An archaeological evaluation on the 132KV Cable diversion Beaulieu, Chelmsford

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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An archaeological evaluation on the 132KV Cable diversion, Beaulieu, Chelmsford

Archaeological Evaluation

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Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on the Cable Diversion Route, Beaulieu, Chelmsford. The fieldwork took place between the 4 September 2015 and the 12 October 2015. A total of twenty-eight trenches were excavated across ten separate fields within the proposed development area.

A putative Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age roundhouse was located in the eastern part of the cable diversion route, within Field 5.

An undated trackway was present in the eastern end of the cable diversion route (in Field 49). It is ascribed to the medieval period due to its alignment with the medieval field system and green lanes. A further concentration of early post-medieval remains was encountered consisting of three linears which contained brick rubble.

1 Introduction

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 Between the 1st September and 18th October 2015 Oxford Archaeology East carried out an archaeological evaluation of the 132KV cable diversion route, Beaulieu, Chelmsford (TL 7286 1052) in advance of a construction of a new neighbourhood planned for North-East Chelmsford, known as Beaulieu. Chelmsford City Council has resolved to grant outline planning permission (ref: 09/01314/EIA) for a new neighbourhood at Beaulieu of up to 3,600 new homes and up to 62,300m² of mixed use development including new schools, leisure and community facilities, employment areas, new highways and associated ancillary development, including full details in respect of roundabout access from Essex Regiment Way and a priority junction from White Hart Lane.

1.1.2 An archaeological evaluation was conducted on land to the east of Essex Regiment Way and north of White Hart Lane, at Beaulieu, Chelmsford (see fig. 1 for location). The evaluation was undertaken in advance of the 132kv cable diversion.

1.1.3 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with the Archaeological Investigation and Mitigation Strategy (URS 2013) prepared for the Beaulieu scheme in consultation with Richard Havis of the Historic Environment Branch, ECC (Planning Application 09/01314/EIA), and supplemented by a Method Statement prepared by OA East.

1.1.4 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.

1.1.5 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 Beaulieu (the Site) is located approximately 4km to the north-east of Chelmsford, Essex (centred on TL 7286 1052; Figure 1). The Site encompasses an area of high ground surrounded on three sides by river valleys. To the west and south is the River Chelmer, and to the east is Boreham Brook. North of the Site the ground rises towards the village of Terling. From the southern part of the Site there are views south towards the Chelmer Valley and Danbury Hill.

1.2.2 The superficial geology consists of boulder clay of the Lowestoft Till formation underlain by London Clays. To the south of the area lay a mixture of head deposits and sand and gravels (British Geological Survey).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

Neolithic

1.3.1 Essex has some of the earliest surviving evidence of settlement, mainly concentrated to the north-east along the River Crouch at Lawford and Lemarsh (Hedges, 1984). Evidence for possible domestic settlement within the vicinity of Beaulieu was recorded

at Court Road, 1km to the north-west, in the form of several pits with Neolithic pottery within their fills (SMR 6142).

Bronze Age

1.3.2 Settlement continued to be concentrated along the river valleys of the Chelmer and Crouch. However, during the Bronze Age the landscape was enclosed by field systems for the first time, such as those found at Great Wakering (Kemble, 2001). These enclosed field systems would have continued in use through into the early Iron Age. It has been suggested that these Bronze Age field systems form the basis for the modern landscape in the Chelmer Valley (Drury & Rodwell, 1980).

1.3.3 Several crop-marks have been recorded by aerial photography to the south of Belstead Hall and interpreted as part of a Bronze Age settlement (SMR 16888), with further domestic dwellings excavated at Springfield Lyons, 2.5km to the south-west. Further occupation sites are attested to by the recovery of artefacts at New Hall School, to the south-east and Pratt's Farm, to the north.

Iron Age

1.3.4 The settlement pattern during the Iron Age would have been of nucleated settlements within a larger farming landscape. Evidence of this, within the vicinity of the development area, was seen to the south of Belstead Hall (SMR 17438). This comprised a large enclosure with associated pits and smaller ditches (Drury, 1978).

1.3.5 The later Iron Age witnessed an expansion of settlement onto the heavier clay soils and the continued occupation of the estuaries. These estuarine sites are seen to become more complex in nature over time, with higher population density and sustained occupation, such as has been found at Little Waltham (Drury 1980).

1.3.6 By the end of the Iron Age sites such as Gosbecks oppida show that portions of the population were highly structured and of high status. These sites would have relied on farming communities scattered around the environs to supply agricultural commodities. (Crummy 1997).

Roman

1.3.7 During the Roman period a small market town would have grown up around the Mansio, located 5km to the south-west at Moulsham Street. The area surrounding this would have formed an agricultural hinterland to supply produce to the town.

1.3.8 This agricultural landscape would have comprised of large farms and villa complexes, such as those at Great Holts Farm and Bulls Farm Lodge. Smaller domestic sites would also have formed part of the landscape. Evidence for these has been recorded during evaluation work at Greater Beaulieu. Evidence for pottery making, associated with domestic use was also recorded.

Anglo-Saxon

1.3.9 In the immediate post-Roman period, the Roman town at Chelmsford was abandoned and much of the surrounding landscape reverted to rough pasture or woodland (Hunter, 2003). No known remains of Anglo-Saxon date are recorded within the application site although this is more likely to reflect the relatively poor archaeological visibility of Anglo-Saxon settlement sites rather than a lack of activity during the period.

1.3.10 Two records dating to the Anglo-Saxon period are held by the EHER; both of which are documentary records for Late Saxon manors, Belestedam (Belstead Hall) is recorded in the Domesday survey of AD 1086 (Reaney, 1035).

Medieval

1.3.11 The medieval town of Chelmsford was founded at the end of the 12th century, by the Bishop of London, to the north of the earlier Roman settlement at Moulsham. Throughout the medieval period the site was located within the rural hinterland of Chelmsford in a landscape populated by scattered farmsteads and manors.

