

# St Faith's Sports Hall Trumpington



## DRAFT

### Archaeological Evaluation Report



April 2010

**Client: St Faith's School**

OA East Report No: 1177

OASIS No: oxfordar3-75191

NGR: TL 4526 5671

## **St Faith's Sports Hall, Trumpington**

*Archaeological Evaluation*

*By Jonathan House BA*

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*Report Date: April 2010*

**DRAFT**

**Report Number:** 1177  
**Site Name:** St Faith's School, Trumpington.  
**HER Event No:** ECB 3350  
**Date of Works:** March 2010  
**Client Name:** St Faith's School  
**Client Ref:** N/A  
**Planning Ref:** 08/1506/FUL  
**Grid Ref:** TL 4526 5669  
**Site Code:** CAMSFT10  
**Finance Code:** CAMSFT10  
**Receiving Body:** CCC Stores, Landbeach

**Accession No:**

**Prepared by:** Jonathan House  
**Position:** Supervisor  
**Date:** April 2010

**Checked by:** Richard Mortimer  
**Position:** Project Manager  
**Date:**  
**Signed:** 

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Plate 3 Selection of finds recovered from the trench, including complete coffee extract bottle.

## Summary

### *Summary text.*

*An Evaluation was carried out at St Faith's school, Trumpington, Grid ref TL 4526 5669. The evaluation consisted of one trench located within the proposed development area, adjacent to the sports hall, within the school playing field. The trench revealed features related to the original school buildings and playing field construction, some signs of farming practices pre-dating the school construction were seen in the form of plough scars, aligned perpendicular to Trumpington road. No archaeological features or deposits of significance were recorded.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted at St Faith's school, Trumpington, at grid reference TL 4526 5671.
- 1.1.2 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Andy Thomas of Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC; Planning Application 08/1506/FUL), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East.
- 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 Planning and Policy Guidance 16 - Archaeology and Planning (Department of the Environment 1990). 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 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 is located south of Cambridge at grid reference TL 4526 5671, at a height of 14.90m AOD, the surrounding area is relatively flat. The A1309 (Trumpington Road) runs to the west of the site on a north to south alignment, while the northern boundary of the site is formed by Newton road, running east to west.
- 1.2.2 The development site lies on the Second Terrace Deposits (sands/silts/gravels) on the east side of the valley of the River Cam.

### 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 There are cropmarks to the west which may indicate the location of a Roman-period settlement (CHER 09603) and a possible Saxon cemetery came to light in the 19th century, close by at 'Dam Hill' on the Vicar's Brook. The brook runs to the east and north of the development area and into the River Cam.

### 1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The author would like thank Russell Osborn of George Corderoy & Co and St Faith's School who respectively commissioned and funded the archaeological work. The project was managed by Richard Mortimer and the illustrator was Nick Gilmour, with Jonathan House as the on-site staff. The project was monitored by Dan McConnell of CAPCA.

## 2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

### 2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The Brief required that all archaeological deposits should be investigated, and recorded.
- 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 Jonathan House using measurements from existing buildings.
- 2.2.4 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.2.5 No environmental samples were taken from the site, as no appropriate features were identified during the investigations.
- 2.2.6 The site conditions and the weather did not inhibit the archaeological work.



### 3 RESULTS

#### 3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 One trench was excavated, the results are presented and described below.

#### 3.2 Trench 1

3.2.1 Trench 1 ran east to west and measured 40m in length, the top soil measured 0.18m with 0.28m of subsoil. (Plate 2, Fig 2) The topsoil contained a reasonably high density of ceramics and glass, with some metalwork, some was obviously modern however the majority was late 19thC and early 20thC.

3.2.2 Various Post Medieval features were identified within the trench, including two 19thC soakaways which appeared to be associated with the school building to the north, and which were perpendicular to it.

3.2.3 Two parallel concrete beams crossed the trench north to south, with a 1m space between them filled with modern demolition material. This truncated an earlier feature **103**, however upon excavation this also proved to be a further drainage pipe on the same alignment.

3.2.4 Plough scarring could be seen along the full length of the trench, the scarring was on a slightly different alignment to both the buildings and Post Medieval features within the trench.

#### 3.3 Finds Summary

3.3.1 A few contextual finds were recovered from feature **103** (104) the earliest sherd being a Black Glaze Ware dating to the 17thC, with the rest dating to the early 19thC (Carole Fletcher pers. comm.). The rest of the finds were recovered from the top soil and the truncated ground surface, the majority of the assemblage is within a relatively tight date range of the late 18thC to early 19thC, with nothing beyond 1920; this finds cut-off fits in well with the construction and formation of the playing fields and its undisturbed use thereafter.

