

Post-Medieval quarrying at the Former 50-52 Inhams Road Whittlesey



Archaeological Evaluation Report



April 2016

Client: Rose Plant Hire Ltd

OA East Report No: 1909

OASIS No: oxfordar3-247963

NGR: TL 2716 9676

Post-Medieval quarrying at the Former 50-52 Inhams Road, Whittlesey

Archaeological Evaluation

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Date of Works: March 2016
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Summary

Between the 29th and 30th of March 2016 Oxford Archaeology East conducted an archaeological evaluation consisting of three trial trenches at 50-52 Inhams Road, Whittlesey (NGR TL 2716 9676).

The evaluation found several large sub-rectangular pits that contained finds of a broadly 16th to 18th century date range, these were probably for the extraction of sand and gravel. Also found was a single large posthole of 18th to 19th century date and several modern rubbish pits.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted at the site of the former 50-52 Inham's Road, Whittlesey.
- 1.1.2 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Gemma Stewart of Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC; Planning Application F/YR15/0925/F), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East.
- 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

The following information is drawn from the Written Scheme of Investigation (Connor, 2016).

- 1.2.1 Whittlesey lies upon a large gravel capped island of high ground in the Fens immediately east of the 'mainland' at Peterborough. It straddles the Romano-British Fen Causeway route across the fens from Peterborough to March and on into Norfolk (Unpublished OA Report 1762).
- 1.2.2 The Bedrock geology of the site is Oxford Clay Formation-Mudstone. This is overlain to the north by superficial March sand and gravel deposits and to the south by River Terrace sand and gravel deposits (British Geological Survey, 1984).
- 1.2.3 The proposed development area is flat, approximately 6m above Ordnance Datum (OD). The ground slopes downhill to the south and uphill north, east and west. The site is bounded to the east by Inham's Lane south by Hardy's Lane. The east and north of the site are defined by the gardens of the adjacent residential developments.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

The following information is drawn from the Written Scheme of Investigation (Conner, 2016).

- 1.3.1 Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Service has provided the client with Historic Environment Records for a search area of approximately 1km centred on the proposed development site. The CCCHET Brief provides a synopsis of the key points of historic significance and a recent evaluation on nearby Station Road by Oxford Archaeology (Graham 2015) provide a useful context to this site as follows:

Prehistoric

- 1.3.2 Whittlesey has been extensively settled and exploited particularly during the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Romano-British periods. Large areas of settlement and ritual archaeology have been excavated along the western fringes of the island prior to gravel and clay extraction (Mortimer 2008). Their distribution along the fen edge places

emphasis upon the economic significance of the Fen as a grazing resource (Casa Hatton 2001). The early prehistoric presence is represented by lithic scatters and stray find spots.

- 1.3.3 Bronze Age Activity in the Whittlesey area has included unenclosed settlement with pits and postholes at Bradley Fen (Knight 2000). Extensive timber alignments at Must Farm (Evans et al 2005) and at Kings Dyke West, excavations uncovered a short lived open Bronze Age settlement with roundhouses, four post structures and pits (Knight 1999).
- 1.3.4 Iron Age activity in the area is represented by two adjacent areas of domestic occupation on the western side of Whittlesey and Iron Age finds have been retrieved from the Brick Clay quarry to the west of the town (Hall 1987).

Roman

- 1.3.5 Whittlesey parish is crossed by the Fen Causeway, a Roman trackway with an accompanying ditch (CHER11048). The causeway extends from the southern boundary of Flag Fen near Peterborough in the west through to Grandford near March to the east, following higher ground whenever it is possible (Casa Hatton and Hounsell 2006). Excavations at Stonald Field at Whittlesey confirmed the route in the western part of the parish and indicated that the trackway was built in the 1st century most probably for military purposes (Knight 2000). It has been suggested that the presence of the causeway probably encouraged the development of Roman rural settlements along its length (Casa Hatton and Hounsell 2006).
- 1.3.6 An archaeological evaluation at Kings Dyke Pit produced a high density of archaeological features and artefacts corresponding to an already known Romano-British crop marked settlement. The finds included a possible earlier phase of the Fen Causeway. Paddocks, ditches, pits and postholes were all investigated (Mortimer 1996). Further excavations identified a metalled surface, an inhumation and a kiln. A small rectangular structure and ring ditch seem to have been contemporary with the road and may have been associated with a shrine (Gibson and knight 2002)
- 1.3.7 The top part of a large Roman cooking pot was retrieved during the 1983 Post Office yard excavation (CHER 01963A).
- 1.3.8 Late Roman coins were retrieved from Lattersey Field, Whittlesey (HER02938) and a silver coin from the reign of Carausius (MCB16746).

Anglo-Saxon

- 1.3.9 To the north of the development are is of one of the two late Saxon/Medieval manors that formed the nucleus for the developing Medieval town, which grew in an area approximately defined by Church Street, Inhams Lane, Whitmore Street and the Kings /Whittlesey Dyke, to incorporate both manors, the market place and wharf area. An archaeological evaluation nearby in 2007 revealed evidence of Post-Medieval occupation (MCB17675). In addition archaeological investigations to the north revealed evidence of medieval and post-medieval occupation (MCB15935, MCB17978).
- 1.3.10 The place name of Whittlesey indicates a Late Saxon origin being recorded in c.972 as (W)itlesig meaning 'Wil(t)el's island. Early documentary sources refer to two separate manors on the Whittlesey island which were acquired by the monasteries of Ely and Thorney in the Late Saxon period (Casa Hatton 2001).
- 1.3.11 Saxon evidence for Whittlesey is sparse, possible Grubenhauser features have been identified from aerial photographs (Hall 1987) and in 1828 a Saxon cemetery was

discovered in Bassenhally Field north-west of the town centre containing several inhumations on a west-east alignment (Hall 1987).

- 1.3.12 An evaluation at Manor View c. 200m to the west of the development area identified a number of pits containing Late Saxon pottery, along side postholes and other features. However, even though this pottery was suggested to be residual it indicates possible Anglo-Saxon activity within the local landscape (Fletcher 2004).

