

Land off Gibson Close Waterbeach



Archaeological Evaluation Report



December 2016

Client: Enterprise Property Group

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Land off Gibson Close, Waterbeach

Archaeological Evaluation

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Table of Contents

Summary	7
1 Introduction	9
1.1 Location and scope of work.....	9
1.2 Geology and topography.....	9
1.3 Archaeological and historical background.....	9
1.4 Acknowledgements.....	10
2 Aims and Methodology	11
2.1 Aims.....	11
2.2 Methodology.....	11
3 Results	12
3.1 Introduction.....	12
3.2 Trench 1.....	12
3.3 Trench 2.....	12
3.4 Trenches 3 and 4.....	12
3.5 Trench 5.....	13
3.6 Trench 6.....	13
3.7 Finds Summary.....	14
3.8 Environmental Summary.....	14
4 Discussion and Conclusions	15
4.1 Medieval.....	15
4.2 Post-Medieval.....	15
4.3 Significance.....	15
4.4 Recommendations.....	15
Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory	16
Appendix B. Finds Reports	19
B.1 Metalworking Debris.....	19
B.2 Glass.....	19
B.3 Pottery.....	19
B.4 Ceramic Building Material.....	22

Appendix C. Environmental Reports.....	22
C.1 Faunal Remains.....	22
C.2 Mollusca.....	23
C.3 Environmental samples.....	23
Appendix D. Bibliography.....	25
Appendix E. OASIS Report Form.....	26

List of Figures

- Fig. 1 Site location map
Fig. 2 Trench plan
Fig. 3 Selected sections

List of Plates

- Plate 1 Trench 1, looking north
Plate 2 Ditches **4** and **6**, Trench 1, looking east
Plate 3 Trench 2, looking north-east
Plate 4 Hollow **32**, Trench 2, looking north-west
Plate 5 Ditch **12**, Trench 2, looking east
Plate 6 Trench 3, looking west
Plate 7 Trench 4, looking west
Plate 8 Ditch **14**, Trench 4, looking west
Plate 9 Ditch **16**, Trench 4, looking south
Plate 10 Trench 5, looking south
Plate 11 Ditches **22** and **24**, Trench 5, looking north-east
Plate 12 Ditch **26**, Trench 5, looking west
Plate 13 Trench 6, looking north-west
Plate 14 Pit **28**, Trench 6, looking north-east

List of Tables

- Table 1 Quantity and weight of metalworking debris by feature
Table 2 Glass
Table 3 Pottery
Table 4 Ceramic building material
Table 5 Mollusca types
Table 6 Faunal remains

Summary

Between the 1st and the 4th of November 2016 OA East carried out an evaluation on land off Gibson Close, Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire. The investigation consisted on six 30m x 1.8m trenches.

Along the northern edge of the site was a single shallow 13th to 14th century ditch on a west to east alignment, with a recut dating to the 16th to 18th centuries just to the south. These ditches seemed to run on a similar alignment to the modern street line of Gibson Close.

In the south-east corner of the site were two post-medieval ditches, also on a west to east alignment, which ran into a shallow hollow, containing post-medieval material at their eastern ends.

The south-east corner contained a number of shallow undated gullies, probably natural variations. A post-medieval ditch, cut from above the subsoil entered the site on a north to south alignment and then turns to the east and heading into the south-east corner of the site.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted at land off Gibson Close, Waterbeach ahead of the construction of 18 houses, a play area and associated access routes (Fig.1).
- 1.1.2 This archaeological trial trenching was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Kasia Gdaniec of Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC; Planning Application S/2177/16/FL), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East (Drummond-Murray 2016).
- 1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012). The results will enable decisions to be made by CCC, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.
- 1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site lies in the centre of the historic town of Waterbeach, to the west of the village green. The village lies on a spine of slightly higher ground about 6m OD, where the bedrock geology of Gault Formation Mudstone is exposed. On the lower ground to the east and west, superficial deposits of river terrace sand and gravels are present; which (to the east) give way to alluvial deposits and peat (BGS 2015).
- 1.2.2 The site is approximately 0.6 hectares in area, and is, prior to development, an area of scrub.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

Prehistoric

- 1.3.1 A Mesolithic stone axe was found near Wisbeach Station, 870m south-east of the site (Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) No. 06352)
- 1.3.2 Neolithic artefacts, comprising chance finds of stone axes, have been found in the north of Waterbeach off Denny End Road (CHER 00343) and to the south-west of the site off Car Dyke Road (CHER 02131).
- 1.3.3 Middle Iron Age pits have been excavated a few hundred metres to the north-east of the site, at 12 Pieces Lane (Newton 2011). Additional residual Iron Age pottery was found in Roman features.
- 1.3.4 Further prehistoric activity has been identified during an evaluation on the High Street, Waterbeach. A buried soil produced three sherds of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery (CHER ECB2210).

Roman

- 1.3.5 The site is located in an area of known Roman activity and settlement, associated particularly with the presence of a Roman canal, Car Dyke (CHER 05405, MCB16776), extending on a south-east to north-west alignment to the west of the town and meeting the River Cam to its south. A dug-out canoe was found 260m to the south-west of the site (CHER 05454).
- 1.3.6 Roman pottery (CHER 05312a) was recovered from the Lodge 400m west of the site and from 1000m to the south (CHER 05409).
- 1.3.7 A Roman coin dating to the 2nd century was found 160m to the south of the site (CHER 02296). A 2nd century disc brooch was found 580m north of the site at the northern end of the High Street (CHER 09702).
- 1.3.8 The site is located 400m to the south-west of Roman Horningsea industry pottery kilns excavated at 12 Pieces Lane (CHER MCB19562/ECB3347). These were located alongside dense Roman settlement activity including hearths, pits and enclosure ditches.
- 1.3.9 Aerial photography and an evaluation in 1995 identified a Roman settlement site including enclosures, trackways, a pottery kiln and inhumation burials 730m south-west of the site (CHER 11561/ECB533).

