



Land off Broomfield Road, Stoke Holy Cross, Norfolk

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Land off Broomfield Road, Stoke Holy Cross, Norfolk

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

Between 7th and 10th February 2017, Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) conducted an archaeological evaluation at land off Broomfield Road, Stoke Holy Cross, Norfolk (centred TG 23956 01617). Fourteen evaluation trenches were excavated, each 40m in length. Six of the trenches revealed dispersed linear and discrete archaeological features, comprising post-medieval field boundary ditches and gullies, and associated small pits and post-holes.

Whilst the only finds recovered from the site were residual Neolithic flints and two fragments of unidentifiable metalwork, most of the ditches and gullies can be directly related to post-medieval field divisions. Two of the boundaries correspond to 19th century field divisions depicted on the 1844 Stoke Holy Cross tithe map and the 1887 Ordnance Survey six-inch first edition map, whilst others correspond to boundaries on the Ordnance Survey maps between 1906 and the late 1970s.

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The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Dr Matthew Brudenell. The fieldwork was directed by Malgorzata Kwiatkowska, who was supported by Lindsey Kemp and Daniel Firth. Survey and digitising was carried out by David Brown and Gillian Greer. Thanks are also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Natasha Dodwell; processed the environmental remains under the management of Rachel Fosberry; and prepared the archive under the direction of Katherine Hamilton.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd, on behalf of Hopkins Homes Ltd, to undertake a trial trench evaluation at land off Broomfield Road, Stoke Holy Cross, Norfolk (TG 23956 01617, Fig. 1).
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken in advance of residential development at the site (planning ref. 2016/2153), following a geophysical survey (Galt 2016) and consultation with James Albone of Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service (NHES).
- 1.1.3 The scope of work was set out in an approved Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by OA East (Gilmour 2017), and was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed development 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 the NHES, on behalf of South Norfolk District Council, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.
- 1.1.4 This document outlines how OA implemented the specified requirements of the Written Scheme of Investigation.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The site is located on the eastern fringes of the village of Stoke Holy Cross, to the south of Long Lane, south-west of Broomfield Road and to the east of Five Acres.
- 1.2.2 The area of proposed development consists of 5ha of agricultural land.
- 1.2.3 The geology of the area is mapped as bedrock of sands and gravels (Crag Group), with superficial deposits of Diamicton (Lowestoft Formation) (British Geological Survey; <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/data/maps/home.html>). The site is slightly sloping from the north down to the south, as well as in its north-eastern corner. It is located at the height of *c.* 38mOD.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The following is drawn from the Written Scheme of Investigation (Gilmour 2017) alongside data from the Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Record (NHER).

Prehistoric

- 1.3.2 A number of prehistoric finds have been identified in the area: 550m to the north-west a collection of struck flints was uncovered, including a Mesolithic microlith and other Mesolithic flints (NHER 28431). A Neolithic flint pick point was also recovered 750m north-west of the site (NHER 16103), and a leaf-shaped arrowhead of the same date 900m east of the site (NHER 43927). Further flints were uncovered during a fieldwalking survey 600m to the north-east (NHER 58362, 58359) including a possible Upper Palaeolithic crested long blade.

- 1.3.3 A ring ditch is visible as a cropmark 650m to the south-west (NHER 51979) which may represent a Bronze Age barrow as its position overlooking a minor tributary of the River Tas is characteristic of a round barrow setting.
- 1.3.4 At a distance of 1km north-east of the site lie a number of cropmarks of undated ditches (NHER 52235). These ditches most likely represent field boundaries of Iron Age or Roman date. Extensive cropmarks of a similar probable date have also been observed 1.3km to the north-west (NHER 52143) comprising fragmentary enclosures, ditches and field boundaries. Excavations have taken place here and identified ditches of Bronze Age and Iron Age date; evidence for Iron Age timber structures was also present.

Roman

- 1.3.5 A Roman villa is located 1km east of the site (NHER 43199), to the west of which are a number of earthworks that may be associated with it (NHER 52240). Further rectangular enclosures and field boundaries have also been identified close by (NHER 52239).
- 1.3.6 A probable Roman road runs in a north-east to south-west direction approximately 700m south-east of the site (NHER 53347); no dating evidence has been obtained however it has been assigned a probable Roman date as it heads towards the Roman road that runs from Caistor to Brooke (NHER 52298).
- 1.3.7 Four Roman coins were uncovered 700m south-east of the site (NHER 9731), while other finds have been identified in the area through extensive fieldwalking to the north-east, including a collection of Roman pottery (NHER 58362).
- 1.3.8 The significant Roman town of *Venta Icenorum* was located c.2km to the north of this site at Caistor St Edmond.

Saxon and Medieval

- 1.3.9 Archaeological work has previously been carried out in advance of development directly to the north-east of the current development site (ENF133848). This revealed ditches, pits and cobbled surfaces of AD 11th-12th century date. These are believed to represent the remains of a croft or plot (Ames 2015).
- 1.3.10 Extensive evidence for medieval occupation is located 500m south of the site (NHER 14240). Earthworks, cropmarks and soilmarks indicate the presence of a number of trackways, enclosure and field boundaries
- 1.3.11 Located 1km south-west of the site, a number of cropmarks representing enclosures, buildings and trackways have been identified and probably date to the medieval period (NHER 51984). The complex also includes cropmarks of a group of sub-rectangular pits, possibly representing the remains of Saxon sunken-featured buildings (NHER 52006); Saxon and medieval pottery has been uncovered from across this site (NHER 9739).
- 1.3.12 Two square enclosures or building platforms have been identified approximately 900m north-east of the site (NHER 52022). It is suggested that these may have been used for medieval industrial activities related to extraction areas, platforms and channels also recorded in the area (NHER 52238).

Medieval finds have also been uncovered from across the area, including pottery (NHER 58362).

Post-medieval/modern

- 1.3.13 Parts of Holy Cross Church originated in the 14th century and the original tower still remains (NHER 5091), although the majority of the church dates to the 19th century when it was restored and rebuilt.
- 1.3.14 Stoke Hall was located 750m south of the site, the exact date of the origins of this hall is unknown but it was rebuilt in 1852. A number of farm buildings were also associated with this hall.
- 1.3.15 Stoke Holy Cross watermill is located 800m north-west of the site (NHER 9773): this mill was built in 1747, although an earlier mill is known to have been present.