1.3.12 To the south-east lay the manor of New Hall on the site of the current New Hall School. It is first mentioned by name (as 'Nova Aula') in documents dating to AD1301 when the site formed part of the lands owned by the Canons of Waltham Abbey and was used as the summer residence of the Abbott. It was later transferred to the Regular Canons under Henry II (Burgess & Rance, 1988).

1.3.13 The first deer park surrounding New Hall was created during the medieval period with the manor at its centre (Tuckwell, 2006). Under Henry VII, New Hall was granted to Thomas Boteler, Earl of Ormond, who received a licence to crenellate (fortify) it in AD1481 (E41/420) and who, in all likelihood, rebuilt or remodelled the original medieval hall in the latest architectural style. The new structure came to the attention of Henry VIII who visited New Hall in 1510 and 1515, shortly before Ormond's death. Subsequently, the property passed to Thomas' daughter and thus into the Boleyn family through her husband Sir Thomas Boleyn, from whom Henry VIII acquired the hall in 1516, changing its name to the 'Palace of Beaulieu'. Shortly after 1518 he rebuilt the Ormond's medieval hall on a quadrangular plan with gatehouse in the south range, great hall in the east and chapel in the west ranges. Mary Tudor took residency at New Hall intermittently between 1532 and her ascendancy to the crown in 1553.

1.3.14 Evidence for a further moated manor is recorded at Belstead. This manor was occupied throughout the medieval period. By 1325 it was called Belestede, in 1354 it was recorded as Belestede Hall and by 1504 it was known as Belested Hall. The name is thought to derive from 'the site of the bell house' (P.H Reaney 1935).

1.3.15 Analysis of aerial photographs and geophysical survey identified a number of features which, when investigated by trial trench evaluation, were found to comprise a possible enclosure ditch or moat. A cobbled surface (possibly representing a house platform or yard surface), pit and several further ditches were recorded within the enclosure. Pottery recovered from the features suggests an occupation date of the 12-13th century (ECC FAU 2009). These remains have been interpreted as a medieval farmstead or manor, possibly the precursor to the later manorial site at Belstead Hall *c.*160m to the north-east of site 7.

Post-medieval

1.3.16 The development of New Hall and its deer park dominated the landscape of the application site and the surrounding area until the park contracted in size and the fields were enclosed for agriculture in the early 18th century. As the deer park was reduced in size the former medieval manors or lodges developed into farms, creating an essentially agricultural landscape.

1.3.17 Since the medieval period, New Hall had been set within the largest deer park in Essex; once totalling some 1,500 acres. The EHER records that the enclosed area actually comprised four separate parks surrounding New Hall and its gardens. Within the Great or Old Park located to the north of New Hall. The remaining parks were known as the Red Deer Park located to east of New Hall, the Dukes Park (located further east beyond the study area; EHER 47226) and the New or Little Park situated to the south and west of New Hall. The application site is located within this latter area.

Previous Archaeological Investigations

Geophysical Surveys

1.3.18 Geophysical magnetic susceptibility and detailed magnetometer surveys were carried out to evaluate the potential for important archaeological remains that may be buried within the Site. The magnetic susceptibility survey provided a rapid assessment of likely areas for previous settlement and industrial activity. The survey identified six areas of high potential, ten areas of medium potential and seven areas of low potential (Scott Wilson 2008). The magnetic susceptibility survey was followed by a detailed magnetometer survey of c.50% of the Beaulieu scheme. This survey provided a greater level of detail and identified individual features such as pits and ditches, field boundaries, buildings and structures, kilns or hearths and buried iron objects. The detailed magnetometer survey identified ten areas of high archaeological potential; six of medium potential and 19 of low potential (Scott Wilson 2008).

Trial trench Evaluation (2008)

1.3.19 A limited programme of targeted trial trench evaluation was undertaken between June and August 2008. The purpose of the trial trenching was to confirm the presence/absence and significance of archaeological remains at eight sites identified by an assessment of the combined results of the desk-based studies and non-intrusive surveys (Scott Wilson 2007).

1.3.20 The trial trenching confirmed the presence of archaeological remains dating from the late prehistoric to post-medieval periods. This included a Late Iron Age and Early Romano-British settlement (Site 8); an Iron Age ditch (Site 5); medieval rural settlement possibly indicative of a precursor to Belstead Hall (Site 7); a possible medieval/early post-medieval warrener's lodge associated with the former deer park (Site 10); early post-medieval moated enclosure (Site 11); Tudor fishpond and associated earthwork damn (Site 2); a brick making site comprising two scove or clamp kilns of possible Tudor date (Site 3) and evidence for associated quarrying activity (Site 4) (Pocock, 2009).

Beaulieu Minerals trial trench evaluation

1.3.21 A trial trench evaluation was undertaken in September/October 2011 to inform and support the planning application for the Beaulieu Minerals Extraction scheme. The evaluation identified a concentration of archaeological remains to the north-west of New Hall School. These remains appear to represent a rural settlement and possible metalworking activity dating from the Late Bronze Age through to the end of the Roman period. Metal detecting of the plough soil revealed several Early Roman coins and fragments of Early Roman brooches within the main area of activity (House, 2011).

Beaulieu 1Mitigation evaluation and excavations 2013

1.3.22 Recent archaeological trial trench evaluation of the proposed Essex Regiment Way roundabout, White Hart Lane junction and connecting access road identified four locations of significant archaeological remains (Stocks-Morgan, 2013).

1.3.23 Site 5, located within the footprint of the proposed Essex Regiments Way roundabout, identified part of a Middle Iron Age settlement comprised a single round-house, surviving only as the remains of an eaves-drip gully. Several small pits and postholes were identified outside the roundhouse and were likely to be associated with domestic activity contemporary with the building. This settlement was surrounded by a large oval enclosure.

1.3.24 In Area A1 a single east to west aligned field boundary ditch of possibly Late Iron Age date attests to a wider agricultural landscape of field systems. A second, probably medieval, ditch was encountered on a north-west to south-east alignment (Stocks-Morgan, 2013a).

1.3.25 Site 11 and Zone D1 identified evidence of two High Medieval house platforms and their surrounding enclosures. Thought to be a medieval settlement associated with Belstead Manor estate (Stocks-Morgan, 2013b).

