Land off Clunch Pit Lane, Reach, Cambridgeshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

October 2021

Client: Edward Clarke of Plansurv, on behalf of Mr J. Cole

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Land off Clunch Pit Lane, Reach, Cambridgeshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

On the 24th and 25th of June 2021 Oxford Archaeology East undertook a trial trench evaluation at land off Clunch Pit Lane, Reach, Cambridgeshire. The work was carried out in advance of a proposed residential development for the client, Mr J. Cole.

A total of three trial trenches with a combined length of 72m were excavated during the evaluation. Trench 2 was blank and contained no archaeological features. Trench 4 contained a boundary ditch. Two more substantial boundary ditches and an associated hedge line were revealed in Trench 3. All of these features were potentially of medieval or post-medieval date. Trench 1 was not opened due to the presence of livestock.

The results of the evaluation indicate that a succession of boundaries was established along the north-eastern limit of the site from the medieval period onwards which lie on the same alignment as the modern trackway of Little Back Lane.

Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology East would like to thank Edward Clarke of Plansurv, on behalf of Mr. J. Cole, for commissioning this project. Thanks are also extended to Leanne Robinson Zeki who monitored the work on behalf of Cambridgeshire Council Council.

The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology East by Patrick Moan. The fieldwork was directed by Rona Booth, who was supported by Will Lewis. Survey and digitising were carried out by Thomas Houghton and figures prepared by Gillian Greer. Mr. J. Cole provided and operated the machine excavator.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) was commissioned by Edward Clarke of Plansurv, on behalf of Mr J. Cole, to undertake a trial trench evaluation at Land off Clunch Pit Lane, Reach, Cambridgeshire (National Grid Reference: TL 56581 66148; Fig. 1). Three trenches totalling 72m in length were excavated. A fourth trench was not opened owing to livestock being present on the field, as agreed with the Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CHET) during the site meeting.

1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a requirement of outline planning permission application 18/01397/OUT to inform the Planning Authority in advance of the construction of two bungalows with vehicular access and gardens. A Brief was set by CHET (Robinson Zeki 2021) and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced by OA East (Moan 2021) detailing the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process/discharge the planning condition. This document outlines how OA East implemented the specified requirements detailed in the WSI.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The CHET identified that the site lies in an area of high archaeological potential, due to its location south-east of the village's historic core. The development area covers the northern third of two small fields at approximately 13m OD, currently utilised for open pasture in the north field, whilst the southern field consists of scrubland with the footings of recently cleared old farm outbuildings.

1.2.2 Reach is situated on a small peninsula of chalk which is surround by fenland. The development area itself is located West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation with no superficial deposits recorded (British Geological Survey 2014; British Geological Survey Online Viewer, accessed 05/03/2021).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 A full search of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) of a 1km radius centred on the site was commissioned from CHET (under licence number 21-4572). All of the CHER data is shown on Figure 2 with a summary of the search results given below.

Prehistoric

1.3.2 Two ring ditches are recorded as cropmarks 300m to the south-west of the site (CHER 01355). Iron Age pottery has been recovered from pits 750m to the south (CHER 06394).

Medieval to post-medieval

1.3.3 The site is located near to significant Anglo-Saxon and medieval sites including Devil's Ditch (NHLE1003262, CHER 07801), 150m to the east at its closest point, and extant medieval earthworks (CHER 11381, 06440A, 06441) between 200-400m north-east of

the site. Historic hithes and wharves are also recorded on watercourses which accessed the surrounding fens including “The Hythe” (CHER MCB16607) and CHER 02306 between 150-300m south of the site.

1.3.4 Numerous historic buildings survive within the village that front onto Fair Green. Of these, 14 (often vernacular farmhouses and outbuildings) are Grade II listed buildings dating from the 17th century onwards. One of these buildings is Hill Farmhouse (NHLE 1126365) which is located directly north-east of the site.

1.3.5 Previous archaeological evaluations in Reach uncovered a post-medieval pit (ECB5288, 250m to the east) and post-medieval ditches (ECB4075, 600m to the west).

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The project aims and objectives defined in the WSI (Moan 2021) were as follows:

i. to establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains on the site, characterise where they are found (location, depth and extent), and establish the quality of preservation of any archaeology and environmental remains;
ii. to provide sufficient coverage to establish the character, condition, date and purpose of any archaeological deposits;
iii. to provide sufficient coverage to evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking deposits; and
iv. to provide – in the event that archaeological remains are found – sufficient information to construct an archaeological mitigation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables, and orders of cost.

