



Land North of 66-100 Thrapston Road, Brampton, Cambridgeshire, Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Land North of 66-100 Thrapston Road, Brampton, Cambridgeshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

Between the 24th of April and 3rd of May 2017 Oxford Archaeology East carried out an archaeological evaluation on land to the north of 66-100 Thrapston Road, Brampton, Cambridgeshire (TL 2109 7127).

A total of six 30m trial trenches were excavated to target features identified by geophysical survey. The findings in Trenches 4 and 5 confirmed the presence of a ring ditch identified in the geophysics, possibly a ploughed out Bronze Age barrow measuring 27m in diameter; no dating was recovered from the ditch itself. Early Roman and undated ditches were identified in the area around the ring ditch.

In the western half of the site there was a concentration of ditches in Trenches 1 and 2. The majority of ditches in Trench 1 contained handmade Middle Iron Age-type ceramics including Scored Wares of the East Midlands tradition. A large ditch in Trench 2 was dated as Early Roman.

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The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Tom Phillips. The fieldwork was directed by Nicholas Cox, who was supported by Andrew Radford and Robin Webb. Survey and digitizing was carried out by David Brown. Thanks are also extended to the 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 management of Katherine Hamilton.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake a trial trench evaluation at 66-100 Thrapston Road, Brampton, Cambridgeshire (TL 2109 7127).
- 1.1.2 Due to the archaeological potential of the site Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team (CHET) recommended that the applicant provide further information concerning the potential impact of the development on any archaeological remains. A brief for the work was set by Andy Thomas and a written scheme of investigation was produced by OA. Due to restricted access the evaluation comprised only six trenches. This document outlines how OA implemented the specified requirements.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The site lies to north of Brampton village and comprises two land parcels totaling approximately 3.25 hectares.
- 1.2.2 The area of proposed development consists of rough open ground with the remains of former horse training tracks. It has a gentle northern gradient, with a height of around 12.5m OD at its southern extent and 11m OD at its northern extent.
- 1.2.3 The bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Mudstone belonging to the Oxford Clay Formation. Superficial deposits are recorded as sand and gravel river terrace deposits. (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> accessed on 22/03/17).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The following is drawn from the Written Scheme of Investigation (Phillips 2017) based on information in the Desk-based Assessment (Robertson 2016), supplemented by data from the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER).

Prehistoric

- 1.3.2 The nationally important remains of a series of prehistoric features are recorded from cropmarks 500m to the west (SAM121). The features include barrows and a multi-ditched circular monument of probable Bronze Age date, and a Neolithic cursus and probable mortuary enclosure.
- 1.3.3 Excavations undertaken in the same area in 1990 recorded a possible Neolithic cursus (ECB31). The cursus was ditched with a posthole at the east end. Neolithic flints were recovered during fieldwalking. Subsequent excavations (ECB1907) revealed the complete plan of a monument, interpreted as a mortuary enclosure at the eastern end of the cursus.
- 1.3.4 Excavations carried out at Huntingdon Racecourse, 650m north-west of the study site, recorded Late Neolithic/early Bronze Age occupation centred on a rectilinear enclosure (11134/ECB3152). A large palisaded boundary was contemporary with the occupation and a Middle Bronze Age coaxial field system was established later, which

appears to have respected the palisaded boundary. To the west of this, a Bronze Age round barrow was discovered that appears to post-date the field system.

- 1.3.5 An evaluation undertaken 850m south-west of the study site (ECB985) revealed two pits, one of which contained numerous fragments of Bronze Age Beaker ware as well as a few tiny fragments of burnt bone, possibly the remains of a cremation. Another evaluation 950m to the west revealed an enclosed Iron Age settlement (ECB1112).

Romano-British

- 1.3.6 Around 20 Roman pots found in three rows were recovered during ground works in one of the garden plots adjacent to the southern boundary of the site (02556).
- 1.3.7 Excavations 400m west of the study site (10172/ECB1908) recorded two parallel Romano-British ditches with associated small rectangular enclosures.
- 1.3.8 Excavations within the Scheduled Monument 500m west of the study site (SAM121) identified narrow, shallow field ditches dated to the Roman period, while an evaluation 950m west of the site identified three Roman pits (CB15265).
- 1.3.9 Eight Early Roman kilns have recently been discovered 1.2km south of the site at RAF Brampton (ECB4681).

Anglo-Saxon/early medieval

- 1.3.10 No heritage assets relating to the Anglo-Saxon/Early Medieval period are recorded close to the proposed site. The principal focus of settlement activity at this time was Huntingdon, some 2.5km to the east, which is mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle.

Medieval

- 1.3.11 LiDAR data shows evidence of ploughed out ridge and furrow in the study site. This is in contrast to the well preserved ridge and furrow visible in the adjacent field to the east (09259) and 100m north-west (09258) that are also recorded in the HER as medieval field systems.
- 1.3.12 Brampton is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as a substantial royal manor. The medieval parish church of St Mary is located 450m south-east of the proposed site (HER 02706). Medieval occupation and industry in the form of pits, structures and large wells or tanks, possibly associated with a manorial complex at Brampton House, has been found at RAF Brampton 1.2km to the south (ECB4681).

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The project aims and objectives were as follows:

- i. To determine or confirm the general nature of any remains present.
- ii. To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence.
- iii. To set results in the local, regional, and national archaeological context – and, in particular, its wider cultural landscape and past environmental conditions
- iv. To provide 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 A total of six trenches were excavated, four measuring 30 x 1.8m and two measuring 24m in length due to dense undergrowth and overhead powerlines.
- 2.2.2 Service plans were checked before work commenced on site. Before trenching, the footprint of each trench was scanned by a qualified and experienced operator using a CAT and Genny with a valid calibration certificate.
- 2.2.3 Bucket samples of 90 litres of excavated soil were taken from the end of each trench, in order to characterise artefactual remains in the topsoil and other soil horizons above the archaeological level. These were sieved on site for the purposes of finds retrieval. Modern pottery finds and other modern material were recovered.
- 2.2.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector.
- 2.2.5 All machine excavation was carried out under the supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.
- 2.2.6 The trial trenches were excavated by a mechanical excavator to the upper interface of archaeological features or deposits. A toothless ditching bucket was used to excavate the trenches. Overburden was excavated in spits not greater than 0.1m thick.
- 2.2.7 Spoil was stored alongside trenches. Topsoil, subsoil, and archaeological deposits were kept separate during excavation, to allow for sequential backfilling of excavations.
- 2.2.8 All archaeological features and deposits were excavated by hand, in slots of at least 1.0m in width.
- 2.2.9 Site survey was carried out using a survey-grade differential GPS (Leica CS10/GS08 or Leica 1200) fitted with "smartnet" technology with an accuracy of 5mm horizontal and 10mm vertical.
- 2.2.10 The site grid is accurately tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid and located on the 1:2500 or 1:1250 map of the area. Elevations are levelled to the Ordnance Datum.
- 2.2.11 A register has been kept of all trenches, features, and photographs.
- 2.2.12 All features, layers and deposits have been issued with unique context numbers. Each feature is individually documented on context sheets, and hand-drawn in section and

plan. Written descriptions are recorded on pro-forma sheets comprising factual data and interpretative elements.

- 2.2.13 Sections of features have been drawn at 1:20. All sections are tied in to Ordnance Datum.
- 2.2.14 All site drawings include the following information: site name, site code, scale, plan or section number, orientation, date and the name or initials of the archaeologist who prepared the drawing.
- 2.2.15 The photographic record comprises high resolution digital photographs.
- 2.2.16 Photographs include both general trench shots and photographs of specific features. Every feature has been photographed at least once. Photographs include a scale, north arrow, site code, and feature number (where relevant), unless they are to be used in publications. The photograph register records these details, and photograph numbers are listed on corresponding context sheets.
- 2.2.17 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

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 that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendix A. Finds data and spot dates are tabulated in Appendix B.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The soil sequence across all trenches was fairly uniform. The natural geology of sandy gravel was overlain by a silty sand subsoil, which in turn was overlain by topsoil.

3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the trenches remained dry throughout. 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 present in all of the trenches with the majority being concentrated in Trenches 1, 2, 4 and 5. The trenches are discussed running from west to east.

3.4 Trench 1

3.4.1 Trench 1 was the most westerly of the trenches and was orientated north-west to south-east with an average depth of 0.52m (Fig. 3 and Plate 1).

3.4.2 At the western end of the trench was a curvilinear ditch (**80**) turning from south-west to north. This measured 2.3m wide and 0.8m deep (Fig. 5 Section 26 and Plate 2) and contained two fills. The lower fill (**81**) was a very dark grey clayey sand measuring 0.18m thick, which contained 27 sherds (805g) of Middle Iron Age pottery (see Appendix B.2). Above this was a mid brown grey clayey sand (**91**) measuring 0.5m thick.