Anglo-Saxon

- 1.3.10 Anglo-Saxon activity has been recorded during a programme of evaluation at Denny End, Waterbeach (CHER CB14602/ECB402), 380m to the north of the site. Saxon remains were also found at the Lodge 400m to the west of the site (CHER 05312).
- 1.3.11 Cropmarks and the 1995 evaluation found evidence of an Early Saxon settlement some 560m to the south of the site (CHER 09024/ECB533).

Medieval

- 1.3.12 Located 600m south-east of the site is the remains of Waterbeach Abbey (CHER 05309) founded in 1281 but abandoned by 1359 when the nuns had moved to Denny Abbey to the north.
- 1.3.13 The church of St John the Evangelist (CHER 05560), located 400m south-east of the site dates back in its earliest parts to the 12th century, with later additions.

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The work was commissioned by Enterprise Property Group. OA East would like to thank Chris Jackson of Enterprise Property Group. The machine was supplied by Lattenbury Plant Ltd. Fieldwork was conducted by the author with the assistance of Emily Abrehart and Matt Brooks; site survey was undertaken by David Brown. The project was managed for OA East by James Drummond-Murray. Kasia Gdaneic monitored the site on behalf of Cambridge County Council.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The objective of this trial trenching was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 Six 30m long trenches were excavated to provide a 3.5% sample of the development area.
- 2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a tracked 360-type excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.
- 2.2.3 The site survey was carried out using a Leica GS08 with SmartNet live correctional datafeed.
- 2.2.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.
- 2.2.5 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.2.6 As most of the features on the site were heavily effected by modern rooting a single sample was taken from the oldest feature, a medieval ditch, near to where a quantity of slag was recovered.
- 2.2.7 Site conditions were mostly dry, with the site being well-drained. The site had previously been overgrown scrub-land that was cleared of foliage prior to the archaeologists arrival on site. A large amount of modern rubbish was present across the site and throughout the topsoil.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The trenches are discussed in numerical order running from west to east following the general alignment of the majority of features on the site (Fig.2).

3.2 Trench 1

3.2.1 The trench was located at the western end of the site, aligned north to south. It was 0.8m deep at the northern end and 0.4m deep at the southern end (Fig. 2, Plate 1).

3.2.2 At the southern end were two parallel ditches on an east to west alignment. The southern most of these (**4**) was 1.6m wide and 0.15m deep, and was filled by a mid greyish brown sandy silt (5). The second ditch (**6**) was 1.15m wide and 0.15m deep, its fill was a mid greyish brown sandy silt (7) (Fig.3 Section 1, Plate 2).

3.2.3 At the northern end of the trench was a narrow gully (**8**), 0.2m wide and 0.05m deep, containing a mid greyish brown sandy silt (9).

3.2.4 Immediately north of gully **8** was a wide shallow ditch (**10**), 1.8m wide and 0.13m deep, with a mid greyish brown sandy silt fill (11), which contained no finds. (Fig.3 Section 2).

3.2.5 A further east to west aligned ditch, unexcavated in this trench but a continuation of ditch **12** in Trench 2, was located right at the northern end of the trench.

3.2.6 The subsoil (2) was a mid greyish brown sandy silt, varying in thickness between 0.3m at the northern end of the trench and 0.1m thick at the southern end. Overlying this was a dark greyish brown silt topsoil (1) which varied from 0.4m thick at the northern end of the trench to 0.3m thick at the southern end (Fig.3 Sections 13 & 14).

3.3 Trench 2

3.3.1 Trench 2 was located east of Trench 1 on a north-east to south-west alignment, and was 0.6m deep at its north-eastern end and 0.44m deep at the south-west (Fig.2, Plate 3).

3.3.2 A ditch (**12**) was located at the north-eastern end of the trench on an east to west alignment. This was 1.35m in width and 0.17m deep, with a light brownish grey fill (13) (Fig.3 Section 3, Plate 5). This continues in Trench 4 as ditch **12**, and Trench 5 as ditch **22**. No finds were recovered from this feature.

3.3.3 South of ditch **12** was ditch **10** continued from Trench 1.

3.3.4 At the southern end of the trench was a large hollow (**32**) extending out of both sides of the trench. This was 6m wide and 0.18m deep, containing a mid brownish grey sandy silt (33). The hollow contained pottery of 16th-18th century date (Fig.3 Section 16, Plate 4).

3.3.5 The subsoil (2) varied in thickness between 0.17m at the north-east end of the trench and 0.28m thick at the south-west. Overlying this was the topsoil (1) which varied from 0.27m thick at the north-east end of the trench to 0.32m thick at the south-west.

3.4 Trenches 3 and 4

3.4.1 These two trenches were parallel to each on an east to west alignment between Trenches 2 and 5. Trench 3 was the southern most of the two was an average of 0.54m deep and contained no archaeological feature but its subsoil (34) was different to that

of the other trenches (2) being a mid greyish yellow sandy silt, averaging 0.26m thick, with topsoil (1), 0.27m in thickness (Plate 6). Trench 4 had an average depth of 0.65m (Fig. 2, Plate 7).