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 A total of two trenches (Trenches 2 and 4) measuring 22m by 1.8m and one trench (Trench 3) measuring 28m by 1.8m were excavated under the supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist. The trial trenches were excavated by a 360^{o} mechanical excavator to the upper interface of archaeological features or deposits. A toothless ditching bucket was used to remove topsoil and subsoil in spits not greater than 0.1m thick. The position of the trenches is shown on Figure 3.

2.2.2 Service plans were checked before work commenced on site. Before trenching, the footprint of each trench was scanned by a qualified and experienced operator using a CAT scanner with a valid calibration certificate.

2.2.3 Spoil was stored alongside trenches. Topsoil, subsoil, and archaeological deposits were kept separate during excavation, to allow for sequential backfilling of excavations.

2.2.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces, and features were scanned with a metal detector.

2.2.5 Bucket samples of 90 litres of excavated soil were taken from the ends of each trench, to characterise artefactual remains in the topsoil horizon above the archaeological level. These were sieved on site for the purposes of finds retrieval. Artefacts were recovered from the topsoil at Trenches 3 and 4, but these were modern (bricks, iron, plastic waste) and not retained.

2.2.6 Four archaeological features were excavated by hand in 1m wide slots and bulk environmental samples were taken from each of the features.

2.2.7 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.

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

2.2.9 A digital and paper register of all trenches, features, and photographs was kept.

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

2.2.11 Sections of features were drawn at 1:20. All sections are tied into Ordnance Datum.

2.2.12 All site drawings include the following information: site name, site code, scale, section number, orientation, date and the name or initials of the archaeologist who prepared the drawing.

2.2.13 The photographic record comprises high resolution digital photographs.

2.2.14 Photographs include both general trench shots and photographs of specific features. Every feature has been photographed at least once. Photographs include a scale, north arrow, site code, and feature number (where relevant). Photograph details were recorded in a dedicated register, and photograph numbers were listed on corresponding context sheets.

2.2.15 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited within the Cambridgeshire County Council Stores in due course under the site code ECB6696, after receipt of Transfer of Title by Mr J. Cole.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendix A, supplemented by artefact and environmental reports included as Appendices B and C. Figure 3 provides a plan of the results of the evaluation. Sections are presented in Figure 4. Photographs of trenches and features are provided in Plates 1-6.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The soil sequence was similar across all three trenches. The natural geology of chalk was overlain by a clayey sand subsoil (2) of variable thickness (between 0.1m and 0.4m), which was in turn overlain by topsoil (1) of relatively uniform thickness (between 0.19m and 0.4m).

3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good and the site remained relatively dry despite intermittent and heavy showers. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying chalk geology.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Archaeological features were present in Trenches 3 and 4 (Fig. 3). Trench 2 (Plate 1) was devoid of archaeology and Trench 1 was left unexcavated due to livestock in the field, as agreed with CHET. Metal detecting and bucket sampling of the topsoil and subsoil recovered no finds other than modern material which was discarded.

3.4 Trench 3

3.4.1 Two substantial boundary ditches and a probable hedge line, all aligned north-west to south-east, lay at the north-eastern end of the trench. The most south-westerly ditch (**6**, Plate 2) was 2.6m wide and 0.52m deep with a U-shaped profile. The single light brownish grey clayey sand fill (7) produced an incomplete hand forged nail, two sherds of early medieval pottery and one large mammal bone.

3.4.2 A narrower ditch (**8**, Plate 3) lay approximately 1m north-east of ditch **6**. It measured 1.4m wide and was 0.54m deep with a U-shaped profile. A sherd of medieval pottery, three cattle/large mammal bones and an unidentified bird bone were recovered from the single fill (9) of light brownish grey clayey sand with frequent charcoal inclusions.

3.4.3 To the north-east of the ditches extended a parallel hedge line (**10**, Plate 3) with an irregular profile up to 1m wide and 0.3m deep which produced three sherds of medieval pottery and one undatable sherd from its indurated brownish grey clayey sand fill (11).

3.5 Trench 4

3.5.1 A single ditch (**4**, Plates 5 & 6), aligned north-east to south-west, was revealed towards the north-western end of the trench. It measured 1m wide and was 0.46m deep with a U-shaped profile. The single fill (5) of light brownish grey clayey sand produced a

sherd of medieval pottery and a further undatable sherd along with six fragments of cattle and large mammal bone.

