

# Land between Ferrar's Road Dryden's Walk and Edison Bell Way, Huntingdon



## Archaeological Evaluation Report



February 2016

**Client: Aspen Build**

OA East Report No: 1887

OASIS No: oxfordar3-242977

NGR: TL 2349 7210

**Land between Ferrar's Road, Dryden's Walk  
and Edison Bell Way, Huntingdon**

*Archaeological Evaluation*

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**Report Number:** 1887  
**Site Name:** Land between Ferrar's Road, Dryden's Walk and Edison Bell Way  
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**Date of Works:** January 2016  
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## Summary

*Between the 11th and 21st of January 2016 Oxford Archaeology East carried out an archaeological evaluation on land between Ferrar's Road, Dryden's Walk and Edison Bell Way, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire (TL 2349 7210). The evaluation, consisting of ten evaluation trenches, was carried out ahead of proposed construction of 70 houses and associated services and access.*

*The Evaluation found a buried soil horizon, of possibly late medieval or post-medieval date in the northern part of the development area (Trench 1) and the central eastern part of the development area (Trench 6). This was cut by a small number of features containing fragments of pottery on the northern and eastern edges of the site. Evidence of a large former water channel of the Barrack Brook running east-west across the centre of the development area was also found.*



## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted on land between Ferrar's Road, Dryden's Walk and Edison Bell Way, Huntingdon.
- 1.1.2 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Andy Thomas of Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC; Planning Application 1301836OUT), 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 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 Huntingdon is located in the Great Ouse Valley which comprises Jurassic clays overlain by river terrace gravels and alluvium.
- 1.2.2 The British Geological Survey (BGS) 1:50,000 records the solid geology of the proposed development area as Mudstone belonging to the Oxford Clay Formation. No superficial deposits are recorded for the site.
- 1.2.3 Previous archaeological and geotechnical excavations at and near the site suggest that there is likely to be made ground, comprising silty clay, sandy clay and brick rubble to a depth of between 1.2m – 2.7m across the proposed development site. It is also suggested that given the proposed development area's former usage there may be underground structures that are as yet unknown.
- 1.2.4 Archaeological investigations (OA East 2011 & 2012) prior to the construction of Edison Bell Way, immediately to the north-west of the site, confirmed a substantial depth of Made Ground in the vicinity of the site, overlying the natural deposits (where revealed). Immediately south-west of the site this comprised up to 1.35m of post-medieval and modern deposits. Near to Ermine Street, excavation revealed a stratigraphic sequence dating back to the Late Saxon/early medieval period, to a depth of 1.4m.

### 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The following background information is drawn from the Written Scheme of Investigation (Connor, Thatcher 2016).

#### **General Context**

- 1.3.2 The proposed development is located within the Great Ouse valley, an area rich in prehistoric remains (notably major ritual complexes of Late Neolithic and Bronze Age date). There has been very little prehistoric activity recorded in the vicinity of the site, due perhaps in part to the 20th century history of land-use in this area.
- 1.3.3 Despite the proximity of Ermine Street, few remains of this date have yet been recorded in the vicinity of the site, although the discovery of a bronze key (CHER 02613) attests to some Roman activity in the area. Excavations at Stanton Butts, to the north of the



site uncovered the remains of a 'V' shaped ditch, dated to the Roman period, that was interpreted as the roadside ditch (MCB16823). Ermine Street was one of the country's major communication links, connecting London to Lincoln and York.

- 1.3.4 The current site lies well away from the suggested focus of the main Saxon settlement and outside the medieval town of Huntingdon. However, it is adjacent to Ermine Street where ribbon development out of the town occurred, as shown by excavations adjacent to the site in 2013. The site is in close proximity to the putative site of St Andrews church. The discovery of an infant burial within the test pit adjacent to Ermine Street along with a further two partial adult burials may be of note in respect to the latter although the two adults are more likely to represent Roman roadside burials.
- 1.3.5 Excavations at Stanton Butts, along Ermine Street, to the north (MCB16823) and on land adjacent to the railway to the south of this (MCB17983) recorded evidence for road side structures and increased industrial activity dating to the medieval period. This would suggest that during the 12th and 13th centuries activity and settlement began to spread out of the town along Ermine Street; Similarly, excavations in 2009 at The Former Bus Depot, on Stukeley Road, 300m to the north-west of the site (and also on Ermine Street), revealed the remains of structures, pits and ditches dating to the 12th to 14th centuries (MCB18503). The excavation indicated the presence of similar remains in this area (ECB3573).
- 1.3.6 The site lies close to the Bar Dyke, (SM 188), an English Civil war defence for the town of Huntingdon, in addition Hinchbrooke Artillery Fort (CHER MCB3261) is thought to have been located where the RECO site now stands. In the 19th century deep quarrying (for clay and gravel) had taken place within the area of the former RECO yard, this area was subsequently backfilled in the later 19th/early 20th century. This quarrying is thought to have destroyed the last traces of the artillery fort. In the 19th century a general expansion of the town included the construction of properties along Ermine Street, which were subsequently demolished.

### ***Previous Investigations***

- 1.3.7 A programme of test pitting (ECB3573; OA East 2011) was undertaken ahead of the construction of Edison Bell Way, immediately to the west of the proposed development area. Test Pits 7, 8 and 10 revealed evidence for suburban activity dating to the medieval period and subsequently this end of the Edison Bell Way corridor was opened for excavation (OA East 2013), between Barrack Brook (culvert) and Ermine Street.
- 1.3.8 Limited evidence for a Roman presence was found and included the possible vestiges of a Roman road and roadside ditch running adjacent to Ermine Street.
- 1.3.9 Limited evidence for Anglo-Saxon activity was noted but the majority of the evidence dates to the 12th century and later, from that time onwards the site was heavily utilised and probably comprised three properties leading off Ermine Street. In addition to domestic activity there was evidence for industrial features. In particular several very large vertically sided, flat bottomed pits containing cattle jaws and horn cores are thought to be associated with the tanning industry.
- 1.3.10 A cobbled surface along the eastern edge of the site may have been a street or yard giving access to the tannery, and possibly further properties behind, several bone knife handles and a dagger chape were found within the cobbles.
- 1.3.11 The site produced good environmental remains that included straw and oats suggests the possibility of horse stabling on the site. Other environmental evidence included barley and bread wheat.

- 1.3.12 Metalworking was also well represented in the form of several small hearths, hammerscale and other metalworking waste alongside structural features.
- 1.3.13 Structures did not survive well as medieval pitting was in evidence across the site and had caused much truncation.
- 1.3.14 An evaluation (ECB4560) approximately 50m to the north-west, at the former Travis Perkins site, in 2015, revealed a number of pits and ditches of varying sizes dating from the 12th to 14th Centuries. These are thought to be a continuation of the activity recorded immediately adjacent at the Edison Bell Way excavations referenced above. A later medieval or post-medieval cultivation soil sealed this activity.
- 1.3.15 Two 19th century wells were encountered, one back-filled, the other still bearing water. Other 19th century features includes a number of house floors and foundations as well as garden walls, outbuildings and a path of mid 19th century date.
- 1.3.16 An evaluation (ECB2947) further along Ermine Street, 300m north-west of the proposed development area, revealed medieval features, comprising pits, ditches and postholes, located close to the road.
- 1.3.17 Excavation on the site of the former Bus Depot on Stukeley Road (ECB3239), 350m north-west of the proposed development area, identified the remains of structures, pits and ditches dating from the 12th to 14th century.
- 1.3.18 An excavation (ECB2104) at Stanton Butts, Stukeley Road, 400m north-west of the proposed development area, identified a probable Roman roadside ditch associated with Ermine Street, a small number of Late Saxon or Saxo-Norman features, including possible building remains, medieval roadside buildings and tenement features.
- 1.3.19 Evaluation (ECB1801/ECB2153) 100m north-west of the site identified only tree throws and post-medieval field boundary and quarry pits. Evaluation at Ferrar's Road (ECB4332), 100m south of the proposed development area, revealed ten quarry pits, four of which were post-medieval. An evaluation at Ullswater Road (ECB2833), 160m west of the proposed development area, revealed undated features, comprising seven linear ditches and two shallow linear gullies. An evaluation at 19-20 Great Northern Street (ECB184), 70m north-east of the site, identified only two post-medieval pits.

### ***Archaeological potential of the proposed development site***

#### ***Prehistoric***

- 1.3.20 There is little evidence recorded for finds of prehistoric date in the near vicinity and therefore the site is considered to have a low potential for significant evidence dating to this period, although a small amount of lithic material could be present in residual contexts.

