Glebe Farm, Sawtry

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Glebe Farm, Sawtry

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

Between the 10th and 20th of October 2017, Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) conducted an archaeological evaluation at land attached to Glebe Farm, north of Gidding Road, Sawtry, Cambridgeshire (centred TL 16260 83668). Previous archaeological work carried out to the south and west of the site have identified enclosures and field systems dating to the later Iron Age and Early Roman periods.

A total of 10 evaluation trenches totalling 500 linear metres were excavated, targeting geophysical anomalies across the site. Eight of the trenches contained archaeological features, the majority of which were ditches and pits relating to a series of Late Iron Age and Early Roman enclosures.

In general, the evaluation results correspond well with the anomalies suggested on the geophysical survey. This evidence, combined with features identified by archaeological investigations to the south of Gidding Road, indicates the presence of extensive later Iron Age and Early Roman activity in this location, in the form of 'ladder settlement enclosures'.

Acknowledgements

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by CgMS Consulting to undertake a trial trench evaluation at the site of Glebe Farm, Sawtry, Cambridgeshire (Fig 1).

1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a condition of Planning Permission (planning ref. 14/01659/OUT)/) to inform the Local Planning Authority (LPA) 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 (Bush & Lambert 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, currently pasture, located on the north-eastern edge of the historic settlement of Sawtry, immediately to the north of Gidding Road (centred TL 16260 83668).

1.2.2 The area of proposed development consists of a residential development of up to 80 dwellings including access, open space, landscaping, drainage and associated infrastructure.

1.2.3 The geology of the area is mapped as Jurassic Mudstone of the Oxford Clay Formation. No superficial deposits are recorded (British Geological Survey, http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html; accessed 12/07/17).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

Prehistoric

1.3.1 There is limited evidence for activity in the vicinity around the proposed development site during the Bronze Age or in the earlier prehistoric periods. A perforated granite hammer and lithic implements from the Neolithic onwards were found in the fields directly south-west of the current site (CHER01452). 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).

1.3.2 Investigations of fields south of Gidding Road (TL 1649 8340), also in advance of a 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 (Graham & Moan 2017). 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.

Roman

1.3.3 To the north-east of the proposed development area (TL173841) is the putative 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 (CHER 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 (CHER 01332) and Roman pottery (MCB20165) found at No. 136 Green End Road.

1.3.4 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).

1.3.5 A cult object, a Castor sherd (CHER 01451) showing Jupiter Dolichemus, was found in the fields around the current site (TL1683).

1.3.6 Geophysical survey of the fields directly south of the current site (Magnitude Surveys 2016) prior to evaluation identified the presence of ditched enclosures possibly of Iron Age and Roman date. An evaluation (MCB18238) in the fields southeast 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.

1.3.7 Between April and May 2017, Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) conducted an archaeological evaluation within the fields directly south of the current site (centred TL 1623 8329), also off Gidding Road. A total of 36 evaluation trenches totalling 1800 linear meters 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 (1.3.6). This evidence, combined with features identified by previous excavations and geophysical surveys to the east and north of the site, indicated the presence of an extensive later Iron Age and Early Roman settlement in this location (Graham and Moan 2017). The 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. It was 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.

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

1.3.9 The medieval core of Sawtry lies to the east of the site around All Saints Church (CHER 1338a) with a moated site (Scheduled Monument 1006817) approximately 980m to the east of the current site. These remains lie within a shrunken medieval village (CHER 1329c), known as Tort Hill (CHER 1329a-d). The geophysical survey conducted on the site (ASWYAS 2015) revealed extensive ridge and furrow cultivation across the site. Combined, this suggests that the site was in agricultural use during the medieval and later periods.

Post-Medieval

1.3.10 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). An English Civil War gun battery/redoubt is also known at Tort Hill (CHER 1329b).

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 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 10 evaluation trenches (Fig. 2) were excavated, totalling 500 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 further trenches but this was not required.

2.2.2 The trenches were set out by a Leica 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 large features would be selectively tested. For example, a complete profile would not be required through

excessively wide features. 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 plough soil 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 even distribution of deposits 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, and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendix A. Finds data and spot dates are tabulated in Appendix B.

3.1.2 Context numbers were applied sequentially beginning from 200 for the topsoil onwards, so the remains could, if necessary, be linked to the context record of the archaeological site south of Gidding Road.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The soil sequence between all trenches was fairly uniform. The natural geology, a sandy clay with frequent small flints, was overlain by a clay silt subsoil, which in turn was overlain by topsoil/ploughsoil/hardstanding.

3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the trenches remained dry throughout. Archaeological features, where present, were mostly easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Archaeological features were present in eight out of the ten Trenches (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 10). Remnants of ridge and furrow was identified throughout all of the trenches. Modern drainage features were noted in trenches 2, 5 and 10.

3.3.2 Broadly, the finds retrieved belong to three periods: Late Iron Age, Early Roman and modern (post 1600). Among the identified Roman features, it was possible to distinguish three distinct enclosures (referred to in the text as 1,2 and 3), two parallel linear features (**223** and possibly **226**?) and a small number of 'orphan' linear features and pits.

3.4 Trench 1

3.4.1 Located in the south-western corner of the development area (Fig.5) with a north-east to south-west orientation, this trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural undisturbed geology was reached at between 0.50m and 0.60m below the top of the trench.

3.4.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.25m-thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (201). This was overlain by a 0.30m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (200) containing modern brick and tile fragments.

3.4.3 The trench contained two identified furrows on a north-west to south-east alignment at the south-west end of the trench. A slot was excavated through the south-western most furrow, it was 1.50m wide and 0.10m deep.

3.4.4 The trench contained three ditches (**223, 226** and **228**) and two pits (**221** and **230**) whilst an area of modern disturbance was identified at the north eastern end of the trench.

3.4.5 Located 9m from the south-western end of the trench was a shallow pit (**221**). This sub-circular feature emerged from under the eastern side of the trench. This pit measured 1.45m in diameter and was 0.14m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its single fill (220) of dark grey brown clay silt contained a small amount of animal bone and Late Iron Age pottery (7g)

3.4.6 Ditch **223** was located 11m from the south-west end of the trench. The ditch emerged from under the western side of the trench on a north-west to south-east orientation before returning under the eastern side of the trench. The ditch was moderate sided with an extended U-shaped profile, measuring 3m wide and 0.32m deep. The ditch contained a single fill (222) of dark grey brown clay silt with large numbers of small to medium angular stones, making it very compact. The fill contained 346g of pottery dating to the early Roman period (AD 40-100).

3.4.7 Ditch **226** (Fig. 7, Section 15; Plate 1) was located 23m from the south-west end of the trench. The ditch emerged from under the western side of the trench on a north-west to south-east orientation before returning under the eastern side of the trench. The ditch was steep sided with an extended U-shaped profile, measuring 5.26m wide and was excavated in a 3m x 1m slot to a depth of 1.00m. The ditch was then augured a further 0.1m to its base, giving an overall depth of 1.10m. The ditch contained three fills, the earliest of which (244) was a light grey brown clay silt 0.30m thick. This fill contained a small amount of early Roman pottery (21g). This was overlain by a mid grey brown clay silt (225), 0.42m thick, and above this was a very compact dark grey brown clay silt (224) with abundant small to medium sub-angular stones, which was 0.40m thick. Fill 224 contained 224g of pottery dating to the early Roman period (AD 40-100).

3.4.8 Ditch **228** was located 20m from the north-east end of the trench. The ditch emerged from under the western side of the trench on a north-west to south-east orientation before returning under the eastern side of the trench. The ditch was steep sided with a U-shaped profile, measuring 0.60m wide and a depth of 0.24m. The ditch contained a single fill (227) of dark grey brown clay silt.

3.4.9 Located 9.64m from the north-eastern end of the trench was pit **230**. This sub-circular feature emerged from under the eastern side of the trench on a north-west to south-east orientation before returning under the western side of the trench. This pit measured 3.86m in diameter and was excavated in a 2m by 1m slot and was 0.14m deep with sharply almost vertical sloping sides and a concave base. Its single fill (229) of dark grey brown clay silt contained a small amount of animal bone and Late Iron Age/early Roman pot (11g).

3.4.10 At the north-eastern end of the trench was a large area, extending 6m from the end of the trench, of apparent modern disturbance, containing modern brick, the continuation of which was also identified in an adjacent trench (2) to the north-east.

3.5 Trench 2

3.5.1 Located in the south-western corner of the development area with a north-east to south-west orientation (Fig.5), this trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural

undisturbed geology was reached at between 0.30m and 0.60m below the top of the trench.

3.5.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.20m-thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (201). This was overlain by a 0.30m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (200) containing modern brick and tile fragments.

3.5.3 The trench contained two identified furrows on a north-west to south-east alignment at the south-west end of the trench. A slot was excavated through the south-western most furrow, it was 1.70m wide and 0.30m deep. The other furrow in the trench (**213**) was 3.20m wide and 0.26m deep.

3.5.4 The trench contained five ditches (**2211, 237, 246, 247** and **248**) and modern disturbance located at the south-western end of the trench.

3.5.5 Ditch **246** was located 6.17m from the south-west end of the trench. The ditch emerged from under the western side of the trench on a north-west to south-east orientation before returning under the eastern side of the trench. The ditch was steep sided with a U-shaped profile, measuring 1.17m wide and 0.60m deep. The ditch contained two fills. Initial fill 264 was a mid grey brown clay silt with a very high proportion of small to medium angular stones through the fill, making it very compact. The fill contained 23g of pottery dating from the Late Iron Age. This was overlain by a dark red brown clay sand (263) containing a high proportion of small angular stones, making it very compact, which was 0.12m thick. This ditch was truncated to the south-west by a furrow and to the north-east by another pit/ditch, **247**.

3.5.6 This feature (**247**) was 3.42m wide in total and was excavated for 1.20m in a 1m wide box. The excavated depth of the feature was 0.72m. The excavated side of the feature (south-west) was steep with a concave base. Its single fill (265) was a mid grey brown compact clay silt containing no datable finds. This feature may possibly represent a discrete pit or a potential additional ditch (or more than one).

3.5.7 Ditch **248** (Fig.6, section 19; Plate 2) was located 24.64m from the north-east end of the trench. The ditch emerged from under the western side of the trench on a north-west to south-east orientation before returning under the eastern side of the trench. The ditch was steep sided with a U-shaped profile, measuring 2.40m wide with a depth of 0.74m. This feature contained three fills, the earliest of which (268) was a dark brown grey clay silt 0.48m thick. This was overlain by a mid orange brown clay silt (267) 0.20m thick, and above this was a 0.22m thick dark grey brown clay silt (266) with a very high proportion of small to medium angular stones through the fill making it very compact. Fill 266 contained 32g of pottery dating to the Roman period (AD 40-300).

3.5.8 Directly adjacent to this on its north-eastern side was ditch **237**. The ditch emerged from under the western side of the trench on a north-west to south-east orientation before returning under the eastern side of the trench. The ditch was steep sided with a U-shaped profile, measuring 0.90m wide with a depth of 0.60m. The ditch contained two fills, with an initial fill (239) of mid grey brown clay silt, 0.60m thick, overlain by a mid orange brown clay silt (238) 0.30m thick. Fill 238 contained 72g of pottery dating from the Late Iron Age/early Roman period (50BC-AD50).

3.5.9 Ditch **211** was located 19.34m from the north-east end of the trench. The ditch emerged from under the western side of the trench on a north-west to south-east orientation before returning under the eastern side of the trench. The ditch was steep sided with a U-shaped profile, measuring 0.60m wide with a depth of 0.21m. The ditch contained a single fill (212) of mid grey brown clay silt. The ditch contained no pottery, only animal bones.

3.5.10 At the south-western end of the trench was the continuation of the modern disturbance noted in trench 1 which ran for 4.84m, whilst at the south-eastern end of the trench 5.46m from the end of the trench was a modern drainage culvert from the 19th or 20th century on a north-west to south-east orientation.

3.6 Trench 3

3.6.1 Located in the south-western corner of the development area with a north-west to south-east orientation (Fig.5), this trench was 50m long, with a width of 1.8m. Natural undisturbed geology was reached at between 0.30m and 0.35m below the top of the trench.

