Fox Wood Garden Village, Whiston, Merseyside

Archaeological Evaluation Report

August 2022

Client: Lanpro Services on behalf of Taylor Wimpey North West

Issue No: V. 2
OA Reference No: L11428
NGR: SD 4765 8998

oxfordarchaeology

Client Name:	Lanpro Services on behalf of Taylor Wimpey North West
Document Title:	Fox Wood Garden Village, Whiston, Merseyside
Document Type:	Archaeological Evaluation Report
Report No.:	2022-23/2208
Grid Reference:	SD 4765 8998
Planning Reference:	20/00417/FUL
Site Code:	FGV22
Invoice Code:	L11428
Receiving Body:	Archaeology Data Service
OA Document File Location:	X:\Paul\Projects\L11428_Foxwood_Garden_Village\Report
OA Graphics File Location:	X:\Paul\Projects\L11428_Foxwood_Garden_Village\OAN_CAD
Issue No:	V. 2
Date:	August 2022
Prepared by:	Selina Dean (Assistant Supervisor)
Checked by:	Paul Dunn (Senior Project Manager)
Edited by:	Stephen Rowland (Senior Project Manager)
Approved for Issue by:	Fraser Brown (OA North Regional Manager)
Signature:	

OA South
Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford
OX2 0ES

t. +44 (0)1865 263 800

OA East
15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridge
CB23 8SQ

t. +44 (0)1223 850 500

OA North
Mill 3
Moor Lane Mills
Moor Lane
Lancaster
LA1 1QD
t. +44 (0)1524 880 250

e. info@oxfordarch.co.uk
w. oxfordarchaeology.com
Oxford Archaeology is a registered Charity: No. 285627

Chief Executive Officer
Ken Welsh, BSc., MCIfA
Private Limited Company, No: 1618597
Registered Charity, No: 285627
Registered Office: Oxford Archaeology Ltd
Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0ES

Fox Wood Garden Village, Whiston, Merseyside

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Written by Selina Dean

With illustrations by Mark Tidmarsh

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Summary

Oxford Archaeology (OA) North was commissioned by Lanpro Services, on behalf of Taylor Wimpey North West, to undertake a trial-trench evaluation of a proposed residential development on land at Halsnead Park to the south-west of Whiston, Merseyside (centered at NGR 4765 8998). Prior to the submission of a planning application, in 2018 and 2019, an extensive pre-application consultation between Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd and Knowsley Council was undertaken which informed the design and layout of the scheme, with a Scoping Opinion being provided by Knowsley Council in January 2019. Subsequently, an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) which supported the planning application submission in 2021. The findings of the EIA were set out in an Environmental Statement (ES), with Chapter 9 produced by CgMs/RPS informed by a heritage assessment including a geophysical survey.

The work was undertaken as condition 24 of Planning Permission (planning ref 20/00417/FUL). During consultation for the application, the archaeological advisors to Knowsley Council, Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS), recommended that an archaeological evaluation be undertaken comprising of 25 trial trenches, including thirteen trenches measuring 50m by 2m, six trenches measuring 30m by 2m, and six trenches measuring 20m by 2m, agreed by MEAS. A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was produced by Lanpro Services detailing the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to discharge the planning condition. OA North was subsequently commissioned to undertake the necessary fieldwork, which was carried out over seven days, 19th to 27th April 2022.

All 25 trenches were excavated, although two trenches (Trenches 23 and 25) were required to be moved due to their proximity to overhead services. Archaeological remains were encountered in five trenches (Trenches 11, 13, 24, and 25 in the central- to north-eastern part of the site, and Trench 15 in the central-western part), and generally appeared to relate to modern, or late post-medieval at the earliest, ditches and pits.

All of the trenches in the southern part of the proposed development area were devoid of archaeological remains, instead revealing made ground probably related to the construction of the M62 motorway to the south. This made ground likely accounts for the strong anomalies revealed in a geophysical survey undertaken over the area in 2020, in the southern part of the of the proposed development area. Substantial made-ground deposits were also revealed by trenches in the northern part of the site, and these potentially related to modern or post-medieval clay extraction. Three finds were recovered from Trenches 1 and 11, consisting of post-medieval ceramics and modern bakelite, considered to be of low significance.

Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology (OA) North would like to thank Karl Taylor of Lanpro Services and Taylor Wimpey North West for commissioning this project. Thanks are also extended to Alison Plummer of Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS), who monitored the work on behalf of Knowsley Council.

The project was managed for OA North by Paul Dunn. The fieldwork was directed by Bryan Antoni, who was supported by Selina Dean, Matthew Hargreaves, Catherine O'Doherty, and Alicia Senelle. Survey was undertaken by Selina Dean, whilst the illustrations were produced by Mark Tidmarsh.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) North was commissioned by Lanpro Services, on behalf of Taylor Wimpey North West, to undertake a trial-trench evaluation at the site of a proposed residential development on land at Halsnead Park, to the south-west of Whiston, Merseyside (centred at NGR SD 4765 8998; Fig 1).

1.1.2 Prior to the submission of a planning application, in 2018 and 2019, an extensive pre-application consultation between Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd and Knowsley Council was undertaken which informed the design and layout of the scheme, with a Scoping Opinion being provided by Knowsley Council in January 2019. Subsequently, an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) which supported the planning application submission in 2021. The findings of the EIA were set out in an Environmental Statement (ES; Pegasus 2021) with Chapter 9 produced by CgMs/RPS informed by a heritage assessment including a geophysical survey (CgMs/RPS 2020).

1.1.3 This work was undertaken as condition 24 of Planning Permission (planning ref: 20/00417/FUL), issued 9th February 2022. Condition 24 stated:

Prior to the commencement of development, a written scheme of investigation for archaeological work shall be submitted and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The work shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved scheme.

Reason: To ensure the implementation of the required scheme of archaeological investigation and its publication and to comply with the National Planning Policy Framework (2021), Policies CS2, CS19, CS20 and SUE2 of the Knowsley Plan Core: Strategy 2016, and the Halsnead Garden Village Masterplan SPD 2017

1.1.4 During consultation for the application, the archaeological advisors to Knowsley Council, Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS), recommended that an archaeological evaluation be undertaken on the site. This should comprise 25 trial trenches, including 13 trenches measuring 50m by 2m, six trenches measuring 30m by 2m, and six trenches measuring 20m by 2m (Fig 2) agreed by MEAS. A written scheme of investigation (WSI; *Appendix A*) was produced by Lanpro Services detailing the Local Authority's requirements for the work necessary to discharge the planning condition. OA North was subsequently commissioned to undertake the archaeological fieldwork, which was carried out over seven days (19th to 27th April 2022). This document outlines how OA North implemented the specified requirements.

1.2 Location, topography, and geology

1.2.1 The site comprises three arable fields bound by Fox's Bank Lane to the east, a farm track to the north, and the M62 motorway to the south. Cherry Tree Farm, which includes a farmhouse, outbuildings, and hardstanding, lies within the application site, to the west of which is an area of woodland known as Fox's Clump (Fig 1). The topography of the proposed development area is undulating at approximately 45m AOD, although the southern part of the site slopes to the south, down to approximately 40m AOD.

1.2.2 The bedrock geology of the western edge of the proposed development site comprises mudstone, siltstone, and sandstone of the Pennine Lower Coal Measure Formation (BGS 2022). This is divided from the main part of the area by a north/south-aligned fault, to the east of which the bedrock geology consists of the Kinnerton Sandstone Formation (*ibid*). The superficial geology of the site is mapped as Devensian Till (*ibid*). The soils of the site are mapped as slowly permeable, seasonally wet, and slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils (Cranfield 2022).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site is described in detail in the WSI (*Appendix A*), produced by Lanpro Services, which included a summary of the heritage assessment and ES Chapter 9 submitted as part of the planning application (CgMs/RPS 2020). A brief summary abstracted from that document is provided here.

1.3.2 There are no recorded designated heritage assets within the application site, but it does contain two recorded non-designated assets: Halsnead Park (MME15147) and Halsnead Park Wall (MME15681). Halsnead Park covers the whole of the application site as well as areas to the north, west and south. The park and estate were already in existence when purchased in 1684, but Halsnead is thought to have early medieval origins on account of its Old English name, *Grewinton Halfsnead*, which is first mentioned in 1246. The post-medieval park wall is well preserved and forms the eastern boundary of the application site, along Fox's Bank Lane. The layout of the park in the twentieth century is shown on Figures 3 and 4.

1.3.3 The WSI concluded that there was little potential for archaeological remains within the application site. The nearest prehistoric remains included Mesolithic and Neolithic flint scatters *c* 2km to south, with the closest Roman remains comprising a second-century rectilinear enclosure, identified to the west during works on the A5300 Link Road. The purported early medieval date of the park notwithstanding, there are no recorded early medieval or medieval heritage assets within the application site, although there are several medieval pottery findspots within 1km. Thus, there is low potential for encountering remains of early medieval or medieval date, a period when the site was likely to have been in agricultural use.

1.3.4 A geophysical survey was undertaken as part of the heritage assessment (CgMs/RPS 2020), which identified anomalies interpreted as possibly relating to early parkland features and possible industrial features related to coal mining in the south-east. However, there are no historic mining activities recorded within the application site and the responses are more likely associated with the construction of the M62 motorway.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The main aim of the project is to obtain sufficient information to establish the presence/absence, character, extent, state of preservation, and date of any archaeological deposits within the area of the proposed development. This will allow reasoned and informed recommendations to be made regarding any requirements for mitigation, which will be in the form of a strip and record, the exact scope of which would be agreed with MEAS. The project objectives are as follows:

i. to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, and significance of any archaeological remains within the portion of the development site outlined for evaluation;

ii. to excavate and record identified archaeological features and deposits to a level appropriate to their extent and significance;

iii. to assess vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains;

iv. to assess the impact of previous land use on the site;

v. to assess the potential for survival of environmental evidence;

vi. to inform a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains;

vii. to undertake sufficient post-excavation assessment to confidently interpret identified archaeological features;

viii. to report the results of the evaluation and place them in their local, regional, or national context and to make this record available.

2.1.2 The WSI (*Appendix A*) made reference to the evaluation findings having the potential to contribute to research priorities and questions identified in the regional research framework: *The Archaeology of North West England – An Archaeological Research Framework for the North West* (RFN 2022). For instance:

i. PM19 – how can the study of leisure landscaping inform our understanding of the changing landscape in this period.

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The methodology is outlined in the WSI (*Appendix A*) and was adhered to in full. As such, it was fully compliant with prevailing guidelines and established industry best practice (CIfA 2020a; 2020b; 2021; Historic England 2015).

2.2.2 Prior to excavation, the trenches were scanned using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) and Signal Generator (Genny), to identify any potential services. All trenches were excavated in a stratigraphic manner. The trenches were located by the use of a real-time kinematic (RTK) global navigation satellite system (GNSS), accurate to within 0.02-0.03m, and altitude information was established with respect to Ordnance Survey Datum. Trenches 23 and 25 were moved approximately 15 to 20m to the west and

rotated to an approximate north/south orientation due to the presence of overheard services (Fig 2).

2.2.3 The topsoil and subsoil were removed by a 13-ton 360° tracked excavator, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, to the surface of the first significant archaeological deposit, natural geology, or a safe working depth, under direct archaeological supervision at all times. Subsequent cleaning and investigation of all archaeological deposits was undertaken manually, using either hoes, shovel scraping, and/or trowels depending on the subsoil conditions. All features of archaeological interest were investigated and recorded.

2.2.4 All information identified during the site works was recorded stratigraphically, using a system adapted from that used by the former Centre of Archaeology of English Heritage, with an accompanying pictorial record (plans, sections, and digital photographs). Primary records were available for inspection at all times. Results of all field investigations were recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. The site archive includes both photographic images and accurate large-scale plans and sections at appropriate scales (1:50; 1:20; 1:10).

2.2.5 A full professional archive has been complied in accordance with the WSI, and in accordance with current CIfA (2020b) and Historic England (2015) guidelines. A small assemblage of artefacts were recovered, however, these were assessed as being of very minimal significance and recommended for return to the landowner or discard. As such, the archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), in line with National Museums of Liverpool (NML) guidelines (NML 2021). An online access to the index of archaeological investigations (OASIS) form has been uploaded (ref: oxfordar2-506489; *Appendix F*), along with a digital copy of this report.

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 each of the five trenches that revealed archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches, with dimensions and depths of all deposits, can be found in *Appendix B*.

3.2 General deposits and ground conditions

3.2.1 There was some variation in the sequence of deposits across site and, in the case of Trenches 1 to 10, this was probably due to works associated with the construction of the M62 motorway. The natural geology found in those trenches consisted of a mid-brownish-yellow sandstone bedrock. This was overlain by a dark reddish-brown sandy clay layer of made ground, which varied from 0.3m to over 2m thick. This was sealed by an intermittent layer of subsoil, approximately 0.1m to 0.2m thick, which was, in turn, overlain by topsoil, approximately 0.09m to 0.47m thick (Plate 1). Sondages were excavated through the thick made ground deposits identified in these trenches (Plate 2); however, in some instances, natural geology was not reached at a depth of 2m below ground level.

Plate 1: North-facing section of Trench 6, scale 1m

Plate 3: North-east-facing section of sondage in Trench 8, showing depth of made ground, 2m scale

3.2.2 The sequence of deposits in the trenches (Trenches 11 to 25) consisted of mid-orange/brown silty clay natural geology. In some trenches this was overlain by dark brownish-grey sandy clay made ground, 0.3m to 1.7m thick. The made ground (where present) or natural geology was overlain by mid-greyish-brown silty clay subsoil, 0.1m to 0.2m thick, which was, in turn, overlain by topsoil, 0.2m to 0.4m thick (Plate 3). There was also evidence of deep disturbance in the northern part of the site (Plate 4), which potentially related to clay extraction.