3.4.3 Ditch **80** was truncated by another ditch (**82**) on a north-east to south-west alignment. This ditch was 1.36m wide and 0.65m deep (Fig. 5 Section 26 and Plate 2) and also contained two fills. The lower fill comprised a mid greyish brown clayey sand (**83**) measuring 0.37m thick, which contained 11 sherds (126g) of Middle Iron Age pottery and two struck flints (see Appendix C.1). This was overlain by **84**, a mid grey brown clayey sand measuring 0.28m thick, which contained nine sherds (59g) of Middle Iron Age pottery and a fragment of cattle bone (see Appendix C.1).

3.4.4 Cutting the eastern edge of ditch **82** was a sub-circular pit (**85**) measuring 0.86m wide and 0.45m deep. It was filled by a mid grey brown clayey sand (**86**), which contained no finds.

3.4.5 Pit **85** was then truncated by a wide flat-based ditch (**49**) on a north to south alignment. This measured 3m wide and 0.45m deep, a 1.5m wide segment was excavated due to the angle of the trench. The ditch was filled by a dark grey clayey

sand (50) measuring 0.23m thick, overlain by a mid greyish brown clayey sand (51) measuring 0.22m thick, which contained a cow's tooth (see Appendix C.1).

- 3.4.6 To the south-east of ditch **49** was another ditch (**52**), which was orientated north-north-east to south-south-west and measured 1.85m wide and 0.5m deep (Fig. 5 Section 18). Its basal fill was a dark grey clayey sand (53), overlain by an upper fill of mid grey clayey sand (54). An environmental sample was taken from the lower fill but was devoid of any preserved remains.
- 3.4.7 A smaller re-cut (**55**) ran along the eastern edge of ditch **52**. This measured 0.85m wide and 0.32m deep. It was filled by a light brownish grey clayey sand (56).
- 3.4.8 Immediately to the east of ditch **52** was a narrow ditch aligned north-north-east to south-south-west (**57**). This measured 0.54m wide and 0.38m deep and had a nearly V-shaped profile. It was filled by a dark grey clayey sand (58) containing three sherds (18g) of Middle Iron Age pottery. An environmental sample taken from the fill yielded a single charred indeterminate cereal grain.
- 3.4.9 At the south-eastern end of the trench was a shallow pit (**62**) measuring at least 0.7m wide and 0.18m deep (Fig. 5 Section 21). It was filled by a mid reddish brown clayey sand (63).
- 3.4.10 A large ditch (**64**) on a north-west to south-east alignment entered the trench from the south-eastern end and truncated the southern half of pit **62**. It measured at least 1.06m wide and was 0.52m deep (Fig. 5 Section 21 and Plate 3). Its lower fill (65) was a dark brown grey clayey sand, containing a single sherd (37g) of Iron Age pottery. Above this was a dark brown grey (66) clayey sand, which contained nine sherds (57g) of Middle Iron Age pottery.
- 3.4.11 The northern edge of the ditch **64** was cut by a small pit (**60**), which measured 0.5m wide and 0.24m deep. This was filled by a dark greyish brown clayey sand (61), containing one residual sherd (2g) of Middle Iron Age pottery and two sherds (21g) of Roman pottery (see Appendix B.3).

3.5 Trench 2

3.5.1 Trench 2 was orientated north-north-east to south-south-west and measured 24m long with an average depth of 0.58m (Fig. 3 and Plate 4).

A.1.1 At the southern end was a large ditch (**67**) on a north-west to south-east alignment. It measured 4.43m wide and was excavated to a depth of 1m (Fig. 5 Section 23 and Plate 5). The lowest fill excavated was a dark grey clayey sand (68), measuring in excess of 0.3m thick. Above this was a layer of dark brown silty soil (69), which contained 13 sherds (24g) of Early Roman pottery. Environmental samples from fills 68 and 69 produced waterlogged plant remains (see Appendix C.2). These included aquatic plants such as water-crowfoot, pondweed and duckweed, seeds of plants that may have been growing on the sides of the ditch such as Fool's water cress, gypsywort and sedges and also seeds of trees/shrubs/hedgerows that were growing on top of the bank such as sloe/cherry, white bryony, bittersweet, elderberry and brambles. On the northern edge of the ditch was a slump of mid reddish brown sand (70). Overlying both 69 and 70 was a mid grey clay (71), which contained eight sherds (102g) of Early

Roman pottery. A small deposit of mid reddish brown clayey silt (72) had collected in the middle of the ditch, which contained two sherds (42g) of Early Roman pottery. The final fill was a mid grey brown sandy silt (73), which contained one residual sherd (2g) of Iron Age pottery and 10 sherds (73g) of Early Roman pottery including one sherd from a cheese press, dating to the 1st to mid-2nd centuries.

- 3.5.2 Just north of ditch **67** was a small posthole (**74**), which was 0.3m by 0.2m wide and 0.2m deep. It was filled by a mid brown grey silty sand (75), which contained no finds.
- 3.5.3 At the northern end of the trench were two large shallow hollows. On the eastern side of the trench was hollow **76** which extended more than 1.1m into the trench and was 0.18m deep. It was filled by a mid brown grey silty sand (77). It was truncated on the western side of the trench by hollow **78**, which was 0.7m wide in the trench and 0.2m deep. It was filled by a dark brown grey sandy silt (79).

3.6 Trench 3

- 3.6.1 Located in the south-east corner of the western field, Trench 3 measured 24m long and had an average depth of 0.57m (Fig. 3).
- 3.6.2 A shallow ditch terminus (**47**) entered the trench from the south. This was 0.55m wide and 0.05m deep. It was filled by a mid grey brown sandy silt (48), containing one sherd (63g) of Early Roman pottery.
- 3.6.3 In the middle of the trench was a shallow pit or natural hollow (**89**) which measured 0.76m long, 0.38m wide and 0.09m deep. The pit contained a mid brown grey sandy silt (90), which produced one sherd (4g) of residual Iron Age pottery and four sherds (26g) of Early Roman pottery, dating to the mid-1st to mid-2nd centuries.
- 3.6.4 At the eastern end of the trench was ditch or furrow (**45**), which was orientated north-north-east to south-south-west, measuring 1.6m wide and 0.1m deep. It was filled by a mid brown grey sandy silt (46), which contained no finds.

3.7 Trench 4

- 3.7.1 Trench 4 was located in the eastern field and was positioned to target a possible ring ditch identified in the geophysical survey (Swinbank 2017). It was on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment and had an average depth of 0.62m (Fig. 4 and Plate 6).
- 3.7.2 At the northern end of the trench was a sub-circular pit (**6**), measuring at least 0.85m wide and more than 0.4m deep. This was filled by a mid grey brown clayey silt (7) containing two sherds (3g) of Middle Iron Age pottery.
- 3.7.3 Ditch (**4**) was on a north to south alignment and truncated pit **6**. It measured 1.6m wide and 0.32m deep. Its sole fill was a mid greyish brown clayey sand (5), which produced a two sherds (19g) of Early Roman pottery.
- 3.7.4 The ring-ditch was identified in the centre of the trench and comprised a curvilinear ditch (**8**) measuring more than 0.8m wide and 0.3m deep (Fig. 5 Sections 3 & 22 and Plate 7). It was filled by a dark grey brown clayey sand (9), which contained no finds. The ditch was subsequently re-cut (**10**), this measuring 2.26m wide and 0.38m deep. Ditch **10** was filled by a mid grey brown clayey sand (11), which also contained no finds.

An environmental sample was taken from the fill but was devoid of any preserved remains. On the southern edge of the ditch, visible only in section, was the possible remains of a bank or mound, consisting of a mid reddish brown gravelly sand (92), surviving to a depth of 0.22m (Fig. 5 Section 22).

- 3.7.5 An east to west aligned ditch (**12**) truncated both the possible bank material (92) and the ring ditch **8** (Fig. 5 Section 22). Ditch **12** measured 1.27m wide and 0.7m deep (Fig. 5 Section 4). Its lower fill was a light grey sand (13), overlain by a mid grey brown clayey sand (14), which contained three sherds (73g) of Early Roman pottery and four fragments (168g) of a fired clay plate possibly from a kiln (see Appendix B.4).
- 3.7.6 South of ditch **12** was a shallow posthole (**15**), measuring 0.42m in diameter and 0.14m deep (Fig. 6 Section 5). This was filled by a mid grey brown clayey sand (16).
- 3.7.7 At the southern end of the trench was a shallow spread of material (17), measuring 0.08m thick. It consisted of a mid grey brown clayey sand that contained no finds.
- 3.7.8 A single north-north-east to south-south-west aligned furrow was identified between ditches **4** and **11**.

