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Towerlands Park, Braintree, Essex

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Contents

Summary.....	ix
Acknowledgements.....	x
1 INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Scope of work.....	1
1.2 Location, topography and geology.....	1
1.3 Archaeological and historical background.....	1
2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY.....	4
2.1 Aims.....	4
2.2 Research frameworks.....	4
3 METHODOLOGY.....	5
4 RESULTS.....	7
4.1 Introduction and presentation of results.....	7
4.2 General soils and ground conditions.....	7
4.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits.....	7
4.4 Trenches within the Equestrian Centre.....	7
4.5 Trenches within the Golf Course.....	11
4.6 Finds summary.....	18
4.7 Environmental summary.....	18
5 DISCUSSION.....	19
5.1 Reliability of field investigation.....	19
5.2 Evaluation objectives and results.....	19
5.3 Interpretation.....	19
5.4 Significance.....	21

APPENDIX A	TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY	22
APPENDIX B	FINDS REPORTS.....	38
B.1	Pottery	38
B.2	Flint.....	41
B.3	Glass.....	42
B.4	Clay Tobacco Pipe.....	42
B.5	Building Stone	43
B.6	Ceramic Building Material	44
B.7	Miscellaneous	48
APPENDIX C	ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS.....	49
C.1	Faunal Remains	49
C.2	Environmental Remains.....	50
C.3	Mollusca.....	52
APPENDIX D	BIBLIOGRAPHY	53
	Electronic sources.....	54
APPENDIX E	OASIS REPORT FORM	55

List of Figures

- Fig. 1 Site location map showing development area (red) and updated archaeological trenches (black)
- Fig. 2 Site location plan showing EHER data mentioned within text
- Fig. 3 Plan of evaluation trenches (black), in comparison to original locations (teal), with services and areas of ecological sensitivity
- Fig. 4 Proposed development area (red) with location of trenches overlain on Ordnance Survey map 1876 (1st edition)
- Fig. 5 Final trench location plan showing all features
- Fig. 6 Detailed plan of Trenches 1, 3-4, 6-9 and 13
- Fig. 7 Detailed plan of Trenches 10-15
- Fig. 8 Detailed plan of Trenches 16-22 and 24-25
- Fig. 9 Detailed plan of Trenches 24-33 and 39
- Fig. 10 Detailed plan of Trenches 34-38 and 40-48
- Fig. 11 Detailed plan of Trench 43
- Fig. 12 Selected Sections
- Fig. 13 Selected Sections
- Fig. 14 Evaluation results overlain on extract of 1876 Ordnance Survey map, showing distribution of pottery and CBM

List of Plates

- Plate 1 Trench 1, viewed from the south
- Plate 2 Trench 3, viewed from the south south-east with ditch **58** visible
- Plate 3 Trench 4, viewed from the south-east
- Plate 4 Trench 6, viewed from the west
- Plate 5 Trench 6 baulk section showing modern demolition layer, viewed from the north
- Plate 6 Trench 7, viewed from the north north-east
- Plate 7 Pit **50**, viewed from the north-east
- Plate 8 Pit **56**, viewed from the north-east
- Plate 9 Trench 9, viewed from the south south-east
- Plate 10 Intercutting ditches **33** and **35**, viewed from the south-east
- Plate 11 Trench 10, viewed from the north
- Plate 12 Possible ditch terminus **91**, viewed from the north
- Plate 13 Trench 12, viewed from the south-west
- Plate 14 Trench 13, viewed from the east
- Plate 15 Ditch **66**, viewed from the north
- Plate 16 Trench 14, viewed from the north-east
- Plate 17 Trench 15, viewed from the west
- Plate 18 Trench 16, viewed from the west
- Plate 19 Trench 19, viewed from the south
- Plate 20 Trench 20, viewed from the south with ditch **141** visible in the foreground
- Plate 21 Trench 21, viewed from the south-east
- Plate 22 Posthole **113**, viewed from the north-west

Plate 23	Trench 22, viewed from the south-east
Plate 24	Trench 25, viewed from the north
Plate 25	Pit 102 , viewed from the north-west
Plate 26	Trench 26, viewed from the east
Plate 27	Trench 27, viewed from the east
Plate 28	Trench 28, viewed from the north
Plate 29	Trench 29, viewed from the north-west
Plate 30	Trench 30, viewed from the north-west
Plate 31	Trench 31, viewed from the east south-east
Plate 32	Modern service trench 109 , viewed from the north-west
Plate 33	Trench 33, viewed from the south south-west
Plate 34	Trench 34, viewed from the south-east
Plate 35	Trench 36, viewed from the east north-east
Plate 36	Trench 37, viewed from the north
Plate 37	Trench 38, viewed from the south south-west
Plate 38	Trench 39, viewed from the south-east
Plate 39	Ditch 127 , viewed from the south
Plate 40	Ditch 131 , viewed from the south
Plate 41	Trench 41, viewed from the south-west
Plate 42	Trench 42, viewed from the south-west
Plate 43	Trench 43, viewed from the south
Plate 44	Trench 43, viewed from the east south-east
Plate 45	Test pit 149 showing dark charcoal rich material in Trench 43, viewed from north-west
Plate 46	Trench 44, viewed from the south west
Plate 47	Trench 45, viewed from the south south-west
Plate 48	Ditch 15 , viewed from the south
Plate 49	Trench 47, viewed from the north-west
Plate 50	Ditch 23 , viewed from the east

List of Tables

Table 1: Pottery by trench, context and cut (MNV= Minimum number of vessels)

Table 2: Quantification of the flint assemblage by context

Table 3: Ceramic Building Material catalogue

Table 4: No. identifiable specimens (NISP) and MNI (Minimum number of individuals) per taxa

Table 5: Total weight/count by taxon and elements present

Table 6: Environmental samples

Summary

Between 27th August and 21st September 2019 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) conducted an archaeological evaluation at Towerlands Park, Braintree, Essex (centred on TL 7480 2520).

A total of 46 trenches were opened which revealed dispersed features spanning the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, medieval and post-medieval periods. A small concentration of prehistoric activity was identified in the western part of the site, while a group of intercutting pits containing medieval pottery was found close to the southern boundary. A series of ditches representing field boundaries was identified, several of which can be correlated with those shown on the first edition Ordnance Survey map. The presence of medieval pottery in some of the ditches suggests that they may have originated in this period. Previous land use (golf course and equestrian centre) has caused some significant but fairly localised truncation in some areas of the proposed development site.

Small quantities of Roman and post-medieval ceramic building material were recovered in addition to the pottery assemblage, alongside fragments of glass, slate and tobacco pipe. Other finds include small amounts of shell and animal bone, while environmental samples produced a background scatter of charred cereals and occasional waterlogged remains.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) was commissioned by Repairbrook Limited to undertake a trial trench evaluation at the site of Towerlands Park, Braintree, Essex.
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken to inform the Planning Authority in advance of the submission of a Planning Application. A written scheme of investigation (WSI; Drummond-Murray 2019) was produced by OA East after discussions with Essex County Council Historic Environment Team (ECC HET) detailing the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process. This document outlines how OA East implemented the specified requirements.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The area of proposed development is roughly triangular in shape, and measures 31.15ha in area. It is bounded on the north-east side by Panfield Road (B1053); the southeastern side follows the line of Panfield Lane and old hedgerows; and the western side coincides with the parish boundary.
- 1.2.2 The geology of the area is mapped as Diamicton overlying London Clay (British Geological Survey online map viewer <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html> Accessed 30/09/19)
- 1.2.3 The site is currently a disused golf course and equestrian centre; previously it had been the site of Towerlands Farm. The highest point of the site lies in the former golf course car park at 65m OD, from where the ground slopes down southwards to the unnamed stream at 57m OD.
- 1.2.4 Extensive disturbance has taken place across the proposed development area over recent years.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been covered within a desk based assessment in 2018 (Wiseman 2018) based on a 1km search of the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) and is summarised below (Fig. 2).
- 1.3.2 There are no finds dating to the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic or Neolithic periods within the 1km search of the site's boundaries.

Bronze Age and Iron Age

- 1.3.3 Bronze Age urns were reported to have been found in a gravel pit on the River Blackwater at Bocking Church Street in 1928 (EHER 6264). This appears to have been a Middle Bronze Age Deverel Rimbury urn. (Other similar finds are reported in the same gravel pit or at Drowards Hall: EHER 6275).
- 1.3.4 Two Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pits were excavated in an evaluation 600m south of the site. Such pits tend to be isolated features and their function remains unclear.

- 1.3.5 The Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) reports a Bronze Age axehead found in Bocking Churchstreet (PAS: ESS-545914; not illustrated), north-east of the site, and the broken blade of a Late Bronze Age socketed axehead to the south in Braintree (ESS-8C03E6; not illustrated).

Romano-British

- 1.3.6 There was a small Roman town located east of the crossroads, 2km east of the site. Despite this proximity, however, there is little evidence for Roman activity within 500m of the Site.
- 1.3.7 Drury (1976) had proposed that a Roman road ran south-west of the site. However, evaluation trenches failed to find any evidence for the road (EHER 16369; Havis 1993; Pooley 2017).
- 1.3.8 Pottery sherds dating to the 1st–3rd centuries AD were found in 1960, 1km north-west of the site at Great Priory Farm, Panfield (EHER 6247). They were interpreted as indicating the possible site of a Roman building.
- 1.3.9 A ‘heavy concentration of Roman pottery’ was reported in 1976 in a field north of the River Pant (EHER 6268), approximately 700m north of the site.
- 1.3.10 There are two records of ‘Roll stamped flue tile’ (EHER 6216) and ‘Romano-British sherds, samian stamp of SEXTUS’ (EHER 6217), both listed as ‘near Panfield’, but with no further location details.
- 1.3.11 Cropmarks of a sub-rectangular enclosure and trackways at Rayne Airfield, 1km south-west of the site, are interpreted as being Roman (EHER 17071). The trackways run east-west, parallel to the airstrip, and not toward the site.
- 1.3.12 A cluster of pits and ditches dating to the Early Roman period was excavated in a trenched evaluation 700m south of the Site. These features may have been associated with chalk quarrying.
- 1.3.13 A *sestertius* of Maximinus or Trajan Decius is reported from Church Street, Bocking in 1923 (EHER 6263), and another of Trajan was also reported in Bocking in 1944 (EHER 6344), although the exact site of the second coin is unknown. The PAS also lists a hoard east of the site in Bocking, but details have not yet been made public. To the south-west of the site, the PAS reports a *nummus* of Constantine and a bronze spatula/eraser for a wax tablet, cast in the form of Minerva.

Anglo-Saxon and medieval

- 1.3.14 There is documentary evidence that in the late 10th century, the village of Bocking was held by Aetheric, who bequeathed it to Christchurch, Canterbury around AD 995. Both Panfield and Bocking also appear in the Domesday Book of 1086.
- 1.3.15 No evidence of earlier medieval archaeology has been found at either village. The only early medieval features found within the Study Area were a series of small ditched enclosures and metalworking debris, 800m south of the Site boundary, uncovered during excavations on the Bocking to Braintree pipeline. Although the excavation

report (Green & Rees 2016) posited an early medieval settlement in the area, subsequent evaluation trenches failed to find any evidence for this (Pooley 2017).

- 1.3.16 Later medieval activity appears to have been centred on two areas around the Site: Bocking Churchstreet c.700m north-east and Panfield c.500m to the west. Braintree to the south-east had not yet expanded into the Study Area in this period.

Post-medieval

- 1.3.17 In the post-medieval period, activity in Panfield and Bocking Churchstreet intensified – Bocking Churchstreet in particular expanded with the weaving industry, while Braintree expanded along Church Lane. During the later post-medieval period, the Site lay within the fields associated with Towerlands Farm (Fig. 4).

Undated

- 1.3.18 Cropmarks and earthworks identified in the National Mapping Programme have been plotted. Almost all are undated.
- 1.3.19 Immediately to the east of the grounds of Panfield Hall are undated cropmarks, interpreted as part of a field system or possibly extraction pits (EHER 14164). There are also soil marks along the line of a major gas pipeline, which crosses the western boundary of the site (see Fig. 3).
- 1.3.20 Directly south of the site are linear cropmarks, probably of former field boundaries (EHER 14177).
- 1.3.21 To the south-west of the site are undated rectilinear cropmarks (EHER 6508). The EHER notes the existence of a ring ditch, although this is not plotted on the National Mapping Programme results. Another ring ditch cropmark is also recorded at Great Priory Farm, Panfield, along with undated field boundaries (EHER 17189). Given the lack of Early or Middle Bronze Age material in the surrounding landscape, these are perhaps unlikely to represent barrows.
- 1.3.22 The bulk of cropmarks around the edge of the site (EHER 6508, 14164, 14176, 14177) appear to be at right angles or parallel to the parish boundary, which forms the western edge of the site. This is probably an artefact of the terrain, rather than any special significance of this boundary: the field boundaries run either along the contours or square to them.
- 1.3.23 Most of the cropmarks further from the site (EHER 8909, 14153, 14159, 17188) also appear to be field boundaries, with a few drainage ditches along the river (EHER 14230). This suggests that much of the area has remained undeveloped agricultural land since it was first cleared of forest.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 This evaluation sought to establish the character, date and state of preservation of archaeological remains within the proposed development area. The scheme of works detailed below aimed to:

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

2.1.2 A site specific research objective of this evaluation is:

- vi. Can the extent of the medieval remains found in the Anglian Water pipeline easement in 2014-15 be traced (Green and Rees 2016)?

2.2 Research frameworks

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

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

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1.1 A total of 48 trenches measuring 50m x 1.8m were to be excavated, although due to a number of factors a total of 46 were opened. This was equivalent to a 4% sample of the proposed development area. A plan of the proposed trench layout is shown in Figure 3, along with the updated trench plan showing the new mitigation areas (see below).
- 3.1.2 The trench layout changed due in part to unforeseen ecological complications with both great crested newts (GCN) and a nesting barn owl on site, alongside the identification of previously-unknown underground services. In three cases the trenches were omitted entirely (Trenches 2, 5 and 23), whilst Trenches 10, 11, and 26 were relocated and the positions of Trenches 19, 29, 36 and 34 were slightly altered to avoid ecological areas.
- 3.1.3 The footprint of each trench was scanned by a qualified and experienced operator using a CAT and Genny with a valid calibration certificate.
- 3.1.4 All machine excavation took place under the supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.
- 3.1.5 Trial trenches were excavated by a mechanical excavator to the depth of geological horizons, or to the upper interface of archaeological features or deposits, whichever was encountered first. A toothless ditching bucket with a bucket width of 2m was used to excavate the trenches. Overburden was excavated in spits not greater than 0.1m thick.
- 3.1.6 Spoil was stored alongside trenches. Topsoil, subsoil, and archaeological deposits were kept separate during excavation, to allow for sequential backfilling of excavations these uprisings were then immediately battered to prevent the entry of GCN and reptiles as per the ecological precautionary methods of work statement (PMoW; Perrertt 2019). Trenches were backfilled once approved by ECC HET.
- 3.1.7 All archaeological features were recorded using OA East pro-forma sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 3.1.8 A register was kept of the trenches, features and photographs. All features have been issued with unique context numbers.
- 3.1.9 Sections of features were drawn at scales of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50, whichever was most appropriate to the feature. All sections were tied into Ordnance Datum and the site plan was surveyed into the Ordnance Survey National Grid.
- 3.1.10 All site drawings include the following information: site code, scale, section number, orientation, date and initial of the archaeologist who prepared the drawing.
- 3.1.11 Site survey was carried out using a survey-grade differential GPS (Leica GS08) fitted with "Smartnet" technology with an accuracy of 5mm horizontal and 10mm vertical.

Backfilling of trenches and ecological monitoring

- 3.1.12 A number of trenches were identified as needing to be ecologically monitored during the backfilling phase of work due to the risks posed to GCN, reptiles and other wildlife having possibly entered the spoil uprisings during the works. The trenches identified as requiring ecological monitoring were: 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 20, 22, 25, 27, 29.
- 3.1.13 The rest of the trenches were considered low risk due to the compaction of the spoil heaps upon excavation, or the limited amount of time that the trenches were open for. The latter in particular comprised five trenches (26, 30-33) south of the stream and public footpath, which were only open for a single 12-hour period.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction and presentation of results

- 4.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches which contained archaeological remains. Trench plans and selected representative section drawings are provided in Figs 2 to 13 and a selection of photographs of trenches and excavated features are included as Plates 1-50. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of deposits are tabulated in Appendix A, and full finds and environmental reports are presented in Appendices B and C respectively. Unless otherwise stated, all trenches measured 50m long and 2.1m wide.

4.2 General soils and ground conditions

- 4.2.1 The soil sequence in the trenches was fairly uniform (see App. A). The natural geology (13) of light yellowy red sandy silt or bright reddish brown chalky clay was overlain by a dark brown grey silty clay subsoil (12), which in turn was overlain by topsoil (11). The exceptions to this sequence were Trenches 6 and 7, where a large deposit of modern demolition rubble (181) was uncovered under the topsoil, along with trenches that were placed within greens or bunkers around the golf course.
- 4.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the site remained dry throughout. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

4.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

- 4.3.1 Archaeological features were present in 29 trenches with the remaining being devoid of archaeology (Trenches 1, 7, 16, 17, 18, 22, 24, 26, 27, 28, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 42 and 45). The latter trenches will not be discussed further, and their full dimensions are listed below in Appendix A (see also Plates 1, 6, 18, 23, 26-28, 30, 33, 34 and 42). Trenches 2, 5, and 23 were omitted from the scheme of works entirely whilst Trenches 10, 11 and 26 were relocated into other areas of the site (see Section 2.1.2 above, Fig. 3).