Plate 3: North-west-facing section of Trench 20, Scale 1m

Plate 4: North-west-facing section of Trench 16, showing depth of made ground, scale 2m

3.2.3 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the site remained dry throughout the investigation. Archaeological features, where present, were easily identified against the underlying natural geology.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Archaeological features were present in Trenches 11, 13, 24, and 25 in the central- to north-eastern part of the site, and Trench 15 in the central-western part. The remainder of the trenches were either devoid of archaeological remains or only contained field drains or natural features that will be discussed no further.

3.4 Trench 11

3.4.1 Trench 11 (Fig 2; Plate 5), located towards the central-eastern part of the site, was aligned north-east/south-west and targeted linear anomalies identified on the geophysical survey (Fig 2; CgMs/RPS 2020). Natural geology ***1103*** was encountered across the trench and was cut by ditches ***1104*** and ***1106***.

Plate 5: Trench 11, looking south-west, 1m and 2m scales

3.4.2 Ditch ***1104*** (Fig 5; Plate 6) was encountered at the north-eastern end of the trench, was aligned approximately north/south, and extended across the width of the trench. It measured 1.3m wide and survived to a maximum depth of 0.45m. Ditch ***1104*** was filled by a single deposit, ***1105***, a dark-grey/black silty sand, which contained a fragment of post-medieval pottery. A stone-lined field drain cut the eastern edge of the ditch.

*Plate 6: North-east-facing section of ditch **1104**, truncated by a land drain to the east, scale 1m*

3.4.3 Ditch ***1106*** (Fig 5; Plate 7) was encountered in the centre of the trench and appeared to be L-shaped in plan, its members aligned to the cardinal points. It was approximately 3m wide, and of uncertain depth: due to the depth of the trench at the point the feature was encountered, it could not be excavated. Its visible fill, dark-grey/black silty sand ***1107***, was very similar to fill ***1105*** of nearby ditch ***1104***, suggesting that the features could be broadly contemporary. Both features were overlain by approximately 0.07m-thick mid-grey/brown subsoil ***1101***, which was, in turn, overlain by topsoil ***1100***, approximately 0.31m thick.

*Plate 7: Ditch **1106**, looking east, scale 2m*

3.5 Trench 13

3.5.1 Trench 13 (Fig 2; Plate 8), located towards the central-eastern part of the proposed development site, was aligned east to west and targeted linear anomalies visible on the geophysical survey (CgMs/RPS 2020). Natural geology ***1301*** was identified across the trench and was cut by pit ***1302*** and ditch ***1305***.

Plate 8: Trench 13 looking west, scales 1m and 2m

3.5.2 A small pit, ***1302*** (Fig 6; Plate 9), was identified towards the western end of Trench 13, measuring 0.95m by 0.87m and 0.4m deep. Pit ***1302*** contained two deposits; the earliest, fill **1303**, was a light-grey/brown sandy silt, approximately 0.3m thick, which was overlain by fill **1304**, a dark-brown/black sandy silt, approximately 0.12m thick.

*Plate 9: East-facing section of pit **1304**, scale 0.5m*

3.5.3 North/south-aligned ditch ***1305***, located approximately 12m from the eastern end of the trench, appeared to relate to the easternmost of two linear anomalies identified on the geophysical survey (CgMs/RPS 2020; Plate 10; Fig 6). The ditch measured approximately 1m wide and 0.45m deep, and was filled with two deposits. The earliest, fill ***1308***, was a dark-blue/grey silty sand deposit approximately 0.16m thick. It was overlain by fill ***1306***, a dark-grey/brown clay silt, approximately 0.32m thick. Features ***1302*** and ***1305*** were overlain by mid-orange/brown sandy silt subsoil ***1307***, approximately 0.25m thick, which was, in turn, overlain by topsoil ***1300***, approximately 0.25m thick.

*Plate 10: South-facing section of ditch **1305**, scale 0.5m*

3.6 Trench 15

3.6.1 Trench 15 (Fig 2; Plate 10) located in the central-western part of the proposed development site, was aligned approximately north to south and targeted a nominally blank area on the geophysical survey (CgMs/RPS 2020). Natural geology ***1502*** was identified across the trench and was cut by a single feature, pit ***1503*** (Fig 7).

Plate 10: Trench 15, looking south, 2m and 1m scales

3.6.2 Pit ***1503*** was located towards the middle of Trench 15, against its western edge (Plate 11). The exposed part of the feature measured approximately 1.06m wide and 0.35m deep. Pit ***1503*** contained two deposits; the earliest, ***1505***, was visible in the southern part of the feature as mid-brown sandy silt, 0.23m thick; the upper fill, ***1504***, was mid-grey/brown sandy silt, and up to 0.35m thick. The pit was overlain by subsoil ***1501***, approximately 0.23m thick, which was, in turn, overlain by topsoil ***1500***, approximately 0.27m thick.

*Plate 11: North-facing section of pit **1503**, 1m scale*

3.7 Trench 24

3.7.1 North-east/south-west-aligned Trench 24 (Fig 2; Plate 12) was located at the northern end of the proposed development site, and targeted a linear anomaly and an area of industrial quarrying or mining disturbance on the geophysical survey. Natural geology ***2408*** was identified at the north-west and south-east ends of the trench, and was cut by two ditches, ***2402*** and ***2404***, and a possible brick-clay extraction pit, ***2406***.

Plate 12: Trench 24 looking south-west, 2m and 1m scales

3.7.2 East/west-aligned ditch ***2402*** was located at the south-western end of the trench and measured 0.61m wide and 0.2m deep (Fig 8; Plate 13). It contained a single fill, ***2403***, a mid-grey/brown silt, 0.2m thick.

*Plate 13: East-facing section of ditch **2402**, scale 0.2m*

3.7.3 East/west-aligned ditch ***2404*** was located approximately 22m to the north-east of ditch ***2402*** at the north-eastern end of the trench. It measured 0.82m wide and survived to a depth of 0.34m (Fig 8; Plate 14). Ditch ***2404*** contained a single deposit, fill ***2405***, an ashy dark-green/grey clay silt sand, 0.34m thick, which contained plastic baling twine, electric fence tape, small cinder fragments, and wood fence posts.

*Plate 14: Ditch **2404**, looking west, 1m scale*

3.7.4 Between ditches ***2402*** and ***2404*** was a large feature which measured approximately 19m wide and was interpreted as a brick-clay extraction pit ***2406*** (Fig 8; Plate 15). Its depth exceeded a 2m-deep sondage excavated into the middle of the feature. Only a single deposit was identified within the sondage; fill ***2407*** was a homogenous dark-grey organic silty sand with lenses of brown sand. The features were all overlain by subsoil ***2401***, approximately 0.18m thick, which was, in turn, overlain by topsoil ***2400***, approximately 0.3m thick.

*Plate 15: Sondage through large pit **2406**, looking north-west, 1m scale*

3.8 Trench 25

3.8.1 North/south-aligned Trench 25 (Fig 2; Plate 16) was located in the north-eastern corner of the proposed development site and targeted a linear anomaly identified on the geophysical survey (CgMs/RPS 2020). Natural geology ***2502*** was encountered across the trench and was cut by ditch ***2503***.

Plate 16: Trench 25 looking south, 2m and 1m scales

3.8.2 East/west-aligned ditch ***2503***, encountered at the northern end of Trench 25, measured 1.86m wide and survived to a depth of 0.56m (Fig 9; Plate 17). The ditch contained two fills. The earliest, 0.32m-thick mid-brown/grey sandy silt ***2504*** was overlain by, 0.24m-thick fill ***2505***, of mixed mid-brown/grey and light-orange sandy silt. Ditch ***2503*** was overlain by a mid-orange/brown sandy subsoil ***2501***, 0.37m thick, which was, in turn overlain by topsoil ***2500***, 0.37m thick.

*Plate 17: West-facing section of ditch **2503**, scale 1m*

3.9 Palaeoenvironmental remains and artefacts

3.9.1 No deposits suitable for palaeoenvironmental sampling were identified during the archaeological evaluation. Three artefacts, including two sherds of late post-medieval ceramic and a bakelite knob (*Appendix C*). One sherd of post-medieval ceramic came from the fill of ditch ***1104*** in Trench 11, whilst the remaining finds came from made ground ***101*** in Trench 1.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 Although two of the trenches could not be excavated in their planned positions due to overhead services, they were still able to target the intended anomalies from the geophysical survey. The overall results produced were likely to be representative of the surviving archaeological remains. The ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good and, although the sunlight was very strong, the archaeological features were easily identifiable against the underlying natural geology.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 One of the principal aims, as identified above in *Section 2.1.1*, was to obtain sufficient information to establish the presence or absence, character, extent, state of preservation, and date of any archaeological deposits within the proposed development, and to provide sufficient information as to the need for and scope of any subsequent mitigation strategy. To meet these aims, the programme of trenching was designed to provide adequate coverage across the site (Fig 2). All of the trenches were successfully excavated and succeeded in characterising the anomalies and 'blank' areas identified during the geophysical survey.

4.2.2 The original research question (*Section 2.1.2*; RFN 2022) identified in the WSI (*Appendix A*) related to the study of leisure landscaping for the former park. The remains encountered during the evaluation did not seem to relate to the park: they appeared to be more modern in date or potentially related to clay extraction and, as such, do not contribute to this research question. No additional research questions came to light during the work.

4.3 Interpretation

4.3.1 Archaeological remains were identified in five of the 25 trenches excavated, Trenches 11, 13, 15, 24 and 25. The majority of these features appeared to be late post-medieval or modern in date.

4.3.2 The correlation between geophysical anomalies and archaeological remains was variable. There was good congruence between the anomalies investigated by Trench 11 and the archaeological remains of ditches ***1104*** and ***1106***, although they were likely to be of modern date or, at the earliest, post-medieval from the ceramic recovered from fill ***1105*** of ditch ***1104***. Similarly, the geophysical anomaly interpreted as a former field boundary and investigated by Trench 13 could be correlated with ditch ***1305***, although there was no evidence of the feature continuing northwards into Trench 16. This field boundary does appear to be visible on the OS map of 1928 (Fig 3), as a former boundary of Fox's Clump, a wooded area in the centre of the proposed development. There was no evidence for the function of pit ***1302***, although its location within the former boundary of Fox's Clump may suggest that it was a natural feature.

4.3.3 Similarly, ditch ***2402*** in Trench 24 could be correlated with a geophysical anomaly, whilst large clay extraction pit ***2406*** in the same intervention corroborated the presence of areas of quarrying. with the two ditches running parallel on either side of

the feature potentially relating to it and containing modern material. There is a nearby wood labelled 'Brick Wood' on the historic mapping, first visible on the 1891 OS mapping to the south-east of the proposed development, possibly suggesting that there was a brick works in the vicinity. There is a later brick works depicted on the 1939 OS mapping adjacent to Cronton Colliery to the south of the proposed development, suggesting that the clay geology is suitable for brick production.

4.3.4 Those anomalies identified as possible archaeology or of uncertain origin in Trenches 2, 3, 9, 10, 18, and 20 turned out to be modern field drains. Elsewhere, the large areas of geophysical anomalies of uncertain origin or attributed to industrial quarrying or mining in the southern part of the site might be explained by the extensive deposits of made ground encountered in that location.

4.3.5 Elsewhere, several archaeological features were identified that could not be matched with geophysical anomalies. Pit ***1503*** in Trench 15 was located in a 'blank' area of the geophysical survey, although it was interpreted as a possible modern test pit due to the almost vertical sides and flat base of the feature. Ditch ***2503*** in Trench 25 was more convincing as an archaeological feature. With clear evidence of rooting in its edges, it appeared to be a field boundary, albeit that it did not correspond particularly well with any field boundaries depicted on the historic mapping (Fig 3 and 4).

4.4 Significance

4.4.1 Although the archaeological features identified during the evaluation corresponded variably with the results of the geophysical survey or historic mapping, there was sufficient evidence to correlate field drainage and post-medieval or modern clay extraction to those results. The remains identified appeared to be modern or, at the earliest, late post-medieval in date, and suggest that the site remained relatively unchanged until the construction of the M62 motorway to the south in the twentieth century. Consequently, the features identified within the evaluation trenching are considered to be of low local significance and are unlikely to contribute further to the understanding of post-medieval field systems or parkland in the area.

