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Archaeological Evaluation Report

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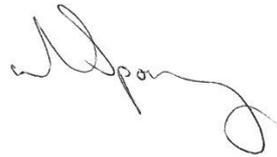
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Land at Bridge Farm, Blackthorn Road, Attleborough, Norfolk

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

Between the 20th and 25th of July 2017, Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) conducted an evaluation at land to the north of Blackthorn Road, Attleborough, Norfolk (centred on TM 0421 9566). The evaluation consisted of five trenches opened across two fields. Previous analysis of aerial photographs of the site show two adjoining ditched enclosures adjacent to the Attleborough Stream (NHER 58610), thought to possibly relate to the 'lost' medieval settlement of Baconsthorpe.

The evaluation confirmed the presence of the enclosures, with archaeological remains dating from the medieval and post-medieval periods being revealed. Disturbance and truncation associated with a modern compound that had been built for works undertaken on the adjacent A11 was identified across the eastern part of the site. Some disturbance was evident across the western two thirds of the site, although the area around Trench 1 appears to have been largely unaffected.

Archaeological features include a large enclosure ditch or moat measuring over 10m wide and nearly 2m deep, forming the southern side of two or more enclosed areas. Although few datable finds were recovered, it is likely that the enclosure/moat was in use during the medieval to post-medieval periods, with the ditch probably finally being infilled in the 19th century. The westernmost enclosure contained a surfaced track, at least one possible beamslot structure and several narrow ditches, along with a number of pits and postholes. Outside the enclosure/moat ditch to the south-east, a smaller (recut) ditch on a similar alignment contained the largest finds assemblage from the site (mostly comprising 14th-15th century pottery). On its northern edge, the ditch was cut by a pit containing the skeleton of a medium-sized dog.

Artefacts recovered from the evaluation include a mixture of Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval pottery, Roman and post-medieval tile and brick and two fragments of fired clay. Also recovered was a residual later Neolithic or Early Bronze Age flint flake, a 17th-19th century clay pipe stem and a post-medieval jetton. Environmental samples from the enclosure/moat ditch indicate good potential for the preservation of waterlogged and organic remains.

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The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Matt Brudenell. The fieldwork was directed by Robin Webb, who was supported by Nick Cox, Meghan French and Paddy Lambert. Survey and digitising was carried out by Dave Brown and Séverine Bézie. Thanks are also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Natasha Dodwell, processed the environmental remains under the management of Rachel Fosberry, and prepared the archive under the supervision of Kat Hamilton.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) was commissioned by Orbit Homes Ltd to undertake a trial trench evaluation on land to the north of Blackthorn Road, Attleborough (centred on TM 0421 9566; Fig. 1). Aerial photographs of the site show two adjoined ditched enclosures, recorded in the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER 58610; see below).
- 1.1.2 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service (NHES; Albone 2016), and an approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by OA East (Brudenell and Tsybaeva 2017).
- 1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of archaeological remains within the proposed development site, 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 NHES, with regard to the treatment of archaeological remains.
- 1.1.4 This document outlines how OA East implemented the specified requirements of the Brief in line with the approved WSI.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The site lies to the north of Blackthorn Road (centred TM 0421 9566) on the northern edge of the market town of Attleborough, c. 600m north-west of the historic centre. It lies within the parish of Attleborough and the district of Breckland in Norfolk (Fig. 1).
- 1.2.2 The area of proposed development consists of two fields (Fields 1-2) covering an area of c.1ha between Blackthorn Road to the south and the slip road for the A11 and Attleborough bypass (B1077) to the north and east. The site covers parts of three former pasture paddocks. The western side of the site retains overgrown pasture, whilst the eastern side, within an area enclosed by a chain link fence, retains scrub growing on a former construction compound erected in c. 2005.
- 1.2.3 The geology of the area is mapped as chalk of the Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation and Culver Chalk Formation. This is overlain by a superficial deposit of River Terrace sands and gravels in the north of the site, and chalky tills (Diamicton) of the Lowestoft Formation in the south (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>; accessed 28/07/2017). The soils on site are characterised as loamy and sandy soils with naturally high groundwater and a peaty surface (<http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/index.cfm> accessed 28/07/2017; accessed 28/07/2017).
- 1.2.4 The site slopes down slightly from the south-east (at 36m OD) to the north-west (at 32.5m OD) towards Attleborough Stream; a tributary of the River Thet.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 Using data from the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER), the following section provides a brief description of the main heritage assets within a 500m search area of the site (Brudenell and Tsybaeva 2017; Fig. 2).

Prehistoric and Roman

- 1.3.1 Evidence for prehistoric and Roman activity in the vicinity of the site is relatively limited, though a number of artefacts have been recorded, some as a consequence of fieldwork. The earliest find is that of a Middle Palaeolithic handaxe (NHER 25257) recovered c. 500m west of the site. Prehistoric worked flints including flakes and scrapers have also been recorded at a number of locations along the river valley (NHER 23291; 23292; 28617; 40373; 41939), including immediately opposite the site, to the south-east (NHER 28618). A prehistoric burnt mound was revealed c.300m to the north-east, together with three undated pits (NHER 23291). Similarly, undated ditches and pits thought to be prehistoric were recorded c.300m to the north-east (NHER 40373).
- 1.3.2 Roman activity is attested by finds of pottery (NHER 23292; 53943) and a coin (NHER 31415; not illustrated).

Anglo-Saxon and medieval

- 1.3.3 Attleborough appears in the Domesday Book as 'Atleburc' and 'Alio Atlebur' ('the other Attleborough'). 'Atleburc' is an Old English placename meaning 'Aetla's stronghold' (Mills 1998, 24).
- 1.3.4 Whilst sherds of Middle and Late Saxon pottery have been recovered from the area (NHER 9096; 28618 - to the immediate south-east of the site), and may attest to the early origins of Attleborough, more substantive evidence for activity and settlement dates to the medieval period.
- 1.3.5 Attleborough developed as a town during the medieval period and was locally successful by the 13th century. Townspeople were granted the right to hold a market by Edward I and Queen's Square (NHER 5563) in the centre of the town was the medieval market place.
- 1.3.6 In general, medieval artefacts have been recovered from locations surrounding the site, with finds including pottery, coins, fittings and dress accessories, often retrieved in the context of metal detecting (NHER 20028; 31415; 28617; 23292; 9099; 9100).

The current site (NHER 58610) and the 'lost' medieval settlement of Baconsthorpe

- 1.3.7 Earthworks of two adjoining ditched enclosures have been previously recorded by aerial photography on the current proposed development site (NHER 58610). Both the moat-like form and size of these enclosures, and their location on the edge of a former Common (*Baconsthorp Common*) depicted on Faden's 1797 map, suggests they are likely to be of medieval date. From the aerial photographs, it was thought that these may have formed Common-edge house plots/tofts associated with the 'lost'/deserted medieval settlement of Baconsthorpe (NHER 9102). During the construction of the Attleborough Bypass A11 Improvement project in c. 2005, part of these earthwork enclosures (measuring c.55m and 46m in length and 47m in width) was covered by a

temporary site compound (the approximate outline of which is shown on Fig. 4). Although a watching brief was undertaken (NHER 41940), no remains were observed/visible to record. The northern side of the enclosures now appear to lie beneath the embankment for the road.

- 1.3.8 The settlement of Baconsthorpe (NHER 9102) is listed in the Domesday Book ('Baconstorp') and was held in 1086 by Count Alan. Smallholders, meadow, woodland, a plough and pigs are recorded. The site of the 11th century settlement is unknown, although the placename is used for an area of housing, a farm and a bridge to the north of the town. The latter are located about 700m to the west of Attleborough Hall moated site, suggesting that the two may have been associated. The National Monuments Record (NMR) records the most likely site of the village to have been on the meadow on either side of the stream to the north of Attleborough.
- 1.3.9 Cropmarks and earthworks (now largely levelled) possibly relating to medieval activity associated with Baconsthorpe and its former Common have been recorded by aerial photography to the north-east and north-west of the site. To the north-east, *c.*400m from the site, a series of ditched trackways and boundaries have been plotted, aligned parallel with, and perpendicular to, the valley floor (NHER 20028). On their north side, cropmarks of a further section of track has also been plotted (NHER 58719). The alignment of this track suggests it may be linked with a bank and ditch on the north side of Warren's Lane, *c.* 400m to the west (NHER 61171).
- 1.3.10 To the north-west, *c.*300m from the site, further medieval or early post-medieval enclosures and boundaries have been recorded (NHER 57411). In addition, a bank and ditch has also been plotted between Warren's Lane and Ellingham Road (NHER 61172), and may have defined the western boundary of Baconsthorpe Common. Other moated sites are recorded around the parish, including at Attleborough Hall (NHER 7009) and at the hamlet of West Carr (NHER 20087) located to the west of the town.
- 1.3.11 Just outside the historic core of Attleborough, and *c.*450m south of the site, former earthworks of a large ditched and banked enclosure and/or group of boundaries have been recorded from aerial photographs (NHER 58617). These are thought to be of probable medieval to post-medieval date. An archaeological investigation immediately to the east of these revealed medieval pottery sherds and ditches possibly associated with the earthwork complex (NHER 35169).

Post-medieval and modern

- 1.3.12 Faden's map of 1797 (Fig. 3) depicts buildings on, or immediately adjacent to, the site, which may correspond with the earthwork enclosures plotted from aerial photographs (NHER 58610; see above paragraph 1.3.7). These buildings lie at the edge of Baconsthorpe Common. In general, the alignment of current field boundaries appears to have changed relatively little to those depicted on the 1838 Tithe map. Fields have been amalgamated, mostly post-1950, but the basic axis and orientation of the boundaries has remained the same.
- 1.3.13 The historic core of Attleborough includes extant building dating from the 17th-19th centuries (e.g. NHER 5560; 5561; 5562; 17669; 36189; 44498). Other buildings,

recorded prior to demolition, or depicted on historic maps, include two windmills (NHER 15963; 15294) and timber framed cottages (NHER 14268).

- 1.3.14 Several World War II buildings within 500m of the site have been recorded from aerial photographs. These include two pillboxes (NHER 58613; 58614), and buildings and huts north of the High Street (NHER 58616).

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The aims of the evaluation were as follows:

- i. To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains on the site. To characterise where they were found (location, depth and extent), and establish the quality of preservation of any archaeological and environmental remains.
- ii. To provide sufficient coverage to establish the character, condition, date and purpose of any archaeological deposits.
- iii. To provide sufficient coverage to evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking deposits.
- iv. To set results in their local, regional, and national archaeological context – and, in particular, its wider cultural landscape and past environmental conditions.
- v. To provide – in the event that archaeological remains are found – sufficient information to construct an archaeological mitigation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables, and orders of cost.

2.2 Research frameworks

2.2.1 This evaluation took place within, and will contribute to the goals of, Regional Research Frameworks relevant to this area:

- i. *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24);
- ii. *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern counties: 1. Resource Assessment* (Glazebrook 1997, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 3);
- iii. *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern counties: 2. Research Agenda and Strategy* (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 8).

2.3 Methodology

2.3.1 A total of five trenches (Fig. 4) were excavated across the development area, achieving a 3.4% sample. These comprised trenches measuring 43.3x2m (Trench 1), 34x2m (Trenches 2 and 3), 33.5x2m (Trench 4) and 28x2m (Trench 5). The trenches were extended versions of Trenches 1-5 in the WSI, as the presence of a fence made the area for Trench 6 inaccessible.