Beaulieu Mitigation evaluation and excavations 2014

1.3.26 Four areas of significant archaeological remains were identified on land to the south of Belstead Manor (Zone A Housing) (Stocks-Morgan 2014).

1.3.27 A Middle Bronze Age boundary ditch, aligned north-east to south-west, was identified in Site 7; whilst an Early Iron Age open settlement comprising of ten pits containing a large assemblage of pottery and fired clay, and medieval animal husbandry remains were present in the excavation area. Sparse domestic activity is suggested from the five Late Iron Age pits that were revealed in areas A3 and A4 along the side of a brook to the south of Zone A. In contrast, Area A2 revealed the presence of a Late Iron Age/Early Roman enclosure ditch and later medieval ditch (Stocks-Morgan 2015).

Zone B and E Trench Evaluation, 2014

1.3.28 Four areas of significant archaeological remains were identified in Zone B and E (Stocks-Morgan 2014b).

1.3.29 Two small open area excavations were undertaken tot he west of the area, which encountered Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age open settlement, comprising five four-poster structures and several pits. A further are to the north of the site encountered a small undated gully.

1.3.30 A large open area excavation was undertaken towards the south-eastern corner of the site, which identified occupation spanning a period from the Late iron Age into the Early Roman period. These settlement remains consisted of an enclosure surrounding a roundhouse and associated occupation features. In the Early Roman period this enclosure was reconfigured and a replacement roundhouse. This phase of settlement also produced an associated midden deposits and an ancillary roundhouse (Stocks-Morgan, in prep)

Beaulieu Mitigation evaluation and excavations 2015

Site 9

1.3.31 A small open area excavation was carried out ahead of the construction of ponds and swales infrastructure works. The archaeology encountered comprised a prehistoric trackway and a Late Iron Age nucleated settlement.

Zone G / Site 10

1.3.32 A 14th / 15th century pit was encountered with two associated ditches. This pit is though to be a retting pit due its characteristics and the recovery of pollen / seeds from the waterlogged deposits.

1.3.33 A later medieval ditched enclosure was recorded. Inside the enclosure was a 16th century house, represented by the remains of two brick built fireplaces, and a possible brick built staircase. Two further brick built structures were evident, which were ancillary structures, one being a cellar and the second a probable toilet block.

1.4 Acknowledgements

1.4.1 The author would like thank Iain Williamson of AECOM and Countryside Zest (Beaulieu Park) LLP who respectively commissioned and funded the archaeological work. The project was managed by Richard Mortimer and the illustrators were Charlotte Walton. Thanks are also extended to Steve Graham and Daria Tsybaeva who supervised the evaluation and to Matt Brooks, Kat Hamilton, Richard Higham, Paddy Lambert, Ted Levermore, Adele Lord, Lindsey Kemp and Adam Tuffey who helped with the fieldwork. The project was monitored by Richard Havis and Alison Bennett of Essex County Council. The machining was undertaken by Joe Larkin of Danbury Plant Hire.

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 Twenty-eight trenches were excavated within the proposed development area and all archaeological remains were excavated where appropriate and possible.

2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a tracked 15 ton machine using a toothless ditching bucket.

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

2.2.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.

2.2.5 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

2.2.6 The site conditions were dry and sunny.

3 Results

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The trenches are presented below by field and then in numerical order (see Fig. 2 for trench locations).

3.2 Field 21

3.2.1 One trench was excavated within this field. The natural geology was an orange clay. A 0.28m thick topsoil deposit (4295) was recorded in this trench.

Trench 340

3.2.2 No archaeology was recorded in this trench

3.3 Field 20

3.3.1 Three trenches were excavated within this field. The natural geology was an orange clay. A subsoil layer (4290), approximately 0.05m thick was recorded underlying a topsoil deposit (4289) measuring approximately 0.28m thick.

Trench 341 - 343

3.3.2 No archaeology was recorded in these trenches.

3.4 Field 18

3.4.1 Three trenches were excavated within this field. The natural geology was an orange clay. A subsoil layer (4292), approximately 0.16m thick was recorded underlying a topsoil deposit (4291) measuring approximately 0.26m thick.

Trench 346 - 348

3.4.2 No archaeology was recorded in these trenches.

3.5 Field 51

3.5.1 Three trenches were excavated within this field. The natural geology was an orange clay. A 0.29m thick topsoil layer (4303) was recorded in this trench.

Trench 349 - 351

3.5.2 No archaeology was recorded in these trenches.

3.6 Field 50

3.6.1 One trench was excavated within this field. The natural geology was an orange clay. A subsoil layer (4302), approximately 0.14m thick was recorded underlying a topsoil deposit (4301) measuring approximately 0.31m thick.

Trench 352

3.6.2 At the eastern end of the trench was a large feature (**4954**) interpreted as a pit, which was sub-circular in plan and measured 6.5m wide. Its full extent and shape is unclear as the feature extended beyond the trench, a slot was excavated in the feature which revealed its base to be uneven and 0.25m deep. It was filled by a light yellowish grey silty clay (4955) which contained occasional charcoal flecks.

3.7 Field 46

3.7.1 Three trenches were excavated within this field. The natural geology was an orange clay. A subsoil layer (4306), approximately 0.05m thick was recorded underlying a topsoil deposit (4305) measuring approximately 0.3m thick.

Trench 353 - 355

3.7.2 No archaeology was recorded in these trenches.

3.8 Field 47

3.8.1 Two trenches were excavated within this field. The natural geology was an orange clay. A topsoil layer (4307) measuring approximately 0.29m thick was recorded in this trench.

Trench 356

3.8.2 No archaeology was recorded in this trench.

Trench 357

3.8.3 In the centre of the trench was a north to south aligned ditch (**4663**). It was 2.6m wide with gradual sides, a flat base and 0.18m deep, filled by a mid brown silty clay (4662). In the centre of the ditch was a 0.24m wide line of uncoursed, densely packed brick fragments. These were on average 12mm x 10mm x 9mm in size and a dark red sandy fabric dated to the 16th to early 18th century. They are likely to have been reused, possibly from structures associated with the Tudor palace at New Hall school.