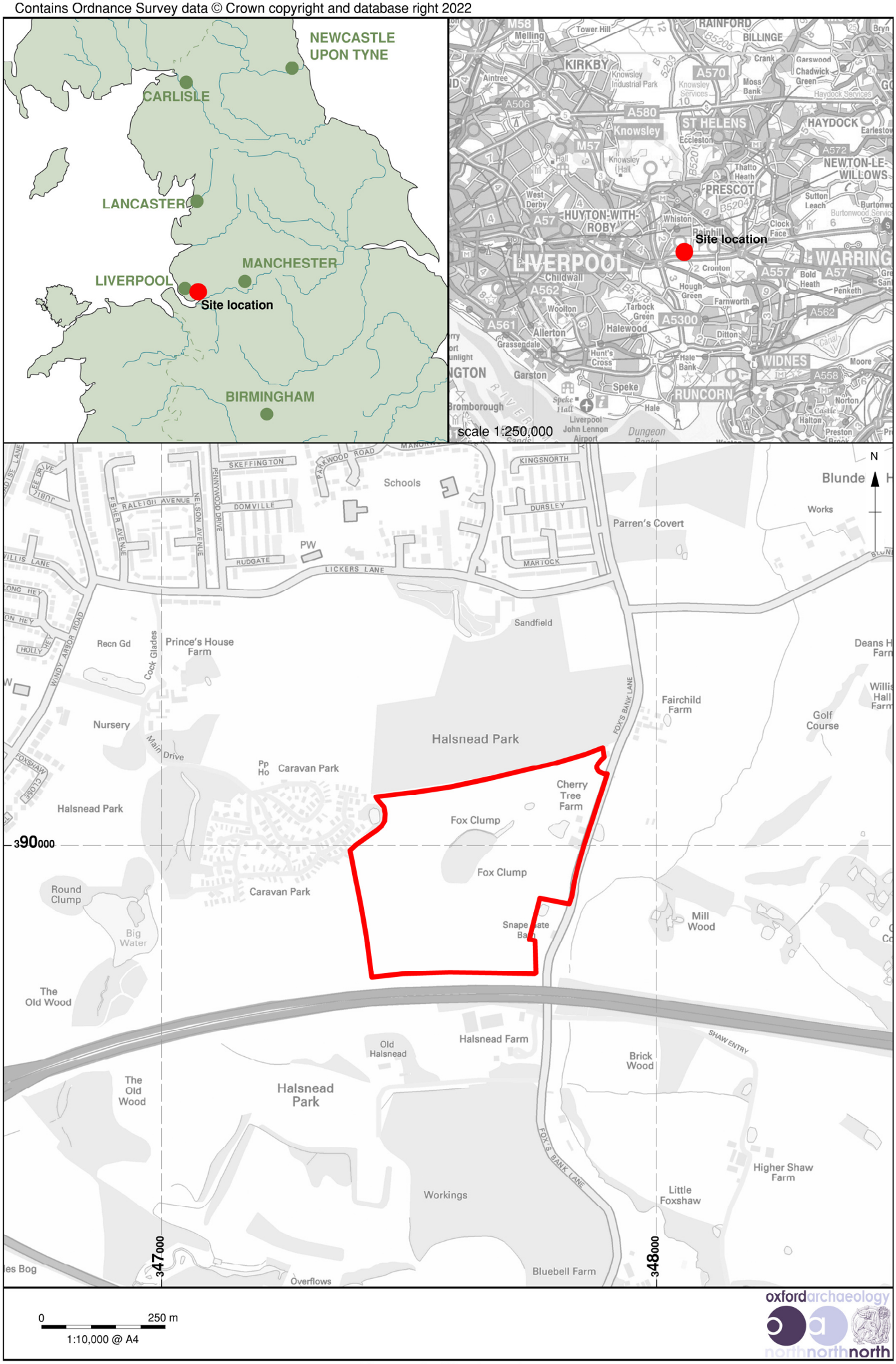

Figure 1: Site location

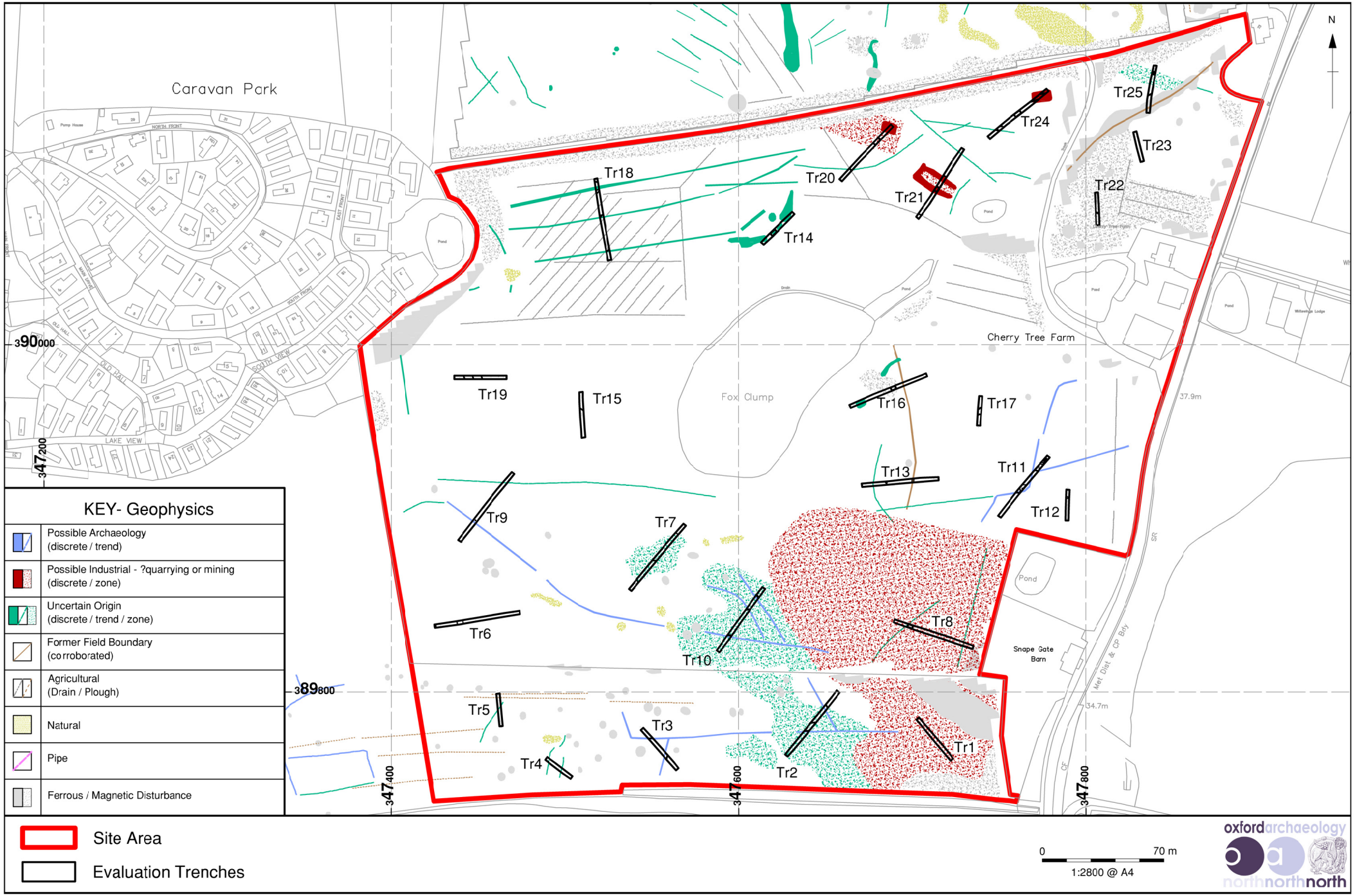

Figure 2: Evaluation trenches superimposed on the results of the geophysical survey