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The project aims and objectives were as follows:

- i. To ground truth the geophysical survey results
- ii. To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains on the site, characterise where they are found (location, depth and extent), and establish the quality of preservation of any archaeology and environmental remains
- iii. To provide sufficient coverage to establish the form, date and purpose of any archaeological deposits
- iv. To provide sufficient coverage to evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking deposits
- v. To provide – in the event that archaeological remains are found – sufficient information to construct an archaeological mitigation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables, and orders of cost.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 Fourteen 40m-long, 2.1m-wide trenches were excavated, providing a c.2.5% sample of the 5ha development area. Trenches 2-14 were positioned to test anomalies identified in the geophysical survey (Galt 2016) and provide coverage across the area proposed for residential development, whilst Trench 1 was positioned to target the location of a proposed balancing pond.
- 2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a tracked 360 hydraulic excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.
- 2.2.3 The site survey was carried out using a Leica GS08 with Smartnet live correctional data feed.
- 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 photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.2.6 Environmental samples were taken from ditches in Trenches 5 and 13 as well as from a pit in Trench 1 and a post-hole in Trench 5.
- 2.2.7 The weather was overcast throughout the evaluation with period of rainfall and sleet occurring. This affected the quality of the site photography, but did not compromise the effectiveness of the evaluation or the validity of the results.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below, and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches which contained archaeological remains. Features within trenches are discussed in order of their location from north to south or from west to east. The eight trenches devoid of archaeology (Trenches 3, 4, 6-9, 11 and 14) are not discussed further, except for Trench 3 which contained part of a large natural hollow. However, full details of each trench, including dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendix A. Finds and environmental reports are presented in Appendix B and C.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The soil sequence within the trenches was fairly uniform. The natural geology of light whitish yellow chalky clay was overlain by a mid yellow-brown silty clay subsoil (0.10-0.50m in thickness), which in turn was overlain by dark brownish grey silty clay topsoil (0.24-0.40m in thickness).

3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good. The periodic rainfall drained freely from the bases of the trenches, and archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Archaeological features were distributed across six trenches (Trenches 1-2, 5, 10 and 12-13; Fig. 2 and 3) in the north-west and southern areas of the site. The majority of blank trenches were located in the north-eastern quadrant of the site.

3.4 Trench 1

3.4.1 Trench 1 (Fig. 4, Plate 1) was located in the south-eastern corner of the evaluated area and was orientated west to east.

3.4.2 The trench exposed two features both located towards the eastern trench end. Pit 4 (Fig. 6 section 1, Plate 2) was partially revealed along the southern edge of the trench. The pit was 1.4m wide and 0.18m deep. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base and was filled by a single deposit of mid reddish brown clayey silt (5). No artefacts were recovered from this fill, and an environmental soil sample taken from the pit yielded no charred remains.

3.4.3 Gully 6 was exposed in the north-eastern corner of the trench, aligned east-to-west along its northern edge. The linear gully was 0.50m wide, 0.15m deep, and displayed steep sides and a V-shaped base. The gully was filled with mid grey clayey silt (7). No artefacts were recovered from the feature.

3.5 Trench 2

3.5.1 Trench 2 (Fig. 5) was located in the north-western corner of the site, orientated north to south.

3.5.2 A single ditch (**32**) was revealed towards the southern end of the trench. It measured 0.78m in width and was 0.30m deep. This ditch had steep sides, a concave base and was filled by a single deposit of dark grey clayey silt (**33**). Although no finds were recovered from this ditch, it was found to cut the subsoil, and was aligned perpendicular to modern ditch **18** in Trench 5.

3.6 Trench 3

3.6.1 Trench 3 (Fig. 3) was located in the northern end of the evaluated area. It was on a west to east alignment, and was devoid of archaeology features. A solution hollow/sinkhole **16** was partially exposed at the western end of this trench, the upper profile of which was filled with subsoil. This natural feature corresponds with a subtle dip in the field in the north-western part of the site.

3.7 Trench 5

3.7.1 Trench 5 (Fig. 5, Plate 3) was located in the central western area of the site, south of Trench 2. It was orientated west to east.

3.7.2 Three features were revealed in the trench, all within its eastern half. Ditch **24** (Fig.6, section 10, Plate 4) was orientated on a north to south alignment. It measured 1.52m in width and 0.54m in depth and displayed steep sides and a flat base. The basal fill comprised a dark brownish grey clayey silt, 0.16m thick (**23**), whilst the secondary fill consisted of light whitish yellow silty clay, similar to the natural, 0.12m thick (**22**). The uppermost deposit was 0.30m thick and consisted of mid reddish brown clayey silt (**21**). A single, undiagnostic fragment of an iron artefact was recovered from fill **21**, whilst an environmental soil sample taken from this context yielded only a single charcoal fragment.

3.7.3 Post-hole **20** (Fig.6 section 9) was located between ditch **24** and gully **18**. It measured 0.36m in diameter and was 0.08m deep. This feature had steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of dark brownish grey silty clay (**19**). The fill yielded a single worked flint of Neolithic date. An environmental soil sample taken from the post-hole yielded flecks of charcoal.

3.7.4 Gully **18** was located towards the eastern end of Trench 5. It was located on a north to south alignment. This feature was 0.48m wide and 0.15m deep, had steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid reddish brown clayey silt (**19**). No artefacts were recovered from this fill.

3.8 Trench 10

3.8.1 Trench 10 (Fig. 4, Plate 5) was located in the central eastern area of the site and was aligned north-west to south-east.

3.8.2 Three features were exposed by the trench, all within its south-eastern half. Pit **28** was partially revealed along the north-eastern edge of the trench. The pit measured 1m in width and was 0.56m deep, displaying steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of dark greyish brown silty clay with frequent angular flint inclusions (**29**). No finds were recovered from the fill of pit **28**, although it was cut into the subsoil, suggesting a relatively modern date.

3.8.3 Pit **26** was located to the south-east of pit **28** and was also partially revealed against the north-eastern side of the trench. This pit was 0.67m wide and 0.18m deep. It was characterised by gently sloping sides and a concave base, and was filled by dark brownish grey silty clay (27). No finds were recovered from the pit.

