



# Dales Manor Business Park, Sawston, Cambridgeshire

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# Dales Manor Business Park, Sawston, Cambridgeshire

## *Archaeological Evaluation Report*

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## Summary

*Between the 9<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of January 2018, Oxford Archaeology East conducted a trial trench archaeological evaluation at Dales Manor Business Park, Sawston, Cambridgeshire (centred TL 4902 5043). The evaluation consisted of nine trenches, excavated within the proposed development area for warehouses, business units, car parking and loading bays.*

*The trenching demonstrated that the north-western half of the site had been extensively disturbed by early 20<sup>th</sup> century quarrying and earthmoving operations, rendering most of this zone archaeologically sterile. The south-eastern half of the site had also been disturbed by levelling, removing almost all of the former topsoil and subsoil horizons, except in very localised patches. However, archaeological survival was found in two areas of the site, focused upon Trenches 3, 8 and 9. The remains uncovered here comprised ditches and pits, with features concentrated in Trenches 8 and 9 in the north-east corner of the site.*

*None of the features could be securely dated, but the finds recovered were exclusively prehistoric and included a small number of worked and burnt flints, a single abraded sherd of later Iron Age pottery and fragments of animal bone. It is tentatively suggested that these features belong to a prehistoric boundary system with associated pits. The survival of this system across the southern half of the site is likely to be very limited.*

## Acknowledgements

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The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Matt Brudenell. The fieldwork was directed by Steve Graham. Survey and digitizing was carried out by Sarita Louzolo and Dave Brown. Thank you to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Natasha Dodwell, processed the environmental remains under the management of Rachel Fosberry, and prepared the archive under the management of Kat Hamilton.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by Salmon Harvester Properties Ltd to undertake a trial trench evaluation at the site of Dales Manor Business Park, Sawston, Cambridgeshire on land proposed for the construction of 27 new warehouses and business units, access, car parking and loading bays.
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a condition of Planning Permission (S/1962/10) in accordance with a Brief issued by Andy Thomas of the Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET; Thomas 2017), and an approved Written Scheme of Investigation produced by OA (Brudenell 2017). This document outlines how OA implemented the Local Planning Authority's requirements in line with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation.

### 1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The site lies within Dales Manor Business Park, situated on the north-eastern periphery of Sawston village, South Cambridgeshire (centred TL 4902 5043; Fig. 1).
- 1.2.2 The area of proposed development covers c. 2.5ha, and is bounded to the south-west by a housing estate, to the north-west by woodland, to the north-east by a trackway and to the south-east by West Way road.
- 1.2.3 The geology of the area is mapped as the northern edge of a low chalk ridge that overlooks the valley of the River Granta to the north and northeast. The solid geology is recorded as chalk of the Zig Zag Chalk Formation, overlain by superficial deposits of alluvium at the western end of the site.
- 1.2.4 Geotechnical investigations by MLM Environmental in 2008 revealed made ground across the site to depths of up to 2.6m below ground level (bgl). Over much of the site, deposits of glacial till of the Lowestoft Formation were recorded beneath the made ground, and comprised a soft to very stiff, firm clay with flint and chalk inclusions. This till rested on a bedrock of chalk and clayey chalk gravel recorded at 1.1-3.7m bgl, and was exposed below the made ground in the east of the site. At the western end of the site, localised deposits of soft to firm organic rich alluvial clays and silts were recorded at 0.55-2m bgl, above the chalk.
- 1.2.5 The site is currently covered in tarmac, concrete hardstanding and paving. The current ground level rests between 21-22m OD.
- 1.2.6 A geoenvironmental assessment of the site by MLM Environmental in 2008 recorded elevated levels of total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) in the soils, with a hydrocarbon 'hotspot' located toward the south-east central area the site. This hotspot was avoided in the trench design.
- 1.2.7 Gas monitoring also identified elevated levels of methane and carbon dioxide across the site, likely to be a result of the elevated levels of hydrocarbons. In addition, elevated concentrations of arsenic, mercury and selenium are present within the ground water within the natural chalks.

## 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The following provides a synopsis of known heritage assets in the area surrounding the site, based on information provided by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER, under licence number 17\_3000). It also summarises findings from a Desk Based Assessment by CAM ARC (Hogan 2007), which included an assessment of aerial photographs of the site.

### *Prehistoric*

- 1.3.2 Evidence for earlier prehistoric activity near the site is relatively limited, although notably, two isolated pits yielding Neolithic worked flint were revealed during an evaluation on land immediately to the north-east of the site (CHER MCB20412). Mesolithic and Early Neolithic flint work was also recovered, c. 650m east of the site during an evaluation (MCB17152).
- 1.3.3 By contrast, there is more substantive evidence for Bronze Age activity and occupation. A later Bronze Age D-shaped enclosure containing a roundhouse was excavated at Lynton Way (CHER MCB16829), c. 650m south-east of the site. This yielded a small quantity of pottery, worked flint, animal bone and a quern fragment. Assessment of aerial photographs revealed the enclosure to be part of a wider field system of likely prehistoric date, and is possibly associated with two other D-shaped enclosures recorded from cropmarks, c. 400m to the south-west (CHER 09743) and c. 600m to the south of the site (CHER 04118).
- 1.3.4 Further east, c. 650m from the site, evaluation trenching has revealed components of another large Bronze Age field or enclosure system containing large quantities of struck flint and unstruck flint nodules in the upper ditch fills, together with a small but varied faunal assemblage (CHER MCB17152; MCB19569).
- 1.3.5 Worked flint, including an axe was also found c. 850m to the west of the site on Huckeridge Hill (CHER 05437a).

### *Roman*

- 1.3.6 A concentration of later Roman features indicative of 2nd-4th century settlement and field systems were uncovered during an evaluation adjacent to the site to the north-east (CHER MCB20413). The features included boundary ditches, enclosures trackways, pits, postholes and a well containing a partially articulated animal burial. A juvenile inhumation accompanied by two 3rd century AD pottery vessels was also uncovered.
- 1.3.7 Further evidence for Roman activity c. 800m north and north-east of the site is attested by find spots of a puddingstone quern by the River Granta (CHER 04325) and a set of Roman shackles (CHER CB15667). To the south, between c. 600-850m from the site, finds of Roman pottery at two locations may suggest another focus of Roman activity (CHER 4118; 04151).
- 1.3.8 A Roman road junction and pottery and coins dating to the 1st to 2nd century AD were also found at the new Sawston Police Station site (CHER CB15777), c. 700m south-west of the development area. The northern part of the road junction is postulated to form

a previously unknown route to Cambridge (Cam Valley Way) whilst the easterly route forms part of Ashwell Street/Street Way.

### *Saxon and Medieval*

- 1.3.9 A furnished Saxon burial was found c. 850m west of the site (CHER 04537) on Huckeridge Hill in 1806 (CHER 04537). The inhumation together with a previous finds of iron spear heads from the same location suggest the presence of an Early Saxon cemetery.
- 1.3.10 The earthworks of the medieval moated site of Dales Wood, the former Manor of Dale, is located c. 450m to the south-west of the site (CHER 00165).

### *Post-Medieval and Modern*

- 1.3.11 Whilst the historic core of Sawston lies along High Street, c. 1.2km south-west of the site, several historic buildings and structures are located within 1km of the site. These include the 15th to 17th century listed buildings of the Grey Hound (DCB6097) and the King's Head Public Houses (DCB5480) on Hillside; the Sawston Free Church (CHER CB14956) built in 1879; the 19th century mortuary chapel and cemetery on Cambridge Road (CHER MCB23535) and a milestone on Huckeridge Hill (MCB18350).
- 1.3.12 By the early 19th century the site would have formed part of the land holding associated with North Farm, located c. 160m north of the site (CHER MCB23286). In 1865 the branch line of the Great Eastern railway from Great Shelford to Haverhill was constructed (CHER 06326), and formed the north-east boundary of the site (the line closing in 1967). An assessment of aerial photographs of the site also show quarry activity prior to 1946, with three rectangular pits recorded (Palmer in Hogan 2007).
- 1.3.13 From the late 1960s the site was used for industrial purposes, and was occupied by Marley Building Materials for the manufacturing of roofing tiles. This comprised several processing and administration buildings as well as extensive areas for outdoor storage. The earliest buildings were constructed in the late 1960s and aerial photographs show an episode of levelling and deep earthmoving operations at the site in 1967 prior to construction (Palmer Hogan 2007). The buildings were demolished to ground level in 2008, but the foundations remained *in situ* at the time of the evaluation.

## 2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The project aims and objectives were as follows:

- i. To 'ground truth' the results of the aerial photograph assessment, by testing the location of former quarries and area of deep earthmoving previously identified
- ii. 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
- iii. To provide sufficient coverage to establish the character, condition, date and purpose of any surviving archaeological deposits
- iv. To provide sufficient coverage to evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking deposits
- v. To set the results in the local, regional, and national archaeological context – and, in particular, its wider cultural landscape and past environmental conditions
- vi. 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 The evaluation comprised a programme of linear trial trenching. The initial trenching sample consisted of seven 30m long by 2m wide trenches, and one double-width, stepped trench, 30m long and 4m wide at the surface. A contingency for a further 60m of linear trial trenching/two further 30m long by 2m wide trenches was retained for judgemental use.