#### ***Roman***

- 1.3.21 Little recorded evidence for finds of Roman date exists in the near vicinity other than those that possibly relate to a road. The HER records the route of the north-west/south-east aligned Ermine Street Roman road (CB15034) close to the northern part of the proposed development area, and the adjacent excavations found possible evidence for the remains of this road. The excavation at Stanton Butts, Stukeley Road, 400m north-west of the proposed development area, also identified a probable Roman roadside ditch associated with Ermine Street (MCB16823).

- 1.3.22 Given the site's location close to Ermine Street, and evidence of the Roman road found elsewhere along its route, there is a moderate potential for Roman evidence, particularly associated with the Roman road.

**Saxon**

- 1.3.23 Later Saxon and Saxo-Norman activity has been recorded by excavations in the vicinity. The excavation adjacent to the proposed development site found evidence for Anglo-Saxon activity although it was heavily truncated by medieval pitting. At Stanton Butts, to 400m north-west of the proposed development area, a small number of Late Saxon or Saxo-Norman features were identified, including possible building remains (MCB16823).
- 1.3.24 As a result, although the proposed development area appears to have been located outside the main settlement core of Huntingdon, which was focussed to the south-east, it is possible that there may have been some roadside settlement or other activity in the vicinity of Ermine Street. This indicates that there is therefore a moderate potential for uncovering evidence dating to the Saxon period.

**Medieval**

- 1.3.25 There have been numerous and significant finds within the historic settlement core of Huntingdon, which clearly remained an important settlement.
- 1.3.26 Excavations adjacent to the proposed development site as well as north-west along Stukeley Road recovered evidence for medieval settlement activity. The activity on the Edison Bell Way excavation comprised several phases of activity from the 12th century onwards including pitting, industrial, craft-working, commercial, domestic, cultivation and ritual (an infant burial). Further evidence for medieval settlement activity was found along Stukeley road at approximately 300m north-west (MCB17983), 250m north-west (MCB18503) and 400m north-west (MCB16823) of the proposed development.
- 1.3.27 Documentary evidence strongly suggests that a medieval or earlier church (St Andrew's) and accompanying graveyard was located in the vicinity of the proposed development. There are early 19<sup>th</sup> century references to the discovery of human remains close to Dryden's Walk, it may therefore be anticipated that evidence for these will be found.
- 1.3.28 As a result, the proposed development site has a moderate to high potential for uncovering medieval evidence.

**Post-medieval/modern**

- 1.3.29 The proposed development site is well represented by mapped evidence for the later post-medieval period and that the post-medieval/modern records in the HER within the search area relate to buildings/monuments of a well-defined extent and nature that generally add little to the understanding of the proposed development area's archaeological potential.
- 1.3.30 The site was most likely agricultural land prior to the development shown on the historic mapping and it is probable that some remains of the foundations of the 19th century and later buildings depicted on the early mapping survive within the proposed development area. The site is therefore considered to have a low potential for previously unknown post-medieval evidence.

## 1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The author would like to thank Aspen Build (East Anglia) Ltd who commissioned the work on behalf of their client. The project was managed by Aileen Connor. Chris Thatcher directed the fieldwork, with the assistance of Nick Cox, Chris Swain and Zoe Clarke; David Brown carried out the site survey. Aileen Connor managed the project for OA East. Thanks should also be extended to Andy Thomas of Cambridgeshire County Council who monitored the works.

## 2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Aims

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

### 2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The Brief (Thomas 2015) and WSI (Connor 2015) proposed that a total of 10 trenches (eight at 15m x 2m, two 10m x 3m) be excavated across the proposed development site (Figs. 1 & 2). This represented a 5% of the proposed development area with the trenches positioned to give as broad a cover of the development area as possible, whilst also avoiding extant buildings, services and areas of heavily reinforced concrete.
- 2.2.2 In the event it was necessary to adjust the locations of Trenches 1, 2, and 9 in order to avoid areas of reinforced concrete. Trenches 3 and 6 also had to be moved as a result of their original positioning inside the footprints of buildings that had not been demolished prior to the commencement of the works.
- 2.2.3 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a 360° excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.
- 2.2.4 The site survey was carried out using a Leica GS08 Smartnet GPS.
- 2.2.5 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.
- 2.2.6 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.2.7 Samples were taken from all features not immediately identified as being modern. Additional samples were also taken from a possible buried soil horizon and from wet fill layers of a possible water channel.
- 2.2.8 The site was covered with modern concrete, interspersed with areas of tarmac. This overlay modern made ground, levelling layers and disused service runs and modern foundations. The archaeological level in all the trenches was at or just below the water table. Considerable diesel contamination was encountered in both Trenches 9 and 10.

## 3 RESULTS

### 3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The trenches were laid out in a series of roughly east-west rows across the development area. As the trenches in each row found broadly similar deposits they have been dealt with in these grouping, starting at the northern end of the development area and working southwards.

### 3.2 Trench 1 (Fig. 3)

3.2.1 Trench 1 was the northernmost in the development area, located close to Ermine Street which bounded the northern limit of the site (Fig. 3), and to the north of the culverted Barrack Brook.

3.2.2 The natural clay was overlain by a light grey brown sandy clay (102), possibly a buried plough soil of medieval date, from which a medieval Ely ware rim sherd was recovered. This was cut by a late medieval pit (106) which was filled by a very dark grey organic clay and was at least 0.31m in depth (Fig.3). A total of three sherds of Roman pottery and two sherds of 13-15th century pottery were recovered from this deposit (App. B.1).

3.2.3 The top of the pit was filled with a slump of modern wall (104) that was up to 0.16m thick (Fig.5, Section 17).

3.2.4 These features were sealed by a layer of modern build up material (101), 0.7m thick, overlain by modern concrete (100), 0.1m thick (Fig.5, Section 16).

### 3.3 Trench 3 (Fig. 3)

3.3.1 This trench lay to the south of Trench 1. It was dug into the top of a large extinct water channel running east to west, probably a former course of the Barrack Brook.

3.3.2 Three fill layers of this feature were present in the section of the trench. The lowest excavated was a very dark grey organic clay (304). This sample contained plant remains preserved by waterlogging that indicated that this was a water-filled feature in an area of scrub-like vegetation (App. C.1). Overlying this layer was a mid blue grey silty clay (303) 0.55m thick, the final fill was a dark grey brown silty clay (302) 0.47m thick. These were overlain by a modern build up layer (301), 0.3m thick and a concrete surface (300) 0.18m thick (Fig.5, Section 18).

### 3.4 Trenches 2, 4 & 5 (Fig. 2)

3.4.1 These trenches contained no archaeological features. All three contained mid-dark brown alluvial clay deposits (202, 403 & 503) that were between 0.48 and 0.7m in thickness.

3.4.2 It is suggested that these fills correspond with layer 303 (Trench 3), identified as a putative channel fill. The inference that these represented channel fills is supported by the increased depth of deposits in this part of the site.

3.4.3 The upper sections of the trenches were overlain by various modern build up layers (201, 401-402 & 501-502) varying between 0.57 and 0.81m. The sequence was sealed by a concrete surface (200, 400 & 500) averaging 0.2m in thickness (Fig.5, Section 1).

### 3.5 Trenches 6, 7 & 8

#### *Trench 6 (Fig. 3)*

- 3.5.1 Trench 6 contained a light brownish grey silty clay (605), 0.15m thick, which may be the remains of a plough soil. This context produced six sherds of pottery, with a date range of the 9th to 15th century (App. B.1).
- 3.5.2 This was truncated 3.5m from the southern end of the trench by a pit (**611**) filled with a mid brownish grey silty clay (610). Pottery including Developed St Neots ware, Lyveden A-type shelly ware and a fragment from a sooted Medieval Essex-type micaceous Grey Sandy ware dish were recovered from this deposit (App. B.1). The pottery from this feature included a residual sherd of Roman pottery and a residual early medieval pottery sherd. The remaining pottery (two sherds) dated to the 13th or 14th century, however, these may also be residual given the pit cut through a buried soil that is likely to be late medieval or even post-medieval in date.
- 3.5.3 Further to the north-west the plough soil was cut by another pit (**608**), which was 0.22m deep and filled by a mid greyish brown clay (609) that produced a single sherd from a Lyveden A-type shelly ware vessel dating from the mid 12th to the end of the 14th century. This was subsequently truncated by a ditch (**606**) running north to south for about 3.5m from the northern end of the trench (Fig.5, Sections 4 & 5). Ditch **606** was 0.31m deep and filled by a mid brown grey silty clay (607) that contained pottery dating from between the 13th-15th century (App. B.1). As with pit **611** it may be that the pottery in these features is residual, the sherd size of the pottery from ditch **606** in particular is very small.
- 3.5.4 These features were all overlain by a dark greyish brown alluvial clay (604), 0.3m deep. Overlying this deposit were several layers of modern build up (601-603) that were up to 0.77m thick. The sequence was sealed by modern concrete (600) (Fig.3; Fig.5, Section 3).