4.4 Trenches within the Equestrian Centre

- 4.4.1 Trenches located within the northern half of the site were located within the undisturbed areas of a former equestrian centre. These were positioned to avoid the newt pond, active barn owl roosts, existing buildings, or areas where buildings have been demolished, areas of existing and established trees and the gas main exclusion zone. Trench numbers 10 and 11 were reused in a different location to the south-west due to the proximity to the active barn owl roosts (Fig. 3).

Trench 3

- 4.4.2 Trench 3 (Figs 5 and 6; Plate 2) was located to the north of an existing roadway within the investigation area. This trench was aligned north north-west to south south-east and revealed two features sealed by the subsoil (12).

4.4.3 Ditch **58** was the most southerly feature, aligned south-east to north-west. It was found to be 0.8m wide and 0.22m deep with sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a single homogenous deposit (59) of light yellowish grey silty clay from which 14g of (modern) slate and 2g of clinker was recovered.

4.4.4 Possible posthole **87**, located at the north-west end of the trench, was found to be 0.16m wide and 0.11m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single deposit (88) of mid brown silty clay from which no artefacts were recovered.

Trench 4

4.4.5 This trench was aligned north-west to south-east and revealed a single ditch running along the southern edge on an east south-east to west north-west alignment. Two sections were excavated across this feature, which became more diffuse in plan to the north-west (Figs 5 and 6; Plate 3).

4.4.6 Ditch **60** (Fig. 12, S. 22), the most southerly of the two slots, was found to be 0.8m wide and 0.22m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch became slightly narrower and shallower to the north-west (ditch **81**), where it was found to measure 0.7m wide with a depth of 0.12m. In both slots a single deposit of mid greyish brown silty clay was present, with deposit 61 in ditch **60** producing a single fragment of ceramic building material (CBM; 13g), a single fragment of post-medieval pottery (2g), and a single fragment of clay tobacco pipe.

Trench 6

4.4.7 This trench was moved to the south of its original location due to a new exclusion zone and was shortened due to the depth that was reached and an existing hedge line to the west. It measured 39m in length and was aligned south-east to north-west (Figs 5, 6 and Plate 4). A single feature was revealed sealed by the subsoil at the south-east end of the trench, with modern disturbance to the north.

4.4.8 A possible pit (**48**) was excavated, which was found to be 0.75m wide and 0.05m deep within which a mid greyish brown silty clay deposit (49) was excavated. This provided a single fragment of modern pottery (1g).

4.4.9 In the north-west part of the trench the stratigraphy changed with the presence of a large layer of modern demolition rubble (181) directly under the topsoil (11). This had a total depth of 1m and covered over half the length of the trench (Fig. 6). This rubble contained obviously modern rubbish including plastic bags, scaffolding pipes, and concrete blocks (Plate 5).

Trench 7

4.4.10 This trench was shortened to a total length of 25m due to 0.8m of modern demolition rubble (181) being uncovered just under the topsoil (11) along the entire length of the trench. This deposit was found to be over 0.8m deep and directly overlying the natural geology (13). The depth of the disturbance suggests that if any archaeology had been present then it is likely to have been removed or severely truncated.

Trench 8

- 4.4.11 Located parallel to an existing roadway aligned south-east to north-west (Figs 5 and 6), this trench revealed two pits and an area of root disturbance which were sealed by the overlying subsoil (12).
- 4.4.12 Pit **50** (Fig. 12, S. 18 and Plate 7) located at the south-eastern end of the trench was found to be 0.7m wide and 0.2m deep. A series of three distinct deposits was revealed in this feature, which extended under the baulk section to the south-west. The basal fill (51) was a 0.04m-thick deposit of light yellowish brown silty clay that was overlain by 52, a 0.06m-thick deposit of mid reddish brown silty clay, sealed beneath fill 53, a light yellow brown silty clay with a thickness of 0.16m. No finds were recovered but an environmental sample (2) from a concentration of charcoal within the uppermost fill contained a small amount of hammerscale in addition to the charcoal.
- 4.4.13 A possible feature was investigated to the north-west of pit **50** and was found to be an area of root disturbance **54**, with an irregular profile and shape in plan.
- 4.4.14 Pit **56** (Fig. 12, S. 20 and Plate 8) located just south of the centre of the trench also extended underneath the south-western baulk section. It was found to measure 1.14m wide and 0.41m deep with a series of two fills. The lowest fill (78) was found to be a mid orangey brown silty clay with rare charcoal fragments whilst the upper fill (57) was a dark brown grey clayey silt with a large amount of charcoal fragments. An environmental sample (3) was taken from this charcoal-rich upper deposit, from which no dating evidence was recovered apart from single fragment of burnt flint.

Trench 9

- 4.4.15 Trench 9 (Fig. 6, Plate 9) was moved due existing trees and to avoid already disturbed ground. Aligned north-west to south-east it measured 41m in length and revealed one posthole, a burnt tree throw and three parallel ditches, all seemingly overlain by subsoil (12)
- 4.4.16 Tree throw **83** (Fig. 12, S. 33) was the most southerly of the features in the trench and was found to be 0.76m wide and 0.24m deep with sloping sides and a slightly concave base. A single deposit (84) of dark brownish black silty sand was excavated from which a plastic tag that would have been around the tree was recovered, which stated "EC plant passport, for Unex Investment Properties".
- 4.4.17 Posthole **37** located close to the western edge of the trench was found to be 0.3m wide and 0.18m deep with steep sides and a flat base. Within this a single deposit (38) of light greyish white silty clay was excavated from which 159g of post-medieval-modern CBM was recovered.
- 4.4.18 Intercutting ditches **33** and **35** (Plate 10) were aligned east south-east to west north-west across the trench. Ditch **33** was the earlier of the two ditches and was found to be 0.5m wide and 0.09m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. A single deposit (34) of dark brownish grey silty clay was excavated from which no artefacts were recovered.
- 4.4.19 Ditch **35** was found to cut ditch **33** to the north-east. On a parallel alignment to ditch **33**, ditch **35** measured 0.73m wide and 0.1m deep with gentle sloping sides and a

concave base. This contained single deposit (36) of dark brownish grey compact silty clay, from which no artefacts were recovered.

- 4.4.20 Ditch **31**, located to the north of ditch **35**, was aligned parallel to the previous two ditches and was found to be 1.1m wide and 0.14m deep with gently-sloping sides and a concave base. Within this a single deposit (32) of compact dark greyish brown silty clay was revealed, from which no artefacts were recovered.

Trench 10

- 4.4.21 Trench 10 (Fig. 7, Plate 11) was aligned east to west, and was shortened to 16m long due to the presence of two trees. It contained two ditches along with a field drain.
- 4.4.22 The easternmost feature (ditch **89**) was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 0.7m wide and 0.16m deep with gradual sloping sides and a flat base. Its fill (90) of mid greyish brown silty clay produced no finds.
- 4.4.23 Ditch **91** (Plate 12), located to the west of ditch **89**, was found to be 0.8m wide and 0.36m deep with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. The single deposit (92) of mid greyish brown silty clay produced no finds.

Trench 11

- 4.4.24 This trench (Figs 7 and 12) was in addition to the original trench layout shown on Fig. 3 and added at the request of ECC HET. It measured 21m long and was aligned east south-east to west north-west, revealing two ditches and an area of natural variation overlain by subsoil (12).
- 4.4.25 Ditch **79** (Fig. 12, S. 31), the most easterly of the two ditches, was aligned north north-east to south south-west and was found to be 0.9m wide and 0.12m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (80) of dark orangey brown silty clay from which no finds were recovered.
- 4.4.26 Ditch **85** (Fig. 12, S. 34) was aligned north to south and measured 1.1m wide and 0.18m deep, with sloping sides and a flat base. A single deposit (86) of mid grey brown silty clay was excavated, from which no artefacts were recovered. This ditch is possibly a continuation of ditch **62** in Trench 13.

Trench 12

- 4.4.27 Located parallel to the gas main exclusion zone, this trench was aligned north to south, and revealed three possible features, which upon excavation were found to be areas of natural variation (Plate 13). These measured between 0.58m and 0.24m wide and 0.06m and 0.14m deep with irregular profiles. Each contained a single deposit of mid grey brown or mid brown grey silty clay. Deposit 148 in the northernmost part of the trench produced 28g of faunal remains from a large mammal.

Trench 13

- 4.4.28 Trench 13 (Fig. 7, Plate 14) was 49m long and aligned east to west and revealed three ditches, a pit and several areas of natural variation/disturbance. All features were overlain by subsoil (12).

- 4.4.29 Pit **68** was the most easterly feature and was found to be 0.81m wide and 0.3m deep with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Its single deposit (69) of mid greyish brown silty clay from which 1g of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery was recovered.
- 4.4.30 Ditch **66** (Fig. 12, S.25, Plate 15), located directly to the west of pit **68**, was aligned north to south and measured 0.65m wide and 0.38m with steep sides and a flat base. A single deposit (67) of mid grey brown silty clay was excavated, from which no artefacts were recovered.
- 4.4.31 Three metres to the west was ditch **64** (Fig. 12, S.24). This was on a north to south alignment and measured 0.69m wide and 0.4m deep with steep sloping sides and a slightly concave base. A single deposit (65) of mid greyish brown silty clay was excavated from which 34g of Early Romano-British pottery was recovered.
- 4.4.32 Also within this trench were four areas of natural variation probably caused by rooting including **70**, **72**, **74** and **76** (Fig. 12, S. 30). All were found to measure 1.46m to 1.6m wide between 0.16m to 0.24m deep with shallow sloping sides and irregular bases. The fills were all a similar mid reddish brown silty clay, from which no artefacts were recovered.

Trench 14

- 4.4.33 Trench 14 (Fig. 7, Plate 16) measured 48m in length and was aligned north-east to south-west. It revealed two ditches, a pit, a possible ditch terminus and two areas of natural variation/rooting.
- 4.4.34 Ditch **93** (Fig. 12, S. 38) was aligned north-north-east to south-south-west and measured 0.82m wide and 0.39m deep with steep sloping sides and a concave base. Two deposits were excavated, the lower (94) being a mid yellow brown silty clay which contained 0.17g of prehistoric and Early Romano-British pottery and was overlain by fill 95, a mid brown grey silty clay from which no artefacts were recovered.
- 4.4.35 Ditch **96** (Fig. 7) was also aligned north-north-east to south-south-west and found to be 0.66m wide and 0.5m deep. It had steep sides and a concave base and contained a single deposit (97), from which no artefacts were recovered.
- 4.4.36 Ditch terminus **98** (Fig. 12, S. 40), extended from the north-west baulk of the trench and was found to be 0.6m wide and 0.11m deep. It had gently sloping sides and a flat base and contained a single deposit (99) of mid grey brown silty clay from which no artefacts were recovered.
- 4.4.37 Pit **100** was located directly to the south of terminus **98**. It measured 0.71m wide and 0.2m deep with gradual sides and a slightly irregular profile. A single deposit (101) of mid grey brown silty clay was excavated, from which no artefacts were recovered.

4.5 Trenches within the Golf Course

- 4.5.1 Trenches within the southern half of the site were located within the accessible areas on a disused golf course, avoiding the newt pond to the south as well as the established areas of mature trees, greens, bunkers and other landscaping features. Trench number

23 was omitted entirely, whilst Trenches 19, 29, 34, and 36 were moved and number 26 was re-used in another location (Fig. 3).

Trench 19

4.5.2 Trench 19 (Figs 5 and 8; Plate 19) was located on a roughly north-south alignment and was shortened to 36m in length due to its position being moved outside of an ecological area and the restrictions on plant movements due to the presence of mature trees (Fig. 3). A single ditch was found within this trench which was overlain with subsoil (12).

4.5.3 Ditch **118** was aligned north-east to south-west across the trench. It was found to be 0.86m wide and 0.22m deep with stepped, sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a single deposit (117) of mid brown silty clay, from which no artefacts were recovered.

Trench 20

4.5.4 Located at the western edge of the site, this trench was aligned north to south and revealed two distinct archaeological features, which in turn were sealed by the subsoil (12) (Figs 5 and 8, Plate 20). Cut through the topsoil was an irrigation pipe, believed to be related to the golf course.

4.5.5 Posthole **139** was located 17m from the southern edge of the trench; it was found to be 0.18m wide and 0.13m deep with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. A single deposit (140) of dark grey silty clay was excavated from which no artefacts were recovered. Environmental sample number 9 further identified the presence of charcoal within the deposit.

4.5.6 Ditch **141** (Plate 20) located at the southern end of the trench was aligned south-east to north-west: it was found to be 0.76m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.85m. This feature, which had vertical sides and contained a deliberate backfill (142) of mid greyish brown silty clay that produced 36g of modern CBM, appears to have been a service trench that was also seen in Trench 31.

Trench 21

4.5.7 Trench 21 (Fig. 8, Plate 21) was aligned south-east to north-west and revealed two postholes, both overlain by subsoil (12).

4.5.8 Posthole **113** (Plate 22) was the most southerly of the two and was found to be sub-circular in plan, with a width of 0.19m and a length of 0.33m. It was 0.32m deep with near vertical sides with a flat base, and contained a single fill (114) of dark blueish grey clayey silt. This feature, which was 100% excavated for finds recovery, is of note as it produced the largest group of prehistoric finds from the site: 21 sherds (88g) of Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age pottery (1100-400BC; App. B1), in addition to burnt flint. An environmental sample (8) produced no preserved plant remains.

4.5.9 Posthole **115** (Fig. 12, S. 46) to the north was found to be 0.2m wide and 0.25m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single deposit (116) of mid grey brown silty clay from which no artefacts were recovered. An environmental sample (5)

was taken due to the presence of charcoal, however, no preserved plant remains were found.

Trench 25

4.5.10 Trench 25 (Fig. 8, Plate 24) was aligned north to south and contained a single archaeological feature that was sealed by the subsoil (12).

4.5.11 Pit **102** (Fig. 8) was located in the centre of the trench and was found to be 0.67m wide and 0.14m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. A single deposit (103) of dark greyish brown silty clay was excavated from which no artefacts were recovered.

Trench 29

4.5.12 Located to the south of the central newt pond, Trench 29 (Plate 29) was aligned north-west to south-east and contained a single ditch, a field drain and an area of modern landscaping at the north-west end.

4.5.13 Ditch **119** (Fig. 12, S. 48) was aligned east south-east to west north-west and was found to be 1.1m wide and 0.5m deep. It had moderately sloping sides and a flat base and contained a series of three deposits. The lowest fill (120) was a dark yellowish brown silty clay from which no artefacts were recovered. Overlying this was fill 121, a mid brownish yellow silty clay from which 33g of post-medieval to modern CBM was recovered. Deposit 122 was the uppermost fill and was a mottled mid brownish yellow silty clay which produced 19g of undiagnostic CBM.

Trench 31

4.5.14 Located to the south of the stream and footpath, this trench was found to contain a single modern service trench on a north-west to south-east alignment: excavation was stopped when it became clear that there was a pipe in the trench (Fig. 9 and Plates 31 and 32).

Trench 36

4.5.15 This trench (Plate 35) was moved from the original location due to encroachment within the designated 50m ecological perimeter (Fig. 3). Its new position was on a north-east to south-west alignment, between two bunkers. A single archaeological feature, posthole **104**, was present at the north-east end but was largely truncated by an irrigation channel for the golf course (Figs 10, and 12, S.43). This was overlain by a layer of sand (26) and gravel (27) used in the landscaping of the bunkers, with the gravel also being used to infill the irrigation channels for the sprinkler system associated with the golf course.

Trench 37

4.5.16 This trench measured 48m long, was aligned north to south and was largely blank, however there was an area in the north-west corner of the trench that upon excavation was revealed to be an area of root disturbance (Fig. 10, Plate 36). This was overlain by subsoil (12) and topsoil (11) respectively.

- 4.5.17 Tree throw/root disturbance **137** was excavated to a depth of 0.25m and was found to have shallow uneven sides and an irregular profile. A single deposit (138) of mid brownish grey clayey silt was excavated from which no artefacts were recovered.

Trench 38

- 4.5.18 Trench 38 (Fig. 10, Plate 37) was located on a north north-east to south south-west alignment and was a total of 46m in length. It revealed two ditches and an area of modern disturbance. The natural in the southern end of the trench was overlain by the subsoil (12) whereas at the north-west end of the trench it was overlain by build-up material that was in turn overlain by turf and a small amount of topsoil (11).
- 4.5.19 Ditch **163** (Fig. 10), located 4m from the south-west end of the trench, was on a north-west to south-east alignment. It measured 1.12m wide and 0.24m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. This ditch contained a single fill (164) of light yellowish brown silty clay from which 73g of post-medieval to modern CBM and 3g of clinker were recovered.
- 4.5.20 Ditch **165** (Fig. 13, S. 68) was located nearly 3m from the north-east end of the trench and was found to be 3.2m wide, 0.8m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Two fills were present within this feature. The lower deposit (166) was a dark reddish brown silty clay with a thickness of 0.68m from which fragments of undiagnostic CBM (32g) and 3g of late 18th to early 19th century pottery were recovered. This fill was overlain by a 0.3m thick deposit (167) of mid grey brown silty clay that contained remnants of a black plastic bag. This may represent the edge of the modern made up ground that has been pushed into the softer lower fill during landscaping.

Trench 39

- 4.5.21 Trench 39 (Fig. 9, Plate 38) revealed a single ditch, a possible posthole and an area of made ground related to the presence of a golf green located to the west of the north-west end of the trench. The archaeological features were sealed by the overlying subsoil (12) which at the north-west end was truncated as a result of the landscaping for the green (Fig. 3).
- 4.5.22 In the centre of the trench was ditch **127** (Plate 39), which was found to be 1.9m wide and 0.72m deep with steep sides and a flat base. Two fills were present within this feature, the lowest being deposit 128, a dark blueish grey silty clay. No artefacts were recovered, while environmental sample (9) revealed that this deposit had been waterlogged. Deposit 129, which overlay deposit 128, was a mid greyish brown silty clay from which 72g of post-medieval to modern brick and tile was recovered. It was noted that there was an intact field drain at the base of the ditch with no obvious cut visible, suggesting that it was probably laid into the open ditch before it was backfilled.
- 4.5.23 To the north-west of the ditch was possible posthole **123**, which was a circular feature with a diameter of 0.42m and a depth of 0.16m. A single deposit (124) of light grey brown silty clay was excavated, from which 5g of undiagnostic CBM and a fragment of broken field drain were recovered.
- 4.5.24 An area of modern made ground **125** was uncovered in the north-west part of the trench which aligns with the outer edges of the golf green (Fig. 3). This comprised a

mid and mottled greyish brown silty clay (126) with occasional flint and stone inclusions, from which no finds were recovered.