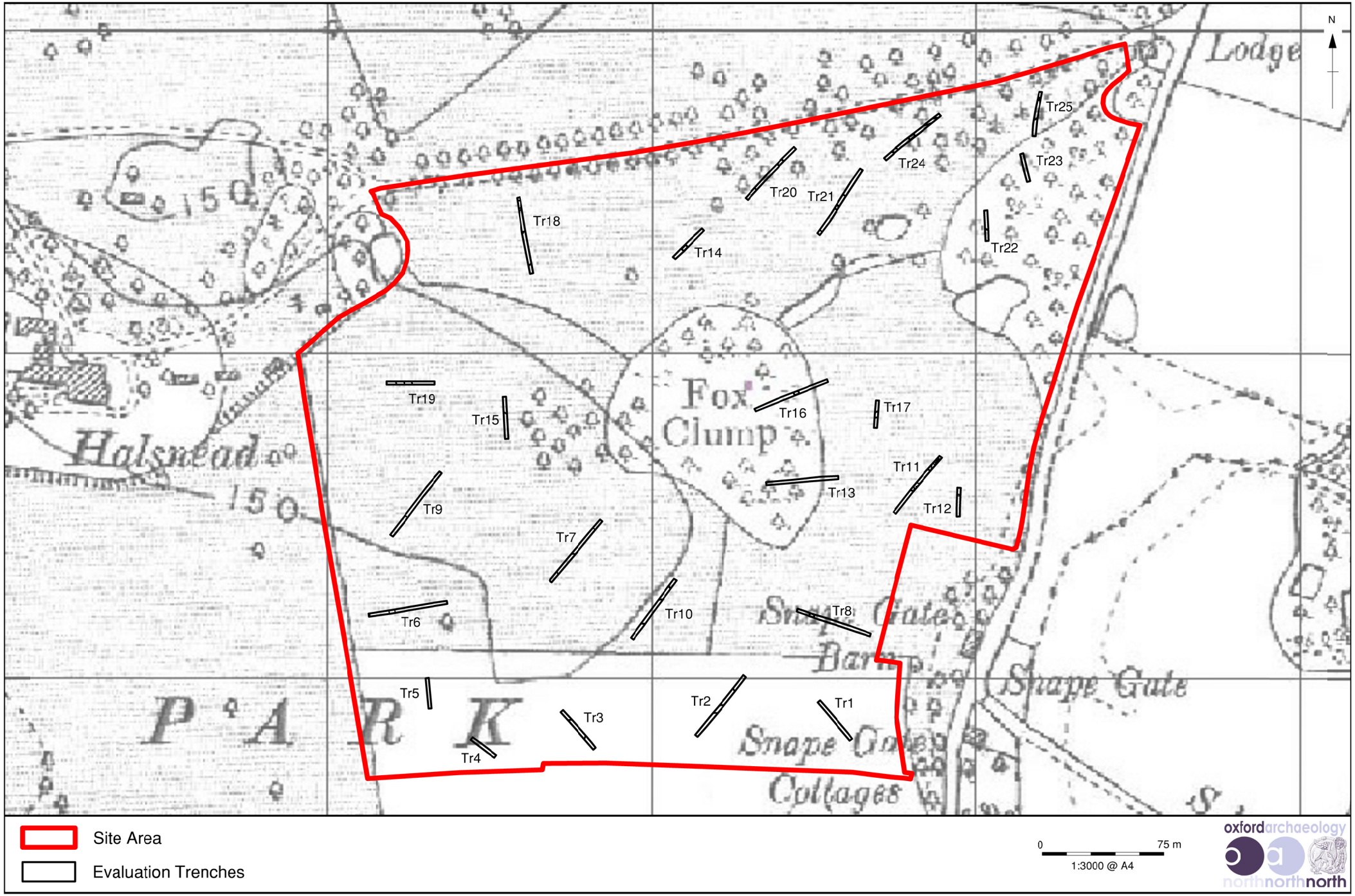

Figure 3: Evaluation trenches superimposed on the Ordnance Survey map of 1928

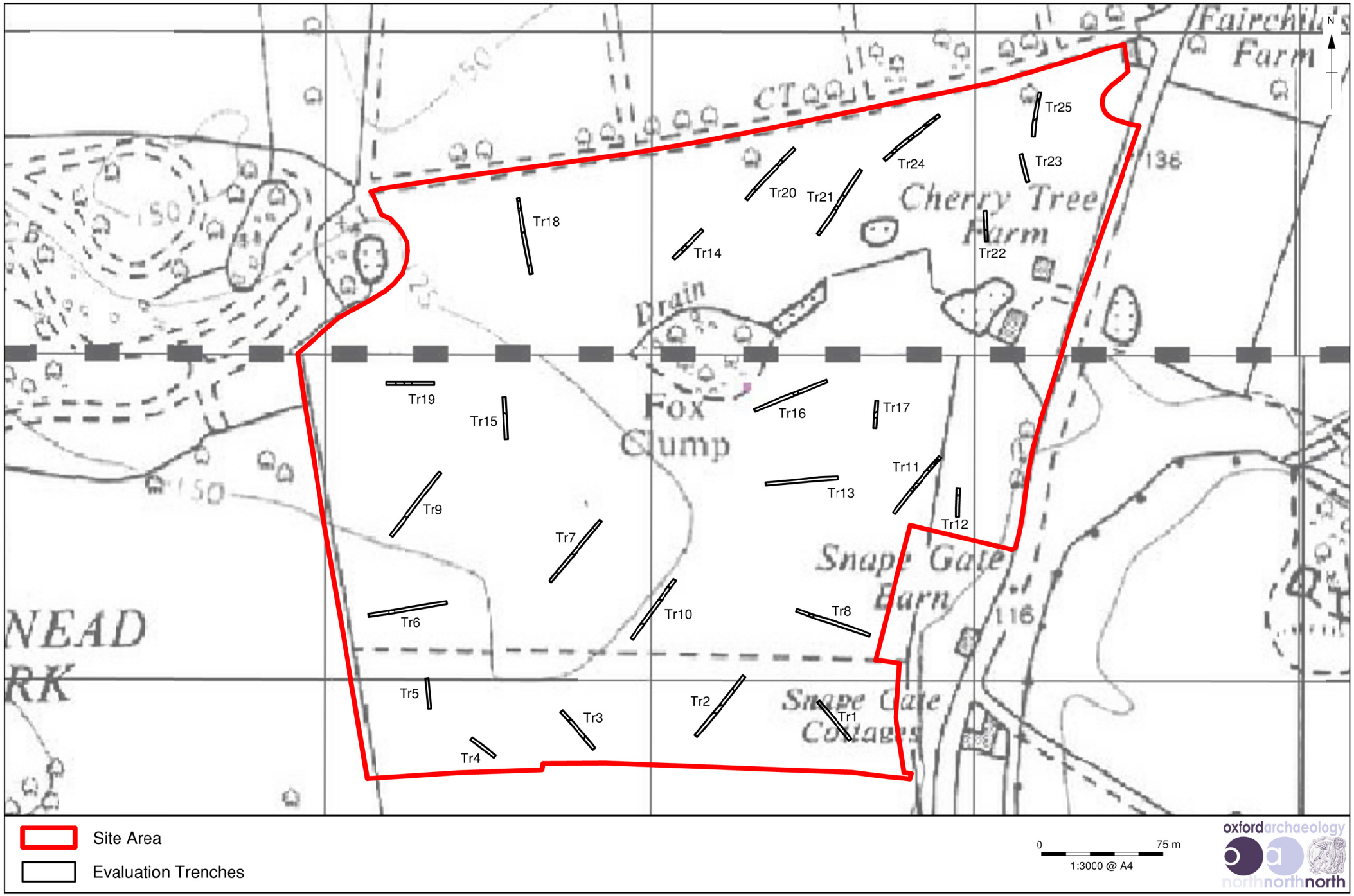

Figure 4: Evaluation trenches superimposed on the Ordnance Survey map of 1966-67

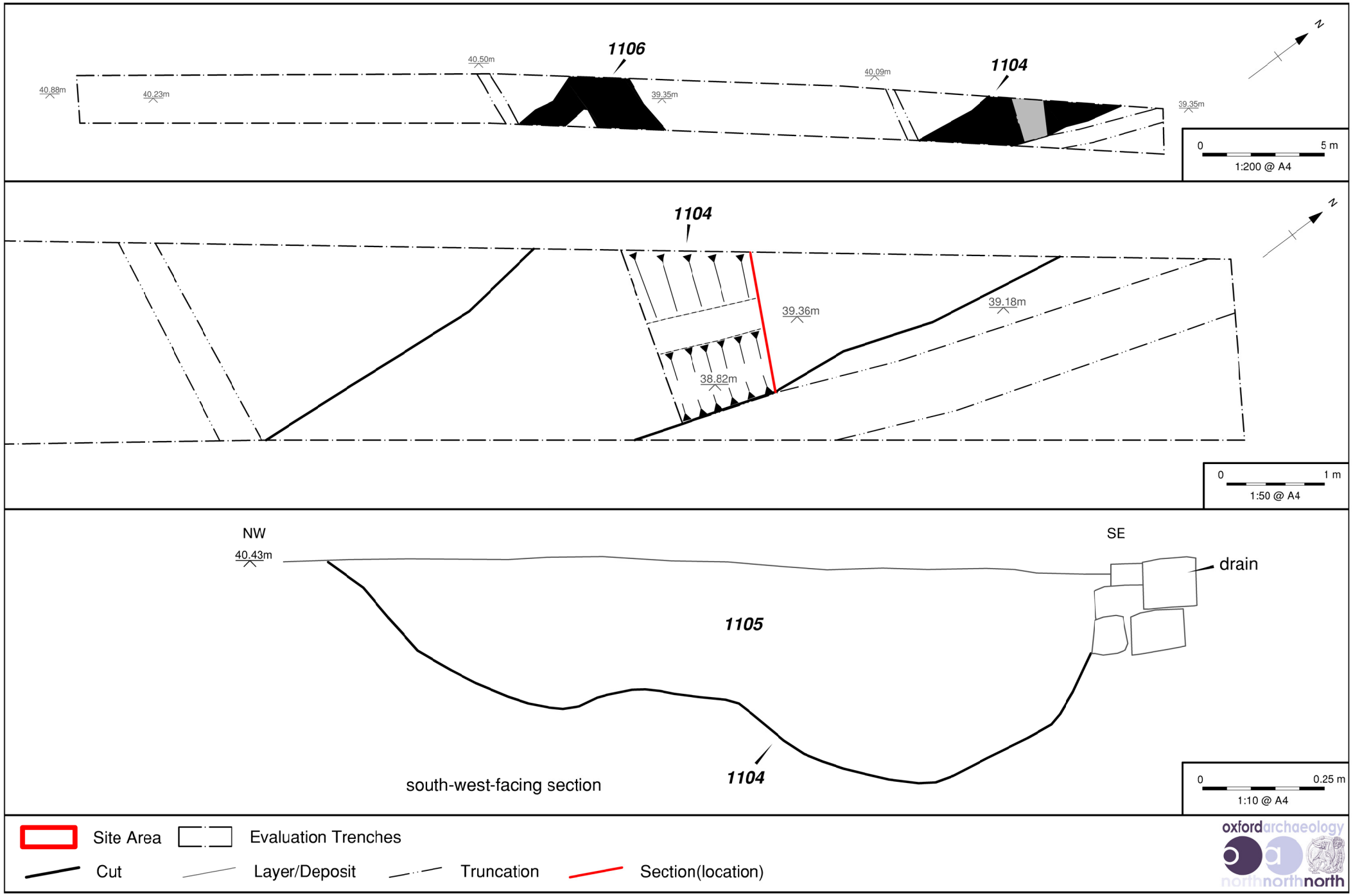

Figure 5: Plan and section of Ditches ***1104*** and ***1106*** in Trench 11

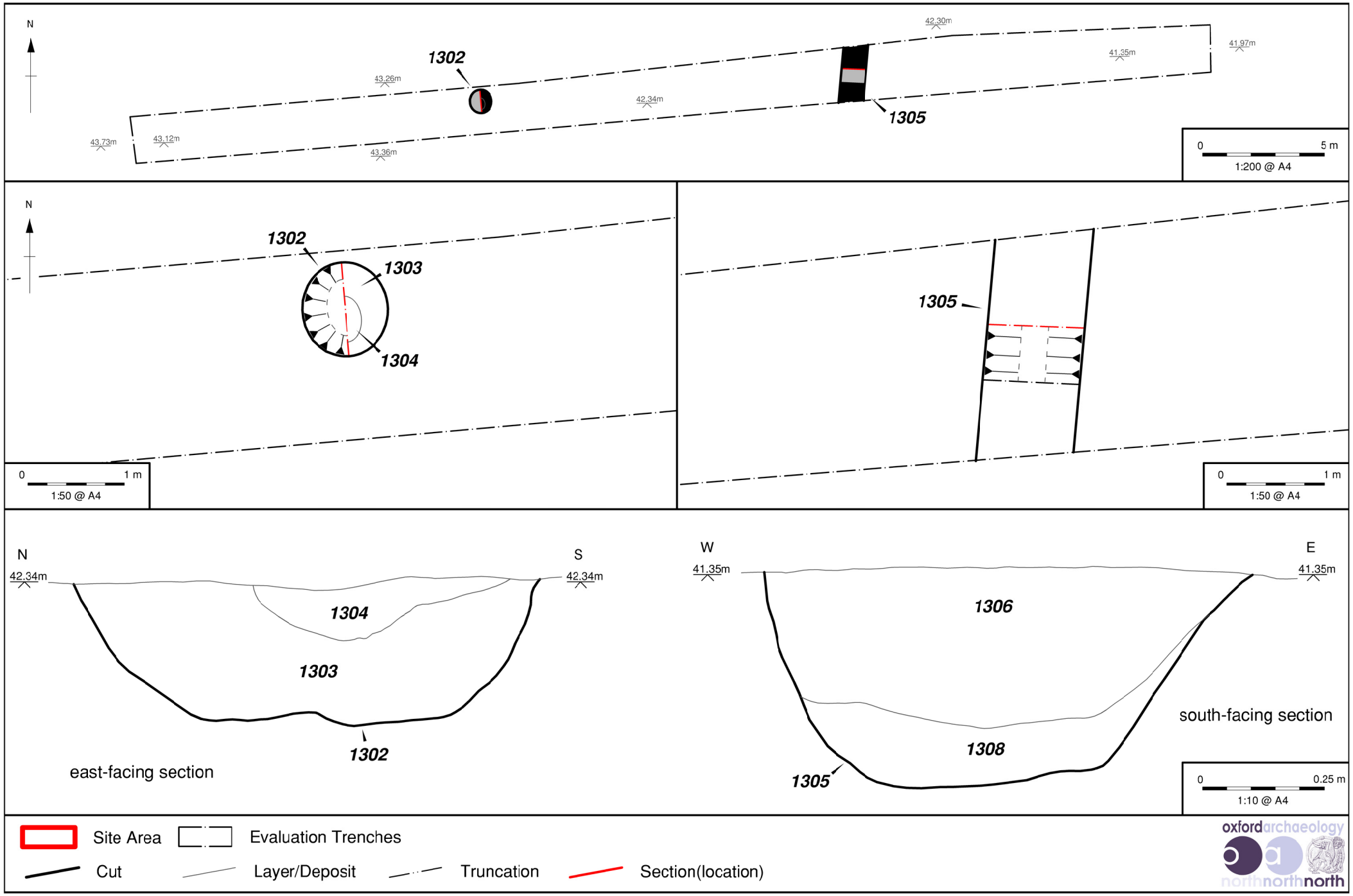

Figure 6: Plan and section of Pit ***1302*** and Ditch ***1305*** in Trench 13

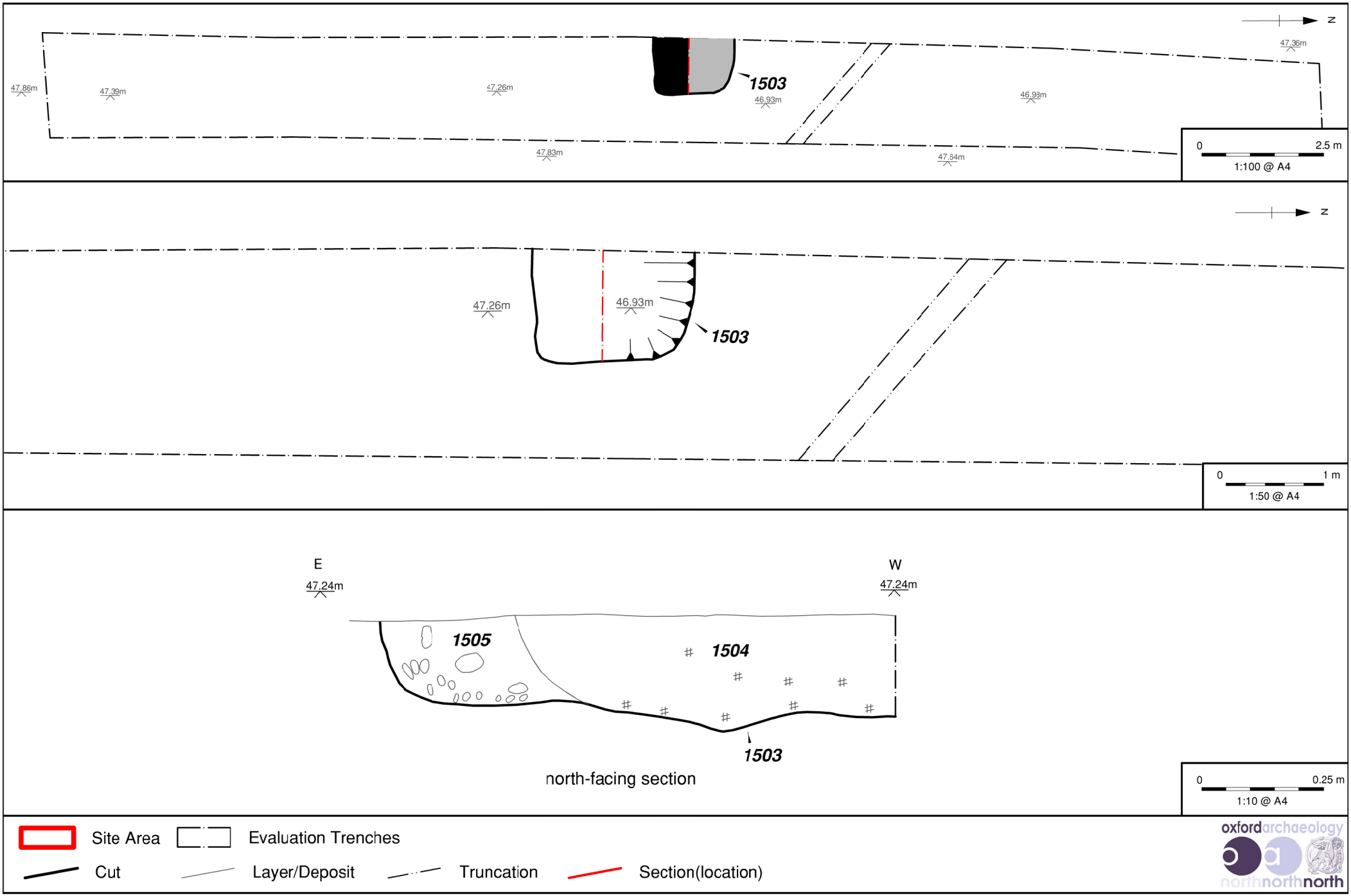

Figure 7: Plan and section of Pit ***1503*** in Trench 15

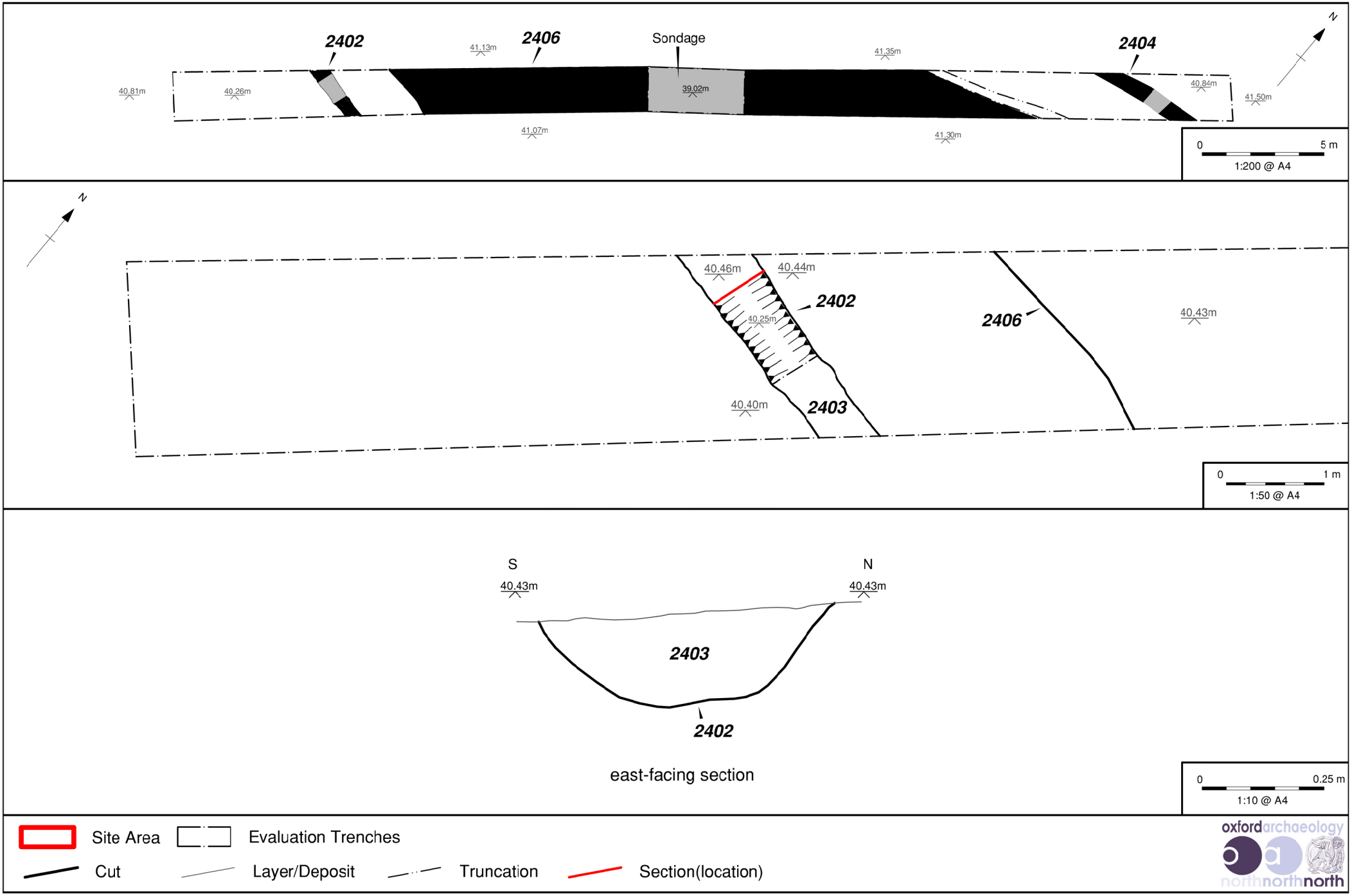

Figure 8: Plan and section of Ditch ***2402*** in Trench 24

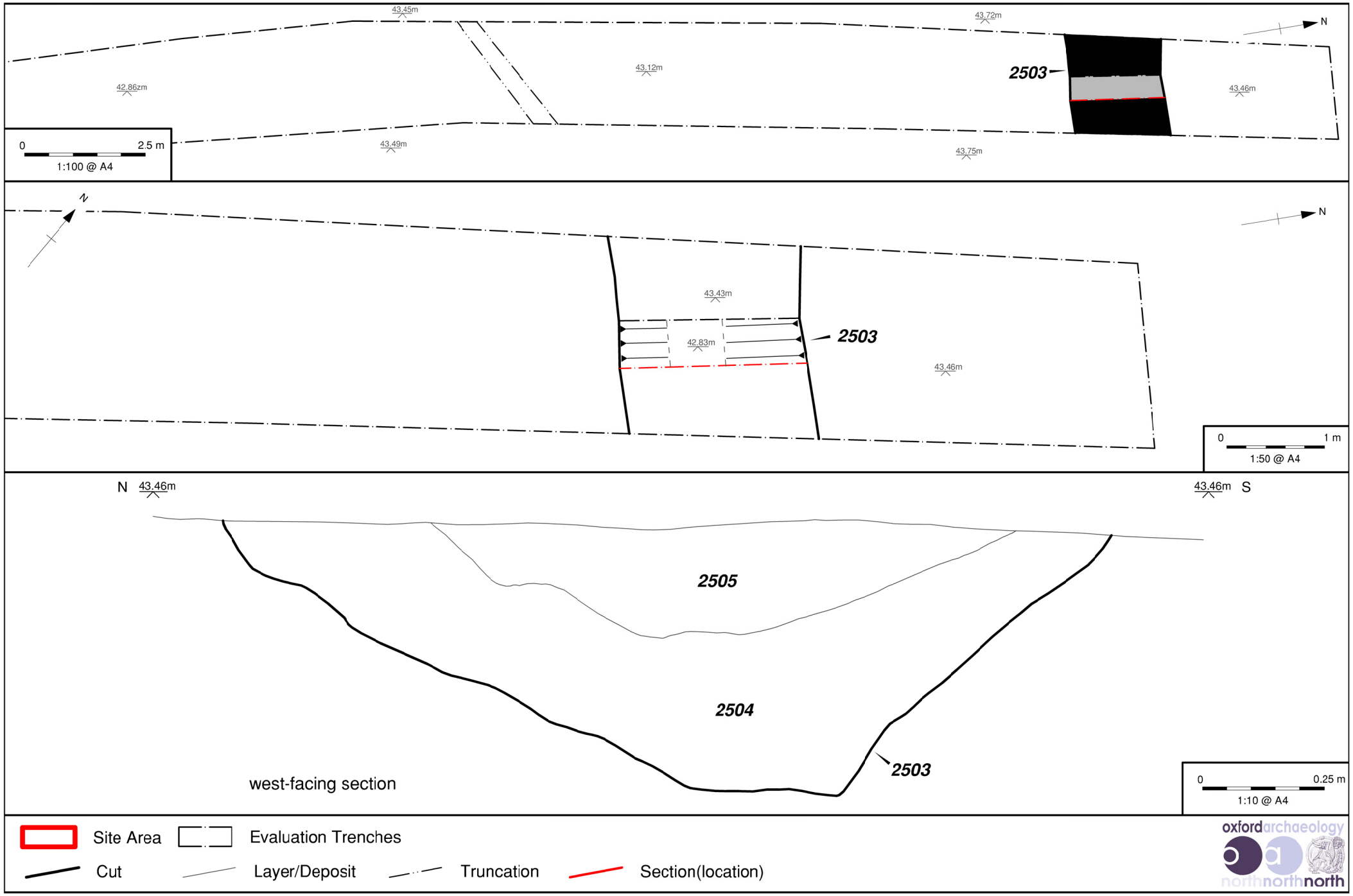

Figure 9: Plan and section of Ditch ***2503*** in Trench 25

APPENDIX A WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND RECORDING

FOX WOOD GARDEN VILLAGE
WHISTON
MERSEYSIDE

PREPARED BY LANPRO SERVICES
ON BEHALF OF
TAYLOR WIMPEY NORTH WEST

Planning ref: 20/00417/FUL

July 2021

Lanpro

Planning + Development | Design Studio | Archaeology + Heritage

Project Reference: 3095/01

Document Prepared by: Karl Taylor BSc (Hons) MCIfA

Revision	Reason for Update	Document Updated

Contents

List of Figures

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Lanpro on behalf of Taylor Wimpey North West (the client) and details the methodology for undertaking a scheme of archaeological evaluation and subsequent strip and record of land measuring approximately 16.2ha on land at Halsnead Park to the south-west of Whiston, Merseyside (Figure 1).

1.2 The scope of the evaluation was informed by a heritage assessment, which included the results of a geophysical survey (RPS/CgMs 2020). Whilst the application site extends to 16.2ha, the area of developable land is approximately 14.7ha and excludes an area of woodland called Fox Clump. The geophysical survey omitted Fox Clump and the area of Cherry Tree Farm and its immediate environs. The area of evaluation trenching lies within the boundaries of the geophysical survey.

1.3 The archaeological evaluation will comprise a programme of trial trenching to establish the presence or absence of buried archaeological remains and their nature, date, extent and significance. The results of the evaluation will be used to inform decisions on the need for contingencies including extensions to any of the initial trenches and archaeological mitigation investigation in the form of a programme of strip and record.

2 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 The application site subject to archaeological evaluation comprises three arable fields bound by Fox's Bank Lane to the east, a farm track to the north and the M62 motorway to the south (centred at NGR 4765 8998; see Figure 1).

2.2 Cherry Tree Farm, which includes a farmhouse, outbuildings and hardstanding, lies within the application site, to the west of which is an area of woodland known as Fox's Clump. The farm is accessed via a track from the northern boundary track and consists of a farmhouse, associated barns and a hardstanding yard. The study site is mainly surrounded by agricultural fields, although Halsnead mobile home park lies adjacent to part of the west boundary.

2.3 The topography of the application site is undulating at approximately 45m AOD, although the southern part of the site slopes to the south down to approximately 40m AOD.

2.4 The bedrock geology of the western edge of the application site comprises mudstone, siltstone and sandstone of the Pennine Lower Coal Measure Formation. This is divided from the main part of the area by a north-south fault, to the east of which the bedrock geology consists of the Kinnerton Sandstone Formation. The whole of the application site is overlain by Devensian Till (BGS 2021).

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 An application for planning permission (20/00417/FUL) for the demolition of existing farm buildings and the erection of 337 dwellings together with new vehicular access, SUDs ponds

landscaping and other associated works, was submitted to Knowsley Council by Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd on 21st July 2020. Prior to this, in 2018 and 2019, extensive pre-application consultation between Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd and Knowsley Council was undertaken which informed the design and layout of the scheme and the validation requirement for the scheme. A Scoping Opinion was provided by the Council on 23rd January 2019.