2.2.2 The trench design was informed by the results of the geotechnical survey and assessment of aerial photographs. It primarily targeted areas within the site with made ground recorded as being less than 1m deep (estimated to cover c. 1.3ha), based on the geotechnical survey data. The six trenches (Trenches 1-5 and 8) in this zone were positioned to achieve a 3% sample of this area (Fig. 2). The two remaining trenches (Trenches 6 and 7) targeted areas of deeper made ground: one 30m long 2m wide trench in a zone with made ground 1-1.5m deep (Trench 7); one double-width, stepped trench, 30m long and 4m wide at the surface in a zone of made ground 1.5-2.4m deep (Trench 6).

2.2.3 In the event, the location of three of the trenches had to be adjusted slightly; Trench 3 was moved further south to avoid a large dump of broken concrete, Trench 4 was divided into two sections to avoid a 2m deep reinforced concrete base and Trench 6 was moved south-west to avoid a raised platform of reinforced concrete and a modern tank.

2.2.4 Following the identification of archaeological features within Trench 8, the contingency for further trenching was used and an additional 17m of trenching (Trench 9) was excavated at right angles to the mid-point of Trench 8 to determine the extent of two large features (later identified as pits 102 and 110).

## 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. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits form the contents of Appendix A. Reports on finds and environmental remains are presented in Appendix B and C.
- 3.1.2 Context numbers were issued sequentially beginning with 1 - the concrete surface covering much of the site.

### 3.2 General soils and ground conditions

- 3.2.1 The site can be broadly divided into two halves, based on the level of ground disturbance. The northern half of the site (containing Trenches 4, 6 and 7) has been subject to extensive early 20th century quarrying (12), with former backfilled pits and made ground measuring up to 2.5m in depth. Ground disturbance in the south side of the site was less extensive (containing Trenches 1-3, 5,8 and 9), although layers of made ground up to 1.00m in depth were recorded across this zone. Both sides of the site were overlaid with either a tarmac (2) or a reinforced concrete surface (1).
- 3.2.2 The natural soils of the site were a mixture of chalk and sandy clays.
- 3.2.3 With the exception of Trench 2 and 8, there was little or no evidence of surviving layers of intact topsoil or subsoil beneath the tarmac and concrete surface. All trenches contained various depths of backfilled or redeposited material sitting immediately on top of the natural geology.
- 3.2.4 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were mixed, with intermittent rain showers affecting the drainage of the trenches in places. Despite this, 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 3, 6, 8 and 9.
- 3.3.2 Located in the northern half of the site was an area of modern quarrying and deep ground disturbance, partly corresponding with the possible quarrying at recorded from aerial photography (Palmer in Hogan 2007; Fig. 2), but more extensive in nature. This quarry pitting (12) reached depths of over 2m below the current surface, and was recorded across Trenches 4, 6 and 7, and the western ends of Trenches 3 and 9.

### 3.4 Trench 1

- 3.4.1 Trench 1 was located in the south-eastern quadrant of the site (Plate 1). The trench was 30m in length and 2m in width, with a north-west to south-east orientation. Natural undisturbed geology was reached at 0.80m below the surface of the trench. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits, and the only deposits recorded were a series of modern horizontal layers of made ground with a hardcore and concrete capping.



- 3.4.2 At the north-western end of the trench was a layer of hardcore and crushed brick (55), this layer was 0.40m thick and extended from the north-western end of the trench towards the south-east for 10m.
- 3.4.3 Along the remainder of the trench, the basal layer was a horizontal band of light brown clay sand (56) which was 0.20m thick. Above this was a light grey clay sand (57), 0.20m thick, overlain at the south-eastern end of the trench by a mixture of sand, hardcore and crushed brick (60), 0.20m thick. Midway along the trench, layer 57 was overlain by a band of grey brown clay silt (58), 0.12m thick. Above this was a mixture of compact sand and mortar (59), 0.20m thick, covered by a surface layer of concrete 0.20m thick.

## 3.5 Trench 2

- 3.5.1 Trench 2 was located in the south-eastern quadrant of the site (Plate 2). The trench was 30m in length and 2m wide with a north-east to south-west orientation, parallel to West Way. Natural undisturbed geology was reached at 0.70m below the surface of the trench. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.
- 3.5.2 The trench consisted of a series of modern horizontal layers of made ground and a cap of concrete and tarmac on its north-eastern end.
- 3.5.3 At both ends of the trench patches of a possible original subsoil (49 and 54) survived, characterised by interrupted bands of brown clay silt, 0.08-0.20m thick. This was overlain by a light grey clay silt (53), 0.10m thick, and dark grey brown sand silt (50), 0.20m thick; the latter possibly a former topsoil. These deposits were sealed by a continuous band of redeposited sand and mortar, 0.20m thick, which was in turn capped by concrete (52), 0.20m thick, and a layer of tarmac (2), 0.04m thick.

## 3.6 Trench 3 (Fig. 3)

- 3.6.1 This trench was located in the south-western quadrant of the site (Fig. 3; Plate 3). The trench was 30m in length and 2m wide on a north-west to south-east alignment. Natural undisturbed geology was reached at 2.00m below the surface of the trench. The trench contained a potential ditch (61) and two pits (63 and 65). These were sealed by a series of modern horizontal layers of made ground. No original topsoil or subsoil horizons were recorded in the trench.
- 3.6.2 Located at the south-eastern end of the trench was ditch 61 (Fig. 6, Section 17). This feature emerged from under the south-western side of the trench and continued towards the south-east for 3.4m before terminating. The ditch was 0.50m wide and 0.10m deep with a concave base, steep sides and a U-shaped profile. The single fill of the ditch was a mid-grey brown clay silt (62). Two fragments of burnt flint (33g) were recovered from the ditch, and an environmental sample from the fill yielded land snail shells.
- 3.6.3 Directly adjacent to the ditch, to the south-east, were two partially exposed discrete features, probably pits. Pit 63 emerged from under the south-western side of the trench, this feature was sub-circular, steep sided, with a U-shaped profile and a concave base. The pit was 1.10m wide and 0.30m deep, filled by a mid-green grey clay silt (64) containing no finds.

- 3.6.4 Pit 65 was a sub-circular feature which emerged from under the north-eastern side of the trench. It was 1.10m wide and 0.20m deep with a single fill (66) of light grey clay silt and contained no finds. The pit was steep sided with a U-shaped profile.
- 3.6.5 The three features were sealed by a series of modern made ground layers. The earliest was a layer (67) of dark brown clay silt 0.20m thick. This was overlain by a dark red brown clay silt (68), 0.18m thick, and a dark grey brown clay silt (69), 0.20m thick. Above this was a mid-grey brown sand silt (70), 0.20m thick, containing fragments of modern ceramic building material (CBM) and brick (not retained).
- 3.6.6 At the south-eastern end of the trench, these deposits were overlain by a thin 0.08m band of redeposited chalk (71.) Above this was a layer of light grey brown clay silt (72), 0.40m thick, which ran along the entire length of the trench. This was overlain by a band of redeposited chalk (73), 0.10m thick, above which was a mix of mid grey brown sand and silt (74), 0.30m thick, containing fragments of modern CBM and brick (not retained). Overlying this was a thin band 0.08m thick of redeposited chalk and mortar (75). The upper and final layer (76) was a mix of sand and mortar and modern brick, 0.30m thick.

### 3.7 Trench 4

- 3.7.1 Trench 4 was located at the centre of the site (Plate 4). The trench had a total length of 30m, but was split into two sections to avoid a large reinforced concrete beam (see Fig. 2). The trench was in an area of intense modern quarrying (12) with natural undisturbed geology reached at 1.9m below the ground surface. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded in the trench, and there were no surviving topsoil or subsoil horizons. The only deposits recorded were layers of made grounds.
- 3.7.2 The basal layer of made ground was a horizontal band of dark grey clay silt (18), 0.40m thick. This was overlain by a light grey clay silt containing redeposited chalk layers (16 and 17), 0.20-0.30m thick. Above this was a dark grey clay silt (15) containing fragments of modern brick and CBM, 0.30m thick, and a mid-grey clay silt (14), 0.30m thick. This was overlain by a horizontal band (13) of redeposited chalk 0.20m thick, and a dark red brown sand (11) containing fragments of modern CBM and brick, 0.30m thick.

### 3.8 Trench 5

- 3.8.1 Trench 5 was located toward the eastern side of the site, and was oriented north-west to south-east (Plate 5). The trench was 30m in length and 2m wide, with undisturbed geology reached at 1.00m below the surface of the trench. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits and no topsoil or subsoil horizons survived. The only deposits recorded were horizontal layers of modern made ground.
- 3.8.2 The basal layer of made ground was a yellow green clay sand (47), 0.22m thick. This was overlain by a band of mid grey brown clay silt (46) the thickness of which increased from 0.06m at the south-eastern end of the trench to 0.24m at the north-west end. Above this was a horizontal band of redeposited chalk (45) which was 0.20m thick. In the north-western end of the trench deposit 45 was covered by a thin 0.08m band of clay silt (44) which was in turn overlaid by another band of redeposited chalk (43), 0.08m thick. This was overlain by a band of grey brown sand (42) running along the

length of the trench, 0.20m thick. Sealing this was a thin layer of mortar (41), 0.08m thick, and a band of concrete and hardcore (40), 0.08m thick.

