



Wigmore Farm, Silver Street, Godmanchester

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Wigmore Farm, Silver Street, Godmanchester

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Contents

Summary	vii
Acknowledgements	viii
1 INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Scope of work.....	1
1.2 Location, topography and geology.....	1
1.3 Archaeological and historical background.....	1
2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY	4
2.1 Aims	4
2.2 Methodology.....	4
3 RESULTS	6
3.1 Introduction and presentation of results	6
3.2 General soils and ground conditions.....	6
3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits.....	6
3.4 Trench 1	6
3.5 Trench 2	7
3.6 Trench 3	8
3.7 Trenches 4, 5 and 6	8
3.8 Finds summary	8
4 DISCUSSION	9
4.1 Reliability of field investigation	9
4.2 Evaluation objectives and results.....	9
4.3 Interpretation.....	9
4.4 Significance	9
APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY.....	11
APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS.....	14

B.1	Ironwork.....	14
B.2	Pottery	14
B.3	Clay Tobacco Pipe.....	17
B.4	Ceramic Building Material and Fired Clay	17
APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS.....		20
C.1	Mollusca.....	20
C.2	Faunal Remains	20
APPENDIX D BIBLIOGRAPHY		21
APPENDIX E OASIS REPORT FORM.....		23

List of Figures

Fig.1	Site location map
Fig.2	Trench Plan
Fig.3	Selected Sections

List of Plates

Plate 1	Quarry Pit 4 , Trench 1, looking north
Plate 2	Quarry Pit 15 , Trench 1, looking north
Plate 3	Trench 2, looking south
Plate 4	Trench 3, looking north
Plate 5	General site view, Trenches 1, 2 & 3, looking north-west

Summary

Between the 25th and 30th October 2017 OA East carried out a trial trench evaluation at Wigmore Farm, Silver Street, Godmanchester, ahead of the proposed construction of 13 dwellings.

The development area was on the south-western edge of the historic town of Godmanchester.

The evaluation found an area of post-medieval gravel extraction pits in the western half of the site, and the remains of demolished modern farm buildings in the former farmyard. Single pits of potential Roman and medieval date were also found.

Small quantities of post-medieval pottery, ceramic building material and clay tobacco pipe were recovered. Small amounts of residual Late Iron Age and Roman pottery were also recovered.

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The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Tom Phillips. The fieldwork was directed by Nicholas Cox, who was supported by Andrew Radford and Lexi Dawson. Survey and digitizing was carried out by Gareth Rees. Thanks is also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Natasha Dodwell, and prepared the archive under the management of Katherine Hamilton.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by Bewick Homes to undertake a trial trench evaluation at the site of Wigmore Farm, Silver Street, Godmanchester.
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a condition of Planning Permission (planning ref. 16/01477/FUL). A brief was set by Gemma Stewart detailing the CCC's requirements for work necessary to discharge the planning condition. A written scheme of investigation setting out how these requirements would be met was produced by OA. The following report details how OA implemented the specified requirements.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The site lies on the south-western edge of the historic town of Godmanchester, in Cambridgeshire. The Roman town was located 450m to the north and Roman Ermine Street 500m to the east. Huntingdon is located on the opposite side of the River Great Ouse, approximately 2km to the north.
- 1.2.2 The area of proposed development is roughly triangular in shape and covers 0.67 hectares; the western side is open farmland while the eastern half contained three barns until recently. Only one of the barns, in the south-east corner, now remains. The site is bounded by Silver Street to the west and by housing to the east and south.
- 1.2.3 The site sits at approximately 10.5m OD and has bedrock geology of Oxford Clay formation overlain by First and Second River Terrace deposits of sand and gravel (accessed 3rd October 2017:

<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html>).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 Due to the high number of archaeological sites and findspots near to the subject site, particularly in the Roman town to the north, only the most relevant pieces of fieldwork and findspots are summarised for the WSI, based on information provided by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) and supplemented by evidence from secondary sources. This summary is repeated below.

Overview

- 1.3.2 There is plentiful evidence of prehistoric activity in the Godmanchester area. As well as evidence for Neolithic and Bronze Age activity close to the site (see sites summarised below), excavations at Rectory Farm, 1km east of Godmanchester, identified a Neolithic and Bronze Age complex with a cursus enclosure, ring ditches and pits (McAvoy 2000).
- 1.3.3 Extensive published material is available regarding the development of the Roman town and the long history of archaeological work that has taken place there (e.g. Green 1977). The importance of Godmanchester during the Roman period was primarily geographical as it controlled the crossing of the river Great Ouse. Roman forces

moving north along the line of Ermine Street had established a legionary fort at Godmanchester within a year of the invasion of AD 43. The fort was abandoned within a few years as the frontier moved north, but an associated civilian settlement or vicus survived. During the Flavian period (AD 69-96) the vicus expanded and flourished with occupation concentrated along Ermine Street (London Road; CHER CB15034) and the cross roads in the town centre. By the Hadrianic period (AD 117-38) a mansio and baths were designed and built in the centre of the town.

Fieldwork within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development

Wigmore Farm (MCB16893, ECB1935, ECB2700)

- 1.3.4 Evaluation and excavation in advance of housing directly south of the subject site, also on Wigmore Farm, revealed evidence of Iron Age land use. Features included an enclosure ditch, ditches, pits, gullies and postholes, although no structures were clearly identifiable (MCB16893). The excavation area (ECB2700) was located c. 50m to the south.

Roman burials, Porch Farm (CHER 10376, ECB1280)

- 1.3.5 Following the discovery of human bones during development south of London Street, 450m to the north-east of the subject site, emergency excavations revealed 13 Roman burials. Many other features were noted in house-foundations but were not examined further. The indications are, therefore, that at different times during the Roman period this site, lying as it did on a major road leading to the town, was used both for settlement and as a cemetery.

Sweetings Road (CB15618, ECB1278)

- 1.3.6 An evaluation carried out in advance of housing directly to the east revealed three further Roman burials, which may be associated with the Porch Farm cemetery to the north-east. In addition, most of the site had been truncated by post-medieval gravel quarrying.

Sweetings Road (CB15290, ECB291)

- 1.3.7 Evaluation to the south-east of the proposed development area revealed a small concentration of worked flint and badly abraded, possibly prehistoric, pottery, as well as extensive evidence of medieval ridge and furrow. The northern end of the site was truncated by post-medieval gravel pitting.

Roman Way (CB15714, ECB2086)

- 1.3.8 Multi-period remains were found during evaluation and subsequent excavation on the opposite side of London Road at Roman Way, 700m to the east. The earliest features were of Neolithic date, comprising two pits and a spread of worked flints and pottery. A number of ditches containing a small amount of Bronze Age pottery were identified, as well as three cremations thought to be of a similar date.