3.8.4 Ditch **14** was located towards the south-eastern end of Trench 10. It was broadly aligned east-to-west and measured 1.10m wide and 0.50m deep. It had steep sides and a flat base and was filled by a single deposit of dark reddish brown silty clay (15). The fill yielded a single small fragment of an undiagnostic copper alloy artefact.

3.9 Trench 12

3.9.1 Trench 12 (Fig. 4) was located towards the southern end of the evaluated area. It was orientated from west to east.

3.9.2 This trench contained a single gully **30**, aligned north-south. The gully was 0.50m wide and 0.10m deep. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base, and was filled by a single deposit of dark grey clayey silt (31). No finds were recovered from this fill.

3.10 Trench 13

3.10.1 Trench 13 (Fig. 4, Plate 6) was located towards the southern central end of the evaluated area, to the east of Trench 12. It was aligned north-south.

3.10.2 Three features were revealed in the trench. Ditch **12** (Fig. 6 section 5, Plate 7) was located towards the centre of the trench, and was orientated east-west. The ditch measured 1.20m in width, 0.50m in depth and had steep sides and a V-shaped base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid reddish brown clayey silt (13). This fill produced a single worked flint of Neolithic date. An environmental soil sample taken from the ditch yielded no charred remains.

3.10.3 Post-hole **8** was located within the southern half of the trench. It measured 0.50m in diameter and was 0.20m deep. This feature had steep sides and a concave base, and was filled by dark grey clayey silt (9), from which no finds were recovered.

3.10.4 Post-hole **10** was located directly to the east of post-hole **8**. It had a diameter of 0.20m, and was 0.05m deep. This post-hole had gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of dark grey clayey silt (11). No finds were recovered from the post-hole.

3.11 Finds summary

3.11.1 Only four artefacts were recovered during the investigation of the site. These included two worked flints of Neolithic date and two undiagnostic fragments of metalwork.

3.12 Environmental Summary

3.12.1 Four bulk samples were taken from features within Trenches 1, 5 and 13. The preservation of plant remains was poor with only charcoal fragments recovered. No animal bone was recovered from the site.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 4.1.1 Archaeological features, distinguished by their mid brown and grey colours, were clearly visible within the evaluated trenches. The topsoil and subsoil layers were easily set apart from the natural horizon, characterised by its light whitish yellow colour. Both archaeological features and the natural deposits were free-draining, with no standing water hindering the archaeological work.
- 4.1.2 For reasons stated above, results of the completed evaluation are considered to have a good level of reliability.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

- 4.2.1 The aim of this investigation was to establish the character, date and state of preservations of any archaeological remains present within the proposed development area, as described in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Gilmour 2017).
- 4.2.2 The trial trenching of the investigated site exposed a small selection of archaeological features. All were well preserved, but the majority of the features did not produce any datable artefacts.

4.3 Interpretation

- 4.3.1 Although the geophysical survey of the site did not show any strong anomalies of likely archaeological origin (Galt 2016), a small number of dispersed linear and discrete archaeological features were revealed during the evaluation. These included a series of ditches and gullies, small pits and post-holes.
- 4.3.2 Most of the linear features can be directly related to two post-medieval field divisions (Fig. 7). Ditch **14** in Trench 10 and ditch **24** in Trench 5 formed a boundary around a sub-rectangular field with a slightly curved southern edge depicted on maps from the late 19th century, including the 1844 Stoke Holy Cross Tithe map and the 1887 Ordnance Survey six-inch first edition map (dashed blue line on Fig. 7). The location of the ditches also corresponds with two very weak anomalies recorded by the geophysical survey (Galt 2016; Fig. 4). Cartographic evidence indicates that these boundaries were replaced around the turn of the 20th century. The southern boundary of the former field was removed, whilst the western arm was replaced by a straighter north-to-south orientated boundary. The line of this replacement boundary corresponds with the alignment of gullies **18** in Trench 5 and **30** in Trench 12; features identical in character. The boundary is depicted on Ordnance Survey maps between 1906 and the late 1970s (dashed green line on Fig. 7).
- 4.3.3 The other linear features uncovered in the evaluation, including ditch **32** in Trench 2, ditch **30** in Trench 12, and gully **6** in Trench 1, are all aligned east-to-west perpendicular to the 20th century boundary delineated by gully **18/30**. The alignment of these features, and their similarities in character, suggest they could represent sub-divisions of the field, though none are depicted on any Ordnance Survey maps (dashed red line on Fig. 7).

4.3.4 With the exception of the two undated post-holes in Trench 13 (**8** and **10**), all the discrete features revealed in the evaluation are in close proximity to the post-medieval field boundary ditches. These could be functionally related to the boundaries, representing post-holes and post-pits for lengths of fencing.

4.4 Significance

4.4.1 The site lies on the outskirts of the historic core of Stoke Holy Cross on agricultural land. The evaluation revealed a small number of linear and discrete features relating to post-medieval field boundaries.

4.4.2 Whilst excavations to the north-east (ENF133848) of the site revealed evidence of 11th-12th century occupation (Amos 2015), the absence of similar remains within the evaluated area suggests that settlement activity was confined to the roadside along Long Lane, and did not extend into the site.

4.4.3 The environmental potential of the site is poor, with environmental samples containing only charcoal and no animal bone being recovered. The two worked flints recovered were residual, and the two items of metalwork unidentifiable. Given the low significance of these finds it is not recommended that they are retained and deposited as part of the project archive.

Appendix A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a gully and a pit. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalky clay.					Length (m)	40
					Width (m)	2.1
					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4	Cut	1.40	0.16	Pit	-	-
5	Fill	1.40	0.16	Fill of pit 4	-	-
6	Cut	0.50	0.15	Gully	-	-
7	Fill	0.50	0.15	Fill of gully 6	-	-

Trench 2						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained a single ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalky clay.					Length (m)	40
					Width (m)	2.1
					Avg. depth (m)	0.50
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.40	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
32	Cut	0.78	0.32	Ditch	-	Modern
33	Fill	0.78	0.32	Fill of ditch 32	-	Modern

Trench 3						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology, contained a natural sinkhole. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalky clay.					Length (m)	40
					Width (m)	2.1
					Avg. depth (m)	0.50
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.40	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
16	Cut	5.0	-	Sinkhole	-	-
25	Fill	5.0	-	Fill of sinkhole 16	-	-

