Land West of Wattisfield Road, Walsham le Willows, Suffolk

Archaeological Evaluation Report

November 2018

Client: New Hall Properties (Eastern) Ltd

Issue No: 1
OAE Report No: 2259
NGR: TM 0057 7194

oxfordarchaeology
eastwesteast

Client Name:	New Hall Properties (Eastern) Ltd
Client Ref No:	na
Document Title:	Land West of Wattisfield Road, Walsham le Willows, Suffolk
Document Type:	Evaluation Report
Report No:	2259
Grid Reference:	TM 0057 7194
Planning Reference:	1352/17
Site Code:	WLW114
Invoice Code:	XSFWLW18
Receiving Body:	Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service (SCCAS)
Accession No:	WLW114
OASIS No:	Oxfordar3-331068
OA Document File Location:	Y:\Suffolk\XSFWLW18_Walsham le Willows\Project Reports
OA Graphics File Location:	Y:\Suffolk\XSFWLW18_Walsham le Willows\Project Data\Graphics
Issue No:	1
Date:	6th November 2018
Prepared by:	Graeme Clarke (Project Officer)
Checked by:	Matthew Brudenell (Senior Project Manager)
Edited by:	Rachel Clarke (Post-excavation Editor)
Approved for Issue by:	Paul Spoerry (Regional Manager)
Signature:	……..

OA South
Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford
OX2 0ES

t. +44 (0)1865 263 800

OA East
15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridge
CB23 8SQ

t. +44 (0)1223 850 500

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

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

Land West of Wattisfield Road, Walsham le Willows, Suffolk

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Written by Graeme Clarke BSc PIfA

With contributions from Carole Fletcher BA ACIfA and illustrations by Gillian Greer BSc MAAIS

Contents

List of Figures iv
List of Plates iv
Summary v
Acknowledgements vi
1 INTRODUCTION 1
1.1 Scope of work 1
1.2 Location, topography and geology 1
1.3 Archaeological and historical background 1
2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY 4
2.1 Aims 4
2.2 Methodology 4
3 RESULTS 5
3.1 Introduction and presentation of results 5
3.2 General soils and ground conditions 5
3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits 5
3.4 Trench descriptions 5
3.5 Finds summary (Appendix A.1) 6
4 DISCUSSION 7
4.1 Reliability of field investigation 7
4.2 Evaluation objectives and results 7
4.3 Interpretation 8
4.4 Significance 8
4.5 Recommendations 8
APPENDIX A FINDS REPORTS 9
A.1 Finds 9
APPENDIX B BIBLIOGRAPHY 10
APPENDIX C OASIS REPORT FORM 11
APPENDIX D WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION 13

List of Figures

Fig.1 Site location map showing development area outlined (red) and evaluation trenches (Black)
Fig. 2 Map showing location of SHER events and monuments
Fig. 3 Site layout plan
Fig. 4 Sections

List of Plates

Plate 1 The site, looking east from Trench 1
Plate 2 Trench 2, looking southwest
Plate 3 Trench 25, looking southwest
Plate 4 Tree-bole **9**, looking northeast
Plate 5 Tree-bole **7**, looking northwest
Plate 6 Ditch **5**, looking south

Summary

Between 30th October and 2nd November 2018 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) carried out a trenched evaluation at Land West of Wattisfield Road, Walsham le Willows, Suffolk (TM 0057 7194). The evaluation, commissioned by New Hall Properties (Eastern) Ltd, comprised the excavation of 26 trenches. Most of the trenches contained no archaeological features or deposits.

The alignment of a former boundary ditch was revealed within two of the trenches and produced ceramic artefacts dated to the 18th-20th century. This ditch may therefore be equated to a pre-existing sub-division of the field shown on a historical map of the parish dating from 1817. Trenching also identified a total of three natural tree-bole features displaying evidence for being cleared/burnt out by fire. None of these features were considered suitable for environmental sampling and the recent finds were not retained.

Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology would like to thank New Hall Properties (Eastern) Ltd for commissioning this project. Thanks are also extended to James Rolfe, who monitored the work on behalf of Suffolk County Council. The project was managed for OA East by Matthew Brudenell. The fieldwork was directed by Graeme Clarke, who was supported by Eleftheria Motsiou and Francis Pitcher. Survey and digitizing was carried out by Emily Abrehart and Gillian Greer. Thank you to the teams of OA staff that cleaned the finds under the management of Natasha Dodwell, and prepared the archive under the direction of Katherine Hamilton.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) was commissioned by New Hall Properties (Eastern) Ltd to undertake a trial trench evaluation at Land West of Wattisfield Road, Walsham le Willows, Suffolk (centred on TM 0057 7194; Fig. 1).

1.1.2 The site encompasses a proposed residential development area of 2.8ha of arable land, comprising a single field on the northern edge of Walsham le Willows. A Heritage Statement was produced for the site in 2017 by John Newman Archaeological Services that demonstrated that although no recorded heritage assets were present on the site, there remained potential for unrecorded heritage assets to be present. This study further indicated low archaeological potential for: earlier prehistoric, Anglo-Saxon, medieval and early post-medieval remains; and low to medium potential for late prehistoric and Roman remains for the site (Newman 2017).

1.1.3 The work was undertaken as a condition of Planning Permission (planning ref. 1352/17. A brief was set by Rachael Abraham of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) outlining the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced by OA East (Firth and Brudenell 2018; Appendix D) detailing the methods by which OA East proposed to meet the requirements of the brief. This document outlines how OA East implemented the specified requirements.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The site comprises a single arable field, at a height of *c*.55m OD, to the west of Wattisfield Road, within the civic parish of Walsham le Willows (Fig. 1; NGR TM 0057 7194; Plate 1). This sub-rectangular parcel of land is bounded to the east by Wattisfield Road, the north by Fishpond Lane (a footpath), the west by arable land, and the south by residential development.

1.2.2 The underlying bedrock geology of the site comprises Crag Group Sand. Superficial deposits comprise Lowestoft Formation Diamicton (www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html, accessed 15th October 2018).

1.2.3 The overlying soils are recorded as being Typical Stagnoley Soils with an estimated depth of 0.3m (SSEW 1983).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 A full search of the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER) of a 1km radius centred on the evaluation site was commissioned from SCCAS. A Heritage Statement for the site by John Newman Archaeological Services was also produced in 2017 that detailed the archaeological potential. Significantly, historical landscape studies of the parish have also been previously undertaken (Dymond 1974; West and McLaughlin 1998; Martin and Satchell 2008). The following is a summary based on these studies and on the results of the SHER search, with pertinent records shown on Fig. 2.

Roman (c.AD43-410)

1.3.2 A number of Roman pottery scatters have been identified in the nearby area including SHER WLW079 *c*.250m to the southeast, SHER WLW064 *c*.500m to the north, SHER WLW002 located *c*.600m to the southeast and SHER WLW063 *c*.1km to the northwest.

1.3.3 Archaeological evaluation and excavation *c*.700m south of the site (SHER WLW095) unearthed a series of Roman pits and ditches.

Medieval (c.AD1066-1500)

1.3.4 Detailed cartographic and historical reach on the parish suggests the medieval landscape of Walsham was one of great complexity with block holdings interspersed between common fields, hedged enclosures and small woods (Martin and Satchell 2008, 179); the site possibly being within an area of common field (*ibid*. 175, Fig. 14) - Northfield - having been suggested (West and McLaughlin 1998, 34). In terms of archaeological evidence, a moderate amount of medieval activity has been identified within the vicinity of the site. Excavation and evaluation *c*.700m to the south site (SHER WLW095) unearthed several medieval features, including a building. Documentary evidence also exists for the presence of two substantial medieval houses (SHER WLW089) *c*.600m to the southeast. Walsham Hall (SHER WLW094) lies *c*.800m to the southwest of the site.

1.3.5 Several medieval finds scatters have been located nearby. A medieval pottery scatter over a 10m^2 area was located *c*.500m to the southwest of site, dating from the early medieval period through to the 16th century (SHER WLW074). A second pottery scatter (SHER WLW078) was located *c*.600m to the southeast. A late medieval arrowhead possibly dating to the 16th century was located *c*.700m southwest (SHER WLW003).

Post-medieval (c.AD1500-1750)

1.3.6 A thorough archaeological and historic survey of Walsham le Willows was conducted in the early 1980s (West and McLaughlin 1998), which saw around 80% the parish fieldwalked (Martin and Satchell 2008, 179). This did not include the current site. However, based on the 1577 survey of the parish, the plot is interpreted as being divided into four north-south aligned strips. The eastern portion was called Pyes Close occupied by Mary Sparke with the central strip being called The Seyke occupied by John Hawes. To the west were two strips occupied by John Parker and Katherine Sparke (Dymond 1974, 197, fig. 62; West and McLaughlin 1998, 68. fig. 32). The survey of 1695 depicts a similar picture albeit with different occupiers.

1.3.7 The earliest map of the parish dates to 1817 and shows the current field comprising the site was previously divided into two roughly equally sized plots by a north-northeast to south-southwest aligned (ditched?) boundary (Martin and Satchell 2008, 172, plate 58).

1.3.8 Two post-medieval mills (SHER WLW082) and a brewery (SHER WLW096) have been recorded *c*.200m and c.500m to the south of the site respectively. A 19th century barn is located adjacent to Walsham Hall *c*.800m to the southwest of the site. The findspot of a 16th or 17th century strap fitting (SHER WLW109) was also found in a field *c*.200m to the southwest of the site.

Undated

1.3.9 Monitoring works *c*.500m south of the site at the local school revealed an undated east-west aligned boundary ditch and a row of postholes (SHER WLW103).

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The project aims and objectives defined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; (Firth and Brudenell 2018) are as follows:

i. establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains on the site, characterise where they are found (location, depth and extent), and establish the quality of preservation of any archaeology and environmental remains;
ii. provide sufficient coverage to establish the character, condition, date and purpose of any archaeological deposits;
iii. provide sufficient coverage to evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking deposits;
iv. set results in the local and regional archaeological context – and, in particular, its wider cultural landscape and past environmental conditions; and
v. 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 Methodology

2.2.1 In accordance with the WSI (Firth and Brudenell 2018) a total of 26 30m-long trenches (Trenches 1-26) were excavated, representing a 5% sample of the 2.8ha development area.