3.6.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.15m-thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (201). This was overlain by a 0.25m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (200) containing modern brick and tile fragments.

3.6.3 The trench contained eight identified furrows on a north-east to south-west alignment along the entire trench. A slot was excavated through the north-western most furrow, it was 2.40m wide and 0.22m deep.

3.6.4 The trench contained two ditches (**255** and **256**).

3.6.5 Ditch **256** (Fig.7, section 31; Plate 3) was located 8m from the north-west end of the trench. The ditch emerged from under the northern side of the trench on a north-east to south-west orientation before returning under the southern side of the trench. The ditch was steep sided with a U-shaped profile, measuring 2.60m wide and 0.46m deep. This ditch contained two fills. The earliest fill (275) was a dark grey brown clay silt with a very high proportion of small to medium angular stones throughout the fill, making it very compact. This deposit was 0.30m thick and 638g of Roman pottery, including part of a Roman cheese press (Small Find 1; Fig.8). Fill 275 was overlain by a mid grey brown clay silt (274) containing early Roman pottery (21g). This ditch was overlain by the furrow described above (3.6.3) and was truncated by a modern drain.

3.6.6 At the other end of the trench (south-east) was a single narrow ditch **255** which emerged from under the northern side of the trench on a north-east to south-west orientation before returning under the southern side of the trench. The ditch was steep sided with a U-shaped profile, measuring 0.7m wide and 0.16m deep. The ditch contained a single fill of light grey brown silt clay (276) containing early Roman pottery (132g).

3.7 Trench 4

3.7.1 Located in the south-eastern corner of the development area with a north-east to south-west orientation (Fig.4), this was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural

undisturbed geology was reached at between 0.42m and 0.52m below the top of the trench.

3.7.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.20m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (201). This was overlain by a 0.25m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (200) containing modern brick and tile fragments.

3.7.3 The trench contained ten identified furrows on a north-east to south-west alignment along the entire trench. A slot was excavated through two of the furrows. Furrow **231** was 2.00m wide and 0.14m deep and contained no finds. Directly adjacent to it on the south-west it was furrow **233**, which was 1.60m wide and 0.14m deep and contained no finds.

3.8 Trench 5

3.8.1 Located in the south-eastern corner of the development area with a north-east to south-west orientation (Fig.3), this trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. Natural undisturbed geology was reached at between 0.42m and 0.52m below the top of the trench.

3.8.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.15m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (201). This was overlain by a 0.35m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (200) containing modern brick and tile fragments.

3.8.3 The trench was dominated by a large modern ditch, containing a ceramic drainage pipe, which emerged from the northern side of the trench on a north-east to south-west orientation before returning under the southern side of the trench.

3.8.4 The trench contained two ditches (**254** and **281**).

3.8.5 Located at the midpoint of the trench was a single narrow ditch **254** which emerged from under the northern side of the trench on a north-west to south-east orientation before returning under the southern side of the trench. The ditch was steep sided with a V-shaped profile, measuring 0.6m wide and 0.20m deep. The ditch contained a single fill of dark grey brown silt clay (259) which contained no finds.

3.8.6 Located 5m from the south-western edge of the trench was a single narrow ditch **281** which emerged from under the northern side of the trench on a north-west to south-east orientation before returning under the southern side of the trench. This wide sided ditch with a U-shaped profile, measuring 0.64m wide and 0.10m deep. The ditch contained a single fill of dark grey brown silt clay (282) containing a small assemblage of Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery (3g) and animal bone.

3.9 Trench 6

3.9.1 Located at the mid-point of the development area, this trench was excavated in a L shape (Fig.4), running from the north-west to south-east and the south-west to north-east. The trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m. Natural undisturbed geology was reached at 0.40m below the top of the trench.

3.9.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.15m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (201). This was overlain by a 0.30m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (200) containing modern brick and tile fragments.

3.9.3 The trench contained three identified furrows, two of which were investigated as potential archaeological features. Furrow **257** with its north-west to south-east orientation was 3.02m wide and 0.10m deep containing no archaeology. Furrow **258**, on a north-east to south-west alignment, was 4.46m wide and 0.10m deep and contained no finds.

3.9.4 The trench contained two ditches (**235** and **240**) and a single pit (**242**).

3.9.5 Located at the north-western end of the trench was a single narrow ditch **235** which emerged from under the eastern side of the trench on a north-east to south-west orientation before returning under the western side of the trench. The ditch was steep sided with a U-shaped profile, measuring 1m wide and 0.24m deep. The ditch contained a single fill of dark grey brown silt clay (236) containing early Roman pottery (20g).

3.9.6 Located 13.63 m from the north-western end of the trench was pit **242**. This sub-circular feature emerged from under the eastern side of the trench on a north-east to south-west orientation before returning under the western side of the trench. This pit measured 2.2m in diameter and was 0.50m deep with sharply sloping, near vertical, sides and a concave base. Its single fill (243) of mid brown grey silt clay contained a small amount of CBM and a modern horseshoe.

3.9.7 Located 11.39m from the north-east end of the trench was ditch **240**. The ditch emerged from under the northern side of the trench on a north-west to south-east orientation before returning under the southern side of the trench. The ditch was steep sided with a U-shaped profile, measuring 2.20m wide and 0.65m deep. The ditch contained a single fill (241) of mid grey brown clay silt which produced a small assemblage of late Iron Age pottery (69g) and animal bone.

3.10 Trench 7

3.10.1 Located in the north-eastern part of the development area (Fig.3), this trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide, with a north-west to south-east orientation. Natural undisturbed geology was reached between 0.30m and 0.40m below the top of the trench.

3.10.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.20m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (201). This was overlain by a 0.15m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (200) containing modern brick and tile fragments.

3.10.3 The trench contained five identified furrows on a north-east to south-west alignment along the entire trench. A slot was excavated through one of the furrows as a potential feature. Furrow **208** was 1.7m wide and 0.20m deep. Its fill (209) contained a small amount of pottery and animal bone.

3.10.4 The trench contained three ditches (**204**, **206** and **253**) and a single pit (**202**).

3.10.5 Located 1.85m from the north-eastern end of the trench was pit **202.** This circular feature (Plate 4) measured 0.46m in diameter and was 0.12m deep with sharp sloping sides and a concave base. Its single fill (203) of dark grey brown clay silt contained a small amount of animal bone and pottery.

3.10.6 Further along the trench to the south-east located 5.54m from the north-western end of the trench was ditch **206** (Fig.6, section 6; Plate 5) which emerged from under the eastern side of the trench on a north-east to south-west orientation before returning under the western side of the trench. The ditch was steep sided with a U-shaped profile, measuring 1.40m wide and 0.32m deep. The ditch contained a single fill of light brown grey silt clay (207) containing Late Iron Age pottery (63g) and animal bone. This ditch was truncated directly to the south-east by another linear feature, **204**.

3.10.7 Ditch **204** (Figure 6, section 6; Plate 5) which emerged from under the eastern side of the trench on a north-east to south-west orientation before returning under the western side of the trench. The ditch was steep sided with a U-shaped profile, measuring 1.00m wide and 0.44m deep. The ditch contained a single fill of dark grey brown grey silt clay (205) from which Late Iron Age pottery (26g) and animal bone was recovered.

3.10.8 At the other end of the trench was a large feature, **253**, located 6m from the south-eastern end of the trench. This feature was partly excavated in a 3m by 1m slot. Seemingly sub-circular in plan, this steep sided feature was U shaped in profile with an overall diameter of 3.53 and an excavated depth of 1.02m. The feature contained four fills, the earliest of which (262) was a light blue grey silt clay 0.36m thick, containing small amounts of pottery. On the north-western end of the feature was a light grey brown dump of silt clay (260) 0.18m thick. Above this was a mid grey brown silt clay (210) 0.38m thick with a very high frequency of gravel and small angular stones making this layer very compact. The upper and final layer (261) was a light brown silt clay 0.82m thick. Iron Age pottery was recovered from fills 210, 262 and 260 (32g, 15g and 20g respectively).

3.11 Trench 8

3.11.1 Located in the north-east part of the development area (Fig.3), this trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m with a north-east to south-west orientation. Natural undisturbed geology was reached between 0.33m and 0.40m below the top of the trench.

3.11.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.20m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (201). This was overlain by a 0.18m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (200) containing modern brick and tile fragments.

3.11.3 The trench contained five identified furrows on a north-west to south-east alignment along the entire trench. A slot was excavated through the most south-westerly furrow, which was found to be 1.40m wide and 0.14m deep.

3.11.4 The trench contained three ditches (**249,250** and **251**) and a single pit (**252**).

3.11.5 Ditch **249** was located 6.3m from the south-western end of the trench and emerged from under the western side of the trench on a north-west to south-east orientation before returning under the eastern side of the trench. The ditch was steep sided with a U-shaped profile, measuring 1.60m wide and 0.32m deep. The ditch contained a single fill of mid grey brown clay silt (269) containing a single sherd of Roman pottery (277g).

3.11.6 Located at the mid-point of the trench was ditch **250** (Plate 6). This ditch emerged from under the western side of the trench on a north-west to south-east orientation before returning under the eastern side of the trench. The ditch was moderate sided with a U-shaped profile, measuring 1.10m wide and 0.14m deep. The ditch contained a single fill of light reddish brown clay silt (270) containing no pottery but showing evidence throughout the fill of burning.

3.11.7 Adjacent to this feature to the north-east was ditch **251**. This ditch emerged from under the western side of the trench on a north-west to south-east orientation before returning under the eastern side of the trench. The ditch was moderate sided with a U-shaped profile, measuring 1.90m wide and 0.40m deep. The ditch contained a single fill of dark reddish brown clay silt (271) with slight traces of burning on its north-eastern side.

3.11.8 Further along the trench to the north-east was pit **252**. Located 6m from the south-eastern end of the trench. This feature was partly excavated in a 1m by 1m slot. Seemingly sub-circular in plan, this steep sided feature emerged from under the western side of the trench in a north-west to south-east orientation before returning under the eastern side of the trench. The feature was U shaped in profile with an overall diameter of 5.05m and an excavated depth of 0.40mm The feature contained two fills. The basal fill (273) was a mid grey brown clay silt 0.18m thick which contained traces of burning. This was overlaid by a dark reddish brown sand clay (272) 0.24m thick, which produced a single sherd of pottery.

3.12 Trench 9

3.12.1 Located at the far north end of the development area (Fig.3), this trench was 50m long with a width of 1.8m with a north to south orientation. Natural undisturbed geology was reached 0.40m below the top of the trench.

3.12.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.20m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (201). This was overlain by a 0.25m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (200) containing modern brick and tile fragments.

3.12.3 The trench contained seven identified furrows on a north-west to south-east alignment along the entire trench. A slot was excavated through two of the furrows, these were found to be between 1.80m and 2.40m in width and 0.15m in depth.

3.12.4 There were no other archaeological features within this trench.

3.13 Trench 10

3.13.1 Located at the north-east quadrant of the development area (Fig.3), this trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide, aligned north-west to south-east. Natural undisturbed geology was reached 0.40m below the top of the trench.

3.13.2 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.25m thick dark greyish brown clay silt subsoil (201). This was overlain by a 0.15m thick dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil (200) containing modern brick and tile fragments.

3.13.3 The trench contained four identified furrows on a north-east to south-west alignment along the entire trench. A slot was excavated through one of the furrows as a potential

feature. Furrow **279** was 1.15m wide and 0.18m deep. Its fill (278) produced a single find - a late Roman coin (Small Find 2).

3.13.4 This trench contained two ditches (**225** and **218**). Located in the north-western end of the trench, ditch **218** (Fig. 6, section 4; Plate 7) emerged from under the eastern side of the trench on a north-east to south-west orientation before returning under the western side of the trench. The ditch was steep sided with a U-shaped profile, measuring 2.5m wide and 0.95m deep. The ditch contained a single fill of mid brown grey silt clay (**219**) containing small amounts of Late Iron Age pottery (12g) and animal bone. Ditch **218** was cut by north-west to south-east aligned modern drainage ditch **225**, the fill of which (226) contained a large quantity (349g) of pottery dating from the early Roman period (AD 40-100).