3.6 Finds and Environmental summary

3.6.1 A small assemblage of moderately abraded pottery (nine sherds, 0.065kg) was recovered from the four features in Trenches 3 and 4. The pottery probably represents midden material that was incorporated into the features as residual items and therefore cannot be used to closely date the features.

3.6.2 Moderate quantities of animal bone, carbonised cereal grains, weed seeds, charcoal, coal and clinker were recovered from the bulk environmental samples. The remains are typical of the medieval and post-medieval periods and were probably incorporated into the features in the same way as the pottery assemblage through manuring activity or as a result of deliberate rubbish disposal into and around the ditches.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 The results of the evaluation can be considered reliable despite the variable weather conditions due to archaeological features showing up relatively well against the natural chalk geology.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 The results of the evaluation were successful in identifying the presence of archaeological remains at the Clunch Pit Lane site. The excavation of two ditches (**6** and **8**) and a hedge line (**10**) in Trench 3 on a common alignment alongside the north-eastern limit of the site and the single perpendicular ditch (**4**) uncovered in Trench 4 probably represent boundaries of medieval origin.

4.3 Interpretation

4.3.1 The two ditches and hedge line uncovered in Trench 3 towards the north-eastern site limit appear to represent successive field boundaries associated with the medieval development of the village. All three features align with the modern track way of Little Back Lane which runs broadly north-west to south-east between the site and the rear of the adjacent residential dwellings. It is likely that the earliest feature in Trench 3 was the southernmost ditch and that as successive boundaries were established, these were constructed further to the north-east, to eventually be replaced by the current site boundary alongside Little Back Lane. The smaller ditch (**4**) revealed in Trench 4, which ran at right angles to the three more substantial boundary features in Trench 3, is also potentially of medieval origin and may represent a division between two backyard plots or fields.

4.3.2 The environmental and artefactual evidence attests to the site's location on the south-eastern fringe of the village's medieval core. In the medieval period villagers would bulk out their manure to be spread on fields with domestic waste. As the incorporation of the moderately abraded pottery sherds and other material into the ditch fills is probably the result of manuring activity, the features cannot be closely dated. However, the lack of later material from the ditch fills suggest they were probably in use during the medieval period before a reorganisation of the boundaries occurred in the post-medieval period.

4.3.3 Overall, the archaeological evaluation has demonstrated this site probably lay on the village's periphery from the medieval period onwards, where manuring activity was likely to have taken place. Successive boundaries were established along this site's north-eastern boundary over the medieval and probably post-medieval periods. In addition to the incorporation of material through manuring, it is entirely possible these ditches may have truncated earlier medieval backyard plot divisions as further potential sources of pottery and other residual items.

4.4 Significance

4.4.1 The evaluation has demonstrated there are no significant archaeological remains present on the site.

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1 Was not excavated.

Trench 2						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalk.					**Length (m)**	22
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.53
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.40	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.35	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 3						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Two ditches and a hedge line at the north-eastern end. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalk.					**Length (m)**	28
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.50
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.40	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
6	Cut	2.60	0.52	Ditch	-	-
7	Fill	-	0.52	Ditch	Pottery	Medieval
8	Cut	1.40	0.54	Ditch	-	-
9	Fill	-	0.54	Ditch	Pottery	Medieval
10	Cut	1.0m	0.30	Hedge line	-	
11	Fill	-	0.30	Hedge line	Pottery	Medieval
Trench 4						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
A single ditch at the north-western end. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalk.					**Length (m)**	22
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.58
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.40	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4	Cut	1.0	0.46	Ditch	-	-
5	Fill	-	0.46	Ditch	Pottery	Medieval

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Pottery

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

B.1.1 Archaeological works produced a small assemblage of mostly moderately abraded pottery (nine sherds, 0.065kg), recovered from four features, across Trenches 3 and 4. No pottery was recovered from bucket sampling.

B.1.2 The Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG), Study Group for Roman Pottery (SGRP), and The Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG) *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology* (2016) and the MPRG *A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms* (MPRG 1998) act as standards.

B.1.3 A simplified method of recording has been undertaken, with fabric, basic description, weight, count and minimum number of vessels (MNV) recorded in a table within this report. Fabric classification has been carried out for all previously described medieval and post-medieval types, using Cambridgeshire fabric types where possible (Spoerry 2016). The Museum of London fabric series (MoLA 2014) acts as a basis for any post-1700 fabrics. The pottery and archive are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition or dispersal.

