A Prehistoric enclosure and other features at Land off Barkers Lane, March, Cambridgeshire

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Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

From the 23rd of October to the 6th of December 2017 Oxford Archaeology East undertook an archaeological evaluation at land south of Barkers Lane, March, Cambridgeshire (TL 4200 9500). A total of 91 trenches were excavated, the majority of which measured 50m in length but which also included a small number of square trenches located over anomalies identified via geophysical survey.

Ditches were recorded in the majority of the trenches with a number of poorly dated field systems on varying alignments revealed during excavation, most of which had been previously identified by a geophysical survey. Within these extensive field systems three main areas of archaeological interest were identified across the site.

In the south-west corner of the site a large sub-square enclosure, previously recorded from aerial photographs and measuring approximately 70m across, was identified in five of the trenches. The enclosure was formed by a very substantial ditch up to 5m wide and at least 2m deep. Few finds were recovered from the enclosure but a single sherd of Middle Bronze Age pottery from its upper fill suggests it dates to this period. A single Middle Bronze Age well was identified at the northern end of the site (Trench 6), which yielded 75 sherds (1017g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery and is thought to be contemporary with at least one of the field systems identified in this part of the site.

A Middle Iron Age presence was also noted on site. The majority of the pottery dating to this period was recovered from the fills of ditches in the south-west of the site. Pottery of this date only occurred in small quantities and no structures or other features suggestive of settlement activity during this period were recorded. A small quantity of Roman pottery was also recovered from a small number of ditches in the northern part of the site, particularly from ditches with an east to west alignment. One of the field systems may tentatively be dated to the Roman period, although the pottery is fairly abraded and may in many cases represent residual material caught up in later features.

A large number of pits were identified in the north-west corner of the site and contained no dateable finds or charred remains. These pits are thought to represent an area of quarrying and, whilst poorly dated, are thought most likely to be post-medieval.

Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology would like to thank MJS Construction, and specifically Ben Saxby, for commissioning this project and for providing the welfare and plant. Thanks is also extended to Kasia Gdaniec who monitored the work on behalf of Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team for their advice and guidance.

The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Stephen Macaulay. The fieldwork was directed by Kathryn Blackbourn, who was supported by Paddy Lambert, Simon Birnie, Sarita Louzolo and Anne-Marie Wooley. Survey and digitising was carried out by Sarita Louzolo. Thanks is also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Natasha Dodwell, processed the environmental remains under the management of Rachel Fosberry, and prepared the archive under the management of Katherine Hamilton.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by MJS Construction to undertake a trial trench evaluation at the site of Land off Barkers Lane, March, Cambridgeshire (Fig. 1).

1.1.2 The work was in advance of a submission of a Planning Application. A brief was set by Kasia Gdaniec and a written scheme of investigation was produced by OA detailing the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process. This document outlines how OA implemented the specified requirements.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The bedrock geology of the site is Ampthill Clay, overlain by glacial till deposits. The sites western edge lies on the edge of a north to south aligned ridge of gravels which runs along the 5m contour (British Geological Survey online map viewer http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html).

1.2.2 The soils on the site range from loamy soils over the narrow gravel ridge to the west, the main soil type is then clayey soils but the land enters deeper peaty soils to the far east (http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/)

1.2.3 Topography of the site runs from 4m in the west to 1m OD in the east and is flat and low lying. The west of the site lies along the fen-edge on the western side of March.

1.2.4 Current land use is predominately arable with a small area of rough pasture to the west.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The following section provides a brief period summary of known heritage assets close to the site. This information is drawn from the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER, Fig 2) and numbers cited here relate to individual CHER record entries.

Previous Archaeological Investigations

1.3.2 Whilst there have not been any archaeological investigations within the site itself, there have been a number of significant archaeological investigations (evaluations and excavations) in the close vicinity. These include a number of archaeological interventions at the Neale-Wade Community College, which lies to immediately northwest of the site (ECB 3283 & 3360), and archaeological evaluations and excavations off Wimblington Road and Jobs Lane to the west (ECB 3013, 1005, 1474, 1475).

1.3.3 These sites all sit on the gravel outcrop on which March is located, to the west of the proposed development site.

1.3.4 An irregular, sub-square enclosure identified from cropmarks (11645) lies in the far southwest corner of the site and is the only CHER event that lies with the proposed development area.

Prehistoric

1.3.5 A number of prehistoric features have been identified within the vicinity of the site. An Early Bronze Age pit containing worked flint and beaker pottery (ECB 3013) was excavated 300m to the west of the site. Immediately north of the site an excavation) revealed a series of wells dating to the Late Bronze Age, these yielded an antler pick, rich environmental remains and preserved wood (ECB 3360. An Iron Age ditch was also identified at this site. Prehistoric remains were also identified 700m to the west (ECB 3751).

1.3.6 Prehistoric finds have also been recovered in the area, a Bronze Age axe hammer (05917) was recovered 300m west of the site. An Iceni (Late Iron Age) coin hoard was recorded 350m north of the site (MCB 16060). During a watching brief that took place at the Church Bronze Age flint and Late Iron Age pottery was recovered (MCB 17446).

Roman

1.3.7 A large quantity of Roman remains has been identified to the west of the site. A possible villa was identified (09009) with cropmarks revealing a rectilinear enclosure with surrounding field systems and small enclosures. Excavations within this area have revealed a Roman settlement (ECB 1475) dating from the 1st to 3rd century AD which yielded evidence for crop processing alongside pottery and salt production. A further excavation to the east of this (ECB 1005) also identified features which related to the Roman farmstead or villa. A Roman V-shaped ditch was also identified to the north of this main area of settlement (ECB 3013).

1.3.8 Further north from the Site, Roman field systems were recorded off Upwell (Eastwood Cemetery) Road (MCB19340).

1.3.9 Roman find spots also occur in the area with Roman pottery, coins and other metal objects recovered 550m north-west of the site (03781). A Roman coin hoard was identified within a large pottery vessel (05915) 750m to the west of the site.

Saxon, Medieval and Post-Medieval

1.3.10 The site lies to the east of St Wendreda's Church (06013, MCB 16846), known to date from at least the 14th century but with earlier 12th century origins.

1.3.11 The March Sconce, a Civil War Fort, and Scheduled Monument (DCB241), lies 500m north of the site.

1.3.12 Medieval cultivation remains have been identified to the west of the site (ECB 1474), as have post-medieval quarry pits (ECB 1475). Medieval pits have also been identified 200m west of the site and medieval ditches which contained large quantities of medieval pottery recorded 200m north-west of the site (ECB 3283).

1.3.13 Three phases of medieval activity were recorded 250m north-west of the site, dating from the 12th to 16th centuries and comprising industrial pits which had been excavated alongside a contemporary large boundary ditch (ECB 3360). A large post medieval moat was also identified at this site, measuring 15m wide and 2.5m deep.

Further quarry pits of a medieval and post-medieval date were identified 550m north-west of the site (ECB 281) along with ditches of a contemporary date.

1.3.14 A shrunken medieval village (ECB 08442) is recorded 750m to the west, where scatters of brick, burnt pebbles, large sherds of pottery dating to the 15th century, oyster shell and quern stone attest to an area of occupation. Post-medieval pottery was also recovered from this area (ECB 08442a).

1.3.15 Ridge and furrow has been recorded 500m north-west (ECB 11643) and 850m west (ECB 11644) of the site.

1.3.16 A Saxon cruciform brooch was recovered 550m north-west of the site (ECB 03781a) along with Roman finds (see above). A Medieval coin (11994) depicting Edward I or II was recovered 450m west of the site.

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The project aims and objectives were as follows:

i. To establish the character, date, state of preservation of archaeological remains within the proposed development area.
ii. To identify ground truth geophysical results and cropmark/soilmarks identified from aerial photography, by testing a range of anomalies of likely archaeological origin, and areas where no anomalies registered
iii. 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

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 A geophysical survey was conducted at the site which identified a series of ditches as well as isolated anomalies potentially representing pits (Magnitude Surveys 2017). The geophysical survey also identified traces of the sub-square enclosure in the south-western part of the site, previously plotted from aerial photographs. The results of the geophysical survey are shown in relation to the trench plan and the plotted cropmark of the enclosure in Figure 3.

2.2.2 A total of 89 trenches were planned to be excavated, the majority of which were 50m in length and targeted across positive results from the geophysical survey. A small number of trenches were square in shape, measuring 5m x 5m, which were targeted across possible pits. Two additional trenches were then excavated in areas which needed further investigation (Trenches 90 and 91) at the request of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team (CHET) Senior Archaeologist (Kasia Gdaneic). An area between Trenches 31 and 32 was also extended to identify the full extent of archaeology in this area, again at the CHET Senior Archaeologists instruction.

2.2.3 All mechanical excavation took place using a 360-type excavator with a ditching bucket measuring 2m wide, and was monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

2.2.4 Environmental samples were taken from a variety of features on site including pits, post-holes, ditches and wells.

2.2.5 Site conditions varied during the six weeks on site, some areas were prone to flooding after heavy rain due to the impermeable clay based geology. The water table was also reached in the south-west corner of the site at approximately 1m below ground level.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below, and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendix A. Finds data and spot dates are tabulated in Appendix B and Environmental data in Appendix C. Cut numbers in text are written in bold type.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The soil sequence between all trenches was fairly uniform. The natural geology (3) consisted of a mix of yellow white clay and yellow orange gravels which was overlain by a mid grey brown clayey silt subsoil (2), which in turn was overlain by topsoil (1), consisting of a mid to dark grey brown clayey silt. The only exception to this was in Trench 33, where the northern baulk of the trench also contained a layer of peat which measured approximately 0.08m thick and lie above the natural geology and below the subsoil. Although features with peaty fills were identified across the eastern part of the site no other layers of peat were observed.

3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the trenches remained 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 The majority of the trenches excavated contained archaeological features, these largely comprised ditches which formed various field systems with varying alignments and dates. These ditches were identified via the geophysical survey which had been undertaken (Magnitude Surveys 2017). Across the trenches excavated a total of 75 ditches were excavated, making up a representative sample of those identified. Pits, wells, postholes and a surface were also excavated.

3.3.2 Three main areas of archaeology were identified at the site. These included an area of Industrial activity towards the north-east of the site, an area of pitting in the north-west and a large enclosure with associated features in the south-west. The Trenches will be discussed spatially; trenches will be discussed as a group where they contained evidence for the same types of feature thought to be of a contemporary date. Where appropriate, features are discussed in stratigraphic order.

3.3.3 All trenches measured 50m in length and 2m wide unless otherwise stated.

3.4 North-west Field (Fig 4 and 5)

3.4.1 A total of 16 trenches were excavated in the north-west field, the most northerly seven trenches contained a larger quantity of archaeological features, dominated by pits, although very little finds were recovered from these features (Fig. 4). The remaining trenches mostly revealed ditches including some which formed part of a field system and others which did not obviously fit this pattern.

Trench 1

3.4.2 Trench 1 had a north-east to south-west orientation and contained six pits and two ditches. At the north-east end of the trench was pit **272** which measured 2m wide and 0.4m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (273) consisted of a light grey brown clayey silt. An environmental sample of this fill contained snail shells.

3.4.3 Immediately south-west was pit **274** which measured 1.2m wide and 0.7m deep with steep sides and a concave base. This pit contained two fills, the basal fill (275) measured 0.18m thick and consisted of a mid orange grey silty clay. Overlying this was 276 which measured 0.52m thick and consisted of a mid brown grey clayey silt. This pit was truncated by ditch **277** which had a north to south alignment and measured 0.8m wide and 0.26m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Section 107, Fig. 13). Its single fill (278) consisted of a mid brown grey clayey silt.

3.4.4 Further to the south-west was pit **281**, which measured 1m wide and 0.22m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (282) consisted of a mid brown grey clayey silt that contained a single sherd (13g) of post-medieval pottery and a sherd (3g) of pottery which was not closely dateable. To the west pit **279** was partially exposed, this feature measured 1.9m wide and 0.3m deep with steep sides and a flat base (Section 108, Fig. 13). Its single fill (280) consisted of a mid grey brown clayey silt and was truncated by two field drains.

3.4.5 At the south-west end of the trench was pit **306** which measured 0.7m wide and 0.24m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (307) consisted of a mid brown grey clayey silt. This pit was truncated on its western side by field drain **308**. Immediately to the west a pit and an east to west aligned ditch were left unexcavated.

Trench 2

3.4.6 Located to the east of Trench 1 was Trench 2, which had a north to south orientation and contained a number of pits as well as two small linear features on a north-west to south-east orientation, both of which remained unexcavated.

3.4.7 At the northern end of the trench a small cluster of inter-cutting pits was identified. Pit **302** measured 0.75m wide and 0.24m deep with steep sides and a concave base, its single fill (303) consisted of a mid grey brown clayey silt. This pit was truncated on its northern side by pit **304**. Pit **254** measured 1.4m wide and 0.61m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Plate 1). It contained two fills, the basal fill (255) measured 0.4m thick and consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay an environmental sample was taken from this fill and contained snail shells. Overlying this was fill 283 which measured 0.38m thick and consisted of a dark brown grey silty clay. This pit was truncated on its western side by pit **304**. Pit **304** measured 1m wide and 0.24m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (305) consisted of a mid grey brown clayey silt.

3.4.8 To the north was pit **256** which measured 1m wide and 0.33m deep with steep sides and a flat base (Plate 2). Its single fill (257) consisted of a dark brown grey silty clay.

3.4.9 Approximately 17m to the south of this was pit **251** which measured 1.3m wide and 0.5m deep with gently sloped sides and a flat base (Section 103, Fig. 15). This pit contained two fills, the basal fill (253) measured 0.3m thick and consisted of a mid yellow grey silty clay. Overlying this was fill 252 which measured 0.2m thick and consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay. This fill was sampled and yielded duckweed seeds.

3.4.10 This trench contained three further pits which remained unexcavated.

Trench 3

3.4.11 Along the western limits of excavation was Trench 3, laid out on a north to south alignment, which contained a series of pits, as well as an east to west orientated ditch and two unexcavated ditches; one with a north-east to south-west orientation and the other north-west to south-east.

3.4.12 Three intercutting pits were partially exposed along the north-western edge of the trench. Pit **243** measured 1.8m wide and 0.26m deep with steep sides and a flat base. This pit contained a single fill (244) which consisted of a light brown grey clayey sand which was truncated by pit **249**.

3.4.13 Pit **267** measured 0.5m wide and 0.14m deep with gently sloped sides and a flat base, its single fill (268) consisted of a light grey brown clayey sand. This pit was also truncated by pit **249**. Pit **249** measured 1.15m, wide and 0.32m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. This pit contained two fills, the basal fill (259) measured 0.38m thick and consisted of a mid yellow brown silty clay which contained occasional medium and large stones. Overlying this was fill 250 which measured 0.32m thick and consisted of a light brown grey brown clayey sand.

3.4.14 To the south was ditch **245** which had an east to west alignment and measured 0.8m wide and 0.12m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (246) consisted of a light brown grey clayey sand.

3.4.15 A possible hollow way (**247**) was identified in the southern part of the trench. This feature has an east to west orientation and measured 3.3m wide and 0.18m deep with gently sloped sides and a flat base. Its single fill (248) consisted of a light brown grey clayey sand and contained a single sherd (8g) of Middle Iron Age pottery.

3.4.16 The southern end of this trench underwent deeper excavation with a machine in order to further define a large area of features which upon excavation was revealed to be a series of intercutting pits measuring between 0.6m to 1.4m wide and depths of up to 0.3m. No finds were recovered from these features and their fills were similar to the other pits present within this trench.

Trench 4

3.4.17 To the east was Trench 4 which had a north-west to south-east orientation and contained a number of ditches on an east to west or north to south alignment as well as pits and tree-throw features.

3.4.18 At the western end of the trench was Ditch **239** which had an east to west alignment and measured 1.1m wide and 0.2m deep with steep sides and a flat base. Its single fill

(240) consisted of a mid brown grey clayey silt. This ditch was truncated on its northern side by ditch **241** which also had an east to west alignment and measured 1.1m wide and 0.3m deep with steep sides and a flat base. Its single fill (242) consisted of a mixed light orangey grey silty clay.

3.4.19 To the south east was pit **237** which measured 1.5m wide and 0.1m deep with barely perceptible sides and a flat base. Its single fill (238) consisted of a light brown grey clayey silt. At the south-east of the trench was tree throw **235** which measured 1.5m wide and 0.32m wide with irregular sides and base. Its single fill (236) consisted of a mid grey brown clayey silt.

Trench 5

3.4.20 Trench 5 had an east to west orientation and contained four post-holes and two ditches on a roughly north to south alignment which remained unexcavated.

3.4.21 At the western end of the trench was post-hole **233** which measured 0.3m wide and 0.1m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (234) consisted of a mid grey brown clayey silt. East of this was post-hole **231** which measured 0.32m wide and 0.11m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (232) was a mid grey brown clayey silt. Post-hole **229** measured 0.58m wide and 0.1m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (230) consisted of a mid brown grey clayey silt.

3.4.22 The fourth post-hole had a dark, modern fill with the post still *in-situ* and was not excavated.

Trench 6

3.4.23 Running parallel to the eastern limits of the north-west field, Trench 6 had a north to south orientation. This trench contained a single ditch and a well.

3.4.24 Ditch **217** had a roughly east to west alignment and measured 1.14m wide and 0.43m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (218) consisted of a mixed bluey grey brown silty clay.

3.4.25 North of this ditch was well **219**, which was half sectioned, recorded and then fully excavated. The well was sub-square in plan, with evidence for posts having been set in all four corners, and measured 1m wide and 1.3m deep with vertical/slightly undercut sides and a concave base (Plate 3 and 4; Section 90, Fig. 15). This well contained seven fills.

3.4.26 The basal fill (310) was 0.2m thick and consisted of a light grey silt that contained three sherds (67g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery, a single flint flake and three fragments (30g) of fired clay. An environmental sample from this fill yielded charcoal and snails. This was overlain by fill 287 which measured 0.32m thick and consisted of a dark grey silt that contained frequent charcoal inclusions. This fill contained 24 sherds (399g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery, a single fragment (1g) of small mammal bone, a fragment (51g) of possible fired clay loom weight, an amorphous fragment (2g) of fired clay and four pieces of worked flint. An environmental sample from this fill produced a large amount of charcoal.

3.4.27 Fill 311 was only identified during full excavation of the feature and represented an area of slump on the eastern side of the well, measuring 0.2m thick and consisting of a mid brown orange silty sand. Overlying this was fill 286 which measured 0.08m thick and consisted of a light grey clayey silt that contained occasional charcoal. Finds recovered from this fill included two worked flint flakes, a fragment (42g) of red deer bone as well as an intrusive sherd (18g) of 19th century pottery. A dump of burnt material (285) overlay this, measuring 0.14m thick and consisting of a dark grey clayey silt with very frequent charcoal inclusions. A total of 41 sherds (480g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery was recovered from this fill as well as five pieces of worked flint including a flint core and a single fragment (10g) of fired clay.

3.4.28 A period of natural silting occurred which resulted in fill 284, this measured 0.24m thick and consisted of a light brown grey silty clay and contained seven sherds (71g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery and a single worked flint flake. An assemblage of cattle, large mammal, pig and sheep/goat bone (35 fragments, weighing 445g) was also recovered from this fill as were three fragments (10g) of fired clay. The uppermost fill 220 measured 0.36m thick and consisted of a mid orange grey silty clay that contained a single worked flint flake. An environmental sample from this fill yielded charcoal.

Trench 90

3.4.29 Trench 90 was excavated between Trenches 6 and 2 to further identify whether archaeological features were present in this area. Trench 90 measured 31m in length and had a north-east to south-west orientation. This trench contained two post-holes and a single (unexcavated) ditch.

3.4.30 Post-hole **298** measured 0.35m wide and 0.09m deep with imperceptible sides and flat base. Its single fill (299) consisted of a mid grey brown clayey silt. To the south of this was post-hole **300** which measured 0.35m wide and 0.08m deep with imperceptible sides and a concave base. Its single fill (301) consisted of a dark brown grey clayey silt.

Trenches 7-15 (Fig. 5)

3.4.31 Features exposed by Trenches 7 to 15 largely consisted of ditches on a north to south or east to west orientation, probably forming part of a single field system. A sample of these were excavated in an attempt to characterise and date them.

3.4.32 Trench 7 had an east to west orientation and contained two pits and two ditches with a north to south alignment. Pit **289** was located at the western end of the trench and measured 0.7m wide and 0.22m deep with gently sloped sides and a flat base. Its single fill (290) consisted of a light brown grey silty clay. The remaining features were not excavated.

3.4.33 In addition to several unexcavated ditches, Trench 8 contained a single tree throw (**227**) which measured 1.7m wide and 0.1m deep with barely perceptible sides and an irregular base. Its single fill (228) consisted of a mid brown grey silt.

3.4.34 To the east was Trench 9 which contained two unexcavated ditches on a north-west to south-east alignment. South of this was Trench 10, which contained three ditches on an east to west alignment.

3.4.35 Trench 11 had a north-west to south east orientation and contained three ditches with a north to south alignment, one of which was excavated. A further ditch with an east to west alignment was also present alongside a single pit. At the south-east end of the trench north to south orientated ditch **221** was exposed, this feature measured 0.62m wide and 0.22m deep with gently sloped sides and a flat base. Its single fill 222 consisted of a light brown silty clay. Immediately west of this was pit **225** which measured 0.88m wide and 0.18m deep with gently sloped sides and an irregular base. Its single fill 226 consisted of a mid brown silty clay. Ditch **223** had an east to west alignment and measured 0.62 wide and 0.22m deep with gently sloped sides and a flat base (Plate 5; Section 92, Fig. 13). Its single fill (224) consisted of a dark orange brown silty clay sand and contained 12 sherds (100g) of a small Roman jar.

3.4.36 Trench 12 had an east to west orientation and contained five ditches on a north to south alignment. The most easterly was excavated (**293**) and measured 0.68m wide and 0.5m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (294) consisted of a light orange brown clayey silt.

3.4.37 Trench 13 had a north-east to south-west orientation and contained three ditches on an east to west alignment which all remained unexcavated. A pit, post-hole and tree throw were also recorded in this trench. Tree throw **205** measured 0.76m wide and 0.12m deep with steep sides and an irregular base. Its single fill (206) consisted of a light brown grey silty clay. Immediately to the south-west was post-hole **207** which measured 0.38m wide and 0.12m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. It single fill (208) consisted of a light brown grey silty clay. Further north-east was pit **215** which measured 0.42m wide and 0.22m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It single fill (216) consisted of a mixed mid reddish brown and dark grey brown silty clay. This fill was sampled but yielded no preserved remains.

3.4.38 Trench 14 had a north-west to south-east orientation and contained two ditches, one on an east to west alignment and the other on a north-east to south-west alignment. A single pit was also recorded in this trench. Pit **291** measured 0.4m wide and 0.1m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (292) consisted of a light brown grey sandy clay.

3.4.39 To the east of Trench 14 was Trench 15 which had a north-east to south-west orientation and contained two ditches, one with an east to west alignment and the other north to south. Neither of these ditches were excavated.

3.5 North-east fields (Fig 6, 7 and 9)

3.5.1 A total of 30 trenches are included in this area, the majority of which contained ditches on various alignments, including marling ditches, which were not identified in the north-west field. An area of pitting was also recorded in Trenches 31 and 32 at the northern end of the field.

Trenches 16-19 and 23-27 (Fig. 6)

3.5.2 Trench 16, 17 and 18 all contained ditches on either a north to south (two in total) or east to west alignment (eight in total), none of which were excavated. Trench 19 had an east to west orientation and contained a single ditch with a north to south

alignment alongside a post-hole and possible pit. Post-hole **147** measured 0.33m wide and 0.12m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (148) consisted of a mid reddish grey silty clay. To the east of this was pit **149** which measured 0.36m wide and 0.16m deep with steep sides and an irregular base. Its single fill (150) consisted of a mottled mid orange grey sandy clay that contained 27 fragments (136g) of fired clay.

3.5.3 Trench 23 was located at the north end of the field, on an east to west alignment and contained two marling ditches, a gully and a tree throw. Tree throw **104** measured 0.65m wide and 0.23m deep with irregular sides and base. Its single fill (105) consisted of a light brown grey silty clay. Two gully terminus were identified at the western end of the trench. Gully **100** had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 0.33m wide and 0.04m deep with steep sides and a flat base. Its single fill (101) consisted of a mid yellow brown silty clay. Approximately 9m to the west was gully terminus **102** which appeared to have an east to west alignment and measured 0.36m wide and 0.04m deep with steep sides and a flat base. Its single fill (103) the same as 101.

3.5.4 South of this was Trench 25 which had a north-west to south-east orientation and contained three marling ditches (unexcavated), a ditch on a north-east to south-west alignment and a tree throw. Tree throw **94** measured 1.5m wide and 0.3m deep with irregular sides and base. Its single fill (95) consisted of a light yellow grey silty clay with charcoal inclusions. To the north-west was ditch **98** which measured 0.53m wide and 0.38m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (99) consisted of a light yellowish grey silty clay.