2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with 360º mechanical excavators using 2m-wide toothless ditching buckets.

2.2.3 The site survey was carried out using a Leica GPS GS08 with SmartNET.

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's pro-forma sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and high resolution digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

2.2.6 No environmental samples were taken.

2.2.7 Site conditions were good, with rain at times.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 Descriptions of the ground conditions encountered, features identified and artefacts recovered are given in this section. An artefact report is given in Appendix A. Figure 3 provides a plan of the results of the evaluation and Figure 4 provides the sections of the features encountered.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The underlying natural deposit was found to be consistent with the superficial Lowestoft Formation Diamicton (2) indicated to underlie the site on the BGS website (Section 1.2.2). It consisted of firm yellow and orange sandy clay with flint inclusions. The natural geology was overlain by a 0.3m thickness of dark grey topsoil/ploughsoil (1) across the full extent of the site. No subsoil was observed underlying the topsoil/ploughsoil in any of the trenches.

3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the trenches remained predominantly dry throughout. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Figure 3 provides a plan of the results of the evaluation. The below ground remains were confined to a single ditch, uncovered on a north-northeast to south-southeast alignment, passing through Trenches 13 and 24, that represents a former subdivision of the current field into two roughly-equal halves. Natural tree-bole/root system features were also uncovered in Trenches 1 and 3 in the southwestern corner of the site and Trench 13 in the central part of the site.

3.4 Trench descriptions

3.4.1 A total of 26 30m-long trenches were excavated. Trenches 2 (Plate 2), 4-12, 14-23, 25 (Plate 3) and 26 were found to be devoid of archaeology.

Trenches 1 and 3

3.4.2 In the southwestern corner of the site, Trenches 1 and 3 each revealed a small natural sub-circular tree-bole feature. Of similar morphology, each contained charcoal rich fills surrounded by a halo of reddish (heat affected) natural ground indicative of *in-situ* burning.

3.4.3 In Trench 1, tree-bole **9** measured up to 0.8m in diameter and 0.1m deep with a U-shaped profile (Fig. 4, Section 4; Plate 4). The fill (10) consisted of light greyish brown clay with frequent charcoal inclusions. In Trench 3, tree-bole **3** measured up to 0.75m in diameter and 0.3m deep with an irregular profile (Fig. 4, Section 1) and contained a similar charcoal rich fill (4).

Trench 13

3.4.4 In the very centre of the site, Trench 13 revealed a larger sub-circular tree-bole (**7**), up to 1.5m in diameter and 0.15m deep, with a shallow flat-based profile (Fig. 4, Section 3; Plate 5). The fill (8) consisted of dark grey silty clay with frequent charcoal inclusions.

3.4.5 To the east of tree-bole **7**, a 1.25m-wide ditch (**11**) was revealed on a north-northeast to south-southwest alignment. The fill (12) consisted of mid greyish brown sandy clay with occasional flint gravel inclusions. As this ditch alignment was found to continue northwards to Trench 24, where its full profile was excavated as ditch **5**, this feature was not investigated further.

Trench 24

3.4.6 As described above, the continuation in the alignment of ditch **11** was uncovered in Trench 24, towards the northern edge of the site. This ditch (**5**) measured 1.05m-wide and 0.65m deep with an irregular profile (Fig. 4, Section 2; Plate 6). The fill (6) consisted of mid greyish brown sandy clay with occasional flint gravel inclusions. It produced a sherd each (2g) of transfer-printed Pearlware (late 18th-mid 19th century) and Industrial Slipware (late 18th-20th century) along with fragments of post-medieval roof tile (30g). A ceramic land drain was found to be placed on the base of the ditch cut.

3.5 Finds summary (Appendix A.1)

3.5.1 The evaluation work produced two sherds of pottery (2g) and two fragments (30g) of ceramic building material (CBM) that were recovered from the fill of ditch **5** in Trench 24. The CBM fragments are post-medieval and are likely to be 18th-19th century. The pottery sherds date to the 18th-20th centuries. The small and fragmentary assemblage of pottery is domestic in origin, and may relate to rubbish deposition from nearby occupation, either as middening deposits or possibly thrown directly into the field boundaries, although none of the material should be considered as primary deposition.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 The archaeological features were clearly visible within the evaluation trenches. The natural geological horizon beneath the topsoil into which features were cut was also clearly identifiable. The range of feature types observed in the trenches comprised a ditch and tree-boles. The light-mid greyish brown and dark grey feature fills contrasted strongly with the yellow and orange natural deposits of the underlying geology. The feature fills and natural deposits were free draining, with no standing water observed in any of the excavated trenches to hinder their identification.

4.1.2 Therefore, the results of the evaluation trenching are considered to have a good level of reliability.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 The project aims and objectives defined in the WSI (Firth and Brudenell 2018) and listed in Section 2.1 are included below with summary statements outlining the remains encountered on the site and how these help in achieving these objectives.

- establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains on the site, characterise where they are found (location, depth and extent), and establish the quality of preservation of any archaeology and environmental remains.
- provide sufficient coverage to establish the character, condition, date and purpose of any archaeological deposits.

4.2.2 Across the full extent of the site, there was a notable absence of subsoil beneath the topsoil/ploughsoil to afford any protection to potential archaeological remains from the plough.

4.2.3 Only a single former field boundary ditch (containing a ceramic land drain) was encountered on the site. Its fill produced fragments of modern pottery and CBM (18th-20th centuries) demonstrating this boundary, that once subdivided the current field into two equal parts, to be recently backfilled. This small fragmentary assemblage probably worked its way into the ditch fill from the surrounding field as a result of periodic manuring/spreading of rubbish from nearby occupation.

4.2.4 The remains of natural tree-bole features were also encountered during the investigation in the southwestern and central parts of the site. It is possible the larger tree-bole feature revealed in the very centre of the field indicates the former presence of an ornamental tree at this location in the recent past. All of these features contained charcoal rich fills that would indicate an episode of tree/scrub clearance in the recent past with the removal of their root-systems/stumps by fire.

4.2.5 The former boundary ditch and the recent ceramics recovered from its fill are deemed to be of low significance.

- provide sufficient coverage to evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking deposits.

4.2.6 No masking/protective subsoil was encountered beneath the topsoil/ploughed horizon across the full extent of the site. The archaeological background (Section 1.3.4) showed the site to have been part of an agricultural field from at least the medieval period, with no change in land use indicated between that period and the present day.

- set results in the local and regional archaeological context – and, in particular, its wider cultural landscape and past environmental conditions.

4.2.7 The evaluation has confirmed the presence of a former field boundary ditch that may be equated to the plot boundary shown on a historical map of the parish, dating from 1817 (Section 1.3.7; Martin and Satchell 2008, 172, plate 58).

- 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.

4.2.8 The evaluation work has demonstrated an absence of any significant archaeological remains on the site that might be adversely impacted by the site's development. The lack of remains may be partly due to the site having been subject to continual truncation by the plough, as part of an agricultural regime, from at least the medieval period to the present day. Furthermore, the lack of any protective subsoil may have precluded the survival of any shallow remains of greater antiquity on this site.

4.3 Interpretation

Natural tree-bole features

4.3.1 The burnt out tree-bole/root-systems uncovered by Trenches 1, 3 and 13 probably represent an episode of tree/scrub clearance on the site in the recent past, with the removal of their root-systems/stumps by fire.

Former field boundary

4.3.2 The excavation of Trenches 13 and 24 revealed a linear ditch that represents the former subdivision of the current field into two equal parts, as shown by the historical map of the parish of 1817.

4.4 Significance

4.4.1 The evaluation has demonstrated there are no significant archaeological remains present on 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 FINDS REPORTS

A.1 Finds

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and methodology

A.1.1 Archaeological works produced a small assemblage of pottery, two sherds, weighing 0.002kg, and two fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 0.030kg. They were recovered from a single fill in ditch **5**.

A.1.2 The Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG), Study Group for Roman Pottery (SGRP), The Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG), 2016 *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology* and the MPRG *A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms* (MPRG 1998) act as standards. Rapid recording was carried out using OA East's in-house system, based on that previously used at the Museum of London. For the CBM assemblage, the Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group *Minimum Standards for Recovery, Curation, Analysis and Publication* (2002) forms the basis for recording and Woodforde (1976), McComish (2015) form the basis for identification

A.1.3 The assemblage is recorded in the text of this report.

Assemblage

A.1.4 Ditch **5** produced two abraded sherds of pottery, a fragment from a transfer-printed Pearlware vessel (late 18th-mid 19th century) and another from a late 18th-20th century Industrial Slipware vessel (blue slip), possibly a drinking vessel with each sherd weighing 1g.

A.1.5 Two fragments of not closely datable CBM (0.030kg) were recovered from the same ditch fill. Both are irregular fragments from post-medieval roof tiles 13-14mm thick.

Discussion

A.1.6 The small and fragmentary assemblage of pottery is domestic in origin, and may relate to rubbish deposition from nearby occupation, either as middening deposits or possibly thrown directly into the field boundaries, although none of the material should be considered as primary deposition. The CBM fragments are post-medieval and are likely to be 18th-19th century.

Retention, dispersal or display

A.1.7 The fragmentary and late nature of the total assemblage means it is of little significance, beyond indicating low background levels of 18th-20th century pottery and CBM.

