

# Archaeological Evaluation at Paston Reserve Pumping Station



## Archaeological Evaluation Report



January 2015

**Client: Anglian Water**

OA East Report No: 1730

OASIS No: oxfordar3-200327

NGR: TF 19983 03112

## *Archaeological Evaluation at Paston Reserve Pumping Station*

*By John Diffey BA*

*Editor: Richard Mortimer MCIfA*


*Illustrator: Robin Webb (BA MA)*

*Report Date: January 2015*

**Report Number:** 1730  
**Site Name:** Paston Pumping Station  
**HER Event No:** n/a  
**Date of Works:** January 2015  
**Client Name:** Anglian Water  
**Client Ref:** Paston Reserve S98  
**Planning Ref:** 14/01943/FUL  
**Grid Ref:** 519983 303112  
**Site Code:** PETPAS15  
**Finance Code:** PETPAS15  
**Receiving Body:** Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery

**Accession No:**

Prepared by: John Diffey  
Position: Supervisor  
Date: 14/01/2015

Checked by: Richard Mortimer  
Position: Sebior Project Manager  
Date: 15/01/15  
Signed: 

**Disclaimer**

*This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting there from. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.*

**Oxford Archaeology East,**

15 Trafalgar Way,  
Bar Hill,  
Cambridge,  
CB23 8SQ

t: 01223 850500  
f: 01223 850599  
e: [oeast@thehumanjourney.net](mailto:oeast@thehumanjourney.net)  
w: <http://thehumanjourney.net/oeast>

## Table of Contents

<b>Summary.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>1 Introduction.....</b>	<b>7</b>
1.1 Location and scope of work.....	7
1.2 Geology and topography.....	7
1.3 Archaeological and historical background.....	7
1.4 Acknowledgements.....	7
<b>2 Aims and Methodology.....</b>	<b>8</b>
2.1 Aims.....	8
2.2 Methodology.....	8
<b>3 Results.....</b>	<b>9</b>
3.1 Trench 1.....	9
3.2 Finds Summary.....	9
3.3 Environmental Summary.....	9
<b>4 Discussion and Conclusions.....</b>	<b>10</b>
4.1 Discussion.....	10
4.2 Conclusions.....	10
4.3 Significance.....	10
4.4 Recommendations.....	10
<b>Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Appendix B. Bibliography.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Appendix C. OASIS Report Form.....</b>	<b>13</b>

## List of Figures

- Fig. 1            Site location showing the archaeological trench (red)
- Fig. 2            Trench location plan
- Plate 1           Trench 1 looking south west

### **Summary**

*On the 13<sup>th</sup> of January 2015 an archaeological evaluation was carried out on the proposed site of a new pumping station off Newborough Road, Paston, Peterborough.*

*Works entailed the excavation of a 20m length of trench covering a 30m<sup>2</sup> area of the site. The evaluation identified no archaeological features or deposits.*



## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted at the proposed site of Paston Reserve Pumping Station, Newborough Road, Paston, Peterborough.
- 1.1.2 This archaeological evaluation trenching was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Rebecca Casa-Hatton of Peterborough City Council Archaeological Service (PCCAS), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East.
- 1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012). The results will enable decisions to be made by PCCAS, 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 lies to the west of Newborough Road, Paston, Peterborough and south of Car Dyke sitting at c. 9mOD with a gentle downward slope from south to north.
- 1.2.2 As described by the British Geological Survey data the site lies on Oxford Clay formation recorded on site as being a yellowish grey silty clay.

### 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The area of excavation is defined as an area of archaeological potential by information held in the Peterborough City Council Historical Environment Record. The site's close proximity to Car Dyke means there is potential for Roman archaeology. Recent excavations in the vicinity of the site and reported finds have recorded Iron Age, Roman and Medieval Archaeology within the fields surrounding the proposed site (PCCHER No.'s 50527, 50529, 51431, 51938, 51939)

### 1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The Author would like to thank Anglian Water for commissioning these works and other members of OA East who contributed to this report.



