

Medieval settlement adjacent to the St Mary Magdalene Chapel (Leper Chapel), Newmarket Road, Cambridge



Archaeological Evaluation Report



January 2017

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**Medieval settlement adjacent to the St Mary Magdalene Chapel (Leper Chapel),
Newmarket Road, Cambridge**

Archaeological Evaluation

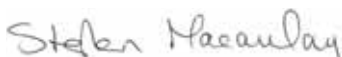
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Summary

Between the 10th and 14th November 2016 Oxford Archaeology East carried out an archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to the St Mary Magdalene Chapel (aka The Leper Chapel) on Newmarket Road, Cambridge (TL 4719 5947). The chapel had served the medieval leper hospital known to have been located in this area in the medieval period.

Geophysical resistivity and ground penetrating radar (G.P.R.) survey (Masters 2016) was carried out on the field in April 2016. A series of linear high resistance anomalies, thought to indicate the location of walls, were recorded. Low resistance anomalies were recorded at the south of the site and these were thought to indicate pits or possibly graves.

A total of six trenches (total 67.5m²) were excavated in advance of a proposed planning application for part of the Chisholm Way cycle path which is due to pass through this field and under Newmarket Road. All of the trenches were targeted on anomalies recorded by the geophysical survey. Two of the trenches (5 and 6) were located in the vicinity of the proposed footing of the new development whilst a further 4 trenches (1 to 4) were opened in order to investigate specific geophysical anomalies and to provide activities for a community archaeology project which ran alongside the evaluation.

Archaeological remains were uncovered in all of the trenches. The high resistance geophysical anomaly to the north was interpreted as a wall footing or limestone track (Trench 1; <https://skfb.ly/WpTK> password:CAMLEP16) running from the northern boundary of the churchyard towards the brook to the east. A single small pit or posthole, containing pottery dating to the medieval period, was uncovered in Trench 2, whilst a boundary ditch was uncovered in Trench 3.

A thick layer of soil, over 1m deep in places, was uncovered in trenches 3, 4, 5 and 6. This subsoil layer was interpreted as a buried soil built up from agricultural use, sporadic flooding and deposition of domestic refuse in the front half of the plot facing Newmarket Road. Pottery recovered from this layer indicated that it had built up throughout the medieval period potentially stabilising by the post-medieval period. Two sub-rectangular mortar, gravel and stone footings were uncovered in this layer in Trench 5, whilst an early medieval ditch and two postholes were uncovered below it in Trench 6.

The majority of the finds, including a silver coin of Edward III, dated to the medieval period between the 11th and 16th centuries when the site was known to lie close to both the Leper Hospital and the site of the Stourbridge Fair.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted on land adjacent to St Mary Magdalene Chapel (Leper Chapel), Newmarket Road, Cambridge (Figure 1; TL 4719 5947) in advance of a planning application for the Chisholm Way cycle path.
- 1.1.2 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by OA East (Macaulay 2016) in consultation with Quinton Carroll of Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC).
- 1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012). The trench plan was designed to target anomalies identified during the geophysical survey (Masters 2016). The results will enable decisions to be made by CCC, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.
- 1.1.4 After discussions with Quinton Carroll (CCC) and Philip Robson of Cambridge Past, Present and Future it was decided that the project presented an ideal opportunity to involve members of the community in to the archaeological process. The Leper Chapel community archaeology project was designed to involve local archaeological societies as well as the Young Archaeologists Club (Y.A.C.) (Plate 1 and 3).
- 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 The site lies on the Gault Clays (British Geological Survey 1981), with chalk marl deposits known from the immediate vicinity. The study site lies on the west side of Coldham's Brook.
- 1.2.2 The land is currently open pasture with barely visible earthworks of indeterminate origin and interpretation. The investigation area slopes from west (7m OD) to east (6.25m OD) towards the Coldham's Brook which forms the eastern boundary of the site. The area was bounded to the south by a sloping bund rising up to Newmarket Road, to the west by the hedgeline surrounding the Leper Chapel and by low fencing to the north.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 A full record of the archaeological and historical background has been carried out previously in a desk-based assessment of the route of the Chisholm trail (Atkins 2016). The relevant parts of this are summarised below.

Medieval and post-medieval

- 1.3.2 The Chisholm trail runs south from the River Cam past Stourbridge Common through two small fields before reaching the plot of the current works adjacent to Newmarket Road. Stourbridge Common was first recorded in AD 1199 (Reaney 1973, 40) and became prominent due the Stourbridge Fair which was held there from AD1211, growing in importance during the 18th century before declining and finally being

abolished in the early 20th century. Stourbridge Fair itself was recorded in detail on a plan dated 1725, which was reproduced in 1786 with a painting of the leper chapel in a book by J. Nichols (Atkins 2016; Figure 2). This map shows that the chapel stood in an enclave demarcated by a diverted channel of the River Stour/Coldhams Brook, in front of Newmarket Road.

- 1.3.3 This enclave, encompassing the whole of the current site, was formed by a channel dug from the brook forming three sides of a square enclosure (north, south and east) and was perhaps built deliberately to delineate a boundary/precinct around the chapel. This channel would also have separated the chapel precinct from Newmarket Road.
- 1.3.4 The *Sturbridge* hospital, with its chapel dedicated to St Mary Magdalene, was sometimes called the hospital of Barnwell and was founded at the extreme north-eastern extent of St Andrew-the-Less parish in the 12th century (Ellis and Salzman 1967, 307). It is likely the hospital for lepers had been built sometime around AD1150, although the first documentary record is in the Pipe Roll for 1169 (Pearce 2003, 2). The hospital was located next to the Newmarket Road and used the Coldhams Brook for water for the lepers.
- 1.3.5 The hospital was set up with the help from the burgesses of Cambridge and also seems to have benefited from royal patronage (*ibid*, 2). Some of the hospital landholdings are recorded including land in Comberton in 1199. In 1279 it had 24½ acres in the fields of Cambridge and three acres in Chesterton in 1271 (*ibid*, 308). King John, in 1210 or 1211, granted to the hospital a fair on the eve and feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross and this developed into Stourbridge Fair. The organisation of Stourbridge Fair was taken over in 1289 by the Corporation of Cambridge with the chapel hired out for booths and stalls.
- 1.3.6 The hospital's burial ground is suggested to be under the Abbey Football stadium on the opposite side of Newmarket Road, but the evidence for this is not stipulated (Pearce 2003, 2). It is worth noting that the CHER records do not mention any burials found under this football ground and an evaluation here found no archaeological remains (ECB0165). Excavated examples have shown that hospital burials tended to be located within and adjacent to their chapels (e.g. Atkins & Popescu 2010) or in the parish church if the hospital did not have burial rights.
- 1.3.7 The leper chapel dates from the late 12th century and served the leprosy hospital. The east wall is original with rest of the chapel rebuilt in the 13th century. It retains many surviving Romanesque features (Pevsner 1954, 180-1). In the 1270s the hospital itself closed and the chapel became a free chapel (Pearce 2003, 7-8). It had no parish and in 1546 it was closed to religious services for this reason. Today the chapel is a Grade I listed building and is maintained by Cambridge Past, present and Future (previously known as the Cambridge Preservation Society).
- 1.3.8 To the north-west, medieval settlement developed around Union Lane and Scotland Road in the Middle Ages (MCB17142).
- 1.3.9 By the time of the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map published in 1885 (Figure 3) The channel around the precinct had been filled in and a bund sloping up to Newmarket Road was in place with the current access depicted. The field of the current works is shown as being the same plot as that in which the Leper Chapel stood, with no hedged boundary between the two as there is today.

1.4 Geophysical Survey (Masters 2016; Figure 4)

- 1.4.1 In April 2016 a geophysical survey was conducted across the entire field in which the proposed development area lies.
- 1.4.2 The resistivity survey revealed a number of significant archaeological anomalies that probably relate to the former leper hospital. A series of linear high resistant anomalies were detected indicating the presence of wall foundations. These may have formed part of the precinct wall or internal divisions within the former hospital grounds. A number of individual low resistance anomalies were recorded at the southern end of the survey area that may signify burials but may also reflect pit-like remains. Other high resistance anomalies merely reflected compact ground or areas of modern disturbance.
- 1.4.3 The GPR survey confirmed the remains of the wall foundations running east – west across the site towards the southern end of the survey area. No further anomalies were reflected in the profiles. The small paddock was partially waterlogged on its east side at the time of survey which restricted areas that could be surveyed under optimum conditions.

1.5 Acknowledgements

- 1.5.1 The author would like to thank Philip Robson of Cambridge, Past, Present and Future who commissioned and funded the work. Quinton Carroll provided liaison with Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team. The project was managed by Stephen Macaulay, who also wrote the written scheme of investigation for the works. Clemency Cooper managed the community outreach project and organised for local historical societies to visit the site. Thanks are due to members and leaders of the Young Archaeologists Club (Y.A.C), the Mill Road History Society and CamDig for volunteering on the project and working on a very rainy Saturday. The project was directed by the author with assistance from Amy Revans, Adele Lord and Neus Nogues. Kelly Sinclair and Nicola Gifford-Cowan helped with welcoming visitors and supervising the Y.A.C. members. The survey was carried out by Dave W. Brown, with digitising by Andy Greef. Séverine Bézie produced the illustrations.

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 proposed development area.
- 2.1.2 Evaluation trenches also aimed to ground-truth the results of the geophysical survey.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 Six archaeological trenches were targeted on geophysical anomalies and covered 9% of the total field in which they were situated.
- 2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a wheeled JCB-type excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.
- 2.2.3 The site survey was carried out by Dave W. Brown using a Leica GS08 dGPS.
- 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 Four environmental samples were taken from features thought to have a high potential for charred and macro-fossil remains after visual inspection and based on their stratigraphic position.
- 2.2.7 The site lay under pasture which was well drained during the project in spite of heavy and continuous rain during the later part of the project (Plate 2). The site access was fenced off on arrival due to needles being present in the undergrowth.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The results are presented below on a trench-by-trench basis starting at the north of the site (Figure 5 and Figure 6). Cut numbers are referred to throughout in **bold**. All of the trenches were overlain by 0.20m to 0.30m of topsoil consisting of a dark brown loose clayey loam.