3.5.5 Trench 24 had a north to south orientation and contained a ditch on an east to west alignment, a pit and two tree throws. Tree throw **120** was only partially exposed at the southern end of the trench. It measured 1.3m wide and 0.22m deep with irregular sides and base. Its single fill (121) consisted of a dark grey brown silty clay. To the north was tree throw **114** which measured 0.66m wide and 0.32m deep irregular sides and base. Its single fill (115) consisted of a dark brown grey silty clay. this tree throw was truncated by pit **116** which measured 0.7m wide and 0.56m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. This pit contained three fills, its basal fill (118) measured 0.1m thick and consisted of a mid grey brown silty clay which was overlain by fill 119 which measured 0.42m thick and consisted of a light brown grey silty clay. the uppermost fill (117) measured 0.16m thick and consisted of a mid yellow grey silty clay.

3.5.6 Trench 26 had an east to west orientation and contained two ditches, one on a north to south alignment and one which was aligned slightly north-east to south-west (both unexcavated). A tree throw was also present in this trench. Tree throw **96** measured 0.9m wide and 0.1m deep with gently sloped sides and an irregular base. Its single fill (97) consisted of a light grey brown silty clay.

3.5.7 Immediately south was Trench 27 which had a north-west to south-east orientation and contained three marling ditches, two ditches with a roughly north to south alignment (unexcavated) and two pits. Pit **106** measured 0.7m wide and 0.1m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (107) consisted of a dark grey

brown silty clay. To the south-east was pit **108** which measured 1.1m wide and 0.74m deep with steep undercut sides and a concave base (Plate 6). Its single fill (109) consisted of a light brown grey silty clay, an environmental sample of this fill yielded evidence for charred cereal and snails

Trenches 31 and 32 (Fig. 7 and 8)

3.5.8 Eleven trenches were excavated in the north-east corner of the site. The north-east end of Trench 31 and the western end of Trench 32 were extended to reveal features which could not be adequately characterised within the limits of the trenches. Features present in these two trenches will be discussed together. These features were cut high in the stratigraphic sequence, beneath the topsoil.

3.5.9 At the eastern end of Trench 32 was pit **112** which measured 0.8m wide and 0.16m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (113) consisted of a dark reddish brown silty clay.

3.5.10 Towards the western end of Trench 32 and within the extended area and Trench 31 were a series of post-holes, a rough north-east to south-west alignment may be suggested for three of the post-holes (**24**, **26** and **28**), however, most are clustered and no distinct structure could be identified. These are tabulated below (Table 1).

Cut	Fill	Trench	Dimensions (m)	Profile	Fill Description	Enviro	Finds
18	19	31	0.4 x 0.15	U Shape	Mid brown grey clay, a single large stone		
20	21	31	0.6 x 0.14	U Shape	Light grey yellow clay, occ charcoal	duckweed	
22	23	31	0.34 x 0.1	U Shape	Mid brown grey silty clay, rare stones		
24	25	31	0.4 x 0.16	U Shape	Dark grey brown silty clay, frequent CBM flecks	charcoal	
26	27	31	0.23 x 0.08	U Shape	Light grey silty clay, frequent gravel		
28	29	31	0.53 x 0.1	U Shape	Mid grey brown silty clay, frequent charcoal	charcoal	
110	111	32	0.42 x 0.16	U Shape	Dark brown grey silty clay		

Cut	Fill	Trench	Dimensions (m)	Profile	Fill Description	Enviro	Finds
152	153	31/32	0.44 x 0.3	U Shape	Mid red brown silty clay, frequent charcoal	Charred seeds and snails	14 frags Briquetage (80g)
154	155	31/32	0.32 x 0.09	U Shape	Light brown grey silty clay, rare small stones		
156	157	31/32	0.42 x 0.16	U Shape	Mid red brown silty clay, frequent charcoal		
160	161	31/32	0.36 x 0.22	U Shape	Light brown grey silty clay, rare small stones	duckweed	
162	163	31/32	0.22 x 0.1	U Shape	Light brown grey silty clay, frequent small stones		
166	167	31/32	0.46 x 0.09	U Shape	Dark brown grey silty clay, charcoal		
168	169	31/32	0.32 x 0.1	U Shape	Mid brown grey silty clay, rare gravel		Fragment of fired clay (3g). Three frags Briquetage (5g)

Table 1: Post-hole descriptions

3.5.11 Pit **173** was identified at the western end of Trench 32 and measured 2.3m wide and 0.7m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Section 74, Fig. 15). This pit contained five fills. The basal fill (183) measured 0.06m thick and consisted of a mid yellow brown silty sand which most likely represents slumping. Overlying this was fill 182 which measured 0.54m thick and consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay that contained a single sherd (3g) of pottery dating to the 19th century. This fill was sampled and contained charred seeds. A 0.16m thick dump of burnt material (179) overlay this deposit. This fill consisted of a dark grey brown clayey silt with frequent charcoal and CBM inclusions that contained nine fragments (44g) of fired clay and briquetage. Overlying this were two fills; fill 180 measured 0.14m thick and consisted of a dark grey brown clayey silt that contained frequent charcoal and CBM inclusion and fill 181 which measured 0.14m thick and was similar to 180.

3.5.12 Pit **173** was truncated by marling ditch **177** which had an east to west alignment and measured 0.36m wide and 0.3m deep with steep sides and a flat base. Its single fill (178) consisted of a dark brown grey clayey silt.

3.5.13 Directly to the west was pit **172** which measured 1.73m wide and 0.7m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Plate 7; Section 73, Fig. 13). This pit contained three fills, its basal fill (174) measured 0.22m thick and consisted of a light yellow grey silty clay that contained 114g of briquetage and fired clay. This fill was sampled and yielded evidence for duckweed and charred seeds. Overlying this was fill 175 which measured 0.23m thick and consisted of a dark grey red brown sandy clay that contained frequent charcoal inclusions and 12 fragments (66g) of briquetage. An environmental sample from this deposit contained charred seeds. The uppermost fill (176) measured 0.32m thick and consisted of a mid brown grey sandy clay that contained frequent charcoal inclusions.

3.5.14 To the south was pit **30** which measured 2.1m wide and 0.46m deep with sloped sides and a concave base. This pit contained four fills, its basal fill (184) measured 0.1m thick and consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay. Overlying this was fill 31 which measured 0.34m thick and consisted of a mid grey brown clay and contained a single fragment (4g) of pig bone. An environmental sample taken from this fill yielded charcoal. Fill 32 measured 0.16m thick and consisted of a dark grey silty clay that contained frequent charcoal inclusions. The uppermost fill (33) measured 0.1m thick and consisted of a mid blue grey clay which contained frequent burnt clay inclusions and seven fragments (22g) of tile. Four further pits with similar characteristics were left unexcavated.

3.5.15 Two tree throws were present in the area extended between the two trenches. Tree throw **164** measured 1m wide and 0.22m deep with gently sloped sides and an irregular base. Its single fill (165) consisted of a light brown grey silty clay. to the east was tree throw **170** which measured 0.95m wide and 0.15m deep with gently sloped sides and an irregular base. Its single fill (171) consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay. This fill was environmentally sampled and contained charred seeds and snails.

3.5.16 At the south-western end of Trench 31 were two ditches on a north-west to south-east alignment. Ditch **16** terminated within the trench and measured 0.5m wide and 0.14m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (17) consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay. South-west of this was ditch **14** which measured 0.5m wide and 0.12m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (15) consisted of a mid grey brown silty clay.

Trenches 33-41 (Fig.7)

3.5.17 Trench 33 was located running parallel with the northern boundary of the site on an east to west alignment. This trench contained two pits. Pit **4** measured 0.42m wide and 0.56m deep with vertical sides and a concave base. Its single fill (5) consisted of a dark grey peaty clay. This was truncated by pit **8** which measured 0.9m wide and 0.2m deep with sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (9) consisted of a mid grey brown clayey silt.

3.5.18 To the south was Trench 35, which had a north-east to south-west orientation and contained a ditch, pit, post-hole and tree throw. Ditch **56** had a north to south alignment and measured 0.7m wide and 0.24m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (57) consisted of a mid bluey grey silty clay. To the west was pit **36** which measured 0.6m wide and 0.34m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its

single fill (37) consisted of a dark grey brown silty clay. Tree throw **34** measured 0.82m wide and 0.44m deep with gently sloped sides and an irregular base. Its single fill (35) consisted of a dark grey brown silty clay and contained charcoal. This tree throw was truncated by post-hole **10** which measured 0.3m wide and 0.1m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (11) consisted of a dark grey brown silty clay, an environmental sample from which yielded large quantities of charcoal.

3.5.19 Trench 34 contained a single marling ditch on an east to west alignment and a tree throw, **12**, which measured 1.1m wide and 0.12m deep with gently sloped sides and an irregular base. Its single fill (13) consisted of a light reddish yellow clay. An environmental sample taken from this fill yielded charcoal.

3.5.20 To the east was Trench 38 which had a roughly north to south orientation and contained two pits and a ditch. Ditch **38** had an east to west alignment and measured 0.3m wide and 0.1m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its single fill (39) consisted of a light brown grey silty clay. This was truncated by pit **40** which measured 0.8m wide and 0.14m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (41) consisted of a dark grey brown peaty silt. Pit **52** was located at the southern end of the trench and measured 0.6m wide and 0.14m deep with gently sloped sides and an irregular base, its single fill (53) consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay.

3.5.21 Trench 39 had a north-east to south-west orientation and contained a tree throw and a ditch. Ditch **73** had a north to south alignment and measured 0.8m wide and 0.34m deep, with gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its single fill (74) consisted of a light grey silty clay. To the east was tree throw **75** which measured 0.7m wide and 0.34m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (76) consisted of a light grey silty clay.

3.5.22 Immediately to the west was Trench 37 which had a north to south orientation and contained two ditches on a north-west to south-east alignment (one unexcavated), one ditch on an east to west alignment and a marling ditch aligned north-east to south-west. Ditch **63** was located at the southern end of the trench and had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 0.57m wide and 0.37m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Plate 8; Section 25, Fig. 13). Its single fill (64) consisted of a mid grey brown clay. To the north was marling ditch **61** which had an east to west alignment and measured 0.5m wide and 0.19m deep with vertical sides and a flat base (Plate 9; Section 24, Fig. 13). Its single fill (62) consisted of a dark grey brown clayey peat.

3.5.23 Trench 36 had a north to south alignment and contained a single east to west ditch (unexcavated) and ditch **48** which had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 0.5m wide and 0.16m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (49) consisted of a light grey silty clay.

3.5.24 To the south-east was Trench 40 which had a north-west to south-east orientation and contained a single ditch. Ditch **82** had an east to west orientation and measured 0.44m wide and 0.1m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (83) consisted of a light yellow grey clay.

3.5.25 Trench 41 had a north-west to south-east orientation and contained two marling ditches and three ditches. At the north-west end of the trench was ditch **84** which had

a roughly north to south alignment and measured 0.5m wide and 0.34m deep with steep sides and a V-shaped base. Its single fill (85) consisted of a light grey silty clay.

3.5.26 Ditch **86** had an east to west alignment and terminated within the trench at its western end. This ditch measured 0.6m wide and 0.24m deep, with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (87) consisted of a light grey silty clay. Marling ditch **88** had an east north-east to west south-west alignment and measured 0.6m wide and 0.26m deep with gently sloped sides and a flat base. Its single fill (89) consisted of a dark grey silty peat. Approximately 20m south-east was ditch **90** which had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 0.44m wide and 0.2m deep with steep sides and a v-shaped base. Its single fill (91) consisted of a light orange silty clay.

3.5.27 Directly south-east was marling ditch **92** which had an east to west alignment and measured 0.62m wide and 0.06m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (93) consisted of a dark grey silty peat.

Trenches 20-22, 28-30 and 42-45 (Fig. 9)

3.5.28 Trench 20 had a north-west to south-east orientation and contained eight ditches on a roughly east to west alignment, one of which was excavated (**143**) which measured 0.76m wide and 0.34m deep with steep sides and a flat base. Its single fill (144) consisted of a mid grey brown silty clay. Immediately south was post-hole **145** which measured 0.3m wide and 0.15m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (146) consisted of a light grey brown silty clay.

3.5.29 To the east was Trench 28 which was also orientated north-west to south-east. This trench contained a ditch as well as two marling ditches (unexcavated) and a tree throw. At the north-west end was ditch **124** which had an east to west alignment and measured 0.6m wide and 0.09m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (125) consisted of a dark grey brown silty clay and contained a single sherd (10g) of Roman pottery. In the centre of the trench was tree throw **139** which measured 0.46m wide and 0.17m deep with irregular sides and base. Its single fill (140) consisted of a mid yellow grey silty clay.

3.5.30 Trench 42 contained a single marling ditch (unexcavated) with an east to west orientation. To the east was Trench 43 which contained a continuation of this marling ditch as well as ditch **77** which had a north to south alignment and measured 0.45m wide and 0.16m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (78) consisted of a light brown grey silty clay.

3.5.31 South of Trench 43 was Trench 44, which had an east to west orientation and contained four ditches. At the western end of the trench was ditch **71** which had an east to west alignment and measured 0.5m wide and 0.2m deep with gently sloped sides and a flat base. Its single fill (72) consisted of a mid grey brown silty clay that contained a single sherd (6g) of Middle Iron Age pottery and a sherd (153g) of mortarium dating to the 1st to 2nd Century AD. At the eastern end of the trench was curvilinear ditch **67** which had a north-west to south-east alignment before curving at its northern end to become aligned north to south. This ditch measured 0.4m wide and 0.1m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (68) consisted of a dark reddish grey silty clay. This ditch was truncated by ditch **65** which had a north to south

alignment and measured 0.4m wide and 0.17m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (66) consisted of a dark reddish grey silty clay.

3.5.32 A small pit or partial remains of a marling ditch was also identified in this trench (**69**) it measured 0.3m wide and 0.06m deep with gently sloped sides and an irregular base. Its single fill (70) consisted of a dark grey brown silty clay.

3.5.33 Ditch **79** had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 0.3m wide and 0.1m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (80) consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay.

3.5.34 Trench 45 had a north-west to south-east orientation and contained three ditches and a pit. Pit **46** was only partially exposed and measured 1.46m wide and 0.38m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. This pit contained three fills, the basal fill (60) measured 0.06m thick and consisted of a mid white grey silty clay with chalk inclusions. Overlying this was fill 59 which measured 0.22m thick and consisted of a dark grey brown silty clay. The uppermost fill (47) measured 0.2m thick and consisted of a mid grey brown silty clay. Directly south-east was ditch **48** which had a north to south alignment and measured 0.5m wide and 0.16m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (49) consisted of a light grey silty clay.

3.5.35 At the south-east end of the trench was ditch **44** which had a west north-west to east south-east alignment which measured 1.6m wide and 0.4m deep and terminated within the trench at its eastern end (Plate 10; Section 16, Fig. 13). This ditch contained two fills, the basal fill (58) measured 0.14m thick and consisted of a mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional chalk inclusions. Overlying this was fill 45 which measured 0.26m thick and consisted of a mid grey silty clay. This was truncated by marling ditch **42** which had the same alignment and measured 0.9m wide and 0.08m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. Its single fill (43) consisted of a dark brown grey peaty silt.

3.5.36 West of this was Trench 30 which contained a marling ditch on an east to west orientation and two other ditches, one orientated north to south and the other east to west (all unexcavated).

3.5.37 Trench 29, to the north, had a north-east to south-west orientation and contained three ditches on an east to west alignment, one ditch orientated north to south and a marling ditch. A possible ditch terminus was also present.

3.5.38 Ditch **135** had a north to south orientation and measured 0.5m wide and 0.08m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (136) consisted of a light grey silty clay that contained a single fragment (191g) of cattle bone and a fragment (5g) of medium mammal bone. This ditch had an unknown relationship with ditch **137** which had an east to west orientation and measured 0.72m wide and 0.14m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (138) consisted of a light grey silty clay. To the south-west was ditch terminus **129** which measured 0.5m wide and 0.04m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (130) consisted of a light grey brown silty clay. Immediately south was ditch **127** which had an east to west alignment and measured 0.8m wide and 0.14m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (128) consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay.

3.5.39 Trench 21 had a north-west to south-east orientation and contained four ditches on various alignments, one of which was excavated. Ditch **141** had an east to west orientation and measured 0.73m wide and 0.24m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (142) consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay.

3.5.40 Trench 22 was located further south and contained a single marling ditch at its south-west end which had a north to south alignment. A post-hole (**133**) was also present at the north-east end and measured 0.18m wide and 0.1m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (134) consisted of a dark brown grey silty clay.

3.6 Western fields (Fig 10)

3.6.1 Ten trenches were located in the central western part of the site. At the western edge of the site was Trench 46, which along with the Trench 50 at the eastern edge of this part of the site was devoid of archaeological features. The three trenches between these (47, 48 and 49) all exposed lengths of a single ditch which had a roughly north-west to south-east alignment. This ditch (**318**) was excavated in Trench 48 where it measured 1.1m wide and 0.42m deep with gently slopes sides and a flat base (Plate 11). Its single fill (319) consisted of a mid grey silty clay sand.

3.6.2 Trench 55 had a north-east to south-west orientation and contained three ditches on an east to west alignment (unexcavated). A post-hole, **314**, was observed at the south-west end and of the trench and measured 0.35m wide and 0.16m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (315) consisted of a mid brown grey clayey silt.

3.6.3 Trenches 54 and 53, to the west of Trench 55, contained four ditches aligned east to west (two in Trench 54 and two in Trench 53) and a ditch in Trench 54 with a north to south alignment, none of these features were excavated. Trench 52 contained three ditches a north to south alignment, two of which were excavated. Ditch **320** was located at the eastern end of the trench and measured 1.1m wide and 0.64m deep with steep sides and a concave base. This ditch contained a single fill (321) which consisted of a light grey clayey sand. This was truncated by ditch **322** which also had a north to south alignment and measured 0.95m wide and 0.5m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (323) consisted of a mid grey brown clayey sand.

3.6.4 Trench 51 was located running parallel to the western boundary with a north to south orientation. Two ditches with an east to west orientation were observed in this trench, neither of which were excavated.

3.7 South-west field (Fig 11 and 12)

3.7.1 A total of 20 trenches were excavated in the south-west field at the site, a larger number of trenches were placed in this area due to a known cropmark and results from geophysics thought to represent an enclosure of an unknown date. Five of the trenches excavated in the south-west corner identified this enclosure as well as a small number of possible internal features and a field system of possible Bronze Age or Iron Age date.

Trench 69

3.7.2 Trench 69 was located in the south-west corner of the field, on an east to west alignment. This trench exposed part of the enclosure ditch, which here had a north-west to south-east orientation, which was left unexcavated. A further three ditches and four pits were located in this trench.

3.7.3 At the eastern end of the trench was pit **342** which measured 0.9m wide and 0.18m deep with steep sides and a flat base. Its single fill (343) consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay. Immediately west of this was a ditch (unexcavated) which had a north to south alignment. Pit **344** measured 0.76m wide and 0.44m deep with steep sides and a concave base. This pit contained two fills, its basal fill (345) measured 0.1m thick and consisted of a light grey clayey silt. Overlying this was fill 346 which measured 0.34m thick and consisted of a light brown grey clayey silt.

3.7.4 At the western end of the trench was ditch **334** which had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 0.9m wide and 0.32m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (335) consisted of a mid grey brown silty clay. Truncating this was ditch **336,** which was aligned a north to south and measured 0.36m wide and 0.16m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (337) consisted of a mid grey brown clayey silt. To the east was pit **338** which measured 0.8m wide and 0.36m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (339) consisted of a light brown grey silty clay. This was truncated by pit **340** which measured 0.96m wide and 0.18m deep with gently sloped sides and an irregular base. Its single fill (341) consisted of a light brown grey silty clay.

Trench 70 and 71

3.7.5 To the east of Trench 69 was Trench 70, orientated north-east to south-west, with Trench 71 forming a T-shape running eastwards from the centre of the trench and measuring 15m in length. Enclosure ditch **347** was recorded in both trenches on a north-east to south-west alignment. Here, the ditch measured up to 5m wide and was partially excavated to 1.5m in depth, exposing a steeply sloping side (Plate 12; Section 130, fig. 13). As excavated, the ditch contained four fills, the basal fill (351) measured 0.34m thick and consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay and contained four pieces of worked flint including a retouched flake. An environmental sample from this fill contained evidence for waterlogged seeds.

3.7.6 Overlying this was fill 350 which measured 0.47m thick and consisted of a mid yellow brown silty clay with frequent small stone inclusions. This fill was sampled and contained duckweed and waterlogged seeds. Fill 349 measured 0.43m thick and consisted of a mid yellow brown silty clay. The uppermost fill (348) measured 0.6m thick and consisted of a mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional flint and stone inclusions and contained a single sherd (35g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery, seven pieces of worked flint and two fragments (199g) of cattle bone. A fragment (18g) of unworked shale was also recovered from this fill.

3.7.7 Immediately to the west of this was a surface layer (324; Plate 13) and although no clear relationship with the enclosure ditch could be established it is thought to represent an external surface associated with the enclosure. This surface measured approximately 2.3m by 1.6m and consisted of frequent compacted rounded stones

and flint mixed with a mid grey clayey silt. Two post-holes were present at the western end of this surface, post-hole **325** measured 0.45m wide and 0.12m deep with steep sides and a flat base (Section 123, Fig. 15). Its single fill (326) consisted of a mid brown grey clayey silt that contained charcoal. Post-hole **327** measured 0.5m wide and 0.15m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (328) consisted of a light grey brown clayey silt that contained charcoal and a single fragment (20g) of large mammal bone.

3.7.8 Pits **329** and **331** were partially exposed along the western baulk of Trench 70 (Section 125, Fig. 15). Pit **329** measured 1.4m wide and 0.44m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (330) consisted of mid grey brown clayey silt. This was truncated by pit **331** which measured 0.66m wide and 0.3m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its basal fill (332) measured 0.08m thick and consisted of a mid grey clayey silt, overlying this was fill 333 which measured 0.22m thick and consisted of a mid grey brown clayey silt.

3.7.9 At the northern end of Trench 70 was ditch **390** which had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 1.45m wide and 0.95m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Plate 14; Section 139, Fig. 15). This ditch contained six fills, the basal fill (409) measured 0.2m thick and consisted of a mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional small stone inclusions and charcoal and contained three sherds (45g) of Middle Iron Age pottery and two fragments (90g) of large mammal bone. Overlying this was fill 410 which measured 0.7m thick and consisted of a dark brown grey silty clay with charcoal flecks and contained four sherds (62g) of Middle Iron Age pottery, a single worked flint flake and seven fragments (173g) of Cattle, sheep/goat and medium mammal bone. This fill was also environmentally sampled and yielded evidence for snails and charcoal. Fill 411 measured 0.7m thick and consisted of a mid brown clayey silt. Overlying this was fill 412 which measured 0.12m thick and consisted of a light yellow grey clay with occasional small stone inclusions. Fill 413 measured 0.42m thick and consisted of a light yellow brown silty clay. The uppermost fill (414) measured 0.55m thick and consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay.

Trench 68

3.7.10 To the north was Trench 68 which had an east to west alignment and contained four ditches including the enclosure ditch, as well as a single post-hole. At the western end of the trench was ditch **363** which had a north to south alignment and measured 0.8m wide and 0.24m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (364) consisted of a dark grey brown silty clay. Post-hole **365** measured 0.5m wide and 0.17m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (366) consisted of a dark brown grey clayey silt.

3.7.11 In the centre of the trench was enclosure ditch **377** which had a roughly north to south orientation and measured 4.8m wide and at least 2m deep with steep sides (Section 138. Fig. 13). This ditch was only partially excavated and revealed 10 fills. The basal fill (385) measured 0.05m thick and consisted of a dark grey silty clay. Overlying this was fill 384 which measured 0.32m thick and consisted of a dark grey silty clay and contained a single fragment (34g) of cattle bone and a single fragment (12g) of sheep/goat bone. A number of unworked fragments of shale (312g) were also

recovered this fill, which specialist examination has suggested represents a natural inclusion within the fill, derived from the local glacial till (Appendix C.3). An environmental sample from this fill contained evidence for duckweed and waterlogged seeds.

3.7.12 Fill 383 measured 0.4m thick and consisted of a mid yellow orange silty clay with stone inclusions and most likely represents a slumping event. Overlying this was fill 382 which measured 0.46m thick and consisted of a mid to dark brown grey clayey silt. An environmental sample was taken from this fill which identified evidence for duckweed and waterlogged seeds. On the north-eastern side of the ditch there appears to have been an episode of bank collapse or slumping which resulted in fill 387 and 386. Fill 387 measured 0.28m thick and consisted of a light to mid orange brown sandy silty clay which is overlain by fill 386 which measured 0.4m thick and consisted of a mid orange brown sandy silty clay.

3.7.13 Fill 381 measured 0.3m thick and consisted of a mid grey clayey silt, overlying this was fill 380 which measured 0.16m thick and consisted of a mid yellow orange clay. Fill 379 measured 0.7m thick and consisted of a light yellow orange clay with chalk and stone inclusions and most likely represents a large dump of natural within the top of this ditch. The uppermost fill (378) measured 0.12m thick and consisted of a mid brown grey clayey silt perhaps indicating the levelling of the bank of the ditch. This fill was environmentally sampled and contained evidence for snails.