Medieval

- 1.3.13 Medieval activity is likely to have been centred around the area of the current town centre. The following examples being those closest to the proposed development area.
- 1.3.14 Intense medieval activity was revealed at Manor View including pits, postholes, a ditch and a wall (Fletcher 2004).
- 1.3.15 An archaeological evaluation north of the development area at the Whittlesey Baptist Church, 32 Gracious Street, uncovered a pit dated from the 13th to 16th century, and a ditch containing a fragment of medieval CBM typical of the type produced up to the 15th century (Quinn and Stoakley 2012).
- 1.3.16 A series of sixteen test pits were excavated by the Whittlesey Society from 1981-83 at Post Office Yard north-west of the development site. At least nineteen medieval pits (containing basal fills and St Neots type pottery, animal bone, a 15th century silver penny and copper alloy broach) were uncovered, one of which was overlain by a chalk yard surface (Thatcher 2008).
- 1.3.17 A later excavation at the same site by OA East revealed a number of large pits across Post Office Yard, including probable gravel extraction pits, some of which were re-utilised as rubbish pits. A further pit with vertical sides was considerably deeper than the other features and was interpreted as a well (containing 15th to 16th century pottery in its upper fills (Thatcher 2008)). An additional watching brief four years later during the redevelopment of the site uncovered further medieval features at the same location (Diffey 2012).
- 1.3.18 To the north-west of the site at 15 Queen Street, a single evaluation trench produced eight pits, either undated or containing a mixture of Roman and medieval pottery. These were attributed to Late medieval gravel extraction, possibly indicative of medieval back plot activity with no structural evidence (House 2008).
- 1.3.19 Also north-west of the site, excavations at Finkle Lane revealed a sequence of field systems, pits and tanks dating from the 12th century onward. The evidence indicated that these could be potential burgrave plots, domestic rubbish pits and leather working tanks in use up to the 18th century (Wood 2007 and 2008).
- 1.3.20 Medieval rubbish pits were were also densely located north of Station Road at Broad Street (Trimble 2010).
- 1.3.21 A single ditch dated to the Late medieval period, possibly part of a much larger complex was recorded at Eastgate directly to the north of the development area (Hatton 2004).
- 1.3.22 The Churches of St Andrew and S. Mary appear to be relatively late in date, c.13th century. The manor house to the south of St. Mary's Church is medieval in origin but was extensively modified during the 17th century (Casa Hatton and Hounsell 2006).

Post-Medieval

- 1.3.23 During the post-medieval period the town prospered with the right to hold a market being granted in 1715 (Casa Hatton and Hounsell 2006). The economic importance of Whittlesey grew in the 17th century when the town was ranked second in importance amongst the 'towns of the isle' after Ely (Casa Hatton 2001).
- 1.3.24 There were a series of attempts at Whittlesey to control the Nene waters, as early as the 13th century and these continued in the 15th and later 17th centuries. The latter drainage, in which the main period of drainage commenced in earnest, was with Royal Assent and supported by private investors led by the Earl of Bedford. And was followed by the enclosure of large portions of the land, the last of which being awarded in 1844 (Casa Hatton 2001).
- 1.3.25 Directly to the south-west of the site an archaeological evaluation at 17 Station Road found a series of large post-medieval pits, possibly from quarrying. These were overlain by later build-up layers (Bradley-Lovekin and Cope-Faulkner 2007).
- 1.3.26 An archaeological evaluation on land to the rear of the Bricklayer's Arms Public House, 9 Station Road, Whittlesey just to the north-west of the current development area provided evidence for a series of intercutting pits that contained a small amount of medieval pottery but the majority of the finds were post-medieval in date. These were most likely quarry pits for the extraction of sand and gravel, possibly of a medieval date but this could not be proved (Graham 2015).

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 Oxford Archaeology East would like to thank Rose Plant Hire Ltd who commissioned and funded the work. The project was managed by Aileen Conner. The fieldwork was conducted by the author. Site survey was carried out by Gareth Rees. The archaeological works were monitored by Gemma Stewart of CCCHET.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The objective of this evaluation 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 The Brief required that a total of 30m of evaluation trenching. This was divided into one 10m and two 5m trenches.
- 2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a wheeled JCB-type excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.
- 2.2.3 The site was located to Ordnance Survey using a Leica 1200 GPS fitted with *Smartnet*.
- 2.2.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. Artefact characterisation of topsoil and subsoil was undertaken by means of bucket sampling (90 litres from the ends of each trench). 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 monochrome and digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.2.6 The site was dry and well drained. The surface of the site was covered with modern material waste.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 Three trenches were excavated in the development area and will be considered individually.
- 3.1.2 A comprehensive index of trench depths and descriptions can be found in Appendix A.

3.2 Trench 1

- 3.2.1 Trench 1 was located along the western edge of the area at a height of 5.86mOD. The trench was 1.6m wide and 10m in length, with an orientation of north-east to south-west (Plate 1). Bucket Sampling was undertaken at the south-west end of the trench, it produced only obviously modern finds (machine made bricks and glass) from the topsoil and no finds were recovered from the subsoil.
- 3.2.2 The earliest features were two large sub-rectangular pits, **4** and **7** (Fig.3), which ran just off the alignment of the trench from the northern end.
- 3.2.3 Pit **7** was 4.1m long starting at the southern edge of **4**, and at its widest covered the whole width of the trench. It was 0.8m deep in total with vertical sides and a flat base (Fig.3, Section 2 & Plate 2). It was filled by a mid reddish brown silty sand (8), 0.52m thick, with a dark grey brown silty sand (9) 0.4m thick, above. Fill 9 contained pottery that could only be broadly dated to the mid 16th to 18th centuries, along with a small number of animal bones and a fragment of oyster shell.
- 3.2.4 Pit **4** measured 2.65m from the northern trench end and was 1.15m wide within the trench, it just cut the northern edge of pit **7**. It was near vertically sided and 0.7m deep in total (Fig.4, Section 1). Its lowest fill was a mid reddish brown silty sand (5), which was 0.52m thick. Above this was a dark grey brown silty sand (6) 0.4m thick. This contained pottery and clay pipe stems with a date range between the early 17th and 18th centuries, the earliest date for the deposition of the assemblage is likely to be 18th century, a small number of animal bones were also present.
- 3.2.5 An 0.72m thick layer of dark greyish brown silty sand (2) overlay the natural geology but its relationship with Pits **4** and **7** was inconclusive and it is possible that the pits had cut through it. It was also cut by several modern features containing brick and glass (Fig.3, Section 5). A thin topsoil layer (1) 0.2m thick mixed with a lot of modern rubbish overlay 2.

