

Late Iron Age & Early Roman Activity at Weaverhead Close Thaxted, Essex



Archaeological Evaluation Report



November 2014

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Late Iron Age and Early Roman Activity at Weaverhead Close, Thaxted, Essex

Archaeological Evaluation

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Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land at Weaverhead Close, Thaxted, Essex (TL 6144 3137) prior to development for housing. The fieldwork took place between the 6th and 11th of August 2014. A total of seventeen trenches were excavated within the proposed development area.

The first phase of activity, located to the north of the site comprised a Late Iron Age / Early Roman field system, aligned north to south. Late Medieval Ridge and Furrow on a north-west to south-east alignment encompassed the eastern half of the site and later Post-Medieval quarrying was present to the west of the site.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted on Land at Weaverhead Close, Thaxted, Essex (TL 6144 3137), between the 6th and 11th of August 2014.
- 1.1.2 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Richard Havis of Essex County Council (Planning Application UTT/13/1170/OP), supplemented by a method statement prepared by CgMs (Flitcroft, 2014).
- 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 Essex County Council, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.
- 1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site is located on Boulder Clay with an outcrop of glacial sand and gravel to its west. The elevation of the site lies between approximately 95m and 100m, with the higher ground being in its north-western part.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The following is a summary of a Desk Based Assessment by Hawkins (2013).
- 1.3.2 Prehistoric pottery and flints were found on an evaluation on Weaverhead Lane to the south-west of the site (EHER 14672, Brooks *et al.* 2009). Evidence of Bronze Age activity includes Late Bronze Age features found during an evaluation at Thaxted windmill (EHER 46763, Rozwadowski and Williams 2008). Iron Age finds include an Early Iron Age amphora found to the north-west of the site and a Late Iron Age settlement site also to the north-west, at Bellrope Meadow off Stamford Road (EHER 46184).
- 1.3.3 Romano-British evidence comprises a continuation of the settlement at Bellrope Meadow which included cremation and inhumation burials. A section of the former Roman Road, which comprises the current B184 Walden Road / Dunmow Road, runs north to south through the village and was revealed at Thaxted Primary School in 1960 (EHER 1452). A further Roman Road appears to have ran to the north of the village and has been located at Proud's Farm and Terrier's Farm (EHER 7337 and 7338).
- 1.3.4 Thaxted dates to the Anglo-Saxon period (Arman 1978) with a reference to a deed of gift dating from AD 981 referring to the church. A Saxon church is believed to have been located on the site of the current Church of St John the Baptist, St Mary and St Laurence and test pit excavated under the south aisle revealed a churchyard soil (Andrews 1990). The Domesday Book records Thaxted as comprising a single manor with 52 villagers, 24 smallholders and 16 slaves (Rumble 1983).
- 1.3.5 The town of Thaxted was granted a market in 1205, although there is evidence that one existed prior to this. There is extensive evidence for medieval activity throughout the town suggesting that there was a rapid expansion at this time.

- 1.3.6 Thaxted declined during the early post-medieval period and was granted the status of a full borough in an attempt to halt this. It had three mills by the early 19th century.
- 1.3.7 Cartographic evidence, in the form of Chapman and Andre's map of 1777 shows the site as being agricultural land. The 1844 Tithe map shows the site as being two arable fields which appear to have been merged into one by the time of the Ordnance Survey map of 1876. Subsequent Ordnance Survey maps all show an arable use for the site.

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The site was managed by and directed by Tam Webster. It was excavated by Tam Webster, Malgorzata Kwiatkowska, David Browne, Zoe Clarke, Chris Swain and Mary Andrews. Appendix A was written by Malgorzata Kwiatkowska and the author. The illustrators were Dave Brown and Charlotte Davies.

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 required that an adequate sample of the potential development area be investigated by linear trenching.
- 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 survey was carried out by Stuart Ladd using a Leica GSO8.
- 2.2.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.
- 2.2.5 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.2.6 Three environmental samples were taken in order to assess the environmental potential of contexts deemed to be of archaeological significance.
- 2.2.7 Torrential rain was experienced during the evaluation, resulting in the flooding of several trenches.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The results are presented on a trench by trench basis. Figure 2 shows the plan of archaeological features in trenches.

3.2 Results

- 3.2.1 All trenches were machined to the natural geology, comprising an orange clay with flint nodules. A subsoil layer (2), approximately 0.1m thick was recorded overlain by a topsoil deposit (1) measuring approximately 0.3m thick. Variations in the trench descriptions are listed in appendix A.

Trench 1

- 3.2.2 Trench 1 lay in the north-western central part of the development area and was aligned west-north-west to east-south-east. No archaeological features were recorded in this trench.

3.2.3 Trench 2

- 3.2.4 Trench 2 was located in the north-western central part of the development area and was aligned east-north-east to west-south-west.
- 3.2.5 In the central western part of the trench lay a quarry pit (**17**) which was 6.60m wide, of unknown depth and filled with blueish grey and brown clay (18), containing Post-Medieval CBM. The central eastern part of the trench contained a further quarry pit (**11**) and this was over 3.20m long and of unknown depth. Quarry pit **11** was filled with blueish grey and brown clay (12), with Post-Medieval CBM present in the fill.
- 3.2.6 An oval pit (**5**), which had an irregular profile, was located in the eastern part of the trench and this feature was 1.13m long, 0.79m wide and 0.34m deep. The fill of pit **5** was a light grey silty clay (4) containing oyster and mussel shell fragments and one piece of burnt flint.

Trench 3

- 3.2.7 Located in the north-western central part of the site, Trench 3 was aligned east to west.
- 3.2.8 A steep sided north to south aligned ditch (**16**) was uncovered in the central eastern part of the trench and was 2.90m wide and 0.50m deep. The fill of this ditch consisted of mid greyish brown clayey silts (13), (14) and (15). Post-Medieval CBM and a sherd of residual Early Roman pottery was recovered from these fills.

Trench 4

- 3.2.9 Trench 4 lay in the north-western central part of the development area and was aligned north-west to south-east.
- 3.2.10 The western part of this trench contained an east to west alignment of three sub-circular postholes (**35**, **37** and **39**) which were 0.25m to 0.40m in diameter and 0.10m to 0.15m deep. These post-holes were filled with mid brown silty clays (36), (37) and (38) respectively.
- 3.2.11 Also in the western part of the trench was a ditch (**41**) which was 0.70m wide, 0.24m deep with a u-shaped profile. The fill of this ditch consisted of a mid brown and yellow silty clay (42).

- 3.2.12 A spread of mid brown clay silt (43) was present in the western central part of the trench.

Trench 5

- 3.2.13 Trench 5 was located in the north-western central part of the development area and was aligned north-east to south-west.
- 3.2.14 In the south-western part of the trench a north-west to south-east aligned ditch (49) was uncovered and this feature was 1.00m wide, 0.22m deep with a u-shaped profile. The fill of ditch 49 consisted of a mid yellowish brown sandy clayey silt (50). The north-eastern part of the trench contained further north-west to south-east aligned ditch (51) which was 1.48m wide, 0.27m deep and filled with dark brown silty clay (52).
- 3.2.15 Four north-west to south-east aligned furrows were also present in this trench.

Trench 6

- 3.2.16 Located in the northern part of the development area, Trench 6 was aligned north-west to south-east.
- 3.2.17 A north to south aligned ditch (7), which was 0.90m wide and 0.40m deep, terminated in the north-western part of this trench. The fill of this ditch consisted of light brown silty clay (6) which contained 1st century AD pottery.
- 3.2.18 A further north to south aligned ditch (9) appeared to terminate in the north-western part of this trench. This flat based ditch was 0.73m wide, 0.23m deep and filled with light orange brown silty clay (8) which contained sherds of the Latest Iron Age / Early Roman pottery.
- 3.2.19 A spread of light orange brown silty clay (10), 0.12m thick, was present in the central part of this trench.

Trench 7

- 3.2.20 Trench 7 lay in the southern part of the development area and was aligned north-east to south-west.
- 3.2.21 Uncovered in the in the north-eastern part of the trench north-west-west to south-east-east aligned ditch (53) which was 1.30m wide and 0.16m deep. This ditch had a u-shaped profile and was filled with brown clay silt (54) containing Post-Medieval CBM.