A.1.8 Should further work be undertaken, the pottery and CBM data should be incorporated into any later archive, however, the pottery and CBM do not need to be retained. If no further work on the site is undertaken, this statement acts as a full record and the pottery and CBM may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

APPENDIX B BIBLIOGRAPHY

Abraham, R.	2018	*Brief for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation at Land West of Wattisfield Road, Walsham le Willows.* Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, dated 18th October 2018
Dymond, D.P.	1974	*The Parish of Walsham le Willows, Suffolk: Two Elizabethan Surveys and their Medieval Background.* Proc. Suffolk Inst. Archaeol. **33** (Part 2), 195-211.
Firth, D. and Brudenell, M.	2018	*Land West of Wattisfield Road, Walsham le Willows, Suffolk. Written Scheme of Investigation*. Oxford Archaeology East, dated 19th October 2018 (unpublished)
Historic England	2008	*Management of Research Projects, PPN3: Archaeological Excavation*
Historic England	2015	*Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment, The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide*
Martin, E. and Satchell, M.	2008	*'Wheare most Inclosures be' East Anglian Fields: History, Morphology and Management,* East Anglian Archaeology **124**
Medieval Pottery Research Group	1998	*A Guide to the Classification of Medieval Ceramic Forms.* Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper I
Newman, J.	2017	*Land off Wattisfield Road, Walsham le Willows, Suffolk*. *Heritage Statement*. John Newman Archaeological Services. Dated March 2017 (unpublished)
PCRG SGRP MPRG	2016	*A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology*
West, S.E. and McLaughlin, A.	1998	*Towards a Landscape History of Walsham le Willows, Suffolk.* East Anglian Archaeology **85**
Woodforde, J.	1976	*Bricks: To Build A House* London

Electronic sources

McComish, J.M. 2015 *A Guide to Ceramic Building Materials* York Archaeological Trust Report Number 2015/36. Web Based Report. Consulted 20/10/2018 www.yorkarchaeology.co.uk/wp.../2015/08/A-guide-to-ceramic-building-material.pdf

Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group (ACBMG) 2002 *Ceramic Building Material: Minimum Standards for Recovery, Curation, Analysis and Publication* http://www.archaeologicalceramics.com/uploads/1/1/9/3/11935072/ceramic_building_material_guidelines.pdf consulted 2/11/2018

APPENDIX C OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	Oxfordar3-331068
Project Name	Land West of Wattisfield Road, Walsham le Willows, Suffolk

Start of Fieldwork	30/10/18	End of Fieldwork	2/10/18
Previous Work	No	Future Work	No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	WLW114	Planning App. No.	1352/17
HER Number	WLW114	Related Numbers	

Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS 5
Development Type	Residential
Place in Planning Process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Techniques used (tick all that apply)

☐ Aerial Photography – interpretation	☐ Grab-sampling	☐ Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
☐ Aerial Photography - new	☐ Gravity-core	☒ Sample Trenches
☐ Annotated Sketch	☐ Laser Scanning	☐ Survey/Recording of Fabric/Structure
☐ Augering	☐ Measured Survey	☐ Targeted Trenches
☐ Dendrochonological Survey	☐ Metal Detectors	☐ Test Pits
☐ Documentary Search	☐ Phosphate Survey	☐ Topographic Survey
☐ Environmental Sampling	☐ Photogrammetric Survey	☐ Vibro-core
☐ Fieldwalking	☐ Photographic Survey	☐ Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)
☐ Geophysical Survey	☐ Rectified Photography	

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Ditch	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)		Choose an item.
	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
	Choose an item.		Choose an item.

Insert more lines as appropriate.

Project Location

County	Suffolk
District	Mid Suffolk
Parish	Walsham le Willows
HER office	SCCAS
Size of Study Area	2.8 ha
National Grid Ref	TM 0057 7194

Address (including Postcode)

Land West of Wattisfield Road, Walsham le Willows, Suffolk, IP31 3DZ

Project Originators

Organisation	OA East
Project Brief Originator	Rachael Abraham (SCCAS/CT)

Project Design Originator	Dan Firth and Matt Brudenell (OA East)
Project Manager	Matt Brudenell (OA East)
Project Supervisor	Graeme Clarke (OA East)

Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	NA	NA
Digital Archive	SCCAS	WLW114
Paper Archive	SCCAS	WLW114

Physical Contents	Present?	Digital files associated with Finds	Paperwork associated with Finds
Animal Bones	☐	☐	☐
Ceramics	☐	☐	☐
Environmental	☐	☐	☐
Glass	☐	☐	☐
Human Remains	☐	☐	☐
Industrial	☐	☐	☐
Leather	☐	☐	☐
Metal	☐	☐	☐
Stratigraphic		☐	☐
Survey		☐	☐
Textiles	☐	☐	☐
Wood	☐	☐	☐
Worked Bone	☐	☐	☐
Worked Stone/Lithic	☐	☐	☐
None	☒	☒	☒
Other	☐	☐	☐

Digital Media		Paper Media	
Database	☐	Aerial Photos	☐
GIS	☐	Context Sheets	☒
Geophysics	☐	Correspondence	☐
Images (Digital photos)	☐	Diary	☐
Illustrations (Figures/Plates)	☐	Drawing	☐
Moving Image	☐	Manuscript	☐
Spreadsheets	☐	Map	☐
Survey	☐	Matrices	☐
Text	☐	Microfiche	☐
Virtual Reality	☐	Miscellaneous	☐
		Research/Notes	☐
		Photos (negatives/prints/slides)	☐
		Plans	☒
		Report	☒
		Sections	☒
		Survey	☐

Further Comments

APPENDIX D WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

Land West of Wattisfield Road, Walsham le Willows, Suffolk

Written Scheme of Investigation

Client: New Hall Properties (Eastern) Ltd.

Prepared by	Dan Firth and Matt Brudenell
Date prepared	19/10/18
Version	1
Planning application no.	1352/17
Site code	XSFWLW18
Project number	22562
Project type	trial trench evaluation
NGR	TM 0057 7194
Parish Code	WLW114

oxfordarchaeology

easteasteast

CONTENTS

1 GENERAL BACKGROUND 1
1.2 Circumstances of the project 1
1.3 The proposed archaeological strategy 2
1.4 Changes to this method statement 2

2 THE GEOLOGY, TOPOGRAPHY AND OTHER FEATURES OF THE SITE 3

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND 4
3.1 Roman Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.2 Medieval 4
3.3 Post Medieval 5
3.4 Undated 5

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES 6
4.1 Aims of the evaluation 6
4.2 Research frameworks 6

5 METHODS 7
5.1 Background research 7
5.2 Event number and site code 7
5.3 Trial Trenching 7
5.4 Recording of archaeological deposits and features 8
5.5 Exceptional remains, including human remains 10
5.6 Metal detecting and the Treasure Act 11
5.7 Post-excavation processing 11
5.8 Finds recovery and processing 11
5.9 Sampling for environmental remains and small artefact retrieval 12

6 REPORTING 15
6.1 Evaluation Report 15
6.2 Contents of the evaluation report 15
6.3 Draft and final reports 15
6.4 OASIS 16

7 ARCHIVING 17

8 TIMETABLE 19

9 STAFFING AND SUPPORT 20
9.1 Fieldwork 20
9.2 Post-excavation processing 20

10 OTHER MATTERS 21
10.1 Monitoring 21
10.2 Insurance 21
10.3 Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 21
10.4 Services, Public Rights of Way, Tree Preservation Orders etc. 21
10.5 Site Security 21
10.6 Access 22
10.7 Site Preparation 22
10.8 Site offices and welfare 22
10.9 Backfilling/Reinstatement 22

10.10 Health and Safety, Risk Assessments 22

11 APPENDIX: CONSULTANT SPECIALISTS 24

1 GENERAL BACKGROUND

1.1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) conforms to the principles identified in Historic England's guidance documents *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*, specifically the MoRPHE *Project Manager's Guide* (2015) and *Project Planning Note 3: Archaeological Excavation* (2008).

1.1.2 All work will be conducted in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Code of Conduct* (2014) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014).

1.1.3 This WSI also incorporates the requirements of the EAA *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) and conforms to the Suffolk County Council's *Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* (2017) document.

1.2 Circumstances of the project

1.2.1 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) have been commissioned by New Hall Properties (Eastern) Limited to undertake a programme of trenched evaluation on land proposed for the construction of sixty dwellings with associated landscaping, parking and pedestrian and vehicular access routes.

1.2.2 This WSI has been prepared in response to a Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation issued by Rachael Abraham of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS), dated 18/10/2018, and is required by Mid Suffolk District Council in respect to Conditions 12 and 13 of planning application 1352/17, which states:

12) *"No development shall take place within the areas indicated [the whole site] until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work has been secured, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority".*

13) *"No building shall be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation has been completed, submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under Part 1 and the provision made for the analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive"*

1.2.3 The decision on the need for any further work/mitigation will be made by SCCAS following the results of this evaluation. The scope of any further work (if required) will be specified in a separate SCCAS brief, and will require the submission and approval of a separate WSI.

1.3 The proposed archaeological strategy

1.3.1 The programme of archaeological investigation will comprise:

- A suitable level of document research, drawing on appropriate information from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER)
- A trial trenched evaluation of site. This will comprise a 5% sample across the 2.8ha area, resulting in the excavation of 26 30m long by 1.8m wide trenches.

1.4 Changes to this method statement

1.4.1 If changes need to be made to the methods outlined below – either before or during works on site – the SCCAS will be informed and asked to consider changes before they are made. Changes will be agreed in before work on site commences, or else at the earliest available opportunity.

2 THE GEOLOGY, TOPOGRAPHY AND OTHER FEATURES OF THE SITE

2.1.1 The site (2.8ha in extend) is located in the north of Walsham le Willows, on land west of Wattisfield Road, centred TM 0057 7194. The sub-rectangular parcel of land is bounded to the east by Wattisfield Road, the north by Fishpond lane (a footpath), the west by arable land, and the south by residential development.

2.1.2 The geology is described as having a bedrock of Crag Group Sand, overlain by a superficial deposit of Lowestoft Formation Diamicton (British Geological Survey 2014, (British Geological Survey online map viewer http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html). (15/10/2018)

2.1.3 The overlying soils are recorded as being Typical Stagnoley Soils with an estimated depth of 0.3m (SSEW 1983)

2.1.4 The site sits at an elevation of 55.70m OD and gently slopes southwards towards the river

2.1.5 The area of the proposed development is currently in use as arable farmland, the crop of beans has recently been harvested

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The following section provides a brief summary of the archaeological background for the area surrounding the site. This draws on information obtained from the following sources:

- Dymond, P.D., 1974, The parish of Walsham-Le-Willows: two Elizabethan Surveys and their medieval background. *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History* 33(2), 195-211.
- West, S.E., and McLaughlin, A., 1998, *Towards a Landscape History of Walsham le Willows, Suffolk*. East Anglian Archaeology Report 95
- Martin, E., and Satchell, E., 2008, *Where most Inclosures be. East Anglian Fields: History, Morphology and Management*. Ipswich. East Anglian Archaeology Report 124
- Newman, J., 2017, *Land Off Wattisfield Road, Walsham Le Willows, Suffolk.* Heritage Statement. John Newman Archaeological Services report
- The Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER).