Assemblage

B.1.4 The bulk of the material recovered during the evaluation came from Trench 3 ditches **6**, **8** and hedge line **10**. Ditch **6** produced two moderately abraded sooted body sherds of Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware (Essex Fabric 13, 1050-1225), while ditch **8** produced a single moderately abraded sherd from an East Anglian Redware jug (1200-1400). The final feature in the trench was hedge line **10**, which produced three sherds of pottery. Firstly, a moderately abraded body sherd from a Grimston Glazed ware jug (1200-1500) and an East Anglian Redware vessel. Also present was an abraded sherd from a Huntingdonshire Fen Sandy ware (1175-1300) vessel and an undiagnostic fragment of ceramic building material.

B.1.5 Trench 4, ditch **4** produced a moderately abraded body sherd from a green-glazed Medieval Ely ware jug and a small abraded unprovenanced sherd that could not be closely dated.

Discussion

B.1.6 Early medieval and medieval pottery was recovered from a limited number of features, and although the sherds are, overall, moderately abraded, all have undergone reworking. The distribution of material suggests some early medieval and later occupation or activity in the vicinity of the trenches. However, the overall paucity of material across the evaluated area suggests that the medieval pottery became incorporated into the features by ploughing of manuring scatters, or by animal foraging, possibly at the rear of medieval plots.

Retention, dispersal or display

B.1.7 The assemblage is fragmentary and indicates a low level of activity. Should further work be undertaken, more pottery may be recovered, although only in low numbers, and this pottery report should be incorporated into any later archive. If no further work is undertaken, this statement acts as a full record. The medieval pottery may be retained for educational purposes or dispersed.

Trench	Context	Cut	Fabric	Form and Description	Count	MNV	Weight	Pottery Date
3	7	**6**	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware (Essex Fabric 13)	Moderately abraded, sooted body sherd	1	1	0.012	1050-1225
				Moderately abraded body sherd (neck), with reduced surfaces and sooted externally	1	1	0.004	1050-1225
	9	**8**	East Anglian Redware	Relatively unabraded body sherd, very probably from a jug, with traces of clear glaze on the external surface	1	1	0.009	1200-1400
	11	**10**	Grimston Glazed ware	Moderately abraded body sherd from a jug with external green glaze, and horizontal incised lines as decoration on the external surface	1	1	0.001	1200-1500
			East Anglian Redware	Moderately abraded base or body sherd	1	1	0.010	1200-1400
			Huntingdonshire Fen Sandy ware	Abraded body sherds	1	1	0.013	1175-1300
				Hard fired oxidised flake/fragment, very probably from a post-medieval tile	1	0	0.002	Not closely datable (NCD)
4	5	**4**	Unprovenanced	Small, abraded body sherd	1	1	0.002	NCD
			Medieval Ely ware	Moderately abraded body sherd from a jug. The sherd is partially covered externally with a dull green glaze	1	1	0.012	1150-1350
Total					**9**	**8**	**0.065**	

Table 1: Pottery by Trench, context and cut

B.2 Metalwork

By Denis Sami

Introduction

B.2.1 A single incomplete hand-forged nail was recovered from the evaluation. The nail has a slightly tapering and square in cross-section stem with a flat and sub-circular head. The item was recovered from context 7, the fill of ditch **6**.

B.2.2 Nails of this form and size are common multifunctional artefacts in medieval and post-medieval sites, usually suggesting the presence of wood structures. However, with only one nail recovered, the presence of nearby buildings or fences remains speculative.

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental Samples

By Martha Craven

Introduction

C.1.1 Four bulk samples were taken from features at the site in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations. Samples were taken from a series of ditches within Trenches 3 and 4. The deposits are thought to be medieval in date.

Methodology

C.1.2 The total volume (up to 15L) of each of the samples was processed by tank flotation using modified Sīraf-type equipment for the recovery of preserved plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve.

C.1.3 The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 2. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands (Cappers *et al.* 2006) and OAE's reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Stace (2010). Plant remains have been identified to species where possible.

Quantification

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

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

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

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

Results

C.1.6 The plant remains recovered from this site consist of both carbonised (charred) and untransformed material.

