

Prehistoric and Early Post-Medieval remains at Zone Q, Beaulieu, Chelmsford



Archaeological Evaluation Report



February 2016

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(Beaulieu Park) LLP**

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Prehistoric and Early Post-Medieval remains at Zone Q, Beaulieu, Chelmsford

Archaeological Evaluation

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Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out at Zone Q, Beaulieu, Chelmsford. The fieldwork took place between the 7/9/15 and the 25/11/15. A total of forty-one trenches were excavated across two separate fields, within the proposed development area.

The evaluation recorded the remains of early prehistoric dispersed settlement in the form of a fire pit and a rectangular pit which contained frequent charcoal. In the northern part of the development area a putative late medieval settlement was encountered, which comprised four potential wall foundations, potentially part of a building and two ditches thought to be part and an enclosure.

Early post-medieval remains comprising several brick-built linear features associated with the deer park were recorded in both fields. These are suggested to form part of a deer course.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 Between the 7th September and 25th November 2015 Oxford Archaeology East carried out an archaeological evaluation at Zone Q, Beaulieu, Chelmsford (TL 7348 1085) in advance of construction for 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 Zone Q residential housing.
- 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 7348 1085; 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 lies 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, such as 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 dam (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 1 Mitigation 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 to the west of the area, which encountered Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age open settlement, comprising five four-poster structures and several pits. A further one 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 thought 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 Forty-one 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 Pat Moan 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 A total of seven bulk samples were taken, from deposits considered most appropriate for environmental sampling, while also considering feature type and period.

2.2.7 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 and 3 for trench locations). Unless otherwise stated no finds were present.

3.2 Field 12

3.2.1 Twenty-five trenches were excavated within this field. The natural geology was an orange clay. A subsoil layer (4318), approximately 0.1m thick was recorded underlying a topsoil deposit (4317) that was approximately 0.3m thick.

Trench 315 (See Fig. 2)

3.2.2 A north-west to south-east aligned ditch (**5006**) was the only feature in this trench. It was 0.6m wide and 0.3m deep with steep sides and a concave base. This ditch was filled with mid orangey grey silty clay (5007).

Trench 316 to 319 (See Fig. 2)

3.2.3 No archaeology was recorded in these trenches.

Trench 320 (See Fig. 2)

3.2.4 In the centre of the trench traces of a brick-built linear feature (**4287**) were encountered. This feature was 0.6m wide and was filled with a deposit of broken brick (4288).

Trench 321 (See Fig. 2)

3.2.5 No archaeology was recorded in this trench.

Trench 322 (See Fig. 2)

3.2.6 This trench formed a cross shape, measuring 26m east to west and 27.5m east to west. A possible pond (**4508**) was encountered in this trench. It was 15.5m long and 14m wide. It consisted of deposit (4510) overlain by deposit (4509). Environmental samples were taken from the lower fill (4510) using an auger and these contained no preserved material.

Trench 323 to 326 (See Fig. 2)

3.2.7 No archaeology was recovered in these trenches.

Trench 327 (See Fig. 2)

3.2.8 Towards the western end of this trench a north-west to south-east ditch (**4281**) was encountered. It measured 0.5m in width and 0.37 in depth. This ditch had steep sides and a flat base. It was filled with mid orangey brown clayey silt (4282).

3.2.9 A single pit (**4283**) was encountered in the central eastern part of the trench. The pit was 0.85m in diameter and 0.21m deep. It had steep sides and a concave base. It consisted of light brown clayey silt (4284).

3.2.10 A brick built linear feature (**4285**) aligned north-east to south-west was located at the eastern end of this trench. This unexcavated feature was 0.45m wide and was filled with mid greyish brown clayey silt (4286).

Trench 328 (See Fig. 3)

3.2.11 No archaeology was recorded in this trench.

Trench 329 (See Fig. 3)

- 3.2.12 At the northern end of this trench a gravel deposit (4405) was uncovered. It was 2.1m wide. At the deposits southern end a possible wall foundation (**4402**) aligned east to west was encountered. It was 0.45m wide and filled with gravel deposit (4403) overlain by a brick wall (4404) which was 0.15m wide.
- 3.2.13 Immediately to the south of the wall foundation (**4402**) a north-west to south-east aligned ditch (**4406**) was located. This ditch, which had steep sides and a concave base, was 0.62m wide and 0.21 deep. It consisted of mid brownish grey silty clay (4407).
- 3.2.14 At the northern central part of the trench a rectangular pit (**4408**) was unearthed. This pit had steep sides and an irregular base. It measured 1.27m in width and was 0.09m deep. This pit was filled silt deposit (4409) overlain by light brownish grey silt (4410). The environmental sample from each fill contained sparse charcoal only.
- 3.2.15 At the southern central part of the trench a tree throw (**4411**) was encountered. It was 1.15m long and 0.5m wide. It consisted of mid brownish grey clayey silt (4412).

Trench 330 (See Fig. 3 and 4)

- 3.2.16 The northern end of this trench was found to contain two ditches. The northernmost ditch (**4703**), which was aligned east to west, had steep sides and a wide V-shaped base. It was 1.91m wide and measured 0.45m in depth. This ditch was filled with two lenses of light yellowish brown silty clay (4715 and 4716) overlain by dark greyish brown clayey silt (4717). On top of this fill lay light greyish brown clayey silt (4718). The top fill consisted of dark greyish brown (4719) which contained 23g of pottery dating to the mid 13th century.
- 3.2.17 Immediately to the south of ditch (**4703**) lay ditch (**4695**) aligned east to west. This ditch was 2.31m wide and had steep sides and a concave base. It measured 0.55m deep. It was filled with mid greyish brown silty clay (4696) to the north and light yellowish brown silty clay (4697) to the south. These two fills were overlain by mid greyish brown silt clay (4698) containing a sherd of 13th to 14th century mill green coarseware. On top of which lay light greyish brown silty clay (4699). The top fill consisted of light brownish grey silty clay (4700) which had an abraded sherd of Hedingham fineware and a fragment of post-medieval roof tile.
- 3.2.18 In the centre of the trench a gully (**4701**) aligned north-west to south-east was encountered. It measured 0.7m in width, had gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was 0.1m deep. This gully was filled with light greyish brown silty clay (4702).