- 3.4.2 Running the whole length of Trench 4 along its northern edge was a ditch (**14**) 0.9m wide within the trench and 0.13m deep. This contained a mid yellowish grey sandy silt (15) with pottery dating to the 12th to 15th centuries and metalworking debris. This ditch was a continuation of ditch **12** (Fig.3 Section 4, Plate 8).
- 3.4.3 Midway along the trench and cutting both the subsoil and ditch **14** on a north to south alignment was a second narrower ditch (**16**). This was 1.2m wide and 0.71m deep, containing a dark brownish grey sandy silt (17) (Fig.3 Section 5, Plate 9).
- 3.4.4 The subsoil (2) in Trench 4 had an average thickness of 0.21m. The overlying topsoil (1) had an average thickness of 0.27m (Fig.3 Section 15).

3.5 Trench 5

- 3.5.1 Aligned north to south Trench 5 was 0.7m deep at the northern end and 0.55m deep at the south (Fig.2, Plate 10).
- 3.5.2 At the northern end of the trench was a ditch **22**, a continuation of ditch **14**. This was 2.3m wide and 0.15m deep, with a mid brownish grey sandy silt (23) fill, which contained 13th to 14th century pottery, animal bone (Fig.3 Section 10, Plate 11).
- 3.5.3 Truncating the southern edge of ditch **22** was later ditch (**24**) on the same alignment, a continuation of ditch **10**. The ditch was 2.8m wide and 0.28m deep, with a fill of dark greyish brown sandy silt (25), containing 16th to 18th century pottery, animal bone (Fig.3 Section 10, Plate 11).
- 3.5.4 South of ditches **22** and **24** was a shallow undated gully (**30**), 0.8m wide and 0.1m deep. Its fill was a light grey sandy silt (31) which contained no finds (Fig.3 Section 11).
- 3.5.5 At the southern end of the trench was an east-west aligned ditch cut from above the subsoil (**26**). This ditch was 1.15m wide and 0.69m deep. It was filled by a dark greyish brown sandy silt (27) (Fig.3 Section 9, Plate 12). Just to the north of this were a pair of very shallow, ephemeral natural gullies only 0.02m deep, with fills very similar to the natural.
- 3.5.6 The subsoil in the trench varied on either side of ditch **26**, north of the ditch it was a dark grey brown sandy silt (2), 0.4m thick, as in most of the other trenches, south of the ditch was the light yellow grey sandy silt (34), 0.28m thick, as seen in Trench 3 (Fig.3 Section 9). The topsoil (1) was an average of 0.35m thick (Fig.3 Section 12).

3.6 Trench 6

- 3.6.1 Trench 6 was located at the eastern end of the site, on a north-west to south-east alignment, with an average depth of 0.66m (Fig.2, Plate 13).
- 3.6.2 At the north-west end of the trench were continuations of both ditches **22** and **24**. These were then truncated by a modern pit, **28**, which was 6.2m wide and 0.44m deep, cutting from above the subsoil. It contained a mid greyish brown sandy silt (29) with 19th century material and lumps of concrete and residual pottery of 16th-18th century date (Fig.3 Section 8, Plate 14).
- 3.6.3 Two small irregular gullies were located at the south-eastern end of the trench (**18** and **20**). Gully **18** was 0.52m wide and 0.12m deep, containing a mid greyish brown sandy

silt (19), with no finds. Gully **20** was 1.25m wide and 0.12m in depth, its fill was a mid greyish brown sandy silt (21), also containing no finds (Fig.3 Sections 6 & 7).

- 3.6.4 The subsoil (2) had an average thickness of 0.31m. The overlying topsoil (1) had an average thickness of 0.37m.

3.7 Finds Summary

- 3.7.1 A total of 0.031kg of medieval pottery and 0.053kg of post-medieval pottery was recovered from the site (Appendix B.3). The post-medieval pottery was mostly heavily abraded.
- 3.7.2 Other finds included 0.136kg of iron working slag and 0.013kg of vitrified clay lining (Appendix B.1), a fragment of 19th century glass (Appendix B.2) and 0.013kg of brick (Appendix B.4).

3.8 Environmental Summary

- 3.8.1 Animal bone totalling 0.059kg in weight was recovered (Appendix C.1).
- 3.8.2 A single oyster shell was recovered (Appendix C.2).
- 3.8.3 A single 20 litre sample taken from the fill of a medieval ditch produced seeds from elderberry, bramble, sloe/cherry and dead-nettle (Appendix C.3).

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Medieval

4.1.1 A single feature of 13th to 14th century date was identified during the evaluation, ditches **12**, **14** and **22**. The ditch ran across the northern edge of the site on an east to west alignment, which matches quite closely the line of a field boundary visible on 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map. The feature produced a small assemblage of finds; a mixture of domestic rubbish and metalworking debris, all the pottery was heavily abraded and thus suggesting a large amount of reworking post-deposition (Appendix B.3). The metalworking debris is also clearly not in situ likely being dumped waste material (Appendix B.1).

4.2 Post-Medieval

- 4.2.1 The east to west alignment represented by ditch **12** is continued during the post-medieval period as the ditch is re-cut some during the 16th to 18th centuries (ditches **10** and **24**). The re-cut has a similarly wide but shallow profile to the medieval predecessor, the ditch narrows considerably to the west. Like the medieval material from ditch **12** the pottery recovered was highly abraded (Appendix B.3).
- 4.2.2 Most of the other post-medieval features on the site maintain the east to west alignment, particularly the ditches **4** and **6** in the south-west corner of the site. These were also very shallow and appear to run into a wide shallow hollow (**32**) at their eastern ends with no evidence for their continuance further east.
- 4.2.3 A further ditch (**16**), later than the others as it is cut from above the subsoil, entered the site from the north on a north to south alignment about halfway across the site. This probably turns eastwards somewhere north of Trench 3 as it doesn't continue in that trench. Ditch **26**, aligned east to west, at the southern end of Trench 5, is also cut from above the subsoil and has a similar profile to ditch **16** so it is likely a continuation.
- 4.2.4 All of the post-medieval features other than the modern disturbance (**28**) in Trench 6 date to between the 16th and 18th centuries.
- 4.2.5 The remaining features on the site are all undated or natural, but mostly conform to the general east to west alignment of site.