London Road (CHER 11421C, ECB493)

- 1.3.9 Excavations directly west of London Road, 400m east of the current site, revealed pits and ditches dating to the Neolithic and Bronze Age.

Findspots

- 1.3.10 There are a number of findspots to the west and south of the site, which suggest Roman activity some distance from the town. These include a Roman coin of Carausius (AD 286 - 294) and three others found 125m to the south-west (CHER 02511), finds of Roman coins at Offord Road 800m to the west (CHER 02510) and Roman coins and pottery at West Farm, between 300 - 800m to the south-west (CHER 02512 - 16).

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The project aims and objectives were as follows:

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

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 A total of 205 linear metres of trenching was opened across the site in six trenches (Fig.2).
- 2.2.2 Service plans were checked before work commenced on site. The footprint of all trenches was scanned with a CAT and Genny by a competent operator before excavation commenced.
- 2.2.3 All machine excavation took place under the supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.
- 2.2.4 Trial trenches were excavated by a mechanical excavator to the depth of geological horizons, or to the upper interface of archaeological features or deposits, whichever is encountered first. A toothless ditching bucket with bucket width of 1.6m was used to excavate the trenches. Overburden was excavated in spits not greater than 0.1m thick.
- 2.2.5 Spoil was stored alongside trenches. Topsoil, subsoil, and archaeological deposits were kept separate during excavation, to allow for sequential backfilling of excavations.
- 2.2.6 Bucket samples of 90 litres of excavated soil were taken from the end of each trench, in order to characterise artefactual remains in the topsoil and other soil horizons above the archaeological level. These were sieved on site for the purposes of finds retrieval. Only fragments of modern CBM (Ceramic Building Material) were recovered; these were discarded on site.
- 2.2.7 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. Several small fragments of scrap metal were recovered from the topsoil, none of which were retained.

- 2.2.8 The top of the first archaeological deposit was cleared by machine, then cleaned off by hand. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by trowel and hoe as necessary, in order to clarify located features and deposits.
- 2.2.9 All features were investigated and recorded to provide an accurate evaluation of archaeological potential, whilst at the same time minimising disturbance to archaeological structures, features, and deposits. All relationships between features or deposits were investigated and recorded. Apparently natural features (such as tree throws) were sampled to establish their character.
- 2.2.10 All excavation of archaeological deposits was done by hand.
- 2.2.11 Investigation slots through all linear features were least 1m in width. Discrete features were half-sectioned.
- 2.2.12 Deep features were evaluated with a hand auger, to assess their depth and structure.
- 2.2.13 Records comprise survey, drawn, written, and photographic data.
- 2.2.14 All site survey was done using a survey-grade differential GPS (Leica CS10/GS08 or Leica 1200) fitted with "smartnet" technology with an accuracy of 5mm horizontal and 10mm vertical.
- 2.2.15 The site grid is accurately tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid and located on the 1:2500 map of the area (digital mapping 1:2500 (rural)). Elevations are levelled to the Ordnance Datum.
- 2.2.16 A register of all trenches, features, photographs, and survey levels was kept.
- 2.2.17 All features, layers and deposits were issued with unique context numbers. Each feature was individually documented on context sheets, and hand-drawn in section and plan. Written descriptions were recorded on pro-forma sheets comprising factual data and interpretative elements.
- 2.2.18 Sections of features or short lengths of trenches were hand drawn at either 1:10 or 1:20. All section levels are tied in to Ordnance Datum.
- 2.2.19 All site drawings include the following information: site name, site code, scale, plan or section number, relevant context or feature numbers, orientation, date and the name or initials of the archaeologist who prepared the drawing.
- 2.2.20 The photographic record comprises high resolution digital photographs.
- 2.2.21 Photographs include both general site shots and photographs of specific features. Every feature was photographed at least once. Photographs include a scale, north arrow, site code, and feature number (where relevant), unless they are to be used in publications.
- 2.2.22 The photograph register records these details, and photograph numbers are listed on corresponding context sheets.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

- 3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below, and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendix A. Finds data and spot dates are tabulated in Appendix B.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

- 3.2.1 The soil sequence between all trenches was fairly uniform. The natural geology of sandy gravels was overlain by a sandy silt subsoil, which in turn was overlain by topsoil. The subsoil varied considerably in depth between the south and the north, resulting in a ridge running in an arc across the north of the site.
- 3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the trenches remained dry throughout. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

- 3.3.1 Archaeological features were present in Trenches 1, 2 and 3. Trenches 4, 5 and 6 contained only modern features relating to the demolished barns (Fig.2).

3.4 Trench 1

- 3.4.1 Trench 1 was aligned east to west along the southern edge of the site starting in the south-west corner.
- 3.4.2 At the western end there was a large area of quarrying extending 15m in from the end of the trench. A 1m test pit was excavated into quarry pit **30**. This was 0.27m deep with an irregular base and was filled by a mid grey brown sandy silt (31).
- 3.4.3 At the eastern extent of this quarrying was quarry pit **4** which was at least 2m wide and 0.35m deep with gradually sloping sides and a flat base (Fig.3 Section 1). It was filled by a mid brown sandy silt (5). No direct relationship between these two pits was visible in plan. No finds were recovered.
- 3.4.4 Further east and extending out of the southern edge was a shallow pit (**26**), 2.1m wide and 0.25m deep. This had a U-shaped profile and was filled by a mid grey brown sandy silt (27). This contained one sherd (2g) of post-medieval pottery, 13g of CBM and a fragment of clay pipe. This pit was cut on its western edge by a very shallow circular pit (**28**) which extended out of both sides of the trench. This was 6.6m wide and 0.15m deep, with shallow sides and a concave base. It was filled by a mid grey brown sandy silt (29) containing CBM fragments and clinker flecks.
- 3.4.5 East of these features were two shallow pits extending beyond each edge of the trench. Pit **22** extended from the northern edge and was 0.9m wide and 0.06m deep. Its fill was a mid grey brown sandy silt (23), which contained one sherd (5g) of post-medieval pottery. Pit **24** extended beyond the southern baulk and was 0.75m wide and

- 0.38m deep. It was filled by a mid grey brown sandy silt (25), which contained a single sherd (12g) of A.D. 2nd to 4th century pottery.
- 3.4.6 A gully (**19**) aligned north-west to south-east ran to the east of pits **22** and **24**. This was 0.8m wide and 0.34m deep with an offset U-shaped profile. It was filled by a mid grey brown sandy silt (20) 0.26m thick, that contained one sherd (3g) of post-medieval pottery. This was overlain along the eastern side by a dump of redeposited natural material (21).
- 3.4.7 A further irregular quarry pit (**15**) was also aligned roughly north-west to south-east, extending out of both sides of the trench. This was 2.55m wide at its widest point, 0.64m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base (Fig.3 Section 6, Plate 2). It was filled by a dark grey brown sandy silt (16), 0.42m thick, containing one sherd (13g) of post-medieval pottery and a residual sherd (7g) of Late Iron Age pottery. This was overlain by a large dump of redeposited natural (18), 0.56m thick on the eastern side. The final fill of a mid grey brown sandy silt (17), was 0.3m thick, and contained three sherds (9g) of post-medieval pottery, 39g of CBM, 5g of oyster shell, and one fragment of clay pipe.
- 3.4.8 At the eastern end of the trench were a shallow gully (**6**), 0.16m deep and filled by a mid yellow brown sandy silt (7).
- 3.4.9 Alongside this a final large quarry pit (**8**) extended for 6.64m out of the eastern end of the trench. This was 0.25m deep with steep sides and a flat base. The pit was filled by a mid grey brown sandy silt (9).
- 3.4.10 The intersection of these two features was truncated by two modern brick drains aligned north-west to south-east and north-east to south-west which obscured their relationship.