3.8 Trench 5

- 3.8.1 Trench 5 was located south-east of Trench 4 and was also sited to investigate the possible ring ditch identified in the geophysical survey. It was aligned west-north-west to east-south-east and had an average depth of 0.7m (Fig. 4 and Plate 9).
- 3.8.2 The ring ditch was located at the western end of the trench (**24**), measuring 4.1m wide (the excavated segment measured 2.1m wide) and 0.66m deep (Fig. 5 Section 9 and Plate 10). Its lowest fill was a light yellow brown silty sand (25), measuring 0.1m thick. Above this was a mid grey brown silty sand (26) measuring 0.11m thick. The uppermost fill was a dark grey brown silty sand (27), measuring 0.18m thick. No finds were recovered from any of the ditch fills. The ditch was re-cut (**28**) to a depth of 0.27m. The re-cut was filled by a mid reddish brown sandy silt (29), which also contained no finds.
- 3.8.3 The ring-ditch was truncated by a slightly curvilinear ditch (**30**), which measured 1.52m wide and 0.6m deep, with an identical profile to ditch **12** in Trench 4. Ditch **30** contained four fills; the primary fill (31) was a light greyish brown sand, sealed by a dark brownish grey sandy silt (32). An environmental sample was taken from fill (32) but was devoid of any preserved remains. This was overlain by a mid reddish brown silty sand (33), while the top fill was a mid reddish brown sandy silt (34). The ditch was re-cut (**35**) to a depth of 0.26m, this being filled by a dark reddish brown sandy silt (36). No finds were present in any of the fills of either ditch.
- 3.8.4 At the mid-point of the trench was a pit (**37**) extending from the northern edge of the trench, measuring 0.87m wide and 0.35m deep. It was filled by a dark reddish brown sandy silt (38), containing no finds.
- 3.8.5 At the eastern end of the trench were three narrow ditches, two of which were aligned north-west to south-east (**39** and **43**) with the third (**41**) aligned north-east to south-west. Ditch **39** measured 0.72m wide and 0.29m deep (Plate 11). It was filled by a dark reddish brown sandy silt (40). Ditch **43** measured 0.82m wide and 0.26m deep, with a

dark reddish brown sandy silt fill (44). Both were truncated by ditch **41**, which was 0.86m wide and 0.32m deep, filled by a dark reddish brown sandy silt (42). None of the ditches produced any finds.

- 3.8.6 Three north-north-east to south-south-west aligned furrows were also present in the trench.

3.9 Trench 6

- 3.9.1 Trench 6 was located in the south-east corner of the eastern field, orientated west-north-west to east-south-east, with an average depth of 0.6m (Fig. 4).

- 3.9.2 At the western end of the trench was a north-east to south-west aligned ditch (**22**), measuring 1.4m wide and 0.3m deep. It was filled by a mid reddish brown sandy silt (23), which contained no finds.

- 3.9.3 In the eastern half of the trench was a small post-medieval pit (**20**), which was 0.38m in diameter and 0.18m deep. It contained a mid reddish brown silt fill (21), with a fragmentary 18th century brick (1.26kg).

- 3.9.4 At the eastern end of the trench was a north-north-east to south-south-west aligned furrow (**18**), measuring 0.8m wide and 0.08m deep. This was filled by a mid reddish brown sandy silt (19).

3.10 Finds summary

- 3.10.1 Pottery from the Middle Iron Age (1.11kg) and Early Roman period (443g) was recovered from the site. The Middle Iron Age pottery is in good condition and includes some large unabraded sherds, particularly those from ditch **82** in Trench 1. The assemblage includes Scored Wares of the East Midlands tradition (Elsdon 1992; Knight 2001). No diagnostic sherds of Late Iron Age pottery were recovered.

- 3.10.2 The Roman pottery all dates from between the mid-1st and mid-2nd centuries.

- 3.10.3 A small amount of Roman kiln furniture was recovered from one ditch. An 18th century brick (c. 1770) was recovered from a post-medieval pit in Trench 6.

- 3.10.4 Two small worked flints were recovered from an Iron Age ditch.

- 3.10.5 In addition, six fragments of animal bone were recovered. Species represented include cattle, sheep, horse and pig.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 4.1.1 The field evaluation has shown that the anomalies identified as archaeological in the geophysical survey correspond with sub-surface features on occasion, some features that did not show up in the geophysical survey were also identified.
- 4.1.2 Within most of the trenches features were generally easy to distinguish against the natural geology.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

- 4.2.1 The evaluation has confirmed the presence of archaeological features within the proposed development area. These have been largely dated to the Middle Iron Age and Early Roman periods.

4.3 Interpretation

- 4.3.1 The ring-ditch feature initially identified in the geophysical survey was encountered in the evaluation as a curvilinear ditch (**8/10** in Trench 4 and **24/28** in Trench 5). The ring-ditch has an overall diameter of 27m and was of variable depth (0.38m in Trench 4 and 0.66m in Trench 5), with the very tentative remnants of a bank or mound on the inside (92), visible in the baulk of Trench 4. The size and form of the ring-ditch suggests that it could be the remains of a ploughed out round barrow, which most commonly date to the Early Bronze Age (c. 2400 – 1500 BC), although no dating was recovered from either hand-excavated slot. The presence of a barrow in this location is not unexpected as there are a number of Neolithic and Bronze Age monuments in the vicinity, sited close to the River Great Ouse.
- 4.3.2 There appeared to be at least one Early Roman ditch (**12**) which truncated the ring-ditch in Trench 4 and extended across the interior of it, suggesting that if the ring-ditch was a barrow then the mound had already been denuded by the Roman period. Ditch **4** in Trench 4 also contained Early Roman pottery, while ditches **30, 35, 39, 41** and **43** in Trench 5 contained no finds but may be contemporary with ditches **4** and **12**. Ditch **30/35** also truncated the ring-ditch and was almost identical to ditch **12**.
- 4.3.3 In the western field the main features included a concentration of ditches in Trench 1 (**49, 52, 55, 57, 64, 80, and 82**). All appear to date to the Middle Iron Age, with 61 sherds (1100g) of handmade Middle Iron Age-type ceramics being recovered from features in the trench, including Scored Wares of the East Midlands tradition. The ditches presumably form part of an enclosure or field system, which extends beyond the immediate area of Trench 1.
- 4.3.4 A large north-west to south-east aligned boundary ditch of Early Roman date (**67**) was present in Trench 2. The size of the ditch suggests a significant boundary, whilst the waterlogged nature of the lower fills (contexts 68 and 69) and the environmental evidence recovered from them (Appendix C.2) indicate that the ditch contained water at least periodically. There are a few small features also of Roman date (**47** and **89**) all located to the south of this ditch, suggesting any other activity of this period may be restricted to that side of the ditch. This would correlate with earlier finds of Romano-

British pottery in the gardens of the houses on the north side of Thrapston Road (CHER 02556).

- 4.3.5 A number of truncated medieval furrows on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment were also identified in the trenches in eastern field (Trenches 4, 5 and 6). These match the alignment of probable furrows identified by geophysics.

4.4 Significance

- 4.4.1 The evaluation revealed evidence of a possible Bronze Age round barrow in the east of the site, while in the west the most significant features were a concentration of Middle Iron Age ditches and one large Early Roman boundary ditch.

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Trench contained five north to south ditches, one east to west ditch and several pits. Soil cover consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravel.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.80
					Avg. depth (m)	0.52
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Findings	Date
1	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.27	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
49	Cut	3.00	0.45	Ditch	-	-
50	Fill	-	0.23	Fill of Ditch 49	-	-
51	Fill	-	0.22	Fill of Ditch 49	-	-
52	Cut	1.85	0.50	Ditch	-	Roman
53	Fill	-	0.22	Fill of Ditch 52	Pottery	Roman
54	Fill	-	0.28	Fill of Ditch 52	-	Roman
55	Cut	0.85	0.32	Ditch	-	Roman
56	Fill	-	0.32	Fill of Ditch 55	-	Roman
57	Cut	0.54	0.38	Ditch	-	Mid Iron Age
58	Fill	-	0.38	Fill of Ditch 57	Pottery	Mid Iron Age
59	Layer	4.00	0.05	Spread	-	-
60	Cut	0.50	0.24	Pit	-	Roman
61	Fill	-	0.24	Fill of Pit 60	Pottery	Roman
62	Cut	0.70	0.18	Pit	-	-
63	Fill	-	0.18	Fill of Pit 62	-	-
64	Cut	1.06	0.52	Ditch	-	Mid Iron Age
65	Fill	-	0.18	Fill of Ditch 64	Pottery	Mid Iron Age
66	Fill	-	0.34	Fill of Ditch 49	Pottery	Mid Iron Age
80	Cut	2.30	0.80	Ditch	-	Mid Iron Age
81	Fill	-	0.18m	Fill of Ditch 80	Pottery, Flint	Mid Iron Age
82	Cut	1.36	0.65	Ditch	-	Mid Iron Age
83	Fill	-	0.37	Fill of Ditch 82	Pottery	Mid Iron Age
84	Fill	-	0.28	Fill of Ditch 82	Pottery, Flint	Mid Iron Age
85	Cut	0.86	0.45	Pit	-	-
86	Fill	-	0.45	Fill of Pit 85	-	-
91	Fill	-	0.50	Fill of Ditch 80	-	Mid Iron Age