3.9 Field 48

3.9.1 Six trenches were excavated within this field. The natural geology was an orange clay. A 0.34m thick topsoil deposit (4310) was recorded in this trench.

Trench 358 - 359

3.9.2 No archaeology was recorded in these trenches.

3.10 Field 49

3.10.1 One trench were excavated within this field. The natural geology was an orange clay. A subsoil layer (4312) approximately 0.16m thick was recorded underlying a topsoil deposit (4311) measuring approximately 0.2m thick.

Trench 360

3.10.2 In the centre of the trench lay two parallel gullies aligned north to south and spaced 2m apart. The western gully (**4817**) had near vertical sides and a concave base and measured 0.48m wide by 0.4m deep. The eastern gully (**4820**) had near vertical sides and a flattish base and measured 0.55m wide by 0.25m deep.

3.10.3 These were filled by a similar sequence of mid yellowish brown clayey silt (4819, 4822) along the western side, that were overlain by a mid brownish red silty clay with frequent crushed red brick (4818, 4821). They were sealed by a dark greyish brown clayey silt (4812) which contained frequent sub-rounded flint pebbles with a maximum thickness of 0.24m extending across the western half of the trench. On top of this deposit was a thin layer of loose gravel (4828), 0.16m in thickness.

3.10.4 At the western end of the trench this was overlain by a layer of red brick rubble (4809), consisting of broken up red bricks interspersed with a mid greyish brown clayey silt, this layer was 2.3m wide and 0.14m thick.

3.10.5 In the centre of the trench lay three parallel lines of brick rubble, aligned north-north-east to south-south-west and spaced a maximum of 0.5m apart. The brick linear consisted of a single course of unbonded brick fragments laid with no evidence of coursing. The brick linears measured an average of 0.25m wide and 0.12m deep. The bricks themselves measured >110mm by >80mm by 50mm.

3.11 Field 5

3.11.1 Nine trenches were excavated within this field. The natural geology was an orange clay. A 0.18m thick subsoil layer (4314) was recorded underlying a topsoil deposit (4315) measuring approximately 0.34m thick.

Trench 361

3.11.2 Towards the western end of the trench a north-west to south-east aligned, curvilinear gully (**4504**) was recorded. The trench was widened to 4m at this point to clarify the gully further. It had steep sides, a flattish base and was 0.3m wide by 0.1m deep. It was filled by a light grey brown silty clay (4505) containing a large assemblage of pottery.

3.11.3 Adjacent to this was a circular posthole (**4506**) measuring 0.2m in diameter. It had steep sides, a concave base and contained a light grey brown silty clay (4507) fill.

3.11.4 At the eastern end of the trench lay a ditch (**4605**) aligned north-east to south-west that was 2.1m wide. The ditch had steep sides and a slightly concave base and was 0.35m deep. It was filled by a mid greyish brown silty clay (4604).

Trench 362

3.11.5 At the western end of the trench the continuation of ditch **4605** was encountered. This ditch (**4678**) measured and 2m wide and was not excavated, its upper fill comprised a dark greyish brown silty clay (4679).

3.11.6 A sub-circular pit (**4680**) lay 1m to the east. It was 0.7m in diameter with gentle sides, a flattish base and was 0.1m deep with a light grey brown silty clay (4681).

Trench 363

3.11.7 Towards the north-western end of the trench was ditch **4682**, the continuation of the north-east to south-west ditch (**4678**) which measured 1.6m wide within this trench.

Trench 364

3.11.8 A north to south aligned ditch (**4987**) was recorded 12m from the western end of the trench. It was 0.6m wide with steep sides and a slightly concave base. It was 0.21m deep with a mid orange grey silty clay fill (4988) with occasional gravel inclusions.

3.11.9 Parallel to this and 12m further to the east lay a ditch (**4989**) which was 0.9m wide. It had concave sides and a slightly concave base and contained a late post medieval ceramic field drain overlain by a dark greyish brown silty clay containing a spent shotgun cartridge and an iron horseshoe that was not retained.

Trench 365 - 369

3.11.10 No archaeology was recorded in these trenches.

3.12 Finds Summary

3.12.1 A small assemblage of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery, comprising of 36 sherds weighing 0.298kg was retrieved. A sample of the brick rubble was retrieved from the brick structures.

4 Discussion and Conclusions

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The discussion concentrates on features that are dated and can be grouped. It is presented chronologically to help set the findings into context within their wider landscape setting (see fig. 3 for archaeological remains).

4.2 Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age settlement

4.2.1 A ring gully (**4504**) was encountered in Trench 361, to the east of the cable diversion route . A relatively large assemblage of pottery was recovered from its fill. The sherds were in a clean, unabraded condition suggesting rapid deposition. Its location on the brow of an east facing sloping is conducive to settlement, being well drained and protected against the prevailing wind.

4.3 Undated

4.3.1 Within Field 49 a series of archaeological remains were encountered to the east of a known earthwork which formed part of the water management system for the summer palace at Beaulieu.

4.3.2 The earliest features consisted of two north to south gullies (**4817**, **4820**) which are interpreted as wheel ruts, as they are 2.5m apart. A possible metaled surface (4828) was present overlying these wheel ruts, however, its relationship is slightly unclear due to the limited nature of the archaeological intervention.

4.4 Early post-medieval remains

4.4.1 This possible trackway was later replaced by a series of three linears (**4824**, **4825**, **4826**) aligned north-north-east to south-south-west; parallel with the visible earthwork ditch of the water supply system.

4.4.2 Although the individual bricks can only be roughly dated to 16th to 18th century, their relationship with the ditch would suggest that they are contemporary and are possibly related.

4.4.3 Towards the centre of the cable diversion route, within Field 47 a brick linear (**4663**) was present on a north to south alignment. This feature is one of many recorded spanning the whole north-eastern side of the deer park. It is currently unclear as to the exact form and function of these brick linears.

