# Oxford North, Wolvercote, Oxford

## Earthwork Survey and Archaeological Evaluation Report

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# Oxford North, Wolvercote, Oxford

## *Earthwork Survey and Archaeological Evaluation Report*

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*With contributions from John Cotter and Leigh Allen and illustrations by Conan Parsons and Charles Rousseaux*

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# Summary

In July 2020 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by EDP to undertake an earthwork survey, field evaluation and test pitting on land at Wolvercote, North Oxford. A programme of 19 trial trenches and 6 hand-dug test pits were excavated across the proposed development area, where previous archaeological investigations had not been undertaken.

The earthwork survey helped to ground-truth the results of the existing LiDAR data providing a contour survey of the upstanding ridge and furrow preserved in the Northeast field. Two orientations of ridge and furrow were identified, potentially of different date. Eight test pits were dug through the furrows to identify any manuring spreads and collect any other information that might supplement our understanding of these features. The pits identified three agricultural layers were present; topsoil, former ploughsoil and subsoil, but with no evidence of significant manuring spreads. Finds recovered from the test pits were mostly of later post-medieval date apart from a few fragments of possibly medieval CBM and pottery.

A second phase of evaluation trenching at the site also took place in the three areas of the proposed development, supplementing an earlier evaluation in the central area. The results were consistent with the earlier investigations and no features of archaeological origin were revealed, apart from plough furrows. Based on the result of this and the previous surveys, the site is considered to have low archaeological potential.

# Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology would like to thank Eddy Stratford, EDP Archaeological Consultant, for commissioning this project. Thanks are also extended to David Radford who monitored the work on behalf of Oxford City Council for his advice and guidance.

The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Carl Champness. The fieldwork was directed by John Carne who was supported by Ines Mateos Glover and Ben McAndrews. Survey and digitising was carried out by Conan Parsons. Thanks is also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Leigh Allen, processed the environmental remains under the management of Rebecca Nicholson, and prepared the archive under the management of Nicola Scott.

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by EDP to undertake a trial trench evaluation and earthwork survey at the site of the proposed Oxford North Development, Wolvercote, Oxford in advance of development. A programme of 19 trenches and 6 hand dug test pits were excavated across the development area that were not covered by the previously investigations.

1.1.2 The work was undertaken as part of outline Planning Application 18/02065/OUTFUL. A brief was set by David Radford (2020) of Oxford City Council and a written scheme of investigation was produced by OA detailing the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process (OA 2020). This document outlines how OA implemented the specified requirements with regard to Stages 1 and 2 of the archaeological planning brief.

1.1.3 This work follows on from the submission of an archaeological desk-based assessment (MOLA 2014a), two geophysical surveys (MOLA 2014b and c) and a previous phase of trial trenching that covers part of the development area (OA 2020). No archaeological areas or features were identified within the previous surveys, but the current phase of evaluation is designed to include areas not previous investigated.

1.1.4 All work was carried out in accordance with local and national planning policies and Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' guidance (CIfA 2014).

## 1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The site lies between and adjacent to the A40 Northern bypass to the south and the A40 Woodstock Road to the north and is southeast of the A34, (Figure 1: SP 49489 10565).

1.2.2 The area of proposed development consists of agricultural and pasture fields and slopes gently down from west to east from 69m to 63m aOD (above Ordnance Datum).

1.2.3 The geology of the area is mapped as Oxford Clay Formations and West Walton Formations which include mudstones formed approximately 156 to 165 million years ago in the Jurassic Period (BGS http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html). The previous adjacent evaluation to the north-west recorded Wolvercote sands and gravels (MOLA Northampton 2015). The terrace gravels and the Wolvercot Channel are important geological deposits for early Prehistoric remains. There is the suggestion that no Wolvercote Channel or Wolvercote Terrace deposits are present west of the railway cutting, but that they are likely to be found to its east.

## 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 An extensive archaeological and historical background of the area including the present site has been described in detail in the Historic Environment Assessment (MOLA 2014a), and is summarized in the WSI. The sections included here are those most relevant to the work undertaken.

1.3.2 There are areas of surviving ridge and furrow earthworks within the northeast of site and the sinuous pattern and spacing is consistent with later medieval agricultural practices. The area east of the A44 is more pronounced in profile than that to the west, between the A44 and the A40. The site also contains surviving elements of hedgerows and other boundaries representing probable later medieval field boundaries. The ridge and furrow is well preserved, and may have continued to be ploughed into the post-medieval period.

1.3.3 The site was maintained as agricultural land throughout this period and remains so today. The area became more accessible with the opening of the canal between 1769-90, the railway line in 1846, and the modern roads such as the A40 bypass by 1959.

1.3.4 Red Barn Farm was established between 1834 and 1872 and exists to the north of the site today.

### *Geophysical survey*

1.3.5 Two geophysical surveys were conducted over parts of the proposed development area in 2014 by MOLA (MOLA 2014b and c). The main survey (MOLA 2014b) did not identify any archaeological remains other than medieval to early post-medieval ridge and furrow. Nor did it identify any palaeochannels or other geological features which might contain significant Palaeolithic material. This suggests that no substantial archaeological sites are likely to exist within the areas surveyed. However, the presence of small or ephemeral remains (eg. Inhumations, timber-structures) cannot be firmly excluded, as these often present very difficult targets for geophysical survey to identify.

### *Previous archaeological works in the area*

1.3.6 To the northeast at the New Post House Hotel a watching brief on foundation and service trenches observed only modern made ground deposits overlying natural clay (TVAS 2000, CBA 2001).

1.3.7 To the southeast of the proposed development site an evaluation at The Oxford Hotel, Godstow Road, Wolvercote in 2001 revealed no archaeological remains (TVAS 2001, CBA 2002).

1.3.8 To the southeast at the BP Garage, Woodstock Road, a watching brief was undertaken during construction of a new underground fuel tank storage pit. Due to the proximity to the old Wolvercote brick pit Palaeolithic site, there was potential for important Pleistocene deposits and Palaeolithic remains to be present. However, no Pleistocene deposits were observed.

1.3.9 As part of the A34 Wolvercote viaduct replacement scheme the excavation revealed activity associated with a long-lived settlement spanning the Iron Age/early Roman period to the 4th century AD. Features, such as a possible enclosure, pits and areas of burning, attest to the presence of a low-status, Roman rural settlement (FA 2011).

1.3.10 An evaluation to the immediate north-west of the present site identified evidence of medieval to post-medieval ridge and furrow cultivation (MOLA Northampton 2015).

Several sherds of post-medieval pottery and a clay-tobacco pipe were recovered from some of the furrows. No earlier archaeological remains or finds were identified.

1.3.11 More recently in 2017, Oxford Archaeology undertook and evaluation consisting of 12 trenches (Trenches 1-12) across the central field of the site as part of the fulfillment of Phase 1a of the brief. No significant archaeological remains were identified, only the remains of medieval ridge and furrow (OA 2017).

# 2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

## 2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The project aims and objectives as laid out in the WSI were as follows:

i. To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the development;
ii. To assess vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains;
iii. To determine the potential of the Site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence;
iv. To provide sufficient information on the archaeological potential of the site to enable the archaeological implications of any proposed developments to be assessed;
v. To assess the impact of previous land use on the Site;
vi. To inform a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of any proposed development on surviving archaeological remains;
vii. To disseminate the results through the production of a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the Oxfordshire HER.