Trench 331 (See Fig. 3)

- 3.2.19 The trench was extended at 7.75m point from its western limit. The enlargement measured 4.25m towards north and 4.25m towards east. The second extension of the trench was located at 11m from its western boundary. It run 4.75m south and 2m east. These extensions created a crucifix shape of the trench.
- 3.2.20 Towards the western part of the trench lay a possible wall foundation (**4275, 4710**), which appeared to be cut by ditch (**4267**) to the west and wall (**4708**) to the east. This wall foundation (**4275**), aligned east north-east to west south-west, was 0.75m wide. It had gently sloping sides and a flat base. It was 0.12m deep and consisted of mid brownish grey clayey silt (4711).
- 3.2.21 A north to south aligned ditch (**4267**) was truncating the wall foundation. It measured 1.4m in width and was 0.62m deep. This ditch had steep sides and a concave base. It

was filled with mid greyish brown clayey silt (4268) which contained a sherd of medieval coarseware and three sherds of pottery which were not closely datable and forty-four fragments (11.940kg) of ceramic building material, both tile and brick was recovered from this fill.

- 3.2.22 At the central part of the trench a series of four possible wall foundations was exposed. All the wall foundations run on the north north-west to south south-east alignment. Wall foundation (**4279, 4708**) measured 0.5m in width and 0.22 in depth. It had truncated sides, and a concave base. The foundation deposit had one course of ceramic floor tiles laid in situ with no bonding material present. These were interspersed with a mid grey clayey silt (4709). Wall foundation (**4706**) was 0.75m wide and 0.13m deep. Its eastern side was gently sloping, whereas its western side was steep. This wall foundation had a concave base and was filled with a similar coarse of red floor tile and brick with no bonding material. A mid brownish grey clayey silt (4707) was present overlying the brick which contained 176g of post-medieval pottery and some residual medieval pottery. Wall foundation (**4269, 4712**) was 0.78m wide and 0.2m deep. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. The wall foundation comprised in situ brick rubble and a mid brown clayey silt (4270). The last wall foundation (**4277, 4704**) in this group had gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was 0.8m wide, 0.22m deep and was filled with a course of red brick and tile laid in situ and having no bonding material present, this was overlain and interspersed with a mid reddish brown clayey silt (4705). All these wall foundations had been heavily truncated by modern ploughing with only the bottom c.0.2m of the features surviving.
- 3.2.23 Two postholes were encountered overlying wall foundation (**4279**) and wall foundation (**4269**). The westernmost posthole (**4273**) was 0.3m long, 0.2m wide and 0.05m deep. It had moderately sloping edges and a flat base. The fill of this posthole consisted of dark grey clayey silt (4274). The easternmost posthole (**4271**) measured 0.3m in length, 0.2m in width and was 0.04m deep. It had a gently sloping sides and a concave base. This posthole was filled with dark grey clayey silt (4272).

Trench 332 (See Fig. 3)

- 3.2.24 A single posthole (**4397**) was located at the central area of this trench. This posthole was 0.4m in diameter and 0.05m deep. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. The fill of this posthole consisted of dark greyish brown silty clay (4396).

Trench 333 to 335 (See Fig. 3)

- 3.2.25 No archaeology was recorded in these trenches.

Trench 336 (See Fig. 3)

- 3.2.26 At the western part of this trench a ditch (**4395**) aligned north north-west to south south-east was encountered. It was 0.4m wide, had steep sides and a concave base. It measured 0.15m deep and was filled with dark reddish brown sandy clay (4394). The trench was extended to twice the width to check the line of the gully. This extension showed the gully to be irregular in plan and potentially a natural feature.

Trench 337 (See Fig. 3)

- 3.2.27 Towards the northern end of this trench a posthole (**4991**) was unearthed. It measured 0.4m in diameter and was 0.15m deep. This posthole had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill consisted of dark brownish grey silty clay (4992).

Trench 338 (See Fig. 3)

- 3.2.28 At the western end of this trench a north-east to south-west aligned ditch (**4393**) was exposed. This feature was 0.3m wide, had steep sides and a concave base. It measured 0.1m deep and was filled with dark reddish brown sandy clay (4392).
- 3.2.29 A north-east to south-west ditch (**4391**) was uncovered in the central western area of the trench. The ditch, which had steep sides and a concave base, was 0.6m wide and 0.25m deep. The basal fill of this ditch consisted of light greyish brown sandy clay (4389). It was overlain by dark reddish brown sandy clay (4990).
- 3.2.30 A posthole (**4388**) was unearthed in the central area of this trench. It measured 0.4m in diameter and was 0.05m deep. This posthole had steep sides and a concave base. It contained dark greyish brown silty clay. (4387).

Trench 339 (See Fig. 3)

- 3.2.31 No archaeology was recorded in this trench

3.3 Field 14

- 3.3.1 Sixteen trenches were excavated within this field. The natural geology was an orange clay. A topsoil deposit (4317) that was approximately 0.3m thick was recorded.

Trenches 299 to 301 (See Fig. 2)

- 3.3.2 No archaeology was recorded in these trenches.

Trench 302 (See Fig. 2)

- 3.3.3 Towards the northern end of this trench was a circular pit (**4805**) which was 0.55m in diameter and 0.06m deep. The fill of this pit consisted of laminated deposits of charcoal and light yellowish grey silt (4806), the environmental sample contained charred grassland seeds and charcoal. The natural clay (4807) into which the pit was cut had evidence of scorching and burning, both from its visible discolouration and due to the presence of charcoal. This feature is therefore interpreted as the remains of a fire.

Trench 303 - 305 (See Fig. 2)

- 3.3.4 No archaeology was recorded in these trenches.

Trench 306 (See Fig. 2)

- 3.3.5 A large pond was partially exposed in the central part this trench but was not excavated. This probably sub-circular feature was at least 16m wide.

Trenches 307 and 308 (See Fig. 2)

- 3.3.6 No archaeology was recorded in these trenches.

Trench 309 (See Fig. 2)

- 3.3.7 This trench contained two Late Iron Age urned cremations and will be described fully in a separate excavation report.

Trench 310 (See Fig. 2)

- 3.3.8 The northern end of this trench was found to contain a shallow sided east to west aligned ditch (**4676**). This ditch, which was 1.25m wide and 0.22m deep, was filled with mid greyish brown silty clay (4677).

Trench 311 (See Fig. 2)

- 3.3.9 No archaeology was recorded in this trench.

Trench 312 (See Fig. 2)

- 3.3.10 At the northern end of the trench lay a 1.25m wide ditch (**4676**) aligned east to west. This ditch had concave sides and a flattish base, measured 0.22m deep. It was filled by a mid greyish brown silty clay (4677).