3.3 Trench 2

- 3.3.1 Trench 2 was located along the southern edge of the area at a height of 5.75mOD. The trench was 1.6m wide and 5m in length, with an orientation of north-west to south-east. Bucket sampling was undertaken at the west end of the trench, only modern brick and glass was recovered from topsoil, no finds were recovered from subsoil.
- 3.3.2 At the eastern end of the trench was the edge of a large pit (**12**). This was 0.8m wide within the trench running on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment. It was 0.46m deep (Fig.3, Section 4 & Plate 4) and contained a dark grey brown sandy silt (14) with pottery dating from the 16th to the 18th century, a clay tobacco pipe bowl dated to the end of the 17th century, and the base of a glass bottle dated to the 18th century. The context is therefore likely to date to the 18th century. Animal bone was also present.

- 3.3.3 A single large posthole (**10**) was located at the north-west end of the trench (Fig.3). This was 0.6m in diameter and 0.36m deep (Fig.3, Section 3 & Plate 3). It contained a single dark grey brown silty sand (11) that contained a sherd of 19th century pottery, fragments of brick of probable 18th or 19th century date, and clay tobacco pipe that is not closely datable, animal bone was also present.
- 3.3.4 Dark greyish brown silty sand (2) was 0.49m thick in this trench, the relationship between this layer and the features was not clearly defined, but it is possible that all the features cut through it. A thin topsoil layer (1) 0.2m thick mixed with a lot of modern rubbish overlay 2.

3.4 Trench 3

- 3.4.1 Trench 3 was at the northern edge of the development area at a height of 5.69mOD, running on a north-west to south-east alignment. The trench was 1.6m wide and 5m long. Bucket sampling at the western end of the trench produced only modern brick and glass from the topsoil and no finds from the subsoil.
- 3.4.2 Clearly cutting 0.64m thick layer 2 in this trench was a large pit (**15**). This ran along the north-east edge of the trench to 2.75m in from the south-east end. It was 0.75m wide within the trench and at least 1.00m deep (Fig.3, Section 6). It was filled by a dark brown grey sandy silt (16) which contained 19th century pottery and a chrome on nickel spoon of 19th or 20th century date.
- 3.4.3 The topsoil (1) here was 0.22m thick and similarly contained large quantities of modern rubbish.

3.5 Finds Summary

- 3.5.1 A pottery assemblage of 35 Sherds (0.803kg) was collected ranging from the late 16th to the 19th centuries.
- 3.5.2 Pit **12** contained the base of a glass bottle dating possibly to the 18th century.
- 3.5.3 A small assemblage of clay tobacco pipe (0.043kg) was also recovered including eight fragments of stem and one bowl. Pits **4** and **7** contained fragments that couldn't be specifically dated, however pit **12** contained a pipe bowl that was dated to the mid-late 17th century.
- 3.5.4 Two fragments of ceramic building material (0.028kg) were recovered from posthole **10**, these were most probably brick of 18th to 19th century in date.
- 3.5.5 A single chrome on nickel spoon of modern date was recovered from pit **15**.
- 3.5.6 Bucket sampling of topsoil produced only obviously modern finds including broken glass bottles, and machine made bricks, these were not collected. Bucket sampling of subsoil produced no finds.

3.6 Environmental Summary

- 3.6.1 No deposits were identified with potential for the preservation of macro or micro botanical remains.
- 3.6.2 The animal bone assemblage (0.033kg) consisted of fourteen identified specimens from four contexts (6, 9, 11 and 14). The assemblage was predominantly cow with a small amount of sheep and pig. There were considerable signs of butchery marks and some evidence for gnawing possibly by a dog.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1.1 The site had no evidence for any activity earlier than post-medieval with similar activities occurring across the site.
- 4.1.2 The earliest evidence for activity was a group of large pits (**4**, **7** in Trench 1 and **12** in Trench 2) which due to their mostly rectangular shape, near vertical sides and the depth they were dug into the natural were probably quarry pits for extracting sand and gravels. These pits were present on the southern (Trench 2) and western (Trench 1) sides of the site. Pit **7** was the earliest of the three dating to the late 16th or 17th centuries. Pits **4** and **12** were slightly later being 17th or 18th century. All three contained large amounts of pottery, clay pipe and also animal bone in their upper fills, suggesting a final backfilling with domestic waste. The relationship of these features with the subsoil was not well defined but it seems likely that they cut the subsoil (which was otherwise devoid of artefacts) rather than being sealed by it.
- 4.1.3 These features compare with similar activity at the Bricklayer's Arms to the north-west (Graham 2015) and at 17 Station Road to the south-west (Bradley-Lovekin and Cope-Faulkner 2007, 4-5). The quarrying is of roughly similar date to that at the Bricklayer's Arms but did not contain any residual medieval material.
- 4.1.4 On the southern side a single large post hole (**10**) was 18th or 19th century in date and may have been cut from higher up like the other later features. There is no evidence of a post or packing within the feature and no other similar features were found. This feature contained similar artefactual evidence to the quarry pits but of slightly later date.
- 4.1.5 In Trench 3 on the northern edge was a large 19th century pit (**15**) filled with pottery and other rubbish including a spoon. This was likely a rubbish pit and is clearly cut from just below the topsoil. In Trench 1 there are also several features with similar fills cutting the subsoil but not reaching the natural level visible in the trench section. These, along with pit **15**, are probably evidence of recent rubbish dumping activity.

4.2 Significance

- 4.2.1 The results show that activity within the development area is post-medieval and later with no earlier features or finds indicating the site was probably beyond the edge of medieval Whittlesey.
- 4.2.2 The development area sits on the same raised area of sand and gravel found on the southern half of the Bricklayer's Arms site. The evidence from the site and those nearby indicate that this area was heavily quarried for this material during the post-medieval period.