Trench 8

- 3.2.22 Trench 8 was located in the central part of the development area and was aligned north-west to south-east. The only archaeological feature was an undated post-hole.

Trench 9

- 3.2.23 Located in the northern part of the development area Trench 9 was for the most part aligned north-east to south-west turning to a north-east-east to south-west-west alignment in its north-eastern part.
- 3.2.24 An east to west aligned ditch (58), which had a u-shaped profile, appeared to terminate in the south-western part of this trench. This ditch was 0.70m wide, 0.16m deep and was filled with a reddish brown clayey silt (57) containing Post-Medieval CBM and oyster shell fragments.
- 3.2.25 A spread of light orange brown silty clay (55) was uncovered in the central part of this trench. One sherd of residual High Medieval pottery and two fragments of Post-Medieval tile was recovered from this spread.

Trench 10

- 3.2.26 Trench 10 was located in the south-eastern part of the development area and was aligned north-west-west to south-east-east. No archaeological features were recorded in this trench.

Trench 11

- 3.2.27 Trench 11 lay in the south-eastern part of the development area and was aligned north-east to south-west. This trench was completely flooded due to excess rainfall and, therefore, no archaeological features were recorded within it.

Trench 12

- 3.2.28 Located in the eastern part of the development area trench 12 was aligned north-west to south-east.
- 3.2.29 An east to west aligned ditch (**34**), which had a v-shaped profile, was uncovered in the south-eastern part of this trench and this feature was 1.10m wide and 0.11m deep. A mid brown silty clay (33) was found to fill this ditch.

Trench 13

- 3.2.30 Trench 13 was located in the eastern part of the development area and was aligned north-west to south-east.
- 3.2.31 A possible occupation layer (56) was found in the central south-eastern part of this trench. This deposit consisted of mid yellowish brown clayey silt, containing Late Medieval/Early post-medieval pottery and CBM.

Trench 14

- 3.2.32 Trench 14 lay in the south-eastern part of the development area and was aligned north-east to south-west.
- 3.2.33 Ditch **20**, which was uncovered in the north-eastern part of the trench, was aligned east to west. This ditch had a u-shaped profile and was 0.55m wide and 0.15m deep with a fill which consisted of mid brown clayey silt (19) with CBM, slag present within the fill..
- 3.2.34 A north to south aligned ditch (**22**), which had a u-shaped profile, appeared to terminate in the north-eastern part of this trench. The fill of this ditch was a mid brown clayey silt (21).
- 3.2.35 Also in the north-eastern part of the trench, a sub-circular posthole (**24**) was excavated. This concave based posthole was 0.30m in diameter, 0.14m deep and filled with mid greyish brown clayey silt (23) containing High Medieval pottery.

Trench 15

- 3.2.36 Located in the eastern part of the development area trench 15 and was aligned north-west to south-east.
- 3.2.37 An amorphous hollow (**26**), which may have been a quarry pit or a natural feature, was uncovered in the north-western part of this trench. This feature was filled with mid greyish brown clayey silt (25).

Trench 16

- 3.2.38 Trench 16 was located in the eastern part of the development area and was aligned north-east to south-west.
- 3.2.39 A north-west to south-east aligned ditch (**32**), which had a v-shaped profile, was located in the south-western part of this trench. This steep side ditch was 0.65m wide, 0.24m

deep and had a fill which consisted of greyish brown sandy clayey silt (31) with one sherd of residual Late Iron Age / Early Roman pottery and a fragment of Post-Medieval CBM.

Trench 17

- 3.2.40 Trench 17 lay in the eastern part of the development area and was aligned north-east to south-west.
- 3.2.41 The north-eastern part of this trench was found to contain north-west to south-east aligned ditch (30), which had a u-shaped profile. This ditch was 0.98m wide, 0.20m deep and filled with mid yellowish brown clayey silt (29).
- 3.2.42 Elongated sub-circular pit 28 was located in the south-western part of the trench and was 0.86m and 0.18m deep. This pit was filled with mid brown clayey silt (27).

3.3 Finds Summary

- 3.3.1 An assemblage of 87 sherds of pottery was recovered from feature fills and the topsoil. The majority of which date to the Post-Medieval period with three contexts producing Late Iron Age / Early Roman period. An assemblage of 160 sherds of ceramic building material, mainly Post-Medieval tile was retrieved from features fills and subsoil. A small assemblage of metalwork, glass, slag and flint was collected during the evaluation.

3.4 Environmental Summary

- 3.4.1 Three samples were taken during the evaluation, these were devoid of plant remains other than modern rootlets and sparse charcoal fragments. All three samples contain flakes and spheroids of hammerscale indicating that blacksmithing activities took place within the near vicinity.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The discussion concentrates on features that are dated and can be grouped. It is presented as an overall chronological format to help set the findings into context within their wider landscape setting.

4.2 Late Iron Age / Early Roman

filed system on east to west alignment

- 4.2.1 The first phase of archaeology on site is a Late Iron Age / Early Roman agricultural field system, located in the northern part of the site. This field system comprises two small ditches (7,9) on a north to south alignment. The ditch fills produced a relatively large assemblage of pottery sherds, suggesting that these ditches lay close to a domestic occupation site.
- 4.2.2 The presence of a settlement site nearby is further evidenced by the recovery of sherds of residual Early Roman pottery along the northern part of the site.

4.3 Late Medieval / Post-Medieval

- 4.3.1 During the Post-Medieval period the site was laid out as in the open field farming system, though the presence of Late Medieval pottery as residual finds suggest an early origin. A large north-west to south-east boundary ditch (49) was present within trench 5 which marked the edge of the field. To the north-east of this boundary ditch lay a series of furrows.
- 4.3.2 Three trenches also had large spreads of subsoil like material (43,55,66), which contained a small Late Medieval finds assemblage. These spread are lost likely the result of soil build up, caused by ploughing and agricultural activities.
- 4.3.3 To the west of the site lay a north to south boundary ditch (16) which is in line with the modern field boundary. To the west of this ditch was a series of quarry pits (11,17).

4.4 Significance

- 4.4.1 A small concentration of Late Iron Age / Early Roman remains was evident to the north of the proposed development area, consisting of a field system on the periphery of a settlement site. This coincides with a time of population growth and subsequent agricultural expansion, due to good climatic conditions
- 4.4.2 Elsewhere on site Post-Medieval ridge and furrow encompass the eastern part of the site and large quarry pits are present to the west of the site.

4.5 Recommendations

- 4.5.1 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 | WNW-ESE |
| Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.35 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 1.8 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 29.6 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | Layer | - | 0.29 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | Layer | - | 0.05 | Subsoil | - | - |

| Trench 2 | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|------------|----------------------|---------------|
| General description | | | | | Orientation | ENE-WSW |
| Trench consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a tree bole and two possible quarry pits. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.54 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 1.8 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 29.3 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | Layer | - | 0.34 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | Layer | - | 0.2 | Subsoil | flint, | - |
| 3 | Fill | 0.79 | 0.15 | Tree bole | Pottery, tile | - |
| 4 | Fill | 0.43 | 0.19 | Tree bole | Pottery, shell, tile | - |
| 5 | Cut | 0.79 | 0.34 | Tree bole | - | Post-Medieval |
| 11 | Fill | 3.2 | Over 0.44 | Quarry pit | Tile, bone | - |
| 12 | Cut | 3.2 | Over 0.44 | Quarry pit | - | Post-Medieval |
| 17 | Cut | 6.6 | - | Quarry pit | - | Post-Medieval |
| 18 | Fill | 6.6 | - | Quarry pit | Pottery, tile, bone | - |

| Trench 3 | | |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| General description | | Orientation |
| Trench consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a possible quarry pit | | E-W |
| | | Avg. depth (m) |
| | | 0.41 |

| | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| or a ditch aligned NW-SE and a vegetation feature. | | | | | | |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 1.8 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 26 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | Layer | - | 0.33 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | Layer | - | 0.08 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 13 | Fill | 2.9 | 0.15 | Ditch or quarry pit | Iron Nails, pottery, tile | post medieval |
| 14 | Fill | 2.1 | 0.05 | Ditch or quarry pit | pottery | - |
| 15 | Fill | 2.5 | 0.3 | Ditch or quarry pit | Iron Nails, glass, tile | post medieval |
| 16 | Cut | 2.9 | Over 0.5 | Ditch or quarry pit | - | post medieval |
| 45 | Fill | - | - | Rooting | - | - |
| 46 | Cut | - | - | Rooting | - | - |

| Trench 4 | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| General description | | | | | Orientation | NW-SE |
| Trench consists of three post holes, a ditch and buried soil horizon | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.38 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 1.8 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 26.4 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | Layer | - | 0.27 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | Layer | - | 0.11 | Subsoil | pottery, tile | post medieval |
| 35 | Cut | 0.25 | 0.12 | Post hole | - | - |
| 36 | Fill | 0.25 | 0.12 | Post hole | - | - |
| 37 | Cut | 0.37 | 0.15 | Post hole | - | - |
| 38 | Fill | 0.37 | 0.15 | Post hole | - | - |
| 39 | Cut | 0.32 | 0.1 | Post hole | - | - |
| 40 | Fill | 0.32 | 0.1 | Post hole | - | - |
| 41 | Cut | 0.7 | 0.24 | Ditch | - | - |
| 42 | Fill | 0.7 | 0.24 | Ditch | - | - |
| 43 | Cut | - | - | Buried soil horizon | - | - |
| 44 | Fill | - | - | Buried soil horizon | pottery | post medieval |

| Trench 5 | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|----------------|-------|
| General description Trench consists of soil and subsoil overlying a series of field drains, a furrow aligned NW-SE, a ditch aligned N-S and a furrow or a ditch aligned NW-SE. | | | | | Orientation | NE-SW |
| | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.47 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 1.8 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 26.2 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | Layer | - | 0.33 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | Layer | - | 0.14 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 47 | Cut | 2.55 | 0.15 | Furrow | - | - |
| 48 | Fill | 2.55 | 0.15 | Furrow | CuA | - |
| 49 | Cut | 1 | 0.22 | Ditch | - | - |
| 50 | Fill | 1 | 0.22 | Ditch | - | - |
| 51 | Cut | 1.48 | 0.27 | Furrow or ditch | - | - |
| 52 | Fill | 1.48 | 0.27 | Furrow or ditch | - | - |

| Trench 6 | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| General description | | | | | Orientation | NW-SE |
| Trench consists of soil and subsoil overlying two ditches aligned N-S and NW-SE and a layer of buried post-medieval soil. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.41 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 1.8 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 30.6 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | Layer | - | 0.28 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | Layer | - | 0.13 | Subsoil | pottery | - |
| 6 | Fill | 0.4 | 0.07 | Ditch | Pottery, bone | - |
| 7 | Cut | 0.4 | 0.07 | Ditch | - | Early Roman |
| 8 | Fill | 0.73 | 0.23 | Ditch | Pottery, bone | - |
| 9 | Cut | 0.73 | 0.23 | Ditch | - | Latest Iron Age – early Roman |
| 10 | Layer | 1.9 | 0.12 | Buried soil horizon | Pottery, tile, CuA,Iron | Post medieval |

| Trench 7 | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------------|---------------|
| General description | | | | | Orientation | NE-SW |
| Trench consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying an undated ditch aligned NE-SW | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.44 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 1.8 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 13.7 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | Layer | - | 0.29 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | Layer | - | 0.16 | Subsoil | tile | post medieval |
| 53 | Cut | 1.3 | 0.16 | Ditch | - | - |
| 54 | Fill | 1.3 | 0.16 | Ditch | Tile | - |

| Trench 8 | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------------------------|---------------|
| General description | | | | | Orientation | NW-SE |
| Trench contained a posthole. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.43 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 25.9 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | Layer | - | 0.27 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | Layer | - | 0.16 | Subsoil | pottery, tile Iron slag | post medieval |
| 59 | Fill | 0.8 | 0.25 | Posthole | - | - |
| 60 | Cut | 0.8 | 0.25 | Posthole | - | - |

| Trench 9 | | | | | | |
|---|------|-----------|-----------|----------------|-------|-------|
| General description | | | | Orientation | | NE-SW |
| Trench contained a NW-SE aligned ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a layer and clay natural. | | | | Avg. depth (m) | | 0.46 |
| | | | | Width (m) | | 2 |
| | | | | Length (m) | | 21.1 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |

| | | | | | | |
|----|-------|-----|------|---------|---------|----------|
| 1 | Layer | - | 0.36 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | Layer | - | 0.1 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 55 | Layer | - | - | Layer | pottery | medieval |
| 57 | Fill | 0.7 | 0.16 | Ditch | - | - |
| 58 | Cut | 0.7 | 0.16 | Ditch | - | - |

| Trench 10 | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------------|---------------|
| General description | | | | | Orientation | NE-SW |
| Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.49 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 26.20 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | Layer | - | 0.34 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | Layer | - | 0.15 | Subsoil | pottery, tile | post medieval |

| Trench 11 | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------------|---------------|
| General description | | | | | Orientation | NE-SW |
| Trench was completely flooded. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.42 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 20.90 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | Layer | - | 0.30 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | Layer | - | 0.12 | Subsoil | tile | post medieval |

| Trench 12 | | | | | | |
|---|------|-------|-------|---------|----------------|-------|
| General description | | | | | Orientation | NW-SE |
| Trench contained an E-W aligned ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.45 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 20.90 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context | type | Width | Depth | comment | finds | date |

| no | | (m) | (m) | | | |
|----|-------|------|------|---------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 | Layer | - | 0.34 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | Layer | - | 0.15 | Subsoil | pottery, tile | post medieval |
| 33 | Fill | 1.10 | 0.11 | Ditch | - | - |
| 34 | Cut | 1.10 | 0.11 | Ditch | - | - |

Trench 13

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------------|---------------|-------|
| General description | | | | | Orientation | | NW-SE |
| Trench consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a layer and a natural of clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | | 0.40 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | | 2 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | | 29.70 |
| Contexts | | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date | |
| 1 | Layer | - | 0.30 | Topsoil | - | - | |
| 2 | Layer | - | 0.10 | Subsoil | tile | post medieval | |
| 56 | Layer | - | - | Layer | pottery | post medieval | |

Trench 14

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------------|---------------|-------|
| General description | | | | | Orientation | | NE-SW |
| Trench contained an E-W ditch, a N-S ditch and a posthole. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | | 0.37 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | | 2 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | | 15.20 |
| Contexts | | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date | |
| 1 | Layer | - | 0.30 | Topsoil | - | - | |
| 2 | Layer | - | 0.10 | Subsoil | pottery, tile | post medieval | |
| 19 | Fill | 0.55 | 0.15 | Ditch | tile | post medieval | |
| 20 | Cut | 0.55 | 0.15 | Ditch | - | post medieval | |
| 21 | Fill | 0.60 | 0.18 | Ditch | - | - | |
| 22 | Cut | 0.60 | 0.18 | Ditch | - | - | |
| 23 | Fill | 0.30 | 0.14 | Posthole | pottery, tile | post medieval | |
| 24 | Cut | 0.30 | 0.14 | Posthole | - | post medieval | |

Trench 15

| | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------------|---------------|
| General description | | | | | Orientation | NW-SE |
| Trench contained a hollow. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.34 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 17.10 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | Layer | - | 0.27 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2 | Layer | - | 0.07 | Subsoil | tile | post medieval |
| 25 | Fill | - | - | Hollow | - | - |
| 26 | Cut | - | - | Hollow | - | - |

| Trench 16 | | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| General description | | | | | Orientation | | NE-SW |
| | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | | 0.36 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | | 2 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | | 22.30 |
| Trench contained a NW-SE ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a layer and a natural of clay. | | | | | | | |
| Contexts | | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date | |
| 1 | Layer | - | 0.30 | Topsoil | - | - | |
| 2 | Layer | - | 0.10 | Subsoil | pottery | post medieval | |
| 31 | Fill | 0.65 | 0.24 | Ditch | pottery | Late Iron Age / Early Roman | |
| 32 | Cut | 0.65 | 0.24 | Ditch | - | Late Iron Age / Early Roman | |

| Trench 17 | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------------|-------|
| General description | | | | | Orientation | NE-SW |
| Trench contained a NW -SE ditch and a pit. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.33 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 26.40 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 1 | Layer | - | 0.30 | Topsoil | - | - |

| | | | | | | |
|----|-------|------|------|---------|---------------|---------------|
| 2 | Layer | - | 0.10 | Subsoil | pottery, tile | post medieval |
| 27 | Fill | 0.86 | 0.18 | Ditch | - | - |
| 28 | Cut | 0.86 | 0.18 | Ditch | - | - |
| 29 | Fill | 0.98 | 0.20 | Pit | - | - |
| 30 | Cut | 0.98 | 0.20 | Pit | - | - |

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Metalwork

By Chris Faine

B.1.1 A small assemblage of metalwork was recovered. Those items which could be identified, date mainly to the medieval and post-medieval periods.

