Land South-West of Mill Cottage, Gidding Road, Sawtry, Cambridgeshire Evaluation Report

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Land South-West of Mill Cottage, Gidding Road, Sawtry, Cambridgeshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

Between the 24th April and 4th May 2017, Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) conducted an archaeological evaluation at land south-west of Mill Cottage, Gidding Road, Sawtry (centred TL 1623 8329). Previous archaeological work carried out to the north and west of the site have identified enclosures and field systems dating to the later Iron Age and Early Roman periods.

A total of 36 evaluation trenches totalling 1800 linear metres were excavated, targeting geophysical anomalies across the site, 24 of which contained ditches and pits. Whilst the southern half of the site contained furrows, modern boundary ditches and field drains, field systems and enclosures dating to the later Iron Age and continuing through into the Early Roman period were found in the northern half of the development area, following the higher ground and better drained geology.

In general, the evaluation results correspond well with the anomalies shown on the geophysical survey. This evidence, combined with features identified by previous excavations and geophysical surveys to the east and north of the site, indicates the presence of an extensive later Iron Age and Early Roman settlement in this location.

Acknowledgements

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The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Dr Matthew Brudenell. The fieldwork was directed by Patrick Moan, who was supported by Steve Graham, Laura James, Ryan Neal and Eban Cooper. Survey and digitizing was carried out by David Brown and Markus Dylewski. 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 management of Kat 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 on land to the south-west of Mill Cottage, Gidding Road, Sawtry, Cambridgeshire (Fig. 1).

1.1.2 The work was undertaken in support of a Planning Application (planning ref. 17/00077/OUT) to inform the Planning Authority in advance of a submission of a Planning Application. A brief was issued by Andy Thomas of the Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team and a Written Scheme of Investigation was produced by OA East (Brudenell & Gilmour 2017) detailing the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process/discharge the planning condition. This document outlines how OA East implemented the specified requirements.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The site lies on agricultural land on the western edge of Sawtry, immediately south of Gidding Road (centred TL 1623 8329).

1.2.2 The area of proposed development consists of a broadly rectangular plot of land 10.72ha in area. The site lies between *c*. 16-20m OD, with the ground gradually sloping down towards a small stream along the southern boundary. The plot is bounded to the north by Gidding Road, the east by residential development and the south and west by agricultural land.

1.2.3 The geology of the area is mapped as Jurassic Mudstone of the Oxford Clay Formation (British Geological Survey, http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html; accessed 09/05/17).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 A full consideration of the archaeological and historical background of the site is discussed in the desk-based assessment (Clark 2016) and a summary is given below, drawing on this document and information held by the Cambridgeshire County Historic Environment Record (CHER), with pertinent records shown on Fig. 1.

Early Prehistoric

1.3.2 There is limited evidence for activity in the vicinity around the current site during the Bronze Age or earlier periods. A perforated granite hammer and lithic implements from the Neolithic onwards were found in the fields directly south-west of the current site (HER01452). A single Bronze Age flint was recovered from the field to the east of the current site, although the flint was residually found within a ditch dated to the Roman period (MCB18238).

Iron Age

1.3.3 Excavation of the field adjacent to the proposed development area (TL 1649 8340) in advance of proposed development (MCB18238, Murphy 2011) identified a Late Iron Age ditch aligned north east- south west, the fill of which produced two sherds of Late Iron Age pottery. One sub-circular pit located in the centre of the excavated area also produced Iron Age sherds, whilst a further three sherds of Late Iron Age-Early Roman pottery were recovered from the upper fill of another ditch.

Romano-British

1.3.4 At a distance of 1.35km north-east of the proposed development area (TL173841) is the proposed location of the Sawtry Roman settlement. The site appears to fall within the area of shrunken medieval village with ridge and furrow masking the Roman features. The site, discovered in 1939 during roadworks, included evidence of occupation from the 2nd to 4th centuries AD (HER 01329d). Finds within the area of the current village from the Roman period include two coffins of Barnack stone, discovered on the north side of the road (TL1784) when the A1 was made into a dual carriageway (HER 01332) and Roman pottery (MCB20165) found at No. 136 Green End Road.

1.3.5 Slightly further afield (1.7km north-east of the development area), just north of Sawtry near the A1 (TL 17200 84600), two separate excavations were conducted in 1993 prior to roadworks. These excavations uncovered Late Iron Age ditched enclosures that were incorporated into a farming settlement in the early 1st century AD, with related structures. These were levelled during the mid 1st century, possibly due to the construction of Ermine Street. Later 1st and 2nd centuries AD activity included at least three pottery kilns and enclosures for plots fronting onto the road and it was suggested a high status structure was in close vicinity (Welsh 1994, MCB13710, 13711).

1.3.6 A cult object, a Castor sherd (HER 01451) showing Jupiter Dolichemus, was found in the fields directly south-west of the current site (TL1683).

1.3.7 Geophysical survey of the current site (Magnitude Surveys 2016) identified the presence of ditched enclosures possibly of Iron Age and Roman date. An evaluation (MCB18238) in the fields east of the development area (Jones 2008) revealed a single Roman ditch with associated Roman pottery and quern fragment in the north-east part of the field. The ditch was found not to extend greatly into the site, and may have been related to remains now lost on the site of the West Field housing estate. The subsequent excavation (MCB18238 Murphy 2011) revealed an elongated sub-circular pit filled by a number of clay deposits, one of which showed evidence of burning, which contained 68 sherds of late 2nd century pottery. A north-east to south-west aligned ditch produced examples of 2nd to 4th century pottery and a further ditch identified as a recut of the previous ditch, contained 62 sherds of late 2nd-early 3rd century pottery, Roman roof tile, nails and a pin. A further ditch was identified at the north-east extent of the field, filled by a friable grey clay from which 10 sherds of Roman pottery were recovered. A grave, located north-east of the centre of the excavated area, contained a single individual probably aged between 16 and 20 years old at death. The burial was a supine inhumation, possibly contained within a shroud,

with an iron knife (MCB18238). A number of undated pits and ditches were also identified, consisting mainly of gullies and extraction pits. These were probably contemporary with the Roman activity on site.

Anglo-Saxon

1.3.8 There is limited evidence of Anglo-Saxon activity within the area of the Gidding Road site. Two possible Anglo-Saxon clay extraction pits (MCB18238) were identified in the excavation east of the current site as two sherds of pot were recovered from the fill of one of the pits.

Medieval to Modern

1.3.9 The medieval core of Sawtry was in the area around All Saints Church with a moated site approximately 980m to the north-east of the current site. The geophysical survey conducted on the site (Magnitude Surveys 2016) revealed extensive ridge and furrow cultivation across the site. Combined, this suggests that the Gidding Road site was in agricultural use during the medieval and later periods.

1.3.10 The site seems to have continued being used for agricultural purposes throughout the post-medieval period. By the time of the 1809 Inclosure Map the area seems to have been sub-divided into three smaller fields within the north-west corner of a larger field (Fig. 4). These divisions were still in place and noted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1887 and were still evident in the 1958 and 1975 maps. However, by the time of the 1988 survey map the site had been consolidated into a single field.

1.3.11 Nearby CHER designated assets from these periods include a windmill adjacent to the development area (CHER01448), Rectory Farm directly north-west (MCB21910) and Hilltop Farm to the south, both of which have been “significantly redeveloped” (MCB21909), a Royal Observer Corps Post lay to the north-west (MCB16439).

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The project aims and objectives were as follows:

i. To establish the character, date, state of preservation, and extent of any archaeological remains within the development area.
ii. To ground truth the geophysical results, by testing a range of anomalies of likely archaeological origin, and areas where no anomalies registered.
iii. To provide sufficient coverage and exposure to enable excavation to establish the approximate form, date and purpose of any archaeological deposits, together with extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
iv. To provide sufficient coverage and exposure to evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking deposits.
v. To provide sufficient coverage and exposure to provide information to construct an appropriate archaeological conservation/mitigation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and order of cost.
vi. To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence.
vii. To set the results in the local, regional, and national archaeological context, and its wider cultural landscape and past environmental conditions.

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 A total of 36 evaluation trenches (Fig. 2) were excavated, totalling 1800 linear metres (a 3% sample). The trenches were 50m long and 1.8m wide. The trenches were positioned to address the aims in Section 2.1, and target the results of the geophysical survey (Magnitude Surveys 2016). There was also a contingency for a further 12 trenches (1%) but this was not required.

2.2.2 The trenches were set out by a Lecia survey-grade GPS fitted with "Smartnet" technology with an accuracy of 5mm horizontal and 10mm vertical. Before trenching began, the footprint of each trench was scanned by a qualified and experienced operator using a CAT and Genny that had a valid calibration certificate.

2.2.3 All trenches were excavated by a mechanical excavator to the depth of geological horizons, or to the upper interface of archaeological features or deposits, whichever was encountered first. A toothless ditching bucket with a bucket size of 1.8m was used to excavate the trenches.

2.2.4 Topsoil, subsoil, and archaeological deposits were kept separate during excavation, to allow for sequential backfilling of excavations.

2.2.5 The top of the first archaeological deposit was cleared by machine and then cleaned off by hand. Any archaeological deposits present were then excavated by context to the level of the geological horizon where safe to do so. Trench spoil was scanned visually and with a metal detector to aid the recovery of artefacts.

2.2.6 It was agreed with Andy Thomas (CCC HET) that certain features that were evident within two or more trenches were selectively tested. For example, should a ditch run through two or more trenches, it would not be tested in every trench once the nature and character of the feature was ascertained. Interventions through all linear features were 1m in width. Discrete features were half-sectioned

2.2.7 The depth, nature and potential artefact content of colluvial or other masking deposits were also investigated and recorded across the site. The artefact content of the ploughsoil and any lower soil horizons were examined via bucket sampling points, in which 90 litres of spoil were hand sorted. The sample points were at trench ends and the mid-points of the trenches.

2.2.8 All archaeological features along with the topsoil and subsoil from each trench was scanned with a metal detector and any metal objects were kept unless assessed as being clearly modern.

2.2.9 Bulk environmental samples were taken from any features deemed on-site to have the potential for preserved ecofacts by waterlogging or charring. Care was taken to ensure that an equal distribution of features was sampled across the main area of archaeological features, in the northern half of the development area.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below (Figs 2, 3 & 4), 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 reports including spot dates are found in Appendix B, with environmental reports included as Appendix C.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The soil sequence in all trenches was fairly uniform. The natural geology was overlain by a clayey silt 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.

3.2.3 Deposits of colluvium were identified in the southern-most trenches (Trenches 33 & 34), which were found to be sterile with no archaeological features cutting or sealed by the layers.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological finds and deposits

3.3.1 Archaeological features were present in trenches within the northern half of the excavation area. Furrows and modern drains were present in many of the trenches, particularly within the southern half of the field. Colluvium deposits were also noted at the base of the valley in the south-easternmost trenches (Trenches 33 and 34). Most features sealed by the subsoil and colluvial deposits, though some of the furrows were thought to cut the subsoil, but the relationship was not clear in the trench sections.

3.3.2 A total of four metal objects were recovered from topsoil between the excavated trenches across the area, including a complete octagonal lead weight weighing 0.457kg (1lb), a 1758 Dutch stuiver (pre-decimal coin) a silver long cross penny of Edward III and an incomplete iron nail.

3.3.3 The results of the bucket sampling were poor; no datable artefacts predating the post-medieval to modern periods were recovered. Small amounts of modern pottery, such as willow pattern, along with modern brick and tile were recovered from Trenches 9, 11, 14, 29 and 32. As the artefacts were modern, they were noted on Trench sheets and discarded.

3.4 Trench 1

3.4.1 Located in the north-western corner of the development area with an east to west orientation, this trench (Fig. 4a; Plate 1) intersected Trench 2 close to its western corner. The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural undisturbed geology was reached at between 0.54m and 0.60m below the top of the trench.

3.4.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.10m-thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141) from which a single 51g sherd of mid to late 1st century pottery was recovered.

This was overlain by a 0.38m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142) containing modern brick and tile fragments.

3.4.3 The trench contained four ditches (**4**, **6** and **8** and one unexcavated) and three pits (**2**, **10** and one unexcavated).

3.4.4 Located at the western end of the trench was a pit or possible tree throw (**2**). The pit which measured 1.04m in diameter and 0.21m deep was sub-circular in plan and contained a single fill (1). The pit had a gently-sloping side with a U-shaped profile. The fill comprised a brown grey sandy clay containing no finds.

3.4.5 Ditch **6** was located just east of pit **2**, with a north-west to south-east orientation. The ditch was steep sided with a U-shaped profile, measuring 2.2m wide and 0.51m deep. The ditch contained three fills, the primary fill (5) was a brown grey sandy clay 0.22m thick containing 289g of Early Roman pottery. Above this was a grey brown silt clay (4) 0.18m thick. The upper and final fill (3) was a dark brown silt clay 0.26m thick containing 1891g of mid 1st to early 2nd century AD pottery and animal bone.

3.4.6 Directly adjacent to ditch **6** was another ditch (**8**, Fig. 5a S. 2) on a north-east to south-west orientation. This linear ditch was steep sided with a U-shaped profile, measuring 0.74m wide and 0.20m deep. The ditch contained a single fill (7) of dark grey brown silt clay containing 335g of Early Roman pottery.

3.4.7 Located midway along the trench was a pit (**10**). This pit was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.65m in diameter and 0.21m deep with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. Its single fill of brown grey silt clay contained no finds but charcoal flecks were evident in the fill.

3.4.8 At the eastern end of the trench was an unexcavated north-to-south aligned ditch, aligned with the modern field boundaries.

3.5 Trench 2

3.5.1 This trench (Fig. 4a; Plate 2) was in the north-western corner of the development area with a north-west to south-east orientation. The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural geology was reached at between 0.41m and 0.46m below the top of the trench.

3.5.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.12m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.30m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.5.3 The trench contained seven ditches (**8**, **29**, **36**, **40** and three unexcavated) and two pits (**25** and one unexcavated).

3.5.4 Ditch **8** was excavated in Trench 1, but was also within the northern end of Trench 2.

3.5.5 Located just south of ditch **8** was pit **25**. The pit was located on the western edge of the trench, measuring 0.45m in width and 0.15m deep with gently sloping sides and a flat base. It was sub-circular in plan and contained a single fill (24); a blue grey silt clay containing animal bone and 814g of mid to late 1st century AD pottery.

3.5.6 Located further along the trench was ditch **29**. This ditch was on a north-east to south-west orientation. This steep sided linear feature with a flat base was 2.00m wide and

0.62m deep and contained three fills. The primary fill (28) was a light brown grey clay 0.25m thick. Above this was a 0.12m thick dark brown grey clay silt (27) which was sampled and found to contain charred cereal grains, some partially germinated, chaff and weed seeds. The upper and final fill was a dark brown grey silt clay (26) 0.26m thick.

3.5.7 Located at the south-eastern end of the trench were two adjacent linear ditches (**36** and **40**) and a further four, small unexcavated ditches measuring 0.7-0.9m wide and a pit or natural feature (unexcavated).

3.5.8 Ditch **36** (Fig. 5a, S. 6) was 1.20m wide and 0.40m deep. This gently sided ditch had a U-shaped profile and contained three fills. Its primary fill (37) was a yellow brown silt clay 0.40m thick containing 8g of mid to late 1st century AD pottery and animal bone. A bulk sample was taken from this fill, which contained no preserved ecofacts. Above this was a 0.18m thick light yellow brown sandy clay (38) containing no finds, which slumped in from the south-west perhaps originating from bank material. The third and final fill (39) was a mid-brown silt clay 0.25m thick containing animal bone and 16g of Early Roman pottery.

3.5.9 Ditch **40** (Fig. 5a S. 10) had a U-shaped profile and was 1.10m wide and 0.40m deep. The ditch contained three fills, the earliest of which (41) was a dark grey brown silt clay 0.12m thick containing no finds. Above this was a yellow brown silt clay (42) 0.25m thick containing 62g of Early Roman pottery. The upper and final fill was a dark brown silt clay (43) 0.17m thick containing 79g of Early Roman pottery including samian ware.

3.6 Trench 3

3.6.1 This trench was in the north-eastern corner of the proposed development area with an east to west orientation (Fig. 4a) The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural geology was reached at between 0.41m and 0.54m below the top of the trench.

3.6.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.24m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.30m thick dark greyish brown clayed silt topsoil (142).

3.6.3 The trench contained a post hole (**30**), a pit (**32**) and two furrows (**34** and one unexcavated) in addition to a modern field drain on a north to south alignment that may be the same drain as that seen in Trenches 17 and 22.

3.6.4 Located midway along the trench was a posthole (**30**). The posthole was sub-circular in plan and measured 0.2m in width and 0.15m deep. The posthole was U-shaped in plan with steep sides. Its single fill (31) was a dark brown grey silt clay containing no finds. Charcoal was evident in the fill.

3.6.5 Directly adjacent, to the east, was pit **32**. This pit was sub-circular in plan with a width of 0.5m and 0.15m deep. The pit has gently sloping sides with a U-shaped profile and contained a single fill (33). This fill was a dark brown grey silt clay which although containing no finds had evidence of charcoal and possible burning in its fill.

3.6.6 Located at the eastern end of the trench was linear furrow **34** orientated north-east to south-west. This furrow was very gently-sloping sides with an almost flat base,

measuring 0.9m wide and 0.04m deep. Its single fill (35) was a mid yellowish brown silty clay containing no finds. Another furrow was within the trench on the same alignment as furrow **34**.

3.7 Trench 4

3.7.1 This trench was in the north-eastern corner of the development area with a north-east to south-west orientation (Fig. 4a). This trench intersected with Trench 5 at its western end and measured 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural geology was reached at between 0.22m and 0.40m below the top of the trench.

3.7.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.30m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.31m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.7.3 In addition to a modern field drain, the trench contained one unexcavated ditch forming the return of an enclosure ditch seen in Trench 5, a number of tree throw-like features and a single pit (**50**). The pit was located towards the south-western end of the trench and was sub-circular in plan with a width of 0.9m and a depth of 0.04m. The pit was steeply sloped with a U-shaped profile. Its single fill (51) was a dark grey brown silty clay containing no finds but moderate amounts of charcoal.

3.8 Trench 5

3.8.1 This trench was on a north-west to south-east orientation, with Trench 4 extending perpendicular to its southern end (Fig. 4a). The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural geology was reached at between 0.55m and 0.58m below the top of the trench.

3.8.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.30m thick dark greyish brown clayey silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.33m thick dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil (142) containing modern brick and tile fragments.

3.8.3 In addition to a furrow (unexcavated) the trench contained four ditches (**44**, **46**, **48** and one unexcavated).