### 3.9 Trench 6 (Fig. 4)

- 3.9.1 Trench 6 was located in the north-western quadrant of the site (Fig.4; Plate 6). The trench was 30m in length and was 4m wide at the surface, stepped down to 2m wide at the base of the trench. The trench was in an area of intense modern quarrying (12), with natural undisturbed geology reached at 1.9m below the top of the trench. At the centre of the trench were two partially exposed potential pits or natural hollows (28 and 29). Both were sealed by deposits of made ground with no surviving topsoil or subsoil horizons.
- 3.9.2 Pit 29 emerged from under the southern side of the trench (Fig. 6, Section 6; Plate 6). It was sub-circular with steep sides and a concave base. The pit was 2.75m wide and 0.30m deep and contained a single fill (32). This fill was a light green grey clay silt containing no finds. The feature was truncated by pit 28 on its south-eastern side.
- 3.9.3 Pit 28 was 3.15m long, 0.42m deep, and had steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 6, Section 6; Plate 6). The pit contained two fills: a primary deposit of dark green grey clay silt (30) 0.34m thick, and a mottled yellow brown clay sand (31). No finds were recovered from the pit, and an environmental sample from fill 30 yielded only land snails.
- 3.9.4 Both pits were truncated by the modern quarrying activity (12) and sealed by a sequence of subsequent modern levelling layers. At the base of this sequence was a horizontal dark green grey clay silt (25) 0.30m thick. This was overlaid by four horizontal layers (in order: 27, 24, 23 and 22) of sands, grey silts, chalk and dumped modern mortar fragments each between 0.20-0.44m thick.
- 3.9.5 Above, and in the south-eastern end of the trench, were two deposits of grey clay and silt containing brick and modern CBM fragments (21), 0.20-0.34m thick. In the north-western end of the trench were bands of dark grey brown silt (33, 34 and 35), redeposited chalk with mortar (36 and 38), and lenses of clay and chalk (37) each between 0.08-0.22m thick. Sealing these across the trench was a horizontal band of compact sand and hardcore (19), which was 0.22m thick.

### 3.10 Trench 7

- 3.10.1 Trench 7 was located in the north-eastern part of the site (Plate 7). The trench was 30m in length and 2m wide, on a north to south alignment. The trench was located in an area of intense modern quarrying (12), with natural undisturbed geology reached at 2m below the top of the trench. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits, with no surviving topsoil or subsoil horizons. The only deposits recorded were quarry backfill dumps of silts and horizontal layers of modern made ground.
- 3.10.2 The earliest made ground deposits were two bands of grey brown clay silt (7 and 8), measuring 0.26-0.72m thick. Concrete rubble layers (9 and 10) were recorded above these, measuring 0.30m thick. These were overlain by a dark grey brown clay silt (6), 0.12m thick in the north end of the trench, and 0.60m thick at the southern end. Above this were two deposits of grey green clay silt (4 and 5) containing modern CBM and

brick, each 0.12-0.42m thick. These were sealed by a band of light grey brown sand silt with mortar (11), 0.50m thick, a horizontal band of red brown sharp sand and mortar (3), 0.20m thick, and a 0.10m thick layer of tarmac (2), at the surface.

### 3.11 Trench 8 (Fig. 5)

- 3.11.1 Trench 8 was located in the north-eastern part of the site (Fig. 5; Plate 8) in an area covered by reinforced concrete. The trench was 30m in length and 2m wide, with a north-east to south-west orientation. Natural undisturbed geology was reached between 0.60m and 1.10m below the surface of the trench.
- 3.11.2 Three ditches (**88**, **91** and **105**), a gully (**93**), two small pits (**95** and **98**) and two large pits (**102** and **110**) were revealed by the trench. Pit **110** was exposed at the intersection between Trenches 8 and 9 and is described under Trench 9, below. These features were sealed by horizontal bands of modern levelling material and covered by an external concrete surface (1).
- 3.11.3 Located 12m from the south-western end of Trench 8 was ditch **105** (Fig. 6, Section 30), aligned north-west to south-east. The ditch was 2.10m wide, 0.46m deep with a steep sided U-shaped profile containing two fills. The basal fill comprised a 0.22m thick deposit of dark green clay silt (104), organic in appearance. This was overlain by a mid-green silt clay (103), also organic, measuring 0.22m thick. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 3.11.4 To the north of ditch **105** was ditch **91** (Fig. 6, Section 25; Plate 9), aligned east to west. The ditch was 1.2m wide, 0.40m deep, and displayed steep sides and a U-shaped profile with two fills. The primary fill comprised a light grey sand silt (90), 0.40m thick, which contained a single sherd of abraded Iron Age pottery (42g). The upper fill consisted of a dark red brown and clay (89), 0.30m thick. An environmental sample from fill 90 yielded land snails and two prehistoric worked flint flakes.
- 3.11.5 Ditch **91** appeared to cut a small, shallow curvilinear gully (**93**), only partially exposed in the trench. The gully was 0.20m wide but just 0.08m deep and had a V-shaped profile containing a single fill (92) of light grey brown clay silt. No finds were recovered from the gully.
- 3.11.6 To the north of ditch **91** and gully **93** were two small pits: **95** and **98**. Pit **95** was a sub-circular feature with steep sides, a concave base and a U-shaped profile. The pit was 1.22m wide, 0.28m deep, and contained a single deposit (94) of light grey brown sand silt with no finds. Pit **98** (Fig. 6, Section 28), was also sub-circular, 0.38m wide and 0.20m deep. The pit was steep sided and U-shaped in profile with two fills. The basal fill was 0.08m thick and comprised a light grey sand silt (97) containing a fragment of animal bone (94g). The upper fill (96) of mid grey brown clay silt, 0.10m thick. An environmental sample from fill 96 yielded land snails and one prehistoric worked flint.
- 3.11.7 At the northern end of the trench were pit **102** and ditch **88**. Pit **102** (Fig. 6, Sections 29 and 31; Plate 10) was a large sub-circular feature, 3.10m wide, 0.40m deep with steep sides and a concave base. The basal fills comprised two slumps (111 and 115) of light brown clay sand, and a dark grey clay silt (101), 0.08m thick, containing three fragments of animal bone (15g). An environmental sample from fill 101 yielded land snail shells and two prehistoric worked flints. The basal fills were overlain by bands of

brown silt sand (112), grey clay silt (100), capped by a dark green grey sand silt (99) containing frequent large stones and one piece of animal bone (41g). The pit was truncated to the south by pit **110**, described under Trench 9 below.

- 3.11.8 At the northern end of Trench 8 was ditch **88**, aligned north to south, at right angles to ditch **91**. The ditch was 1.00m wide, 0.20m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a U-shaped profile, filled with a single deposit of light grey brown clay silt (87). An environmental sample from the ditch yielded land snails, small fragments of charcoal and one prehistoric worked flint likely to be Mesolithic or Neolithic in date.
- 3.11.9 The deposits which sealed the features in Trench 8 varied across the length of the trench. In the south, the trench contained an initial layer above the natural geology of dark brown clay silt (121), 0.30m thick, which may have been a remnant subsoil. This was overlain by a light reddish silt clay (120), which was 0.36m thick. In the north of the trench, the natural soils were overlain by levelling layers of dark brown grey sand silt (82, 0.28m thick), a mid-red brown clay silt (113, 0.32m thick), and a thin band of dark grey silt clay (114, 0.10m thick). These were sealed by a layer of redeposited light grey chalk (86, 0.50m thick) running along the entire length of the trench, capped by the concrete surface (1), 0.10m thick.

### 3.12 Trench 9 (Fig. 5)

- 3.12.1 Trench 9 was a contingency trench cut to investigate the extent of features following the excavation of Trench 8. The trench was 17m long and 2m wide, aligned north-west to south-east, meeting the western side of Trench 8 (Fig. 5). The western half of the trench was heavily disturbed by quarrying and levelling (**12**), with natural reached at 1.70m below the surface. East of the quarry pitting three features survived, comprising two small discrete pits (**78** and **81**) and a large pit (**110**). The features were sealed over by made ground with no indication of the survival of subsoil deposits.
- 3.12.2 Pit **110** was located at the intersection of Trench 8 and 9 (Fig. 6, Sections 31; Plate 9) and was truncated on its north-eastern side by pit **102** (see above, Trench 8). This large sub-circular pit was 4.10m wide and 1.10m deep with steeply sloping sides and a U-shaped profile and concave base. The pit contained six fills. The initial fill (106) was a dark green grey sand silt 0.10m thick. Above this were thin deposits of redeposited chalk (107, 0.12m thick), a dark grey brown clay silt (109), and a mid-grey silt clay (108). These were overlain by a deposit of grey brown sand silt (107, 0.22m thick) containing large stones and eight fragment of animal bone (289g), and an upper fill of dark grey brown sand silt (106, 0.30m thick), again containing frequent stones.
- 3.12.3 Two small pits lay to the west of pit **110**. Pit **78** (Fig 6, Section 19, Plate 8) was sub-circular, 1.10m wide and 0.40m deep. It had steep sided, U-shaped profile containing two fills: a mid-grey clay silt (77), 0.10m thick, and above this, a dark grey clay silt (76) which was 0.30m thick. Neither fill contained finds.
- 3.12.4 Pit **81** lay just to the east of the edge of the modern quarry (Plate 9). The pit was not fully exposed, but was broadly sub-circular measuring 0.60m wide and 0.28m deep with a U-shaped profile. The pit contained two fills: a mid-grey clay silt (80), 0.08m thick and above this, a dark grey clay silt (76) which was 0.16m thick. No finds were recovered from the pit.