## 2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The objective of this archaeological 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 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a wheeled JCB-type excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.
- 2.2.2 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.
- 2.2.3 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.
- 2.2.4 The site was waterlogged due to a high water table and standing water from heavy rain falling prior to excavation.

### 3 RESULTS

#### 3.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 measured 20 x 1.5m and was aligned NE-SW. The natural geology **100** was reached at a depth of 0.35m (8.65mOD) and recorded as a light yellowish grey clay. This was overlain by a 0.05m thick layer of subsoil recorded as a mid-light orangey grey silty clay. This in turn was overlain by a 0.3m thick layer of plough soil recorded as a dark greyish brown clayey silt. This topsoil layer contained infrequent Post-Medieval and Modern finds including pottery, clay pipe, CBM and Glass. These finds were deposited on site due to their highly fragmented and abraded state and their modern date.

#### 3.2 Finds Summary

3.2.1 No archaeologically significant finds were recovered from this site.

#### 3.3 Environmental Summary

3.3.1 No environmental samples were recovered from this site.

## 4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

### 4.1 Discussion

- 4.1.1 No archaeological features or deposits were found on site during this archaeological evaluation and no archaeological finds were recovered.

### 4.2 Conclusions

- 4.2.1 Despite the high archaeological potential of the site no archaeology was recorded within the excavated trench. With such a small development area it is possible that the site is simply devoid of the types of archaeological features found within the site's vicinity or it is possible that localised truncation by ploughing has occurred on the site as may be suggested by the thin overburden of plough soil.

### 4.3 Significance

- 4.3.1 The results of this evaluation bear little significance to the archaeological record of the site or its regional context.

### 4.4 Recommendations

- 4.4.1 Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be made by the City Archaeology Office.

## APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	NE=SW	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.35	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	20	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
100	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	Pottery, clay pipe, CBM	Post Medieval/Modern
101	Layer	-	0.05	Subsoil	-	-
102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

## APPENDIX B. BIBLIOGRAPHY

<http://hawkeye.peterborough.gov.uk/hawkeye/> accessed 14/01/15

<http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/> accessed 14/01/15

<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/> accessed 14/01/15

## APPENDIX C. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

### Project Details

OASIS Number	<input type="text"/>		
Project Name	<input type="text"/>		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	<input type="text"/>	Finish	<input type="text"/>
Previous Work (by OA East)	<input type="text"/>	Future Work	<input type="text"/>

### Project Reference Codes

Site Code	<input type="text"/>	Planning App. No.	<input type="text"/>
HER No.	<input type="text"/>	Related HER/OASIS No.	<input type="text"/>

### Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	<input type="text"/>
Development Type	<input type="text"/>

### 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 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
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

### Project Location

County	<input type="text"/>	Site Address (including postcode if possible)
District	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Parish	<input type="text"/>	
HER	<input type="text"/>	
Study Area	<input type="text"/>	National Grid Reference <input type="text"/>

### Project Originators

Organisation	<input type="text"/>
Project Brief Originator	<input type="text"/>
Project Design Originator	<input type="text"/>
Project Manager	<input type="text"/>
Supervisor	<input type="text"/>

### Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

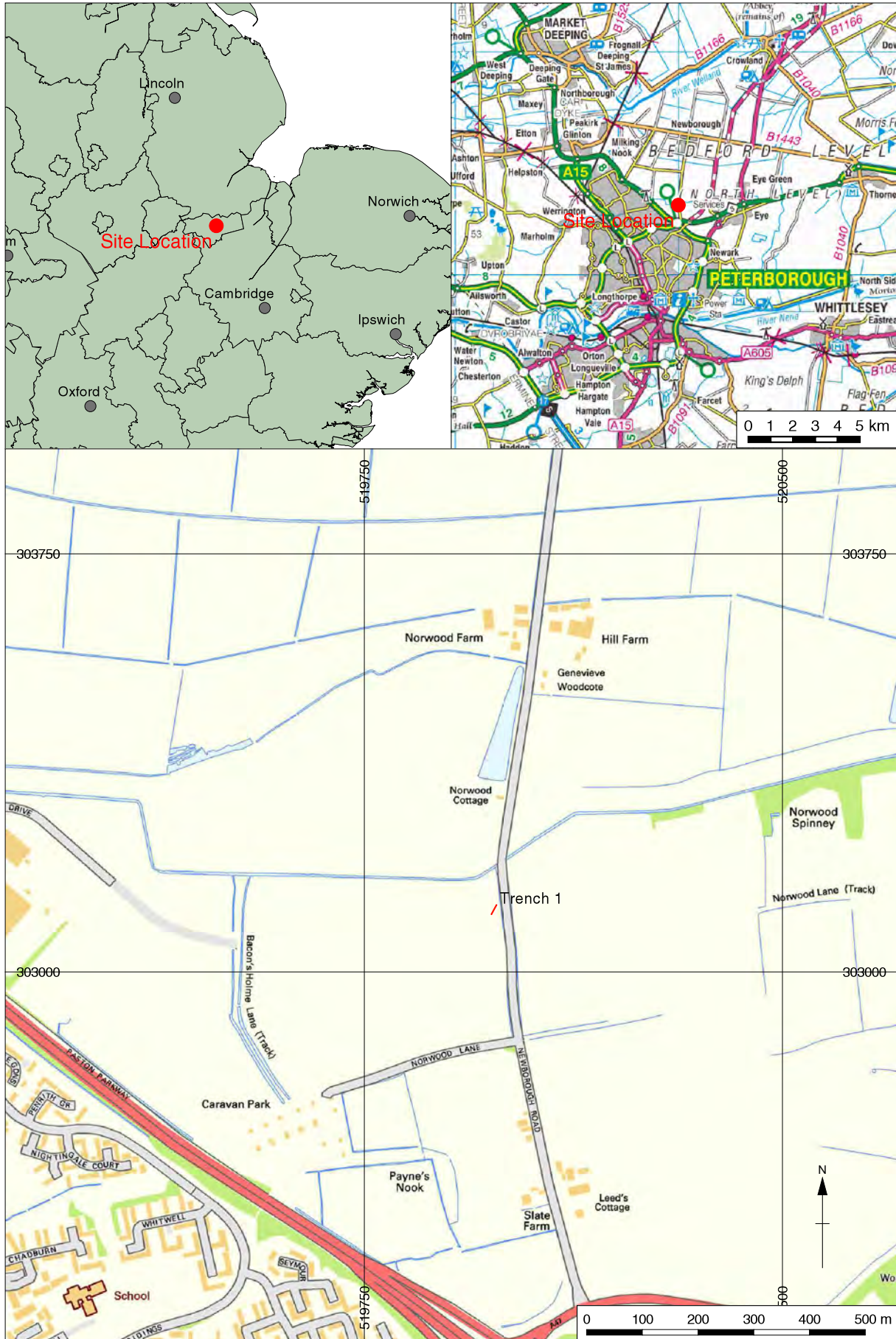
### Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stratigraphic		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Survey		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Textiles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
<input type="checkbox"/> Database	<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photos
<input type="checkbox"/> GIS	<input type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysics	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence
<input type="checkbox"/> Images	<input type="checkbox"/> Diary
<input 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

**Notes:**





Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2013. All rights reserved.

Figure 1: Site location showing the archaeological trench (red)