3.1 Roman

3.1.1 A number of Roman pottery scatters have been identified in the nearby area including SHER WLW079 c.250m to the southeast and SHER WLW002 located c.600m to the southeast.

3.1.2 Archaeological evaluation and excavation c.700m south of the site (SHER WLW095) unearthed a series of Roman pits and ditches

3.2 Medieval

3.2.1 Detailed cartographic and historical reach on the parish suggests the medieval landscape of Walsham was one of great complexity with block holdings interspersed between common fields, hedged enclosures and small woods (Martin and Satchell 2008, 179); the site possibly being within an area of common field (ibid. 175, Fig. 14) – Northfield having been suggested (West and McLaughlin 1998, 34). In terms of archaeological evidence, a moderate amount of medieval activity has been identified within the vicinity of the site. Excavation and evaluation c.700m to the south site (SHER WLW095) unearthed several medieval features, including a building. Documentary evidence also exists for the presence of two substantial medieval houses (SHER WLW089) c.600m to the southeast.

3.2.2 Several medieval finds scatters have been located nearby. A medieval pottery scatter over a $10m^2$ area was located c.500m to the southwest of site, dating from the early medieval period through to the 16th century (SHER WLW074). A second pottery scatter (SHER WLW078) was located c.600m to the southeast. A medieval arrowhead possibly dating to the 16th century was located c. 700m southwest (SHER WLW003).

3.3 Post Medieval

3.3.1 A thorough archaeological and historic survey of Walsham le Willows was conducted in the early 1980s (West and McLaughlin 1998), which saw around 80% the parish fieldwalked (Martin and Satchell 2008, 179). This did not include the current site. However, based on the 1577 survey of the parish, the plot is interpreted as being divided into four north-south aligned strips. The eastern portion was called *Pyes Close* occupied by Mary Sparke with the central strip being called *The Seyke* occupied by John Hawes. To the west were two strips occupied by John Parker and Katherine Sparke (Dymond 1974, 197, Fig. 62; West and McLaughlin 1998, 68. Fig. 32). The survey of 1695 depicts a similar picture albeit with different occupier.

3.3.2 The earliest maps of the parish date to 181 and show the plots divided into two (Martin and Satchell 2008, 172, Plate 58).

3.3.3 Two post medieval mills (SHER WLW082) have been recorded c.200m to the south of the site.

3.4 Undated

3.4.1 Monitoring works c.500m south of the site at the local school revealed an undated east-west aligned boundary ditch and a row of postholes (SHER WLW103)

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1 Aims of the evaluation

4.1.1 This evaluation will seek to establish the character, date and state of preservation of archaeological remains within the proposed development area. The scheme of works detailed below aims to:

- establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains on the site, characterise where they are found (location, depth and extent), and establish the quality of preservation of any archaeology and environmental remains
- provide sufficient coverage to establish the character, condition, date and purpose of any archaeological deposits
- provide sufficient coverage to evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking deposits
- set results in the local and regional archaeological context – and, in particular, its wider cultural landscape and past environmental conditions
- 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.

4.2 Research frameworks

4.2.1 This excavation takes place within, and will contribute to the goals of Regional Research Frameworks relevant to this area:

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

5 METHODS

5.1 Background research

5.1.1 A suitable level of background research will be undertaken before work on site commences. This research will draw on information in the County Historic Environment Record and County Records Office, and will include historical sources, maps, previous archaeological finds, and past archaeological investigations in the vicinity. The results will not be presented separately, but will be incorporated into the final evaluation report.

5.2 Parish code and site code

5.2.1 The parish code WLW114 has obtained from the Suffolk HER, and a unique site code assigned to the project (XSFWLW18).

5.3 Trial Trenching

Excavation standards

5.3.1 The proposed archaeological evaluation and analysis will be conducted in accordance with current best archaeological practice and the appropriate national and regional standards and guidelines.

5.3.2 All work will be conducted in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*.

5.3.3 All fieldwork will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the OA Field Manual (ed. D Wilkinson 1992), and the revised OA fieldwork manual (publication forthcoming). Further guidance is provided to all excavators in the form of the OA *Fieldwork Crib Sheets – a companion guide to the Fieldwork Manual.* These have been issued ahead of formal publication of the revised Fieldwork Manual.

Pre-commencement

5.3.4 Before work on site commences, service plans will be checked to ensure that access and groundworks can be conducted safely. Before trenching, the footprint of each trench will be scanned by a qualified and experienced operator using a CAT and Genny with a valid calibration certificate.

5.3.5 Power cables are present over the entrance to the field and along the northern and western edge.

5.3.6 In order to minimise damage to the site and disruption to site users, Oxford Archaeology will agree the following with the client/landowner before work on site commences:

- the location of entrance ways
- sites for welfare units
- soil storage areas

- refuelling points for plant (if necessary), and the extent of any bunding required around fuel dumps
- access routes for plant and vehicles across the site

5.3.7 Access routes to, from and between trenches will be agreed on site at the start of works. Where possible, access routes will use tramlines in the crop, in order to reduce crop damage.

Excavation methods

5.3.8 A total of 26 trenches measuring 30m long by 1.8m wide will be excavated in the positions shown on the plan attached to this WSI.

5.3.9 The trenches will set out by a Lecia survey-grade GPS fitted with "smartnet" technology with an accuracy of 5mm horizontal and 10mm vertical. Crop-permitting, the footprint of the trenches will also be metal detected prior to machining (see Section 5.7).

5.3.10 All trenches will be excavated by a mechanical excavator to the depth of geological horizons, or to the upper interface of archaeological features or deposits, whichever is encountered first. Overburden will be excavated in spits not greater than 100mm thick. A toothless ditching bucket with a bucket size of 1.8m will be used to excavate the trenches.

5.3.11 Topsoil, subsoil, and archaeological deposits will be kept separate during excavation, to allow for sequential backfilling of excavations. The trenches will not be backfilled without the approval of the SCCAS.

5.3.12 All machine excavation will take place under constant supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist. The top of the first archaeological deposit will be cleared by machine, but will then be cleaned off by hand. Any archaeological deposits present will then be excavated by context to the level of the geological horizon where safe to do so. Trench spoil will be scanned visually and with a metal detector to aid recovery of artefacts.

5.4 Excavation of archaeological features and deposits

5.4.1 Excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless otherwise agreed by the SCCAS. Significant archaeological features (e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes) will be preserved intact, even if fills are sampled.

5.4.2 Exposed surfaces will be cleaned by trowel and hoe as necessary in order to clarify features and deposits. Unless otherwise agreed by the SCCAS all features will be investigated and recorded to provide an accurate evaluation of archaeological potential, whilst at the same time minimising disturbance to archaeological structures, features and deposits.

5.4.3 There will be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth, and nature of any archaeological deposit. Investigation slots through all linear features will be a least 1m in width. Discrete features will be half-sectioned or excavated in quadrants where they are large or found to be

deep. In necessary, an auger will be used to gain information from deep deposits below 1m in depth.

5.5 Recording of archaeological deposits and features

5.5.1 Records will comprise survey, drawn, written, and photographic data.

Survey

5.5.2 Surveying will be done using a survey-grade differential GPS (Leica CS10/GS08 or Leica 1200) fitted with "smartnet" technology with an accuracy of 5mm horizontal and 10mm vertical.

5.5.3 The site grid will be accurately tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid and located on the 1:2500 or 1:1250 map of the area. Elevations will be levelled to the Ordnance Datum.

Written records

5.5.4 A register of all trenches, features, photographs, survey levels, small finds, and human remains will be kept.

5.5.5 All features, layers and deposits will be issued with unique context numbers. Each feature will be individually documented on context sheets, and hand-drawn in section and plan. Written descriptions will be recorded on pro-forma sheets comprising factual data and interpretative elements.

5.5.6 Where stratified deposits are encountered, a Harris Matrix will be compiled during the course of the excavation.

Plans and sections

5.5.7 Site plans will normally be drawn at 1:50, but on deeply-stratified sites a scale of 1:20 will be used. Detailed plans of individual features or groups will be at an appropriate scale (1:10 or 1:20).

5.5.8 Long sections showing layers will be drawn at 1:50. Sections of features or short lengths of trenches will be drawn at 1:20. All section levels will be tied in to Ordnance Datum.

5.5.9 All site drawings will include the following information: site name, site code, scale, plan or section number, relevant context or feature numbers, orientation, date and the name or initials of the archaeologist who prepared the drawing.

Photogrammetric recording

5.5.10 Plans and sections may be supplemented with photogrammetric recording of the excavation areas. Photogrammetric models will be based on high-resolution digital photographs with a minimum file size of 5 MB. Photogrammetric processing will be conducted using the Agisoft Photosoft (Professional Edition) software, and will incorporate reference points taken by GPS-based survey equipment.

Photographs

5.5.11 The photographic record will comprise high resolution digital photographs.

5.5.12 Photographs will include both general site shots and photographs of specific features. Every feature will be photographed at least once. Photographs will include a scale, north arrow, site code, and feature number (where relevant), unless they are to be used in publications. The photograph register will record these details, and photograph numbers will be listed on corresponding context sheets.

5.6 Exceptional remains, including human remains

Significant archaeological features

5.6.1 If exceptional or unexpected features are uncovered, the SCC Archaeology Service will be informed, and their advice sought on further excavation or preservation.