3.2 Trench 1 (Figure 5)

3.2.1 Measuring 6.15m long and 3m wide, this trench was orientated from north-east to south-west and revealed two medieval deposits overlain by a limestone track (Plate 4).

3.2.2 The earliest exposed deposits (21) and (42) were located to the south-west and north-east of the trench respectively. They consisted of friable mid yellowish-brown clay-silt measuring in excess of 0.10m deep. These deposits were not fully excavated but medieval pottery dating between AD1150-1350 was recovered (Appendix B.2).

3.2.3 A layer of stones (39), measuring 2.50m wide and a single course deep, was constructed over these layers (Plate 4). This layer, thought to be a wall footing or track running from west-northwest to east-southeast, was constructed from rough-hewn or unworked limestone blocks measuring on average 250mm x 500mm x 50mm. The feature dipped sharply in the centre at the east-southeastern end where it may have been slumping in to an earlier feature below.

3.2.4 A sondage excavated to the south of the feature uncovered a sharp cut (41) adjacent to the footing\track which may have been a shallow foundation excavated prior to construction.

3.2.5 Gravel and cobbles overlay the stone feature and filled the depression caused by slumping. The layer (22) consisted of gravel and cobbles no larger than 100mm in diameter bonded by a mid reddish-brown sandy-silt matrix. Measuring 2m wide and up to 0.12m deep, this layer may have been deposited in order to level the un-even surface or improve drainage. A fragment of clay tobacco pipe and post-medieval ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered from this cobble layer (Appendix B.3: Appendix B.5).

3.2.6 Subsoil (20 and 43) had accumulated over the cobbles. This mid brown silty-clay, measuring up to 0.40m deep, contained medieval and post-medieval ceramics along with a silver coin dating between AD1312-77 (s.f.2; Appendix B.1). An iron nail and fragment of horse shoe were also recovered from this layer (s.f.6 and s.f.7)

3.3 Trench 2 (Figure 5)

3.3.1 Located 9m to the south-east of Trench 1 this trench, measuring 4.25m by 1.50m, was targeted over a high resistance geophysical anomaly. The cause of this anomaly was not uncovered during excavation. A sharp interface was observed here between the Gault Clay geology and the overlying periglacial deposits.

3.3.2 A single posthole (27) was uncovered measuring 0.65m in diameter and 0.25m deep (Figure 7, Section 8). This feature was sub-circular in plan with steep sides and a concave base and was filled by a mid grey-brown silty-clay (26) from which pottery dating between AD1200 and AD1400 was recovered (Appendix B.2). A large limestone block, thought to be post packing was uncovered at the base of this posthole (Figure 7, Section 8). An environmental sample from this feature produced charred cereal grains and charcoal (Appendix C.3).

3.3.3 A copper alloy farthing (s.f.1) dating to the medieval period was recovered from the subsoil in this trench. No other archaeological features were uncovered in this trench.

3.4 Trench 3 (Figure 5)

3.4.1 Targeted over a discrete low resistance geophysical anomaly, this trench measured 4.20m from east to west, 3.30m from north to south and 1.50m wide. A ditch and a pit were uncovered here. The ditch (**18**), measuring 1.85m wide and 0.55m deep, had moderate to steep sides with a concave base (Plate 5). It was significantly steeper on its north-western edge. It contained two fills. The primary fill (**17**) consisted of a light brown-grey friable silty-clay 0.12m deep, from which no artefacts were recovered. This was overlain by a secondary fill (**16**) consisting of friable mid grey-brown silty-clay including occasional grit and charcoal (Figure 7, Section 2). Animal bone was recovered from the basal fill of this feature (Appendix C.1).

3.4.2 The ditch was sealed by subsoil (**9**) which consisted of 0.58m of mid greyish-brown clay-silt. A pit (**25**) was cut in to this layer at the eastern end of the trench. The pit was only partially exposed and measured in excess of 1.35m wide and 0.46m deep (Plate 6). A relatively large number of limestone blocks, measuring up to 200mm wide and 200mm long, had been deposited in the base of this pit in a friable mid grey-brown silty-clay matrix (**24**). A single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from this feature. This pit was overlain by a thin subsoil (**23**) consisting of a dark grey-brown silty-clay.

3.5 Trench 4 (Figure 6)

3.5.1 This trench, measuring 1.50m wide and 5.40m long, was targeted over a possible sub-rectangular structure identified by the geophysical survey. The subsoil, measuring up to 1.10m deep, consisted of a mid grey-brown sandy-clay. The lower part of the subsoil was excavated in two 1m square sondages (**11** and **19**) down to the natural deposits (Plate 7; Figure 7, Section 10). Oyster shell, pottery and animal bone were recovered from layer **11** whilst a deposits of 19g of mussel shell, 30 sherds of medieval pottery, as well as animal bone and a single flint tool were recovered from context **19** (Appendix B6; Appendix C.1; Appendix C.2). A fragment of clay tobacco pipe was recovered from the upper subsoil (**8**) (Appendix B.3). An environmental sample taken from context **19** produced charred cereal grains and charcoal (Appendix C.3).

3.5.2 No other archaeological features were uncovered in this trench.

3.6 Trench 5 and Trench 6 (Figure 6)

3.6.1 Trenches 5 and 6 were joined to form one 'T' shaped trench in order to investigate structural remains located at the south-east end of Trench 6. Trench 5 measured 1.50m wide and 8m long and was orientated north-northeast to south-southwest whilst Trench 6 measured 1.50m wide and 10.30m long and was orientated west-northwest to east-southeast.

3.6.2 The earliest features uncovered in these trenches were located at the west-northwestern end of Trench 6 and were sealed by the subsoil (Plate 8). Pit **4**, measuring 0.45m wide and 0.25m deep, contained a dark grey-brown friable clay-silt (**5**) which contained no artefacts. It was sub-circular in plan and had gradually sloping sides. It was truncated by a ditch running north to south across the trench (Figure 7, Section 7). This ditch (**1**), measuring 1.45m wide and in excess of 0.45m deep, had moderately sloping sides from which two fills (**2** and **3**) were excavated. The lower fill (**2**) consisted of a dark brown-grey soft clayey silt whilst the upper fill (**3**) consisted of a mid grey-brown friable clayey-silt. Pottery dating to the early medieval period as well as CBM were recovered from the upper fill (Appendix B.2; Appendix B.5). Charred cereal

grains and charcoal were recovered from environmental samples taken from both fills of this ditch (Appendix C.3). The base of these features was not exposed due to the depth of excavation.

- 3.6.3 Two postholes were located to the east of the ditch. The northernmost posthole (**12**), measuring 0.24m in diameter and 0.17m deep, had steep sides and a concave base and contained a mid brown-grey soft clay-silt fill (**13**) from which no artefacts were recovered. The southern feature (**14**), was sub-circular in plan and measured 0.50m in diameter and 0.8m deep. It was filled by a mid grey-brown friable silty-clay (**15**) from which oyster shell was recovered.
- 3.6.4 These features were sealed by the subsoil layer (Plate 9). This layer (6, 7, 29, 31, 32, 33 and 34) consisted of dark brown-grey silty-clay. Two features cut in to the subsoil layers. Features **35** and **37** were sub-circular cuts which contained structural footings. The southernmost footing (36, **35**), measuring 0.20m deep, 1.90m long and 1.35m wide, consisted of a foundation of brick and mortar placed in the base of the pit overlain by a stone and gravel base measuring 1m wide. The northernmost feature (38, **37**) measured 1.50m wide and 0.28m deep and comprised a mortar base overlain by a single course of limestone blocks (average size: 250mm x 200mm x 50mm) in a rectangular arrangement. A gravel fill had been placed around the stone structure to the east and north. An iron nail and a fragment of an iron horse shoe (s.f.6 and s.f.7) were recovered from the fill of this feature along with a single sherd of medieval pottery. These features were overlain by the subsoil (layers 6, 7, 29 and 32).
- 3.6.5 Fragments of dressed ashlar blocks, probably associated with these footings were recovered from layer 6 along with a fragment of quern stone (Appendix B.4).

3.7 Finds Summary

- 3.7.1 *Metalwork*: Finds were recovered from top- and sub-soil with a metal detector (s.f. 1, 2, 4) and from excavated features (s.f. 5-9). The assemblage comprises of a Copper alloy coin and a silver penny, a round silver button top, three iron nails and two fragments of horse-shoe.
- 3.7.2 *Pottery*: Archaeological works produced a small-moderate pottery assemblage of 87 sherds, weighing 1.223kg, recovered from 12 contexts, of which three may represent the same buried soil across the site.
- 3.7.3 *Clay tobacco pipe*: During the evaluation six fragment of white ball clay tobacco pipe, weighing 0.009kg, were recovered from four contexts.
- 3.7.4 *Worked Stone*: A small assemblage of five pieces of architectural stone weighing 21.76kg was collected from a layer (06). Four of the pieces were redeposited, probably removed from the chapel building during 19th or 20th century remodelling. The fifth is a fragment of a quern stone.
- 3.7.5 *Ceramic building material*: Archaeological work produced 19 fragments (388g) of Ceramic Building Material (CBM) from five contexts.
- 3.7.6 *Flint*: Archaeological work produced two struck flints from two contexts.

3.8 Environmental Summary

- 3.8.1 *Animal bone*: A total weight of 532g of animal bone was recovered. Most of the bone was recovered from layers primarily interpreted as a medieval buried soil.