2.3.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a 360° tracked excavator using a 2m wide toothless ditching bucket. Trenches were excavated to the depth of geological horizons, or the upper interface of archaeological features, whichever was encountered first. In Trenches 2-5 this included machine excavation through modern deposits of a former construction compound erected at the site in c.2005.

- 2.3.3 Features were not hand excavated beyond a safe working depth of 1m below the base of the trench. Only the large enclosure ditch/moat (6) in Trench 4 went beyond this depth, and this was augered to provide a full depth and profile. Augering was also used to establish the depth and profile of the segment of enclosure ditch/moat (33) not excavated in Trench 3. This feature was cleaned and recorded in plan. All other features were excavated, except for a possible trackway (66) which was cleaned, planned, and an exploratory segment excavated on one edge to establish the depth of the gravel layer. Features of uncertain origin were excavated to establish whether they were the result of natural processes (such as rooting or animal burrows) or from modern disturbance.
- 2.3.4 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.
- 2.3.5 Trenches were surveyed using a Leica GPS GS08 with SmartNET live correctional data feed.
- 2.3.6 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 digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.3.7 Bucket samples were taken from each trench to characterise the artefactual remains in the topsoil and subsoil. The results of this sampling are presented in Section 3.6.1.
- 2.3.8 A total of ten environmental samples were taken in order to establish the presence and preservation of plant remains. Four of these were taken from waterlogged deposits to establish the preservation of remains in wet conditions within the moat.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below, and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendix A. Finds and environmental reports are presented in Appendices B and C. The trenches are described numerically by field and then by trench, and are illustrated on Figs 4-7.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The basic soil sequence in each trench was fairly uniform. The natural geology (1) comprised mid yellow brown sand with patches of iron panning overlain by a soft mid yellow brown sand clay subsoil (2), 0.11-0.19m thick. This in turn was overlain by a friable dark brown sand silt topsoil (3), 0.02-0.20m thick. The topsoil profile was heavily truncated in Trenches 2-5, where it had been stripped before the laying down of modern levelling layers (contexts 25-27, 69) associated with the former roadworks compound. A spread of possible colluvium (20) was identified in the north-eastern end of Trench 5.

3.2.2 In Trenches 2-3 the levelling layers comprised dark red hardcore rubble (69) overlying the subsoil (2) and patches of remnant topsoil (3). In Trenches 4-5 a layer of terram matting was recorded either side of a dump of soft mid blue grey sand silt (25) that was overlain by a mid yellow brown hardcore (26). Above this was a layer of concrete rubble (27) over which a modern dark brown sand silt topsoil (65) had accumulated.

3.2.3 The trenches were opened in sunny conditions, but the majority of hand excavation was undertaken whilst it was wet and overcast. The ground remained firm in the wet, except around the enclosure/moat ditches in Trenches 3 and 4, where the ground became saturated and pools of standing water began to form.

3.2.4 Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Archaeological remains were present in all trenches except Trench 2. Modern disturbance did not extend beyond the levelling layers associated with the A11 works compound built in 2005 (the approximate outline of which is shown of Fig. 4).

3.4 Trenches in Field 1

3.4.1 Field 1 covered the western two thirds of the proposed development area. The northern half of Field 1 was not impacted upon by the works compound, and modern levelling layers were only revealed in Trench 2 and the southern end of Trench 3.

3.4.2 Three trenches (1-3) were excavated in Field 1; two (Trenches 1 and 3) across the enclosure/moat ditches recorded from aerial photography and one (Trench 2) outside the moated area in the south-west corner of the site. Trenches 1 and 3 exposed archaeological features and are described below. Trench 2 contained no archaeological features and is not discussed further.

Trench 1

- 3.4.3 Trench 1 was located in the north-west corner of Field 1 and was aligned north-east to south-west. The trench contained a large enclosure ditch, several smaller ditches or gullies on similar alignments, and four pits.
- 3.4.4 Located within the south-west end of the trench was a large ditch (43; Plate 1, Fig. 7, Section 7) on a north-west to south-east alignment. This ditch defined the south-western arm of the westernmost enclosure and broadly corresponds with the line of the ditch plotted from aerial photographs, which is shown slightly further to the south-west (NHER 58610; Fig. 4). The ditch, which appears to have been recut at least once, collectively measured 4.9m wide and at least 0.5m deep, and had gently sloping sides and an irregular base. A number of fills were identified, the earliest of which was a firm mid orange brown silt sand (45) and a dark grey brown silt sand (46); the latter seemingly filling a narrower ?recut (unnumbered). Possibly filling a wide, shallow recut (unnumbered) was a deposit of firm light brown grey clay sand (44). No artefacts were recovered from these fills; an environmental sample taken from fill 44 contained the remains of thistles and nettles (App. C1).
- 3.4.5 Located 5m to the north-east was a narrow linear ditch or gully (47), aligned north-north-east to south-south-west. This measured 0.6m wide and 0.12m deep, and had gently sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled by a firm mid orange brown clay sand (48). No artefacts were recovered from this ditch.
- 3.4.6 A further 6.5m to the north-east lay the remains of a metalled surface or possible trackway (66; Plates 2-3) orientated north-north-west to south-south-east and measuring 2.25m wide. Loose gravels within a matrix of mid grey brown clay sand (57) were removed from the surface to a depth 0.15m, where a compact layer of gravel metalling was revealed. Excavation ceased at this point. Deposit 57 contained a single worn copper alloy jetton (SF 1) of post-medieval date (App. B1).
- 3.4.7 Three metres to the north-east was a sub-circular pit (53; Fig. 7, Section 19) measuring 0.9m in diameter and 0.3m deep. This had gently-sloping sides and a concave base, and was filled by a firm dark brown clay sand (54) that contained two fragments (4g) of post-medieval brick and a single (residual) later Neolithic or Early Bronze Age worked flint flake. A sample taken from this pit contained waterlogged seeds, especially those of sedge – indicating a likelihood of wet soils – along with buttercups, thistles, docks and knotgrasses suggesting disturbed soils (App. C1).
- 3.4.8 Less than 0.5m to the north-east were two narrow, parallel linear ditches/gullies (55 and 67). These were orientated north-west to south-east and measured 0.5m-0.56m wide and 0.12m deep. They had gently sloping sides and concave bases, and were both filled by a firm light grey brown clay sand (56 and 68 respectively) that produced no finds.
- 3.4.9 Located a further 1.5m to the north-east was another narrow ditch/gully (49) aligned west-south-west to east-north-east. This ditch was 0.5m wide and 0.12m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. This was filled by a firm light brown clay sand (50) that also produced no finds.

- 3.4.10 Perpendicular to ditch **49**, and located 0.8m to the north-east, was another similar ditch or gully (**51**; Plate 4, Fig. 7, Section 10). This measured 0.6m wide and 0.2m deep. It had gently-sloping sides and a concave base, and was filled by a firm dark brown clay sand (**52**). A sample taken from the ditch revealed seeds of thistles, knotgrasses, elderberry, brambles and black nightshade preserved by waterlogging. These may have grown on the edge of the feature whilst it contained water, as a sub-aquatic plant (water-crowfoot) was also noted in the sample (App. C1).
- 3.4.11 Between ditches **49** and **51** were two sub-circular pits: pit **37** (Fig. 7, Section 4) and pit **39**. These measured 0.6-0.7m wide, and 0.20-0.22m deep respectively. The southernmost pit (**37**) had gently sloping sides, a concave base, and was filled by a soft mid grey brown clay sand (**38**) that contained three fragments (14g) of post-medieval brick and a single fragment (13g) of animal bone. Pit **39** had gently sloping sides, an irregular base, and was filled by a soft mid grey brown clay sand (**40**). Samples taken from these pits did not contain any preserved plant remains.
- 3.4.12 The northernmost feature within the trench was a sub-circular pit (**41**). This measured 1.3m wide and 0.18m deep and had gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a soft dark brown grey clay sand (**42**) that contained three fragments (41g) of post-medieval ceramic building material and a single fragment (4g) of fired clay with straw impressions. A sample taken from this pit contained no preserved plant remains.

Trench 3

- 3.4.13 Trench 3 was located to the south-east of Trench 1. It was on a north-west to south-east orientation and targeted the south-eastern part of the western enclosure/moat ditch. The trench revealed the ditch, along with a possible beamslot (Plate 5), a posthole and remnant of subsoil (2).
- 3.4.14 Ditch **33** (Plates 6-7, Fig. 7, Section 14) was identified towards the centre of the trench and broadly corresponds with the ditch plotted from aerial photographs. It was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 7.2m wide and 1.95m deep. This ditch was not excavated, but was hand augered at eight points to produce a profile. The profile indicates a steep north-western side and gently sloping south-eastern side to the ditch. The fills visible on the surface were a soft very dark grey brown sand silt (**34**) that was overlain by a firm mid yellow grey sand clay (**36**) that contained two sherds (27g) of 12th-14th century pottery (App. B2).
- 3.4.15 To the north of the ditch, within the enclosure and 11m from the north-western end of the trench, was a shallow gully or possible beamslot (**29**; Plate 4). This was aligned north-east to south-west, roughly parallel to the ditch and possibly terminating within the trench. It measured 0.45m wide and 0.05m deep, with steep sides and a flat base. It was filled by a soft dark grey brown clay sand (**30**) that contained two fragments (21g) of post-medieval ceramic building material. Cutting the end of the beamslot was a sub-circular post-hole (**31**; Plate 5) that measured 0.26m in diameter and 0.09m deep. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base and was filled by a soft dark brown grey clay silt (**32**).

3.5 Trenches in Field 2

- 3.5.1 Field 2 incorporated the eastern third of the site within an area enclosed by chain link fencing. The ground surface had previously been stripped and levelled by the construction of the A11 works compound, with hardcore layers being recorded down to the natural geology (1) in places, most notably at the north-western end of Trench 4.
- 3.5.2 Two trenches (4 and 5) were excavated in this field. Trench 4 was positioned across the line of the southern arm of the eastern enclosure/moat, with Trench 5 located outside and to the east of the enclosure. As previously mentioned, the far eastern part of Field 2 was fenced off, and so Trench 6 could not be opened.