## 2.1 Specific research aims and objectives

2.1.1 The specific aims and objectives of the evaluation are as outlined in the project brief (Radford 2020):

viii. **Stage 1**: Produce an accurate contour survey of the extant ridge and furrow in the eastern field (south of Peartree Park and Ride).
ix. **Stage 2**: trial trenching will aim to gather sufficient information to generate a reliable predictive model of the extent, character, date, state of preservation and depth of burial of important archaeological remains within the area of study. In this case the following specific objectives have been identified:
- Establish the character and extent of any prehistoric, Roman activity.
- Whilst dating the formation and evolution of ridge and furrow earthworks by excavation has proved to be a problematical exercise because of the frequency of poor or indeterminate results in this instance targeted recording of extant ridges is considered to be warranted because 1) well preserved ridges are present of two orientations 2) this is one of the few remaining fields of the Upper Wolvercote open field system. Test pitting should therefore employ spit recording to see if any manuring scatter sequence can be identified. The results should be considered alongside the survey data and subsequent trenching data to establish whether any complexity can be identified (i.e. realignment etc.) (See Hall 2011, 2011).

x. ***Stage 3 (if this is required)*** should, subject to the results of the trial trenching seek to establish, as far as is practical, the chronology, plan form and function of archaeological features affected by development and interpret the results in terms of the documented history and historical topography of North Oxford. If this stage is required, it will be addressed through an additional WSI to be approved by the City Archaeologist.

3.2.1 The results of the project refer to the city and regional resource assessments and research agendas available on the web:
http://thehumanjourney.net/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=553&Itemid=277
http://www.oxford.gov.uk/PageRender/decP/OxfordArchaeologicalPlan.htm

## 2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 This report includes two stages of field investigations as outlined in the project brief:

2.2.2 **Stage 1:** An earthwork survey of extant ridge and furrow covering c.4.5 hectares was undertaken as part of the initial field investigation. Recording of ridge and furrow to the northeast of the project area utilised Environment Agency (EA) LiDAR data as a basis, which was then verified by a site visit. During the site visit checks were made on each ridge or furrow for additional detail, and anomalies with the data were resolved.

2.2.3 Six 1x1m test pits were hand excavated in 10cm spits (to natural) through six separate ridges of the ridge and furrow to recover dating material. The locations of the test pits are shown on figure 2.

2.2.4 **Stage 2:** A total of 19 trenches were excavated as shown on figure 2. All trenches measured 50m x 1.8m apart from one that had to be shortened due to the discovery of concrete within one end of the trench.

2.2.5 All trenches were excavated using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under the supervision of an experienced archaeologist. Machining continued in spits down to the top of the undisturbed natural geology or to the first archaeological horizon, whichever was encountered first. Spoil was stored neatly adjacent to, but at a safe distance from, the trench edges. Trenches and the up-cast spoil were scanned with a metal detector.

2.2.6 The exposed surfaces were sufficiently cleaned to establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains. Any potential features were investigated by hand and recorded.

# 3 RESULTS

## 3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.2 The results of the evaluation and test pit investigations are presented below. The full details of all trenches and test pits with dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendices A and B.

3.1.3 Context numbers reflect the trench numbers or test pit numbers unless otherwise stated e.g. layer 100 was in Trench 1, while layer 10 was in Test Pit 1 would be feature within Trench 3.

## 3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The soil sequence between all trenches was fairly uniform. The natural geology of yellow-orange clay was overlain by subsoil, which in turn was overlain by the remnant ploughsoil (where present) and topsoil.

3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the trenches remained dry throughout. No significant archaeological features or deposits were identified during the works.

## 3.3 Earthwork survey of ridge and furrow (Figures 3-5)

3.3.1 An accurate contour survey of the ridge and furrow within the northeast field has been produced. The LiDAR was ground-truthed by two site visits and a contour plan was produced (Figures 3 and 4).

3.3.2 Due to vegetation cover and lighting conditions during the initial visit, no additional detail was ascertained, neither at ground level or by a camera elevated by seven metres. A second visit was made later in the week with no change in visibility. The LiDAR was considered to be an accurate representation of the extant features, and as such a hachure plan was created using this data (Figure 3).

3.3.3 There are two different orientations of field systems identified: The northern ridge and furrows have a WNW/ESE alignment, which are not straight; The southern ridge and furrows are straight and on a SW/NE alignment. The interface between the two different systems becomes unclear, possibly due to more recent farming activity. Evidence for this is the overgrown concrete platform in the area where ridge and furrow become more difficult to ascertain.

3.3.4 The field systems are truncated to the west by the A34 and pastoral fields, to the east by the cut of the railway line and to the north by a modern clearance event. This clearance may also be related to the railway, as a compound is visible here on previous satellite imagery. Truncation to the south was unobserved and on private land.

## 3.4 Test pits

3.4.1 Six test pits were excavated to investigate the ridge and furrow present in the eastern area of the site to investigate a location where it was suspected that there were two phases of ridge and furrow (Figure 6).

3.4.2 The sequence in each test pit is described below. The natural at the base of the test pits was moderately compact mid brownish orange sandy clay with rare manganese inclusions. There were no cut features identified within any of the test pits.

### *Test pit 1 (Fig. 5b)*

3.4.3 The natural (13) within Test Pit 1 was overlain by a compact mid brownish orange silty clay subsoil (12) with rare manganese inclusions, with occasional limestone fragments towards the bottom of the deposit. It was 0.36m in thickness. There were no finds from this layer. Above this was a layer of ploughsoil (11), a compact mid yellowish-brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular pebbles and occasional small limestone fragments, Pottery and clay tobacco pipe recovered from this layer date to the 19th century and CBM was 17th-19th century in date. It measured 0.18m in thickness. The uppermost layer in the test pit was topsoil, a friable mid yellow brown clay silt measuring 0.19m in thickness. Finds recovered from this layer included pottery and clay tobacco pipe dating to the 19th century. This test pit was positioned on a ridge of NE-SW aligned ridge and furrow.

### *Test pit 2 (Fig. 7)*

3.4.4 The natural (23) within Test Pit 2 was overlain by subsoil (22) identical to that in Trench 1, which in this location measured 0.26m in thickness. CBM recovered from the subsoil was possibly medieval in date. There was also a layer of remnant plough soil (21) which was identical to the ploughsoil in Trench 1. Finds from this layer included CBM of 17th to 19th century date and a fragment of glass of 19th century date. Here it measured 0.12m in thickness. The topsoil measured 0.16m in thickness and contained a bakelite bottle stopper dating to 1896-1926. This test pit was positioned on a ridge of SE-NW ridge and furrow.

### *Test Pit 3 (Fig. 5b)*

3.4.5 In trench 3 the sequence was again the same sediment sequence as that in Test Pit 1, with the natural (33) overlain by subsoil (32). The subsoil produced pottery dating to 1780-1840 and measuring 0.19m in thickness, sealed by the remnant ploughsoil (31) containing pottery dating to 1690-1800 and measuring 0.1m in thickness. The topsoil (34), was 0.15m in thickness and produced pottery dated to 1780-1840 and also containing a small amount of similarly dated CBM. This test pit was positioned on a ridge of NW-SE aligned ridge and furrow.

### *Test Pit 4 (Fig. 8)*

3.4.6 In Test Pit 4 the natural (43) was overlain by the subsoil (42), measuring 0.16m in thickness, then by the remnant ploughsoil (41) measuring 0.08m in thickness. Pottery recovered from the ploughsoil dated to the 19th century. The topsoil (40) was 0.18m in thickness. This test pit was positioned on a ridge of NE-SW aligned ridge and furrow.

#### *Test Pit 5 (Fig. 5b)*

3.4.7 In Test Pit 5 the natural (53) was overlain by 0.15m of subsoil (52), 0.12m of remnant ploughsoil (51) and topsoil (50). The test pit was located on the ridge of a NW-SE aligned ridge and furrow. No finds were recovered from this test pit.

#### *Test Pit 6 (Fig. 9)*

3.4.8 The same sequence was found in Test Pit 6, with the natural overlain by the subsoil, measuring 0.14m in thickness, the remnant ploughsoil, 0.11m in thickness, and the topsoil, 0.18m in thickness. This test pit was located on the ridge of NE-SW aligned ridge and furrow. No finds were recovered from this test pit.

## 3.5 Evaluation Trenching

3.5.1 The trenching was undertaken within three main enclosed areas (northeast, central and southwest fields) separated by the main roads. The central field had been previously investigated in 2017, during the first phase of trail trenching at the site (OA 2017).