3.8.4 Located midway along the trench was ditch **44** (Fig. 5a, S. 11). This ditch was on a north-east to south-west orientation with steep sides and a U-shaped profile, measuring 0.90m wide and 0.40m deep. The single fill of the ditch (45) was a mid brownish grey silty clay containing a single 6g sherd of mid to late 1st century pottery.

3.8.5 Directly north-west was ditch **46** on the same north-east to south-west orientation. The ditch was steep sided with a U-shaped profile and a width of 0.60m and 0.25m deep. The single fill of the ditch (47) was a mid greyish brown silty clay containing no finds.

3.8.6 Further north-west was ditch **48** on the same north-east to south-west orientation. The ditch was steep sided with a U-shaped profile and a width of 1.05m and depth of 0.25m. The ditch appeared to terminate in the trench. The single fill of the ditch (49) was a mid greyish brown silty clay containing no finds.

3.9 Trench 6

3.9.1 This trench lay south-west of Trench 5, with a north-west to south-east orientation (Fig. 4b). The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural geology was reached at between 0.42m and 0.60m below the top of the trench.

3.9.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.20m-thick dark greyish brown clayey silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.28m thick dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil (142).

3.9.3 The trench contained a ditch that was excavated in Trench 7 (**11**), a shallow linear feature (**55**) interpreted as a furrow and a pit (**53**) along with three partially uncovered pits or natural features (unexcavated).

3.9.4 Located at the north-western end of the trench was pit **53** (Fig. 5a, S. 12). This pit was sub-circular in plan with a diameter of 0.51m and depth of 0.22m. The pit had steeply sloping sides with a U-shaped profile and contained a single fill (52). This fill was a dark blue grey silt clay containing no finds.

3.9.5 Located at the south-eastern end of the trench was a furrow (**55**) on a north-east to south-west orientation. This furrow had gently sloping sides with an almost flat base, a width of 2.18m and depth of 0.22m. Its single fill (54) was a light grey brown clay silt containing a post-medieval pottery sherd (43g). This furrow was also recorded in Trench 9.

3.10 Trench 7

3.10.1 This trench was directly west of Trench 6 on a north-west to south-east orientation (Fig. 4b). Trench 8 intersected midway along the length of this trench at a perpendicular angle. The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural geology was reached at between 0.49m and 0.51m below the top of the trench.

3.10.2 The natural soil was overlain by a 0.20m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.31m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.10.3 The trench contained an enclosure ditch (**11**), two intercutting ditches (**14** and **16**), an unexcavated ditch and seven discrete pits (**18, 20**, **22** and three unexcavated).

3.10.4 Located towards the south-eastern end of the trench was ditch **11** (Fig. 5a, S. 5; Plate 3). This ditch was on a north-east to south-west alignment and is the same feature as the unexcavated ditch in Trench 6. This steep sided linear feature had a U-shaped profile and measured 1.60m wide and 0.70m deep. The primary fill (12) was a mid greyish brown silty clay 0.20m thick containing flint and charcoal inclusions. Above this was a 0.60m thick dark grey brown clayey silt (13) containing 431g of mid to late 1st to mid 2nd century AD pottery and charcoal inclusions. A bulk sample was taken from this fill, which contained occasional charred wheat grains and a small amount of charcoal.

3.10.5 South-east of the ditch was pit **18**. This pit was sub-circular in plan with a diameter of 0.70m and depth of 0.05m. The pit had gently sloping sides with a U-shaped profile and contained a single fill (19). This fill was a mid greyish brown clay silt containing no finds. The shape and depth of the feature suggested that it may in fact be a tree throw.

3.10.6 North-west of the ditch was pit **22**. This pit was sub-circular in plan with a width of 0.66m and 0.15m deep. The pit had gently sloping sides with a U-shaped profile and contained a single fill (23). This fill was a mid greyish brown clay silt containing no finds.

3.10.7 Located towards the north-western end of the trench were two intercutting ditches **14** and **16**. Ditch **14** was on an east to west orientation, linear in plan with steeply sloping sides and a U-shaped profile. The ditch measured 0.90m wide and 0.60m deep and contained a single fill (15). This fill was a mid yellowish brown silt containing traces of charcoal but no finds.

3.10.8 Ditch **14** was cut by another ditch (**16**) that was on a north-east to south-west orientation. The feature was also seen at the eastern end of Trench 8. This later ditch was a steep sided linear feature with a U-shaped profile. It was 0.96m wide, 0.23m deep and contained a single fill (17) comprising a dark brown grey silty clay containing small traces of charcoal but no finds.

3.10.9 Situated at the north-west end of the trench was a pit (**20**) which was sub-rectangular in plan with a width of 0.90m and 0.15m deep. The pit had steeply sloping sides with a flat base and contained a single fill (21). This fill was a dark brownish grey clayey silt containing no individual finds but a high frequency of charcoal and burnt clay fragments, indicating it probably had an industrial function.

3.11 Trench 8

3.11.1 This trench was on a north-east to south-west orientation and measured 50m long with a width of 1.8m (Fig. 4b). This trench joined with Trench 7 at its eastern end. Natural geology was reached at between 0.56m and 0.70m below the top of the trench.

3.11.2 The natural soil was overlain by a 0.20m thick dark greyish brown clayey silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.30m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.11.3 The trench contained two ditches (**90** and **102**) and six pits/natural features (**104** and five unexcavated).

3.11.4 Ditch **90** was located towards the south-western end of the trench on a north-west to south-east orientation. This ditch was linear in plan with steeply sloping sides and a U-shaped profile which measured 1.55m wide and 0.34m deep and contained a single fill. The fill (89) was a light yellow brown silt clay containing traces of daub and 87g of mid 1st to 2nd century AD pottery.

3.11.5 Further along the trench towards the north-east was ditch **102** (Fig. 5a, S. 21) on a north-west to south-east orientation. This feature had a U-shaped profile and stepped sides, measuring 0.75m wide and 0.28m deep. The ditch contained a single fill (102) which was a light yellow brown silt clay containing no finds.

3.11.6 Located east of ditch **102** was pit **104**. This pit was irregular in plan with a width of 0.40m and 0.13m deep. The pit had gently sloping sides with a U-shaped profile and contained a single fill (103). This fill was a mid yellowish brown silt clay containing no finds.

3.11.7 At the north-east end of the trench, where it intersected with Trench 7, ditch **16** continued through Trench 8.

3.12 Trench 9

3.12.1 This trench was to the south of Trench 8 on an east to west alignment (Fig. 4b). The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural geology was reached at between 0.54m and 0.76m below the top of the trench.

3.12.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.30m thick dark greyish brown clayey silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.30m thick dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil (142), from which an Edward III long cross penny was recovered during metal detecting.

3.12.3 The trench contained a large pit or natural hollow (**79**), a pit (**84**), a furrow (the same as that seen in Trench 6) and a ditch (**86**).

3.12.4 Located at the eastern end of the trench was large pit or hollow **79** (Fig. 5a S. 14). This feature was sub-circular in plan with an excavated width of 3.00m and 0.42m deep. The pit had gently sloping sides with an irregular profile and contained three fills (80, 81 and 82). The primary fill 80 was a light grey brown clay sand 0.09m thick containing no finds. This fill could possibly represent slump material into the edge of the pit. Above this was a light reddish grey clayey silt (81) representing silting at the base of the pit, measuring 0.09m thick. The uppermost and final fill 82 was a dark grey brown clay silt 0.34m thick containing frequent fragments of post-medieval CBM.

3.12.5 Midway along the trench was pit **84**. This was sub-circular in plan with a width of 1.30m and depth of 0.22m. The pit had steeply sloping sides with a U-shaped profile and contained a single fill (83). This fill was a mid greyish brown clayey silt containing no finds.

3.12.6 At the western end of the trench, beyond the unexcavated furrow, was ditch **86**. This ditch was on a south-west to north-east orientation before turning back sharply in a south-east direction towards the southern side of the trench. This ditch had a U-shaped profile and steeply sloping sides, measuring 1.00m in width and 0.20m deep. The ditch contained a single fill (85) which was a light grey brown sand silt which contained no finds.

3.13 Trench 10

3.13.1 This trench lay east of Trench 9 and south of Trench 7, on a north-west to south-east orientation (Fig. 4b). The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural geology was reached at between 0.34m and 0.46m below the top of the trench.

3.13.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.20m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.25m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.13.3 At the south-east end of the trench was an unexcavated ditch that was also seen in Trench 12 (**135**).

3.13.4 Midway along the trench was ditch **91** on a north-west to south-east orientation which had a V shaped profile and steeply sloping sides, measuring 0.41m in width and 0.22m

in depth. The ditch contained a single fill (92) which was a dark brownish grey silt clay containing a partially complete iron nail (SF2).

3.14 Trench 11

3.14.1 This trench was east of Trench 6 on a north-east to south-west orientation (Fig. 4c). The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural geology was reached at between 0.44m and 0.56m below the top of the trench.

3.14.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.31m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.33m thick dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil (142).

3.14.3 The trench contained a possible furrow and two natural features.

3.15 Trench 12

3.15.1 This trench was east of Trench 10 on the same north-west to south-east orientation (Fig. 4c). The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural geology was reached at between 0.40m and 0.46m below the top of the trench.

3.15.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.19m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.30m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.15.3 In addition to a modern drain and furrow, the trench contained two ditches (**133** and **135**), one of which (**133**) may be post-medieval.

3.15.4 Ditch **135** (Fig. 5a, S. 33; Plate 4) was located centrally within the trench on an east-north-east to west-south-west orientation. It had a U-shaped profile and steeply sloping sides, measuring at least 4.5m wide and its excavated depth was 0.95m. The base of the ditch was not reached due to health and safety considerations. The ditch contained three fills, the earliest of which (136) was a mid brown grey silt clay, 0.2m thick which contained 155g of Late Iron Age pottery, a large fragment of saddle quern and animal bone. A bulk sample was taken, but found to be sterile. Above this was a mid brown grey clay silt (137) which was 0.12m thick. Although containing no finds, the fill was notable for being comprised of up to 50% of sub angular rounded stones. The upper and final fill (138) was a mid brown grey clay silt 0.60m thick containing 4g of Late Iron Age pottery. This ditch is the same feature seen in Trench 10 (unexcavated).

3.15.5 Ditch **133** was located at the south-east end of the trench. The ditch, which was aligned north-east to south-west, had a V-shaped profile, steep sides and was 0.41m in width and 0.22m deep. The ditch contained a single fill (134) which was a mid brownish grey silt clay containing no finds. The ditch is interpreted as a post-medieval boundary ditch.

3.16 Trench 13

3.16.1 This trench was east of Trench 12 on a north-east to south-west orientation (Fig. 4c). It intersected with Trench 14 at its eastern end on a perpendicular angle. The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m (Fig. 4b). Natural geology was reached at between 0.60m and 0.64m below the top of the trench.

3.16.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.24m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.28m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.16.3 The trench contained two intercutting ditches (**95** and **99**), located at the south-west end of the trench.

3.16.4 Ditch **95** (Fig. 5b S. 13, Plate 5) was on a north-west to south-east orientation with a V shaped profile and steeply sloping sides, measuring 1.7m in width and 0.90m deep. The ditch contained three fills, the earliest of which (96) was a mid greyish brown clay, 0.38m thick, a sample from which contained no preserved ecofacts. Above this was a mid greyish brown clay (97) which was 0.26m thick and contained fragments of animal bone. The upper and final fill (98) was a dark grey brown clay 0.17m thick which contained a moderate amount of charcoal inclusions and 17g of Late Iron Age pottery. This ditch was part of a sub-circular enclosure identified by the geophysical survey, the other side of which was revealed to the east in the trench and left unexcavated.

3.16.5 This ditch was cut by a later ditch (**99**) on a north-east to south-west orientation with a U-shaped profile and steeply sloping sides, filled by a mid greyish brown clayey silt (100).

3.17 Trench 14

3.17.1 This trench (Fig. 4c; Plate 6) was located directly east of, and joined to, Trench 13, on a north-west to south-east orientation. The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural geology was reached at between 0.52m and 0.65m below the top of the trench.

3.17.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.22m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.26m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.17.3 The trench contained two ditches (**66** and one unexcavated near the northern end of the trench), two pits (**63** and **78**), a possible posthole (**139**), and two very truncated probable furrows (not illustrated).

3.17.4 Ditch **66** (Fig. 5b, S. 7; Plate 7) was on an east to west alignment and had a flat base with gently sloping sides, measuring 1.36m wide and 0.36m deep. The ditch contained two fills, the earliest of which (65) was a light brown grey clay its thickness being 0.18m. Above this was a mid greyish brown clay silt (64) which was 0.14m thick and contained fragments of animal bone. A bulk sample taken from this fill was extremely sterile, with no preserved ecofacts being found. This ditch was part of an enclosure identified on the geophysical survey, though the southern wasn't as clear, though is likely the unexcavated gully truncated by posthole **139** (see below).

3.17.5 Ditch **66** (Fig. 5b S. 7, Plate 7) was truncated by a later pit (**63**, Plate 7). This pit was sub-circular in plan with a width of 0.96m and depth of 0.34m. The pit had steeply sloping sides with a U-shaped profile and contained a single light grey brown clayey silt fill (62) containing no finds apart from some burnt stone.

3.17.6 To the south-east, pit **78** was sub-circular in plan with a diameter of 0.98m and depth of 0.26m. The pit had moderately sloping sides with a broad U-shaped profile and contained a single fill (77). This fill was a mid greyish brown clay with rare flint inclusions. The feature was interpreted as being a possible tree throw.

3.17.7 Further south-east along the trench was a small posthole (**139**) truncating a probably ring gully. This sub-circular feature was had gently sloping sides and a U-shaped profile. The feature's diameter was 0.3m and measured 0.08m deep. Its single fill (140) was a dark brown grey silt clay containing no finds and the bulk sample was sterile.

3.18 Trench 15

3.18.1 This trench was south of Trenches 13 and 14, on a north-east to south-west orientation (Fig. 4). It intersected with Trench 16, forming a T-shape in plan, and measured 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural geology was reached at between 0.39m and 0.42m below the top of the trench.

3.18.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.16m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.26m thick dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil (142) containing modern brick and tile fragments

3.18.3 The trench contained a single furrow on a north to south alignment (unexcavated).

3.19 Trench 16

3.19.1 This trench was on a north-west to south-east orientation and intersected with trench 15 (Fig. 4e). The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m and natural geology was reached at between 0.36m and 0.53m below the top of the trench.

3.19.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.24m thick dark greyish brown clayey silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.29m thick dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil (142) containing modern brick and tile fragments

3.19.3 The trench contained three ditches (**56**, **58** and one unexcavated) near its south-eastern end. Ditch **56** was located midway along the trench on a north-east to south-west orientation, parallel with the unexcavated ditch directly south. This ditch had a U-shaped profile, steeply sloping sides and measured 0.96m wide and 0.35m deep. The ditch contained a single dark brown grey silty clay (57) containing no finds.

3.19.4 Ditch **58** was located south of the unexcavated ditch on a north-east to south-west orientation and had a U-shaped profile with steeply sloping sides and measured 0.83m wide and 0.19m deep. The ditch contained a single fill (59) which was a mid brownish grey silt clay containing no finds.

3.20 Trench 17

3.20.1 This trench was located south of Trenches 10 and 12, on an east to west orientation (Fig. 4). The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural geology was reached at between 0.26m and 0.42m below the top of the trench.

3.20.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.15m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.28m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.20.3 The trench contained a modern drain and three furrows survived on a north-west to south-east alignment (unexcavated).

3.21 Trench 18

3.21.1 This trench lay south-west of Trench 10, on a north-west to south-east alignment (Fig. 4d). The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural geology was reached at between 0.29m and 0.47m below the top of the trench.

3.21.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.18m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.28m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.21.3 The trench contained and unexcavated ditch, two ditches or furrows (**107** and **105**) and a possible posthole (**109**).

3.21.4 Situated at the south-east end of the trench was an unexcavated ditch on a north-east to south-west alignment. This ditch was noted in Trench 10 and excavated in both Trenches 12 (**135**) and 19 (**112**).

3.21.5 North-west of this unexcavated feature was ditch (**107**). This ditch was on a north-east to south-west alignment and had a U-shaped profile and gently sloping sides, measuring 1.10m wide and 0.15m deep. The ditch contained a single fill (108) which was a mid yellowish brown silty clay containing no finds. The ditch was further excavated in Trench 19 as **114**.

3.21.6 Located north-west of ditch **107** was a second possible ditch or furrow (**105**) on the same north-east to south-west alignment. This ditch had a U-shaped profile with steeply sloping sides and measured 0.50m wide and 0.11m deep, containing a single fill (106) which was a mid greyish brown silt clay containing 16g of late medieval (AD1200-1500) pottery and a copper object (SF3) that may be part of a buckle. This feature was also excavated in Trench 19 (**117**)

3.21.7 Despite these features correlating well with geophysical interpretation results, it is possible these two features are furrows, due to their form and the late medieval finds recovered.

3.21.8 North-west of ditch **105** was pit **109**. This pit was sub-circular in plan with a width of 0.24m and 0.12m deep. The pit had an irregular slope with a broad U-shaped profile and contained a single fill (110) consisting of a dark brownish grey silty clay containing a mix of charcoal and burnt natural inclusions. The bulk sample from the fill contained moderate amounts of charcoal but no preserved plant remains.

3.22 Trench 19

3.22.1 This trench (Fig. 4d; Plate 8) was south-west of Trench 18 and on a north-west to south-east orientation. The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural geology was reached at 0.30m below the top of the trench.

3.22.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.10m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.20m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.22.3 The trench contained three ditches (**111**, **112** and **113**, Plate 8) and four probable furrows (**114**, **117**, **118** and one unexcavated) and three pits/postholes (**115**, **116** and **132**). The three parallel ditches (**111**, **112**, **113**) all form part of the same boundary that runs through Trenches 10, 12 and 18.

3.22.4 Located at the south-eastern end of the trench was ditch **111**. This feature was on a north-east to south-west alignment with a U-shaped profile and steeply sloping sides, measuring 0.70m wide and 0.18m deep. The ditch contained a single fill (119) which was a dark brown clayey silt containing no finds.

3.22.5 Directly adjacent to the north-west was ditch **112** (Fig. 5b, S. 24). This ditch may have been a continuation of that previously excavated as **135** in Trench 12 (and unexcavated in Trench 10). It was aligned on a north-east to south-west orientation with a U-shaped profile and steeply sloping sides, measuring 2.20m wide and 0.66m deep. The ditch contained three fills, the earliest of which (122) was a dark grey clay silt 0.38m thick that contained no finds. Above this was a dark grey brown clay silt (121) slumping into the ditch on its north-western side, measuring 0.20m thick and containing a single 10g sherd of late Iron Age pottery. The upper and final fill (120) was a light greyish brown clayey silt 0.26m thick containing 74g of mid to late first century AD pottery and an assemblage of animal bone. The bulk sample from this fill was sterile.