3.13.5 At the other end of the trench was a large discrete feature (**215**) located 10.9m from the south-eastern end of the trench. This feature was partly excavated in a 3m by 1m slot. Seemingly sub-circular in plan, the feature emerged from under the eastern side of the trench on a north-east to south-west alignment. This concave steep sided feature was U shaped in profile with an overall diameter of 5.95m and an excavated depth of 0.80m. The base of the excavation was then augured a further 0.1m onto its base, giving an overall depth of 0.90m. The feature contained two fills, the lower of which (**216**) was a mid grey clay silt 0.26m thick containing a very high frequency of small angular stones and gravel making this layer very compact. This was overlain by a mid grey brown silt clay (**217**) 0.78m thick.

3.14 Finds summary

3.14.1 The finds from the evaluation are quantified by weight and count in Tables 1 and 2 below.

Material	Object Name	Weight in kg	Sum Of Count
Ceramic	Vessel	2.543	283
Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.010	2
Ceramic	Fired clay	0.185	28
Ceramic	Tobacco pipe	0.006	2
Organic	Bone	1.527	199
Slag	Metal-working debris	0.035	1
Stone	?Natural/Worked	0.753	1
	Total	5.059	516

Table 1- Total Non-Metal finds from site

Material	Object Name	Sum Of Count
Cua (copper alloy)	Coin	1
Fe (iron)	Nail	9
Fe (iron)	Artefact	1
Pb (lead)	Artefact	2
	Total	**13**

Table 2- Total Metalwork from site

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Evaluation objectives and results

4.1.1 The evaluation was able to determine the character, date, state of preservation, and extent of archaeological features within the development area. By testing the geophysical results, the evaluation was able to determine that the results of the geophysical survey were fairly accurate, with the majority of interpreted archaeological features being identified during the trenching. The geophysical results indicated that the majority of the potential archaeology was anticipated to be in a horizontal band located in the northern part of the site and this was borne out by the evaluation. The southernmost part of the site (Trenches 3,4,5) was anticipated to be largely archaeologically sterile and this was found to be mostly the case, with the exception of a few narrow gullies containing Roman pottery. The only notable exception to this was the linear feature identified in Trench 3 (ditch **256**), which contained a relatively large assemblage of Roman pottery including a cheese press SF 1, which was not identified by the geophysical survey. It should, however, be noted that this feature was overlain by a modern furrow which probably served to 'mask' this feature. Whilst there was overall only a moderate amount of pottery (2.543kg) and CBM (0.010kg) recovered from the site it was sufficient to determine the broad date of most of the archaeological features.

4.1.2 The evaluation confirmed the survey results of two broad alignments of furrows within the development area. Those at the eastern side of the site were on a north-west to south-east orientation and those in the western half on a north-east to south-west orientation. Throughout the trenches, in which these furrows were tested, they were shallow (0.10m to 0.20m deep) and, in the main, archaeologically sterile, exceptions being the coin recovered from Trench 10 (furrow **279**) and the furrow overlaying ditch **256** in Trench 3, which contained some of the Roman material from the feature underneath it.

4.1.3 Considering the close proximity of this site to that the recent evaluation south of Gidding Lane (Graham and Moan 2017), it is to be expected that the results from this evaluation would share many of the same characteristics to that previous investigation. The principal point of note was that the evaluation identified a series of rectilinear enclosures (often referred to as 'ladder enclosures') on a north-east to south-west alignment primarily dating from the early 1st century AD, which, judging from the pottery identified from within the features, may have been a continuation of existing settlement patterns from the Late Iron Age into the early Roman period.

4.2 Iron Age

4.2.1 Similar to the results of the archaeological investigation south of Gidding Road, the earliest features dated to the Late Iron Age c.100/50BC-AD50. In total 12 features contained pottery found to date to this period, five of which were from Trench 7 in the north-east corner of the site (Appendix C.1), indicating that the area around this trench may have been a focus of Late Iron Age activity, which then ceased by the early Roman period, refocusing elsewhere on the site in a general eastwards direction.

4.2.2 Four features contained material indicative of a transitional Late Iron Age/early Roman date, with a combination of Late Iron Age and early Roman pottery. These features were; **230** (Trench 1), **249** (Trench 8) and **256** (Trench 3). It should be noted, however, that the fill from the pit in Trench 1 (**230**) also contained modern pottery. The majority of the pottery (638g) was recovered from contexts dating to the early Roman period, suggesting this period saw the peak in activity at the site, focusing around Trenches 1 and 3 and moving away from the Iron Age 'hub' around Trench 7.

4.3 Roman

4.3.1 The features identified within the excavation have to be considered part of a much wider Roman landscape incorporating the identified Roman enclosures in the southern fields. In addition, there is a known Roman settlement at Sawtry to the east, whilst work carried out in the fields southeast of the current site identified morphologically similar rectilinear enclosures on the same alignment (Jones 2008, Murphy 2011).

4.3.2 Three distinct Roman enclosure systems can be identified from the evaluation matching the geophysical survey results. The most prominent (Enclosure 1) was located in the eastern half of the site and consisted of a large ditch with a north-east to south-west alignment (running across the site for broadly 67m) and two ditches branching off it on a north-west to south-east orientation. The north-east to south-west ditch was identified at the northern end of Trenches 6 and 7 as ditch slots **204** and **235**. Both these slots were 1.00m wide and a shallow depth of 0.24m. Branching off from this at a perpendicular angle was ditch **213** in Trench 2 and 240 in Trench 6. There does seem to be a noticeable difference in the width of the linear features between Trenches 2 and 6 (0.60m). A possible interpretation of this is that the arrangement in Trench 2 is of a larger ditch (**213**) accompanied by a smaller gulley (**211**) to its east (also repeated west of these features in the same trench) and that both the larger and smaller ditch have merged in Trench 6. The geophysics results perhaps suggest a third perpendicular ditch on the same north-west to south-east alignment lying to the east of Trench 7 but this may have been subsequently ploughed out.

4.3.3 A similar type of arrangement (Enclosure 2) was noted to the west of Enclosure 1 with a north-east to south-west aligned ditch (not covered by the evaluation trenches) running across the site for broadly 40m and two ditches, perpendicular to this main ditch, excavated in Trench 1 (**226**) and Trench 2 (**248**) with a north-west to south-east orientation. This would seem to have been a more prominent enclosure with deeper (0.80m to 1.00m) and wider (2.40m) ditches. The width of the partly excavated ditch **226** in Trench 1 (5.26m) suggests it may have been recut or overlay an earlier feature on the same alignment. As noted above, the ditches defining this enclosure in Trench 2 (**248**/**237**) shows a similar pattern to that in the same trench east of it, with a larger ditch (**248**) being accompanied on its eastern flank by a smaller narrower ditch (**237**).

4.3.4 A potential third smaller enclosure (Enclosure 3) was noted at the eastern end of the site in Trench 10. The geophysics suggested a square enclosure of approximately 185m in area. The rear ditch of the enclosure **218** was excavated, and was noted to be more substantial then the ditches on a broadly similar alignment directly to the west in Enclosure 1 (**202** and **235**, see 4.3.2 above). The geophysics indicates a broken line of possible archaeological features between the northern axis ditches of Enclosure 1 and 3 and it is possible that Enclosure 3 represents a later addition to an already existing boundary/enclosure ditch.

4.3.5 The final Roman linear features of note are located within Trench 1, in the south western corner of the site. Two potential linear features, eight metres apart and running parallel to each other on a north-west to south-east alignment are visible on the geophysics. The westernmost of the two ditches (**223**) was identified in Trench 1 and was 3m wide and quite shallow (0.32m) with a very distinctive compact fill (222) with abundant flint and medium angular stones. However, the putative parallel linear feature to its east seems to have been truncated at the point of the trench by ditch **226** of Enclosure 2, the upper fills of which (224) were very distinctively different from those of **223**. It seems possible that ditch **223** may in fact be the remains of a potential trackway leading up to the enclosures, although further work would be required to clarify this issue.

4.3.6 Two of the three ditches noted in Trench 8 may be continuations of those linear features noted in Trenches 6 and 7. The ditch in Trench 8 (**249**) is on the same alignment and could potentially be a continuation of ditch (**240**) in Trench 6, although there is a variation (0.30m) in the depths between the two feature (possibly a result of modern agricultural activity). Likewise, further along the same trench to the north ditch **251** could conceivably a continuation of the 'missing' perpendicular ditch of Enclosure 1 to the east of Trench 7 (4.3.2). The two small ditches/gullies noted in Trench 5 (**254** and **281**) are on a similar alignment as the perpendicular ditch features of Enclosure 1 and could also conceivably be part of the same complex, however further investigation would be required to determine this. Only the two features in Trench 3 (**255** and **256**) seem to be in total isolation with no geophysical indication of archaeology nor any other Roman features on the same alignment or in close proximity to the trench. These may be the remains of another Roman enclosure system of which else very little has survived but, beyond noting the Roman pottery within their fills, very little else can be stated at this point.

4.3.7 Of the three large discrete Roman pits noted (**253** in Trench 7, **252** in Trench 8 and **215** in Trench 10), beyond the substantial size and the depth of two of these features (0.86m and 1m) and that Roman pottery was obtained from their fills, very little else can be stated at this point. There was no obvious indication of their function. It may be noteworthy that the features in Trench 7 and 10 are on the same north-east to south west alignment as the (non-excavated) linear forming part of Enclosure 2 to the west.

4.3.8 Taken as a whole, these rectilinear enclosures would seem to correspond to the standard definition of a 'ladder settlement', comprising of groups of homesteads

aligned along a single axis 'street' or trackway surrounded by associated enclosures, paddocks and fields (English Heritage 2013). The enclosures at the site would seem to run broadly parallel to those excavated in the southern field (Graham and Moan 2017) and broadly to Gidding Road.

4.3.9 The economy of these settlements would seem to have been based on small scale agriculture. The preservation of the plant remains was poor with only a single charred cereal grain preserved along with sparse charcoal (See Appendix C1). The charred grain was recovered from fill 268 of Roman ditch **248** in Trench 2. The specimen is poorly preserved but is recognisable as a spelt wheat grain of the type cultivated in the Roman period.

4.3.10 Potential fragments of cheese press found in Trench 1 and the near complete example found in Trench 3 clearly indicate cattle and dairy farming taking place at the site. The species represented from the site include cattle, sheep/goat, horse and dog. In short, the species type to be expected from a largely self-sufficient agricultural community.

4.3.11 The very small amount of slag recovered from the site may indicate iron smelting and ironworking on, or close to, the area excavated. Alternatively, the material may represent the disposal of waste, as only small quantities were recovered from ditch **218** in Trench 10, associated with Iron Age pottery. Either way very little more can be ascertained from the small amount recovered.

4.3.12 The local, domestic quality of the pottery recovered from the features would correspond to this general model of a largely self-sufficient agricultural community, although the small amount of Samian ware recovered from Trench 3 suggests that the occupants of the site had some access to outside goods and materials.

4.3.13 With the exception of the 4th century coin (SF 2), the dating evidence from the pottery seems to indicate that activity appears to have ceased during or shortly after the 1st century AD. The most probable explanation may be that the economic and demographic focus shifted east towards Sawtry from AD100 onwards, taking advantage of the Sawtry sites' closer proximity to Ermine Street (Graham and Moan 2017, Welsh 1994).

4.4 Medieval and Post-Medieval

4.4.1 Similar to the results of the archaeological evaluation to the south of Gidding Road (Graham and Moan 2017), there is little or no evidence for medieval or post-medieval activity on the site apart from the furrows identified by geophysical survey and confirmed within the evaluation trenches (4.1.2), these features are most likely to have been related to pre-enclosure open fields associated with the village. They are on two different alignments within the 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 (Moan 2017).

