

Land at Railway Road Downham Market



Archaeological Watching Brief Report



August 2011

Client: CgMs Consulting Ltd

OA East Report No: 1281

OASIS No: oxfordar3-106762

NGR: TF 603 031

Land at Railway Road Downham Market

Watching Brief

Site Code: XNFRAD11

Date of Works: 17/05/11 - 01/09/11

Report No: 1281

Excavator: John Diffey

Client: CgMs Consulting Ltd

Report Date: September 2011

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Summary

Between the dates 17/05/11 - 17/06/2011 and 30/8/11- 01/09/11, OA East carried out an archaeological watching brief at Railway Road, Downham Market, Norfolk (TF 603 031).

All of what was revealed related to the post-medieval and modern landscaping and use of the site. No evidence pre-dating the Post Medieval period was encountered.

1 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 1.1.1 The study site is situated on a geological and topographical boundary between the higher dry ground of Downham Market proper to the East and the lower fenland and former Great Ouse estuary to the west. There is a drop of approximately 10m from East to West across the site over a distance of 300m this includes a number of artificial terraces (thought to be relatively modern) running north-south across the site.
- 1.1.2 The British Geological Survey 1:50 000 Series, England and Wales Sheet 159, Shows that the underlying solid geology of the study site comprises Kimmeridge Clay. East of the study site (with rising topography) the Kimmeridge Clay is overlain by Sandringham sands. West of the Study site the Kimmeridge Clay is overlain by Flandrian deposits of Nordelph peat and Terrington Beds Salt-marsh and tidal creek deposits.
- 1.1.3 On Site observations identified the Kimmeridge clay solid geology but found that in the far west of the site this was overlain by peat deposits and subsequent alluvial deposits. Although finds from these deposits suggest a later date of formation than the Nordelph peat and Terrington Beds deposits it is likely that they have formed under the same geological processes. These processes being peat formation where freshwater was ponded back at the edge of the fenland by the reed swamps and then subsequent marine inundation along the tidal rivers (Great Ouse) depositing silt and fine grained sand.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1.1 The desk based assessment produced for the study site (Darton 2010) suggested limited archaeological potential for the prehistoric periods. This was based on only 4 HER records for this period within 1 km of the site.
- 2.1.2 For the Earlier Historic periods (Iron Age, Roman Saxon and Medieval Periods) again archaeological potential was deemed low to moderate based on a lack of evidence for settlement activity within this area. Downham market lies on the route of the Roman road 'Akeman Street' so it is likely that some form of settlement existed at this time, however the road runs east of the current settlement while the study site is far west. The Town is thought to have developed properly in the Saxon period centred around the higher ground surrounding the church approximately 1km to the East of the site. The town was granted its Market Status in AD1050. During the Medieval period the town grew in size and influence and was granted permission to hold an annual fair and also the privilege of the gallows in 1172 (Baker 2011). However at this time the site was still outside of the settlement and was probably part of the marshy fenland and Great Ouse estuary that stretched for miles west of the town. The original town green lies immediately east of the site and it is known that cattle were allowed to graze here at times of flood and that a gate crossed the road to stop the cattle wandering into town (Baker 2011). This would suggest that before the major drainage schemes that took place between the 17th and 19th centuries the site occupied a fringe zone between the permanently dry land of the town green and settlement to the east and the marshy fenland and Great Ouse estuary and floodplain to the west.
- 2.1.3 The post medieval period saw dramatic changes in the use of land around Downham Market and the fen land as a whole. Drainage and land reclamation had been taking place in this area since the Roman period with the construction of sea defences and drainage channels (Hewitt 2000). Successive generations through the Saxon and medieval periods expanded the drainage systems and extent of drained land. Large scale drainage plans for the fens abounded during the 16th century however it was not

until the beginning of the 17th century with the drainage act of 1600 that investment into the scheme was seriously considered (Darby 1983). Between 1630 and 1637 the first large scale drainage works within the southern fenland were implemented. These works had limited success and the years of the civil war saw most of the works undone through either destruction by protesters and poor management (Hewitt 2000).

- 2.1.4 A new parliamentary act and second scheme of works was implemented in 1649 with works carried out between 1651 and 1653. These works included the New Bedford river and its wash, which carried water from Earith to Denver (2.5km upriver from Downham) then at Denver via a sluice gate into the Great Ouse. The works also included the construction of embankments along the rivers Cam, Lark, Little Ouse and Wissey these small rivers then joined and ran together again to Denver and on into the Great Ouse. Because of fears that Denver sluice would not handle the flood waters of these four south level rivers a relief channel was constructed (Darby 1983). This relief channel, Downham Eau, also known as St Johns Eau, ran parallel to and east of the original course of the Ouse and only 400m west of the study site. Despite being deemed a success these works led to further problems in the 18th and 19th centuries. With sluices holding back flood waters in the winter the river downstream of Denver including at Downham market became choked with sediment from tidal inundations and severely hindered navigation of the channel a problem that would persist for the next few centuries (Darby 1983). At the end of the Napoleonic Wars in 1815 attention was focussed on the northern tidal stretch of the Ouse and in 1821 Thomas Telford one of the great civil engineers of the time advised on the Eau Brink Cut which straitened the Ouse between Denver and Kings Lynn and resulted in the lowering of the river bed by up to 15 feet (Hewitt 2000).
- 2.1.5 By 1824 the study site must have been considerably drier and suitable for building as the Ordinance Survey map of this date shows buildings fronting the northern and western boundaries of the site. A brickworks and associated brick-fields is known to have stood immediately south west of the the site in 1840 and the fen line railway was completed in 1846 running immediately west of the study site. Further industrial development of the site is seen on the 1887 ordinance survey map with a timber yard and associated saw pit located in the west of the site. This was replaced by a malt house by 1905. Further drainage schemes were carried out in the mid 20th century with the re-cutting and lengthening of Downham Eau to become the Ouse relief channel the reorganisation of the Denver sluices and the straightening of the Great Ouse Channel between Denver and kings Lynn however with the position of the railway and the site being occupied this work is unlikely to have affected the site as much as previous works. In the late 20th century further development of the site occurred with the construction of a number of factories and an electrical substation in the north west and north east of the site and the digging of a pond in the south west these buildings were demolished by 2009 leaving the site today as an area of wasteland and scrub.