3.22.6 Again, directly north of this ditch was a further ditch on the same alignment (**113**, Fig. 5b, S. 24) with a U-shaped profile and steeply sloping sides, measuring 1.26m wide and 0.33m deep. The ditch contained a single fill (123) consisting of a mid greyish brown clayey silt containing no finds.

3.22.7 Further along the trench to the north-west was a ditch or furrow (**114**), which was a continuation of a feature excavated in Trench 18 (**107**). This feature was on a north-east to south-west alignment and had a U-shaped profile with steeply sloping sides measuring 1.2m wide and 0.18m deep. The feature contained a single fill (124) which was a dark brown clayey silt containing no finds. North-west of feature **114** was another possible furrow (**117**) on the same alignment with a wide U-shaped profile, which had gently sloping sides and measured 1.2m wide and 0.07m deep, containing a single dark brown clayey silt fill (127 from which a modern iron nail (SF4) was recovered. At the north-west end of the trench was ditch or furrow (**118**) on a north-east to south-west orientation with a U-shaped profile and steeply sloping sides which was 0.30m wide and 0.12m deep. The single fill (128) which was a dark blue grey organic clay silt containing an 8g sherd of mid 1st century AD pottery.

3.22.8 Situated midway along the trench was a small pit **115**. This pit was sub-circular in plan with a width of 0.30m and 0.08m deep. The pit had a steep slope with a U-shaped profile and contained a single fill (125). This fill was a light grey brown silt clay containing neither finds or evidence of a post pipe or packing.

3.22.9 Located within the central southern half of the trench were pits **117** and **132**. Pit/posthole **116** was sub-circular in plan measuring 0.45m wide and 0.13m deep. The pit had steeply sloping sides with a U-shaped profile and was filled by a mid greyish brown silty clay (126) that contained no finds. Further along the trench to the north-west was one or more possible pit (**132**). This vaguely sub-circular feature was 1.5m long and 0.58m wide with a depth of 0.15m. The sole fill (131) was a light yellowish brown silty clay from which small fragments of animal bone were recovered.

3.23 Trench 20

3.23.1 This trench was located to the south of Trench 19 on a north to south alignment (Fig. 4d). The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural geology was reached at 0.35m below the top of the trench.

3.23.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.10m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.25m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.23.3 The trench contained five furrows (unexcavated) and a single ditch (**93**). At the southern end of the trench, ditch **93** was aligned east to west and was also recorded in Trench 21 (unexcavated). This ditch was linear in plan with a U-shaped profile which had steeply sloping sides and measured 0.65m wide and 0.26m deep. The ditches single fill (94) was a mid brown grey silt clay containing no finds. This ditch was aligned with the modern field boundaries.

3.24 Trench 21

3.24.1 Trench 21 was located directly east of Trench 20, on a north to south alignment (Fig. 4d). The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural geology was reached at 0.35m below the top of the trench.

3.24.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.04m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.34m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.24.3 The trench contained a single unexcavated ditch on an east to west orientation with a fragment of Cambridge White unfrogged brick in the backfill. This ditch is the same feature recorded in Trench 20 to the west.

3.25 Trench 22

3.25.1 This trench, east of Trench 21, was on an east to west alignment and measured 50m long and 1.8m wide (Fig. 4). Natural geology was reached at between 0.24m and 0.54m below the top of the trench.

3.25.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.29m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.25m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.25.3 The only feature within the trench was a modern drain, also located in Trenches 3 and 17 to the north.

3.26 Trench 23

3.26.1 This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide, found to the south of Trenches 20 and 21, on an east to west alignment (Fig. 3). Natural geology was reached between 0.46m and 0.50m below the top of the trench.

3.26.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.05m thick dark greyish brown clayey silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.37m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.26.3 A total of two unexcavated furrows measuring 1.9m wide were recorded in the trench on a north-west to south-east alignment. The western-most furrow was also located in the northern end of Trench 29.

3.27 Trench 24

3.27.1 Directly east of Trench 23 and on a north-to south alignment, Trench 21 was 50m long and 1.8m wide (Fig. 3). Natural geology was reached at 0.34m and 0.38m below the top of the trench.

3.27.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.15m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil 9141). This was overlain by a 0.25m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.27.3 The trench contained a single ditch (**67**) at its northern end, partially masked by a later furrow. This ditch was on a north-west to south-east alignment and had a wide U-shaped profile and gently sloping sides, measuring 0.47m wide and 0.19m deep. The ditches single fill (68) of mid yellow grey silt clay contained no finds. A total of five unexcavated furrows were in the trench on a north-west to south-east alignment.

3.28 Trench 25

3.28.1 Located south of Trench 16 and on a north-west to south-east alignment, this trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide (Fig. 4e). Natural geology was reached at between 0.32m and 0.42m below the top of the trench.

3.28.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.15m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141) which was in turn overlain by a 0.27m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.28.3 The trench contained two ditches (**60** and one unexcavated). At the southern end of the trench, ditch **60** (Plate 9) was aligned north-east to south-and had a V shaped profile with steeply sloping sides, measuring 0.8m wide and 0.43m deep. The ditch contained a single fill (61) of mid yellow brown silt clay that contained an iron nail (SF1).

3.29 Trench 26

3.29.1 To the south of Trench 25 and on a north to south orientation, this trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide (Fig. 3). Natural geology was reached at between 0.24m and 0.32m below the top of the trench.

3.29.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.05m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.22m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.29.3 A total of four furrows (unexcavated) measuring 2.4m wide on a north-east to south-west alignment were recorded in the trench.

3.30 Trench 27

3.30.1 Directly west of Trench 26 and on a north to south orientation, this trench was 50m long 1.8m wide (Fig. 3). Natural geology was reached at between 0.27m and 0.36m below the top of the trench.

3.30.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.11m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.26m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.30.3 A continuation of two furrows located within Trench 26 were also found within this trench.

3.31 Trench 28

3.31.1 Directly west of Trench 27, on an east to west alignment, this trench measured 50m long and 1.8m wide (Fig. 3), with geology encountered between 0.21m and 0.42m below the top of the trench.

3.31.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.19m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.26m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.31.3 The trench two unexcavated furrows measuring 2.1m wide on a north-west to south-east alignment and a north to south field drain at its western end.

3.32 Trench 29

3.32.1 This trench was located south of Trench 23 and west of Trench 28, on a north to south alignment (Fig. 3). Natural undisturbed geology was reached at between 0.27m and 0.33m below the top of the trench, which measured 50m long and 1.8m wide.

3.32.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.10m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141) which was in turn overlain by a 0.23m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.32.3 A total of four very truncated furrows on a north-west to south-east alignment were within the trench, the northern-most one being located within Trench 23 and the southern-most within Trench 30.

3.33 Trench 30

3.33.1 On an east to west alignment and located south of Trench 29, this trench also measured 50m long and 1.8m wide (Fig. 3). Natural geology was reached between 0.32m and 0.41m below the top of the trench.

3.33.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.14m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141) which was in turn overlain by a 0.27m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.33.3 The trench contained five furrows on a north-west to south-east alignment which measured 1.1m to 2.5m wide.

3.34 Trench 31

3.34.1 East of Trench 30 and on a north to south alignment, this trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide (Fig. 3). Natural geology was reached at between 0.25m and 0.39m below the top of the trench.

3.34.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.10m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.29m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.34.3 The trench contained a single east-to-west aligned ditch (**69**) at its southern end. This ditch was 0.69m wide and 0.29m deep with a U-shaped profile and steeply sloping sides. Its single fill (70) consisted of a mid brownish grey silty clay containing no finds. This feature is the same as ditch **73** within Trench 34 to the west.

3.34.4 A further two truncated furrows on a north-west to south-east alignment were also recorded in the trench.

3.35 Trench 32

3.35.1 South of Trenches 26 and 27 and on an east to west orientation, this trench measured 50m long and 1.8m wide (Fig. 3), with the natural geology being reached between 0.31m and 0.4m below the top of the trench.

3.35.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.12m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141) which was in turn overlain by a 0.29m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.35.3 The trench contained a single ditch (**75**) at its eastern end, on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment. The ditch had a wide U-shaped profile and gently sloping sides and measuring 0.32m wide and 0.13m deep. It contained a single fill (76) of mid brown grey silt clay that produced no finds. A further three furrows on a north-east to south-west alignment were also found within the trench.

3.36 Trench 33

3.36.1 This north-west to south-east aligned trench was located south of Trench 32, and measured 50m long and 1.8m wide (Fig. 3). Natural geology was reached at between 0.28m and 0.39m below the top of the trench.

3.36.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.3m-thick layer of mid brownish grey colluvium, which was in turn overlain by 0.27m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141). This was overlain by a 0.23m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.36.3 An east to west aligned field drain was located near the southern end of the trench, as well as two north-east to south-west alignment furrows which each measured 2.1m wide.

3.37 Trench 34

3.37.1 West of Trench 33, and aligned north to south, this trench also measured 50m long and 1.8m wide (Fig. 3). This trench intersected with Trench 35 halfway along its length on the western side. Natural geology was reached at between 0.25m and 0.40m below the top of the trench.

3.37.2 The natural geology was overlain by a maximum thickness of 0.9m of mid greyish brown colluvium at its southern end. Above this was a 0.20m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil. (141). This was in turn overlain by a 0.28m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.37.3 In addition to a furrow (**71**) the trench contained two ditches (**73** and **87**) and a modern field drain.

3.37.4 The furrow (**71**) was in the northern half of the trench and measured 1.6m wide and 0.15m deep. Its single fill (72) of mid yellow brown silt clay contained a single post-medieval tile fragment.

3.37.5 North of the furrow was an east to west aligned ditch (**87**) measuring 0.29m wide and 0.11m deep. This had a U-shaped profile and gently sloping sides, and was infilled with a mid brown grey silty clay (88) which contained no finds.

3.37.6 Ditch **73** (Fig. 5b, S. 34, Plate 10), located south of furrow **71**, was on an east to west alignment and is the same feature as ditch **69** in Trench 31. This U-shaped ditch was 0.90m wide and 0.30m deep, the sole fill of which (74) was a mid yellowish grey silty clay containing 39g of mid to late 1st century AD pottery.

3.38 Trench 35

3.38.1 Extending east to west from Trench 34, this trench (Fig. 3; Plate 11) measured 50m long and 1.8m wide. Natural geology was reached at between 0.50m and 0.69m below the top of the trench.

3.38.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.40m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (141) which was in turn overlain by a 0.29m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (142).

3.38.3 The trench contained four north-west to south-east aligned furrows measuring between 1.1m and 1.4m wide and a modern field drain.

3.39 Trench 36

3.39.1 This north-west to south-east aligned trench (Fig. 3; Plate 12) measured 50m long and 1.8m wide, with natural geology being reached between 0.43m and 0.57m below the top of the trench.

3.39.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.29m thick layer of mid greyish brown clayey silt subsoil (141) which was in turn overlain by a 0.29m thick dark greyish brown silty clay topsoil (142).

3.39.3 In addition to four furrows, there was a single (unexcavated) ditch on an east to west orientation located towards the centre of the trench. This was a continuation of undated ditch **69** excavated in Trench 31 to the east.

3.40 Finds summary

3.40.1 A relatively small assemblage of later Iron Age (186g) and Early Roman (4407g) pottery was recovered during the evaluation, predominantly from features located within the northern half of the excavation area that were initially identified during the geophysical survey. Similarly, a relatively large fragment (1350g) of saddle quern was recovered from ditch **135**, Trench 12. A small number of metal artefacts including a copper alloy Dutch stuiver (coin), a lead weight, a silver long cross of Edward III, three iron nails and a fragment of possible copper alloy buckle pin were recovered from the topsoil and archaeological features, most of which were furrows. A 1193g assemblage of ceramic building material was also recovered, the majority from a single large pit or natural hollow (**79**) in Trench 9, dating from the late medieval to modern period.

3.41 Environmental summary

3.41.1 A small assemblage of faunal remains totalling 1544g was recovered, with bovine remains forming most of the identifiable bone; most of the remains came from contexts dating to the later Iron Age. Environmental samples contained few charred plant remains, although one sample from ditch **29**, Trench 2 contained an assemblage of spelt wheat, some of which had partly germinated. Cereal grains were also recovered from ditch **11**, Trench 7.

4 Discussion

By Pat Moan

4.1 Overview

4.1.1 The evaluation has identified an area of rectilinear, and more organically-shaped, enclosures on a north-east to south-west alignment that date to the later Iron Age and Early Roman periods, located in the northern half of the site on the higher ground and better draining geology. The features identified in the northern trenches form part of a wider archaeological landscape that includes the possible Roman settlement (HER01329d) at Sawtry and features recorded during the geophysical survey to the north of Gidding Road (Linden Homes Application 1401659OUT; Slater 2016), along with excavations in the field to the east of the site (Jones 2008 and Murphy 2011). These also identified rectilinear enclosures like those within this development area, on the same north-east to south-west alignment. A single ditch within the southern half of the development area has been identified as being Roman in date. All other features relate to the medieval to modern periods.

4.1.2 Archaeological features cut into the heavy clay geology were clear, particularly the later Iron Age and Early Roman features that contained more organic remains. The furrows and a small number of the Early Roman ditches were less visible in the geology, due to the similarities between the fills and the surrounding clays. The heavy clay has resulted in relatively poor preservation of environmental remains.

4.1.3 Finds retrieval from archaeological features was relatively good, particularly from features identified as Early Roman within the north-western quarter of the area (Fig. 6). The later Iron Age features were less productive, with a small assemblage of pottery being recovered from features within Trenches 12, 13 and 19.

4.2 Geophysical survey 'ground truth'

4.2.1 The evaluation has shown the results of the geophysical survey to be accurate, with the clear majority of interpreted archaeological features being identified during trenching. It is worth noting, however, that certain interpreted features (*e.g.* anomaly 12, Trench 12; interpreted as an "Archaeological possible") were not identified during trenching. Any anomaly identified as "Archaeological probable" within the geophysical report was found to be accurate.

4.2.2 In addition, some areas that were relatively 'quiet' on the geophysical survey were found to contain ditches, for example the northern half of Trench 5 and features in Trench 2. It is probable that the disturbance noted on the geophysical interpretation (Fig. 2), in the northern limits of the development area, may be masking archaeological features. Similarly, features were found in Trench 9 which were not accurately identified in the geophysical survey.

4.2.3 The survey accurately identified the two different alignments of furrows within the development area, with the different alignments following changes in topography heading southwards down the valley side to the stream at the bottom of the development area. These furrows were mostly found to be very shallow, particularly

in the northern half of the development area, and many did not survive to the machined level. This probably explains why furrows were not identified in the north-western half of the area during the geophysical survey.

4.2.4 Overall, the 'ground truth' of the geophysical survey results is very accurate, with limited amounts of archaeology not being identified or misidentified. The strong signals found for certain features (see "Archaeological probable (strong) and Archaeological probable (weak) on Fig. 2) probably represent the difference in fills within the ditches, where the more organic and 'rich' fills have returned a stronger signal than the weaker 'secondary silting' clay fills.

4.3 Tree throws and natural features

4.3.1 There were several features identified within the trenches interpreted as tree throws or natural features. For example, three unexcavated features in Trench 6 and feature **18** in Trench 7 were quite amorphous and contained sterile clayey fills, and were interpreted as tree throws. The number of natural features was relatively low in comparison to other features within the development area, however, and any natural features had quite clearly different forms and fills to confirmed archaeological deposits, allowing quick identification of the natural features.

4.4 Undated features

4.4.1 The features that contained no datable finds, for example ditches in Trenches 2, 5 and 8 were most probably related to the Early Roman activity within the northern half of the development, given the quantity of features dating to this period within close proximity. Similarly, some features, despite being undated, clearly had an industrial/settlement function. For example, the pit within the northern end of Trench 7 (**20**) was truncated and contained no finds, but the large amount of charcoal and evidence of *in-situ* burning strongly suggests the feature is the remains of a large hearth or possibly oven/kiln, the superstructure of which was no longer surviving. Due to the feature's location in relation to other nearby features, it is also probably Early Roman in date.

4.4.2 A number of ditches identified within the geophysical survey (Trenches 16 and 25, anomaly 17, Fig. 2) were excavated but no closely datable material was recovered. These ditches were aligned with the furrows, and it is highly likely the features in these trenches (Ditches **56**, **58** and **60**) are most probably medieval/post-medieval; possibly boundaries between the changes in furrow alignments.

4.5 Later Iron Age

4.5.1 The pottery recovered from certain features in Trenches 12, 13 and 19 has been identified as handmade Middle Iron Age-type pottery, with either shell, sand or a mixture of both within the fabric. These inclusions are common to the Middle/later Iron Age assemblages from this part of Cambridgeshire, though few diagnostic sherds were found. Because of the lack of diagnostic sherds, and the Middle Iron Age handmade potting tradition persisted alongside the introduction of Late Iron Age-type wares, the pottery has been given a broad later Iron Age date.

4.5.2 Interestingly, these later Iron Age features correlate with the southern band of archaeology identified within the geophysical survey. These more organically-shaped enclosures, particularly within Trenches 13 and 14, have a more classically Iron Age form, and the recovered pottery from the ditches confirms this. This band was found to be situated on the relatively level plateau before the land sloped quite sharply down to the bottom of the valley, located at the southern-most end of the development area. Similarly, it is situated just prior to the change in geology, from better draining gravelly clays to a more consolidated, finer, clay that forms the valley slope.

4.5.3 This band of activity appears to be centralised on a long-running boundary that was seen in Trenches 10, 12, 18 and 19, with a penannular-shaped enclosure extending off the boundary in Trench 12 and more rectilinear shaped enclosures forming off the boundary within trenches 18 and 19. This boundary was variable in size and form, measuring 2.2m wide in Trench 19 (**122**) and 4.5m in Trench 12 (**135**). This variation in form and size appears to correlate with the geophysical results, where the ditch is seen to vary in size and shape quite considerably.

4.5.4 Other activity that is also of probable later Iron Age date includes the sub-circular/penannular features (Fig. 2, anomalies 11 and 12). One of the these was targeted within Trench 14 and found to be accurately represented on the geophysical interpretation. The ditch contained no datable finds, but its form was similar to the ditches seen in Trench 13, and the form of the feature would suggest it is a roundhouse gully. It is probable that the other feature (Fig. 2 Archaeological Probable anomaly 12) that wasn't targeted during trenching is also structural in function. Similarly, geophysical anomaly 10, west of Trench 18, could be structural in function (a four-post structure), though could also represent stronger signals from the parallel ditches that are also located there; the geophysical interpretation is that these ditches could possibly indicate a trackway.

