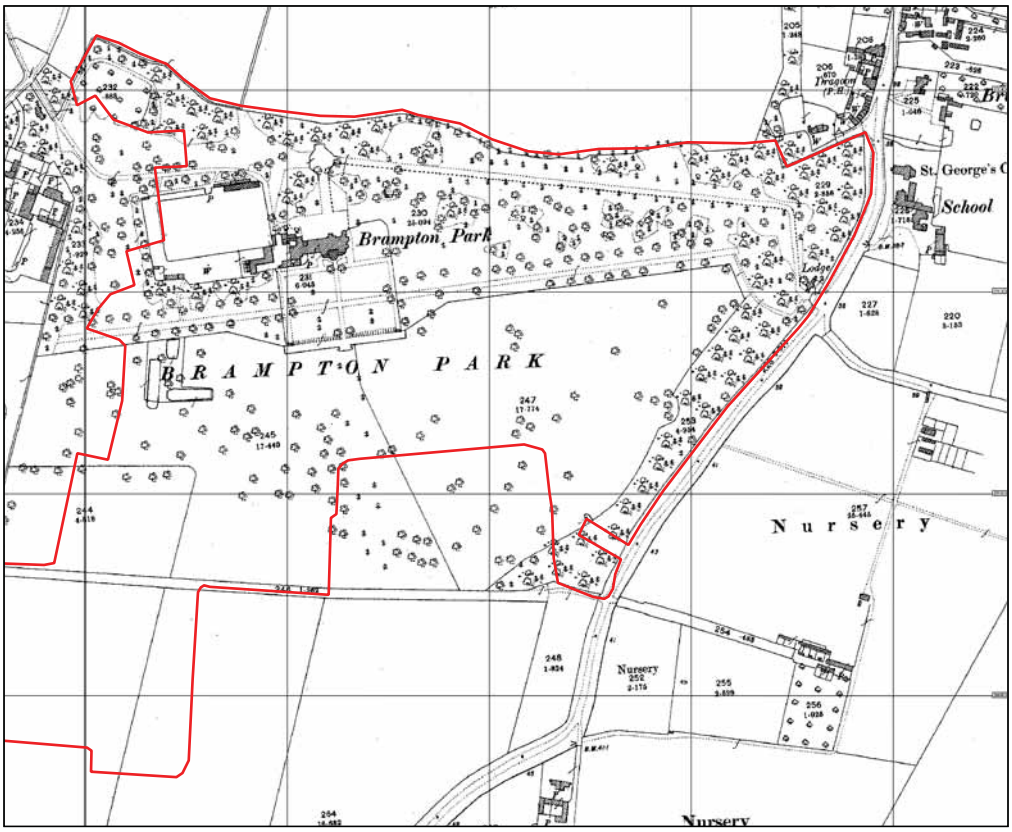

Figure 4: Historic map of 1901 of RAF Brampton

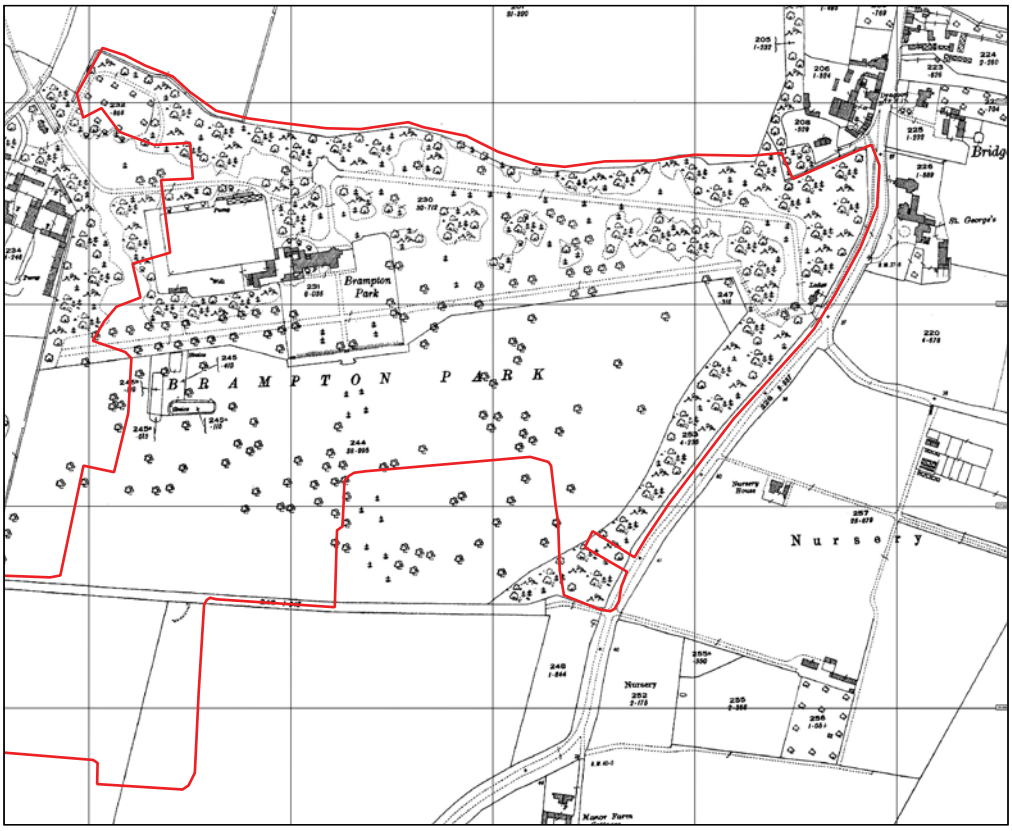

Figure 5: Historic map of 1926 of RAF Brampton