Trench 4

- 3.5.3 Trench 4 was located toward the western edge of Field 2, and was aligned north-west to south-east, parallel with the field boundary. The trench contained the enclosure ditch and two patches of discoloured/gleyed subsoil surviving within slight hollows.
- 3.5.4 Towards the centre of the trench was a large north-east to south-west aligned ditch (6/58; Plates 8-9, Fig. 7, Section 18), which defined part of the southern arm of the enclosure and broadly corresponds with the ditch plotted from aerial photographs.
- 3.5.5 Due to the substantial size of the ditch, which was 10.5m wide, two sections were excavated at its southern and northern edges (6 and 58 respectively) to a safe working depth of 1m. In addition, the central unexcavated part of the ditch was augered to establish its depth and profile, which indicated that it was 1.9m deep.
- 3.5.6 The 4m-long section excavated on the southern (exterior) edge of the ditch exposed a moderately steep cut containing at least six fills. The lowest of these was a 0.2m-thick compacted light grey brown silt sand (7) that produced no finds. This was overlain by a 0.28m-thick slump of compact mid brown grey sand (8) that yielded a single fragment of ceramic building material (154g) that is probably from an 18/19th century brick. Above this was a 0.14m-thick soft mid red brown loam (9) and a 0.37m-thick deposit of soft dark grey brown sand silt (10). The latter produced two large sherds (37g) from a 17th-19th century storage vessel, along with three fragments (30g) of Roman and four fragments (175g) of post-medieval ceramic building material, and a single fragment (62g) of animal bone.
- 3.5.7 Two final fills sealed the upper part of the ditch: the earliest of which was a soft dark brown grey clay silt (12) that contained two fragments (46g) of post-medieval ceramic building material. This was overlain by a plastic mid blue-grey sand clay (13) that produced a 17th-19th century clay pipe stem.
- 3.5.8 Environmental samples taken from deposits 8, 9 and 10 included the remains of bramble and buttercup in the lower fill (8); fragments of roundwood, seeds of buttercup and nettles in the mid fill (9); and alder, buttercup, sedge, nettles and water mint in the uppermost fill (10) before the ditch was levelled. Their presence indicates that there were damp soils within and around the ditch when it was open.
- 3.5.9 In contrast, the 2m-long segment excavated along the internal, north-western edge of the ditch revealed a steeply-cut edge for the upper 0.5m, below which it was more

gently sloping. Six fills were also identified within this slot, several of which can be equated to those in the more southerly section described above. The lowest exposed deposit was a compact 0.18m-thick mid red brown sand silt (59, equal to 7) containing two sherds (6g) of Roman whiteware pottery; presumably residual. This was overlain by a 0.2m-thick soft dark red brown peat (60, equal to 9), above which was a soft mid grey clay sand (61) that was 0.28m thick. Above this was a 0.26m-thick fill of soft dark grey brown sand silt (62, equal to 10). These layers were also sealed by two deposits: a soft dark brown grey sand clay (63, equal to 12) and a plastic light grey sand clay (64, equal to 13). Fill 63 contained three fragments (71g) of post-medieval roofing tile. A sample taken from fill 60 included remains of gypswort – which grows in wet soils – as well as sedges, brambles, nettles and wild rose, which are likely to have grown on the bankside.

- 3.5.10 Several dips and hollows that were probably natural in origin and/or the result of modern disturbance (unnumbered), along with a possible drain were recorded within the trench to the north and south of the enclosure ditch. Located at the northern edge of the trench was an area of compact mid blue grey sand silt (28) that was heavily disturbed. Revealed 2.75m to the south-east of ditch 6 was a possible dip in the natural geology (22). This was linear in plan and followed a north-east to south-west orientation, measuring 1.8m wide and 0.14m deep. It was filled by two deposits: a firm dark brown grey sand (23) overlain by a soft mid blue grey sand (24). Although these are likely to represent modern fills of a hollow infilled when the area was levelled for the compound, this possible feature is on the same alignment as a ditch recorded in Trench 5 to the east (see below).

Trench 5

- 3.5.11 Trench 5 was located to the east of Trench 4, on a north-east to south-west orientation. This trench was heavily affected by truncation associated with the construction of the compound, with the natural geology at the north-eastern end of the trench being at a depth of 1m, compared with 0.6m at the south-western end.
- 3.5.12 The north-eastern end of the trench revealed a possible colluvial deposit (20) comprising a soft mid brown grey clay sand that was at least 9m wide with a depth of 0.22m.
- 3.5.13 Located 9m to the south-west of the enclosure/moat ditch was a smaller ditch (14; Fig. 7, Section 1) that was on a similar north-east to south-west orientation. Measuring 0.52m wide and 0.43m deep, this ditch had steep sides and a slightly rounded V-shaped base. It was filled by a soft dark grey clay sand (15) that contained a single sherd (4g) of 11th-12th century pottery. The southern edge of this ditch was cut by another ditch (16; Fig. 7, Section 1) on the same alignment, but measuring 1.52m wide and 0.34m deep. This ditch had gently sloping sides, a concave base and was filled by a soft dark brown grey clay sand (17) that contained eight sherds (247g) of Grimston-type ware, four sherds (305g) of a possible curfew, and four sherds (55g) of 14th-15th century coarseware pottery, along with a fragment (33g) of straw-impressed fired clay. This fill was cut by a sub-circular pit (4; Fig. 7, Section 1) that measured 0.51m in diameter and 0.25m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a soft mid grey brown sand (5) that contained a near complete dog skeleton (Plate 10)

weighing 0.532kg. Overlying this pit was a soft dark yellow grey clay sand (21) that may have been associated with the modern compound.

- 3.5.14 Located 1m to the south-west of ditch **16** was a gully terminus (**18**) that was on a north-west to south-east orientation and measured 0.29m wide and 0.06m deep. This gully had gently sloping sides, a concave base and was filled by a soft dark grey brown clay sand (19).
- 3.5.15 A modern feature, possibly a drain, was exposed in the middle of the trench and may have been associated with the former construction works compound.

3.6 Finds summary

Unstratified finds

- 3.6.1 Bucket sampling from each trench produced 14 sherds (0.391kg) of Grimston-type and nine sherds (0.099kg) of 14th-15th century coarseware pottery from the topsoil (3) of Trench 5. These came from the vicinity of ditches **14** and **16**, and it is likely that they originally came from these features.

Finds from stratified deposits

- 3.6.2 The evaluation produced a single post-medieval copper alloy jetton (SF1) and a worked flint in addition to 46 sherds of pottery (1.169kg) spanning the Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval periods. A single piece of clay tobacco pipe and 25 fragments (0.925kg) of Roman and post-medieval ceramic building material were also recovered, along with two fragments (0.037kg) of fired clay.
- 3.6.3 A total of 0.607kg of animal bone was found, including a medium sized dog skeleton.

Environmental samples

- 3.6.4 The surviving plant remains within the 10 samples were preserved by waterlogging with no evidence for carbonised seeds or cereal grains. The results indicate the presence of damp/wet and disturbed soils, water-filled ditches with bankside plants and areas of thistles and nettles.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Settlement enclosures/moat NHER 58610

- 4.1.1 Recent analysis of aerial photographs of the proposed development site undertaken as part of the Norfolk National Mapping Programme (NNMP) identified the presence of probable medieval settlement enclosures adjacent to the Attleborough Stream; a tributary of the River Thet. The NHER records these as: 'two broad-ditched, almost 'moat'-like, enclosures ... alongside the watercourse, each with a central rectangular platform, possibly representing a former toft'. There is a hint of a third enclosure to the south-west of Field 1, attached to the largest, westernmost enclosure, although there is no mention of this in the NHER entry.
- 4.1.2 It is suggested that the enclosures may have been related to two buildings depicted to the south of 'Baconsthorp Common' on Faden's map of 1797 (Fig. 3). If this interpretation is correct, the enclosures may represent part of the lost/deserted medieval settlement of Baconsthorpe (NHER 9102; see Section 1.3.3). The positioning and character of the enclosures are similar to the moat and other earthworks recorded at the hamlet of West Carr (NHER 20087) located 2km further along Attleborough Stream to the west.
- 4.1.3 Although a watching brief was carried out on the current site during the construction of the compound during the works associated with the A11 Attleborough Bypass in c. 2005, no remains were exposed/observed (NHER 41940). However, the construction works clearly caused both disturbance and truncation to the earthworks, with the northern edge of the enclosure/moat ditches now obscured by the road embankment. The (smaller) easternmost enclosure, utilised as the works compound, was most affected, with truncated soil horizons, modern construction layers, infilled hollows and possible buried service runs identified in the trenches excavated in Field 2. This suggests that archaeological deposits may have been removed in this part of the proposed development area.

4.2 Overview of the evaluation results

- 4.2.1 Archaeological trial trenching targeting the enclosures has confirmed the presence of substantial ditches enclosing at least two areas measuring 717 and 1670 sqm (Fig. 4), with a possible entrance on the north-west corner (Plate 11). While modern disturbance/truncation associated with the former compound appears to have affected any remains within the internal area of the eastern, smaller, enclosure (Field 2), the western enclosure contained clear evidence for occupation, albeit poorly-dated. The latter includes a series of pits, narrow ditches or gullies and a track, in addition at least one possible beamslot and a posthole located in the south-east corner of the enclosure. The only trench (Trench 2) that did not contain archaeological features lay outside the enclosed areas in the south-western corner of the proposed development area.
- 4.2.2 The enclosure/moat ditches were clearly substantial at between 8.2m and 10.5m wide, with the largest measuring almost 2m deep. In contrast, the features within the main western enclosure were all less than 0.5m deep. The only features revealed

outside the enclosures formed a small cluster towards the south-western end of Trench 5 and consisted of a recut ditch (**14** and **16**), cut by a pit (**4**) containing a dog skeleton, and a small gully (**18**). The deepest of these survived to a maximum depth of 0.42m. The small size of these features probably explains their 'invisibility' in the aerial photograph assessment, with tree cover also masking a possible internal (or modern) division of the enclosed space at the western end of the eastern platform (Fig. 4).

- 4.2.3 The evaluation has determined the character, distribution and preservation of archaeological deposits on the site. Moreover, the recovery and analysis of the modest artefactual and ecofactual assemblages provides sufficient information to suggest a broad chronology for the use of the site, spanning the medieval to post-medieval periods.

4.3 Interpretation

Moat/Enclosures

- 4.3.1 Based on current evidence it is not clear whether the features initially identified from aerial photographs represent one large rectangular moated site that has been subdivided, or two (possibly three) adjacent enclosures. The evaluation has demonstrated that the main (southern) ditch was of moat-like proportions, while the westernmost arm may have been smaller but was probably recut on more than one occasion. If one moat is represented it appears to have extended for c.100m on a north-east to south-west alignment, creating an enclosed space 45m wide. It may have continued further to the south-west (beyond the proposed development area) given the presence of a possible 13m-long ditch identified in the aerial photographs in this area. The more northerly ditch was not present within the proposed development area (4.1.3 see above). The main enclosure may subsequently have been sub-divided, as indicated by the aerial photographic plot. Alternatively, it is possible that westernmost enclosure in Field 1 was created first, with additional enclosures added to the east and possibly west at a later date.
- 4.3.2 Investigation of the main southern enclosure/moat ditch in Trenches 3 and 4 (**33** and **6/58**) identified a similar (upper) deposit sequence, although relatively few finds were recovered, making dating difficult. The earliest finds are two fragments of (residual) Roman pottery recovered from the lowest exposed fill (**59**) in Trench 4, while a mixture of Roman, medieval and post-medieval ceramic building material was found in later fills. These deposits appear to have accumulated over an extended period, and the ditch had clearly remained partially open and wet given the high organic component and survival of fragments of wood. However, the ditch appears to have been levelled and infilled at some point, represented by two distinct clay deposits with a combined thickness of 0.82m filling the upper part of the feature. The uppermost fill contained 12th-14th century coarseware pottery in Trench 3 (deposit **36**) and a fragment of 17th-19th century clay pipe stem in Trench 4 (deposit **13**). The ditch was presumably finally infilled in the 19th century – the enclosures are not depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey maps, although an angled field boundary linked to the stream may represent the relict northern edge of one of the enclosures.

- 4.3.3 The Roman pottery and tile recovered from the lower fills of the ditch presumably derived from nearby activity perhaps related to the Roman town of Attleborough and/or the Roman road (road M331; Margary 1955). The road, located to the south of the site, linked to Coney Weston to the south-west, and possibly continued to the west of Attleborough Hall moated site (NHER 7009), 1km to the north-east of the site.
- 4.3.4 Excavation of the western arm of the enclosure moat (43) in Trench 1 revealed a more complex sequence of deposits and possible recuts on a smaller scale (cumulatively 4.9m wide and at least 0.5m deep) than the main southern ditch. This might suggest that this was an internal division or perhaps a later addition that was subsequently reworked. No dating evidence was recovered, while environmental samples produced the remains of thistles and nettles indicative of disturbed or overgrown land (App. C1).