4.5 Modern

As evidenced by the existing OS Maps the development area seems to have been continuously utilised as for agricultural purposes within boundary lines established by

enclosure of the medieval pattern of open fields. Evidence for modern activity, beyond filed drains, includes the brick built drainage culvert noted at the eastern end of Trench 2, the large area of modern disturbance between Trench 1 and 2 and the large ditch holding a drainage pipe in Trench 5. Of particular note are the two pits with very similar profiles containing modern ceramic (and a horseshoe) in Trench 1 (**230**) and Trench 6 (**242**). Neither seem to have any obvious function but the profiles of the two features and the steepness of their excavated sides would suggest possible small scale quarrying activity (for clay or perhaps flint).

4.6 Conclusion

4.6.1 Activity at the site at Glebe Farm seems to have been concentrated in the northern part of the development area with, only the ditch and gully in Trench 3 being indicative of any activity within the immediate proximity of Gidding Road itself. In keeping with the results of the nearby evaluation to the south of the road, the site would seem to have originated as part of a mid to late Iron Age settlement with activity running alongside an existing trackway with an economy of small scale agriculture, although it seems likely that the features identified on the current site are peripheral to the main areas of settlement. This activity would seem to have been focussed more towards the north-eastern part of the development area. This activity appears to have continued without hiatus into the 1st century AD, and the early conquest period, with a more regulated rectilinear grid pattern probably being imposed upon the existing Iron Age ditch systems. The focus of the site slightly shifts towards the south-west of the development area during this period.

4.6.2 With the possible exception of Enclosure 3 to the east, there is no direct structural evidence for occupation, either of Iron Age or Roman date, within the development area. Although settlement itself must have been in close proximity to the site, the evidence suggests that most of the remains identified at the site are all part of the associated paddocks, enclosures and fields surrounding the actual homesteads as part of the linear development following the trackway/road. Ultimately, for whatever reason, the site seems to have fallen into disuse by the beginning of the 2nd century, although the coin found clearly suggests some form of limited Roman activity was still occurring within the Late Roman period.

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
In addition to furrows, the trench contained two pits and three ditches. The trench consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clay sand and flint.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.80
					Avg. depth (m)	0.50
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
200	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.30	Subsoil	-	-
220	Fill	-	0.14	Fill of 221	bone	-
221	Cut	1.45	0.14	Pit	-	-
222	Fill	-	0.32	Fill of 223	Pot, bone	-
223	Cut	3.00	0.32	Ditch	-	-
224	Fill	-	0.4	Fill of 226	Pot, bone	Roman
225	Fill	-	0.42	Fill of 226	Pot, bone	Roman
226	Fill	5.26	1.10	Ditch	-	Roman
227	Fill	-	0.24	Fill of 228	-	-
228	Cut	0.60	0.24	Ditch	-	-
229	Fill	-	0.62	Fill of 230	Pot	Modern
230	Cut	3.86	0.62	Pit	-	Modern
244	Fill	-	0.30	Fill of 226	Pot	Roman

Trench 2						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
In addition to furrows, the trench contained five ditches. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clay sand.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.80
					Avg. depth (m)	0.50
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
200	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.30	Subsoil	-	-
211	Cut	0.6	0.21	Ditch	-	-
212	Fill	-	0.21	Fill of 211	-	-
213	Cut	1.60	0.10	Ditch	-	--
214	Fill	-	0.10	Fill of 213	-	
237	Cut	0.90	0.60	Ditch		
238	Fill	-	0.30	Fill of 237		
239	Fill	-	0.60	Fill of 237		
246	Cut	1.17	0.60	Ditch		
247	Cut	3.35	0.74	Ditch		
248	Cut	2.4	0.74	Ditch		
263	Fill	-	0.12	Fill of 246		
264	Fill	-	0.5	Fill of 246		
265	Fill	-	0.74	Fill of 247		
266	Fill	-	0.22	Fill of 248		

Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
267	Fill	-	0.22	Fill of 248	-	-
268	Fill	-	0.48	Fill of 248	-	-

Trench 3						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
In addition to six furrows, the trench contained two ditches. The trench consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sand clay and flint.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.80
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
200	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
255	Cut	0.7	0.16	Ditch	-	-
256	Cut	2.6	0.46	Ditch	-	
274	Fill	-	0.3	Fill of 256	-	-
275	Fill	--	0.3	Fill of 256	-	--
276	Fill		0.16	Fill of 255	-	

Trench 4						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained ten furrows, two of which excavated .The trench Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay and flint.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.80
					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
200	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
231	Cut	-	-	Furrow	-	-
232	Fill	-	-	Fill of 231	-	-
233	Cut	-	-	Furrow	-	-
234	Fill	-	-	Fill of 233	-	-

Trench 5						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained furrows and two narrow ditches/gullies. The trench Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay and flint.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.80
					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
200	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
254	Cut	0.6	0.2	Ditch	-	-
255	Fill	-	0.2	Fill of 254	-	-
281	Cut	0.64	0.1	Ditch	-	-
282	Fill		0.1	Fill of 281	-	--

Trench 6						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE/NE-SW
This L shaped trench contained three probable furrows and three ditches. The trench Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay and flint.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.80
					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
200	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
235	Cut	1	0.24	Ditch	-	-
236	Fill	-	0.24	Fill of 235	-	-
240	Cut	2.2	0.65	Ditch	-	-
241	Fill	-	0.65	Fill of 240	-	-
242	Cut	2.2	0.5	Pit	-	-
243	Fill	-	0.5	Fill of 242	-	-
257	Cut	3.02	0.1	Ditch/furrow	-	-
258	Cut	4.46	0.1	Ditch/furrow	-	-
277	Fill	-	0.1	Fill of 258	-	-
280	Fill	-	0.1	Fill of 257	-	-

Trench 7						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
This trench contained four probable furrows and four ditches and a pit/posthole. The trench Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay and flint					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.80
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
200	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
202	Cut	0.46	0.12	PostHole	-	-
203	Fill	-	0.12	Fill of 202	-	-
204	Cut	1	0.46	Ditch		
205	Fill	-	0.46	Fill of 204		
206	Cut	1.4	0.3	Ditch		
207	Fill	-	0.3	Fill of 206		
208	Cut	1.7	0.2	Ditch/furrow		
209	Fill	-	0.1	Fill of 208		
210	Fill	-	0.14	Fill of 253.		
253	Cut	15.43	1	Ditch		
260	Fill	-	0.26	Fill of 253		
261	Fill	-	0.8	Fill of 253		
262	Fill	-	0.45	Fill of 253		

Trench 8						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
This trench contained four probable furrows, three ditches and a pit. The trench Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay and flint					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.80
					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
200	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
249	Cut	1.6	0.32	Ditch	-	-
250	Cut	1.1	0.14	Ditch	-	-
251	Cut	1.9	0.4	Ditch	-	-
252	Cut	5.05	0.38	Ditch	-	-
269	Fill	-	0.32	Fill of 249	-	-
270	Fill	-	0.14	Fill of 250	-	-
271	Fill	-	0.4	Fill of 251	-	-
272	Fill	-	0.24	Fill of 252	-	-
273	Fill	-	0.12	Fill of 252	-	-

Trench 9						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology only several furrows. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay and flint.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.80
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
200	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 10						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology only several furrows. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay and flint.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.80
					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
200	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
215	Cut	6.44	0.86	Pit	-	-
216	Fill			Fill of 215	-	-
217	Fill		0.8	Fill of 215	-	-
218	Cut	2.5	0.95	Ditch	-	-
219	Fill		0.16	Fill of 218	-	-
278	Fill		0.16	Fill of 279	-	-
279	Cut	2.53	0.16	Ditch/furrow	-	-

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Iron Age and Roman Pottery

B.1.1 By Katie Anderson

Introduction

B.1.2 An assemblage of Later Iron Age and Roman pottery totalling 271 sherds, weighing 2460g and representing 4.05 EVEs (estimated vessel equivalent) and a minimum of 16 vessels (MNV) was recovered from the evaluation. All of the pottery was analysed and recorded in accordance with the Study Group for Roman Pottery guidelines (Perrin 2011) and the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group guidelines (2009). The nature of the pottery in terms of date, the assemblage is discussed as a single report, rather than being separated into two different discussions.

Assemblage Chronology

B.1.3 The pottery implies continuous activity from the Later Iron Age (1st century BC) to the later 1st century AD. Although there were some features which dated exclusively to the Later Iron Age, there were also features which had a combination of pottery in the Later Iron Age tradition alongside both Romanising and early Roman pottery. This is not uncommon in Cambridgeshire, and rather than suggesting the former is residual, it is more likely that this pottery was contemporary, with both types is use at the same time. The earliest pottery is of Middle Iron Age tradition, comprising 19 sherds (96g) of predominately shell-tempered scored wares. Although these sherds are in the Middle Iron Age tradition, they occur alongside Late Iron Age pottery, suggesting these are contemporary.

Context	Cut	Trench	No.	Wt(g)	MNV	EVE	Context spotdate
203	202	7	3	42	0	0	50BC-AD50
205	204	7	12	26	0	0	50BC-AD50
207	206	7	17	63	0	0	50BC-AD50
210	208	7	12	32	0	0	50BC-AD50
219	218	10	3	12	0	0	50BC-AD50
220	221	1	1	7	0	0	50BC-AD50
222	0	1	25	346	2	1.14	AD40-100
224	226	1	28	224	1	0.5	AD40-100
225	226	1	32	349	5	0.89	AD40-100
229	230	1	2	11	1	0.1	AD0-50
236	235	6	4	20	0	0	50BC-AD50
239	237	2	5	72	0	0	50BC-AD50
241	240	6	8	69	0	0	50BC-AD50
244	226	1	2	21	0	0	AD40-100
260	253	7	4	20	0	0	100BC-AD50
262	253	7	6	15	0	0	50BC-AD50
264	246	2	2	23	0	0	50BC-AD50
268	248	2	2	32	0	0	AD40-300
269	249	8	19	277	0	0.15	AD0-70
274	256	3	6	21	2	0.1	AD30-70
275	256	3	46	638	3	0.82	AD40-70
276	255	3	21	132	1	0.35	AD40-100
277	258	6	2	14	0	0	AD40-100
282	281	5	4	3	0	0	50BC-AD50
283		3	8	33	1	0	AD50-100

Table 3: Quantification of Later Iron Age and Roman pottery by Context

B.1.4 Assemblage Composition

B.1.5 The assemblage comprised primarily small sized sherds, with a low mean weight of 9.1g, much of which were noted as being abraded. The condition of the pottery implies that much of the material had either been left on the surface for a period of time before being deposited, or else had been redeposited from earlier features.

B.1.6 The material derived from 25 different contexts across the site, which ranged in date from the mid-1st century BC to the later 1st century AD, comprising sherds in both the Later Iron Age tradition as well as Romanising and Roman wares. Based on the quantities of material recovered, the pottery suggests a peak in activity between AD40-100.

B.1.7 A number of vessel fabrics were identified, occurring in varying quantities (Table 2). Sandy wares were the most commonly occurring, representing 56.4% of the total assemblage by sherd count (153 sherds, 1502g). Within this category were various different fabrics, all of which were unsourced, although they are likely to have been produced in the local area. This category includes sandy greywares (70 sherds, 769g), reduced wares (28, sherds, 207g) and oxidised wares (eight sherds, 144g). Within each of these three groups were micaceous and non-micaceous fabrics as well as coarse sandy and finer sandy variants, although few sherds could be considered as actual 'finewares'.