3.5 Trench 2

- 3.5.1 The trench was in the north-west of the development area, at right angles to Trench 1. At both ends of the trench were large areas of post-medieval quarrying (Plate 3).
- 3.5.2 At the southern end were several intercutting quarry pits. Pit **12** extended only 0.35m in from the western edge and was vertically sided and 0.82m in depth. It was filled by a dark brown sandy silt (13) 0.42m thick, which contained two fragments of clay pipe. This was overlain by a mid yellow brown sandy silt (14), 0.4m thick.
- 3.5.3 Immediately to the south of pit **12** was quarry pit **10**. This was 5m wide and 0.45m deep with steep sides and a flat base. The pit was filled by a dark grey brown sandy silt (11), which contained a single sherd (41g) of post-medieval pottery and 16g of CBM.
- 3.5.4 At the northern end quarry pit **32** extended 1.2m in from the western edge, cutting earlier quarry pits. It had slightly undercutting sides and was 1.03m deep (Fig.3 Section 12). It was filled by a dark grey brown sandy silt (33), containing 108g of animal bone, 105g of CBM and some clinker.
- 3.5.5 The trench was situated over a slight rise in the natural level but with a significant variation in subsoil depth across the trench. This was 0.4m deep at either end increasing to 0.6m in the middle of the trench.

3.6 Trench 3

- 3.6.1 The trench was aligned north-west to south-east to the east of Trench 2. It contained archaeological features in its southern half only (Fig.2, Plate 4).
- 3.6.2 At the southern end a very shallow linear gully (**34**) extended 5m into the trench. This was 0.6m wide and 0.09m deep. It was filled by a mid grey brown sandy silt (35).
- 3.6.3 The gully ran alongside a quarry pit (**36**), which mostly lay outside the eastern baulk. The pit extended the same distance as the gully from the southern end and was sub-rectangular in shape with steep sides and a flat base. Only 0.4m width was inside the trench and the pit was 0.25m deep. It was filled by a mid brown grey silty sand (37) which contained tiny non-diagnostic fragments of CBM.
- 3.6.4 Mid way along the trench was a further sub-rectangular quarry pit (**38**) this extended 1.15m in from the western baulk and was 6.83m long. The pit had steep sides and a very irregular base with a maximum depth of 0.54m (Fig.3 Section 15). It was filled by a dark brown sandy silt (39) which contained two sherds (14g) of post-medieval pottery, a residual sherd (6g) of A.D. 1st to 4th century pottery, a fragment of clay pipe, 3g of CBM, and an iron nail.
- 3.6.5 Just to the north of pit **38** was a further sub-circular pit (**40**) extending in 0.64m from the western edge and 2.73m long. This had steep sides and a concave base, 0.24m deep, and was filled by a dark brown sandy silt (41). This produced a single sherd (16g) of medieval pottery.
- 3.6.6 The subsoil in this trench was overlain by a layer of modern disturbance with a minimal layer of topsoil above it.

3.7 Trenches 4, 5 and 6

- 3.7.1 These three trenches contained only modern features relating to the barns located in the former farmyard. Trenches 5 and 6 were overlain by the concrete surface of the farmyard.
- 3.7.2 At the northern end of Trench 4 was a brick lined modern soakaway.
- 3.7.3 Trench 5 contained concrete foundations from one of the demolished barns and a modern pit cut from just below the concrete surface at its northern end.
- 3.7.4 Trench 6 contained only modern wooden posts also extending to the base of the concrete layer.

3.8 Finds summary

- 3.8.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered from the site, including 103g of post-medieval pottery, 18g of Roman pottery and 7g of Late Iron Age pottery, 176g of post-medieval CBM, 16g of clay pipe and an iron nail.
- 3.8.2 A total of 108g of animal bone and 5g of shell was also recovered.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 4.1.1 The features were easy to see against the natural, although intercutting quarry pits were difficult to distinguish from each other.
- 4.1.2 Conditions on site were good throughout and had no effect on the identification of the features.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

- 4.2.1 The evaluation identified the presence of archaeological features on the site, along with a considerable variation in overburden depth between the south and north of the site. The majority of features were of uniformly similar date and purpose. The features were well preserved with a minimal amount of modern disturbance in just one trench.

4.3 Interpretation

- 4.3.1 The only archaeological features identified in evaluation were gravel extraction pits and small gullies all of post-medieval date, apart from one potential Roman pit or gully terminus (**24**) and one medieval pit (**40**). These were located in the western three trenches. Two residual sherds of Late Iron Age and Roman pottery were recovered from the post-medieval quarry pits.
- 4.3.2 Minimal residual evidence of earlier activity was found within the quarry pits, and pit or ditch terminus **24** produced only Roman pottery of the A.D. 2nd to 4th century date. This feature may represent part of field systems identified to the south (Cope-Faulkner 2009).
- 4.3.3 The area of the quarrying includes a significant variation in level, with a depression in the central south rising up to the north, east and west (Plate 5), before dropping off again towards Silver Street. This rise is a result of a variation in subsoil depth and doesn't appear to be the result of any obvious up cast from the quarrying.
- 4.3.4 Two previous evaluations along Sweetings Road to the east and south-east (Macauley 1994, Oakey 1995) found extensive evidence of post-medieval gravel quarrying to the east of the site, with some undisturbed earlier features and residual finds of earlier periods also being recovered from the quarry pits. The evaluation and excavation to the south, historically also part of Wigmore Farm (Cope-Faulkner 2009) found nine post-medieval quarry pits in amongst Iron Age field systems.
- 4.3.5 The quarrying found on the site appears to be part of a widespread area of quarrying on the south-western edge of Godmanchester during the post-medieval period.
- 4.3.6 Some of the shallower features (Pits **22**, **28**, gully **34**) may represent rutting from the ancillary activities of the extraction process. Gully **34** for example being very shallow and running alongside and parallel to one of the quarry pits (**36**).