4.3 Recommendations

- 4.3.1 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	NE-SW
The trench contained two post-medieval quarry pits. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand. Several modern features cut the subsoil.					Avg. depth (m)	0.86
					Width (m)	1.60
					Length (m)	10.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.72	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4	Cut	1.15	0.70	Quarry Pit	-	17th-18th century
5	Fill	-	0.40	Quarry Pit	-	17th-18th century
6	Fill	-	0.52	Quarry Pit	Pot, clay pipe	17th-18th century
7	Cut	1.55	0.80	Quarry Pit	-	16th-17th century
8	Fill	-	0.40	Quarry Pit	-	16th-17th century
9	Fill	-	0.64	Quarry Pit	Pot, clay pipe	16th-17th century

Trench 2						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
The trench contained a post-medieval quarry pit and posthole. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.84
					Width (m)	1.60
					Length (m)	5.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.49	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
10	Cut	0.60	0.36	Posthole	-	18th-19th century
11	Fill	-	0.36	Posthole	Pot, clay pipe	18th-19th century
12	Cut	0.80	0.46	Quarry Pit	-	17th century
14	Fill	-	0.46	Quarry Pit	Pot, clay pipe	17th century

Trench 3						
General description				Orientation	NW-SE	
The trench contained one modern pit cut from below the topsoil. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.				Avg. depth (m)	0.73	
				Width (m)	1.60	
				Length (m)	5.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.64	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
15	Cut	0.75	1.00	Pit	-	19th century
16	Fill	-	1.00	Pit	Pottery	19th century

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Glass

By Carol Fletcher HND BA (Hons) ACIfA

Introduction

B.1.1 Archaeological works produced a small assemblage consisting of two shards, one from the base of a glass bottle and a small shard of indeterminate form. The total weight is 0.039kg.

Methodology

B.1.2 The glass was scanned, recorded catalogued, and the material was weighed as individual vessels where possible. The glass is catalogued in Table 1.

Assemblage

B.1.3 Both of the shards were recovered from the single fill of pit **12**. The base is from a post-medieval, mid olive green glass bottle, the width and angle of the basal kick suggest the vessel is 18th century. The smaller fragment is of a similar green colour and is slightly curved and may be a body shard from the same bottle.

Discussion

B.1.4 The glass represents a background scatter of 18th century material, such as might be found on any site of the period, and is of little significance beyond basic dating indicators. If further work is undertaken, the vessel shards should be looked at in relation to any other glass recovered. If no further work is undertaken, the following catalogue acts as a full record and the glass may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

B.1.5 Glass Catalogue

Context	Cut	Form	Count	Weight (kg)	Description	Overall Date
14	12	Vessel: bottle	1	0.038	Partial base-kick from a mid-olive green glass bottle, the inner surface of the glass is dull with a light patina over the surface and where the glass has broken, indicating the breaks have some age. The outer surface of the glass is in good condition, although the surface is slightly pitted and the glass itself contains small bubbles. The small surviving fragment of the basal edge suggests a basal diameter of approximately 120mm. The condition of the glass, the possible basal diameter and height of kick, suggest it might be an 18th century bottle.	Not closely datable, however it may be 18th century
14	12	Vessel	1	0.002	Sub-rectangular shard of mid-olive green vessel glass, most likely a bottle. Some surface dulling, some small faults in the glass. Length 24.4mm, width 21.4mm, thickness 2mm.	Not closely datable

Table 1: Glass

B.2 Pottery

by Carole Fletcher

Introduction

B.2.1 The excavation produced a small pottery assemblage of 35 sherds, weighing 0.803kg, recovered from 5 contexts from features across the three trenches. The condition of the overall assemblage is unabraded to moderately abraded. The average sherd weight from individual contexts is moderate at approximately 23g.

Methodology

B.2.2 The Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG) documents *A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms* (MPRG, 1998) and *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics* (MPRG, 2001) act as a standard.

B.2.3 Dating 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 medieval and post-medieval types. All sherds have been counted, classified and weighed. All the pottery has been recorded and dated on a context-by-context basis and the summary catalogue is recorded in Table 2. The archives are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition.

Assemblage

B.2.4 The pottery recovered is post-medieval (26 sherds weighing 0.513kg) including sherds of Post-medieval Redware and Post-medieval Black-Glazed ware, and 18th-19th

century (9 sherds weighing 0.290kg) including Bone China and Refined White Earthenwares.

Trench 1

- B.2.5 Pit **4** produced the largest assemblage, consisting of 18 post-medieval sherds weighing 0.425kg. The bulk of the sherds are Post-medieval Redwares, also present are two Bichrome sherds, three sherds of Staffordshire slipware and a sherd from a Staffordshire Mottled ware drinking vessel. The presence of the Staffordshire fabrics suggests the material was deposited after c.1680, the Metropolitan-type Slipware, Bichrome and Post-medieval Black Glazed ware, if not residual, suggest sometime between c.1680 and the early part of the 18th century. Pit **7** produced only sherds of Post-medieval Redwares, broadly datable to the mid 16th-end of the 18th century, however the date of deposition may be similar to that of pit **4**.

Trench 2

- B.2.6 A single post hole, **10**, was recorded in this trench and produced a single sherd from a Refined White Earthenware bowl which, at only 0.002kg, may be intrusive and should not be relied upon to provide a date for the feature without consideration of the other materials recovered from the feature, in this case post-medieval ceramic building material.. A second feature was excavated in this trench, pit **12**, which produced four sherds, including a body sherd from a Bourne D vessel and also from a Post-medieval Black-Glazed ware drinking vessel, together suggesting a date of late 16th-mid or late 18th century for the pottery.