Trench 4						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalky clay.					Length (m)	40
					Width (m)	2.1
					Avg. depth (m)	0.51
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.27	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 5						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalky clay.					Length (m)	40
					Width (m)	2.1
					Avg. depth (m)	0.42
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
17	Fill	0.48	0.15	Fill of gully 18	-	-
18	Cut	0.48	0.15	Gully	-	-
19	Fill	0.36	0.08	Fill of post-hole 20	-	-
20	Cut	0.36	0.08	Post-hole	-	-
21	Fill	1.30	0.30	Fill of ditch 24	Iron artefact	-
22	Fill	1.04	0.42	Fill of ditch 24	-	-
23	Fill	1.22	0.54	Fill of ditch 24	-	-
24	Cut	1.52	0.54	Ditch	-	-

Trench 6						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalky clay.					Length (m)	40
					Width (m)	2.1
					Avg. depth (m)	0.65
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.39	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 7						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalky clay.					Length (m)	40
					Width (m)	2.1
					Avg. depth (m)	0.60
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.32	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 8						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalky clay.					Length (m)	40
					Width (m)	2.1
					Avg. depth (m)	0.76
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.50	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 9						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalky clay.					Length (m)	40
					Width (m)	2.1
					Avg. depth (m)	0.61
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.36	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 10						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench contained a ditch and two pits. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalky clay.					Length (m)	40
					Width (m)	2.1
					Avg. depth (m)	0.65
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.35	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
14	Cut	1.10	0.50	Ditch	-	-
15	Fill	1.10	0.50	Fill of ditch 14	Cu alloy	-
26	Cut	0.67	0.18	Pit	-	-

27	Fill	0.67	0.18	Fill of pit 26	-	-
28	Cut	1.00	0.56	Pit	-	Modern
29	Fill	1.00	0.56	Fill of pit 28	-	Modern

Trench 11						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalky clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.57
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.38	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 12						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a single ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalky clay.					Length (m)	40
					Width (m)	2.1
					Avg. depth (m)	0.55
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
30	Cut	0.50	0.10	Ditch	-	-
31	Fill	0.50	0.10	Fill of ditch 30	-	-

Trench 13						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained two post-holes and a ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalky clay.					Length (m)	40
					Width (m)	2.1
					Avg. depth (m)	0.60
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.40	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
8	Cut	0.50	0.20	Post-hole	-	-
9	Fill	0.50	0.20	Fill of post-hole 8	-	-
10	Cut	0.20	0.05	Post-hole	-	-
11	Fill	0.20	0.05	Fill of post-hole 10	-	-
12	Cut	1.20	0.50	Ditch	-	-
13	Fill	1.20	0.50	Fill of ditch 12	Flint	-

Trench 14						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalky clay.					Length (m)	40
					Width (m)	2.1
					Avg. depth (m)	0.48
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Appendix B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Flint

By Anthony Haskins MSc BSc ACIfA AIOSH

Introduction

- B.1.1 Two struck flints were recovered in the trial trenching, one from a ditch fill (13) in Trench 13, the other from post-hole fill (19) in Trench 5. Both are considered to be residual finds in their contexts.
- B.1.2 The flints, which are struck from a yellowish-brown good quality flint with a thin abraded and weathered cortex, are in a moderate condition with rounded edges and incipient to heavy recortification. Apart from a single flake with characteristics of Neolithic flint working, from ditch fill 13, the material recovered is undiagnostic of period.

B.2 Metalwork

By Dr Denis Sami

Introduction

- B.2.3 Metal finds were recovered from features that are interpreted as being of post-medieval date. SF 1 was collected from a ditch fill (15) in Trench 10, and SF 2 was uncovered in a post-hole fill (21) in Trench 5. The assemblage comprises a fragment of copper alloy foil (SF1) and an iron artefact (SF2); neither are diagnostic. SF 1 is corroded and is in poor condition. Iron SF 2 is incomplete and heavily encrusted.
- B.2.4 No further work on this assemblage is needed. The objects do not require retention within the project archive.

Catalogue

SF 1 (15) Tr. 10

An incomplete rectangular fragment of Cu-Alloy foil

Length: 19.45 mm

Height: 7.56 mm

Thickness: 0.87 mm

Weight: < 1 g.

SF 2 (21) Tr. 5

An incomplete sub-rectangular fragment of iron with rectangular section

Length: 32.11 mm

Height: 11.34 mm

Thickness: 6.31 mm

Weight: 8.0 g.

Appendix C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental Samples

By Rachel Fosberry ACIfA

Introduction

C.1.1 Four bulk samples were taken from post-medieval features within Trenches 1, 5 and 13 in the evaluated area in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of any further archaeological investigations.

Methodology

C.1.2 The total volume of each of the selected samples was processed by tank flotation using modified Siraff-type equipment for the recovery of preserved 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.

C.1.3 The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 1.

Results

C.1.4 Preservation of plant remains is poor with only a single charcoal fragment recovered from fill 21 of ditch 24 and occasional charcoal flecks from a fill (19) of pit 20. Whilst charcoal is evidence of the burning of wood, the sparse quantities present do not aid interpretation of the features sampled.

Sample no.	1	2	4	5
Context no.	5	13	19	21
Feature no	4	12	20	24
Volume processed (L)	13	13	5	18
Charcoal volume (ml)	0	0	<1	1

Table 1: Environmental samples

APPENDIX D BIBLIOGRAPHY

Ames, J., 2015, *Archaeological strip, map and sample excavation of land off Long Lane, Stoke Holy Cross, Norfolk*, NPS Archaeology

Galt, A., 2016, *Geophysical Survey Report G1628, Land as Stoke Holy Cross, Norfolk*, GSB Prospection Ltd (unpublished)

Gilmour, N., 2017, *Written Scheme of Investigation, Archaeological Trial Trenching, Land off Broomfield road, Stoke Holy Cross, Norfolk*, OA East (unpublished)

Electronic Sources

British Geological Survey online map viewer,

<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html> (accessed 13/02/2017)

Norfolk County Council online historic map explorer

<http://www.historic-maps.norfolk.gov.uk/mapexplorer/> (accessed 14/02/2017)

APPENDIX E OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxford3-274007		
Project Name	Land off Broomfield Road, Stoke Holy Cross, Norfolk		
Start of Fieldwork	07/02/2017	End of Fieldwork	10/02/17
Previous Work	No	Future Work	No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	XNFSHC17	Planning App. No.	2016/2153
HER Number	ENF141681	Related Numbers	
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS 5		
Development Type	Rural Residential		
Place in Planning Process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)		

Techniques used (tick all that apply)

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

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Boundary ditch	Uncertain		Choose an item.
	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
	Choose an item.		Choose an item.