4.4 Significance

- 4.4.1 The site produced evidence for post-medieval and modern activities, primarily gravel or sand extraction in the western half of the proposed development area.

- 4.4.2 Only minimal evidence for prehistoric or Roman activities was found on the site, mostly residual within the post-medieval features.

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a series of post-medieval quarry pits. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels.					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	1.60
					Avg. depth (m)	0.81
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.54	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4	Cut	6.57	0.35	Quarry Pit	-	Post-med
5	Fill	-	0.35	Quarry Pit Fill	-	Post-med
6	Cut	0.64	0.25	Gully	-	Post-med
7	Fill	-	0.25	Gully Fill	Pottery	Post-med
8	Cut	6.64	0.25	Quarry Pit	-	Post-med
9	Fill	-	0.25	Quarry Pit Fill	CBM	Post-med
15	Cut	2.55	0.64	Quarry Pit	-	Post-med
16	Fill	-	0.42	Quarry Pit Fill	Pottery	Post-med
17	Fill	-	0.30	Quarry Pit Fill	Pottery	Post-med
18	Fill	-	0.56	Quarry Pit Fill	-	Post-med
19	Cut	0.80	0.34	Quarry Pit	-	Post-med
20	Fill	-	0.26	Quarry Pit Fill	Pottery	Post-med
21	Fill	-	0.32	Quarry Pit Fill	-	Post-med
22	Cut	0.90	0.06	Quarry Pit	-	Post-med
23	Fill	-	0.06	Quarry Pit Fill	-	Post-med
24	Cut	0.75	0.38	Quarry Pit	-	Roman
25	Fill	-	0.38	Quarry Pit Fill	Pottery	Roman
26	Cut	2.10	0.25	Quarry Pit	-	Post-med
27	Fill	-	0.25	Quarry Pit Fill	CBM, Clay pipe	Post-med
28	Cut	6.59	0.15	Quarry Pit	-	Post-med
29	Fill	-	0.15	Quarry Pit Fill	-	Post-med
30	Cut	-	0.27	Quarry Pit	-	Post-med
31	Fill	-	0.27	Quarry Pit Fill	CBM	Post-med

Trench 2						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained a series of post-medieval quarry pits. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels.					Length (m)	40
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.69
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.54	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
10	Cut	5.00	0.45	Quarry Pit	-	Post-med

11	Fill	-	0.45	Quarry Pit Fill	Clay pipe, CBM	Post-med
12	Cut	0.35	0.82	Quarry Pit	-	Post-med
13	Fill	-	0.42	Quarry Pit Fill	Clay pipe	Post-med
14	Fill	-	0.40	Quarry Pit Fill	-	Post-med
32	Cut	1.20	1.03	Quarry Pit	-	Post-med
33	Fill	-	1.03	Quarry Pit Fill	CBM, A. Bone	Post-med

Trench 3

General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench contained a series of post-medieval quarry pits. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels.					Length (m)	40
					Width (m)	1.60
					Avg. depth (m)	0.80
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.54	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
34	Cut	0.60	0.09	Gully	-	Unknown
35	Fill	-	0.09	Gully Fill	-	Unknown
36	Cut	5.07	0.25	Quarry Pit	-	Post-med
37	Fill	-	0.25	Quarry Pit Fill	CBM	Post-med
38	Cut	6.83	0.54	Quarry Pit	-	Post-med
39	Fill	-	0.54	Quarry Pit Fill	CBM, Pottery, Nail	Post-med
40	Cut	2.73	0.24	Quarry Pit	-	Medieval
41	Fill	-	0.24	Quarry Pit Fill	Pottery	Medieval

Trench 4

General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench was devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels.					Length (m)	25
					Width (m)	1.60
					Avg. depth (m)	0.70
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.54	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 5

General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench was devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels.					Length (m)	25
					Width (m)	1.60
					Avg. depth (m)	0.85
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.54	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 6						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Trench contained a series of post-medieval quarry pits. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravels.					Length (m)	25
					Width (m)	1.60
					Avg. depth (m)	0.70
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.54	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Ironwork

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

- B.1.1 The evaluation produced a single piece of ironwork, which can be described as a nail, from pit **38** in Trench 3. The bulk of the pottery recovered alongside the ironwork is post-medieval, however, a single sherd of Roman sandy greyware was also found, therefore the ironwork cannot be presumed to be post-Roman. Unless an artefact closely matches the description of Roman nails given by Manning (1985 133-137) the nail will be described in more general terms. The functional category used is defined by Crummy in 1983 and 1988: Category 11 fastenings and fittings.

Assemblage

- B.1.2 The nail is moderately corroded and near-complete, having suffered some level of bending, probably indicating use. The corroded fragment appears to be from a hand-forged nail, with a tapering square-sectioned shank and a slightly roughly rectangular head, the head may have been damaged either through use or due to post-depositional corrosion. Hand-forged nails are a long-lived form and dating is problematic.

Catalogue

Category 11 fastenings and fittings: A single near-complete, moderately corroded, hand forged Fe nail. Square-sectioned tapering shank 84mm long, curved presumably from use, point missing, tapering from 8-4mm thick, head roughly rectangular and slightly domed 12 x 14mm. Possibly Manning Type 1. Dating uncertain Roman or post-medieval. Pit 38, (39)

B.2 Pottery

By Carole Fletcher with Prehistoric Pottery identified by Matt Brudenell and Roman Pottery by William Wadeson.

Introduction and Methodology

- B.2.1 Archaeological works produced a small assemblage of predominantly post-medieval pottery, with a one Late Iron Age, two Roman and one medieval sherds. Many features only produced single sherds of pottery. In total 14 sherds, weighing 0.1.28kg, were recovered from pits in Trenches 1, 2 and 3, with the bulk of the material coming from Trench 1. All the sherds are moderately abraded to abraded and the average sherd weight is low at approximately 0.009kg.
- 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 only 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 Trench 1, pit **15** produced a single residual sherd of Late Iron Age pottery, alongside a sherd from a Post-medieval Redware bowl (1550-1800). A second fill also produced Post-medieval Redware sherds, alongside a fragment from a Post-Medieval Black-glazed ware vessel (1600-1700). Pits **19**, and **22** and **26** all produced single sherds of Post-medieval Redware.
- B.2.4 Pit **34**, produced one of two sherds of Roman pottery recovered from the site, a sherd of shell tempered ware dating to A.D. 2nd-4th century.
- B.2.5 A single feature in Trench 2, pit **10**, produced an abraded rim sherd from a Post-medieval Redware bowl.
- B.2.6 From Trench 3, pit **39** produced three abraded sherds of pottery: two are small body and rim sherds respectively, from different Post-medieval Redware vessels. The final fragment is an abraded sherd of Roman sandy greyware A.D. 1st-4th century. Finally, pit **40** produced a highly abraded rim sherd from a medieval coarseware vessel.