Features within the enclosures

- 4.3.5 The easternmost platform or enclosed area that was identified on the aerial photographs was clearly most disturbed by works associated with the modern roadworks compound. Consequently, it was not possible to identify any activity within this part of the enclosed area. The aerial photographic plot indicates that there may have been a further subdivision or perhaps a structure within the north-east corner of the enclosure (Fig. 4), but this now appears to be beneath the modern road embankment.
- 4.3.6 The western platform or enclosed area that was identified in the aerial photographs, however, appears not to have been disturbed by modern activity. This revealed a possible beamslot (29) and (later) posthole located at a distance of 4.4m from, and aligned almost parallel with, the southern enclosure/moat ditch. Although undated (apart from a fragment of probable post-medieval tile recovered from the beamslot) this may represent part of the remains of a medieval or early post-medieval building. A scatter of other fragments of ceramic building material across the site may hint at the presence of other structures, some possibly with tile roofs.
- 4.3.7 Numerous small ditches or gullies were recorded within the central part of the enclosure (Trench 1), most of which were on similar alignments. These were generally narrow, straight and shallow (c. 0.5-0.6m wide and 0.12-0.2m deep) some of which may also represent structural foundations. Perhaps arguing against this interpretation is the fact that the ditches/gullies generally had rounded profiles. Two of the ditches/gullies (49 and 51) were set at right angles, perhaps forming part of a rectangular structure (although environmental remains indicate that one of these had held water), while others may have created internal sub-divisions and aid drainage within the enclosure.
- 4.3.8 Located on a similar alignment to the narrow ditches were the remains of a possible trackway (66) measuring 2.2m wide and aligned north-west to south-east, parallel with the western boundary ditch. A compact metallised surface was overlain by a more silty matrix containing gravel and flint, which produced a worn post-medieval jetton that is not closely datable.
- 4.3.9 Several shallow pits or possible post-holes were present within the eastern part of Trench 1, perhaps indicating that this area to the east of the track may have been the

primary focus of activity. Few finds were recovered from these features, apart from occasional fragments of post-medieval ceramic building material, fired clay and animal bone. An environmental sample from one of the pits indicated the presence of damp and disturbed soils. A possible interpretation is that this area was at least partly occupied by a garden demarcated by drainage ditches and a pathway, with occasional planting pits for shrubs or small trees.

Features outside the enclosures

- 4.3.10 No archaeological remains were identified to the south of the larger, western enclosure (in Trench 2). In contrast, a small group of features was present to the immediate south of the easternmost enclosure (in Trench 5), comprising a recut ditch (14/16) and a pit. The ditch was aligned roughly parallel with the main enclosure/moat ditch to the north; a possible western continuation of the ditch was identified in Trench 4. In general, this ditch and its recut were more substantial than those identified within the western enclosure (with the recut measuring 1.52m wide and 0.34m deep) and contained notably larger amounts of finds. The ditches produced the majority of the stratified pottery assemblage (40 sherds, 1.099kg) from the site, including part of a curfew of 14th-15th century date with internal sooting, along with several sherds of Grimston-type jugs (App. B2).
- 4.3.11 It is notable that the coarsewares in the assemblage are similar to excavated examples from other sites in Attleborough (*e.g.* Anderson 2014), and are distinctive enough to suggest that there may have been local production.
- 4.3.12 Cut into the northern edge of the ditch was a pit (4) containing the skeleton of a medium-sized dog that may have been kept as a hunting dog or a pet; no associated dating evidence was recovered. A gully lay to the south of the ditch but is also undated.

4.4 Conclusion

- 4.4.1 The evaluation revealed archaeological features across much of the proposed development area, confirming the presence of settlement enclosures previously identified from aerial photographs. The extent of the truncation resulting from the construction of the compound in 2005 was also revealed, with the eastern enclosure being most affected: here no internal features appear to have survived. However, at least one possible timber structure, along with internal divisions, pits and a path/track were identified within the larger, western enclosure. This area appears to have been kept relatively 'clean' with little evidence of rubbish disposal or demolition material; it may at least in part have been a garden. Environmental remains indicate damp and/or disturbed conditions here, although these could relate to the period after any settlement-related features had been abandoned. The area to the south-east of the main enclosures (in Trench 5) produced the most artefacts, suggesting that the ditch here was used for the disposal of domestic rubbish once it had become disused.
- 4.4.2 Investigation of the main southern enclosure/moat ditch indicates that there is good potential for the preservation of waterlogged and organic material that could inform environmental reconstruction. There may also be survival of pollen which could have the potential for providing additional information on plants growing within and around the site. Molluscs were not noted within the samples and do not appear to have been

preserved, while some insect fragments were present in one sample. Although relatively small quantities of animal bone were recovered, the assemblage includes the notable presence of an almost complete dog skeleton.

- 4.4.3 Dating of the enclosures and associated activity is hampered by the small quantities of datable finds recovered. Besides residual Roman finds, overall the assemblage suggests a concentration of activity in the second half of the medieval period (c.14th-15th century). The assemblage contains some coarsewares but is dominated by glazed wares – possibly indicative of a higher status site (see App. B2). This perhaps provides some corroboration that the enclosure(s) may represent part of the manorial centre associated with the lost medieval settlement of Baconsthorpe.
- 4.4.4 The site appears to have been occupied, or at least utilised, into the post-medieval period, given the presence of finds of this date in features within the westernmost enclosure and the depiction of two properties in this location on the edge of 'Baconsthorp Common' on Faden's map of 1797. The enclosure/moat ditch appears to have been left open but not maintained, before being finally infilled at some point, possibly in the 19th century.

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench contains six ditches, four pits and a trackway. Consists of topsoil (3) and subsoil (2) overlying a natural geology (1) of sand clay.					Length (m)	43.3
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.32
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Findings	Date
1	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.13	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
37	Cut	0.6	0.2	Cut of pit	-	Post-medieval
38	Fill	0.6	0.2	Fill of pit 37	Animal bone	
39	Cut	0.7	0.22	Cut of pit	-	-
40	Fill	0.7	0.22	Fill of pit 39	-	
41	Cut	1.3	0.18	Cut of pit	-	Post-medieval
42	Fill	1.3	0.18	Fill of pit 41	CBM, fired clay	
43	Cut	4.9	0.5	Cut of ditch/moat	-	12-14th century
44	Fill	3.26	0.5	Fill of ditch 43	-	
45	Fill	1.3	0.22	Fill of ditch 43	-	
46	Fill	0.92	0.32	Fill of ditch 43	-	
47	Cut	0.6	0.12	Cut of ditch	-	-
48	Fill	0.6	0.12	Fill of ditch 47	-	-
49	Cut	0.5	0.12	Cut of ditch	-	-
50	Fill	0.5	0.12	Fill of ditch 49	-	-
51	Cut	0.6	0.2	Cut of ditch	-	-
52	Fill	0.6	0.2	Fill of ditch 51	-	-
53	Cut	0.9	0.3	Cut of pit	-	Post-medieval
54	Fill	0.9	0.3	Fill of pit 53	CBM, flint	
55	Cut	0.5	0.12	Cut of ditch	-	-
56	Fill	0.5	0.12	Fill of ditch 55	-	-
57	Fill	2.25	0.15	Fill of trackway 66	Cu alloy jetton	Post-medieval
66	Cut	2.25	0.15	Cut for trackway	-	
67	Cut	0.56	0.12	Cut of ditch	-	-
68	Fill	0.56	0.12	Fill of ditch 67	-	-

Trench 2						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of modern topsoil (65), a modern levelling layer (69), old topsoil (3) and subsoil (2) overlying natural geology (1) of sand clay.					Length (m)	34
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.61
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	0.02	Topsoil	-	-
65	Layer	-	0.13	Modern topsoil	-	Modern
69	Layer	-	0.29	Modern hardcore	-	Modern

Trench 3						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench contains a beam slot cut by a posthole and a ditch/moat. Consists of modern topsoil (65), a modern levelling layer (69) and subsoil (2) overlying a natural geology (1) of clay sand.					Length (m)	34
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.49
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
29	Cut	0.45	0.05	Cut of beam slot	-	Post-medieval
30	Fill	0.45	0.05	Fill of beam slot 29	CBM	
31	Cut	0.26	0.09	Cut of posthole	-	Post-medieval
32	Fill	0.26	0.09	Fill of posthole 31	-	
33	Cut	7.2	1.95	Cut of ditch/moat	-	12-14th century
34	Fill	6.1	-	Fill of ditch 33	-	
36	Fill	1.1	-	Fill of ditch 33	Pottery	
65	Layer	-	0.16	Modern topsoil	-	Modern
69	Layer	-	0.17	Modern hardcore	-	

Trench 4						
General description					Orientation	NNW-SSE
Trench contains a ditch/moat and modern disturbance. Consists of modern topsoil (65), modern levelling layers (25-27), old topsoil (3) and subsoil (2) overlying a natural geology (1) of clay sand.					Length (m)	33.5
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.59
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.11	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	0.02	Topsoil	-	-
6	Cut	10.4	1.8	Cut of ditch/moat	-	12th-14th century
7	Fill	-	0.2	Fill of ditch 6	-	
8	Fill	-	0.28	Fill of ditch 6	CBM	
9	Fill	-	0.14	Fill of ditch 6	-	
10	Fill	1.4	0.37	Fill of ditch 6	Animal bone, CBM, pottery	Post-medieval
12	Fill	-	0.3	Fill of ditch 6	CBM	
13	Fill	6.15	0.49	Fill of ditch 6	CBM, clay pipe	
22	Cut	1.8	0.14	Natural dip	-	-
23	Fill	1.12	0.14	Tip layer in dip 22	-	Modern
24	Fill	1	0.14	Tip layer in dip 22	-	
25	Layer	-	0.2	Modern levelling layer	-	Modern
26	Layer	-	0.3	Modern levelling layer	-	Modern
27	Layer	-	0.05	Modern levelling layer	-	Modern
28	Layer	2.95	-	Modern disturbance	-	Modern
58	Cut	10.4	1.2	Cut of ditch/moat	-	12th-14th century
59	Fill	-	0.18	Fill of ditch 58	Pottery	
60	Fill	-	0.2	Fill of ditch 58	-	
61	Fill	-	0.28	Fill of ditch 58	-	
62	Fill	-	0.26	Fill of ditch 58	-	Post-medieval
63	Fill	-	0.28	Fill of ditch 58	CBM	
64	Fill	-	0.08	Fill of ditch 58	-	
65	Layer	-	0.2	Modern topsoil	-	Modern

Trench 5						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench contained a colluvial layer, two ditches, a gully and a pit containing a dog skeleton. Consists of modern topsoil (65), modern levelling layers (25-27), old topsoil (3) and subsoil (2) overlying a natural geology (1) of clay sand.					Length (m)	28
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.83
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1	Layer	-	-	Natural geology	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	0.02	Topsoil	Pottery	-
4	Cut	0.51	0.25	Cut of pit	-	Late medieval?
5	Fill	0.51	0.25	Fill of pit 4	Animal bone	
14	Cut	0.52	0.43	Cut of ditch	-	11th-12th century
15	Fill	0.52	0.43	Fill of ditch 14	Pottery	
16	Cut	1.52	0.34	Cut of ditch	-	12th-14th century
17	Fill	1.16	0.25	Fill of ditch 16	Fired clay, pottery	
18	Cut	0.29	0.06	Cut of gully	-	-
19	Fill	0.29	0.06	Fill of gully 18	-	-
20	Layer	-	0.22	Colluvial layer	-	-
21	Fill	1.04	0.16	Fill of ditch 16	-	12th-14th century
25	Layer	-	0.2	Modern levelling layer	-	Modern
26	Layer	-	0.2	Modern levelling layer	-	Modern
27	Layer	-	0.05	Modern levelling layer	-	Modern
65	Layer	-	0.23	Modern topsoil	-	Modern

Table 1: Trench data

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Jetton

By Denis Sami

Assemblage and condition

- B.1.1 A copper-alloy jetton dating to the post-medieval period was collected from the surface (57) of a possible trackway (66) in Trench 1. The artefact is heavily worn and cannot be precisely identified or dated.
- B.1.2 Jettons were alternatives to currency and were generally associated with commercial activity.
- B.1.3 The object is stable and requires no further work.