4.5.5 The feature and artefact evidence suggests that settlement dating to the later Iron Age was located within the development area and the recovery of a relatively large sherd of saddle quern from ditch **135** (Trench 12) also suggests crop processing was taking place within the settlement. The relative scarcity of Iron Age pottery may suggest that settlement was outside of the development area and these ditches form stock enclosures, though the identification of a possible roundhouse in Trench 14 would support the idea that settlement is in the direct vicinity. The lack of Iron Age pottery may be due to a lack of midden material being deposited within ditches rather than a lack of settlement itself.

4.6 Early Roman

4.6.1 The relatively large quantities of unabraded Early Roman pottery recovered from features within Trenches 1 and 2 suggests that settlement was located nearby. Most of the assemblage comprises Early Roman utilitarian coarsewares in use between the mid to late 1st century AD, with some continuance possibly until the middle of the 2nd century AD. Comparison with other published material in the vicinity (Hancocks *et al* 1998), demonstrates both the fabrics and forms are typical for the area and date of deposition. Although the assemblage is small it is possible to establish that it

originated from a relatively affluent nearby settlement with some access to traded material.

4.6.2 This Early Roman activity is most evident within the northern band of features, closest to Gidding Road. These enclosures appear to be better organized than their probable Iron Age antecedents to the south and form more formal rectilinear shapes. This shift in settlement pattern is interesting, though commonly seen within the region (Timby *et al.* 2007). The geology at the northern limit of the development area has a slightly higher gravel and sand inclusions within the clays, presumably allowing the soil to drain quicker than the slightly more clayey geology that the band of later Iron Age archaeology is found on to the south.

4.6.3 The fills of these Early Roman features were much more organic than most of the later Iron Age features, which explains the stronger signals recorded for these Early Roman features during the geophysical survey. The best environmental results were found from these features (Ditch **29**, Trench 2), with a diverse assemblage comprised of spelt, wheat and weed seeds. Some of the spelt grains show sign of germination, evidence of a spoilt crop or possibly malting of the grain for brewing (Moan 2016).

4.6.4 As stated previously, the unabraded pottery assemblage recovered strongly suggests Early Roman settlement is within the direct vicinity, despite no structural remains dating to the period being found during trenching. All features dated to this period were ditches, with undated features (such as Pit **20**, Trench 7) likely dating to this period due to their proximity and location within the Early Roman enclosures. The evidence from this evaluation and the other nearby archaeological works (Murphy 2011) shows that settlement appears to have fallen into disuse by the Middle Roman period, which is of interest, as generally the 2nd century is a period where settlement and Romanisation of settlements is seen to increase exponentially within this region. It may be that this smaller settlement and other surrounding farmsteads nucleated into a larger settlement to the east at Sawtry, closer to Ermine Street (*i.e.* the settlement partly excavated in 1993; Welsh 1994), though with such limited data this is mostly supposition.

4.6.5 The alignment of these later Iron Age and Early Roman enclosures is intriguing, with all features dating to these periods within the development area and those from other nearby excavations and evaluations being situated on the same north-east to south-west alignment. The reasoning for this is unclear and beyond the scope of this evaluations aims, but it is suggested that Gidding Road, a known medieval route, could in fact be an ancient trackway with its origins in the Iron Age, or possibly earlier. Similarly, the alignment may be influenced by whichever watercourse the settlement was nearby. During enclosure, many streams and smaller watercourses would have been ditched, changing their alignment. There is evidence that Sawtry Brook, to the north of the development, may have originally been on a similar north-east to south-west alignment, which can partially be seen on historic maps (Clark 2016, fig. 5 1809 Inclosure Map).

4.7 Medieval to post-medieval

4.7.1 The medieval and post-medieval features appear to be limited to the furrows, which were also identified on the geophysical survey. These furrows are most likely to have been related to pre-enclosure strip fields on common land associated with a nearby manorial estate (possibly located at the moated site approximately 980m to the north-east of the current site) or the village. They are on two different alignments within development area and these alignments generally follow the lay of the land. The north-east to south-west furrows are located on the flat ground at the north and south of the area. The north-west to south-east aligned furrows are located on the valley side, following the incline of the land.

4.7.2 One furrow was found to be particularly larger than the others, and was located at the southern end of Trench 6 (**55**) and ran through Trench 9. This furrow could be the southern-most furrow on the north-east to south-west alignment, before the furrows turn to follow the slope of the valley. It probable that there would have been a headland at this change of orientation, and this larger furrow perhaps formed a marker between to two alignments. Interestingly, one feature in Trench 18 was found to contain a sherd of late medieval pottery and a copper object, possibly part of a buckle (**107**). This feature was within an area where the furrows were expected to be on a north-west to south-east alignment, so it could instead be a ditch, which means that other undated features identified during the geophysical survey within this part of the development area cannot be precluded from having a medieval date.

4.8 Modern

4.8.1 During the modern period, the development area clearly continued to be utilised agriculturally, as the only type of archaeological evidence noted after the medieval or post-medieval strip fields was ditches dating to the Act of Enclosure, where common land was ditched (thus enclosed) to create legal property rights for the land.

4.8.2 These ditches were seen on the geophysical survey and ran through Trenches 3, 12, 17, 20, 21 and 22. These boundaries are also seen on the 1809 Enclosure map (Fig. 2, Clark fig. 5) and the main north to south boundary identified on geophysics and found in Trenches 3 and 22 was found to contain a land drain at its base. The ditches were variable in size and depth and were not found in certain trenches where they would have been expected (*e.g.* Trenches 4 and 17), suggesting they were very shallow in these parts and have been truncated away by modern agricultural practices.

4.9 Conclusion

4.9.1 Whilst the lower half of the site contained only one ditch that can be dated to the Roman period, the upper northern half of the site contained evidence for rectilinear and more organically shaped enclosures and possible settlement that started during the later Iron Age and continued into the Early Roman period. The lack of abrasion within the Early Roman pottery assemblage strongly suggests that settlement is located in the direct vicinity of the development area during this period. When the results are looked at in conjunction with the other known archaeology from the adjacent excavation and nearby geophysical survey, it can be suggested that

settlement formed along the route of an ancient version of Gidding Road as a ribbon development throughout the later Iron Age and Early Roman periods, then falling into disuse by the Middle Roman period, possibly due to a change in settlement patterns/nucleation of settlements.

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench Contained two ditches (**6** & **8**) and two pits (**2** & **10**). Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.55
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.38	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.48	Subsoil	pottery	M/LC1
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1	fill	-	0.21	Fill of 2	-	-
2	fill	1.04	0.21	Cut of pit/tree throw	-	-
3	fill	-	0.26	Fill of 6	pottery, animal bone	M/LC1
4	fill	-	0.18	Fill of 6	-	
5	fill	-	0.22	Fill of 6	pottery	M/LC1
6	cut	2.2	0.51	Ditch cut	-	
7	fill	-	0.20	Fill of 8	pottery	M/LC1
8	cut	0.74	0.20	Ditch cut	-	
9	fill	-	0.21	Fill of 10	-	
10	cut	0.65	0.21	Pit cut	-	

Trench 2						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench Contained 7 ditches (**29**, **36**, **40**, 4 unexc.) and a pit (**25**). Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.42
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
24	Fill	-	0.15	Fill of 25	pottery, Animal Bone	M/LC1
25	Cut	0.45	0.15	Pit cut	-	-
26	Fill	-	0.26	Fill of 29	-	-
27	Fill	-	0.12	Fill of 29	-	-
28	Fill	-	0.25	Fill of 29	-	-
29	Cut			Ditch cut	-	-
36	Cut	1.20	0.40	Ditch cut	-	-
37	Fill	-	0.40	Fill of 36	pottery, animal bone	MC1/C2
38	Fill	-	0.18	Fill of 36	-	
39	Fill	-	0.25	Fill of 36	pottery, animal bone	M/LC1
40	Cut	1.10	0.40	Ditch cut	-	

41	Fill	-	0.12	Fill of 40	-	
42	Fill	-	0.25	Fill of 40	pottery	MC1-C2
43	Fill	-	0.17	Fill of 40	pottery	MC1
Trench 3						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench Contained one pit (**32**), a furrow (**34**) and a post-hole (**30**). Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
30	Cut	2.00	0.15	Posthole Cut	-	-
31	Fill	-	0.15	Fill of 30	-	-
32	Cut	0.5	0.15	Pit cut	-	-
33	Fill	-	0.15	Fill of 32	-	-
34	Cut	0.9	0.04	Furrow cut	-	-
35	Fill	-	0.04	Fill of 34	-	-
Trench 4						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench Contained one unexcavated ditch and a pit (**50**). Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.53
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.31	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
50	Cut	0.4	0.10	Pit cut	-	-
51	Cut	-	0.10	Fill of 50	-	-
Trench 5						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench Contained three excavated ditches (**44**, **46** and **48**) and one unexcavated. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.55
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
44	Cut	0.9	0.4	Ditch cut	-	-
45	Fill	-	0.4	Fill of 44	pottery	M/LC1
46	Cut	0.6	0.25	Ditch cut	-	-
47	Fill	-	0.25	Fill of 46	-	-
48	Cut	1.05	0.25	Ditch cut	-	-
49	Fill	-	0.25	Fill of 48	-	-

Trench 6						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench Contained one unexcavated linear features, a furrow (**55**) and a pit (**53**). Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.60
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
52	Fill	-	0.22	Fill of 53	-	-
53	Cut	0.51	0.22	Pit cut	--	
54	Fill	-	0.22	Fill of 55	Pottery	1580-1800
55	Cut	2.18	0.22	Furrow cut		

Trench 7						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench Contained three linear features (**11**, **14** and **16**) and three pits (**18**, **20** and **22**). Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.51
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.31	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
11	Cut	1.6	0.70	Ditch cut	-	-
12	Fill	-	0.20	Fill of 11	-	-
13	Fill	-	0.60	Fill of 11	pottery	M/LC1
14	Cut	0.90	0.60	Ditch cut	-	-
15	Fill	-	0.60	Fill of 14	-	-
16	Cut	0.60	0.23	Ditch cut	-	-
17	Fill	-	0.23	Fill of 16	-	-
18	Cut	0.70	0.05	Pit cut (?)	-	-
19	Fill	-	0.05	Fill of 18	-	-
20	Cut	0.9	0.15	Pit cut	-	-
21	Fill	-	0.15	Fill of 20	-	-
22	Cut	0.66	0.15	Pit cut	-	-
23	Fill	-	0.15	Fill of 22	-	-

Trench 8						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench Contained two ditches (**90** and **102**) and a 6 pits/natural features (**104** & 4 unexc.). Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.57
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-

143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
89	Fill	-	0.34	Fill of 90	pottery	M/LC1
90	Cut	1.55	0.34	Ditch cut	-	-
101	Fill	-	0.28	Fill of102	-	-
102	Cut	0.75	0.28	Ditch cut	-	-
103	Fill	0.40	0.13	Fill of 104	-	-
104	Cut	-	0.13	Pit cut	-	-
Trench 9						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench Contained ditch (**86**), two pits (**79** and **84**) and a furrow. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.60
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.30	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
79	Cut	3.00	0.42	Pit cut	-	-
80	Fill	-	0.09	Fill of 79	-	-
81	Fill	-	0.08	Fill of 79	-	-
82	Fill	-	0.34	Fill of 79	CBM	Pmed
83	Fill	-	0.22	Fill of 84	-	-
84	Cut	1.30	0.22	Pit Cut	-	-
85	Fill	-	0.20	Fill of 86	-	-
86	Cut	1.00	0.20	Ditch cut	-	-
Trench 10						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench Contained ditch of furrow (**91**) and two unexcavated ditches. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
91	Cut	0.41	0.22	Ditch cut	-	-
92	Fill	-	0.22	Fill of 91	-	-
Trench 11						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench Contained a furrow and two natural features. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.46
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.31	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 12						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench Contained ditches (**133** and **135**) and a furrow. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.46
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
133	Cut	0.41	0.22	Ditch Cut (post medieval)	-	-
134	Fill	-	0.22	Fill of	-	-
135	Cut	4.50	0.85	Ditch Cut (partly excavated)	-	-
136	Fill	-	0.20	Fill of 135	Bone, Pottery	LIA
137	Fill	-	0.12	Fill of 135	-	-
138	Fill	-	0.60	Fill of 135	-	-
138	Fill	--	0.08	Fill of 135	pottery	LIA
140	Fill		0.08	Fill of 135	-	-

Trench 13						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench Contained ditches (**95** and **99**) Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.60
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
95	Cut	1.7	0.9	Ditch Cut	-	-
96	Fill	-	0.38	Fill of 95	-	-
97	Fill	-	0.26	Fill of 95	Bone	-
98	Fill	-	0.17	Fill of 95	pottery	LIA
99	Cut	-	-	Ditch cut Post-Medieval	-	-
100	Fill	--		Fill of 99	-	-

Trench 14						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench Contained ditches (**66** & one unexc.) and pits (**63** and **78**) Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.60
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
62	Fill	-	0.34	Fill of 63	-	-
63	Cut	0.96	0.34	Pit cut	-	-

64	Fill	-	0.18	Fill of 63	-	--
65	Fill	-	0.16	Fill of 63	-	-
66	Cut	1.36	0.36	Ditch Cut	-	-
77	Fill	-	0.26	Fill of 78	-	-
78	Cut	0.98	0.26	Pit cut	-	-
139	Cut	3.00	0.08	Posthole cut	-	-
140	Fill		0.08	Fill of 139	-	-
Trench 15						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench Contained one furrow. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.42
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.31	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 16						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench Contained 3 ditches (**56** and **58** & 1 unexc.). Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.44
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
56	Cut	0.96	0.35	Ditch cut	-	-
57	Fill	-	0.35	Fill of 56	-	-
58	Cut	0.83	0.19	Ditch Cut	-	-
59	Fill	-	0.19	Fill of 58	-	-
Trench 17						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained 3 furrows. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.28
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 18						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench Contained an unexcavated ditch, two probably furrows (**105** and **107**) and a pit/posthole (**109**). Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.45

Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
142	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
105	Cut	0.50	0.11	Ditch cut	-	-
106	Fill	-	0.11	Fill of 105	Pottery, Fe nail	1200-1500
107	Cut	1.1	0.15	Ditch cut	-	-
108	Fill	-	0.15	Fill of 107	-	-
109	Cut	0.24	0.22	Pit cut	-	-
110	Fill	-	0.22	Fill of 109	-	-
Trench 19						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench Contained 3 ditches (**111**,**112**,**113**) four furrows (**114**,**117**,**118**) and three pits (**115**, **116**, **132**). Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
111	Cut	0.70	0.18	Ditch cut	-	-
112	Cut	2.20	0.66	Ditch cut	-	-
113	Cut	1.26	0.33	Ditch cut	-	-
114	Cut	1.20	0.18	Ditch cut	-	-
115	Cut	0.50	0.30	Posthole cut	-	-
116	Cut	0.45	0.13	Posthole cut	-	-
117	Cut	1.20	0.07	Ditch cut	-	-
118	Cut	0.30	0.12	Ditch cut	-	-
119	Fill	-	0.18	Fill of 111	-	-
120	Fill	-	0.26	Fill of 112	pottery, animal bone	LIA
121	Fill	-	0.20	Fill of 112	pottery, animal bone	LIA
122	Fill	-	0.38	Fill of 112	-	-
123	Fill	-	0.33	Fill of 113	-	-
124	Fill	-	0.18	Fill of 114	-	-
125	Fill	-	0.08	Fill of 115	-	-
126	Fill	-	0.13	Fill of 116	-	-
127	Fill	-	0.07	Fill of 117	Fe nail	-
128	Fill	-	0.12	Fill of 117	pottery, animal bone	M/LC1
131	Fill	-	0.16	Fill of 132	Animal bone	-
132	Cut	0.58	0.16	Posthole cut	-	-
Trench 20						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
					Length (m)	50

Trench Contained one ditch (**93**) and five furrows. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Width (m)**	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
93	Cut	0.65	0.26	Ditch cut	-	
94	Fill	-	0.26	Fill of 93	-	
Trench 21						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench Contained one ditch (unexcavated) as seen in Trench 20. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.04	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 22						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained a modern drain. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.11	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 23						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench Contained two furrows. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.48
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.05	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 24						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench Contained one ditch (**67**) and five furrows. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.48
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-

141	Layer	-	0.05	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
67	Cut	0.47	0.19	Ditch Cut	-	
68	Fill	-	0.19	Fill of 67	-	
Trench 25						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench Contained two ditch (**60** & one unexc.). Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
67	Cut	0.80	0.43	Ditch Cut	-	
68	Fill	-	0.43	Fill of 60	Fe nail	Pmed
Trench 26						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench Contained four furrows. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.25
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.05	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 27						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench Contained two furrows. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 28						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench Contained two furrows. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 29						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S

Trench contained four furrows. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 30						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained five furrows. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.32
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 31						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained single ditch (**69**) and two furrows. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
69	Cut	0.69	0.29	Ditch cut	-	-
70	Fill	-	0.29	Fill of 69	-	-
Trench 32						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained single ditch (**75**) and three furrows. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
75	Cut	0.32	0.13	Ditch cut	-	-
76	Fill	-	0.13	Fill of 69	-	-
Trench 33						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained two furrows. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35

Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
142	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.27	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 34						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained ditches (**73** and **87**) and a furrow (**71**). Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
71	Cut	1.5	0.15	Cut of furrow	-	-
72	Fill	-	0.15	Fill of 71	Tile frag	pmed
73	Cut	0.90	0.03	Ditch cut	-	-
74	Fill	-	0.03	Fill of 73	pottery	M/LC1
87	Cut	0.29	0.11	Ditch cut	-	-
88	Fill	-	0.11	Fill of 87	-	-
Trench 35						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench Contained four furrows. Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.03	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 36						
General description					**Orientation**	NNW-SSE
Trench Contained four furrows and a continuation of ditch excavated in Trench 31 (**69**). Consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels with oxford clays.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2.10
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
142	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
141	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
143	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Later Iron Age Pottery

By Matt Brudenell

Introduction

B.1.1 The evaluation yielded 33 sherds of later Iron Age pottery (186g) with a low mean sherd weight (MSW) of 5.6g. The pottery was recovered from four contexts relating to three ditches in Trenches 12, 13 and 19 (Table 1). The assemblage comprises handmade Middle Iron Age-type ceramics, which had a currency between c. 350 BC – AD 50 in this area of Cambridgeshire. No diagnostic sherds of Late Iron Age pottery were recovered.