3.12.5 The features in Trench 9 were covered by a series of made ground deposits. The initial levelling layer (82) was a dark brown grey sand silt 0.28m thick. Above this were various brown clay silt deposits (113, 114, 83, 84 and 85), each 0.10-0.80m in thickness. These were overlain by a band of redeposited light grey chalk running along the entire length of the trench (86), which was 0.50m thick. This was sealed by the concrete surface (1), 0.10m thick.

### 3.13 Finds and environmental summary

- 3.13.1 The evaluation yielded a small assemblage of finds comprising one sherd of abraded Iron Age pottery (48g), eight pieces of worked and burnt flint - the bulk of which were recovered from environmental samples - and a small group of animal bone consisting of 13 (439g) cattle, sheep/goat and large mammal sized bones. The material was recovered from eight contexts relating to ditch **61**, Trench 3, ditch **88** and **91** Trench 8, and pits **98**, **102** and **110** in Trench 8.
- 3.13.2 Six bulk environmental samples were processed from select contexts in Trenches 6 and 8. The samples were devoid of preserved plant remains other than a small fragment of charcoal from context 96, pit **98** in Trench 8. However, shells of land snails are frequent and well preserved in all samples.

## 4 DISCUSSION

- 4.1.1 The archaeology identified during the evaluation was very limited, being confined to the southern half of the site in Trenches 3, 8 and 9. Whilst there is a possibility of the survival of two potential pits (**28** and **29**) in the northern half of the site in Trench 6, their status as cut archaeological features, as opposed to natural hollows is uncertain. All that can be confidently concluded is that features predate the modern quarrying and levelling activity.
- 4.1.2 More widely, the evaluation has largely confirmed the results of the geotechnical investigation which suggested that extensive areas in the north of the site were heavily disturbed and characterised by deep deposits of made (and contaminated) ground filling former quarries. The made ground model presented in Figure 2 is therefore broadly correct, though the area of deep disturbance is more extensive, and a new line can be drawn between the western end of Trench 9 and the middle of Trench 3 where the edges of quarry were recorded.
- 4.1.3 With the exception of very deep pits or solution hollows (for example **28** and **29**), no archaeology is likely to survive in this north zone. In the south and east of the site, survival is also likely to be patchy, where remains are present, as this area has also been scoured to varying degrees by levelling and construction activity. This has removed almost all traces of former soil horizons, and possibly archaeological features in some areas. Patches of subsoil were tentatively identified in parts of Trench 2 and 8, but were absent elsewhere. In fact, the survival of such deposits and archaeological features in Trench 8 and 9 may be due to a localised dip in the former ground surface, reducing the impact of levelling. The same may account for the survival of features in Trench 3, though these have clearly suffered a heavier degree of truncation.
- 4.1.4 What survives of these remains is therefore difficult to interpret, not least because few datable finds were recovered, and some or all of those collected could be residual. In the case of the features in Trench 3, the ditch (**61**) and the two accompanying pits (**63** and **65**) may be prehistoric in date, based on burnt flint collected from ditch **61**. Prehistoric worked flint was also recovered from ditches **88** and **91** in Trench 8, with the latter yielding a single piece of abraded later Iron Age pottery. Similarly, further worked flints were retrieved from adjacent pits **98** and **102** in Trench 8, suggesting at the very least that this area of the site witnessed prehistoric activity, whether or not the features themselves date to this period. On this point, it is important to note that none of the ditches directly relate to boundaries shown on historic mapping. However, ditch **105** (which has a different axis to **88** and **91** in Trench 8) is aligned broadly parallel to various surrounding field boundaries depicted on the 1886 Ordnance Survey first edition map of the area, and could be a 19th century post-Enclosure field boundary ditch.
- 4.1.5 Issues of dating aside, it is likely that ditches **88** and **91** (Trench 8) are related, possibly forming the corner of an enclosure. It is also notable that ditch **61** in Trench 3 is aligned east-west, similar to ditch **91**, and could potentially belong to a wider boundary system. If so, the paucity of finds and charred remains from the environment samples suggest that these features may not have been directly associated with settlement, but could relate to a pattern of rectilinear prehistoric (?) field boundaries, possibly



with contemporary areas of pitting. Little more can be discerned about the function of these pits at this stage, but the recovery of animal bone from **98**, **101** and **102** in Trench 8 indicates that some were receiving waste perhaps derived from occupation somewhere in the vicinity.

## 4.2 Significance

- 4.2.1 The evaluation has demonstrated that the northern half of the site has been extensively disturbed by early 20th century quarrying and subsequent earthmoving operations, rendering most of this zone archaeologically sterile. The southern half of the site has also been disturbed by levelling, removing almost all of the former topsoil and subsoil horizons, except in localised patches around Trenches 2 and 8. The archaeological potential and significance of the site has therefore been severely compromised by past land uses, but archaeological remains have been identified in Trenches 3, 8 and 9, with most features and the best levels of preservation found within Trenches 8 and 9.
- 4.2.2 Overall, the exact date or purpose of the features recorded in the evaluation is by no means certain, though the only datable finds recovered were of prehistoric date. These potentially relate to a series of field boundary with associated pits, and may belong to a wider swathe of prehistoric activity recorded in the vicinity of the site in and around Sawston.

## APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of modern levelling layers overlying natural geology of clay sand and chalk.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.80
Context No.	Type	Width (-m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	layer	-	0.1	concrete surface	-	Modern
55	layer	-	0.4	hardcore	-	Modern
56	layer	-	0.18	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
57	layer	-	0.18	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
58	layer	-	0.12	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
59	layer	-	0.2	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
60	layer	-	0.2	surface	-	Modern

Trench 2						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of modern levelling layers overlying natural geology of clays sands and chalk with possible small amount of surviving sub and top soils.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.70
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
49	layer	-	0.1	sub-soil??	-	Modern
50	layer	-	0.2	top-soil???	-	Modern
51	layer	--	0.2	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
52	layer	-	0.2	base/surface???	-	Modern
53	layer	-	0.12	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
54	layer	-	0.2	sub-soil???	-	Modern

Trench 3						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench contains single undated ditch terminal and two small undated pits. Consists of modern levelling layers overlying natural geology of clay sands and chalk.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	2.00
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
61	ditch	0.5	0.1	enclosure	-	Prehistoric?
62	ditch	-	0.1	Disuse fill of 61	flint	Prehistoric?
63	pit	1.12	0.3	quarrying ???	-	unknown
64	pit	-	0.3	Disuse fill of 63	-	unknown
65	pit	1.14	0.2	quarrying?	-	unknown
66	pit	-	0.2	Disuse fill of 65	-	unknown
67	Layer	-	0.3	Modern Levelling Layer	-	modern
68	Layer	-	0.2	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
69	Layer	-	0.2	Modern Levelling Layer	-	modern

70	Layer	-	0.22	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
74	Layer	-	0.4	Modern Levelling Layer	-	modern
75	Layer	-	0.08	Modern Levelling Layer	-	modern
76	Layer	-	0.26	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
77	Layer	-	0.1	disuse	-	Modern
119	Layer	-	0.2	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern

Trench 4						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	E-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of modern levelling layers overlying natural geology of clay sand and chalk.					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
					<b>Width (m)</b>	2
					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	1.90
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
12	Cut		-	Modern Quarrying/Levelling	-	Modern
13	layer	-	0.18	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
14	layer	-	0.3	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
16	layer	-	0.32	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
17	layer	-	0.3	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
18	layer	-	0.4	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
118	layer	-	0.3	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern

Trench 5						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of modern levelling layers overlying natural geology of clay sand and chalk.					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
					<b>Width (m)</b>	2
					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	1.00
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
40	layer	-	0.1	modern surface	-	Modern
41	layer	-	0.08	foundation	-	Modern
43	layer	-	0.08	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
44	layer	-	0.07	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
45	layer	-	0.2	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
46	layer	-	0.2	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
47	layer	-	0.2	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern

Trench 6						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE
Trench contains two potential pits cutting into natural geology of clay sand and chalk, overlaid by backfill/levelling layers of modern quarrying					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
					<b>Width (m)</b>	4
					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	1.90
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
12	Cut	-	-	Modern Quarrying/levelling	-	Modern