3.5.2 None of the trenches contained features of archaeological origin, apart from plough furrows, which were recorded in plan by survey and are shown on Figure 6. The deposit sequence within the trenches was similar across the site, with the natural moderately compact mid brownish orange sandy clay overlain by subsoil and in some trenches, ploughsoil and then topsoil.

3.5.3 The subsoil was uniform throughout the trenches, a compact mid brownish orange silty clay subsoil ranging in depth between 0.10m and 0.27m in thickness. A small amount of pottery and CBM from the buried ploughsoil dated to the late 19$^{th}$ to mid-20$^{th}$ century.

#### *Northeast field - Trenches 13-19 (Fig. 6; Plates 10 - 16)*

3.5.4 The field contained extant ridge and furrow earthworks and was very compacted, making it difficult to machine. Both these factors would indicate that the field has not been extensively ploughed in modern times and most likely has been used for pasture as it continues to be used for in the present--day.

3.5.5 The natural geology was encountered at a variety of depths between 0.44m and 0.56m, with a gentle slope down towards the north. This was overlain by a colluvial subsoil and former ploughsoil relating to the furrows. The modern topsoil/turf was relatively shallow and was only 0.1m in Trench 14. It was a compact mid yellow brown silty clay, with occasional pebbles and limestone fragments.

3.5.6 A small amount of pottery of mid-18$^{th}$ century date and CBM of late 18$^{th}$ to 19$^{th}$ century date was recovered from the topsoil in Trench 18.

3.5.7 Other than the recorded ridge and furrows, no other features were recorded within any of the trenches.

### *Central fields – Trenches 20-22 (Fig. 2; Plates 17 - 19)*

3.5.8 A series of three trenches were excavated within the central field, around the previous trial trenches that were undertaken by OA in 2017. The results were very similar to the previous phase, with no significant archaeological remains identified other than furrows.

3.5.9 The trenches were shallow on average 0.33m deep, with natural geology overlain by subsoil and modern topsoil. The only features identified were the remains of furrows, which were investigate but not recorded.

### *South fields – Trenches 23-31 (Fig. 8; Plates 20 – 27)*

3.5.10 The trenches were excavated in a series of overgrown pasture fields surrounded by hedgerows and trees. Some of the trenches were moved away from dense vegetation and a water pipes that supplied a feeding trough.

3.5.11 The depth of the natural geology varied slightly between trenches, ranging between 0.36m and 0.46m. The fields generally sloped down moderately from north to south. Evidence of modern dumping of rubbish material was identified within Trenches 24 and 25 on the lower slopes. The remains of ridge and furrows were also identified within Trench 27, suggesting that this field had not been ploughed in modern times.

3.5.12 Natural geology was overlain by a thin subsoil and modern topsoil. The topsoil formed the present land surface and varied in thickness between 0.16m and 0.25m. It was a mid-yellowish brown slightly clayey silt. Finds from this topsoil included pottery of 19th century date.

3.5.13 No significant archaeological features or deposits were identified within any of the trenches.

## 3.6 Finds summary

3.6.1 A total of 23 sherds of pottery (305g) were recovered from the subsoil, ploughsoil and topsoil layers during the evaluation trenching and the test pit survey. It is nearly all of 18$^{th}$-19$^{th}$ century date, apart from two sherds of residual medieval pottery.

3.6.2 There were 20 pieces of post-Roman CBM weighing 1,194g recovered from the evaluation and the test pit survey. The assemblage is mainly of post-medieval date (i.e after c. AD1480) but there were also a few pieces of medieval date.

3.6.3 A single piece of fired clay of unclear origin weighing 4g was recovered from a test pit and is possibly medieval in date.

3.6.4 Two pieces of clay tobacco pipe stem weighing 5g were recovered from a test pit. They were both 19$^{th}$ century in date.

3.6.5 Two small pieces of vessel glass weighing 2g were recovered from two test pits. One is a fragment from the neck of a glass phial or bottle of late 18$^{th}$ to 19$^{th}$ century date and one is a fragment of a wine glass of 19$^{th}$ century date.

3.6.6 A small assemblage of metal finds was recovered from the evaluation, they comprise one copper alloy object and seven iron objects. The objects are all post-medieval in

date. There was also a bottle stopper from Hall's Oxford Brewery dating from the late 19th to early 20th century.

# 4 DISCUSSION

## 4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 The results of earthwork survey, evaluation and test pit investigations are considered to accurately representation of the archaeological remains present within the site. The trenches were predominantly excavated within their proposed locations and provide good coverage of the site. The results also consistent with previous investigations undertaken within the site boundary.

## 4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 The earthwork survey recorded two phases of ridge and furrow within the site boundary. Observations made during the earthwork survey suggests that the northern alignment is earlier (NW-SE) and that the southern NE-SW alignment was a later addition. Evaluation Trench 19 revealed plough furrows on both alignments but they were not intersecting so the relationship could not be confirmed.

4.2.2 The trial trenching has shown that there is very limited potential for archaeological remains within the site. No cut features apart from plough furrows were identified and the finds were all from agricultural layers and were mostly of later post-medieval date, with just a small amount of CBM and pottery possibly dating to the medieval period.

4.2.3 Plough furrows were consistently identified in the evaluation trenches, confirming their visible location on the surfaces and the LiDAR. The ground truthing visits to the site confirmed the accuracy of the LiDAR and recorded the two orientations of the ridge and furrow in the northeast field.

## 4.3 Interpretation

4.3.1 The observations made during the earthwork survey suggest that the NW-SE alignment of ridge and furrow in the northern part of the field is the earlier, and is truncated by the NE-SW alignment in the southern part of the field. This was not confirmed by the evaluation or test pit excavations but is recorded in the survey plan in Figure 3.

4.3.2 The finds recovered from the evaluation are almost wholly of late post-medieval date and may have been incorporated by manuring and ploughing in the late post-medieval and modern periods. None of these layers represent manuring scatters relating to medieval agriculture.

## 4.4 Significance

4.4.1 The results of the investigations show that there is very low potential for archaeological remains of prehistoric or Roman date within the site boundary. The finds recovered from the agricultural layers are all of minimal significance.

4.4.2 The ridge and furrow has been thoroughly investigated and recorded, providing a clear record of the earthworks present within the site.

# APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

| Trench 13 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **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)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.48 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 1300 | Layer | - | 0.21 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 1301 | Layer | - | 0.27 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 1302 | Layer | | | Natural | | |

| Trench 14 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | NNW-SSE |
| Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay | | | | | **Length (m)** | 50 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.45 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 1400 | Layer | - | 0.18 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 1401 | Layer | - | 0.1 | Ploughsoil | - | - |
| 1402 | Layer | - | 0.17 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 1403 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| Trench 15 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | NNW-SSE |
| Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay | | | | | **Length (m)** | 50 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.56 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 1500 | Layer | - | 0.18 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 1501 | Layer | - | 0.16 | Ploughsoil | - | - |
| 1502 | Layer | - | 0.22 | Subsoil | | |
| 1503 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| Trench 16 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | E-W |
| Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay. Trench shortened due to concreted subsoil. | | | | | **Length (m)** | 40 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.45 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 1600 | Layer | - | 0.22 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 1601 | Layer | - | 0.23 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 1602 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |

| Trench 17 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | NW-SE |
| Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay. | | | | | **Length (m)** | 50 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.44 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 1700 | Layer | - | 0.2 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 1701 | Layer | - | 0.24 | Subsoil | Pot<br><br>CBM | 1880-1950<br>20C |
| 1702 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| Trench 18 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | NNW-SSE |
| Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay. | | | | | **Length (m)** | 50 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.46 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 1800 | Layer | - | 0.19 | Topsoil | Pot | 1800-1900 |
| 1801 | Layer | - | 0.12 | Former ploughsoil | Pot<br><br>CBM | 1830-1870<br>L18-19C |
| 1802 | Layer | - | 0.15 | Subsoil | | |
| 1803 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| Trench 19 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **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)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.45 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 1900 | Layer | - | 0.2 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 1901 | Layer | - | 0.25 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 1902 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| Trench 20 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | NNW-SSE |
| Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay. | | | | | **Length (m)** | 50 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.33 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 2000 | Layer | - | 0.21 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2001 | Layer | - | 0.12 | Subsoil | - | - |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2002 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| **Trench 21** | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | ENE-WSW |
| Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay. Large stone inclusions in the topsoil at the WSW end, where there is also disturbed area of natural. | | | | | **Length (m)** | 50 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.35 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 2100 | Layer | - | 0.18 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2101 | Layer | - | 0.17 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 2102 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| **Trench 22** | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | NW-SE |
| Trench revealing 4 N-S alligned furrows. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay | | | | | **Length (m)** | 50 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.3 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 2200 | Layer | - | 0.19 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2201 | Layer | - | 0.11 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 2202 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| **Trench 23** | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | NW-SE |
| Trench revealing 5 NE-SW aligned furrows. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay | | | | | **Length (m)** | 50 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 2.20 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.4 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 2300 | Layer | - | 0.21 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2301 | Layer | - | 0.19 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 2302 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| **Trench 24** | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | NNW-SSE |
| Trench revealed four NE-SW aligned furrows. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay | | | | | **Length (m)** | 50 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.45 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 2400 | Layer | - | 0.25 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2401 | Layer | - | 0.22 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 2402 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| Trench 25 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | NW-SE |
| Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and made ground overlying very compact subsoil. | | | | | **Length (m)** | 50 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.46 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 2500 | Layer | - | 0.24 | Topsoil | | |
| 2501 | Layer | - | 0.23 | Ploughsoil | | |
| 2502 | Layer | - | 0.1 | Subsoil | | |
| 2503 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| Trench 26 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | NW-SE |
| Trench revealing five NE-SW aligned furrows. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay | | | | | **Length (m)** | 50 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.36 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 2600 | Layer | - | 0.2 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2601 | Layer | - | 0.16 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 2602 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |

| Trench 27 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | NW-SE |
| Trench revealing four NE-SW furrows. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay | | | | | **Length (m)** | 50 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.41 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 2700 | Layer | - | 0.16 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2701 | Layer | - | 0.22 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 2702 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| Trench 28 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | WNW-ESE |
| Trench revealing four NE-SW aligned furrows. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty gravel and silty clay. | | | | | **Length (m)** | 50 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.36 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 2800 | Layer | - | 0.19 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2801 | Layer | - | 0.14 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 2802 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| Trench 29 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | **Orientation** | E-W |

| Trench revealing two E-W furrows. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay and sandy gravel. | | | | | **Length (m)** | 50 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.41 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 2900 | Layer | - | 0.22 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 2901 | Layer | - | 0.19 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 2902 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |
| 2903 | Unexcavated | | | Plough Furrow | | |

| **Trench 30** | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | NE-SW |
| Trench revealing three NE-SW aligned furrows. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravel. | | | | | **Length (m)** | 50 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.37 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 3000 | Layer | - | 0.21 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 3001 | Layer | - | 0.16 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 3002 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| **Trench 31** | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | NNE-SSW |
| Trench revealing three NE-SW aligned furrows. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy gravel | | | | | **Length (m)** | 50 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1.8 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.4 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 3100 | Layer | - | 0.21 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 3101 | Layer | - | 0.19 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 3102 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

# APPENDIX B TEST PITS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

| Test Pit 1 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | - |
| Hand dug test pit through NE-SW aligned ridge of ridge and furrow. 1m x 1m. | | | | | **Length (m)** | 1 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.65 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds-** | **Date** |
| 10 | Layer | - | 0.19 | Topsoil | Pot<br><br>Clay tobacco pipe | 1840-1900<br>19C |
| 11 | Layer | - | 0.18 | Ploughsoil | Pot<br><br>Clay tobacco pipe<br>CBM | 1815-1900<br>19C<br>17-19C |
| 12 | Layer | - | 0.36 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 13 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |

| Test Pit 2 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | - |
| Hand dug test pit through SE-NW aligned ridge of ridge and furrow. 1m x 1m. | | | | | **Length (m)** | 1 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.54 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 20 | Layer | - | 0.16 | Topsoil | Small find (bottle stopper) | 1896-1926 |
| 21 | Layer | - | 0.12 | Ploughsoil | CBM<br>Small find (glass) | 17-19C<br>19C |
| 22 | Layer | - | 0.26 | Subsoil | CBM | 13-14C? |
| 23 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| Test Pit 3 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | - |
| Hand dug test pit through SE-NW aligned ridge of ridge and furrow. 1m x 1m. | | | | | **Length (m)** | 1 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.44 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 30 | Layer | - | 0.15 | Topsoil | Pot<br><br>CBM | 1780-1840<br>17-19C |
| 31 | Layer | - | 0.1 | Ploughsoil | Pot | 1690-1800 |
| 32 | Layer | - | 0.19 | Subsoil | Pot | 1780-1840 |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | CBM<br><br>Glass | 17-19C<br><br>L18-19C |
| 33 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| **Test Pit 4** | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | - |
| Hand dug test pit through NE-SW aligned ridge of ridge and furrow. 1m x 1m. | | | | | **Length (m)** | 1 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.42 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 40 | Layer | - | 0.18 | Topsoil | | - |
| 41 | Layer | - | 0.08 | Ploughsoil | Pot | 1805-1900 |
| 42 | Layer | - | 0.16 | Subsoil | | |
| 43 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| **Test Pit 5** | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | - |
| Hand dug test pit through NE-SW aligned ridge of ridge and furrow. 1m x 1m. | | | | | **Length (m)** | 1 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.38 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 50 | Layer | - | 0.16 | Topsoil | | - |
| 51 | Layer | - | 0.12 | Ploughsoil | | - |
| 52 | Layer | - | 0.15 | Subsoil | | |
| 53 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

| **Test Pit 6** | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General description** | | | | | **Orientation** | - |
| Hand dug test pit through NE-SW aligned ridge of ridge and furrow. 1m x 1m. | | | | | **Length (m)** | 1 |
| | | | | | **Width (m)** | 1 |
| | | | | | **Avg. depth (m)** | 0.43 |
| **Context No.** | **Type** | **Width (m)** | **Depth (m)** | **Description** | **Finds** | **Date** |
| 60 | Layer | - | 0.18 | Topsoil | | |
| 61 | Layer | - | 0.11 | Ploughsoil | | |
| 62 | Layer | - | 0.14 | Subsoil | | |
| 63 | Layer | - | - | Natural | | |

# APPENDIX C FINDS REPORTS

## C.1 Pottery

*By John Cotter*

### *Introduction*

C.1.1 A total of 23 sherds (305g) of pottery were recovered from 14 contexts. Nearly all of this is of 18th- and 19th-century date, apart from two sherds of residual medieval pottery.

C.1.2 All the pottery was scanned during the present assessment and spot-dates were provided for each context. Each context group was quantified by sherd count and weight and recorded on a spot-dating spreadsheet. The pottery is mainly in an unusually poor and highly fragmentary condition - suggestive, perhaps, of casual loss, or field/garden scatters on the periphery of a settlement, rather than material from primary settlement contexts.

C.1.3 The context spot-date is the date-bracket during which the latest pottery types or fabrics are estimated to have been produced or were in general circulation. Comments on the range of fabrics were recorded, usually with mention of vessel form (jugs, bowls etc.) and any other attributes worthy of note (eg. decoration etc.). Fabric codes referred to for the medieval wares are those of the Oxfordshire type series (Mellor 1994), whereas post-medieval codes are those of the Museum of London (MoLA 2014). The range of pottery is described in some detail in the spreadsheet (Table 1) and is therefore only summarised below.