Trench 2						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench contained a large Roman boundary ditch and two shallow hollows. Soil cover consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand. The trench was shortened due to undergrowth and overhead powerlines at its northern end.					Length (m)	24
					Width (m)	1.90
					Avg. depth (m)	0.58
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.32	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
67	Cut	4.43	>1.00	Ditch	-	Roman
68	Fill	2.47	>0.30	Fill of Ditch 67	-	Roman
69	Fill	2.75	0.08	Fill of Ditch 67	Pottery	Roman
70	Fill	0.52	0.24	Fill of Ditch 67	-	Roman
71	Fill	3.38	0.24	Fill of Ditch 67	Pottery	Roman
72	Fill	2.04	0.18	Fill of Ditch 67	Pottery	Roman
73	Fill	3.90	0.40	Fill of Ditch 67	Pottery	Roman
74	Cut	0.20	0.20	Posthole	-	-
75	Fill	-	0.20	Fill of Posthole 74	-	-
76	Cut	-	0.18	Hollow	-	-
77	Fill	-	0.18	Fill of Hollow 76	-	-
78	Cut	-	0.20	Hollow	-	-
79	Fill	-	0.20	Fill of Hollow 78	-	-
87	Cut	-	0.12	Hollow	-	-
88	Fill	-	0.12	Fill of Hollow 87	-	-

Trench 3						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Trench contained a post-medieval furrow and two small Roman features. Soil cover consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand. The trench was shortened due to undergrowth and at its western end.					Length (m)	24
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.57
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.33	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
45	Cut	1.60	0.10	Furrow	-	Medieval
46	Fill	-	0.10	Fill of Furrow 45	Pottery	Medieval
47	Cut	0.55	0.05	Ditch Terminus	-	Roman
48	Fill	-	0.05	Fill of Ditch 47	Pottery	Roman
89	Cut	0.38	0.09	Pit	-	Roman
90	Fill	-	0.09	Fill of Pit 89	Pottery	Roman

Trench 4						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained wide shallow barrow ditch, two other ditches, one post-medieval and pit and a posthole. Soil cover consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravel.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.70
					Avg. depth (m)	0.62
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Findings	Date
1	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.31	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4	Cut	1.60	0.32	Ditch	-	Roman
5	Fill	-	0.32	Fill of Ditch 4	Pottery	Roman
6	Cut	0.85	0.40	Pit	-	Iron Age
7	Fill	-	0.40	Fill of Pit 6	Pottery	Iron Age
8	Cut	0.80	0.30	Ring Ditch	-	Prehistoric
9	Fill	-	0.30	Fill of Ditch 8	-	Prehistoric
10	Cut	2.26	0.38	Ring Ditch	-	Prehistoric
11	Fill	-	0.38	Fill of Ditch 10	-	Prehistoric
12	Cut	1.27	0.70	Ditch	-	Roman
13	Fill	-	0.26	Fill of Ditch 12	Pottery	Roman
14	Fill	-	0.47	Fill of Ditch 12	-	-
15	Cut	0.42	0.14	Posthole	-	-
16	Fill	-	0.14	Fill of Posthole 15	-	-
17	Layer	2.00	0.08	Spread	-	-
92	Layer	0.90	0.22	Barrow Bank	-	Prehistoric

Trench 5						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained the barrow ditch, four other undated ditches, a pit and three furrows. Soil cover consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravel.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.90
					Avg. depth (m)	0.70
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Findings	Date
1	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.36	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
24	Cut	4.10	0.66	Ring Ditch	-	Prehistoric
25	Fill	-	0.10	Fill of Ditch 24	-	Prehistoric
26	Fill	-	0.11	Fill of Ditch 24	-	Prehistoric
27	Fill	-	0.18	Fill of Ditch 24	-	Prehistoric
28	Cut	4.10	0.27	Ditch	-	Prehistoric
29	Fill	-	0.27	Fill of Ditch 28	-	Prehistoric
30	Cut	1.52	0.60	Ditch	-	Roman
31	Fill	0.20	0.03	Fill of Ditch 30	-	Roman
32	Fill	0.40	0.04	Fill of Ditch 30	-	Roman
33	Fill	1.18	0.33	Fill of Ditch 30	-	Roman
34	Fill	0.54	0.26	Fill of Ditch 30	-	Roman

35	Cut	1.48	0.26	Ditch	-	Roman
36	Fill	-	0.26	Fill of Ditch 35	-	Roman
37	Cut	0.87	0.35	Pit	-	-
38	Fill	-	0.35	Fill of Pit 37	-	-
39	Cut	0.72	0.29	Ditch	-	-
40	Fill	-	0.29	Fill of Ditch 39	-	-
41	Cut	0.86	0.32	Ditch	-	-
42	Fill	-	0.32	Fill of Ditch 41	-	-
43	Cut	0.82	0.26	Ditch	-	-
44	Fill	-	0.26	Fill of Ditch 43	-	-

Trench 6						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Trench contained a two truncated furrows and a modern pit and an undated ditch. Soil cover consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.60
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.45	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
18	Cut	0.80	0.08	Furrow	-	Medieval
19	Fill	-	0.08	Fill of Furrow 18	-	Medieval
20	Cut	0.38	0.18	Pit	-	18th century
21	Fill	-	0.18	Fill of Pit 20	Brick	18th century
22	Cut	1.40	0.30	Ditch	-	-
23	Fill	-	0.30	Fill of Pit 22	-	-

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Flint

By Anthony Haskins

Introduction

- B.1.1 Two struck flints were recovered from context 84, the upper fill of an Iron Age ditch (**83**) in Trench 1.

Discussion

- B.1.2 The two flints recovered are a proximal end of a decortification flake or blade and the distal end of a tertiary narrow flake. Both are struck from a good quality translucent dark reddish brown flint. The flints have been moderately abraded and are residual material incorporated into a later context. The flints are not particularly diagnostic but have characters that would tentatively suggest a Neolithic date. As they came from an Iron Age context these are possibly residual.

B.2 Iron Age Pottery

By Matt Brudenell

Introduction

- B.2.1 The evaluation yielded 65 sherds of Iron Age pottery (1113g) with a relatively high mean sherd weight (MSW) of 17.1g. The pottery was recovered from ten contexts relating to six ditches and two pits in Trenches 1-4 (Table 1). The assemblage comprises handmade Middle Iron Age-type ceramics, including Scored Wares of the East Midlands tradition (Elsdon 1992; Knight 2001). No diagnostic sherds of Late Iron Age pottery were recovered.
- B.2.2 The pottery is in good condition and includes some large unabraded sherds, particularly those from ditch **82**, Trench 1.

Context	Cut	Trench	Feature type	No. sherds	Weight (g)
7	6	4	Pit	2	3
58	57	1	Ditch	3	18
61	60	1	Pit	1	2
65	64	1	Ditch	1	37
66	64	1	Ditch	9	57
73	67	2	Ditch	1	2
81	80	1	Ditch	27	805
83	82	1	Ditch	11	126
84	82	1	Ditch	9	59
90	89	3	Pit	1	4
TOTAL	-	-	-	65	1113

Table 1. Quantification of pottery by context

Methodology

B.2.3 All the pottery has been fully recorded following the recommendations laid out by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (2011). After a full inspection of the assemblage, fabric groups were devised on the basis of dominant inclusion types, their density and modal size. Sherds from all contexts were counted, weighed (to the nearest whole gram) and assigned to a fabric group. Sherd type was recorded, along with technology (wheel-made or handmade), evidence for surface treatment, decoration, and the presence of soot and/or residue. Rim and base forms were described using a codified system recorded in the catalogue, and were assigned vessel numbers. Where possible, rim and base diameters were measured, and surviving percentages noted. In cases where a sherd or groups of refitting sherds retained portions of the rim and shoulder, the vessel was also categorised by form. The Middle Iron Age-type forms were codified using the series developed by JD Hill (Hill and Horne 2003, 174; Hill and Braddock 2006, 155-156). All pottery was subject to sherd size analysis. Sherds less than 4cm in diameter were classified as 'small' (43 sherds); sherds measuring 4-8cm were classified as 'medium' (18 sherds), and sherds over 8cm in diameter will be classified as 'large' (four sherds). The quantified data is presented on an Excel data sheet held with the site archive.

Fabrics

S1: Modern to common coarse shell (mainly 2-4mm in size)

S2: Moderate to common medium shell (mainly 1-2mm in size)

S3: Moderate to common fine shell (mainly <1mm in size)

Q1: Moderate to common quartz sand with rare linear voids from burnt out organic matter

QS1: moderate to common quartz sand and sparse to moderate fine shell (mainly <1mm in size)

QS2: moderate to common quartz sand and sparse to moderate medium shell (mainly 1-2mm in size). Some sherds contain rare linear voids from burnt out organic matter.

Fabric	Fabric group	No. sherds	Weight (g)	No. sherds Scored	Weigh (g) Scored	MNV
Q1	Sand	2	21	-	-	1
QS1	Sand and shell	13	237	1	5	3
QS2	Sand and shell	14	236	6	157	3
S1	Shell	10	460	6	448	2
S2	Shell	22	134	6	42	2
S3	Shell	4	25	-	-	1
TOTAL	-	65	1113	19	652	12

Table 2. Quantification of Iron Age pottery by fabric.

MNV calculated as the total number of different rims and bases (four rims, eight bases)

Assemblage description by context

Ditch 57, Trench 1

- B.2.4 Context 58 of ditch **57** yielded three small body sherds (18g) in fabrics S2 (one sherd, 6g), S3 (one sherd, 7g) and QS1 (one sherd, 5g). The latter had a scored surface typical of the East Midlands Scored Ware tradition, and was burnt.