C.1.7 Carbonised cereal grains are present in all four of the samples. Other culinary-related plant remains recovered from the site consist of a single charred pea (*Pisum sativum*) and half a charred hazelnut (*Corylus avellana).*

C.1.8 Sample 4, fill 11 of ditch **10** (Trench 3), produced the most notable plant assemblage from the site. This sample contains a significant amount of free-threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum/turgidum*) and several of these grains are compacted which suggests that they are of the club wheat (*Triticum compactum*) variety. The sample

also contains small quantities of barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) grains and a single fragment of barley chaff. It was noted that one of the barley grains exhibited signs of germination. A number of common arable weed seeds are also present in this sample including: cornflower (*Centaurea cyanus*), bromes/oats (*Bromus/ Avena sp*.) and stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*). A single Great Fen Sedge (*Cladium mariscus*) nutlet, indicative of a wetland environment, was also recovered.

C.1.9 Untransformed plant remains are present in all four samples. They include seeds of elder (*Samubucus nigra*), bramble (*Rubus sp.*) and stinging nettles (*Urtica dioica*). This material may be a modern intrusion or may be contemporary to the sampled deposits due to the tough, decay-resistant coating of the seeds.

C.1.10 The samples from this site all contain moderate to large quantities of charcoal, coal and clinker. Clinker is formed as a result of coal being burnt (Historic England, 2018). The samples also contain frequent, relatively well-preserved molluscs.

Trench No.	Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Chaff	Legumes	Weed Seeds	Tree/Shrub Macrofossils	Wetland/aquatic plants	Molluscs	Charcoal Volume (ml)	Coal/Clinker	Pottery	Animal Bones	Metal Fe
3	2	7	6	Ditch	15	40	##	0	0	#U	##U	0	++++	62	###	#	0	#
3	3	9	8	Ditch	15	20	##	0	0	#	#U	0	+++	47	###	#	#	#
3	4	11	10	Ditch	15	40	###	#	0	##	#U	#	++	23	###	#	0	0
4	1	5	4	Ditch	15	25	#	0	#	##U	#/#U	0	++++	14	###	0	#	0

Table 2: Environmental samples from the evaluation

Discussion

C.1.11 The recovery of moderate quantities of carbonised cereal grains, weed seeds and charcoal from these samples suggests that the potential for the preservation of plant remains at this site is quite high.

C.1.12 The plant assemblage from this site is typical for the medieval onwards with free-threshing wheat predominating. The assemblage may be the result of deliberate deposition of waste into the features, from nearby domestic or industrial activity. This could also explain the recovery of large quantities of clinker and charcoal within the samples. Alternatively, it is possible that the material may be related to manuring practices; a theory corroborated by the examination of the pottery from this site (App. B.1). Peasants in the medieval period would bulk out their manure with domestic waste resulting in such things as food waste and pottery fragments being incorporated in boundary ditch fills (Jones 2013). It is also possible that the carbonised plant remains recovered from the samples may be stubble burning waste or even the result of intentional burning of vegetation growing within the ditches (Green 1979).

C.1.13 The recovery of a Great Fen Sedge nutlet in Sample 4 is interesting to note as this plant was a vital source of thatching material in Cambridgeshire. Sedges were also favoured

as fire-lighting material and was the sole fuel used in bakehouses in St John's and Corpus Christ Colleges, Cambridge during the 17th century (Rowell 1986).

C.1.14 If further excavation is planned for this area, it is recommended that environmental sampling is carried out in accordance with Historic England guidelines (2011).

C.2 Animal Bone

By Zoë Uì Choileàin

C.2.1 A small assemblage (10 fragments) of identifiable animal bone was recorded from three contexts at the site. Bone was identified referring to Schmid (1972). The condition of the cortical bone was recorded based on the scale devised by McKinley (McKinley 2004, 14-15).

C.2.2 The bone is almost entirely cattle or large mammal with only a single bird humerus present in context 9. The condition of the bone is good; McKinley grade 1. A summary of the material is presented in Table 3.

C.2.3 Due to the small size of the assemblage, there is very little information to be gleaned regarding dietary or butchery practices and no further work is required.