3.2 Following issue of the Scoping Opinion, an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was undertaken in January 2021 to support the planning application, the findings of which are set out in an Environmental Statement (ES) (Pegasus Group 2021). Chapter 9 was produced by CgMs/RPS and was informed by a heritage assessment (with and undated addendum) that included a geophysical survey (CgMs/RPS 2020). This chapter dealt with cultural heritage and considered direct and indirect effects of the proposed development on the historic environment of the area.

3.3 The heritage assessment and geophysical survey considered a larger area than that submitted with the planning application. However, Chapter 9 of the ES reflects the submitted application boundary.

3.4 Planning consent for the scheme is anticipated and draft planning conditions were issued on 8th July 2021, including condition number 25 for a programme of archaeological work:

25. Written scheme of investigation for archaeological work - Pre-commencement

3.5 A programme of evaluation comprising 25 trenches, including 13 no. trenches measuring 50m by 2m, 6 no. trenches measuring 30m by 2m and 6 no. trenches measuring 20m by 2m (Figure 1), has been agreed with the Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS). MEAS requested that contingencies for extensions of evaluation trenches to be included where necessary and for strip and record should significant archaeological remains be encountered.

3.6 This WSI provides a detailed methodology for undertaking the programme of archaeological evaluation work and strip and record mitigation contingency across the application site. In the first instance, the evaluation is aimed at identifying, recording and sampling any archaeological features that may be present, and assessing the need for further mitigation excavation if required. While the methodology for the strip and record excavation is outlined in this WSI, it will only be carried out if the results of the evaluation warrant such mitigation.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The archaeological background below is based on a heritage assessment and ES Chapter 9 submitted as part of the planning application (RPS/CgMs 2020). A study area of 1km around the application site was considered.

4.2 There are no recorded designated heritage assets within the application site. There are two recorded non-designated assets within the application site: Halsnead Park (MME15147) and Halsnead Park Wall (MME15681). Halsnead Park is recorded as post-medieval in date but is

thought to have early medieval origins, although there is no firm evidence for this. Halsnead Park covers the whole of the application site as well as areas to the north, west and south. The wall is well preserved and forms the east perimeter of the application site along Fox's Bank Lane.

4.3 There is a low potential for prehistoric evidence to be discovered within the study site. The nearest known evidence for prehistoric activity was located during archaeological investigations undertaken along the A5300 corridor during the early 1990s some 2km to the south of the application site. Most of this comprised flint scatters of Mesolithic and Neolithic origin.

4.4 Similarly, there is also a low potential for the discovery of remains or deposits of Roman date within the application site. Archaeological investigations on the A5300 link road recovered evidence of a Romano-British rectilinear enclosure of 2nd century AD date but there is little evidence elsewhere within the surroundings of the application site.

4.5 There is low potential for early medieval or medieval remains and there are no recorded early medieval or medieval heritage assets within the application site. Three findspots of pottery were found during archaeological investigations within 1km of the application site (MME7128, MME7129, MME15823). It is likely that the application site was in agricultural use during the early medieval and medieval periods.

4.6 Halsnead was first mentioned in 1246 as *Grewinton Halfsnead* and the *vill* of *Halsnead* was also mentioned in the 13th century when it was granted by *Adam de Halsnead* to his son. The extent of this approximates to that recorded on 19th century mapping. *Halsnead* is thought to be early medieval in date due to the use of the Old English *'snead'* meaning 'a small piece' and *Grewinton* referring to Cronton, which lies to the south of the application site.