Ditch 64, Trench 1

- B.2.5 Ten sherds (94g) of Middle Iron Age pottery were recovered from context 65, ditch **64**. The fabrics include QS1 (one sherd, 7g), QS2 (seven sherds, 72g), S1 (one sherd, 6g) and S2 (one sherd, 9g). The assemblage includes fragments of two vessel bases (five sherds, 64g) and a scored body sherd of the East Midlands Scored Ware tradition (6g).

Ditch 80, Trench 1

- B.2.6 Context 81 of ditch **80** yielded the largest single assemblage of pottery comprising 27 sherds (805g). The group includes sherds in fabric Q1 (two sherds, 21g), QS1 (eight sherds, 162g), QS2 (six sherds, 157g), S1 (two sherds, 405g), S2 (eight sherds, 45g) and S3 (one sherd, 15g). Diagnostic sherds comprise fragments of three vessels bases (five sherds, 153g), and two vessel rims (three sherds, 413g). One of the rims belongs to the partial profile a slack-shouldered jar decorated with fingertip impressions on the rim-top and scoring on the body (Hill Form A, rim diameter 23cm, surviving rim circumference 20%). This displayed external sooting. In total, the assemblage included eight scored sherds (562g) of the East Midlands Scored Ware tradition (6g).

Ditch 82, Trench 1

- B.2.7 Middle Iron Age pottery was recovered from two contexts in ditch **82**: context 83 (11 sherds, 126g) and context 84 (nine sherds, 59g). The combined assemblage (20 sherds, 185g) includes sherds in fabrics QS1 (three sherds, 63g), QS2 (one sherd, 7g), S1 (five sherds, 45g) and S2 (11 sherds, 70g). Diagnostic sherds comprise fragments of two vessel bases (four sherds, 92g) and two rims (two sherds, 12g); one belonging to a tub-shaped vessel with slashed decoration on the rim-exterior (Hill Form K). Nine sherds (79g) in the assemblage were scored.

Pit 6, Trench 4

- B.2.8 Context 7 two small body sherds (3g) in fabric S3. These sherds are dated to the Middle Iron Age on the basis of the fabric alone.

Residual sherds from ditch 67 in Trench 2, pit 60 in Trench 1 and pit 89 in Trench 3

- B.2.9 Three residual body sherds were recovered from ditch **67** (one sherd, fabric S1, 2g), pit **60** (one sherd, fabric S1, 2g) and pit **89** (one sherd, fabric S2, 4g). The pottery was found alongside Romano-British ceramics.

Discussion

- B.2.10 The evaluation yielded a small assemblage of handmade Middle Iron Age-type pottery including Scored Wares of the East Midlands tradition (Eldson 1992; Knight 2002). The sherds have either shell, sand, or a mixture of sand and shell in the fabric – inclusions common to Middle/late Iron Age pottery groups from this part of Cambridgeshire.

B.2.11 The pottery belongs to the handmade Middle Iron Age potting tradition which had a currency spanning the period between c. 350 BC – 50 BC/AD 50. In some part of the region this tradition persisted alongside the introduction of Late Iron Age-type wares from c. 50 BC, and lasted up until the period immediately following the Roman conquest. However, no Late Iron Age sherds were identified at the site, and given the high frequencies of Scored Wares it is likely this assemblage belongs to the period between c. 350-50 BC.

B.3 Romano-British Pottery

By Alice Lyons

Introduction

B.3.1 A total of 45 Roman pottery fragments, weighing 443g were retrieved, representing a minimum of 19 individual vessels. The pottery was mostly recovered from ditches, as well as pits, and is extremely abraded with an average sherd size of only 9.8g.

Methodology

B.3.2 The Roman pottery was analysed following the guidelines of the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Barclay *et al* 2016). The total assemblage was studied and a catalogue was prepared (Table 4). The sherds were examined using a hand lens where necessary (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of inclusion types present. Vessel forms (jar, bowl) were recorded. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram and recorded by context. Decoration, residues and abrasion were also noted.

B.3.3 OA East curates the pottery and archive.

The Pottery

B.3.4 A total of five Early Roman pottery fabrics were identified (Table 3).

Fabric	Form	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	Weight (%)
Sandy grey ware: SGW	Jar/bowl, cheese-press, dish-lid	35	308	69.53
Sandy oxidised ware: SOW	Jar, large flagon or amphora	4	88	19.86
Shelly ware: STW	Jar	4	20	4.52
Oxidised ware with common grog inclusions: OW(GROG)	Flagon	1	18	4.06
South Gaulish samian: SAM SG	Bowl (Dr37)	1	9	2.03
Total		45	443	100.00

Table 3. Pottery quantified by fabric, listed in descending order of weight (%).

B.3.5 The majority of the small assemblage comprises undiagnostic sandy grey ware jar/bowl sherds, also a straight-sided vessel fragment that might be from either a dish or lid. Worthy of note is the fragment of a cheese-press which retains an orange bloom typical of mis-firing, which indicates it may be a local product that has not travelled far from its place of manufacture. Recent excavation to the south of Brampton House in

Brampton (1.2km to the south) discovered eight contemporary Early Roman kilns, which were found to be producing this distinctive type of vessel (Lyons and Blackburn in press). Other reduced coarse wares comprise a small number of undiagnostic leached Shelly ware jar fragments. Oxidised material was found in small quantities and includes jar and flagon fragments.

B.3.6 A single piece from a South Gaulish samian bowl (Tyers 1996, 112; Dr37) was also found, although this was severely abraded and most of its slip has been worn away.

Summary

B.3.7 This is a small stratified assemblage of largely utilitarian Early Roman pottery in use between the mid and late 1st century AD. The material has suffered from post-depositional disturbance which has resulted in high levels of abrasion. Although it cannot be assigned to source it is typical of the area and it likely to have been produced nearby, possibly within the recently discovered kiln complex.

Potential for further work

B.3.8 No further work is required on this assemblage. If further excavation is undertaken this material should be included in the larger assemblage and brought to publication.

Roman Pottery Catalogue

KEY: AMPH = amphora, B = base, C=century, D = decorated body sherd, Dsc = description, E=early, L=late M=mid, R = rim, U=undecorated body sherd. For full fabric names see Table 3.

CONTEXT	TRENCH	CUT	FEATURE	FABRIC	FORM	DSC	COUNT	WEIGHT (G)	SPOT DATE
5	4	4	Ditch	SGW	JAR	D	2	19	M/LC1
14	4	12	Ditch	SAM SG	BOWL	D	1	9	M/LC1-EC2
14	4	12	Ditch	SOW	JAR	R	2	64	M/LC1-MC2
48	3	47	Ditch	SGW	JAR	B	1	63	LC1-EC2
61	1	60	Pit	STW	JAR	U	1	1	C1
61	1	60	Pit	SCW	?AMPH	U	1	20	LC1-MC3(C2)
69	2	67	Ditch	SGW	JAR	U	11	6	M/LC1
69	2	67	Ditch	SGW	JAR/BOWL	U	2	18	M/LC1
71	2	67	Ditch	OW(GROG)	FLAG	U	1	18	MC1-MC2
71	2	67	Ditch	SOW	JAR	U	1	4	MC1-C2
71	2	67	Ditch	SGW	JAR	RUB	5	74	M/LC1
71	2	67	Ditch	SGW	DISH/LID	R	1	6	MC1-C3
72	2	67	Ditch	SGW	JAR	B	1	28	M/LC1
72	2	67	Ditch	STW	JAR	U	1	14	M/LC1
73	2	67	Ditch	STW	JAR	U	1	1	C1
73	2	67	Ditch	SGW	CHEESE PRESS	B	1	12	M/LC1
73	2	67	Ditch	SGW	JAR	RU	8	60	M/LC1-E/MC2
90	3	89	Pit	STW	JAR	U	1	4	C1-E/MC2
90	3	89	Pit	SGW	JAR/BOWL	RUB	3	22	M/LC1-E/MC2

Table 4. Roman Pottery Catalogue.

B.4 CBM and Fired Clay

By Ted Levermore

Introduction

- B.4.1 Archaeological works produced a small assemblage of Ceramic Building Material (CBM) and fired clay. The former are fragments of an 18th century brick, and the latter fragments of a clay plate probably relating to an Iron Age/Roman kiln. This report will characterise and briefly discuss the assemblage.

Methodology

- B.4.2 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. The quantified data is presented on an Excel data sheet held with the site archive.
- B.4.3 Woodforde (1976) and McComish (2015) was used as reference for identification and dating for any CBM. Swan (1984) was used as reference for kiln furniture identification and terminology.

Assemblage and Discussion

Brick

- B.4.4 Eleven fragments (1264g) of an 18th century brick were collected from Pit **20** in Trench 6. This brick was made in a mottled light orange/pink sandy clay with common fine to coarse voids and rare coarse ferrous chunks. It was mould-made and wire cut, evidence of both is apparent on the remaining surfaces of the brick. When reconstructed the width and thickness could be measured at 4 x 2½ inches.
- B.4.5 The evidence of moulding, form and fabric suggest it is a pre-tax 18th century brick (c. 1770). Its appearance is not unexpected, it merely represents the use and re-use of the landscape in the post-medieval to modern periods.