### *Description*

| Context | Spot-date | No. | Weight | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10 | c1840-1900 | 1 | 3 | Bo (body sherd) transfer-printed ware (TPW) dish/plate. Watery blue dec |
| 11 | c1815-1900 | 1 | 7 | English brown stoneware (ENGS) angled shoulder bo from ink-type bottle |
| 30 | c1780-1840 | 2 | 3 | 1x scrap from the rim of a dish/plate in Pearlware (PEAR) with blue shell-edged dec on rim. 1x scrap unglazed post-med red earthenware (PMR) - possibly flowerpot (18/19C?) |
| 31 | c1690-1800 | 2 | 6 | 1x bo from wheel-thrown Staffs slipware dish (STSL) rim flange with traces of trailed white slip in spiral pattern - probably 18C. 1x small abraded bo of early Brill ware(?) (OXAW, c1175-1400) |
| 32 | c1780-1840 | 2 | 2 | Joining scraps/flakes from Pearware (PEAR) plate? |
| 41 | c1805-1900 | 3 | 12 | 1x moulded base from cylindrical mug. Refined whiteware (REFW). Very chipped/battered. 1x |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | bo post-med glazed redware (PMR). 1x fairly fresh bo (3g) from thin-walled unglazed jug/jar in late medieval Brill/Boarstall ware (OXBX, c1400-1625) - this piece probably 16-E17C? |
| 1701 | c1800-1950 | 1 | 12 | Teapot or jug handle in shiny Staffs-type black-glazed redware (BLACK). 19/20C |
| 1800 | c1800-1900 | 1 | 74 | Rim/profile from a large sub-rectangular, press-moulded, baking dish (or cutlery dish) in Sunderland/Tyneside slipware (SUND COAR) with typical dec of trailed white slip 'commas' along internal rim border. Dark brown glaze on red fabric. Fairly fresh |
| 1801 | c1830-1870? | 2 | 36 | 2x REFW: incl 1x rim from cylindrical preserve jar (mid 19C?). 1x flat base from a REFW (or PEAR?) dish - the inside all flaked-off but the underside shows marked wear from lifetime use |
| 2101 | c1700-1900? | 1 | 5 | Abraded bo PMR with reduced rough greenish-brown glaze int. Poss 18C?? |
| 2201 | c1860-1900 | 2 | 32 | 1x chipped rim sherd from dish (REFW PNTD) with painted purple rim border. 1x bo PMR from large 19C vessel |
| 2803 | c1750-1900? | 1 | 47 | Worn rim from late-looking PMR jar or deep bowl with oily brown glaze allover int/ext. Flattened beaded rim with a groove on shoulder. Poss c1780-1850?? |
| 2901 | c1835-1900 | 1 | 63 | Moulded footring base from a bowl or dish in Staffs-type blue stoneware (BLUE) with a clear internal Bristol-type glaze. Base quite badly chipped |
| 2903 | c1750-1900? | 3 | 3 | 1 vessel? Small scraps late-looking PMR with int glossy glaze |
| **TOTAL** | | **23** | **305** | |

***Table 1. Description of post-Roman pottery by context***

### *Discussion*

C.1.4 The pottery mostly comprises ordinary domestic kitchen and tablewares typical of almost any later 18th-19th century site in southern England, with mass-produced Staffordshire-type whitewares ('Willow Pattern' etc.) and modern stonewares comprising most of the assemblage. A few sherds of local post-medieval red earthenwares (PMR), of similar or slightly earlier date, also occur. A small piece from a Staffordshire slipware dish (STSL) could be from the late 17th or 18th century (31). Two small, residual, sherds of medieval pottery are also present. One of these (also in context 31) is probably in early Brill/Boarstall ware (OXAW, c 1175-1400), while the other (from 41) is in late medieval Brill/Boarstall ware (OXBX, c 1400-1625). A few

scraps of medieval roof tile were also noted in the ceramic building material assemblage (see CBM report).

## C.2 Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

*By John Cotter*

### *Introduction and methodology*

C.2.1 The site produced a total of 20 pieces of post-Roman CBM weighing 1194g from 8 contexts. This is mainly of post-medieval date (ie. after c 1480) plus a few pieces of medieval date. The assemblage is in a very poor and highly fragmentary condition - apart from a single brick-end.

C.2.2 All the CBM was scanned during the present assessment, in a similar way to the pottery, and spot-dates were provided for each context. Each context group was quantified by fragment count and weight and recorded on a spot-dating spreadsheet. Medieval tile fabrics and CBM types from Oxford have been described in some detail in previous reports (Cotter 2006; 2008).

C.2.3 The material is described in some detail in the spreadsheet (Table 1) and is therefore only summarised below.

### *Description*

| Context | Spot-date | No. | Weight | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 11 | 17-19C? | 1 | 7 | Edge scrap of post-medieval red pegtile |
| 21 | 17-19C? | 3 | 6 | Scraps of pegtile in post-med orange-buff fabric |
| 22 | 13-14C? | 4 | 44 | Joining frags (fresh breaks) from a v abraded medieval red pegtile in Fabric 3B with dark grey core |
| 30 | 17-19C? | 3 | 26 | 2x abraded scraps light orange brick. 1x scrap red post-med pegtile? |
| 31 | 17-19C? | 3 | 39 | Scraps of pegtile in post-med pink-buff fabric (1 in redder fabric) |
| 32 | 17-19C? | 4 | 4 | Tiny scraps of orange-red sandy CBM - probably tile. Post-med and possibly 1 or 2 coarser med fabrics? |
| 1701 | 20C | 1 | 4 | Edge frag from machine-made bathroom/kitchen-type wall tile in hard yellow fabric. Unusual light brown external glaze with blue & grey decorative glaze speckling (like a bird's egg pattern). Modern |
| 1801 | L18-19C | 1 | 1064 | Brick end. Unfrogged. Hard light orange sandy fabric with a light grey core. Neatly made. Traces of white mortar or whitewash on 2 sides. Width 108mm x 66mm thick. Typical 19C house brick. Abraded along 1 edge (during excavation?). Discarded. |
| **TOTAL** | | **20** | **1194** | |

***Table 1. Description of post-Roman CBM by context***

C.2.4 Nearly all the CBM here is of post-medieval date. The condition of much of the assemblage (little more than scraps in most cases) makes it difficult to assign a closer spot-date to much of it. A broad date of 17th- to 19th-century has therefore been assigned to assorted scraps of post-medieval looking red brick and peg tile, but the true date of much of this may well be 18th-19th century (like the pottery). Roof tile

(probably peg tile) appears to be the commonest CBM type present. A very abraded medieval peg tile is present in (22), and other possible medieval scraps occur residually in other contexts. A large and fairly fresh 19th-century red brick-end is present in one context (1801). The latest item is a small piece of 20th-century wall tile from context (1701).

## C.3 Fired Clay

*By John Cotter*

C.3.1 A single piece of FC weighing 4g was recovered. This is fully described below.

C.3.2 Context (21) Spot-date: Medieval? Description: 1 piece (weight 4g). Oddly-shaped irregular lump of soft, light orange-brown, sandy, fired clay (max. 22mm long). Contains moderate coarse rounded to sub-angular grits/inclusions up to 2.5mm across, including oolitic limestone, red-brown ironstone, quartz and possibly some angular grey flint/chert. Large voids possibly caused by dissolved-out limestone/chalk? A small piece of 19th-century wine glass and some post-medieval CBM occur in the same context.

## C.4 Clay tobacco pipe

*By John Cotter*

C.4.1 Two pieces of clay pipe weighing 5g were recovered from two contexts. Given the small amount these have not been separately catalogued but are fully described below.

C.4.2 Context (10) Spot-date: 19th century. Description: 1 short piece of pipe stem (weight 3g). Fairly poor condition.

C.4.3 Context (11) Spot-date: 19th century. Description: 1 short piece of pipe stem (weight 2g). Fairly poor condition.

## C.5 Glass

*By John Cotter*

C.5.1 Two small pieces of vessel glass weighing 2g were recovered from two contexts. Given the small amount these have not been separately catalogued but are fully described below.

C.5.2 Context (21) Spot-date: 19th century. Description: 1 piece (weight 1g). Small body fragment of thin 19th-century wine glass with a decoration of small cut-glass stars.

C.5.3 Context (32) Spot-date: Late 18th to 19th century. Description: 1 piece (weight 1g). Small fragment from the narrow cylindrical neck of a glass phial or bottle. Probably for medicine etc. Clear with a slight greenish tint.