- 3.8.2 *Shell*: A total of 0.625kg of marine shell was recovered from 10 contexts during this evaluation.
- 3.8.3 *Environmental samples*: Four bulk samples (80 litres) were taken from features during the evaluation in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations. Charred cereal grains and charcoal were recovered from all of the features sampled.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Geophysical Survey

- 4.1.1 Ground-truthing of the geophysical anomalies produced mixed results. The high resistance anomaly detected in the vicinity of Trench 1 appears to have been reliable, indicating the location of the limestone wall footing or trackway. The high resistance anomalies detected in the locations of Trenches 2, 4 and 6 were not found. These features may have been caused by anomalies in the subsoil which became increasingly deep towards the south of the site in Trench 6.
- 4.1.2 The low resistance anomalies, thought to be possible graves, were also not found during the evaluation. The unreliability of the geophysical survey may be due to the depth of the subsoil in this field.

4.2 Discussion

- 4.2.1 The features uncovered during this evaluation generally date to the medieval period and may have related to the use of the precinct associated with the Leper Chapel and hospital in the 12th and 16th centuries. The stone and cobbled surface, interpreted as a trackway uncovered to the north in Trench 1 was a substantial feature and may have been built in order to transport goods up from the brook to the east. The stone feature was associated with the both medieval and post-medieval finds but the depth of subsoil accumulation over it may indicate it originated towards the beginning of this period. All of the finds from the trackway and the layers on to which it had been built were contemporary with the chapel, or later.
- 4.2.2 Ditches uncovered in Trench 3 and Trench 6 may have functioned as boundary ditches as well as for drainage in a plot prone to flooding. The ditch in Trench 6 contained early medieval pottery whilst that in Trench 3 was sealed by a layer cut by a medieval pit.
- 4.2.3 Postholes uncovered in Trench 2 and Trench 6 as well as the substantial stone and mortar footings uncovered in Trench 5 indicate that this plot, was occupied during the medieval period. The medieval pottery assemblage, along with the large number of shells, a quern stone fragment, and relatively frequent butchered animal bones are all indicative of domestic refuse. The finds are consistent with a domestic religious establishment and suggest the possibility of contemporary domestic occupation adjacent to the Leper Chapel in the 12th century.
- 4.2.4 A notable feature of the site was the subsoil, increasing in depth towards Newmarket Road. This thick layer of soil, over 1m deep in places, was uncovered in Trenches 3, 4, 5 and 6. This subsoil layer may have been a soil built up from agricultural use, sporadic flooding and deposition of domestic refuse in the front half of the plot facing Newmarket Road. Pottery recovered from this layer indicated that it had built up throughout the medieval period potentially stabilising by the post-medieval period. Two sub-rectangular mortar, gravel and stone footings were uncovered in this layer in Trench 5, whilst an early medieval ditch and two postholes were uncovered below it in Trench 6. Artefacts, including pottery shell and worked stone were found within this accumulation. The depth (over 1m) of the soil in Trench 6 may be related to the presence of the diverted brook shown on the 1725 plan (Figure 2). The footings, uncovered in Trench 5, were constructed into this subsoil layer during its accumulation. It is possible that they were the foundation for an elaborate stone gateway leading in to the chapel precinct and using dressed stone such as that uncovered in Trench 6. It is also possible that these

features were the footing for a small bridge crossing over the diverted channel surrounding the chapel precinct.

4.3 Significance

- 4.3.1 The site adjacent to the Leper Chapel, Cambridge is of local significance due to the presence of medieval occupation and structures in close proximity to the medieval leper hospital and its chapel.

4.4 Recommendations

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

APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
This trench was targeted over a high resistance geophysical anomaly. A limestone trackway was uncovered in this trench. It may have been built into a shallow cut dug in to the old land surface. It was later repaired with cobbles. The natural deposits were not exposed in this trench.				Avg. depth (m)		0.43
				Width (m)		3
				Length (m)		6.15
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
20	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	Pottery, Fe objs	Med (+mod)
21	Layer	-	Un-ex	Accumulation	Pottery, Fe nail	AD1150-1350
22	Layer	2	0.12	Cobbles	-	-
39	Surface	2.50	0.10	Limestone track	-	-
40	Cut	2.50	.1	Foundation	-	-
41	Fill	-	.1	Fill of 40	-	-
42	Layer	-	Un-ex	Accumulation	-	-
43	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	Coin	AD1312-1377

Trench 2						
General description				Orientation		WNW-ESE
This trench was targeted over a high resistance geophysical anomaly. A single pit/posthole was uncovered here. The natural deposits consisted of a mid orange-brown silty-clay overlying blueish grey Gault clay.				Avg. depth (m)		.83
				Width (m)		1.50
				Length (m)		4.25
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
10	Layer	-	0.55	Subsoil	Pottery and Coin	Med-P.Med
26	Fill	.65	.25	Fill of Posthole 27	Pottery	AD1200 - 1400
27	Cut	.65	.25	Posthole	Pottery	AD1200 - 1400

Trench 3						
General description				Orientation		N-S \ E-W
This trench was targeted over a discrete geophysical anomaly. A ditch and a pit were uncovered in this trench. The natural deposits consisted of a mid orange-brown silty-clay overlying blueish grey Gault clay.				Avg. depth (m)		0.82
				Width (m)		1.50
				Length (m)		7.50
Contexts						

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
9	Layer	-	0.58	Subsoil	Pottery	Med-L.Med
16	Fill	1.85	0.48	Fill of 18	-	-
17	Fill	0.60	0.12	Fill of 18	-	-
18	Cut	1.85	0.55	Ditch	-	-
23	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
24	Fill	1.35+	0.45	Fill of 25	Pottery	AD1150-1450
25	Cut	1.35+	0.45	Pit	Pottery	AD1150-1450

Trench 4						
General description				Orientation		N-S
This trench was targeted over a discrete geophysical anomaly. No archaeological features were uncovered, however the subsoil/buried soil was investigated with two sondages. The natural deposits consisted of a mid orange-brown sandy-clay.				Avg. depth (m)		0.82
				Width (m)		1.50
				Length (m)		5.35
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
8	Layer	-	0.35	Subsoil	Pottery	Med-L.Med
11	Layer	-	0.86	Subsoil	Pottery	Medieval
19	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	Pottery	Med-L.Med
44	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-

Trench 5						
General description				Orientation		N-S
This trench was targeted over a discrete geophysical anomaly. Two sub-rectangular to sub-rounded structural footings were uncovered here. Their foundations had been dug into the buried subsoil layer. The natural deposits consisted of a mid orange-brown silty-clay overlying blueish grey Gault clay.				Avg. depth (m)		.84
				Width (m)		1.50
				Length (m)		8
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
7	Layer	-	0.50	Subsoil	-	-
29	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	pottery	Med-P.Med
35	Cut	1.90	0.20	Foundation	-	-
36	Cut	1.40	>0.28	Foundation	-	-
37	Deposit	1.90	0.20	Structural footing	-	-
38	Deposit	1.40	>0.28	Structural footing	Fe nail	-

Trench 6						
General description					Orientation	E-W
This trench was targeted over a high resistance geophysical anomaly. The buried subsoil layer was at its thickest in this trench. A ditch and two pits or postholes were uncovered below the subsoil. The natural deposits consisted of a mid orange-brown silty-clay overlying blueish grey Gault clay.					Avg. depth (m)	1
					Width (m)	1.50
					Length (m)	10.35
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Cut	1.30	0.45+	Ditch	Pottery	AD1050-1250
2	Fill	0.50	0.40	Fill of Ditch 1	-	-
3	Fill	1.30	0.45+	Fill of Ditch 1	Pottery	AD1050-1250
4	Cut	0.45	0.25	Pit	-	-
5	Fill	0.45	0.25	Fill of Pit 4	-	-
6	Layer	-	0.50	Subsoil	Stone	-
12	Cut	0.24	0.17	Posthole	-	-
13	Fill	0.24	0.17	Fill of 12	-	-
14	Cut	0.5	0.18	Pit\Posthole	-	-
15	Fill	0.5	0.18	Fill of 14	-	-
28	Layer	0.70+	0.20	Buried Soil?	-	-
31	Layer	-	0.28	Buried Soil?	-	-
32	Layer	-	0.32	Subsoil	-	-
33	Layer	-	0.21	Subsoil	-	-
34	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Coins and other small finds

by Denis Sami

Assemblage

B.1.1 Finds were recovered from top- and sub-soil with a metal detector (SF 1, 2, 4) and in excavated features (SF 5-9). The assemblage comprises a copper alloy coin and a silver penny, a round silver button top, three iron nails and two fragments of horse-shoe.

Condition

B.1.2 Coin SF 1 has metal disease and is in a poor condition. Coin SF 2, despite signs of oxidation is in fairly good state and can be identified. The round button top is well preserved although the wire loop missing. The iron objects are incomplete and heavily encrusted.

B.1.3 All objects are packaged in polythene bags with foam support and stored in Stewart boxes with silica gel and humidity indicator strips.

Discussion

B.1.4 Coins are generally associated with commercial activity and are lost unintentionally, while iron nails represent multifunctional objects often associated with timber structures. Horse-shoes may suggest movement of people and goods. The round button top is a Post-Medieval dress element most likely unintentionally lost. With the exception of coin SF 2, dating between 1312-77, the remaining objects can only be generally dated to the medieval and post-medieval periods (North 1991; Page et al. 2005). The hospital was in medieval Cambridge where people met and traded.

B.1.5 No further work on this assemblage is needed. The iron objects can be dispersed.

Catalogue

SF 1, (10)

A complete, illegible CuA farthing dating to the medieval or post-medieval period.

Diameter: 15.76 mm

Thickness: 0.71 mm

Weight: 0.3 g

SF 2, (43), Tr 1

A complete somewhat worn, Edward III penny, possible fourth coinage Pre-Treaty Period (1351-1361), series D Penny, Durham Mint (1312-77).