4.7 There is low/nil potential for post-medieval remains and there are two non-designated heritage assets within the application site, Halsnead Park (MME15147) and Halsnead Park Wall (MME15681). Halsnead Park is believed to be of 17th century origin, the park and estate being purchased in 1684 by Thomas Willis, a Liverpool merchant. The Park became Willis' hunting estate and Halsnead Hall (MME6856) was constructed as his main residence. It was demolished in 1932 and is now occupied by the mobile home park adjacent to the west boundary. Halsnead Park Wall (MME15681) forms part of the east perimeter boundary of the application site and, although breached and repaired in places, it has survived relatively well.

4.8 There are two additional non-designated assets that are not recorded on the Merseyside HER present within or adjacent to the application site. One of these is the former 'east drive' to Halsnead Hall, recorded on historic mapping as early as Hennet's 1829 map and forms the north boundary to the application site, the other being a former ornamental pond known as 'Big Water' which lies outside of the application site boundary.

4.9 Until the mid-20th century, the application site appears to have been used as parkland for the duration of the post-medieval period and a number of parkland features remain extant within and immediately bounding the application site. Yates' map of 1786 shows Halsnead Hall as 'Red Hall', the residence of 'Thos. Willis Esq.' Hennet's 1829 map shows more detail of Halsnead Park, 'the east drive' and 'Big Water'. The 1842 Tithe map illustrates the parkland surrounded by agricultural fields, Halsnead Hall being clearly depicted. The 'east drive' is partially tree-lined, and an area of woodland occupies the site of Cherry Tree Farm. Fox Clump woodland is shown to be larger than its current extent and two field boundaries extend from the north-east and north-west sides.

4.10 The 1894 Ordnance Survey map illustrates little change although the 'east drive' is now fully tree-lined, and several features including Fox Clump are labelled for the first time. The 1929 Ordnance Survey map similarly shows little change, however there are a small number of additional field boundaries. The Park is now shaded with the exception of the south-east corner. During the mid-late 20th century, the application site underwent gradual change and by the time of the 1966-67 Ordnance Survey map, Cherry Tree Farm has replaced the woodland and Fox Clump is reduced in size. By the time of the 1977-8 Ordnance Survey map, the M62 motorway had been built and forms the south boundary to the application site.

4.11 Field boundaries within the south side of the application site have been removed by the time of the 1999 Ordnance Survey map, and Fox Clump has been extended to join an area of woodland to the south of Cherry Tree Farm. The application site underwent little change to the present day with the exception of the removal of an area of woodland to the south of Cherry Tree Farm.

4.12 The geophysical survey revealed anomalies interpreted as possibly relating to early parkland features along with possible industrial features related to coal mining in the south-east. However, there are no historic mining activities within the application site and the responses are more likely to be associated with construction of the M62 motorway.

5 RESEARCH DESIGN

Aims and Objectives

5.1 The overall aim of the archaeological evaluation will be to obtain sufficient information to establish the presence/absence, character, extent, state of preservation and date of any archaeological deposits within the area of the proposed development. This will allow reasoned and informed recommendations to be made regarding any requirements for mitigation, which will be in the form of a strip and record, the exact scope of which would be agreed with MEAS.

5.2 This will be achieved through the following objectives:

- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition and significance of any archaeological remains within the portion of the development site outlined for evaluation;
- To excavate and record identified archaeological features and deposits to a level appropriate to their extent and significance;
- To assess vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains;
- To assess the impact of previous land use on the site;
- To assess the potential for survival of environmental evidence;
- To inform a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains;
- To undertake sufficient post-excavation assessment to confidently interpret identified archaeological features;
- To report the results of the evaluation and place them in their local, regional or national context and to make this record available.

Research Framework

5.3 The programme of archaeological work is aimed at investigating geophysical survey responses relating both to parkland features as well as potential industrial features.

5.4 The evaluation findings have the potential to contribute to research priorities originally identified in the regional research framework *The Archaeology of North West England - An Archaeological Research Framework for the North West* (Brennand 2006), and recently revised and updated in the North West Regional Research Framework (NWRRF) (Research Frameworks 2021). For instance, *PM19 How can the study of leisure landscaping inform our understanding of the changing landscape in this period* (Research Frameworks 2021). Other research priorities may come to light during the archaeological works and the NWWRF will be revisited both during the fieldwork and post-excavation phases.

5.5 The investigation will also take account of the national research programmes outlined in English Heritage's *Strategic Framework for Historic Environment Activities and Programmes in English Heritage* (SHAPE) first published in 2008.

6 STANDARDS AND GUIDANCE

6.1 All work will be undertaken to fully meet the requirements of all nationally recognised guidance for such work, including standards laid down by the former English Heritage (now Historic England) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA).

6.2 The programme of archaeological evaluation will be managed in line with the standards laid down in the Historic England guideline publication *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers Guide* (2015a), as well as to meet the

requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF; Chapter 16: 'Conserving and enhancing the historic environment'; revised 2021). All excavation will be undertaken using recording standards detailed in the *Archaeological Field Manual* (MOLAS 1994).

6.3 Guidance of particular relevance to the programme of works are:

- *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2020);
- *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (CIfA 2020b);
- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: PPN3: Archaeological Excavation* (English Heritage 2008).

7 METHODOLOGY

7.1 The programme of archaeological work will comprise:

- trial trenching, including contingency for extension;
- contingency for strip and record;
- report production;
- dissemination of results.

Project initialisation

7.2 The National Museums Liverpool (NML) will be contacted by the appointed archaeological fieldwork contractor to arrange for the project archive to be created and deposited in accordance with their deposition and archiving standards.

7.3 Before fieldwork commences an OASIS online record will be initiated by the appointed archaeological contractor and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creator forms.

Trial Trenching

7.4 The configuration of the trial trenches has been agreed with MEAS and comprises 13 no. 50m by 2m trenches, 6 no. 30m by 2m trenches and 6 no. 20m by 2m trenches. Where necessary, trenches will be extended following consultation between the appointed archaeological contractor, Lanpro and MEAS.

7.5 The trench locations will be accurately tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid using survey grade GPS and all trenches will be scanned with a cable avoidance tool (CAT) and signal generator (Genny) prior to excavation. Copies of service plans will be made available prior to excavation.

7.6 Topsoil across the trenches will be stripped using a mechanical excavator fitted with a 2m wide toothless grading bucket, down to the first archaeological horizon or natural sub-soil.

7.7 Spoil from mechanical excavation will be scanned by eye and by metal detector to aid the recovery of artefacts, and topsoil and subsoil will be stored separately.

7.8 All excavation by mechanical excavator will be undertaken under direct archaeological supervision, by a suitably experienced and qualified archaeologist, with one archaeologist responsible for monitoring each excavator. Mechanical excavation will cease at either undisturbed natural deposits or when archaeological deposits are identified.

7.9 Should significant archaeological features be revealed trenches will be extended where appropriate following consultation and agreement with Lanpro and MEAS. A combination of trench extensions and strip and record may be implemented.

7.10 All archaeological features and deposits revealed will be cleaned and excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner, in order to establish their extent, form, date, function and relationship to other features.

7.11 All structures, deposits and finds will be recorded according to accepted professional standards. Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features exposed or excavated will be entered onto prepared pro-forma recording sheets. Sample recording sheets, sample registers, finds recording sheets, access catalogues, and photo record cards will also be used.

7.12 Any excavation, by machine or by hand, will be undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features or deposits which appear to be demonstrably worthy of preservation in situ.

7.13 There will be a presumption of the need to cause the minimum disturbance to the site consistent with adequate evaluation. Significant archaeological features (e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or postholes), will be preserved intact even if fills are sampled. For linear features, minimum 1m wide slots should be excavated across their width. For discrete features, such as pits, 50% of their fills will be sampled.

7.14 Metal detector searches will take place at all stages of the evaluation. Metal detecting of trench locations will be carried out before trenches are excavated, with trench bases and spoil scanned once trenches have been opened. Any metal finds will be located using survey-grade GPS and metal detectors will not be set to discriminate against iron. Metal detecting will also be conducted over the surface of all exposed features before the end of each working day as a countermeasure to 'nighthawking'.

7.15 Should the excavation of the trenches reach 1m in depth (or limit of safe working depth) without natural geology being encountered, a machine dug sondage will be excavated in order to establish the depth of natural geology. Where depth of excavation is required to be greater than 1m, suitable stepping will be employed.

7.16 All identified finds and artefacts will be collected and retained, bagged and labelled according to their context. Finds of significant interest will be given a 'small finds' number, and information on their location in three dimensions will be entered on a separate pro-

forma sheet. No finds will be discarded without assessment by an appropriate finds specialist.

7.17 A full written, drawn and photographic record will be made of all features revealed during the course of the archaeological evaluation. The location and extent of archaeological features will be recorded by GPS or Total Station. Plans will be completed at a scale of 1:20 (as appropriate), with section drawings at a scale of 1:10. All plans will be tied in with the Ordnance Survey National Grid with levels given to above OD (aOD).

7.18 A photographic record of the project will be maintained. This will illustrate the detail and context of the principal features and finds discovered. The photographic record will also include working shots to illustrate more generally the progress of the programme of archaeological works. All photography will follow the Historic England guidance for digital image capture (Historic England 2015b). All images will have accompanying metadata specifying; photo ID, capture device, converting software, colour space, bit depth, resolution, date of capture, photographer, caption, and any alterations made to the image.

7.19 Following excavation and recording of any archaeological remains, should there be no requirement for further strip and record mitigation, and following agreement from MEAS, the evaluation trenches will be backfilled with the previously excavated spoil.

Strip and record

7.20 Following trial trenching and possible extension of trenches, a programme of strip and record may be required depending upon the location, nature and extent of archaeological remains revealed. The strip and record will run consecutively after the trial trenching.

7.21 The area(s) outlined for strip will be accurately tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid using survey grade GPS and will be scanned with a cable avoidance tool (CAT) and signal generator (Genny) prior to excavation.

7.22 Topsoils and subsoils will be machine-stripped in successive spits using an appropriately sized toothless grading bucket over an area or areas agreed following consultation with MEAS. The stripping will be carried out under continuous archaeological supervision to expose the uppermost horizon of archaeological remains revealed by the evaluation. The area will then be hand-cleaned as necessary to expose the extent, nature and character of the archaeological remains.

7.23 All exposed features will be recorded using the same methodology as already described for the evaluation trenching.

Palaeoenvironmental sampling strategy

7.24 Soil samples will be taken from all suitable features or deposits for palaeoenvironmental sampling. This will comprise the removal of a bulk sample from every securely sealed and hand-excavated context, excepting those with excessive levels of residuality or those with minimal ‘soil’ content (such as building rubble).

7.25 Bulk samples will comprise representative 40 litre samples. Where a context does not yield 40 litres of material, smaller samples will be taken (generally the maximum amount of material practicable to collect). Bulk samples will be used to recover a sub-sample of charred macroplant material, faunal remains and artefacts where necessary, as well as any industrial residues.

7.26 If buried soils or other deposits are encountered, column samples may be taken for micromorphological and pollen analysis. Environmental material will be stored in a controlled environment and specialists consulted during the course of the work if necessary.

7.27 The post-excavation processing of all palaeoenvironmental samples will be undertaken in line with the requirements of the former English Heritage's (now Historic England) *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (2011).

Human remains

7.28 The discovery of human remains is not anticipated during the fieldwork. However, should these be encountered then the archaeological contractor must contact the Ministry of Justice for an appropriate licence and MEAS will be informed. The contractor will comply with all statutory consents and licences under the Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Act, 1981 or other Burial Acts regarding the exhumation and interment of human remains.

7.29 If human remains are encountered, they will be cleaned with minimal disturbance, prior to recording and removal, following receipt of the required Ministry of Justice licence. Investigation and excavation of human remains will be undertaken by, or under supervision of, suitably experienced specialist staff and in accordance with former Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) guidelines *Excavation and Post-excavation Treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains* (McKinley and Roberts 1993) and the *Updated Guidelines to the standards for recording human remains* (Mitchell and Brickley 2017). Assessment of excavated human remains will be undertaken in line with English Heritage guidelines *Human Bones from archaeological sites: Guidelines for the production of assessment documents and analytical reports* (English Heritage 2004). The archaeological contractor will comply with all reasonable requests of interested parties as to the method of removal, re-interment or disposal of the remains or associated items. Every effort will be made, at all times, not to cause offence to any interested parties.

7.30 If required a qualified and experienced osteoarchaeologist will undertake site visits to discuss the recording and assist in the removal of any human skeletal remains.

Scientific dating

7.31 Provision will be made to recover material suitable for radiocarbon, archaeomagnetic, dendrochronological and other scientific dating. Where material suitable for dating is recovered, sufficient dating will be undertaken to meet the aims of the evaluation.

Other finds

7.32 Finds will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and stored in accordance with the guidelines set out in United Kingdom Institute for Conservation's Conservation Guidelines No. 2 (1990) and the CIfA guidelines *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2014b).

7.33 If required, conservation will be undertaken by approved conservators in line with the *First Aid for Finds* guidelines (Watkinson and Neal 1998). Significant iron objects, a selection of non-ferrous artefacts (including all coins), and a sample of any industrial debris relating to metallurgy should be X-radiographed before assessment.

7.34 Any finds of gold and silver will be moved to a safe place. Where removal cannot be undertaken immediately, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the artefacts from theft or damage. All finds of gold and silver, and associated objects, will be reported to the coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act 1996 (and the act's amendment of 2003).

Unexpectedly significant or complex discoveries

7.35 Should unexpectedly extensive, complex or significant remains be uncovered that warrant, in the professional judgment of the archaeologist on site, more detailed recording than is appropriate within the terms of the WSI, the scope of the WSI will be reviewed.