Trench 313 (See Fig. 2)

- 3.3.11 A north to south aligned brick built linear feature (**5002**) was uncovered in the central part of this trench. This unexcavated feature was 0.30m wide and filled with mid greyish brown silty clay (5003).

Trench 314 (See Fig. 2)

- 3.3.12 No archaeology was recorded in this trench.

3.4 Finds Summary

- 3.4.1 The majority of the finds assemblage is represented by the ceramic building material, which weighed 18.753kg. This assemblage was a representative sample collected from the wall foundations in Trench 331. The pottery comprised 243g from six contexts and all but two sherds dated to the medieval period. The other two sherds were not closely datable. All of this pottery was found in the northern part of the evaluation area in Trenches 330 and 331. A further assemblage of baked clay was recovered from seven contexts and weighed 37g.

3.5 Environmental Summary

- 3.5.1 Seven samples were taken from features assessed to have potential for preserved plant remains. The three taken from the possible pond feature (**4508**) in Trench 322 contained no preserved remains. The further four samples were taken from the fire pits. Fire pit **4408** from Trench 329 contained sparse charcoal and the fire pit **4805** contained charcoal and charred grassland seeds.

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 as an overall chronological format to help set the findings into context within their wider landscape setting.

4.2 Prehistoric settlement features

4.2.1 Two pits (**4805, 4408**) were encountered during this evaluation, one was located in the southern part of the development area, the second one was located in the northern part of the development area. These two pits are undated but are characteristic of Early prehistoric settlement features, albeit fulfilling different functions, with the southern pit (**4805**) is characteristic of a fire pit. Where as the northern pit (**4408**) was rectangular, shallow and filled with a charcoal rich deposit. Its function is unclear, however, the density of charcoal in the fill suggests the pit had either a domestic or industrial function.

4.3 Early post-medieval

4.3.1 In the centre of field 12 in trench 330 lay two ditches (**4695, 4703**) on an east to west alignment, given their same alignment and closeness it is likely that they formed a double ditched enclosure or that the one may be the replacement of the other, though the dating evidence from each one is inconclusive. One of the ditches (**4695**) contained thirty-two sherds of pottery and the other ditch (**4703**) contained three, this is a relatively high amount of pottery from a ditch which suggests that it lay close to settlement and the ditch may have formed an enclosure rather than a field boundary.

4.3.2 Immediately to the north of these ditches were four possible wall foundations, three of the linears (**4704,4706,4708**) were on a north-west to south-east alignment and were spaced 0.8m apart, the fourth one (**4710**) was perpendicular and cut by the other three linears, suggesting continuity of use. The ceramic building material retrieved from these wall foundations included a large assemblage of bricks (11.051kg) along with a large assemblage of glazed floor tile (6.9kg). The presence of these floor tiles suggests that a building was present in the immediate vicinity which was of relatively high status.

4.3.3 It is unclear at present exactly what from these wall foundations took but they are noticeably different in character for the brick linears encountered in the surrounding areas (Stocks-Morgan, 2016) and look to be concentrated in the small area around Trench 331.

4.3.4 The remains of several different brick-built features (in trenches 313,320,327, 329) were recorded within the two fields, these were different in construction to the features previously described and more akin to the brick built linears encountered in Zone P and Site 1 (Stocks-Morgan, 2016). These are not closely datable at present with the bricks being early post-medieval in date, however, later reuse of the bricks is a possibility.

4.3.5 Based upon their similar construction, they are most likely either contemporary or very close in date. Their slightly differing alignments may be the result of their function, gradually funnelling the deer into a small pass, or perhaps due to the yearly construction of deer courses on varying alignments.

4.3.6 Their construction suggests they acted as a foundation for some form of wall, however, they are likely to be temporary or small, light structures as there was little evidence for compaction. It has been suggested that they could have formed deer courses, which

are barriers used to divert and funnel deer into enclosed spaces where they can be hunted more easily (Williamson, pers comm). This suggestion seems plausible given their position to the north-east of the known Tudor palace and within the wider deer park, however, we haven't found any parallels at present and further research is required to ascertain their precise function

4.4 Recommendations

- 4.4.1 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 299						
General description				Orientation		N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.				Avg. depth (m)		0.29
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4319	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-
Trench 300						
General description				Orientation		E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.				Avg. depth (m)		0.29
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4319	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-
Trench 301						
General description				Orientation		N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.				Avg. depth (m)		0.31
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
Trench 302						
General description				Orientation		N-S
Trench contained one pit Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.				Avg. depth (m)		0.40
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4805	Cut	0.55	0.06	Pit		
4806	Fill	0.55	0.06	Pit		
4807	Fill	0.55	0.03	Pit		

4319	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
4320	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 303						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4319	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
4320	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 304						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.28
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4319	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
Trench 305						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.31
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4319	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
4320	Layer	-	0.05	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 306						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a pond. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-

	Layer	-	0.4	Subsoil	-	-
	Layer	-	0.5	Clay layer	-	-
Trench 307						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.32
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4319	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
Trench 308						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4319	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
4320	Layer	-	0.05	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 309						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained two cremations and described with in a separate report. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.29
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4319	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
4320	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 310						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained one ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4676	Cut	1.25	0.22	Ditch	-	-

4677	Fill	1.25	0.22	Ditch	-	-
4319	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
4320	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 311						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4319	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
Trench 312						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4319	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
Trench 313						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a brick linear and a smaller gully. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
5002	Cut	0.30	-	Brick linear	-	-
5003	Fill	0.30	-	Brick linear	-	-
5004	Cut	0.15	-	Gully	-	-
5005	Fill	0.15	-	Gully	-	-
4319	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
4320	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 314						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.51
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30

Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date	
4319	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-	
4320	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-	
Trench 315							
General description					Orientation		
Trench contained one ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					NE-SW		
					Avg. depth (m)		0.33
					Width (m)		2
					Length (m)		30
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date	
5006	Cut	0.6	0.3	Ditch	-	-	
5007	Fill	0.6	0.3	Ditch	-	-	
4317	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-	-	
4318	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-	
Trench 316							
General description					Orientation		
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					E-W		
					Avg. depth (m)		0.3
					Width (m)		2
					Length (m)		30
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date	
4317	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-	
4318	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-	
Trench 317							
General description					Orientation		
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					N-S		
					Avg. depth (m)		0.4
					Width (m)		2
					Length (m)		30
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date	
4317	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-	
4318	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-	
Trench 318							
General description					Orientation		
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil					NE-SW		
					Avg. depth (m)		0.49

overlying a natural of clay.					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4317	Layer	-	0.39	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 319						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.51
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4317	Layer	-	0.40	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.11	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 320						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a Brick linear. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4287	Cut	0.6	-	Brick linear	-	-
4288	Fill	0.6	-	Brick linear	-	-
4317	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 321						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4317	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 322						
General description				Orientation	N-S & E-W	
Trench extended to form a cruciform shape in order to investigate limits of a possible pond. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.				Avg. depth (m)	0.4	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	30	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4508	Cut	26	-	Pond	-	-
4509	Fill	-	-	Pond	-	-
4510	Fill	-	-	Pond	-	-
4317	Layer	-	-	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	-	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 323						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.				Avg. depth (m)	0.4	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	30	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4317	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 324						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.				Avg. depth (m)	0.51	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	30	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4317	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.11	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 325						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.				Avg. depth (m)	0.4	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	30	
Contexts						
context	type	Width	Depth	comment	finds	date

no		(m)	(m)			
4317	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 326						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4317	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.05	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 327						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a ditch, a pit and a brick linear. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4281	Cut	0.5	0.37	Ditch	-	-
4282	Fill	0.5	0.37	Ditch	CBM	-
4283	Cut	0.85	0.21	Pit	-	-
4284	Fill	0.85	0.21	Pit	-	-
4285	Cut	0.45	-	Brick linear	-	-
4286	Fill	0.45	-	Brick linear	-	-
4317	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 328						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.46
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4317	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 329						

General description					Orientation		
Trench contained two pits, one brick linear and one ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.					E-W		
					Avg. depth (m)		0.3
					Width (m)		2
					Length (m)		30
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date	
4402	Cut	0.45	-	Brick linear	-	-	
4403	Fill	0.45	-	Gravel deposit	-	-	
4404	Masonry	0.15	-	Brick linear	-	-	
4405	Layer	2.1	-	Gravel deposit	-	-	
4406	Cut	0.62	0.21	Ditch	-	-	
4407	Fill	0.62	0.21	Ditch	-	-	
4408	Cut	1.27	0.09	Pit	-	-	
4409	Fill	0.92	0.09	Pit	-	-	
4410	Fill	0.4	0.07	Pit	-	-	
4411	Cut	0.5	-	Tree throw / Pit	-	-	
4412	Fill	0.5	-	Tree throw / Pit	-	-	
4317	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-	
4318	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-	
Trench 330							
General description					Orientation		
Trench contained a ditches and a gully. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of gravel clay.					N-S		
					Avg. depth (m)		
					Width (m)		2
					Length (m)		30
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date	
4695	Cut	2.31	0.55	Ditch	-	-	
4696	Fill	-	0.2	Ditch	-	-	
4697	Fill	-	0.05	Ditch	-	-	
4698	Fill	-	0.3	Ditch	-	-	
4699	Fill	-	0.22	Ditch	-	-	
4700	Fill	-	0.22	Ditch	-	-	
4701	Cut	0.7	0.1	Gully	-	-	
4702	Fill	0.7	0.1	Gully	-	-	
4703	Cut	1.91	0.45	Ditch	-	-	
4715	Fill	-	0.45	Ditch	-	-	
4716	Fill	-	0.18	Ditch	-	-	

4717	Fill	-	0.11	Ditch	-	-
4718	Fill	-	0.12	Ditch	-	-
4719	Fill	-	0.21	Ditch	-	-
4317	Layer	-		Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-		Subsoil	-	-
Trench 331						
General description					Orientation	E-W & N-S
Trench contained a ditch, six possible wall foundations and two postholes. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlaying 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
4267	Cut	1.4	0.62	Ditch	-	-
4268	Fill	1.4	0.62	Ditch	-	-
4269	Cut	0.78	0.2	Wall foundation; same as (4712)	-	-
4270	Fill	0.78	0.2	Wall foundation	-	-
4271	Cut	0.2	0.04	posthole	-	-
4272	Fill	0.2	0.04	posthole	-	-
4273	Cut	0.2	0.05	posthole	-	-
4274	Fill	0.2	0.05	posthole	-	-
4275	Cut	0.3	-	Wall foundation; same as (4710)	-	-
4276	Fill	0.3	-	Wall foundation	-	-
4277	Cut	0.4	-	Wall foundation; same as (4704)	-	-
4278	Fill	0.4	-	Wall foundation	-	-
4279	Cut	0.4	-	Wall foundation; same as (4708)	-	-
4280	Fill	0.4	-	Wall foundation	-	-
4704	Cut	0.8	0.22	Wall foundation; same as (4277)	-	-
4705	Fill	0.8	0.22	Wall foundation	-	-
4706	Cut	0.75	0.13	Wall foundation	-	-
4707	Fill	0.75	0.13	Wall foundation	-	-
4708	Cut	0.5	0.22	Wall foundation; same as (4279)	-	-
4709	Fill	0.5	0.22	Wall foundation	-	-
4710	Cut	0.75	0.12	Wall foundation; same as (4275)	-	-

4711	Fill	0.75	0.12	Wall foundation	-	-
4712	Cut	0.8	-	Wall foundation; same as (4269)	-	-
4713	Fill	0.8	-	Wall foundation	-	-
4317	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 332						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained a posthole. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlaying a natural of sandy clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.47
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4396	Fill	0.4	0.05	posthole	-	-
4397	Cut	0.4	0.05	posthole	-	-
4317	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 333						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlaying a natural of gravel clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4317	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 334						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlaying a natural of gravel clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.37
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4317	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 335						
General description					Orientation	E-W

Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlaying natural of gravel clay.		Avg. depth (m)		0.38		
		Width (m)		2		
		Length (m)		30		
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4317	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 336						
General description		Orientation		E-W		
Trench contained a gully. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlaying a natural of sandy clay.		Avg. depth (m)		0.56		
		Width (m)		2		
		Length (m)		30		
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4394	Fill	0.4	0.05	Gully	-	-
4395	Cut	0.4	0.05	Gully	-	-
4317	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 337						
General description		Orientation		N-S		
Trench contained a posthole. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlaying a natural of gravel clay.		Avg. depth (m)		0.4		
		Width (m)		2		
		Length (m)		30		
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4991	Cut	0.4	0.15	posthole?	-	-
4992	Fill	0.4	0.15	posthole?	-	-
4317	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.13	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 338						
General description		Orientation		E-W		
Trench contained a posthole, a ditch and a gully. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlaying a natural of sandy clay.		Avg. depth (m)		0.37		
		Width (m)		2		
		Length (m)		30		
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date

4387	Fill	0.4	0.05	posthole	-	-
4388	Cut	0.4	0.05	posthole	-	-
4389	Fill	-	0.25	Ditch	-	-
4390	Fill	-	0.25	Ditch	-	-
4391	Cut	0.6	0.25	Ditch	-	-
4392	Fill	0.3	0.1	Gully	-	-
4393	Cut	0.3	0.1	Gully	-	-
4317	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 339

General description	Orientation	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlaying a natural of gravel clay.	Avg. depth (m)	0.5
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	30

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4317	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
4318	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Medieval Pottery

Identified By Helen Walker

Introduction

B.1.1 A small assemblage weighing 243g was recovered from six contexts and are described below in table 1.