Fabric	Fabric Code	No.	Wt(g)	MNV	EVE
Black-slipped ware (unsourced)	BLKSL	3	6	0	0
Buff sandy ware (unsourced)	BUFF	4	27	0	0
Coarse sandy buff ware (Unsourced)	CSBUFF	1	33	0	0.35
Coarse sandy greyware (Unsourced)	CSGW	20	112	1	0
Coarse sandy micaceous greyware (Unsourced)	CSMGW	11	444	1	0.5
Coarse sandy micaceous reduced ware (unsourced)	CSMRDU	4	49	2	0.4
Coarse sandy oxidised ware (Unsourced)	CSOX	2	25	0	0
Coarse sandy reduced ware (unsourced)	CSRDU	18	129	1	0.5
Fine sandy black-slipped ware (Unsourced)	FSBLK	1	4	0	0
Fine sandy greyware (unsourced)	FSGW	24	92	1	0.12
Fine sandy micaceous buff ware (Unsourced)	FSMBUFF	2	38	1	0.1
Fine sandy micaceous greyware (unsourced)	FSMGW	15	121	2	0.55
Fine sandy micaceous oxidised ware (unsourced)	FSMOX	6	48	0	0
Fine sandy micaceous reduced ware (Unsourced)	FSMRDU	6	29	1	0.12
Coarse sandy ware with occasional calcareous inclusions and common mica	QCM1	11	119	0	0.15
Medium coarse sandy ware with moderate to common small grog	QG1	14	81	1	0
Moderately coarse sandy ware with common silver mica	QM1	18	86	0	0
Samian - South Gaulish	SAMSG	1	1	0	0
Shell-tempered ware (Unsourced)	SHELL	102	874	3	1.14
Medium coarse sandy ware with common to frequent small/very small shell inclusions, well-sorted	SHELL2	2	3	0	0
Whiteware (unsourced)	WW	6	139	2	0.12

Table 4: Quantification of Late Iron Age and Roman pottery by fabric

B.1.8 Shell-tempered wares are also well represented within the assemblage, representing 38.4% of the pottery (104 sherds weighing 877g). Two different shell-tempered fabrics were recorded; the first containing frequent to abundant medium to large-sized shell (SHELL), and the second which comprises common to frequent small to very small shell inclusions in a medium coarse sandy fabric. The former fabric was the most frequently occurring totalling 102 sherds weighing 874g, including both Late Iron Age and Roman vessels. The final fabric group comprises grog-tempered wares, which form only a minor element of the assemblage, totalling 5.2% (14 sherds, 81g).

B.1.9 A single south Gaulish samian sherd was recovered from context (283), comprising an abraded body sherd from a decorated bowl weighing 1g. Due to the size and condition of the sherd, the exact vessel form and decoration could not be determined.

B.1.10 Due to the size and condition of the assemblage, the majority of the pottery comprised non-diagnostic body sherds (63%), where no vessel form, beyond 'open' and 'closed' could be established, totalling a minimum of just 16 different vessels (MNV). Of the diagnostic sherds in the assemblage, jars were the most commonly occurring (Table 3), with a minimum of ten different vessels identified, based on the number of unique rims present. A range of different sized vessels are represented with rim diameters ranging from 10cm to 24cm, representing a range of functions including cooking and storage. 24 jar sherds are decorated, with burnishing, tooled lines, cordons and scoring noted. Two vessels comprised partially complete profiles when refitted; a neck-less flanged rim jar in a coarse sandy reduced ware fabric from context (224), Trench 1, and a necked, beaded rim jar in a fine sandy greyware fabric from context (275), Trench 3.

Form	No.	Wt(g)	MNV	EVE
Beaker	23	150	2	0.45
Bowl	3	415	2	0.62
Closed	44	355	0	0
Dish	17	180	0	0.7
Jar	53	522	10	1.68
Mortaria	1	60	1	0
Unknown	130	778	1	0.6

Table 5: All LIA/RB pottery by vessel form

B.1.11 A minimum of two beakers were identified within the assemblage. The first comprises a fine sandy micaceous greyware vessel (12 sherds, 103g) with a short neck and everted rim from context (225), Trench 1, dating AD40-100. The second comprises three sherds (8g) from a grog-tempered everted rim beaker dating AD50-100 from context (274), Trench 3.

B.1.12 One further vessel of note is half of a cheese-press (1 sherd, 409g), recovered from context (275), Trench 3, SF1, dating AD50-100, occurring in a coarse sandy micaceous greyware fabric.

B.1.13 Usewear evidence was limited, with the exception of abraded sherds, to just three vessels with exterior sooting, indicative of being used over a fire. The relative lack of usewear evidence within the assemblage is not surprising given the condition of the pottery.

B.1.14 Overall the fabrics and forms represented in the assemblage are indicative of a domestic assemblage, with most vessels acquired from the local area, although the single, abraded sherd of samian from context (283) demonstrates that the site did have access to goods from outside of the local area.

Contextual Analysis

B.1.15 Pottery was recovered from 24 different contexts from seven trenches (Table 4), with the largest quantities of material deriving from Trenches 1 (90 sherds, 958g) and 3 (81 sherds, 824g) and to a lesser extent Trench 7 (51 sherds, 156g). 19 contexts contained small assemblages of pottery, comprising fewer than ten sherds. Two contexts (225) and (275) contained medium sized assemblages of 31-99 sherds.

B.1.16 The vast majority of the pottery was recovered from ditches (99%), while the remaining 1% comprised two shell-tempered sherds from Pit (229)/ [230]. Ditch [226], Trench 1 contained 62 sherds, weighing 594g deriving from three fills. Fill (225) contained 32 sherds (349g), dating AD40-100, including a minimum of five vessels consisting of two jars, one bowl, one beaker and a sherd from a hooked rim mortaria. Fill (224) contained 28 sherds (224g), dating AD40-100 including 16 sherds (125g) from a neck-less jar. Finally, two sherds (21g) were collected from fill (244), also dating AD40-100. The pottery recovered from this feature appears to have been deposited within a short period of time, and while the majority of the material comprised small, abraded, sherds, the presence of a small number of larger 'fresher' sherds as well as the refitting vessels demonstrates that some of the material had been deposited soon after breakage.

B.1.17 The earliest dating features date to the Later Iron Age c.100/50BC-AD50. 12 features date to this period (see Table 1), five of which were from Trench 7, suggesting the area around this trench may have been a focus of Later Iron Age activity, which then saw activity cease by the early Roman period, perhaps refocusing elsewhere on the site. Four features contained material indicative of a transitional Late Iron Age/early Roman date, whereby pottery in a Late Iron Age tradition were recovered alongside early Roman pottery. These features were; (229), Trench 1, (269) Trench 8, (274) and (275), Trench 3. The majority of the pottery was recovered from contexts dating to the early Roman period (163 sherds, 1746g), suggesting this as the peak in activity at the site, focusing around Trenches 1 and 3.

Trench	No.	Wt(g)	MNV	EVE
1	90	958	9	2.63
2	9	127	0	0
3	81	824	7	1.27
6	14	103	0	0
7	51	156	0	0
8	19	277	0	0.15
10	3	12	0	0

Table 6: Quantification of Late Iron Age and Roman pottery quantification by trench

Discussion

B.1.18 Overall, the pottery demonstrates that there was activity from the Late Iron Age to the earlier Roman period, with an apparent peak in activity between AD40-100, thus spanning the Iron Age to Roman transition, seemingly without hiatus. That said, it suggests that there was a shift in focus from the Late Iron Age, seemingly concentrated around Trench 7, to the early Roman period, which appears to have been focused around Trenches 1 and 3.

B.1.19 The pottery evidence suggests that activity had ceased by the latter stages of the 1st Century AD. The quantity of pottery is indicative of marginal domestic activity perhaps suggesting that the area of the evaluation lay on the periphery of any associated site(s).

B.2 Post-Roman Pottery

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

B.2.1 Archaeological works produced a small assemblage of predominantly post-medieval pottery (9 sherds, 0.114kg), including unstratified material, from three trenches.

B.2.2 The Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG), Study Group for Roman Pottery (SGRP), and The Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG), 2016 *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology* and the MPRG *A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms* (MPRG 1998) act as standards. However, a simplified method of recording has been undertaken, with fabric, basic description, weight and count recorded in the text, using, for fabric classification of medieval sherds, Cambridgeshire fabric types (Spoerry 2016), and for all post-medieval types, the Museum of London fabric codes, where possible (http://www.mola.org.uk/medieval-and-post-medieval-pottery-codes). The pottery and archive are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition or dispersal.

Assemblage

B.2.3 In Trench 1, context 229 in pit **230** produced pottery dated to the first half of the 1st century AD, alongside an abraded rim sherd from an internally lid-seated Post-medieval Redware (1550-1800) jar, possibly a pipkin (0.015kg). A rim sherd from a 19th century redware bowl (0.025kg) was recovered as an unstratified element in Trench 1.

B.2.4 A fragment of Post-medieval Redware (0.001kg) was recovered from ditch **206** in Trench 7. The sherd is too small to provide reliable dating for the context, which also produced 17 sherds of Late/Latest Iron Age pottery.

B.2.5 Ditch/pit **252** in Trench 8 produced a single sherd from a Post-medieval Redware jar (0.007kg). No other pottery was recovered from the feature, however, two sherds from a Buckley-type Blackware (1700-1900) internally-glazed bowl, were recovered as unstratified material.

Discussion

B.2.6 Very likely to be domestic in origin, the paucity of material suggests the sherds of post-medieval pottery are the result of low levels of rubbish deposition, redistributed by ploughing, or by animal foraging and manuring. The post-medieval pottery is reworked and is not reliable dating evidence for the features it was recovered from.

Retention, dispersal or display

B.2.7 The assemblage is fragmentary, and is either intrusive in earlier features or, when found as single abraded sherds, considered unreliable dating and is not significant. If no further work is undertaken this statement acts as a full record and the pottery may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

B.3 Ceramic Building Material

By Ted Levermore

B.3.1 Archaeological evaluation work produced two fragments (10g) of heavily abraded Ceramic Building Material (CBM). These fragments were beyond identification and therefore not datable. Table 7 summarises the catalogue.

Trench	Context	Cut	Feature	Form	Date	Count	Weight (g)
7	207	206	Ditch	undiag	N/A	1	2
6	241	240	Ditch	undiag	N/A	1	8

Table 7: CBM Catalogue

Statement of Potential

B.3.2 This assemblage is uninformative and has no archaeological potential.

Recommendations for Further Work

B.3.3 The assemblage has been fully assessed and described. No further work is required.

Retention, Dispersal and Display

B.3.4 This assemblage is recommended for discard.

B.4 Non-Building Stone

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

B.4.1 A total of 0.752kg of unworked stone was recovered from fill 236 of enclosure ditch 235 in Trench 6. Simplified recording only has been undertaken, with material type, basic description and weight recorded in the text.

Assemblage

B.4.2 Trench 6, ditch **235** produced a sub-rectangular fragment of pale grey, slightly micaceous, fine-grained sandstone weighing 0.752kg. The fragment has been thoroughly fire-reddened. Although none of the faces show evidence of working, three edges are quite eroded, emphasising the bedding planes, indicating that the stone has been exposed to the elements for a considerable period of time. It is not closely datable in its current condition.

Discussion

B.4.3 The pottery recovered from the feature is dated to 50BC-AD50, however, the stone recovered is not closely datable. The sandstone may have been used as a hearth stone or a thatch weight. Fine-grained sandstones have also been used for architectural features in high-status buildings in the medieval period through to the modern era, and earlier material is often reused in later buildings.

Retention, dispersal or display

B.4.4 If no further work is undertaken this statement acts as a full record and the stone may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

B.5 Fired Clay

By Ted Levermore

Introduction

B.5.1 Archaeological works produced a small assemblage of fired clay (31 fragments, 180g) from trenches 1, 6, 7 and 10. The majority of this assemblage comprises amorphous fragments with no discernible features and a small minority had remnant surfaces. However, no diagnostic objects were identifiable. All fragments were made in a silty fabric with calcareous pellet inclusions; the fragments from Ditch 218 were sandier. The quantified data and fabric descriptions are presented on an Excel spreadsheet held with the site archive. A summary can be found in table 8.

Trench	Context	Cut	Feature	Frag.	Structural type	Count	Weight (g)
1	**222**	222	**Ditch**	a		2	2
6	**236**	235	**Ditch**	a		11	90
	241	240	**Ditch**	s	fs	6	26
7	**207**	206	**Ditch**	a	fs/rs	7	41
	260	253	**Ditch**	a		2	7
10	**217**	215	**Ditch**	s	fs	1	12
	219	218	**Ditch**	a		2	2
					Grand Total	**31**	**180**

Table 8: Summary Fired Clay catalogue

(a=amorphous, s=structural; fs=flattened surface, rs=rounded surface)

Statement of Potential

B.5.2 This assemblage is uninformative without any diagnostic objects. This assemblage has little to no archaeological potential.