19	layer	-	0.2	Modern levelling Layer	-	Modern
20	layer	-	0.2	Modern levelling Layer	-	Modern
21	layer	-	0.34	Modern levelling Layer	-	Modern
22	layer	-	0.4	Modern levelling Layer	-	Modern
23	pit	-	0.2	Modern levelling Layer	-	Modern
24	fill	-	0.4	backfill	-	Modern
25	fill	-	0.4	backfill	-	Modern
26	fill	-	0.2	backfill	-	Modern
27	fill	-	0.2	backfill	-	Modern
28	cut	0.80	0.42	Natural?	-	Unknown
29	cut	2.75	0.30	Natural?	-	Unknown
30	fill	-	0.34	Pit 28 fill	-	Unknown
31	fill	-	0.18	Pit 28 fill	-	Unknown
32	fill	-	0.3	Pit 29 fill	-	unknown
33	fill	-	0.22	Modern levelling Layer	-	Modern
34	fill	-	0.18	Modern levelling Layer	-	Modern
35	fill	-	0.16	Modern levelling Layer	-	Modern
36	fill	-	0.08	Modern levelling Layer	-	Modern
37	fill	-	0.18	Modern levelling Layer	-	Modern
38	fill	-	0.22	Modern levelling Layer	-	Modern

#### Trench 7

General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of modern levelling layers and backfill of extensive post-war quarrying into the natural geology of clay sand and chalk.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	2.00
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2	layer	-	0.1	Tarmac	-	Modern
3	layer	-	0.1	construction Layer	-	Modern
4	Layer	-	0.4	Modern levelling Layer	-	Modern
5	Layer	--	0.42	Modern levelling Layer	-	Modern
6	Layer	-	0.58	Modern levelling Layer	-	Modern
7	layer	-	0.72	Modern levelling Layer	-	Modern
8	layer	-	0.2	soil????	-	Modern
9	masonry	-	0.28	concrete structure	-	Modern
10	masonry	-	-	concrete capping ??	-	Modern
11	Layer	-	0.2	Modern levelling Layer	-	Modern
12	Cut	-	-	Modern Quarrying/Levelling	-	Modern

#### Trench 8

General description		Orientation	NE-SW
The trench consisted of three ditches <b>88</b> , <b>91</b> , <b>105</b> , two small pits: <b>95</b> , <b>98</b> and two large pits, <b>102</b> and <b>110</b> at the intersection between trenches 8 and 9). These were sealed over by horizontal bands of modern levelling material and covered by an external concrete		Length (m)	30
		Width (m)	2
		Avg. depth (m)	1.10

surface (1) all of which overlying the natural geology of clay sand and chalk.						
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	layer	-	0.10	concrete	-	modern
82	layer	-	0.28	Modern Levelling Layer	-	
86	layer	-	0.50	Modern Levelling Layer	-	
87	fill	-	0.2	Fill of ditch 88	-	unknown
88	cut	1	0.2	ditch	-	Unknown
89	fill	-	0.3	Fill of ditch 91	-	IA ?
90	fill	-	0.1	Fill of ditch 91	Pot	IA ?
91	cut	1.2	0.4	ditch	-	IA ?
92	fill	-	0.08	Fill of gully 93	-	Unknown
93	cut	0.2	0.08	gully	-	Unknown
94	fill	-	0.28	Fill of gully 95	-	Unknown
95	cut	1.22	0.28	pit	-	Unknown
96	fill	-	0.1	Fill of pit 98	-	Unknown
97	fill	-	0.08	Fill of pit 98	bone	Unknown
98	cut	0.38	0.2	Pit cut	-	Unknown
99	fill	-	0.3	Fill of pit 102	bone	Unknown
100	fill	-	0.32	Fill of pit 102	-	Unknown
101	fill	-	0.08	Fill of pit 102	-	Unknown
102	cut	3.1	0.4	pit	-	Unknown
103	fill	-	0.22	Fill of ditch 105	-	Unknown
104	fill	-	0.22	Fill of ditch 105	-	Unknown
105	cut	2.1	0.46	ditch	-	Unknown
111	fill	-	0.1	Fill of pit 102	-	Unknown
112	fill	-	0.08	Fill of pit 102	-	Unknown
114	layer	-	0.10	Modern Levelling Layer	-	
115	fill	-	0.1	Fill of pit 102	-	Unknown
120	layer	-	0.36	Modern Levelling Layer	-	modern
121	layer	-	0.3	Modern Levelling Layer	-	modern

Trench 9						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE
The trench contained three features, two small discrete pits <b>78</b> and <b>81</b> and a large pit <b>110</b> . The features were sealed over by levelling layers with no indication of the survival of the original sub or top soils over a natural of clay sand and chalk.					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
					<b>Width (m)</b>	2
					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.30
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
12	cut	-	-	Modern Quarrying/levelling	-	modern
76	Fill	-	0.30	Fill of pit 78		unknown
77	fill	-	0.10	Fill of pit 78		Unknown
78	cut	1.1	0.4	pit	-	unknown
79	fill		0.18	Fill of pit 81	-	Unknown

80	fill		0.1	Fill of pit 81	-	Unknown
81	cut	0.6	0.3	pit	-	unknown
82	layer		0.3	Modern Levelling Layer	-	modern
83	layer		0.8	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
84	layer		0.18	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
85	layer		0.3	Modern Levelling Layer	-	Modern
86	layer		0.5	Modern Levelling Layer	-	modern
106	fill		0.3	Fill of pit 110		Unknown
107	fill		0.3	Fill of pit 110	bone	Unknown
108	fill		0.14	Fill of pit 110		Unknown
109	fill		0.14	Fill of pit 110		Unknown
110	cut		1.1	Pit		Unknown
113	layer		0.3	Modern Levelling Layer		Modern
114	layer		0.1	Modern Levelling Layer		Modern
116	fill		0.1	Fill of pit 110		Unknown
117	fill		0.12	Fill of pit 110		Unknown

## APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

### B.1 Pottery

*By Matt Brudenell*

B.1.1 A small plain abraded sherd (42g) of handmade prehistoric pottery was recovered from ditch **91**, context 90, Trench 8. The sherd is in a quartz sand tempered fabric with rare poorly sorted coarse flint inclusions, and derives from the neck of a handmade vessel, probably a large jar. The sherd cannot be closely dated, but the character of the fabric is typical of pottery dating from the Middle Iron Age in southern Cambridgeshire, c. 350-50 BC.

### B.2 Flint

*By Lawrence Billington*

#### *Introduction*

B.2.1 A small assemblage of six worked flints and two fragments of unworked burnt flint (33g) were recovered from the site. The assemblage is quantified by type and context in Table 1. Whilst the unworked burnt flint was hand collected from the fill of ditch **61**, all of the worked flint was recovered from the residues of bulk environmental samples. The flint occurred in low densities, with a maximum of two pieces from any one context and it seems likely that much or all of this material represents residual material inadvertently incorporated into the fills of later features.

#### *Results*

B.2.2 A single small tertiary bladelet was recovered from ditch **88**, context 87, Trench 8. This piece is likely to be Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic date. A blade-like flake and a secondary flake from pit **102** are both relatively fine, systematically produced pieces and whilst not strongly diagnostic are most consistent with a Neolithic date. The remaining material, from pit **98** and ditch **91**, is made up of undiagnostic material – two decortication flakes and a small chip.

Context	Cut	Trench	Sample	Context type	Chip	Secondary Flake	Blade-like flake	Bladelet	Total worked	BF count	BF weight
62	61	3		Ditch						2	33
101	102	8	10	Pit		1	1		2		
90	91	8	6	Ditch		2			2		
87	88	8	9	Ditch				1	1		
96	98	8	8	Pit	1				1		
<i>Totals</i>					<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>33</i>

*Table 1- Quantification of the flint assemblage.*

## APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

### C.1 Environmental Samples

*By Rachel Fosberry*

#### *Introduction*

C.1.1 Six bulk samples were processed from select contexts from the evaluation 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 processed from features encountered within Trenches 6 and 8 from deposits that were contaminated with modern hydrocarbons.

#### *Methodology*

C.1.2 The samples were soaked in a solution of Decon-90 for 24hrs prior to processing due to hydrocarbon contamination. The samples from Trench 6 were particularly pungent smelling. Protective clothing including gloves, goggles and mask were worn throughout processing and good ventilation was ensured.

C.1.3 The total volume (up to 17L) 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. The residues were sorted outdoors due to their smell.

C.1.4 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 2.

#### *Quantification*

C.1.5 For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as molluscs have been scored for abundance and diversity.

Sample No.	Context No.	Feature No.	Feature Type	Trench No.	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Molluscs density/diversity	Worked flint	Flint debitage
1	30	28	Pit	6	17	40	++++/+++	0	0
3	62	61	Ditch	3	16	10	++/+++	0	0
6	90	91	Ditch	8	12	10	++++/+++	0	#
8	96	98	Pit	8	10	2	+++/+++	0	#
9	87	88	Ditch	8	8	2	++/+++	#	0
10	101	102	Pit	8	10	1	+++/+++	0	#

*Table 2- Environmental samples + = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant*



## Results

- C.1.6 The samples were devoid of preserved plant remains other than a small fragment of charcoal in Sample 8, fill 96 of pit 98 in Trench 8.
- C.1.7 Shells of land snails are frequent and are well preserved.