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1.1 The objective of this watching brief 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.
- 3.1.2 The Brief required that all invasive ground works likely to impact on archaeological deposits be monitored. The brief (Mayo 2010) dictated that constant monitoring take place on areas highlighted as having more archaeological potential, this included the South East corner of area 2, area 4, the North East corner of area 5 and area 6. All

other areas of the site were subject to regular but not constant monitoring. Based on geological test pitting it was thought that only the remedial stripping of the sites topsoil would be required to be monitored, however, initial stripping revealed the layers of overburden on site to be greater than originally thought and thus further monitoring of the foundation trenches for the new developments was required. All ground works were carried out with a 360 or wheeled excavator using a toothless bucket and all trenches were examined at the level of natural geology before further digging took place.

- 3.1.3 The area of investigation was located south of houses fronting railway road centred at TF 603 031.
- 3.1.4 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 3.1.5 Site conditions were good with generally dry and sunny weather and a low water table enabling all works to be undertaken without hinderance.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Area 4

- 4.1.1 Area 4 is located in the centre north of the site at the rear of buildings fronting Railway Road. The area measures 52.5m north to south x 77.5m east to west and is split on two levels by a terrace running north to south through the area. The eastern part of the area 22.5m east to west is c.8.4mOD while the western part is approximately 2m lower. The initial 0.3m strip of the entire area revealed no natural geology and instead revealed a very mixed made ground with abundant 20th century building materials and industrial waste. It may be worthy of note that a large area, 5m x 3m, in the north of area 4, just west of the foundation trenches for plots 2 and 3, was littered with waste glass spectacle lenses. Local oral information confirmed that one of the recently demolished factories had produced such materials. With no natural geology uncovered, the excavation of the foundation trenches for 14 houses was monitored. The plots were divided into 3 small terraces across area 4 and as such the results are similarly sub divided below

4.2 Plots 1-7

- 4.2.1 Plots 1-7 formed a row of houses running north to south along the eastern side of area 4 just east of the north to south line of terracing. The foundations consisted of trenches for the front and back wall 34.25m long and 1.25m wide which kick out 1m to the east between plots 4 and 5. Trenches for the end and subdividing walls (8 in total) ran east to west between these trenches measuring 8.75m in length 1.25m wide and spaced between 3 and 4.25m apart. Each trench consisted of a 0.625m wide cut averaging 1.6m deep for the foundation and a second cut of the same width 0.9m deep forming a step to allow safe access to the trench. The base of the foundation trench finished at 6.115mOD for plots 1-4 and 5.965 for plots 5-7 (see fig.3).
- 4.2.2 At the north end of plot 1 (see fig.4 section 1) the natural geology (001) was reached at 6.57m OD and was excavated to a depth of 0.45m. This deposit consisted of a mid green-blue firm clay with occasional sandy lenses. The natural geology was overlain by

context 002 which at this location formed a layer 0.3m thick and consisted of a mid yellow-red alluvial deposit of soft silty clay containing sandy lenses. This context is thought to represent flood deposits laid down during periods of flooding caused by tidal inundation and river flooding along the Ouse. Context 002 was in turn overlain by context 003, a 0.5m thick layer of mid grey-brown silty clay, containing occasional ceramic building materials (CBM) and charcoal. This layer is thought to represent a layer of made ground that over a period of time naturalised to form a topsoil. This buried top soil layer was cut by a number of modern rubbish pits (see Fig.3) recorded here only as a record of modern disturbance.

- 4.2.3 The first was located in the western foundation trench between plots 1 and 2 was sub circular in plan measured 2.55m long x 1.35m wide and was 0.7m deep with medium sloped concave sides. It contained a 0.2m thick dark brown-grey basal fill which was abundant in 20th century building materials overlain by a 0.5m thick layer of light yellow sand. The second of these modern pits was located 3m east of the first and was almost identical in size shape and contents. The third modern pit was located at the east end of the dividing wall trench between plots 5 and 6. It measured 1.25m x 1.3m+ in plan and was 2.7m deep. The pit was rectilinear in shape with steep near vertical sides and most likely machine cut. The pit was filled with a dark grey loose silty sand containing 20th century rubbish material including plastics. The topsoil layer 003 and the modern pits that cut it were overlain by a 0.65m deep layer (0.3m removed in initial strip) of modern made ground (004). This context consisted of a loose layer of mid orange-brown sand and flint gravel containing frequent modern CBM.