5.6.2 Significant archaeological features (e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes) will be preserved intact, even if fills are sampled. The following features will normally be cleaned, recorded and preserved for future excavation, unless directed to by the SCC Archaeology Service:

- layers relating to domestic, craft or industrial activity (e.g. floor, middens)
- discrete features relating to domestic or industrial activity (e.g. kilns, ovens, hearths)
- artefact scatters (e.g. flint, metal-working debris).

5.6.3 If preservation *in situ* is required by the SCC Archaeology Service, all exposed surfaces will be cleaned and prepared for reburial beneath construction materials. If appropriate, the areas will be protected with geotextile or other buffering materials.

Human remains

5.6.4 If human remains are encountered, the Client, Suffolk Coroner, and the SCC Archaeology Service will be informed immediately.

5.6.5 Unless directed otherwise by the SCC Archaeology Service, human remains will be left in situ (covered and protected), until a full programme of excavation is agreed by the SCC Archaeology Service and Client. No further excavation will then take place in the vicinity of the remains until removal becomes necessary. If the remains are under imminent threat, or if the SCC Archaeology Service requires information on date and preservation, we will excavate and remove them.

5.6.6 Human remains will be excavated in accordance with all appropriate legislation and Environmental Health regulations. Excavation will only take place after Oxford Archaeology has obtained a Ministry of Justice exhumation licence.

5.7 Metal detecting and the Treasure Act

5.7.1 Metal detector searches will take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user (Tom Lucking). Excavated areas will be detected immediately before and after mechanical stripping. Both excavated areas and spoil heaps will be checked. To prevent losses from night-hawking, features will be metal detected immediately after stripping.

5.7.2 Metal detectors will not be set to discriminate against iron.

5.7.3 Artefacts will be removed and given a small find number. Labels will be placed on the location of each 'small find' and surveyed in with a GPS.

5.7.4 If finds are made that might constitute 'Treasure' under the definition of the Treasure Act (1996), they will, if possible, be excavated and removed to a safe place. Should it not be possible to remove the finds on the day they are found, suitable security will be arranged. Finds that are 'Treasure' will be reported to the landowner and Suffolk Coroner within 14 days, in accordance with the Act. The County Finds Liaison Officer from the Portable Antiquities Scheme will also be informed.

5.8 Post-excavation processing

5.8.1 Processing will take place in tandem with excavation, and advice will be sought from relevant specialists on key artefact types. The Project Manager and fieldwork project officer will be given feedback to enable them to develop excavation strategies during fieldwork.

5.8.2 Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent for appropriate treatment.

5.8.3 Finds will be marked with context numbers, site code or accession number, as detailed in the requirements of the Suffolk County Council Stores.

5.9 Finds recovery and processing

Standards for finds handling

5.9.1 Finds will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged, and boxed in line with the standards in:

- United Kingdom Institute for Conservators (2012) *Conservation Guidelines No. 2*
- Watkinson & Neal (1988) *First Aid for Finds*
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014) *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of* Archaeological Materials
- English Heritage (1995) *A Strategy for the Care and Investigation of Finds.*

5.9.2 Where finds require conservation, this will be done in accordance with the guidelines of the Institute for Conservation (ICON),

Procedures for finds handling

5.9.3 At the start of work, a finds supervisor will be appointed to oversee the collection, processing, cataloguing, and specialist advice on all artefacts collected.

5.9.4 Artefacts will be collected by hand, sieving, and metal detector. Excavation areas and spoil will be scanned visually and with a metal detector to aid recovery of artefacts. All finds will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered, ready for later cleaning and analysis. 'Special/small finds' may be located more accurately by GPS if appropriate.

5.9.5 Processing will take place in tandem with excavation, and advice will be sought from relevant specialists on key artefact types. (See the Appendix for a list of specialists.)

5.9.6 All artefacts recovered from excavated features will be retained for post-excavation processing and assessment, except:

- those which are obviously modern in date
- where very large volumes are recovered (typically ceramic building material)
- where directed to discard on site by the SCC Archaeology Service.

5.9.7 Where artefacts are not removed from site, a strategy will be employed to ensure a sufficient sample is retained, in order to characterise the date and function of the features they were excavated from. A record will be kept of the quantity and nature of artefacts which are not removed from site.

5.10 Sampling for environmental remains and small artefact retrieval

Standard methodology

5.10.1 Sampling methods will follow guidelines produced by Historic England and Oxford Archaeology. The project team will consult Historic England's Scientific Advisor on environmental sampling and dating where necessary. Where possible an environmental specialist(s) will visit the site to advise on sampling strategies which will be reviewed periodically during the length of the excavation. Specialists will be consulted where non-standard sampling is required (e.g. TL, OSL or archaeomagnetic dating) and if appropriate will be invited to visit the site and take the samples.

Standards for environmental sampling and processing

Paleoenvironmental remains will be sampled and processed in accordance to the OA Sampling Policy (2005) with reference to the relevant guidelines produced by Historic England:

- Oxford Archaeology 2005. *Environmental Sampling Guidelines*, 2nd ed.
- Historic England 2011. *Environmental Archaeology. A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post excavation*, (2nd ed)
- Historic England 2008. *Guidelines for the Curation of Waterlogged Macroscopic Plant and Invertebrate Remains*.

- Historic England 2010. *Waterlogged Wood: Guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood*.
- Historic England 2012. *Waterlogged organic artefacts. Guidelines on their recovery, analysis and conservation*.
- Historic England 2008. *Investigative conservation. Guidance on how detailed examination of artefacts from archaeological sites can shed light on their manufacture and use.*
- Historic England 2014. *Animal Bones and Archaeology. Guidelines for Best Practice*.
- Historic England 2004. *Dendrochronology: Guidelines on Producing and Interpreting Dendrochronological Dates*.
- Historic England 2006. *Archaeomagnetic Dating. Guidelines for Producing and Interpreting Archaeomagnetic Dates*.
- Historic England 2008. *Luminescence Dating. Guidelines on Using Luminescence Dating in Archaeology*.
- Historic England 2015. *Archaeometallurgy. Guidelines for Best Practice.*
- Historic England 2015 *Geoarchaeology. Using Earth Sciences to Understand the Archaeological Record*.

Procedures for sampling and processing

5.10.2 Environmental samples (up to 40 litres or 100% of context if less is available) will be taken from a range of potentially datable features and well-stratified deposits to target the recovery of plant remains, fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone and small artefacts. Samples will be labelled with the site code, context number, and sample number and a register will be kept.

5.10.3 Larger soil samples (up to 100L) may be taken for the complete recovery of animal bones, marine shell and small artefacts from appropriate contexts. Smaller bulk samples (general biological samples) of 20 litres will be taken from any waterlogged deposits present for the recovery of macroscopic plant remains and insects. Series of incremental 2L samples may be taken through buried soils and deep feature fills for the recovery of snails and/or waterlogged plant remains, depending on the nature of the stratigraphy and of the soils and sediments.

5.10.4 Columns will be taken from buried soils, peats and waterlogged feature fills for pollen and/or phytoliths, diatoms, ostracods if appropriate. Soil samples will be taken for soil investigations (particle size, organic matter, bulk chemistry, soil micromorphology etc.) in consultation with the appropriate specialists. Where features containing very small artefacts such as micro-debitage and hammerscale are identified, 1L grid sampling may be employed.

5.10.5 Early feedback on selected samples taken during the excavation will result in a dynamic sampling strategy according the results of rapid assessment of typically 10L sub-samples.

5.10.6 Typically, 20 litres of each bulk sample will be processed standard water flotation using a modified Siraf-style machine and meshes of 0.3mm (flot) and 0.5 or 1mm depending on sediment type and like modes of preservation (residue). The remaining soil from a sample will be subsequently processed if appropriate based on the results of an initial assessment. Normally, early

prehistoric samples will be fully processed and samples containing human remains will always be fully processed. Heavy residues will be wet sieved, air dried and selectively sorted. Samples taken exclusively for the recovery of bones, marine shell or artefacts will be wet sieved to 2mm. Waterlogged samples will have a sub-sample (approximately 10L) processed as above and the flot will assessed whilst wet and again once dried. Snail samples (2L) will be processed by hand flotation with flots and residues collected to 0.5mm; these flots and residues will be sorted by the specialist.

5.10.7 Where practical, waterlogged wood specimens will be recorded in detail on site, in situ. When removed, they will be cleaned and photographed, and stored in wet cool conditions for assessment by a suitably qualified specialist (see the Appendix).

6 REPORTING

6.1 Evaluation Report

6.1.1 Post-excavation analysis and reporting will follow guidance in Historic England's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (2015).

6.2 Contents of the evaluation report

6.2.1 The report will include:

- a title page detailing site address, site code and accession number, NGR, author/originating body, client's name and address
- full list of contents
- a non-technical summary of the findings
- the aims of the evaluation
- a description of the geology and topography of the area
- a description of the methodologies used
- a description of the findings
- tables summarising features and artefacts
- site and trench location plans, and plans of each area excavated showing the archaeological features found
- sections of excavated features
- interpretation of the archaeological features found
- specialist reports on artefacts and environmental finds
- relevant colour photographs of features and the site
- a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains, where affected by development proposals, and assessment of their importance at local, and regional level.
- a discussion of the relationship between findings on the site and other archaeological information held in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record
- a mitigation strategy for future work
- a bibliography of all reference material
- the OASIS reference and summary form.

6.3 Draft and final reports

6.3.1 A draft copy of the report will be supplied to the SCC Archaeology Service for comment.

6.3.2 Following approval of the report, one printed copy and one digital copy (PDF) will be presented to the SCCAS for deposition with the Suffolk Historic Environment Record.

6.3.3 Where positive results are drawn from the evaluation, a summary statement will be provided to the SCCAS suitable for inclusion in the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History* annual round up.

6.4 OASIS

6.4.1 A digital copy of the approved report will be uploaded to the OASIS database.

6.4.2 A copy of the OASIS Data Collection Form will be included in the report.

7 ARCHIVING

Archive standards

7.1.1 The site archive will conform to the requirements of Appendix 1 of the Historic England's (2015) *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) and *the Archaeological Archives in Suffolk, Guidelines for preparation and deposition* (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service 2017).