Trench 3

- B.2.7 A single pit **15** was excavated in Trench 3 and produced an assemblage of 19th century pottery, including a complete profile of a Refined White Earthenware-Ironstone saucer with transfer-printed decoration on the reverse of the saucer. On the base is the impressed mark ASHWORTH, the mark of GL Ashworth & Brothers Ltd, who manufactured earthenware pottery in Hanley Staffordshire from c.1861-1968 until the company was renamed Mason's Ironstone China Ltd. The ASHWORTH impressed mark may appear on the Mason's vessels <http://www.thepotteries.org/mark/a/ashworth.html>. Also present was a single sherd from a Bone China cup decorated with a single line of gilding around the body; the rim sherd may be from a coffee can rather than a tea cup. A single fragment of rim from a Pearlware vessel with sponged decoration, alongside transfer-printed Pearlware and Refined White Earthenware suggests a date range for the pit of early-mid 19th century

Discussion

- B.2.8 Domestic in origin, the post-early medieval and 19th-19th century sherds appear to represent rubbish deposition, with the post-medieval material having been somewhat re-worked. The Pearlware and Refined White Earthenware sherds come from tablewares, no serving or food preparation vessels from this period were recovered. The material represents general rubbish disposal on the site, and as such the pottery has little significance other than to help date the features. If further work is undertaken this material should be taken into consideration alongside any new finds, however if no further work on the site is undertaken the following catalogue (and associated Access database) acts as a full record and the pottery may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

B.2.9 Pottery Catalogue

Context	Cut	Full Name	Basic Form	Count	Weight (kg)	Pottery Date
6	4	Bichrome		1	0.008	Mid 16th-end 17th century
		Bichrome	Bowl	1	0.016	Mid 16th-end 17th century
		Metropolitan-type Slipware	Bowl	1	0.027	17th century
		Post-medieval Black-Glazed ware	Bowl	1	0.015	Late 16th-end 17th century
		Post-medieval Redware		1	0.009	Mid 16th-end 18th century
		Post-medieval Redware	Bowl	7	0.227	Mid 16th-end 18th century
		Post-medieval Redware	Pipkin	2	0.074	Mid 16th-end 18th century
		Staffordshire Mottled ware	Drinking Vessel	1	0.015	Mid 17th-end 18th century
		Staffordshire Slipware	Bowl	1	0.002	Late 17th-end 18th century
		Staffordshire Slipware	Bowl	2	0.032	Late 17th-end 18th century
9	7	Post-medieval Redware	Bowl	1	0.01	Mid 16th-end 18th century
		Post-medieval Redware	Jar	2	0.02	Mid 16th-end 18th century
		Post-medieval Redware	Jar/jug	1	0.024	Mid 16th-end 18th century
11	10	Refined White Earthenware	Bowl	1	0.002	19th century
14	12	Bichrome	Jar	1	0.013	Mid 16th-end 17th century
		Bourne D ware		1	0.008	Early 15th-mid 17th century
		Post-medieval Black-Glazed ware	Drinking vessel	1	0.007	Late 16th-end 17th century
		Post-medieval Redware	Bowl	1	0.006	Mid 16th-end 18th century
16	15	Bone China	Drinking vessel	1	0.002	Late 18th-end 19th century
		English Stoneware	Jar	1	0.013	19th century
		Pearlware with sponged decoration	Bowl	1	0.013	Early-mid 19th century
		Pearlware with transfer-printed decoration	Bowl	1	0.003	Late 18th-mid 19th century
		Refined White Earthenware		1	0.01	19th century
		Refined White Earthenware	Bowl: saucer	2	0.107	19th century
		Refined White Earthenware-Ironstone with transfer-printed decoration	Bowl: saucer	1	0.14	19th century
Total				35	0.803	

Table 2: Post-Roman Pottery Dating Summary Catalogue

B.3 Clay Tobacco Pipe

by Carole Fletcher

Introduction and methodology

B.3.1 During the evaluation a total of eight fragments of white ball clay, clay tobacco pipe stem and one near complete bowl, in total weighing 0.043kg, were recovered from pits **4**, **7**, **12** and post hole **10**. Terminology used in this assessment is taken from Oswald's

simplified general typology (Oswald 1975, 37–41) and Crummy and Hind (Crummy 1988, 47-66). A quantification table for the clay pipes can be found at the end of this report, based on the recording methods recommended by the Society for Clay Pipe Research (<http://scpr.co/PDFs/Resources/White%20BAR%20Appendix%204.pdf>). Stem bore hole diameter recording has not been undertaken on this assemblage due to its limited size, and the majority of the pipe fragments cannot be dated beyond the broadest date of c.1580-1910. The assemblage is catalogued in Table 3.

Assemblage

B.3.2 A single near complete bowl, recovered from pit **12**, which also produced post-medieval pottery, is the only datable material in the assemblage. The surviving bowl and heel have suffered some surface damage and there are fragments missing from the rim and the body. The form is readily identifiable as an Oswald type 6 (Oswald 1975, pp.37-41 fig 3G) and is therefore c.1660-80. The majority of the stem fragments were recovered from pit **4**, with five fragments, followed by pit **7** with two fragments and post hole **10** produced a single stem. All the stems are unmarked and undecorated, and thus can themselves only be broadly dated, although the post-medieval material with which they were recovered suggests they may be mid or late 16th-mid or late 18th century century.

Discussion

B.3.3 The fragments of clay tobacco pipe recovered represent only fragments of what are most likely casually discarded pipes that have subsequently been reworked as the site was developed. The pipe fragments do little other than to indicate the consumption of tobacco on or in the vicinity of the site, by one or more individuals, some time after c.1660. The plain and fragmentary nature of the majority 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 clay tobacco pipe may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

B.3.4 Clay Tobacco Pipe Catalogue

Context	Cut	Form	Weight (kg)	No of bowls	No of pipe stem fragments	Description	Date
6	4	Fragment of pipe stem	0.006		1	Length 66mm slightly oval stem approx 8mm diameter.	Not closely datable
			0.006		1	Length 40mm, slightly oval tapering stem 11mm-9.5mm diameter.	
			0.003		1	Length 35mm oval stem approx 9x8mm with slight tapering.	
			0.003		1	Length 35mm oval stem approx 10x9mm, tapering slightly.	
			0.002		1	Length 22mm slightly oval, approx 9mm diameter.	
9	7	Fragment of pipe stem	0.005		1	Burnt, heat discoloured stem. Length 47mm, oval stem approx 9x8mm, tapering slightly.	Not closely datable
			0.004		1	Length 52mm, slightly oval stem 9x8mm.	