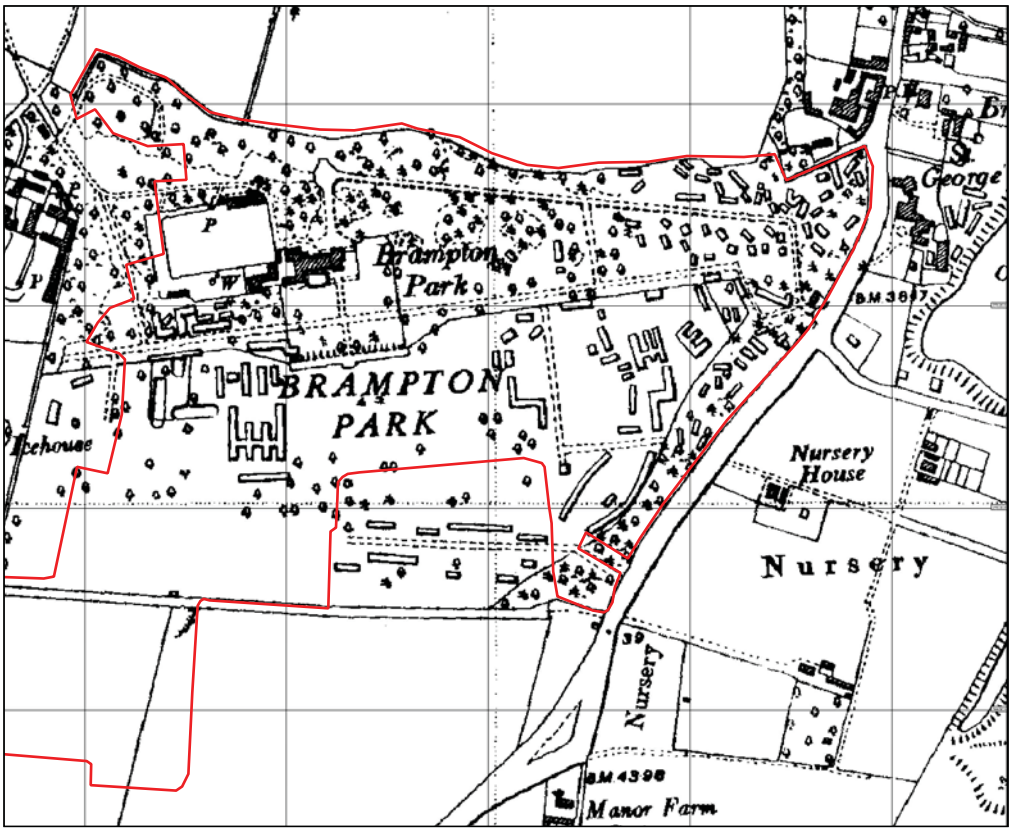

Figure 6: Historic map of 1952 of RAF Brampton

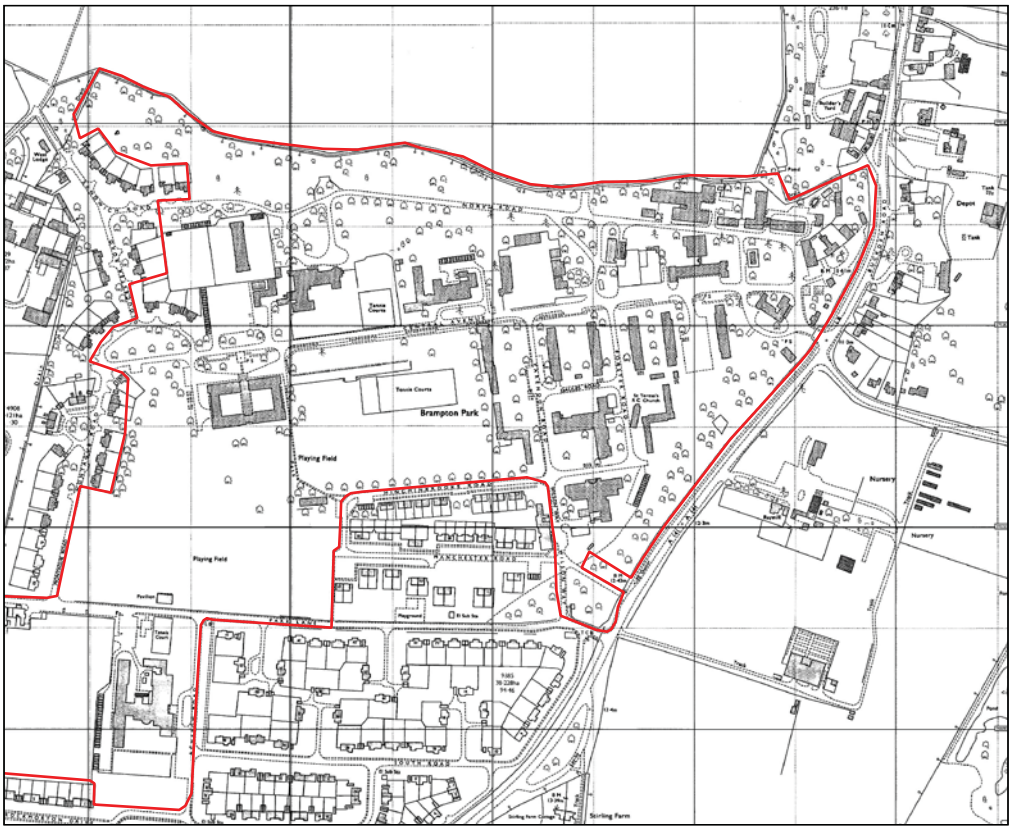

Figure 7: Historic map of 1972-78 of RAF Brampton