7.1.2 The preparation of the archive will follow the guidelines contained in *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, 1990), *Standards in the Museum care of Archaeological Collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission 1992), and *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation (*Brown 2007*).*

Archive contents

7.1.3 The archive will be quantified, ordered, and indexed. It will include:

- artefacts
- ecofacts
- project documentation – including plans, section drawings, context sheets, registers, and specialist reports
- photographs (digital photographs will be stored on CD-ROM, and colour printouts made of key features)
- an archive-standard CD-ROM with electronic documentation (such as GIS and CAD files)
- a printed copy of the Written Brief
- a printed copy of the WSI
- a printed copy of the final report
- a printed copy of the OASIS form.

7.1.4 It is Oxford Archaeology Ltd's policy, in line with accepted practice, to keep site archives (paper and artefactual) together wherever possible.

Transfer of ownership

7.1.5 The archaeological material and paper archive produced from this investigation will be held in storage by OA East who will seek to transfer the complete project archive to the Suffolk County Council Stores, in order to facilitate future study and ensure long-term public access to the archive. To do so will require a transfer of title to the repository in line with the county's guidance on deposition of archaeological archives. Where the landowner wishes to retain items recovered during excavation, all selected artefacts will be fully drawn and photographed, identified, analysed, documented and conserved in order to create a comprehensive catalogue of items to be kept by the landowner before the remainder of the archive can be deposited in the Suffolk County Council Stores.

7.1.6 A written transfer of ownership document will be forwarded to the SCC Archaeology Service before the archive is deposited.

7.1.7 In the unlikely event that artefacts of significant monetary value are discovered, and if they are not subject to Treasure Act legislation, separate ownership arrangements may be negotiated following the creation of a comprehensive illustrated catalogue, as described above.

8 TIMETABLE

8.1.1 Trial trenching is expected to take approximately eight working days to complete, based on a five-day week, working Monday to Friday. This does not allow for delays caused by bad weather, but it does include time for site set-up and final backfilling of trenches.

8.1.2 Post-excavation processing and assessment tasks will commence shortly after excavation commences, to inform the excavation strategy, and minimise time required to prepare the final report after excavation is completed.

8.1.3 Post-excavation tasks and report writing will take a maximum of four weeks following the end of fieldwork, unless there are exceptional discoveries requiring lengthier analysis.

8.1.4 The project archive will be deposited within six months of delivering the final report, unless the SCC Archaeology Service requires further excavation on the site.

9 STAFFING AND SUPPORT

9.1 Fieldwork

9.1.1 The fieldwork team will be made up of the following staff:

- 1 x Project Manager (supervisory only, not based on site)
- 1 x Project Officer/Supervisor (full-time)
- 2 x Site Assistants (as required)
- 1 x Archaeological Surveyor
- 1 x Finds Assistant (part-time, as required)
- 1 x Environmental Assistant (part-time, as required)

9.1.2 The Project Manager will be Matt Brudenell. Site work will be directed by one of OAE's Project Officers or Supervisors.

9.1.3 All Site Assistants will be drawn from a pool of qualified and experienced staff. Oxford Archaeology East will not employ volunteer, amateur, or student staff, whether paid or unpaid, except as an addition to the team stated above.

9.2 Post-excavation processing

9.2.1 We anticipate that the site may produce later prehistoric to medieval remains. Environmental remains will also be sampled.

9.2.2 Pottery will be assessed by Matt Brudenell (prehistoric), Alice Lyons (Roman) and Carole Fletcher (Anglo-Saxon and medieval).

9.2.3 Environmental analysis will be carried out by OA East staff, in consultation with the OA Environmental Department in Oxford. The results will be reported to Historic England's Regional Scientific Advisor. Environmental analysis will be undertaken by Rachel Fosberry (charred plant macrofossils, plant macrofossils), Liz Stafford (land molluscs), and Denise Druce and Mairead Rutherford (pollen analysis).

9.2.4 Faunal remains will be examined by Hayley Foster.

9.2.5 Conservation will be undertaken by Ipswich and Colchester Museums / Karen Barker (Antiquities Conservator), and will be undertaken in accordance with guidelines issued by the Institute for Conservation (ICON).

9.2.6 In the event that OA's in-house specialists are unable to undertake the work within the time constraints of the project, or if other remains are found, specialists from the list in the Appendix will be approached to carry out analysis.

10 OTHER MATTERS

10.1 Monitoring

10.1.1 The SCC Archaeology Service will be informed appropriately of dates and arrangements to allow for adequate monitoring of the works.

10.1.2 During the excavation, representatives Oxford Archaeology East (Matt Brudenell) and the SCC Archaeology Service (Rachael Abraham) will meet on site to monitor the excavations, discuss progress and findings to date, and excavation strategies to be followed.

10.2 Insurance

10.2.1 OA East is covered by Public and Employer's Liability Insurance. The underwriting company is Lloyds Underwriters, policy number CC004337. Details of the policy can be supplied on request to the Oxford Archaeology East office.

10.3 Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

10.3.1 Oxford Archaeology is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), and is bound by CIfA By-Laws, Standards, and Policy.

10.4 Services, Public Rights of Way, Tree Preservation Orders etc.

10.4.1 The client will inform the project manager of any live or disused cables, gas pipes, water pipes or other services that may be affected by the proposed excavations before the commencement of fieldwork. Hidden cables/services should be clearly identified and marked where necessary. If there are overhead cables on the site or in the approachways, a survey must be completed by the relevant authority before plant is taken onto site.

10.4.2 The client will likewise inform the project manager of any public rights of way or permissive paths on or near the land which might affect or be affected by the work.

10.4.3 The client will inform the Project Manager if the site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), or any other type of designated site. The client will also inform the project manager of any trees subject to Tree Preservation Orders, protected hedgerows, protected wildlife, nesting birds, or areas of ecological significance within the site or on its boundaries.

10.5 Site Security

10.5.1 Unless previously agreed with the Project Manager in writing, this specification and any associated statement of costs is based on the assumption that the site will be sufficiently secure for archaeological work to

commence. All security requirements, including fencing, padlocks for gates etc. are the responsibility of the client.

10.6 Access

10.6.1 The client will secure access to the site for archaeological personnel and plant, and obtain the necessary permissions from owners and tenants to place a mobile office and portable toilet on or near to the site. Any costs incurred to secure access, or incurred as a result of withholding of access will not be Oxford Archaeology's responsibility. The costs of any delays as a result of withheld access will be passed on to the client in addition to the project costs already specified.

10.7 Site Preparation

10.7.1 The client is responsible for clearing the site and preparing it so as to allow archaeological work to take place without further preparatory works, and any cost statement accompanying or associated with this specification is offered on this basis. Unless previously agreed in writing, the costs of any preparatory work required, including tree felling and removal, scrub or undergrowth clearance, removal of concrete or hard standing, demolition of buildings or sheds, or removal of excessive overburden, refuse or dumped material, will be charged to the client, in addition to any costs for archaeological evaluation already agreed.

10.8 Site offices and welfare

10.8.1 All site facilities – including welfare facilities, tool stores, mess huts, and site offices – will be positioned to minimise disruption to other site users, and to minimise impact on the environment (including buried archaeology).

10.9 Backfilling/Reinstatement

10.9.1 Backfilling – but not specialist reinstatement – of trenches is included in the cost unless otherwise agreed with the client. Backfilling will only take place with the approval of the SCC Archaeology Service.

10.10 Health and Safety, Risk Assessments

10.10.1 A risk assessment and method statement (RAMS) covering all activities to be carried out during the lifetime of the project will be prepared before work commences, and sent to the SCC Archaeology Service.

10.10.2 The risk assessment will conform to the requirements of health and safety legislation and regulations, and will draw on OA East's activity-specific risk assessment literature.

10.10.3 All aspects of the project, both in the field and in the office will be conducted according to OA East's Health and Safety Policy, Oxford Archaeology Ltd's Health and Safety Policy, and Health and Safety in Field

Archaeology (J.L. Allen and A. St John-Holt, 1997). A copy of OA East's Health and Safety Policy can be supplied on request.

11 APPENDIX: CONSULTANT SPECIALISTS

NAME	SPECIALISM	ORGANISATION
Allen, Leigh	Worked bone, CBM, medieval metalwork	Oxford Archaeology
Allen, Martin	Medieval coins	Fitzwilliam Museum
Allen, Martyn	Zooarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Anderson, Katie	Roman pottery	Freelance
Anderson, Sue	Medieval & post-medieval pottery (specifically from Norfolk & Suffolk), CBM and human remains	Freelance
Bamforth, Mike	Woodworking	York University
Barker, Karen	Small find conservation & X-Ray	Freelance
Bayliss, Alex	C14 advice	Historic England
Biddulph, Edward	Roman pottery	Oxford Archaeology
Billington, Lawrence	Lithics	Oxford Archaeology
Bishop, Barry	Lithics	Freelance
Blinkhorn, Paul	Iron Age, Anglo-Saxon and medieval pottery	Freelance
Booth, Paul	Roman pottery and coins	Oxford Archaeology
Boreham, Steve	Pollen and soils/ geology	Cambridge University
Broderick, Lee	Zooarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Brown, Lisa	Prehistoric pottery	Oxford Archaeology
Brudenell, Matt	Prehistoric pottery	Oxford Archaeology
Cane, Jon	Display & reconstruction artist	Freelance
Champness, Carl	Molluscs, geoarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Cotter, John	Medieval/post-medieval finds, pottery, CBM	Oxford Archaeology
Crummy, Nina	Small finds	Freelance
Cowgill, Jane	Slag/metalworking residues	Freelance
Dickson, Anthony	Worked Flint	Oxford Archaeology
Dodwell, Natasha	Osteology, including cremations	Oxford Archaeologist
Donelly, Mike	Lithics	Oxford Archaeology
Doonan, Roger	Slags, metallurgy	Freelance
Druce, Denise	Pollen, charred plants, charcoal/wood identification, sediment coring and interpretation	Oxford Archaeology
Drury, Paul	CBM (specialised)	Freelance
Fletcher, Carole	Medieval & post-medieval pottery, glass, shell & small finds	Oxford Archaeology
Fosberry, Rachel	Charred waterlogged and mineralised plant remains	Oxford Archaeology
Foster, Hayley	Zooarchaeologist	Oxford Archaeology
Fryer, Val	Molluscs/environmental	Freelance
Mark Gibson	Osteology	Oxford Archaeology