B.1.2 *Metal Small Finds Catalogue*

SF 1 (15): Cast copper alloy buckle pin, probably from a single loop buckle. Very good condition. Length 32.1mm. Straight shaft then bends down towards the plate. Date: Medieval.

SF 2 (48): Copper alloy strip. Date and function uncertain.

SF 3 (2): Cast copper alloy pin. Length: 69mm Width: 28mm. No head remaining with circular shaft. Without the head exact dating is difficult but given the size and profile it is more likely to be Roman or medieval/Post-Medieval than Saxon or Prehistoric.

SF 4 (2): Copper alloy stamped composite button with iron shank. Diameter: 18mm. Front missing. Date: Late Medieval/Post Medieval.

SF 5 (2): Unidentifiable copper alloy fragment.

SF 6 (2): Copper alloy fitting. Width: 16.8mm. Small amount of knop remains. Possibly a strap end fragment. Date: Possibly Medieval SF 8 (33): Copper alloy plate. Possibly a strap end fragment.

SF 9 (2): Unidentifiable copper alloy fragment.

SF 10 (10): Copper alloy fitting. Possible furniture or book fitting. Date uncertain.

SF 11 (10): Iron square section masonry nail. Length: 80.3mm Clenched at tip with square head. Date: Medieval/Post-Medieval

SF 12 (13): Collection of 3 square section nail shanks. Max length 49.5mm Min length: 20.8mm Date uncertain. Probably Medieval/Post-Medieval

SF 13 (15): Clenched Iron nail fragment. Date uncertain

SF 14 (2): Iron agricultural fragment. Date uncertain

SF 15 (2): Clenched Iron nail fragment. Date uncertain

SF 16 (15): Collection of 3 square section nails with square heads. Max length 53.6mm Min length: 31.2mm. Date uncertain. Probably Medieval/Post-Medieval

B.2 Slag

By Carole Fletcher

B.2.1 An assemblage of slag weighing in total 0.059kg, was recovered from three contexts in three different trenches. The subsoil in Trench 2 produced the only definitely metallic slag, which is evidence of smelting but not smithing. The three fragments from context 15, fill of ditch 16, in Trench 3 may be from a silica-rich fuel source, while the fragment of lining from context 19, fill of ditch 20, in Trench 14 may be related to metalworking or domestic activities. Although these materials are not closely datable, other associated finds suggest that the material from 15 is 19th century or later.

| Context | Trench | Weight (kg) | Description | Date |
|---------|--------|-------------|---|-------------|
| 2 | 8 | 0.040 | Formless fragment of ferrous non-magnetic | Not closely |

| | | | | |
|-----------|----|-------|---|---------------------|
| | | | slag. | datable |
| 15 | 3 | 0.005 | Three small fragments of non-magnetic siliceous slag. | Not closely datable |
| 19 | 14 | 0.014 | Fragment of non-metallic kiln, oven or hearth lining. | Not closely datable |

Table 1: Slag

B.3 Flint

By Anthony Haskins

- B.3.1** One fragment of heavily burnt flint was recovered from context (4) of Trench 2. Two natural thermally fractured fragments of flint were also recovered from contexts (18 and 31) and have been discarded.

B.4 Glass

By Carole Fletcher

- B.4.1** An assemblage of glass weighing in total <0.002kg, was recovered from a single context (15). The glass is not closely datable, although the blue-green shard from context 15, ditch **16** may be Roman, although this is a residual element in an other wise post-Roman assemblage from that feature.

| Context | Trench | Weight (kg) | Description | Date |
|-----------|--------|-------------|---|---------------------|
| 15 | 3 | <0.001 | Shard of clear, blue-green glass from a bottle or phial | ?Roman |
| | | <0.001 | Shard of clear, pale green glass | Not closely datable |

Table 2: Glass

B.5 Latest Iron Age and Romano-British Pottery

By Carole Fletcher with pottery identification by Stephen Wadeson

- B.5.1** A small pottery assemblage of 46 sherds, weighing 0.322kg, was recovered from seven contexts. The Roman sherds being are mostly relatively abraded with some, such as the small sherd of South Gaulish Samian, being highly abraded. The Late and Latest Iron Age material has survived better in some areas and suggests less reworking of these contexts. The average sherd weight from individual contexts is low at 7g.
- B.5.2** The subsoil across the site produced a number of pottery sherds including two sherds from a ?Dressel 20 Amphora and a coarse quartz and flint tempered jar rim of the Latest Iron Age. Post-Roman pottery was on the whole absent from the subsoil of several of those trenches that produced predominantly Late Iron Age and Roman pottery but is present elsewhere on site.
- B.5.3** Ditch **16** in Trench 3 produced single abraded sherd of South Gaulish Samian, which appears to be residual, the ditch also having produced 19th century fabrics.
- B.5.4** Trench 6 produced the bulk of the pottery assemblage from two ditches. A single fill (context 6) in Ditch **7** produced seven sherds of a quartz tempered (with occasional flint) fabric including rim and body sherds (possibly from more than one vessel) dating to the 1st century AD. Also present were six sherds of grog tempered greyware (1st century AD), including a rim sherd from a jar or bowl, and from sample 1 the pottery

recovered included a small sherd from an Iron Age flint tempered vessel and a sherd of Roman oxidised sandy ware (mid 1st century AD). Overall the pottery recovered would suggest a 1st century AD date with some earlier material present indicating some degree of residuality from pre-Roman settlement.

- B.5.5** From ditch 9, 19 sherds of pottery were recovered, the bulk of these (15 sherds) are locally produced grog tempered greyware, from a vessel copying a Gallo-Belgic carinated, cordoned jar or bowl, dating to the 1st century AD. Also present are three sherds of Latest Iron Age quartz tempered reduced ware and a grog tempered greyware with oxidised surfaces dating to the Latest Iron Age-1st century AD. Overall the context dates from the Latest Iron Age to early Roman.
- B.5.6** Context 10, a layer within Trench 6 produced a single sherd of a micaceous sandy reduced ware which can only be broadly dated 1st-3rd century AD.
- B.5.7** Layer 56 in Trench 13 produced abraded sherds of Roman Sandy greyware and sandy oxidised ware alongside a sherd from a shell and grog tempered storage jar with scored surface decoration, the sherd is likely to have been produced locally. The layer also contained post-Roman pottery and the earlier sherds are likely to be residual, perhaps part of a manuring scatter.
- B.5.8** Overall it would appear that there are a number of latest Iron Age and Early Roman features present, the greatest concentration being in Trench 6, where the ditch pottery within the ditch fills can be dated to the Latest Iron Age -1st century AD, and 1st century AD indicating latest iron age and Early Roman settlement close to the area. The presence of earlier Iron Age material suggests some earlier occupation and the possibility of continuous use of the area throughout the Iron Age until the 2nd century AD. Some of the Roman pottery present in the assemblage is more abraded than that of the earlier periods suggesting that any later Roman pottery is part of a manuring scatter and that by the end of the 2nd century AD any settlement had relocated.