3.7.14 To the east of the enclosure ditch was ditch **367**, which had a roughly north to south alignment and measured 0.9m wide and 0.4m deep, with steep sides and a concave base. This ditch contained two fills, the basal fill (368) measured 0.12m thick and consisted of a mid yellow grey brown silty clay with occasional stone inclusions. Overlying this was fill 369 which measured 0.28m thick and consisted of a dark brown grey clayey silt. At the eastern end of the trench was ditch **370** which had a north to south alignment and measured 0.85m wide and 0.32m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Section 135, Fig. 15). This ditch contained three fills, the basal fill (371) measured 0.16m thick and consisted of a dark brown grey clayey silt. Overlying this was fill 372 which measured 0.16m thick and consisted of a mid yellow brown silty clay, an environmental sample was taken of this fill which was devoid of preserved remains. The uppermost fill (373) measured 0.12m thick and consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay and contained two sherds (21g) of Middle Iron Age pottery and a small quantity of slag-like material (18g).

Trench 67

3.7.15 Trench 67 had a north-east to south-west orientation and exposed the enclosure ditch, which was on a roughly north-west to south-east alignment (not excavated here). This trench also contained a single pit. Pit **295** measured 1.1m wide and 0.72m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Section 113, Fig. 15). This pit contained two fills, the basal fill (296) measured 0.5m thick and consisted of a light grey brown clayey silt that contained a single sherd (9g) of Middle Iron Age pottery. Overlying this was fill 297 which measured 0.22m thick and consisted of a light brown orange silty clay.

3.7.16 To the west and running parallel with the eastern site boundary was Trench 66 which contained two modern field drains.

Trench 62 and 91

3.7.17 Trench 62 had an east to west alignment and contained a number of ditches on various alignments and a pit. Trench 91 was excavated in a southerly direction (measuring 23m long) from the centre of Trench 62 in an (unsuccessful) attempt to expose the ditch of the enclosure on its north-western side. At the western end of Trench 62 was ditch **388** which had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 1.1m wide and 0.48m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. Its single fill (389) consisted of a mid orange grey silty sand clay that contained a single sherd (2g) of prehistoric pottery and two worked flint flakes.

3.7.18 To the east was ditch **354** which had a north to south alignment and measured 0.88m wide and 0.44m deep with sloped sides and a flat base. This ditch contained two fills, the basal fill (355) measured 0.32m thick and consisted of a mid brown grey sandy clay. Overlying this was fill 356 which measured 0.12m thick and consisted of a dark brown grey silty clay. This was truncated by ditch **352** which also had a north to south alignment and measured 0.66m wide and 0.32m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (353) consisted of a dark brown grey silty clay. Ditch **359** had a roughly north to south alignment and measured 0.82m wide and 0.44m deep with vertical sides and a concave base. Its single fill (360) consisted of a mid grey sandy clay and contained a single sherd (8g) of pottery which was not closely dateable.

3.7.19 Pit **374** has an unknown relationship with ditch **359** and measured 0.5m wide and 0.12m deep with imperceptible sides and concave base. Its single fill (375) consisted of a mid orange grey silty clay.

3.7.20 To the west was a ditch (unexcavated) which had a north-east to south-west alignment and was also seen running through Trench 91 where it had been truncated by a modern drain.

Trench 57

3.7.21 To the north was Trench 57 which had a north-west to south-east alignment and contained a series of ditches on various alignments, as well as three pits and an animal burial. At the south-east end of the trench was pit **393** which measured 1.35m wide and 0.36m deep with gently sloped sides and a flat base. Its single fill (394) consisted of a mid brown grey clayey silt and an environmental sample was devoid of preserved remains. Immediately north-west was ditch **391** which had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 0.8m wide and 0.28m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Section 141, Fig. 13). Its single fill (392) consisted of a mid brown grey clayey silt.

3.7.22 Animal burial **399** measured 0.7m wide and remained unexcavated, its fill (400) consisted of a mid grey brown clayey silt that contained the articulated remains of a juvenile cow.

3.7.23 North-west of this was ditch **395** which had an east to west alignment and measured 0.75m wide and 0.28m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (396) consisted of a mid brown grey clayey silt. This was truncated by ditch **397** which had a

north to south alignment and measured 0.84m wide and 0.2m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (398) consisted of a dark brown grey clayey silt. To the north-west was ditch **405** which had an east to west alignment and measured 0.8m wide and 0.2m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (406) consisted of a mottled mid orange grey silty clay.

3.7.24 Pit **403** measured 0.88m wide and 0.14m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its single fill (404) consisted of mottled mid orange grey brown silty clay. To the north-west was small pit **401** which measured 0.6m wide and 0.14m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (402) consisted of a mottled mid orange grey silty clay.

3.7.25 Ditch **407** was located at the north-west end of the trench and had an east to west alignment and measured 0.65m wide and 0.24m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (408) consisted of a mottled mid orange grey silty clay. A further north to south aligned ditch to the south of this feature was left unexcavted.

Trench 56

3.7.26 Trench 56 had an east to west orientation and ran parallel to the northern boundary of the field. This trench contained three ditches. At the western end of the trench was ditch **421** which had a roughly north to south alignment and measured 1.9m wide and 0.5m deep with stepped sides and a concave base (Plate 15; Section 148, Fig. 15). This ditch contained two fills, the basal fill (422) measured 0.16m thick and consisted of a mid orange brown silty clay with rare stone inclusions. This fill contained a single sherd (5g) of Middle Iron Age pottery and the environmental sample contained evidence for snails. Overlying this was fill 423 which measured 0.34m thick and consisted of a mid brown grey clayey silt.

3.7.27 Immediately to the east was ditch **424**, which had a north north-east to south south-west alignment and measured 0.97m wide and 0.4m deep with near vertical sides and a concave base. This ditch contained two fills, the basal fill (426) measured 0.2m thick and consisted of a mid orange brown silty clay. Overlying this was fill (425) which measured 0.4m thick and consisted of a mid brown grey clayey silt.

3.7.28 Ditch **427** had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 0.55m wide and 0.24m deep with sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (428) consisted of a mottled mid orange grey silty clay.

Trench 58, 59 and 63

3.7.29 Trench 58 had a north to south orientation and contained a single ditch at its southern end. Ditch **415** measured 0.6m wide and 0.16m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (416) consisted of a light grey sandy clay that contained two sherds (21g) of Middle Iron Age pottery. Trench 59 was devoid of archaeological features.

3.7.30 Trench 63 had a north to south orientation and was located to the south of Trench 59. This trench contained two ditches on a north-east to south-west alignment and a well. Ditch **417** was located at the southern end of the trench and measured 0.72m wide and 0.26m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (418) consisted of a light grey brown silty clay. This feature was truncated by a modern drain.

3.7.31 To the north was ditch **429** which measured 0.84m wide and 0.42m deep with steep sides and a concave base. This ditch contained two fills, its basal fill (432) measured 0.14m thick and consisted of a light yellow brown silty clay. Overlying this was fill 430 which measured 0.28m thick and consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay.

3.7.32 At the northern end of the trench was well **419** which measured 0.8m wide and 1.1m deep with near vertical sides and a concave base. This well contained two fills, the basal fill (431) measured 0.3m thick and consisted of a light grey clayey silt. Overlying this was fill 420 which measured 0.8m thick and consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay and contained a small amount of charcoal and a single worked flint flake.

Trench 60

3.7.33 Trench 60 was located at the northern end of the field and had a north to south orientation and contained a single ditch and pit. Ditch **433** had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 1.18m wide and 0.46m deep with steep sides and a flat base. Its single fill 434 consisted of a light brown grey clayey sand that contained a single worked flint flake and a single sherds (2g) of 2nd century AD pottery. Pit **435** was located at the southern end of the trench and measured 1.15m wide and 0.48m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (436) consisted of a mid brown grey clayey silt and contained a single piece of worked flint and a fragment (17g) of medium mammal bone, an environmental sample of this fill was devoid of preserved remains.

Trench 64

3.7.34 To the south was Trench 64 which had a north-east to south-west orientation and contained three ditches on a roughly north to south alignment and a single ditch on an east to west alignment (unexcavated). Ditch **437** had a north to south alignment and measured 0.84m wide and 0.24m deep with vertical sides and a flat base (Plate 16). Its single fill (438) consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay. To the north-east was ditch **439**, on the same alignment, which measured 0.8m wide and 0.38m deep with sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (440) consisted of a mottled orange brown grey clayey silt. Ditch **441** measured 0.86m wide and 0.3m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. Its single fill (442) consisted of a mottled orange brown grey clayey silt.

Trenches 61, 65 and 72-75

3.7.35 Trench 74 measured 7m by 5m and contained a single ditch with a roughly north to south alignment, which remained unexcavated. Immediately east of this was Trench 72 which had a north-east to south-west alignment and contained a series of five ditches on the same north to south alignment which were also unexcavated.

3.7.36 Trench 73 had a north-east to south-west orientation and contained three ditches on a north to south alignment and five on an east to west alignment (all unexcavated; Plate 17). Trench 75 measured 5m by 5m and contained a single east to west orientated ditch (unexcavated).

3.7.37 Trench 65 contained two ditches on an east to west alignment (unexcavated). Trench 61 was located in the north-east corner of the field and contained three ditches with a north to south alignment, none of which were excavated.

3.8 South-east field (Fig. 13)

3.8.1 The south-east fields contained 14 trenches, the majority of which revealed ditches on varying alignments, although Trench 84 yielded a small number of pits as well as ditches.

Trench 76-89

3.8.2 At the northern end of the field, Trenches 76 and 77 were devoid of archaeology. Trench 82 contained five ditches with a north to south alignment, none of which were excavated. To the east of this was Trench 86 which contained two ditches on a north to south alignment, neither of which were excavated. Three ditches with a north to south alignment were recorded at the eastern end of Trench 87 (also unexcavated).

3.8.3 Trench 83 had a north-east to south-west orientation and contained three ditches, on a roughly north-west to south-east alignment, one of which was excavated. Ditch **203** was located at the southern end of the trench and measured 1.5m wide and 0.25m deep with gently sloped sides and a flat base. Its single fill (204) consisted of a dark grey brown clayey silt.

3.8.4 Trench 81 measured 5m by 5m and contained a single west north-west to east south-east ditch (unexcavated).

3.8.5 To the south-west was Trench 78 which had a north-west to south-east alignment and contained six ditches on a north to south alignment and a single ditch aligned east to west. Two of these features were excavated. Ditch **201** had a north to south alignment and measured 0.6m wide and 0.2m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (202) consisted of a light to mid orange grey silty clay. This was truncated by ditch **199** which had an east to west alignment and measured 1.4m wide and 0.45m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (200) consisted of a mid orange grey silty clay.

3.8.6 Trench 88 had a north to south orientation and located along the eastern edge of the boundary. This trench contained a single ditch at the northern end, Ditch **187** had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 2.6m wide and 0.44m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Plate 18). Its single fill (188) consisted of a dark brown grey clayey silt that contained a single fragment (234g) of horse bone and a shard of glass (5g) thought to be of a 19th century date.

3.8.7 South-west of this was Trench 84 (Fig. 14) which had a north-east to south-west alignment and contained a number of pits alongside two ditches aligned north to south (unexcavated). Post-hole **195** was located at the southern end of the trench and measured 0.3m wide and 0.2m deep with steep sides and an irregular base. Its single fill (196) consisted of a mid yellow grey silty clay that contained charcoal. North of this was pit **193** which measured 0.7m wide and 0.22m deep with gently sloped sides and an irregular base. Its single fill (194) consisted of a mid grey brown silty clay that contained charcoal.

3.8.8 Pit **197** measured 1.04m wide and 0.12m deep with gently sloped sides and a flat base (Plate 19). Its single fill (198) consisted of a dark grey brown silty clay. Further to the north-east was pit **209**, which measured 1.8m wide and 0.6m deep with stepped sides

and an irregular base (Section 83, Fig. 15). This pit contained three fills, the basal fill (212) measured 0.04m thick and consisted of a dark yellow grey silty clay. Overlying this was fill 211 which measured 0.44m thick and consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay. The uppermost fill (210) measured 0.18m thick and consisted of a mid yellow grey silty sandy clay.

3.8.9 Trench 79 had a north-east to south-west orientation and contained four ditches on a north to south alignment and a single ditch on an east to west alignment. A single pit was also identified (**213**) measuring 0.74m wide and 0.2m deep with gently sloped sides and a flat base. Its single fill (214) consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay.

3.8.10 To the east was Trench 89 which had a north-east to south-west alignment and contained two ditches with a north to south alignment and two ditches with an east to west alignment, all unexcavated. A single post-hole (**185**) was also identified measuring 0.5m wide and 0.13m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (186) consisted of a light brown grey silty clay

3.8.11 At the southern end of the field was trench 85 which had a north-west to south-east orientation and contained a total of 12 ditches with a north to south alignment and a single ditch aligned east to west (Plate 20). Ditch **189** had an east to west alignment and measured 0.32m wide and 0.18m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (190) consisted of a dark brown grey clayey silt. This was truncated by ditch **191** which had a north to south alignment and measured 0.54m wide and 0.08m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It single fill (192) consisted of a dark brown grey silty clay.

3.8.12 Trench 80 was located directly to the west and also contained nine ditches aligned north to south, all remained unexcavated.

3.9 Environmental Summary

3.9.1 A total of 44 samples were taken from a range of features across the site including pits, wells, ditches and post-holes. Occasional charring and waterlogging was noted and a small number of samples were devoid of preserved remains. Charred seeds were recorded in features from Trenches 31 and 32 and some of these features also contained large quantities of charcoal suggestive of in-situ burning. Duckweed was present in a number of features, some of which were likely due to the peaty fills.

3.9.2 Enclosure ditch **377** was the most productive feature, containing a large assemblage of waterlogged remains including those indicative of a wet environmental inside and outside of the ditch.

3.9.3 A total of 58 fragments (1508g) of animal bone was recovered from the site, including horse, cattle, red deer and sheep/goat.

3.10 Finds summary

3.10.1 An assemblage of 92 sherds (1231g) of prehistoric pottery was recovered from features on site, the largest assemblage was Middle Bronze Age in date and came from a single well (**219**, Trench 6). Middle Iron Age pottery was also recorded from a small number of features, mostly in the south-west corner of the site. Roman and post-

Roman pottery (20 sherds, 310g) was also recorded, with the Roman pottery recovered from ditches and the post-roman pottery from pits. A small assemblage of 31 worked flints were recovered from features including the Middle Bronze Age well, ditches and pits.

3.10.2 Small quantities of slag, glass and shale have also been recovered from features on site. Fired clay and briquetage were recovered, including a possible loom weight fragment from Middle Bronze Age well **219**. Briquetage was recovered from features in Trench 31 and 32 and is thought to be of Iron Age or Roman date.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 The trenches excavated across the site revealed a large number of ditches which had been identified by geophysical survey as well as a large enclosure present in the south-west corner of the site which had been recorded from aerial photographs. Although the geophysical survey proved useful in identifying some of the larger linear features, more discreet features such as pits, wells and post-holes were noted once trenches were excavated which had not been identified via the geophysical survey. Worth noting is the poor response on the geophysical survey for the enclosure in the south-west corner of the site which was already known due to cropmarks. All features were easily identified against the natural geology. Possible features were drawn on a sketch plan immediately after excavation so that a features location was not lost if the trench was left open and unexcavated for a long period of time.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 This evaluation sought to establish the presence, extent and date of archaeological remains. Although numerous archaeological features, especially ditches, were recorded on the site, in most cases there was a dearth of dating evidence. Despite this a number of distinct, archaeologically significant, areas were noted. Perhaps most notable of these is the enclosure in the south-west corner of the site. In the north-east part of the site a number of pits and post-holes containing peaty and burnt fills yielding briquetage are possibly suggestive of salt production, although these would appear to date to the Post-Medieval period at the earliest. In the north-west of the site was an area of pitting, thought primarily to be for quarrying.

4.2.2 A large number of field systems were identified across the site with varying alignments, these were largely identified via the geophysical survey. A small number of these contained Roman pottery but the date of most of these features remains unclear and some may date from as early as the Middle Bronze Age.

4.3 Middle Bronze Age activity

4.3.1 Enclosure ditch **347** was identified in five of the trenches in the south-west corner of the site and measured approximately 70m by 70m, although the western side of the enclosure was not identified. The ditch itself was very substantial, at up to 5m wide and in excess of 2m deep. The enclosure cannot be considered to be well dated, with a single sherd of Middle Bronze Age pottery (36g) from the uppermost fill of the ditch representing the only dateable find. Although field systems and associated enclosures of Middle Bronze Age date are well documented in the region (see Yates 2007) the enclosure discussed here is somewhat unusual in terms of the scale of its ditches and its somewhat irregular morphology and any detailed understanding of its form, function and date must await more extensive investigations. The presence of waterlogged remains in the lower fills of the enclosure ditch highlights the potential for excellent levels of preservation of organic/environmental remains should further work be carried out.

4.3.2 Leaving aside the enclosure, only a single feature on the site can be securely dated to the Middle Bronze Age based on pottery; well **219**, in the north-west part of the site, produced a relatively large assemblage of 75 sherds (1017g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery throughout its fills. Some of the sherds from different fills can be refitted and there is also evidence for varying post-breakage processes with one sherd showing evidence for having been burnt, refitting with an unburnt sherd. This is most likely due to the pottery being deposited elsewhere prior to deposition, perhaps in a midden. Environmental samples from these fills however yielded only charcoal and no evidence for charred or waterlogged remains.

4.3.3 A number of field systems were identified across the site. Those within the north-west field were predominantly laid out on west north-west to east south-east or north north-east to south south-west alignments. Middle Bronze Age field systems are commonly found associated with contemporary wells and it seems likely that at least one of the field systems present could be of Middle Bronze Age date.

4.3.4 A number of wells of a Bronze Age date were excavated approximately 250m to the north-west, however here the Bronze Age pottery assemblage only comprised 53 sherds (618) from all the wells and the environmental results varied with waterlogged seeds being present (Pickstone 2010).

4.4 Middle Iron Age features

4.4.1 A Middle Iron Age presence is indicated on site by a small quantity of Middle Iron Age pottery, largely found within ditches in the south-west part of the site, bar one sherd found within Trench 3 in the north-west and one from Trench 44 in the north-east. The sherd count is low, with only one or two sherds deriving from any one feature, with the exception of Ditch **390,** which produced 7 sherds (107g). Whilst the other ditches which yielded Middle Iron Age pottery could be regarded as part of field systems, ditch **390** however was notably different in character to the other ditches, containing multiple fills and its shape and size being more characteristic of a significant boundary feature or enclosure ditch. It is possible that this ditch represents a later enclosure located within the area of putative Middle Bronze Age enclosure discussed above.

4.5 Field Systems

4.5.1 Nearly all of the 91 trenches excavated on site contained at least one ditch, many of which had been identified via geophysical survey prior to excavation. These ditches represent a number of field systems, most likely of varying dates. A possible Middle Bronze Age field system with a west north-west and east south-east alignment has already been noted in the north-west part of the site. The most prominent alignment across much of the rest of the site is a north to south or east to west alignment. Dating this field system has proved problematic, very little finds have been recovered from those slots excavated. A small assemblage of Roman pottery was recovered from four ditches (**71**, **124**, **223** and **433**) three of which had an east to west alignment. The remaining ditch was located in the south-west part of the site and had a north-east to south-west alignment. The Roman pottery was invariably heavily abraded and should

therefore be regarded only as providing a *terminus post quem* for the features from which it derives.

4.5.2 The field system present within the south-west field seems to have a largely north north-east to south south-west alignment and potentially respects the Middle Bronze Age enclosure, and although this could indicate that elements of the field system are broadly contemporary with the enclosure they could equally relate to later activity respecting the upstanding earthworks of the enclosure.

4.6 Industrial activity

4.6.1 Features within Trenches 31 and 32 consisted of a number of post-holes and pits (**152**, **168**, **172**, **123**) which contained peaty fills and fills containing burnt material. A small assemblage (258g) of briquetage were recovered from some of these fills, some of which have been identified as possible wall, rim and possible pedestal fragments, relating to salt production. Based on their morphology these fragments could be tentatively dated to the Iron Age or Roman periods, however the stratigraphic position of the features from which they were recovered preclude these early dates and a later Post-Medieval date is the most likely for these features. The potential for industrial activity in this area is however supported by the environmental remains. Charred seeds were recovered from a small number of features which may have occurred as a result of peat or fenland vegetation being used for fuel with relation to an industrial activity, although which activity is not possible to determine.

4.6.2 The pits were interpreted as quarry pits, but the waterlogged remains from some of the fills could suggest their use as holding water. No definite tank like features or in-situ ovens typical of salt working were however identified.

4.7 Trenches 1 to 4

4.7.1 The archaeological remains present within trenches 1 to 4, although still including ditches which formed part of one or more field system, also included a number of pits. These pits were often intercutting but varied in size and shape with some having vertical sides and flat bases but not being particularly deep. In contrast some had steep sides and concave bases and reached more substantial depths. The geology in this area is incredibly mixed but quarrying is well known to the north (Kemp 1999) and the earliest OS map (1889) identifies an area immediately to the west known as 'Town End Pits'.

4.7.2 The lack of finds from these features means that this activity remains poorly dated, with only pit **281** yielding a single sherd of post-medieval pottery.

4.8 Marling Ditches

4.8.1 A number of Marling ditches were identified in the east of the site, largely with an east to west or north to south alignment. These marling ditches are regularly spaced hand or machine dug trenches, excavated into the natural clay to improve the drainage and mineral content of the soil. A similar system of marling ditches was identified at Brigg's Farm, Thorney (Pickstone & Mortimer 2009), where some were clearly machine

excavated and were thought to be of 19th century date, and at Harlocks Farm, Ely (Blackbourn 2017) where an early modern date was most likely.

4.8.2 No finds were recovered from those excavated on site but a 19th to 20th century date seems likely

4.9 Significance

4.9.1 The evaluation at Barkers Lane has revealed a number of archaeological features dating from the Middle Bronze Age through to the modern day. The majority of archaeological features relate to extensive, poorly dated field systems, but three main areas of archaeological interest were identified. The known enclosure previously identified through aerial photographs (CHER 11645) has been tentatively dated to the Middle Bronze Age, and other features within the south-west of the site may be contemporary with this enclosure. A presence during the Iron Age and Roman periods is evidenced by small quantities of pottery recovered from ditches. An area of potential industrial activity has been identified in the north-east of the site interpreted as suggestive of Iron Age/Roman salt production but stratigraphically this seems impossible. Finally, a probable area of quarry pitting in the north-west of the site adds to a known area of quarrying in March which is likely to be of post-medieval date.