4.3 Significance

4.3.1 The two ditch lines (**10** and **12**) indicate the presence of a field boundary that has been in use since at least the medieval period, which has subsequently become the line of the modern Gibson Close. The lack of Roman finds may mean that the extensive activity relating to the Car Dyke does not extend into the development area.

4.4 Recommendations

4.4.1 Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be made by the County Archaeology Office.

APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained four east-west aligned ditches and gullies. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.60
					Width (m)	1.80
					Length (m)	30.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4	Cut	1.60	0.15	Ditch	-	Post-Medieval
5	Fill	-	0.15	Ditch	CBM	Post-Medieval
6	Cut	1.10	0.15	Ditch	-	Post-Medieval
7	Fill	-	0.15	Ditch	-	Post-Medieval
8	Cut	0.20	0.05	Gully	-	Post-Medieval
9	Fill	-	0.05	Gully	-	Post-Medieval
10	Cut	1.80	0.13	Ditch	-	16th-18th century
11	Fill	-	0.13	Ditch	CBM	16th-18th century
Trench 2						
General description					Orientation	NNE-SSW
Trench contained three east-west aligned ditches. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.48
					Width (m)	1.80
					Length (m)	30.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.21	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
12	Cut	1.35	0.17	Ditch	-	13th-14th century
13	Fill	-	0.17	Ditch	-	13th-14th century
32	Cut	6.00	0.18	Hollow	-	16th-18th century
33	Fill	-	0.18	Hollow	CBM, Pottery	16th-18th century

Trench 3						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench was devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.				Avg. depth (m)	0.54	
				Width (m)	1.80	
				Length (m)	30.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
34	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 4						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench contained two ditches, one aligned east-west and one aligned north-south. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.				Avg. depth (m)	0.65	
				Width (m)	1.80	
				Length (m)	30.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.32	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
14	Cut	0.90	0.13	Ditch	-	13th-14th century
15	Fill	-	0.13	Ditch	Pottery, Slag	13th-14th century
16	Cut	0.80	0.32	Ditch	-	16th-18th century
17	Fill	-	0.32	Ditch	Pottery	16th-18th century
Trench 5						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Trench contained three east-west aligned ditches and a gully. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.				Avg. depth (m)	0.61	
				Width (m)	1.80	
				Length (m)	30.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.32	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
22	Cut	2.30	0.18	Ditch	-	13th-14th century

23	Fill	-	0.18	Ditch	Pottery	13th-14th century
24	Cut	2.80	0.28	Ditch	-	16th-18th century
25	Fill	-	0.28	Ditch	Pottery	16th-18th century
26	Cut	1.15	0.69	Ditch	-	Post-Medieval
27	Fill	-	0.69	Ditch	Pottery	Post-Medieval
30	Cut	0.80	0.10	Gully	-	Undated
31	Fill	-	0.10	Gully	-	Undated
34	Layer	-	0.28	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 6

General description

Trench contained a modern ditch and two small gullies. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.

Orientation

Avg. depth (m)

Width (m)

Length (m)

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.31	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.31	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
18	Cut	0.52	0.12	Gully	-	Undated
19	Fill	-	0.12	Gully	-	Undated
20	Cut	0.70	0.12	Gully	-	Undated
21	Fill	-	0.12	Gully	-	Undated
28	Cut	8.50	0.44	Pit	-	Modern
29	Fill	-	0.44	Pit	Pottery	Modern

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Metalworking Debris

By Sarah Percival

- 4.4.2 A total of two pieces of metalworking debris weighing 139g were collected from fill 15 of ditch **14** in Trench 4. One fragment is a piece of iron smithing slag. The second is vitrified clay lining. The metalworking debris is otherwise undiagnostic and undatable.

Trench	Context	Feature	Feature type	Quantity	Weight (g)	Type
4	15	14	Ditch	1	126	Fe smithing slag
4	15	14	Ditch	1	13	Vitrified clay lining
Total				2	139	

Table 1: Quantity and weight of metalworking debris by feature

B.2 Glass

by Carole Fletcher

- B.2.1 The evaluation produced a partial neck from a single olive green glass bottle, described below. Recovered from pit **28**, the bottle may have been thrown into the ditch as a means of disposal and has little significance beyond indicating when it may have been discarded; it may be deselected prior to archive deposition.

Trench	Context	Cut	Count	Weight (kg)	Description	Date
4	29	28	1	0.043	Partial neck and shoulder from a clear olive green cylindrical glass bottle. The surface is slightly clouded and iridescent.	Not closely datable but likely to be 19th century or later

Table 2: Glass

B.3 Pottery

by Carole Fletcher

Introduction

- B.3.1 The evaluation produced a pottery assemblage of 21 sherds, weighing 0.084kg. The assemblage contains both medieval and post-medieval pottery. The condition of the overall assemblage is moderately abraded and the mean sherd weight is low at approximately 0.004kg.

Methodology

- B.3.2 The Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG), Study Group for Roman Pottery (SGRP), The Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG), 2016 *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology* and the MPRG *A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms* (MPRG, 1998) act as standards.

- B.3.3 Recording was carried out using OA East's in-house system based on that previously used at the Museum of London. Fabric classification has been carried out for all

previously described Roman, medieval and post-medieval types. All sherds have been counted, classified and weighed on a context-by-context basis. The assemblage is recorded in the catalogue. The pottery and archive are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition.