| <i>Context</i> | <i>Trench</i> | <i>Fabric</i> | <i>Basic Form</i> | <i>Sherd Count</i> | <i>Weight (kg)</i> | <i>Pottery Date Range</i> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 2 | 6 | Grog tempered greyware | Body sherd | 1 | 0.021 | Latest Iron Age-1st century |
| | 13 | Amphora ?Dressel 20 fabric | Amphora body sherd | 2 | 0.047 | Late Iron Age-3rd century AD |
| | 14 | Sandy greyware | Jar rim sherd | 1 | 0.021 | Late 1st-3rd century AD |
| | | Coarse quartz tempered with occasional flint | Jar rim | 1 | 0.019 | Latest Iron Age |
| 6 Sample 1 Sample 1 | 6 | Quartz tempered with occasional flint | Jar/bowl rim and body sherd | 7 | 0.040 | 1st century AD |
| | | Grog tempered grey ware | Jar/bowl rim and body sherd | 6 | 0.019 | 1st century AD |
| | | Flint tempered | Body sherd | 1 | 0.002 | Iron Age |
| | | Roman oxidised sandy ware | Body sherd | 1 | 0.010 | Mid 1st century AD |

| Context | Trench | Fabric | Basic Form | Sherd Count | Weight (kg) | Pottery Date Range |
|----------------|---------------|--|---|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Sample 1 | | Quartz tempered with occasional chalk | Body sherd | 1 | 0.005 | Mid-Late Iron Age |
| 8 | 6 | Local grog tempered reduced ware | Carinated cordoned jar/bowl body sherd | 12 | 0.065 | 1st century AD |
| | | Quartz tempered reduced ware with oxidised surface | Body sherd | 3 | 0.014 | Latest Iron Age |
| | | Grog tempered grey ware with oxidised surface | Body sherd | 1 | 0.003 | Latest Iron Age-1st century |
| | | Local grog tempered reduced ware | Carinated cordoned jar/bowl body sherd | 3 | 0.021 | 1st century AD |
| Sample 2 | | | | | | |
| 10 | 6 | Sandy reduced ware (mica) | Neck sherd | 1 | 0.003 | 1st-3rd century AD |
| 15 | 3 | South Gaulish Samian | Body sherd | 1 | 0.001 | Mid 1st-early 2nd century |
| 31 | 16 | Shell tempered | Body sherd | 1 | 0.005 | Late Iron Age or early Roman |
| 56 | 13 | Shell and grog tempered | Storage jar body sherd with scored decoration | 1 | 0.018 | 1st century |
| | | Sandy greyware with oxidised surfaces | Body sherd | 1 | 0.004 | Mid 1st-2nd century AD |
| | | Sandy oxidised ware | Body sherd | 1 | 0.004 | Mid 1st-2nd century AD |
| Total | | | | 46 | 0.322 | |

Table 3: Pottery Dating Summary Catalogue

B.6 Post-Roman Pottery

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction

- B.6.1** The excavation produced a small pottery assemblage of 37 sherds, weighing 0.397kg, recovered from eight contexts from various trenches across the site. The condition of the overall assemblage is abraded. The average sherd weight from individual contexts is small to moderate at 10g.

Methodology

- B.6.2** 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.6.3** 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. The archives are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition.

Assemblage

- B.6.4** The majority of the pottery recovered is abraded and the identifications are in the most part tentative. Subsoil context 2 produced the largest group of sherds from across the site and includes a single sherd of Early Medieval Sandy ware (Fabric 13) and sherds from various Hedingham Fine ware (Fabric 22), ?Harlow-type transitional fabric and Post-medieval Red earthenware (Fabric 40) vessels. The range of fabrics within the subsoil date from the mid 12th to mid 17th century.
- B.6.5** Trench 2 produced three sherds of pottery, recovered from tree throw **5**, two sherds tentatively identified as Harlow type transitional fabric and a sherd of Mill Green (fabric 35).
- B.6.6** In Trench 3, ditch **16**, which contained two fills, produced a mixture of 19th century, post- medieval and medieval fabrics. Context 13 contained medieval coarseware (Fabric 20) alongside two sherds of transfer print decorated Refined White earthenware (19th century). Context 15 produced two sherds of ?Harlow-type transitional fabric and a post-medieval Redware sherd alongside a rim sherd from a shell-edged Pearlware plate dating to the early 19th century, as well as transfer print decorated Refined White earthenware.
- B.6.7** Post hole **24** in Trench 4, produced a single abraded sherd from a Hedingham fineware (Fabric 22) vessel and from layer 44 a rim sherd from a Metropolitan-type slipware (Fabric 40A) and a sherd of Hedingham coarseware (Fabric 20D). A layer (context 44) in Trench 9 also produced a single sherd of Hedingham coarseware (Fabric 20D).
- B.6.8** In Trench 13 context 56 produced four sherds of pottery, including two abraded sherds from a Hedingham fineware (Fabric 22) vessel and a small sherd from a Terracotta plant pot. The medieval sherds date to the mid 12th-mid 13th-century, however the fragment of plant pot is likely to be considerably later in date.

Domestic in origin, these sherds represent occupation close to the site or rubbish disposal on the site from the 11th to the late 19th century.

| Context | Trench | Fabric | Basic Form | Sherd Count | Weight (kg) | Pottery Date Range |
|----------------|---------------|---|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 2 | 4 | Post-medieval Red earthenware (Fabric 40) | Bowl rim sherd | 1 | 0.047 | 16th-mid 17th century |
| 2 | 8 | Post-medieval Red earthenware (Fabric 40) | Jug or jar base sherd | 1 | 0.062 | 16th-mid 17th century |
| | | ?Harlow-type transitional fabric | Bowl base sherd | 1 | 0.035 | 15th-16th century |
| | | ?Harlow-type transitional fabric | Bowl base sherd | 1 | 0.025 | 15th-16th century |
| | | Hedingham fineware (Fabric 22) | Base sherd | 1 | 0.003 | Mid 12th-mid 13th-century |
| | | Hedingham fineware (Fabric 22) | Base sherd | 1 | 0.006 | Mid 12th-mid 13th-century |
| | | Unidentified | Body sherd | 1 | 0.008 | Not closely datable |

| Context | Trench | Fabric | Basic Form | Sherd Count | Weight (kg) | Pottery Date Range |
|---------|--------|--|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| | | Early Medieval Sandy ware (Fabric 13) | Base sherd | 1 | 0.006 | Mid 11th-early 13th century |
| 2 | 10 | ?Harlow-type transitional sandy fabric | Jug body sherd | 2 | 0.004 | 15th-16th century |
| 2 | 14 | Hedingham fineware (Fabric 22) | Jug base sherd | 1 | 0.022 | Mid 12th-mid 13th-century |
| | | Post-medieval Red earthenware (Fabric 40) | Bowl body sherd | 1 | 0.010 | 16th-mid 17th century |
| 2 | 12 | ?Harlow-type transitional fabric | Body sherd | 2 | 0.010 | 15th-16th century |
| 2 | 16 | ?Harlow-type transitional fabric | Jug rim sherd with handle scar | 1 | 0.020 | 15th-16th century |
| 2 | 17 | ?Harlow-type transitional fabric | Bowl rim sherd | 1 | 0.011 | 15th-16th century |
| | | Hedingham fineware (Fabric 22) | Body sherd | 1 | 0.009 | Mid 12th-mid 13th-century |
| 3 | 2 | ?Harlow-type transitional fabric | Bow rim sherd | 1 | 0.024 | 15th-16th century |
| 4 | 2 | Mill Green (Fabric 35) | Body sherd | 1 | 0.002 | Mid 13th-end of 14th century |
| | | ?Harlow-type transitional fabric | Bowl base sherd | 1 | 0.002 | 15th-16th century |
| 13 | 3 | Transfer printed Refined whiteware (? pearlware) | Bowl or plate rim and body sherd | 2 | 0.013 | Late 18th mid 19th century |
| | | Medieval coarseware (Fabric 20) | Jug rim sherd | 1 | 0.011 | 12th-14th century |
| 15 | 3 | Pearlware (shell-edged plate) | Plate rim sherd | 1 | 0.002 | Early 19th century |
| | | Post-medieval Red earthenware (Fabric 40) | Jar body sherd | 1 | 0.0.016 | 16th-mid 17th century |
| | | Refined White ware (?creamware) | Body sherd | 1 | 0.003 | Mid 18th-early 19th century |
| | | Transfer-printed Refined whiteware | Body sherd | 1 | <0.001 | 19th century |
| | | ?Harlow-type transitional fabric | Body sherd | 2 | 0.006 | 15th-16th century |
| 23 | 14 | Hedingham fineware (Fabric 22) | Body sherd | 1 | 0.003 | Mid 12th-mid 13th-century |
| 44 | 4 | ?Hedingham coarseware (Fabric 20D) | Body sherd | 1 | 0.004 | 12th-14th century |
| | | Metropolitan-type slipware (Fabric 40A) | Bowl rim sherd | 1 | 0.007 | 17th century |
| 55 | 9 | ?Hedingham coarseware (Fabric 20D) | Rim sherd | 1 | 0.006 | 12th-14th century |