Recommendations for Further Work.

B.5.3 The assemblage has been fully assessed and described. No further work is required.

Retention, Dispersal and Display

B.5.4 All fragments are recommended for discard.

B.6 Metalwork

By Denis Sami

Introduction

B.6.1 A total of 12 artefacts was recovered both from archaeological features and unstratified deposits (Table 9). The assemblage consists of a Late Roman 4th century AD copper-alloy (CuA) unidentified coin, 10 hand forged iron (Fe) nails and a lead (Pb) musket ball.

B.6.2 With the exception of coin SF 2, which is Roman, the remaining finds can be dated to the post medieval or modern period. Interestingly, the iron nails are of considerable size and possibly indicate the presence of a large timber-building in the area.

Statement of potential

B.6.3 The metalwork from Glebe Farm is of very limited importance.

Methods statement

B.6.4 In writing the assessment for the metalwork, Crummy (1988), Rogerson (1984), Manning (1989) have been used as references.

Retention, dispersal and display

B.6.5 With the sole exception of the Roman coin (SF 2), all the metalwork has been recorded in sufficient detail can be discarded, as they are of no relevance for the local archaeology.

SF	Context	Date	Description
2	281	Late Roman	An unidentified CuA coin dating to the 4th century AD. Diam: 15 mm; T: 1.3 mm; Wt: 1.5 g
3	99999	Postmed./modern	Three incomplete nails. Nail 1, Long tapering stem with rectangular cross-section (Manning type 1). L: 125 mm; W: 7.5 mm; T: 6 mm. Nail 2, Tapering stem with rectangular cross-section. L: 89 mm; W: 12 mm; T 10 mm. Nail 3, Tapering stem with square cross-section. L: 25 mm; W: 5 mm
4	99999	Postmed./modern	Five incomplete hand forged nails. Nail 1, possibly T shape nail with long tapering stem with rectangular cross-section (Manning type 3) L: 165; W: 10 mm; T: 5 mm. Nail 2, Tapering stem with square cross-section and domed circular head. L: 59 mm; W: 9 mm. Nail 3, truncated tapering stem with square cross-section. L: 63 mm; W: 8 mm. Nail 4, truncated tapering stem with square cross-section. L: 68 mm; W: 6 mm. Nail 5, long tapering truncated stem with square cross-section. L: 73 mm; W: 6 mm
5	278	Postmed./modern	Hand forged incomplete nail with tapering stem, square cross-section and sub-square domed head. L: 39; W: 4 mm
6	229	Postmed./modern	Incomplete truncate tapering stem with square cross-section. L: 52 mm; W: 7 mm
7	99999	Postmed./modern	Musket ball. Diam: 15 mm; Wt: 15.3 g.

Table 9: Metalwork Catalogue

B.7 Slag

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

B.7.1 A single fragment of slag, weighing 0.035kg, was collected by hand during the evaluation. The slag was weighed and rapidly recorded with basic description and weight recorded in the text.

Assemblage

B.7.2 The slag was recovered from fill 219 of enclosure ditch **218** in Trench 10. It consists of a single irregular piece of undiagnostic slag, weighing 0.035kg, externally rust-coloured, very dark grey to purplish-black internally, with many vesicles. Although predominantly non-metallic, one area of the lump exhibits moderately strong magnetism, and presumably contains a fragment of high iron content material.

Discussion

B.7.3 The slag may indicate iron smelting and ironworking on, or close to, the area excavated. Alternatively, the material may represent the disposal of waste, as only small quantities were recovered. The pottery recovered from ditch **218** is dated to 50BC-AD50 and may indicate that the slag is Iron Age.

Retention, dispersal or display

B.7.4 The slag assemblage is fragmentary and its significance is uncertain other than to possibly indicate Iron Age metal working. Should further work be undertaken further metal working deposits may be recovered. If no further work is undertaken this statement acts as a full record and the slag may be deselected prior to archive deposition and possibly used for educational purposes.

B.8 Clay Tobacco Pipe

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

B.8.1 During the evaluation, two fragments of white ball clay tobacco pipe, weighing 0.006kg, were recovered. Simplified recording only has been undertaken, with basic description and weight recorded in the text. Terminology used in this report is taken from Oswald's simplified general typology (Oswald 1975, 37–41), and Crummy and Hind (Crummy 1988, 47-66).

Assemblage

B.8.2 From fill 277 of enclosure ditch **258** in Trench 6, a short length of moderately abraded stem, weighing 0.003kg, was recovered. The stem is distinctly oval in section, 10 x 8mm and 34mm long, with an offset bore. The mould seams are trimmed but apparent. The furrow truncating ditch **256** in Trench 3, produced a similarly-sized fragment of moderately abraded, faintly fire-reddened, pipe stem, weighing 0.003kg, 31mm long and 10mm in diameter. Plain stems, such as these fragments, are not closely datable.

Discussion

B.8.3 The fragments of clay tobacco pipe recovered represent what are most likely casually discarded pipes. The pipe fragment does little, other than to indicate the consumption of tobacco on, or near, the site, from the introduction of tobacco smoking to the 19th century.

Retention, dispersal or display

B.8.4 The assemblage is fragmentary and is of little significance. If no further work is undertaken this statement acts as a full record and the clay tobacco pipe stem may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental Remains

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.1.1 Nine bulk samples were taken from features within the evaluated area at Glebe Farm, 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 1, 2, 3, 6, 7 and 8 from deposits that have been tentatively dated to the Iron Age and Roman periods.

Methodology

C.1.2 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 (approximately 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.1.3 The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 1. 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.1.4 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, ### = 26-100, #### = 100+ specimens

C.1.5 Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal and molluscs have been scored for abundance

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

Results

C.1.6 Preservation of plant remains is poor with only a single charred cereal grain preserved along with sparse charcoal. The charred grain was recovered from fill 268 of Roman ditch **248** in Trench 2. The specimen is poorly preserved but is recognisable as a wheat grain (*Triticum* sp.) that is likely to be spelt (*T. spelta*) or emmer (*T. dicoccum*), a hulled variety of wheat that was cultivated in the Roman period.

Sample No.	Context No.	Feature No.	Feature Type	Area/trench No.	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals
1	203	202	Post hole	7	5	2	0
2	205	204	Ditch	7	8+8	3	0
3	236	235	Ditch	6	6+8	30	0
4	262	253	Ditch	7	6+8	2	0
5	244	226	Ditch	1	5+6	1	0
6	268	248	Ditch	2	8+6	1	#
7	270	250	Ditch	8	8+8	5	0
8	275	256	Ditch	3	2	1	0
9	275	256	Ditch	3	6+8	1	0

Table 10: Environmental samples from ECB5174

Discussion

C.1.7 The recovery of a single charred grain and sparse charcoal cannot be considered significant and suggests that the potential for the preservation of plant remains at this site are low.

C.1.8 If further excavation is planned for this area, it is recommended that environmental sampling is carried out in accordance with Historic England guidelines (2011).

C.2 Animal Bone

By Hayley Foster PhD

Introduction

C.2.1 The animal bone from Glebe Farm, Sawtry represents faunal remains weighing 1.6kg in total. There were 32 identifiable fragments from hand-collection and 7 fragments from environmental samples recorded. Bone was collected from trenches 1-3 and 6-8. The species represented include cattle (Bos taurus), sheep/goat (Ovis/Capra), horse (Equus cabullus), dog (Canis familiaris) large mammal and medium mammal. Most of the faunal remains are from ditches. The faunal remains from environmental samples belong to large or medium mammals only

C.2.2 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.

Results of Analysis

C.2.3 Cattle and sheep/goat made up most of the identifiable species. There are 8 fragments categorised as large mammal, and 2 fragments assigned to medium mammal. There was no evidence of gnawing on remains, however there is one case of burning on a cattle mandible from trench 3 (ditch 256) which is partially singed. Butchery marks are present on the anterior side of a cattle first phalanx (264), three sharp cut marks are visible, likely from skinning.

C.2.4 The ageing data in the hand collected material was sparse with all long bones that could be assessed for epiphyseal fusion, identified as fused. One sheep/goat mandibular M3 could be identified as adult from dental wear. However, the faunal material from the environmental samples did show the presence of a foetal sheep/goat (248).

C.2.5 The dog mandible recovered was of a medium sized breed and the horse remains were from an adult animal.

C.2.6 The condition of the bone overall was moderate as the fragmentation was relatively high, as there was a mixture of old and new breaks.

C.2.7 The data does not allow for any solid interpretations to be made regarding husbandry practices. However, the species present are those that would be expected in Cambridgeshire during the Roman period. The small amount of ageing data does show the presence of new born sheep/goat and adult sheep/goat, which highlights the possibility of onsite breeding. The butchery evidence is an example of butchery waste from either the skinning of the foot to remove the hide or detaching of ligaments.

Cattle	Sheep/goat	Horse	Dog	Large Mammal	Medium Mammal	Total
12	6	3	1	8	2	32

Table 11: Total number of identifiable fragments (NISP) by species from hand collection

Cattle	Sheep/goat	Medium Mammal	Total
2	4	1	7

Table 12: Total number of identifiable fragments (NISP) by species from environmental samples.

Recommendations for Further Work

C.2.8 The faunal remains have provided evidence of settlement activity and suggests husbandry practices were taking place close by. However, the assemblage was small in size, therefore the potential for further investigation is somewhat limited unless further remains are recovered from the site.

Context	Species	Element	# of fragments
203	Sheep/goat	Loose Mandibular M12	1
207	Cattle	First Phalanx	1
207	Cattle	Third Phalanx	1
207	Cattle	Loose Mandibular M12	1
209	Horse	Loose Mandibular M12	1
209	Med Mammal	Unidentifiable long bone	1
212	Cattle	Tibia	1
219	Lrg Mammal	Unidentifiable long bone	1
220	Lrg Mammal	Rib	1
222	Horse	Astragalus	1
222	Sheep/goat	Loose Maxillary Tooth	1
222	Med Mammal	Rib	1
222	Sheep/goat	Loose Mandibular M12	1
222	Sheep/goat	Loose Maxillary Tooth	1
224	Cattle	Humerus	1
225	Cattle	Cranium	1
225	Lrg Mammal	Rib	1
236	Cattle	Tibia	1
236	Lrg Mammal	Rib	1
238	Horse	Pelvis	1
238	Cattle	Loose Maxillary Tooth	1
238	Dog	Mandible	1
239	Cattle	Loose Maxillary Tooth	1
239	Sheep/goat	Loose Mandibular M12	1
241	Sheep/goat	Loose Mandibular M3	1
260	Cattle	Loose Mandibular M12	1
260	Lrg Mammal	Radius	1
262	Cattle	Humerus	1
269	Lrg Mammal	Rib	2
275	Cattle	Mandible	1
282	Lrg Mammal	Unidentifiable long bone	1
SAMPLES			
205	Medium Mammal	Unidentifiable long bone	1
236	Sheep/Goat	Loose Maxillary Tooth	1
244	Cattle	Horn Core	1
268	Cattle	First Phalanx	1
268	Sheep/Goat	Loose Mandibular M12	1
268	Sheep/Goat	Loose Mandibular P3	1
268	Sheep/Goat	Metatarsal	1

Table 13: Total number of identifiable fragments (NISP) by species from environmental samples.