4.3 Plots 8-11

- 4.3.1 Plots 8-11 formed a small row of houses running east to west in the south-west corner of area 4. The foundations consisted of trenches for the front and back wall 20.4m long and 0.65m wide, with 5 trenches 8.65m long and 0.65m wide for the end and subdividing walls running between these at spacings of 3.5 and 4.75m. All of these trenches were cut to a depth of 1.2m deep and finished at a depth of 4.65mOD (see fig.3).
- 4.3.2 The natural geology (001) was reached at a depth of 0.2m (5.65mOD) in the south-east corner of plot 8 (see fig. 4 section 8) but sloped downwards towards the north and west. In the north-east corner the natural geology was recorded at a depth of 1m (4.85m OD) while at the western extent of the trenches the natural geology was not reached at the full 1.2m depth of the trench which instead finished in the alluvial deposit 002 which, as in plots 1-7, overlay the natural (see fig.4 section 6). Context 002 had a maximum thickness of 0.75m in the north-east corner of plot 8 but varied massively in thickness across the trenches. This was due in part to the varying depth of the natural geology below and in part due to an undulating upper horizon caused by truncation by cut **005**.
- 4.3.3 The edge of cut **005** runs north-north-west to south-south-east across plot 9 and extends out of the area of trenches to the north, south and west (see fig.3). The cut is shallow sided with an undulating base and is thought to continue running north-north-west into plots 12 and 14 where it is recorded as cut 17. The shallow sides undulating base and extent of this cut suggest a natural formation process for this cut, most likely natural braided drainage channels cutting through the alluvial flood plain deposit 002. Cut **005** contained fills 006 and 007 (see sections 6 and 7). Fill 006 consisted of a soft mid brown-grey silt containing abundant 18th and 19th century CBM (mostly yellow bricks and wall tiles), charcoal and slag. The fill formed a 6.4m wide deposit along the

length of the eastern edge of the cut with a maximum thickness of 0.7m. Overlying fill 006 was fill 007 consisting of soft green-blue/red-brown clay most likely redeposited material derived from contexts 001 and 002. The deposit contained occasional 18th and 19th century CBM, charcoal and slag. Fill 007 formed a layer 7.75m wide with a maximum depth of 0.5m along the eastern edge of cut **005**. deposits 006 and 007 are thought to represent an episode of levelling and land reclamation with the infilling of the braided drainage channel cut **005**. In the far south-east corner of plot 8 a pit **009** was found cutting the natural geology 001, it measured 3.4+m in length, 0.8+m wide (extended out of the trenched area to the south and east) and 0.6m deep with medium sloping concave sides (see fig.4 section 8). Pit **009** contained fill 010 which consisted of a soft mid brown-grey silt containing abundant 18th and 19th century CBM. This fill and its contents were very similar to fill 006 in cut **005** so are thought to be contemporary however the function of the pit, other than acting as a rubbish pit is unknown. Overlying all contexts and extending across the whole of the trenched area was a layer 0.5-1.3m thick (0.3m removed in initial strip) of soft mid grey-brown silty clay containing an abundance of 18th and 19th century CBM, metal work, charcoal and flint stones. This layer is thought to be equivalent to layer 003 in plots 1-7.

4.4 Plots 12-14

- 4.4.1 Plots 12-14 formed a small row of three houses running north to south in the north-west corner of area 4. The foundations consisted of trenches for the front and rear walls measuring 15.5m long and 1.25m wide, with 4 trenches for the end and subdividing walls running between the two measuring 10.35m long and 1.25m wide spaced 3.25–3.75m apart. These trenches were supposed to have been dug to a level of 4.410m OD however due to the depth of overburden and the need for the foundations to sit on the natural clay the depth of the trenches increased toward the south-west corner of the plots reaching a final level of 3.61m OD (see fig.3).
- 4.4.2 The natural geology 001 was reached at 4.86m OD in the north-east corner of the trenched area but sloped from east to west and north to south across the area and was reached at a level of 3.61m OD in the south-west corner of the area (see sections 9 and 10). A significant drop in the level of the upper horizon of 001 in the south west corner of the area and a change from a relatively flat to a significantly undulating surface was interpreted as a cut into the natural geology. The cut (**018**) runs north-west to south-east across the corner of the trenched area and exhibited a shallow slope with gradual breaks of slope and an undulating base typical of natural alluvial action. The shallow undulating cut is likely to have been formed by a meandering braided drainage channel.
- 4.4.3 Overlying the natural geology in the south of the area and filling cut **018**, was a thin layer (012), 0.4m thick at maximum, of dark grey-brown silty clay with a very high humic content. This layer contained occasional CBM and also three sherds of pottery identified as a post-medieval redware c.1500. Overlying this peaty layer was the same yellow-red alluvial deposit (002) that was found immediately overlying the natural geology across the rest of area 4. Its maximum thickness in this area was 0.95m however as was seen in plots 8-11 the upper horizon of this context exhibited significant undulations caused by natural fluvial erosion (**017**) (see section 9). This natural cut (**017**), thought to be the equivalent of **005** in plots 8-11, covered an area approximately 9.5m by 10.5m in the south-west corner of this area with its edge running roughly north-west to south-east and extending out of the trenches to the west and

south. The cut had gradual concave sides and an undulating base as seen before in **005** and **017**.

- 4.4.4 Cut **017** contained two fills 013 and 015. Fill 013 consisted of a soft mid grey-brown silt containing abundant 18th and 19th century CBM slag and charcoal. The fill formed a patchy layer over an area of 7m by 9m along the edge of cut **017** and had a maximum thickness of 0.25m. An orange unfrosted brick with flint and ceramic inclusions, collected as an example of the CBM, measured 230mm x 110mm x 45mm, weighed 2.084kg and has been identified as an 18th century example. A heavily degraded coin was also found within this context and has tentatively been identified by size and thickness as an 18th century farthing trade token. Fill 13 is thought to be equivalent to fill 006 in cut **005** and represents an episode of levelling and land reclamation. Overlying fill 13 was a layer of soft red-brown/green-blue clay (015) containing gravel lenses and occasional CBM Charcoal and slag. This deposit filled the undulations formed by cut **017**, extended across the whole of the trenched area with a maximum thickness of 0.85m. The deposit is thought to be equivalent to fill 007 in cut **005** and consists of redeposited material from contexts 001 and 002, representing a period of levelling and land reclamation. Overlying deposit 015 and extending across the whole of the trenched area with an average thickness of 0.8m (0.3m removed in initial strip), was a layer of soft mid grey-brown silty clay (016). This layer contained an abundance of 19th and 20th century CBM, charcoal and metal work. Layer 016 is thought to be equivalent to layer 003 in plots 1-7 and 008 in plots 8-11 and represents made ground naturalised to topsoil.