## C.6 Metal objects

*By Leigh Allen*

C.6.1 A small assemblage of metal finds was recovered from the evaluation they comprise one copper alloy object and seven iron objects. The objects are all post Medieval in date.

C.6.2 The single copper alloy object is a simple annular brooch, the iron objects include nails, a fragment from a horseshoe and two items associated with footwear: a heel iron and a fragment from a shoe pattern.

C.6.3 The simple annular brooch appears to be undecorated (although it is very worn) it has a D-shaped section and a diameter of 25mm. It is narrower at one point where the pin would have been attached. Small annular brooches such as these were used for a variety of functions such as fastening garments, belts, straps or purses.

C.6.4 Simple timber nails were recovered from contexts 11, 21 and 31.

C.6.5 The tip from the arm of a horseshoe came from context 41 it has a narrow web and a single sub rectangular hole.

C.6.6 The items of footwear are a U-shaped heel iron from context 2901 used to protect the heels of clogs and shoes from wearing down and a patten or shoe iron fragment from context 51. Part of the ring and a terminal with a rivet through it is all that survives. Pattens would have been attached to the underside of a shoe to raise the shoe above the dirt and damp.

C.6.7 The small assemblage comprises a number of items that can be interpreted as stray losses, a brooch without a fastening, a lost horseshoe, a cast-off heel iron and a broken shoe patten.

## C.7 Other Objects

*By Leigh Allen*

C.7.1 An Ebonite bottle stopper was recovered from context 20 embossed with the words 'HALL'S OXFORD BREWERY LTD'. Ebonite was invented by the Goodyear tyre company in 1844 and was used to stopper bottles of soft drinks such as mineral water, lemonade and ginger bear until the early 20th century.

C.7.2 The stopper should be retained as it is an item of local interest associated with the Hall's Brewery company.

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# APPENDIX E SITE SUMMARY DETAILS

| | |
|---|---|
| **Site name:** | Oxford North, Wolvercote, Oxford |
| **Site code:** | OXWVT20 |
| **Grid Reference** | SP 49489 10565 |
| **Type:** | Evaluation |
| **Date and duration:** | June 2020 |
| **Area of Site** | c. 20ha |
| **Location of archive:** | The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Oxfordshire Museum Service in due course, under the following accession number: OXCMS: 2020.47. |
| **Summary of Results:** | In July 2020 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by EDP to undertake an earthwork survey, field evaluation and test pitting on land at Wolvercote, North Oxford. A programme of 19 trial trenches and 6 hand-dug test pits were excavated across the proposed development area, where previous archaeological investigations had not been undertaken.<br>The earthwork survey helped to ground-truth the results of the existing LiDAR data providing a contour survey of the upstanding ridge and furrow preserved in the Northeast field. Two orientations of ridge and furrow were identified, potentially of different date. Eight test pits were dug through the furrows to identify any manuring spreads and collect any other information that might supplement our understanding of these features. The pits identified three agricultural layers were present; topsoil, former ploughsoil and subsoil, but with no evidence of significant manuring spreads. Finds recovered from the test pits were mostly of later post-medieval date apart from a few fragments of possibly medieval CBM and pottery.<br>A second phase of evaluation trenching at the site also took place in the three areas of the proposed development, supplementing an earlier evaluation in the central area. The results were consistent with the earlier investigations and no features of archaeological origin were revealed, apart from plough furrows. Based on the result of this and the previous surveys, the site is considered to have low archaeological potential. |