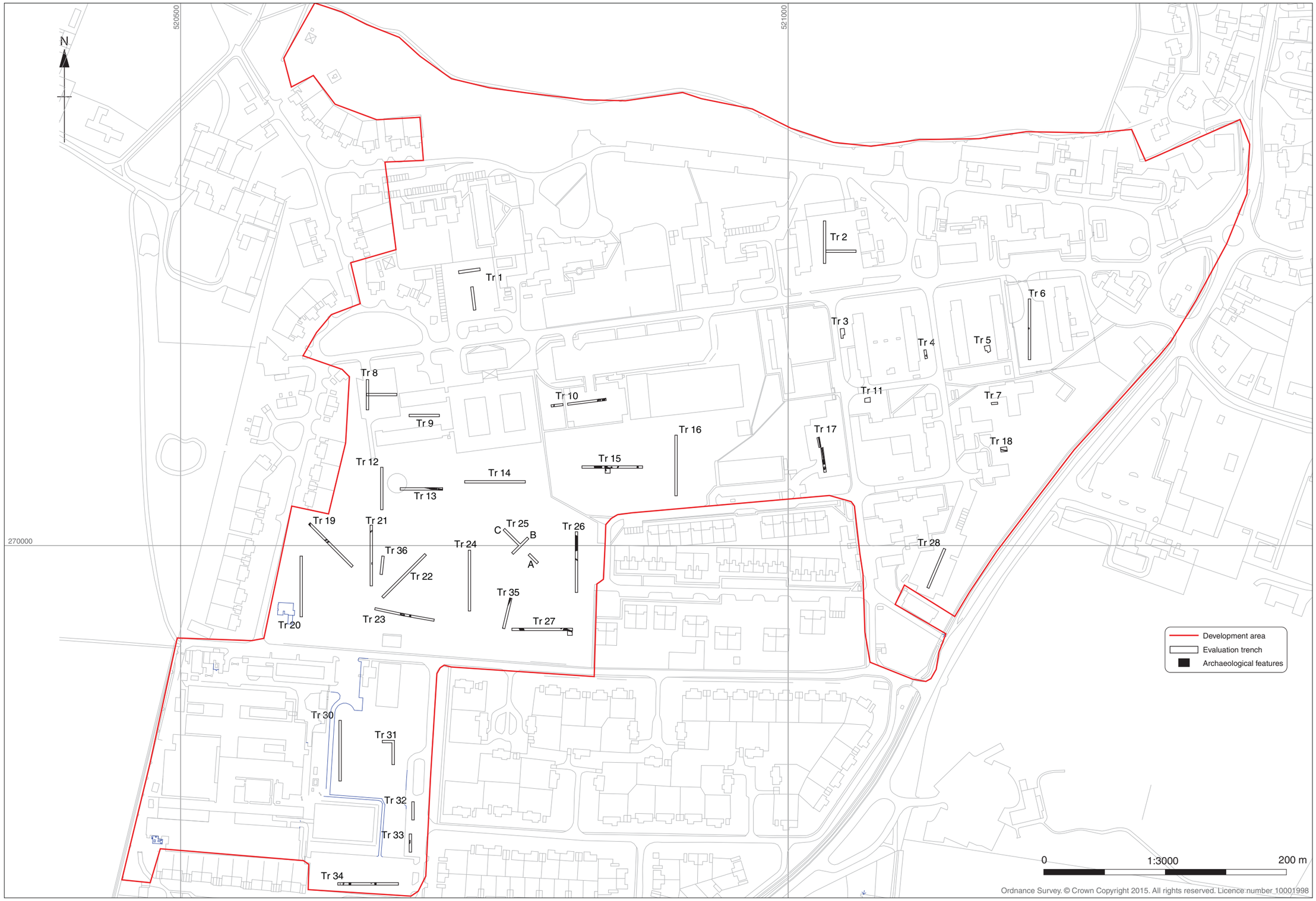

Figure 8: Location of trenches

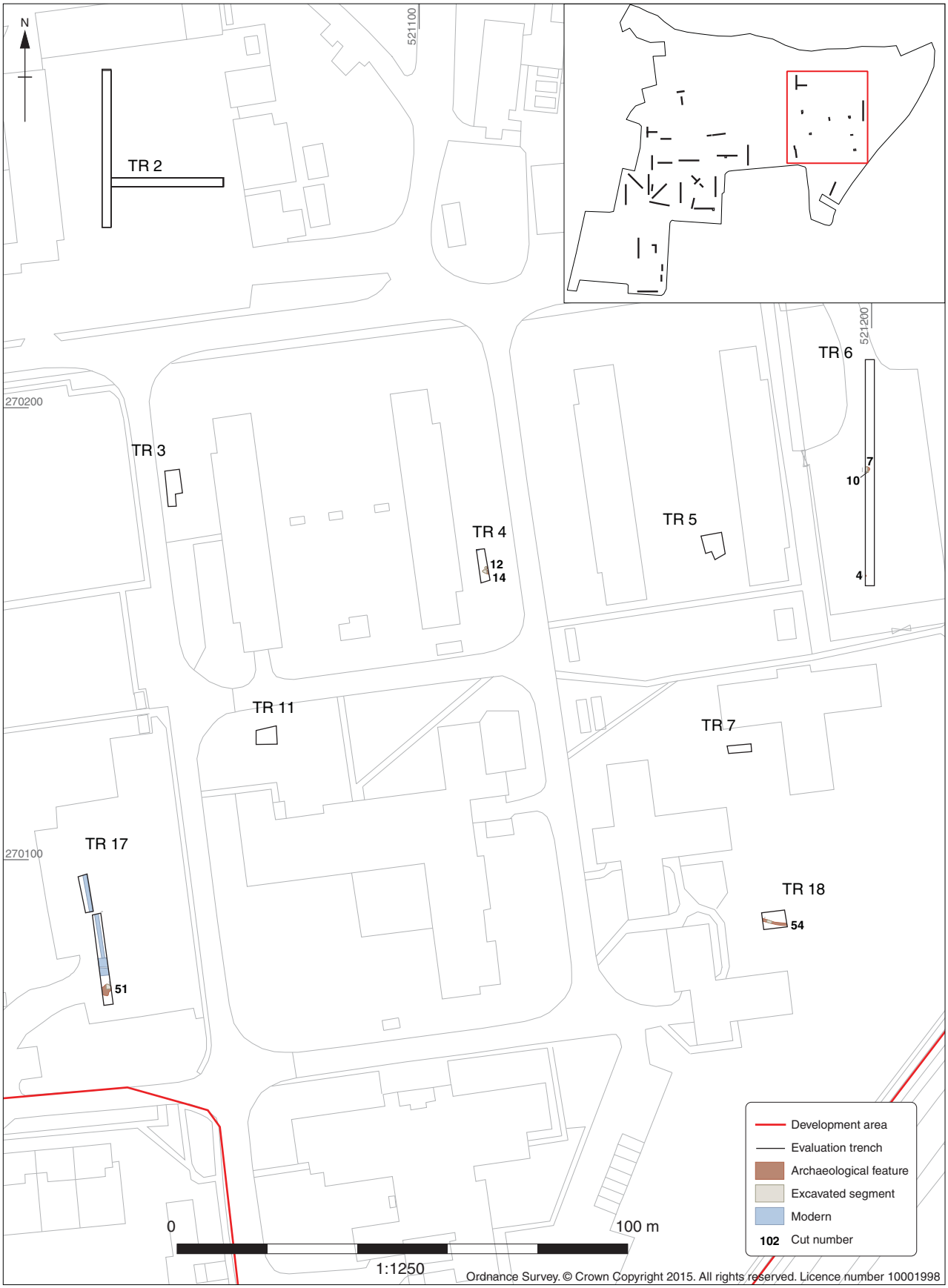

Figure 9: Archaeological remains in the eastern part of the development area