Context	Taxon	Element	Count	Condition	Proximal	Distal	Side
5	Cattle	axis	1	1			
5	Large mammal	vertebra	5	1			
7	Large mammal	rib	1	1	absent	absent	Unsided
9	Cattle	tibia	1	1	unfused	absent	Right
9	Cattle	ulna	1	1	Fused	absent	Right
9	Large mammal	rib	2	1	absent	absent	Unsided
9	Bird	humerus	1	1	absent	fused	Unsided

Table 3: Animal bone by context

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APPENDIX E OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-424637
Project Name	Land off Clunch Pit Lane, Reach, Cambridgeshire

Start of Fieldwork	24th June 2021	End of Fieldwork	25th June 2021
Previous Work	No	Future Work	Unknown

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	REACPL21	Planning App. No.	18/01397/OUT
HER Number	ECB 6696	Related Numbers	-

Prompt	NPPF
Development Type	Residential
Place in Planning Process	Between deposition of an application and determination

Techniques used (tick all that apply)

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

Monument	Period	Object	Period
ditch	Medieval (1066 to 1540)		Choose an item.
Hedge line	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)		Choose an item.
	Choose an item.		Choose an item.

Insert more lines as appropriate.

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire
District	East Cambridgeshire
Parish	Reach
HER office	Cambridge
Size of Study Area	
National Grid Ref	TL 56581 66148

Address (including Postcode)

Clunch Pit Lane, Reach

Project Originators

Organisation	Oxford Archaeology East
Project Brief Originator	Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team

Project Design Originator	Oxford Archaeology East
Project Manager	Patrick Moan
Project Supervisor	Roan Booth

Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	CCC stores	ECB 6696
Digital Archive	ADS	REACPL21
Paper Archive	CCC stores	ECB 6696