OBV: +[EDWARD]DUS/[REX ANGLI]. Bare-shouldered facing bust, bifoliate open crown.

REV: [CIVI]/[T]AS/DU[N/OLM]. Long cross dividing the inscription with three pellets per quarter.

Diameter: 19.68 mm

Thickness: 0.89 mm

Weight: 1.1 g

SF 4, top-soil

An incomplete silver (?) round button top with wire loop missing.

Diameter: 16.66 mm
Thickness: 3.30 mm
Weight: 1.8 g

SF 5, (20)

A small encrusted iron nail.
Height: 32.80 mm
Thickness: 7.19 mm
Weight: 2.5 g

SF 6, (20)

A fragment of an encrusted horse-shoe.
Height: 43.46 mm
Thickness: 8.02 mm
Weight: 75.1 g

SF 7, (38)

An incomplete, bent iron nail.
Height: 38.55 mm
Thickness: 8.63 mm
Weight: 7.1 g

SF 8, (38)

A fragment of iron horse-shoe.
Thickness: 8.83 mm
Weight: 17.2 g

SF 9, (21)

An incomplete, encrusted iron nail.
Thickness: 11.17 mm
Weight: 7 g

B.2 Pottery

by Carole Fletcher

Introduction

- B.2.1 Archaeological works produced a small to moderate pottery assemblage of 87 sherds, weighing 1.223kg, recovered from 12 contexts, of which three may represent the same buried soil across the site. The condition of the overall assemblage is moderately abraded to abraded. The average sherd weight from individual contexts is low at approximately 14g.

Methodology

- B.2.2 The Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG), Study Group for Roman Pottery (SGRP), The Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG), 2016 *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology* and the MPRG *A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms* (MPRG, 1998) act as standards.

Dating was carried out using OA East's in-house system based on that previously used at the Museum of London. Fabric classification has been carried out for all previously described medieval and post-medieval types. All sherds have been counted, classified and weighed. All the pottery has been recorded and dated on a context-by-context basis and the summary catalogue is recorded in Table 1 with the full catalogue recorded in the archive. The archives are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition.

Assemblage

- B.2.3 Ditch **1** (Trench 6) produced three sherds of Developed St Neots ware (1050-1250) including sooted sherds, suggesting a jar used for the preparation of food. The sherds were recovered alongside a Post-medieval Redware bowl sherd (1550-1800)
- B.2.4 Pit **25** (Trench 3) and posthole **27** (Trench 2) both produced medieval pottery sherds. From pit **25**, three South-east Fenland Medieval Calcareous Buff ware (1150-1450) sherds from a minimum of a single vessel were recovered and the posthole contained a single sherd from a Medieval Sandy Greyware bowl (1200-1400). All the sherds are moderately abraded or abraded and should not be used as definitive dating for the features.
- B.2.5 The buried soils produced a broader range of medieval fabrics (see summary catalogue for the full list of fabrics recovered), the majority of which are medieval. Context 8 (Trench 4) produced Grimston Glazed ware and Late Medieval Ely ware. While context 9 (Trench 3) (27 sherds, weighing 0.384kg, Minimum Number of Vessels (MNV) of 14) produced a wider range of fabrics and vessels, consisting of East Anglian Redware jugs, Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware vessels including a jug and jar, South-east Fenland Medieval Calcareous Buff ware jars and a Medieval Ely ware jug and curfew. The curfew indicates management of the fire or hearth, most likely domestic, covering the hearth at night to prevent fires, while not completely extinguishing the embers. Holes in the sides of the curfew allowed some air to circulate allowing the embers to smoulder without sparks or loose embers falling on the ground, where they might set fire to the reeds or straw often strewn on the floor of a dwelling.
- B.2.6 The material recovered from context 10 (Trench 2) included a small sherd from a transfer-printed Pearlware drinking vessel, and although this may be intrusive, it indicates that there is likely to have been post-medieval activity on the site. Finally

context 11 (Trench 4) produced a single sherd from a medieval South-east Fenland Medieval Calcareous Buff ware vessel.

- B.2.7 The sondage, context 19 (Trench 4) produced both medieval and late medieval pottery (30 sherds, weighing 0.393kg, MNV of 9) including a Grimston Glazed ware jug and a Late Medieval Ely ware bowl, alongside Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware jars.
- B.2.8 Layer 20 (Trench 1) produced a small sherd of medieval fabric alongside a more recent fragment of what is likely a plant pot. Layer 21 (Trench 1) produced an abraded sherd from a Hedingham Fineware jug (1150–1350), while layer 29 (Trench 3) produced a sherd from a South-east Fenland Medieval Calcareous Buff ware jar, alongside a sherd from a 19th century salt-glazed stoneware water or more likely sewerage pipe. Finally, context 38 (Trench 5), described as a stone structure, produced a single sherd of Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy ware.

Discussion

- B.2.9 Domestic in origin, the medieval sherds relate to the storage, cooking and serving of food and drink and to the management of the domestic hearth as indicated by the presence of a curfew. There are no specialist vessels to indicate the assemblage relates to the treatment of patients at the leper hospital, to which the adjacent Leper Chapel forms part, although the material may relate to short term occupation during Stourbridge Fair. The bulk of the material was recovered from the buried soils and, unfortunately, this pottery has suffered reworking and no features produced primary assemblages. However, the assemblage is significant in that it relates to medieval activity in the area of the Leper chapel and Stourbridge Fair.

Pottery Catalogue

Context	Cut	Fabric	Basic Form-description	MNV	No of sherds	Weight (kg)
3	1	Developed St Neots-type ware	Jar (sooted)	1	3	0.058
		Post-Medieval Redware	Bowl	1	1	0.005
8		Grimston Glazed ware	Jug	1	11	0.120
		Late Medieval Ely ware	Bowl	1	1	0.040
9		East Anglian Redware	Jug	2	2	0.020
		East Anglian Redware (late medieval)	Jug	1	1	0.007
		Medieval Sandy Coarseware	Undiagnostic sherd	1	1	0.005
			Bowl	1	1	0.062
		Medieval Ely ware	Jug	1	1	0.009
			Curfew	1	3	0.090
		Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy wares (Essex Fabric 20)	Undiagnostic sherd	1	3	0.021
			Jar	1	1	0.005
			Jug	1	1	0.035
		Hedingham Fineware	Jug	1	3	0.021
South-east Fenland Medieval Calcareous Buff ware	Bowl	1	1	0.017		

Context	Cut	Fabric	Basic Form-description	MNV	No of sherds	Weight (kg)
			Jar	1	7	0.081
		Shelly wares	Jar	1	2	0.011
10		Ely 'Babylon' ware/Cistercian Ware	Drinking vessel mug or Tyg	1	1	0.023
		Pearlware with transfer-printed decoration	Bowl	1	1	0.001
		South-east Fenland Medieval Calcareous Buff ware	Jar	1	1	0.004
11		South-east Fenland Medieval Calcareous Buff ware	Undiagnostic sherd	1	1	0.006
19		Hedingham Fineware	Jug	1	1	0.002
		Grimston Glazed ware	Jug	1	7	0.136
		Late Medieval Ely ware	Bowl	1	6	0.100
		Medieval Sandy Coarseware	Undiagnostic sherd	1	2	0.014
			Jar	1	1	0.005
		Medieval Ely ware	Undiagnostic sherd	1	1	0.005
		Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy wares (Essex Fabric 20)	Undiagnostic sherd	1	1	0.007
			Jar	1	10	0.119
		Unprovenanced Glazed ware	Jug	1	1	0.005
20		Horticultural Ceramics	Undiagnostic sherd ? plant pot	1	1	0.015
		Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy wares (Essex Fabric 20)	Undiagnostic sherd	1	1	0.006
21		Hedingham Fineware	Jug	1	1	0.033
24	25	South-east Fenland Medieval Calcareous Buff ware	Undiagnostic sherd	0	1	0.004
			Jar	1	2	0.014
26	27	Medieval Sandy Greyware	Bowl	1	1	0.015
29		Coarse Salt-Glazed Stoneware	Drain pipe	1	1	0.036
		South-east Fenland Medieval Calcareous Buff ware (reduced)	Jar	1	1	0.058
38		Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy wares (Essex Fabric 20)	Undiagnostic sherd	1	1	0.008
Total				39	87	1.223

Table B2.1: Post-Roman Pottery Dating Catalogue

B.3 Clay Tobacco Pipe

by Carole Fletcher

Introduction and methodology

B.3.1 During the evaluation six fragment of white ball clay tobacco pipe, weighing 0.009kg, was recovered from four contexts. Terminology used in this report is taken from Oswald's simplified general typology (Oswald 1975, 37–41) and Crummy and Hind (Crummy 1988, 47-66). A quantification table for the clay pipes can be found at the end of this report, based on the recording methods recommended by the Society for Clay Pipe Research (<http://scpr.co/PDFs/Resources/White%20BAR%20Appendix%204.pdf>). Stem bore hole diameter recording has not been undertaken on this assemblage due to its limited size. The assemblage is catalogued in Table 1.