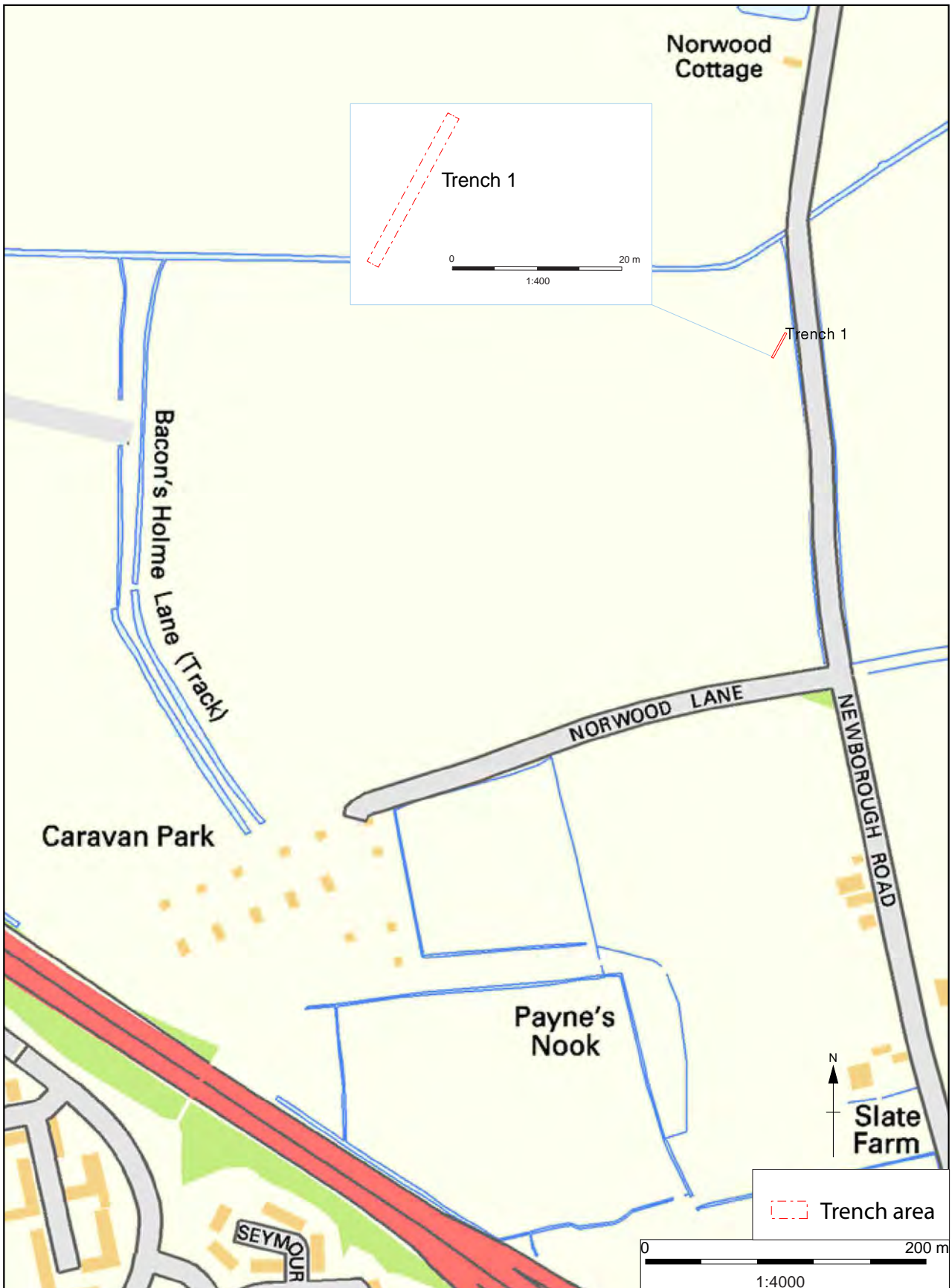


Figure 2: Trench location plan



Plate 1: Trench 1 looking south west



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

Janus House  
Osney Mead  
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800  
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496  
e: [info@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto:info@oxfordarchaeology.com)  
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

**OA North**

Mill 3  
Moor Lane  
Lancaster LA1 1GF

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000  
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606  
e: [oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com)  
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

**OA East**

15 Trafalgar Way  
Bar Hill  
Cambridgeshire  
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850500  
e: [oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com)  
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>



**Director:** Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MIFA  
*Oxford Archaeology Ltd is a  
Private Limited Company, N<sup>o</sup>: 1618597  
and a Registered Charity, N<sup>o</sup>: 285627*