Insert more lines as appropriate.

Project Location

County	Norfolk	Address (including Postcode) Land off Broomfield Road Stoke Holy Cross Norfolk NR14 8FF
District	South Norfolk	
Parish	Stoke Holy Cross	
HER office	Norfolk	
Size of Study Area	5 ha	
National Grid Ref	TG23956 01617	

Project Originators

Organisation	Oxford Archaeology East
Project Brief Originator	James Albone
Project Design Originator	Nick Gilmour
Project Manager	Dr Matthew Brudenell
Project Supervisor	Malgorzata Kwiatkowska

Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	NMAS	ENF141681
Digital Archive	OA East	XNF5HC17
Paper Archive	NMAS	ENF141681

Physical Contents	Present?	Digital files associated with Finds	Paperwork associated with Finds
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Ceramics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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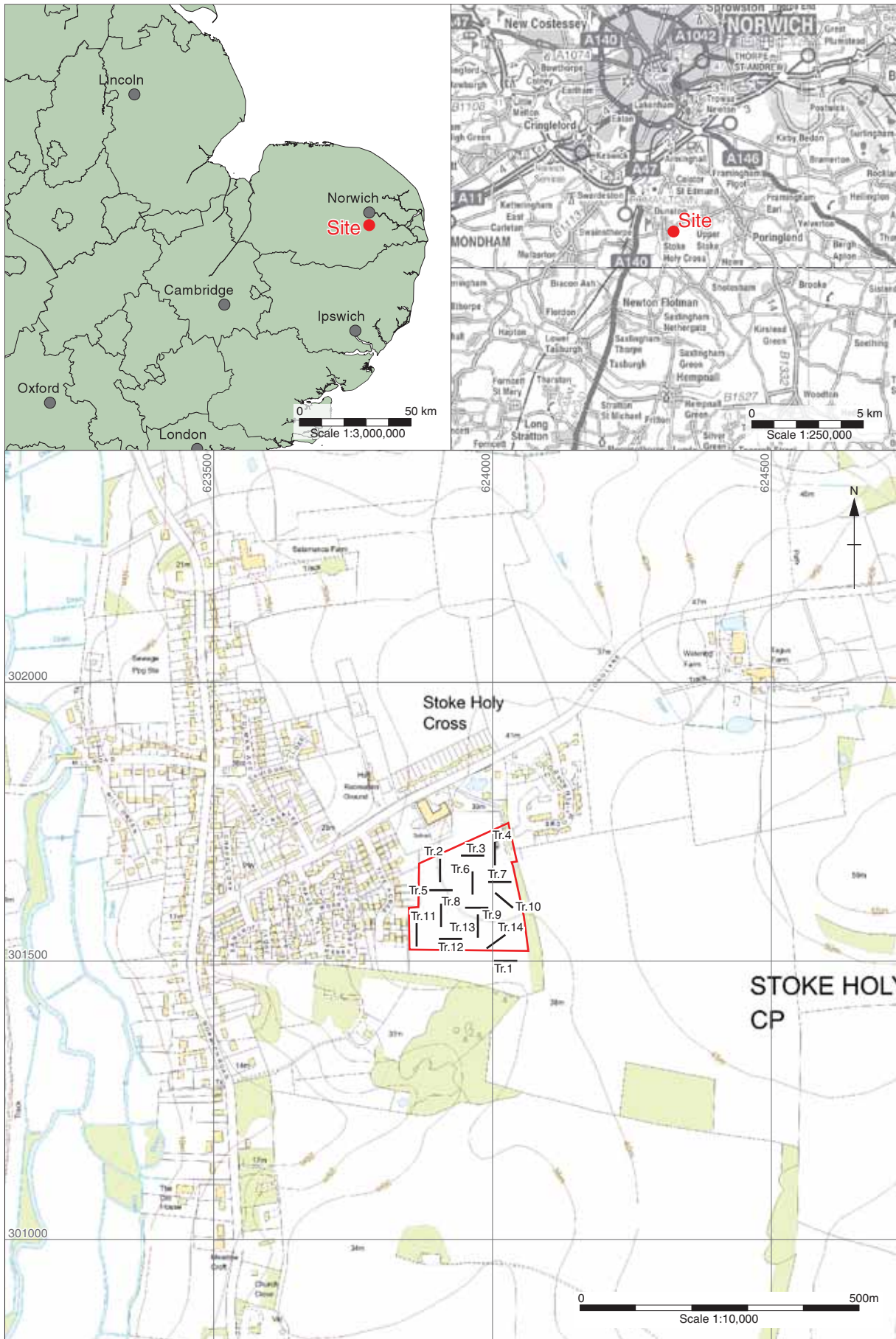
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Paper Media

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Survey	<input type="checkbox"/>

Further Comments



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



Figure 2: Map of the evaluation trenches showing all features, overlaying the geophysical survey data by GSB Prospection Ltd (Galt 2016)