Context	Cut	Form	Weight (kg)	No of bowls	No of pipe stem fragments	Description	Date
11	10	Fragment of pipe stem	0.002		1	Length 46mm, slightly oval stem diameter approximately 6.5mm, tapering slightly.	Not closely datable
14	12	Pipe bowl Oswald type 6	0.010	1		Near complete pipe bowl and heel, broken close to joint with stem. Small area of rim missing and part of left side of bowl. Rouletted line below rim, neatly trimmed mould seam on back of bowl, poorly finished on front of bowl and the left side of the bowl has some surface abrasion. Lightly burnished surface. Slightly oval heel with poorly trimmed mould seam, such that if stood on the heel the pipe leans to the right.	c.1660-80
Total				1	9		

Table 3: Clay Tobacco Pipe

B.4 Ceramic Building Material

by Carole Fletcher

Introduction

B.4.1 A single post hole, **10**, recorded in Trench 2, produced two fragments of post medieval ceramic building material. One fragment is clearly brick the other has only a single surviving surface, however the uneven nature of the surface suggests brick rather than tile. Neither fragment is closely datable but are likely to be 18th or 19th century. 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 ceramic building material may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

Context	Cut	Form	Fabric-description	Date
11	10	Brick	Edge fragment (two flat surfaces) from a brick with pale pink surfaces and a core of yellow-cream with pink swirls. Hard fired with slightly hackily fracture.	18th-19th century
		Undiagnostic fragment	Surface fragment, hard fired pink-red fabric with yellowish uneven outer surface the main fabric having some yellow-cream swirls and mottles.	Not closely datable

Table 4: Ceramic Building Material

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Faunal Remains

By Angelos Hadjikoumis BA MSc PhD

Introduction

C.1.1 The faunal assemblage recovered by hand collection during excavation at 50-52 Inhams Road, Whittlesey derives from four contexts (6, 9, 11 and 14). The assemblage is small and consists of only fourteen identified specimens. The main aim of this assessment is to comment on the, rather limited, interpretative potential of the assemblage in terms of human-animal interactions and the types of activities it may represent.

Methodology

C.1.2 The faunal material has been processed at the facilities of Oxford Archaeology East in Bar Hill. All fragments were identified with the aid of published osteological atlases (e.g. Barone 1976; Pales and Garcia 1981; Schmid 1972). The most generic level of taxonomic identification employed involved a three-size scheme; large (e.g. cattle, equids, red deer), medium (e.g. sheep/goat, pig, fallow deer) and small (e.g. cat or smaller) mammal. No age-at-death data based on epiphyseal fusion were present in the assemblage. Concerning dental remains, cattle were recorded following Grigson (1982) and Halstead's (1985) adaptation, while pig following Grant (1982) and Bull & Payne (1982). Each specimen has also been recorded in terms of data related to sex, biometry, pathology and butchery, although only traces of butchery marks were present on the remains. Taphonomic information (e.g. carnivore/rodent gnawing, burning and copper staining) was also recorded in order to gain a better understanding of the agents that affected the faunal assemblage prior to its excavation and study.

Quantification

C.1.3 All identifiable specimens contributed to the Number of Identified Specimens (NISP), which is the main quantification unit for species frequencies. Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI) was calculated, only for fragments identified to a taxonomic category more specific than the three broad size categories (i.e. large, medium, small), based on the most abundant anatomical element and taking into account the side of the body.

Results and Discussion

C.1.4 The overall preservation and condition of the material is almost perfect. The sample is dominated by cattle, with a presence of sheep/goat or fallow deer (more likely sheep/goat) and pig recorded (Table 2). In addition to specimens attributable to species, few were assigned to the generic taxonomic categories 'large mammal' and 'medium mammal'. These remains are mostly ribs and vertebrae and are compatible with the species positively identified by other, more diagnostic elements. In addition to the species identified, the presence of gnawing marks on several of the recorded specimens suggests that a carnivore species (possibly dog) had access to some of the bones before their eventual burial.

Species	Hand-collected	
	NISP	MNI
Cattle	5	2

Sheep/goat/fallow	1	1
Pig	1	1
Total	7	4
Large mammal	5	
Medium mammal	2	

Table 5: Taxonomic composition of the faunal sample from 50-52 Inhams Road, Whittlesey.

- C.1.5 As far as the age-at-death of cattle is concerned, the dental eruption/wear state of a mandible indicates an animal 18-30 months of age and a pig maxilla still bearing the deciduous fourth premolar (and an almost unworn M1) an animal within its first year, although definitely older than a piglet. No epiphyseal fusion data were recorded and the same is true concerning information on the sex of any of the animals represented in the assemblage. The only other information worth mentioning is the extensive presence of butchery marks on the recorded specimens (six out of fourteen). Most of these marks involved chopping or sawing vertebrae and ribs into smaller portions (or racks in the case of ribs).
- C.1.6 Overall, the fact that the material has been recovered by hand collection may have slightly favoured larger and older animals but by far the dominant bias of this assemblage is its small size.
- C.1.7 In conclusion, the archaeological potential of this faunal assemblage is restricted, mainly due to its small size. Unless areas with significantly more faunal remains are excavated and assigned to a specific chronological period, the interpretative potential of this assemblage will remain low.

C.2 Shell

by Carole Fletcher

Introduction

- C.2.1 Archaeological works produced a small assemblage of shell from pit 7, consisting of a single fragmentary oyster shell (*Ostrea edulis*), the lower half of a right valve, in poor condition. The single shell represents rubbish deposition from the mid 16th-end 18th century when the post-medieval sherds found alongside it were deposited. If no further work on the site is undertaken the following catalogue acts as a full record and the shell may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

C.2.2 Shell catalogue

Context	Cut	Species	Common name	Habitat	Weight (kg)
9	7	<i>Ostrea edulis</i>	Oyster	Estuarine and shallow coastal water	0.01

Table 6: Shell

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APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	<input type="text"/>
Project Name	<input type="text"/>
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	<input type="text"/>
Finish	<input type="text"/>
Previous Work (by OA East)	<input type="text"/>
Future Work	<input type="text"/>

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	<input type="text"/>	Planning App. No.	<input type="text"/>
HER No.	<input type="text"/>	Related HER/OASIS No.	<input type="text"/>

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	<input type="text"/>
Development Type	<input type="text"/>

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 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 type="checkbox"/> Metal Detectors	<input type="checkbox"/> Test Pits
<input type="checkbox"/> Documentary Search	<input type="checkbox"/> Phosphate Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Topographic Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Vibro-core
<input type="checkbox"/> Fieldwalking	<input 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
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Project Location