Discussion

- B.2.7 The sherds of Late Iron Age and Roman pottery are residual alongside the later pottery. The Late Iron Age sherd indicates activity in the vicinity of the area evaluated, and earlier work at Wigmore Farm revealed Iron Age deposits (ECB2700). The presence of Roman pottery is unsurprising, since Godmanchester was an important Roman settlement, however, it would appear that levels of Roman activity were low around the area being evaluated.
- B.2.8 The medieval and post-medieval pottery is reworked, and the paucity of material suggests a manuring spread, the material becoming incorporated into the feature fills through ploughing or reworking.

Retention, dispersal or display

- B.2.9 The assemblage is fragmentary and is of little significance. This statement acts as a full record and the pottery may be deselected prior to archival deposition. Should further work be undertaken, the pottery report should be incorporated into any later archive.

Pottery catalogue

Trench	Context	Cut	Fabric and form	MNV	No. of Sherds	Weight (kg)	Pottery Date
1	16	15	Prehistoric sherd. Dull reddish oxidised external surfaces, internal reduced grey surface and margin, fine quartz and occasional flint temper	1	1	0.007	Late Iron Age
			Post-medieval Redware, moderately abraded bowl sherd. Internal honey-coloured glaze, external smear of glaze	1	1	0.013	1550-1800
	17		Post-medieval Black-Glazed ware, moderately abraded body sherd, external 'black' glaze	1	1	0.004	1580-1700
			Post-medieval Redware, moderately abraded jar sherd. External and internal honey-coloured glaze. Single incised line on the external surface	1	1	0.003	1550-1800
			Post-medieval Redware, abraded bowl sherd, internal honey-coloured glaze	1	1	0.002	
	20	19	Post-medieval Redware, abraded bowl sherd, internal greenish-coloured glaze	1	1	0.003	1550-1800
	23	22	Post-medieval Redware, moderately abraded jar sherd, possibly a pipkin. External and internal honey-coloured glaze. Incised line on the external surface	1	1	0.005	1550-1800
	25	24	Moderately abraded to abraded shell-tempered body sherd	1	1	0.012	AD 2nd-4th century
	27	26	Post-medieval Redware, moderately abraded jar sherd external and internal honey-coloured glaze	1	1	0.002	1550-1800
2	11	10	Post-medieval Redware, moderately abraded to abraded rim sherd. Sharply everted, externally collared, honey-coloured glaze on upper part of rim. 380mm diameter, estimated vessel equivalent 8%	1	1	0.041	1550-1800
3	39	38	Post-medieval Redware, moderately abraded jar sherd, external honey-coloured glaze	1	1	0.003	1550-1800
			Post-medieval Redware, abraded bowl rim sherd. Rim externally thickened and rounded, internal honey-coloured glaze, with traces of slip decoration. Rim too small to establish diameter	1	1	0.011	
			Roman Sandy greyware, abraded body sherd	1	1	0.006	AD 1st-4th century
	41	40	Abraded rim sherd from a Medieval Sandy ware vessel, most likely a jar, rim diameter is uncertain	1	1	0.016	1150-1500
Total				14	14	0.128	

Table 1: Pottery by Trench and Context (MNV= Minimum number of vessels)

B.3 Clay Tobacco Pipe

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

- B.3.1 During the evaluation, five fragments of white ball clay tobacco pipe stem, weighing 0.016kg, were recovered. Simplified recording only has been undertaken, with material type, 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 by Trench and Discussion

- B.3.2 Trench 1, pit **15**, context 17 produced a single length (47mm, 0.004kg) of off-white stem 8.6mm in diameter. Another short length of stem (22mm long, 7.5mm diameter, 0.001kg), was recovered from pit **26** in the same trench.
- B.3.3 Short lengths of clay tobacco pipe stem, from two separate pipes, were recovered from pit **12** in Trench 2. The shorter length of stem (0.003kg, 27mm long, slightly oval 9.7–9.2mm stem) is broken at the heel, however, not enough of the heel survives to suggest a form. The second stem fragment (0.005kg) is 50mm long, with a diameter of 8.6mm, and is slightly discoloured, indicating it has been smoked, or burnt, to remove the build-up of tobacco residues from the bore.
- B.3.4 Pit **39** in Trench 3, produced a moderate length of stem (61mm long and approximately 8.5mm in diameter) which is slightly curved and slightly burnished, flattened along the trimmed mould seam.
- B.3.5 None of the stems are closely datable and the fragments of clay tobacco pipe recovered represent what were most likely casually discarded pipes. The fragments do little, other than to indicate the consumption of tobacco on or in the vicinity of the site, from the introduction of tobacco smoking to the 19th century.

Retention, dispersal or display

- B.3.6 The assemblage is fragmentary and is of little significance. This statement acts as a full record and the clay tobacco pipe stem may be deselected prior to archival deposition. Should further work be undertaken, the clay tobacco pipe report should be incorporated into any later archive.

B.4 Ceramic Building Material and Fired Clay

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

- B.4.1 A fragmentary assemblage of ceramic building material (CBM) consisting of brick and roof tile was recovered from the backfills of pits in trenches 1, 2 and 3. In total, 13 CBM fragments weighing 0.176kg, were recovered. No complete examples were recovered, and all are moderately abraded or abraded. The CBM recovered is all post-medieval.

B.4.2 The assemblage was quantified by context, counted, weighed, and form recorded, where this was identifiable. Fabrics are noted and dating is necessarily broad. Only complete dimensions were recorded, which was most commonly thickness. Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group *Ceramic Building Material, Minimum Standards for Recovery, Curation, Analysis and Publication* (2002) forms the basis for recording, and Woodforde (1976) and McComish (2015) form the basis for identification.

Assemblage

B.4.3 The small assemblage of CBM was dispersed across five pits in three trenches. Roof tile fragments were the most commonly recovered CBM form. Some of the fragments are formless and not closely datable, however, some fragments are likely to be from bricks which can be broadly dated; the fabric being like 18th-19th century bricks from other sites in the county.

Discussion

B.4.4 A fragmentary and mixed assemblage of CBM was recovered from the site. No brick-built, or tiled roofed structures were found during the evaluation, and the CBM probably represents a small quantity of rubble or hardcore that has become incorporated into the pit fills.

Retention, dispersal or display

B.4.5 The plain and fragmentary nature of the total assemblage, means it is of little interest. This statement acts as a full record and the CBM may be deselected prior to archival deposition. Should further work be undertaken, the CBM report should be incorporated into any later archive.