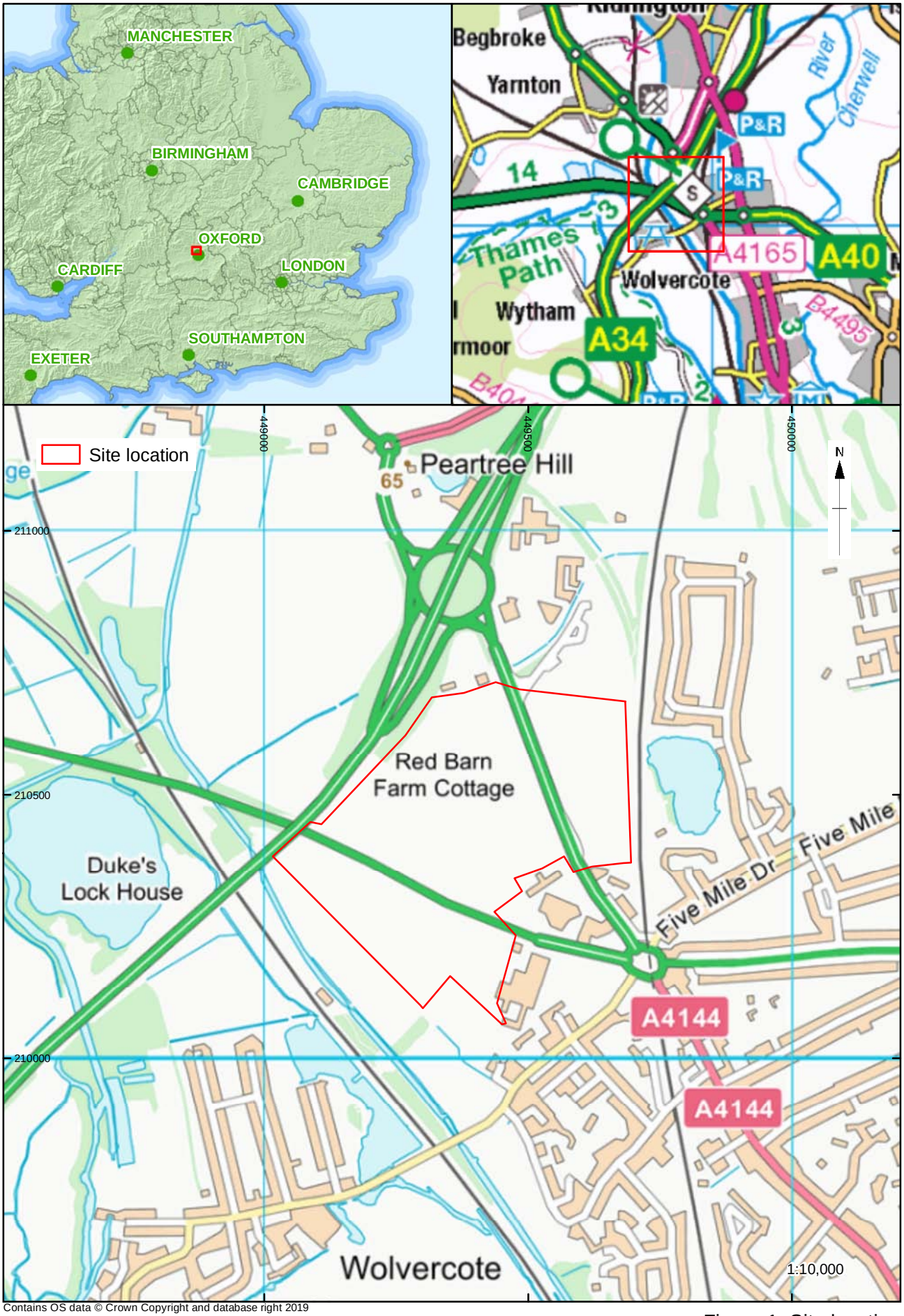




Figure 1: Site location


Figure 2: LiDAR with trench and test pit locations

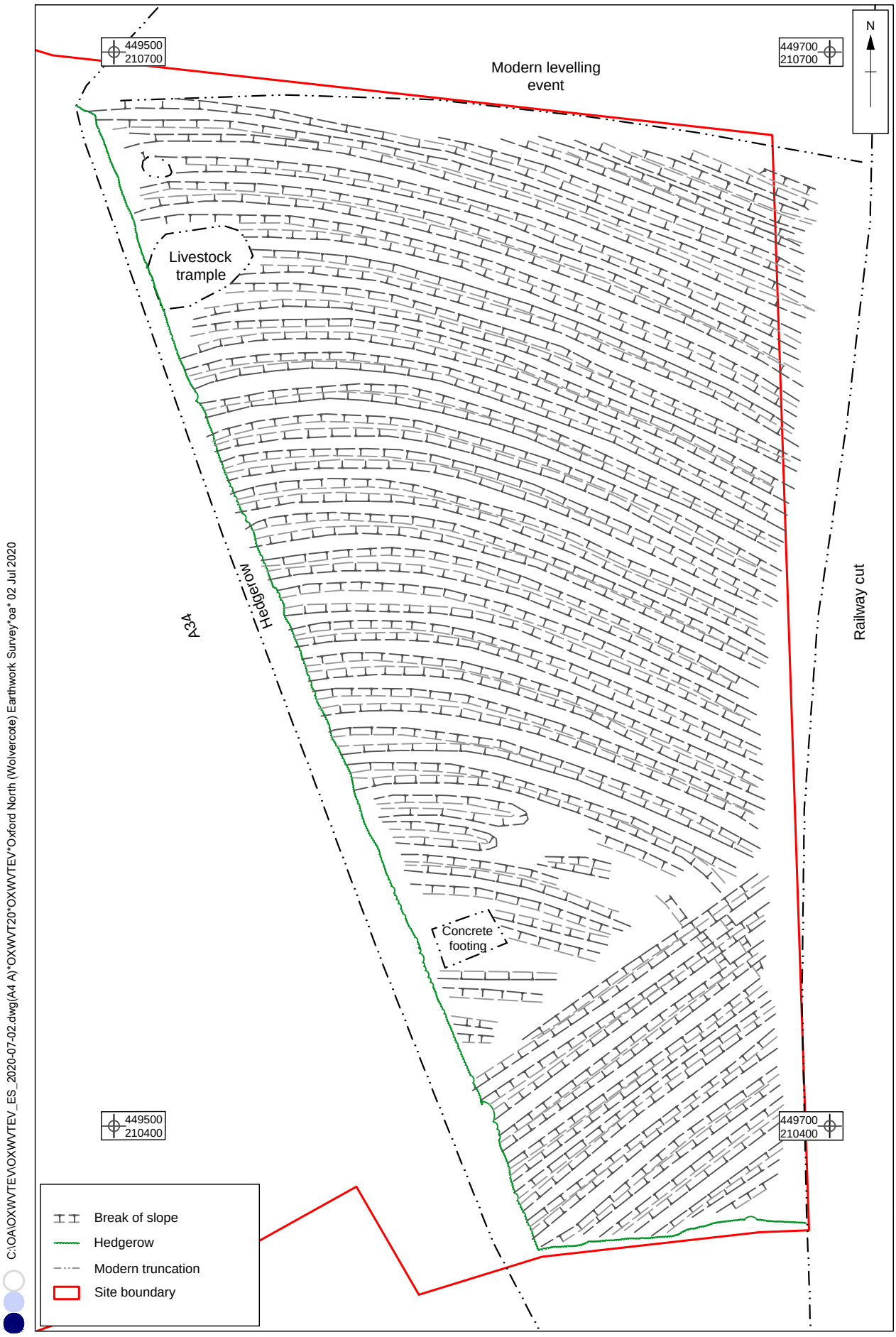


Figure 3: Earthwork survey results

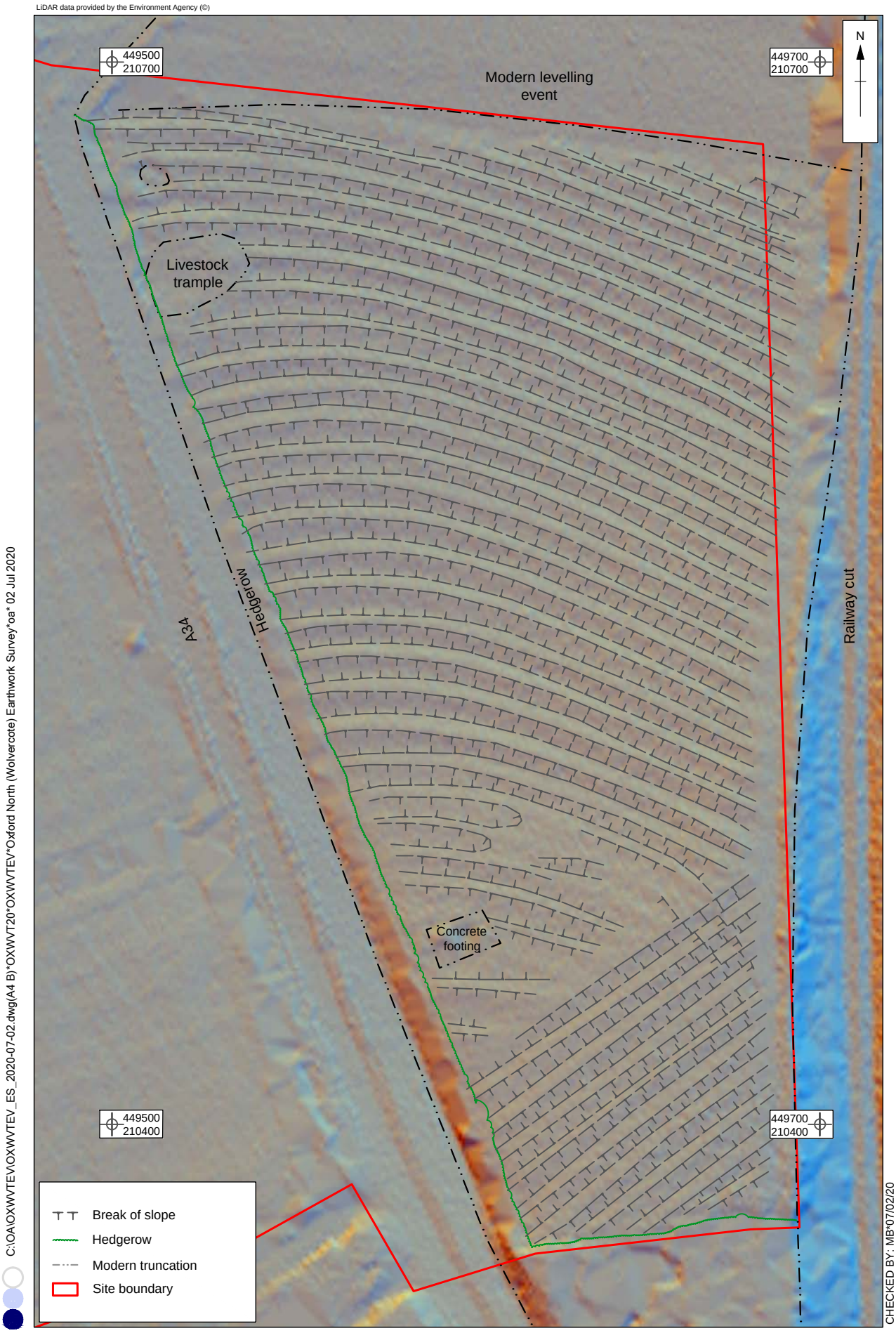


Figure 4: Earthwork survey results

Figure 5a: Ridge and furrow during earthwork survey site visit. View to NW

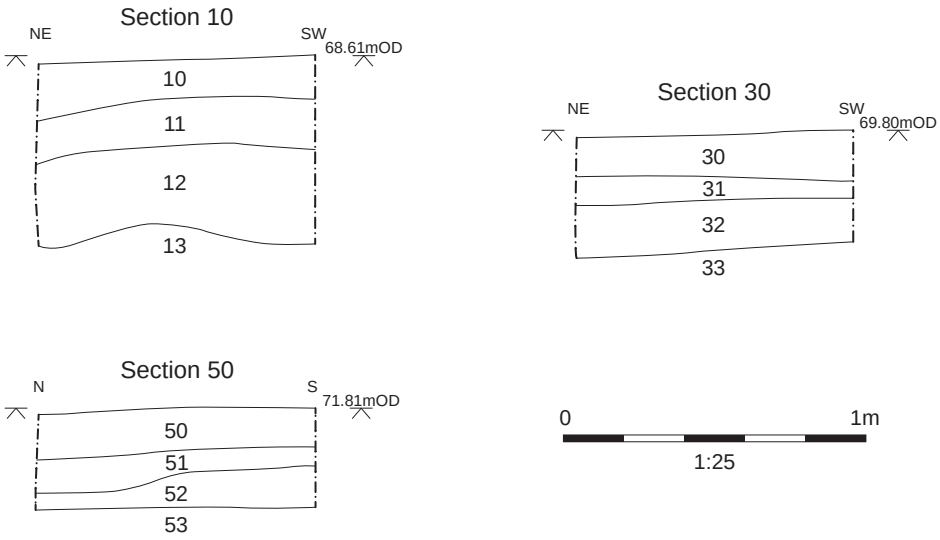


Figure 5b: Sections of test pits 1, 3 and 5

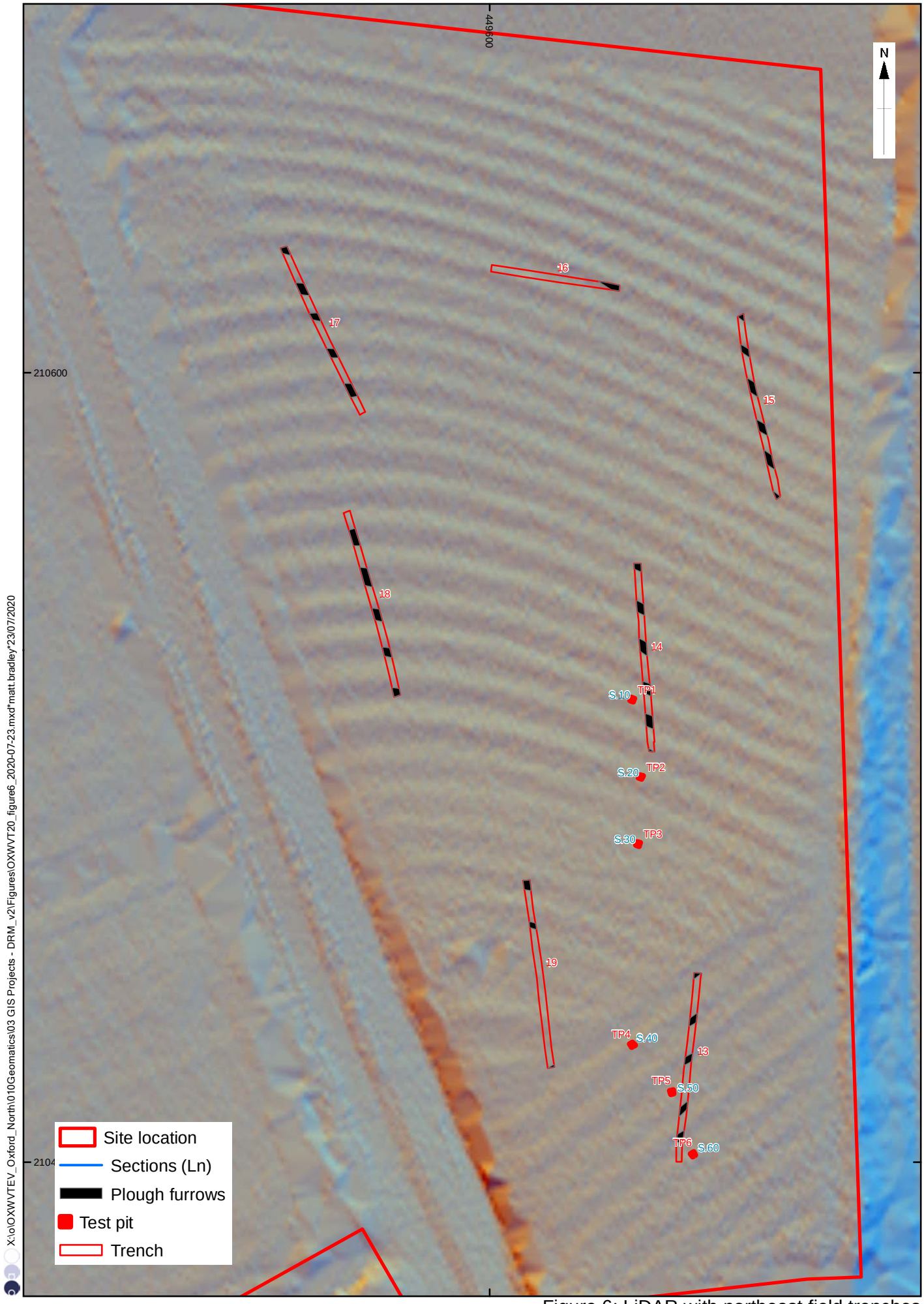


Figure 6: LiDAR with northeast field trenches


Figure 7: Test pit 2, S.20, View to SE, 1x1m scale


Figure 8: Test pit 4, S.40, View to NE, 1x1m scale


Figure 9: Test pit 6, S.60, View to NE, 1x1m scale

Figure 10: Trench 13, View to N, 2x1m scale

Figure 11: Trench 14, View to NNW, 2x1m scale

Figure 12: Trench 15, View to NNW, 2x1m scale