## Discussion

- C.1.8 The samples taken from this site indicate that the potential for the recovery of preserved plant remains is low. Mollusc survival is good with moderate density and diversity.
- C.1.9 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 Zoe Ui Choileain*

### Introduction

- C.2.1 A small assemblage of animal bone was recovered from three separate pits (98, 102 and 110) in Trench 8. Thirteen fragments of countable bone weighing 439g were recorded (Table 3). The pits contained no dating material and the bone was in poor condition.

### Methodology

- C.2.2 Identification of the assemblage was undertaken with the aid of Schmid (1972) and the OAE reference collection. Preservation condition was evaluated using the 0-5 scale devised by Brickley and McKinley (2004 14-15).

### Results

- C.2.3 Both cattle and sheep remains were present within the assemblage. Full results are presented in the table below.

Context	Cut	Trench	Feature	Element	Taxon	Weight (g)	No. frags
97	98	8	Pit	Radius	Cattle	94	1
99	102	8	Pit	Calcaneus	Cattle	41	1
101	102	8	Pit	Vertebra	Large Mammal	7	1
101	102	8	Pit	Femur	Sheep/goat	5	1
101	102	8	Pit	Radius	Sheep/goat	3	1
107	110	8	Pit	Humerus	Cattle	60	1
107	110	8	Pit	Metacarpus	Cattle	46	1
107	110	8	Pit	Radius	Large mammal	44	1
107	110	8	Pit	Vertebra	Large mammal	126	4
107	110	8	Pit	Calcaneus	Sheep/goat	13	1
<i>Total</i>						<i>439</i>	<i>13</i>

---

*Table 3- A summary of faunal remains by context.*

### ***Conclusion***

C.2.4 No further information can be gained from this assemblage and if no further excavation takes place the material is recommended for dispersal.

## APPENDIX D      BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## APPENDIX E OASIS REPORT FORM

### Project Details

OASIS Number	Oxfordar3-309126		
Project Name	Dale Manor Business Park, Sawston, Cambridgeshire		
Start of Fieldwork	09/01/2018	End of Fieldwork	17/01/2018
Previous Work	n/a	Future Work	n/a

### Project Reference Codes

Site Code	SAWDMB17	Planning App. No.	S/1962/10
HER Number	ECB5181	Related Numbers	n/a

Prompt	NPPF
Development Type	Commercial
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 type="checkbox"/> Sample Trenches                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annotated Sketch                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Laser Scanning                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Survey/Recording of Fabric/Structure              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Augering                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Targeted Trenches                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dendrochronological Survey          | <input type="checkbox"/> Metal Detectors                | <input type="checkbox"/> Test Pits   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documentary Search       | <input type="checkbox"/> Phosphate Survey               | <input type="checkbox"/> Topographic Survey                                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Sampling   | <input type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey         | <input type="checkbox"/> Vibro-core  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fieldwalking                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Rectified Photography          |  |

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Ditches	Middle Iron Age ( - 400 to - 100)	Pottery	Middle Iron Age ( - 400 to - 100)
Pits	Modern (1901 to present)	Bone	Uncertain
	Choose an item.	Flint	Late Prehistoric ( - 4000 to 43)

Insert more lines as appropriate.

### Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire	Address (including Postcode) Dale Manor Business Park, Grove Rd, Sawston, Cambridge CB22 3TJ
District	South Cambs	
Parish	Sawston	
HER office	Cambridge	
Size of Study Area	24,916 Sqm	
National Grid Ref	TL 4902 5043	

### Project Originators

Organisation	OA East
Project Brief Originator	Andy Thomas
Project Design Originator	Matt Brudenell
Project Manager	Matt Brudenell
Project Supervisor	Steve Graham

### Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	CCC Stores	ECB5181
Digital Archive	OA East	SAWDMB17
Paper Archive	CCC Stores	ECB5181

Physical Contents	Present?	Digital files associated with Finds	Paperwork associated with Finds
Animal Bones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Remains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Survey		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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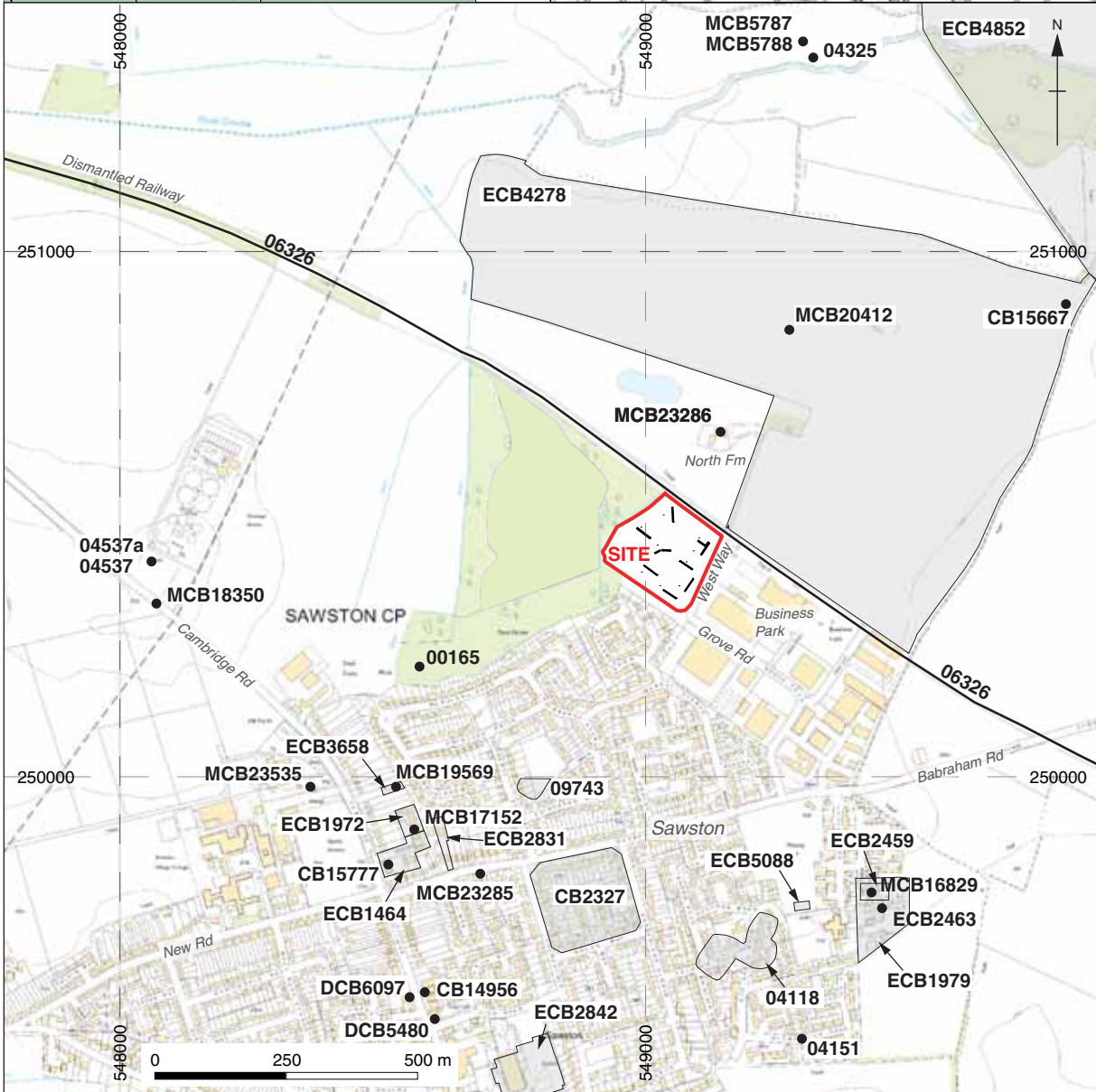
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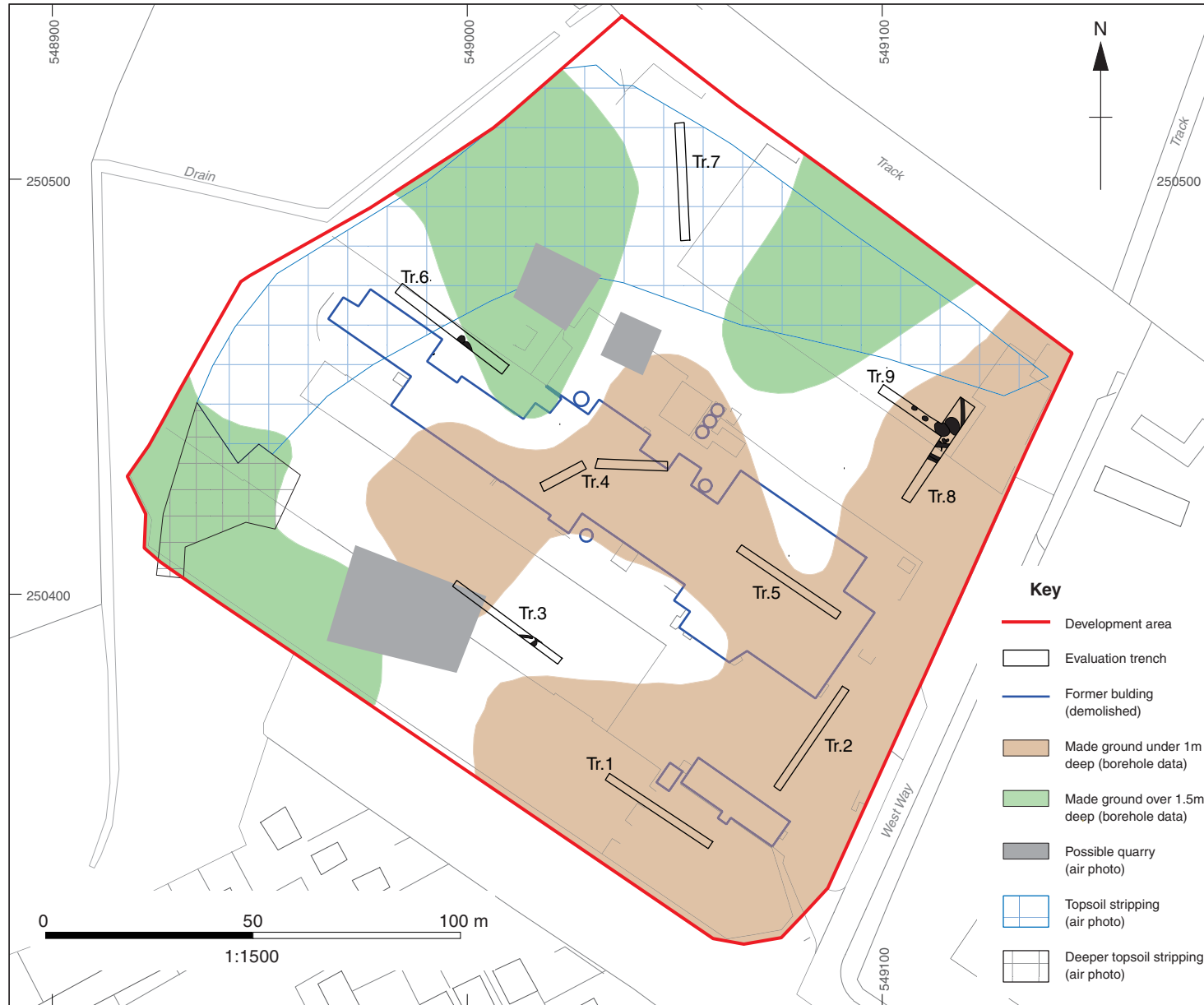
### Paper Media