| Context | Trench | Fabric | Basic Form | Sherd Count | Weight (kg) | Pottery Date Range |
|--------------|--------|----------------------------------|------------|-------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| 56 | 13 | Hedingham fineware (Fabric 22) | Body sherd | 2 | 0.013 | Mid 12th-mid 13th-century |
| | | ?Harlow-type transitional fabric | Body sherd | 1 | <0.001 | 15th-16th century |
| | | Terracotta | Body sherd | 1 | 0.023 | Not closely datable |
| Total | | | | 37 | 0.397 | |

Table 4: Post-Roman Pottery Dating Summary Catalogue

B.7 Ceramic Building Material

By Carole Fletcher with dating by Robert Atkins

- B.7.1** A small to moderate assemblage of ceramic building material (CBM) was recovered from the subsoil and excavated features. The bulk of the CBM is roof tile or peg tiles (where a nail hole survives) of a red-orange, oxidised coarse sandy fabric, with pimply surface (Fabric 1) of post-medieval date c.1600-1800+. The fragments are of a similar size and level of abrasion within each context, with those found in the subsoil being somewhat more abraded. The material may have formed part of a manure scatter or are perhaps the remains of a ploughed out track-way. The roofing material indicates a tiled building in the vicinity of the site sometime after 1600. No complete tiles survive and the only dimension that could be recorded is thickness, which has not been recorded during this assessment.
- B.7.2** A small amount of medieval or late medieval roof tile fragments were recovered from Trench 2, context 4, the fill of tree throw **5**, which also produced medieval and 15th-16th century pottery. A single fragment of roof tile from the subsoil in Trench 12 was tentatively identified as medieval, the subsoil from this trench also produced 15th-16th century pottery. These fragments indicate a tiled or partially tiled building existed in the vicinity of the site, possibly in the late medieval period, however the low levels of material do not suggest the building was located within the area of excavation and these sherds may also be the result of a manuring scatter.
- B.7.3** A single sherd from a soft, pale buff sandy tile (Fabric 2), was recovered from context 4, a layer or spread in Trench 4. This tile fragment has been tentatively identified as Roman, however this context produced only medieval and post-medieval pottery and the other fragments of CBM recovered from the context are the red-orange, oxidised sandy fabric of post-medieval date. A fragment of tile in a soft red-orange fabric with few inclusions (Fabric 6) may be part of a tegula as a small area of what might be a finger groove survives.

One fragment of brick was recovered from the subsoil of trench 12.

| Context | Trench | Form | Fabric | Fragment Count | Weight (kg) | Date |
|----------|--------|-----------|--|----------------|-------------|------------|
| 2 | 4 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 (variant duller red better fired) | 1 | 0.029 | 1600-1800+ |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 1 | 0.047 | |
| | 7 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 15 | 0.361 | 1600-1800+ |

| Context | Trench | Form | Fabric | Fragment Count | Weight (kg) | Date |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|--|-----------------------|--------------------|---|
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 1 (variant 1, duller red better fired) | 2 | 0.049 | |
| | | Peg tile | Fabric 1 (variant 1) | 1 | 0.027 | |
| | 8 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 16 | 0.404 | 1600-1800+ |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 1 (variant 1) | 2 | 0.110 | |
| | 10 | Roof tile | Dull red-orange slightly sandy soft feel with mid grey core (Fabric 5) | 1 | 0.014 | 1600-1800+ |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 1 (variant 1) | 1 | 0.060 | |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 9 | 0.417 | |
| | 11 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 10 | 0.463 | 1600-1800+ |
| | 12 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 6 | 0.100 | 1600-1800+ |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 6 | 1 | 0.038 | ?Roman |
| | | Roof tile | Dull red-brown surfaces and margins thick mid grey-brown core coarse sand and flint (Fabric 7) | 1 | 0.048 | ?Medieval |
| | | Peg tile | Darker red more compact hard fired, quartz tempered fabric (Fabric 3) | 1 | 0.028 | 1600-1800+ (perhaps at the later end of this range) |
| | | Brick | Dull red-orange fabric coarse quartz some voids (Fabric B1) | 1 | 0.031 | 1600-1800+ |
| | 13 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 6 | 0.161 | 1600-1800+ |
| | | Peg tile | Fabric 1 (over fired) | 1 | 0.050 | |
| | | Peg tile | Fabric 1 (complete peg hole) | 1 | 0.132 | |
| | 14 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 6 | 0.099 | 1600-1800+ |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 3 | 1 | 0.028 | 1600-1800+ (perhaps at the later end of this range) |
| | 15 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 3 | 0.070 | 1600-1800+ |
| | | Peg tile | Fabric 1 (variant 1) | 1 | 0.030 | |

| Context | Trench | Form | Fabric | Fragment Count | Weight (kg) | Date |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|---|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| | 16 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 (variant 1) | 3 | 0.068 | 1600-1800+ |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 3 | 0.075 | |
| | 17 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 4 | 0.049 | 1600-1800+ |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 1 (variant 1) | 4 | 0.123 | |
| 3 | 2 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 1 | 0.010 | 1600-1800+ |
| 4 | 2 | Peg tile | Fabric 7 | 1 | 0.083 | ?Medieval |
| | | Peg tile | Fabric 7 (slightly reduced) | 1 | 0.068 | |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 7 (reduced) | 1 | 0.006 | |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 2 | 0.031 | 1600-1800+ |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 1/variant 1(over fired and reduced) | 3 | 0.060 | |
| | | Undiagnostic | Fabric 1 (variant 1) | 1 | 0.004 | |
| 10 sample 1 | 6 | Peg tile | Fabric 1 (variant 1) | 1 | 0.059 | 1600-1800+ |
| | | Undiagnostic | Fabric 1 (variant 1) | 1 | 0.007 | |
| | | Tile | Fabric 1 (variant 1) | 1 | 0.033 | |
| 11 | 2 | Roof tile | Red-orange, oxidised sandy fabric with dull red core (Fabric 4) | 1 | 0.030 | 1600-1800+ |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 1 (reduced) | 1 | 0.041 | |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 1 (variant 1) | 1 | 0.135 | |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 7 | 0.290 | |
| 13 | 3 | Undiagnostic | Fabric 1 | 1 | 0.002 | 1600-1800+ |
| 15 | 3 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 7 | 0.112 | 1600-1800+ |
| 18 | 2 | Peg tile | Fabric 1 | 1 | 0.013 | 1600-1800+ |
| | | Undiagnostic | Fabric 1 | 1 | 0.002 | |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 2 | 0.021 | |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 7 (oxidised) | 1 | 0.039 | ?Medieval |
| | | ?Tegula | Fabric 6 | 1 | 0.007 | Roman |
| 19 | 14 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 1 | 0.037 | 1600-1800+ |
| 23 | 4 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 1 | 0.112 | 1600-1800+ |
| 31 | 16 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 (variant 1) | 1 | 0.006 | 1600-1800+ |

| Context | Trench | Form | Fabric | Fragment Count | Weight (kg) | Date |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 44 | 4 | Roof tile | Fabric 2 | 1 | 0.023 | 1600-1800+ |
| | | Peg tile | Fabric 1 | 1 | 0.012 | |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 1 | 0.016 | ?Roman |
| 54 | 7 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 (variant 1) | 1 | 0.022 | 1600-1800+ |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 2 | 0.035 | |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 1 (variant 1) | 1 | 0.022 | |
| | | Roof tile | Fabric 7 (oxidised) | 1 | 0.017 | ?Medieval |
| 55 | 9 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 2 | 0.035 | 1600-1800+ |
| 56 | 13 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 5 | 0.061 | 1600-1800+ |
| | | Undiagnostic | Fabric 1 | 1 | 0.003 | |
| 57 | 9 | Roof tile | Fabric 1 | 1 | 0.011 | 1600-1800+ |
| | | Undiagnostic | Fabric 1 | 1 | 0.010 | |
| Total | | | | 160 | 4.586 | |

Table 5: Ceramic Building Material Summary Catalogue

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

- C.1.1** Three bulk samples were taken from features within the excavated areas at Land of Weaverhead Close, Thaxted, Essex in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations. Features sampled include ditches and a buried soil thought to date to the Iron Age.