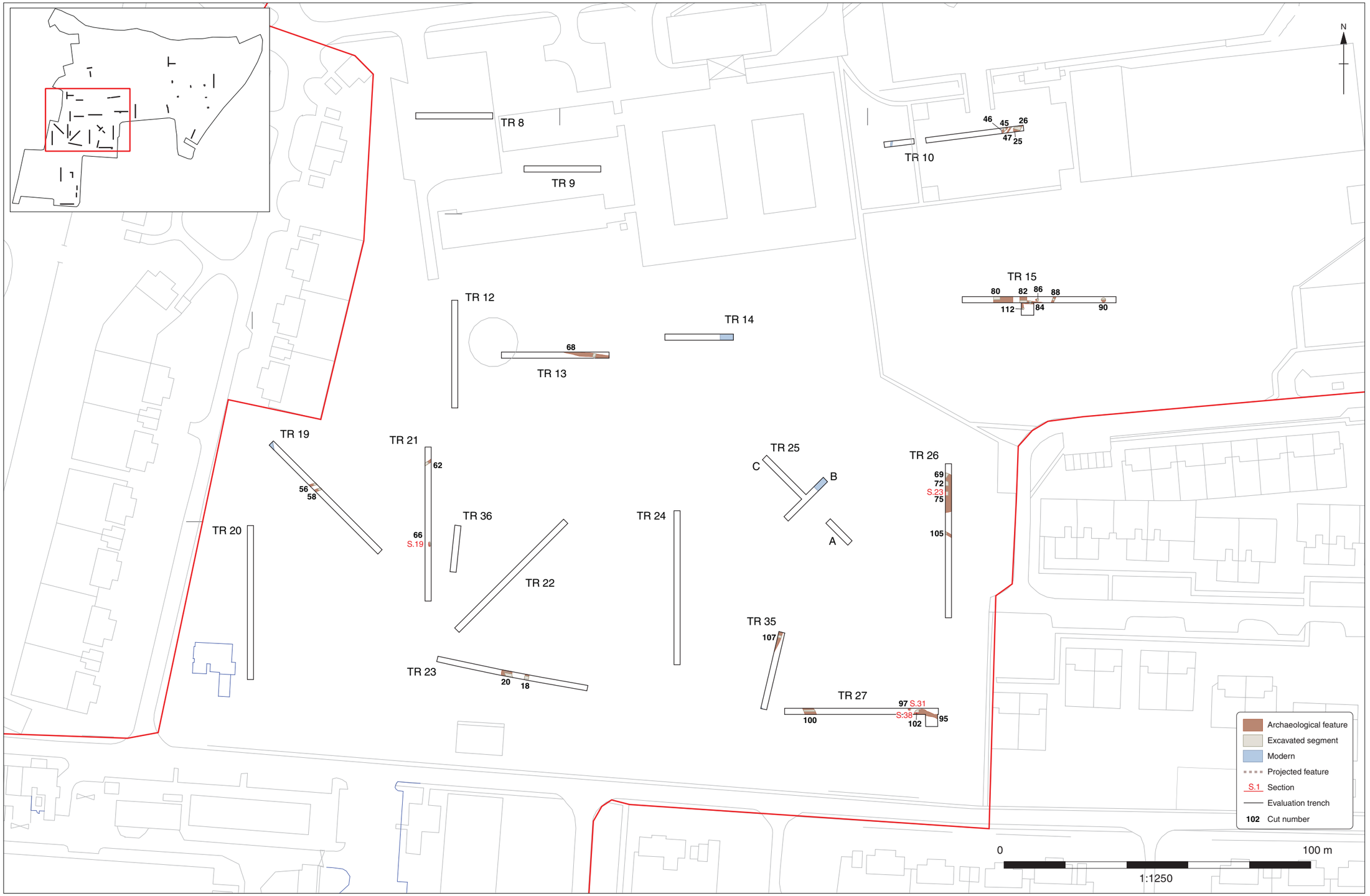

Figure 10: Archaeological remains in the central part of the development area

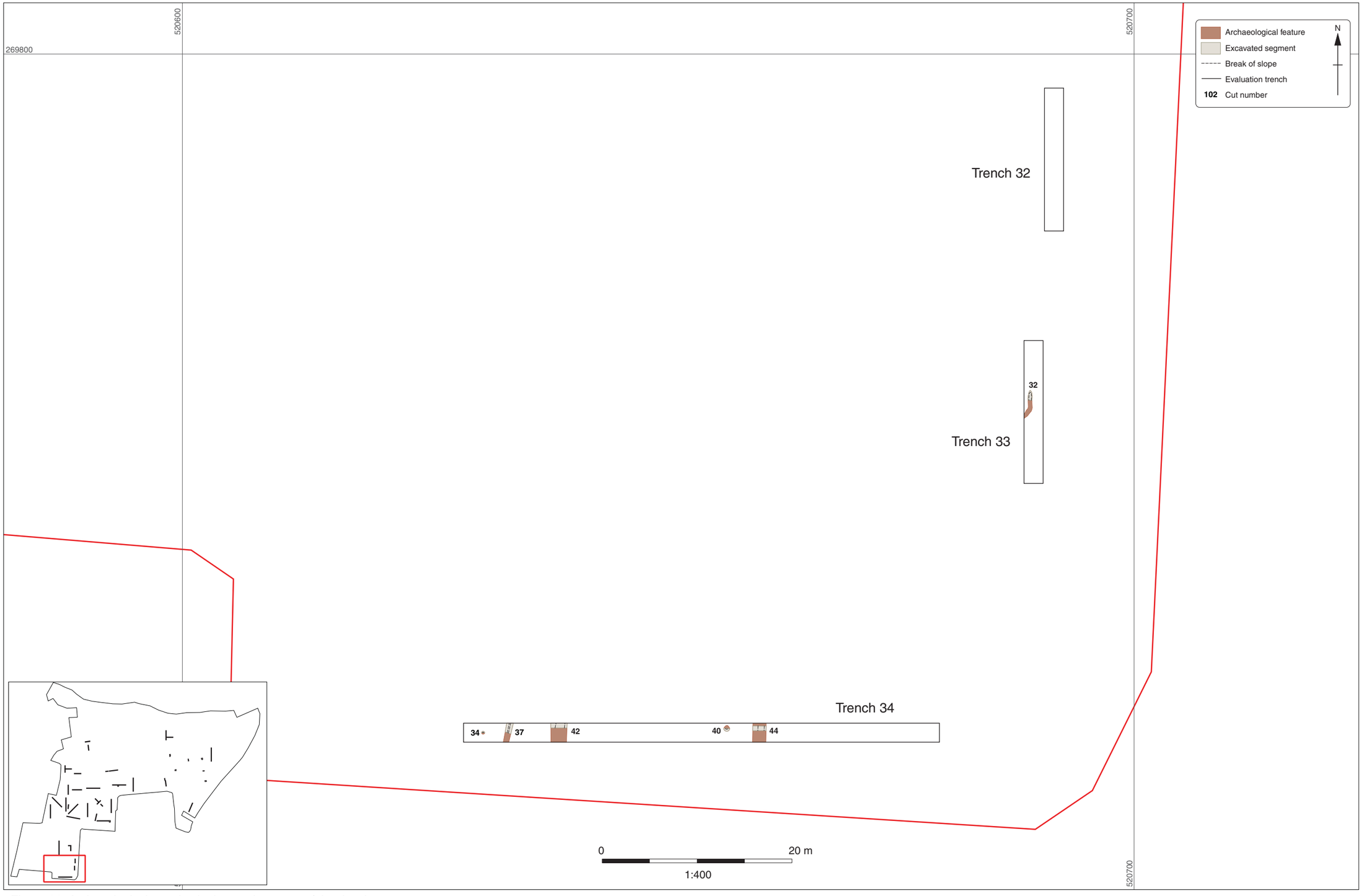

Figure 11: Archaeological remains