B.1.2 The pottery is in a stable condition, but all sherds are small and partially abraded

Context	Cut	Trench	Feature type	No. sherds	Weight (g)
98	**95**	13	Ditch	7	17
121	**112**	19	Ditch	1	10
136	**135**	12	Ditch	23	155
138	**135**	12	Ditch	2	4
TOTAL	-	-	-	33	186

Table 1. Quantification of Iron Age pottery by context

Methodology

B.1.3 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 based on 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' (29 sherds); sherds measuring 4-8cm were classified as 'medium' (four sherds), and sherds over 8cm in diameter will be classified as 'large' (0 sherds). The quantified data is presented on an Excel data sheet held with the site archive

Fabrics

B.1.4 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.

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

Fabric type	Fabric group	No. sherds	Weight (g)
Q1	Sand	5	38
QS1	Sand and Shell	6	32
S1	Shell	1	3
S2	Shell	19	108
S3	Shell	2	5
TOTAL	-	*33*	*186*

Table 2. Quantification of Iron Age pottery by fabric

Assemblages description by context

*Context 95, ditch **98**, Trench 13*

B.1.5 Context 98 yielded seven small sherds of pottery in in fabric Q1 (two sherds, 10g) and SQ1 (five sherds, 7g). The assemblage included a fragment of a vessel base

*Context 121, ditch **112**, Trench 19*

B.1.6 Context 121 yielded a single body sherd (10g) in fabric S2.

*Context 136, ditch **135**, Trench 12*

B.1.7 Context 136 yielded 23 sherds (155g) of pottery in fabrics Q1 (two sherds, 26g), QS1 (one sherd, 25g), S1 (one sherds, 3g), S2 (17 sherds, 96g) and S3 (two sherds, 5g). The assemblage includes the partial profile of a small slack-shouldered jar with everted rim in fabric S2 (Hill Form D, rim diameter 14cm, 10% of circumference intact). A fragment of a vessel base in fabric Q1 was also recovered

*Context 138, ditch **135**, Trench 12*

B.1.8 Two small body sherd (4g) were recovered from context 138: one sherds in fabrics Q1 (2g) and one sherd in fabric S2 (2g).

Discussion

B.1.9 The evaluation yielded a small assemblage of handmade Middle Iron Age-type pottery. The sherds have either shell, sand or a mixture of sand and shell in the fabric – inclusions common to Middle/later Iron Age pottery groups from this part of Cambridgeshire. Aside from the partial profile of a small jar, the only other diagnostic sherd of the period was a fragment of Scored Ware from context 136 (Elsdon 1992).

B.1.10 The pottery belongs to the handmade Middle Iron Age potting tradition which had a currency spanning the period between *c*.350 BC - AD 50. 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. Given the small size of this assemblage, it is probably unwise to date it any closer at this stage. It may therefore be best to term it a later Iron Age pottery group, dating *c*. 350 BC – AD 50.

B.2 The Roman Pottery

By Alice Lyons

Introduction

B.2.1 A total of 236 sherds, weighing 4190g and representing a minimum of 58 vessels of Early Roman pottery was recovered during this evaluation. The pottery was primarily recovered from ditches, also a pit and the subsoil. The pottery is moderately abraded with an average sherd size of 18g.

Methodology

B.2.2 The Roman pottery was analysed following the guidelines of the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Barclay *et al* 2016, 14-18). 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 based on inclusion types present. Vessel forms (jar, bowl) were recorded. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gramme and recorded by context. Decoration, residues and abrasion were also noted.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Severine Bezie (OA East) who assisted in cataloguing this material.

The Pottery

B.2.3 Eight Roman pottery fabrics were identified (Table 3).

Fabric	Publication	Form	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	Weight (%)
Sandy grey ware: SGW	Hancocks *et al* 1998, 58-67	Flask (2.1), dish (6.3), jar (4.13, 5.3)	111	1589	37.92
Shelly ware: STW	Hancocks *et al* 1998, 45-50	Dish (6.18), jar, storage jar (4.14)	70	1484	35.42
Oxidised ware with common grog inclusions: OW(GROG)	Hancocks *et al* 1998, 58	Storage jar (type 4.4)	16	528	12.60
Sandy oxidised ware: SOW	Hancocks *et al* 1998, 57-58	Bowl (6.15), flagon, jar (4.8), mortaria (7.1)	31	526	12.55
South Gaulish samian: SAM SG	Tyers 1996, 112	Dish (Dr18/31)	5	34	0.81
White ware: WW		Flagon (1.9)	1	15	0.36
Colour coat: NVCC	Tyers 1996, 173-175	Beaker (type 3.6)	1	10	0.24
Reduced ware, with common grog inclusions: GW(GROG)	Hancocks *et al* 1998, 41-44	Jar/bowl	1	4	0.10
Total			**236**	**4190**	100.**00**

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

B.2.4 The earliest pottery within this assemblage dates to the mid-1st century AD and consists of a small number of reduced (grey) and oxidised (white) grog tempered

coarse wares. Most fragments are undiagnostic, although one OW (GROG) lid-seated storage jar was identified (type 4.4) and several GW(GROG) jar/bowl sherds.

Type Series

B.2.5 Most of this assemblage, however, comprises Early Roman utilitarian coarsewares in use between the mid to late 1st century AD. Sandy grey wares are the most abundant and are primarily found as wide mouthed cordoned jars (type 5.3), although a small number of other jar and dish forms were found. Shelly wares are also common, most frequently in the form of handmade jar and storage jars (type 4.14), also a dish (type 6.18). Sandy oxidised wares are also relatively well represented but notably were found in a different range of forms (compared to the reduced coarsewares) including undiagnostic flagon sherds, a bi-fid rim cooking pot (type 4.8) and a bead and flanged mortaria (type 7.1). Also found was a single white ware fragment from a cupped rim flagon (type 1.9).

B.2.6 Imported material is represented by a small amount of South Gaulish samian (DR18/31) typical of the late 1st century AD. Also found is one colour coated beaker fragment (type 3.6), it is possible that it is an early Nene Valley product dating to the mid 2nd century AD.

Summary

B.2.7 This is a small stratified assemblage of Early Roman coarse and fine ware pottery that has been dated to the mid to late 1st century AD, with some continuance possibly until the middle of the 2nd century AD. Comparison with other published material in the vicinity (Hancocks *et al* 1998), demonstrates both the fabrics and forms are typical for the area and date of deposition. Although the assemblage is small it is possible to establish that it originated from a relatively affluent nearby settlement with some access to traded material.

Potential for Further Work

B.2.8 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

The Pottery Catalogue

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

CONTEXT	CUT	TRENCH	FEATURE	ERA	FABRIC	FORM	DSC	COUNT	WEIGHT (G)	DATE
3	4	1	Ditch	ERB	SAM SG	DISH/BOWL	RU	2	32	LC1-EC2
3	4	1	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	UD	33	456	M/LC1
3	4	1	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	R	2	139	M/LC1
3	4	1	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	R	1	23	M/LC1
3	4	1	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	R	2	108	M/LC1
3	4	1	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	RU	5	46	M/LC1
3	4	1	Ditch	ERB	SOW	MORT	RS	2	219	MC1/MC2
3	4	1	Ditch	ERB	SOW	JAR	U	2	5	MC1/MC2
3	4	1	Ditch	ERB	STW	JAR/SJAR	UDB	40	703	M/LC1
3	4	1	Ditch	ERB	STW	DISH	P	1	111	M/LC1
3	4	1	Ditch	ERB	STW	JAR/SJAR	U	1	34	M/LC1
3	4	1	Ditch	ERB	STW	SJAR	RU	1	15	M/LC1
5	6	1	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	U	11	92	M/LC1
5	6	1	Ditch	ERB	SOW	JAR	RU	1	14	MC1/C2
5	6	1	Ditch	ERB	OW(GROG)	SJAR	U	1	62	M/LC1
5	6	1	Ditch	ERB	STW	JAR	BUD	2	121	M/LC1
7	8	1	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	U	3	25	LC1
7	8	1	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	BU	1	34	M/LC1
7	8	1	Ditch	ERB	SOW	JAR	RUB	23	227	MC1/C2
7	8	1	Ditch	ERB	STW	SJAR	U	1	49	MC1-C2
13	11	7	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR/SJAR	U	3	98	LC1
13	11	7	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR/BOWL	U	2	12	M/LC1
13	11	7	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR/BOWL	U	2	12	M/LC1
13	11	7	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	R	10	149	M/LC1
13	11	7	Ditch	ERB	SOW	BOWL	RU	1	6	M/LC1-MC2
13	11	7	Ditch	ERB	STW	JAR/SJAR	RU	4	166	M/LC1-M/LC2
24	25	2	Pit	ERB	OW(GROG)	SJAR	D	1	62	MC1-EC2
24	25	2	Pit	ERB	SGW	JAR	RU	1	18	LC1-MC2
24	25	2	Pit	ERB	SGW	FLASK	RU	1	6	LC1-MC2
24	25	2	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	BU	3	92	M/LC1
24	25	2	Ditch	ERB	OW(GROG)	SJAR	RUD	14	404	M/LC1
24	25	2	Ditch	ERB	STW	JAR/SJAR	U	3	217	M/LC1
24	25	2	Ditch	ERB	WW	FLAG	R	1	15	M/LC1
37	36	2	Ditch	ERB	STW	JAR	RU	2	8	MC1/C2
39	36	2	Ditch	ERB	SAM SG		U	2	1	M/LC1
39	36	2	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	U	1	1	M/LC1
39	36	2	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	U	3	13	M/LC1
39	36	2	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	U	1	1	M/LC1
42	40	2	Ditch	ERB	CC	BEAK	R	1	10	M/LC1
42	40	2	Ditch	ERB	GW(GROG)	JAR/BOWL	U	1	4	MC1
42	40	2	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	U	1	5	M/LC1

CONTEXT	CUT	TRENCH	FEATURE	ERA	FABRIC	FORM	DSC	COUNT	WEIGHT (G)	DATE
42	40	2	Ditch	ERB	SOW	SJAR	U	1	43	MC1-C2
43	40	2	Ditch	ERB	SAM SG	DISH	RU	1	1	M/LC1
43	40	2	Ditch	ERB	SGW	DISH	RU	1	14	MC1-E/MC2
43	40	2	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	RU	6	33	M/LC1
43	40	2	Ditch	ERB	SOW	FLAG	U	1	12	MC1-C3
43	40	2	Ditch	ERB	STW	JAR/BOWL	U	3	19	C1
45	44	5	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	U	1	6	M/LC1
72	71	34	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	RU	1	31	M/LC1
72	71	34	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	U	1	7	M/LC1
74	73	34	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	U	1	1	M/LC1
89	90	7	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	RU	7	53	LC1-LC2
89	90	7	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	RD	1	28	MC1
89	90	7	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	U	1	1	M/LC1
89	90	7	Ditch	ERB	STW	JAR	U	3	5	MC1-C2
120	112	19	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR	R	4	23	M/LC1
120	112	19	Ditch	ERB	SGW	JAR/BOWL	U	2	23	M/LC1
120	112	19	Ditch	ERB	STW	JAR	RUD	8	28	M/LC1
128	118	19	Ditch	ERB	STW	JAR	U	1	8	MC1/C2
141		1	Subsoil	ERB	SGW	JAR	BU	1	51	M/LC1-E/LC2

Table 4: Roman Pottery Catalogue

B.3 The Post-Roman Pottery

By Carole Fletcher

B.3.1 A total of two fragments of post-Roman pottery were recovered during the evaluation. A 16g sherd of a Grimston ware green glaze jug dating to 1200-1500 was recovered from ditch or furrow **105**, Trench 18 and a 43g sherd of post-medieval Black Glazed Earthen Ware was recovered from furrow **55**, Trench 6.

B.3.2 These sherds of pottery probably relate to manuring within the medieval agricultural landscape.

B.4 Small Finds

By Denis Sami

Assemblage

B.4.1 Finds were recovered from the topsoil (142) with a metal detector and in excavated features (**60**, **91**, **105**, **117**). The assemblage comprises of an Edward III silver penny, a copper alloy Dutch stuiver (a pre-decimal currency), a lead weight, three iron nails and a fragment of possible copper alloy buckle pin.

Condition

B.4.2 Silver coin SF 5 is in good condition and despite being worn and slightly clipped can be identified. Stuiver SF 7 despite signs of oxidation and heavily worn can be identified. The lead weight is complete and does not present signs of oxidation. The iron objects are incomplete (with the exclusion of nail SF 1 that is complete) and heavily encrusted.

B.4.3 All objects are packaged in polythene bags with foam support and stored in Stewart boxes with the silica gel and humidity indicator strips.

Discussion

B.4.4 Coins are generally associated with trade and are lost unintentionally, while iron nails represent multifunctional objects often associated with timber structures. Lead weights are common finds in domestic contexts, but they can also relate to commercial activity. Apart from silver coin SF 5 dating between 1344-51 and Dutch stuiver SF 7 dating to 1768, the remaining SFs can only be generally dated to the medieval and post-medieval periods.

Catalogue

SF 1, (61. Ditch **60**, TR 25)
A complete Fe nail with tapered square section and pyramidal head
Length: 67.32 mm
Thickness: 6.47 mm
Weight: 8.14 g

SF 2, (92, Ditch **91**, TR 10)
Incomplete Fe nail with tapered square section and flat, circular head. The stem has been bended forming a ring
Length: 33.08 mm
Thickness: 7.74 mm
Weight: 1091 g

SF 3, (106, Furrow 105, TR 18)
Incomplete, unidentified CuA artefact, possibly a pin from a buckle
Length: 19.09 mm
Thickness: 2.22 mm
Weight: 0.45 g

SF 4, (127, Furrow 117, TR 19)
Incomplete Fe, nail with rectangular tapered stem and rectangular flat head
Length: 70.26 mm
Thickness: 10.48 mm x 13.18 mm
Weight: 0.043 g

SF 5, (142, Near TR 9)
A complete somewhat worn and clipped, Edward III long cross silver penny, possibly third coinage (1344-1351 AD), London mint
Obv: [+EDWA] /R/ [ANGL] /DNS/ [HY]B. Bare-shouldered facing bust, bifoliate open crown.
Rev: CIVI /TAS/ [LON] /DON. Long cross dividing the inscription with three pellets per quarter.
Diameter: 17.51 mm
Thickness: 0.58 mm
Weight: 1.03 g

SF 6, (142)
A complete octagonal lead weight
Length: 49.96 mm
Thickness: 26.34 mm
Weight: 0.457 (1lb)

SF 7, (142)
A complete worn CuA, Dutch Stuiver from Overijssel province dating to 1768
OBV: Eagle between two rosettes. Above OVER/ YESSEL/ 1768·
Rev: VIGILATE/ ET/ ORATE; crowed shield with lion rampant left.
Diameter: 21.33
Thickness: 1.11
Weight: 2.13 g

B.5 Worked Stone

By Simon Timberlake

B.5.1 A large fragment of slab-like saddle quern weighing 1350g was recovered from fill 136, ditch **135**, Trench 12. This fragment of saddle quern has been heat affected and formed from a glacial erratic quartzite sandstone.

B.5.2 These types of saddle quern are commonly found within features ranging the Iron Age period, and is likely to be of later Iron Age date, based on the date of nearby features.

B.6 Ceramic Building Material

By Ted Levermore

Introduction

B.6.1 A small assemblage of ceramic building material (CBM) was recovered from this evaluation (21 fragments, 1193g).

Methodology

B.6.2 The assemblage was quantified by context, fabric and form and counted and weighed to the nearest whole gramme. Fabrics were examined using a x20 hand lens and were described by main inclusions present. Width, length and thickness were recorded where possible. Woodforde (1976) and McComish (2015) will be used as reference for identification and dating.

Results

Cut	Context	Trench	Feature	Form	Descr	Date/ Period	Comment	Count	Weight (g)
71	72	34	Ditch	Tile	Fragment	Roman	Fragment of flat tile, very likely Roman	1	56
79	82	9	Pit	Brick	Fragment	Lmed-E Pmed	Fragment of brick with dark grey-blue core	1	131
79	82	9	Pit	Brick	Fragments	Lmed-E Pmed	Fragments of at least two bricks, made in a similar fabric to the pantile/curved tile from the same context	6	573
79	82	9	Pit	Tile	Curved Tile	Lmed-E Pmed	Fragments of rounded tile. Look to be fragments of pan tile or field drain. Particularly soft, silty fabric with variable firing colours.	10	196
79	82	9	Pit	Tile	Field Drain	Pmed - Mod	Fragments of horseshoe field drain. Ferrous material adhered to the inside face. Sanded edges.	3	237
Total								**21**	**1193**

Table 5: Summary of CBM catalogue

B.6.3 The quantified data and fabric descriptions are presented on an Excel spreadsheet held with the site archive. A summary of the catalogue can be found in Table 5.

Assemblage and Discussion

B.6.4 The assemblage was collected from pit **79**, Trench 9 and furrow **71**, Trench 34. The former produced fragments of late medieval to modern brick and tile, and the latter a fragment of probable Roman tile.

B.6.5 The late medieval to modern CBM collected represents little more than the use of the landscape. Field drains are very common on farmland as are abraded pieces of brick used for manuring. The Roman fragment is suggestive of an older use of the area, but it too is only indicative of the dispersal of material through agricultural activity.

B.7 Fired Clay

By Ted Levermore

Introduction

B.7.1 A small assemblage of fired clay was recovered from this evaluation (four fragments, 27g).

Methodology

B.7.2 The assemblage was quantified by context, fabric and form and counted and weighed to the nearest whole gramme. Fabrics were examined using a x20 hand lens and were described by main inclusions present. Width, length and thickness were recorded where possible.

Results

Cut	Context	Trench	Feature	Descr	Date/Period	Comment	Count	Weight(g)
25	24	2	Pit	object	LIA/ERB	V. Abraded, quartz sand & grog fabric	1	9
63	62	13	Pit	object	LIA/ERB	V. Abraded, quartz sand fabric	1	4
95	97	14	Ditch	object	LIA/ERB	V. Abraded, quartz sand fabric	2	19

Table 6: Fired Clay Quantification

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Animal Bone

By Hayley Foster

Introduction

C.1.1 The animal bone from the evaluation represents faunal remains from thirteen different contexts (eight of which have identifiable fragments) weighing 1544g in total. There are 23 fragments that are identifiable, detailed in the Table 7, below. Most of the remains came from contexts dating to the later Iron Age. The species represented included cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis/Capra*) and horse (*Equus cabullus*). The method used to quantify this assemblage was based on that used for Knowth by McCormick and Murray (2007) which is modified from Albarella and Davis (1996). Identification of the faunal remains was carried out at Oxford Archaeology East. References to Hillson (1992), Schmid (1972), von den Driesch (1976) were used where necessary.