Trench 40

4.5.25 Trench 40 (Fig. 10) was located on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment measuring 52m long. It contained a single ditch and an area of possible rooting. All features were directly overlain by topsoil (11).

4.5.26 Ditch **131** (Plate 40) was found to 1.28m wide and 0.4m deep with moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single deposit (132) of dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent small to medium sub-angular stones and flint. This produced 1.1kg of post-medieval to modern CBM, 55g of post-medieval to modern pottery and a small quantity of faunal remains (dog).

4.5.27 At the south-west end of the trench was a hollow or area of possible rooting **134**, which had gentle sides and an irregular base. A single deposit (133) of mid brown grey silty clay was present from which no artefacts were recovered.

Trench 41

4.5.28 Trench 41 (Fig. 10) was located in the eastern half of the golf course and aligned north-east to south-west. It revealed a single archaeological feature that was overlain by subsoil (12).

4.5.29 Ditch **135** (Fig. 12, S. 54 and Plate 41), located towards the centre of the trench, was aligned roughly north to south across the trench. It was 1.17m wide and 0.57m deep with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Its single deposit (136) of mid grey silty clay produced a single fragment of modern bottle glass, 11g of post-medieval to modern pottery and 17g faunal remains (sheep/goat). This was probably a continuation of ditch **163** in Trench 38.

Trench 43

4.5.30 Trench 43 (Figs 10, 11 and Plate 44) was aligned north to south with extensions at the southern end to the east and west. Within this trench a series of intercutting pits, a single posthole and a small ditch were uncovered, most of which appear to be medieval in origin. All were overlain by subsoil and topsoil.

4.5.31 Posthole **162**, located in the south-east extension, was found to be 0.35m wide and 0.08m deep with gentle sides and a concave base. Its single deposit (162) of light brown grey silty clay produced no artefacts.

4.5.32 To the west, the earliest of the intercutting pits was pit **173**, which was largely truncated by pit **154** (see below), surviving to a width of 0.9m with a total depth of 0.52m (Fig. 13, S. 70). A series of three fills was recorded within this feature, the earliest being 174: a dark brown black silty clay. This was overlain by fill 175 a 0.16m thick mid brown grey silty clay, which in turn was overlain by 0.22m thick fill 176, a dark grey silty clay. No artefacts were recovered from this feature.

4.5.33 This was cut by partly-exposed sub-circular pit **154**, which was 3m wide and 1.48m deep with steep sloping sides and a concave base. This pit contained five fills, the

earliest of which 170: a dark reddish grey clayey silt, which was 0.12m thick with frequent charcoal, from which no artefacts were recovered. This was overlain by fill 171, a dark grey silty clay measuring 0.08m thick, from which 91g of early medieval pottery (1050-1225) was recovered. Fill 172 consisted of a dark brown grey silty clay which was 0.61m thick, overlying which was deposit 155, a 0.72m thick fill of dark grey brown silty clay. This produced 93g of early medieval pottery and 96g of post-medieval to modern CBM in addition to a small amount of animal bone (cattle). Fill 156, was found to be 0.59m thick, comprised a mid greyish brown silty clay from which no finds were recovered. An environmental sample (10) was taken, which revealed a low level of charred cereals and weed seeds.

4.5.34 At the northern extent of these intercutting features (Fig. 12, S. 71) was pit **177** which was 0.92m wide and 0.38m deep with gradual sloping sides and a slightly concave base. Its single fill (178) of mid reddish grey sandy silt produced nine sherds (41g) of medieval pottery (1200-1400), whilst a single sherd was dated to the early medieval period (1100-1250). This was cut to the north-east by pit/ditch **179**, which measured 0.46m wide and 0.14m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (180) of mid brown grey silty clay which produced three sherds (9g) of medieval pottery (1050-1225).

4.5.35 The latest element in this group was a large area or pit measuring over 7m wide through which a test pit (**149**) and part of the eastern edge were investigated (**152**). The latter was found to be in excess of 0.88m wide and 0.48m deep with gradual sloping sides and a slightly concave base. This revealed a single mid brownish grey fill (153) of silty clay from which 24 sherds of pottery (223g) were recovered. Test pit **149** that was placed within the centre of this large area, was excavated to a depth of 0.25m, revealing two deposits. The lower fill (150), a dark greyish black clayey silt measured 0.08m thick and was overlain by 151, a dark grey black clayey silt. Finds recovered from the upper deposit comprise 14 sherds (162g) of medieval pottery (1050-1400) and 39g of burnt flint. Environmental sample 11 from this deposit contained an extremely small amount of charred cereals and charcoal.

Trench 44

4.5.36 This trench (Fig. 10, Plate 46) which measured 30m in length, was aligned north-east to south-west alongside a band of mature trees. It revealed three ditches and an area of rooting; all features were sealed by the subsoil.

4.5.37 The southernmost feature was ditch **25**, located close to the midpoint of the trench. This ditch was aligned north north-west to south south-east and found to measure 0.76m wide and 0.1m deep. It had gentle sides and a concave base within which a single deposit (24) of mid brown grey silty clay was excavated. No artefacts were recovered.

4.5.38 Ditch **39** was found to be truncated by ditch **42** to the south-west (see below). Aligned parallel to ditch **42** this feature was found to be 1.94m wide and 0.68m deep with gradual sloping sides and a concave base. A single deposit (40) of light greyish yellow silty clay was revealed, from which 33g of medieval pottery (1150-1400), 13g oyster

shell, two animal bone fragments (horse and sheep/goat), alongside 339g of possible Roman and undiagnostic CBM was recovered.

4.5.39 Ditch **42** (Fig. 12, S. 16) located on a north-west to south-east alignment was found to be 2.1m wide and 0.91m deep. Characterised as having steep sloping sides and a concave base, it contained a series of three deposits. The basal fill (43) was a dark yellowish brown silty clay and was 0.08m thick, this was overlain by a 0.46m thick fill (44), a dark brownish grey clayey silt, from which 28g of medieval pottery (1200-1400) and 13g of post-medieval to modern or undiagnostic CBM was recovered. Deposit 45 was the latest of the fills within the ditch and was found to be a mid greyish brown silty clay from which 10g of unidentified pottery, 1g of slate and 47g post-medieval to modern CBM was recovered.

4.5.40 Feature **29** was slightly curvilinear in plan, 0.3m wide and 0.31m deep with vertical sides and a concave base. Its single fill (28) was a mid brown grey silty clay that only differed slightly from the subsoil within the trench. It is believed to be the result of root activity from nearby trees. A small fragment of post-medieval clay pipe was recovered that is not closely datable, along with an animal tooth.

Trench 46

4.5.41 Located to the east of a band of trees, this trench measured 45m long and was aligned north-east to south-west (Fig. 10). This trench revealed a ditch, an area of rooting and a possible ditch terminus sealed by the subsoil.

4.5.42 Ditch **15** (Plate 48), which was located at the northern end of the trench, was aligned north-north-east to south-south-west, measured 1.16m wide and 0.25m deep with gradual sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single deposit (14) of mid brownish grey sandy silt with frequent stones of all shapes and sizes, from which no artefacts were recovered.

4.5.43 To the immediate south of ditch **15** was a possible linear feature (**17**) that measured 0.73m wide and 0.04m deep with an irregular profile. This is likely to be a result of rooting from nearby trees.

4.5.44 Possible ditch terminus **19** was the southernmost feature in the trench, and was found to be 0.6m wide and 0.23m deep with steep sides and a flat base. A single deposit (18) of light greyish brown clayey silt was excavated. In plan this feature appeared to be on a north-south alignment. In section however it was extremely difficult to characterise and may be natural in origin.

Trench 47

4.5.45 This trench was shortened to 28m in length due to concerns for a barn owl present within a nearby building, as well as live cable signals detected with the CAT scanner. The alignment of the trench was changed to north-west to south-east due to the presence of an area of mature trees (Figs 3 and 10, Plate 49)

4.5.46 Within this trench, two areas of natural disturbance were revealed (**10** and **8**) that were found to be between 1.13m and 0.83m wide and between 0.05m to 0.08m deep.

Both were found to be irregular in profile with evidence of rootlets within the light brownish grey silty clay deposits (7 and 9) excavated. No artefacts were recovered.

Trench 48

- 4.5.47 Aligned north to south, this trench was moved due live cable signals gained from the CAT scan of the original trench footprint. It measured 42.3m in length and revealed a single ditch, a posthole and two areas of natural rooting, all overlain by subsoil and topsoil (Fig. 10).
- 4.5.48 Ditch 23 (Fig. 12, S. 10 and Plate 50) was located at the northern end of the trench and aligned east to west. It was found to be 2.04m wide and 0.54m deep with gradual sides and a flat base. Its single deposit (22) of mid brown grey silty clay contained a field drain located at its base. A total 335g of post-medieval to modern CBM was recovered from this feature.
- 4.5.49 Posthole 2 was found to be 0.16m wide and 0.04m deep with steep sides and a concave base within which a single deposit (1) of mid grey brown silty clay was excavated. No artefacts were recovered.
- 4.5.50 Natural features 4 and 6 were found to be between 0.4m and 0.5m wide, and between 0.03 and 0.08m deep. Both were found to have irregular profiles with evidence of rootlets within the mid grey brown deposits of silty clay (3 and 5).

4.6 Finds summary

- 4.6.1 A total of 169 sherds, weighing 1.283kg, of pottery was recovered from across site, the majority (0.937kg) of which was found in Trench 43 and is medieval in date, although there is a small component of prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval material present. In addition, a single worked flint, 58 fragments (2.913kg) of predominantly post-medieval to modern ceramic building material (CBM), fragments of clay tobacco pipe, vessel glass, slate and coal were also recovered.

4.7 Environmental summary

- 4.7.1 A small assemblage of animal bone (120g) was recovered from ditches and a pit, comprising remains of sheep/goat, cattle, horse and dog. Of the dozen bulk environmental samples taken from across site, the majority showed a very poor state of preservation of remains with only four samples having any charred grains or charcoal. Two samples taken from ditches in Trenches 44 and 39 were shown to have evidence of waterlogging.

5 DISCUSSION

5.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 5.1.1 Archaeological features were clearly visible, distinguished by their mid grey or brown fills against the brighter natural geology. Both the archaeological and natural deposits were free draining. The results of the evaluation are therefore believed to have a good level of reliability.

5.2 Evaluation objectives and results

- 5.2.1 The aim of the evaluation was to establish the character, date and state of preservation of any archaeological remains within the proposed development area as outlined within the Written Scheme of Investigation (see Section 2.1 above; Drummond-Murray 2019).
- 5.2.2 The results of the evaluation have identified a fairly sparse and widely dispersed distribution of archaeological features, with the majority (where dating evidence was recovered) relating to the medieval to post-medieval periods (Fig. 14). However, there appears to be a discrete area of possible earlier evidence focused on Trenches 13 and 14 (Equestrian Centre) where features produced small quantities of abraded prehistoric and Roman pottery, which could be residual. Within the former Golf Course, one of two postholes in Trench 21 contained a fairly large quantity of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery, which may be tentatively suggestive of settlement in the vicinity. A 'background scatter' of Roman CBM and a single worked flint was also recovered from Trench 44 in the south-east of the evaluated area. A small concentration of medieval activity (pits/ditches and a posthole) was evident in Trench 43, while several of the ditches identified in other trenches produced low levels of medieval and post-medieval finds (pottery and CBM). A number of these ditches correspond with boundaries shown on the first edition Ordnance Survey map (1876; Fig. 14).
- 5.2.3 A site specific research objective was to establish whether the extent of the medieval remains found in the Anglian Water pipeline easement in 2014-15 could be traced by the evaluation. Medieval remains included a small ditch and a probable cobbled surface/track, while a probable post-medieval ditch was also recorded (Green and Rees 2016, 12). Trench 44, adjacent to this area, revealed three ditches, the more easterly two of which produced medieval pottery. These intercutting ditches continue the alignment of the unexcavated ditch within the adjacent excavation, which was thought to be post-medieval. It corresponds with a field boundary shown on the 1876 map, which was also identified in Trench 38 to the north-west. No evidence of the cobbled surface/track was found in Trench 44.

5.3 Interpretation

Prehistoric and Roman

- 5.3.1 In Trench 21, 88g (21 sherds) of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery were recovered from a single posthole (113) that is likely to have been part of a boundary line or possible structure, and it is possible that two other postholes in this area (115

in Trench 21 and **139** in Trench 20) are also of this date. As mentioned above, two trenches produced pottery dated to the Late Iron Age/ Early Romano-British period (Trenches 13 and 14), while pit **68** in Trench 13 contained a single sherd (1g) of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery.

- 5.3.2 Very little evidence of activity of this date has so far been recorded in the vicinity, comprising two Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pits which were excavated in an evaluation 600m south of the site. It is possible that some of the undated ditches within the Equestrian Centre are of earlier origin and may represent an earlier phase of agricultural division of the land. However, it seems likely that all of these features are substantially later than the few features that produced Late Bronze Age or Iron Age pottery.
- 5.3.3 The background scatter of Roman finds appears to be fairly typical for this area and probably relates to agricultural activity at some remove from any settlement.

Medieval to post-medieval

- 5.3.4 The majority of the medieval pottery was recovered from features within Trench 43, a series of intercutting pits (**154**, **173**, and **177**) with a possible midden type deposit infilling the latest feature (**152**, **149**). The moderate group of pottery indicates that there may be settlement activity within the vicinity of the trench, but the lack of environmental and faunal remains suggests this may be a dump of material rather than a settlement focus. It is likely that the pits were used for quarrying the natural clay and then later backfilled with domestic rubbish, including pottery sherds that are evidently sooted (App. B1). Further medieval remains were recorded nearby in an excavation adjacent to Trench 44, perhaps extending back from a small lane marking the southern edge of the site, that has since disappeared (Fig. 14).
- 5.3.5 The majority of the larger ditches uncovered including ditches **127**, **42**, **39**, **54**, **131**, **119**, **165** in Trenches 29, 39, 40, 41, 44, 38 align with known field boundaries that can be seen on the first edition OS maps (Figs 4 and 14). These are largely aligned north-west to south-east; ditches **165** and **42** (of which ditch **39** may also be a remnant) are believed to be the same boundary line. The presence of medieval pottery within some of the ditch fills indicate that some may have their origins in this period but were still extant in the post-medieval period.
- 5.3.6 Ditch **127** in Trench 39 was found to have a field drain at the base with no obvious cut for the placement of this drain and is likely to have been open when the drain was laid and then backfilled upon this boundary being removed.
- 5.3.7 Ditch **23**, Trench 48 was also found to have a field drain at the base, however this does not align with historical boundaries and may have been removed before the first edition map was produced, or be related to the footpath that crosses the site seen on the first edition (Fig. 14).

Modern

- 5.3.8 Two shallow ditches (**58** (Trench 3), **60** (Trench 4)) on broadly similar north-west to south-east alignments were identified in the northern half of the site and contained modern CBM, slate and clinker. It is possible that these are former drainage channels

that became obsolete with changes in farming practice and as the site moved away from being a working farm (Towerlands Farm) to the equestrian centre.

- 5.3.9 Service trench **109** in Trench 31 contained a black pipe and is believed to relate to a similar ditch/trench **141** within Trench 20, with vertical sides and modern CBM recovered.
- 5.3.10 The landscaping for the golf course including the greens and the bunkers seem to have truncated any archaeology within their footprint, as seen in Trenches 29, 39, 38 where all three have large areas of disturbance/made ground that extends below the archaeological horizon.

5.4 Significance

- 5.4.1 This evaluation has provided limited evidence for Late Bronze Age - Iron Age activity in the western part of the site, which makes a useful addition to the archaeological record for this period. Most of the identified remains, including boundaries and drainage ditches, relate to agricultural use of the land during the medieval and post-medieval periods, with a suggestion of more settlement-related activity on the southern edge of the site. On current evidence it appears that the potential for the survival of environmental remains is fairly low.