Context	Cut	Trench	Pottery: fabric and diagnostic sherds	Wt (g)	Spot-date
4268	4267	331	Medieval coarseware: body sherd	9	12th to 14th C
4698	4695	330	Unidentified: three abraded sherds, possibly Saxon; medieval coarseware	14	12th to 14th C + residual Saxon?
4700			Mill Green coarseware: H1 cooking-pot rim, abraded	18	mid-13th to 14th C
4719	4703	331	Hedingham fineware: abraded sherd with buff-coloured fabric	3	mid to late 12th C
4707	4706	331	Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: shell leached out; medieval coarseware - grey firing; Mill Green coarseware	23	all could be current around mid-13th C
4707			Post-medieval red earthenware: joining sherds from thick-walled base with vertical sides, lustrous internal glaze	176	Late 16th to 19th C

Table 1: Quantity and weight of pottery by context

B.2 Baked Clay

By Sarah Percival

Assemblage

B.2.1 The baked clay assemblage comprises seven loosely datable fragments weighing 37g.

B.2.1 A single piece of post-medieval roof tile in fine orange sandy fabric came from context (4700).

context	Cut	Trench	fabric	Description	Quantity	Weight (g)	Spotdate
4700	4695	330	Orange sandy fine	Roof tile	1	11	Post med
4700			Orange sandy no visible inclusions	Baked clay	1	5	Not closely datable
4699			Orange/ cream swirls	Baked clay	1	9	Not closely datable
4697			Orange sandy with rare chalk	Baked clay	3	9	Not closely datable
4706	4707	331	Orange/ cream swirls	Baked clay	1	3	Not closely datable
Total					7	37	

Table 2: Quantity and weight of baked clay by context

B.3 Ceramic Building Material

Identified By Rob Atkins

Assemblage

B.3.1 An assemblage of sixty-eight sherds weighing 18.753kg was recovered from five contexts. All are early post-medieval in date. The assemblage reflects a representative sample taken on site in order to ascertain type and fabric. The assemblage is detailed below in table 3.

Context	Trench	Type	Fabric	Date	No. fragments	Weight (kg)
4268	331	Floor tile	Orange sandy fabric with grey core, thickness 45mm, dark red lead oxide glaze	Late medieval	24	6.900
		Roof tile	Orange sandy type with grey core	Late medieval	8	0.806
		Brick	Orange red sandy type	Late medieval	12	4.234
4270		Brick	Orange red sandy type	Late medieval	14	2.114
4705		brick	Orange red sandy type, 3 of which are heavily burnt	Late medieval	10	4.703

Table 3: ceramic building material

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental Samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

- C.1.1 Seven samples were taken from features within the evaluated areas in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations.

Methodology

- C.1.2 The total volume of the samples were processed by water flotation (using a modified Siraff three-tank system) for the recovery of charred plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve. Both flot and residues were allowed to air dry. A magnet was dragged through each residue fraction prior to sorting for artefacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds. The dried flots were subsequently sorted using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and a complete list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 1. 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 Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and Stace (1997) for other plants. 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.1.3 For the purpose of this assessment, items such as cereals and seeds have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories

= 1-5, ## = 6-10, ### = 11-50 specimens

Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal have been scored for abundance

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

Results

- C.1.4 Two samples were taken from fire pit **4408**; The lower fill 5510 produced a 50ml flot comprised of charcoal. The upper fill 5509 contains only sparse charcoal fragments. Both fills contain burnt flint and fired clay.
- C.1.5 Samples were also taken from the two fills of fire pit **4805**. Both fills are charcoal rich with the lower fill 4807 producing 20ml charcoal and the upper fill 4806 comprised of 40ml of charcoal with occasional charred seeds of grassland plants; buttercup (*Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus*), cleaver (*Galium aparine*) and cinquefoils (*Potentilla* sp.).
- C.1.6 Three auger samples were taken from fills 4510, 4512 and 4514 of pond **4508**. There are no preserved plant remains.

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	Sample Size (L)	Total % context sampled	Related sample no.	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Weed Seeds	Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal > 2mm	Flot comments
826	5509	4408	Fire pit	10	50	827	5	1	0	+	0	sparse charcoal only
827	5510	4408	Fire pit	10	50	826	6	50	0	+++	++	charcoal only
842	4510	4508	Pond	1 bag	<5	843, 844	<1	1	0	0	0	No preservation
843	4512	4508	Pond	1 bag	<5	842, 844	<1	1	0	0	0	No preservation
844	4513	4508	Pond	1 bag	<5	842, 843	<1	1	0	0	0	No preservation
904	4806	4805	Fire pit	1/2 bucket	50	905	4	40	#	++++	++	Charred grassland seeds, charcoal rich
905	4807	4805	Fire pit		50	904	2	20	0	+++	++	charcoal rich

Table 4: Environmental samples from Zone Q

Discussion

- C.1.7 The charcoal fills of fire pits **4408** and **4805** are evidence of the use of wood as fuel with the suggestion of grassland plants, probably collected as hay, being used as kindling. There is no surviving evidence of any use of the fire for cooking.
- C.1.8 Three auger samples taken from pond **4508** do not contain any preserved plant remains suggesting that the fills sampled have dried out.