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

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

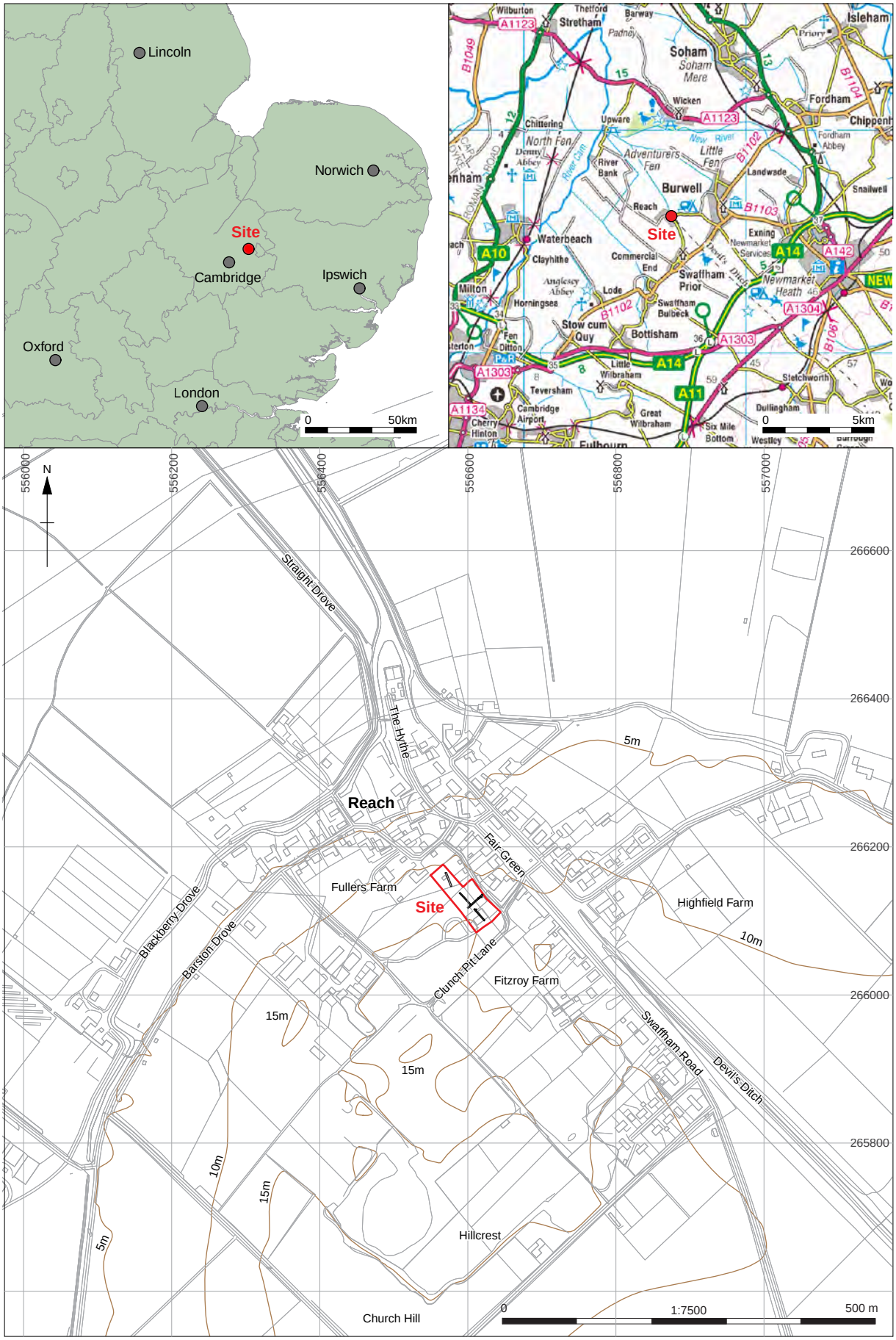

Figure 1: Site location showing archaeological trenches (black) in development area (red)

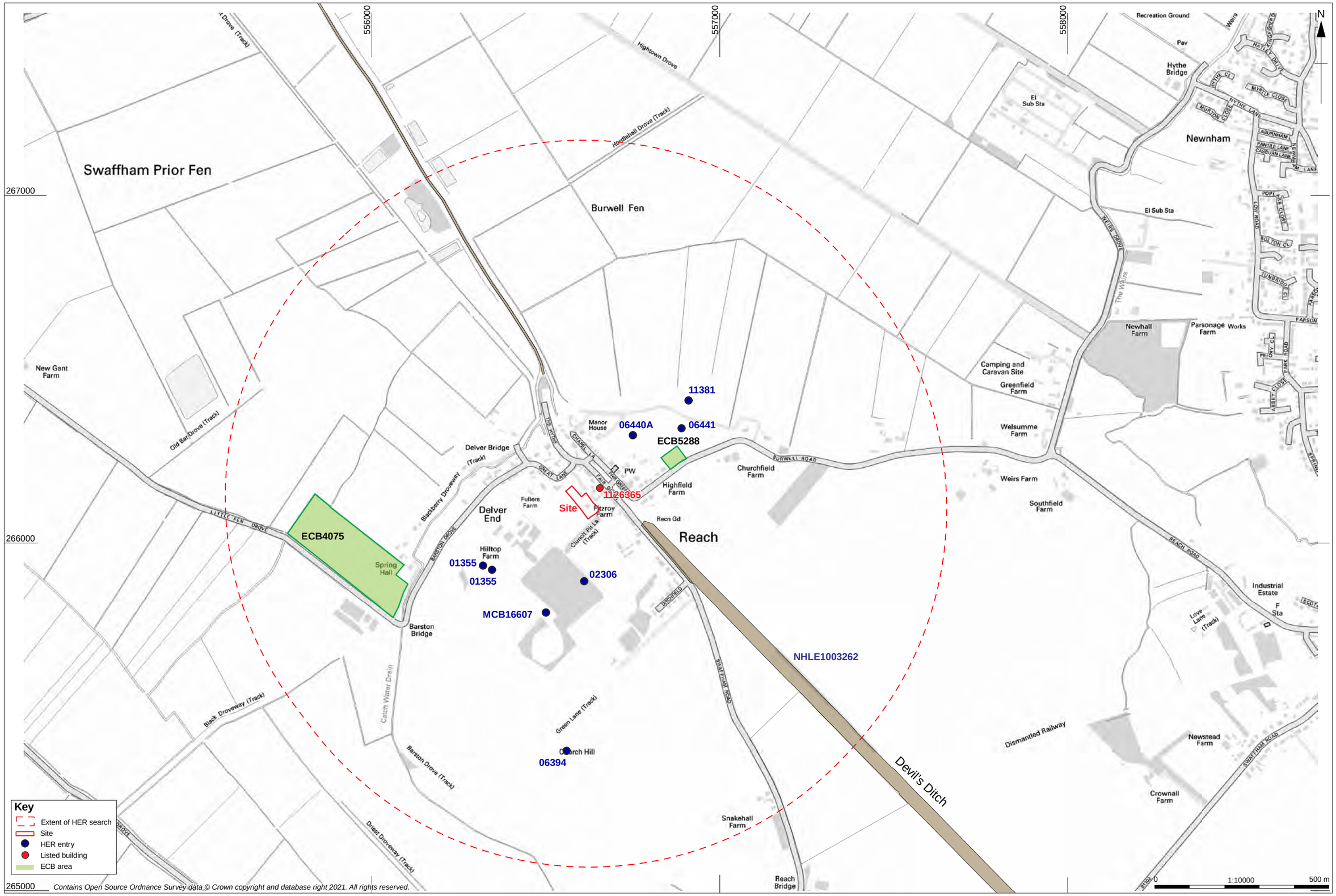

Figure 2: HER entries mentioned in the text.