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Parish	<input type="text"/>	
HER	<input type="text"/>	
Study Area	<input type="text"/>	National Grid Reference <input type="text"/>

Project Originators

Organisation	<input type="text"/>
Project Brief Originator	<input type="text"/>
Project Design Originator	<input type="text"/>
Project Manager	<input type="text"/>
Supervisor	<input type="text"/>

Project Archives

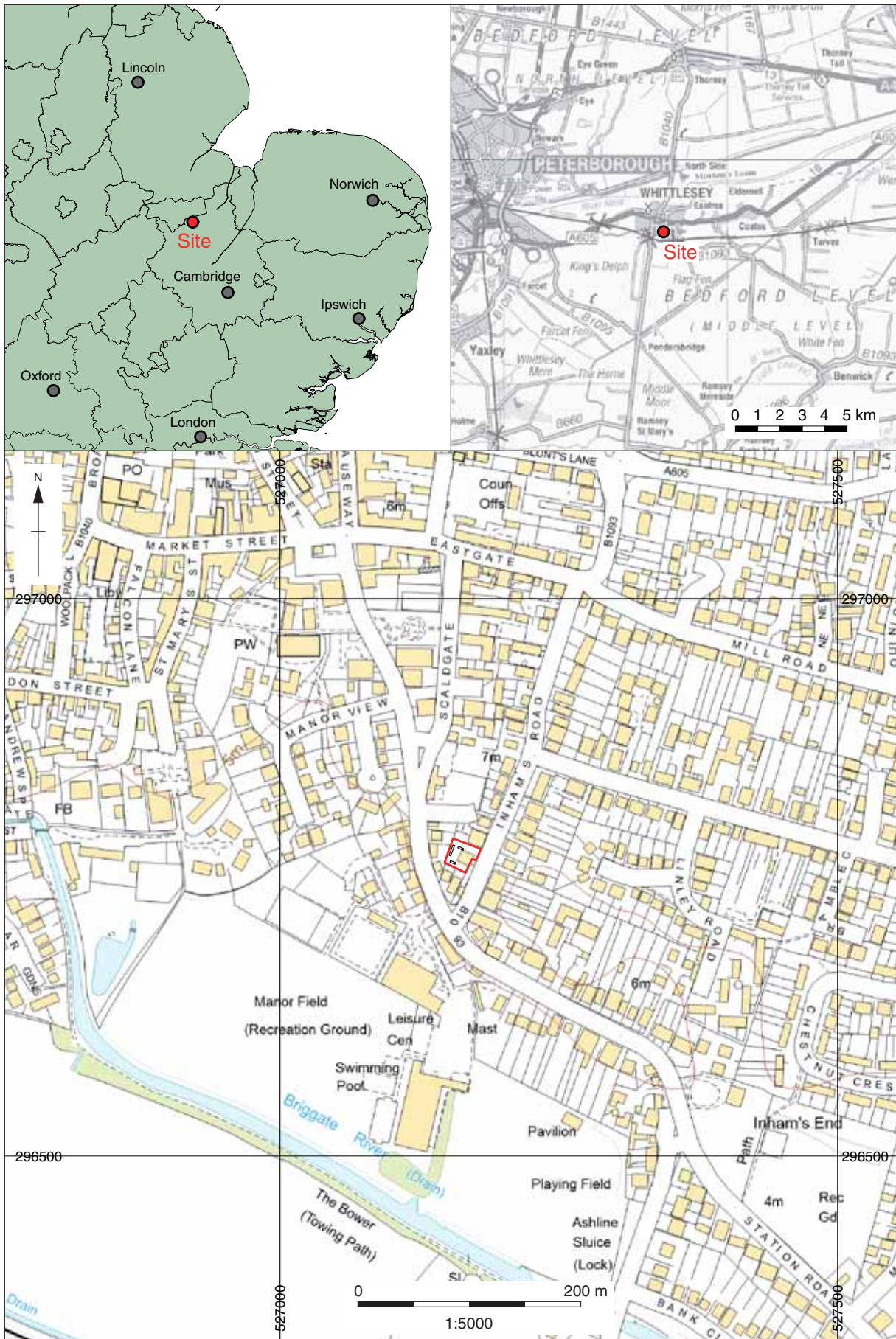
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Archive Contents/Media

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Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
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	<input type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input 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: HER data, based on data supplied by Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Records