Methodology

- C.1.2** The total volume (up to 17 litres) of each bulk sample was processed by water flotation (using a modified Siraff three-tank system) for the recovery of charred plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve. Both flot and residues were allowed to air dry. A magnet was dragged through each residue fraction prior to sorting for artefacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds. The dried flots were subsequently sorted using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and a list of the recorded remains are presented in [Table 6](#).

Quantification

- C.1.3** For the purpose of this initial assessment, items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal, magnetic residues and fragmented bone have been scored for abundance + = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant.

Results

- C.1.4** All of the samples were devoid of plant remains other than modern rootlets and sparse charcoal fragments. All three samples contain flakes and spheroids of hammerscale indicating that blacksmithing activities took place within the near vicinity.

| Sample No. | Context No. | Cut No. | Feature Type | Volume processed (L) | Charcoal | Pottery | Bone | Hammerscale |
|------------|-------------|---------|--------------|----------------------|----------|---------|------|-------------|
| 1 | 6 | 7 | Ditch | 8 | + | + | + | ++ |
| 2 | 8 | 9 | Ditch | 15 | ++ | + | + | ++ |
| 3 | 10 | | Ditch | 17 | ++ | | | ++ |

Table 6: Environmental samples from TX25

Discussion

- C.1.5** Preservation of plant remains is poor with only sparse charcoal fragments surviving. The recovery of domestic and industrial refuse suggests that these features had been used for the disposal of such items but charred food remains such as cereals and pulses are absent precluding further interpretation of the deposits.

C.2 Faunal Remains

By Chris Faine

- C.2.1** Three hundred and eighteen grams of animal bone was recovered from the evaluation. Fifteen fragments were recovered with 6 being identifiable to species. Contexts **6**, **15** and **18** contained no identifiable fragments. All but one fragment was identified as cattle, the assemblage consisting of fragmentary lower limb elements (metapodia, tibiae etc.). A partial adult horncore was recovered from context **2**. An adult sheep/goat 3rd molar was also recovered from context **8**.

C.3 Mollusca

By Carole Fletcher

- C.3.1** A total of 0.044kg of mollusc shells were collected, the shell does not appear to have been deliberately broken or crushed.

| Context | Trench | Type | Weight (kg) |
|--------------|--------|---|-------------|
| 2 | 12 | Native/Flat/Common Oyster: <i>Ostrea edulis</i> | 0.012 |
| 4 | 2 | Common mussel: <i>Mytilus edulis</i> | 0.006 |
| 4 | 2 | Native/Flat/Common Oyster: <i>Ostrea edulis</i> | 0.018 |
| 12 | 2 | Native/Flat/Common Oyster: <i>Ostrea edulis</i> | 0.003 |
| 57 | 9 | Native/Flat/Common Oyster: <i>Ostrea edulis</i> | 0.005 |
| Total | | | 0.044 |

Table 7: Mollusca

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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

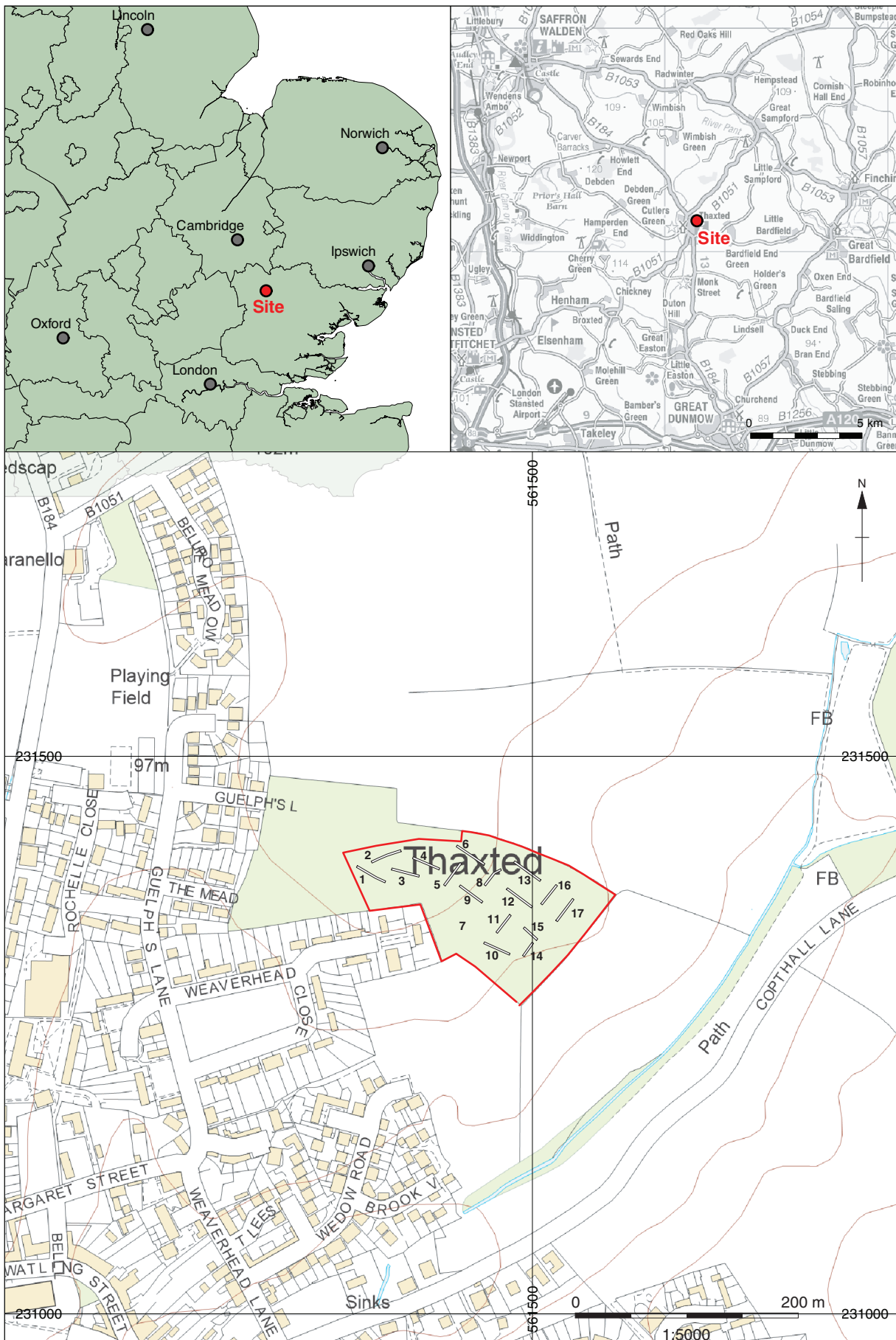
| Physical Archive | Digital Archive | Paper Archive |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
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Archive Contents/Media

| | Physical Contents | Digital Contents | Paper Contents |
|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
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| Ceramics | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Glass | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Human Bones | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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| Worked Bone | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Worked Stone/Lithic | <input 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 | Paper Media |
|--|---|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> GIS | <input type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geophysics | <input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Images | <input type="checkbox"/> Diary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illustrations | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moving Image | <input type="checkbox"/> Manuscript |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spreadsheets | <input type="checkbox"/> Map |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> Matrices |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Text | <input type="checkbox"/> Microfilm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual Reality | <input type="checkbox"/> Misc. |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Research/Notes |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Photos |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Plans |
| | <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) within development area (red)