#### *Trench 7 (Fig. 4)*

- 3.5.5 Trench 7 contained a 0.40m thick mid yellowish grey clay soil (703) at the base. The eastern end of the trench was overlain by a thin mid greyish brown silty clay layer (702), 0.2m thick with no finds (Fig. 5, Section 7). This deposit is thought to represent the remains of a plough soil.
- 3.5.6 A ditch (**705**) cut these deposits approximately 4.5m from the western end of the trench. This feature was 3.6m wide and ran all the way across the trench on a roughly north to south alignment (Fig.4, Plan 7; Fig.5 Section 15). Ditch **705** was 0.7m deep and filled by a mid greyish brown silty clay (704) and no finds.
- 3.5.7 Overlying this activity were modern build up layers (701) and the modern concrete surface (700) with a combined thickness of 1.0m (Fig.5, Section 7).

#### *Trench 8 (Fig. 4)*

- 3.5.8 Trench 8 contained a mid grey alluvial clay (806), 0.19m thick. This was overlain by a buried soil layer (803). This dark brown silty clay deposit was 0.22m thick and produced a sherd of Nottinghamshire/Derbyshire stoneware bowl or jar and a base sherd from a Staffordshire mottled ware drinking vessel, dating from the 17th-18th century (App. B.1). The pottery was relatively fresh and large suggesting it is contemporary with the soil deposit.

- 3.5.9 These layers were cut by a modern posthole (**805**), located in the middle of the trench, 5m from the northern end. Posthole **805** was 0.4m deep and filled by mid brown grey clay (804). At the southern end of the trench was a vertical modern drain and a large modern rubbish pit that also truncated layers 803 and 806 (Fig.4).
- 3.5.10 A 0.73m thick layer of modern build up and rubbish (802) overlay these deposits. This had, in turn, been sealed by a thin layer of mid grey brown sandy silt (801) that was 0.17m thick. Finally, a spread of yellow sandy gravel (800), 0.28m thick had been laid on top, forming the modern ground surface (Fig.5, Section 9).

### **3.6 Trenches 9 & 10 (Fig. 2)**

- 3.6.1 These trenches contained no archaeological features and were heavily disturbed by brick built modern structures. Both trenches contained 0.6-0.7m thick silty clay deposits (904 & 1004) overlying the natural. The clay was cut by several modern walls and structures (**903**). Layer 1004 was also heavily contaminated with diesel.

### **3.7 Finds Summary**

- 3.7.1 The evaluation yielded a total of 24 sherds, 0.262kg of pottery and one piece of tile. Trench 1 contained three Roman and three medieval pottery sherds. Trench 6 contained 14 medieval pottery sherds and two Roman sherds. Trench 8 contained 2 sherds of 18th century pottery and a single piece of tile.
- 3.7.2 Context 804, the fill of a modern posthole, contained several pieces of modern metalwork and a fragment of tile, which were not kept. No other artefacts were recovered from the evaluation.
- 3.7.3 The full pottery assessment is presented in Appendix B.

### **3.8 Environmental Summary**

- 3.8.1 A total of 18 identifiable bone fragments were recovered, the majority (17) were recovered from contexts that also produced medieval pottery in Trench 6. Three animal species (cattle, pig and sheep) were identified. Overall, preservation of these remains was very good.
- 3.8.2 A total of 5 samples were taken for the purposes of recovering environmental evidence. In Trench 1 these were taken the fill of Pit **106**. In Trench 6 they were taken from the buried soil 605 and from the fills of Ditch **606** and Pit **611**. They were also taken from the lowest fill layer in the water channel (304) in Trench 3. Only very small quantities of charred plant remains were present, with only Trench 6 producing a small number of charred cereal grains. Trench 3 produced a reasonable quantity of waterlogged weeds that support the interpretation of a wet environment surrounded by scrubland.
- 3.8.3 The faunal and environmental assessments are presented in Appendix C.

## 4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

### 4.1 Medieval activity

#### *Possible settlement features*

- 4.1.1 The features in Trench 6, which comprised two pits and a small ditch (**606, 608 and 611**), all lay between the line of the ditch and Dryden's Walk. No features were recorded to the west of this boundary (Fig.4). These features may represent low level "backyard" activity possibly associated with a property along Dryden's Walk. Although only a few sherds of pottery was found this suggests a date of 14th or 15th century for this activity.
- 4.1.2 The area between the former course of the Barrack Brook and Ermine Street also showed evidence for medieval activity although at a much lower level and very sparse by comparison with the adjacent excavation. It is likely, therefore, that this area was not densely settled during the medieval period, but may perhaps have fallen within the garden or grounds of a more substantial property.
- 4.1.3 Former course of Barrack Brook
- 4.1.4 The deep, water formed deposits (302, 303 & 304) in Trench 3 suggest the possible presence of a large water channel running roughly east to west across the development area.
- 4.1.5 This is supported by the general trend of the contours of the natural deposit across the site, which drop down southwards away from Ermine Street, before rising up again in the southern trenches. The natural in Trench 1 was recorded at 9.37mOD. Just 10m to the south in Trench 3, the lowest excavated deposit, which was still a channel fill, lay at 8.88mOD.
- 4.1.6 Trenches 2, 4 and 5 are thought to lie within the line of the channel. The natural deposits here were recorded at between 9.11mOD and 9.13mOD.
- 4.1.7 Continuing southwards, the base of Trench 6 appeared to be situated beyond, or on, the southern bank of this channel, rising as it did from 9.41mOD in the north to 9.55mOD at the south. This was mirrored in Trench 8 where the natural rose gently northwards from 9.23mOD to 9.28mOD. In the southernmost trench (10) natural deposits were encountered at between 10.01m and 10.27mOD.
- 4.1.8 This channel would have formed a boundary between the plots lying off Ermine Street and the area to the south. Similar deposits, interpreted at the time as possible flood deposits, were recorded during the excavations immediately to the north at the Town Centre Link Road excavations (Thatcher, forthcoming). This channel appears to follow the same general route as the modern Barrack Brook culvert, suggesting a continuance of water management along this line through to the present.
- 4.1.9 This feature is depicted on both the Speed Map of 1610 and the Plan of the Hospital Lands of 1752. It may be of note that there is an apparent shift in the course of the brook between the dates of the two maps; a period of 142 years. If this change is not simply a cartographic idiosyncrasy, but actually indicative of a change in course, then it would appear that the feature uncovered by this evaluation represents the earlier route of the Brook.



### **Possible field boundary**

- 4.1.10 The large ditch in Trench 7 (**705**) may indicate the presence of a field boundary perpendicular to Ferrars Road, which is shown as Woolley Way on the 1768 Jeffery's Map. The ditch appears to be parallel with the boundary to a Close in this area and may be indicative of a sub-division for the Close or an earlier field boundary.

### **Buried soil**

- 4.1.11 Evidence for a buried soil was found in Trenches 1, 6 and 7, the character of the soil in Trench 1 was slightly different to that in Trenches 6 and 7 in that it was more sandy. Otherwise the soil in all trenches could represent the remains of a plough soil.
- 4.1.12 The soil in Trench 1 produced some evidence for settlement in the form of a small amount of pottery as did the soil in Trench 6. The deposit in Trench 7 was largely devoid of finds.
- 4.1.13 Based on the consistent level of modern truncation seen across the entire development site, it is suggested that the presence of this deposit at these locations is not a reflection of its limited survival but representative of a land-use distinct from that recorded further to the north-west, in the vicinity of Ermine Street and on the line of the Edison Bell Way.
- 4.1.14 This is also indicated by the distinct character of the deposit; it was relatively well worked, uncompacted, and undisturbed. In contrast, the similarly dated deposits to the north, at Town Centre Link Road excavations (Thatcher, forthcoming), were indicative of quite intense activity, being relatively compacted, finds rich and with frequent interventions in the form of pitting.
- 4.1.15 The presence of this soil coupled with the infrequent presence of finds dating to the later medieval period would perhaps suggest that prior to the late medieval period the area was largely undeveloped open ground used for agriculture.