3.3.2 A few of the more intrinsically interesting finds consisted of a fragment of a Salt Glazed ink well, a complete coffee extract bottle, and a sherd of a late 18thC Refined White Earthen Ware coffee can, which had a green under glaze transfer print.

## 4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

### 4.1 Discussion

- 4.1.1 All the drainage systems encountered are highly likely to relate to the construction of the school, the date of the finds assemblage supports this; the glass coffee extract bottle dating from 1885 to 1900 coincides with the foundation of the school. The variety of drains within the trench is probably due to the successive improvements and reworking of the school buildings.
- 4.1.2 The subsoil had been truncated in patches along the trench, but where it survived no finds were observed during the machine strip. The levelling of the ground for the construction of the playing field and cricket pitch, appears to have caused minimal truncation due to the already flat topography of the area.
- 4.1.3 The plough scars seen at the base of the trench are likely to relate to the farming practices which would have pre-dated the school's construction. Considering its perpendicular alignment to Trumpington Road, it is probably contemporary or later than the establishment of the road, and pre the construction of the school.

### 4.2 Significance

- 4.2.1 The site is of low archaeological significance.

### 4.3 Recommendations

- 4.3.1 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						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	E-W	
Trench located within playing field adjacent to sports hall.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.46	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.6	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	39.6	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
101	Layer	-	0.18	Topsoil	Various	Post Med / Modern
102	Layer	-	0.28	Subsoil	None	-
103	Cut	>2	-	Drain	-	-
104	Fill	>2	-	Fill of 103	Pot	19thC

## APPENDIX B. BIBLIOGRAPHY

British Geological Survey. 2002. Saffron Walden. England and Wales Sheet 205 Slid and Drift Geology. 1:50 000. (Keyworth, Nottingham: British Geological Survey).

Mortimer R. 2010. Specification For An Archaeological Evaluation: St Faith's Sports Hall, Trumpington.

### Websites

Mogstad J. 2009. Society for Historical Archaeology [online]. Available from: <http://www.sha.org/bottle/food.htm#Flavoring%20extracts> [Accessed: 30 March 2010]

## APPENDIX C. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

### Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-75191		
Project Name	St Faith's Sports Hall, Trumpington		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	29-03-2010	Finish	29-03-2010
Previous Work (by OA East)	No	Future Work	No

### Project Reference Codes

Site Code	CAMSFT10	Planning App. No.	08/1506/FUL
HER No.	ECB 3350	Related HER/OASIS No.	None

### Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Development Type	Urban Commercial

### Please select all techniques used:

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

### Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

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

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Soakaway	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901	Ceramics	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901
	Select period...		Select period...
	Select period...		Select period...

### Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)
District	Cambs City	St Faith's, Trumpington Road Cambridge CB2 8AG
Parish	Cambridge	
HER	Cambridgeshire County Council	
Study Area	1250m2	National Grid Reference TL 4526 5669

## Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Local Planning Authority
Project Design Originator	Richard Mortimer
Project Manager	Richard Mortimer
Supervisor	Jonathan House

## Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
Landbeach	OA East Office (Bar Hill)	Landbeach
CAMSFT10	CAMSFT10	CAMSFT10

## Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input 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"/>
Metal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stratigraphic		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Survey		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Textiles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>





Digital Media	Paper Media
<input type="checkbox"/> Database	<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photos
<input type="checkbox"/> GIS	<input type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysics	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence
<input type="checkbox"/> Images	<input type="checkbox"/> Diary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illustrations	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing
<input type="checkbox"/> Moving Image	<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscript
<input type="checkbox"/> Spreadsheets	<input type="checkbox"/> Map
<input type="checkbox"/> Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Matrices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text	<input type="checkbox"/> Microfilm
<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual Reality	<input type="checkbox"/> Misc.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Research/Notes
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photos
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

### Notes:


An Evaluation was carried out at St Faith's school, Trumpington, Grid ref TL 4526 5669. The evaluation consisted of one trench located within the proposed development area, adjacent to the sports hall, within the school playing field. One trench was excavated revealing features related to the original school and playing field construction, some signs of farming practices pre-dating the school construction were seen in the form of plough scars, aligned perpendicular to Trumpington road.