CBM catalogue

Trench	Context	Cut	CBM or Fired/Burnt clay description and form	No. of fragments	Weight (kg)	Date
1	17	15	Fragment of tile, with small areas of surviving surfaces. Yellowish-red surfaces and mid grey core. Silty fabric with occasional grog and calcareous specks. 13mm thick	1	0.018	Post-medieval
			Fragment of tile, lower surface and short length of edge survive. Yellow-pink surfaces, fabric is poorly mixed with swirls and lenses of pink clay, grog, voids and calcareous inclusions. Lower surface and short length of edge are sanded. 14mm+ thick	1	0.016	Post-medieval
			Fragment, most likely of brick. Yellowish-red, sandy rough feel to fabric, soft. Occasional grog, quartz and calcareous specks	1	0.005	Post-medieval
1	27	26	Formless fragments, most likely of brick. Reddish-brown, sandy rough feel to fabric, occasional black specks	3	0.010	18th-19th century
			Formless fragment. Yellow-pink surfaces, fabric is poorly mixed with swirls and lenses of pink clay, grog, voids and calcareous inclusions	1	0.003	Post-medieval
2	11	10	Fragment of tile, upper and lower surfaces and short length of edge survive. Yellow-pink surfaces, fabric is poorly mixed with swirls and lenses of pink clay, grog, voids and calcareous inclusions. Lower surface and short length of edge are sanded. 13-14mm thick	1	0.016	Post-medieval
2	33	32	Fragments of tile. Yellowish-red fabric with slightly browner core. Both upper and lower surfaces and two	2	0.094	Post-medieval

Trench	Context	Cut	CBM or Fired/Burnt clay description and form	No. of fragments	Weight (kg)	Date
			adjoining edges survive. Partial peg hole close to corner, indicating that this is a double-peg tile (two nail holes). Moderate voids, occasional grog and occasional calcareous specks. Lower surface and edges have been dipped in a sand and calcareous mixture			
			Formless fragments, most likely of brick. Red sandy fabric, quartz and flint temper	2	0.011	18th-19th century
3	39	38	Formless fragment, probably of brick. Yellowish-red silty fabric, occasional grog and specks of off-white calcareous material	1	0.003	Post-medieval
Total				13	0.176	

Table 2: CBM and Fired Clay by Trench and Context

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Mollusca

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

- C.1.1 A single shell from an edible oyster *Ostrea edulis*, from estuarine and shallow coastal waters, was recovered from Trench 1. The shell is moderately well preserved and does not appear to have been deliberately broken or crushed. The shell was weighed and recorded with complete or near-complete valves noted, where identification could be made, using Winder (2011) as a guide, and recorded in the text.

Assemblage and Discussion

- C.1.2 The shell (0.005kg), a near-complete right valve, was recovered from pit **15**, context 17, where it probably became incorporated into the fills as general rubbish deposition. The assemblage is too small a sample to draw any but the broadest conclusions, in that shellfish were reaching the site from the coastal regions, indicating trade with the wider area. The shell is relatively small, and would have formed part of a meal. The shell indicates non-local food sources, and shellfish are known to form part of the Late Saxon, early medieval and medieval diets. The shell represents general discarded food waste and, although not closely datable, may be dated by their association with pottery or other material also recovered from the feature.

Retention, dispersal and display

- C.1.3 The assemblage indicates that, should further work take place, shell would be found, with the likelihood of recovery of complete shells, however, the evaluation suggests there will be only low levels of shell deposition. If further work is undertaken, this assemblage should be incorporated into any later catalogue. If no further work is undertaken, this statement acts as a full record, and the shell may be dispersed or deselected prior to archive deposition.

C.2 Faunal Remains

By Zoë Ui Choileáin

- C.2.1 Context 33 contained 108g of bone consisting of a horse mandible with M1 and M2 intact. The bone was in fair condition although highly fragmented. No further information can be gained therefore further analysis is not necessary.

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APPENDIX E OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-300397		
Project Name	Wigmore Farm, Silver Street, Godmanchester		
Start of Fieldwork	25/10/2017	End of Fieldwork	30/10/2017
Previous Work	No	Future Work	No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	GODWIG17	Planning App. No.	16/01477/FUL
HER Number	ECB 5241	Related Numbers	

Prompt	Requirement from local planning authority
Development Type	Rural Residential
Place in Planning Process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Techniques used (tick all that apply)

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

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Extractive Pit	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)	Vessel	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)
Gully	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)	Tobacco Pipe	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)
	Choose an item.		Choose an item.

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire	Address (including Postcode) Wigmore Farm, Silver Street, Godmanchester, PE29 2LE
District	Huntingdonshire	
Parish	Godmanchester	
HER office	Cambridgeshire	
Size of Study Area	6700 sq.m	
National Grid Ref	TL 2450 6982	

Project Originators

Organisation	OA East
Project Brief Originator	Gemma Stewart

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

Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	CCC Stores	ECB 5241
Digital Archive	OA East	ECB 5241
Paper Archive	CCC Stores	ECB 5241

Physical Contents	Present?	Digital files associated with Finds	Paperwork associated with Finds
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Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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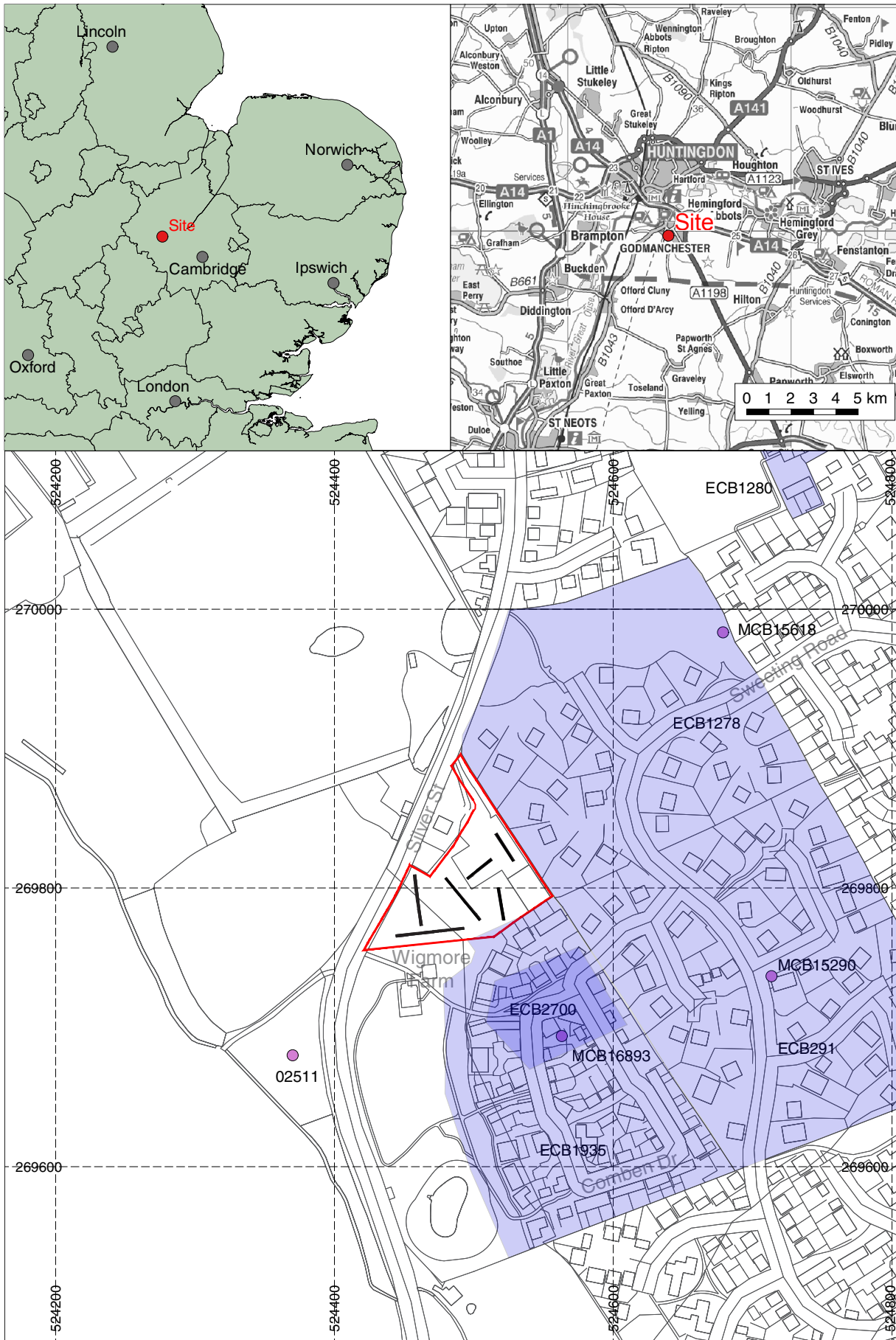
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Plans	<input type="checkbox"/>
Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sections	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Survey	<input type="checkbox"/>