Catalogue

SF1, (57), Trench 1

Incomplete, illegible copper alloy post-medieval jetton. Diameter.: 27.1 mm. Thickness: 1.40 mm

B.2 Pottery

By Sue Anderson

Introduction

- B.2.1 Forty-six sherds of pottery weighing 1.169kg were collected from six contexts.
- B.2.2 Table 1 shows the quantification by fabric; a summary catalogue by context is included as Table 4.

Description	Fabric	Date range	No	Wt/g	Eve	MNV
RB White Wares	RBWW	RB	2	6		1
Early medieval ware	EMW	11th-12th c.	1	4		1
Medieval coarseware	MCW	L.12th-14th c.	16	454	0.50	5
Medieval coarseware micaceous	MCWM	12th-14th c.	3	32		2
Grimston-type ware	GRIM	L.12th-14th c.	22	636	0.86	15
English Stoneware	ESW	17th-19th c.	2	37		1
Totals			46	1169	1.36	25

Table 2: Pottery quantification by fabric

Methodology

- B.2.3 Quantification was carried out using sherd count, weight and estimated vessel equivalent (eve). The minimum number of vessels (MNV) within each context was also recorded, but cross-fitting was not attempted unless particularly distinctive vessels

were observed in more than one context. A full quantification by fabric, context and feature is available in the archive. All fabric codes were assigned from the author's post-Roman fabric series. Form terminology for medieval pottery is based on MPRG (1998). Recording uses a system of letters for fabric codes together with number codes for ease of sorting in database format. The results were input directly onto an MS Access database, which forms the archive catalogue.

Pottery by period

Roman

- B.2.4 Two sherds of a small, thin-walled whiteware vessel were found in ditch fill 59 (ditch 59, Trench 4). The fragments are likely to be of Roman date, although it is also possible that they are fragments of a later tin-glazed ware from which the glaze has been lost.

Medieval

- B.2.5 Handmade wares of early medieval date (11th–12th/13th century) are represented by a single sherd in a fine to medium sandy black fabric with red margins. It was the only find from ditch fill 15 (ditch 14 in Trench 5).
- B.2.6 Nineteen sherds of medieval coarsewares in three main fabrics are present. The fabrics are a brown-black medium sandy type with sparse coarse flint inclusions, a finer sandy pale grey fabric (similar to Norwich-type coarsewares) and a very fine sandy grey micaceous fabric with sparse coarse angular brown clay or mudstone inclusions.
- B.2.7 Seven vessels are represented by the sherds. Identifiable forms comprise three jar rims, two with developed square beaded forms and one an upright tapered form, and a possible curfew with a square-beaded rim. The latter has short diagonal incised line decoration below the rim (at what would be the shoulder of a bowl) and thumbing around the angled top (base angle); it is sooted internally. These wares are probably all of 13th–15th century date.
- B.2.8 Twenty-two sherds, representing up to fifteen vessels, are pieces of green-glazed Grimston-type wares. The fabric of material from the Pott Row production site in Grimston is variable enough for these sherds to fit within the range, although use-wear and/or post-depositional abrasion has changed their appearance with loss of surfaces, and in some cases there are more medium sand and/or ferrous inclusions than is typical. It is possible, as has been previously suggested for glazed wares found in Attleborough (Anderson 2011), that there was a more local source for these wares. Rims of three jugs were present, there were two pieces of wide strap handle (possibly from the same vessel), a large fragment of a thumbbed/frilled base, and at least two and possibly three vessels had 'arms' suggesting that they were face jugs. Two body sherds of another jug were decorated with applied slip shields, comprising white slip forming the edge of the shield and brown slip forming chevrons inside. The use of white slip and the presence of wide strap handles and apparently globular forms suggests a 14th or 15th-century date for at least some of these vessels.

Pottery by context

- B.2.9 A summary of the pottery by feature is provided in Table 3.

Trench	Feature	Context	Identifier	Fabrics	Spotdate
1-5	-	03	Topsoil	MCW MCWM GRIM	14th–15th c.+
3	33	36	Moat	MCWM	12th–14th c.
4	06	10	Ditch	ESW	17th–19th c.
	58	59	Moat	RBWW?	Rom+
5	14	15	Ditch	EMW	11th–13th c.
	16	17	Ditch	MCW GRIM	L.14th–15th c.

Table 3: Pottery types present by context

B.2.10 The largest context groups were recovered from topsoil (3) and fill 17 in ditch 16 in Trench 5. One of the jars with an everted square-beaded rim was recovered from both these contexts, suggesting that the material from topsoil represented disturbance of the ditch fill. Other ditch fills, including the moat/enclosure, produced single sherds or sherd families.

Discussion

B.2.11 Overall the assemblage suggests a concentration of activity in the second half of the medieval period. The assemblage contains some coarsewares but is dominated by glazed wares – this may be related to the status of the site, as a high proportion of glazed wares is often found at higher status or urban sites in the county, or it could simply be due to the area excavated or the late date of some fills.

B.2.12 The coarsewares are similar to excavated examples from other sites in Attleborough (e.g. Anderson 2014), and are distinctive enough to suggest that there may have been local production. The rim forms are more similar to those being produced in Suffolk, in the Waveney Valley and further to the south-east, than those from north Norfolk and Norwich. The glazed wares are in forms typical of Grimston, and the fabrics are within the range of that production site.

Context	Fabric	Form name	Rim	No	Wt/g	Spot date	Notes	Fabric date range
3	GRIM			5	233			L.12th-14th c.
3	GRIM			2	25		ext margin orange	L.12th-14th c.
3	GRIM			3	72		handle base	L.12th-14th c.
3	GRIM	Face jug	tapered short everted	4	61			L.12th-14th c.
3	MCW			2	31		fs, occ ms, pale buff ext, grey int	L.12th-14th c.
3	MCW	Jar	EVSQ	6	63	13-14	ms with sparse v coarse flint up to 6mm; black with brown ext	L.12th-14th c.
3	MCWM			1	5		vfs, micaceous with sparse soft brown angular clay pellets	12th-14th c.
10	ESW	Large storage vessel?		2	37		white fabric, orange peel glaze	17th-19th c.
15	EMW			1	4		or EMSW, but HM	11th-12th c.
17	GRIM			2	37	M.14-15		L.12th-14th c.
17	GRIM			1	22		large white ?mortar inclusions just under ext surface	L.12th-14th c.

Context	Fabric	Form name	Rim	No	Wt/g	Spot date	Notes	Fabric date range
17	GRIM			1	11		pale pink surfaces	L.12th-14th c.
17	GRIM			1	14		poss same as base	L.12th-14th c.
17	GRIM	Face jug		1	13		poss same as rim/handle; orange underside	L.12th-14th c.
17	GRIM	Jug		1	44		poss same as rim/handle; orange under handle	L.12th-14th c.
17	GRIM	Jug	upright plain	1	104	L.14-15?36	poss same as base; orange under handle	L.12th-14th c.
17	MCW	Curfew	large square bead	4	305	14	f/ms, occ coarse flint & Fe, pale grey sim to LMU	L.12th-14th c.
17	MCW	Jar	everted square beaded	1	7	13-14		L.12th-14th c.
17	MCW	Jar	upright square beaded	1	7	13-14	ms with sparse v coarse flint	L.12th-14th c.
17	MCW	Jar	tapered short everted	2	41		upright slightly curving tall rim/neck with tapered end; fs/ms, occ Fe, brown, soft	L.12th-14th c.
36	MCWM			2	27		vfs, micaceous with sparse soft brown angular clay pellets	12th-14th c.
59	RBWW			2	6		small, thin-walled vessel, fine micaceous with sparse red clay pellets, slightly pinkish, soft	RB

Table 4: Pottery catalogue

B.3 Clay Tobacco Pipe

By Carole Fletcher

- B.3.1 A single fragment of white ball clay tobacco pipe, weighing 6g, was recovered from the upper fill of enclosure/moat ditch **6** in Trench 4. Terminology used in this report is taken from Oswald’s simplified general typology (Oswald 1975, 37–41) and Crummy and Hind (Crummy 1988, 47-66). Quantification is 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 diameter recording has not been undertaken on this assemblage due to its limited size.
- B.3.2 The fragment of clay tobacco pipe recovered represents what is most likely a casually discarded pipe. The pipe fragment does little other than to indicate the consumption of tobacco on or near the site, in the 19th century when considered in relation to the date of the other ceramic material recovered from ditch **6** (see Anderson Section B.2).
- B.3.3 The plain and 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 clay tobacco pipe may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

Clay Tobacco Pipe Catalogue

Trench	Context	Cut	Form	Weight (kg)	No. of pipe stem fragments	Description	Date
4	13	6	Fragment of pipe stem	0.006	1	Length of stem 72mm, with visible mould lines. The stem tapers from (at widest axis). 8.7mm to 7. The bore is wide and completely blackened at the bowl end of the stem. The entire stem is somewhat discoloured, being slightly grey, most likely due to having been burnt in the embers of a fire to remove the build-up of material within the pipe.	Not closely datable, 17th-19th century

Table 5: Clay tobacco pipe catalogue

B.4 Ceramic building material and fired clay

By Sue Anderson

Introduction

- B.4.1 Twenty-five fragments (0.925kg) of CBM were recovered from nine contexts (Table 7). In addition, there are two pieces of fired clay (0.037kg) from two contexts (Table 8).

Methodology

- B.4.2 The assemblage was quantified (count and weight) by fabric and form. Fabrics were identified on the basis of macroscopic appearance and main inclusions. The width, length and thickness of bricks and floor tiles were measured, but roof tile thicknesses were only measured when another dimension was available. Form terminology for the CBM follows Drury (1993) and Brunskill’s glossary (1990).

Ceramic Building Material

B.4.3 Table 6 shows the quantities recovered by form.