Assemblage

- B.3.4 A single feature in Trench 2, hollow **32**, produced pottery. These are both relatively abraded sherds, one of Post-medieval Redware, the other Broad Street, Ely Bichrome vessel; overall the pottery dates to the mid-end of the 16th century. A single abraded body sherd from an East Anglian Redware jug was recovered from context 2 in Trench 4. The same trench contained two ditches which also produced pottery. Ditch **14** produced two sherds, one of which was sooted and although the pottery is medieval the small and abraded nature of the sherds means their presence is not indicative of a medieval date for the feature. Ditch **16** produced three small sherds of Post-medieval Redware.
- B.3.5 A further two ditches were sectioned in Trench 5. Ditch **22** produced three sherds of pottery, a single sherd of Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy wares (Essex Fabric 20) and two East Anglian Redware body sherds. All of the pottery is medieval but as with ditch **14**, the abraded nature of the sherds means they are not a reliable means of dating the feature. Ditch **24** produced abraded East Anglian Redware body sherds alongside small sherds of Post-medieval Redware, suggesting a mid 16th-end of 18th century date, however the abraded nature of the sherds again means that dating is not reliable.
- B.3.6 A single large pit, **28**, in Trench 6 also produced pottery, two medieval sherds including an abraded sherd from a Grimston Glazed ware jug and a single Post-medieval Redware jar body sherd. Again all the material is abraded and is not reliable for dating the feature.

Conclusion

- B.3.7 The assemblage is domestic in nature, with single sooted sherds suggesting use in the preparation of food. The sherds recovered exhibit various degrees of abrasion, with the medieval material highly abraded and the post-medieval material very fragmented indicating a high degree of reworking. The levels of pottery across the site are low and the pottery has most likely been deposited as rubbish across the site subsequently reworked possibly by ploughing. If further work is undertaken, this material should be taken into consideration alongside any new finds, however if no further work is undertaken, the following catalogue acts as a full record and the pottery may be deselected prior to archive deposition.

Pottery Catalogue

Trench	Context	Cut	Fabric	Basic Form	Sherd Count	Weight (kg)	Pottery Date Range
4	2		East Anglian Redwares	Jug body sherd, small area of slip, heavily abraded	1	0.004	13th-end 14th century
	15	14	Ely ware	Unglazed body sherd, abraded	1	0.002	Mid-12th-mid 14th century
			South-east	Sooted jar body sherd,	1	0.001	Mid-12th-mid

Trench	Context	Cut	Fabric	Basic Form	Sherd Count	Weight (kg)	Pottery Date Range
			Fenland Medieval Calcareous Buff ware	abraded			15th century
	17	16	Post-medieval Redware	Body sherds, externally glazed and abraded	3	0.009	Mid 16th-end of 18th century
5	23	22	Medieval Essex-type Micaceous Grey Sandy wares (Essex Fabric 20)	Body sherd, abraded	1	0.004	13th-end 14th century
			East Anglian Redwares	Body sherd, heavily abraded (dull red fabric)	2	0.006	13th-end 14th century
	25	24	Post-medieval Redware	Body sherds, externally glazed and abraded	5	0.023	Mid 16th-end of 18th century
			East Anglian Redwares	Jug body sherd, external clear glaze and slip, abraded	1	0.004	13th-end 14th century
			East Anglian Redwares	Body sherd, heavily abraded (dull red fabric)	1	0.001	13th-end 14th century
6	29	28	Post-medieval Redware	Jar body sherd, internally and externally glazed and moderately abraded	1	0.003	Mid 16th-end of 18th century
			East Anglian Redwares	Jug body sherd, small area of slip, heavily abraded	1	0.003	13th-end 14th century
			Grimston Glazed ware	Jug body sherd, thin traces of green glaze, heavily abraded	1	0.006	13th-end 15th century
2	33	32	Post-medieval Redware	Bowl body sherd, internally glazed and abraded	1	0.015	Mid 16th-end of 18th century
			Broad Street, Ely Bichrome	Jar body sherd, clear internal glaze external green glaze, abraded	1	0.003	Mid-end 16th century+
Total					21	0.084	

Table 3: Pottery

B.4 Ceramic Building Material

by Carole Fletcher

- B.4.1 The archaeological evaluation produced a fragmentary assemblage of ceramic building material (CBM) consisting of a single abraded fragment of brick, weighing 0.013kg, recovered from hollow **32**. The material, although highly abraded, is likely to be post-medieval CBM and the low levels of material recovered are not enough to indicate buildings of any period within the area of archaeological works. The fragmentary nature of the assemblage means it is of little significance. If no further work on the site is undertaken, the following catalogue acts as a full record and the CBM may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

Ceramic Building Material Catalogue

Trench	Context	Cut	Weight (kg)	Form	Description	Date
2	33	32	0.013	Brick	Single fragment of coarse sandy dull red fabric, with pale surfaces	Not closely datable

Table 4: Ceramic Building Material

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Faunal Remains

By Zoe Ui Choileain

Introduction

- C.1.1 The evaluation produced a total of seven fragments of animal bone, weighing 0.053kg. The assemblage contains entirely mammalian material including pig, horse and dog, along with unidentified large mammal bone.

Methodology

- C.1.2 Results according to collection method (i.e. hand-collection or flotation). Erosion grades (simplified version of Brickley & McKinley 2004, 14-15): 0 (surface morphology clearly visible, fresh appearance), 1 (light and patchy surface erosion), 2 (more extensive surface erosion than grade 1), 3 (most of bone surface affected by some degree of erosion), 4 (all of bone surface affected by erosive action), 5 (heavy erosion across whole surface, completely masking normal surface morphology).