APPENDIX D. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Websites consulted

<http://www.old-maps.co.uk/maps.html>. 1897 1:2500 Essex Viewed 22/06/11

APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-236560		
Project Name	Beaulieu, Chelmsford, Essex, Zone Q		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	03-09-2015	Finish	14-10-2015
Previous Work (by OA East)	Yes	Future Work	No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	SPBP 15	Planning App. No.	09/01314/EIA
HER No.	sp bp 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:

<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 type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Dendrochronological Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal Detectors	<input type="checkbox"/> Test Pits
<input type="checkbox"/> Documentary Search	<input type="checkbox"/> Phosphate Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Topographic Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Vibro-core
<input type="checkbox"/> Fieldwalking	<input type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Rectified Photography	

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

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

Monument	Period	Object	Period
pit	Late Prehistoric -4k to 43	pottery	Iron Age -800 to 43
ditch	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901	pottery	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901
wall	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	SP BP 15	
Study Area	5.6 ha	National Grid Reference
		TL 7348 1085

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

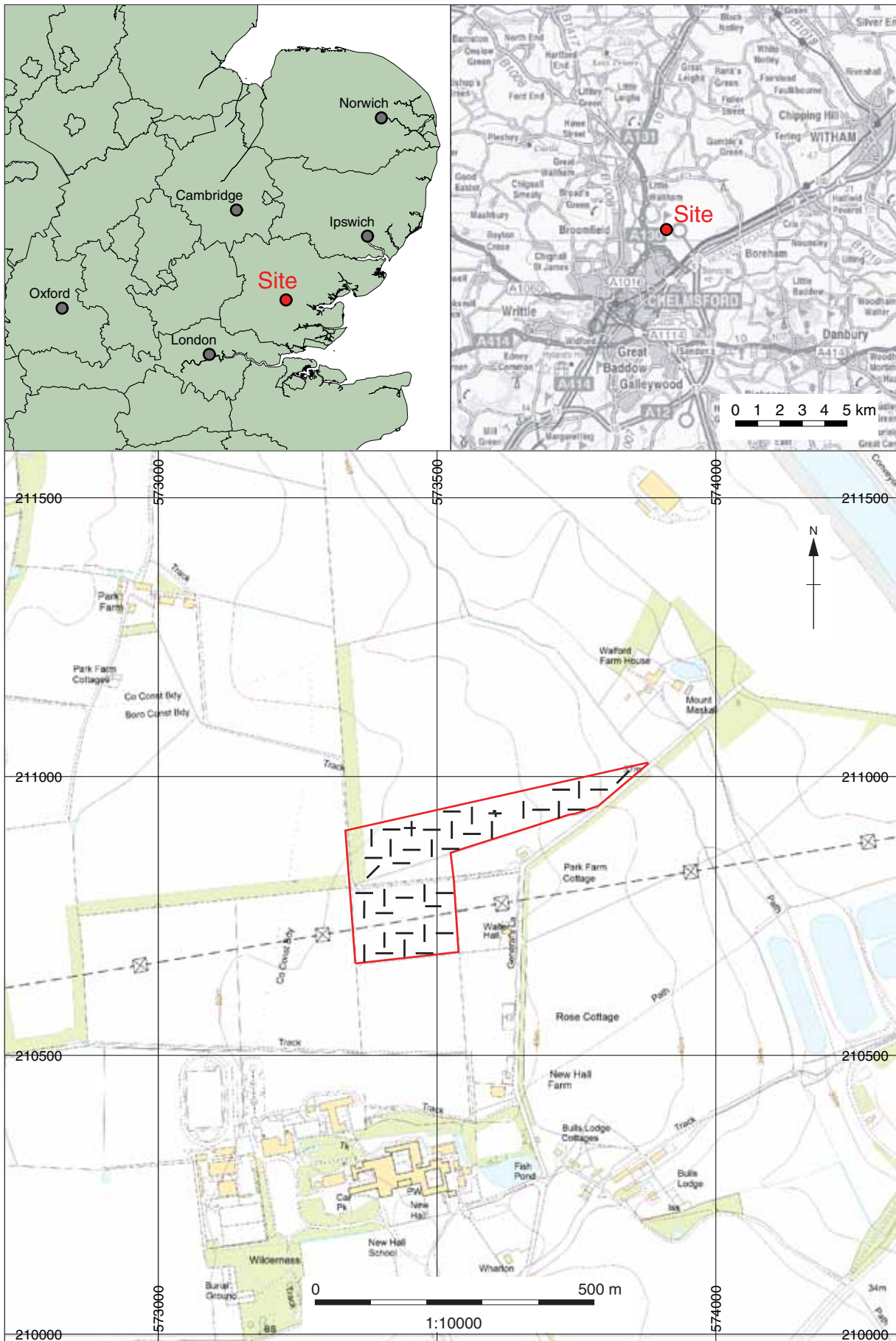
Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
chelmsford museum	OA East	chelmsford museum
SP BP 15	SPBP 15	SPBP 15

Archive Contents/Media

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:



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

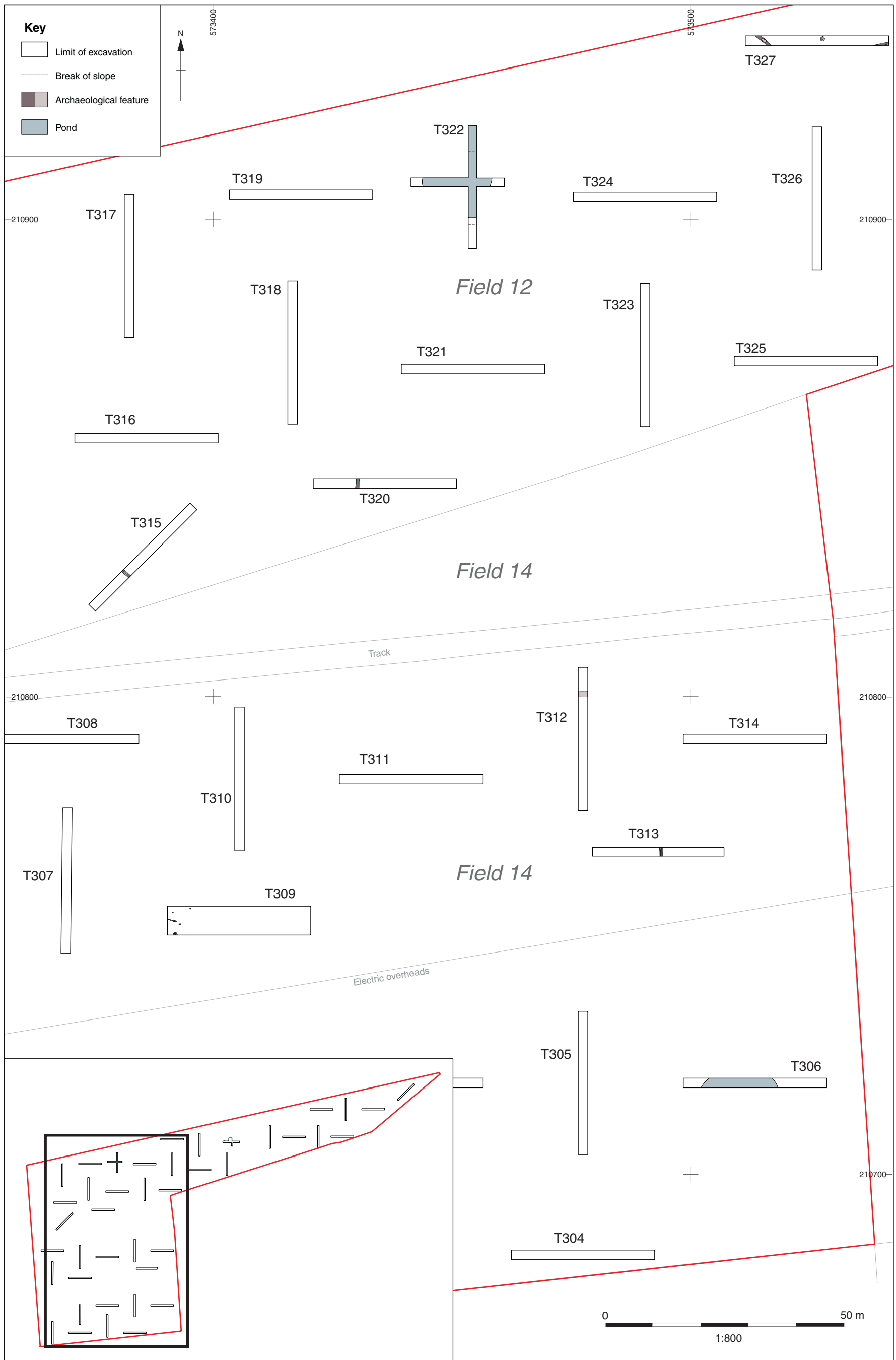


Figure 2: Plan of evaluation trenches in the west of zone Q

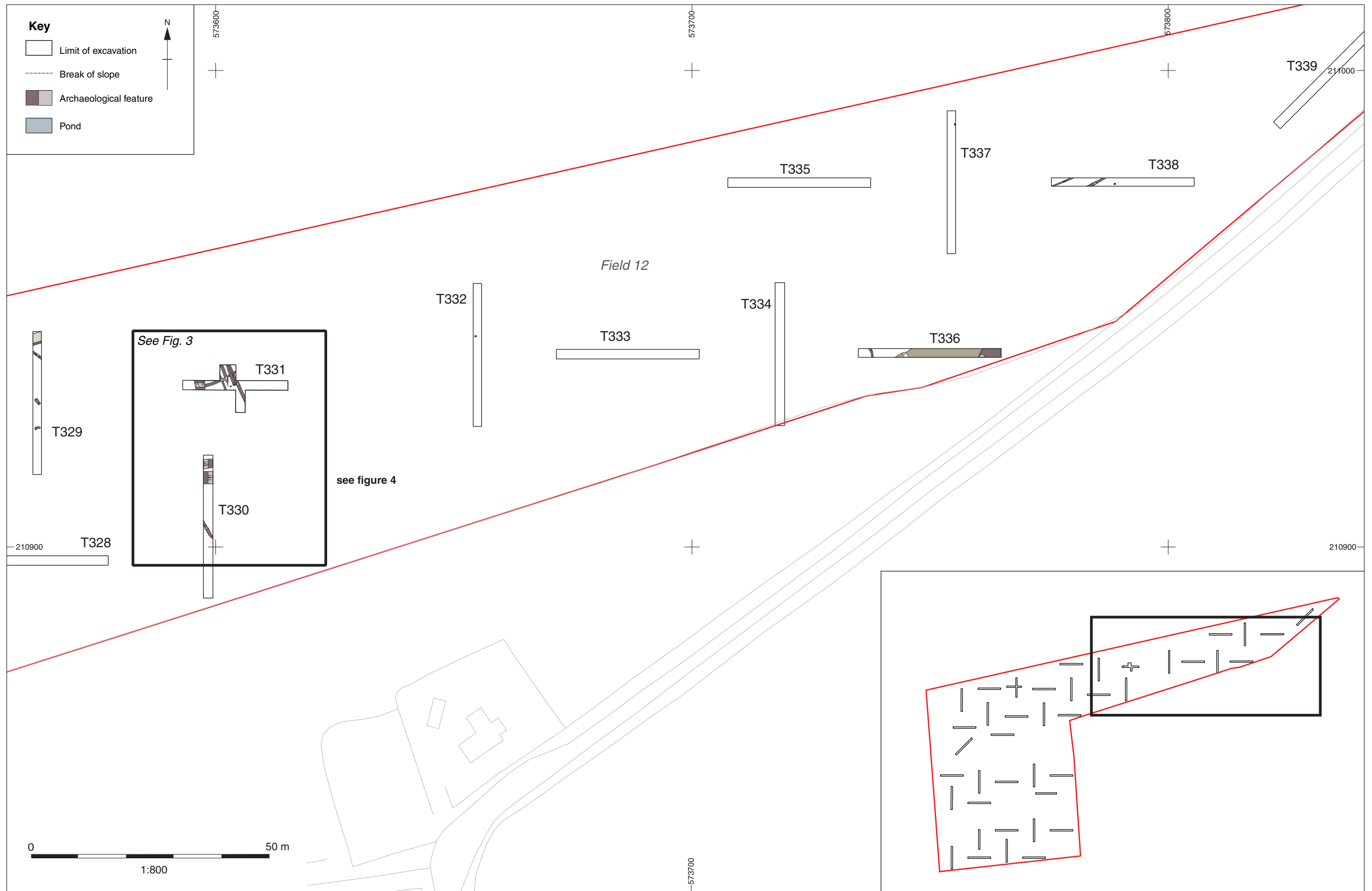


Figure 3: Plan of evaluation trenches in the east of zone Q

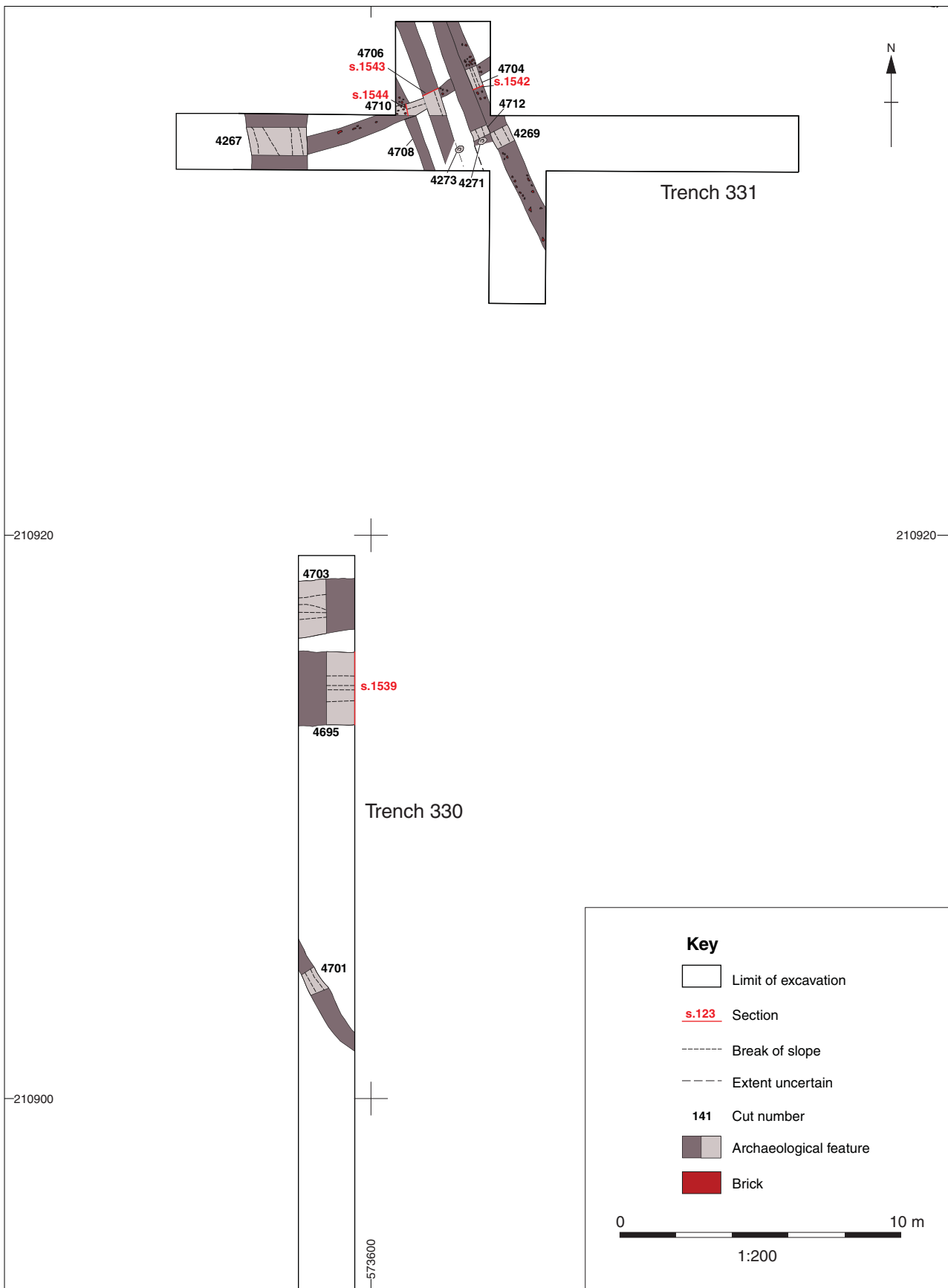