Type	Form	form	No	Wt/g
Roman	Roman tile	RBT	2	264
	Imbrex	IMB	1	36
Roofing	Roof tile: post-med	RTP	8	296
	Pantile	PAN	2	48
Walling	Brick	B	1	150
	Later brick	LB	3	99
		LB?	8	32
<i>Totals</i>			25	925

Table 6: CBM quantities by form

- B.4.4 Two pieces of a Roman tile and one fragment of an imbrex were recovered from fill 10 (enclosure/moat ditch **6** in Trench 4). The tile is 35mm thick and may be a fragment of wall or floor tile. The imbrex is 15mm thick and heavily abraded. Both tiles are in a fine sandy poorly mixed fabric with clay pellets.
- B.4.5 Eight pieces of six post-medieval plain roof tile were found in ditch fills 10, 12, 13 and 63. They are in fine or medium sandy fabrics with occasional ferrous or flint inclusions. One tile has a circular peg hole. Two fragments of post-medieval pantile were recovered, one with dark brown glaze from fill 30 (beamslot **29** in Trench 3), and one reduced piece from fill 42 (pit **41**, Trench 1).
- B.4.6 A white-firing brick with ferrous inclusions was found in ditch fill 8 (enclosure/moat ditch **6** in Trench 4). It is 60mm thick. It has straw impressions on the side and base, which are commonly seen on handmade bricks of the 13th–15th centuries, the brick is in a fabric more typical of 18th/19th-century date.
- B.4.7 Three joining fragments of a red brick in a medium sandy fabric with flint were found in fill 10 (enclosure/moat ditch **6** in Trench 4). Fine sandy orange fragments, all small and abraded, which also appear to be pieces of brick, were recovered from fill 30 (beamslot **29** in Trench 3) and pit fills 38, 42 and 54 in Trench 1. These fragments are likely to be of post-medieval date, but given the presence of Roman CBM on the site, a Roman date cannot be completely ruled out.

Fired clay

- B.4.8 Two abraded fragments of fired clay were recovered (Table 8). A fragment from fill 17 (ditch **16** in Trench 5) is in a fine sandy fabric with organic and chalk inclusions. One surface is covered in straw impressions and the other is abraded but may originally have formed the outer surface. A smaller piece was recovered from pit fill 42 in Trench 1 and is in a fine sandy buff fabric with common voids (organics?) with a flattish surface and straw impressions. The function of both fragments is uncertain.

Context	Cut	Fabric	Form	No	Wt	Abr	L	W	T	Base (EB)	Mortar	Peg	Glaze	Notes	Date
8	Ditch 6	wfe	B	1	150				60	sand/straw				pale yellow - may be EB?	?
10	Ditch 6	fscp	RBT	2	264	+			35						Rom
10	Ditch 6	fscp	IMB	1	36	++			15						Rom
10	Ditch 6	ms	RTP	1	76	+									pmed
10	Ditch 6	msf	LB	3	99	+								joining frags	pmed
12	Ditch 6	msf	RTP	1	27										pmed
12	Ditch 6	fsfe	RTP	1	19										pmed
13	Ditch 6	fsfe	RTP	2	103									joining frags	pmed
30	Beamslot 29	fs	PAN	1	13								DB		pmed
30	Beamslot 29	fs	LB?	1	8	++									pmed?
38	Pit 37	fs	LB?	3	14	++									pmed?
42	Pit 41	fs	PAN	1	35									Reduced	pmed
42	Pit 41	fs	LB?	2	6	++									pmed?
54	Pit 53	fs	LB?	2	4	++								could be RBT	pmed?
63	Ditch 58	fsfe	RTP	2	38									joining frags	pmed
63	Ditch 58	msfe	RTP	1	33										pmed

Table 7: CBM catalogue

Context	Cut	Fabric	Type	No	Wt/g	Colour	Surface	Impressions	Abr	Notes
17	Ditch 16	fscs		1	33	orange	irreg	straw	+	
42	Pit 41	fsv		1	4	buff	flat?	straw	+	

Table 8: Fired clay catalogue

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental Samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.1.1 Ten bulk samples were taken from features within the evaluated area at Land North of Blackthorn Road, Attleborough, Norfolk in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of any further archaeological investigations. Samples were taken from deposits within a possible moat in addition to features within the ditched/moated enclosure.

Methodology

C.1.2 A sub-sample of each of the samples was processed by tank flotation using modified Siraff-type equipment for the recovery of preserved plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve.

C.1.3 The flots from waterlogged samples were assessed whilst wet with a selection of seeds retained in water. The flot was then allowed to dry. The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 9. 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 Stace (2010). Plant remains have been identified to species where possible.

Quantification

C.1.4 For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as seeds have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories:

= 1-5, ## = 6-25, ### = 26-100, #### = 100+ specimens

Results

C.1.5 Preservation of plant remains is by waterlogging with no evidence of carbonised seeds or cereal grains.

Trench 1

C.1.6 Six samples were taken from features in Trench 1 (located within the enclosed area). Of the four pits that were sampled, pits **37**, **39** and **41** did not contain any preserved remains and fill 54 of pit **53** contained a moderate assemblage of waterlogged seeds. The most common component is sedge (*Carex* spp.) seeds and at least two varieties were noted. Sedges have varied habitats but mostly prefer wet soils. Also present are buttercups (*Ranunculus repens/bulbosus*), thistles (*Carduus/Cirsium* sp.), docks (*Rumex* sp.) and knotgrasses (*Polygonum* sp.) which indicate disturbed soils.

C.1.7 Two ditch fills were sampled; fill 44 of ditch **43** contains occasional untransformed seeds of thistles and nettles (*Urtica dioica*) and the mode of preservation is not clear. Fill 52 of ditch **51** was a deeper deposit and the plant remains are preserved by waterlogging. Thistles and knotgrass seeds are common and there is a shrub component of elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) and brambles (*Rubus* sp.) along with black nightshade (*Solanum nigrum*). All of these species could have been growing on the banks of this ditch. There is evidence that the ditch contained water through the presence of seeds of water-crowfoot (*Ranunculus* subgenus *Batrachium*), a sub-aquatic plant that has submerged roots and leaves that float on the surface. Occasional insect fragments were also noted within this sample.

Trench 4

C.1.8 Samples from Trench 4 were taken from two excavated segments within the enclosure/moat ditch; three samples taken from towards the outside edge (moat **6**) all contain untransformed seeds that are most likely to have been preserved by waterlogging although it is possible that there are some modern intrusions. The lowest fill sampled (8) contains occasional seeds of bramble and buttercup. Subsequent fill 9 contains abundant organic roots and stems along with fragments of roundwood and seeds of buttercup and nettles. The upper fill (10) of the ditch contains numerous seeds of alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) along with buttercups, sedges, nettles and water-mint (menthe aquatic) which reflects damp soils and the possible environmental development of Alder Carr.

C.1.9 A single sample taken from the lowest fill (60) of the inside edge of the moat **58** contains seeds preserved by waterlogging of which gypsywort (*Lycopus europaeus*), a plant that grows in wet soils, is predominant. Sedges, brambles, nettles and a wild rose shrub (*Rosa* sp.) are also likely bankside taxa.

Sample No.	Context No.	Feature No.	Feature Type	% context sampled	Related numbers	Area/trench No.	Volume processed	Flot Volume (ml)	Preservation	Waterlogged Seeds	Modern seeds
1	10	6	Ditch	<10	2-4	4	18	300	Waterlogged	###	###
2	9	6	Ditch	<10	1,3-4	4	8	400	Waterlogged	###	0
3	8	6	Ditch	<10	1-2,4	4	9	350	Waterlogged	###	0
4	60	58	Ditch	<10	1-3	4	9	300	Waterlogged	###	0
5	52	51	Ditch	<20		1	18	250	Waterlogged	###	0
6	54	53	Pit	<20		1	17	600	Waterlogged	###	0
7	44	43	Ditch	<10		1	9	1	None	#	0
8	42	41	Pit	<20		1	16	40	None	0	#
9	40	39	Pit	<20		1	8	120	None	0	#
10	38	37	Pit	<20		1	16	80	None	0	#

Table 9: Environmental samples

Discussion

C.1.10 The bulk samples taken from features within Trenches 1 and 4 have produced an interesting assemblage of plant remains. There is a lack of plants that may have indicated occupation of the site but the waterlogged seeds offer the opportunity for environmental reconstruction. There is differential preservation in that all of the seeds that have been preserved possess a tough outer coat (testa) and are more resistant to decay than other, more fragile species and so the overall list of taxa that would have been growing in the near vicinity is incomplete. It is likely that pollen is preserved in the waterlogged fills and has the potential for providing additional information on plants growing around the site. Molluscs were not noted within the samples and do not appear to have been preserved.

C.1.11 If further excavation is planned for this area, it is recommended that environmental sampling is carried out in accordance with Historic England guidelines (2011).

C.2 Animal Bone

By Hayley Foster BA MA PhD

Introduction

C.2.1 The animal bone from Attleborough, Norfolk represents faunal remains weighing 0.607kg in total. The species represented include cattle (*Bos taurus*) and dog (*Canis familiaris*). The dog remains were from a burial in a pit (pit 4 in Trench 5) dating to the medieval or later period whereas the bone from contexts 10 (ditch 6 in Trench 4) and 38 (pit 37 in Trench 1) are possibly of post-medieval date. Methods used to quantify this assemblage were based on those used for Knowth by McCormick and Murray (2007) which is modified from Albarella and Davis (1996). Identification of the faunal remains was carried out at Oxford Archaeology East. References to Hillson (1992), Schmid (1972), von den Driesch (1976) were implemented where necessary. Crania and mandibles were counted as left and right in regard to calculating NISP.

Results of Analysis

C.2.2 The faunal material from this site is made up of two fragments of bone belonging to cattle, a metatarsal fragment from context 10, and a tibia fragment from context 38. The articulated dog burial from context 5 is mostly complete except for caudal vertebrae (a tail) and most foot elements (carpals, tarsals, phalanges and metapodia). This is likely down to degradation in the soil as these bones are small, fragile and less likely to survive. The skeleton overall is in good condition and includes a complete skull. The dog mandible has a dental anomaly in the form of hypodontia in which there is a genetic absence of the fourth premolar. This results in a gap in the tooth row between the molars and premolars on both the left and right mandibles. Calculating the estimated shoulder height for the dog, using the left humerus, resulted in an animal of approximately 46.3cm. This would be a medium sized dog, perhaps used as a hunting dog or as a pet. There were no obvious taphonomic changes evident, such as gnawing, burning or weathering.

Conclusion

C.2.3 As this is such a small sample it cannot be considered representative of typical proportions of species at such sites. Overall the assemblage is in fair to good condition, and it would be recommended that the dog skeleton be retained as it is a mostly complete specimen. The assemblage is small therefore the potential for further investigation is somewhat limited unless further remains are recovered.

Element	Cattle	Dog	Total
Cranium		2	2
Loose lower canine		1	1
Mandible		2	2
Atlas		1	1
Axis		1	1
Vertebrae		11	11
Scapula		2	2
Humerus		2	2
Radius		2	2
Ulna		1	1
Pelvis		2	2
Femur		2	2
Tibia	1	2	3
Fibula		1	1
Astragalus		1	1
Metatarsal	1	2	3
Metapodial		1	1
Phalanx 1		1	1
NISP	2	37	39
%NISP	5.1	94.9	
MNI	1	1	2
%MNI	50.0	50.0	

Table 10: Total number of identifiable fragments (NISP) by species

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APPENDIX E OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	Oxfordar3-286639		
Project Name	Land at Bridge Farm, Blackthorn Road, Attleborough		
Start of Fieldwork	20-07-2017	End of Fieldwork	25-07-2017
Previous Work	No	Future Work	Unknown

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	XNFABF17	Planning App. No.	Pre-planning
HER Number	ENF142250	Related Numbers	

Prompt	Direction from local planning authority
Development Type	Not recorded
Place in Planning Process	Pre-application

Techniques used (tick all that apply)

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography – interpretation | <input type="checkbox"/> Grab-sampling | <input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - new | <input type="checkbox"/> Gravity-core | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sample Trenches |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annotated Sketch | <input type="checkbox"/> Laser Scanning | <input type="checkbox"/> Survey/Recording of Fabric/Structure |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Augering | <input type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey | <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> Rectified Photography | |

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Ditch	Medieval (1066 to 1540)	Jetton	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)
Ditch	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)	Pottery	Roman (43 to 410)
Pit	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)	Pottery	Medieval (1066 to 1540)
Surface	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)	Ceramic building material	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)
Beam slot	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)	Clay pipe	Post-medieval (1540-1901)
Posthole	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)	Animal bone	Medieval (1066 to 1540)
		Animal bone	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)
		Flint	Late Prehistoric (- 4000 to 43)

Insert more lines as appropriate.