### **Summary of land-use**

- 4.1.16 In summary the evaluation trenching has shown that the area of the proposed development was probably largely given over to agriculture prior to the late medieval period, with perhaps some land management as indicated by the presence of a ditch perpendicular to Woolley Way. During that time the land was divided by wet scrubby area with a stream (the Barrack Brook) which flowed across the site and periodically flooded and altered course.
- 4.1.17 In the later medieval period the area to the north of the brook saw some low level activity possibly associated with settlement but perhaps more in keeping with a garden. An area to the south of the brook and close to Dryden's walk was perhaps taken over for settlement, although this seems to have been of low intensity and fairly short lived.

## **4.2 Significance**

- 4.2.1 The results support the findings from previous work (ECB3573, Webster 2011) that most medieval activity in the area was concentrated along the Ermine Street frontage and did not extend south beyond the line of the Barrack Brook.
- 4.2.2 The water channel confirms the existence of that line as a significant boundary. Dryden's Walk may also have had plots along its frontage, albeit of lower intensity.
- 4.2.3 The finds from the site support the suggestion that the only areas of activity were in the vicinity of Trenches 1 and 6.

### **4.3 Recommendations**

- 4.3.1 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						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	N-S	
Trench contained one late medieval pit cutting through a buried Medieval soil horizon, overlain by modern construction.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	1.40	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.90	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	9.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
100	Layer	-	0.10	Modern concrete	-	Modern
101	Layer	-	0.70	Modern build-up	-	Modern
102	Layer	-	-	Buried soil horizon	Pottery	Medieval
103	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
104	Fill	-	0.16	Modern material slump	-	Modern
105	Fill	-	0.15	Pit Fill	Pottery	late medieval
106	Cut	1.2	0.31	Pit	-	late medieval
Trench 2						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	E-W	
Trench contained an alluvial clay layer overlain by modern layers.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	1.70	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	2.50	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	8.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
200	Layer	-	0.18	Modern concrete	-	Modern
201	Layer	-	0.80	Modern build-up	-	Modern
202	Layer	-	0.70	Alluvial Clay	-	-
Trench 3						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	N-S	
Lay within a potential large water channel running E-W across the site.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	1.50	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	2.30	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	1.80	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
300	Layer	-	0.18	Modern concrete	-	Modern
301	Layer	-	0.30	Modern build-up	-	Modern
302	Fill	-	0.47	Fill of possible water channel	-	-

303	Fill	-	0.55	Fill of possible water channel	-	-
304	Fill	-	-	Fill of possible water channel	-	-
<b>Trench 4</b>						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	N-S
Trench contained an alluvial clay layer overlain by modern layers.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	1.40
					<b>Width (m)</b>	2.10
					<b>Length (m)</b>	13.00
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
400	Layer	-	0.20	Modern concrete	-	Modern
401	Layer	-	0.15	Modern build-up	-	Modern
402	Layer	-	0.66	Modern build-up	-	Modern
403	Layer	-	0.48	Alluvial Clay	-	-
<b>Trench 5</b>						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	N-S
Trench contained an alluvial clay layer overlain by modern layers.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	1.39
					<b>Width (m)</b>	2.10
					<b>Length (m)</b>	9.00
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
500	Layer	-	0.20	Modern concrete	-	Modern
501	Layer	-	0.10	Modern build-up	-	Modern
502	Layer	-	0.47	Modern build-up	-	Modern
503	Layer	-	0.65	Alluvial Clay	-	-
<b>Trench 6</b>						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	N-S
Trench contained a possible Medieval soil horizon, which was cut by a ditch and two pits of late medieval date.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	1.50
					<b>Width (m)</b>	2.10
					<b>Length (m)</b>	15.00
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
600	Layer	-	0.30	Modern concrete	-	Modern
601	Layer	-	0.11	Modern build-up	-	Modern
602	Layer	-	0.14	Modern build-up	-	Modern
603	Layer	-	0.52	Modern build-up	-	Modern

604	Layer	-	0.30	Alluvial Clay	-	-
605	Layer	-	0.15	Buried soil horizon	Pottery	Medieval
606	Cut	0.55	0.31	Cut of ditch	-	late medieval
607	Fill	-	0.31	Fill of ditch 606	Pottery	late medieval
608	Cut	0.90	0.22	Cut of pit	-	late medieval
609	Fill	-	0.22	Fill of pit 608	Pottery	late medieval
610	Fill	-	0.68	Fill of pit 611	Pottery	late medieval
611	Cut	1.60	0.68	Cut of pit	-	late medieval

#### Trench 7

<b>General description</b>	<b>Orientation</b>	E-W
Trench contained alluvial clay layers cut by a large late medieval pit.	<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	1.54
	<b>Width (m)</b>	2.10
	<b>Length (m)</b>	15.00

#### Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
700	Layer	-	0.30	Modern concrete	-	Modern
701	Layer	-	0.70	Modern build-up	-	Modern
702	Layer	-	0.20	Alluvial Clay	-	Medieval
703	Layer	-	0.40	Buried Soil Horizon	-	Medieval
704	Fill	-	0.70	Fill of pit 705	-	late medieval
705	Cut	3.60	0.70	Cut of pit	-	late medieval

#### Trench 8

<b>General description</b>	<b>Orientation</b>	E-W
Trench contained alluvial clay layers cut by a modern posthole.	<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	1.60
	<b>Width (m)</b>	2.10
	<b>Length (m)</b>	15.00

#### Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
800	Layer	-	0.28	Modern gravel	-	Modern
801	Layer	-	0.17	Modern build-up	-	Modern
802	Layer	-	0.73	Modern build-up	-	Modern
803	Layer	-	0.22	Alluvial Clay	Pottery	Post-Medieval
804	Fill	-	0.20	Fill of posthole 805	Tile, Iron	Modern
805	Cut	0.50	0.20	Cut of posthole	-	Modern
806	Layer	-	0.21	Alluvial Clay	-	-

Trench 9						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	E-W	
Trench contained alluvial clay layers cut by modern pit.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	1.50	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	3.30	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	11.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
900	Layer	-	0.16	Modern concrete	-	Modern
901	Layer	-	0.76	Modern build-up	-	Modern
902	Fill	-	0.58	Fill of pit 903	-	Modern
903	Cut	-	0.58	Cut of Pit	-	Modern
904	Layer	-	0.70	Alluvial Clay	-	-
Trench 10						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	E-W	
Trench contained alluvial clay layers cut by modern pit.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	1.08	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	2.00	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	15.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1001	Layer	-	0.10	Modern concrete	-	Modern
1002	Layer	-	0.20	Modern concrete bedding	-	Modern
1003	Layer	-	0.18	Modern Build-up	-	Modern
1004	Layer	-	0.60	Alluvial Clay	-	-

## APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

### B.1 Pottery

*By Carole Fletcher*

#### ***Introduction and methodology***

- B.1.1 The evaluation produced a pottery assemblage of 24 sherds, weighing 0.262kg. The assemblage spans the mid 1st century to the early 19th century. The condition of the overall assemblage is abraded and the mean sherd weight is low at approximately 0.011kg.

#### ***Methodology***

- B.1.2 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. A small amount of material was recovered from samples taken for recovery of ecofacts. On the whole this material consisted of small and abraded sherds that were undiagnostic and not closely datable.
- B.1.3 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 Roman, 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.

#### ***Assemblage***

- B.1.4 The site lies close to Ermine Street and numerous evaluations and excavations have been carried out in the surrounding area (see section 1.3). An excavation undertaken west of the town centre link road (ECB3573) produced a moderate-large assemblage (82.994kg) of early medieval to early modern pottery.
- B.1.5 The current evaluation produced a similar range of fabrics, however on a considerably smaller scale. The assemblage was recovered from 10 trenches across the development site, of which only three produced pottery, the majority being recovered from Trench 6.
- B.1.6 Trench 1 contained layer 102, described as a possible buried medieval soil, produced a rim sherd from a Medieval Ely ware flared or rounded bowl. Pit **106** produced five sherds of pottery, including a rim sherd from a Roman shell-tempered jar, alongside a body sherd from a Grimston-type Glazed ware and a Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy ware base sherd.
- B.1.7 Layer 605 in Trench 6 is described as a possible buried soil. This context produced six sherds of pottery, including a body sherd from an internally sooted Huntingdonshire Fen Sandy ware vessel and a sherd from a Lyveden/Stanion glazed jug with slipped-stamped decoration. Both sherds indicate a medieval date for this layer, suggesting this may also be the same buried medieval soil as that identified in Trench 1.
- B.1.8 This medieval deposit was cut by two pits within this trench, pit **608**, which produced a single sherd from a Lyveden A-type shelly ware vessel dating from the mid 12th to the end of the 14th century. The second pit, **611**, produced four sherds of pottery, including a Shelly ware sherd that was tentatively identified as Roman, small body sherds from

Developed St Neots vessels, a spalled base sherd from a Lyveden A-type shelly ware vessel, and a fragment from a sooted medieval Essex-type micaceous Grey Sandy ware dish dating from the 13th-end 14th century.