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench	Context	Cut	Same as	Category	Feature Type	Function	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot Date
1	272	**272**		cut	quarry pit	resource procurement	2	0.4	
1	273	**272**		fill	quarry pit	disuse	2	0.4	
1	274	**274**		cut	quarry pit	resource procurement	1.2	0.7	
1	275	**274**		fill	quarry pit	disuse	1.2	0.18	
1	276	**274**		fill	quarry pit	disuse	1.2	0.52	
1	277	**277**		cut	ditch	drainage?	0.8	0.26	
1	278	**277**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.8	0.26	
1	279	**279**		cut	quarry pit	resource procurement	1.9	0.3	
1	280	**279**		fill	quarry pit	disuse	1.9	0.3	
1	281	**281**		cut	quarry pit	resource procurement	1	0.22	17th-19th C
1	282	**281**		fill	quarry pit	disuse	1	0.22	17th-19th C
1	306	**306**		cut	pit	unknown	0.7	0.24	
1	307	**306**		fill	pit	disuse	0.7	0.24	
2	251	**251**		cut	pit	unknown	1.3	0.5	
2	252	**251**		fill	pit	disuse	1.1	0.2	
2	253	**251**		fill	pit	disuse	1.3	0.3	
2	254	**254**		cut	pit	tank?	1.4	0.61	
2	255	**254**		fill	pit	disuse	0.86	0.4	
2	256	**256**		cut	pit	unknown	1	0.33	
2	257	**256**		fill	pit	disuse	1	0.33	
2	283	**254**		fill	pit	disuse	1.4	0.38	
2	302	**302**		cut	quarry pit ?	resource procurement ?	0.75	0.24	
2	303	**302**		fill	pit	disuse	0.75	0.24	
2	304	**304**		cut	quarry pit?	resource procurement ?	1	0.24	
2	305	**304**		fill	quarry pit	disuse	1	0.24	
3	243	**243**		cut	pit	unknown	1.8	0.26	
3	244	**243**		fill	pit	disuse	1.8	0.26	
3	245	**245**		cut	ditch	field system	0.8	0.12	
3	246	**245**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.8	0.12	
3	247	**247**		cut	hollow way	route way	3.3	0.18	

3	248	**247**		fill	hollow way	disuse	9.1	0.18	MIA
3	249	**249**		cut	pit	unknown	1.15	0.32	
3	250	**249**		fill	pit	disuse	1.15	0.32	
3	259	**249**		fill	pit	disuse	1.8	0.38	
3	267	**267**		cut	pit	unknown	0.5	0.14	
3	268	**267**		fill	pit	disuse	0.5	0.14	
4	235	**235**		cut	tree throw	tree throw	1.5	0.32	
4	236	**235**		fill	tree throw	disuse	1.5	0.32	
4	237	**237**		cut	pit	unknown	1.5	0.1	
4	238	**237**		fill	pit	disuse	1.5	0.1	
4	239	**239**		cut	ditch	boundary	1.1	0.2	
4	240	**239**		fill	ditch	disuse	1.1	0.2	
4	241	**241**		cut	ditch	boundary	1.1	0.3	
4	242	**241**		fill	ditch	disuse	1.1	0.3	
5	229	**229**		cut	post hole	structural	0.58	0.1	
5	230	**229**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.58	0.1	
5	231	**231**		cut	post hole	structural	0.32	0.11	
5	232	**231**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.32	0.11	
5	233	**233**		cut	post hole	structural	0.3	0.1	
5	234	**233**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.3	0.1	
6	217	**217**		cut	ditch	field system	1.14	0.43	
6	218	**217**		fill	ditch	disuse	1.14	0.43	
6	219	**219**		cut	well	water storage	1	1.3	MBA
6	220	**219**		fill	well	disuse/silting up		0.36	MBA
6	284	**219**		fill	well	silting whilst well in use		0.24	MBA
6	285	**219**		fill	well	dumped deposit		0.14	MBA
6	286	**219**		fill	well	possible dumped deposit		0.08	MBA
6	287	**219**		fill	well	dumped deposit		0.32	MBA
6	310	**219**		fill	well	natural silting	1.2	0.2	MBA
6	311	**219**		fill	well	disuse	1.2	0.2	MBA
7	289	**289**		cut	pit	unknown	0.7	0.22	
7	290	**289**		fill	pit	disuse	0.7	0.22	
8	227	**227**		cut	tree throw	tree throw	1.7	0.1	
8	228	**227**		fill	tree throw	disuse	1.7	0.1	
11	221	**221**		cut	ditch	field system	0.62	0.22	

11	222	**221**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.62	0.22	
11	223	**223**		cut	ditch	field system	0.62	0.22	Roman
11	224	**223**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.62	0.22	Roman
11	225	**225**		cut	pit	unknown	0.88	0.18	
11	226	**226**		fill	pit	disuse	0.88	0.18	
12	293	**293**		cut	ditch	field system	0.68	0.5	
12	294	**293**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.68	0.5	
13	205	**205**		cut	tree throw	tree throw	0.76	0.12	
13	206	**205**		fill	tree throw	disuse	0.76	0.12	
13	207	**207**		cut	post hole?	structural ?	0.38	0.12	
13	208	**207**		fill	post hole ?	disuse	0.38	0.12	
13	215	**215**		cut	pit	unknown	0.42	0.22	
13	216	**215**		fill	pit	disuse	0.42	0.22	
14	291	**291**		cut	pit /post hole	structural?	0.4	0.1	
14	292	**291**		fill	pit / post hole?	disuse	0.4	0.1	
19	147	**147**		cut	post hole	structural	0.33	0.12	
19	148	**147**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.33	0.12	
19	149	**149**		cut	pit/post hole	structural	0.36	0.16	
19	150	**149**		fill	pit/post hole	post packing?	0.36	0.16	
19	151	**149**		fill	pit / post hole	disuse	0.36	0.08	
20	143	**143**		cut	ditch	field system	0.76	0.34	
20	144	**143**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.76	0.34	
20	145	**145**		cut	post hole	structural	0.3	0.15	
20	146	**145**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.3	0.15	
21	141	**141**		cut	ditch	field system	0.73	0.24	
21	142	**271**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.73	0.24	
22	133	**133**		cut	post hole	structural	0.18	0.1	
22	134	**133**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.18	0.1	
23	100	**100**		cut	gully	unknown	0.33	0.04	
23	101	**100**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.33	0.04	
23	102	**102**		cut	gully	unknown	0.36	0.04	
23	103	**102**		fill	gully	disuse	0.36	0.04	
23	104	**104**		cut	tree throw	tree throw	0.65	0.23	
23	105	**104**		fill	tree throw	disuse	0.65	0.23	
24	114	**114**		cut	tree throw	tree throw	0.66	0.32	
24	115	**114**		fill	tree throw	disuse	0.66	0.32	
24	116	**116**		cut	pit	unknown	0.7	0.56	
24	117	**116**		fill	pit	disuse	0.7	0.16	
24	118	**116**		fill	pit	disuse	0.34	0.1	

24	119	**116**		fill	pit	disuse	0.57	0.42	
24	120	**120**		cut	tree throw	tree throw	1.3	0.22	
24	121	**120**		fill	tree throw	disuse	1.3	0.22	
25	94	**94**		cut	tree throw	tree throw		0.3	
25	95	**94**		fill	tree throw	disuse		0.3	
25	98	**98**		cut	ditch	field system	0.53	0.38	
25	99	**98**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.53	0.38	
26	96	**96**		cut	tree throw	tree throw	0.9	0.1	
26	97	**96**		fill	tree throw	disuse	0.9	0.1	
27	106	**106**		cut	pit	unknown	0.7	0.1	
27	107	**106**		fill	pit	disuse	0.7	0.1	
27	108	**108**		cut	pit	storage?	1.1	0.74	
27	109	**108**		fill	pit	disuse	1.1	0.74	
28	124	**124**		cut	gully	field system	0.6	0.12	Roman
28	125	**124**		fill	gully	disuse	0.6	0.07	Roman
28	126	**124**		fill	gully	disuse	0.6	0.09	Roman
28	139	**139**		cut	tree throw	tree throw	0.46	0.17	
28	140	**139**		fill	tree throw	disuse	0.46	0.17	
29	127	**127**		cut	ditch	field system	0.8	0.14	
29	128	**127**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.8	0.14	
29	129	**129**		cut	ditch terminus	unknown	0.5	0.04	
29	130	**129**		fill	ditch terminus	disuse	0.5	0.04	
29	135	**135**		cut	ditch		0.5	0.08	
29	136	**135**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.5	0.08	
29	137	**137**		cut	ditch	field system	0.72	0.14	
29	138	**138**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.72	0.14	
31	14	**14**		cut	ditch	Field system	0.5	0.12	
31	15	**14**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.5	0.12	
31	16	**16**		cut	ditch	terminus	0.5	0.14	
31	17	**16**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.5	0.14	
31	18	**18**		cut	post hole	structural	0.4	0.15	
31	19	**18**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.4	0.15	
31	20	**20**		cut	post hole	structural	0.6	0.14	
31	21	**20**		fill	post hole	redeposited	0.6	0.14	
31	22	**22**		cut	post hole	structural	0.34	0.1	
31	23	**22**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.34	0.1	
31	24	**24**		cut	post hole	structural	0.4	0.16	
31	25	**24**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.4	0.16	
31	26	**26**		cut	post hole	structural	0.23	0.08	
31	27	**26**		fill	post hole	backfill	0.23	0.08	
31	28	**28**		cut	post hole	structural	0.53	0.1	

31	29	**28**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.53	0.1	
31	30	**30**		cut	pit	unknown	2.1	0.46	
31	31	**30**		fill	pit	backfill	2.1	0.34	
31	32	**30**		fill	pit	backfill	0.34	0.16	
31	33	**30**		fill	pit	redep	1.4	0.1	
31	184	**30**		fill	quarry pit	back fill	1	0.1	
31, 32	152	**152**		cut	post hole	structural	0.44	0.3	IA/ Roman
31, 32	155	**154**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.32	0.09	
31, 32	156	**156**		cut	post hole	structural	0.42	0.16	
31, 32	158	**158**		cut	post hole	structural	0.32	0.11	
31, 32	159	**158**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.32	0.11	
31, 32	161	**160**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.36	0.22	
31, 32	162	**162**		cut	post hole	structural	0.22	0.1	
31, 32	164	**164**		cut	tree throw	tree throw	1	0.22	
31, 32	165	**164**		fill	tree throw	disuse	1	0.22	
31, 32	166	**166**		cut	post hole	structural	0.46	0.09	
31, 32	167	**166**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.46	0.09	
31, 32	168	**168**		cut	post hole	structural	0.32	0.1	IA/ Roman
31, 32	169	**168**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.32	0.1	IA/ Roman
31, 32	170	**170**		cut	tree throw	tree throw	0.95	0.15	
31, 32	171	**170**		fill	tree throw	disuse	0.95	0.15	
31, 32	172	**172**		cut	quarry pit	resource procurement	1.73	0.7	IA/ Roman
31, 32	173	**173**		cut	quarry pit	resource procurement	2.3	0.7	IA/ Roman
31, 32	174	**172**		fill	quarry pit	back fill	1	0.22	IA/ Roman
31, 32	175	**172**		fill	pit	disuse	1	0.23	IA/ Roman
31, 32	176	**172**		fill	quarry pit	disuse	1.1	0.32	IA/ Roman
31, 32	177	**177**		cut	ditch	marling	0.36	0.3	
31, 32	178	**177**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.36	0.3	
31, 32	179	**173**		fill	quarry pit	back fill	0.62	0.16	IA/ Roman
31, 32	180	**173**		fill	quarry pit	back fill	0.42	0.14	IA/ Roman
31, 32	181	**173**		fill	quarry pit	back fill	0.17	0.14	IA/ Roman
31, 32	182	**173**		fill	quarry pit	back fill pimary	1.16	0.54	IA/ Roman
31, 32	183	**173**		fill	quarry pit	redeposited	0.9	0.06	IA/ Roman

31,32	153	**152**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.44	0.3	IA/ Roman
31,32	154	**154**		cut	post hole	structural	0.32	0.09	
31,32	157	**156**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.42	0.16	
31,32	160	**160**		cut	post hole	structural	0.36	0.22	
31,32	163	**162**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.22	0.1	
32	110	**110**		cut	post hole	structural	0.42	0.16	
32	111	**110**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.42	0.16	
32	112	**112**		cut	Pit	unknown	0.8	0.16	
32	113	**112**		fill	pit	disuse	0.8	0.18	
33	4	**4**		cut	pit	unknown	0.42	0.54	
33	5	**4**		fill	pit	disuse	0.42	0.54	
33	8	**8**		cut	pit	unknown	0.9	0.2	
33	9	**8**		fill	pit	disuse	0.9	0.2	
34	12	**12**		cut	tree throw	tree throw	1.1	0.12	
34	13	**12**		fill	Tree throw	Disuse	1.1	0.12	
35	10	**10**		cut	post hole	structural	0.3	0.1	
35	11	**10**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.3	0.1	
35	34	**34**		cut	burnt tree throw	clearance	0.82	0.44	
35	35	**34**		fill	tree throw	disuse	0.82	0.44	
35	36	**36**		cut	pit	unknown	0.6	0.34	
35	37	**36**		fill	pit	Disuse	0.6	0.34	
35	56	**56**		cut	ditch	unknown	0.7	0.24	
35	57	**56**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.7	0.24	
36	48	**48**		cut	ditch	field system	0.5	0.16	
36	49	**48**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.5	0.16	
37	61	**61**		cut	ditch	marling ditch	0.5	0.19	
37	62	**61**		fill	ditch	marling ditch	0.5	0.19	
37	63	**63**		cut	ditch	Drainage	0.57	0.37	
37	64	**63**		fill	ditch	Disuse	0.57	0.37	
38	38	**38**		cut	ditch	field system	0.3	0.1	
38	39	**38**		fill	ditch	Disuse	0.3	0.1	
38	40	**40**		cut	pit	unknown	0.8	0.14	
38	41	**40**		fill	pit	disuse	0.8	0.14	
38	52	**52**		cut	pit	Treethrow?/ unknown	0.6	0.14	
38	53	**52**		fill	pit	disuse primary fill	0.6	0.14	
39	73	**73**		cut	ditch	field system	0.8	0.34	
39	74	**73**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.8	0.34	
39	75	**75**		cut	tree throw	tree throw	0.7	0.34	
39	76	**75**		fill	tree throw	disuse	0.7	0.34	

40	82	**82**		cut	gully	unknown	0.44	0.1	
40	83	**82**		fill	gully	disuse	0.44	0.1	
41	84	**84**		cut	ditch	field system	0.5	0.34	
41	85	**84**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.5	0.34	
41	86	**86**		cut	ditch terminus	field system	0.6	0.24	
41	87	**86**		fill	ditch terminus	disuse	0.6	0.24	
41	88	**88**		cut	ditch	marling	0.6	0.26	
41	89	**88**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.6	0.26	
41	90	**90**		cut	ditch	field system	0.44	0.2	
41	91	**90**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.44	0.2	
41	92	**92**		cut	ditch	marling	0.62	0.06	
41	93	**92**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.62	0.06	
43	77	**77**		cut	ditch	field system	0.45	0.16	
43	78	**77**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.45	0.16	
44	65	**65**		cut	ditch	drainage	0.4	0.17	
44	66	**65**		fill	ditch	disuse-silting	0.4	0.17	
44	67	**67**		cut	ditch	unknown	0.4	0.1	
44	68	**67**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.4	0.1	
44	69	**69**		cut	pit	marling	0.3	0.06	
44	70	**69**		cut	pit	disuse	0.21	0.06	
44	71	**71**		cut	ditch	field system	0.5	0.2	MIA/ Roman
44	72	**71**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.5	0.2	MIA/ Roman
44	79	**79**		cut	gully	unknown	0.3	0.1	
44	80	**79**		fill	gully	disuse	0.3	0.1	
45	42	**42**		cut	ditch	marling	0.9	0.08	
45	43	**42**		fill	ditch	marling	0.9	0.08	
45	44	**44**		cut	ditch	terminus	1.6	0.4	
45	45	**44**		fill	ditch	disuse	1.6	0.31	
45	46	**46**		cut	pit	unknown	1.46	0.38	
45	47	**46**		fill	pit	disuse		0.2	
45	50	**50**		cut	ditch	Field system	0.78	0.26	
45	51	**50**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.78	0.26	
45	58	**44**		fill	ditch	disuse	1.22	0.14	
45	59	**46**		fill	pit	disuse		0.22	
45	60	**46**		fill	pit	disuse		0.06	
48	318	**318**		cut	ditch	field system	1.1	0.42	
48	319	**318**		fill	ditch	disuse	1.1	0.42	
52	320	**320**		cut	ditch	boundary	1.1	0.64	
52	321	**320**		fill	ditch	disuse	1.1	0.64	

52	322	**322**		cut	ditch	boundary?	0.95	0.5	
52	323	**322**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.95	0.5	
55	314	**314**		cut	post hole	structural	0.35	0.16	
55	315	**314**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.35	0.16	
56	421	**421**		cut	ditch	unknown	2.2	0.5	MIA
56	422	**421**		fill	ditch	disuse		0.16	MIA
56	423	**421**		fill	ditch	disuse		0.34	MIA
56	424	**424**		cut	ditch	unknown	1	0.4	
56	425	**424**		fill	ditch	disuse		0.2	
56	426	**424**		fill	ditch	disuse		0.2	
56	427	**427**		cut	ditch		0.65	0.24	
56	428	**427**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.65	0.24	
57	391	**391**		cut	ditch	field system	0.8	0.28	
57	392	**391**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.8	0.28	
57	393	**393**		cut	pit	unknown	1.35	0.36	
57	394	**393**		fill	pit	disuse	1.35	0.36	
57	395	**395**		cut	ditch	field system	0.75	0.28	
57	396	**395**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.75	0.28	
57	397	**397**		cut	ditch	field system	0.84	0.2	
57	398	**397**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.84	0.2	
57	399	**399**		cut	animal burial	burial	0.7		
57	400	**399**		fill	animal burial		0.7		
57	401	**401**		cut	pit	unknown	0.6	0.14	
57	402	**401**		fill	pit	disuse	0.6	0.14	
57	403	**403**		cut	tree throw	tree throw	0.88	0.14	
57	404	**403**		fill	tree throw	disuse	0.88	0.14	
57	405	**405**		cut	ditch	field system	0.8	0.2	
57	406	**405**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.8	0.2	
57	407	**407**		cut	ditch	field system	0.65	0.24	
57	408	**407**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.65	0.24	
58	415	**415**		cut	ditch	field system	0.6	0.16	MIA
58	416	**415**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.6	0.16	MIA
60	433	**433**		cut	ditch	field system	1.18	0.46	Roman
60	434	**433**		fill	ditch	disuse	1.18	0.46	Roman
60	435	**435**		cut	pit	unknown	1.15	0.48	
60	436	**435**		fill	pit	disuse	1.15	0.48	
62	352	**352**		cut	ditch	unknown	0.66	0.32	
62	353	**352**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.66	0.32	
62	354	**354**		cut	ditch		0.88	0.44	
62	355	**354**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.88	0.32	
62	356	**354**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.88	0.12	

62	359	**359**		cut	ditch	unknown	0.82	0.44	
62	360	**359**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.82	0.44	
62	374	**374**		cut	pit	unknown	0.5	0.12	
62	375	**374**		fill	pit	disuse	0.5	0.12	
62	388	**388**		cut	ditch	field system	1.1	0.48	Prehist
62	389	**388**		fill	ditch	disuse	1.1	0.48	Prehist
63	417	**417**		cut	ditch	field system	0.72	0.26	
63	418	**417**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.72	0.26	
63	419	**419**		cut	well	water storage	0.8	1.1	
63	420	**419**		fill	well	disuse		0.8	
63	429	**429**		cut	ditch	field system	0.84	0.42	
63	430	**429**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.84	0.28	
63	431	**419**		fill	well	disuse	0.46	0.3	
63	432	**429**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.42	0.14	
64	437	**437**		cut	ditch	field system	0.84	0.24	
64	438	**437**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.84	0.24	
64	439	**439**		cut	ditch	field system	0.8	0.38	
64	440	**439**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.8	0.38	
64	441	**441**		cut	ditch	field system	0.86	0.3	
64	442	**441**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.86	0.3	
67	295	**295**		cut	pit	unknown	1.1	0.72	MIA
67	296	**295**		fill	pit	disuse	1.1	0.5	MIA
67	297	**295**		fill	pit	disuse	0.86	0.22	MIA
68	363	**363**		cut	ditch		0.8	0.24	
68	364	**363**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.8	0.24	
68	365	**365**		cut	post hole	structural	0.5	0.17	
68	366	**365**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.5	0.17	
68	367	**367**		cut	ditch	boundary?	0.9	0.4	
68	368	**367**		fill	ditch	disuse/slump	0.2	0.12	
68	369	**367**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.9	0.28	
68	370	**370**		cut	ditch	boundary?	0.85	0.32	MIA
68	371	**370**		fill	ditch	disuse		0.16	MIA
68	372	**370**		fill	ditch	disuse/slump	0.85	0.16	MIA
68	373	**370**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.85	0.12	MIA
68	376	**376**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.5	0.07	
68	377	**377**	**344**	cut	ditch	enclosure	4.8	2	MBA
68	378	**377**		fill	ditch	levelling		0.12	MBA
68	379	**377**		fill	ditch	disuse		0.7	MBA
68	380	**377**		fill	ditch	disuse		0.16	MBA
68	381	**377**		fill	ditch	natural silting		0.3	MBA

68	382	**377**		fill	ditch	natural silting		0.46	MBA
68	383	**377**		fill	ditch	slumping		0.4	MBA
68	384	**377**		fill	ditch	use		0.32	MBA
68	385	**377**		fill	ditch	use		0.05	MBA
68	386	**377**		fill	ditch	slump		0.4	MBA
68	387	**377**		fill	ditch	slump		0.28	MBA
69	334	**334**		cut	ditch		0.9	0.32	
69	335	**334**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.9	0.32	
69	336	**336**		cut	ditch		0.36	0.16	
69	337	**336**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.36	0.16	
69	338	**338**		cut	pit/ditch?	unknown	0.8	0.36	
69	339	**338**		fill	pit/ditch?	disuse	0.8	0.36	
69	340	**340**		cut	pit /tree throw?	unknown	0.96	0.18	
69	341	**340**		fill	pit/tree throw?	disuse	0.96	0.18	
69	342	**342**		cut	pit	unknown	0.9	0.19	
69	343	**342**		fill	pit	disuse	0.9	0.19	
69	344	**344**		cut	pit	unknown	0.76	0.44	
69	345	**344**		fill	pit	disuse	0.6	0.1	
69	346	**344**		fill	pit	disuse	0.76	0.34	
70	325	**325**		cut	post hole	structural	0.45	0.12	
70	326	**325**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.45	0.12	
70	327	**327**		cut	post hole	structural	0.5	0.15	
70	328	**327**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.5	0.15	
70	329	**329**		cut	pit	unknown	1.4		
70	330	**329**		fill	pit	disuse	1.4		
70	331	**331**		cut	pit		0.66	0.3	
70	332	**331**		fill	pit	disuse		0.08	
70	333	**331**		fill	pit	disuse	0.66	0.22	
70	390	**390**		cut	ditch	boundary?	1.45	0.95	MIA
70	409	**390**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.95	0.2	MIA
70	410	**390**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.4	0.7	MIA
70	411	**390**		fill	ditch	disuse/	0.5	0.7	MIA
70	412	**390**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.7	0.12	MIA
70	413	**390**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.6	0.42	MIA
70	414	**390**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.68	0.55	MIA
70 71	324	**-**		layer	surface (external)	surface	1.6	-	
71	347	**347**	**377**	cut	ditch	enclosure	5	1.5	MBA
71	348	**347**		fill	ditch	disuse		0.6	MBA
71	349	**347**		fill	ditch	disuse		0.43	MBA

71	350	**347**		fill	ditch	slump		0.47	MBA
71	351	**347**		fill	ditch	disuse/silting up		0.34	MBA
78	199	**199**		cut	ditch	boundary	1.4	0.45	
78	200	**199**		fill	ditch	disuse	1.4	0.45	
78	201	**201**		cut	ditch	drainage	0.6	0.2	
78	202	**201**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.6	0.2	
79	213	**213**		cut	pit	unknown	0.74	0.2	
79	214	**213**		fill	pit	disuse	0.74	0.2	
83	203	**203**		cut	ditch	boundary	1.5	0.25	
83	204	**203**		fill	ditch	disuse	1.5	0.25	
84	193	**193**		cut	pit	unknown	0.7	0.22	
84	194	**193**		fill	pit	disuse	0.7	0.22	
84	195	**195**		cut	post hole	structural	0.3	0.2	
84	196	**195**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.3	0.2	
84	197	**197**		cut	pit	unknown	1.04	0.12	
84	198	**197**		fill	pit	disuse	1.04		
84	209	**209**		cut	pit	unknown	1.8	0.6	
84	210	**209**		fill	pit	redeposited	1.24	0.18	
84	211	**209**		fill	pit	disuse	0.82	0.44	
84	212	**209**		fill	pit	disuse / slumping	0.82	0.04	
85	189	**189**		cut	ditch	marling	0.32	0.18	
85	190	**190**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.32	0.18	
85	191	**191**		cut	ditch	field system	0.54	0.08	
85	192	**191**		fill	ditch	disuse	0.54	0.08	
88	187	**187**		cut	ditch	boundary	2.6	0.44	
88	188	**187**		fill	ditch	disuse	2.6	0.44	
89	185	**185**		cut	post hole	structural	0.5	0.13	
89	186	**185**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.5	0.13	
90	298	**298**		cut	post hole	structural	0.35	0.09	
90	299	**298**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.35	0.09	
90	300	**300**		cut	post hole	structural	0.35	0.08	
90	301	**300**		fill	post hole	disuse	0.35	0.08	

Trench Number	Orientation	Average Depth (m)
1	NE-SW	0.45
2	N-S	0.39
3	N-S	0.4
4	NW-SE	0.4
5	E-W	0.42

6	N-S	0.5
7	E-W	0.36
8	NE-SW	0.4
9	E-W	0.5
10	NW-SE	0.5
11	NW-SE	0.26
12	E-W	0.35
13	NE-SW	0.48
14	NW-SE	0.42
15	NE-SW	0.4
16	NE-SW	0.5
17	NW-SE	0.43
18	NE-SW	0.43
19	E-W	0.4
20	NW-SE	0.41
21	NW-SE	0.4
22	NE-SW	0.5
23	E-W	0.55
24	N-S	0.43
25	NW-SE	0.5
26	E-W	0.46
27	NW-SE	0.47
28	NW-SE	0.5
29	NE-SW	0.44
30	NW-SE	0.45
31	NE-SW	0.45
32	NW-SE	0.36
33	E-W	0.55
34	NE-SW	0.43
35	NE-SW	0.55
36	N-S	0.44
37	N-S	0.35
38	NW-SE	0.53
39	E-W	0.45
40	NW-SE	0.4
41	NW-SE	0.39
42	NE-SW	0.36
43	NE-SW	0.5
44	E-W	0.51
45	NW-SE	0.44
46	E-W	0.4
47	NE-SW	0.37
48	N-S	0.3
49	NE-SW	0.4

50	N-S	0.33
51	N-S	0.4
52	E-W	0.4
53	NE-SW	0.4
54	NW-SE	0.4
55	NE-SW	0.38
56	E-W	0.4
57	NW-SE	0.45
58	N-S	0.4
59	E-W	0.45
60	N-S	0.47
61	E-W	0.47
62	E-W	0.38
63	N-S	0.45
64	NE-SW	0.3
65	NW-SE	0.43
66	N-S	0.45
67	NE-SW	0.36
68	E-W	0.4
69	E-W	0.4
70	NE-SW	0.43
71	NW-SE	0.42
72	NE-SW	0.45
73	NE-SW	0.42
74	Square	0.43
75	Square	0.41
76	NW-SE	0.4
77	NE-SW	0.4
78	NW-SE	0.5
79	NE-SW	0.44
80	NW-SE	0.47
81	Square	0.45
82	NW-SE	0.41
83	NE-SW	0.45
84	NE-SW	0.4
85	NW-SE	0.5
86	NE-SW	0.44
87	NW-SE	0.45
88	N-S	0.54
89	NE-SW	0.45
90	NE-SW	0.4
91	N-S	0.4

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Flint

By Lawrence Billington

Introduction

B.1.1 A small assemblage of 31 worked flints was recovered during the evaluation trenching, all derived from the fills of cut features. The bulk of the assemblage derives from two features; well **219** (Trench 6), which produced 14 worked flints, and ditch **347** (Trench 71), which produced 11 worked flints. The remaining six worked flints were recovered in small numbers from other pits and ditches. The assemblage is quantified by type and context in Table 1.