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay.					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	2.1
					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 3						
General description					Orientation	NNW-SSE
Trench 3 contained a single ditch and a possible post hole. All features were overlying natural geology and in turn were overlain with Topsoil and subsoil.					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	2.1
					Avg. depth (m)	0.54
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
58	Cut	0.8	0.22	ditch	-	-
59	Fill	0.8	0.22	ditch	Slate, clinker, coal, CBM	Modern
87	Cut	0.16	0.11	Posthole		
88	Fill	0.16	0.11	posthole		

Trench 4						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
A single ditch was identified within this trench and was overlain with topsoil and subsoil.					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	2.1
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.21	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
60	Cut	0.8	0.22	Gully	-	-
61	Fill	0.8	0.22	Gully	Pottery, Clay Pipe, CBM	1550-1800
81	Cut	0.7	0.12	Gully		
82	Fill	0.7	0.12	Gully		

Trench 6						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Contained a possible pit and an area of demolition rubble at the northwest end. This was overlain directly by topsoil where was at the southeast end a thin layer of subsoil was seen.					Length (m)	39
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.7
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.0.3	Subsoil	CBM	19th- 20th century
181	Layer		1.0m	Rubble		modern
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
48	cut	0.75	0.05	pit		
49	fill	0.75	0.05	pit		1740-1830

Trench 7						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consisted of topsoil directly overlying an area of modern demolition rubble that was directly overlying natural geology.					Length (m)	25
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.7
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	N/A	Subsoil	-	-
181	Layer		0.8m	Rubble		Modern
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 8						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Two pits were identified along with an area of natural root disturbance. All features were overlain by subsoil, and topsoil.					Length (m)	46
					Width (m)	2.1
					Avg. depth (m)	0.52
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
50	Cut	0.7	0.2	Pit	-	-
51	Fill		0.04	Pit		
52	Fill		0.06	Pit		
53	Fill	0.7	0.16	Pit		
54	Cut		0.12	Natural		
55	Fill		0.12	Natural		
56	Cut	1.14	0.41	Pit		
57	Fill	1.14	0.41	Pit		
78	Fill	1.14	0.36	Pit		

Trench 9						
General description					Orientation	E-W
This trench contained a single natural feature, a posthole and three shallow ditches. All features were overlain with subsoil and topsoil respectively.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.49
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.38	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.11	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
31	Cut	1.1	0.14	Ditch	-	-
32	Fill	1.1	0.14	Ditch		
33	Cut	0.5	0.09	Ditch		
34	Fill	0.5	0.09	Ditch		
35	Cut	0.73	0.1	Ditch		
36	Fill	0.73	0.1	Ditch		
37	Cut	0.3	0.18	Posthole		
38	Fill	0.3	0.18	Posthole	CBM	Post-med to modern
83	Cut	0.76	0.24	Natural		
84	Fill	0.76	0.24	Natural		

Trench 10						
General description					Orientation	E-W
This trench identified a ditch and a ditch terminus against the natural geology. All features were overlain with subsoil and topsoil.					Length (m)	16
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.6
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.46	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
89	Cut	0.7	0.16	Ditch		
90	Fill	0.7	0.16	Ditch	-	-
91	Cut	0.8	0.36	Ditch		
92	Fill	0.8	0.36	Ditch		

Trench 11						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Identified two linear features and an area of natural rooting against the underlying geology. All features were overlain with subsoil and topsoil.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-

13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
79	Cut	0.9	0.12	Gully	-	-
80	Fill	0.9	0.12	Gully		
85	Cut	1.02	0.18	Ditch		
86	Fill	1.02	0.18	Ditch		

Trench 12

General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Identified against the natural geology were three areas of possible rooting. All were overlain with subsoil and topsoil.					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.55
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.31	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
143	Cut	0.58	0.06	? Natural	-	-
144	Fill	0.58	0.06	? Natural		
145	Cut	0.26	0.14	Ditch		
146	Fill	0.26	0.14	Ditch		
147	Cut	0.24	0.06	Ditch		
148	Fill	0.24	0.06	Ditch		

Trench 13

General description					Orientation	E-W
This trench identified three linear features, a single pit and four areas of natural variation against the underlying geology. All were overlain with subsoil and topsoil.					Length (m)	49
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.46
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
62	Cut	0.82	0.32	Gully		
63	Fill	0.82	0.32	Gully	-	-
64	Cut	0.69	0.4	Gully		
65	Fill	0.69	0.4	Gully	Pottery	800-400BC, Early/Mid 1st century
66	Cut	0.65	0.38	Gully		
67	Fill	0.65	0.38	Gully		
68	Cut	0.81	0.38	Pit		
69	Fill	0.81	0.38	Pit	Pottery	Late Bronze Age-Iron Age
70	Cut	1.5	0.16	Natural		
71	Fill	1.5	0.16	Natural		
72	Cut	1.6	0.24	Natural		

73	Fill	1.6	0.24	Natural		
74	Cut	1.46	0.18	Natural		
75	Fill	1.46	0.18	Natural		
76	Cut		0.18	Natural		
77	Fill		0.18	Natural		

Trench 14

General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Two linear features, a single pit and a possible ditch terminus were identified against the natural geology. All were overlain with subsoil and topsoil					Length (m)	48
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.49
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
93	Cut	0.82	0.39	Ditch	-	-
94	Fill	0.55	0.39	Ditch	Pottery	Prehistoric, Mid 1st-2nd century
95	Fill	0.6	0.21	Ditch		
96	Cut	0.66	0.5	Ditch		
97	Fill	0.66	0.5	Ditch		
98	Cut	0.6	0.11	Ditch terminus		
99	Fill	0.6	0.11	Ditch terminus		
100	Cut	0.71	0.2	?Pit		
101	Fill	0.71	0.2	?Pit		

Trench 15

General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					Length (m)	22
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.21	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 16

General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology, several irrigation channels for the golf course were identified. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					Length (m)	48
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-

12	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 17

General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology, but did contain a number of plastic irrigation channels for the golf course. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					Length (m)	53
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.56
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 18

General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology contained a single plastic irrigation channel for the golf course. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					Length (m)	48
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.18
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 19

General description					Orientation	N-S
Contained a single gully and several irrigation channels for the golf course. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					Length (m)	36
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.55
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.09	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
117	Fill	0.86	0.22	Gully	-	-
118	Cut	0.86	0.22	Gully	-	-

Trench 20

General description					Orientation	N-S
A single posthole and a service trench were identified within this trench alongside several golf course irrigation channels. Features were overlain by subsoil and topsoil.					Length (m)	48.5
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.31	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

139	Cut	0.18	0.13	Posthole	-	-
140	Fill	0.18	0.13	Posthole		
141	Cut			Ditch		
142	Fill			Ditch	CBM	Post med to modern

Trench 21

General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Identified two postholes sealed by the subsoil and subsoil.					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.21	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
113	Cut	0.19	0.32	Posthole	-	
114	Fill	0.19	0.32	Posthole	Pottery	Late Bronze Age-Iron Age
115	Cut	0.2	0.25	Posthole		
116	Fill	0.2	0.25	Posthole		

Trench 22

General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology, but did contain a number of golf course plastic irrigation channels. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.49
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 24

General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					Length (m)	47.3
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 25						
General description					Orientation	N-S
A single pit was identified against the natural geology. This was overlain by subsoil and topsoil.					Length (m)	47.7
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
102	Cut	0.67	0.14	Pit	-	-
103	Fill	0.67	0.14	Pit		

Trench 26						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					Length (m)	21
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.08	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 27						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology, but did contain three yellow irrigation pipes for the golf course. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					Length (m)	46.7
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.6
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 28						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology, contained two irrigation channels for the golf course and a field drain. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of gravelly clay.					Length (m)	48
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 29						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Identified a single ditch and an area of disturbed ground. The ditch was truncated by the made ground to the north-west, towards the east it was sealed by subsoil and topsoil.					Length (m)	49
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
119	Cut	2.1	0.5-	Ditch	-	-
120	Fill	0.84	0.34	Ditch		
121	Fill	1.1	0.24	Ditch	CBM	Post med – modern
122	Fill	0.58	0.16	Ditch	CBM	Unknown
130	Layer			Buildup		Modern

Trench 30						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					Length (m)	24
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.55
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.13	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.42	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 31						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology, contained a single modern service trench with pipe at base. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.14	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
109	Cut	0.73	0.91	Ditch	-	-
110	Fill		0.16	Ditch		Modern
111	Fill		0.38	Ditch		Modern
112	Fill		0.37	Ditch		Modern

Trench 32						
General description					Orientation	NNE-SSW
Trench devoid of archaeology, a single natural hollow was investigated within the centre of the trench. All features were sealed by subsoil and topsoil.					Length (m)	43
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.6
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 33						
General description					Orientation	NNE-SSW
Trench devoid of archaeology, did contain a number of irrigation channels for the golf course. Consists of topsoil overlying sand and gravel in turn overlying the natural geology of sandy silt.					Length (m)	34
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.56
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.16	Topsoil	-	-
26	Layer	-	0.15	Build up	-	-
27	Layer	-	0.15	Build up	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 34						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology, a single black sheathed cable and multiple field drains were uncovered. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	40
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 35						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology, several areas of natural variation were investigated. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty gavels and sand.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
157	Cut	0.26	0.07	Ditch	-	-

158	Fill	0.26	0.07	Ditch		
159	Cut	1.59	0.11	Natural		
160	Fill	1.59	0.11	Natural		
168	Cut	0.3	0.11	Gully		
169	Fill	0.3	0.11	Gully		

Trench 36

General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Contained a single posthole, largely truncated by the gravel filled irrigation channel that runs the length of the trench. Consists of topsoil overlying sand and gravel landscaping layers directly over natural silty clay geology.					Length (m)	48
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
26	Layer	-	0.04	Build up	-	-
27	Layer	-	0.04	Build up	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
104	Cut	0.36	0.08	Posthole	-	-
105	Fill	0.36	0.08	Posthole	-	-
106	Cut	0.18	0.19	Ditch	-	Modern
107	Fill	-	-	Pipe	-	Modern
108	Fill	0.18	0.19	Ditch	-	Modern

Trench 37

General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained a single natural feature at the northern end. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					Length (m)	48
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.09	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
137	Cut	0.65	0.25	Natural	-	-
138	Fill	0.65	0.25	Natural	-	-

Trench 38

General description					Orientation	NNE-SSW
Identified two ditches, as well an area of build-up and modern landscaping. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand except at the northern end where the build-up has replaced the subsoil.					Length (m)	46
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.46
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

163	Cut	1.12	0.24	Ditch	-	-
164	Fill	1.12	0.24	Ditch	CBM	Post med – modern
165	Cut	3.2	0.8	Ditch		
166	Fill	1.58	0.6	Ditch	Pottery, CBM	Late 18th-early 19th century
167	Fill		0.28	Ditch		

Trench 39

General description					Orientation	SE-NW
This trench identified a ditch, a single post hole, and the landscaping for the golf green to the west. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand, except at the northwest end where the subsoil is replaced by landscaping materials.					Length (m)	40
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.48
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
123	Cut	0.42	0.16	Posthole	-	-
124	Fill	0.42	0.16	Posthole	CBM	Unknown
125	Cut	1.18	0.24	Buildup		
126	Fill	1.18	0.24	Buildup		
127	Cut	1.9	0.72	Ditch		
128	Fill	0.28	0.26	Ditch		
129	Fill	1.19	0.46	Ditch	CBM	Post med – modern

Trench 40

General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Contained a single ditch and an area of rooting. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	52
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
131	Cut	1.28	0.4	Ditch	-	-
132	Fill	1.28	0.4	Ditch	Pottery, CBM	1100-1250, 1700-1900, 1550-1800, 19th century, Post med to Modern
133	Fill	0.7	0.15	Ditch		

134	Cut	0.7	0.15	Ditch		
Trench 41						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Contained a single ditch overlain with subsoil and topsoil. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.56
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
135	Cut	1.17	0.57	Ditch	-	-
136	Fill	1.17	0.57	Ditch	Pottery, CBM	1150-1350, 19th century

Trench 42						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	45
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.58
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 43						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Identified against the natural geology was an area of intercutting pits, a posthole and a small ditch. All features were overlain by the subsoil and topsoil.					Length (m)	45
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
149	Cut	1	0.25	Pit	-	-
150	Fill		0.08	Pit		
151	Fill		0.25	Pit	Pottery	1050 - 1500
152	Cut	0.88	0.48	Pit		
153	Fill	0.88	0.48	Pit	Pottery	1100-1250, 1200-1400
154	Fill		1.48	Pit		
155	Fill			Pit	Pottery, CBM	1050-1225, 1100-1250, 1200-1400,

						Post-med to modern
156	Fill			Pit	Pottery	1050-1225, 1100-1250, 1200-1400
161	Cut	0.35	0.08	Posthole		
162	Fill			Posthole		
170	Fill	0.88	0.12	Pit		
171	Fill	2.6	0.08	Pit	Pottery	1050-1225
172	Fill	1.7	0.61	Pit		
173	Cut	0.9	0.52	Pit		
174	Fill			Pit		
175	Fill	0.64	0.16	Pit		
176	Fill		0.22	Pit		
177	Cut	0.92	0.38	Pit		
178	Fill	0.92	0.38	Pit	Pottery	1100-1250, 1200-1400
179	Cut	0.46	0.14	Gully		
180	Fill	0.46	0.14	Gully	Pottery	1050-1225

Trench 44

General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Contained three ditches and a possible fourth although likely to be rooting. All features were overlain by subsoil and topsoil, identified against the underlying geology of silty clay					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.42
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
24	Fill	0.76	0.1	Ditch	-	-
25	Cut	0.76	0.1	Ditch		
28	Fill	0.3	0.31	Ditch	Clay Pipe, CBM	Post-med to Modern
29	Cut	0.3	0.31	Ditch		
39	Cut	1.94	0.68	Ditch		
40	Fill	1.94	0.68	Ditch	Pottery, Oyster, CBM	1150-1350, 1200-1400
42	Cut	2.11	0.91	Ditch		?19 th century
43	Fill	0.8	0.08	Ditch		
44	Fill	1.42	0.46	Ditch	Pottery	1050-1225, 1200-1400
45	Fill	2.11	0.36	Ditch	Pottery, Slate CBM,	Unidentified, Post-med to Modern

Trench 45						
General description					Orientation	NNE-SSW
Trench devoid of archaeology, but two irrigation channels were identified. This trench was abandoned due to the smell of hydrocarbons upon stripping. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	18
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
26	Layer	2.1	0.3	Buried Soil (sand)	-	-
27	Layer	2.1	0.16	Buried Soil (Gravel)		

Trench 46						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Identified within this trench were two ditches and a possible terminus. All features were sealed by topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	45
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.37
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
14	Fill	1.16	0.25	Ditch	-	-
15	Cut	1.16	0.25	Ditch		
16	Fill	0.73	0.04	Natural		
17	Cut	0.73	0.04	Natural		
18	Fill	0.6	0.23	Ditch		
19	Cut	0.6	0.23	Ditch		
20	Fill	0.26	0.16	Natural		
21	Cut	0.26	0.16	Natural		

Trench 47						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology, two areas of natural variation were investigated. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	28
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.34
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.11	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
7	Fill	0.82	0.05	Natural	-	-
8	Cut	0.82	0.05	Natural		
9	Fill	1.13	0.08	Natural		
10	Cut	1.13	0.08	Natural		

Trench 48						
General description					Orientation	NNE-SSW
Contained a single ditch, post hole and two areas of natural rooting. All features were overlain by subsoil and topsoil, identified against the natural geology of sandy clay.					Length (m)	42.3
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.48
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
12	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
13	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1	Fill	0.16	0.04	Posthole	-	-
2	Cut	0.16	0.04	Posthole		
3	Fill	0.5	0.08	Natural		
4	Cut	0.5	0.08	Natural		
5	Fill	0.4	0.03	Natural		
6	Cut	0.4	0.03	Natural		
22	Fill	2.04	0.54	Ditch	CBM	Post-med to Modern
23	Cut	2.04	0.54	Ditch		

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Pottery

By Carole Fletcher with prehistoric pottery identification by Nicholas Gilmour and Roman pottery identified by Alice Lyons

Introduction

- B.1.1 Archaeological works produced a small-moderate hand-excavated prehistoric, Roman, early medieval, medieval and later pottery assemblage of 169 sherds, weighing 1.283kg, mostly from ditches and two pits in Trenches 4, 6, 13, 14, 21, 26, 38, 41, 43 and 44. The bulk of the assemblage is broadly early medieval to mid 14th century, with some later pottery. The prehistoric pottery recovered from Trench 21 may indicate activity of this date, while the Roman pottery recovered from the site is mostly residual. The condition of the assemblage is moderately abraded to abraded, and the average sherd weight is low at approximately 0.008kg.

Methodology

- B.1.2 The Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG), Study Group for Roman Pottery (SGRP), The Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG), 2016 *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology* and the MPRG *A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms* (MPRG 1998) act as standards.
- B.1.3 Rapid recording was carried out using OA East's in-house system, based on that previously used at the Museum of London. Fabric classification has been carried out for all previously described medieval and post-medieval types, using Essex fabric types where possible (Cotter 2000) and/or the Cambridgeshire fabric types (Spoerry 2016). All sherds have been counted, classified and weighed on a context-by-context basis. Minimum number of vessels (MNV) was not established due to the small size of many of the sherds. A summary of the assemblage is recorded in the catalogue at the end of this report with full recording in an Access 2003 database in the site archive. The pottery and archive are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition or dispersal.

Assemblage

- B.1.4 Trench 4 produced only post-medieval redware pottery (Fabric 40) from gully **60**, while Trench 6 produced a small fragment of Creamware (Fabric 48C) c.1740-1830 from pit **48**.
- B.1.5 In Trench 13, a small fragment of Early Iron Age flint-tempered pottery, recovered from gully **64**, was found alongside an early/mid 1st century Roman Sandy Greyware jar sherd. A second flint-tempered sherd was recovered from pit **68**.
- B.1.6 A flint-tempered sherd, undated beyond being broadly prehistoric, was recovered with an abraded mid 1st-2nd century Roman Sandy Greyware jar/bowl body sherd from ditch **93** in Trench 14. The largest group of prehistoric sherds was recovered from posthole **113** in Trench 21, this single feature produced 21 sherds (0.088kg) of Late

Bronze Age-Early Iron Age pottery (1100-400 BC). Apart from these, no other trenches produced prehistoric or Roman pottery and no other (later) pottery was recovered from these trenches.