in the southern part of the development area

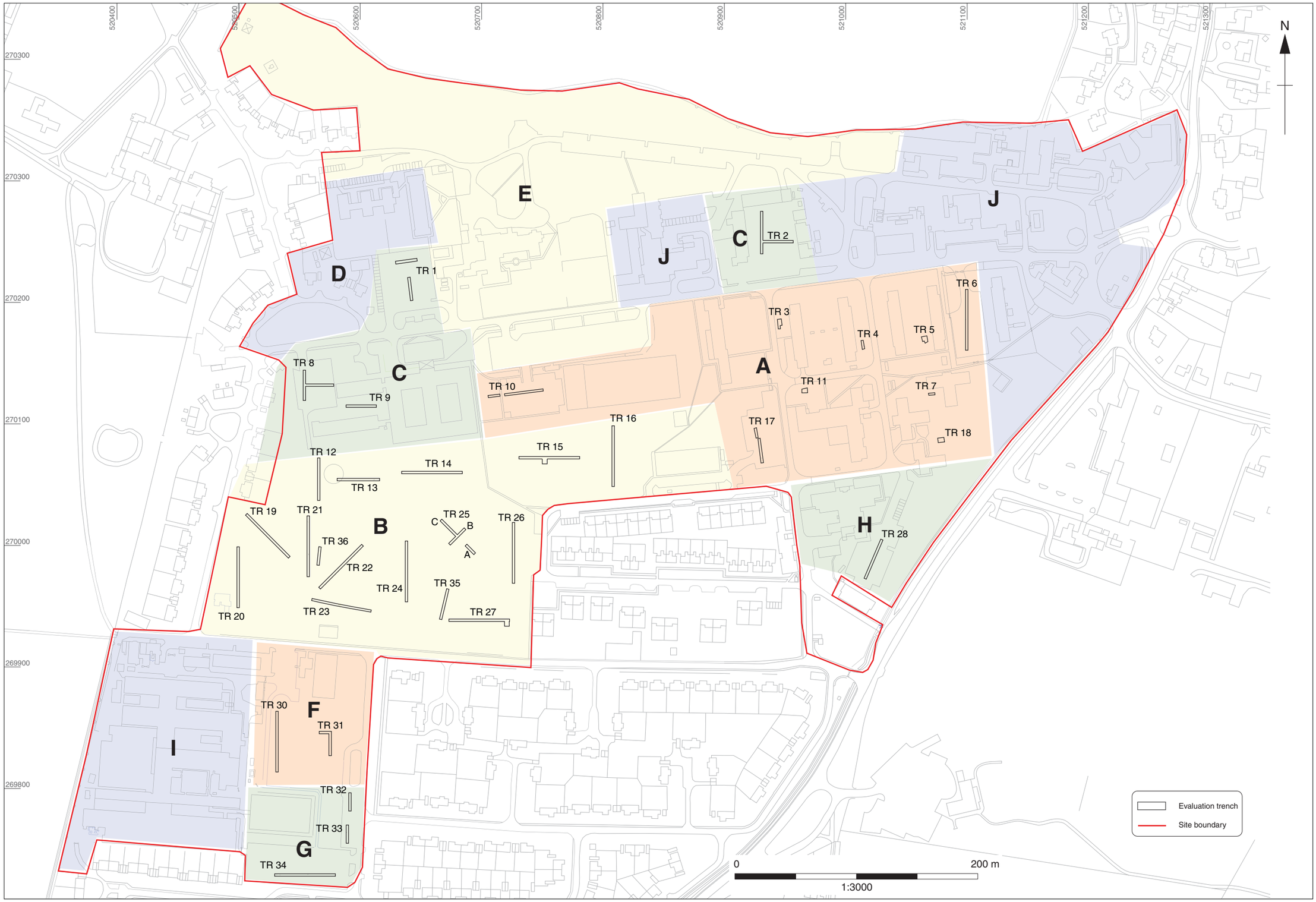

Figure 12: Degree of archaeological survival mapping

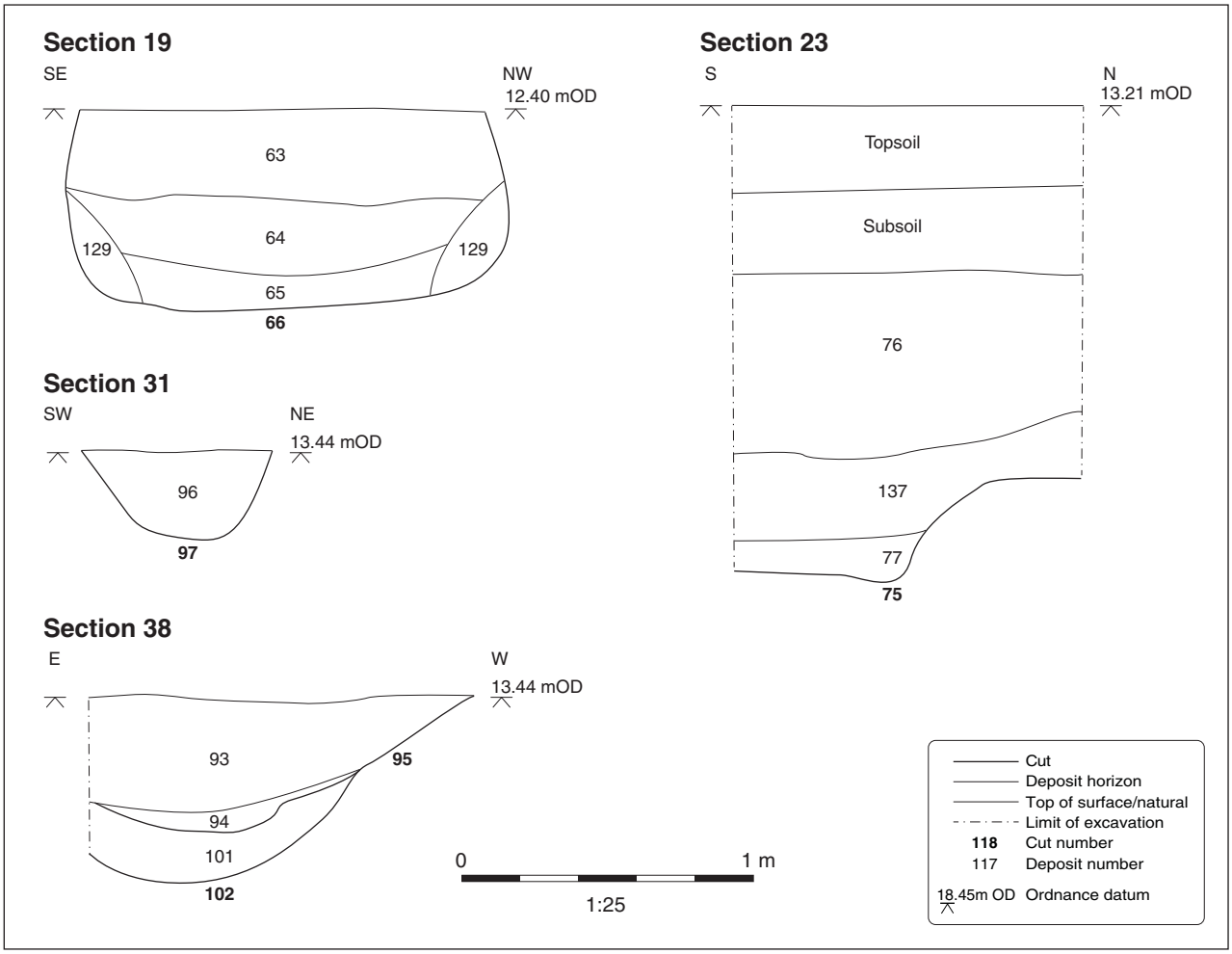