4.5 Area 2/3

Between the 30th of August and the 1st of September 2011, excavations took place for the construction of a storm drain beneath a new road being built between areas 2 and 3 in the far west of the site. The trench was 1.8m wide 44.5m long and averaged 2.4m deep. A sequence of deposits was found and is described below, that closely matches the sequences already described above in area 4. A section was recorded along the length of the trench and is produced below as section 11 (Fig 4c).

- 4.5.1 The depth at which the natural geology (001) was reached varied considerably along the length of the trench. This was due to an undulating upper horizon and was between 1m and 2m below the current ground level. At the far west of the trench a 0.02-0.05m thick layer of silty peat (020) lay immediately above the natural geology. It is likely that this humic layer is contemporary with layer 12 seen in plots 12-14. This layer extended for 8.25m from the western end of the trench. Overlying this peaty layer was the same yellow-red alluvial deposit found across the rest of the site (002) the depth of this deposit varied due to the undulating natural geology below. This layer contained occasional 17th/18th century CBM. Overlying this alluvial layer were a series of more recent post medieval layers and deposits. The first of these later deposits (021) consisted of a mid grey brown sandy clay up to 0.4m thick containing occasional CBM and Charcoal this layer extended 20m from the western end of the trench at which point it was cut by pit **22**.
- 4.5.2 Pit 22 cut layer 21 and the alluvial deposit 002 below. It measured 4.5m across and 0.5m deep and extended out of the trench to the north and south. The pit had medium sloped flat sides and a flat base and contained a single fill (023) which was made up of modern brick and tile. It is likely that this feature represents a rubbish pit possibly associated with the brickworks known to have been situated south of the site.

- 4.5.3 Overlying layer 021 at the west end of the trench was a 0.25m thick layer of orange sand and gravel (024) extending 10m from the western end of the trench before petering out. The topmost layer of the sequence (025) consisted of 0.3m thick layer of grey-brown silty sand which contained abundant modern CBM and metalwork. 11m from the western end of the trench a modern pit was found that was cut from the top of layer 25 it measured 2.4m across and 1.1m deep and extended out of the trench to the south. It contained a single fill of loose dark grey clayey silt and modern building materials including brick metalwork and wood.
- 4.5.4 As was found across the rest of the site the layers recorded sloped down from the east of the site to the west following the original topography of the site. The sequence of layers found in this trench match well with the previous sequences described in other areas of the site. The peaty layer overlying the natural shows that this area was originally a waterlogged marshland. The thick alluvial layer represents a period of flood deposition which gradually raised the ground level. The ground level was then further raised and ultimately reclaimed with a series of modern deposited layers. Activity on this reclaimed land is then represented by the modern rubbish pits cut into these later deposits.

5 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Post Medieval Land Reclamation

- 5.1.1 The Archaeological contexts encountered on site all date from the post medieval and modern periods. Despite this relatively recent chronology of activity the results have proven to be of archaeological interest when set against the history of Downham as a town and its place within the fenland during a period of change in land management and use. This period was characterised by the extensive drainage schemes leading to land reclamation and the resulting changes in land ownership, land use and the subsequent change in local economies.
- 5.1.2 The archaeology of the site is primarily characterised by a change in topography and land use, from a sloping site out side of the settlement bordering on the great marshy expanse of the fenland and Ouse estuary, to a terraced dryland site occupied by the towns growing industry. The earliest archaeological feature and deposit (cut **18** and its peaty fill 12 and peaty layer 20) date from the early 16th century and represent a period before all of the major drainage works across the fenland. At this period the site would have been on the edge of the fenland and would have been a marshy area probably affected by flooding from both tidal inundation and overspill from the Ouse.
- 5.1.3 After the major drainage works of 1651-53, it is known that the watercourses and lands down river of the Denver sluice (which would include the site itself) suffered greatly from a build up of sediments carried inland by tidal inundations. Previously to the drainage works, periods of high flow in the Ouse river would have removed these sediments, however with the water flow controlled by the new sluices this no longer occurred. It is likely that the alluvial layer 002 found across the whole of the site represents an accretion of these sediments over a period of perhaps 200 years with the upper horizon of the deposit and cut **5** and **17** representing the choked and braided drainage channels flowing through it. The lenses of sand within this deposit supports this argument.
- 5.1.4 With the drainage works carried out on the tidal section of the Ouse in 1815 much of the flooding and sediment build up was cured. At this time the site would have become dryer and suitable for land reclamation and development. With the drainage acts

allowing investors who reclaimed land to take ownership of at least part of that land, the site with its position on the edge of the growing town would have been ripe for development. With this in mind it is likely that the layers of build up in cuts **5** and **17** (6,7,13 and 15) and the made ground above this (8, 16 and 3) represent an early 19th century episode of land augmentation and levelling. The 18th century CBM and traders token suggest that much of the material in deposits 6 and 13 were likely derived from the demolition of earlier structures within the town. While the redeposited material forming deposits 15 and 7 indicate that at least some parts of the site were reduced in level to create the level terraces currently existing on site. The absence of the alluvial layer 002 in the south east corner of plot 8 also supports this theory. This heightening and terracing of the land allowed development of the site as seen in the OS maps from 1824 till present.