Discussion

B.3.2 The fragments of clay tobacco pipe recovered represent what are most likely casually discarded pipe stems, perhaps while visiting the chapel, that have subsequently been reworked. The pipe fragments do little other than to indicate the consumption of tobacco on or in the vicinity of the site, by one or more individuals, most likely in the 18th century. The plain and fragmentary nature of the assemblage means it is of little significance. If no further work on the site is undertaken, the following catalogue acts as a full record and the clay tobacco pipe may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

Clay Tobacco Pipe Catalogue

Context	Form	Weight (kg)	No of pipe stem fragments	Description	Date
8	Fragment of pipe stem	0.002	1	Length of stem 28mm, approx. 9mm diameter, slight mould seam	Not closely datable
9	Fragment of pipe stem	0.005	1	Length of stem 47mm, approx. 8.5mm diameter	Not closely datable
		0.002	1	Length of stem 24mm, approx. 8.1mm diameter, mould seam ridge very obvious	Not closely datable
20	Fragment of pipe stem	0.004	1	Length of stem 46.5mm, slight oval stem 7.8-8.5mm, visible mould seam.	Not closely datable
		0.003	1	Length of stem 35mm, oval stem 9.9-8.9mm with obvious mould seams	Not closely datable
22	Fragment of pipe stem	0.002	1	Length of stem 16mm, slightly oval stem 7.9-8.3mm, single mould seam visible and lightly trimmed	Not closely datable
Total		0.018	6		

Table B3.1: Clay Tobacco Pipe

B.4 Architectural Stone

By Sarah Percival

Introduction

- B.4.1 A small assemblage of four pieces of architectural stone weighing 21.76kg was collected from a layer (06) (Trench 6). All the pieces were redeposited, probably removed from the chapel building during 19th or 20th century remodelling.

Description

- B.4.2 The stone is coarse-grained, creamy white to yellow, bioclastic limestone, probably from the Lincolnshire Limestone formation and possibly Barnack or Weldon stone (Lott and Parry 2013).
- B.4.3 Three pieces are worked. The most elaborate of these is 69mm thick with three worked surfaces, one chamfered and one with diagonal tool marks running across one surface. A notch in the chamfered edge, perhaps cut to receive a shutter hinge or pintel, suggests that the stone may have come from a window.
- B.4.4 Two of the remaining fragments have opposed smoothed surfaces and are perhaps dressed ashlar blocks and the third has no surviving worked surfaces.

B.5 Ceramic Building Materials

by Ted Levermore

Introduction

B.5.1 Archaeological work produced 19 fragments (388g) of Ceramic Building Material (CBM) from five contexts. The assemblage is broadly dated to the late post-medieval period. It is a very fragmentary assemblage.

Methodology

B.5.2 The assemblage was quantified by context, fabric and form and counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Fabrics were examined using a x20 hand lens and were described by main inclusions present. Width, length and thickness were recorded where possible.

B.5.3 The quantified data and fabric descriptions are presented on an Excel spreadsheet held with the site archive. A summary of the catalogue can be found in Table B5.1.

Assemblage and Discussion

B.5.4 The CBM recovered here is probably related to wall and building construction in the post-medieval period and the subsequent discard of this building material and dispersal through the landscape. It represents little more than background noise.

Context	Cut	Trench	Feature	Brick	Tile	Undiag.	Weight (g)	Comment
3	1	6	Ditch		1	1	23	Post-Med
8	-	4	Buried Soil			1	14	Undated
9	-	3	Buried Soil	4	4	1	265	Post-Med
20	-	1	Buried Soil	3	1		71	Post-Med
29	-	5	Buried Soil		3		15	Post-Med
			Total	7	9	3	388	

Table B5.1: CBM Catalogue

B.6 Flint

by Anthony Haskins

- B.6.1 Archaeological work produced 2 struck flints from two contexts.
- B.6.2 Context 19 (Trench 4)– A small flake struck from honey coloured flint. Area of fine retouch along the left margin - applied from the dorsal surface does not fit a specific tool form - probably early Neolithic in date.
- B.6.3 Context 7 (Trench 5)- a diagnostic flake - some recortification/patination. Undated

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Faunal Remains

By Zoe Ui Choileain

Introduction

C.1.1 A total weight of 532g of animal bone was recovered from this evaluation. Most of the bone was recovered from layers primarily interpreted as a medieval buried soil. Context (17) the fill of a medieval ditch (18) was the only cut feature to contain animal bone.

Methodology

C.1.2 All identifiable elements were recorded using a version of the criteria described in Davis (1992). Identification of the assemblage was undertaken with the aid of Schmid (1972) and France (2009) plus use of the OAE reference collection. Preservation condition was evaluated using the 0-5 scale devised by Brickley and McKinley (2004).

Results

Context	Trench	Element	No. of frags	Taxon	Collection method	Erosion	Butchery	Biometry	Burnt	Age
9 3		Femur	3	Cattle	hand	2	No	Yes	No	Yes
9 3		Humerus	1	Cattle	hand	2	Yes	No	No	Yes
9 3		Pelvis	1	Cattle	hand	2	Yes	No	No	No
9 3		Ulna	1	equid	hand	2	No	No	No	No
9 3		Rib	4	Large mammal	hand	2	No	No	No	Yes
9 3		Astragalus	1	Pig	hand	3	No	No	No	Yes
9 3		Tibia	1	Pig	hand	3	No	No	No	No
9 3		Metatarsus	1	Sheep	hand	2	No	Yes	No	Yes
9 3		Metacarpus	1	Sheep/Goat	hand	4	No	Yes	No	Yes
9 3		Metacarpus	1	Sheep/Goat	hand	4	No	No	Yes	No
9 3		Radius	1	Sheep/Goat	hand	2	No	No	No	Yes
9 3		Scapula	1	Sheep/Goat	hand	2	No	No	No	No
9 3		Tibia	1	Sheep/Goat	hand	2	No	Yes	No	Yes
10 2		Rib	1	Medium mammal	hand	2	No	No	No	No
11 4		Metacarpus	1	Sheep/Goat	hand	2	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
17 3		Indet	1	Large mammal	hand	2	No	No	No	No
17 3		Humerus	1	Sheep	hand	2	No	Yes	No	Yes
19 4		Long bone	1	Large mammal	hand	2	No	No	No	No
19 4		Long bone	1	Medium mammal	hand	2	No	No	No	No
19 4		Rib	1	Medium mammal	hand	2	No	No	No	No
19 4		Tibia	1	Pig	hand	2	No	Yes	No	Yes
19 4		Tibia	1	Sheep/Goat	hand	2	No	Yes	No	Yes
20 1		Tibiotarsus	1	bird	hand	1	No	Yes	No	Yes
20 1		Rib	1	Large mammal	hand	2	No	No	No	No
20 1		Rib	1	Medium mammal	hand	2	No	No	No	No
20 11		Humerus	2	Sheep/Goat	hand	2	No	No	No	No
21 1		Indet	1	Large mammal	hand	3	No	No	No	No
21 1		Rib	1	Medium mammal	hand	2	No	No	No	No
22 1		Scapula	1	Sheep/Goat	hand	2	No	Yes	No	No
29 5		Femur	1	Cattle	hand	2	No	No	No	Yes
29 5		Rib	1	Large mammal	hand	2	No	No	No	No
29 5		Rib	1	Medium mammal	hand	2	No	No	No	No

Table C1.1: Faunal Remains [Results according to collection method (i.e. hand-collection or flotation). Erosion grades (simplified version of Brickley & McKinley 2004, 14-15): 0 (surface morphology clearly visible, fresh appearance), 1 (light and patchy surface erosion), 2 (more extensive surface erosion than grade 1), 3 (most of bone surface affected by some degree of erosion), 4 (all of bone surface affected by erosive action), 5 (heavy erosion across whole surface, completely masking normal surface morphology).]

- C.1.3 Overall the condition of this assemblage conformed to McKinley's (2004) grade two as described above. Most bones were fragmented and potential for biometry is limited to the ends of long bones. The assemblage primarily consists of sheep/goat and cattle remains with sheep/goat being most frequently identified. A small quantity of pig bone was identified and a single equid ulna. It is possible that the low quantity of equid remains is purely reflective of where trenches were located. A single tibiotarsus from a chicken sized bird was identified in context 20 which is a layer over medieval cobbled surface 22.
- C.1.4 There is potential to determine age at death on a number of specimens and high potential to discuss butchery methods which at cursory examination comply with those used in the medieval period. The material collected from this evaluation is in itself too small and fragmented as an assemblage to provide further information. However, if this site is subject to further excavation it is likely to produce an assemblage of sufficient size and quality to provide a good study of medieval butchery methods.

C.2 Shell

By Alexandra Scard, BA, PCIFA

Introduction and Methodology

C.2.1 A total of 0.625kg of marine shell was recovered from 10 contexts during this evaluation. This shell has been quantified and examined in order to provide a rapid assessment of the diversity and quantity of the ecofacts, as well as their potential to provide useful data as part of archaeological investigation.

Species	Common name	Habitat	Total weight (Kg)	Total number of contexts
<i>Ostrea edulis</i>	Oyster	Estuarine and shallow coastal water	0.425	9
<i>Mytilus edulis</i>	Mussel	Intertidal, salt water	0.2	3

Table C2.1. Overview of identified, quantified shell

C.2.2 This assemblage is the result of shell collected by hand on site, as well as recovered during the processing of environmental samples. The specimens recovered are either Oyster or Mussel (Tables C2.2 & C2.3).

Context	Cut	Feature type	Phase	Weight (kg)	Left valve (kg and quantity)	Right valve (kg and quantity)	MNI	Average Size (cm)	Comments
9	-	Buried soil	Medieval	0.271	0.118/13	0.153/17	17	5.7	Clear shuck marks and one prominent hole present: more likely to be a result of shucking as opposed to any form of ornamentation. Polychaete worm infestation (PWI) present: <i>Cliona celata</i> sponge, <i>Polydora ciliata</i> & <i>Polydora hoplura</i> .
10	-	Buried soil	Medieval	0.005	-	0.005/1	1	5	-
11	-	Buried soil	Medieval	0.026	-	0.026/2	2	5.4	-
15	14	Posthole	Medieval	0.005	0.005/1	-	1	5.1	Hole present from shucking as opposed to ornamentation. Valve is very fragile and has orangey-tint, suggesting iron-rich deposit.
19	-	Buried soil	Medieval	0.005	<0.001/1	<0.001/1	1	3.5	Including specimens from sample <1>.