Figure 13: Selected sections

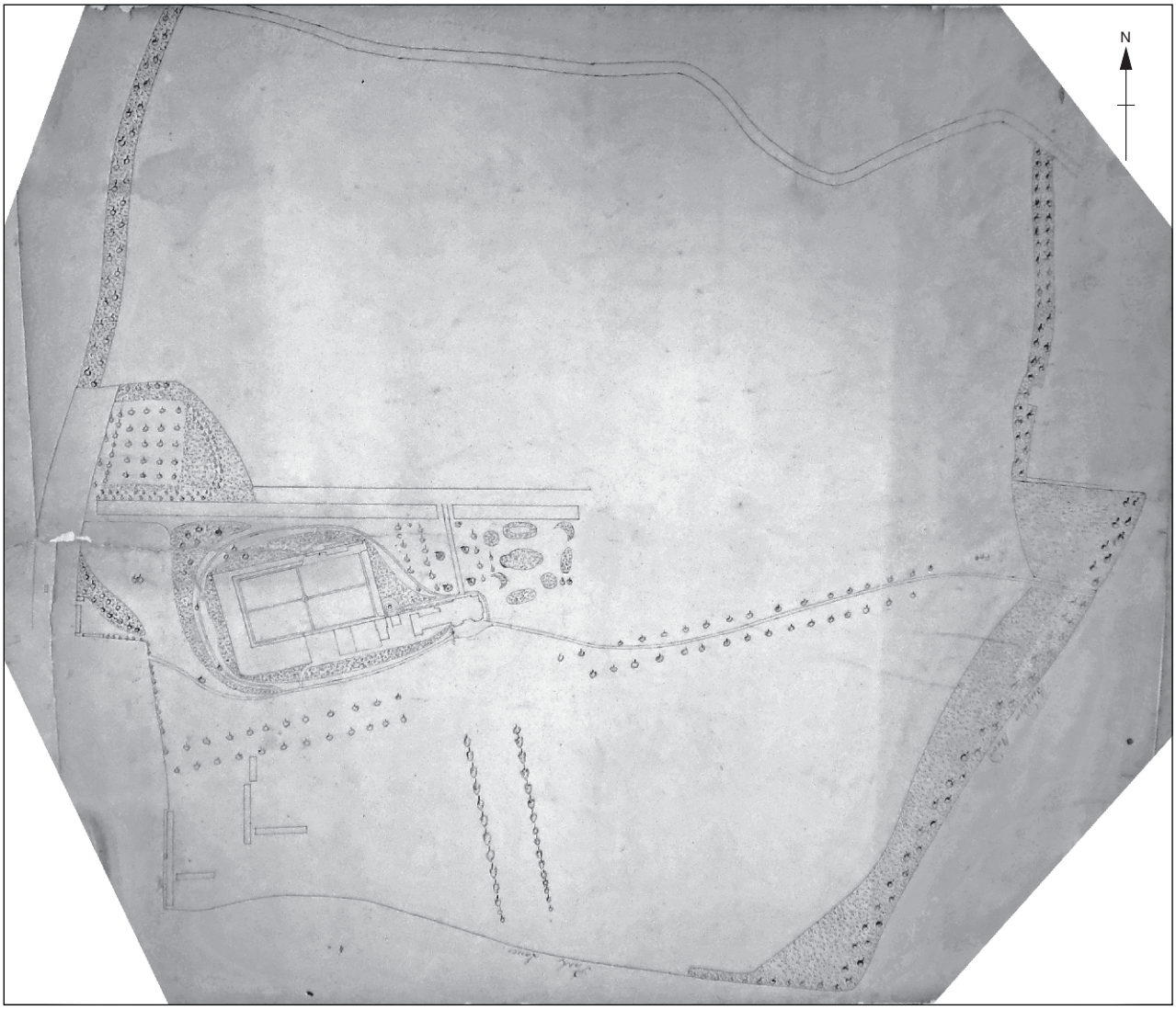

Figure 14: Map of Brampton 1830 (Hunts Archives Ref: SM5/32)

Plate 1: Pit **25**, from the east

Plate 2: Trench 17, from the north

Plate 3: Pond **69**, from the east

Plate 4: Ditch **105**, from the east

Plate 5: Pit **102**, from the north

Plate 6: Ditch **100**, from the south

Plate 7: Ditch **37**, from the south

Plate 8: Posthole **34**, from the north

Plate 9: Trench 1, from the east

Plate 10: Trench 30, from the north

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