Trench	Context	Cut	Context type	Irregular Waste	Primary Flake	Secondary Flake	Tertiary Flake	Retouched flake	Core	Totals
6	284	**219**	Well			1				**1**
6	285	**219**	Well	1		3			1	**5**
6	286	**219**	Well			2				**2**
6	287	**219**	Well	1		3				**4**
6	220	**219**	Well			1				**1**
6	310	**219**	Well			1				**1**
60	434	**433**	Ditch			1				**1**
60	436	**435**	Pit	1						**1**
62	389	**388**	Ditch		1	1				**2**
63	420	**419**	Pit			1				**1**
70	410	**390**	Ditch			1				**1**
71	348	**347**	Ditch			6	1			**7**
71	351	**347**	Ditch	1		2		1		**4**
Totals				**4**	**1**	**23**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**31**

Table 2: Quantification of the flint assemblage by context.

Characterisation

B.1.2 All of the flint appears to derive from rounded to sub-rounded cobbles of gravel flint, probably derived from relatively local sources. The flintwork is generally in good, fairly fresh condition and shows no sign of recortication.

B.1.3 The assemblage as a whole, and in particular the bulk of the material from well **219** and ditch **347** is dominated by the products of an expedient flake-based technology which can best be characterised as unstructured and crude. The 14 struck flints from well **219** include 11 partly cortical flakes alongside a single minimally worked core and several pieces of non-bulbar waste resulting from the working of thermally flawed raw

material. With the exception of a single relatively fine flake which is likely to represent the product of an earlier, Neolithic or Early Bronze Age, technology, all of this material is likely to post-date the Early Bronze Age and is entirely typical of Middle/Late Bronze Age/Iron Age assemblages. There are no retouched tools among this material and there no obvious macroscopically visible traces of utilisation.

B.1.4 The bulk of the assemblage from ditch **347** is closely comparable to the material from well **219**, although here there are three pieces which appear to represent the products of somewhat more systematic core reduction (again probably of Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date). A single retouched tool, a broken cortical flake with abrupt lateral retouch, is typical of the expedient and informal tool forms produced and used during later prehistory and is keeping with the technological traits of the bulk of the assemblage.

Discussion and significance

B.1.5 Aside from a few more systematically produced pieces which hint at a Neolithic/Early Bronze Age presence at the site, the flint assemblage is overwhelmingly dominated by crude flake based material characteristic of later prehistoric (post Early Bronze Age) assemblages (e.g. Ford et al 1984; Young and Humphrey 1999; McLaren 2010). As such it is likely that much of this material is at least broadly contemporary with the features from which they derive and attest to the working and use of flint, probably as part of domestic activity at the site.

B.1.6 The assemblage is small and has little potential for allowing any detailed characterisation of the organisation and nature of flint working/use. It does, however, highlight the potential for more extensive excavations to produce a substantial assemblage of flintwork. In the sense of providing negative evidence, the relative dearth of 'early' flintwork at the site is also of some interest, especially given the major, extensive Mesolithic and Neolithic flint scatters found on the western edge of March at and around Gaul Road (Hall 1987; Middleton 1992; Mellor 2011)

B.2 Slag

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

B.2.1 Fragments of silty-sandy slag-like material or hearth debris, weighing 0.018kg, were collected by hand during the evaluation. The material was weighed and rapidly recorded, with basic description and weight recorded in the text.

Assemblage

B.2.2 The material was recovered from fill 373 of ditch **370** in Trench 68. It consists of irregular fragments of dull grey sandy-silty material with iron staining, with some vesicles. Within the material are metallic hollow fragments and spheres that may be smithing debris. Although predominantly non-metallic, the fragments exhibit

moderately strong magnetism, containing fragments of high iron content material. Dust from the fragments will coat the surface of a magnet passed over it.

Discussion

B.2.3 The material may indicate ironworking on, or close to, the area excavated. Alternatively, the material may represent the disposal of waste, as only small quantities were recovered. The pottery recovered from ditch **370** is prehistoric but undiagnostic and, although it may be Iron Age, its dating is uncertain; the slag or hearth debris therefore is undated and may be intrusive.

Retention, dispersal or display

B.2.4 The assemblage is fragmentary, and its significance is uncertain. Should further work be undertaken, additional material may be recovered. If no further work is undertaken, this statement acts as a full record and the slag or hearth debris may be deselected prior to archive deposition and possibly used for educational purposes.

B.3 Stone

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

B.3.1 A total of 0.018kg of unworked stone was recovered from fill 348 of ditch **347** in Trench 17. Simplified recording only has been undertaken, with material type, basic description and weight recorded in the text.

Assemblage

B.3.2 Trench 17, ditch **347** produced a sub-rectangular, laminar fragment of dull grey, fine-grained shale with occasional calcite inclusions, weighing 0.018kg. The fragment shows no sign of working and the faces and edges are quite eroded and rounded, emphasising the bedding planes, indicating that the stone has been exposed to the elements for a considerable period of time. Although not the usual black of Kimmeridge oil shale, an ignition test produced a distinctive petrochemical odour but no flame. Thus, it is probably from the Norfolk/Lincolnshire outcrop of this strata, known to be of inferior quality as a fuel source. It is not closely datable.

Discussion

B.3.3 The pottery recovered from the ditch is middle Bronze Age, however, the stone recovered is not closely datable.

Retention, dispersal or display

B.3.4 Should further work be undertaken, additional material may be recovered, however if no further work is undertaken, this statement acts as a full record and the stone may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

B.4 Prehistoric Pottery

By Nick Gilmour

Introduction

B.4.1 The evaluation yielded 92 sherds of prehistoric pottery (1231g) with a mean sherd weight (MSW) of 13.38g. The pottery was recovered from thirteen contexts relating to six ditch interventions, a pit, a well and a hollow way (Table 1). In addition, Romano-British pottery was recovered, which is reported on elsewhere (Wadeson this volume).

B.4.2 The prehistoric material is mainly of Middle Bronze Age origin, c. 1400-1000 BC and the majority came from a large well (**219**). Almost all of the remainder of the pottery is of Middle Iron Age (c.300-100BC) date, although a few sherds could not be identified beyond being prehistoric. The pottery is in moderate condition.

Trench	Cut	Context	Feature type	No. sherds	Weight (g)	Pottery spot date
3	**247**	248	Hollow way	1	8	Middle Iron Age
6	**219**	284	Well	7	71	Middle Bronze Age
6	**219**	285	Well	41	480	Middle Bronze Age
6	**219**	287	Well	24	399	Middle Bronze Age
6	**219**	310	Well	3	67	Middle Bronze Age
44	**71**	72	Ditch	1	6	Middle Iron Age
56	**421**	422	Ditch	1	5	Middle Iron Age
58	**415**	416	Ditch	2	21	Middle Iron Age
62	**388**	389	Ditch	1	2	Prehistoric
67	**295**	296	Pit	1	9	Middle Iron Age
68	**370**	373	Ditch	2	21	Middle Iron Age
70	**390**	409	Ditch	3	45	Middle Iron Age
70	**390**	410	Ditch	4	62	Middle Iron Age
71	**347**	348	Ditch	1	35	Middle Bronze Age
TOTAL	**-**	**-**	**-**	**91**	**1225**	**-**

Table 3: Quantification of prehistoric pottery

Methodology

B.4.3 All the prehistoric pottery has been fully recorded following the recommendations laid out by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (2011). After a full inspection of the assemblage, fabric groups were devised on the basis of dominant inclusion types, their density and modal size. Sherds from all contexts were counted, weighed (to the nearest whole gram) and assigned to a fabric group. Sherd type was recorded, along with evidence for surface treatment, decoration, and the presence of soot and/or residue. Rim and base forms were described using a codified system (from Brudenell 2012, 124) recorded in the catalogue, and were assigned vessel numbers. Where possible, rim and base diameters were measured, and surviving percentages noted. In cases where a sherd or groups of refitting sherds retained portions of the rim, shoulder and/or other diagnostic features, the vessel was categorised by ceramic tradition.

B.4.4 All pottery was subject to sherd size analysis. Sherds less than 4cm in diameter were classified as ‘small’ (66 sherds); sherds measuring 4-8cm were classified as ‘medium’

25 sherds), and sherds over 8cm in diameter classified as 'large' (one sherds). The quantified data is presented on an Excel data sheet held with the site archive.

Prehistoric pottery fabrics

B.4.5 F1: Moderate medium to course flint (up to 5mm).

B.4.6 F2: Sparse to moderate fine to medium flint (mainly <2mm in size) and sparse sand. Occasional sherds also contain sparse shell.

B.4.7 GF1: common moderate grog (mainly <3mm) and sparse coarse flint.

B.4.8 GF2: common fine grog (mainly >2mm) and sparse fine flint.

B.4.9 S1: Moderate to common medium to coarse shell (1-3mm in size). Shell is occasionally leached from the sherd surface leaving plate-like voids

B.4.10 SA: Moderate sand

B.4.11 SF: Moderate sand and sparse fine to medium flint

Fabric	Fabric group	No. sherds	Weight (g)	% fabric (by wt.)	MNV
F1	Flint	36	437	35.67	3
F2	Flint	19	242	19.76	2
GF1	Grog and flint	1	35	2.86	-
GF2	Grog and flint	4	35	2.86	-
S1	Shell	19	325	26.53	3
SA	Sand	9	100	7.67	1
SF	Sand and flint	4	58	4.73	-
TOTAL		*92*	*1231*		*9*

Table 4: Quantification of prehistoric pottery by fabric. MNV calculated as the total number of different rims and bases (seven rims, two bases).

Middle Bronze Age pottery

B.4.12 A total of 76 sherds (1052g) of pottery was of Middle Bronze Age origin. All but one of these sherds (35g) was recovered from the four fills within well **219** in trench 6. This assemblage forms a coherent group of Middle Bronze Age pottery. There are sherds that re-fit within separate fills of this pit (285 and 287). Notably there are also sherds which (although they do not re-fit) are from the same vessel, which have undergone different post-breakage processes. There are three sherds from a distinctive fingertip impressed flat rimed vessel, one of which has been burnt post-breakage. These re-fits between fills and differential post-breakage processes could suggest that the material deposited within well **219** was initially deposited elsewhere (potentially a midden), prior to entering the well.

B.4.13 The majority of the Middle Bronze Age pottery (64.35% by weight) contained flint inclusions within the fabric (Table 3). This compares with an assemblage recovered from Tithe Barn Farm, Chaterris, which consists of 272 sherds (2603g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery. Within this assemblage 38.07% (by weight) of the pottery was flint

tempered, 42.11% was quartz sand tempered and 19.82% was shell tempered (Percival 2011, 95).

Fabric	No. Sherds	Weight (g)	% fabric (by weight)
F1	36	437	41.54
F2	18	240	22.81
S1	17	306	29.09
GF1	1	35	3.23
GF2	4	34	3.23
Total	76	1052	

Table 5: Quantification of Middle Bronze Age pottery by fabric

Middle Iron Age pottery

B.4.14 A total of 14 sherds (175g) of pottery was of Middle Iron Age (c.300-100BC) origin. This pottery was recovered from seven different features (largely ditches), with no context producing more than four sherds (62g). Combined, the assemblage includes sherds in mainly sand tempered fabrics (8 sherds, 92g), with a smaller number of sand and flint tempered sherds (4 sherds, 58g) and single sherd (17g) a shell fabric (S1).

B.4.15 Only a single rim was recovered (from fill 410 of ditch **390**). This rim is from a shouldered jar, typical of this period. Only a single sherd showed any decoration (from fill 416 of ditch **415**), which consisted of a series of lines scored on it's surface.

Discussion

B.4.16 The evaluation has revealed a small assemblage of pottery, with components dating from the Middle Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age periods. The most significant group of material comprises the Middle Bronze Age pottery from well **219**, Trench 6. The pottery from the well is typical of the Middle Bronze Age, and is characterised by fragments of a range of vessels used between c.1400-1000 BC across Cambridgeshire; the best local parallel being material from Tithe Barn Farm, Chatteris (Percival 2011), c. 10km to the south.

B.5 Roman and post-Roman pottery

By Stephen Wadeson

Introduction

B.5.1 A total of 20 sherds of pottery, weighing 310g were recovered from the evaluation trenches at Barkers Lane, March (MARBAL17). Recovered from a total of eight stratified contexts the assemblage is predominantly Romano-British (Mid 1st to 4th centuries AD), with a further three sherds of post-Roman pottery identified.

Methodology

B.5.2 The Roman pottery was analysed following guidelines recorded in A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology (Barclay *et al* 2016, 14-18). The total assemblage was

studied and a full catalogue was prepared (in archive). The sherds were examined using a hand lens (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of inclusion types present. Vessel forms (cup, dish, bowl) are also recorded. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram and recorded by context. Decoration, residues and abrasion were also noted.

Fabric Codes

GW: Grey ware (Calc)

SOW: Sandy oxidised ware (Orange)

Gritty OW: Gritty Oxidised Ware

STW: Shell tempered ware

SRedW: Sandy red ware

HORT: Horticultural ceramics

STSL: Staffordshire Slip Ware

RWEW TR: Refined Earthen Ware Transfer Printed

The Assemblage

B.5.3 Romano-British pottery, 16 sherds, weighing 273g was recovered from five stratified contexts, consisting of locally produced, utilitarian domestic (Romanised), sandy coarse wares (both reduced and oxidised). While the majority of the coarse wares are unsourced, most, likely originate from local Cambridgeshire sources.

B.5.4 The majority of sherds recovered (12 sherds weighing 100g) comprise the base and lower wall of a single undiagnostic jar/beaker recovered from the fill of Ditch **223**. Produced in a soft, soapy fabric with abundant small calcareous inclusions, the fabric is light grey with an orange core and a powdery finish. Most probably produced locally, at present only a broad date of mid-1st to 4th century AD can be suggested, however is possibly contemporary in date with the mortarium rim recovered from Ditch **71**.

B.5.5 Specialist wares consisted of a single mortarium bead and flange rim sherd with large spout (153g) recovered from ditch **71**, fill (72). Produced in a coarse sandy oxidised fabric (unsourced) the presence of a white slip on the surface of the vessel may suggest it was originally misfired (re-fired a second time with a white slip). Possibly manufactured in the Colchester area, the vessels form would suggest a date of mid-1st to mid-2nd century AD (Alice Lyons *pers comm*).

B.5.6 The remaining three fragments, weighing 20g include a single sherd produced in a gritty, oxidised ware (2g). This sherd, in a white-to-pale yellow fabric (Cameron 1996, 449) with significant amounts of quartz, giving it a gritty appearance this pottery is rarely decorated (nearly always found fumed or sooted, suggesting it was a utilitarian form that was frequently used for cooking). This ware is visually identical to 1st and early 2nd century Verulamium white ware (Tyers 1996, 199-201), but is known to have been produced into the 2nd and 3rd centuries in the Northampton region and at Godmanchester in Cambridgeshire (Martin and Wallis 2006, 3.7.1, iii and iv).

B.5.7 In addition, three Post-Medieval sherds were recorded; an intrusive single sherd of horticultural ceramics, from a plant pot was recovered from the fill of Well **219**, a Refined Earthen Ware Blue Transfer Printed plate sherd, and an abraded Staffordshire Slip Ware sherd were recovered from Quarry Pits **173** and **281** respectively.

Discussion

B.5.8 The assemblage is fragmentary and moderately abraded suggesting that the majority of the sherds were not located at their primary site of deposition. The pottery has an average sherd weight (ASW) of c.15g. Many of the sherds have not retained their original surfaces or evidence of wear and use. The relatively poor condition of the pottery is attributed not only to the action of local soils but also post-depositional disturbance such as middening and/or manuring as part of the waste management during the Roman and post-Roman periods.

B.5.9 A small assemblage, post-depositional disturbance has made the assemblage difficult to assess beyond providing basic dating information. The Roman pottery consists mainly of locally produced (unsourced) utilitarian, (Romanised) sandy coarse wares with vessel forms present indicating a domestic coarse ware assemblage.

B.5.10 The pottery suggests domestic activity close to the area of excavation, the low levels of pottery recovered make all but the broadest dating difficult and the pottery spans the 1st to the 4th centuries AD, with additional 19th-20th century material. However, the presence of the single mortarium rim sherd, mid-1st to mid-2nd century AD may tentatively suggest the Roman assemblage may be dated to this period.

Cut	Context	Trench	Feature	Fabric	Form	Qty	Wgt (g)	Date
71	72	44	Ditch	SOW (Orange)	MORTARIUM	1	153	MC1-MC2
124	125	28	Gully	SGW		1	10	MC1-C4
173	182	32	Quarry Pit	RWEW TR	PLATE	1	3	C19
223	224	11	Ditch	GW (Calc)	?JAR/BEAKER	12	100	?C2/3
281	282	1	Quarry Pit	STSL		1	13	C17-C19
				SRedW		1	3	NCD
219	286	6	Well	HORT	PLANT POT	1	18	C19+
359	360	62	Ditch	?STW		1	8	NCD
433	434	60	Ditch	Gritty OW		1	2	C2
Total						**20**	**0.310**	

Table 6: Roman and Post-Roman pottery by context

B.6 Glass

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

B.6.1 A single shard of glass weighing 0.005kg, was recovered from ditch **187** in Trench 88. Simplified recording only has been undertaken, with material type, basic description and weight recorded in the text.

Assemblage

B.6.2 The single body sherd recovered from ditch **187**, is from a mid-olive-green utility bottle. The irregular fragment is 3-6mm thick with slightly clouded surfaces; the external surface has some irregularities suggesting the shard is from a part mould-blown bottle. The shape of the bottle cannot be established from the sherd, although it is likely to be cylindrical.

Discussion

B.6.3 The glass itself is not closely datable, as diagnostic features are absent, however, the level of clouding and faults suggests the glass is of some age, possibly 19th century and not a recent loss.

B.6.4 The presence of vessel glass indicates consumption of liquids, an individual drinking or perhaps farmhands working in the fields, casually discarding a bottle when broken, sometime in the 19th century.

Retention, dispersal or display

B.6.5 If further work is undertaken, additional shards of 19th century or later vessel glass may be recovered, although in small numbers. If no further work is undertaken, this statement acts as a full record and the glass may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

B.7 Ceramic Building Material and Fired Clay

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

B.7.1 A fragmentary assemblage of ceramic building material (CBM) and fired or burnt clay (85 pieces weighing 0.573kg), was recovered from pits, post holes and a well, across four of the evaluated trenches. The assemblage includes material from four samples. The bulk of the fired clay assemblage may relate to salt production (briquetage); also present are fragments that may be part of a loom weight.

B.7.2 The assemblage was quantified by context, counted and weighed, with fabric and form recorded where this was identifiable. Only complete dimensions were recorded, which

was most commonly thickness. Dating is tentative, with reference made to any pottery recovered from the contexts. Lane and Morris (2001) *A Millennium of Saltmaking: Prehistoric and Romano-British Salt Production in the Fenland* forms the basis for identification.

Assemblage

B.7.3 Fired clay was recovered from a single feature in Trench 6, well **219**. The assemblage, from four fills, consists of five formless fragments of sandy, calcareous flecked clay, while from context 287, a single fragment of what may be a loom weight was also recovered. Three smaller fragments of fired clay of similar composition were recovered from context 310. The exact form of the probable loom weight could not be established, however the well also produced 72 sherds (0.950kg) of Middle Bronze Age pottery and if the loom weight is of similar date, it would have been cylindrical in form. A single sherd from a plant pot was also recovered from the well, however, this is almost certainly intrusive.

B.7.4 Trench 19 produced 27 relatively formless fragments of fired clay from a single pit/post hole, **149**. The material is not closely datable.

B.7.5 From Trench 31, seven CBM fragments were recovered from a single fill in pit **30**, six of which appear to be from a very broken up tile and the remaining sherd may also be from a brick or tile. The material is not closely datable.

B.7.6 The bulk of the fired clay assemblage was recovered from Trench 31/32, from four features: two post holes and two pits. It was from this group of features that the briquetage was recovered. Little pottery or otherwise closely datable finds were recovered from these features; although a single sherd from a transfer-printed Refined Earthenware plate was recovered from pit **173**, the sherd is likely to be intrusive. All the material identified as briquetage includes organic temper with voids from burnt out plant material within the matrix and this evident on the surfaces of the fragments.

B.7.7 Post hole **152** produced 14 sherds, 0.080kg, of abraded fragments of briquetage, many with one or more surfaces. All appear flat, except the largest piece, which has a slight curve. These are possibly fragments from a container (a trough-like pan) used in saltmaking; there may also be some wall or floor plate fragments. Post hole **168** produced only 0.008kg of fired clay, although three of the fragments are likely to be briquetage, with two fragments of container rim.

B.7.8 Pit **172** produced 15 fragments of fired clay (0.180kg) from two fills, of which the majority are fragments of briquetage container, possibly body sherds, including a relatively large sherd that may be part of a base. A single briquetage fragment from context 174 may be a piece of pedestal. Pit **173** produced similar material, briquetage container body sherds and two fragments that appear to be rim sherds from a container.

Discussion

B.7.9 A fragmentary assemblage of CBM and fired clay of varying dates was recovered from across the site. Small fragments of tile were recovered from Trench 19. The well in

Trench 6 produced fragments, possibly from a Bronze Age loom weight, indicating contemporary domestic activity. The dating of the briquetage fragments is uncertain, however the form of the briquetage (container wall, rim sherds and possible pedestal fragment) suggests an Iron Age or Romano-British date. At least one other salt production site around March has been investigated, Long Hill Road (Atkins 2003) and, on the edge of March at Estover Road, the evaluation report references the Roman settlement and industrial area known as Flagrass, which was dominated by saltmaking and small-scale pottery production (Stocks-Morgan 2014).

B.7.10 Although the previously identified salt production areas both lie to the north of March, it may be suggested that the briquetage remains recovered in the evaluation indicate Iron Age or Roman saltmaking was also being undertaken on the southern edge of the March island.

Retention, dispersal or display

B.7.11 The assemblage is fragmentary, however, it suggests both Bronze Age domestic activity and Iron Age or Romano-British saltmaking. Should further work be undertaken, additional fired clay deposits of various periods are likely to be recovered, including further examples of briquetage. The present assemblage of CBM and fired/burnt clay should be incorporated into any later catalogue. The briquetage and Bronze age material should be retained. If no further work is undertaken, this statement acts as a full record.