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Context Sheets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Correspondence	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/>
Map	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matrices	<input type="checkbox"/>
Microfiche	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miscellaneous	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research/Notes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Photos (negatives/prints/slides)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Plans	<input checked="" 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), overlain with nearby HER entries



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Figure 2: Location of trenches overlain with aerial photography and borehole data



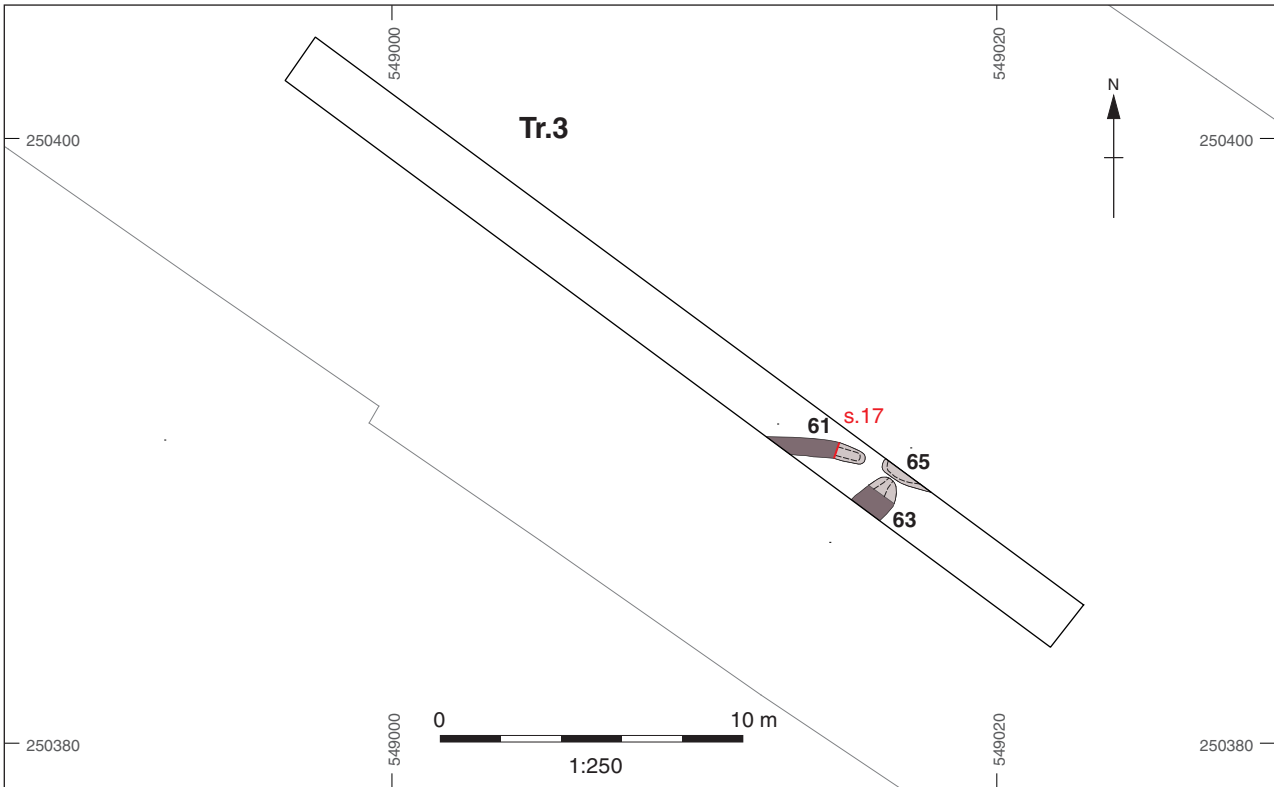






Figure 3: Detailed plan of Trench 3

	Evaluation trench		s.1 Illustrated section
	Archaeological feature	141	Cut number
	Break of slope		