- 5.1.5 The modern 20th century pitting and the 20th century materials found within the upper levels of layers 8, 16, 21, 24 and 25 are likely to be the result of rubbish dumping from the industrial activities that occupied the site since its initial development until its clearance immediately prior to the current development taking place.

6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 6.1.1 The author would like to thank the developer Country and Metropolitan Homes, and sub-contractors JMS Contractors who carried out the ground works for their co-operation and assistance on site. The project was managed by James Drummond-Murray
- 6.1.2 The brief for archaeological works was written by Ken Hamilton, head of archaeological planning at Norfolk Landscape Archaeology. The watching Brief was commissioned by Suzanne Gailey, Associate Director of CgMs Consulting Ltd.

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APPENDIX A. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	<input type="text" value="oxfordar3-106762"/>			
Project Name	<input type="text" value="Watching Brief at land south of Railway Road, Downham Market, Norfolk"/>			
Project Dates (fieldwork)	Start	<input type="text" value="17-05-2011"/>	Finish	<input type="text" value="01-09-2011"/>
Previous Work (by OA East)	<input type="text" value="No"/>	Future Work	<input type="text" value="No"/>	

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	<input type="text" value="XNFRAD11"/>	Planning App. No.	<input type="text"/>
HER No.	<input type="text"/>	Related HER/OASIS No.	<input type="text"/>

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt

Please select all techniques used:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Field Observation (periodic visits)	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/> Salvage Record
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Excavation (100%)	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Systematic Field Walking
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Recorded Observation	<input type="checkbox"/> Systematic Metal Detector Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Test Pit Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Open-Area Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/> Salvage Excavation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Watching Brief

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="Land Reclamation"/>	<input type="text" value="Post Medieval 1540 to 1901"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Select period..."/>
<input type="text" value="Pitting"/>	<input type="text" value="Modern 1901 to Present"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Select period..."/>
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Project Location

County	<input type="text" value="Norfolk"/>	Site Address (including postcode if possible)
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Downham Market
Norfolk PE38 9EB"/>
Parish	<input type="text" value="Downham Market"/>	
HER	<input type="text" value="Norfolk Museum Service"/>	
Study Area	<input type="text" value="645 sqm"/>	National Grid Reference <input type="text" value="TF 603 031"/>

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Ken Hammlton Norfolk Landscape Archaeology
Project Design Originator	Lorraine Mayo CgMs Consulting Ltd
Project Manager	James Drummond-Murray
Supervisor	John Diffey

Project Archives

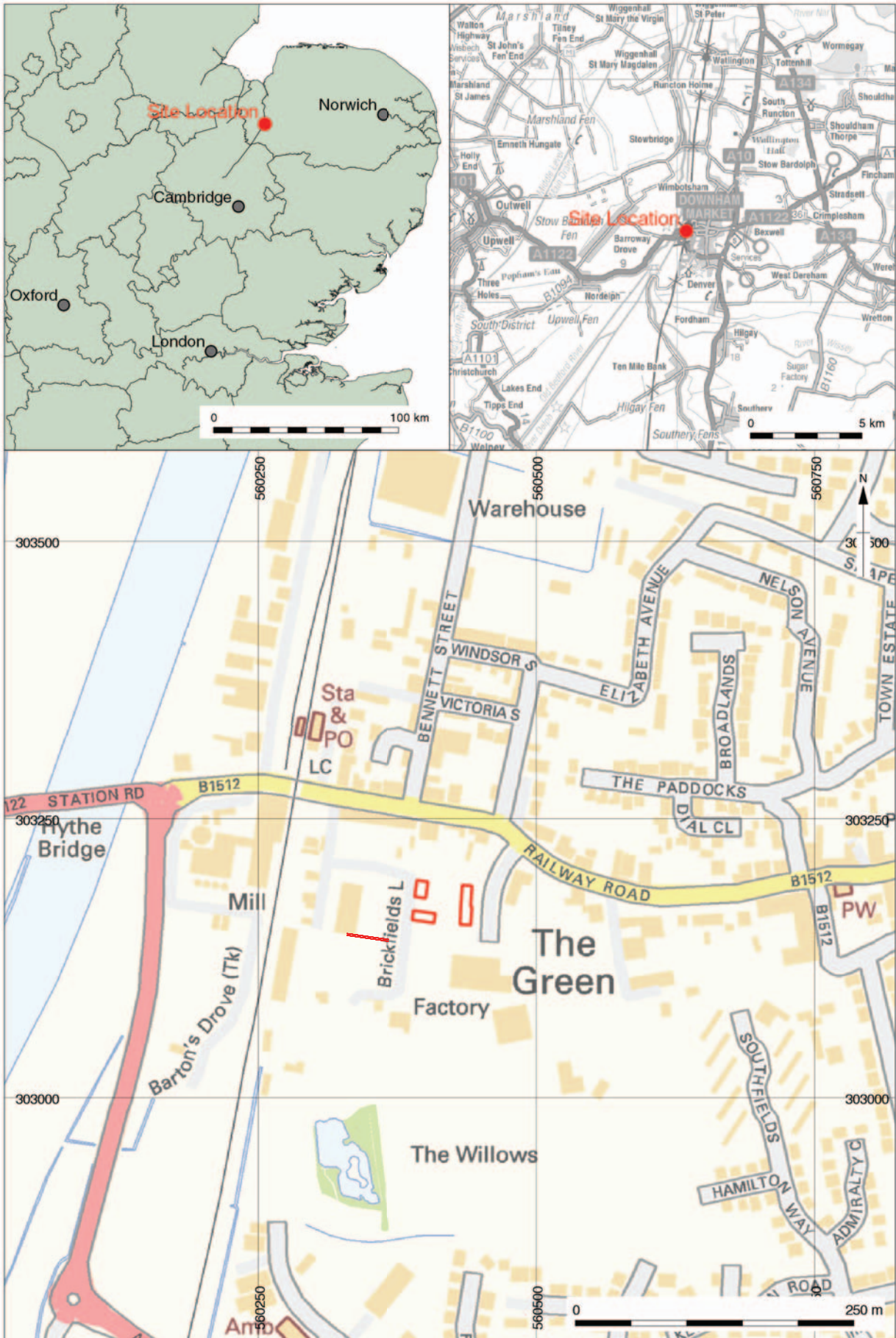
Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
Norfolk Museum Service	OA East	Norfolk Museum Service
XNFRAD11	XNFRAD11	XNFRAD11