Clay Plate

- B.4.6 Four fragments (168g) of a flattened clay plate-like object were recovered from ditch **12** in Trench 4. This object was made in a fine silt clay, with uncommon fine to coarse rounded pores and rare fine rounded to angular flint. The clay plate was hand formed and smoothed, and fired to an orange colour with an orange/yellow core. The full size and shape of the object is unknown; an average thickness of 11cm could be measured. The fabric appears too soft for it to be a roofing tile.
- B.4.7 It is very likely that this clay plate is related to Iron Age/Roman kiln work as it shares the traits of portable kiln furniture used during this period. It is fragmentary but not particularly abraded, which suggests that there may be a kiln or oven-like structure in the vicinity.

Recommendations and Potential

- B.4.8 The assemblage has been fully recorded and described. The report should be incorporated into the archive report and updated, where necessary. There are no fragments that require illustration or photography.
- B.4.9 The CBM fragments should be considered for deselection. The clay plate fragments match with the known Romano-British kiln industry located on the former RAF Brampton to the south (ECB4681).

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Animal Bone

By Zoë Ui Choileáin

Introduction

C.1.1 Six fragments of animal bone weighing 369g were found during the evaluation. Almost all fragments were recovered from ditch slots. The horse tibia from context 2 was recovered from the subsoil above ditch **67**. The results are presented in table form below.

Cut	Context	Feature	Element	Taxon	Weight	No. Frags	Age	Burnt
-	2	Spread	Tibia	Equid	256	1	Adult	-
49	51	Ditch	Molar	Cattle	23	1	Adult	-
57	58	Ditch	Incisor	Pig	3	1	Adult	-
67	73	Ditch	Long bone	Large mammal	13	1	-	-
67	73	Ditch	Rib	Medium mammal	1	1	-	Yes
80	81	Ditch	Mandible	Sheep/goat	25	1	Adult	-
82	84	Ditch	radius	Cattle	49	1	Adult	-

Table 5. Faunal Remains

C.1.2 All individuals identified are representative of the common domestic species recorded for Late Iron Age / Early Roman assemblages. No further analysis is required.

C.2 Environmental Remains

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.2.1 Six bulk samples were taken from features within the evaluated area to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations. Samples were taken from features encountered within trenches 1, 2, 4 and 5 from deposits that are thought to be Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman in date.

Methodology

C.2.2 Up to 20l of each of the 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. A sub-sample of the two waterlogged samples (5 and 6) were examined whilst still wet and then allowed to dry to subsequently enable a rapid scan of the entire sample.

C.2.3 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 6. 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. Nomenclature is according to Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and Stace (2015) for other plants. 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.2.4 For the purpose of this assessment, items such as seeds and cereal grains have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories:

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

C.2.5 Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal has been scored for abundance
+ = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant

W= waterlogged

Results

C.2.6 Preservation of plant remains was through carbonisation (charring) and waterlogging (preservation in an anoxic environment). The charred remains are limited to a single indeterminate cereal grain in fill 58 of Middle Iron Age ditch **57** in Trench 1. It is possible that this grain is intrusive and cannot be considered significant.

C.2.7 Waterlogged plant remains are present in both of the fills sampled from Early Roman ditch **67** in Trench 2. Both samples contain seeds of obligate aquatic plants such as water-crowfoot (*Ranunculus* subgenus *BATRACHIUM*), pondweed (*Potamogeton* sp.) and duckweed (*Lemna* sp.), indicating that the ditch contained water, possibly seasonally. Seeds of plants that may have been growing on the sides of the ditch include Fool's water cress (*Apium nodiflorum*), gypsywort (*Lycopus europaeus*) and sedges (*Carex* sp.). A third category of plant taxa probably represents trees/shrubs/hedgerows that were growing on top of the bank such as sloe/cherry (*Prunus avium/spinosa*), white bryony (*Bryonia alba*), bitterweet (*Solanum nigrum*), elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) and brambles (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.). Insect fragments are also preserved.

C.2.8 Pottery fragments were recovered from the residues from ditches **57** (fill 58) and **67** (lower fill 69).

Trench No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	% context sampled	Sample No.	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Preservation	Cereals	Weed Seeds
1	53	52	Ditch	<25	2	18	1	None	0	0
1	58	57	Ditch	<25	3	19	1	Charred	#	0
2	68	67	Ditch	10	5	10	80	Waterlogged	0	+++W
2	69	67	Ditch	75	6	10	120	Waterlogged	0	+++W
4	11	10	Ring ditch	<25	4	20	30	None	0	0
5	32	30	Ditch	75	1	9	1	None	0	0

Table 6: Environmental samples from Thrapston Road, Brampton.

Discussion

C.2.9 The environmental samples indicate that there is the potential for the recovery of waterlogged plant remains from Trench 2 with the potential to provide information on the local environment during the Roman period.

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APPENDIX E OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-28483		
Project Name	Land North of 66-100 Thrapston Road, Brampton		
Start of Fieldwork	24-04-2017	End of Fieldwork	3-05-2017
Previous Work	None	Future Work	Yes

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	BRATRD17	Planning App. No.	16/01255/OUT
HER Number	ECB 5078	Related Numbers	

Prompt	Directive from local planning authority
Development Type	Rural Residential
Place in Planning Process	Between deposition of an application and determination

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey | <input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> Rectified Photography | |

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Ring Ditch	Late Prehistoric (- 4000 to 43)	Vessel	Late Prehistoric (- 4000 to 43)
Ditch	Late Prehistoric (- 4000 to 43)	Vessel	Roman (43 to 410)
Ditch	Roman (43 to 410)	Tile	Roman (43 to 410)

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire	Address (including Postcode) 66-100 Thrapston Road, Brampton, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE28 4TD
District	Huntingdonshire	
Parish	Brampton	
HER office	Cambridgeshire	
Size of Study Area	32500 sq.m	
National Grid Ref	TL 2109 7127	

Project Originators

Organisation	OA East
Project Brief Originator	Andy Thomas

Project Design Originator	Tom Phillips
Project Manager	Tom Phillips
Project Supervisor	Nicholas Cox

Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	CCC Stores	ECB 5078
Digital Archive	OA East	ECB 5078
Paper Archive	CCC Stores	ECB 5078

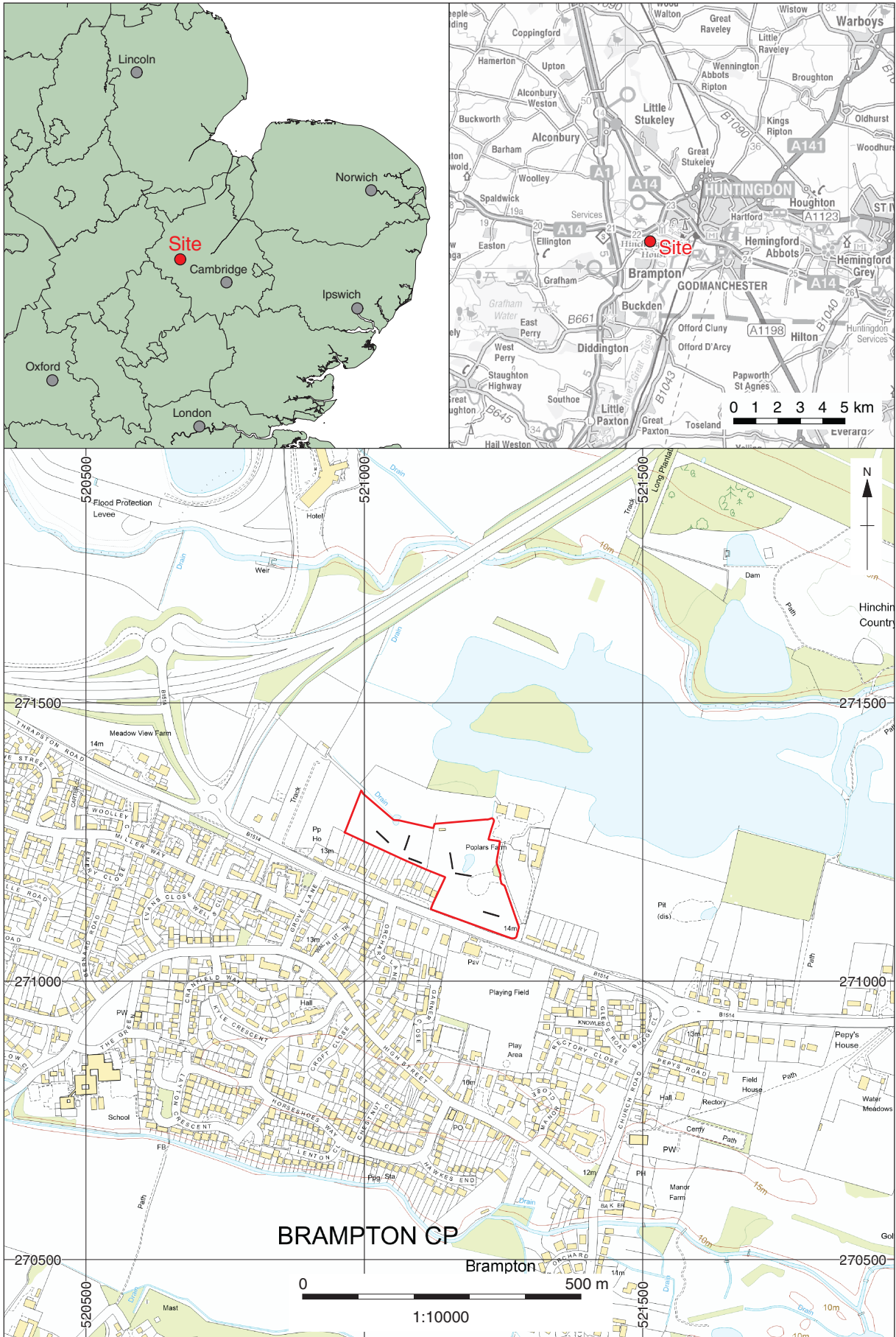
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Sections	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Survey	<input type="checkbox"/>