## Drawing Conventions

### Plans

Limit of Excavation	—————
Deposit - Conjectured	-----
Natural Features	—————
Intrusion/Truncation	-----
Illustrated Section	<u>Section 14</u>
Concrete	
Archaeological Deposit	
Plough Scar	
Modern Deposit	
Cut Number	<b>118</b>

### Sections

Limit of Excavation	-----
Cut	—————
Cut-Conjectured	-----
Deposit Horizon	—————
Deposit Horizon - Conjectured	-----
Intrusion/Truncation	-----
Top Surface/Top of Natural	—————
Break in Section/ Limit of Section Drawing	- - - - -
Cut Number	<b>118</b>
Deposit Number	117
Ordnance Datum	18.45m OD ^
Inclusions	

### Convention Key

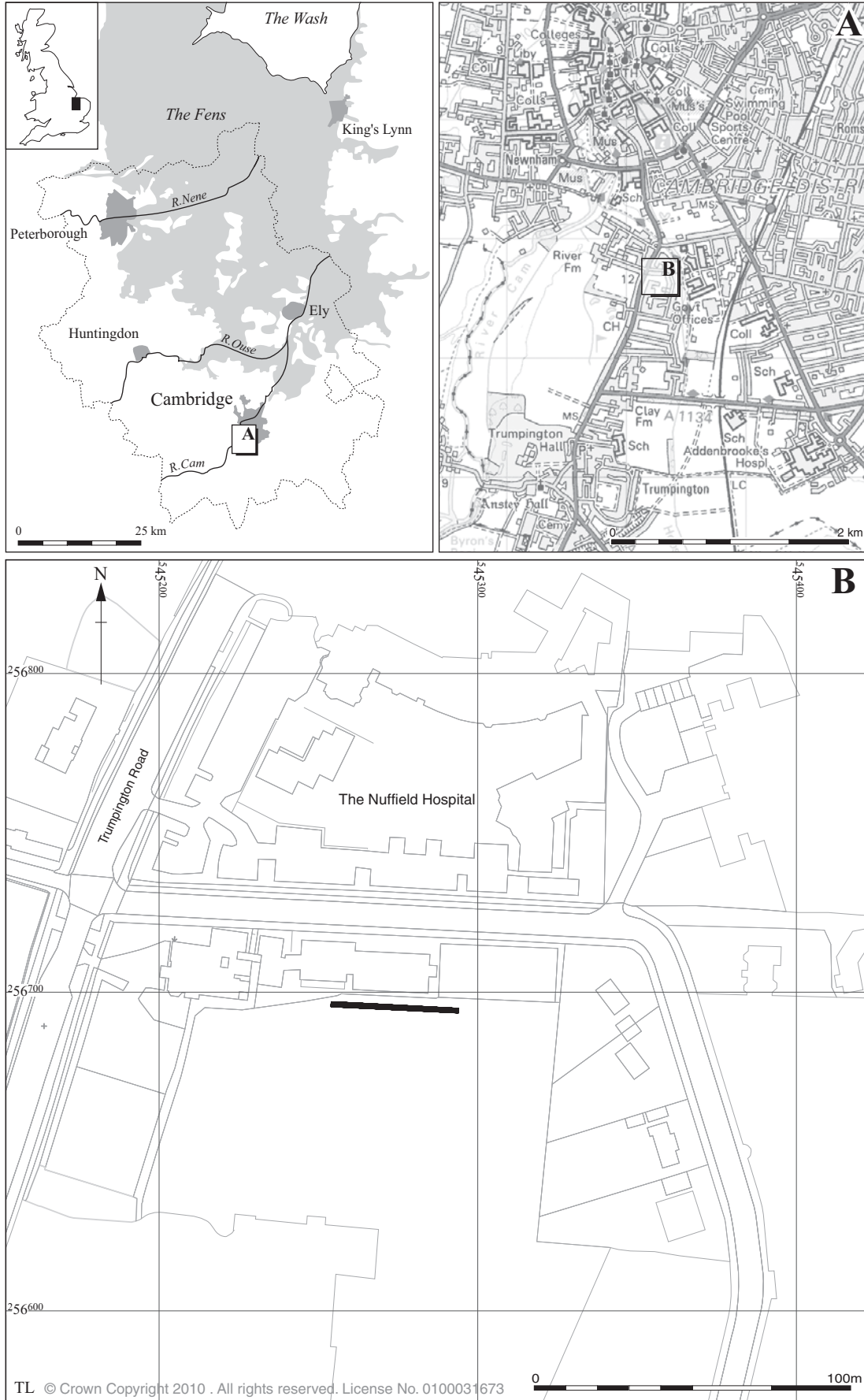


Figure 1: Location of trench (black)