Trench	Context	Cut	Sample	CBM/Fired Clay Form	CBM/Fired Clay Description	No. of fragments	Weight (kg)	Date
6	284	**219**		Formless fragments	Sandy fired clay. Red to dull red, with occasional calcareous flecks and rare ironstone specks.	3	0.010	Not closely datable (pottery is Middle Bronze Age)
	285			Formless fragment	Sandy fired clay. Red to buff with moderate calcareous flecks and rare ironstone specks, possible surface survives.	1	0.010	
	287			Fired clay artefact	Fragment of extremely mixed sandy fired clay, very rough appearance. Buff, pink and red, with occasional voids, moderate grog and calcareous flecks, and rare ironstone specks. Appears to have a curved surface and may be a fragment of loom weight.	1	0.051	
				Formless fragment	Sandy fired clay. Dull red, with rare ironstone specks.	1	0.002	
	310			Fired clay artefact fragments	Fragments of sandy fired clay, one with an area of surface. Pale grey, with redder areas, moderate calcareous fragments 1-3mm and rare ironstone specks. Like material from 287 and may also be pieces of loom weight.	3	0.030	
19	150	**149**		Formless fragment	Moderately abraded fragment of mid grey sandy fired clay, with occasional flints, calcareous flecks and rare mica.	1	0.019	Not closely datable
				Formless fragments	Moderately abraded pieces of formless fired clay. Dull pale yellow fabric, with red patches, slightly gritty with occasional flints and calcareous	8	0.031	

Trench	Context	Cut	Sample	CBM/Fired Clay Form	CBM/Fired Clay Description	No. of fragments	Weight (kg)	Date
					flecks. Rare ironstone flecks and tiny voids.			
				Formless fragments	Fired clay. Largely mid to pale grey, with some redder or yellower areas. Very fine fabric, occasional quartz grains, moderate tiny voids. Rare fragments of flint and black ironstone flecks.	18	0.086	
31	33	**30**		Tile	Fragments, possibly from a tile. Red, with pink and pale-yellow streaks patches and flecks, occasional quartz, hackly fracture. Possible remains of surfaces (16mm thick), traces of mortar on one fragment and possible straw impressions.	6	0.019	Not closely datable
				Brick or tile	Formless fragment from a brick or tile. Dull red, quartz-tempered, with occasional flint and impressions of organic material, including chaff. Part of a single surface survives.	1	0.003	
31/32	153	**152**	16	Briquetage	Slightly abraded fragments of fired clay, many with one or more surfaces. All appear flat except the largest piece, which has a slight curve. Dull pale yellow, with some pinker areas and one piece is dull red with a pale surface. Fine silty fabric, with moderate voids (burnt out organic material), creating a rough appearance. Occasional flints, calcareous flecks and quartz grains. Possible briquetage container fragments. Also, some possible wall or floor plate. Similar material in context 175, quarry **172**. 10-12mm thick.	14	0.080	Iron Age or Romano-British
31/32	169	**168**	14	Fragment of fired clay	Dull red fragment of fired clay, slightly sandy, moderate elongated voids (burnt out organic material).	1	0.003	Not closely datable
				Briquetage	Moderately abraded cream piece of silty fired clay, with two surviving surfaces. Occasional voids (burnt out organic material) and tiny flints. Surfaces survive, slight greenish colouration to one surface, may be a fragment of briquetage. 9mm thick	1	0.003	Iron Age or Romano-British
				Briquetage	Two fragments of what may be rim from a container. Brownish-red silty fired clay. Occasional chaff impressions, rare voids (burnt out organic material).	2	0.002	
31/32	174	**172**		Fired clay fragment	Orange-pink fragment of moderately abraded fired clay with a surviving very pale yellow surface. Moderate calcareous flecks, black grains and voids (burnt out organic material). Rare sub-rounded stones up to 10mm, possibly a wall fragment	1	0.044	Not closely datable
				Briquetage	Fragment of container in a buff silty fabric with a very rough appearance. Appears to be part of the straight edge of a flat base, with a surviving length of 75mm. Moderate calcareous flecks and larger lumps of chalky material up to 15mm. Frequent voids of various shapes	1	0.038	Iron Age or Romano-British

Trench	Context	Cut	Sample	CBM/Fired Clay Form	CBM/Fired Clay Description	No. of fragments	Weight (kg)	Date
					(burnt out organic material), some chaff impressions. Two notable pieces of grog, including a fragment measuring 42x13mm, possibly from another container. 10-12mm thick. Possible briquetage container base.			
				Briquetage	Pale orange-pink and pale buff fragment of silty fired clay. Moderate calcareous flecks, black grains and voids (burnt out organic material). Part of a surface survives, with what appears to be a pinch mark. Possibly part of a pedestal.	1	0.032	
31/32	175		19	Briquetage	Fragments of slightly abraded fired clay, most with two surviving surfaces, some slightly curved. Very pale yellow to pale pink or light grey silty fabric, with moderate voids of various shapes (burnt out organic material). Rare shell and stones up to 6mm. Possible briquetage container fragments. Similar material in context 153, post hole **152**. 9-11mm thick.	12	0.066	
31/32	179	**173**	20	Fired clay fragment	Fragment of buff silty fired clay, with moderate crushed shell, rare larger shell fragments and rare voids (burnt out organic material).	1	0.007	Not closely datable
				Briquetage	Fragments of silty fabric, all with two surviving surfaces. Occasional voids of varying shapes (burnt-out organic material), including chaff. Rare grog and calcareous flecks. Possible briquetage container fragments. Similar material in context 175 quarry **172** and material in context 153, post hole **152**. 9-14mm thick.	4	0.017	Iron Age or Romano-British
				Briquetage	Fragments of slightly sandy fired clay with one or more surviving surfaces. Two fragments have a single uneven surface, the other two seem to be edge or rim sherds. Pale red with widespread colour changes, probably due to heat. Few inclusions or voids (burnt out organic material). One fragment appears to be covered in 'saltscale'. Possible briquetage container fragments.	4	0.020	
Total						**85**	**0.573**	

Table 7: CBM and Fired Clay

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental Samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.1.1 Forty-four bulk samples were taken from features within the evaluated area at Barkers Lane, March, Cambridgeshire to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations. Samples were taken from features encountered within 19 trenches.

Methodology

C.1.2 The samples were soaked in a solution of sodium carbonate for 24hrs prior to processing to break down the heavy clay matrix. A single bucket (approximately 10L) of each of the samples was processed by tank flotation using modified Siraff-type equipment for the recovery of preserved plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve.

C.1.3 The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 1. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands (Cappers et al. 2006) and the authors' own reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and Stace (1997) for other plants. Plant remains have been identified to species where possible. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

Quantification

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

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

C.1.5 Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal and molluscs have been scored for abundance

+ = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant

Key to tables:

U=untransformed

Results

C.1.6 Preservation of plant remains is variable with occasional charring (carbonisation), occasional waterlogging and in several samples there is no preservation of plant

remains at all. Many of the samples contain rootlets which may have caused movement of material between contexts.

C.1.7 Charred plant remains are recorded in twenty-six samples, mainly as sparse charcoal as evidence of the burning of wood. Occasional features that contain more significant quantities of charcoal include post-hole **10** (Trench 35) which produced 250ml of charcoal possibly representing the burning of the post, tree throw **34** (Trench 35), tree throw **171** (Trench 31), post hole **153** (Trench 31/32), ditch **390** (Trench 70) Several samples in Trenches 31/32 also contain evidence of burnt stems, probably of Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*). These samples also contain the only charred seeds recovered from this site, mostly representing wetland plants such as sedges (*Carex* spp.), Great Fen sedge (*Cladium mariscus*) and rushes (*Juncus* sp.).

C.1.8 The only charred cereal grain recovered from this site is a poorly-preserved grain from pit **109** in Trench 27.

C.1.9 Duckweed (*Lemna* sp.) seeds are found in an untransformed state in features in Trenches 2, 31 and 32. The presence of duckweed in shallow post-holes **20** and **161** in Trenches 31/32 is probably due to a backfill of peat deposits as ditch **347** which is also encountered within this trench also contain duckweed seeds. The lower fills of ditch **377** in Trench 68 contain numerous duckweed seeds in addition to other seeds preserved by waterlogging. The largest assemblage of preserved seeds was recovered from lower fill 351 and includes seeds of plants that are obligate aquatics such as water-crowfoot (*Ranunculus* subgenus Batrachium) and pondweed (*Potamogeton* sp.) which indicate that the ditch contained water. Other plants represented include gypsywort (*Lycopus europaeus*), nettles (*Urtica dioica*), water-dropwort (*Oenanthe crocata)* which may have been growing on the damp sides of the ditch in addition to brambles (*Rubus* sp.), elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) and possibly hawthorn (*Crategus monogyna*) which are more likely to have colonised the bank of the ditch. Shale and degraded un-worked wood fragments were also recovered from fill 384 of this ditch.

C.1.10 There is also evidence of waterlogging in pit **251** in the form of duckweed seeds and shale. No other plant remains have survived.

Area/trench No.	Sample No.	Context No.	Feature No.	Feature Type	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Preservation	Cereals	Duckweed	Charred seeds	Waterlogged seeds	Snails	Estimated charcoal volume (ml)
1	28	273	**272**	Pit	7	2	charred	0	0	0	0	++	1
2	26	252	**251**	Pit	10	60	Water-logged	0	#u	0	0	++++	0
2	27	255	**254**	Pit	8	1	none	0	0	0	0	++	0
6	29	220	**218**	Well	8	1	charred	0	0	0	0	0	10
6	30	287	**219**	Well	9	10	charred	0	0	0	0	0	40
6	32	310	**219**	Well	8	20	charred	0	0	0	0	+	1
13	25	216	**215**	Pit	8	<1	none	0	0	0	0	0	0
27	13	109	**109**	Pit	7	1	charred	#	0	0	0	+	<1

Area/trench No.	Sample No.	Context No.	Feature No.	Feature Type	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Preservation	Cereals	Duckweed	Charred seeds	Waterlogged seeds	Snails	Estimated charcoal volume (ml)
31	4	21	**20**	Post hole	4	3	?	0	##u	0	0	0	<1
31	6	25	**24**	Post hole	9	1	charred	0	0	0	0	0	<1
31	8	29	**28**	Post hole	10	2	charred	0	0	0	0	0	2
31	22	31	**30**	Quarry pit	6	5	charred	0	0	0	0	0	<1
31	14	169	**169**	Post hole	2	<1	none	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	15	171	**171**	Tree throw	5	80	charred	0	0	#	0	+++	20
32	21	182	**173**	Quarry pit	7	2	charred	0	0	#	0	0	<1
33	1	9	**8**	Pit	10	1	charred	0	0	0	0	0	<1
34	2	13	**12**	Pit/tree throw	9	5	charred	0	0	0	0	0	<1
35	9	11	**10**	Post hole	8	240	charred	0	0	0	0	0	240
35	10	35	**34**	Tree throw	8	70	charred	0	0	0	0	0	35
44	11	72	**71**	Ditch	9	10	none	0	0	0	0	0	0
56	47	422	**421**	Ditch	8	1	none	0	0	0	0	+	0
57	46	394	**393**	Pit	8	5	none	0	0	0	0	0	0
63	45	420	**419**	Pit	9	30	charred	0	0	0	0	0	1
66	48	436	**435**	Pit	7	10	charred	0	0	0	0	0	<1
68	39	392	**370**	Ditch	8	2	none	0	0	0	0	0	0
68	42	378	**377**	Ditch	8	1	none	0	0	0	0	+	0
68	40	382	**377**	Ditch	9	1	waterlogged	0	####u	0	#	0	0
68	41	384	**377**	Ditch	8	40	waterlogged	0	####u	0	##	0	0
70	35	348	**347**	Ditch	7	1	none	0	0	0	0	+	0
70	36	349	**347**	Ditch	7	20	none	0	0	0	0	++++	0
70	37	350	**347**	Ditch	5	1	waterlogged	0	##u	0	##	+	0
70	38	351	**347**	Ditch	6	40	waterlogged	0	'	0	###	0	0
70	43	410	**390**	Ditch	8	20	charred	0	0	0	0	+	15
70	44	409	**390**	Ditch	8	1	charred	0	0	0	0	0	2
71	33	326	**325**	Post hole	4	1	charred	0	0	0	0	0	3
71	34	328	**327**	Post hole	8	1	charred	0	0	0	0	0	<1
84	23	194	**193**	Pit	9	5	charred	0	0	0	0	0	<1
84	24	196	**195**	Post hole	4	1	charred	0	0	0	0	0	<1

Area/trench No.	Sample No.	Context No.	Feature No.	Feature Type	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Preservation	Cereals	Duckweed	Charred seeds	Waterlogged seeds	Snails	Estimated charcoal volume (ml)
?	31	296	**295**	Pit	7	1	none	0	0	0	0	+	0
31/32	16	153	**153**	Post hole	8	40	charred	0	0	##	0	+	10
31/32	17	161	**161**	Post hole	8	<1	?	0	#u	0	0	0	0
31/32	18	174	**174**	Quarry pit	8	20	charred	0	#u	#	0	0	2
31/32	19	175	**175**	Quarry pit	8	15	charred	0	0	##	0	0	<1
31/32	20	179	**179**	Quarry pit	9	10	none	0	0	0	0	+	0

Table 8: Environmental Samples

Discussion

C.1.11 The results of the environmental bulk samples suggest that through the absence of preserved food remains there is no evidence of human habitation in the areas evaluated (a single grain cannot be regarded as significant). There is probable evidence of human activity in Trenches 31/32 through the recovered of charred fenland plants. The burning of these plants could be the result of in-situ peat burning for the deliberate clearance of managed reed beds. Alternatively, the presence of post holes in this area may suggest that the burning was related to the use of peat or fen vegetation as fuel for an industrial activity. The absence of dating evidence from these deposits precludes further interpretation at this stage. The investigation of peat deposits at Hobbs Lot Farm, March by Waller (1994, 219) discovered several phases of peat deposition dating from 4450 BP to 2240BP. There is potential for further investigation of the peat deposits from this site through pollen analysis and possibly through specialist analysis of ostracods which were noted in fill 351 of ditch **347**.

C.1.12 The waterlogged plant remains provide further evidence of typical fenland plants growing in the site. There is potential that further sampling will produce a more comprehensive list of taxa. Molluscs are preserved in the more calcareous deposits and also have potential for environmental reconstruction.

C.1.13 If further excavation is planned for this area, it is recommended that environmental sampling is carried out in accordance with Historic England guidelines (2011).

C.2 Animal Bone

By Zoe Ui Choileáin

Introduction

C.2.1 A small collection of animal bone weighing 1508g was recovered from the site. Of 58 countable fragments 26 were identifiable to species. Two phases are represented in

the faunal assemblage. Middle Bronze Age well **219** contained cattle, sheep/goat and pig. The Middle Iron Age faunal remains consist solely of material from ditch **390**.

Methodology

C.2.2 Identification of the assemblage was undertaken with the aid of Schmid (1972) and the OAE reference collection. Preservation condition was evaluated using the 0-5 scale devised by Brickley and McKinley (2004 14-15).

Results

C.2.3 The average surface condition was recorded as 1-2 on the McKinley Scale (Ibid) where some bone surfaces are partially masked by erosion. Fragmentation of all bone was high. Equid, Cattle Sheep/goat and pig remains were present. Large and medium mammal bone was also recorded due to the small size of the assemblage. Both adult and juvenile remains were present. Results are presented by phase below;

Middle Bronze Age

C.2.4 The majority of bone from this assemblage is derived from well **219**, which contained fragments of cattle, sheep/goat and pig bone.

Element	**Cattle** *(Bos Taurus)*	**Sheep/goat (***Ovis/Capra***)**	**Pig (***Sus***)**	**Total**
M1/2	3	1		4
PH2	1	1		2
Mandible		2	1	3
Scapula		1		1
Humerus		1		1
NISP	4	6	1	11
NISP %	36.36	54.54	9.09	100
MNI	1	2	1	4
MNI %	25	50	25	100

Table 9: Middle Bronze Age: Number of identifiable specimens (NISP) and Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI)

C.2.5 A single fragment of red deer humerus was recovered from fill 286 in this well. Signs of canine gnawing were apparent on the proximal and distal ends of the fragment. Both juvenile and adult cattle and sheep bone were recorded. Very little butchery was observed however a single medium mammal rib from well **219** did show faint cut marks on the anterior surface.

Middle Iron Age

C.2.6 Ditch **390** contained fragments of sheep/goat and cattle bone. A single cattle metacarpus showed signs of rodent gnawing.

Element	Sheep/goat (*Ovis/Capra*)	Cattle (*Bos Taurus*)	Total
Metatarsus	0	1	1
Metacarpus	0	1	1
Femur	1	1	2
M1/2	1	0	1
NISP	2	3	5
% NISP	40	60	100
MNI	1	1	2
% MNI	50	50	100

Table 10: Middle Iron Age; Number of identifiable specimens (NISP) and Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI)

Unphased

C.2.7 The burial of a juvenile cow was recorded from unphased pit **399**. This was a partially disturbed burial which was left for full excavation phase. A single unfused radius recovered gives an age of <12 months (Silver 1969, 285). Ditch **187** contained the majority of an adult horse pelvis. Small osteophytes were present below the acetabulum which is most likely due to the older age of the animal

Element	Cattle (*Bos Taurus*)	Sheep/goat	Pig	Red deer	Horse	Total
Radius	2	1				3
calcaneus	1					1
M1/2			1			1
Femur	1			1		2
Tibia	1					1
Pelvis					1	1

Element	Cattle (*Bos Taurus*)	Sheep/goat	Pig	Red deer	Horse	Total
Metacarpus	1					1
NISP	6	1	1	1	1	10
NISP %	60	10	10	10	10	100
MNI	2	1	1	1	1	6
MNI %	33.33	16.66	16.66	16.66	16.66	100

Table 11: Unphased: Number of identifiable specimens (NISP) and Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI)

C.2.8 This is a small assemblage. All species represented are typical domestic mammals used both in the Middle Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age. While fragmentation is high the surface preservation is good. Should further excavations take place there is potential for a larger assemblage to provide information on age, sex, pathology and butchery practice.

Trench	Cut	Fill	Type	Chronology	Taxon	Weight (g)	No. of frags
31	**30**	31	Pit	Unphased	Pig	4	1
29	**135**	136	Ditch	Unphased	Cattle	191	1
29	**135**	136	Ditch	Unphased	Medium mammal	5	1
88	**187**	188	Ditch	Unphased	Equid	234	1
6	**219**	284	Well	MBA	Medium mammal	34	10
6	**219**	284	Well	MBA	Sheep/Goat	96	5
6	**219**	284	Well	MBA	Pig	53	3
6	**219**	284	Well	MBA	Large mammal	149	13
6	**219**	284	Well	MBA	Cattle	113	4
6	**219**	286	Well	MBA	Red deer	42	1
6	**219**	287	Well	MBA	Small mammal	1	1
70	**327**	328	Posthole	Unphased	Large mammal	20	1
71	**347**	348	Ditch	Unphased	Cattle	199	2
68	**377**	384	Ditch	Unphased	Cattle	34	1
68	**377**	384	Ditch	Unphased	Sheep/Goat	12	1

Trench	Cut	Fill	Type	Chronology	Taxon	Weight (g)	No. of frags
57	**399**	400	Animal burial	Unphased	Cattle	41	2
70	**390**	409	Ditch	MIA	Large mammal	90	2
70	**390**	410	Ditch	MIA	Cattle	156	3
70	**390**	410	Ditch	MIA	Sheep/Goat	11	2
70	**390**	410	Ditch	MIA	Medium mammal	6	2
60	**435**	436	Pit	Unphased	Medium mammal	17	1
Total						**1508**	**58**

Table 12: Weight of Bone and Number of Fragments per feature. MBA = Middle Bronze Age, MIA = Middle Iron Age.

C.3 Shale

By Simon Timberlake

Introduction

C.3.1 Six pieces of waterlogged shale from the basal fill (384) of a large enclosure ditch of Bronze Age/ Iron Age were recovered from this site at Bakers Lane, March. The waterlogged fragments weighed 25.1g, 34.76g, 19.1g, 30.6g, 37.58g and 164.33g (Total = 311.56g). It is possible that all of these water-worn pieces of shale originally came from the same piece, although there is no evidence that the original, or else the fragments were worked in any way, or otherwise utilised. The samples were dried and examined under an illuminated x10 hand lens.

Lithology

C.3.2 This soft, dark brown example of 'paper shale' appears to be rich in kerogen, and is commonly referred to as an *oil shale*. Almost certainly this is a derived rock from the Kimmeridge Clay (Upper Jurassic) outcrop which lies just to the south and east of March, and which outcrops on the Isle of Ely, Littleport and Haddenham (Gallois 1988, 35-37). Most likely this oil shale comes from the top of the *exodus* zone of the Lower Kimmeridge Clay, and was transported westwards by the ice sheets, and thus deposited in the boulder clay nearby, from which it was washed out.

C.3.3 The samples are of geological interest only. These were subsequently disposed of.

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APPENDIX E OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	Oxfordar3-307522
Project Name	A Middle Bronze age enclosure and other features at land off Barkers Lane, March, Cambridgeshire

Start of Fieldwork	22/10/17	End of Fieldwork	6/12/17
Previous Work	no	Future Work	Not known

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	MARBAL17	Planning App. No.	-
HER Number	ECB5235	Related Numbers	

Prompt	NPPF
Development Type	Rural residential
Place in Planning Process	Pre-application

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	Middle Bronze Age (- 1600 to - 1000)	Pot	Middle Bronze Age (- 1600 to - 1000)
Well	Middle Bronze Age (- 1600 to - 1000)	Pot	Middle Iron Age (- 400 to - 100)
Ditch	Middle Iron Age (- 400 to - 100)	Pot	Roman (43 to 410)

Insert more lines as appropriate.

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire
District	Fenland
Parish	March
HER office	Cambridge
Size of Study Area	34ha
National Grid Ref	TL 4200 9500

Address (including Postcode)

Barkers Lane
March
Cambs

Project Originators

Organisation	Oxford Archaeology East
Project Brief Originator	Kasia Gdaniec
Project Design Originator	Stephen Macaulay
Project Manager	Stephen Macaulay
Project Supervisor	Kathryn Blackbourn

Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	CCC	ECB5235
Digital Archive	OAE	MARBAL17
Paper Archive	CCC	ECB5235

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	☐
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		Photos (negatives/prints/slides)	☐

Plans	☒
Report	☒
Sections	☒
Survey	☒

Further Comments

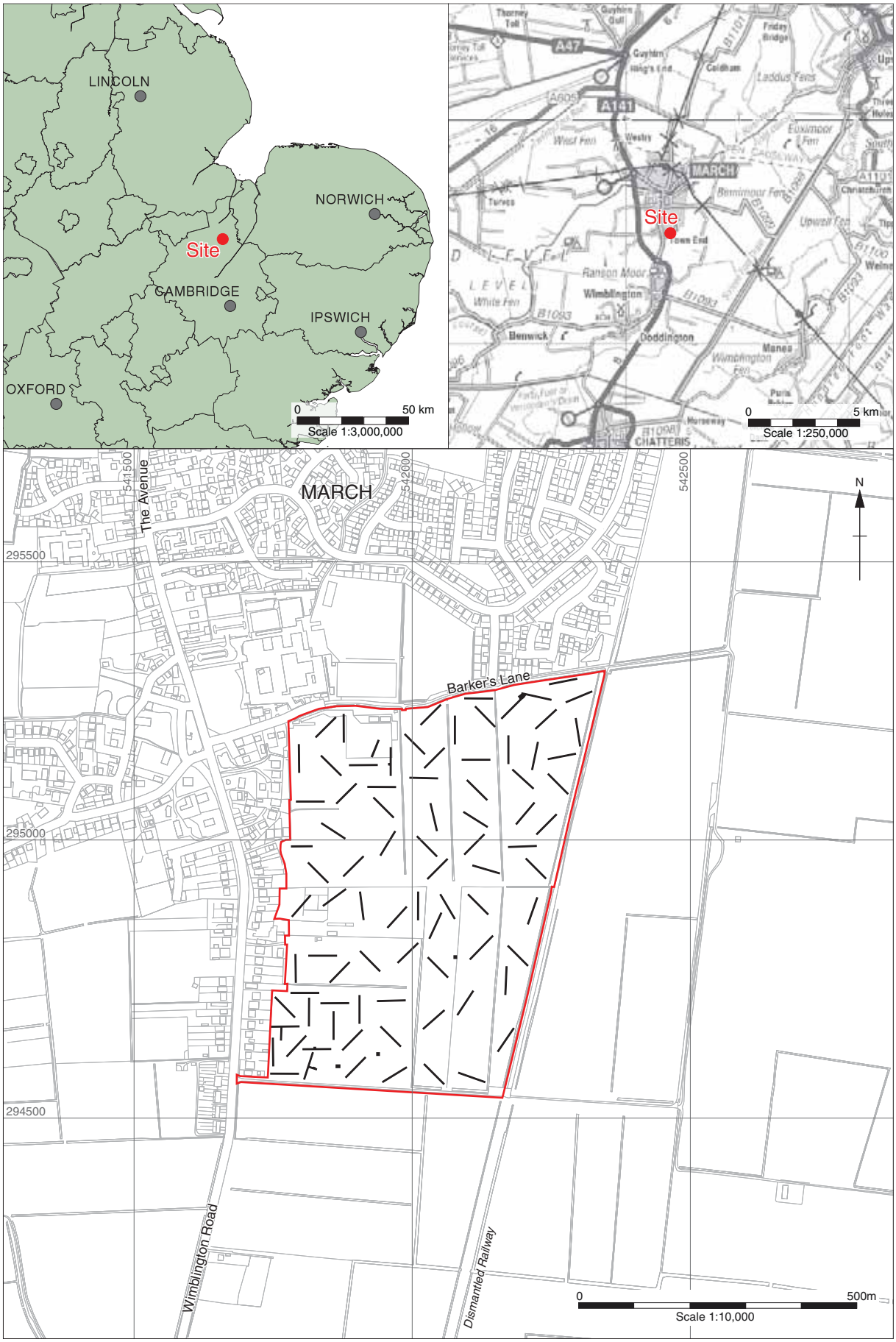


Figure 1: Site location map showing archaeological trenches (black) in development area outlined (red)