- B.1.9 The final feature in this trench was ditch **606**, which truncated pit **608**, and produced four sherds of pottery, including an abraded sherd tentatively identified as Roman, two small residual fragments of Stamford ware and a sherd from a Grimston-type Glazed ware jug. These fabrics suggest a date for the context of 13th-end 15th century.
- B.1.10 Trench 8, contained what is described by the excavator as a post-medieval soil layer, which produced a single sherd from a Nottinghamshire/Derbyshire stoneware bowl or jar and a base sherd from a Staffordshire mottled ware drinking vessel. Both sherds are relatively unabraded, indicating little post-deposition reworking.

### ***Conclusion***

- B.1.11 The assemblage is domestic in nature, the majority of the sherds are abraded and have been reworked. The presence of Roman pottery is not unexpected as the site lies close to Ermine Street and Roman material, which relates to Roman activity not necessarily occupation, may have been incorporated into the medieval features through reworking of earlier deposits.
- B.1.12 The presence of sherds of Stamford ware and Developed St Neots ware suggests some late Saxon-early medieval activity, however no features are associated with this period. Some of the medieval sherds recovered are sooted, indicating their use in the preparation of food, and the presence of several jug sherds suggests the serving/consumption of liquids, reinforcing the domestic nature of the assemblage.
- B.1.13 The levels of pottery across the site are low to moderate and the medieval pottery is most likely to have been deposited as rubbish across the site, or to have become incorporated into the features as they go out of use. There is no evidence of primary deposition within the assemblage.



## Pottery Catalogue

Context	Cut	Trench	Fabric	Basic Form	Sherd Count	Weight (kg)	Pottery Date Range
102		1	Medieval Ely ware	Bowl rim sherd	1	0.020	Mid C12th-mid 14th
105	106	1	Roman Shelly ware	Jar rim sherd	1	0.023	Mid C1st-4th
			Roman Shelly ware	Body sherd	2	0.004	Mid C1st-4th
			Grimston-type Glazed ware	Body sherd	1	0.014	C13th-end 15th
			Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy wares	Base sherd	1	0.007	C13th-end 14th
605		6	Huntingdonshire Fen Sandy Ware	Body sherd	1	0.013	Late C12th-end 13th
			Unprovenanced Glazed ware	Body sherd	1	0.002	C13th-end 15th
			Lyveden/Stanton Glazed ware	Jug body sherd	1	0.008	Early C13th-end 14th
			Stamford ware	Base sherd	1	0.002	Late C9th-end 12th
			St Neots-Developed St Neots	Body sherd	2	0.007	Late C9th-mid 13th
607	606	6	Stamford ware	Jug body sherd	1	0.006	Late C9th-end 12th
			Grimston-type Glazed ware	Jug body sherd	1	0.006	C13th-end 15th
			Stamford ware	Rim sherd	1	0.010	Late C9th-end 12th
			Roman	Body sherd	1	0.002	Mid C1st-4th
609	608	6	Lyveden A-type shelly ware	Body sherd	2	0.026	Mid C12th-end 14th
610	611	6	Roman Shelly ware	Base sherd	1	0.008	Mid C1st-4th
			Lyveden A-type shelly ware	Bowl	1	0.032	Mid C12th-end 14th
			Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy wares	Dish rim sherd	1	0.031	C13th-end 14th
			Developed St Neots	Body sherd	1	0.007	Mid C11th-mid 13th
803		8	Nottinghamshire Stoneware	Bowl or jar body sherd	1	0.010	C18th
			Staffordshire Mottled ware	Drinking vessel base sherd	1	0.024	Mid C17th-end 18th
Total					24	0.262	

**Table 1: Pottery**

## APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

### C.1 Faunal remains

*By Angelos Hadjikoumis*

#### **Introduction**

- C.1.1 For the purposes of this evaluation, eighteen animal remains were recovered and studied in order to assess the preservation, condition and potential of zooarchaeological remains to generate archaeological knowledge through further investigations.

#### **Methodology**

- C.1.2 Due to the small size of the sample involved, identification and full recording was attempted on every specimen. Besides anatomical and taxonomic identification, data on the fusion state of post-cranial bones, eruption and wear of dental remains, fragmentation, level of erosion, taphonomy, butchery and biometrical measurements were also recorded.
- C.1.3 Identification was aided by the use relevant osteological atlases (e.g. Barone 1976; Pales and Garcia 1981; Schmid 1972). Epiphyseal fusion was recorded following Silver (1969). The distinction between sheep and goat was attempted on all caprine remains based on the criteria published by Boessneck et al. (1964).
- C.1.4 Fragmentation, taphonomy and butchery were recorded as described in Halstead (2011) and biometric measurements were taken following von den Driesch (1976). The extent of erosion/abrasion on bone surfaces was graded from 0 (unaffected) to 5 (heavy erosion across whole surface) according to Brickley and McKinley (2004: 14-15).

#### **Quantification**

- C.1.5 The basic unit used for the quantification of this sample is the Number of Identified Specimens (NISP). All eighteen specimens were identifiable to some anatomical and taxonomic level.

#### **Species Present and Preservation**

- C.1.6 Identifiable specimens were recovered in all four contexts from which animal remains were collected (Table 2). Three animal species were positively identified (cattle, pig and sheep), although it cannot be excluded that more were present amongst specimens generically attributed to 'large mammal' or 'medium mammal'. Moreover, the presence of carnivore gnawing marks on three specimens can be taken as evidence for the presence of carnivores in the area, presumably domestic dogs (although other 'culprits' such as the red fox cannot be excluded entirely).
- C.1.7 From the positively identified species, sheep/goat (predominately or exclusively sheep) appears to be the most numerous taxonomic category, followed by cattle, while pig is represented only by a single specimen.
- C.1.8 The preservation of most specimens is almost perfect with only a few specimens having part of their surface eroded. This overall good condition has facilitated the identification of butchery marks (seven specimens). Moreover, seven specimens could be attributed to an age cohort and three specimens were biometrically measurable.

Specimen No	Context	Element	Taxon	Age Information	Biometric information	Butchery information	Erosion
1	102	Radius	Sheep/goat				3
2	605	Sacrum	Cattle	√		√	0
3		Rib	Large mammal			√	0
4		Tibia	Sheep/goat				0
5		Tibia	Sheep/goat			√	2
6		607	Mandible	Cattle	√		√
7	Metatarsus		Sheep/goat		√		1
8	PH2		Cattle	√	√		0
9	Long bone		Large mammal			√	0
10	Long bone		Medium mammal				0
11	Long bone		Medium mammal				4
12	Long bone		Medium mammal				3
13	610	Tibia	Sheep	√	√	√	1
14		Mandible	Pig	√			0
15		Loose maxillary tooth	Sheep/goat	√			0
16		Loose maxillary tooth	Sheep/goat	√			1
17		Long bone	Large mammal				1
18		Radius	Cattle				√

**Table 2: Overview of data collected from faunal sample.**

### **Contamination**

C.1.9 No obvious contamination has been noted in terms of species present.

### **Sampling Bias**

C.1.10 Inevitably, hand collection of faunal remains usually causes an under-representation of smaller animal species (if present), smaller anatomical elements and young animals.

### **Statement of Research Potential**

C.1.11 The study of the faunal sample shows that the potential for the recovery of well-preserved animal remains at the site is particularly high, both due to the relatively recent chronology of the deposits but also the conditions in the soil from which they were excavated.

C.1.12 The good preservation condition enhances the potential of such a faunal assemblage, not only through a high rate of identifiability but also volume of data extracted from each specimen (age-at-death, biometry, carcass processing, etc.).

C.1.13 A substantial faunal sample recovered during any subsequent works would have the potential to shed light on the type of activities carried out by humans in the area (e.g. domestic or industrial), dietary preferences, the provision system (e.g. locally produced or imported food) and culinary practices.

## C.2 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

### **Introduction**

- C.2.1 Five bulk samples were taken during the evaluation, from archaeological deposits that are considered to date to the late-medieval and post-medieval period. The purpose of this assessment is to determine whether plant remains are present, their mode of preservation and whether they are of interpretable value with regard to domestic, agricultural and industrial activities, diet, economy and rubbish disposal.