4.5 Significance

4.5.1 The archaeological remains were concentrated in the eastern part of the cable diversion route. The Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age remains encountered in Field 5 are consistent with previously recorded settlement in the Beaulieu project, being part of a dispersed settlement pattern. It is however, relatively rare to find a ring gully (**4504**) of this date, as the archeological remains of this date usually consist of postholes.

4.5.2 The trackway (**4817**, **4820**) seen in Trench 360 is currently undated, however it is on the same alignment as the current field system and Generals Lane, which would suggest it was created in the medieval period, the distance between the wheel ruts would also be consistent with the average width of a medieval horse drawn cart. It is conceivable that this trackway maybe a fore runner to Generals Lane due to its close proximity.

4.5.3 The early post-medieval remains (**4824**, **4825**, **4826**) encountered in the same trench are on the same alignment as the visible earthwork ditch associated with the water supply system for the summer palace. It is unclear what these three brick linears were constructed for but given their position parallel and adjacent to the water supply system these two features may be related.

4.6 Recommendations

4.6.1 Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be agreed in consultation with the ECC HEM.

Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory

Trench 340						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.2
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	23.5
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4295	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
4296	Layer	-	0.05	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 341						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.35
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	30.5
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4289	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
4290	Layer	-	0.05	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 342						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4289	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-

Trench 343						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	29
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4289	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-

4290	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 346		
General description	**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.37
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	30

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4291	Layer	-	0.21	Topsoil	-	-
4292	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 347		
General description	**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.47
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	30

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4291	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
4292	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 348		
General description	**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.43
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	30

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4291	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
4292	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 349		
General description	**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	30

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4303	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-

Trench 350						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.29
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4303	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-

Trench 351						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.28
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4303	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-

Trench 352						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained one possible quarry pit. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.44
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	29
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4454	Cut	0.9	0.21	Pit	-	-
4455	Fill	0.9	0.21	Pit	-	-
4301	Layer	-	0.31	Topsoil	-	-
4302	Layer	-	0.13	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 353						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	28.4
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4305	Layer	-	0.31	Topsoil	-	-
4306	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 354						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.48
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	28.3
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4305	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
4306	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 355						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.46
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	27.8
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4305	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
4306	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 356						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.49
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4307	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
4308	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 357						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained one ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4661	Fill	0.24	0.09	Line of bricks	-	-
4662	Fill	2.6	0.18	Ditch	-	-

4663	Cut	2.6	0.18	Ditch	-	-
4307	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
4308	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 358

General description	**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	30

Contexts

context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4309	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
4310	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 359

General description	**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained a natural hollow. Consists of topsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.32
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	30

Contexts

context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4500	Layer	7	0.15	Natural hollow	-	-
4309	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-

Trench 360

General description	**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained two wheel ruts, three brick linears and a buried subsoil deposit. Consists of topsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	30

Contexts

context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4808	Layer	1.1	0.12	Brick rubble		
4809	Layer	2.3	0.14	Brick rubble		
4810	Layer	2.2	0.16	Brick rubble		
4811	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil		
4812	Layer	1.8	0.24	Buried soil		
4817	Cut	0.48	0.32	Wheel rut		
4818	Fill	0.48	0.2	Wheel rut		
4819	Fill	0.48	0.22	Wheel rut		
4820	Cut	0.54	0.26	Wheel rut		

4821	Fill	0.8	0.26	Wheel rut		
4822	Fill	0.24	0.26	Wheel rut		
4823	Layer	2.1	0.24	Buried soil		
4824	Masonry	0.22	0.12	Brick linear		
4825	Masonry	0.34	0.1	Brick linear		
4826	Masonry	0.36	0.14	Brick linear		
4827	Layer	1.08	0.14	Buried soil		
4828	Layer	0.2	0.1	Buried soil		
4829	Layer	0.48	0.16	Buried soil		
4830	Layer	0.54	0.14	Buried soil		
4831	Layer	0.56	0.16	Buried soil		
4832	Layer	1.8	0.12	Buried soil		
4833	Layer	0.3	0.14	Buried soil		
4311	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-

Trench 361

General description	**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained one gully, one posthole and one ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.62
	Width (m)	2-4
	Length (m)	30

Contexts

context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4505	Cut	0.3	0.1	Gully	-	-
4505	Fill	0.3	0.1	Gully	Pottery	Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age
4506	Cut	0.2	0.1	Posthole	-	-
4507	Fill	0.2	0.1	Posthole	-	-
4604	Fill	2.1	0.35	Ditch	-	-
4605	Cut	2.1	0.35	Ditch	-	-
4313	Layer	-	0.43	Topsoil	-	-
4314	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 362

General description	**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained one pit and one ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.45
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	30

Contexts

context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4678	Cut	2	-	Ditch	-	-

4679	Fill	2	-	Ditch	-	-
4680	Cut	0.7	0.1	Pit	-	-
4681	Fill	0.7	0.1	Pit	-	-
4313	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-	-
4314	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 363						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained one ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4682	Cut	1.6	-	Cut	-	-
4683	Fill	1.6	-	Fill	-	-
4313	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
4314	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 364						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained one ditche and a post medieval field drain. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	29.5
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4987	Cut	0.6	0.21	Ditch	-	-
4988	Fill	0.6	0.21	Ditch	-	-
4989	Cut	0.9	0.16	Ditch	-	post medieval
4990	Fill	0.9	0.16	Ditch	Horseshoe shotgun cartridge	post medieval
4313	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
4314	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 365						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30

Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4313	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-	-
4314	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 366						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	13
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4313	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
4314	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 367						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4313	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-	-
4314	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 368						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4313	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-	-
4314	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 369						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S

Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of orange clay.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	30

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4313	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
4314	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-

Appendix B. Finds Reports

B.1 Prehistoric pottery

Identified by Matt Brudenell

B.1.1 A small assemblage comprising 36 sherds (weight 0.298kg) of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age flint tempered ware was recovered from context 4505, the fill of ring gully **4504**.

B.2 Ceramic Brick Material

Assemblage

B.2.1 A sample of the bricks present were collected to be analysed. This sample comprised six part bricks and one tile fragment (2.844kg) recovered from trench 360.