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



Figure 2: Plan of evaluation trenches (geophysics data supplied by © Magnitude Surveys Ltd 2017)

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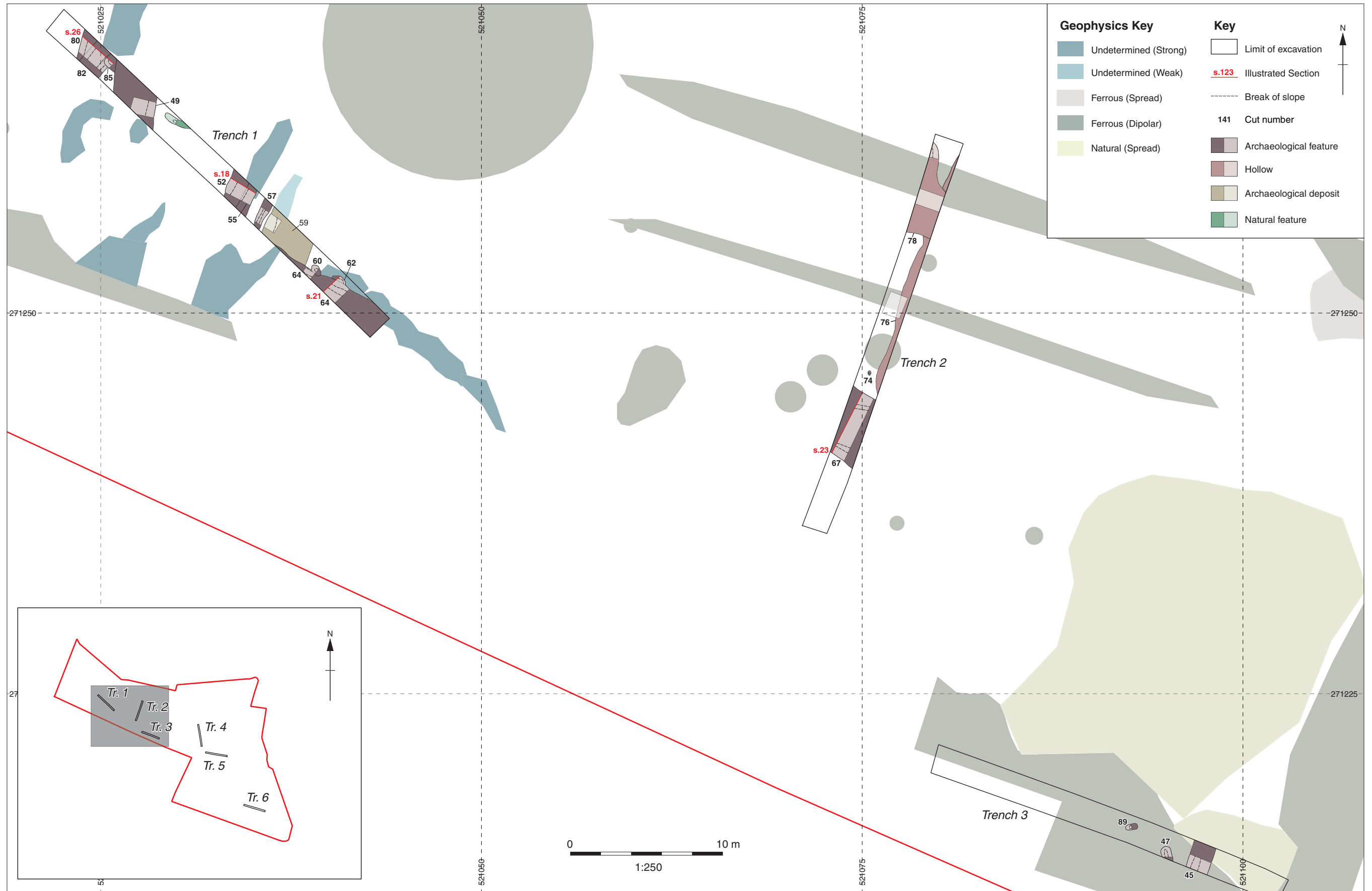


Figure 3: Detail plan of evaluation Trenches 1-3 with geophysics overlain (© Magnitude Surveys Ltd 2017)