Project Location

County	Norfolk	Address (including Postcode) Land off Blackthorn Road Attleborough Norfolk NR16 1YJ
District	Breckland	
Parish	Attleborough	
HER office	Norfolk Historic Environment Team	
Size of Study Area	1.01 ha	
National Grid Ref	TM 0421 9566	

Project Originators

Organisation	OA East
Project Brief Originator	James Albone
Project Design Originator	OA East
Project Manager	Matt Brudenell
Project Supervisor	Robin Webb

Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	NMAS	ENF142250
Digital Archive	OA East	ENF142250
Paper Archive	NMAS	ENF142250

Physical Contents	Present?	Digital files associated with Finds	Paperwork associated with Finds
Animal Bones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Remains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Stratigraphic		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Survey		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Textiles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media

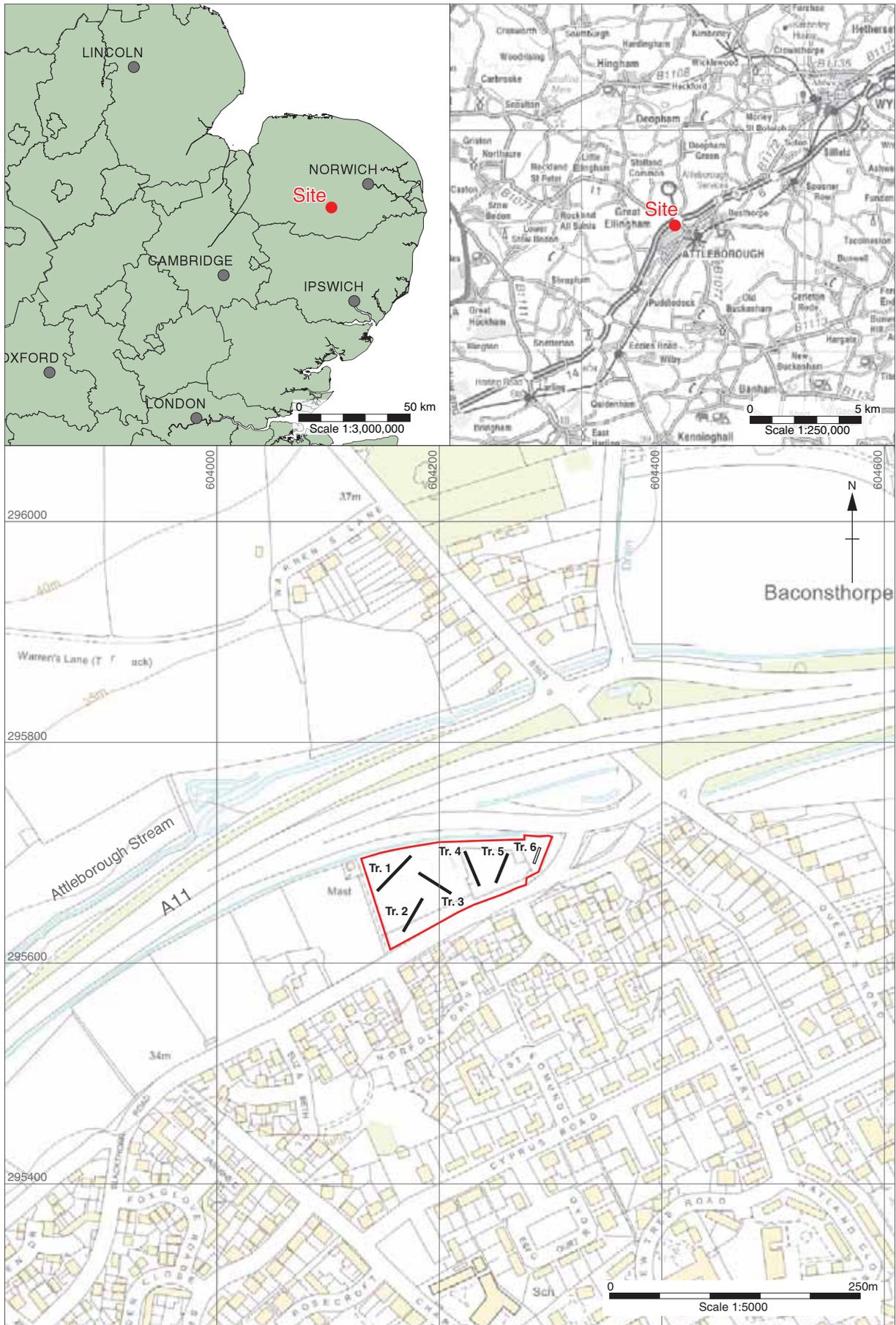
Database	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Geophysics	<input type="checkbox"/>
Images (Digital photos)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Paper Media

Aerial Photos	<input type="checkbox"/>
Context Sheets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Correspondence	<input type="checkbox"/>
Diary	<input type="checkbox"/>

Illustrations (Figures/Plates)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Drawing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Moving Image	<input type="checkbox"/>	Manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spreadsheets	<input type="checkbox"/>	Map	<input type="checkbox"/>
Survey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Matrices	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Microfiche	<input type="checkbox"/>
Virtual Reality	<input type="checkbox"/>	Miscellaneous	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Research/Notes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Photos (negatives/prints/slides)	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Plans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Sections	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Survey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Further Comments



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



Figure 3: Detail of Faden's map of 1797 showing two buildings located on the edge of 'Baconsthorp Common', in the area of the current site (outlined red)

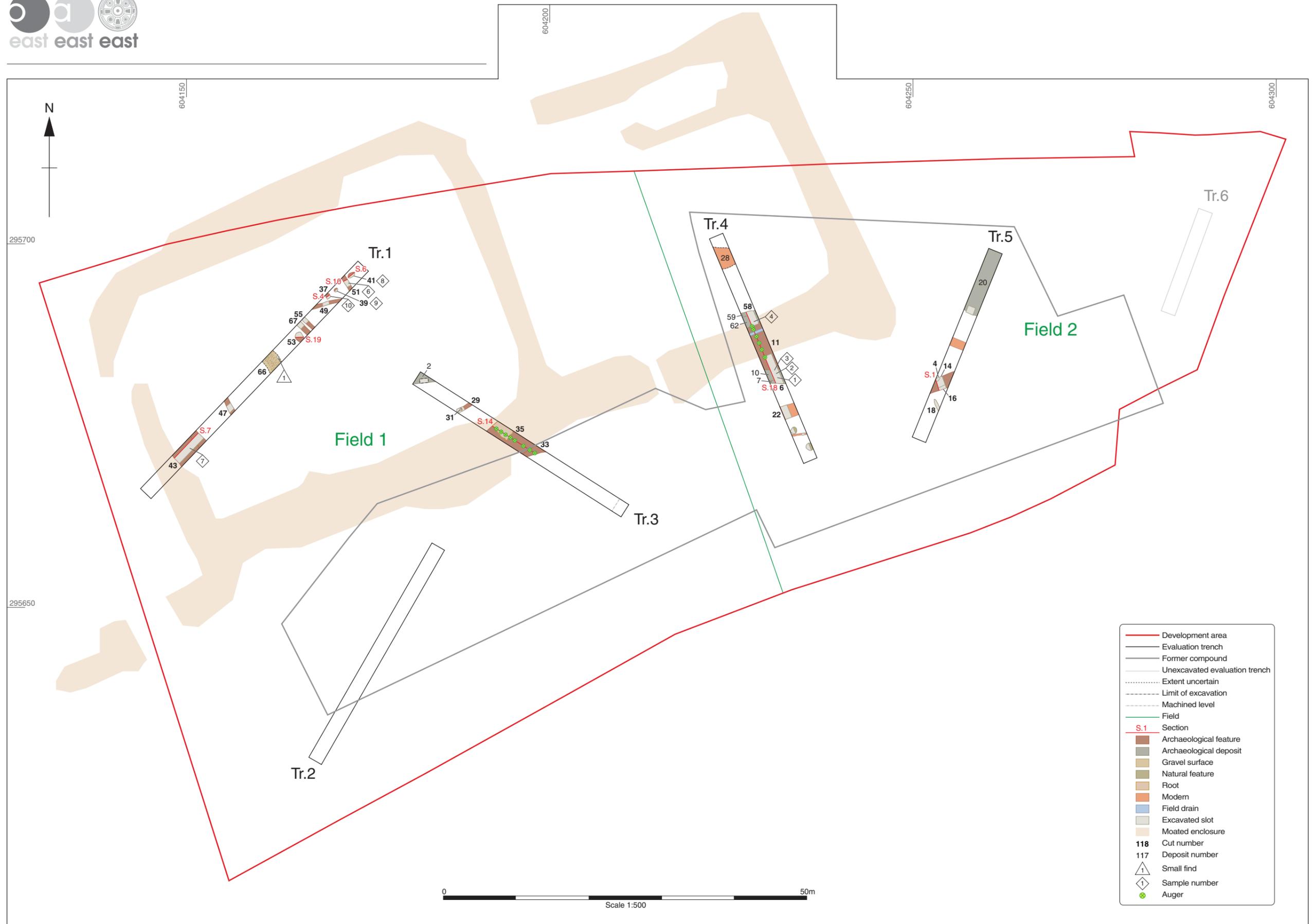


Figure 4: Trench and archaeological feature plan (with Field numbers) in relation to the enclosure/moat ditches (NHER 58610) plotted from aerial photographs. Copyright Historic England National Mapping Programme, licensed to Norfolk County Council