Context	Weight (kg)	No of fragments	Date and fabric
4808	0.622	3	Bright orangey red brick, with large flint temper, size > 90mm x 80mm x 55mm. 16th to 18th century.
	0.998	1	Dark red brick with large flint temper, size >120mm x 100mm x 55mm
4809	1.177	2	Bright orangey red brick, with large flint temper, maximum size 130mm x 100mm x 60mm. 16th to 18th century.
	0.057	1	Dark red tile, with flint temper. size >90mm x 80mm by 10mm, early post medieval

Table 1: brick and tile assemblage from Cable diversion

Appendix C. Bibliography

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Maps consulted

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Websites consulted

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Appendix D. OASIS Report Form

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-230089		
Project Name	Beaulieu, Chelmsford, Essex, Cable diversion		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	04-09-2015	Finish	10-10-2015
Previous Work (by OA East)	Yes	Future Work	Unknown

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	SPBP 15	Planning App. No.	09/01314/EIA
HER No.	SPBP 15	Related HER/OASIS No.	oxfordar3-152484,

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	Food and Environmental Protection Act 1985 (FEPA) Part II
Development Type	Housing Estate

Please select all techniques used:

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

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

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

Monument	Period	Object	Period
ring-ditch	Bronze Age -2.5k to -700	pottery	Bronze Age -2.5k to -700
ditch	Medieval 1066 to 1540	pottery	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901
trackway	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901	brick	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901

Project Location

County	Essex	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	
District	Chelmsford	land of White Hart Lane, CHelmsford CM2 6TD	
Parish	Springfield		
HER	Essex		
Study Area		National Grid Reference	TL 7286 1052

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	RIchard Havis (ECC HER)
Project Design Originator	Iain WIlliamson (URS)
Project Manager	Richard Mortimer (OA East)
Supervisor	Helen Stocks-Morgan (OA East)

Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
Chelmsford Museum	OA East	Chelmsford Museum
SPBP 15	SPBP 15	SPBP 15

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	☐	☐	☐
Ceramics	☒	☐	☐
Environmental	☐	☐	☐
Glass	☐	☐	☐
Human Bones	☐	☐	☐
Industrial	☐	☐	☐
Leather	☐	☐	☐
Metal	☐	☐	☐
Stratigraphic		☐	☐
Survey		☐	☐
Textiles	☐	☐	☐
Wood	☐	☐	☐
Worked Bone	☐	☐	☐
Worked Stone/Lithic	☐	☐	☐
None	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐

Digital Media	Paper Media
☐ Database	☐ Aerial Photos
☒ GIS	☒ Context Sheet
☐ Geophysics	☒ Correspondence
☒ Images	☐ Diary
☐ Illustrations	☒ Drawing
☐ Moving Image	☐ Manuscript
☒ Spreadsheets	☒ Map
☒ Survey	☐ Matrices
☒ Text	☐ Microfilm
☐ Virtual Reality	☐ Misc.
	☐ Research/Notes
	☒ Photos
	☒ Plans
	☒ Report
	☒ Sections
	☒ Survey

Notes:

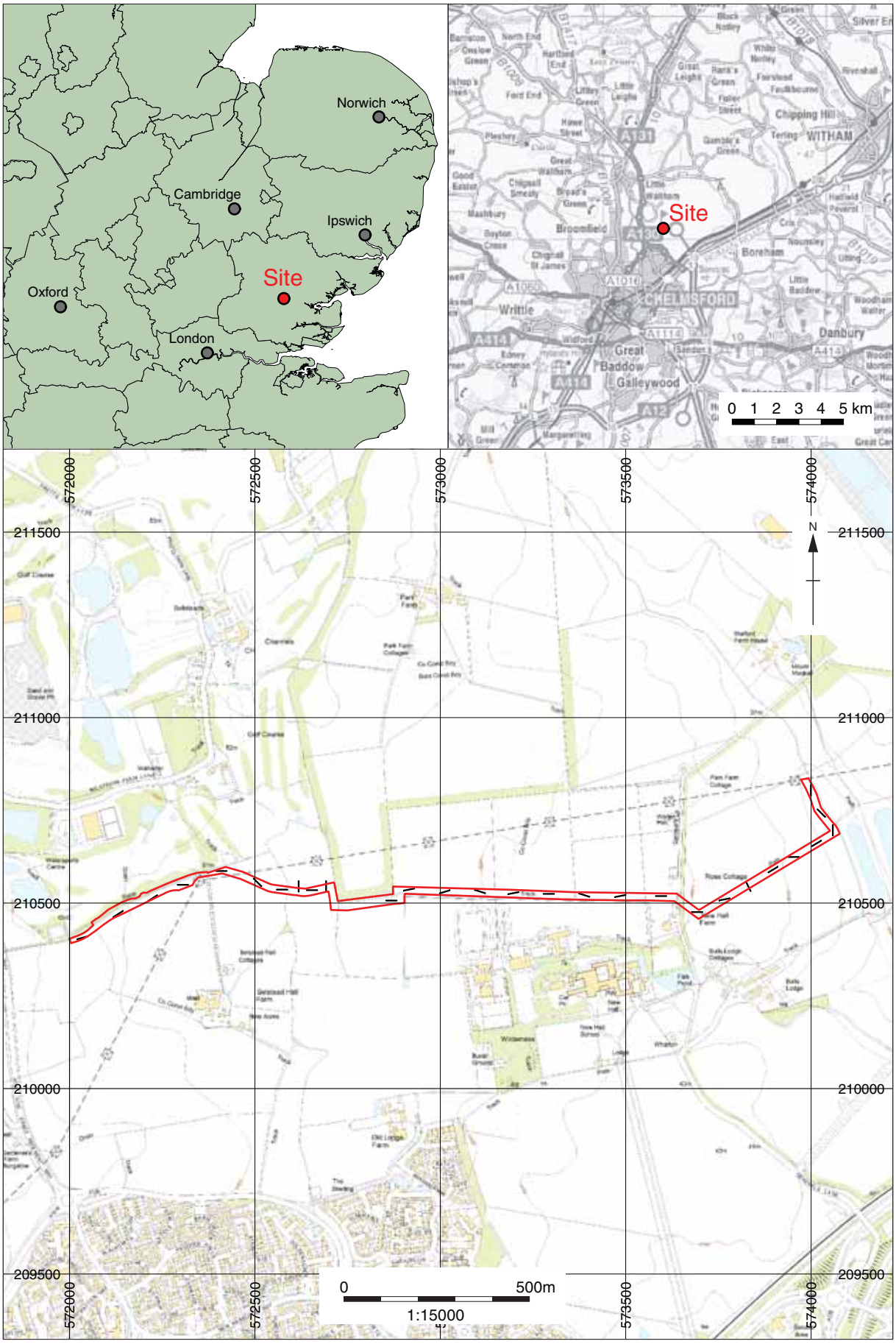

Figure 1: Site location showing archaeological trenches (black) in development area (red)