### **Methodology**

- C.2.2 The total volume (up to 18 litres) of each of the samples was processed by tank flotation using modified Siraff-type equipment. 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. A magnet was dragged through each residue fraction for the recovery of magnetic residues 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 an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 3. 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). Carbonized seeds and grains, by the process of burning and burial, become blackened and often distort and fragment leading to difficulty in identification. Plant remains have been identified to species where possible. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

### **Quantification**

- C.2.3 For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as seeds, cereal grains and artefacts have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories:

# = 1-5, ## = 6-10, ### = 11-50, #### = 51+ specimens ##### = 100+ specimens

- C.2.4 Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal, magnetic residues and fragmented bone have been scored for abundance

+ = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant

### **Results**

- C.2.5 The results are discussed below by trench:

#### *Trench 1*

- C.2.6 Sample 4, fill 106 of late medieval pit **106** produced a small volume of charcoal and frequent bone fragments.

#### *Trench 3*

- C.2.7 Sample 5 was taken from a layer (304) within a possible water-channel and contains plant remains preserved by waterlogging indicating that the deposit has remained consistently wet. There are numerous seeds of bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*), elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*), stinging nettles (*Urtica dioica*), bittersweet (*Solanum dulcamara*) and buttercup (*Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus*). There are also present seeds of

plants that are obligate aquatics such as water-crowfoot (*Ranunculus* subgenus *batracium*) and pond weed (*Potamogeton* sp.) in addition to sedges (*Carex* spp.). Other organisms include ostracods and cladoceran ehippia (egg cases of water-fleas). This assemblage indicates that this was a water-filled feature such as a stream, in an area of scrub-like vegetation.

#### Trench 6

C.2.8 Samples were taken from three features within Trench 6. Sample 1, layer 605 from a possible late-medieval or early post-medieval buried soil horizon contains two charred barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) grains. Samples 2 (fill 607 of possible late-medieval ditch **606**) and 3 (fill 610 of late-medieval pit **611**) contain sparse amounts of charcoal in addition to frequent animal bone fragments.

Area/Trench No.	Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	% context sampled	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Preservation	Cereals	Weed Seeds	Small Bones	Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal > 2mm	Pottery	Small mammal bones	Large mammal bones	Burnt mammal bones	Glass	Metal Fe
1	4	105	<b>106</b>	Pit	<10	16	15	Charred	0	0	0	+++	++	##	#	+++	#	0	0
3	5	304	-	Channel	<10	18	30	Waterlogged	0	###w	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	1	605	-	Layer	<10	17	20	Charred	#	0	#	++	+	##	#	+++	#	0	#
	2	607	<b>606</b>	Ditch	<10	15	20	Charred	0	0	0	++	0	##	#	+++	#	0	#
	3	610	<b>611</b>	Pit	<10	17	15	Charred	0	0	0	++	+	##	#	+++	#	#	#

**Table 3: Environmental samples**

#### Discussion

C.2.9 The samples taken during the evaluation of this site indicate that there is the potential for the recovery of plant remains preserved by both carbonisation (charring) and waterlogging (survival in an anoxic environment). The density and diversity of the charred plant remains are low but the recovery of charred grain from buried soil horizon 605 may tentatively suggest that the layer is a later occupation deposit. The waterlogged plant remains are well preserved and have the potential to provide information on the plant species that were growing in the near vicinity.

## APPENDIX D. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

### Project Details

OASIS Number	<input type="text" value="oxfordar3-242977"/>		
Project Name	<input type="text" value="Evaluation on Land between Ferrar's Road, Dryden's Walk and Edison Bell Way"/>		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	<input type="text" value="11-01-2016"/>	Finish	<input type="text" value="21-01-2016"/>
Previous Work (by OA East)	<input type="text" value="No"/>	Future Work	<input type="text"/>

### Project Reference Codes

Site Code	<input type="text" value="HUNFER15"/>	Planning App. No.	<input type="text" value="1301836OUT"/>
HER No.	<input type="text" value="ECB4625"/>	Related HER/OASIS No.	<input type="text"/>

### Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	<input type="text" value="Planning condition"/>
Development Type	<input type="text" value="Housing Estate"/>

### 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Vibro-core
<input type="checkbox"/> Fieldwalking	<input checked="" 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" value="Pit"/>	<input type="text" value="Medieval 1066 to 1540"/>	<input type="text" value="Vessel"/>	<input type="text" value="Medieval 1066 to 1540"/>
<input type="text" value="Ditch"/>	<input type="text" value="Medieval 1066 to 1540"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Select period..."/>
<input type="text" value="Posthole"/>	<input type="text" value="Modern 1901 to Present"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Select period..."/>

### Project Location

County	<input type="text" value="Cambridgeshire"/>	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	<input type="text"/>
District	<input type="text" value="Huntingdonshire"/>		
Parish	<input type="text" value="Huntingdon"/>		
HER	<input type="text" value="Cambridgeshire"/>		
Study Area	<input type="text" value="6000 sq.m"/>	National Grid Reference	<input type="text" value="TL 2349 7210"/>

## Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Andy Thomas
Project Design Originator	Aileen Conner
Project Manager	Aileen Conner
Supervisor	Chris Thatcher

## Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
Location ...	Location ...	Location ...
Accession ID ...	Accession ID ...	Accession ID ...

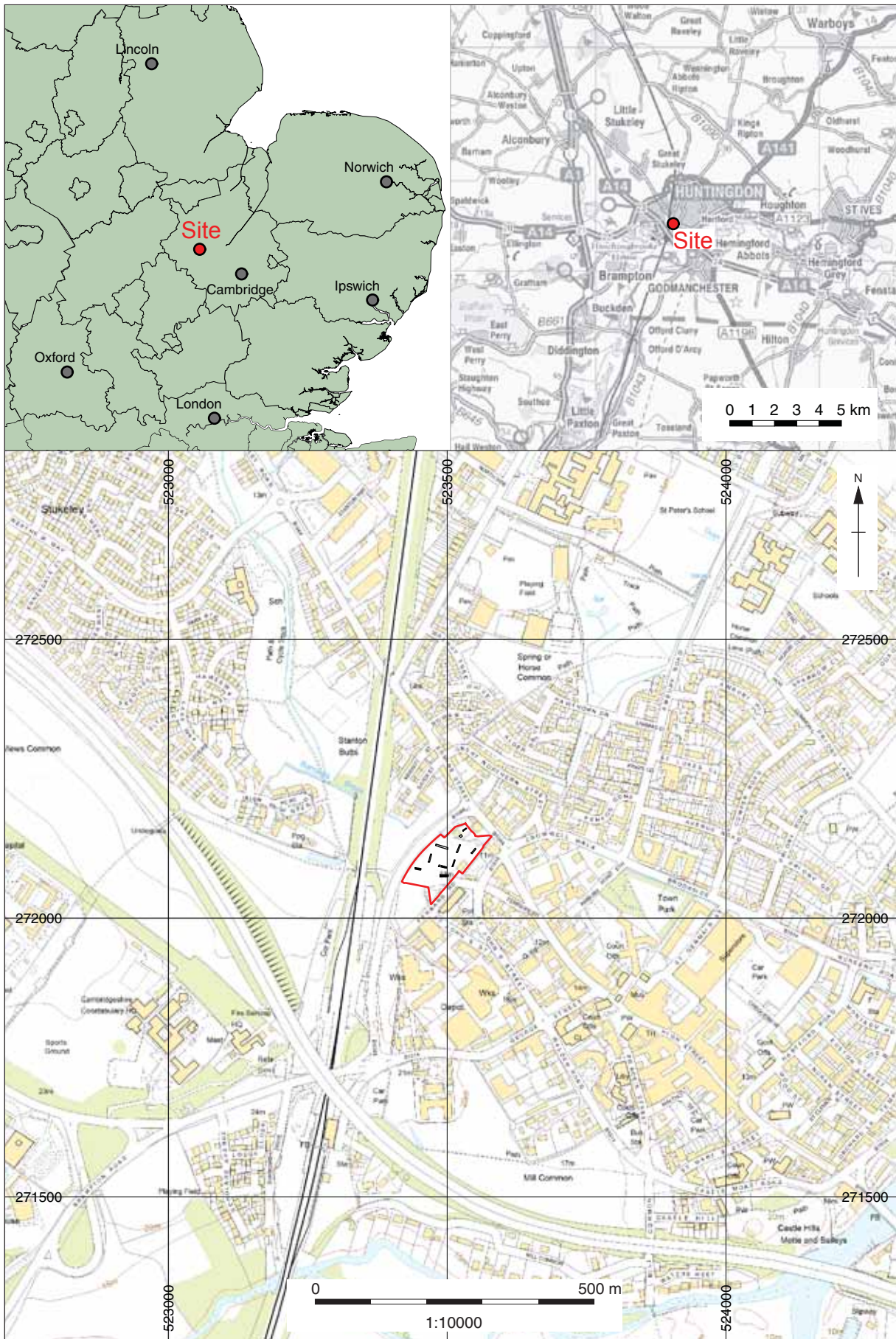
## Archive Contents/Media

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Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input checked="" 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"/>
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Stratigraphic		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Survey		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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
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<input type="checkbox"/> GIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysics	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illustrations	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text	<input type="checkbox"/> Microfilm
<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual Reality	<input type="checkbox"/> Misc.
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	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