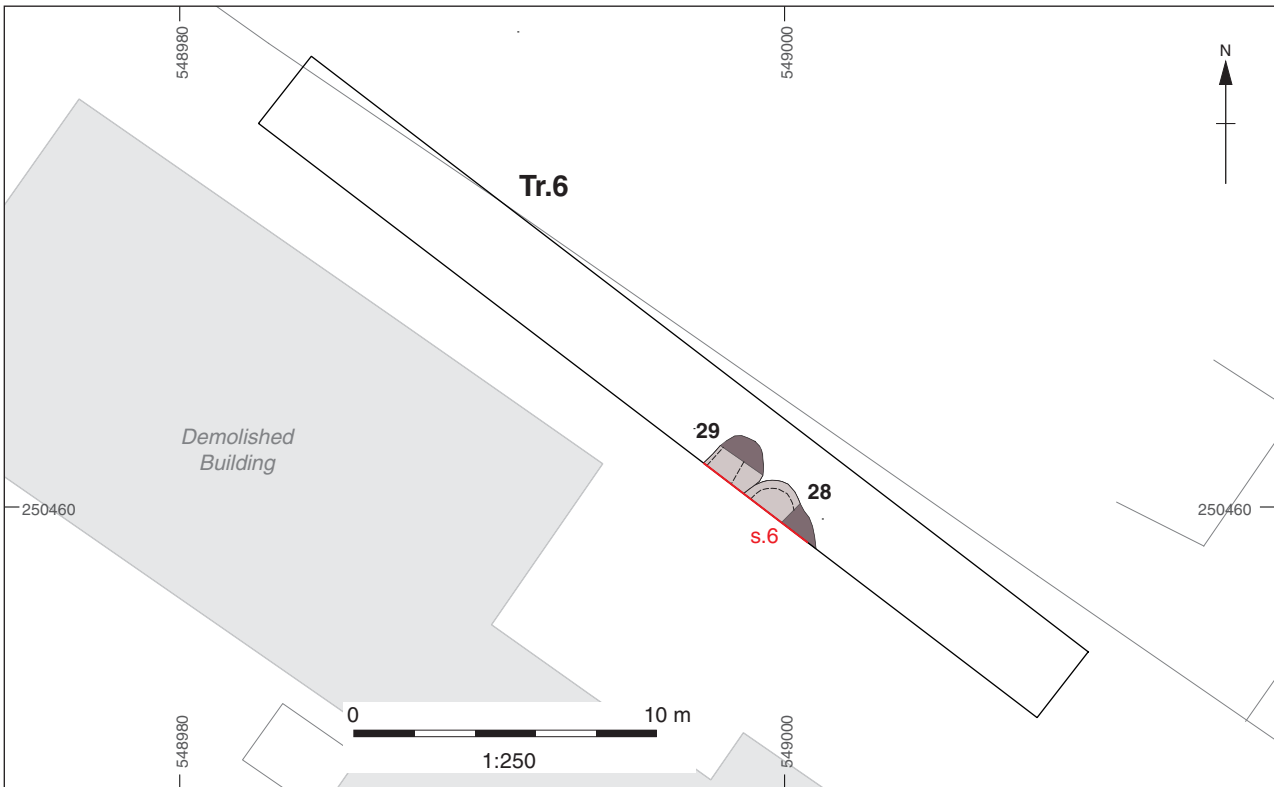


Figure 4: Detailed plan of Trench 6

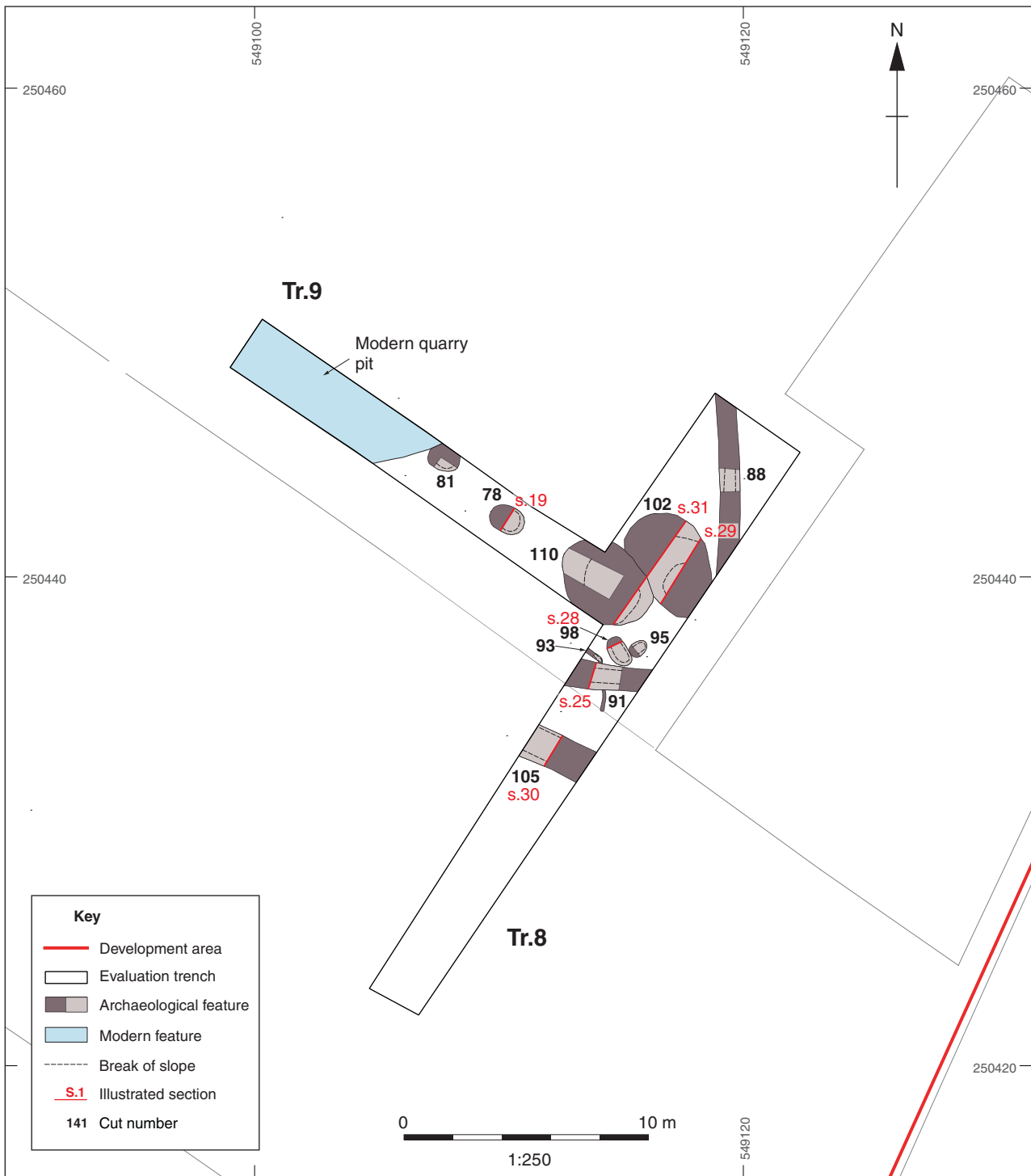


Figure 5: Detailed plan of Trenches 8 and 9

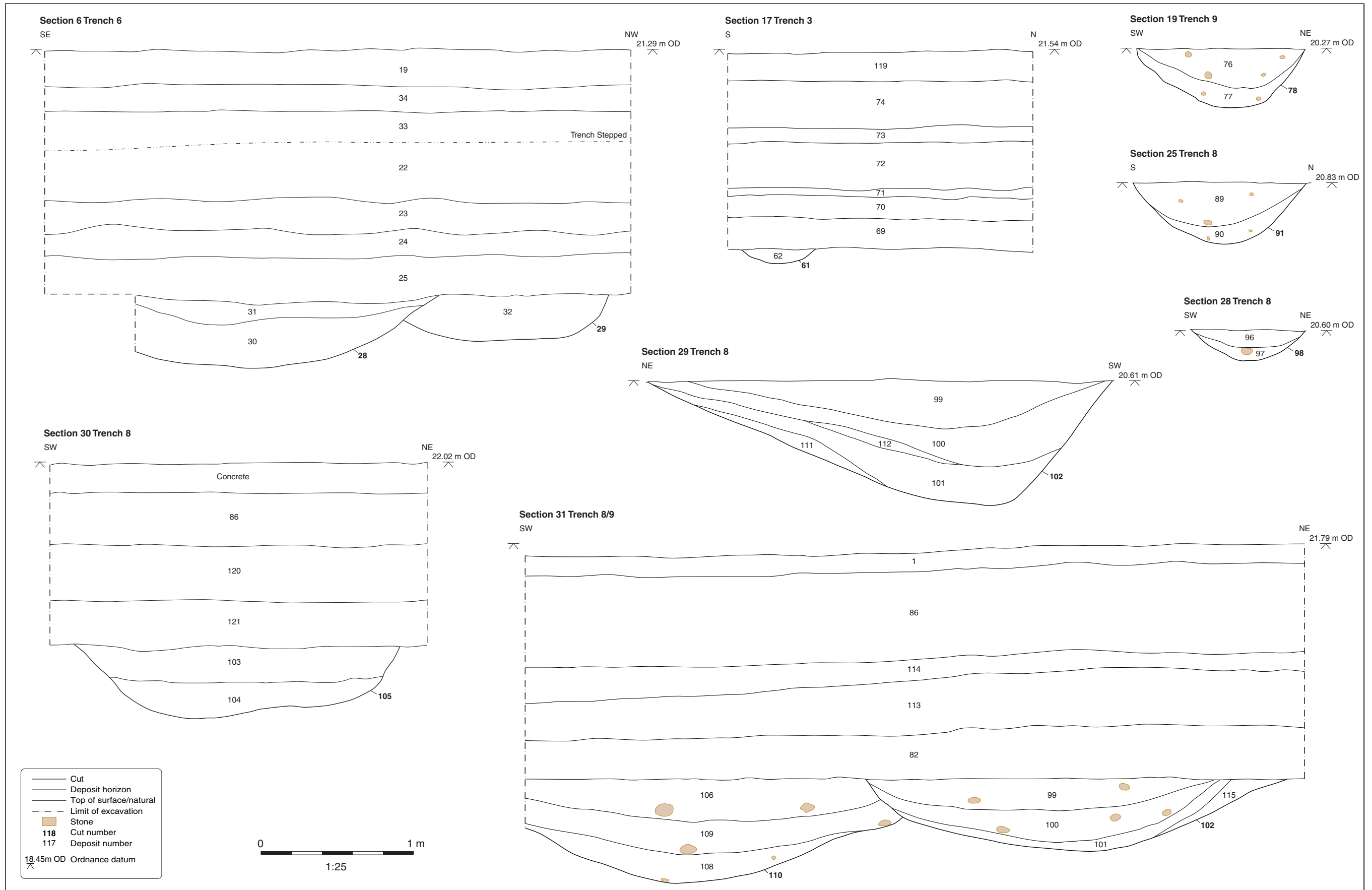


Figure 6: Selected sections



Plate 1: Trench 1 from the south-east



Plate 2: Trench 2 from the south-west



Plate 3: Trench 3 from the south-east with ditch **61** and pits **63** and **65** in the foreground



Plate 4: Trench 4 from the east



Plate 5: Trench 5 from the south-east



Plate 6: Trench 6 from the north-west with pits 28 and 29



Plate 7: Trench 7 from the south



Plate 8: Trench 8 (pre-excitation) from the north-east with ditch **88** and pit **102** in the foreground



Plate 9: Ditch **91** from the south-east



Plate 10: Pit **102** from the north





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