- B.1.7 A single ditch, **131**, in Trench 26 produced pottery, a mix of medieval, post-medieval and modern, including five sherds from a 19th century Refined White Earthenware (Fabric 48D) ?chamber pot with cut sponge decoration.
- B.1.8 Ditch **165** in Trench 38 produced a single sherd of late 18th-early 19th century Pearlware (Fabric 48P) and ditch **135** in Trench 41 also produced 19th century pottery, alongside a small sherd of medieval Hedingham ware (Fabric 22), although both sherds are small.
- B.1.9 The bulk of the assemblage was recovered in Trench 43 (113 sherds, 0.937kg) from four features **149**, **152**, **154** and **177** and gully **179**. All produced Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy wares (Fabric 20), alongside Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware (Fabric 13) or transitional Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware-Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy wares (Fabric 13T), suggesting that although the features are very probably 13th-mid 14th century, as indicated by the presence of Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy wares (Fabric 20), the assemblage indicates an earlier element.
- B.1.10 Trench 44 produced pottery from two ditches, **39** (five sherds 0.033kg) which included Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy wares alongside Hedingham Coarseware (Fabric 20D) and a sherd of Hedingham fineware (Fabric 22). Ditch **42** produced a further five sherds (0.038kg), including both Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware (Fabric 13) and Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy ware (Fabric 20).

Discussion

- B.1.11 The pottery recovered is from a broad range of periods, with prehistoric activity restricted to Trenches 13, 14 and 21, while Roman material is confined to Trenches 13 and 14 and post-medieval to Trenches 4, 6, 26 and 28. The remaining trenches producing medieval pottery, including early medieval sherds. The bulk of the assemblage was recovered from Trench 43, where pottery appears to have been deliberately deposited as rubbish into pits rather than having become incorporated into ditches through the action of manuring dispersed by later ploughing or other disturbance.
- B.1.12 Although not primary deposition, the pottery recovered from Trench 43 represents domestic occupation, with many sherds being sooted, suggesting their use in food preparation. However, the assemblage is fragmentary, and, although representing early medieval and medieval occupation in the vicinity of the site excavated, outside of Trench 43, the levels of pottery recovered are low and most probably signify the distribution of general rubbish deposition.

Retention, dispersal or display

- B.1.13 This statement acts as a full record.

Pottery Catalogue

Trench	Context	Cut	Fabric	Basic Form	MNV	Count	Weight (kg)	Date Range for Pottery
	12		Post-medieval Redwares (Fabric 40)	Jar	1	1	0.064	1550-1800
4	61	60	Post-medieval Redwares (Fabric 40)		1	1	0.002	1550-1800
6	49	48	Creamware (Fabric 48C)		0	1	0.001	1740-1830
13	65	64	Flint-tempered		1	1	0.003	800-400BC
13	65	64	Sandy Grey ware	Jar	1	2	0.031	Early/Mid 1st century
13	69	68	Flint-tempered		1	1	0.001	Late Bronze Age-Iron Age
14	94	93	Flint-tempered		1	1	0.003	Prehistoric
14	94	93	Sandy Grey ware	Jar/bowl	1	6	0.014	Mid 1st-2nd century
21	114	113	Flint-tempered		3	21	0.088	Late Bronze Age-Iron Age
40	132	131	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware-Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy ware (Fabric 13T)		1	1	0.007	1100-1250
40	132	131	English Stoneware (Fabric 45M)		1	1	0.003	1700-1900
40	132	131	Post-medieval Redwares (Fabric 40)	Jug	1	1	0.008	1550-1800
40	132	131	Refined White Earthenware with sponged or spattered decoration (Fabric 48D)	Jar	1	5	0.044	19th century
38	166	165	Pearlware with underglaze blue-painted decoration (Fabric 48P)	Dish	1	1	0.003	Late 18th-early 19th century
41	136	135	Heddingham Fineware (Fabric 22)		0	1	0.002	1150-1350
41	136	135	Refined White Earthenware (Fabric 48D)		0	1	0.001	19th century
43	151	149	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware (Fabric 13)		2	7	0.061	1050-1225
43	151	149	Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy wares (Fabric 20)	Jar	1	1	0.013	1200-1400
43	151	149	Medieval Sandy ware		2	6	0.088	1150-1500
43	153	152	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware-Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy ware (Fabric 13T)		1	2	0.013	1100-1250
43	153	152	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware-Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy ware (Fabric 13T)	Jar	4	20	0.181	1100-1250
43	153	152	Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy wares (Fabric 20)		1	2	0.019	1200-1400
43	155	154	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware (Fabric 13)	Jar	1	1	0.01	1050-1225
43	155	154	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware Heddingham (Fabric 13)		1	7	0.043	1050-1225
43	155	154	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware-Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy ware (Fabric 13T)		1	1	0.014	1100-1250
43	155	154	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware-Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy ware (Fabric 13T)	Jar	1	2	0.017	1100-1250
43	155	154	Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy wares (Fabric 20)		1	3	0.028	1200-1400
43	156	154	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware (Fabric 13)	Jar	3	17	0.127	1050-1225
43	156	154	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware-Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy ware (Fabric 13T)		4	13	0.094	1100-1250
43	156	154	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware-Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy ware (Fabric 13T)	Jar	1	6	0.048	1100-1250
43	156	154	Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy wares (Fabric 20)	Jar	1	5	0.036	1200-1400
43	171	154	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware (Fabric 13)	Jar	1	7	0.091	1050-1225
43	178	177	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware-Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy ware (Fabric 13T)		1	1	0.004	1100-1250

Trench	Context	Cut	Fabric	Basic Form	MNV	Count	Weight (kg)	Date Range for Pottery
43	178	177	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware-Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy ware (Fabric 13T)	Jar	1	2	0.012	1100-1250
43	178	177	Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy wares (Fabric 20)	Jar	2	7	0.029	1200-1400
43	180	179	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware (Fabric 13)		1	1	0.004	1050-1225
43	180	179	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware-Heddingham (Fabric 13)		1	2	0.005	1050-1225
44	40	39	Heddingham Coarseware (Fabric 20D)		1	1	0.006	1150-1350
44	40	39	Heddingham Fineware (Fabric 22)	Jug	1	1	0.003	1150-1350
44	40	39	Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy wares (Fabric 20)		2	2	0.019	1200-1400
44	40	39	Unidentified		1	1	0.005	
44	44	42	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware (Fabric 13)	Jar	1	1	0.006	1050-1225
44	44	42	East Anglian Redwares		1	1	0.004	1200-1400
44	44	42	East Anglian Redwares	Jug	1	1	0.009	1200-1400
44	44	42	Medieval Essex-type micaceous grey sandy wares (Fabric 20)	Jar	1	1	0.009	1200-1400
44	45	42	Unidentified		1	1	0.010	
Total					57	169	1.283	

Table 1: Pottery by Trench, Context and Cut (MNV= Minimum number of vessels)

B.2 Flint

By Lawrence Billington

B.2.1 A single worked flint and four fragments of unworked burnt flint (220g) were recovered from the site. The flint was thinly distributed, with five individual contexts producing single flints (Table 2).

Trench	Context	Cut	Feature type	Secondary flake	Unworked burnt flint no.	Unworked burnt flint weight (g)
44	45	42	ditch	1	-	-
8	57	56	pit	-	1	159
21	114	113	posthole	-	1	5
43	151	149	midden	-	1	39
43	155	154	pit	-	1	17
Totals				1	4	220

Table 2. Quantification of the flint assemblage by context

B.2.2 The single worked flint is the broken distal end of a secondary flake, undiagnostic, but probably of Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date.

- B.2.3 The unworked burnt flint consists of heavily burnt fragments with crazed and spalled surfaces. This material may simply represent material inadvertently caught up in hearths or fire settings and could date to any period.

B.3 Glass

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

- B.3.1 A single fragment of glass was recovered from ditch **135** in Trench 41. The glass was scanned and recorded by form, colour, count and weight, dated where possible and recorded in the text.

Assemblage

- B.3.2 Trench 41, ditch **135** produced a single irregular fragment (0.007kg) curved dark olive green glass from a cylindrical bottle of uncertain date, although its condition and quality suggest 19th century or later. The ditch also produced 19th century pottery.

Discussion

- B.3.3 The assemblage is small and fragmentary. The presence of bottle glass is not unusual in features that also produce 19th century pottery and is not significant.

Retention, dispersal or display

- B.3.4 This statement acts as a full record and the glass may be deselected prior to archive deposition.

B.4 Clay Tobacco Pipe

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

- B.4.1 During the evaluation, two fragments of white ball clay tobacco pipe were recovered from Trenches 4 and 44. Simplified recording only has been undertaken, with basic description and weight recorded in the text. Terminology used in this report is taken from Oswald's simplified general typology (Oswald 1975, 37–41), and Crummy and Hind (Crummy 1988, 47–66).

Assemblage and Discussion

- B.4.2 From gully **60** in Trench 4, a short length of clay tobacco pipe stem (weighing 0.003kg), with a small oval heel, broken at the base of the bowl, was recovered. The stem is slightly oval, approximately 7.4 x 6.5mm and 37.9mm in length, with well-trimmed

mould seams. The pipe is not closely datable, however, it was recovered alongside a small sherd of Post-medieval Redware (Fabric 40), suggesting a pre-19th century date.

- B.4.3 From ditch **29** in Trench 44 a second length of clay tobacco pipe stem was recovered, undecorated and not closely datable. The fragment is 33mm long and 8.8mm in diameter with trimmed seams.
- B.4.4 The fragments of clay tobacco pipe recovered represent what is, most likely, casually discarded pipes and does little, other than to indicate the consumption of tobacco on, or near, the site, very probably sometime in the 18th or 19th century.

Retention, dispersal or display

- B.4.5 The assemblage is fragmentary and is of little significance. This statement acts as a full record and the clay tobacco pipe stem may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

B.5 Building Stone

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction, and Methodology

- B.5.1 Three fragments of slate were recovered from Trenches 3 and 44. Simplified recording only has been undertaken, with basic description and weight recorded in the text.

Assemblage and Discussion

- B.5.2 Ditch **58** in Trench 3 produced two sub-rectangular, relatively thin (4.2 and 4.7mm), fragments of Welsh slate (0.014kg), one surface is roughly finished, the other well-finished and smooth.
- B.5.3 A third fragment of slate (0.001kg) was recovered from ditch **42** in Trench 44, again sub-rectangular in shape, but more roughly finished and thinner (2.3mm).
- B.5.4 The slate from both trenches is very probably roofing slate and Welsh in origin. The use of Welsh slate became more common with the development of the railways and both fragments are probably 19th century.

Retention, dispersal or display

- B.5.5 The assemblage is fragmentary and is of little significance other than to indicate the presence of construction materials probably of 19th century date. This statement acts as a full record and the slate can be deselected prior to archival deposition.

B.6 Ceramic Building Material

By Ted Levermore

Introduction

- B.6.1 Archaeological evaluation work recovered 58 fragments, 2913g, of ceramic building material (CBM), collected from features in Trenches 3, 4, 6, 9, 20, 26, 29, 38, 39, 41, 43, 44 and 48. The assemblage was severely abraded, containing tile and brick pieces. Where dates could be attributed the assemblage was post-medieval to modern in date. The following report will quantify and outline the assemblage.

Methodology

- B.6.2 The assemblage was quantified by context, fabric and form and counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Width, length and thickness were recorded where possible. McComish (2015), Ryan (1996) and Woodforde (1976) and formed the basis of reference material for identification and dating. The quantified data and fabric descriptions are presented on an Excel spreadsheet held with the site archive.

Results

Fabrics

- B.6.3 The assemblage contained 11 fabrics (2 were subgroups). The recipes used were typical of CBM. The assemblage was not broad enough for a closer discussion regarding the clays used.

Assemblage

- B.6.4 The assemblage is characterised by a high degree of abrasion. The majority of the fragments are small, sub-rounded and undiagnostic (34 fragments, average weight 7.6g). The assemblage was scattered throughout the site and offers little by way of archaeological information. The majority of the assemblage is post-medieval to modern in date, with a few exceptions where earlier dates are suggested. The fragments worth noting are the Roman *tegula* flange (175g) from Ditch 39, Trench 44, and a large fragment of a late 16th to early 17th century 'stock' brick from Ditch 131, Trench 26. Table 3 summarises the CBM catalogue.

Conclusion

- B.6.5 This assemblage is of little to no archaeological significance. It is likely this material was brought to the site for agricultural purposes, resulting in the heavy abrasion seen.
- B.6.6 This material has been fully recorded. This statement acts as a full record and the CBM can be deselected prior to archival deposition

Table 3: Ceramic Building Material Catalogue

Trench	Context	Cut	Feature	Form	Descr	Date	Count	Weight (g)	Abrasion	Comment
3	59	58	Ditch	Undiag	Undiag	-	1	3	severe	Undiag frags
4	61	60	Gully	Undiag	Undiag	-	1	14	severe	Undiag frags
6	2		Subsoil	Tile	Edging	19th-20th	1	114	slight	Fragment from a grey-blue tile similar to Victorian edging tiles. Moulded and with a smooth surface and a sheen.
9	38	37	Post Hole	Undiag	Undiag	-	1	33	severe	Undiag frag of CBM
9	38	37	Post Hole	Tile	Flat	Pmed-Mod	2	47	severe	Frag of flat tile (poss. curved)
9	38	37	Post Hole	Brick	LBC	Mod	1	80	severe	Frag of London brick
20	141	141	Ditch	Tile	Curved	Pmed-Mod	2	36	mod	Frag of curved tile, probably pmed-mod
29	122	119	Ditch	Undiag	Undiag	-	1	19	severe	Undiag frags
29	121	119	Ditch	Tile	Flat	Pmed-Mod	2	33	severe	
38	166	165	Ditch	Undiag	Undiag	-	6	32	severe	Undiag frags
38	164	163	Ditch	Tile	Flat	Pmed-Mod	3	73	slight	Frag of flat tile. Orange refined, fine sanded.
39	124	123	Post Hole	Undiag	Undiag	-	1	5	severe	Undiag frags
39	129	127	Ditch	Tile	Flat	Pmed-Mod	1	8	severe	Undiag frags
39	129	127	Ditch	Brick	Red	Pmed-Mod	1	64	severe	Undiag frags
40	132	131	Ditch	Undiag	Undiag	Pmed-Mod	8	81	severe	Undiag frags

Trench	Context	Cut	Feature	Form	Descr	Date	Count	Weight (g)	Abrasion	Comment
40	132	131	Ditch	Brick	?Floor	L16/E18	1	1020	Slight	Large fragment of a well-made orange brick; remnants of body and a stretcher but no full length retained. It measures 2 1/4-inch-thick and is neatly formed with regular arrises and smoothed regular upper bed and sanded lower. Fits Ryan (1996) description for L16/E17 'stock' brick. A fine orange sandy clay with occasional pebbles and coarse angular flint inclusions
41	136	135	Ditch	Undiag	Undiag	-	1	3	severe	Undiag frags
43	156	154	Pit	Tile	Flat	Pmed-Mod	1	32	severe	Frag of poss. flat tile. Pmed? ?Roman
43	155	154	Pit	Brick	Undiag	Pmed-Mod	1	96	severe	
44	28	29	Ditch	Undiag	Undiag	-	1	4	severe	Undiag frags
44	40	39	Ditch	Undiag	Undiag	-	2	13	severe	Fragments of undiag CBM
44	44	42	Ditch	Undiag	Undiag	-	6	13	severe	Undiag frags
44	45	42	Ditch	Tile	Flat	Pmed-Mod	1	23	severe	
44	45	42	Ditch	Undiag	Undiag	Med-Mod	3	24	severe	Three fragments of medieval to modern CBM. Abraded and not diagnostic.
44	40	39	Ditch	Brick	Tile	?Roman	1	164	severe	Body fragment of a thick tile or thin brick; severely abraded. Remnants of a smoothed upper face and a coarsely sanded base. Mid orange colour in a compact silty fabric with few inclusions.
44	40	39	Ditch	Tile	Tegula	Roman	1	175	mod	Fragment of a tegula flange; chunky flange with thin tile body. Neatly formed, smoothed with double finger groove along inner flange face. Body of tile does not survive, so no lower finger groove or sanding evidence to see.
44	45	42	Ditch	Brick	Tile	?Roman	1	369	Mod	Fragment of a thin brick/thick tile, fabric suggests Roman. Body with remnant edge from a neatly made thick tile form, irregular arrises, smoothed upper, fairly regular creased edge and base, sparse coarse sand on base. Made in a light orange silty clay with fine sandy grit and rare coarse voids/vughs.
48	22	23	Ditch	Tile	?Curved	Pmed-Mod	1	18	severe	Fragment of a curved tile made in a sandy reduced fabric. Sanded on outer curve. Fabric and style is pmed to modern. Either curved roof or field drain.
48	22	23	Ditch	Brick	Red	Pmed-Mod	1	39	severe	Fragment of pmed red brick

Trench	Context	Cut	Feature	Form	Descr	Date	Count	Weight (g)	Abrasion	Comment
48	22	23	Ditch	Tile	Curved	Pmed- Mod	3	112	severe	Fragments of a curved tile made in a sandy red-orange fabric. Fabric and style is pmed to modern. Either curved roof or field drain.
48	22	23	Ditch	Tile	Curved	Pmed- Mod	1	166	mod	Fragment of a curved tile made in a sandy orange fabric. Fabric and style is pmed to modern. Either curved roof or field drain.

B.7 Miscellaneous

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

- B.7.1 A small assemblage of clinker/cinder and coal was collected by hand from Trenches 3 and 38. The material was weighed and rapidly recorded, with basic description and weight recorded in the text.

Assemblage and Discussion

- B.7.2 A fragment of partially burnt coal (0.001kg) was recovered, alongside a fragment of unburnt coal (0.002kg) from ditch **58** in Trench 3. The material is very probably the result of steam ploughing or threshing, rather than a domestic or other hearth. From ditch **163** in Trench 38 a fragment of clinker or cinder (0.003kg) was recovered, irregular in shape and recently broken as with the material from Trench 3. It is very probably the result of steam ploughing or threshing and not the result of industrial activities.
- B.7.3 This statement acts as a full record and the material can be deselected prior to archive deposition.