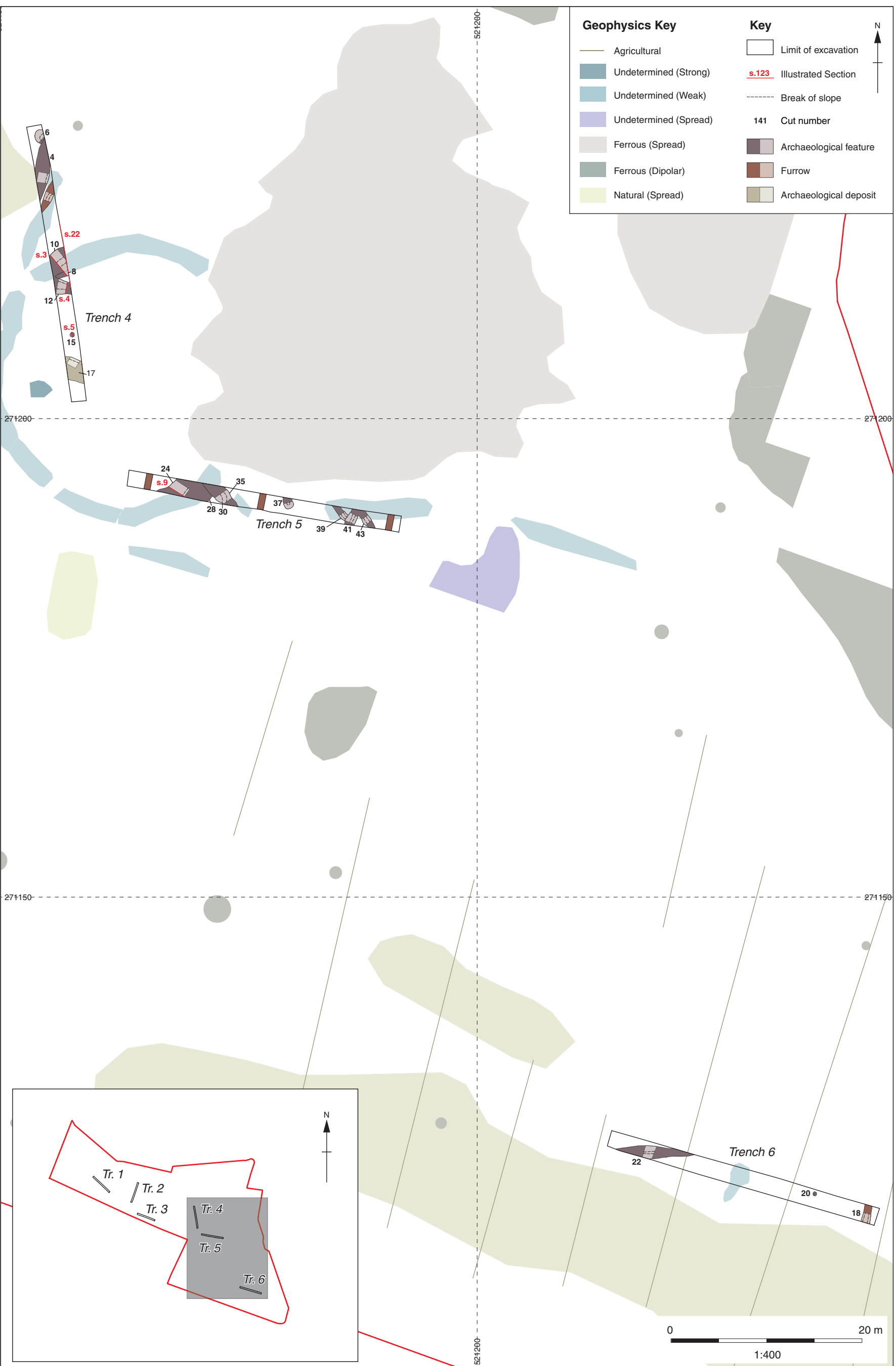
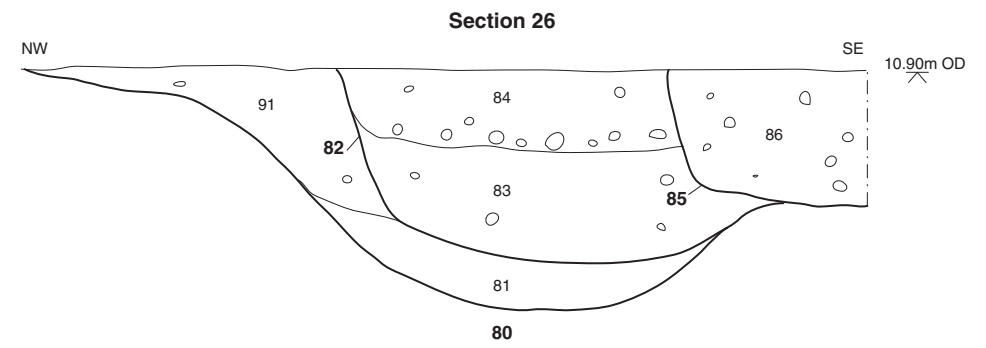
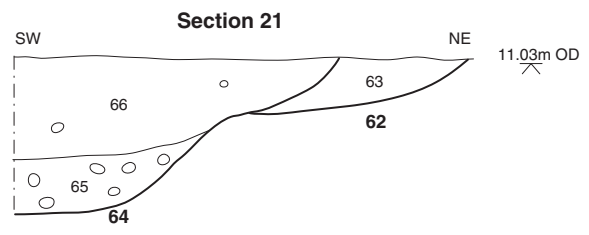
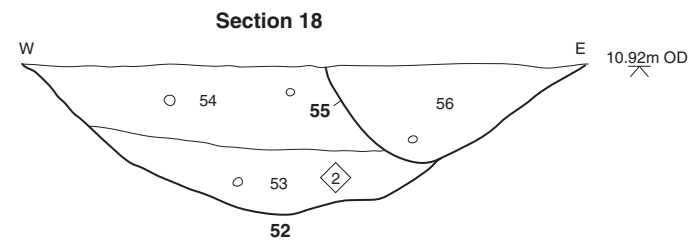
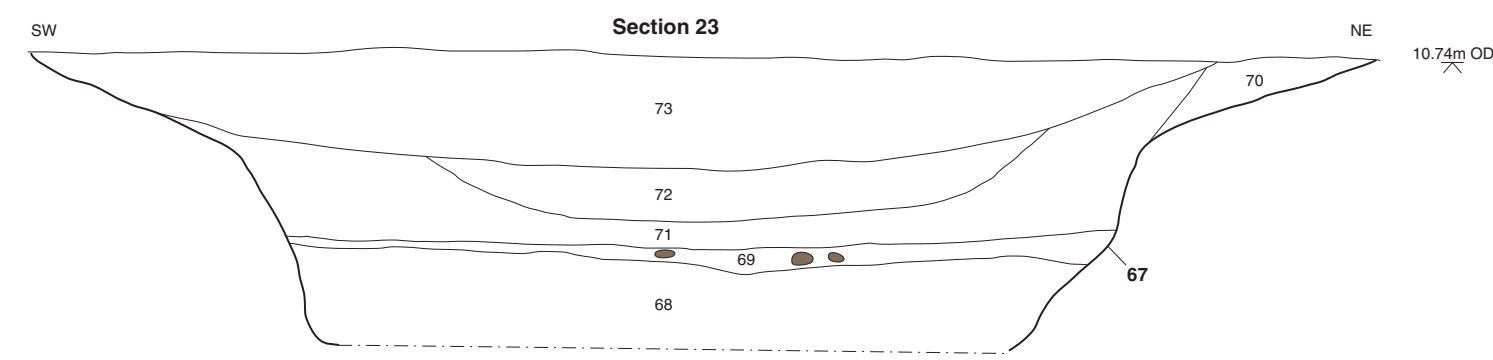


Figure 4: Detail plan of evaluation Trenches 4-6

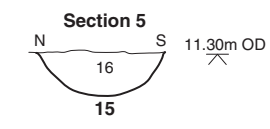
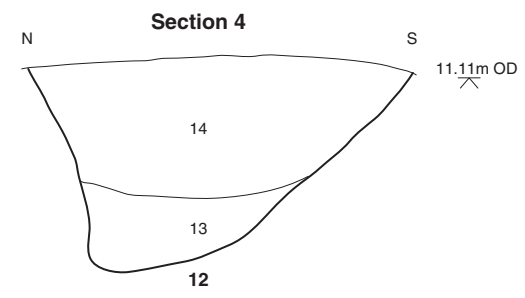
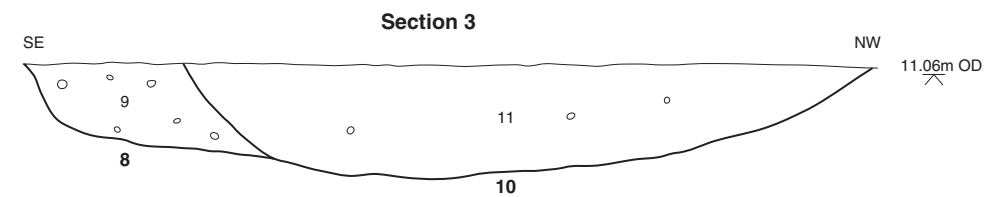
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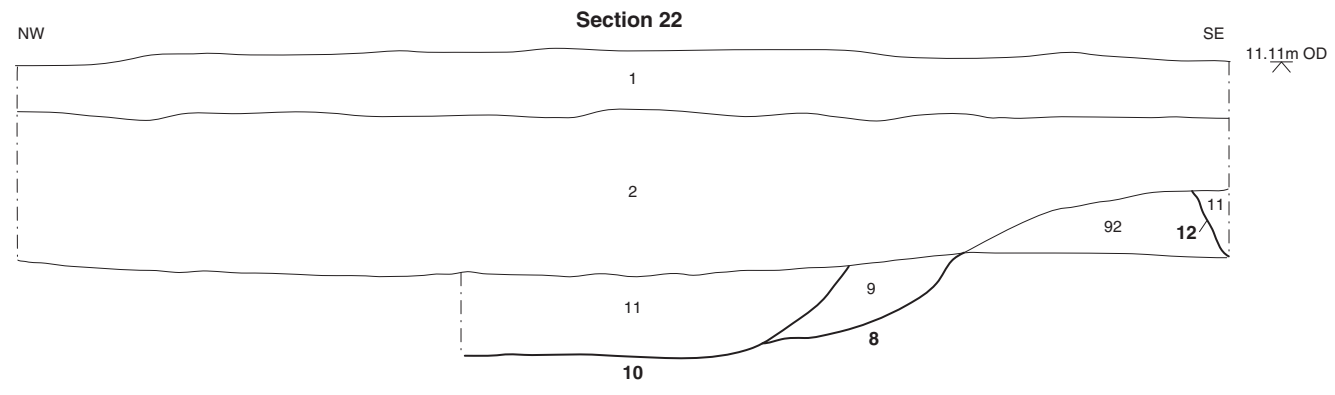
Trench 2



Trench 4



Trench 4 (continued)



Trench 5

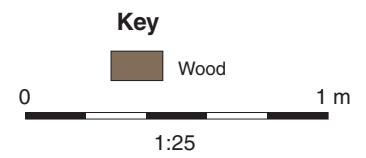
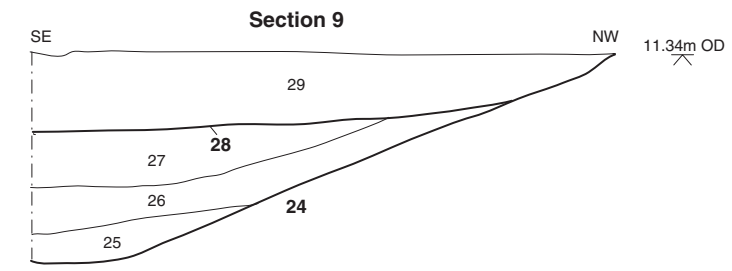


Figure 5: Selected sections



Plate 1: Trench 1, looking north-west



Plate 2: Ditches **80**, **82** and Pit **85**, Trench 1, looking north-east



Plate 3: Pit **62** and Ditch **64**, Trench 1, looking north-west



Plate 4: Trench 2, looking north



Plate 5: Ditch 67, Trench 2, looking west



Plate 6: Trench 4, looking north



Plate 7: Ring Ditches 8 and 10, Trench 4, looking south-west



Plate 8: Ditch 4, Trench 1, looking north-east



Plate 9: Trench 5, looking east



Plate 10: Ring Ditches **24** and **28**, Trench 5, looking south-west



Plate 11: Ditches **39** and **41**, Trench 5, looking north



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