Further Comments



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Figure 1: Site location showing archaeological trenches (black) in development area (red,) with selected HER data. 1:4000

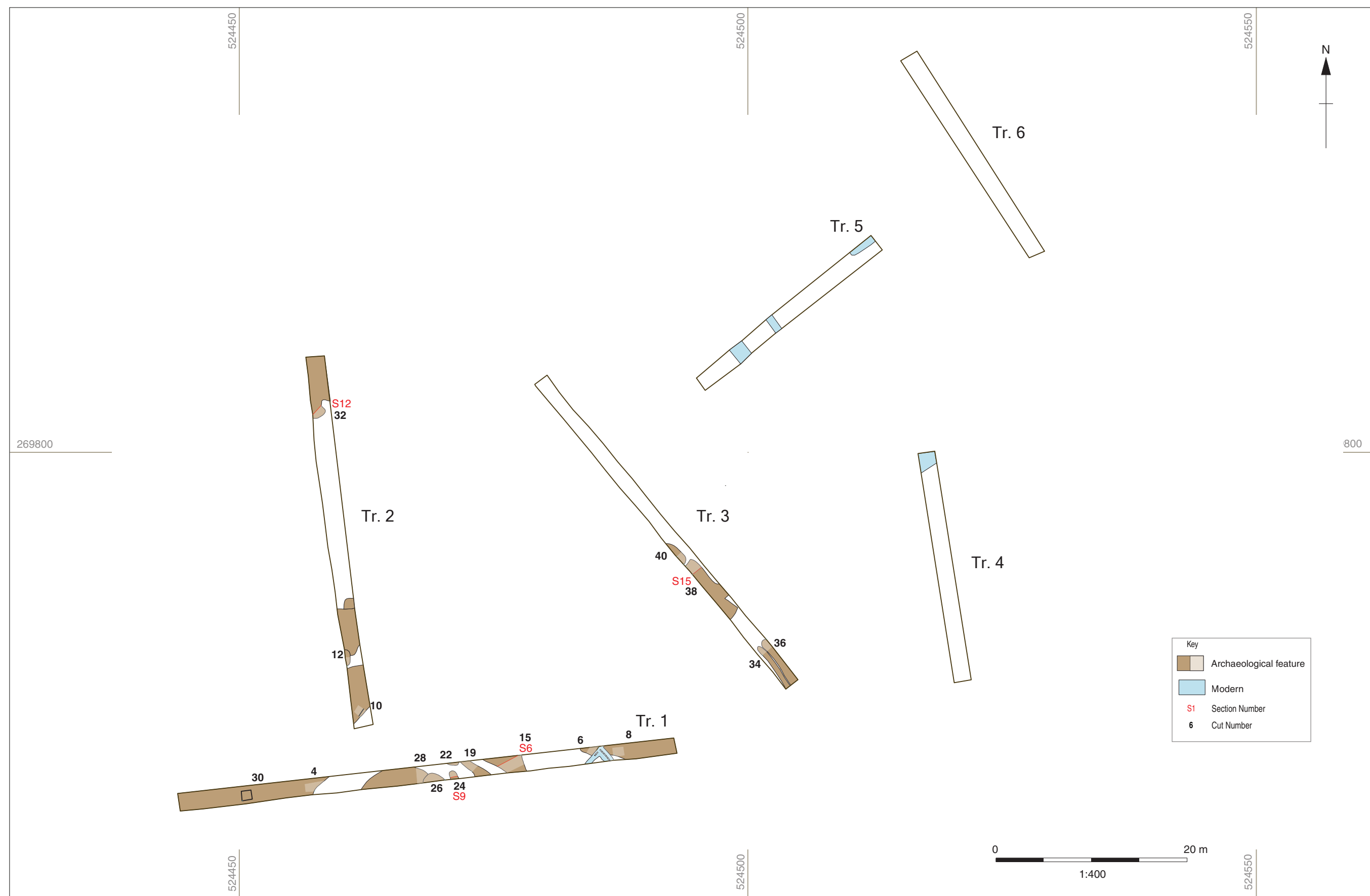


Figure 2: Trench plan.