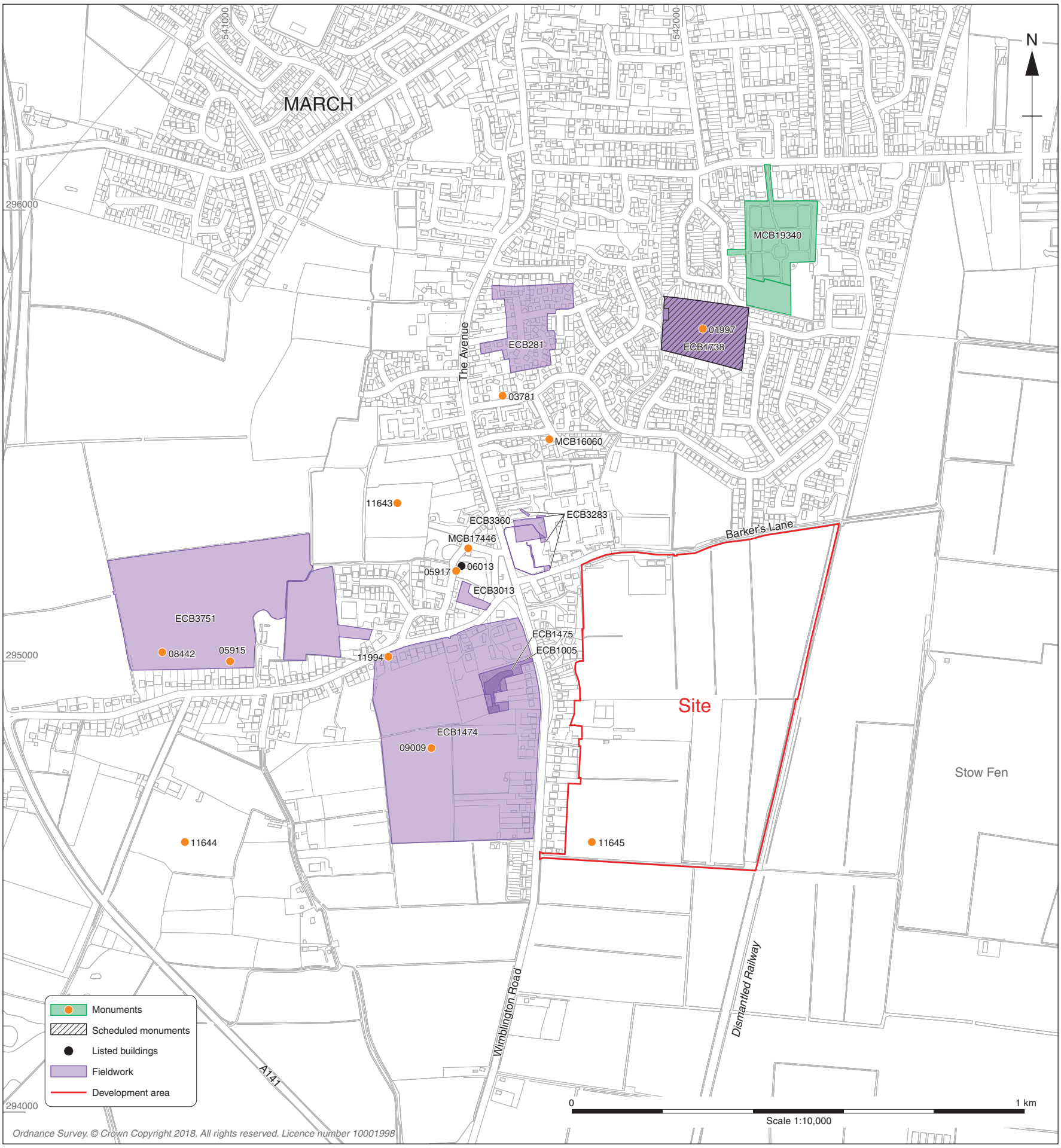


Figure 2: HER data

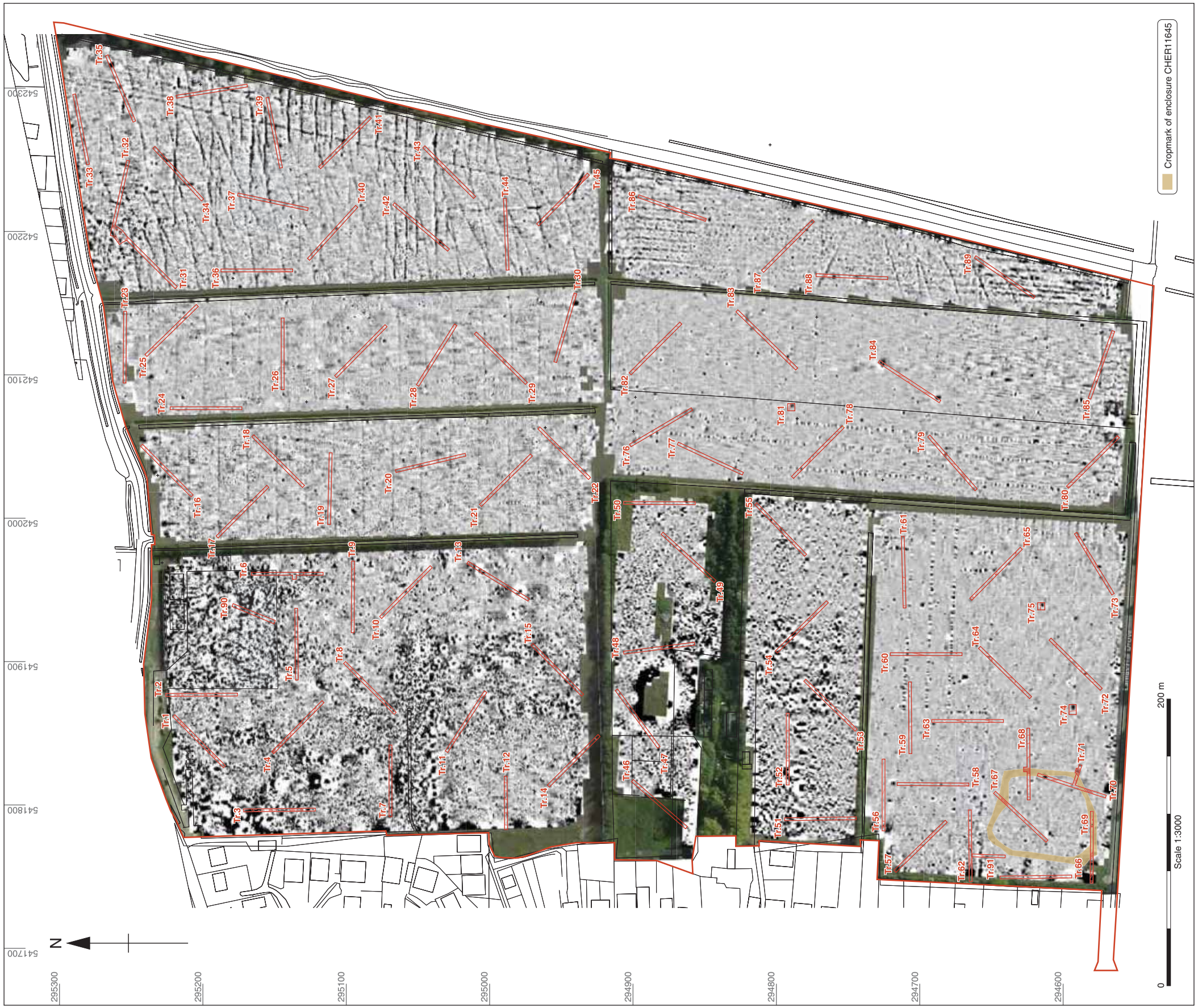


Figure 3: Geophysical survey results overlaid with evaluation trenches

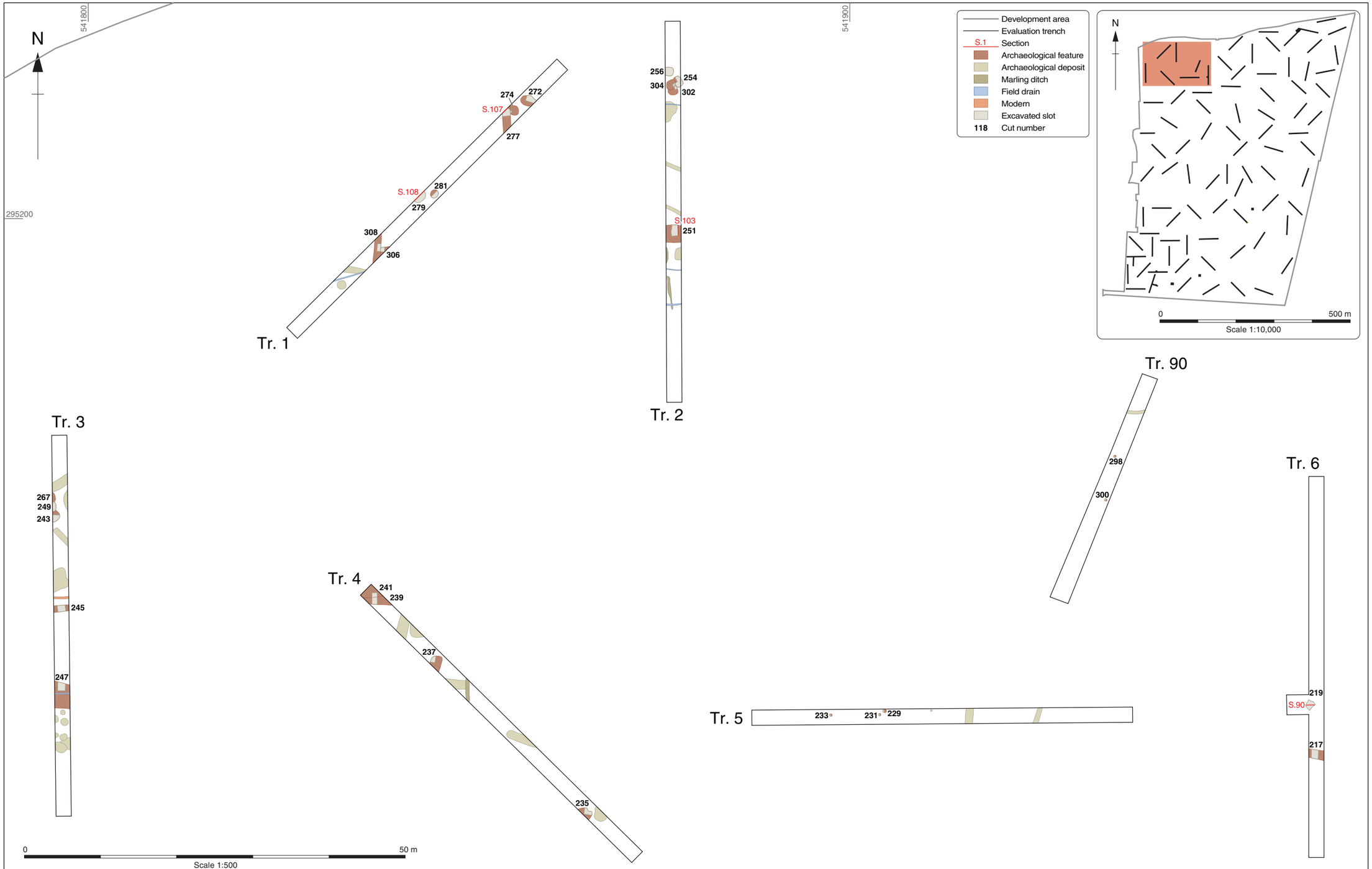


Figure 4: Plan of Trenches 1-6 and Trench 90

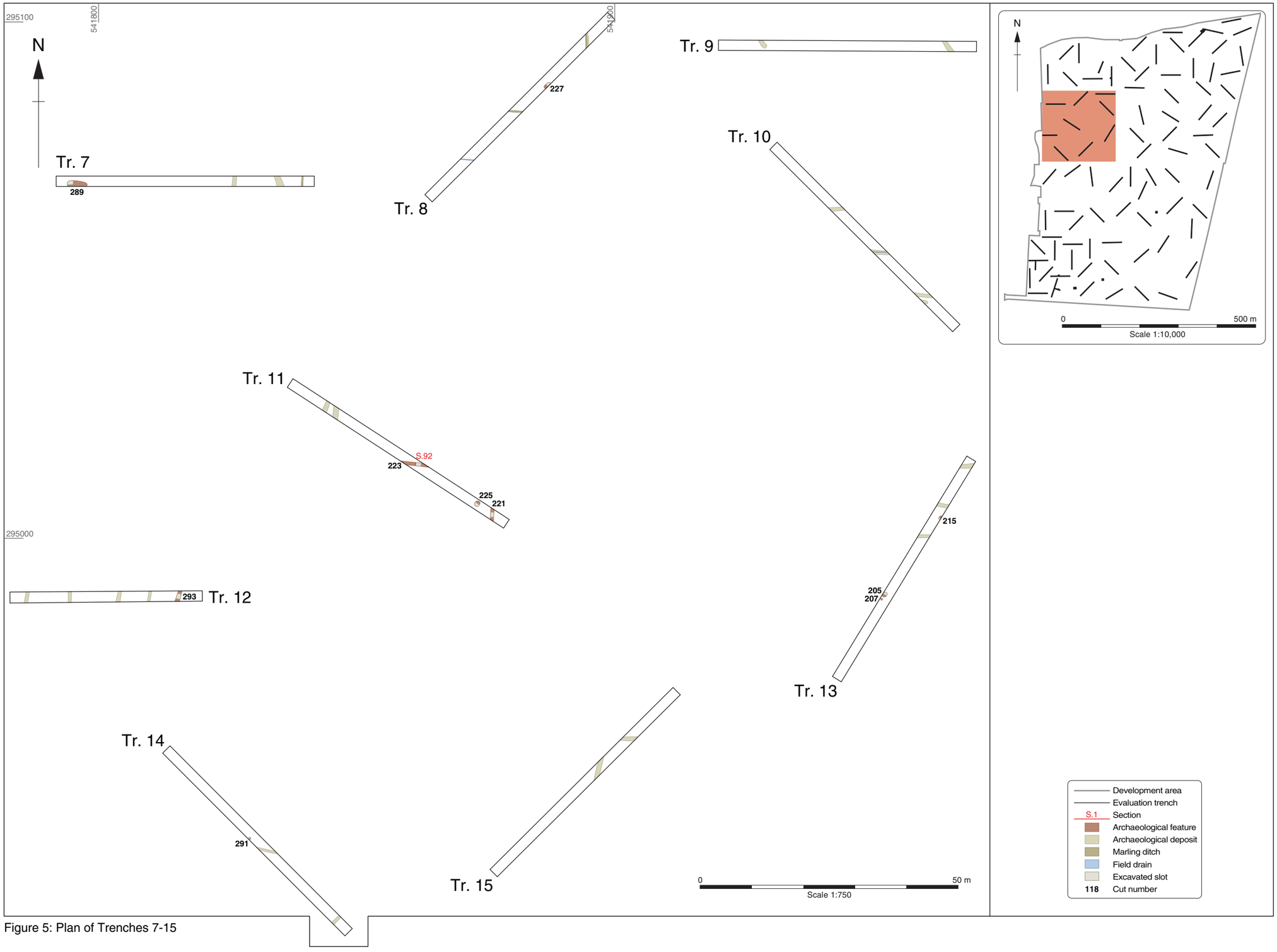


Figure 5: Plan of Trenches 7-15

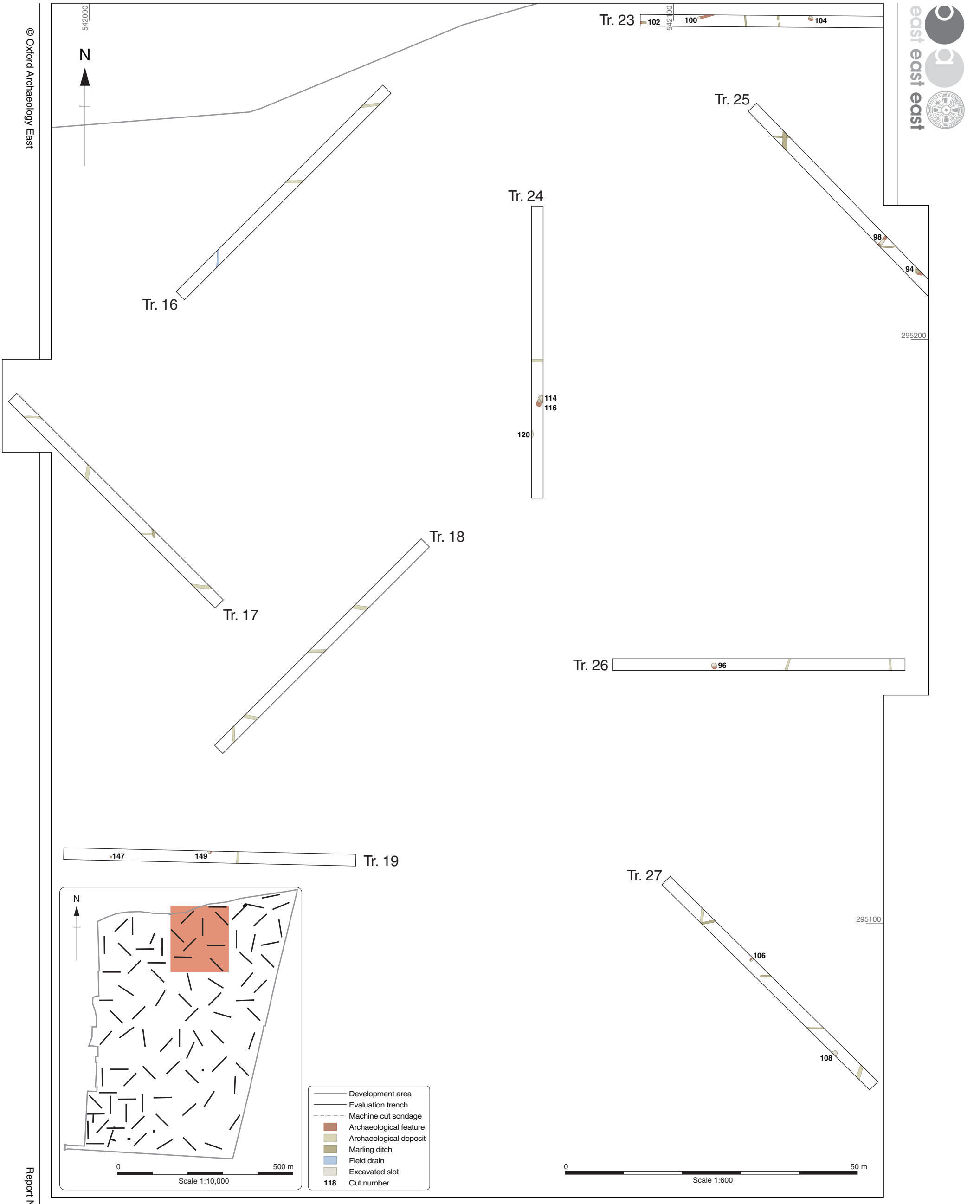


Figure 6: Plan of Trenches 17-19 and 23-27

542200

542300

N

Tr. 33

6
8
4

Figure 8

Tr. 32

Tr. 35

54
56
36
10
34

Tr. 31

12

Tr. 34

Tr. 38

38
40

295200

52

Tr. 36

48

Tr. 37

S.24
61

63
S.25

Tr. 39

73
75

N

82

Tr.40

Tr.41

84
86
88
90
92

0
500 m
Scale 1:10,000

295100

Development area
Evaluation trench
Machine cut sondage
S.1 Section
Archaeological feature
Archaeological deposit
Marling ditch
Excavated slot
118 Cut number