7.36 In the event of a review of the WSI being required, Lanpro will contact the client and MEAS with the relevant information to enable them to resolve the matter. This is likely to require an on-site meeting between the relevant stakeholders to review the archaeological remains on-site and identify a way forward. Any variations to this WSI will be put in writing and agreed by the relevant stakeholders including MEAS and the client.

Plant and equipment

7.37 The appointed archaeological contractor and/or client will be responsible for the provision of all required welfare and plant. The appointed archaeological contractor will provide necessary health and safety equipment for the fieldwork operators during the work.

8 POST-FIELDWORK

8.1 Upon completion of all phases of fieldwork, the artefacts, soil samples and stratigraphic information will be assessed for their potential and significance for further analysis if required and the relevant parties notified accordingly. A report on the fieldwork will be produced within 4-6 weeks following completion.

Finds

8.2 Finds will be cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and stored in accordance with the guidelines set out in United Kingdom Institute for *Conservation's Conservation Guidelines No. 2* (1990)

and the CIfA guidelines *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2020b).

8.3 In accordance with appropriate procedures, significant iron objects, a selection of non-ferrous artefacts (including all coins), and a sample of any industrial debris relating to metallurgy will be X-radiographed before issue of the final report.

8.4 All material will be packed and stored in optimum conditions, as described in *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson and Neal 1998). Any waterlogged organic materials will be dealt with in line with the English Heritage guidance documents, W*aterlogged Organic Artefacts. Guidelines on their Recovery, Analysis and Conservation* (2018) and *Waterlogged Wood. Guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood* (2010).

8.5 The preservation state, density and significance of material retrieved will be assessed, following the English Heritage guidelines *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (2011).

8.6 Any finds for dating will be submitted to specialists promptly, so as to ensure that results are available to aid development of a project design for the analysis stage, if required.

Environmental Sample Processing

8.7 The processing of any palaeoenvironmental samples will be undertaken in line with the requirements of the English Heritage publications *Archaeological Science at PPG16 Interventions: Best Practice Guidance for Curators and Commissioning Archaeologists* (2006b) and *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (2011).

8.8 The samples will be processed, and ecofacts collected and assessed with regard to the potential for detailed analysis of pollen, charred plant macrofossils, land molluscs, faunal remains (including small mammals and fish) and soil micromorphology. Samples suitable for radiocarbon, or other dating methods, will also be identified. The environmental assessment will be reported within the overall post-excavation assessment report for all phases of investigation and include proposals for full analysis if required. Unprocessed sub-samples will be stored in conditions specified by the appropriate specialists. Samples for dating will be submitted to specialists promptly, so as to ensure that results are available to aid development of the project design for any further analysis stage if required.

Conservation

8.9 If required, conservation will be undertaken by approved conservators in line with the *First Aid for Finds* guidelines (Watkinson and Neal 1998). Material considered vulnerable will be selected for stabilisation after specialist recording. Where intervention is necessary, consideration must be given to possible investigative procedures (e.g. glass composition studies, residues in or on pottery, and mineral-preserved organic material).

Report

8.10 As a minimum the report shall contain the following information:

- A title page, with the name of the project, the name of the author(s) of the report, the title of the report and date of the report;
- A non-technical summary of the scope, methodology and results of the work;
- Introduction which includes site code/project number, dates when the fieldwork took place and grid reference;
- Description of the topography and geology of the site;
- Description of the archaeological background to the site;
- Description of the aims, methodology and extent of fieldwork completed;
- Factual assessments of stratigraphic, artefactual and environmental evidence;
- An assessment of the archaeological potential of the stratigraphic, artefactual and environmental records;
- Proposed programme for further analysis and reporting if required, including the identification of specialists;
- Conclusions;
- Plans and sections to include site and trench location plans displaying NGR co-ordinates;
- List of plans and sections;
- Details of archive location and destination (with the museum accession number), together with a catalogue of what is contained in that archive;
- Copy of the OASIS entry form and any entry updates;
- Appendices as appropriate; and
- References and bibliography of all sources used.

8.11 A draft copy of the fieldwork report will be provided to MEAS in PDF format for comment.

8.12 Following approval, copies of the final reports will be produced and submitted to the Merseyside HER in a PDF/A format.

9 ARCHIVING

9.1 The appointed archaeological contractor will contact the National Museums Liverpool (NML) in advance of commencing any fieldwork to determine the preparation, and deposition of the archive and finds, and obtain an accession number for all archaeological works. The landowner will be encouraged to transfer ownership of the finds to the museum.

9.2 Adequate resources will be provided during fieldwork to ensure that all records are checked and internally consistent.

9.3 The archive will contain all the data collected during the archaeological works, including all digital and paper records, finds and environmental samples. The archive will be prepared in accordance with the CIfA guidelines detailed in *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives (*CIfA 2014b). The preparation of the archive will also be informed by the *Guidelines for the preparation of Excavation Archives for long–term storage* (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation 1990), *Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission 1994), and in accordance with NML's archive deposition guidelines, which stipulates digital archiving.

9.4 Digital copies of the assessment report and associated data will be submitted to the Merseyside HER, together with OASIS and ADS to allow the results of the work to be accessible online to the wider archaeological community and general public.

10 DISSEMINATION

10.1 All post-medieval and later projects across Merseyside are to be included in the annual round-up of fieldwork projects published by *Post-Medieval Archaeology*. A 300-word summary of the fieldwork (including negative results) will be produced by the appointed archaeological contractor. A copy of the summary will also be forwarded to MEAS. The deadline for this is March in the year following the completion of the fieldwork.

10.2 Should significant archaeological remains be revealed, further publication in an appropriate journal will be necessary.

11 TIMETABLE

11.1 The timetable for the fieldwork will be determined upon appointment of the archaeological contractor.

11.2 MEAS require notice of at least one week prior to commencement of fieldwork and will monitor implementation of the programme of archaeological works on behalf of Knowsley Council. MEAS evaluate the work being undertaken on site against the methodology detailed in this WSI. MEAS will be afforded the opportunity to inspect the site and all records of the appointed archaeological contractor at any stage of the work.

12 STAFFING

12.1 Emily Mercer (Principal Heritage Consultant, Lanpro) will be in overall charge of the management of the project on behalf of Taylor Wimpey North West.

12.2 The archaeological sub-contractor is yet to be appointed. CVs will be provided to relevant interested parties upon appointment.

13 INSURANCE

13.1 The archaeological contractor will produce evidence of Public Liability Insurance to the minimum value of £5m and Professional Indemnity Insurance to the minimum of £5m.

14 HEALTH AND SAFETY

14.1 The management of all health and safety for the archaeological staff on site during the trial trenching will be the responsibility of the appointed archaeological contractor. All works will be undertaken by the contractor in compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) and all applicable regulations and Codes of Practice.

14.2 All archaeological staff will undertake their operations in accordance with safe working practices and will be CSCS certified. At least one First Aider will be present on site at all times. A site-specific risk assessment will be produced by the appointed archaeological contractor, prior to the commencement of work on site, which will be subject to regular review.

14.3 Suitable Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be provided by the appointed archaeological contractor, including hi-visibility coats/vests, hard hats, safety boots and gloves, as well as safety glasses if required. Welfare will be provided by the appointed archaeological contractor.

14.4 All staff will receive a health and safety induction prior to starting work on site to be provided by appointed archaeological contractor.

14.5 Regular audits of health and safety practices will be carried out during the course of the project by Lanpro and the appointed archaeological contractor in consultation with the site workforce. Toolbox talks on health and safety issues will be conducted at minimum weekly intervals and/or after changes in working practices or identification of new threats/risks. The risk assessment will be reviewed and updated as necessary. Control measures will be implemented as required in response to specific hazards.

14.6 Safe working will take priority over the desire to record archaeological features or remains, and where it is considered that recording is dangerous, any such features will be recorded by photography at a safe distance.

14.7 All areas of excavation will be scanned with a CAT and Genny prior to ground works commencing. Necessary measures will be taken to avoid disturbing any services.

14.8 Plant operators will be required to produce evidence of qualification within an industry accepted registration scheme. Sub-Contractors health and safety performance will be kept under review and action taken if necessary. All spoil will be stored and managed safely in

line with the standards of the *Construction Code of Practice for Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites* (DEFRA 2009).

14.9 Site welfare accommodation and car parking should be located within the site and the location of these facilities will be agreed between the appointed archaeological contractor, Lanpro and the client in advance of the commencement of work.

15 COPYRIGHT AND PUBLICITY

15.1 Copyright of the documentation prepared by the archaeological contractor and specialist sub-contractors should be the subject of additional licences in favour of the client and the Merseyside HER to use such documentation for their statutory and educational functions, and to provide copies to third parties as required.

15.2 Under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR 2004), information submitted to the HER becomes publicly accessible, except where disclosure might lead to environmental damage, and reports cannot be embargoed as 'confidential' or 'commercially sensitive'.

15.3 It is recognised that the project may identify remains which are of interest to the public, and these may be publicised through appropriate media. Any publicity for the project proposed by the appointed archaeological contractor should be approved by the client in advance.

15.4 The appointed archaeological contractor will not issue any information on the work through media, internet or social media without prior agreement of the client. Care will be taken to ensure that any publicity does not compromise the security of archaeological remains that may have been identified or recovered. Any approaches by the press to the archaeological contractor should be referred to the client in the first instance.

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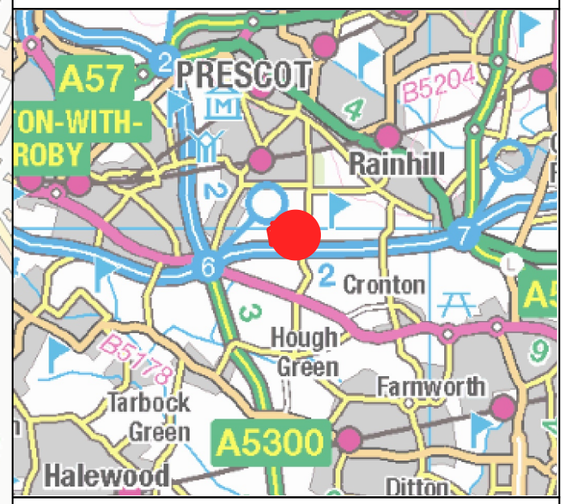
Figures

Lanpro

Planning + Development | Design Studio | Archaeology + Heritage



Application Site

N

0 200 400 600 m

Figure 1. Site location plan

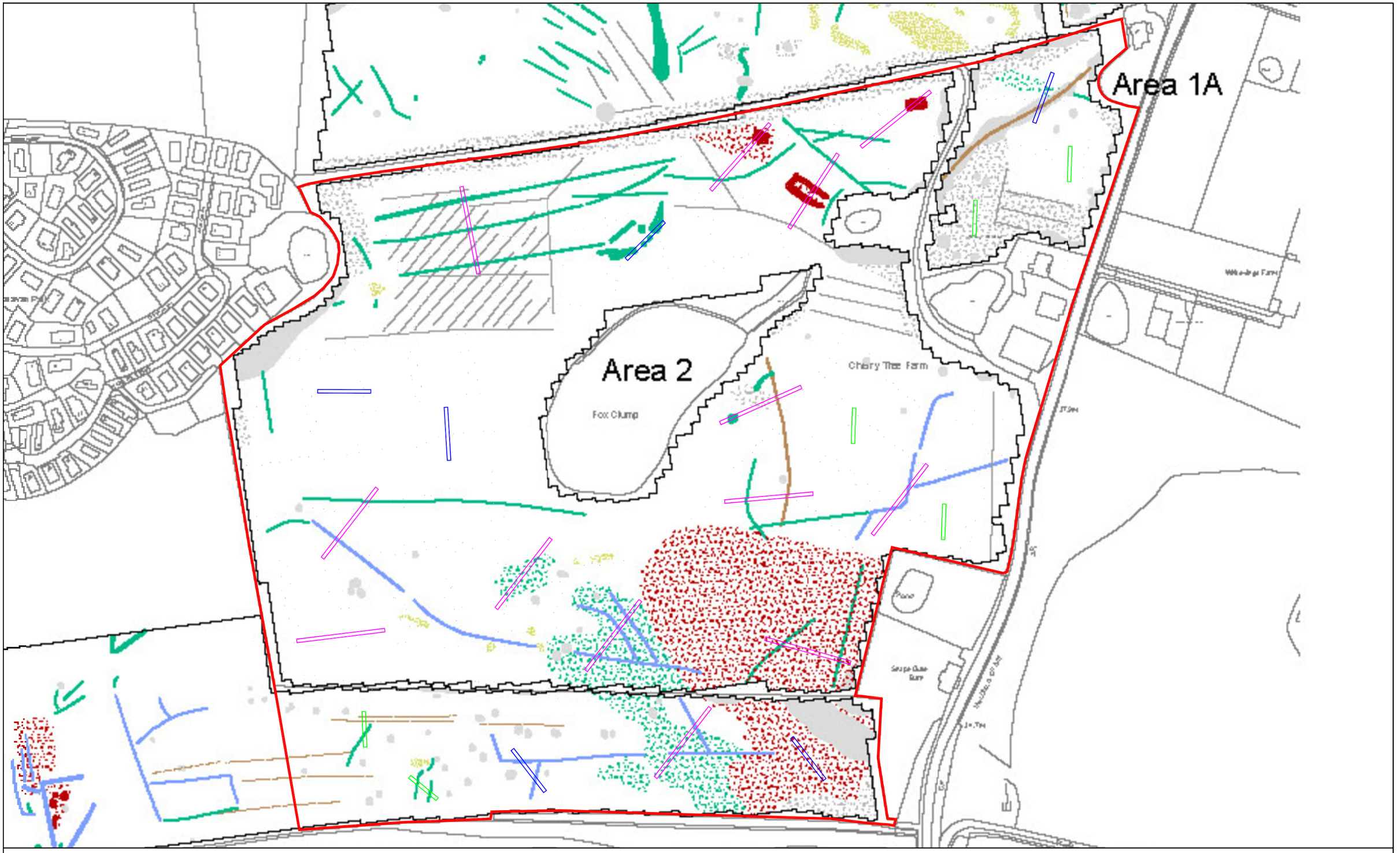


Figure 2: Trench Location Plan

N

50m
30m
20m

Site Outline

0 50 m

Lanpro

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Norwich:

Brettingham House
98 Pottergate,
Norwich
Norfolk
NR2 1EQ

01603 631 319

London:

70 Cowcross Street
London
EC1M 6EL

020 3011 0820

Retford:

Retford Enterprise Centre
Randall Way
Retford
DN22 7GR

01777 552 001

York:

Blake House
18 Blake Street
York
Y01 8QG

01904 803 800

Manchester:

Peter House
Oxford Street
Manchester
Greater Manchester
M1 5AN

0161 711 1740

info@lanproservices.co.uk

APPENDIX B TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying made ground deposits, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	25
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	1
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
100	Layer	-	0.51	Topsoil	-	-
101	Layer	-	0.18	Made ground	Post-medieval ceramic and bakelite knob	-
102	Layer	-	0.62	Made ground	-	-
103	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-
104	Cut	0.2	0.05	Modern field drain	-	Modern
105	Fill	0.2	0.05	Fill of modern field drain ***104***	-	Modern

Trench 2						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying made ground deposits, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	1
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
200	Layer	-	0.45	Topsoil	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.08	Made ground	-	-
202	Layer	-	0.28	Made ground	-	-
203	Layer	-	0.27	Made ground	-	-
204	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-

Trench 3						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying subsoil and made ground deposits, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	0.9
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
300	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
301	Layer	-	0.21	Subsoil	-	-
302	Layer	-	0.36	Made ground	-	-
303	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-

Trench 4						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying subsoil and made ground deposits, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	20
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	1.2
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
400	Layer	-	0.47	Topsoil	-	-
401	Layer	-	0.54	Subsoil	-	-
402	Layer	-	0.14	Made ground	-	-
403	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-

Trench 5						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying made ground deposits, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	20
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	0.5
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
500	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
501	Layer	-	0.07	Made ground	-	-
502	Layer	-	0.16	Made ground	-	-
503	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-

Trench 6						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying subsoil and made ground deposits, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	1
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
600	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-
601	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil	-	-
602	Layer	-	0.18	Made ground	-	-
603	Layer	-	0.2	Made ground	-	-
604	Layer	-	-	Natural geology, Light reddish-brown compact stony clay observed at the western end of the trench	-	-
605	Layer	-	0.4	Natural geology. Variation. Mid-reddish-brown iron-rich sandy sediment.	-	-
606	Layer	-	-	Natural geology, Orange/yellow stony sand natural layer with natural bedrock present.	-	-

Trench 7						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying subsoil and made ground deposits, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	1
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
700	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
701	Layer	-	0.53	Subsoil	-	-
702	Layer	-	0.13	Made ground	-	-
703	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-

Trench 8						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying made ground deposits. Natural geology was not encountered in the trench.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	1.1
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
800	Layer	-	0.54	Topsoil	-	-
801	Layer	-	1.5+	Made ground	-	-

Trench 9						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying made ground deposits, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	0.6
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
900	Layer	-	0.31	Topsoil	-	-
901	Layer	-	0.36	Made ground	-	-
902	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-

Trench 10						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying subsoil, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	1
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1000	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
1001	Layer	-	0.51	Subsoil	-	-
1002	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-

Trench 11						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained two ditches. Consists of topsoil overlying made ground deposits, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	1
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1100	Layer	-	0.31	Topsoil	-	-
1101	Layer	-	0.07	Subsoil	-	-
1102	Layer	-	0.42	Made ground	-	-
1103	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-
1104	Cut	1.3	0.63	North/south-aligned ditch abutted by a stone-lined drain	-	Post-medieval
1105	Fill	1.3	0.63	Fill of ditch ***1104***. Dark greyish-black organic sandy sediment.	Single sherd of ceramic	Post-medieval
1106	Cut	3	0.9	L-shaped ditch in the centre of the trench	-	-
1107	Fill	3	0.9	Fill of ditch ***1107***	-	-

Trench 12						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying subsoil and made ground, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	18
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	0.47
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1200	Layer	-	0.09	Topsoil	-	-
1201	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
1202	Layer	-	0.09	Made ground	-	-
1203	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-

Trench 13						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Contained a pit and a ditch. Consists of topsoil overlying subsoil, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	0.6
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1300	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
1301	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-
1302	Cut	-	-	Pit	-	-
1303	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit ***1302***	-	-
1304	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit ***1302***	-	-
1305	Cut	-	-	Ditch	-	-
1306	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch ***1306***	-	-
1307	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-

Context No	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1308	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch ***1306***	-	-

Trench 14						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying made ground. Natural geology was not encountered in the trench					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	0.7
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1400	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
1401	Layer	-	2.5+	Made ground	-	-

Trench 15						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained a single pit. Consists of topsoil overlying subsoil, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	25
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	0.6
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1500	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
1501	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil	-	-
1502	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-
1503	Cut	1.06	0.35	Pit	-	-
1504	Fill	0.78	0.35	Fill of pit ***1503***	-	-
1505	Fill	0.28	0.23	Primary fill of pit ***1503***	-	-

Trench 16						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying made ground, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	0.5
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1600	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1601	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-
1602	Layer	-	1.7+	Made ground	-	-

Trench 17						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained two natural linear features in the centre of the trench. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology					**Length (m)**	15
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	0.48
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1700	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1701	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-
1702	Cut	0.34	0.32	Natural feature	-	-
1703	Fill	0.34	0.32	Fill of ditch ***1702***	-	-
1704	Cut	0.55	0.24	Natural feature	-	-
1705	Fill	0.55	0.24	Fill of ditch ***1704***	-	-

Trench 18						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying made ground. Natural geology was not reached within the trench					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	0.6
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1800	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
1801	Layer	-	0.1	Made ground	-	-
1802	Layer	-	-	Made ground	-	-

Trench 19						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying made ground, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	0.6
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1900	Layer	-	0.31	Topsoil	-	-
1901	Layer	-	0.13	Subsoil	-	-
1902	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-

Trench 20						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying made ground, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	0.6
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2000	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
2001	Layer	-	0.09	Subsoil	-	-
2002	Layer	-	0.26	Made ground	-	-
2003	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 21						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying subsoil and made ground, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	0.5
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2100	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
2101	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
2102	Layer	-	1+	Made ground	-	-
2103	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-

Trench 22						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying subsoil, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	20
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	0.75
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2200	Layer	-	0.38	Topsoil	-	-
2201	Layer	-	0.28	Subsoil	-	-
2202	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-

Trench 23						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying subsoil, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	20
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	0.7
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2300	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
2301	Layer	-	0.38	Subsoil	-	-
2302	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-

Trench 24						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contains two ditches and large pit. Consists of topsoil overlying made ground, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	1.1
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2400	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2401	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
2402	Cut	0.61	0.2	Ditch	-	-
2403	Fill	0.61	0.2	Fill of ditch ***2402***. Loose mid-grey/brown silt sand, with frequent thin lenses pale grey/brown fine-grained sand and occasional small pebbles	-	-
2404	Cut	0.82	0.34	Ditch		Modern
2405	Fill	0.82	0.34	Fill of ditch ***2404***. Loosely friable ashy dark-greenish-grey clay silt sand with copious amounts of plastic baler twine, electric fence tape and small cinder frags and fresh wooden fencing posts.	Plastic twine and cinder	Modern
2406	Cut	18	2	Possible modern brick pit	-	Post-medieval/ modern
2407	Fill	18	2	Fill of brick pit ***2406***. Dark grey/black organic marbled loose pale creamy brown mixed silt sands with occasional large deposits and lenses ash/cinders. Machine excavated to a depth of 2m, base not reached		Post-medieval/ modern
2408	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-

Trench 25						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained a single ditch. Consists of topsoil overlying subsoil, which, in turn, overlay natural geology					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg depth (m)	0.5
Context No	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2500	Layer	-	0.37	Topsoil	-	-
2501	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil	-	-
2502	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-

2503	Cut			Ditch	-	-
2504	Fill			Fill of ditch ***2503***	-	-
2505	Fill			Fill of ditch ***2503***	-	-

APPENDIX C FINDS REPORT

Finds

By Karen Barker

C.1.1 Three finds were retrieved from the evaluation of Foxwood Garden Village. The finds were washed and air dried and each material type was assigned an individual object record (OR) number and recorded on an access database. All the finds have been photographed for the archive.

C.1.2 From Trench 1 (***101***) came two finds. OR1001 is a Bakelite knob (Plate 18), probably from a radio and had a thin disc to the center saying control which is now detached and warped. To the reverse is diamond shape hole to fit the knob onto the machine it became detached from. This object was manufactured in the twentieth century.

Plate 18: OR1001 Bakelite knob

C.1.3 Within the same context, ***101***, was also a small fragment of pottery (OR1002; Plate 19) weighing 6g, it has a buff fabric and purple/brown mottled glaze on both sides and is indicative of Staffordshire magnesium ware dating to *c* 1640-1740.

Plate 19: OR1002 Staffordshire magnesium ware

C.1.4 The third find (OR1003) came from Trench 11 (***1105***) and is large fragment of base from ceramic vessel. It weighs 230g and had a diameter of *c* 200mm. The fabric is deep red with quartz inclusions, and it has a brown glaze to the interior and exterior but only on the edge of the base (Plate 20) and is probably a locally produced, brown-glazed earthenware dating from the seventeenth to nineteenth century.

Plate 20: OR1003 Brown-glazed earthenware

C.1.5 The finds from Foxwood Garden Village do not require further investigation. It is unlikely that a museum will accession the objects as they are common finds and post-medieval in date and should be returned to the landowner or discarded.

APPENDIX D BIBLIOGRAPHY

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APPENDIX E SITE SUMMARY DETAILS

Site name:	Foxwood Garden Village, Whiston, Merseyside
Site code:	FGV22
Grid Reference	SD 4765 8998
Type:	Evaluation
Date and duration:	19th – 27th April 2022; 7 days
Area of Site	14.7 ha
Location of archive:	The archive is currently held at OA North, Mills 3, Moor Lane Mills, Moor Lane, Lancaster, LA1 1QD, and will be deposited digitally via ADS in due course.
Summary of Results:	All 25 trenches were excavated, although two trenches (Trenches 23 and 25) were required to be moved due to their proximity to overhead services. Archaeological remains were encountered in five trenches (Trenches 11, 13, 24, and 25 in the central- to north-eastern part of the site, and Trench 15 in the central-western part), and generally appeared to relate to modern, or late post-medieval at the earliest, ditches and pits. All of the trenches in the southern part of the proposed development area were devoid of archaeological remains, instead revealing made ground probably related to the construction of the M62 motorway to the south. This made ground likely accounts for the strong anomalies revealed in a geophysical survey undertaken over the area in 2020, in the southern part of the of the proposed development area. Substantial made-ground deposits were also revealed by trenches in the northern part of the site, and these potentially related to modern or post-medieval clay extraction. Three finds were recovered from Trenches 1 and 11, consisting of post-medieval ceramics and modern bakelite, considered to be of low significance.

APPENDIX F OASIS SUMMARY REPORT

Summary for oxfordar2-506486

OASIS ID (UID)	oxfordar2-506486
Project Name	Evaluation at Foxwood Garden Village
Sitename	Foxwood Garden Village
Activity type	Evaluation
Project Identifier(s)	L11428
Planning Id	20/00417/FUL
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Between application and determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Oxford Archaeology North
Project Dates	19-Apr-2022 - 30-Jun-2022
Location	Foxwood Garden Village NGR : SJ 47723 89932 LL : 53.4036056192684, -2.7877717623717 12 Fig : 347723,389932
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Merseyside District : Knowsley Parish : Whiston
Project Methodology	Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by Lanpro Services on behalf of Taylor Wimpey North West to undertake a trial trench evaluation of a proposed residential development on land at Halsnead Park to the south-west of Whiston, Merseyside (centered at NGR 4765 8998). The work was undertaken as condition 25 of Planning Permission (planning ref. 20/00417/FUL). During consultation for the application, the archaeological advisors to Knowsley Council, Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS), recommended that and archaeological evaluation be undertaken comprising of 25 trial trenches, including thirteen trenches measuring 50m by 2m, six trenches measuring 30m by 2m and six trenches measuring 20m by 2m. A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was produced by Lanpro Services detailing the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to discharge the planning condition. OA North were subsequently commissioned to undertake the necessary fieldwork, which was carried out over seven days, 19th to 27th April 2022.
Project Results	All 25 trenches were excavated, although two trenches (Trenches 23 and 25) were required to be moved due to their proximity to overhead services. Archaeological remains were encountered in five trenches (Trenches 11, 13, 24 and 25 in the central- to north-eastern part of the site, and Trench 15 in the central-western part), and generally appeared to relate to modern, or late post-medieval at the earliest, ditches and pits. All of the trenches in the southern part of the proposed development area were devoid of archaeological remains, instead revealing made ground probably related to the construction of the M62.
Keywords	
Funder	
HER	Merseyside HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	
HER Identifiers	

Archives	Documentary Archive, Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;

oxfordarchaeology

Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1QD

t: +44 (0) 1524 541000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848606
e: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850500
e: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: http://oxfordarchaeology.com