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Faunal Remains

By Zoë Uí Choileáin

Introduction and Methodology

C.1.1 Eight fragments of animal bone weighing 120g were recovered during the evaluation at Towerlands, Essex. The material was recovered from ditches and a single pit dating predominantly to the post-medieval period. All bone was identified using Schmid (1972). Surface preservation was evaluated using the 0-5 scale devised by Brickley and McKinley (2004 14-15).

Results

C.1.2 Bone was identifiable to four taxa; sheep/goat, cattle, horse and dog. The surface condition of the bone on average represents a 1-2 on the scale devised by Brickley and McKinley (ibid). Some but not all of the surfaces are masked by erosion. Fragmentation is high with no complete long bones surviving. A MNI (minimum number of individuals) of one is recordable for all taxa. No unfused material is present.

Taxon	NISP	NISP %	MNI	MNI%
Sheep/goat	3	42.86	1	25
Dog	2	28.55	1	25
Horse	1	14.29	1	25
Cattle	1	14.29	1	25
Totals	6	100	3	100

Table 4: No. identifiable specimens (NISP) and MNI (Minimum number of individuals) per taxa

Conclusions

C.1.3 The assemblage is small, highly fragmentary and poorly preserved. There is little information which can be gathered regarding butchery and dietary practices.

Trench	Cut	Context	Type	Date	Taxon	Element	Weight	Count
44	29	28	Ditch	-	Sheep/Goat	Loose mand cheek tooth	1	1
44	39	40	Ditch	Medieval	Sheep/Goat	Loose mand cheek tooth	4	1
44	39	40	Ditch	Medieval	Horse	PH1	36	1
40	131	132	Ditch	Post- medieval	Dog	Tibia	0	1
40	131	132	Ditch	Post- medieval	Dog	Calcaneus	1	1
41	135	136	Ditch	Post- medieval	Sheep/Goat	Radius	17	1
12	147	148	Ditch	-	Large mammal	Long bone	28	1
43	154	155	Pit	Medieval- post- medieval	Cattle	Loose max cheek tooth	33	1
Totals							120	8

Table 5: Total weight count taxon and elements present.

C.2 Environmental Remains

By Martha Craven

Introduction

- C.2.1 Twelve bulk samples were taken from a variety of features within the evaluated area at Towerlands Park, Braintree, Essex in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations.

Methodology

- C.2.2 The samples were soaked in a solution of sodium carbonate for 24hrs prior to processing to break down the heavy clay matrix. The total volume (up to 18L) of each of the samples was processed by tank flotation using modified *Siraf*-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.2.3 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.2.4 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.2.5 Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal and molluscs have been scored for abundance

+ = occasional, ++ = moderate, +++ = frequent, ++++ = abundant

Key to tables:

U=untransformed

Results

- C.2.6 Preservation of plant remains is by carbonisation and probable waterlogging and is generally poor to moderate; many of the flots contain rootlets which may have caused movement of material between contexts.

- C.2.7 The charred botanical remains from this site consisted of a few weed seeds and cereal grains in four of the samples. Eight of the samples contained a small to moderate quantity of charcoal.
- C.2.8 Sample 6, fill 128 of ditch **127** (Trench 39), contained untransformed seeds of thistles (*Carduus/Cirsium* sp.), the nettle family (Lamiaceae),ampions (*Silene* sp.) and brambles (*Rubus* sp.). This sample also contained fragments of waterlogged wood. Sample 7 was taken from the upper fill of this feature and contains a similar assemblage of untransformed seeds, although this deposit did not appear to be waterlogged and was similar in content to Sample 1, fill 44 of ditch **42** (Trench 44).
- C.2.9 The majority of the samples were devoid of molluscs, except for Sample 1, Sample 4, fill 69 of pit **68** (Trench 13), and sample 7 which contained a small quantity.

Trench no.	Sample no.	Context no.	Cut no.	Feature type	Volume processed (L)	Flot volume (ml)	Cereals	Weed seeds	Tree/shrub macrofossils	Wetland/aquatic plants	Roots/stems	Wood	Snails from flot	Charcoal (ml)	Pottery	Clay pipe	Hammerscale
8	2	53	50	Pit	18	80	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	#
8	3	57	56	Pit	16	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0
13	4	69	68	Pit	17	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	#	0	0
20	9	140	139	Post-hole	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
21	5	116	115	Posthole	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	8	114	113	Post-hole	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	##	0	0
39	6	128	127	Ditch	16	5	0	# U	#U	0	## U	# U	0	0	0	0	0
39	7	129	127	Ditch	16	20	#f	###U	##U	0	0	0	+	2	0	#	0
43	10	156	154	Midden	16	10	#	#	0	0	0	0	0	<1	#	0	0
43	11	151	149	Midden	18	30	#	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0
43	12	153	152	Midden	16	40	#	0	0	#	0	0	0	11	#	0	0
44	1	44	42	Ditch	16	40	0	###U	#U	0	0	0	++	<1	#	0	0

Table 6: Environmental samples

Discussion

- C.2.10 The recovery of charred grain, weed seeds and charcoal indicates that there is limited potential for the preservation of plant remains at this site. The small quantity of carbonised plant remains recovered from this site likely represent a background scatter rather than a deliberate deposition. There is no obvious focus of any domestic activity.

- C.2.11 The presence of waterlogged material in Trench 39 and the similarity of the assemblages of Sample 7 and Sample 1 (Trench 44) suggests that these samples may represent waterlogged material that has recently been dewatered.

C.3 Mollusca

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

- C.3.1 A total of 0.013kg of shell was collected by hand during the evaluation. The shells recovered are oyster *Ostrea edulis*, from estuarine, shallow coastal waters and intertidal zones. The shell is relatively moderately well preserved and does not appear to have been deliberately broken or crushed.
- C.3.2 The shell was weighed and recorded by species, with complete or near-complete right and left valves noted where identification can be made, using Winder (2011) as a guide and recorded in the text. The minimum number of individuals (MNI) was not established, due to the small size of the assemblage. Average size, age, infestations and descriptive characteristics have not been recorded due to the size of the assemblage.

Assemblage

- C.3.3 The oyster shell was recovered from the fill of ditch 39 in Trench 44 which also produced medieval pottery. Three partial or incomplete oyster shells were produced, two partial indeterminate valves heavily damaged (0.004kg), both appear to be small shells. The third shell is an incomplete small-medium right valve, heavily damaged and missing most of the ventral margin, possibly shucked (0.009kg).

Discussion

- C.3.4 The shells are incomplete and of a small size and the limited quantity is too small a sample to draw any but the broadest conclusions, in that shellfish were reaching the site from the coastal regions, indicating trade for food with the wider area. Shellfish are known to form part of the Roman, medieval and later diet. The shell represents general discarded food waste and, although not closely datable, the shell may be dated by its association with pottery or other material also recovered from the features.
- C.3.5 This statement acts as a full record and the shell may be deselected prior to archive deposition.

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APPENDIX E OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	Oxfordarc3-367888		
Project Name	Towerlands Park, Braintree, Essex		
Start of Fieldwork	19 August 2019	End of Fieldwork	20 September 2019
Previous Work	Yes	Future Work	TBC

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	B TTL19	Planning App. No.	19/00786/OUT
HER Number		Related Numbers	

Prompt	NPPF
Development Type	Residential
Place in Planning Process	Pre-application

Techniques used (tick all that apply)

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography – interpretation | <input type="checkbox"/> Grab-sampling | <input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - new | <input type="checkbox"/> Gravity-core | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sample Trenches |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annotated Sketch | <input type="checkbox"/> Laser Scanning | <input type="checkbox"/> Survey/Recording of Fabric/Structure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Augering | <input type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Trenches |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dendrochronological Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> Metal Detectors | <input type="checkbox"/> Test Pits |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documentary Search | <input type="checkbox"/> Phosphate Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> Topographic Survey |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Sampling | <input type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> Vibro-core |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fieldwalking | <input type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> Rectified Photography | |

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Post hole	Iron Age (- 800 to 43)	Pottery	Medieval (1066 to 1540)
Post hole	Uncertain	Pottery	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)
Ditch	Modern (1901 to present)	Pottery	Uncertain
Ditch	Roman (43 to 410)	Pottery	Iron Age (- 800 to 43)
Ditch	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)	Pottery	Modern (1901 to present)
Ditch	Uncertain		
Pit	Uncertain	CBM	Modern (1901 to present)
Pit	Medieval (1066 to 1540)	CBM	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)
		CBM	Roman (43 to 410)
		Shell	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)
	Choose an item.	Flint	Uncertain

		Glass	Modern (1901 to present)
--	--	-------	--------------------------

Insert more lines as appropriate.

Project Location

County	Essex	Address (including Postcode) Towerlands Park, Panfield Lane, Braintree CM7 5BJ
District	Braintree	
Parish	Bocking	
HER office	Essex	
Size of Study Area	31.9Ha	
National Grid Ref	TL 7480 2520	

Project Originators

Organisation	Oxford Archaeology East (OA East)
Project Brief Originator	None Generated, Pre-planning
Project Design Originator	James Durmmond-Murray (OA East)
Project Manager	James Durmmond-Murray (OA East)
Project Supervisor	Adele Lord (OA East)

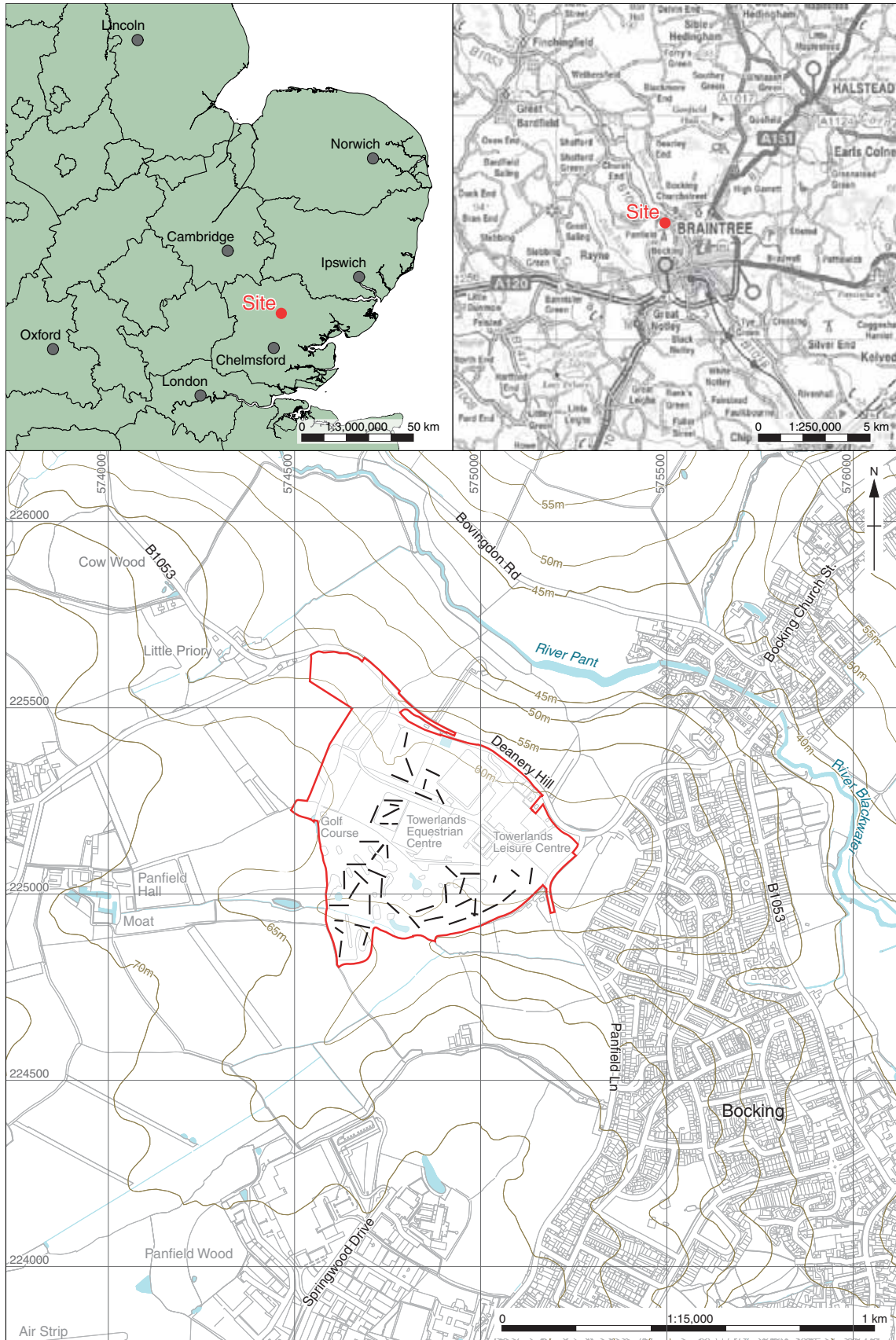
Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	Braintree Museum	BTTL19
Digital Archive	Oxford Archaeology East	XEXTOW19
Paper Archive	Braintree Museum	BTTL19

Physical Contents	Present?	Digital files associated with Finds	Paperwork associated with Finds
Animal Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Remains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Database	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aerial Photos	<input type="checkbox"/>
GIS	<input type="checkbox"/>	Context Sheets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Geophysics	<input type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Further Comments



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

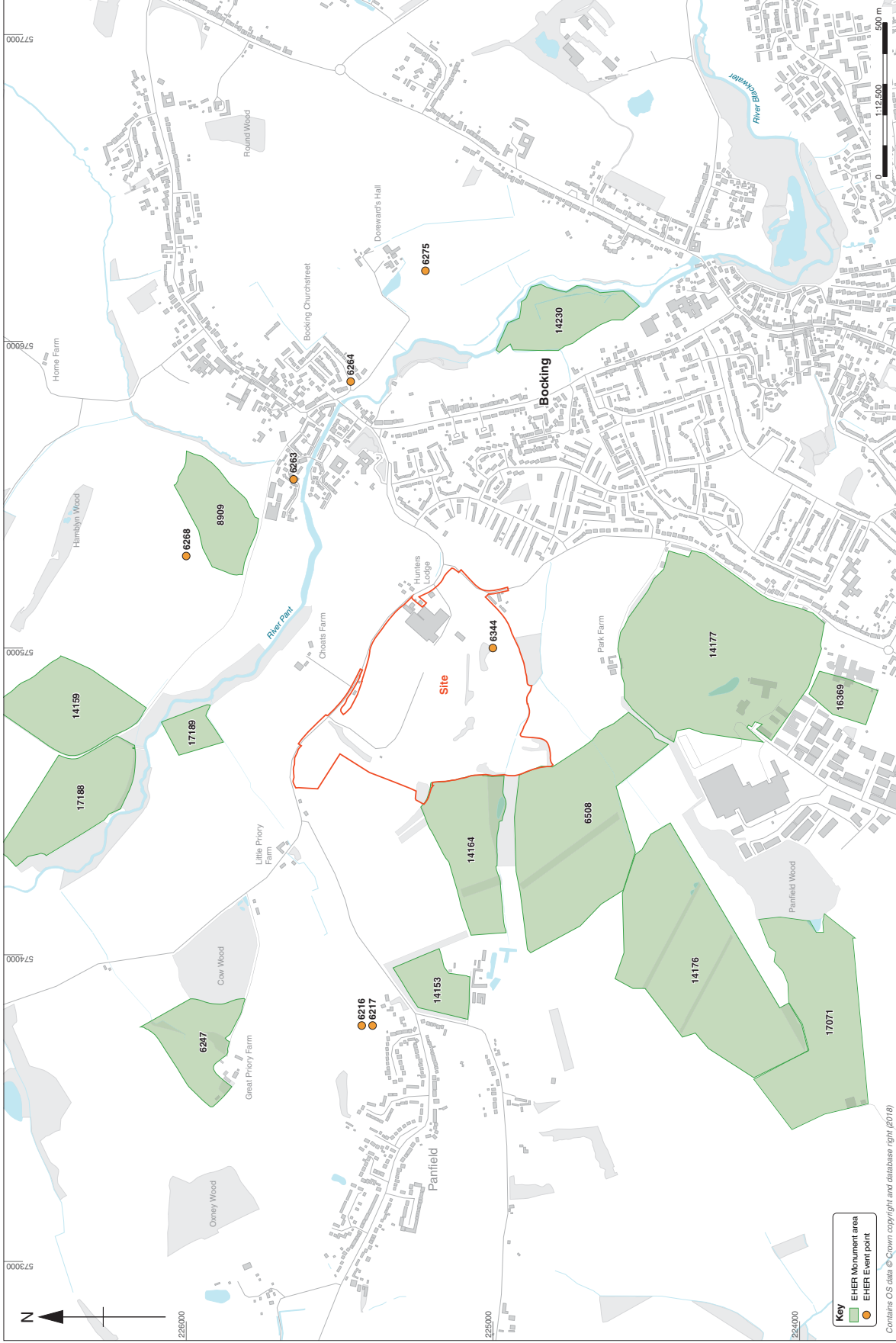




Figure 3: Plan of evaluation trenches (black), in comparison to original locations (dark grey), with services and areas of ecological sensitivity