Context	Cut	Feature type	Phase	Weight (kg)	Left valve (kg and quantity)	Right valve (kg and quantity)	MNI	Average Size (cm)	Comments
20	-	Buried soil	Medieval	0.09	0.027/2	0.063/6	6	5.8	PWI present: <i>Cliona celata</i> sponge.
21	-	Silting	Medieval	0.008	0.006/1	Fragments.	1	4.5	-
22	-	External surface	Medieval	0.01	Tiny frag	0.010/2	2	5.2	-
24	25	Pit	Medieval	0.005	-	0.005/1	1	5	-

Table C2.2. Oyster shell quantification

Context	Cut	Feature type	Phase	Weight (kg)	Total um-bones	MNI	Average Size (cm)	Comments
7	-	Buried soil	Medieval	0.001	0	0	N/A	Fragment with no umbo.
9	-	Buried soil	Medieval	0.005	2	1	4	-
19	-	Buried soil	Medieval	0.194	98	49	4.5	Includes specimens from sample <1>. Clear shuck marks present.

Table C2.3. Mussel shell quantification

- C.2.3 Both species and many specimens have clear evidence of ‘shucking’ (prising open marine mollusca for consumption), in the form of ‘U-shaped’ cuts along the ventral margin. In addition to this, a couple of oyster valves contain rather sizeable holes, which, again, is most probably a result of shucking (the tip of the knife piercing through the left valve upon prising off the right), as opposed to any form of ornamentation.
- C.2.4 With regards to size, oyster specimens are small-medium (medium being c.6cm), a size preferable for consumption (c.3-4 years old). The same can be said for the average size of mussel shells, which were rather consistent.
- C.2.5 The majority of the assemblage was recovered from the buried soil and layers, with just one pit containing a single specimen of oyster shell. Such compact layers with a rather dense amount of shell present could imply intentional deposition.
- C.2.6 The location of the Leper Chapel (Stourbridge), as well as medieval date of the site may indicate an association with the renowned Stourbridge Fair, strongly suggesting that the recovered specimens would have been traded, prepared and consumed on site (further supported by fairly even ratios of left-right valves present).
- C.2.7 Further archaeomalacological study of a larger sample (if excavations progressed) would be possible. The assemblage has been fully quantified and no further work is required.

C.3 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

- C.3.1 Eight bulk samples were taken from features during the evaluation 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.3.2 The total volume (up to 19 litres) of each bulk sample was 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 an abbreviated 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* (Cappers et al. 2006) and the authors' own reference collection. 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.3.3 For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as cereal grains have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories

= 1-5, ## = 6-25 specimens

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

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

Results

- C.3.4 Samples were taken from a buried soil layer 19 (Trench 4), the upper (3) and lower (2) fills of ditch 1 (Trench 6) and fill 26 of pit 27 (Trench 2). All of the samples contain small quantities of charred cereal grains, predominantly free-threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum sensu-lato*) with occasional barley (*Hordeum vulgare*). Fragments of charred hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell were recovered from fill 26 of pit 27 and fill 3 of ditch 1. Ditch 1 also contained numerous mollusc shells in the lower fill, many of which had been burnt.

Sample	Context	Cut	Feature Type	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal > 2mm
1	19	-	Buried soil	19	15	##	+	++
2	2	1	Ditch	14	60	#	+	++
3	3	1	Ditch	17	20	##	+	+
4	26	27	Pit	16	5	#	+	0

Table C3.1: Environmental samples

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Society of clay pipe research

[http://scpr.co/PDFs/Resources/White%20BAR
%20Appendix%204.pdf](http://scpr.co/PDFs/Resources/White%20BAR%20Appendix%204.pdf) consulted 29/11/2016

APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-270425		
Project Name	Land adjacent to the St Mary Magdalene Chapel (Leper Chapel), Newmarket Road, Cambridge		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	10-11-2016	Finish	14-11-2016
Previous Work (by OA East)	No	Future Work	Unknown

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	CAMLEP16	Planning App. No.	-
HER No.	ECB 4847	Related HER/OASIS No.	-

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS 5
Development Type	New Path Network

Please select all techniques used:

<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - interpretation	<input type="checkbox"/> Grab-Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Gravity-Core	<input type="checkbox"/> Sample Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Annotated Sketch	<input type="checkbox"/> Laser Scanning	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure
<input type="checkbox"/> Augering	<input type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Targeted Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Dendrochronological Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal Detectors	<input type="checkbox"/> Test Pits
<input type="checkbox"/> Documentary Search	<input type="checkbox"/> Phosphate Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Topographic Survey
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Sampling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Vibro-core
<input type="checkbox"/> Fieldwalking	<input type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)
<input checked="" 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
Track	Medieval 1066 to 1540	Pottery	Medieval 1066 to 1540
Ditches	Medieval 1066 to 1540	Ag Coin	Medieval 1066 to 1540
Footings	Medieval 1066 to 1540		Select period...

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	
District	Cambridge	The Leper Chapel of St Mary Magdalene, Newmarket Rd, Cambridge. CB5 8LG	
Parish	Fen Ditton		
HER	Cambridgeshire		
Study Area	0.2ha	National Grid Reference	TL 4719 5947

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Quniton Carroll
Project Design Originator	Stephen Macaulay
Project Manager	Stephen Macaulay
Supervisor	Gareth Rees

Project Archives

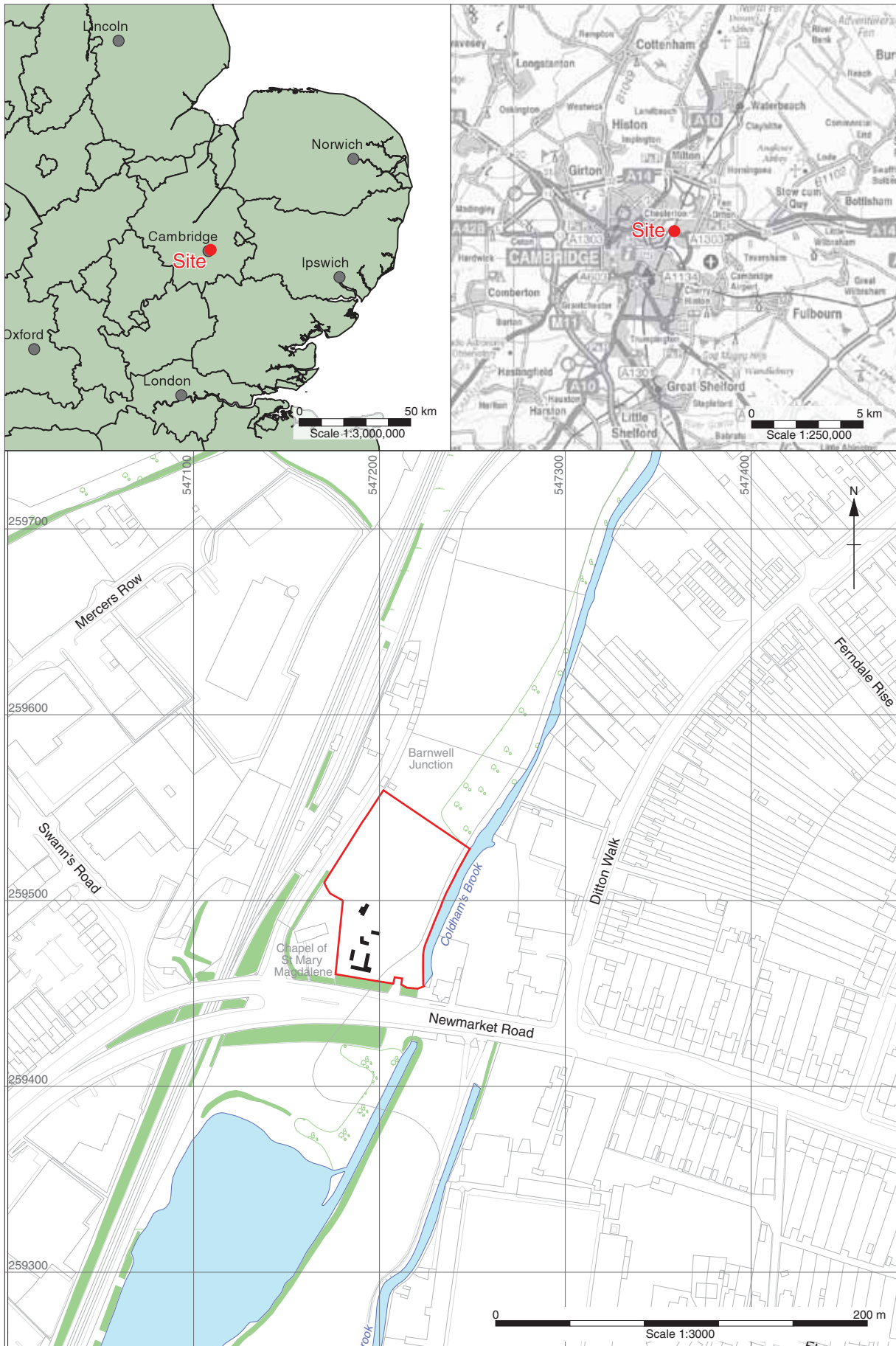
Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
OA East	OA East	OA East
ECB4847	ECB4847	ECB4847

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
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Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geophysics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correspondence
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text	<input type="checkbox"/> Microfilm
<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual Reality	<input type="checkbox"/> Misc.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Research/Notes
	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:



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Figure 1: Site location map with trenches (black) and development area outlined (red)