Context	Species	Element	Count
136	Bos	Humerus	1
136	Equid	Loose maxillary tooth	1
136	Bos	Loose maxillary tooth	1
136	Bos	Loose maxillary tooth	1
136	Bos	Tibia	1
136	Bos	Metacarpal	1
136	Bos	Metatarsal	1
136	Bos	Scapula	1
39	Bos	Metacarpal	1
97	Bos	Metapodial	1
120	Equid	Metapodial	1
120	Bos	Calcaneum	1
120	Bos	Metatarsal	1
24	Equid	Humerus	1
3	Bos	First Phalanx	1
3	Bos	Loose mandibular tooth	1
3	Ovis	Mandible	1
98	Bos	Pelvis	1
98	Bos	Tibia	1
98	Bos	Second Phalanx	1
13	Ovis	Mandible	1
13	Large Mammal	Pelvis	1
13	Ovis	Rib	1

Table 7: Total number of Identifiable Fragments (NISP) by species

C.1.2 Cattle remains represented most of this faunal assemblage. The data indicates that there was a minimum number of individuals (MNI) of one for cattle, one for sheep/goat and one for horse. There were no unfused elements recovered, suggesting

most species were mature or adults. There is one sheep/goat mandible that could be used for ageing, with a MWS of 16, indicating the animal was mature at age of death. The species at Sawtry are typical of the animals that would be represented in the food economy and husbandry practices on Iron Age sites. However, sheep/goat typically dominate Iron Age assemblages (Albarella 2007). As this is such a small sample it cannot be considered representative of typical proportions of species at such sites.

C.1.3 Overall the assemblage is fairly fragmentary and taphonomically several elements exhibit evidence of root etching and a small amount of carnivore gnawing. There is no evidence of butchery, burning or pathology noted. The assemblage is small in size, therefore the potential for further investigation is somewhat limited unless further remains are recovered during any later phases of work.

C.2 Environmental Samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.2.1 Nine bulk samples were taken from features within the evaluated area at Gidding Road, Sawtry, Cambridgeshire in order 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 2, 7, 12, 13, 14, 18 and 19 from deposits that date to the later Iron Age to Early Roman period.

Methodology

C.2.2 The samples were soaked in a solution of sodium carbonate for 24hrs prior to processing to break down the heavy clay matrix. The total volume (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.

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 1. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands (Cappers et al. 2006) and the authors' own reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and Stace (1997) 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 initial 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

Results

C.2.6 Preservation of plant remains is poor to moderate; most of the flots comprise rootlets which may have caused movement of material between contexts. Only three samples contain preserved plant remains.

C.2.7 Sample 1, fill 13 of ditch **11** (Trench 7) contains occasional charred wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains that are poorly preserved. It is interesting to note that each of the eight grains

were recovered from the residue rather than the flot which is probably due to the heavy clay matrix of the soil inhibiting flotation.

C.2.8 Sample 3, fill 27 of ditch **29** (Trench 2) is the most productive sample containing a diverse charred assemblage that is comprised of spelt (*T. spelta*) wheat (grains and chaff) and weed seeds. Some of the spelt grains showed signs of germination with a distinct dorsal groove and three detached embryos were also noted. The charred seeds are of weeds that would have been growing amongst the crop such as bromes (*Bromus* sp.), rye-grass (*Lolium* sp.) and stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*) along with seeds of plants that are more representative of pasture (and possibly hay) such as scentless mayweed (*Tripleurspermum inodorum*), buttercups (*Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus*) and grasses (Poaceae) and rushes (*Juncus* sp.). Charred seeds of elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) may have been incorporated with the use of scrubland plants as fuel There is evidence that the ditch contained water, at least seasonally, through the presence of fruits of duckweed (*Lemna* sp.). The deposit appears to have been a deliberate dump of charred material that formed the middle fill of this part of the ditch. The provenance of such a deposit is likely to have been an oven, hearth or corn-drier.

C.2.9 Sample 6, fill 110 of pit/post hole **109** (Trench 18) had evidence of *in-situ* burning and produced large lumps of charcoal.

No.	ctxt	Cut	Feature	Tr	Period	Vol Proc. (L)	Flot Vol (ml)	Cereals	Chaff	Weed Seed	Charcoal	Pot	Small mammal bones	Large mammal bones
1	13	11	Ditch	7	ERB	10	2	##	0	0	+	##	#	#
2	37	36	Ditch	2	ERB	4	1	0	0	0	0	##	0	#
3	27	29	Ditch	2	ERB	7	5	##	#	##	+	##	0	0
4	64	66	Ditch	14	LIA?	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	96	95	Ditch	13	LIA	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	110	109	Post hole	18	Unda ted	2	40	0	0	0	+++	0	0	#
7	140	139	Post hole	14	Unda ted	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	136	135	Ditch	12	LIA	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	120	112	Ditch	19	LIA	17	5	0	0	0	0	0	#	0

Table 8: Assessment of Environmental Samples

Discussion

C.2.10 The recovery of charred grain, chaff, weed seeds and charcoal indicates that there is the potential for the preservation of plant remains at this site, particularly in the north-west of the site where there is a possible settlement. The charred assemblage indicates that spelt wheat was cultivated locally and it is possible that it was being used for malting as well as for flour.

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APPENDIX D OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	Oxfordar3-284668
Project Name	Land South West off Mill Cottage, Gidding Road, Sawtry, Cambridgeshire

Start of Fieldwork	24/04/17	End of Fieldwork	04/05/17
Previous Work	no	Future Work	Not known

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	SWTGIR17	Planning App. No.	17/00077/OUT
HER Number	ECB5095	Related Numbers	

Prompt	NPPF
Development Type	Residential
Place in Planning Process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Techniques used (tick all that apply)

☐	Aerial Photography – interpretation	☐	Grab-sampling	☐	Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
☐	Aerial Photography - new	☐	Gravity-core	☐	Sample Trenches
☐	Annotated Sketch	☐	Laser Scanning	☐	Survey/Recording of Fabric/Structure
☐	Augering	☐	Measured Survey	☒	Targeted Trenches
☐	Dendrochonological Survey	☐	Metal Detectors	☐	Test Pits
☒	Documentary Search	☐	Phosphate Survey	☐	Topographic Survey
☒	Environmental Sampling	☐	Photogrammetric Survey	☐	Vibro-core
☐	Fieldwalking	☒	Photographic Survey	☐	Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)
☒	Geophysical Survey	☐	Rectified Photography		

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Ditches	Late Iron Age (-100 to 43)		Choose an item.
Ditches	Roman (43 to 410)		Choose an item.
Pits	Roman (43 to 410)		Choose an item.

Insert more lines as appropriate.

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire
District	Huntingdonshire
Parish	Sawtry
HER office	Cambridge
Size of Study Area	0,098 km sq
National Grid Ref	TL 1623 8329

Address (including Postcode)

Land South-west off Mill Cottage
Gidding Road
Sawtry
Cambridgeshire
PE28 5UJ

Project Originators

Organisation	O A EAST
Project Brief Originator	Andy Thomas

Project Design Originator	Dr Matthew Brudenell
Project Manager	Dr Matthew Brudenell
Project Supervisor	Patrick Moan

Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	CCC Stores	ECB5095
Digital Archive	OA East	SWTGIR17
Paper Archive	CCC Stores	ECB5095

Physical Contents	Present?	Digital files associated with Finds	Paperwork associated with Finds
Animal Bones	☒	☒	☒
Ceramics	☒	☒	☒
Environmental	☒	☒	☒
Glass	☐	☐	☐
Human Remains	☐	☐	☐
Industrial	☐	☐	☐
Leather	☐	☐	☐
Metal	☒	☒	☒
Stratigraphic		☐	☐
Survey		☐	☐
Textiles	☐	☐	☐
Wood	☐	☐	☐
Worked Bone	☐	☐	☐
Worked Stone/Lithic	☐	☐	☐
None	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐

Digital Media		Paper Media	
Database	☐	Aerial Photos	☐
GIS	☒	Context Sheets	☒
Geophysics	☒	Correspondence	☒
Images (Digital photos)	☒	Diary	☐
Illustrations (Figures/Plates)	☒	Drawing	☐
Moving Image	☐	Manuscript	☒
Spreadsheets	☐	Map	☒
Survey	☐	Matrices	☐
Text	☒	Microfiche	☐
Virtual Reality	☐	Miscellaneous	☐
		Research/Notes	☒
		Photos (negatives/prints/slides)	☐
		Plans	☒
		Report	☒
		Sections	☒

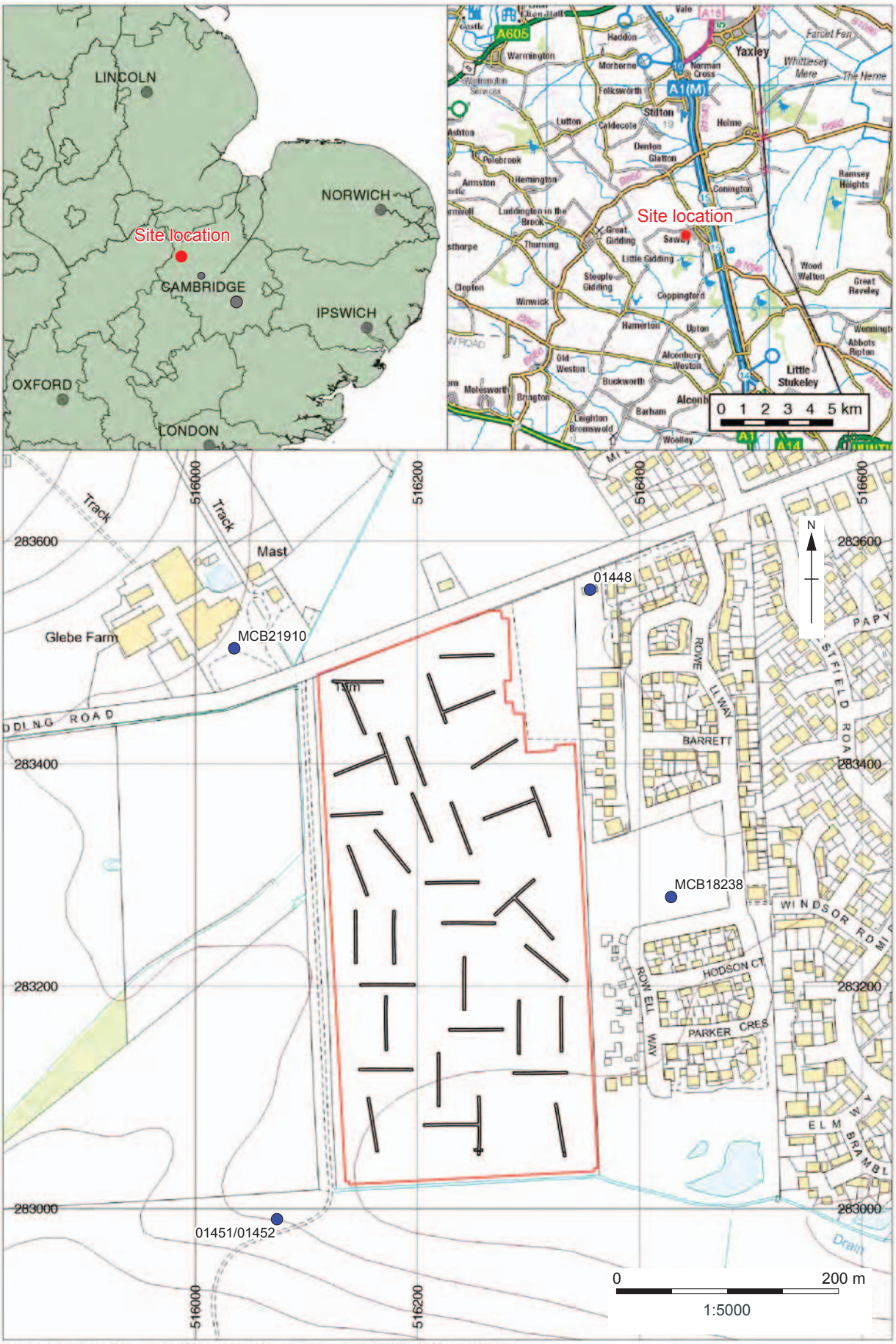

Figure 1: Site location showing archaeological trenches (black) in development area (red)