Figure 13: Trench 16, View to W, 2 x 1m scale

Figure 14: Trench 17, View to NNW, 2x1m scale

Figure 15: Trench 18, View to NNW, 2x1m scale

Figure 16: Trench 19, View to NNW, 2x1m scale

Figure 17: Trench 20, View to SE, 2x1m scale

Figure 18: Trench 21, View to ESE, 2x1m scale

Figure 19: Trench 22, View to SE, 2x1m scale

Figure 20: Trench 23, View to SE, 2x1m scale

Figure 21: Trench 24, View to SSE, 2x1m scale

Figure 22: Trench 25, View to SE, 2x1m scale

Figure 23: Trench 26, View to SE, 2x1m scale

Figure 24: Trench 28, View to NW, 2x1m scale

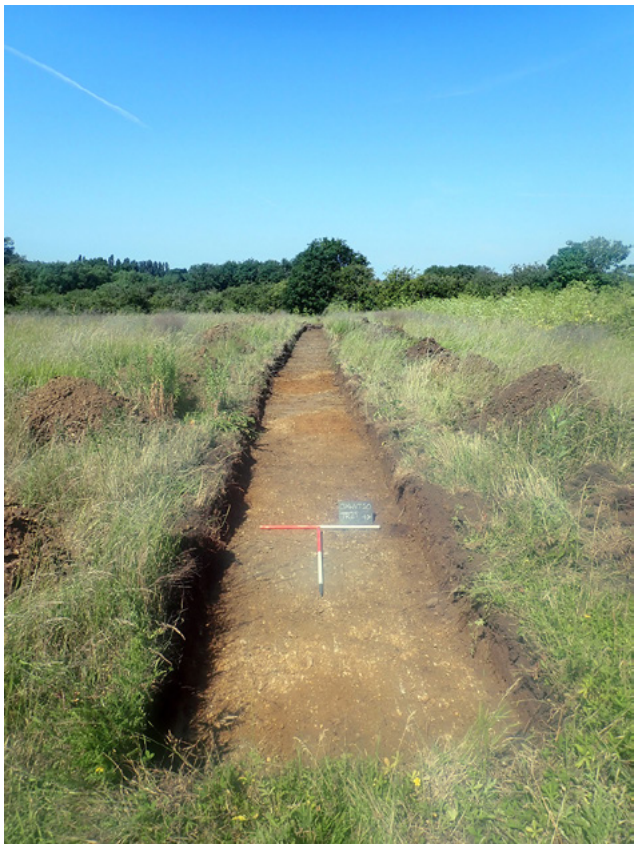

Figure 25: Trench 29, View to W, 2x1m scale

Figure 26: Trench 30, View to SE, 2x1m scale

Figure 27: Trench 31, View to NE, 2x1m scale

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