### Notes:





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

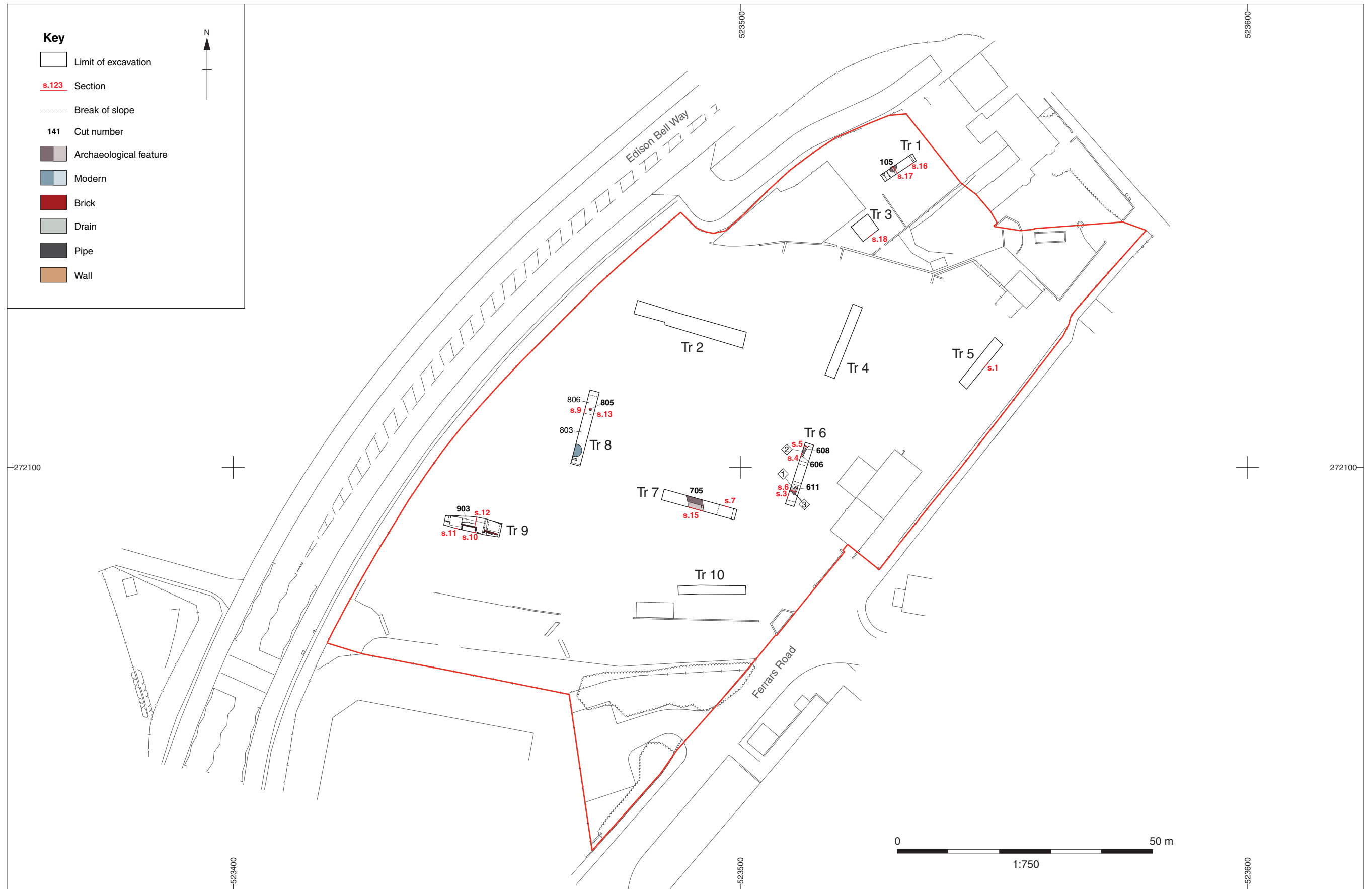


Figure 2: Trench layout plan

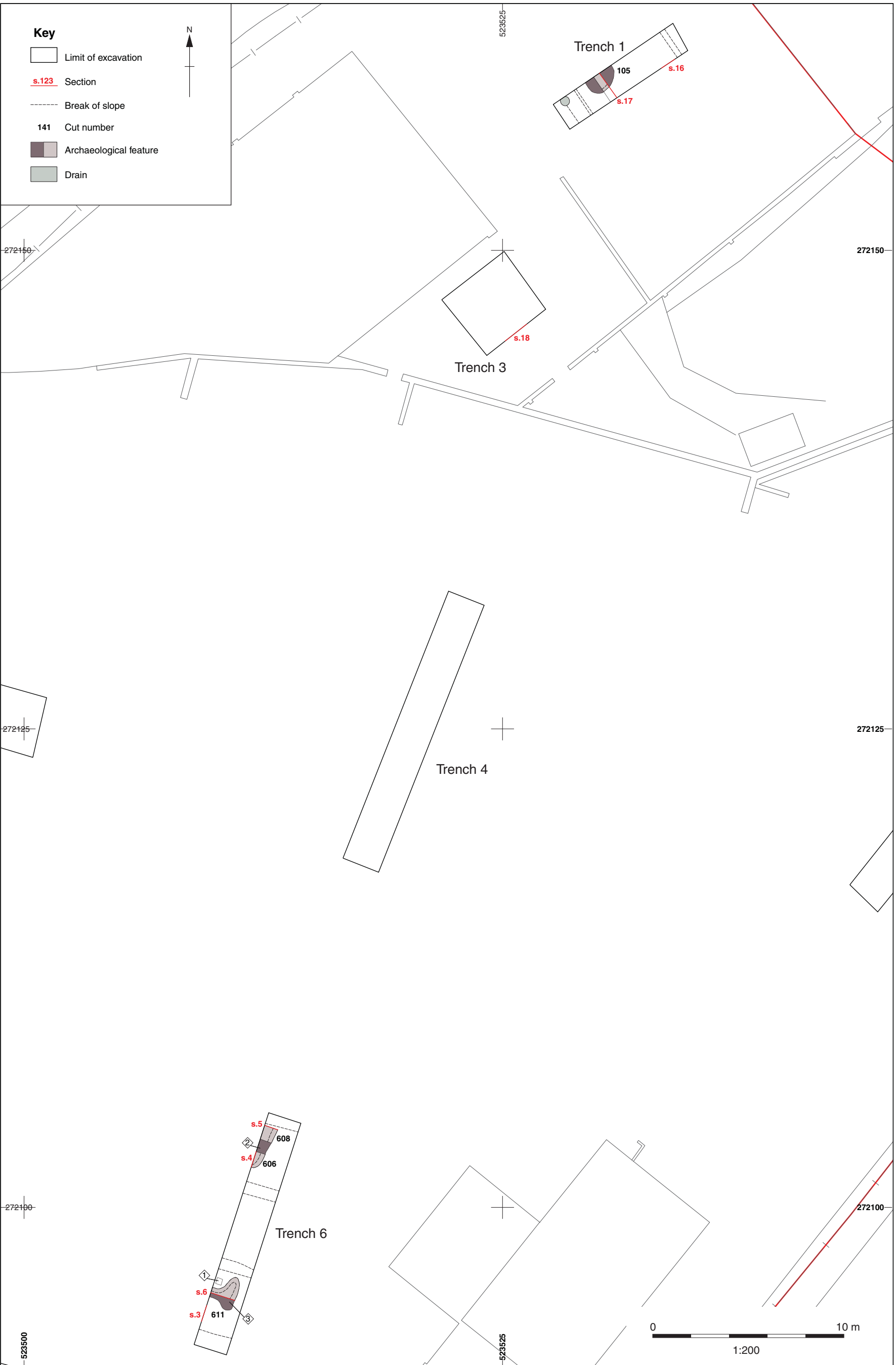


Figure 3: Plan of trenches 1 and 6

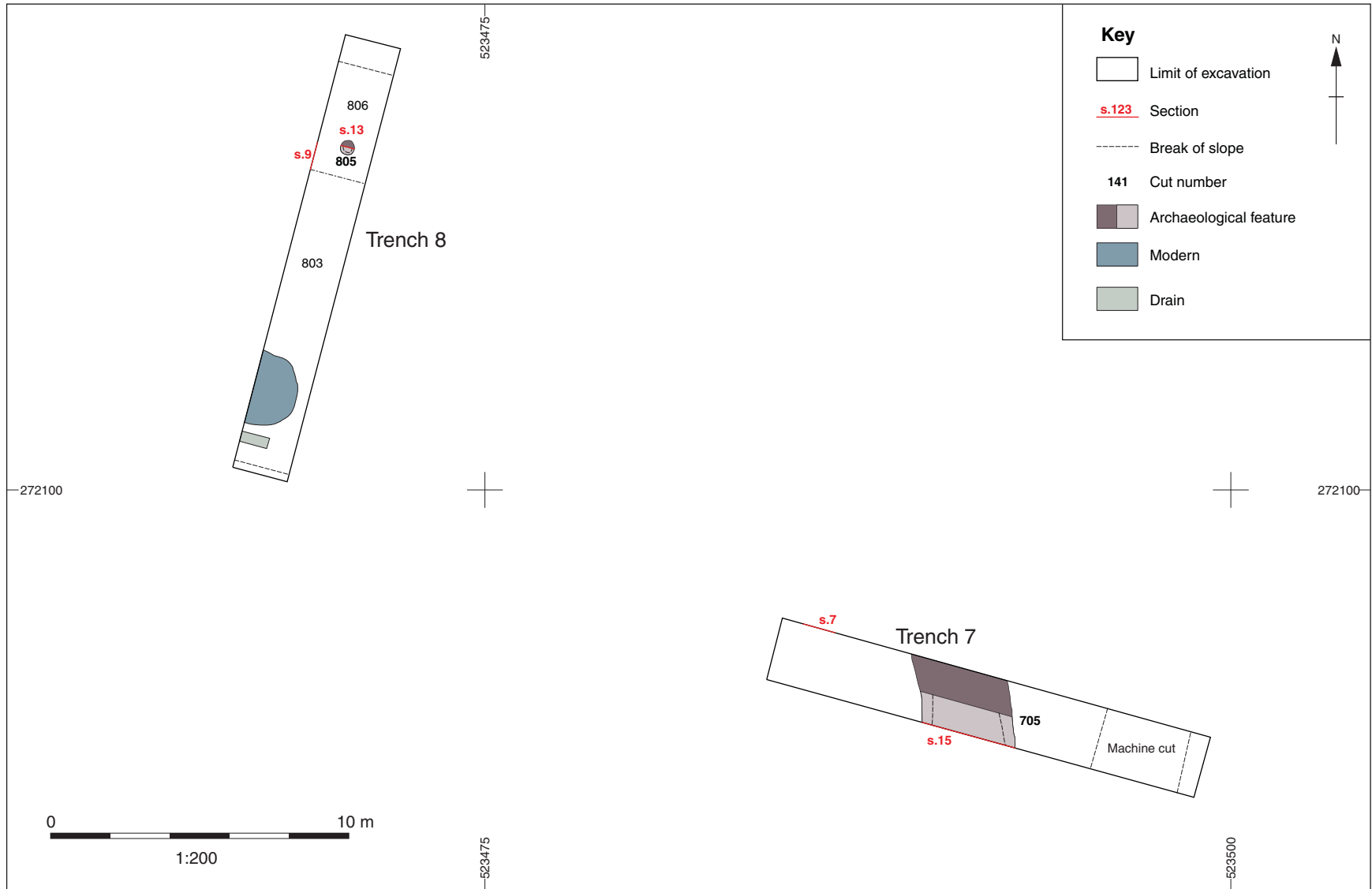


Figure 4: Plans of trenches 7 and 8

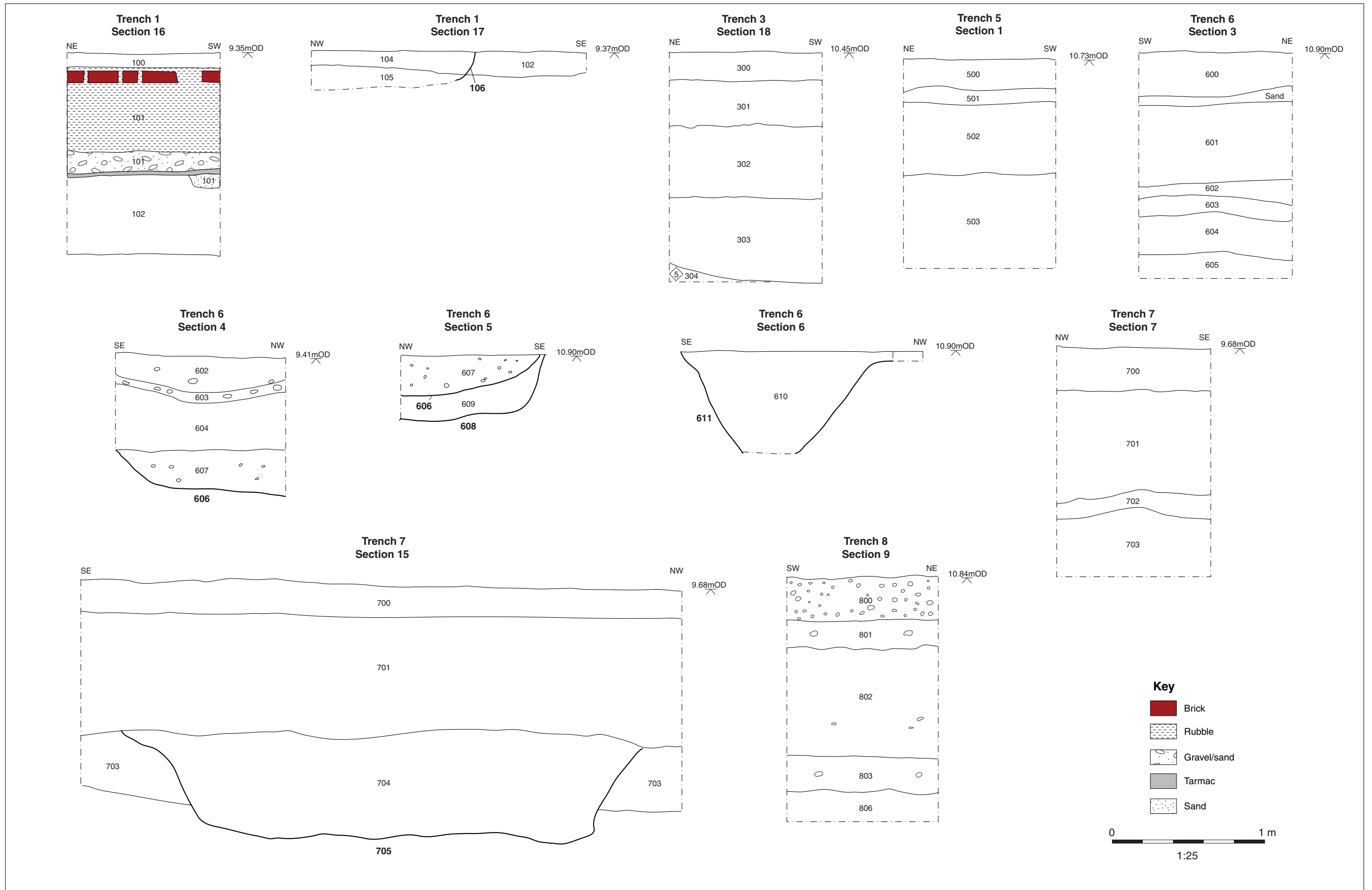


Figure 5: Selected sections



Plate 1: View of Trench 6 looking south.



Plate 2: View of baulk in Trench 1, Section 16, looking south-east.



Plate 3: View of baulk in Trench 3, Section 18, looking north-west.



Plate 4: View of baulk in Trench 5, Section 1, looking south-east.



Plate 5: View of baulk in Trench 6, Section 3, looking west.



Plate 6: View of baulk in Trench 8, Section 9, looking west.





Plate 7: View of Pit **105**, Section 17, looking north-east.



Plate 8: View of Ditch **606**, Section 4, looking west.



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