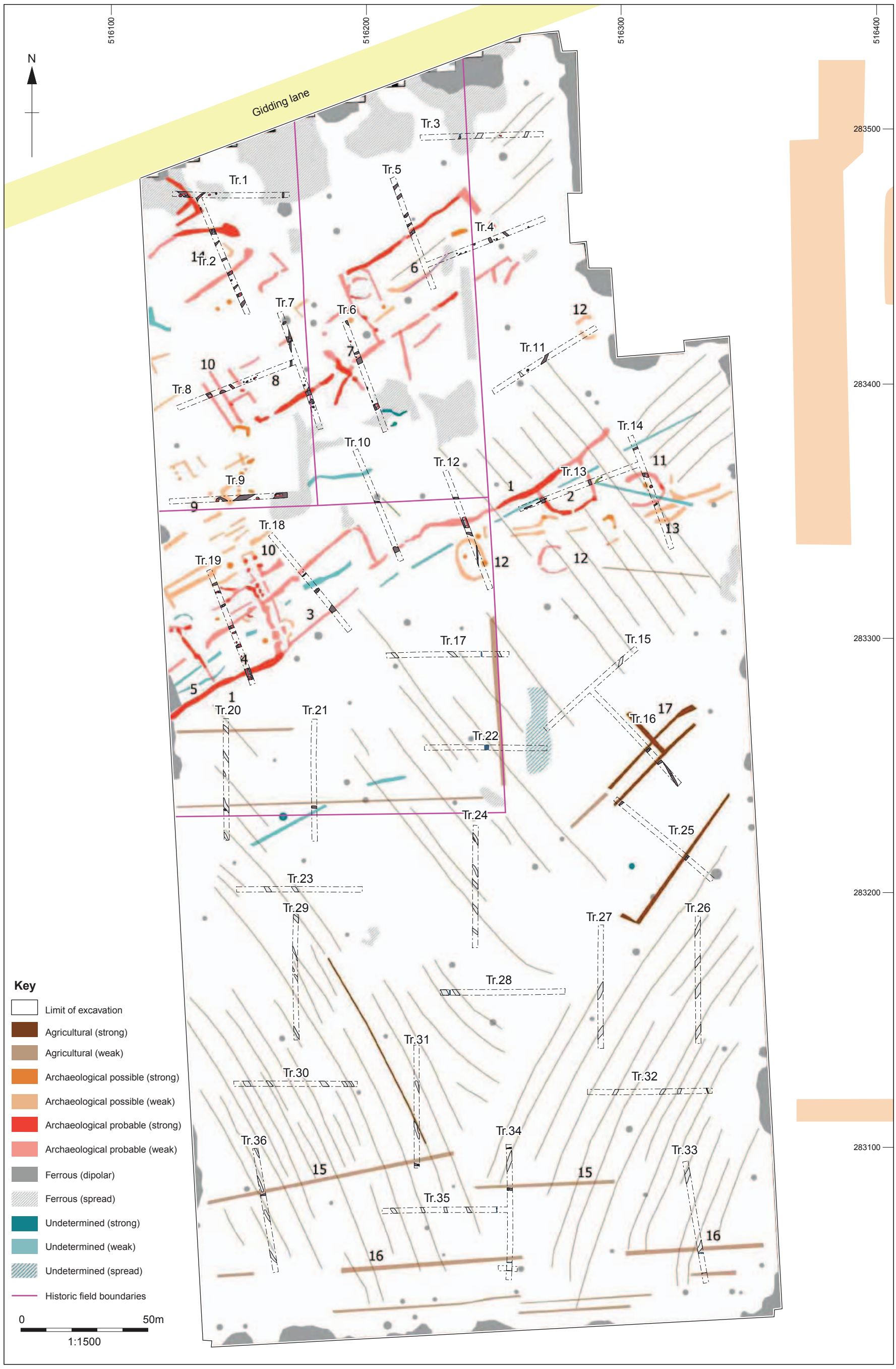

Figure 2: Location of trenches overlain on geophysical survey results

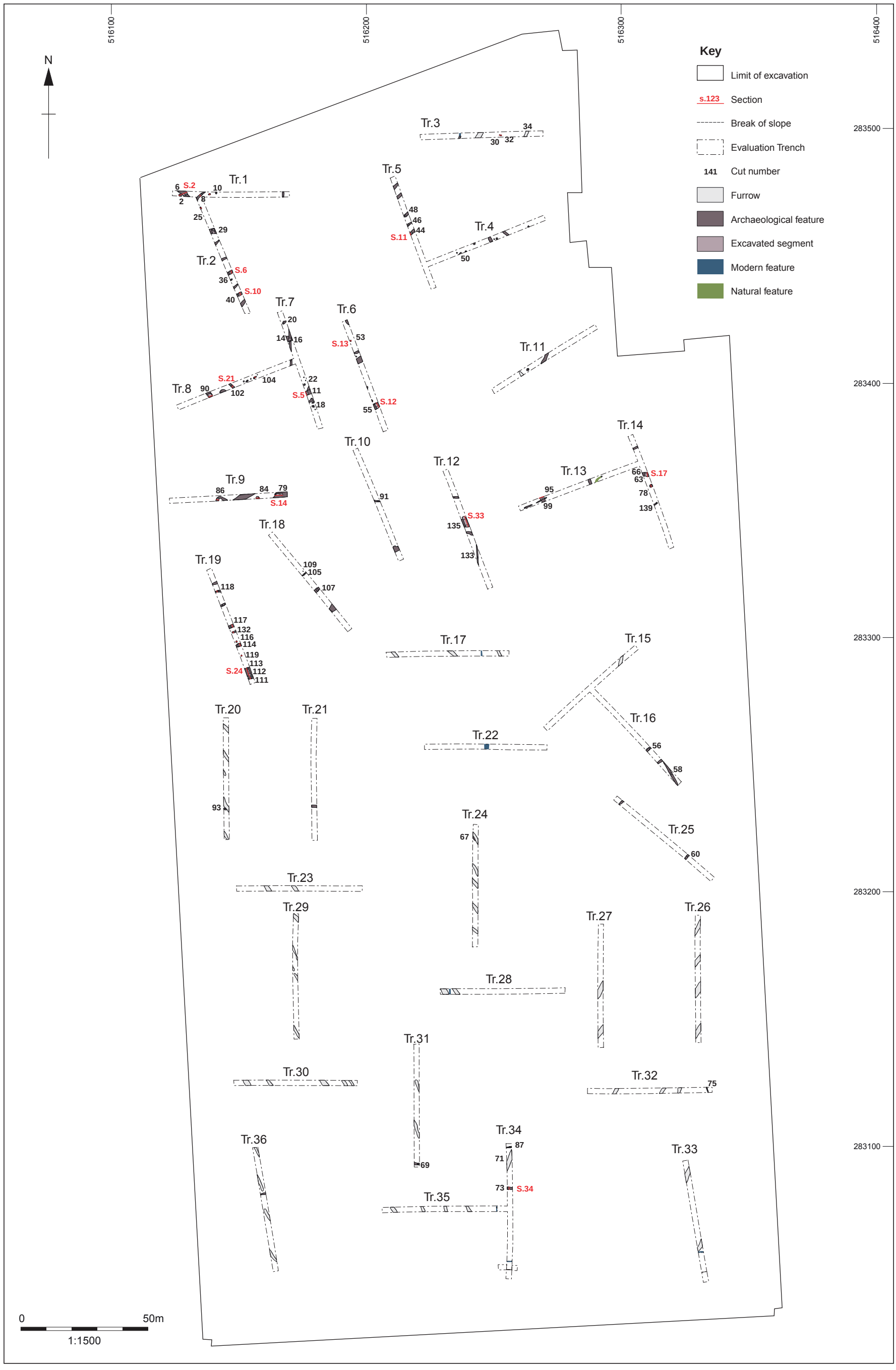

Figure 3: Plan of Trenches

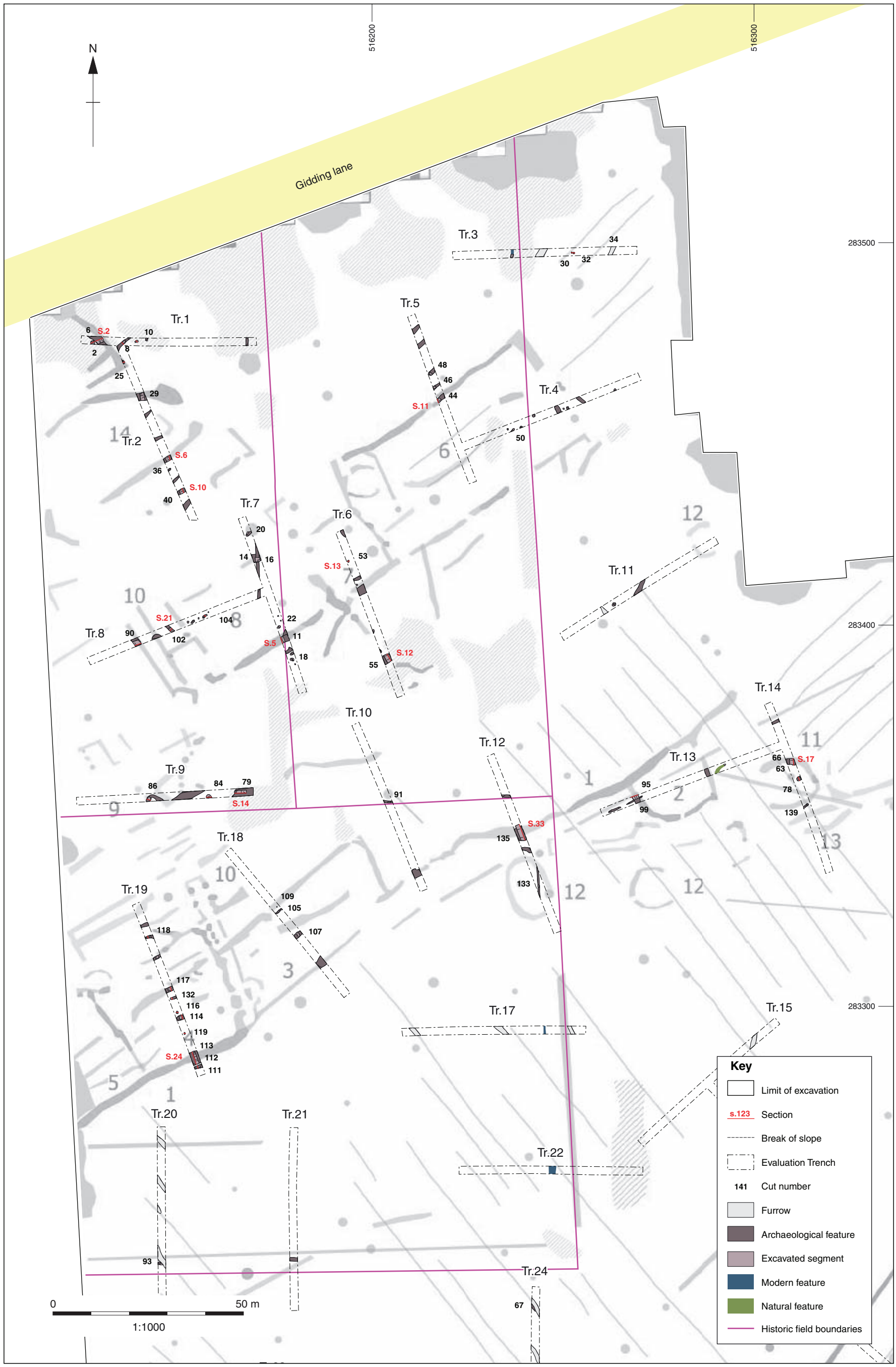

Figure 4: Plan of northern trenches, overlain on geophysical survey and showing historic field boundaries mapped from 1809 Inclosure and subsequent maps.