Results

Trench	Context	Cut	Element	No. of frags	Taxon	Collection method	Erosion	Weight (g)	Age
2	33	32	Indet	1	Indet	Hand	2	1	-
4	15	14	Incisor	1	Pig	Hand	2	1	adult
5	23	22	Patella	1	Large mammal	Hand	3	17	Adult
5	23	22	Rib	1	Large mammal	Hand	1	12	Adult
5	23	22	Vertebra	1	Large	Hand	2	9	Juvenile

Trench	Context	Cut	Element	No. of frags	Taxon	Collection method	Erosion	Weight (g)	Age
					mammal				
5	25	24	Pelvis	1	Equid	Hand	2	12	-
5	25	24	Humerus	1	Dog	Hand	2	3	-

Table 5: Faunal Remains.

C.2 Mollusca

By Carole Fletcher

Assemblage

- C.2.1 A small fragment, tentatively identified as common mussel shell, was collected by hand during the evaluation, from ditch **14**. The shell recovered is an edible example from estuarine, shallow coastal waters and intertidal zones. The shell is poorly preserved and, although it does not appear to have been deliberately broken or crushed, the small size of the fragment means, beyond a basic identification, few conclusions can be drawn about its presence. The mussel shell recovered is likely general discarded food waste and not closely datable.

Trench	Context	Cut	Species	Common Name	Habitat	Total number of shells	Total Weight (kg)
4	15	14	Mytilus edulis	Common Mussel	Estuarine and shallow coastal water	1	<0.001

Table 6: Mollusca types

C.3 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

- C.3.1 A single bulk sample was taken from fill 15 of post-medieval ditch **14** (Trench 4) during the evaluation of the site at Gibson Close, Waterbeach in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations.

Methodology

- C.3.2 17 litres of the bulk sample was processed by water flotation (using a modified Siraff three-tank system) for the recovery of charred plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.25mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve. Both flot and residue were allowed to air dry. A magnet was dragged through each residue fraction prior to sorting for artefacts. The dried flot was subsequently sorted using a binocular microscope at x 60. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands* (Cappers et al. 2006) and the authors' own reference collection. Nomenclature is according to

Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and Stace (1997) for other plants. Carbonized seeds and grains, by the process of burning and burial, become blackened and often distort and fragment leading to difficulty in identification. Plant remains have been identified to species where possible. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

Results

- C.3.3 The sample contains untransformed seeds of elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*), bramble (*Rubus* sp.), sloe/cherry (*Prunus spinosa/cerasus*) and dead-nettle (*Lamium* sp.). All of these species produced seeds that have a tough outer coat that is resistant to decay. It is therefore possible that the seeds are contemporary with the medieval deposit and are indicative of hedgerow plants that may have been growing on the bank of the ditch.
- C.3.4 The residue did not contain any finds.

APPENDIX D. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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consulted on 16/11/2016

<http://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=19&lat=52.2663&lon=0.1893&layers=171&b=1>
consulted 4/12/2016

APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-207216		
Project Name	Evaluation at land off Gibson Close, Waterbeach		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	01-11-2016	Finish	04-11-2016
Previous Work (by OA East)	No	Future Work	No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	WAT GIB 16	Planning App. No.	S/2177/16/FL
HER No.	ECB 4834	Related HER/OASIS No.	

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	Planning condition
Development Type	Housing Estate

Please select all techniques used:

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

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

List feature types using the [NMR Monument Type Thesaurus](#) and significant finds using the [MDA Object type Thesaurus](#) together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

Monument	Period	Object	Period
ditch	Medieval 1066 to 1540	vessel	Medieval 1066 to 1540
ditch	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901	vessel	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901
	Select period...		Select period...

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)
District	South Cambs	Gibson Close, Waterbeach, Cambridge,
Parish	Waterbeach	
HER	Cambridgeshire	
Study Area	324 sq.m	National Grid Reference TL 4951 6533

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Kasia Gdaneic
Project Design Originator	James Drummond-Murray
Project Manager	James Drummond-Murray
Supervisor	Nicholas Cox