APPENDIX D BIBLIOGRAPHY

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APPENDIX E OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	Oxfordar3-299325
Project Name	Glebe Farm, Sawtry

Start of Fieldwork	10/10 /17	End of Fieldwork	20/10/17
Previous Work	x	Future Work	x

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	SWTGLF17	Planning App. No.	14/01659/OUT
HER Number	ECB5174	Related Numbers	

Prompt	NPPF
Development Type	Residental
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)		
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	0.035 km sq
National Grid Ref	TL 16260 83668

Address (including Postcode)

Glebe Farm
Gidding Road
Sawtry
Cambridge
PE28 5UJ

Project Originators

Organisation	O A East
Project Brief Originator	Andy Thomas

Project Design Originator	Stephen Macaulay
Project Manager	Stephen Macaulay
Project Supervisor	Steve Graham

Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	CCC Stores	ECB5174
Digital Archive	O A East	SWTGLF17
Paper Archive	CCC Stores	ECB5174

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	☒
		Survey	☒

Further Comments

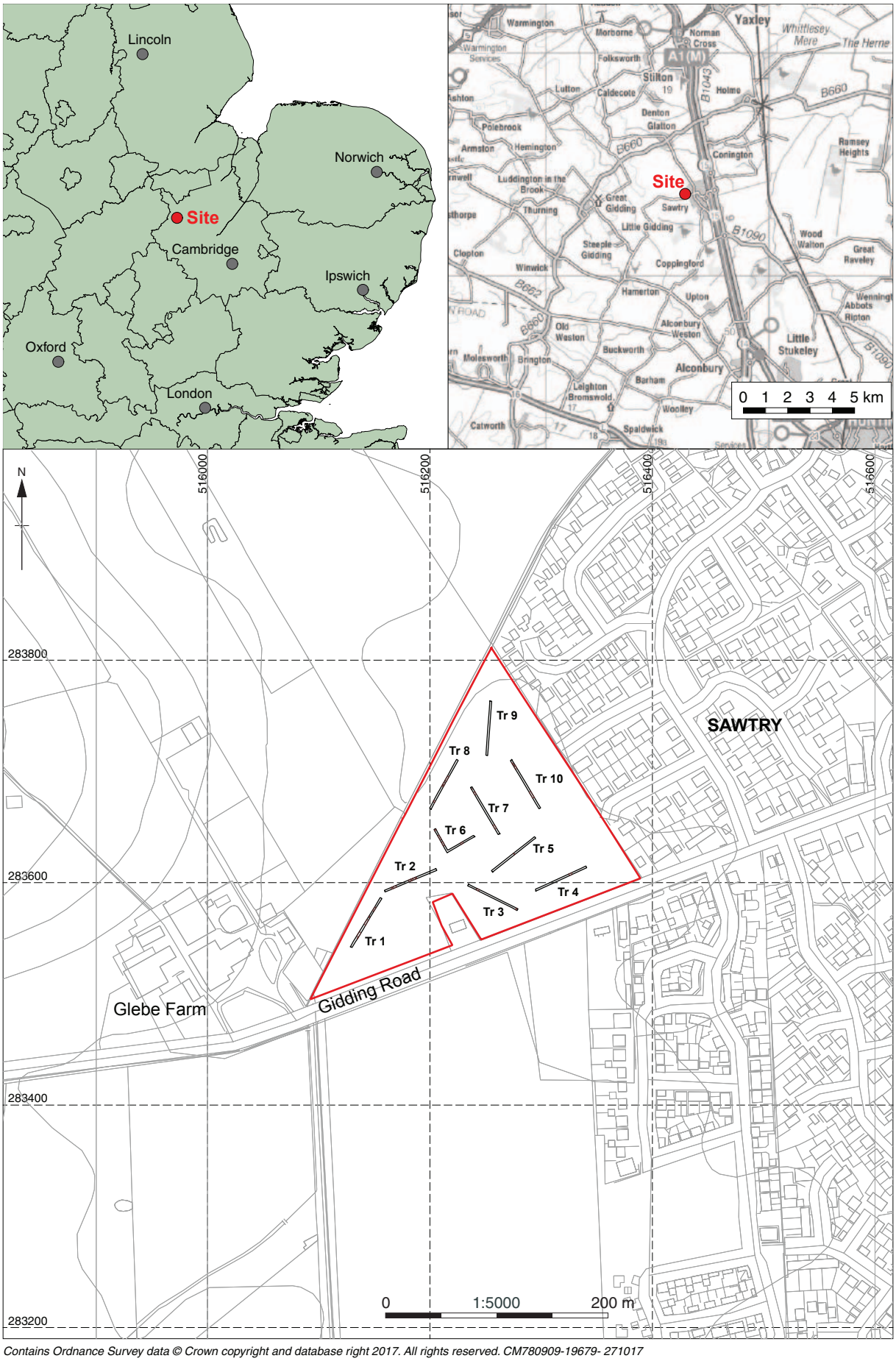

Figure 1: Site location map

Figure 2: Trench locations overlain on Geophysical survey results. Scale 1:1500

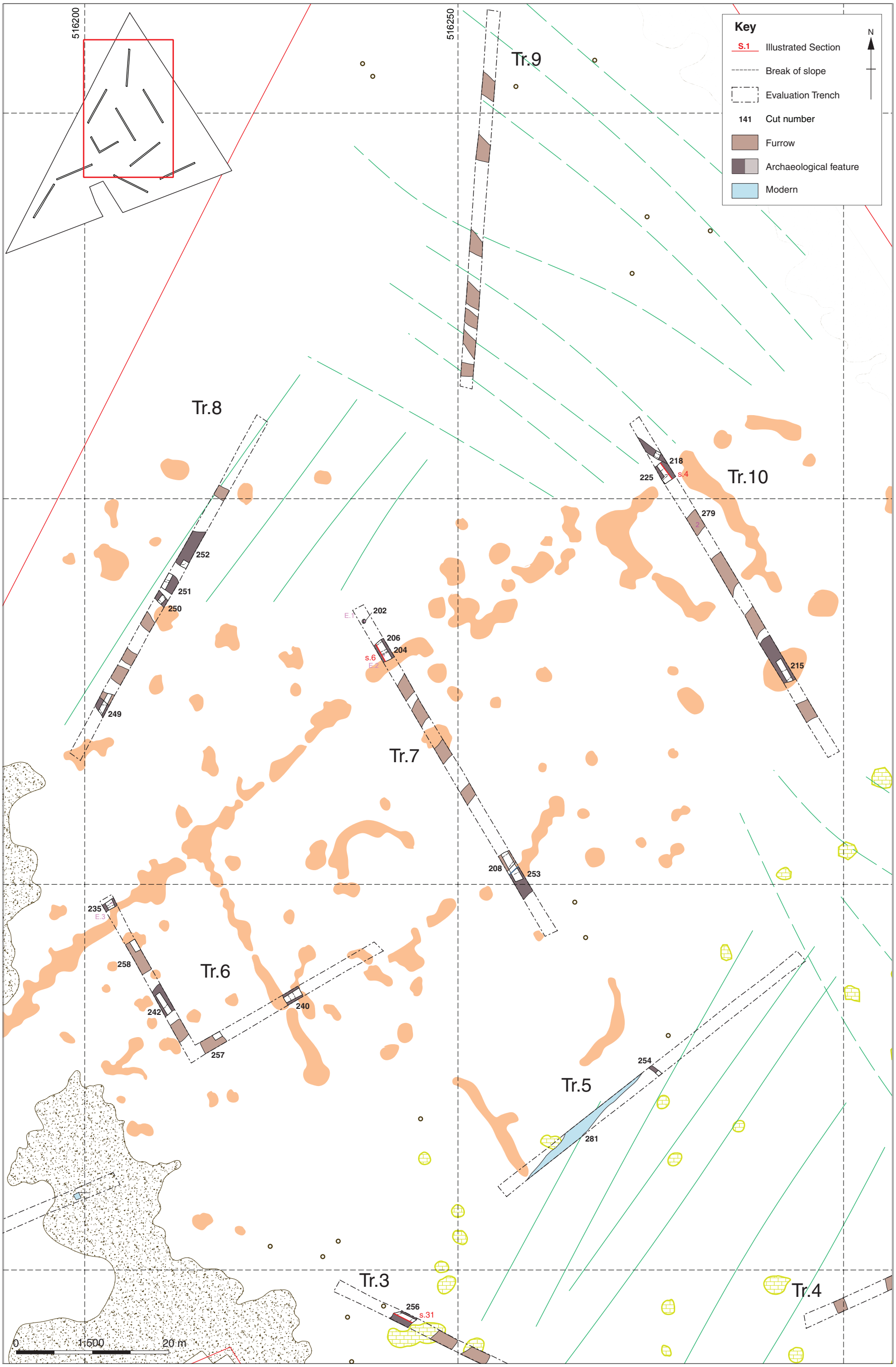

Figure 3: Detailed Plan of trenches

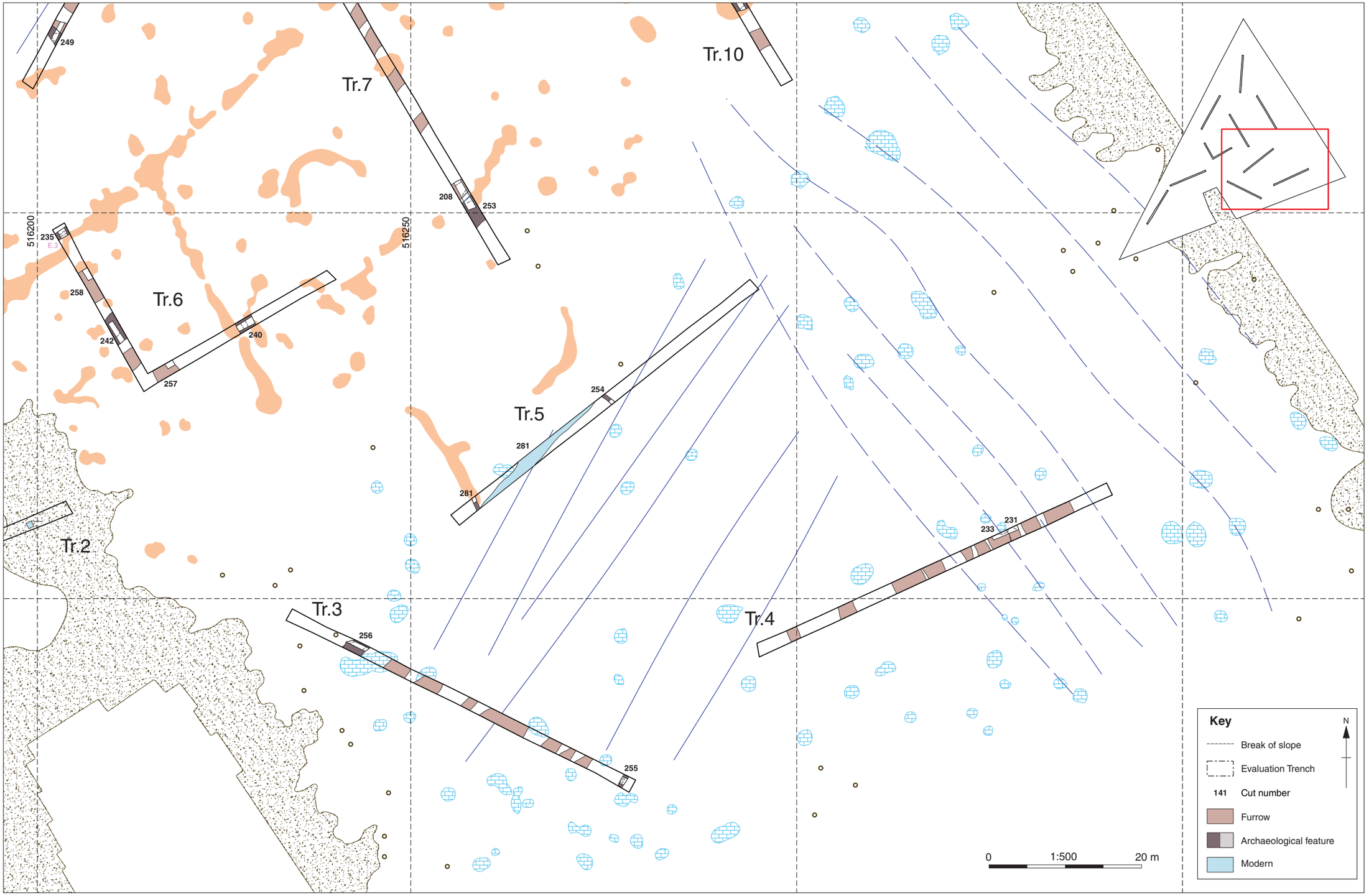

Figure 4: Detailed Plan of trenches. Scale 1:500

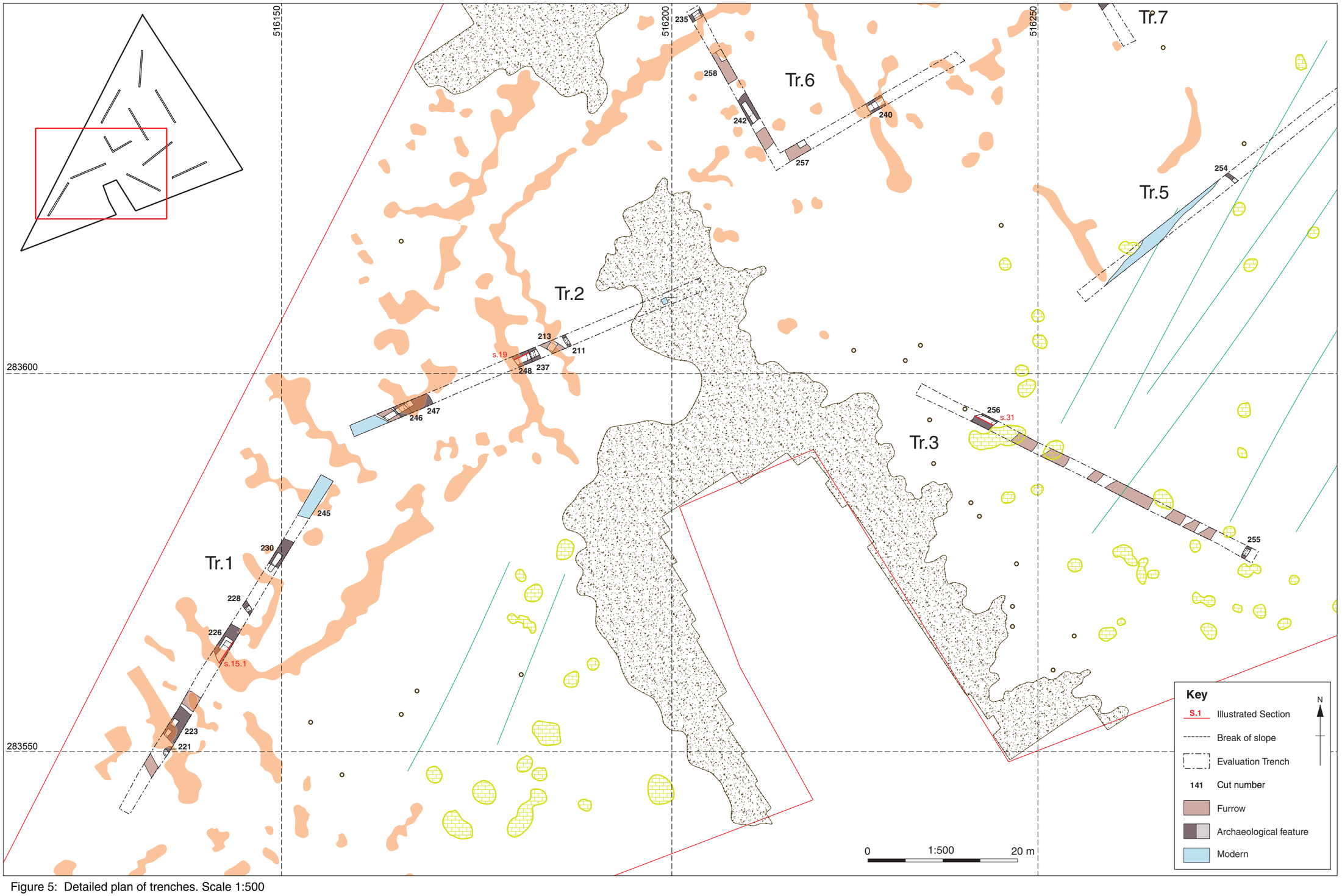

Figure 5: Detailed plan of trenches. Scale 1:500

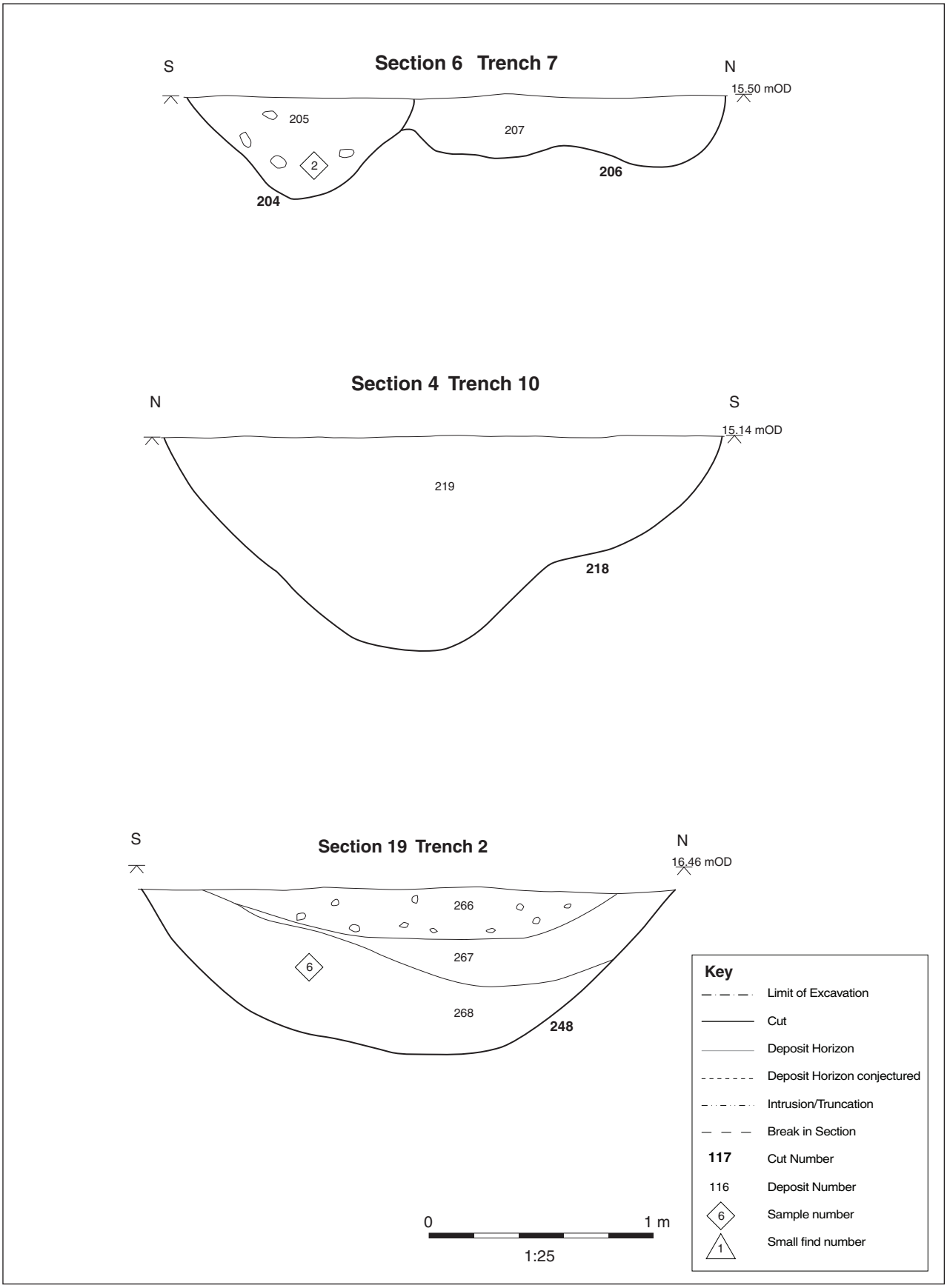

Figure 6: Selected sections. Scale 1:25

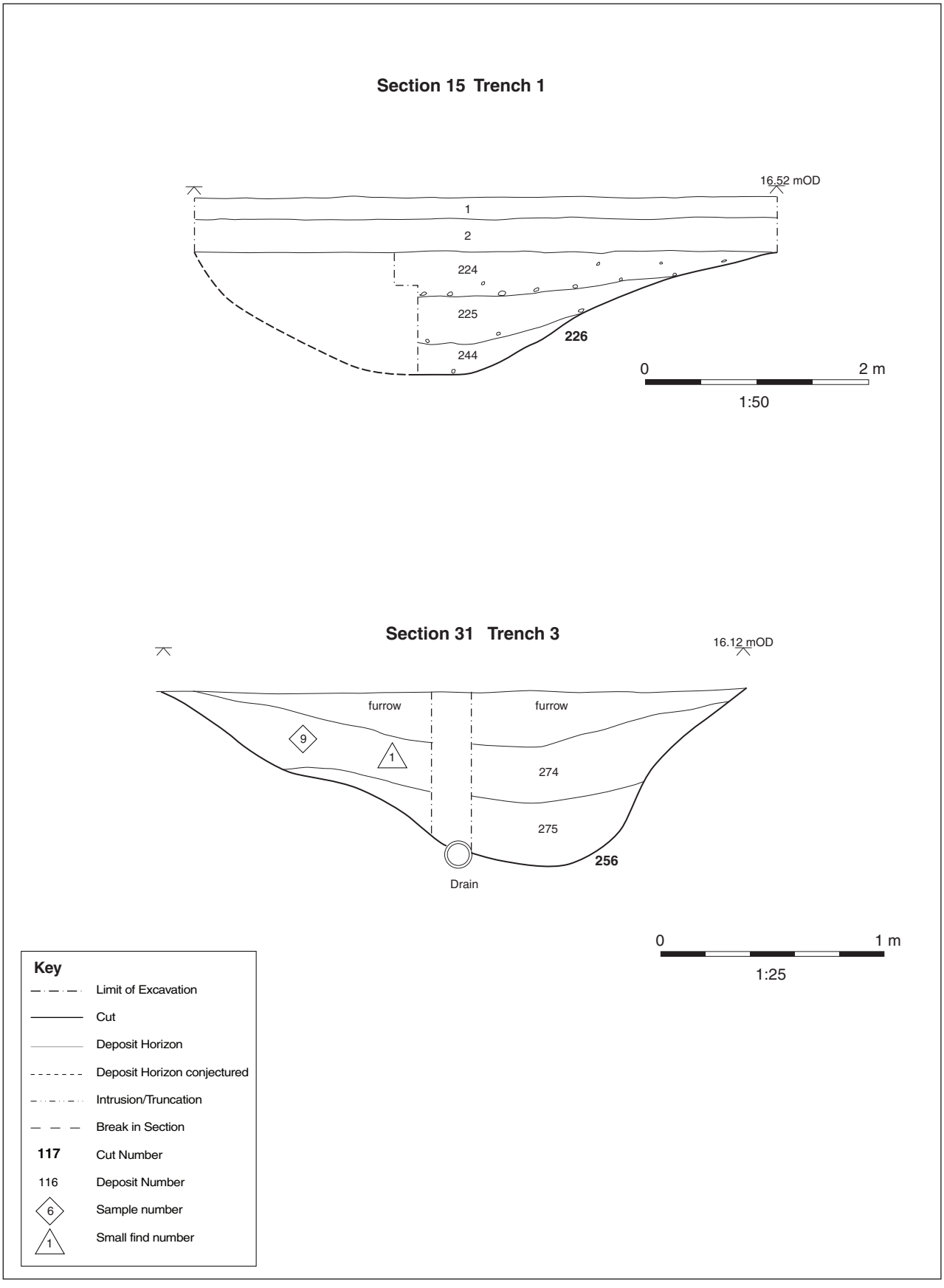

Figure 7: Sections. Scale 1:25 and 1:50

Figure 8: Roman cheese press (SF1) retrieved from ditch 256

Plate 1: Ditch 202 from the west, Trench 1

Plate 2: Ditch 248 from the south, Trench 2

Plate 3: Ditch ditch 256 from the north east, Trench 3

Plate 4: Pit 202 from the east, Trench 7

Plate 5: Ditch 204 and 205 from the east, Trench 7

Plate 6: Ditch 250 from the east, Trench 8

Plate 7: Ditch 218 from the west, Trench 10

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