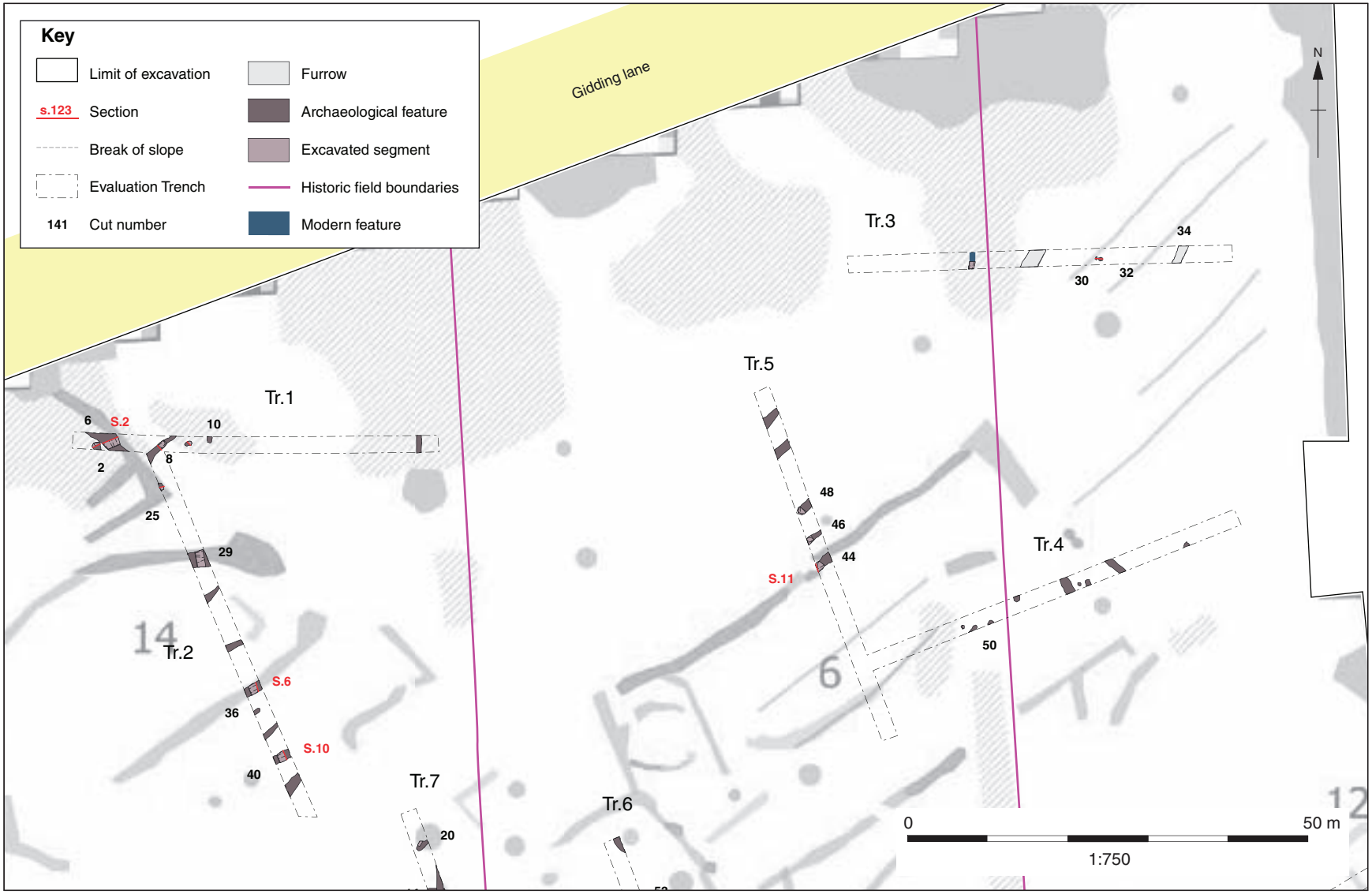

Figure 4a: Detailed plan of Trenches 1 - 5

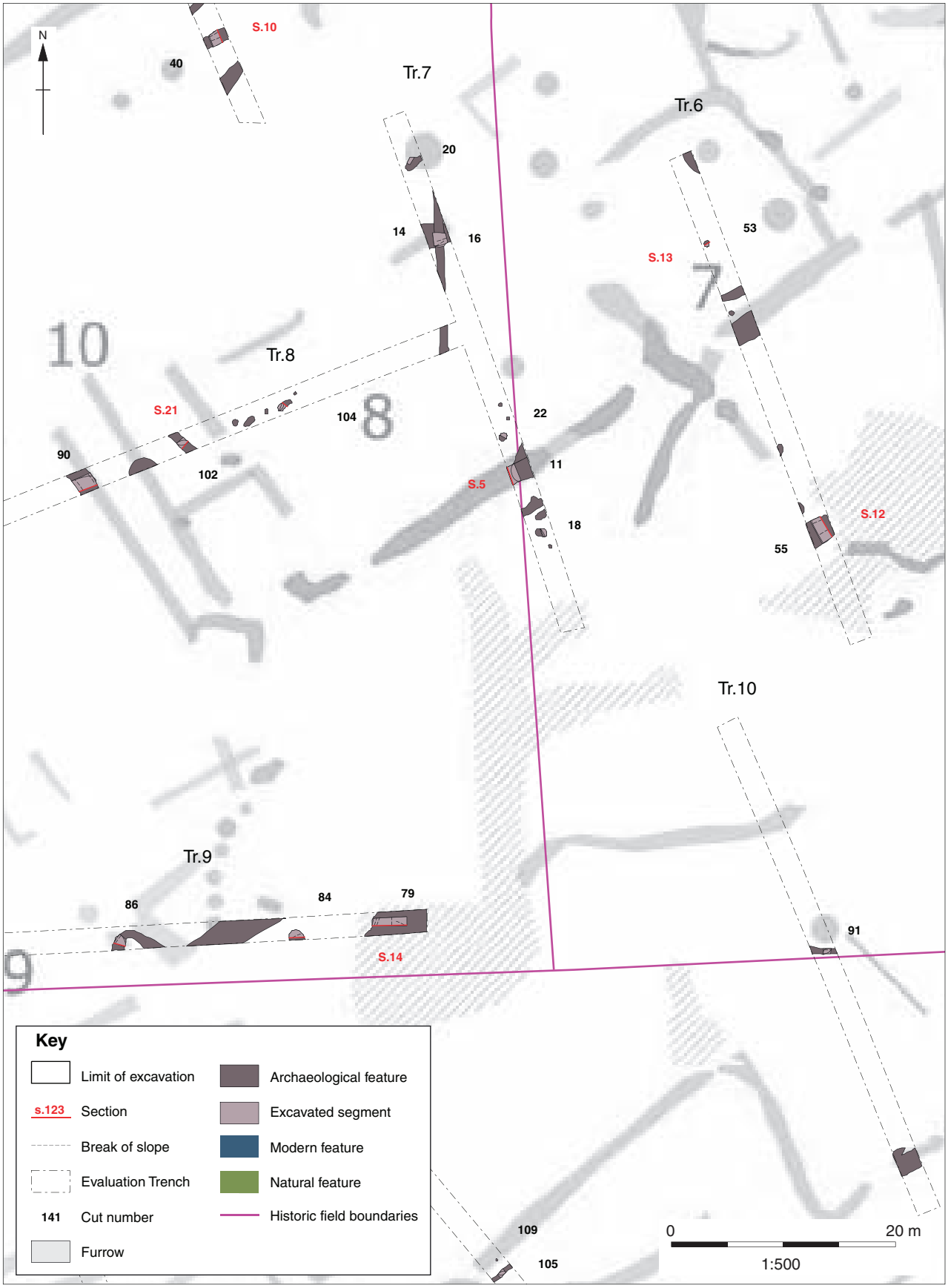

Figure 4b: Detailed plan of Trenches 6-10

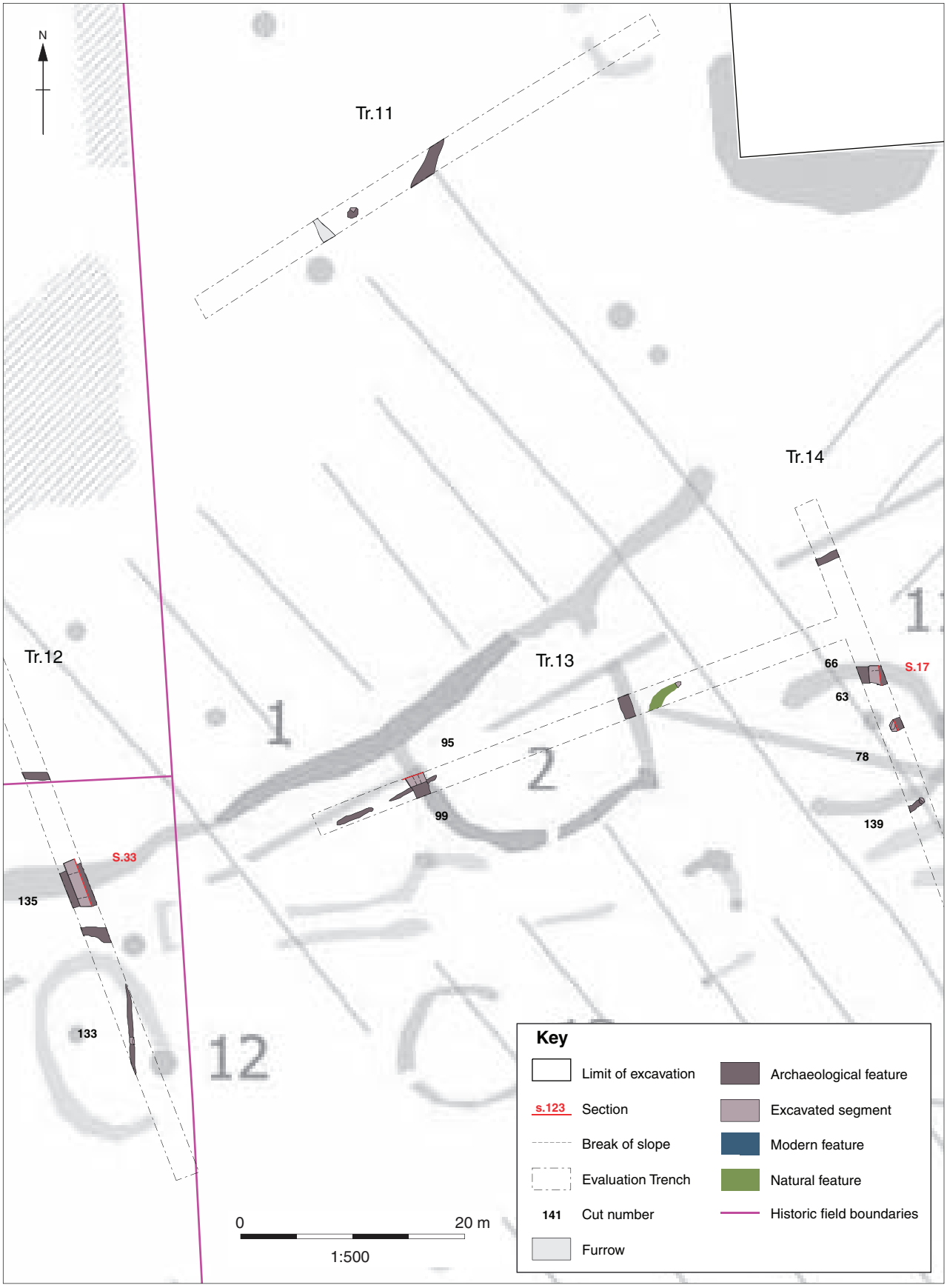

Figure 4c: Detailed plan of Trenches 11-14

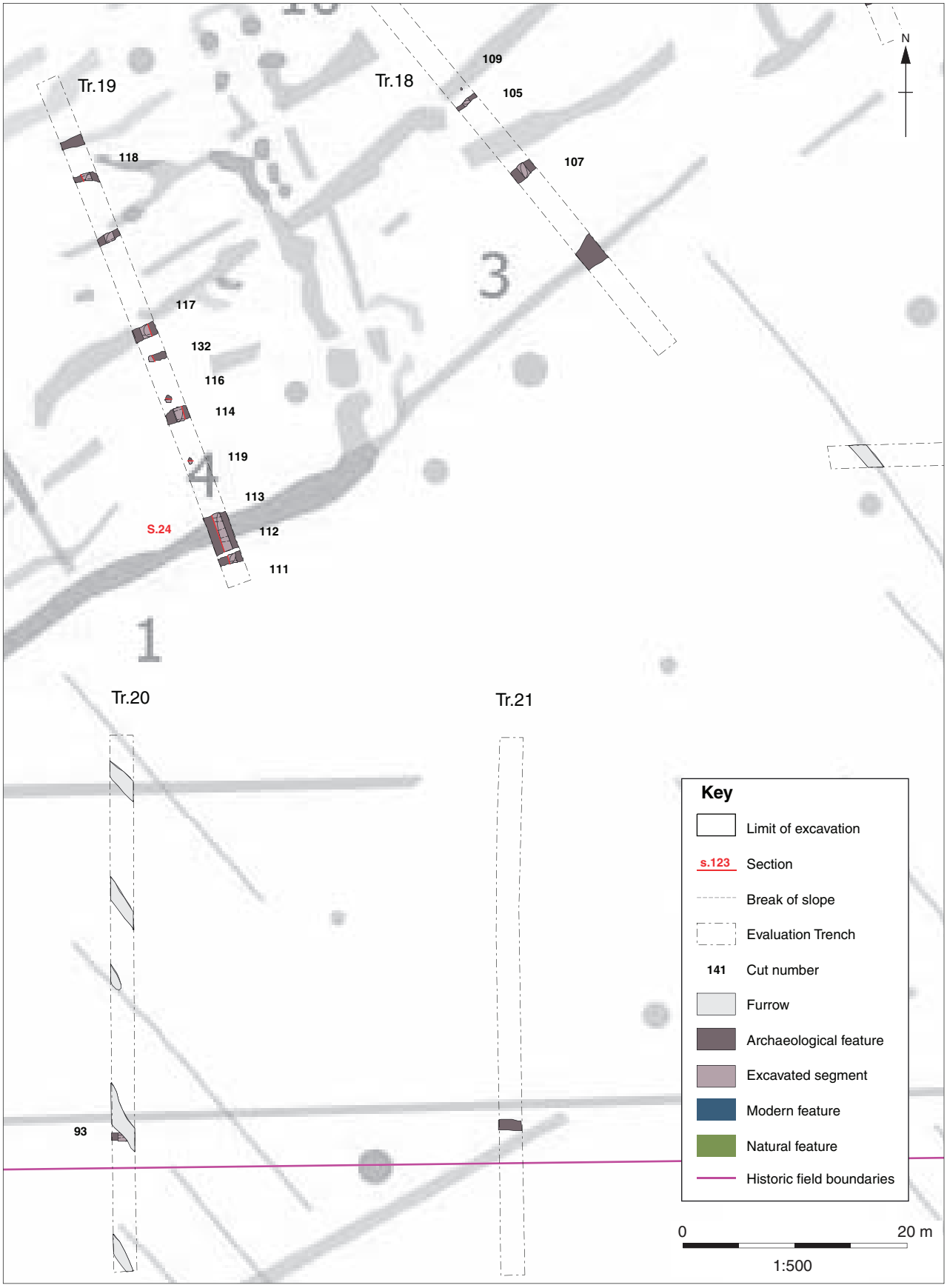

Figure 4d: Detailed plan of Trenches 18-21

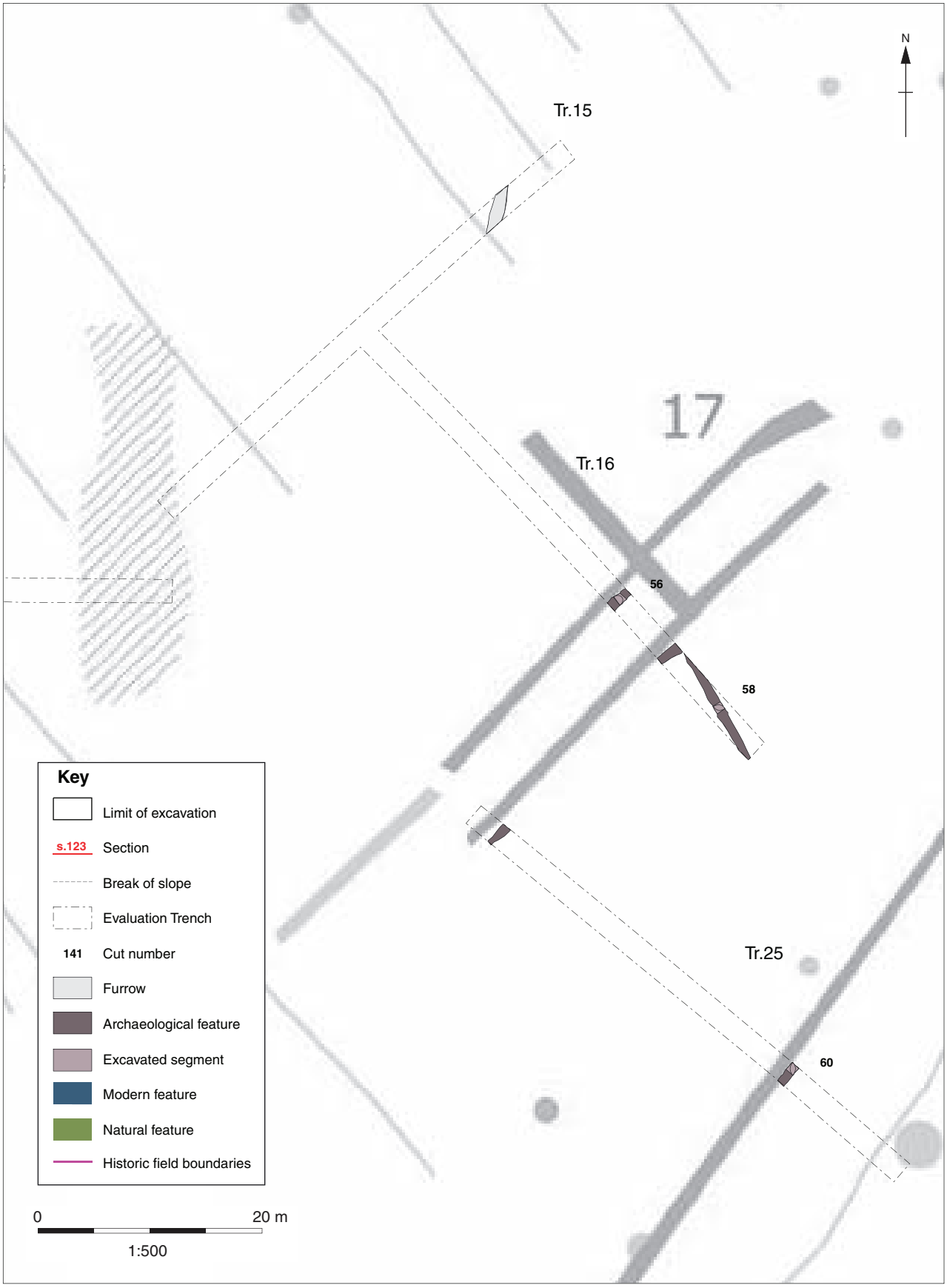

Figure 4e: Detailed plan of Trenches 15, 16 and 25

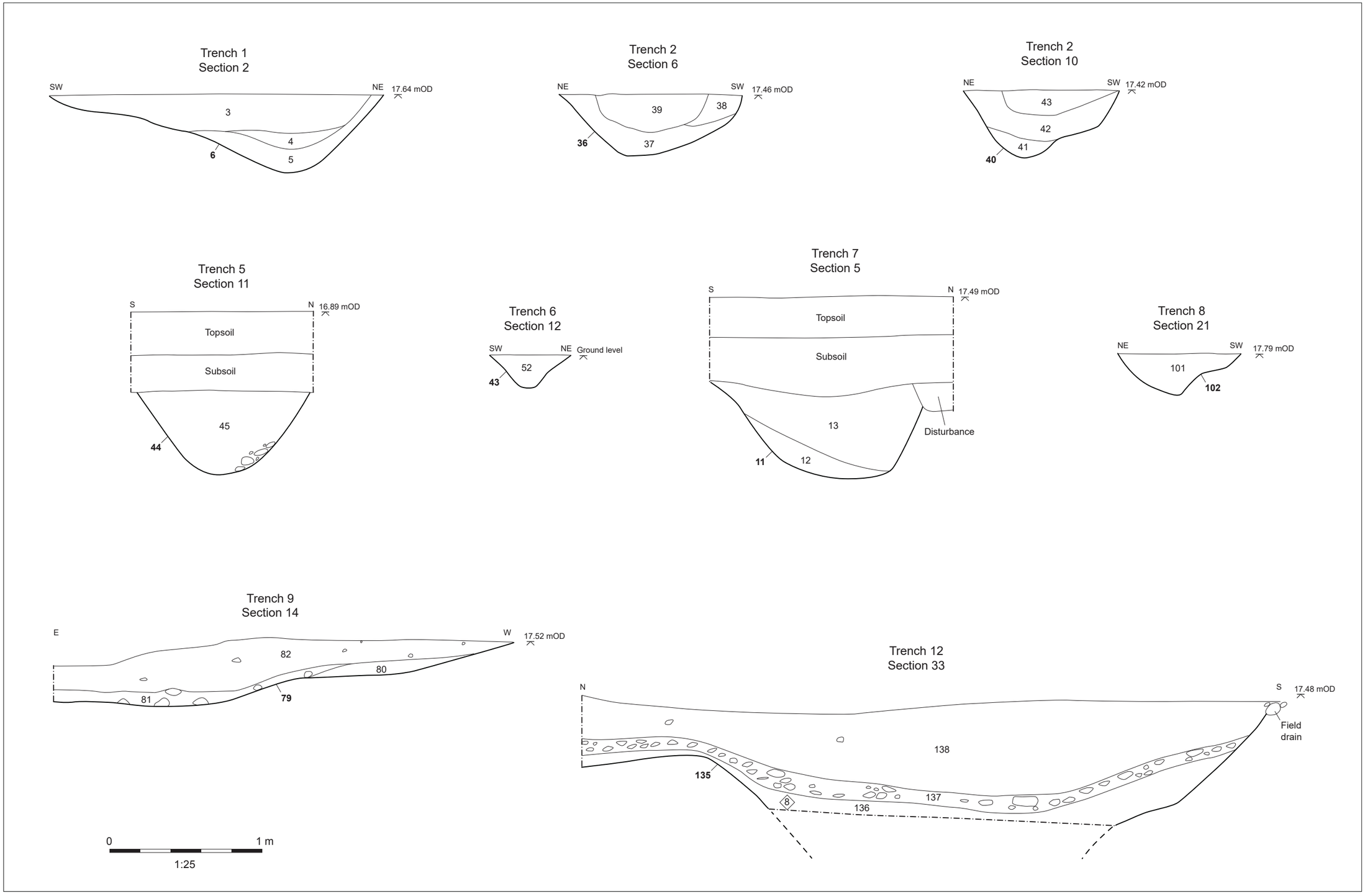

Figure 5a: Selected Sections

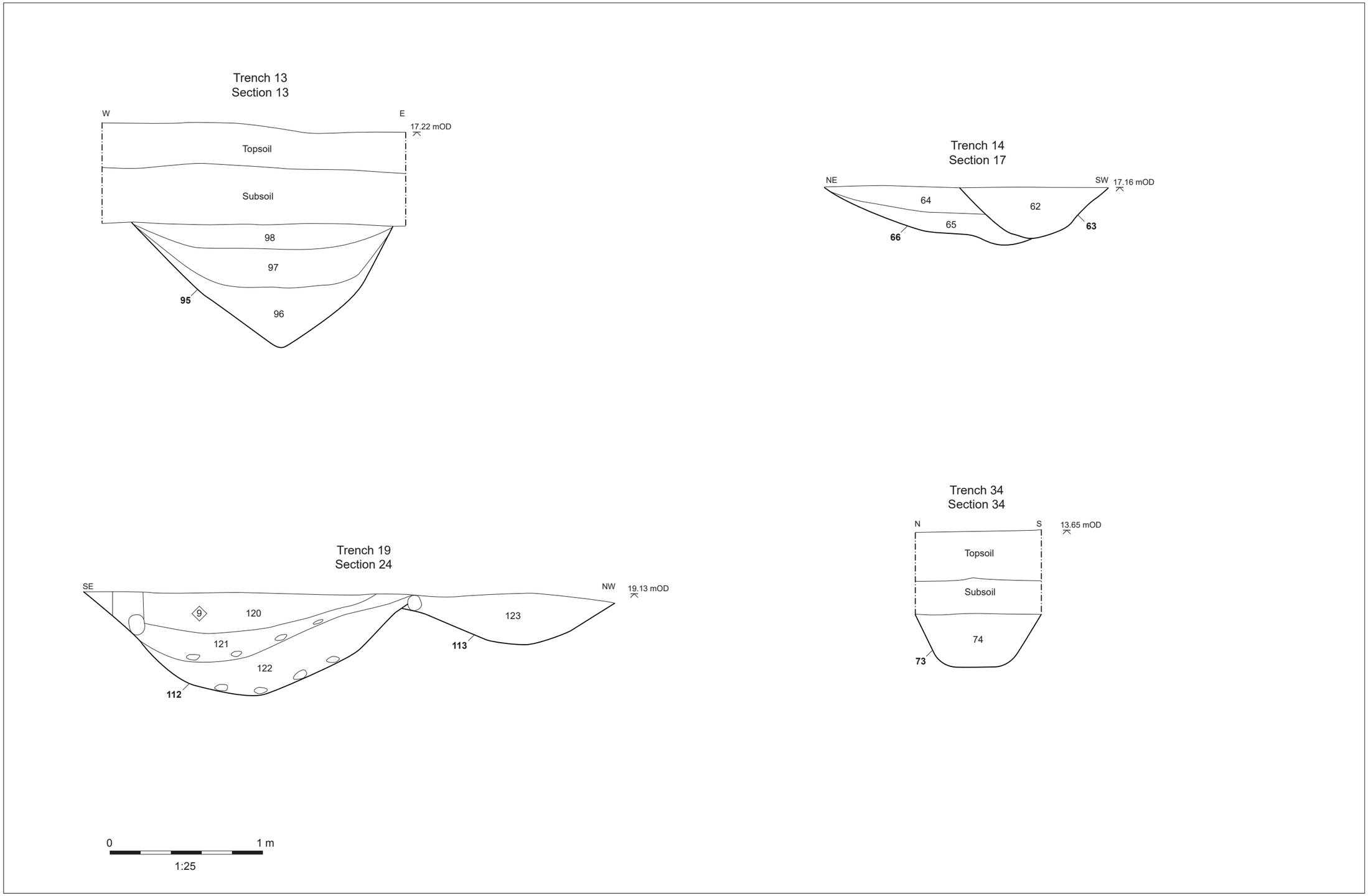

Figure 5b: Selected Sections

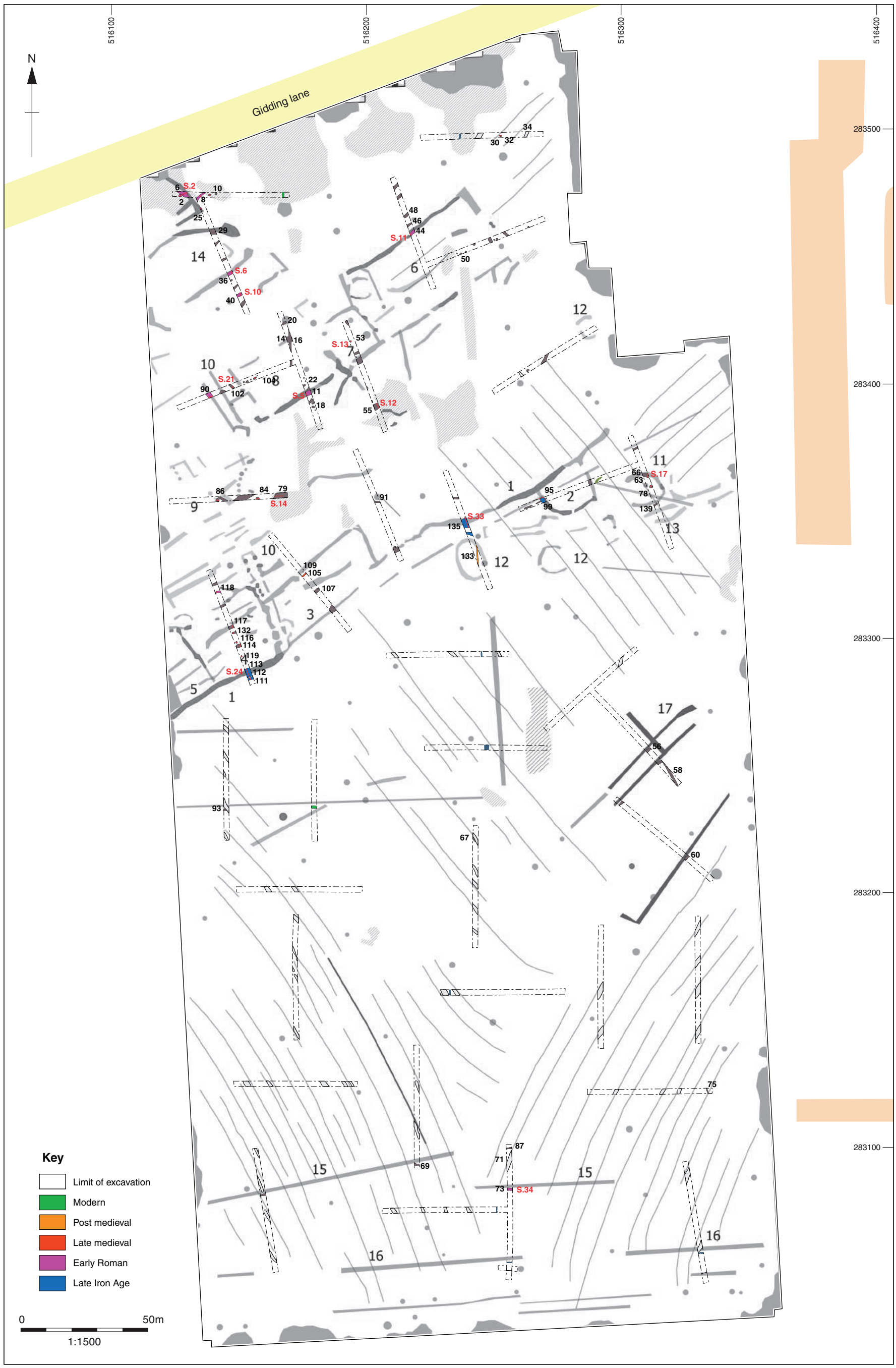

Figure 6: Features with datable finds

Plate 1: Trench 1 from the west

Plate 2: Trench 2 from the south-west

Plate 3: Ditch **11** (Trench 7) from the north-east

Plate 4: Ditch **135** (Trench12) from the west

Plate 5: Ditch **95** (Trench 13) from the south

Plate 6: Trench 14 from the north-west

Plate 7: Ditch **66** and Pit **63** (Trench 14) from the north-west

Plate 8: Trench 19 from the south-east

Plate 9: Ditch **60** (Trench 25) looking north-east

Plate 10: Ditch **73** (Trench 34) looking west

Plate 11: Trench 35, looking east

Plate 12: Trench 36, looking south-south-east

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