Figure 4: Plan of medieval remains in trenches 330 and 331

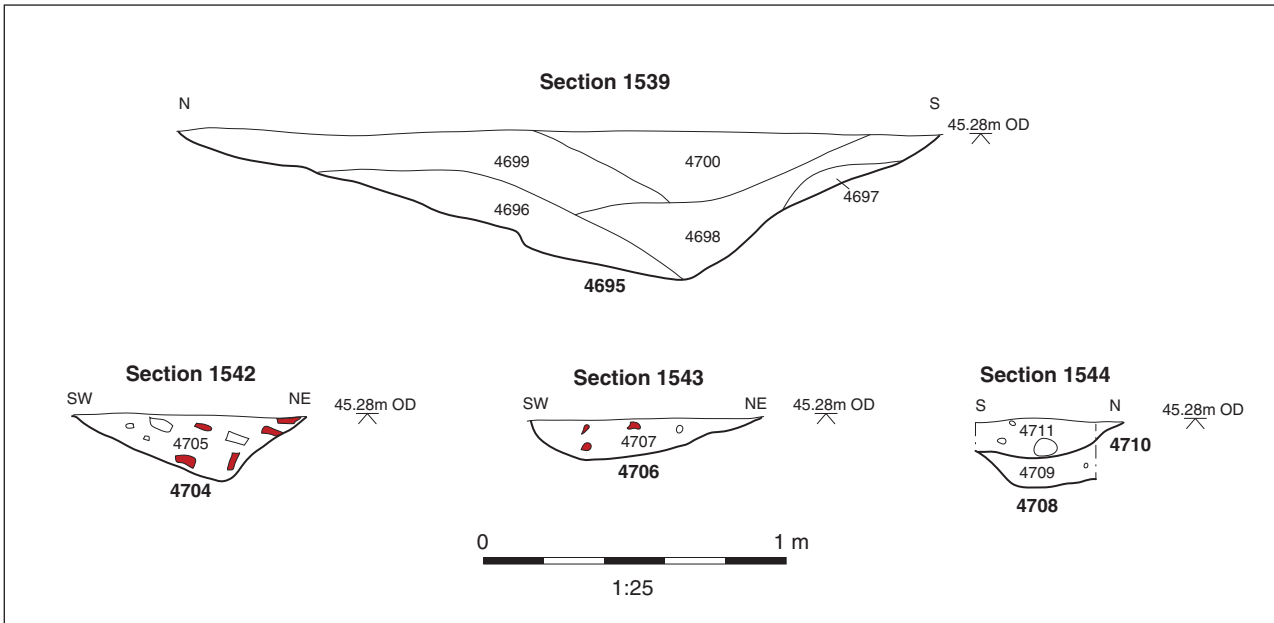


Figure 5: Selected sections



Plate 1: Fire pit **4805** looking from the north



Plate 2: Trench **330** looking from the north



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