NAME	SPECIALISM	ORGANISATION
Gleed-Owen, Chris	Herpetologist (amphibians & reptiles)	CGO Ecology Ltd
Goffin, Richenda	Post-Roman pottery, building materials, painted wall plaster	Suffolk CC
Howard-Davis, Chris	Small finds, Mesolithic flint, leather, wooden objects and wood technology	Freelance
Locker, Alison	Fish bone	Freelance
Loe, Louise	Osteology	Oxford Archaeology
Lyons, Alice	Late Iron Age/Roman pottery	Oxford Archaeology
Martin, Toby	Anglo-Saxon metalwork and artefacts	Oxford University
Masters, Pete	Geophysics	Cranfield University
McIntyre, Lauren	Osteology	Oxford Archaeology
Middleton, Paul	Phosphates/garden history	Peterborough Regional College
Mould, Quita	Ironwork, leather	freelance
Nicholson, Rebecca	Fish and small mammal and bird bones, shell	Oxford Archaeology
Palmer, Rog	Aerial photographs	Air Photo Services
Percival, Sarah	Prehistoric pottery, quern stones	Freelance
Poole, Cynthia	Multi-period finds, CBM, fired clay	Oxford Archaeology
Popescu, Adrian	Roman and later coins	Fitzwilliam Museum
Quinn, Patrick	Pottery thin section, ceramic petrology	UCL
Riddler, Ian	Worked bone objects & related artefact types	Freelance
Robinson, Mark	Insects	Oxford University
Rowland, Steve	Zooarchaeology & osteology	Oxford Archaeology
Rutherford, Mairead	Pollen, diatoms, *etc*	Oxford Archaeology
Samuels, Mark	Architectural stonework	Freelance
Scott, Ian	Roman, medieval, post-medieval finds, metalwork, glass	Oxford Archaeology
Shaffrey, Ruth	Worked stone and Roman CBM	Oxford Archaeology
Smith, David	Insects	University of Birmingham
Smith, Ian	Zooarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Spoerry, Paul	Medieval pottery	Oxford Archaeology
Stafford, Liz	Molluscs and geoarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Timberlake, Simon	Archaeometallurgy & geoarchaeology	Freelance
Tyers, Ian	Dendrochronology	Sheffield University
Ui Choileain, Zoe	Osteology & zooarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Vickers, Kim	Insects	Sheffield University
Wadeson, Stephen	Samian pottery, Roman glass	Oxford Archaeology
Walker, Helen	Medieval pottery (Essex)	Essex CC
Way, Twigs	Medieval landscape and garden history	Freelance

NAME	SPECIALISM	ORGANISATION
Webb, Helen	Osteology	Oxford Archaeology
Young, Jane	Medieval Pottery (Lincolnshire)	Freelance
Zant, John	Roman coins	Oxford Archaeology

Radiocarbon dating is normally undertaken for Oxford Archaeology East by SUERC and by the Oxford University Accelerator Laboratory.

Geophysical prospection is normally undertaken by Magnitude Surveys Ltd.

C:\Users\gareth.rees\Desktop\1_Working Files\Walsham\XSFWLW18_Trench_Plan.dwg(A3 portrait)****gareth.rees* 19 Oct 2018

Walsham le Willows. Trench Plan

N

Pond
53.3m
Pond
Wattisfield Road
BROAD MEADOW
1
2
4
26
9
16
Mill Farm
Hatchmere House
Franchel
Gemini
Kestrels
Taunton Lodge
Greensted
5
1
POSTMILL GARDENS
The Mill
14

0 50m
1:750

0m 50m

oxford archaeology east east east

PLACE LICENSE TEXT HERE

oxfordarchaeology

Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1QD

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

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

REGISTERED CIfA ORGANISATION

Director: Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MCIfA
Oxford Archaeology Ltd is a Private Limited Company, N°: 1618597 and a Registered Charity, N°: 285627

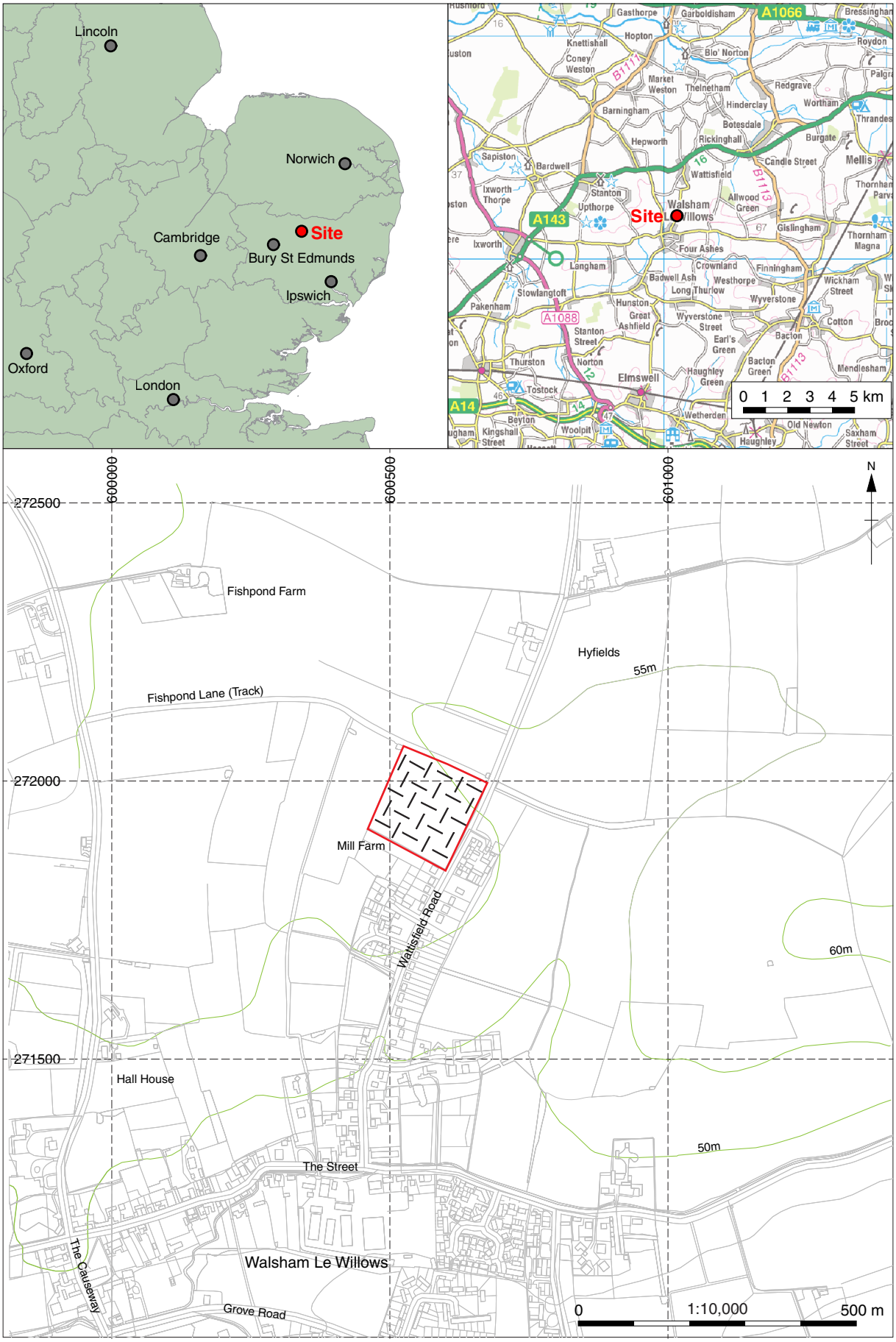

Figure 1: Site location showing development area outlined (red) and archaeological trenches (black)