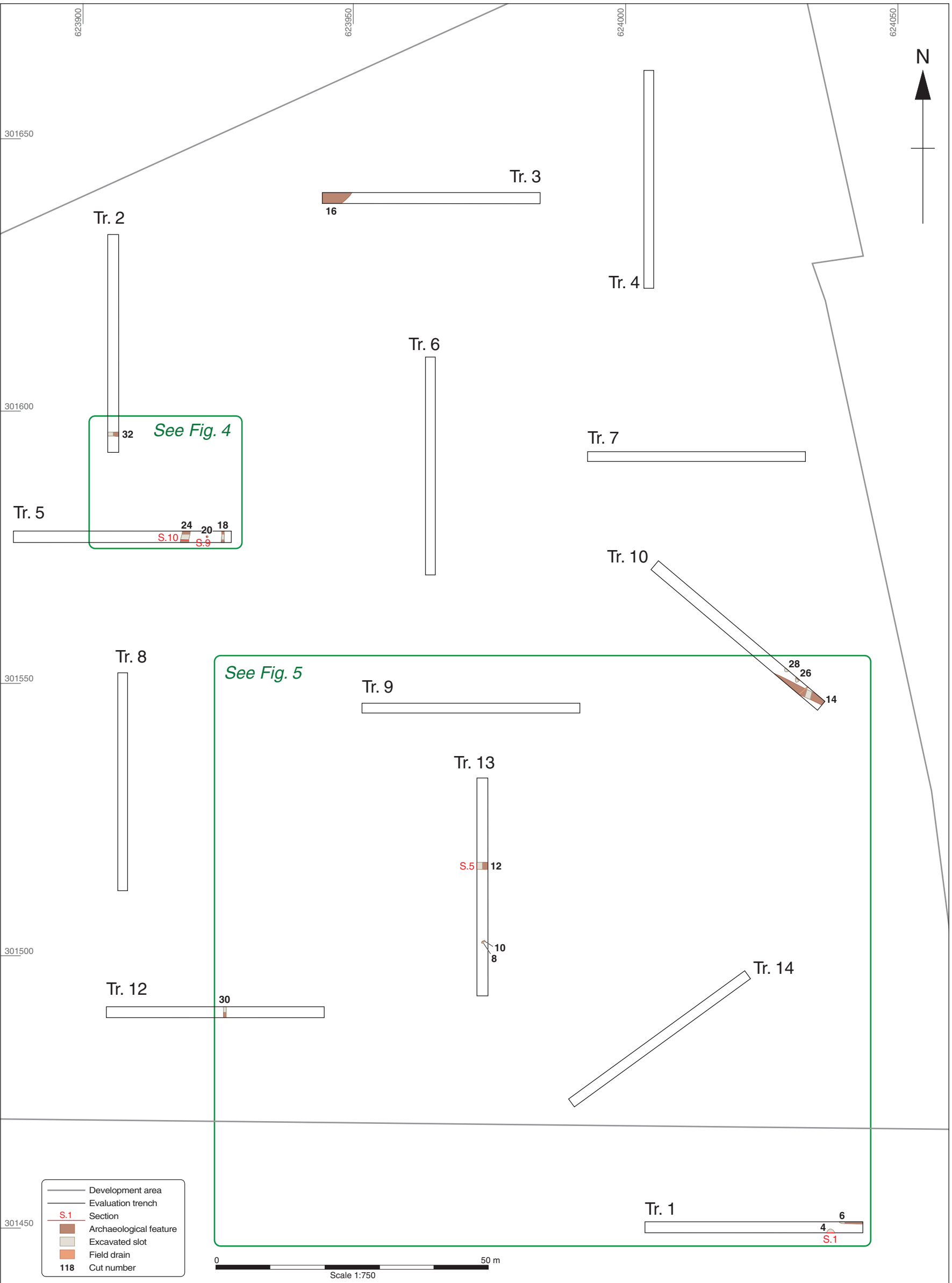


Figure 3: All features plan and figure location

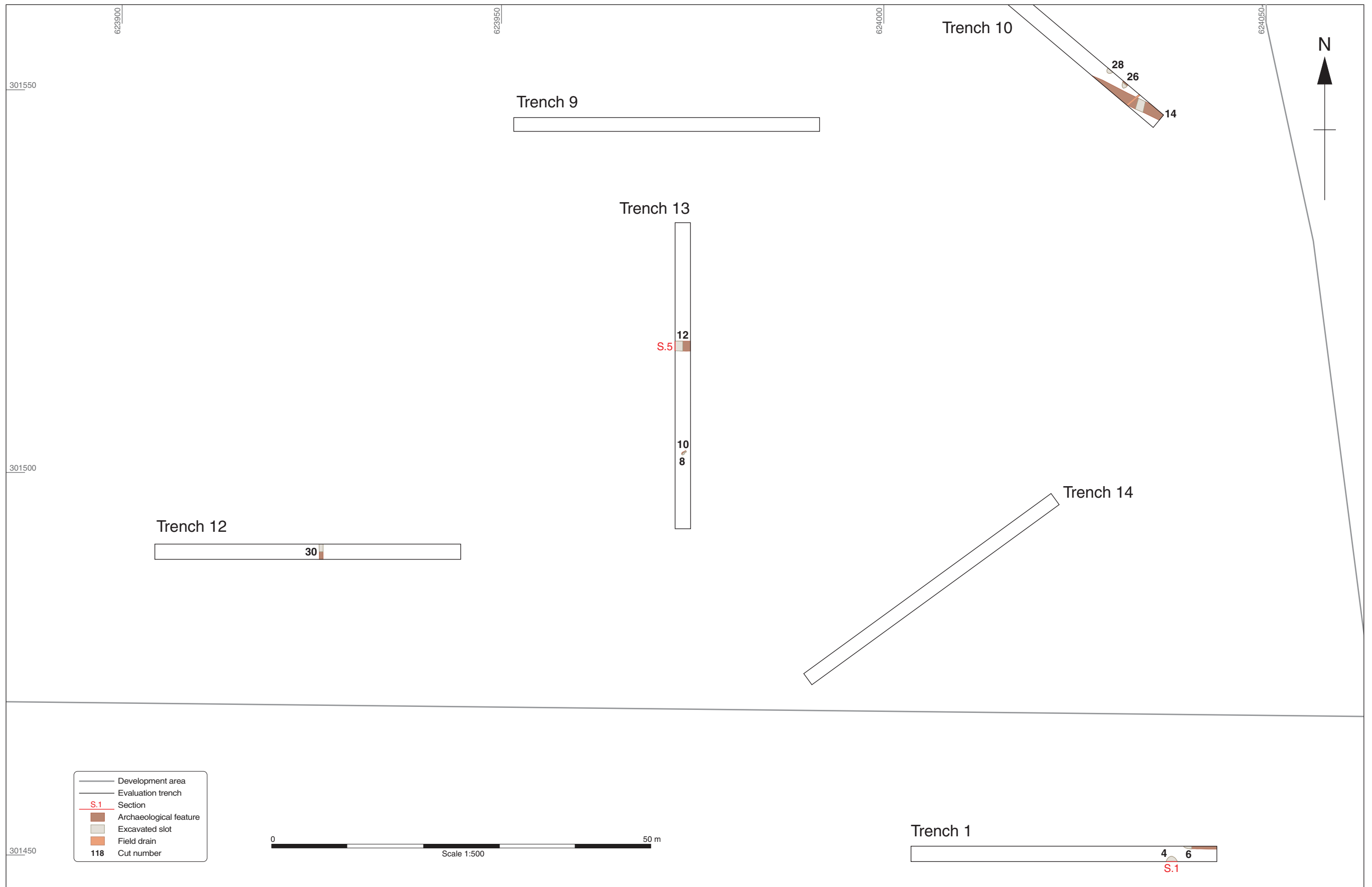


Figure 4: Detailed plan of Trenches 1, 10, 12 and 13

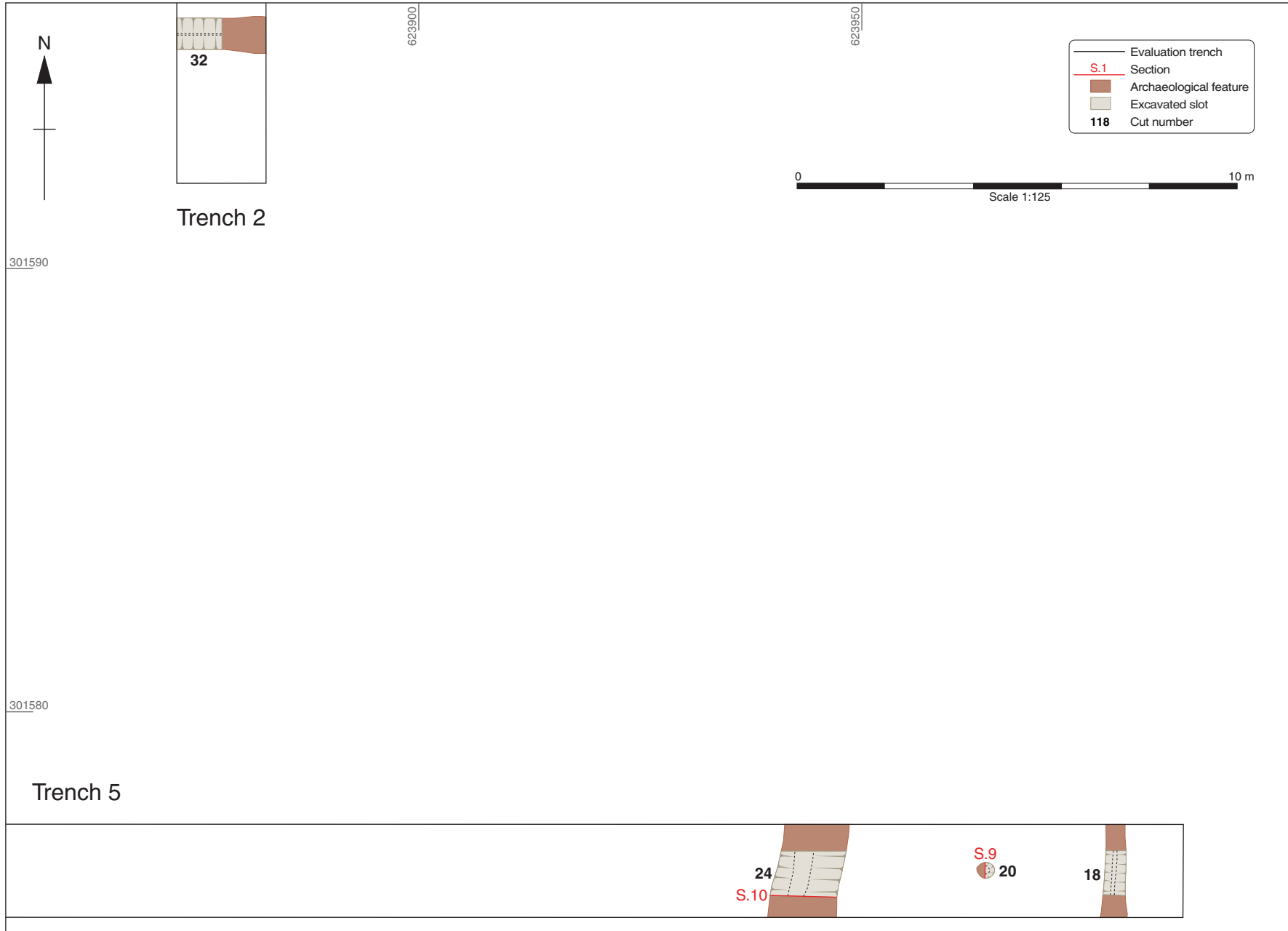


Figure 5: Detailed plan of Trenches 2 and 5

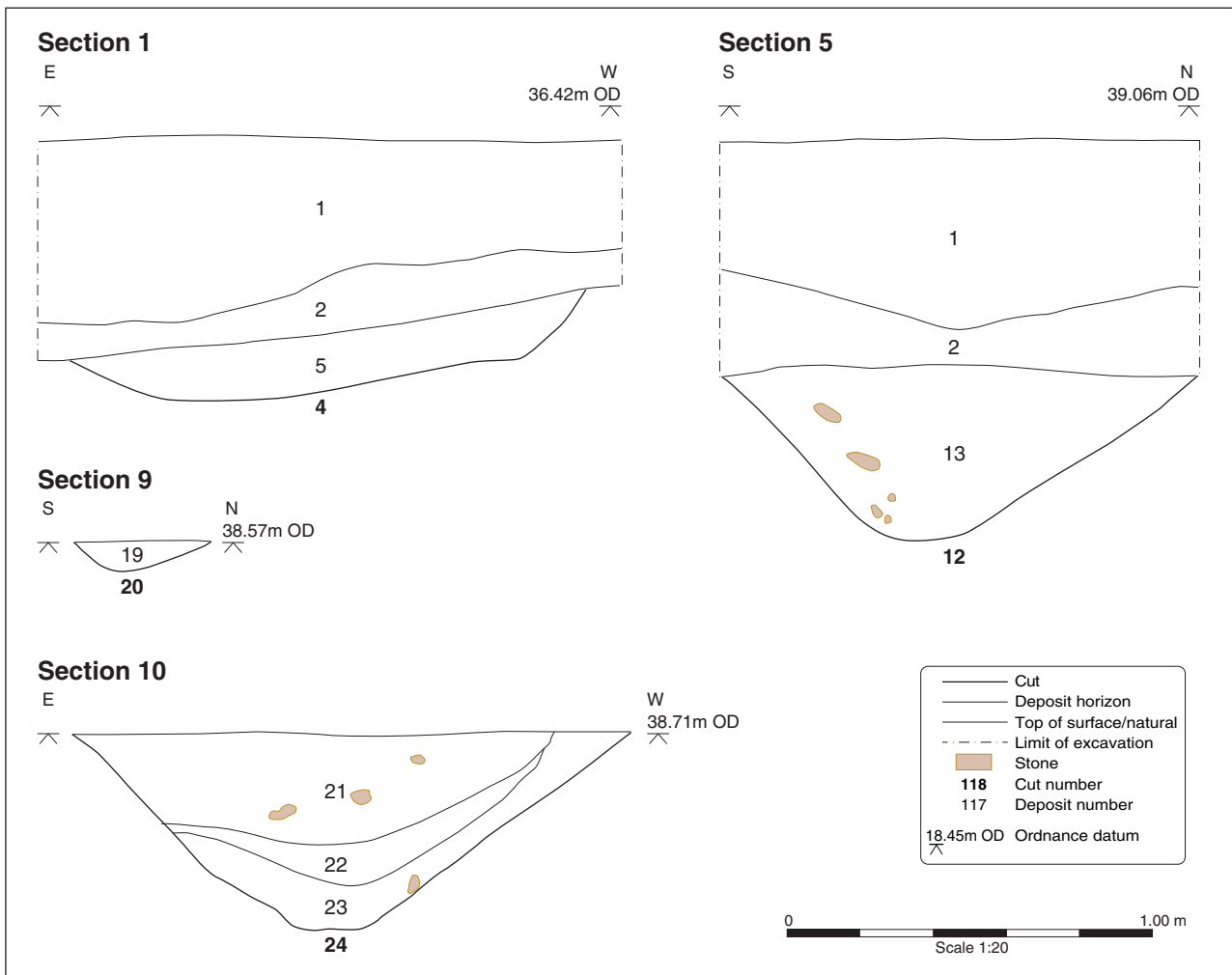