0
50 m
Scale 1:600

Figure 7: Plan of Trenches 31-41

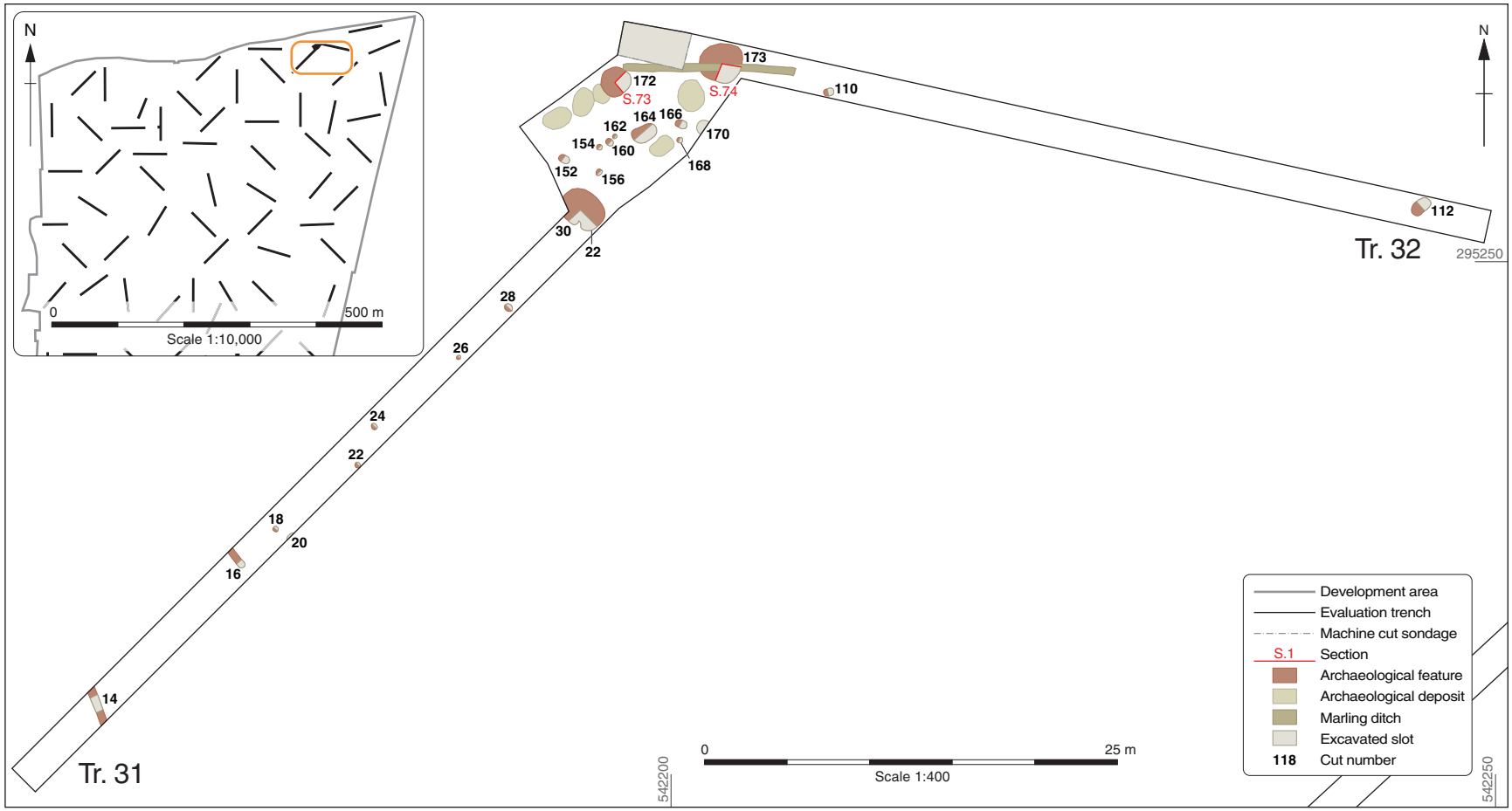


Figure 8: Detailed plan of Trenches 31 and 32

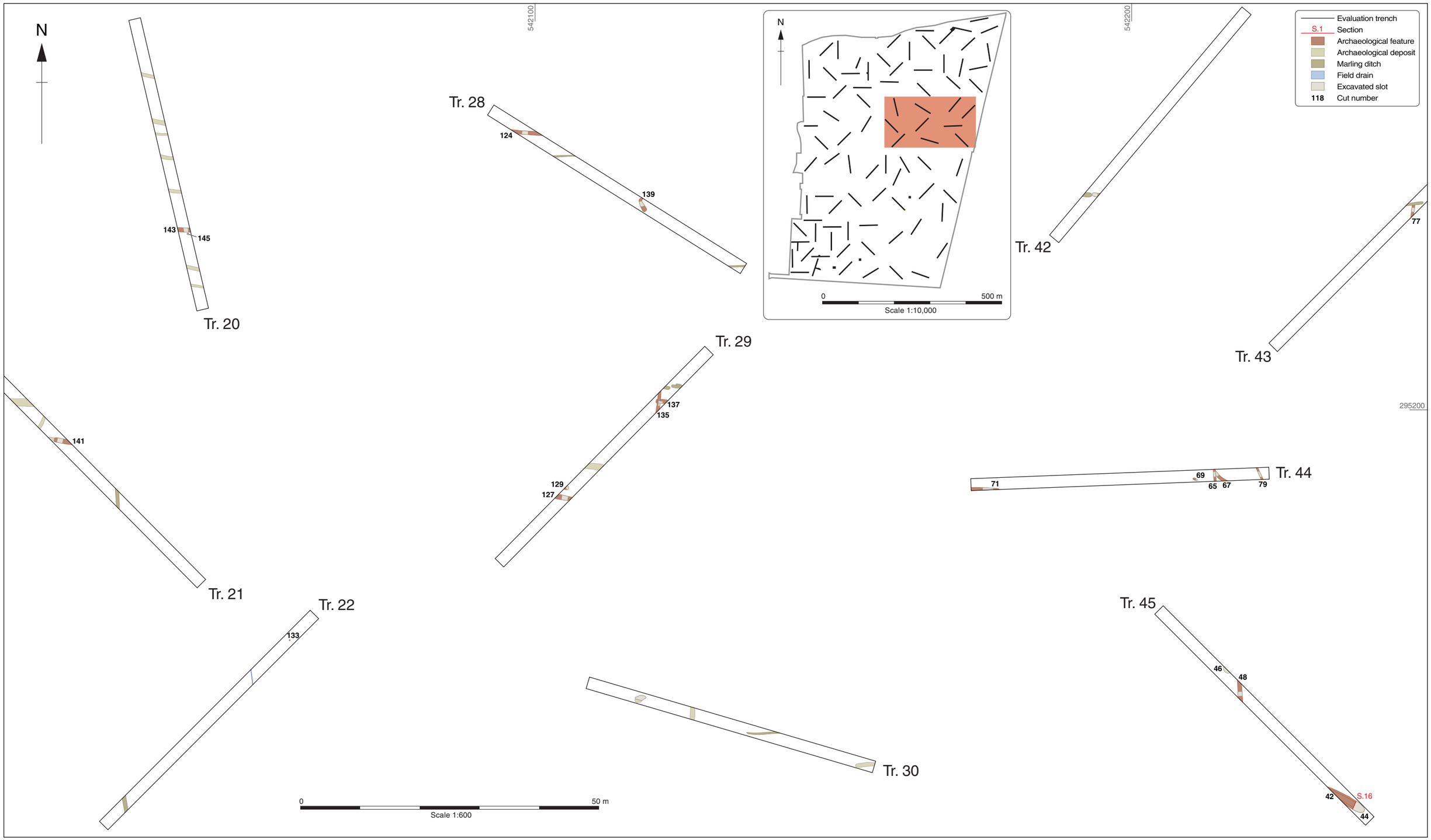


Figure 9: Plan of Trenches 20-22, 28-30 and 42-45

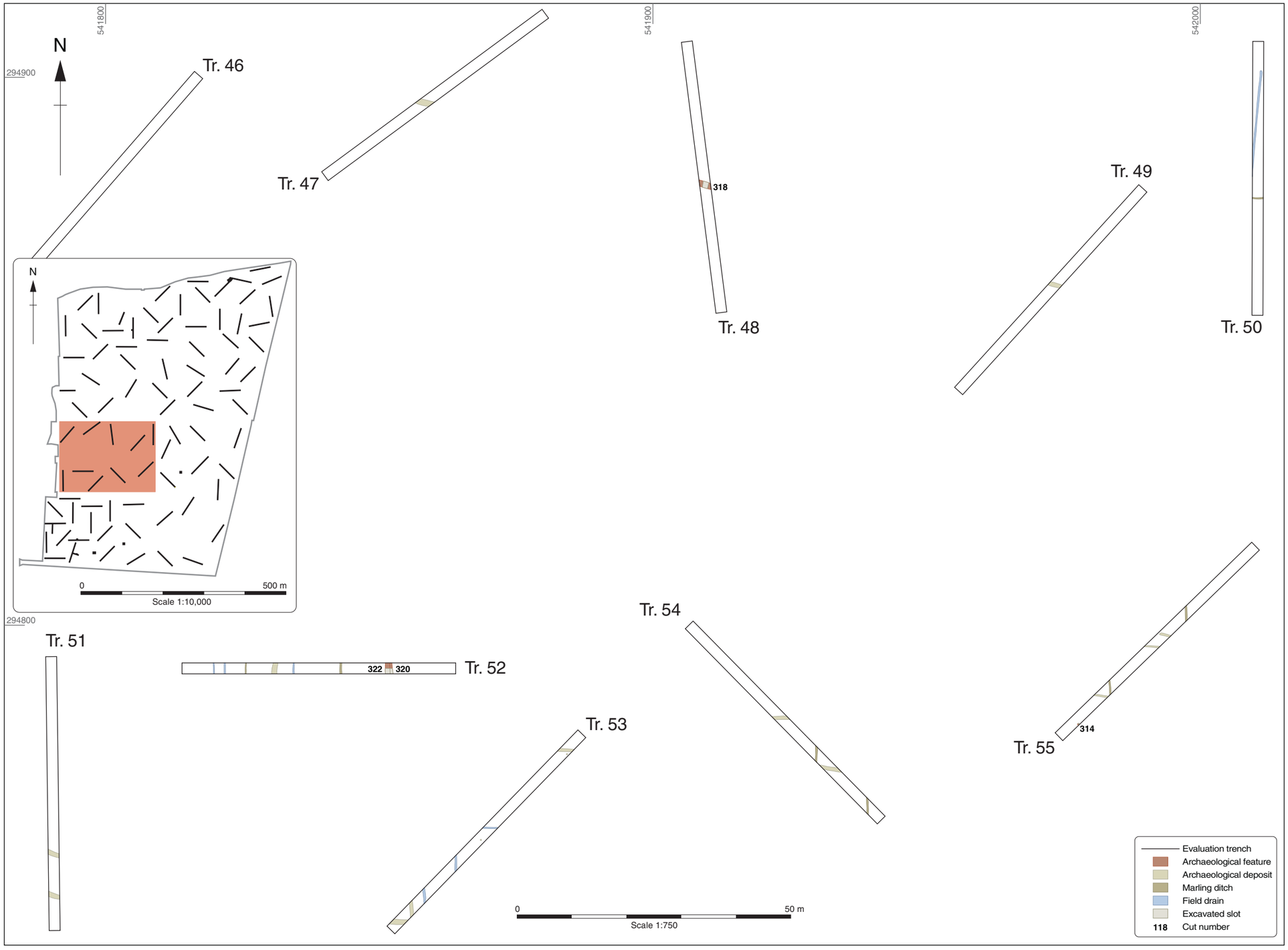


Figure 10: Plan of Trenches 46-55

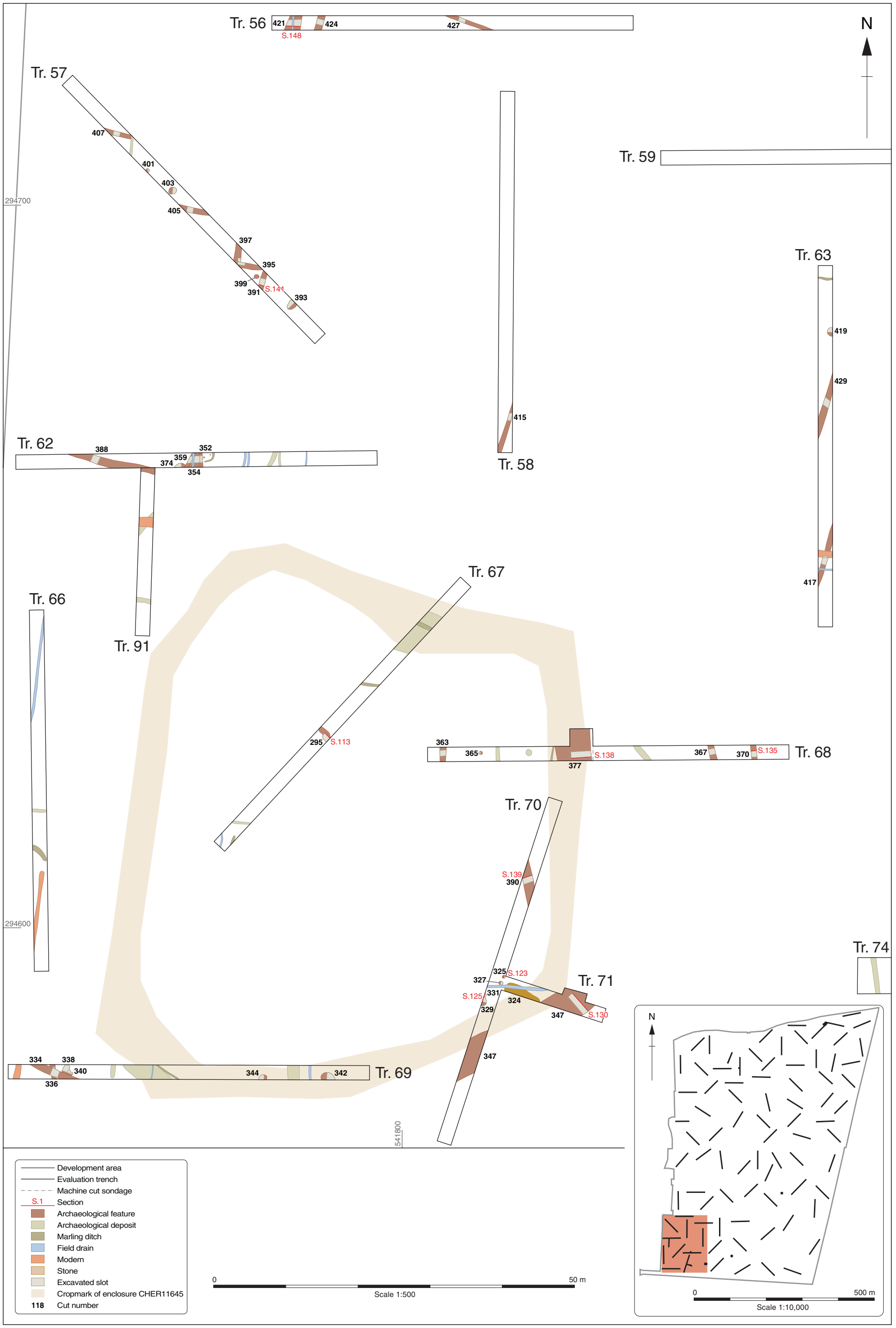


Figure 11: Plan of Trenches 56-59, 62-63, 66-71 and Trench 74

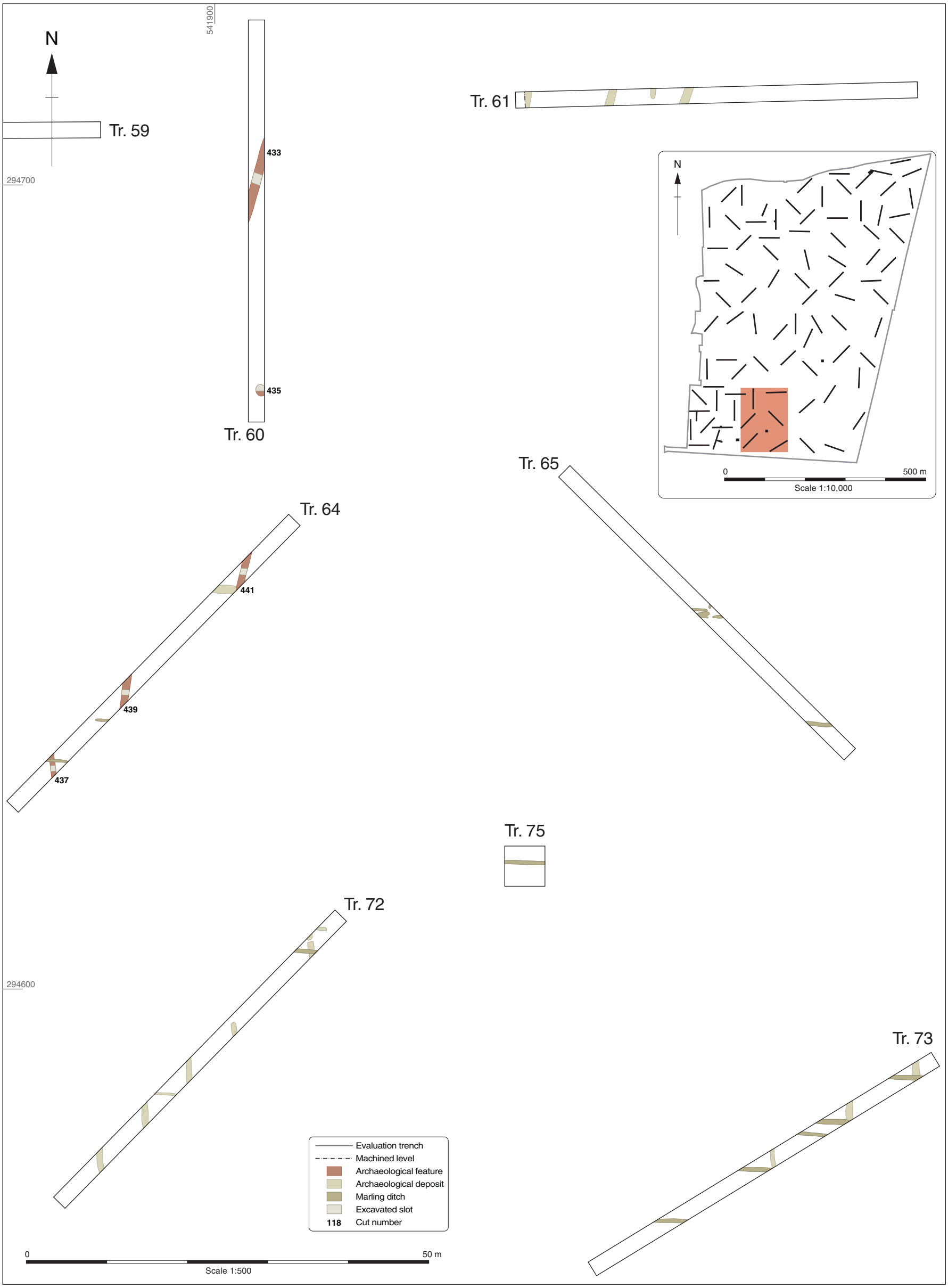


Figure 12: Plan of Trenches 59-61, 64-65, 72-73 and Trench 75

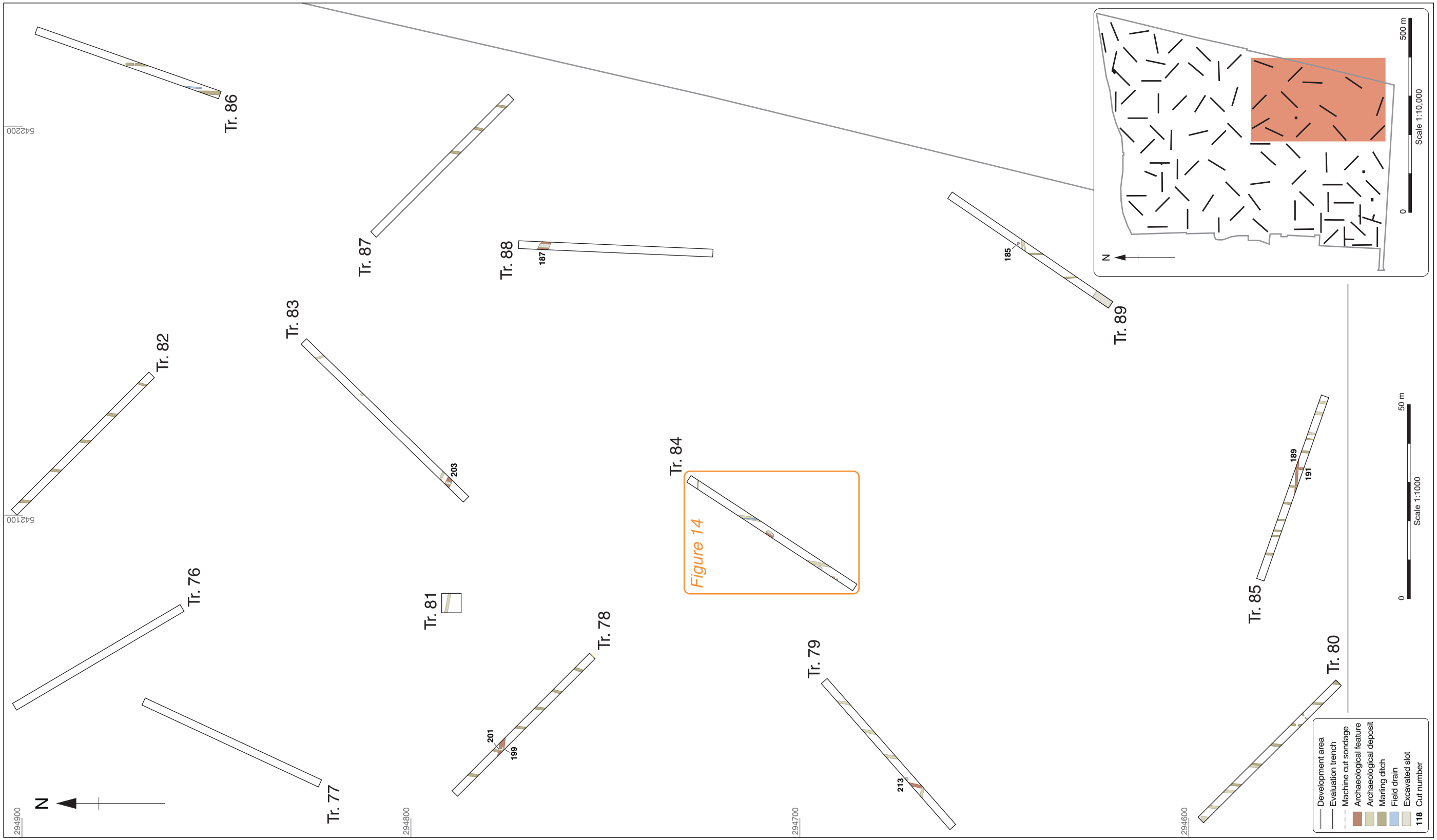
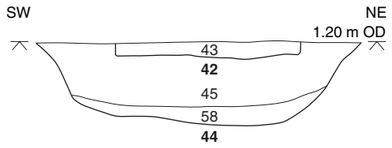


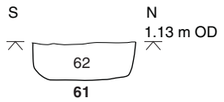
Figure 13: Plan of Trenches 76-89

Figure 14: Detailed plan of Trench 84

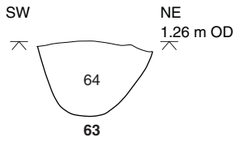
Section 16 - *Trench 45*



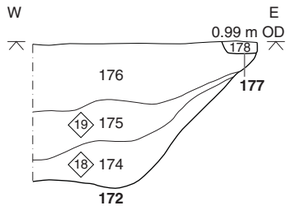
Section 24 - *Trench 37*



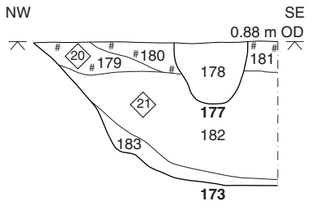
Section 25 - *Trench 37*



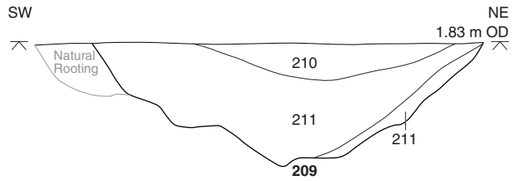
Section 73 - *Trench 31/32*



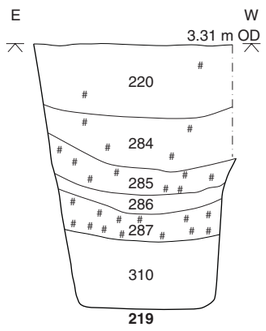
Section 74 - *Trench 32*



Section 83 - *Trench 84*

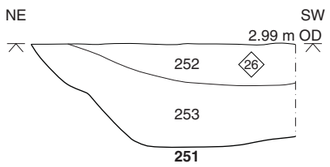


Section 90 - *Trench 6*

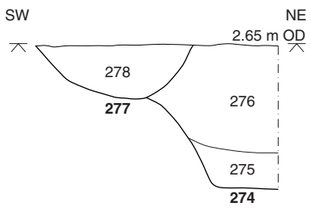


Section 92 - *Trench 11*

Section 103 - *Trench 2*



Section 107 - *Trench 1*



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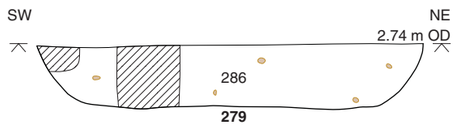
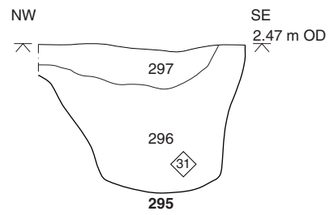
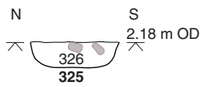


Section 113 - *Trench 67*



Section 123 - *Trench 70/71*



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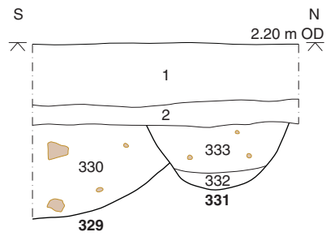
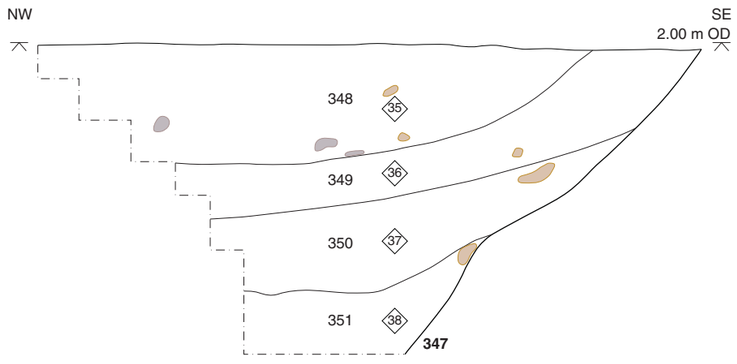


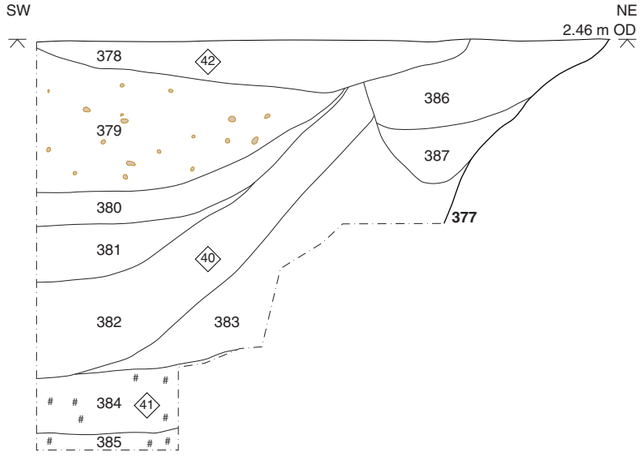
Section 130 - *Trench 71*



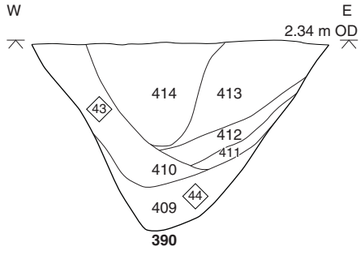
Section 135 - *Trench 68*

Section 141 - *Trench 57*

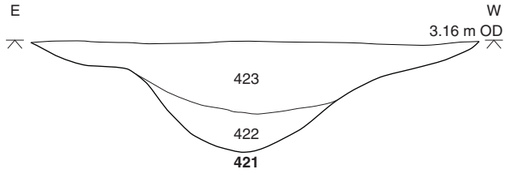
Section 138 - *Trench 68*

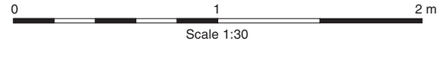


Section 139 - *Trench 70*



Section 148 - *Trench 56*





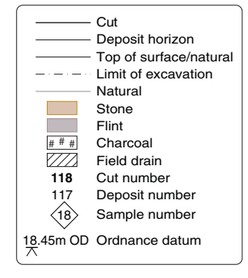


Figure 15: Selected sections

Plate 1: Pit **254**, Trench 2, looking south-west

Plate 2: Pit **256**, Trench 2, looking west

Plate 3: Well **219**, Trench 6, looking south

Plate 5: Ditch **223**, Trench 11, looking east

Plate 6: Pit **108**, Trench 27, looking south-west

Plate 7: Pit **172**, Trench 31/32 extension, looking north-west

Plate 8: Ditch **63**, Trench 37, looking north-west

Plate 9: Marling Ditch **61**, Trench 37, looking west

Plate 10: Ditches **42** and **44**, Trench 45, looking west

Plate 11: Ditch **318**, Trench 48, looking west north-west

Plate 12: Enclosure ditch **347**, Trench 71, looking south

Plate 13: Surface **324** and post-holes **325** and **327**, Trench 70 and 71, looking east south-east

Plate 14: Ditch **390**, Trench 70, looking north north-west

Plate 15: Ditch **421**, Trench 56, looking north

Plate 16: Ditch **437**, Trench 64, looking north

Plate 17: Trench 73, looking south-west

Plate 18: Ditch **187**, Trench 88, looking north-west

Plate 19: Pit **197**, Trench 84, looking north-west

Plate 20: Trench 85, looking west north-west

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