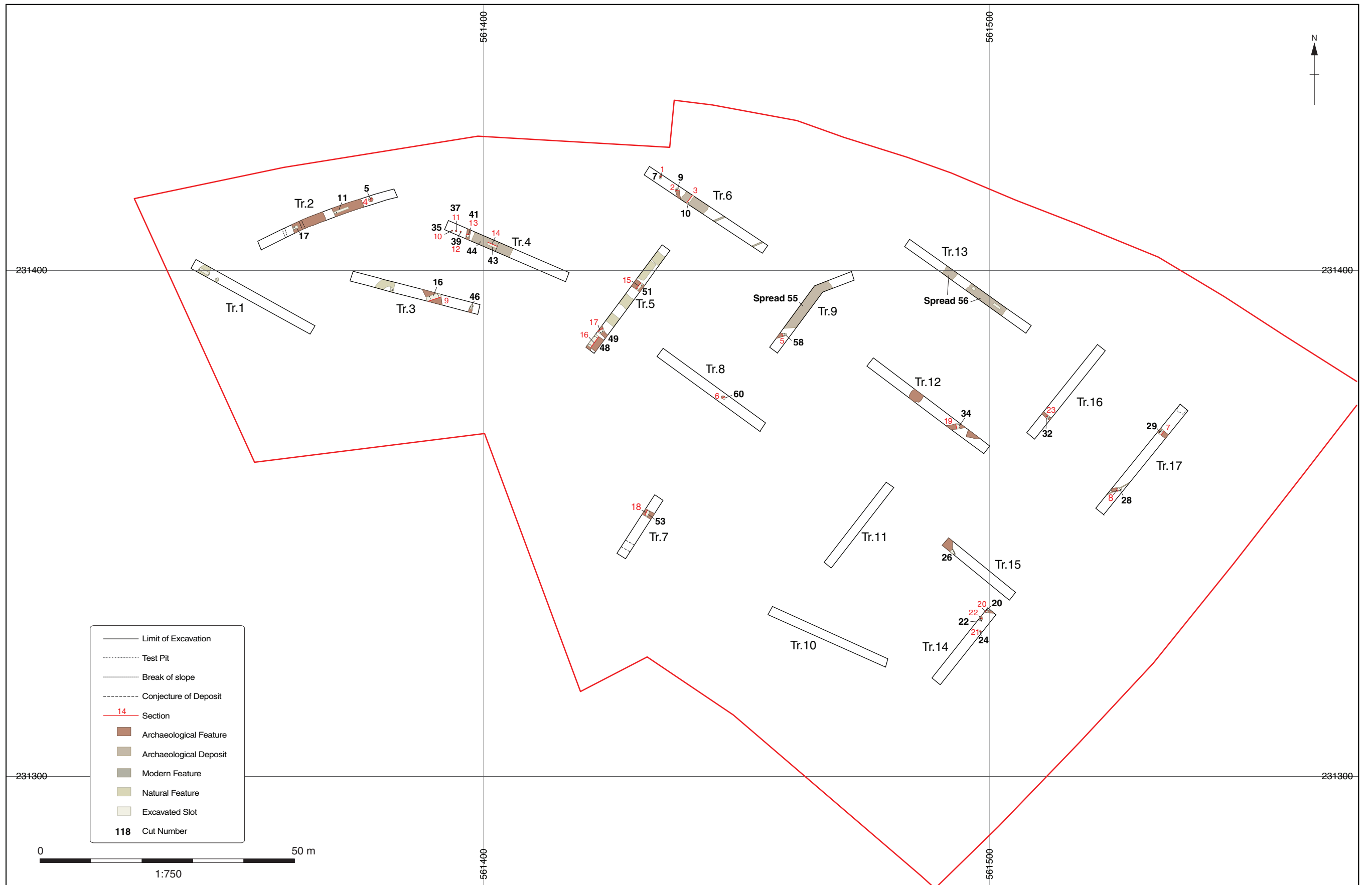


Figure 2: Trench location plan

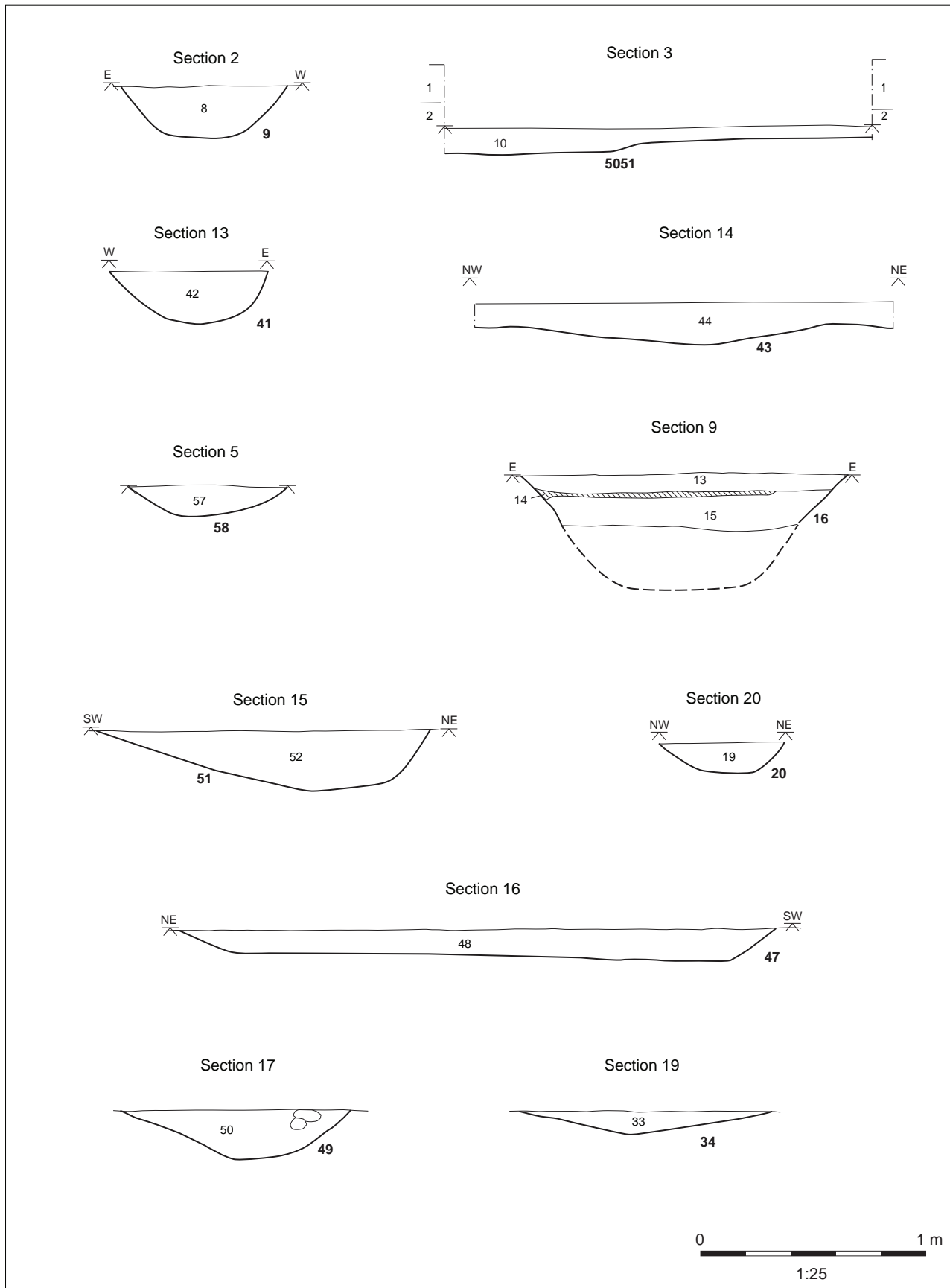


Figure 3: Sections



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