Figure 6: Selected sections

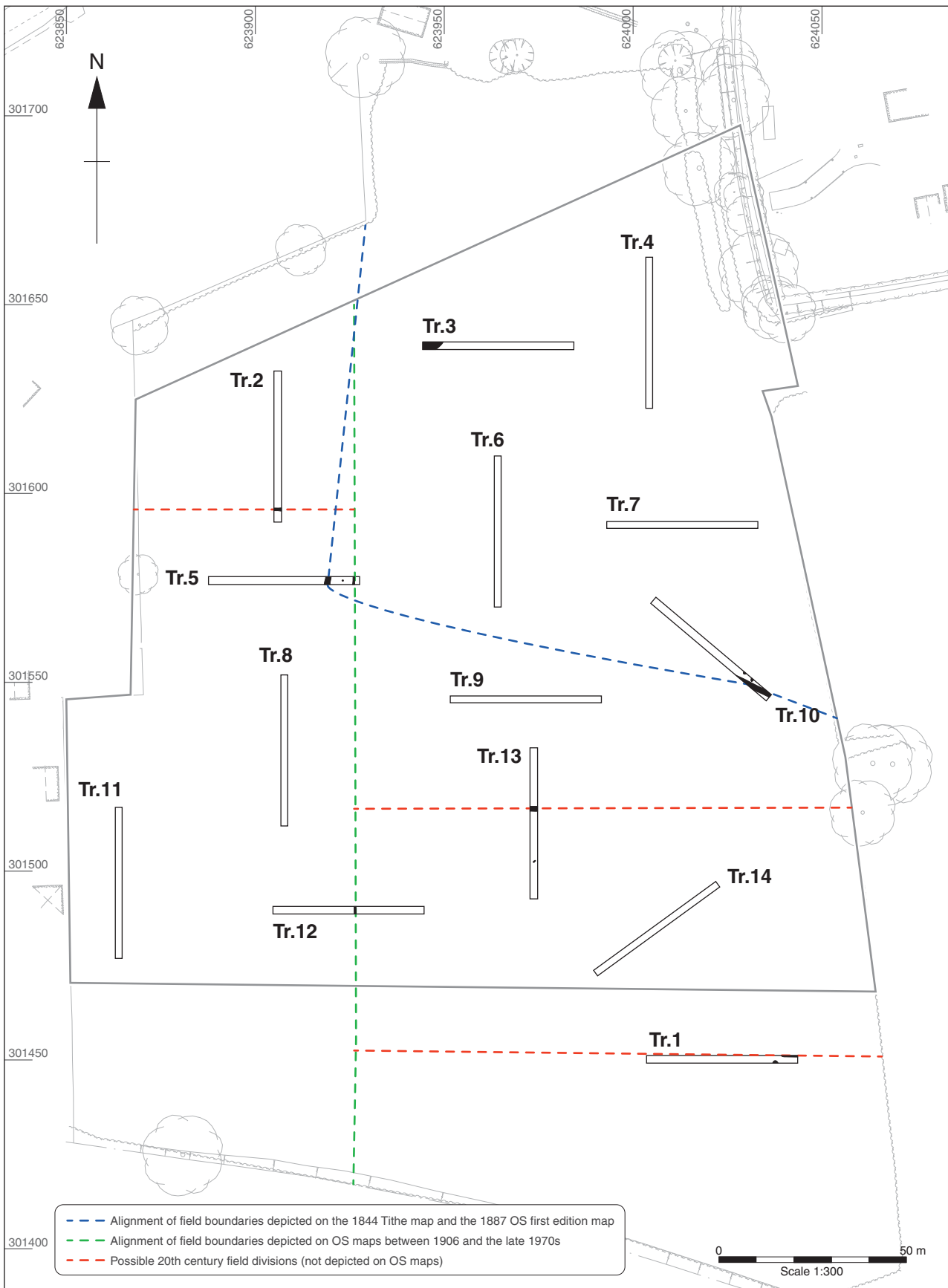


Figure 7: Correspondence between linear features and late 19th and 20th century field boundary alignments



Plate 1: Trench 1, view from east. Pit 4 and gully 6



Plate 2: Trench 1, view from north. Pit 4



Plate 3: Trench 5, view from east. Gully 18, post hole 20, ditch 24



Plate 4: Trench 5, view from north. Ditch 24



Plate 5: Trench 10, view from south-east. Ditch 14, pits 24 and 26



Plate 6: Trench 13, view from north



Plate 7: Trench 13, view from east. Ditch 12



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