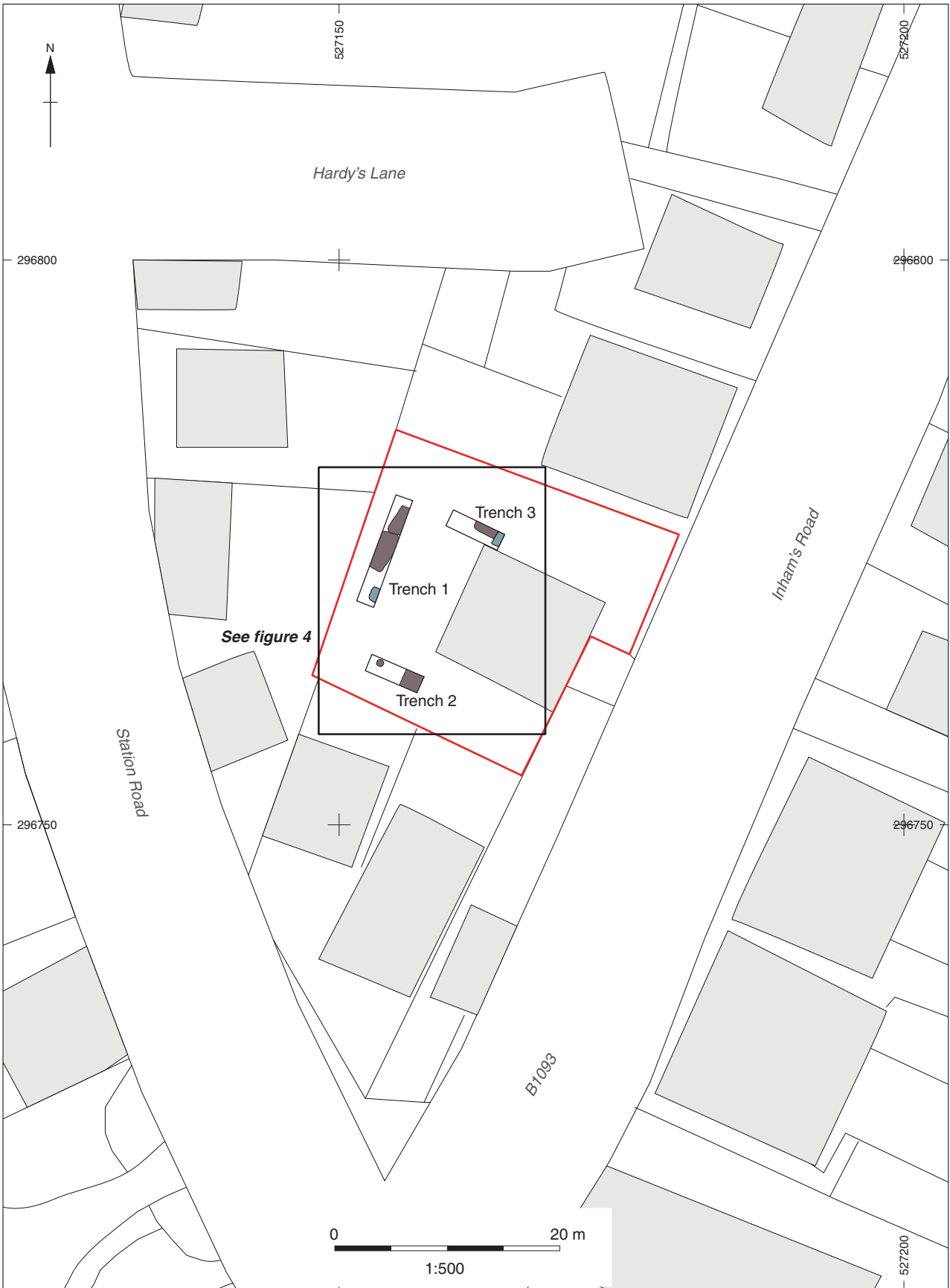


Figure 3: Trench location plan

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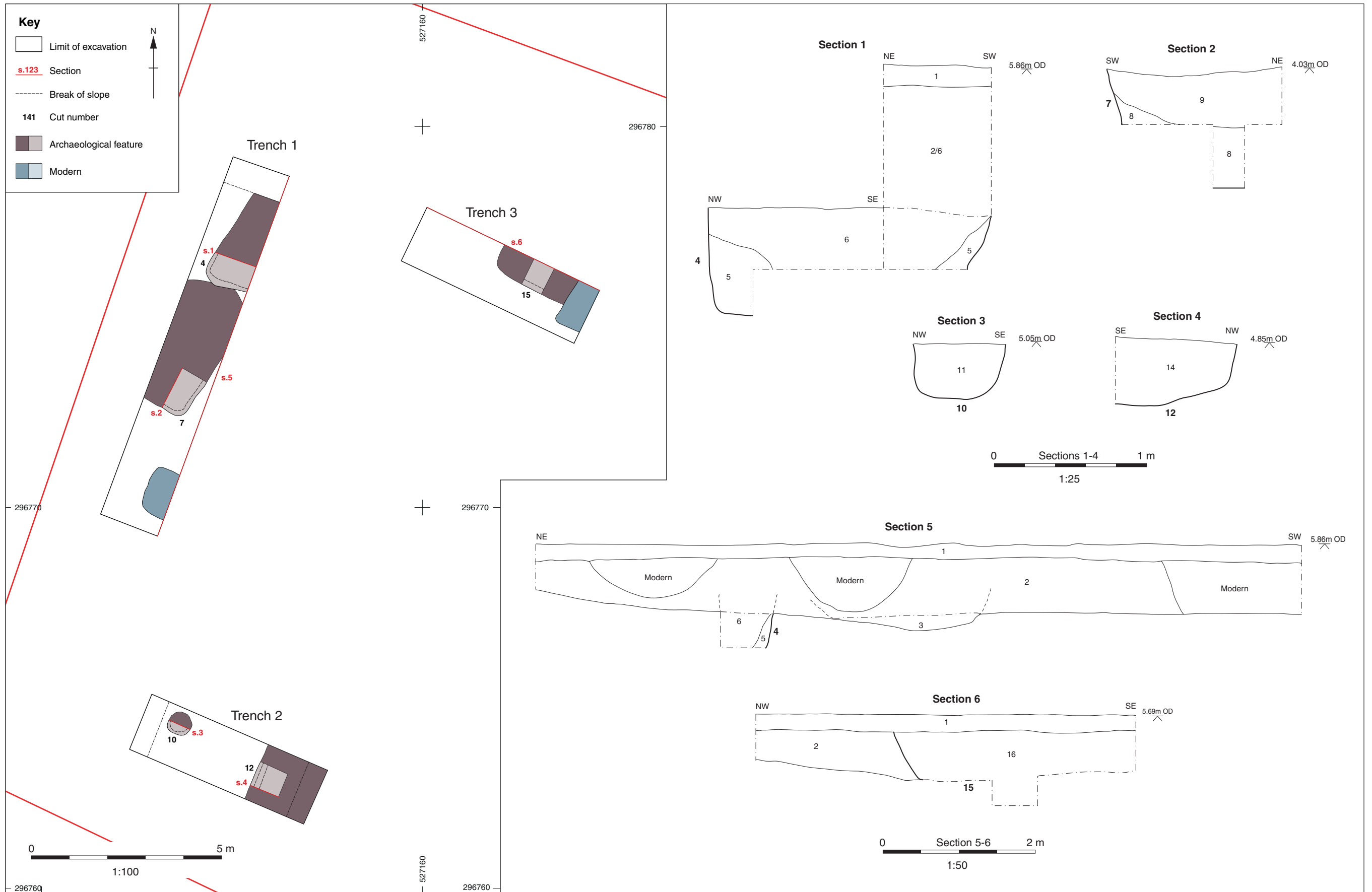


Figure 4: Plan of evaluation trenches and sections



Plate 1: Trench 1, facing north-east



Plate 2: Quarry pit 7, facing north-west



Plate 3: Posthole 10, facing north-east



Plate 4: Quarry pit 12, facing south-west



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