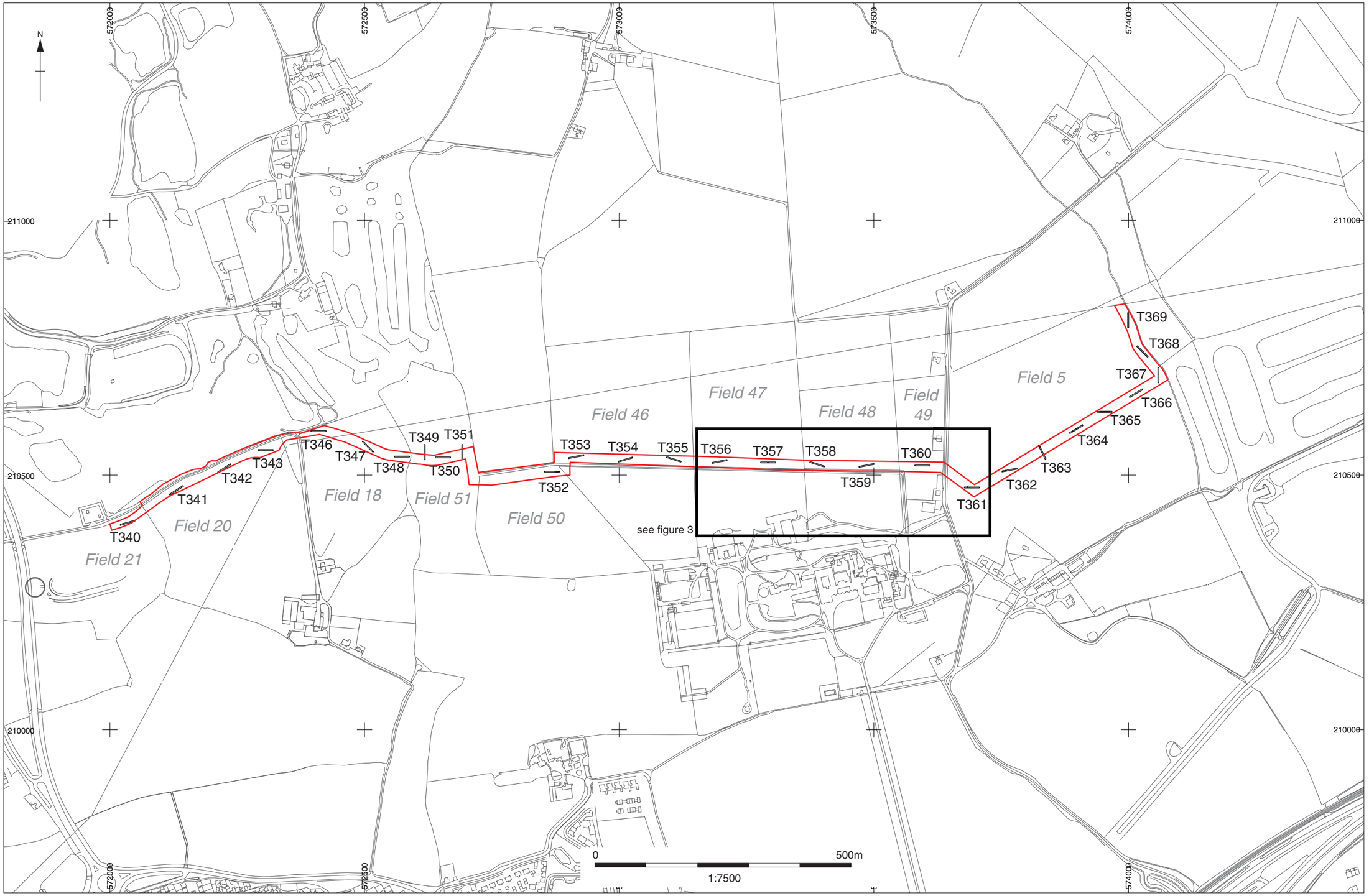

Figure 2: Plan of evaluation trenches.