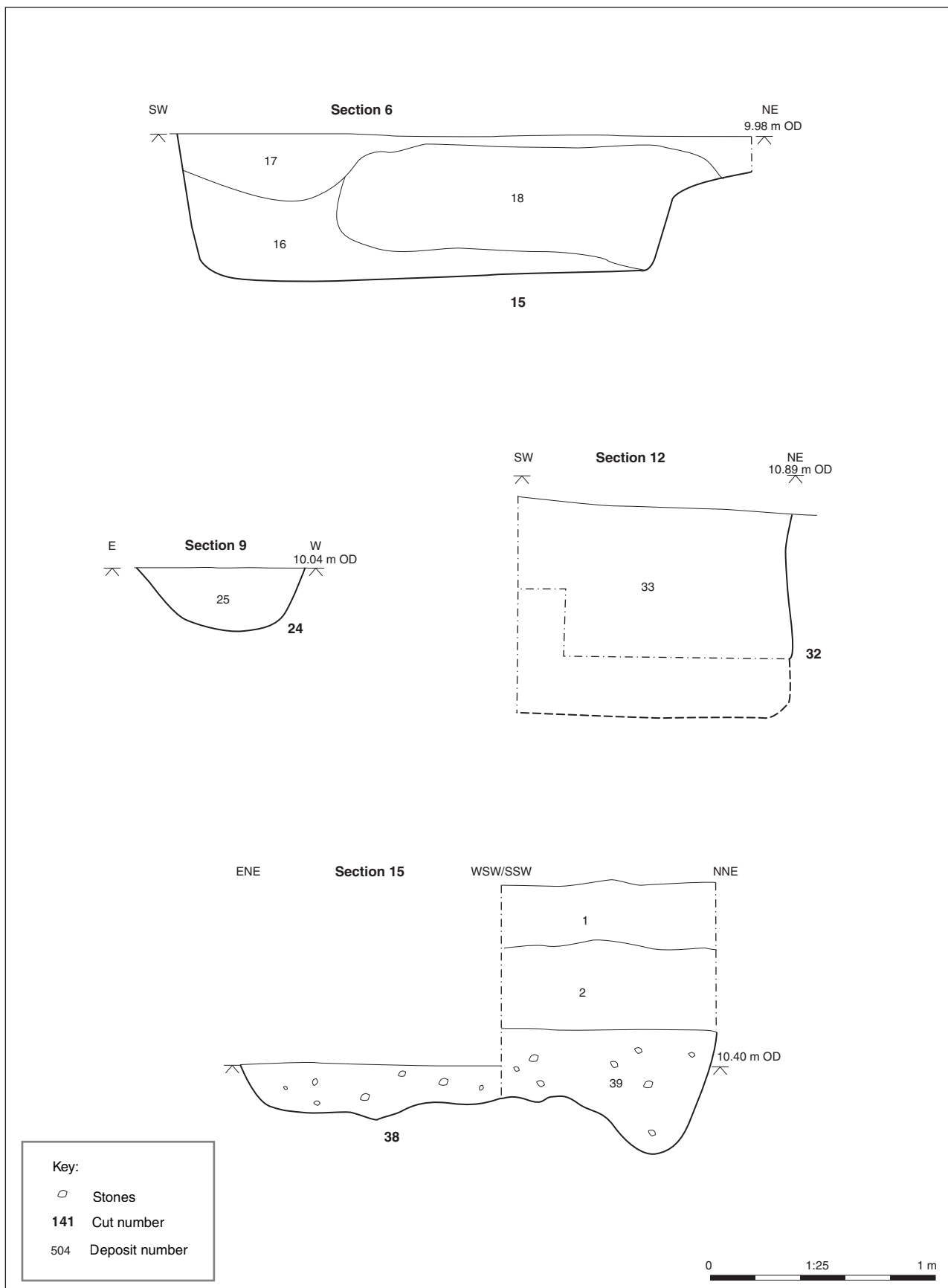


Figure 3: Selected sections. Scale 1:25

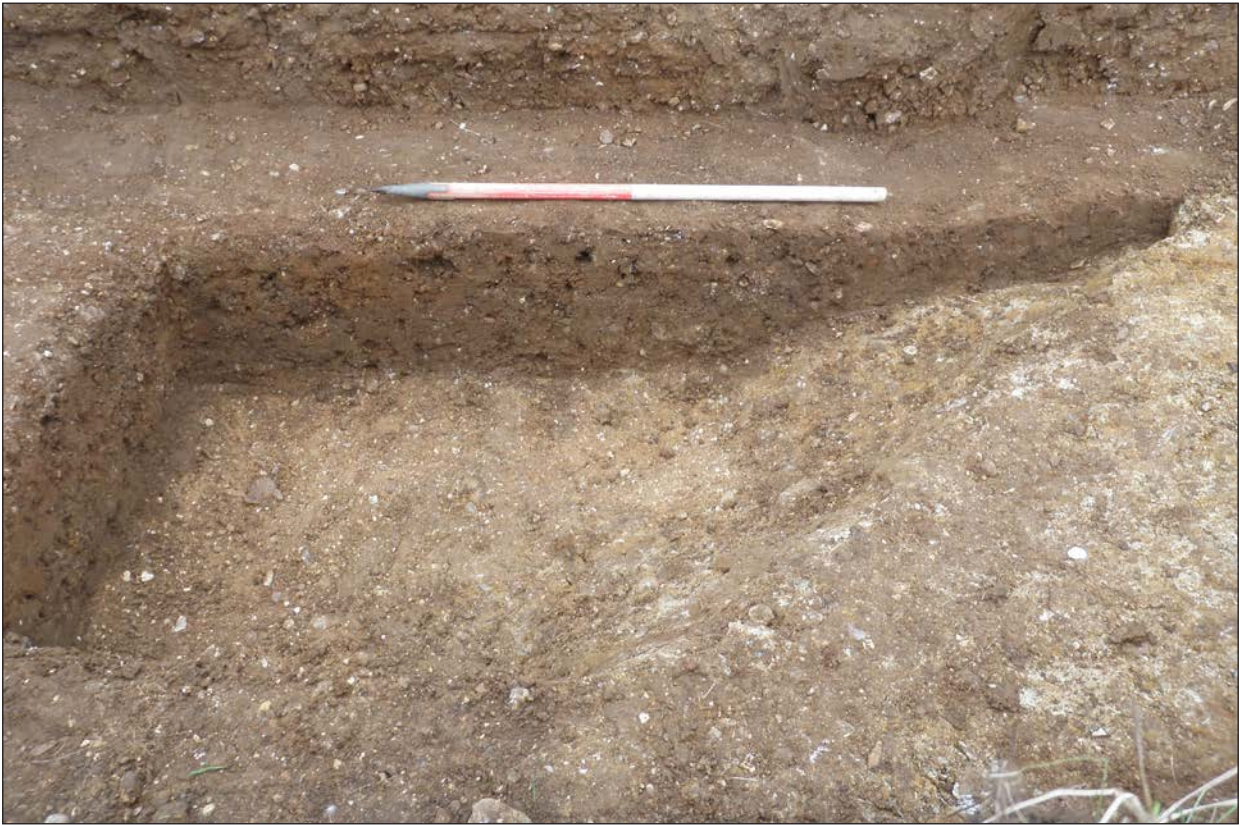


Plate 1: Quarry Pit 4, Trench 1, looking north



Plate 2: Quarry Pit 15, Trench 1, looking north-west



Plate 3: Trench 2, looking south



Plate 4: Trench 3, looking north



Plate 5: General site view, Trenches 1, 2 and 3, looking north-west



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