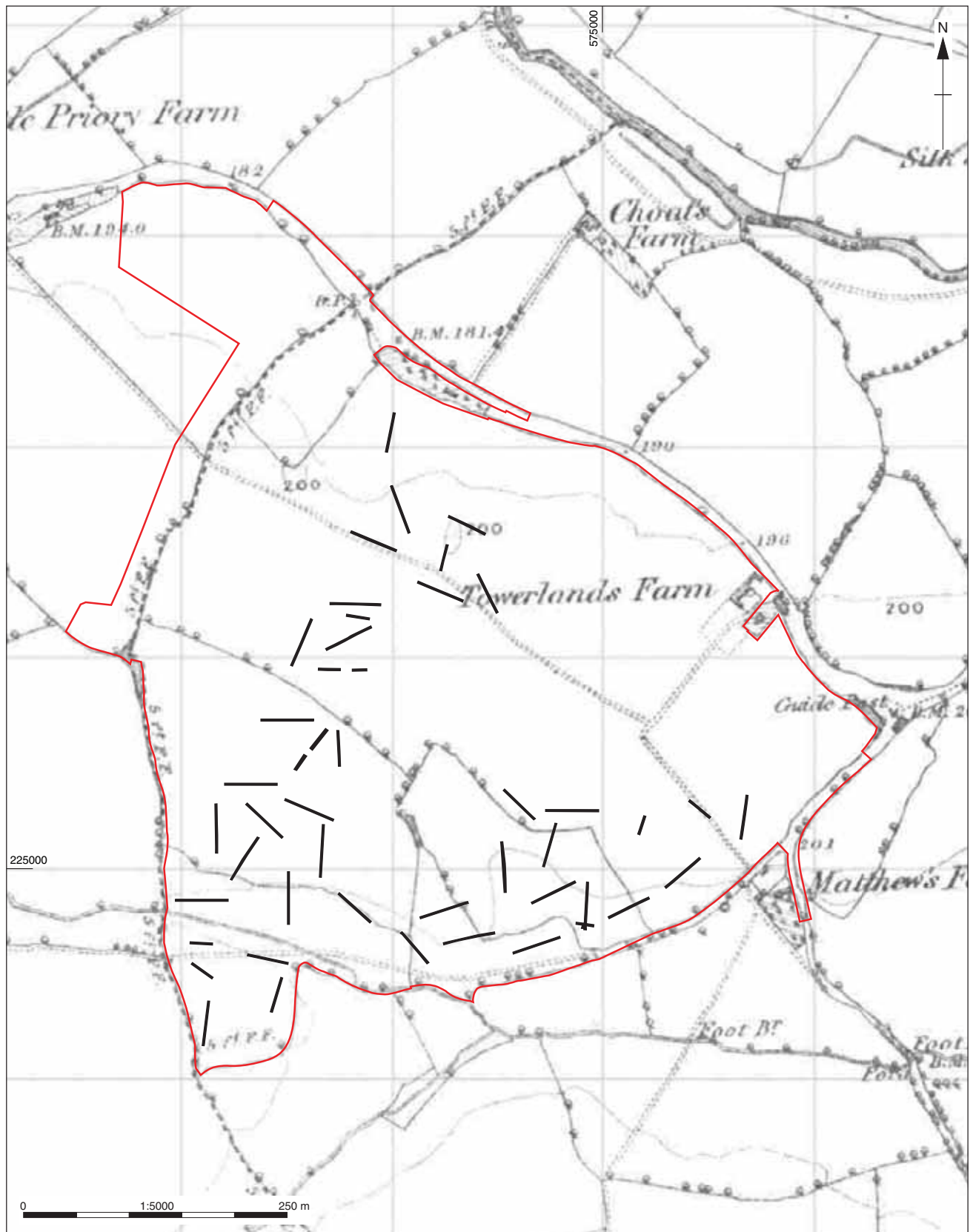


Figure 4: Proposed development area (red) with location of trenches overlain on Ordnance Survey Map 1876 (1st edition)