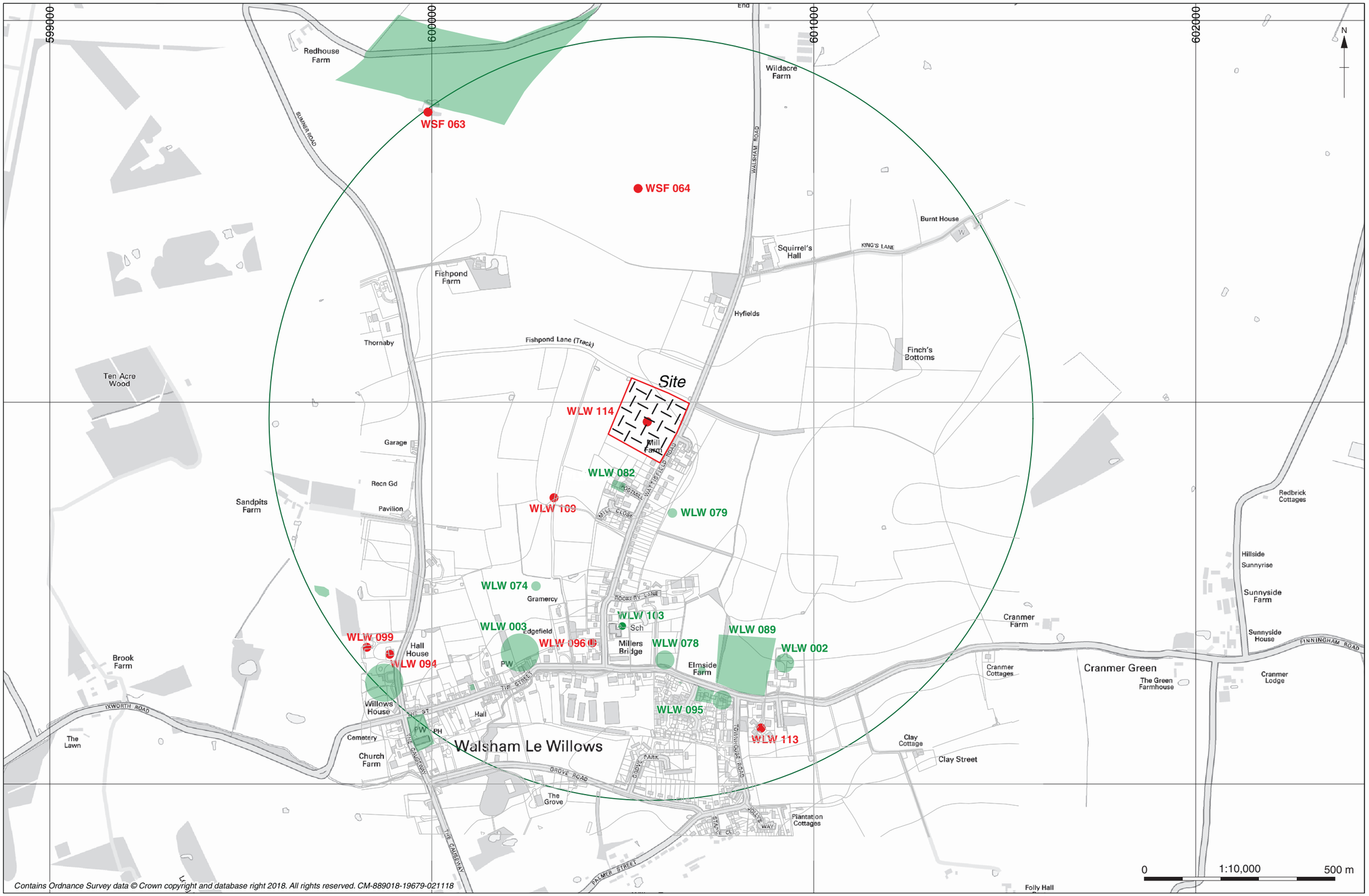

Figure 2: Map showing location of SHER events (green) and monuments (red). Scale 1:10000

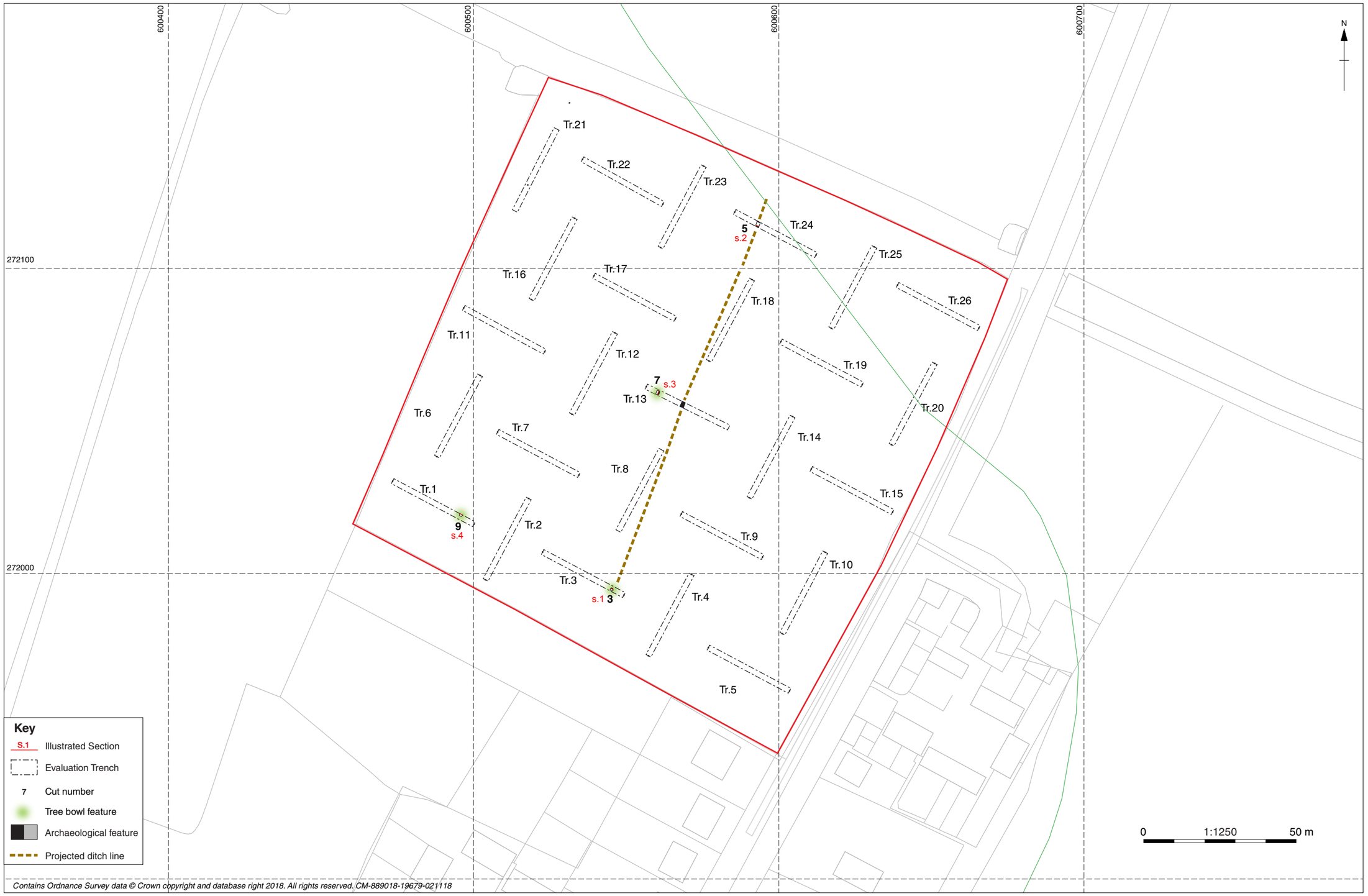

Figure 3: Trench plan.

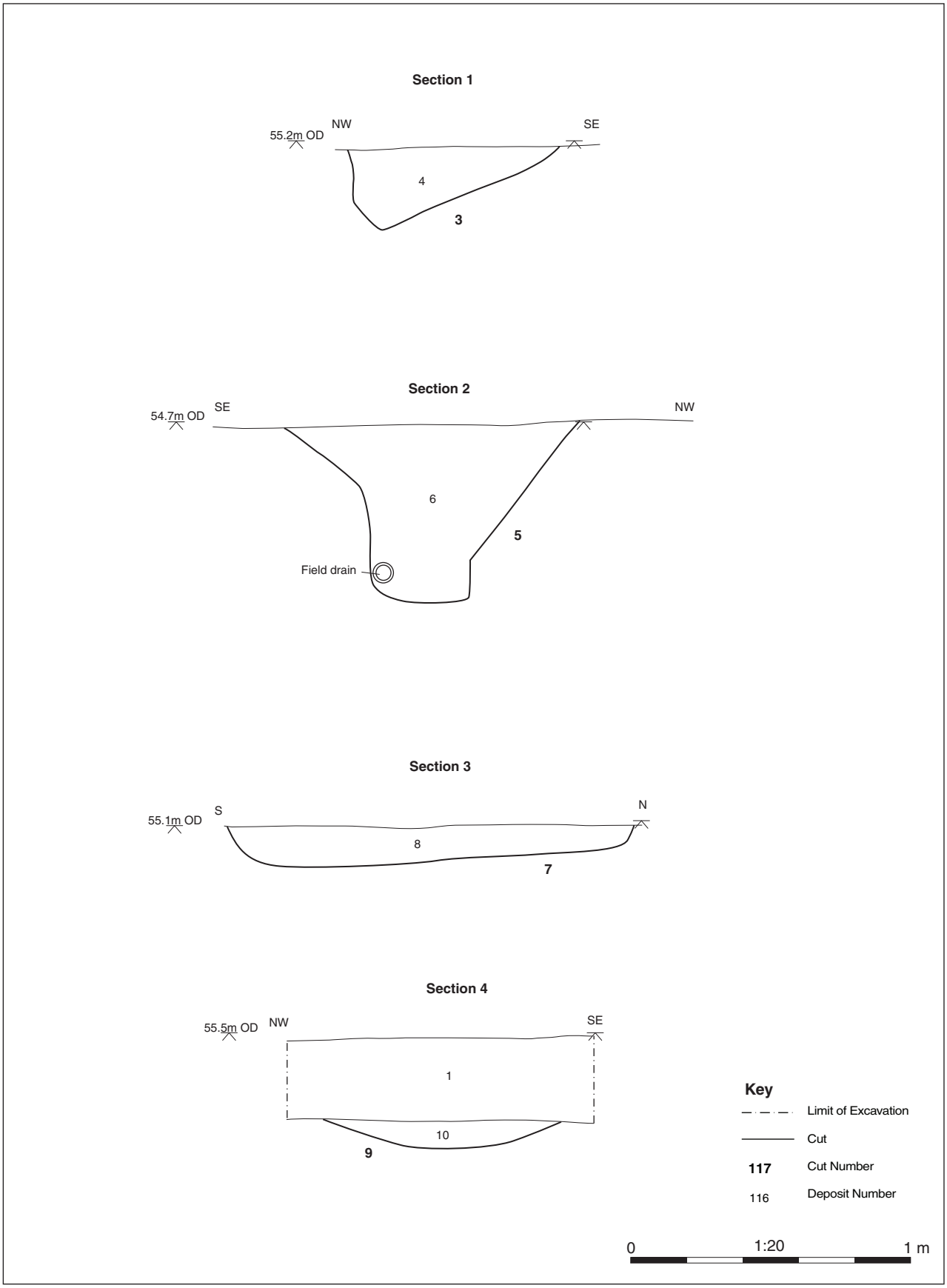

Figure 4: Sections. Scale 1:20

Plate 1: The site, looking east from Trench 1

Plate 2: Trench 2, looking southwest

Plate 3: Trench 25, looking southwest

Plate 4: Tree-bole **9**, looking northeast

Plate 5: Tree-bole **7**, looking northwest

Plate 6: Ditch **5**, looking south

oxfordarchaeology

Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1QD

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

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