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysics	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Images	<input type="checkbox"/> Diary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illustrations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing
<input type="checkbox"/> Moving Image	<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscript
<input type="checkbox"/> Spreadsheets	<input type="checkbox"/> Map
<input type="checkbox"/> Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Matrices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text	<input type="checkbox"/> Microfilm
<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual Reality	<input type="checkbox"/> Misc.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Research/Notes
	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:



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Figure 1: Site location with excavated areas outlined red



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Figure 2: Plan of plot and foundation locations

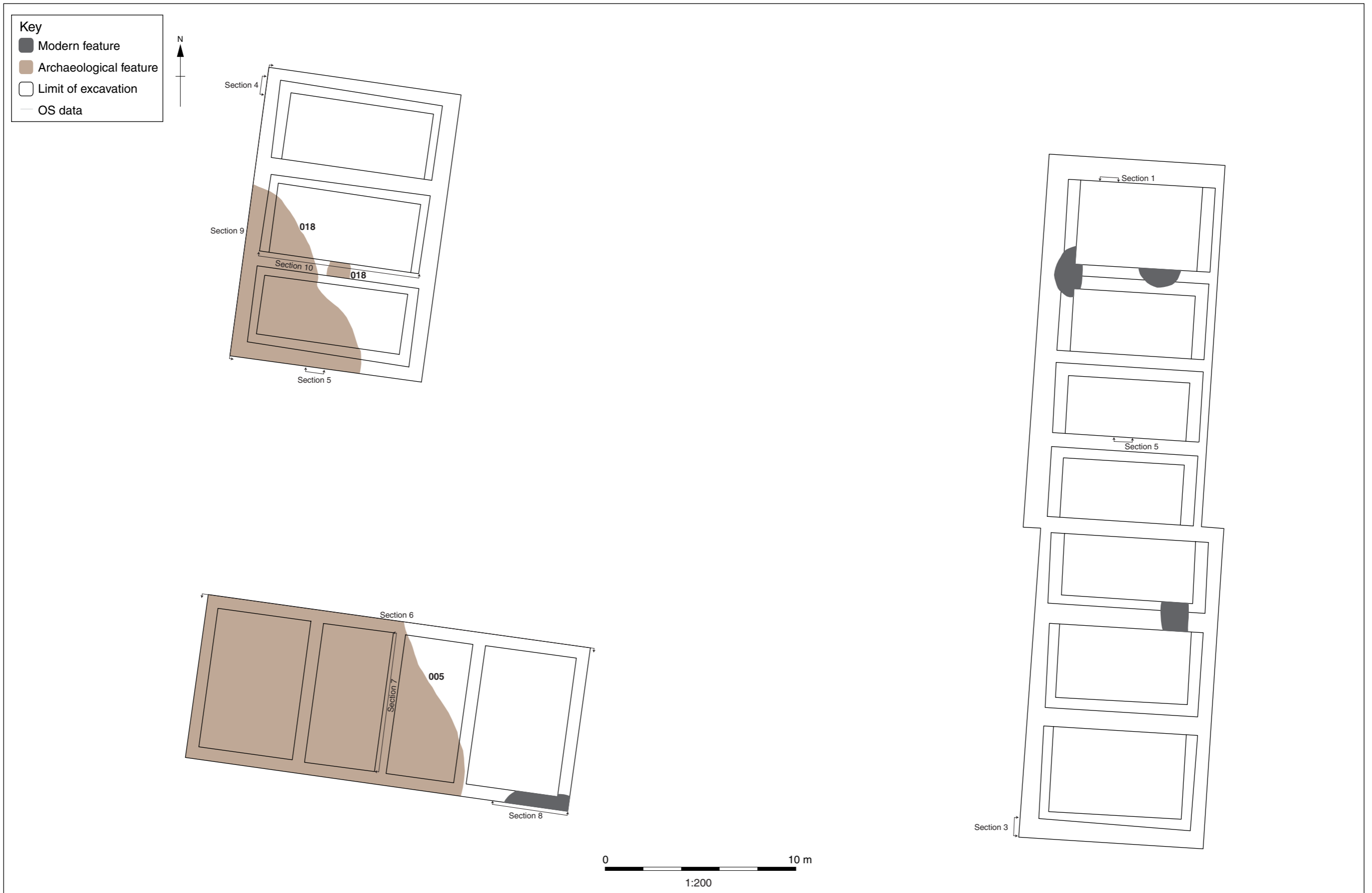


Figure 3: Trench Plans

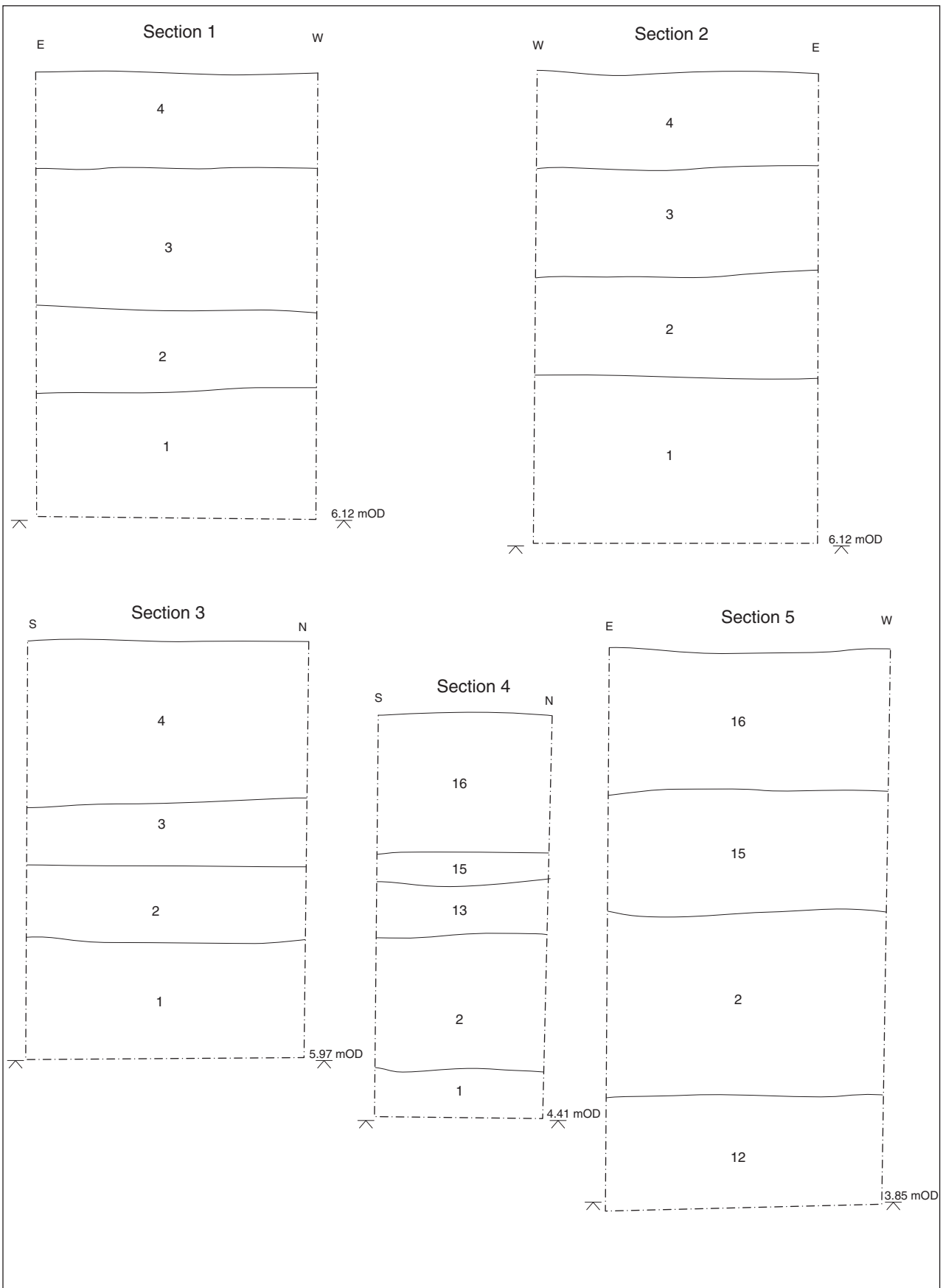


Figure 4a: Sections 1-5

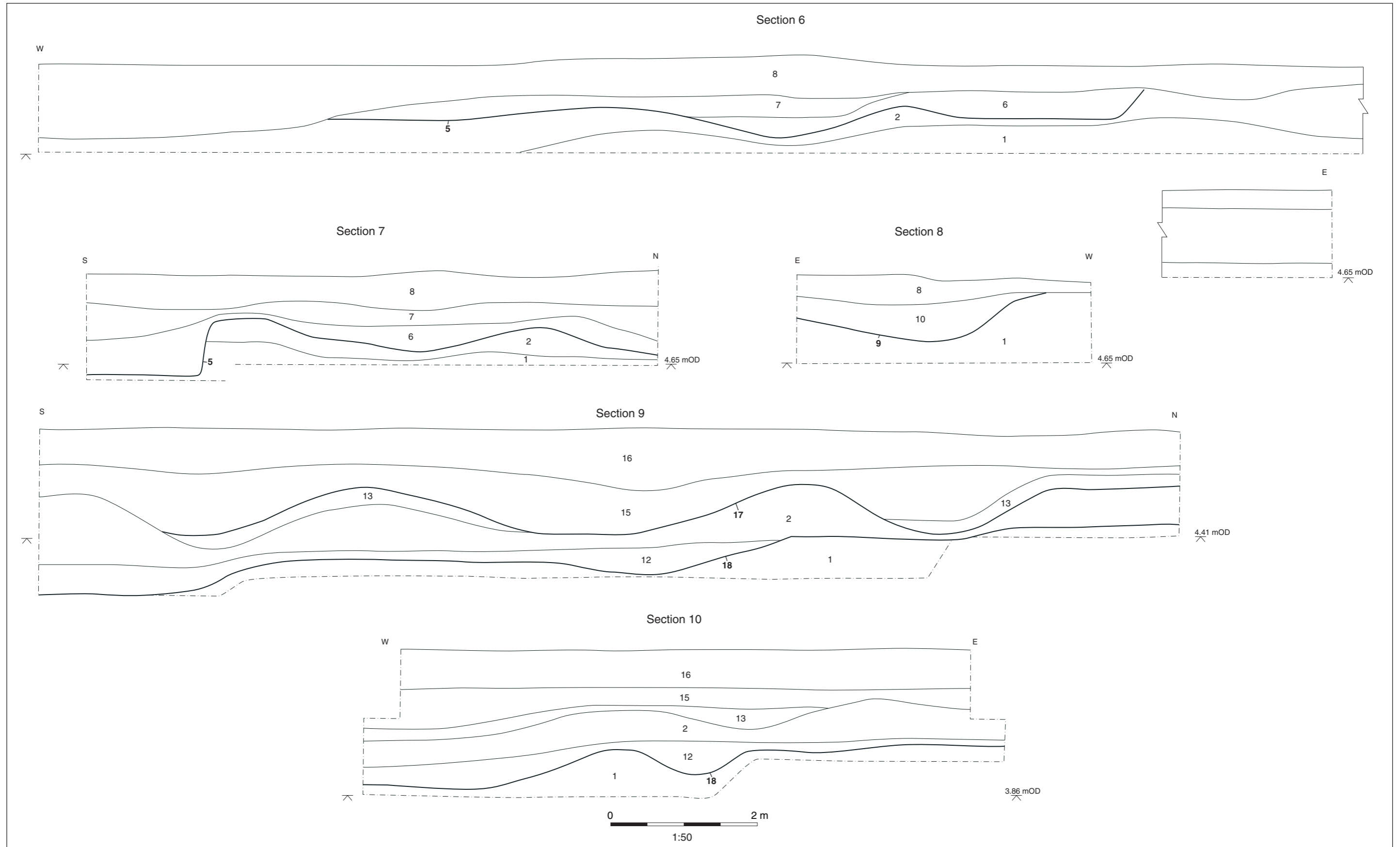