Figure 5: Final trench location plan showing all features

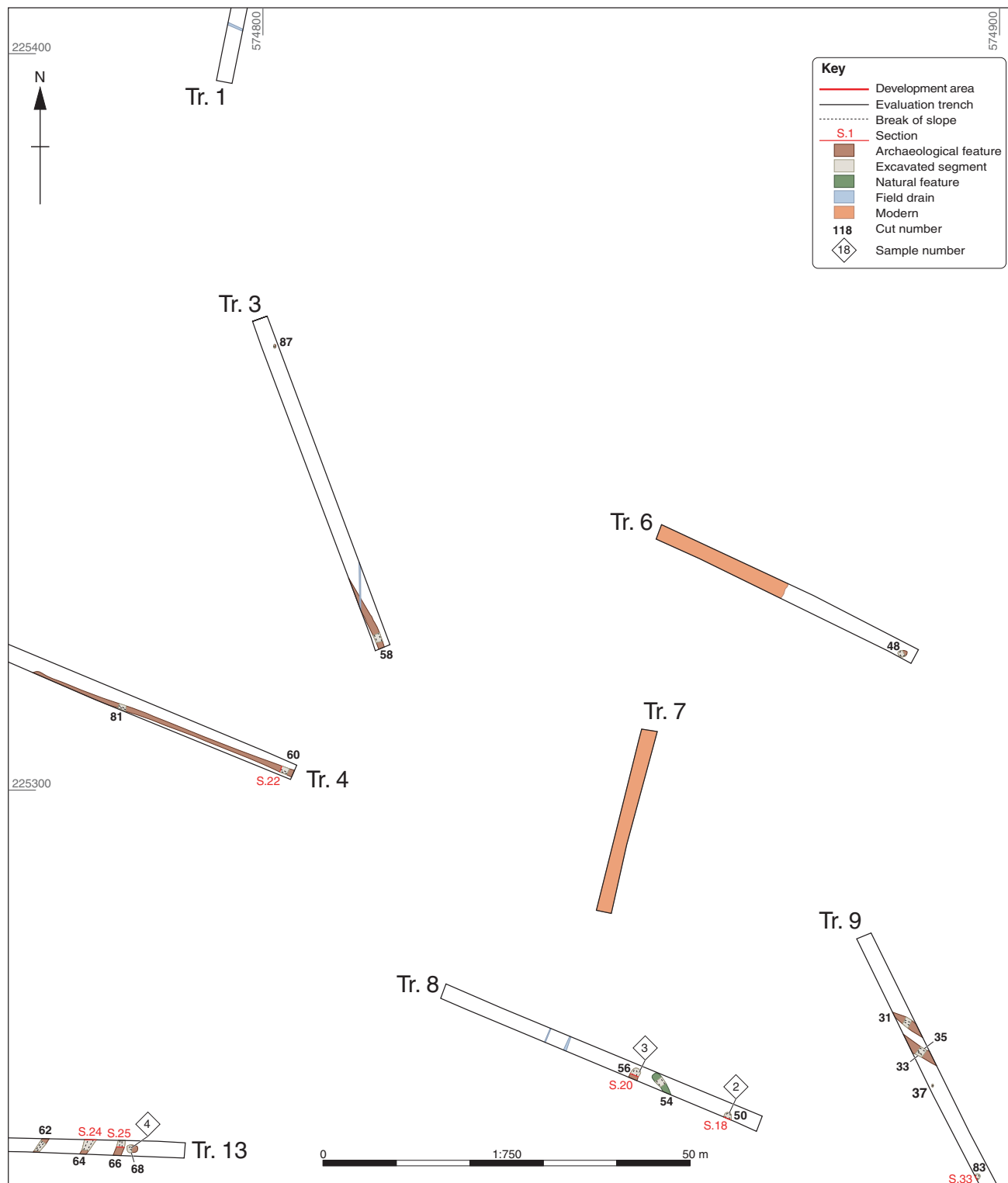


Figure 6: Detailed plan of Trenches 1, 3-4, 6-9 and 13

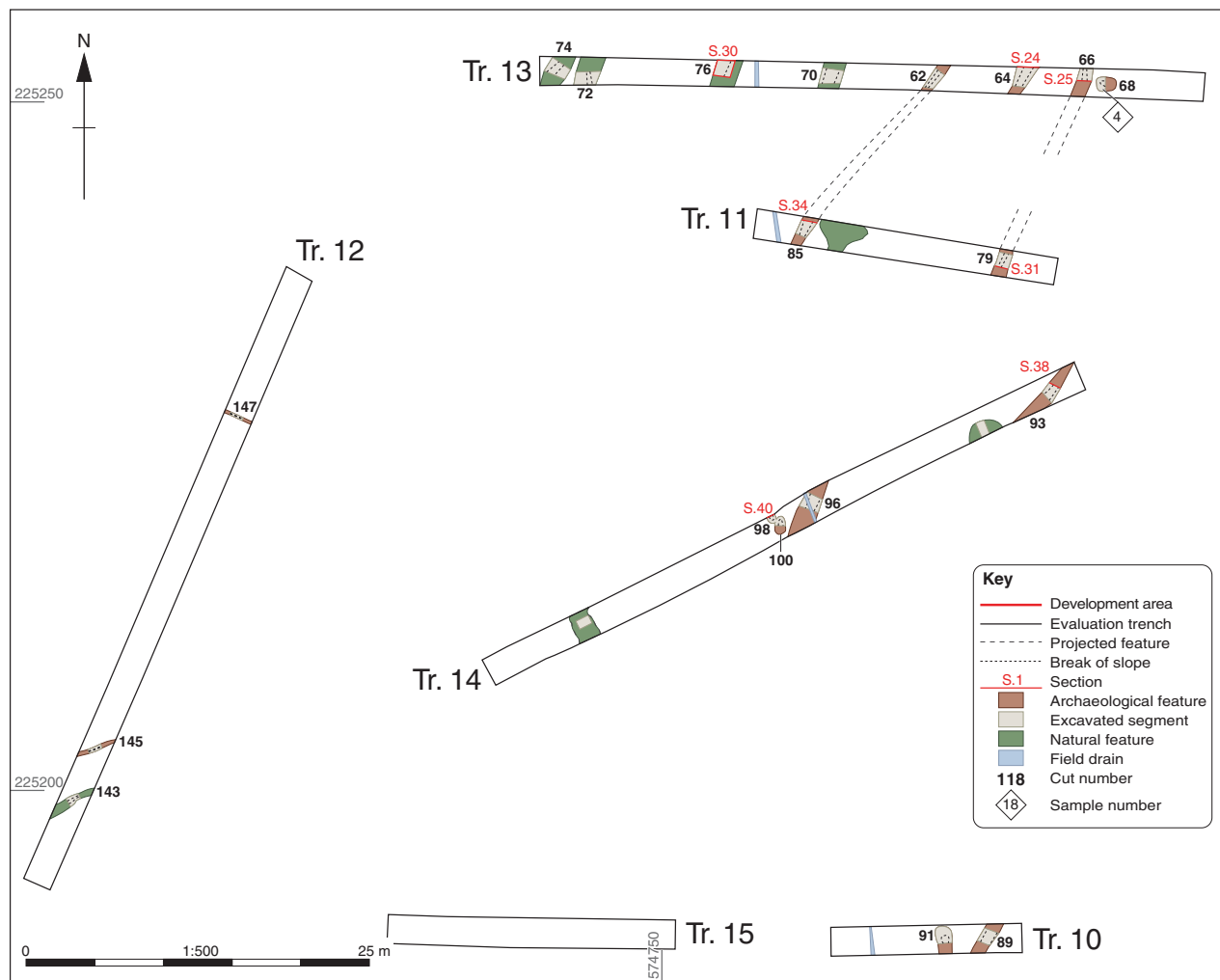


Figure 7: Detailed plan of Trenches 10-15

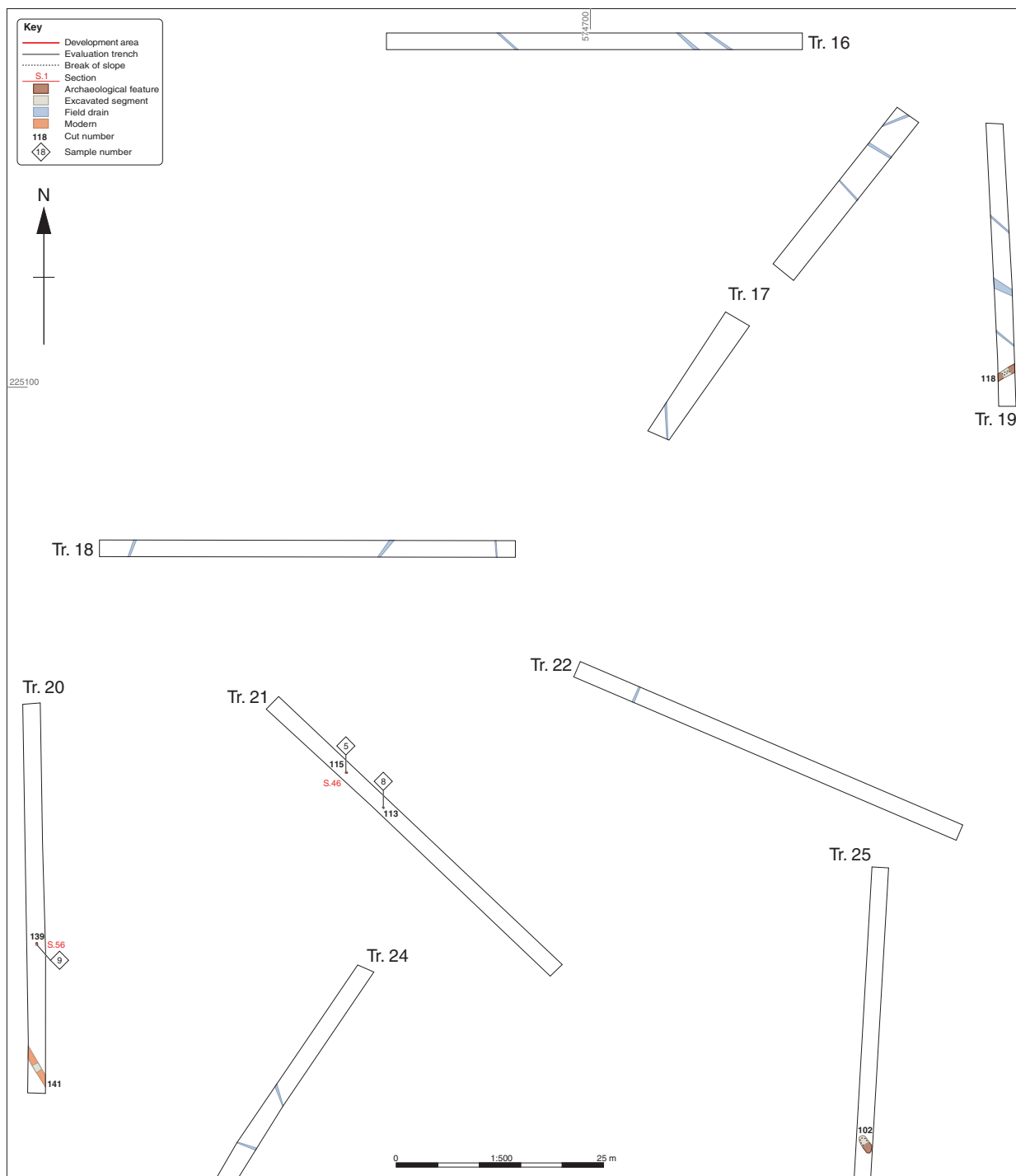


Figure 8: Detailed plan of Trenches 16-22 and 24-25

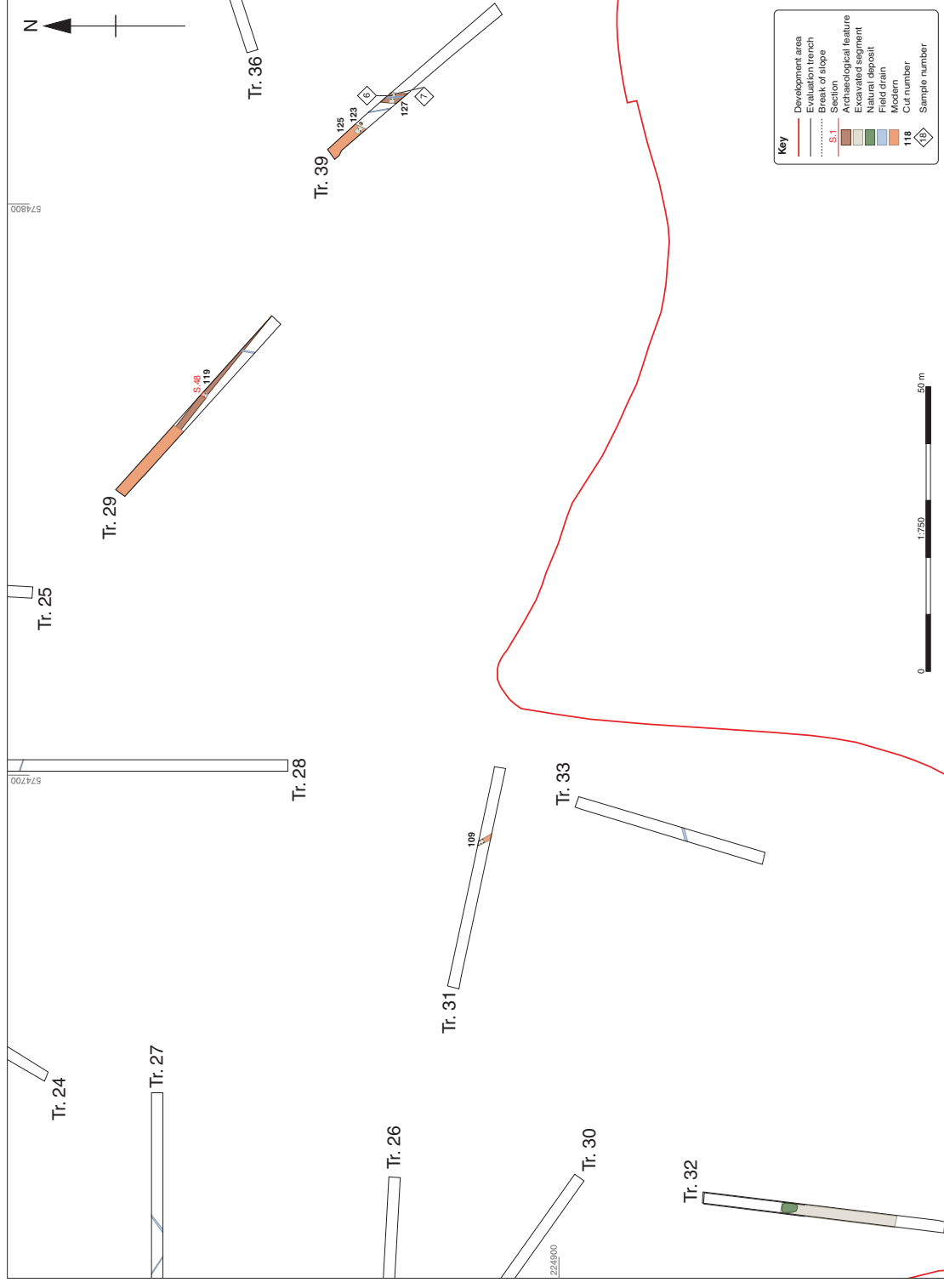


Figure 9: Detailed plan of Trenches 24-33 and 39

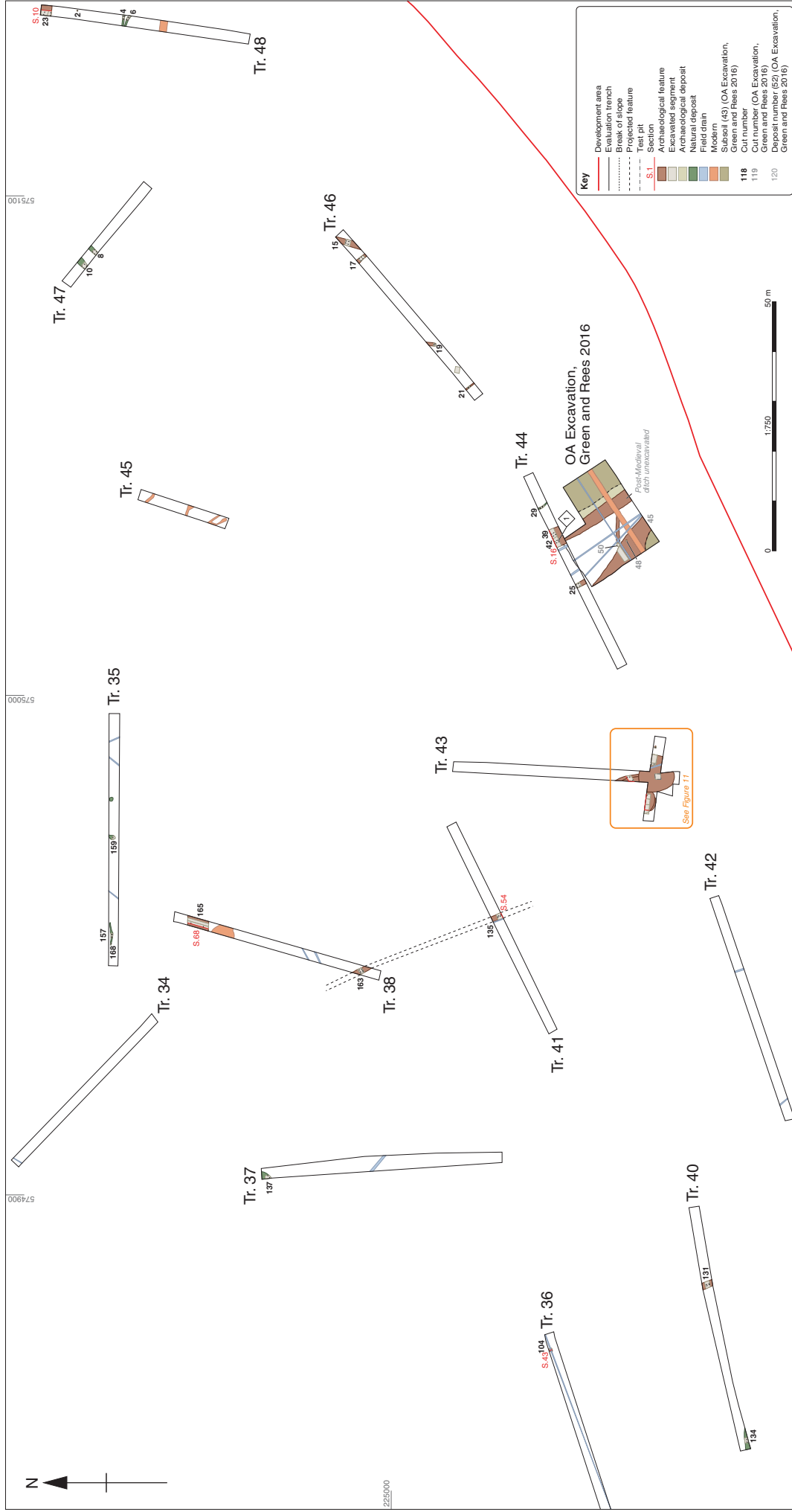


Figure 10: Detailed plan of Trenches 34-38 and 40-48



Figure 11: Detailed plan of Trench 43

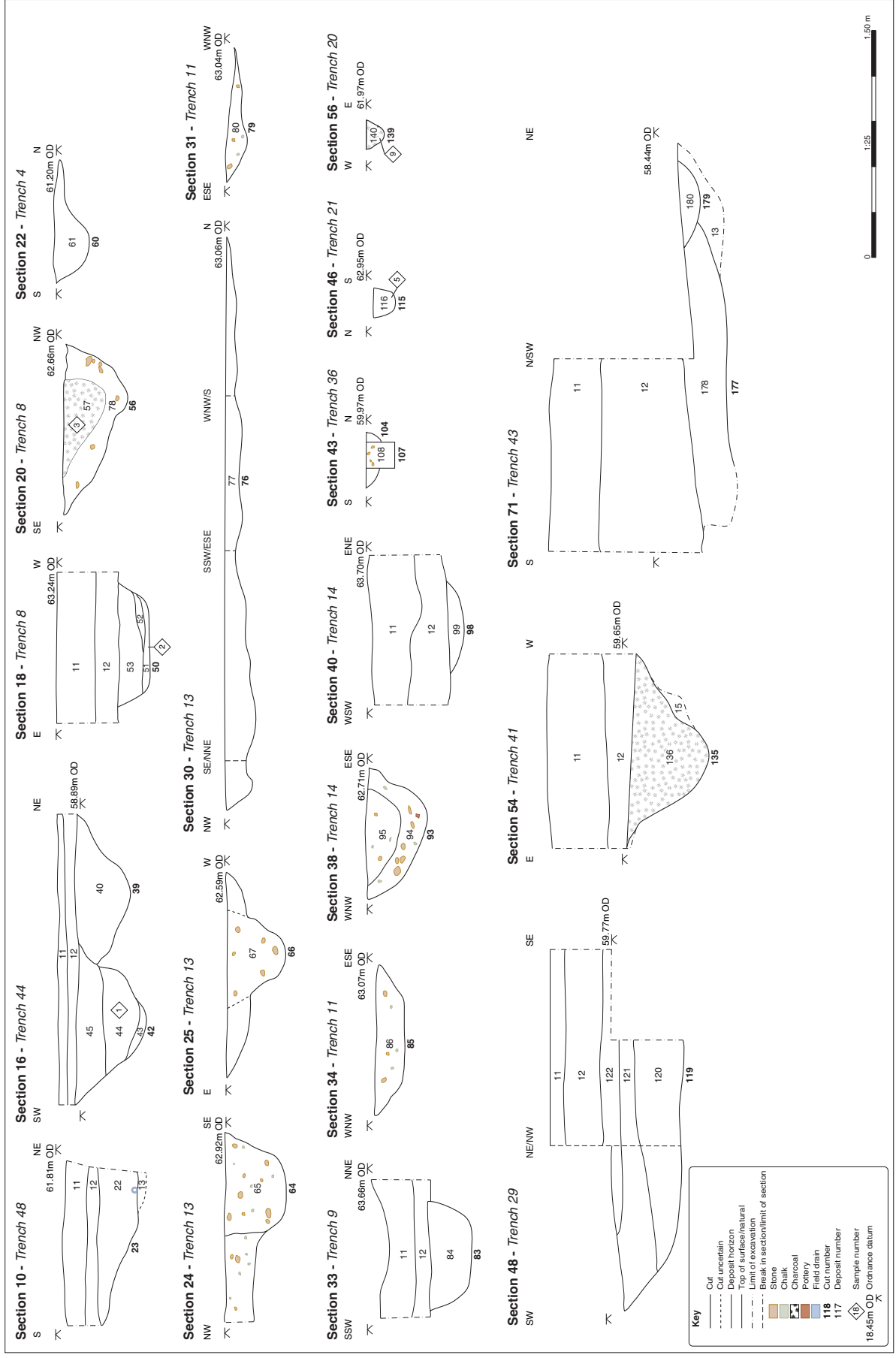


Figure 12: selected sections

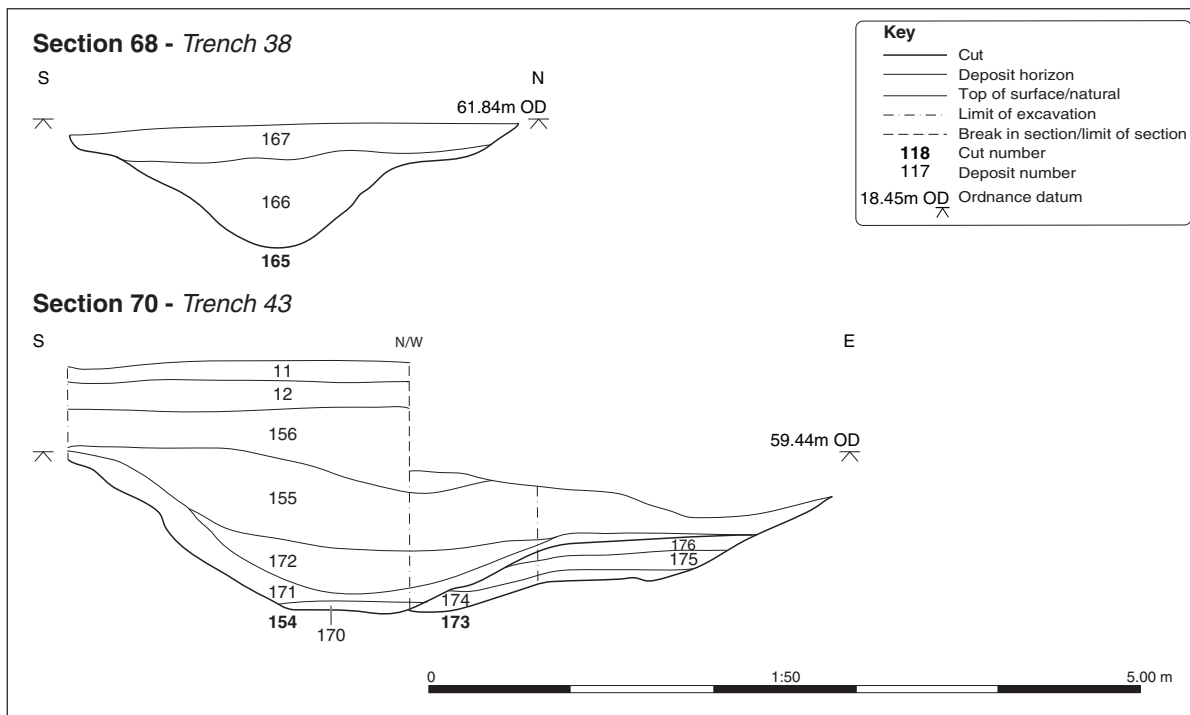


Figure 13: selected sections

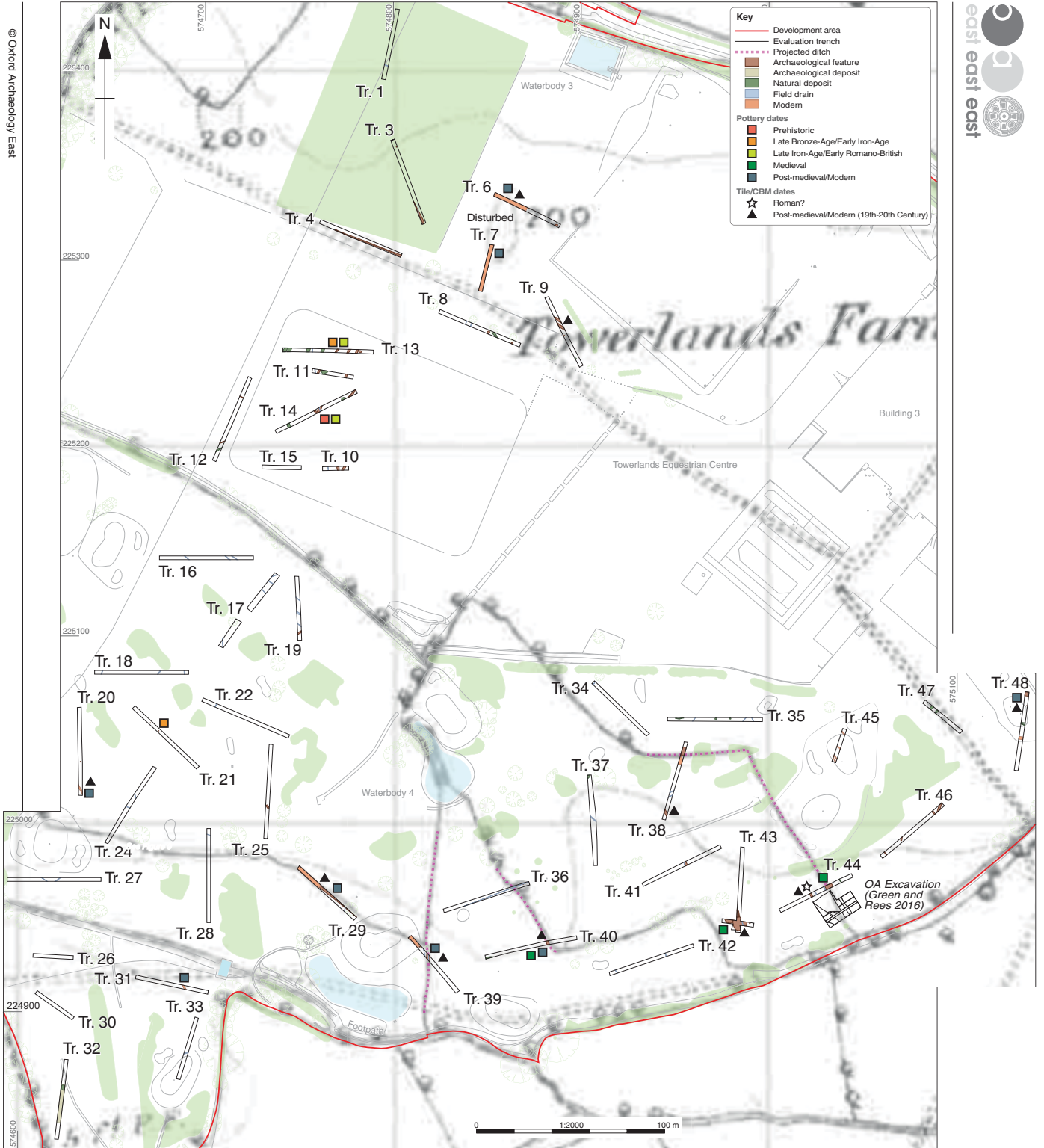


Figure 14: All features plan overlain on detail of 1st edition OS map and showing small site (Green and Rees 2016)



Plate 1: Trench 1, viewed from the south



Plate 2: Trench 3, viewed from the south south-east with ditch 58 visible



Plate 3: Trench 4, viewed from the south-east



Plate 4: Trench 6, viewed from the west



Plate 5: Trench 6 baulk section showing modern demolition layer, viewed from the north



Plate 6: Trench 7, viewed from the north north-east



Plate 7: Pit **50**, viewed from the north-east



Plate 8: Pit **56**, viewed from the north-east



Plate 9: Trench 9, viewed from the south south-east



Plate 10: Intercutting ditches **33** and **35**, viewed from the south-east



Plate 11: Trench 10, viewed from the north



Plate 12: Possible ditch terminus 91, viewed from the north



Plate 13: Trench 12, viewed from the south-west



Plate 14: Trench 13, viewed from the east



Plate 15: Ditch **66**, viewed from the north



Plate 16: Trench **14**, viewed from the north-east



Plate 17: Trench 15, viewed from the west



Plate 18: Trench 16, viewed from the west



Plate 19: Trench 19, viewed from the south



Plate 20: Trench 20, viewed from the south with ditch **141** visible in the foreground



Plate 21: Trench 21, viewed from the south-east



Plate 22: Posthole 113, viewed from the north-west



Plate 23: Trench 22, viewed from the south-east



Plate 24: Trench 25, viewed from the north



Plate 25: Pit 102, viewed from the north-west



Plate 26: Trench 26, viewed from the east



Plate 27: Trench 27, viewed from the east



Plate 28: Trench 28, viewed from the north



Plate 29: Trench 29, viewed from the north-west



Plate 30: Trench 30, viewed from the north-west



Plate 31: Trench 31, viewed from the east south-east



Plate 32: Modern service trench **109**, viewed from the north-west



Plate 33: Trench 33, viewed from the south south-west



Plate 34: Trench 34, viewed from the south-east



Plate 35: Trench 36, viewed from the east north-east



Plate 36: Trench 37, viewed from the north



Plate 37: Trench 38, viewed from the south south-west



Plate 38: Trench 39, viewed from south-east



Plate 39: Ditch **127**, viewed from the south



Plate 40: Ditch **131**, viewed from the south



Plate 41: Trench 41, viewed from the south-west



Plate 42: Trench 42, viewed from the south-west



Plate 43: Trench 43, viewed from the south



Plate 44: Trench 43, viewed from the east south-east



Plate 45: Test pit **149**, showing dark charcoal rich material in Trench 43, viewed from north-west



Plate 46: Trench **44**, viewed from the south-west



Plate 47: Trench 45, viewed from the south south-west



Plate 48: Ditch 15, viewed from the south



Plate 49: Trench 47, viewed from the north-west



Plate 50: Ditch 23, viewed from the east



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