Project Archives

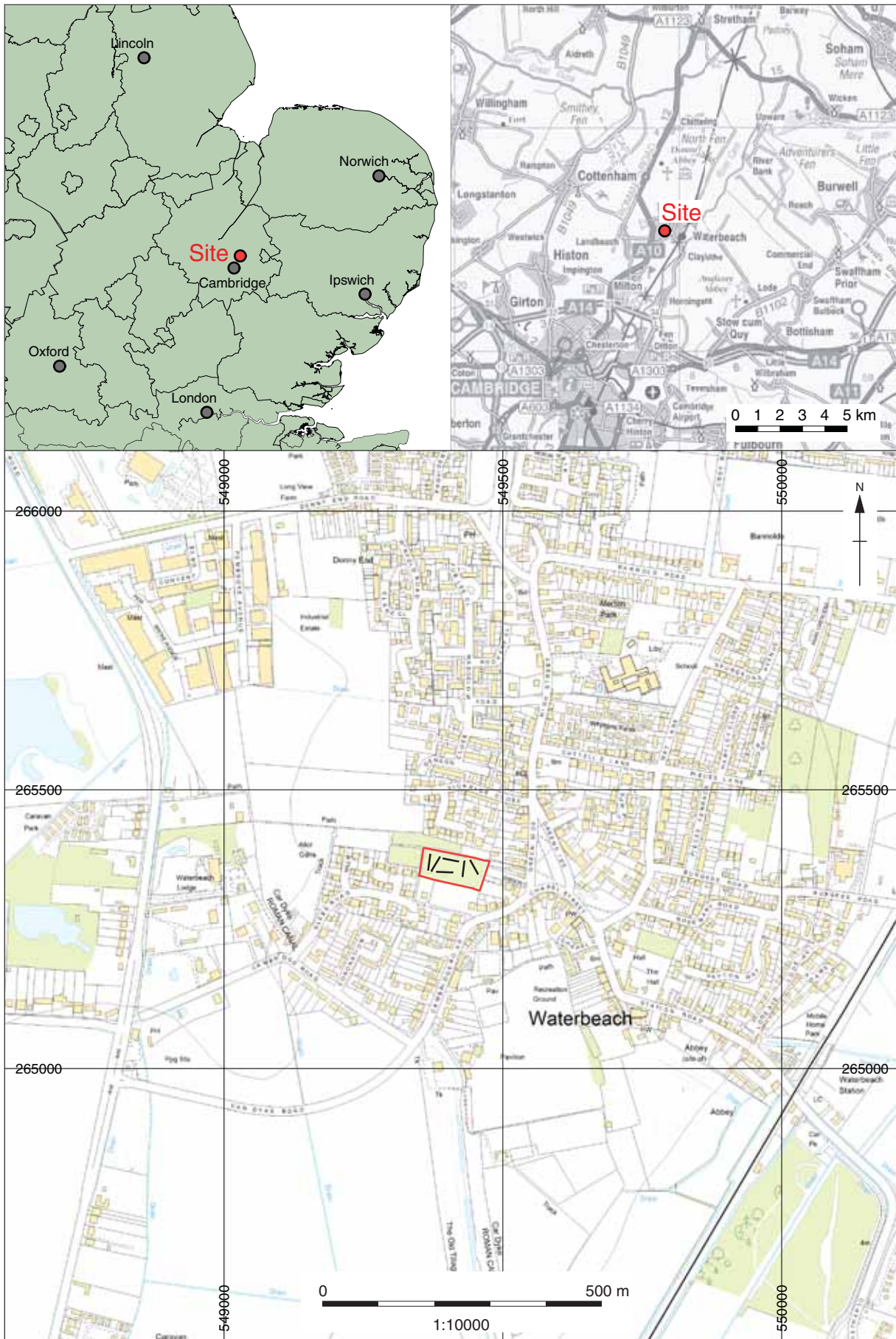
Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
CC Stores	OA East	CC Stores
ECB 4834	ECB 4834	ECB 4834

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Survey		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Textiles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
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<input type="checkbox"/> Moving Image	<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscript
<input type="checkbox"/> Spreadsheets	<input type="checkbox"/> Map
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Matrices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text	<input type="checkbox"/> Microfilm
<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual Reality	<input type="checkbox"/> Misc.
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:



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

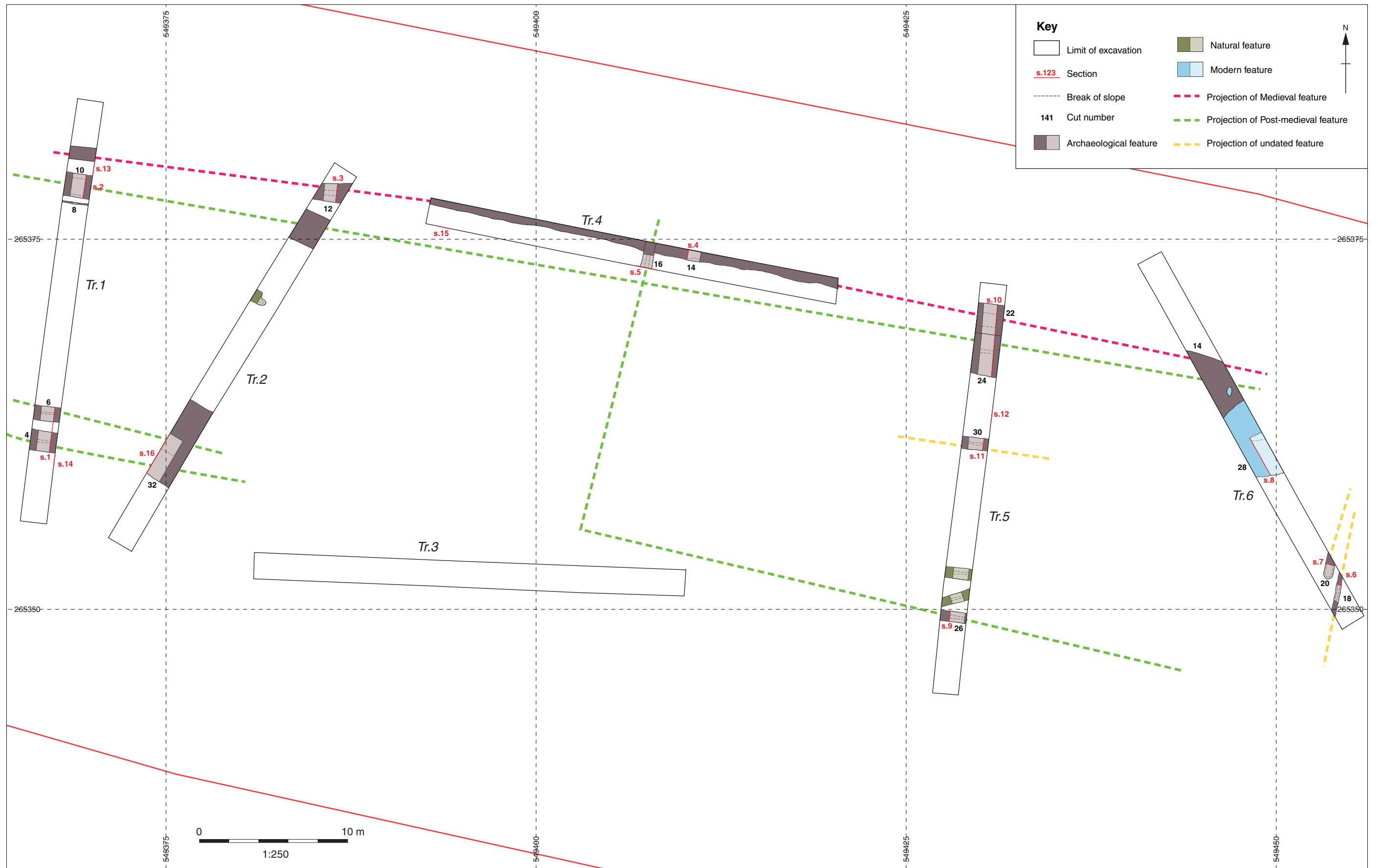


Figure 2: Plan of evaluation trenches

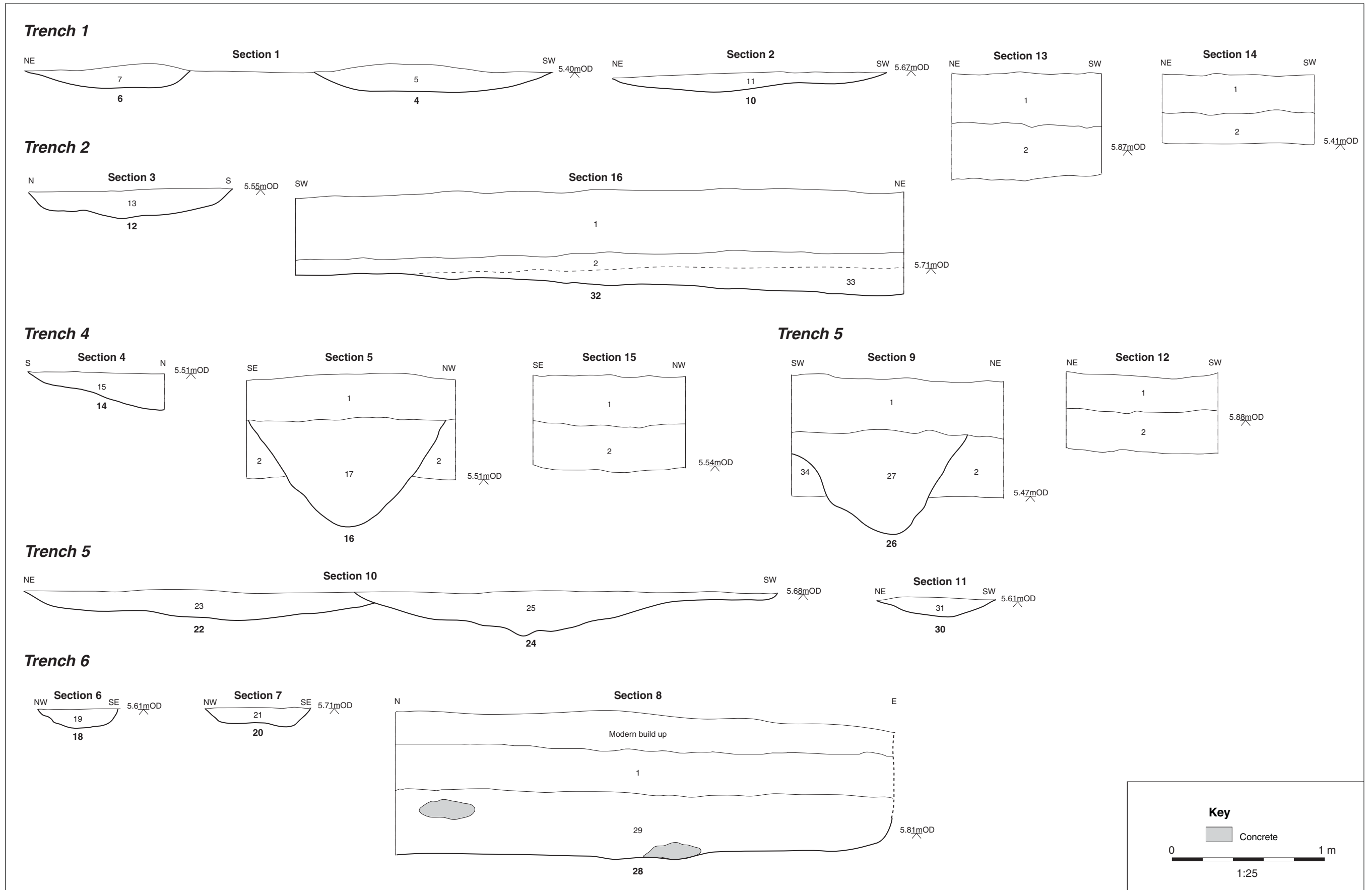


Figure 3: Sections



Plate 1: Trench 1, looking north



Plate 2: Ditches 4 and 6, Trench 1, looking east



Plate 3: Trench 2, looking north-east



Plate 4: Hollow 32, Trench 2, looking north-west



Plate 5: Ditch 12, Trench 2, looking east



Plate 6: Trench 3, looking west



Plate 7: Trench 4, looking west



Plate 8: Ditch 14, Trench 4, looking west



Plate 9: Ditch 16, Trench 4, looking south



Plate 10: Trench 5, looking south



Plate 11: Ditches **22** and **24**, Trench 5, looking north-east



Plate 12: Ditch **26**, Trench 5, looking west



Plate 13: Trench 6, looking north-west



Plate 14: Pit 28, Trench 6, looking north-east



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