Figure 4b: Sections 6-10

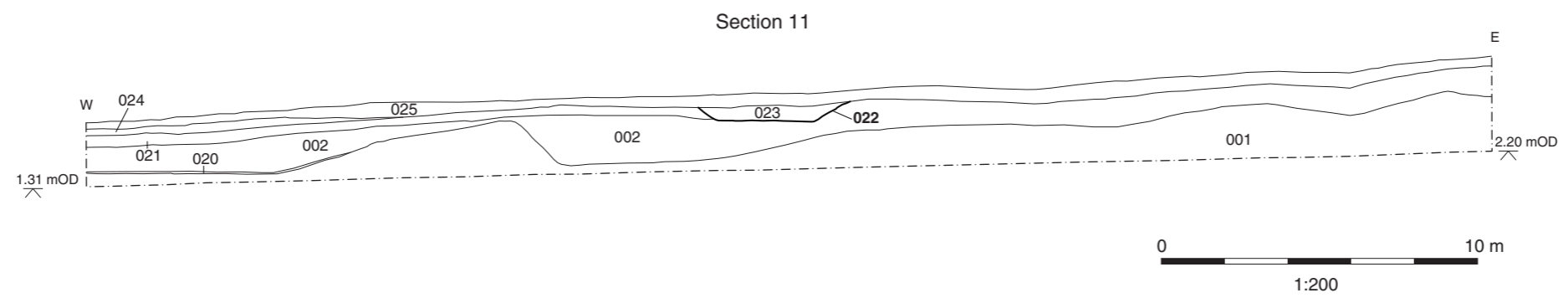


Figure 4c: Section 11



Plate 1: Overview of site with foundation trenches for plots 1-4 in foreground and plots 8-11 marked out on lower terrace in background.



Plate 2: North facing section of foundation trench between plots 6 and 7 showing general stratigraphy

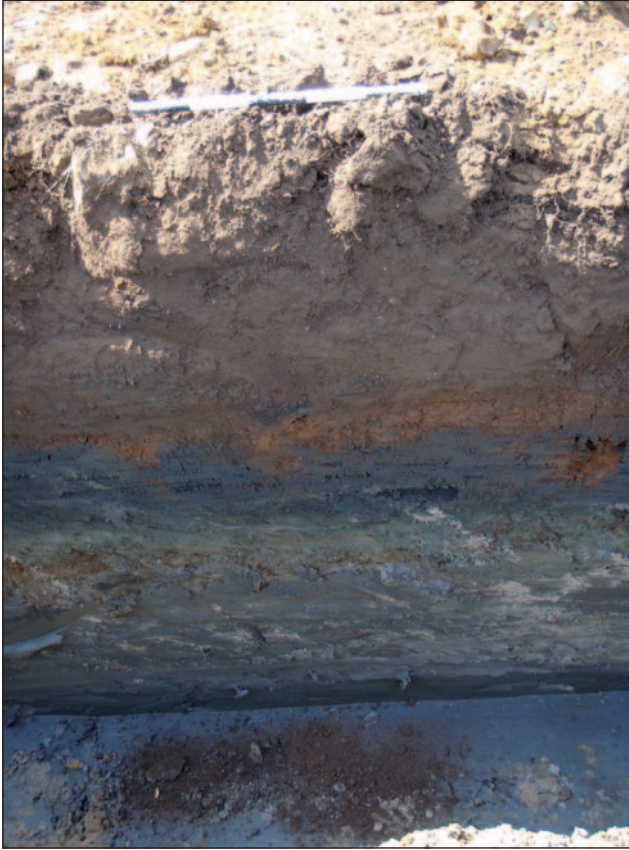


Plate 3: East facing Section of western foundation trench for plots 12-14 (part of section 9)



Plate 4: Sample section 5 showing buried soil layer 012 at base



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