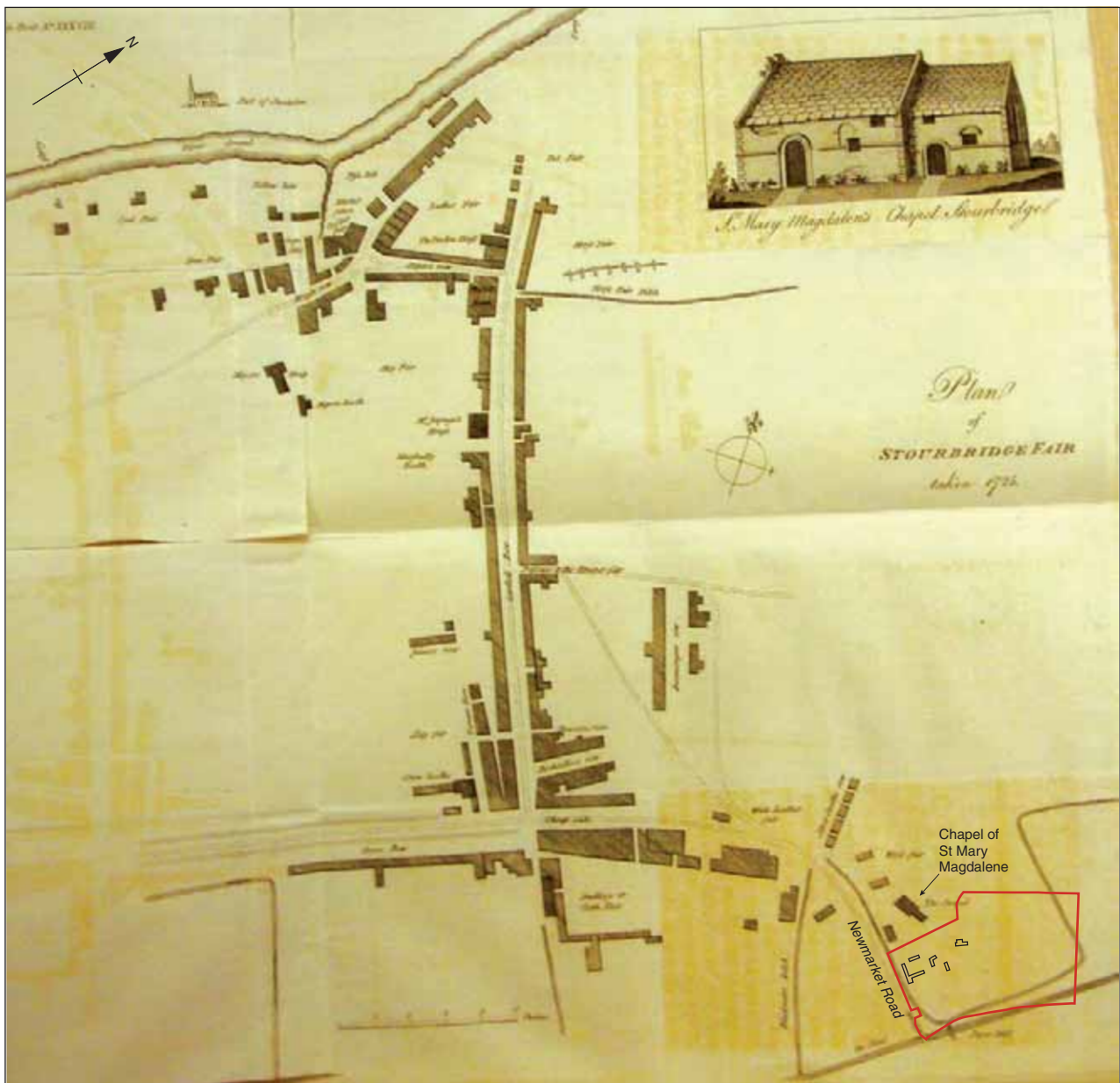


Figure 2: Plan of Stourbridge Fair 1725 (Taken from Nichols, J 1786 (CRO C.83))