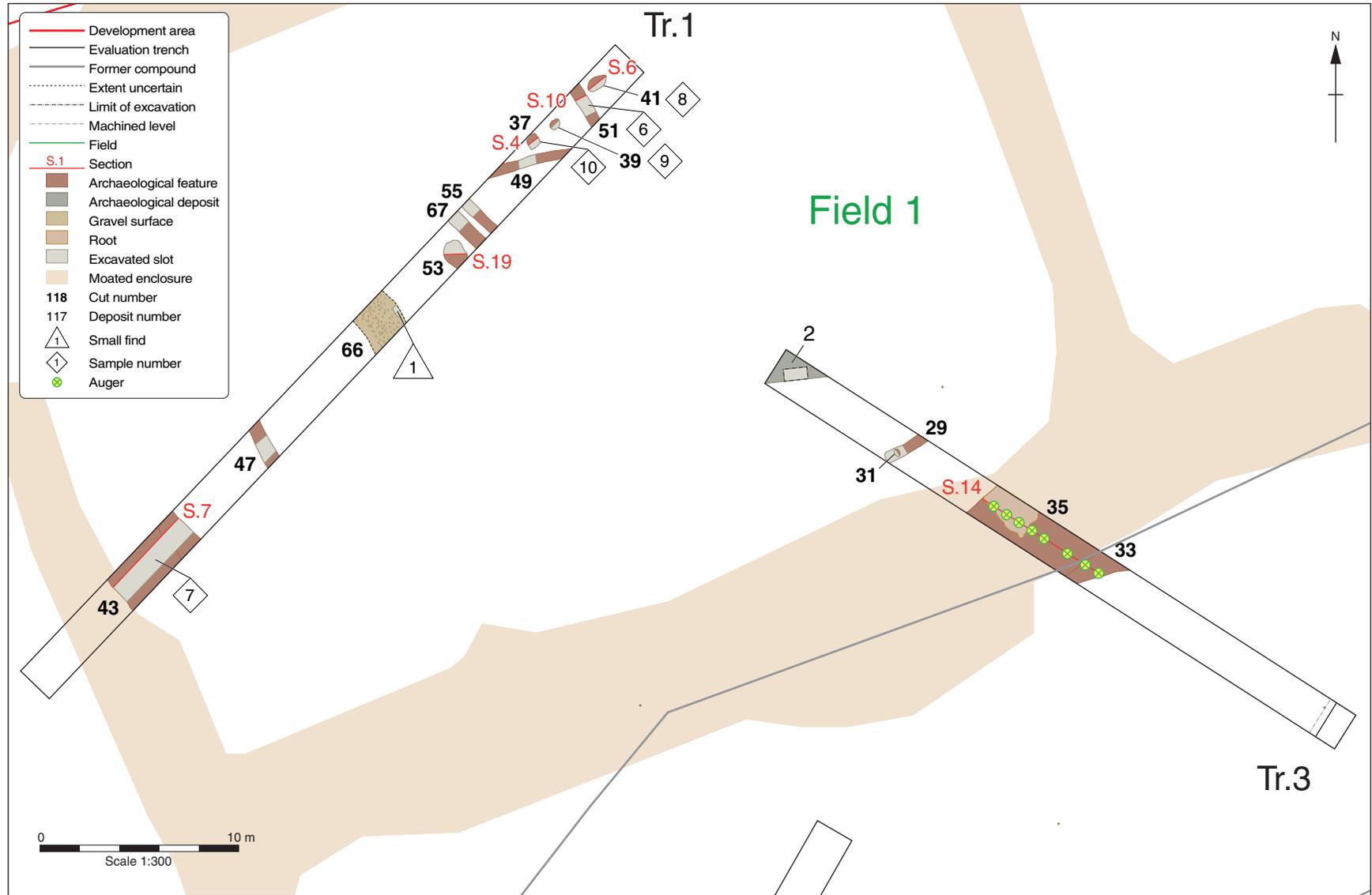


Figure 5: Detail of Trenches 1 and 3 in Field 1

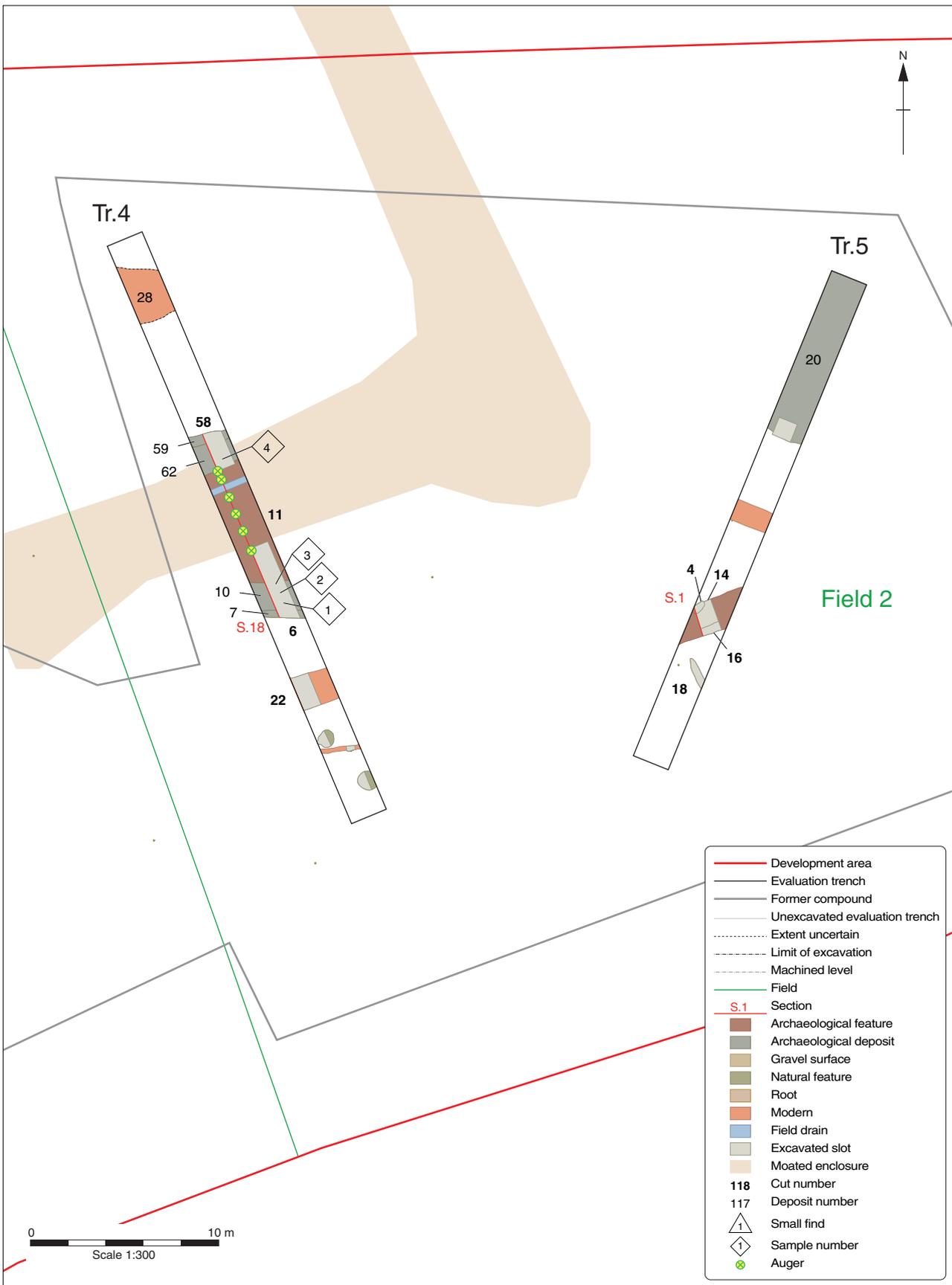


Figure 6: Detail of Trenches 4 and 5 in Field 2

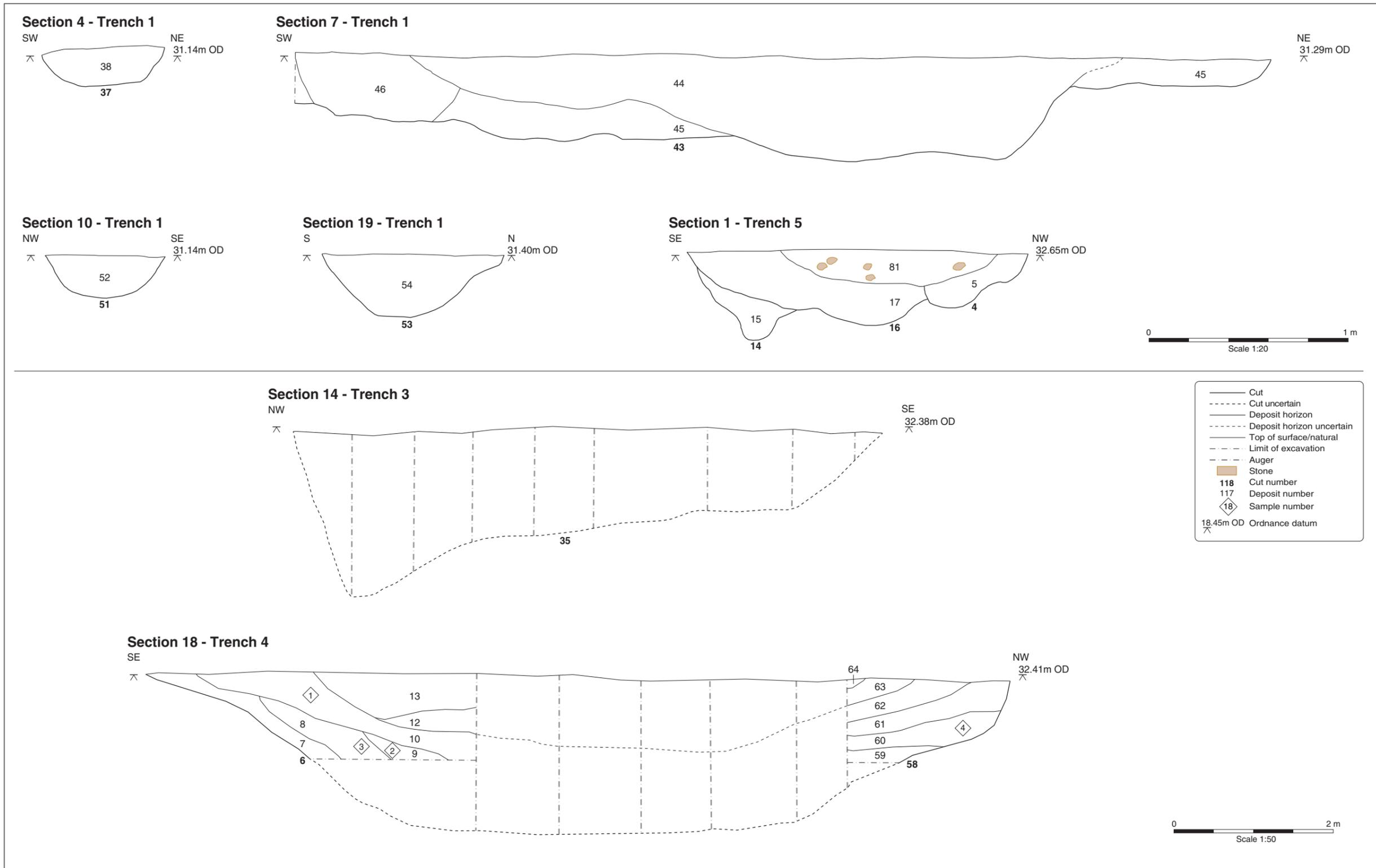


Figure 7: Selected sections



Plate 1: Ditch 43, Trench 1, looking north-west



Plate 2: Cleaning of the stone surface 66, Trench 1, looking south-east



Plate 3: Stone surface 66, Trench 1, looking south-east



Plate 4: Ditch 51, Trench 1, looking north-east



Plate 5: Beam slot **29** and posthole **31**, Trench 3, looking north-east



Plate 6: Ditch **33**, Trench 3, looking north-east



Plate 7: Augering of ditch 33, Trench 3, looking west



Plate 8: Ditch 6, Trench 4, looking north-north-west



Plate 9: Ditch 6, Trench 4, looking south-south-east



Plate 10: Dog skeleton in pit 4, Trench 5, looking west



Plate 11: View from the possible entrance across the moat towards the north-western moat arm, looking north-east



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