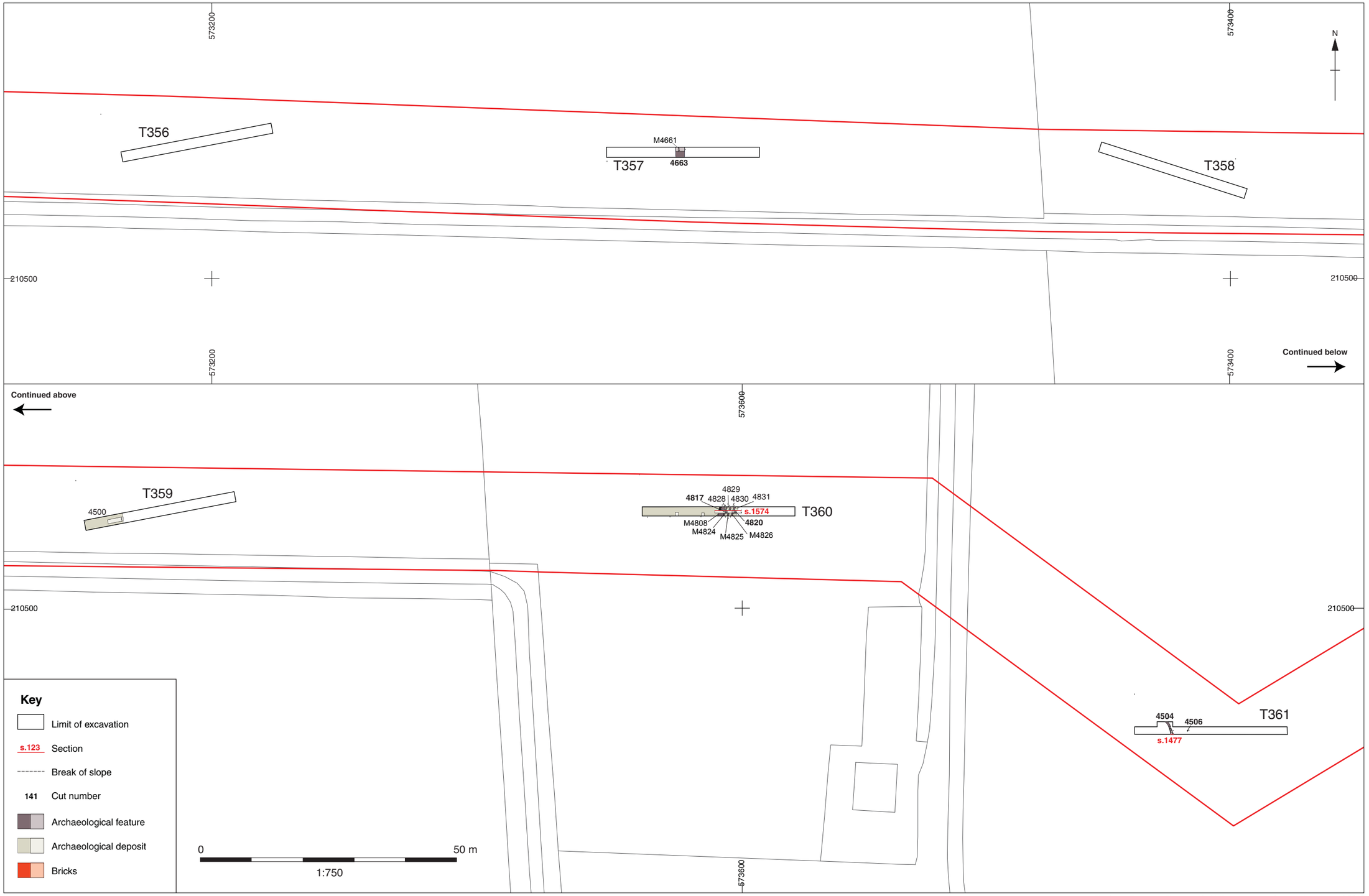

Figure 3: Plan of evaluation trenches 356-361

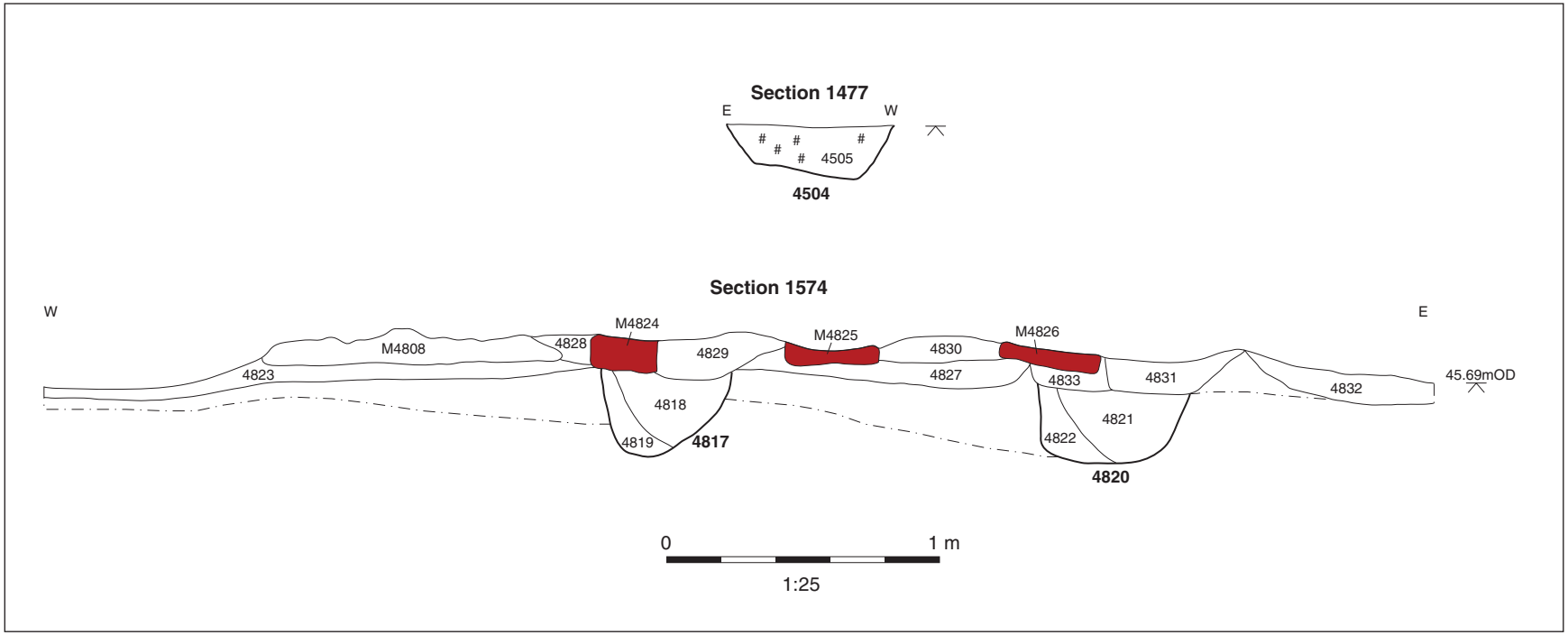

Figure 4: Selected sections

Plate 1: Brick remains in trench 361, from south-east

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