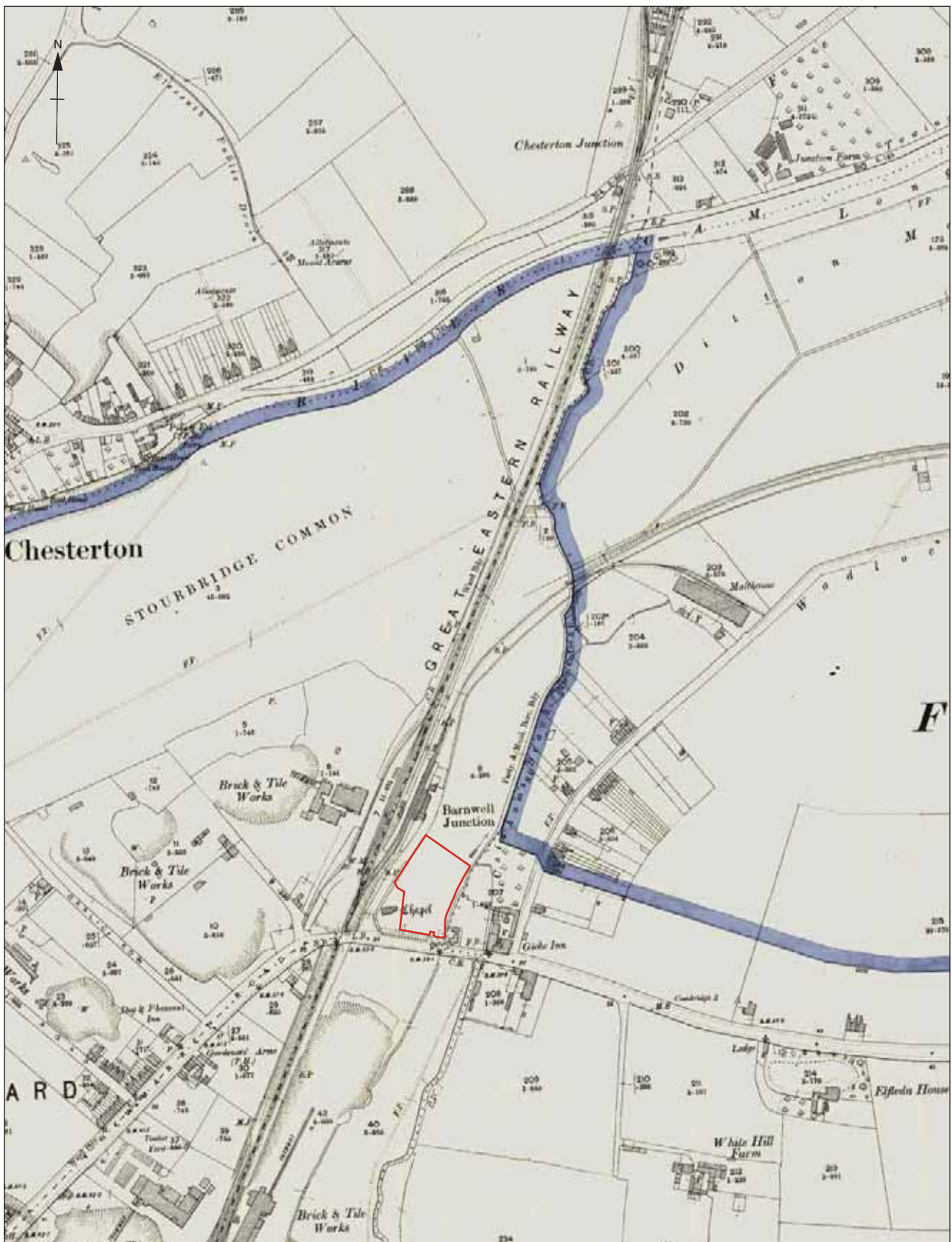


Figure 3: Ordnance Survey 1st Edition 1885

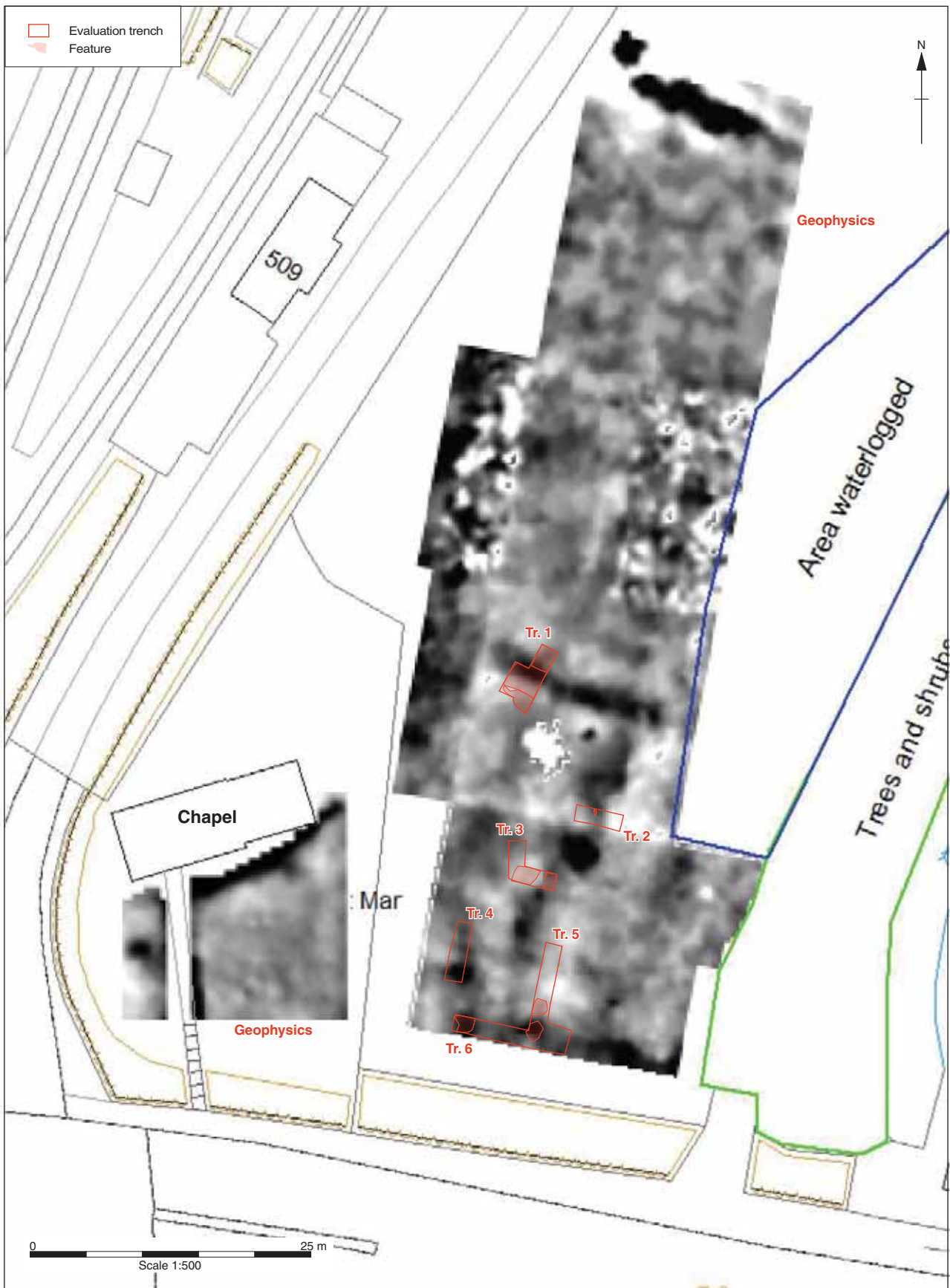


Figure 4: Results of geophysical survey



Figure 5: Plans of Trench 1, 2 and 3

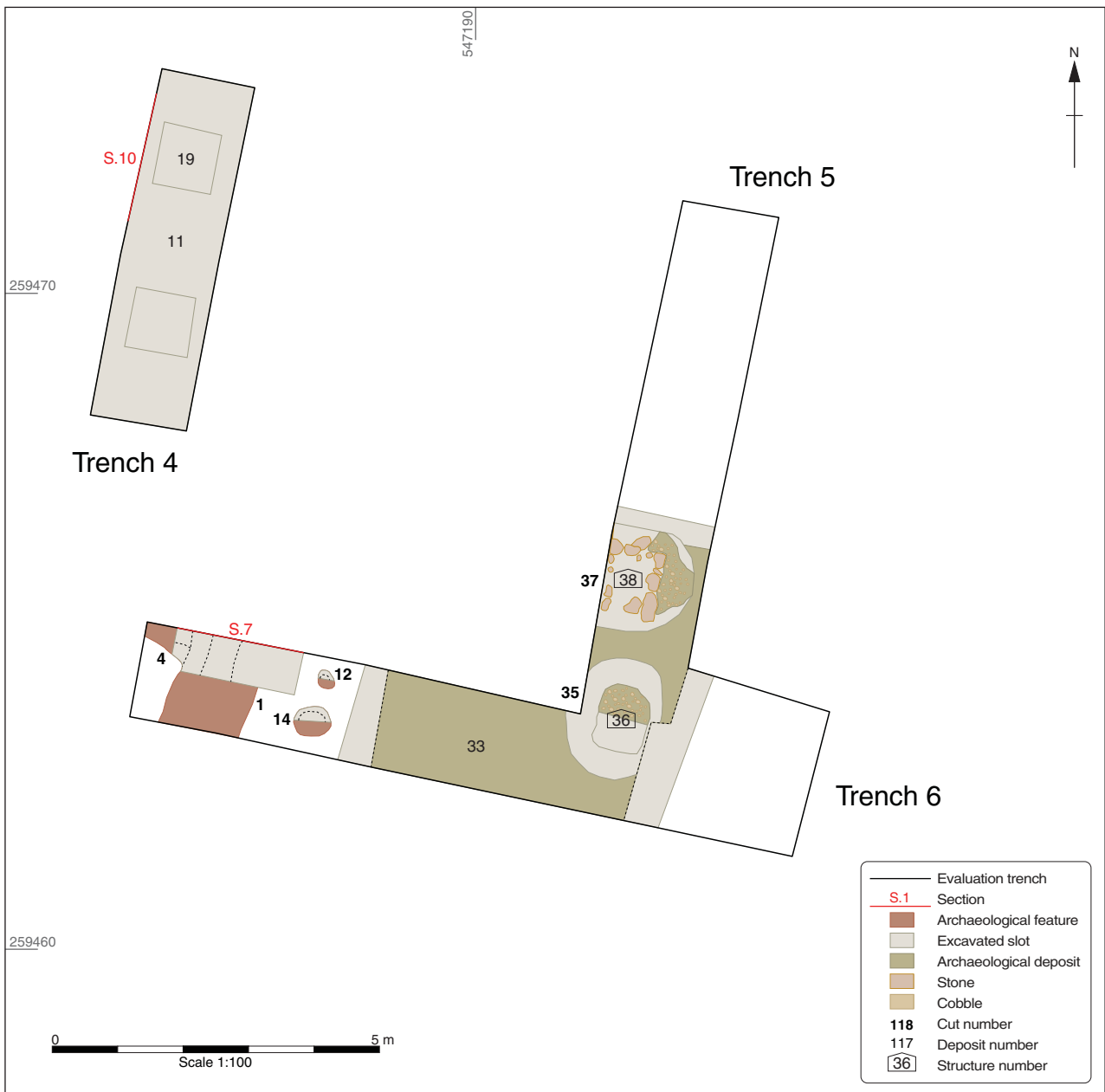


Figure 6: Plans of Trench 4, 5 and 6

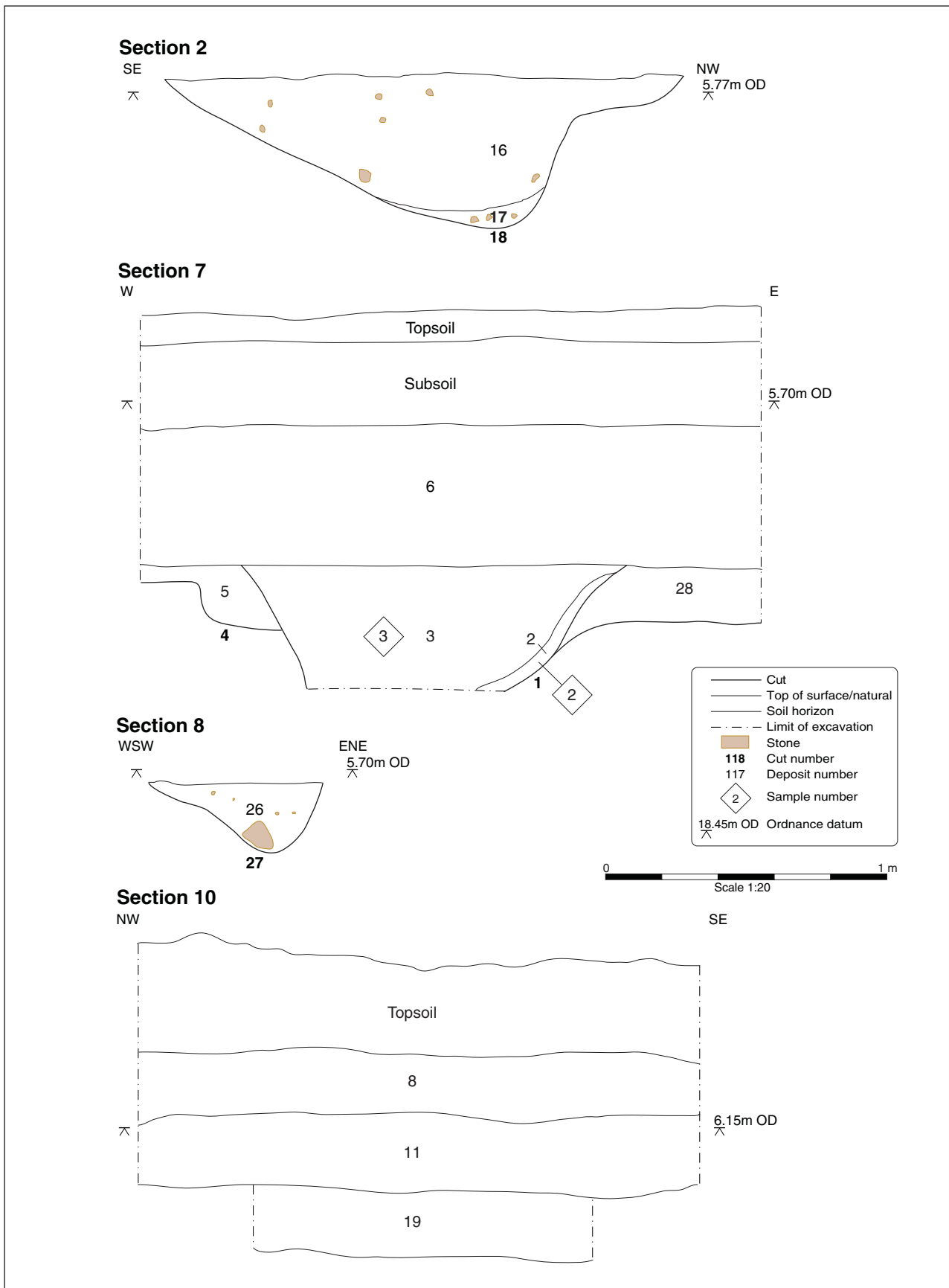


Figure 7: Selected sections



Plate 1: YAC (Young archaeologists club) members having a tour of the site



Plate 2: View of the site during excavation from Newmarket Road



Plate 3: YAC members excavating in Trench 1



Plate 4: Possible track (39), Trench 1, facing NE



Plate 5: Ditch 18, Trench 3, facing west



Plate 6: Pit 25, Trench 3, facing south



Plate 7: East facing section of Trench 4 showing buried soil



Plate 8: Features 1, 4, 12 and 14 at west end of trench 6, facing east



Plate 9: Stone and mortar footings (36 and 38),
Trench 5, facing north



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