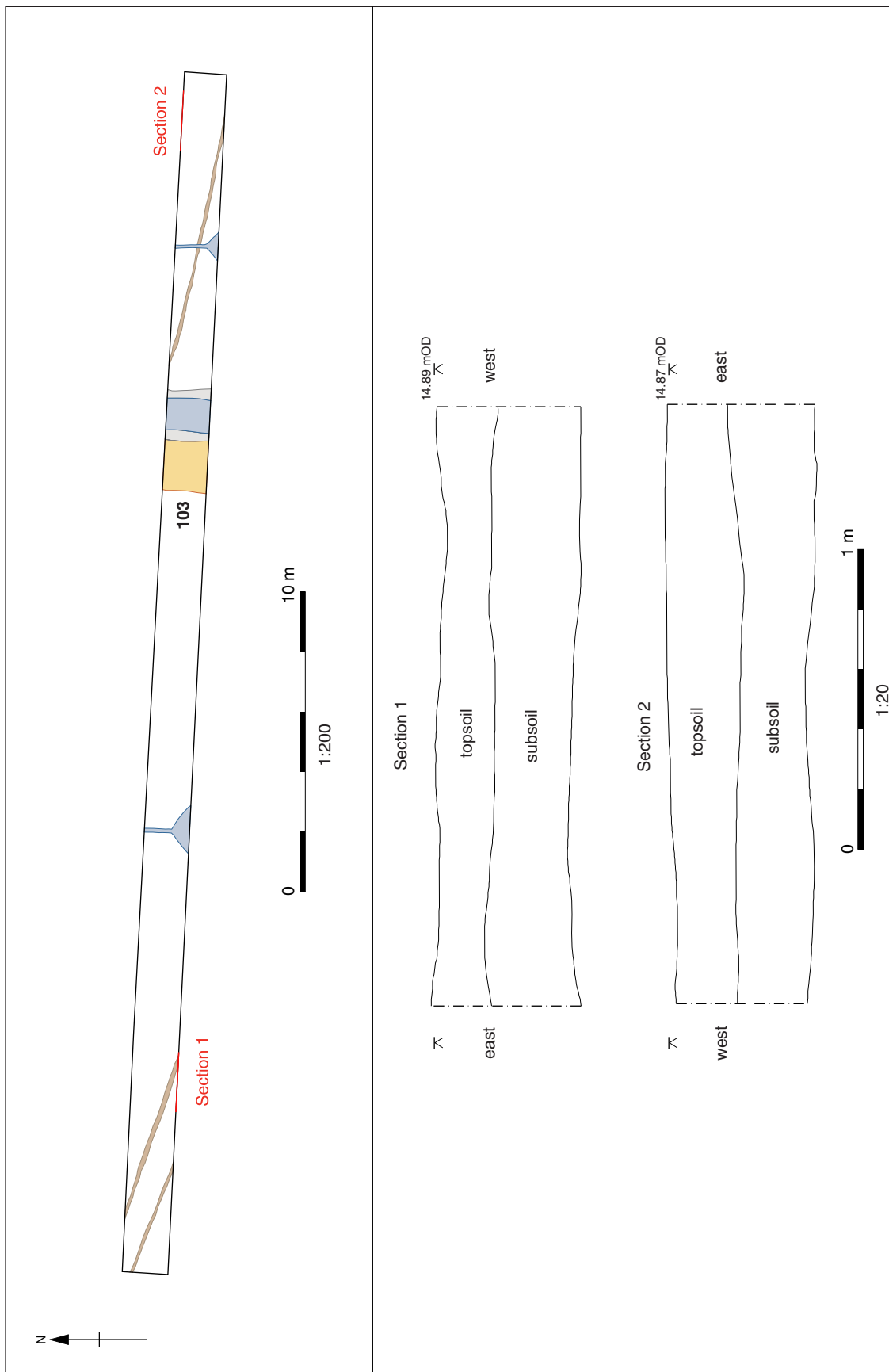


Figure 2: Trench plan and sections



Plate 1: Trench shot, photo taken from the east



Plate 2: Photo of Section 1, showing topsoil and subsoil, taken from the north



Plate 3: Selection of finds recovered from the trench, including complete coffee extract bottle



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