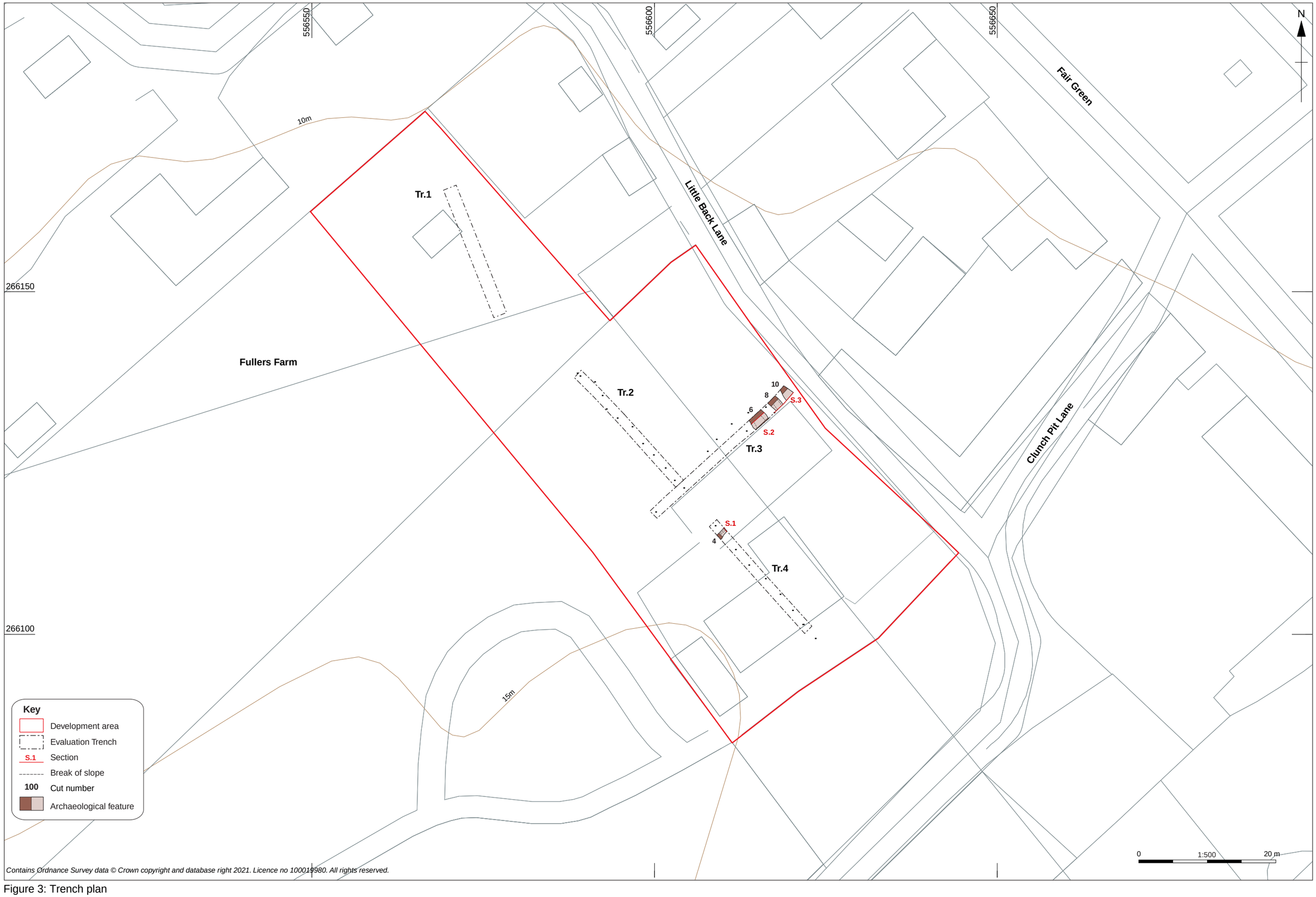

Figure 3: Trench plan

Figure 4: Selected sections

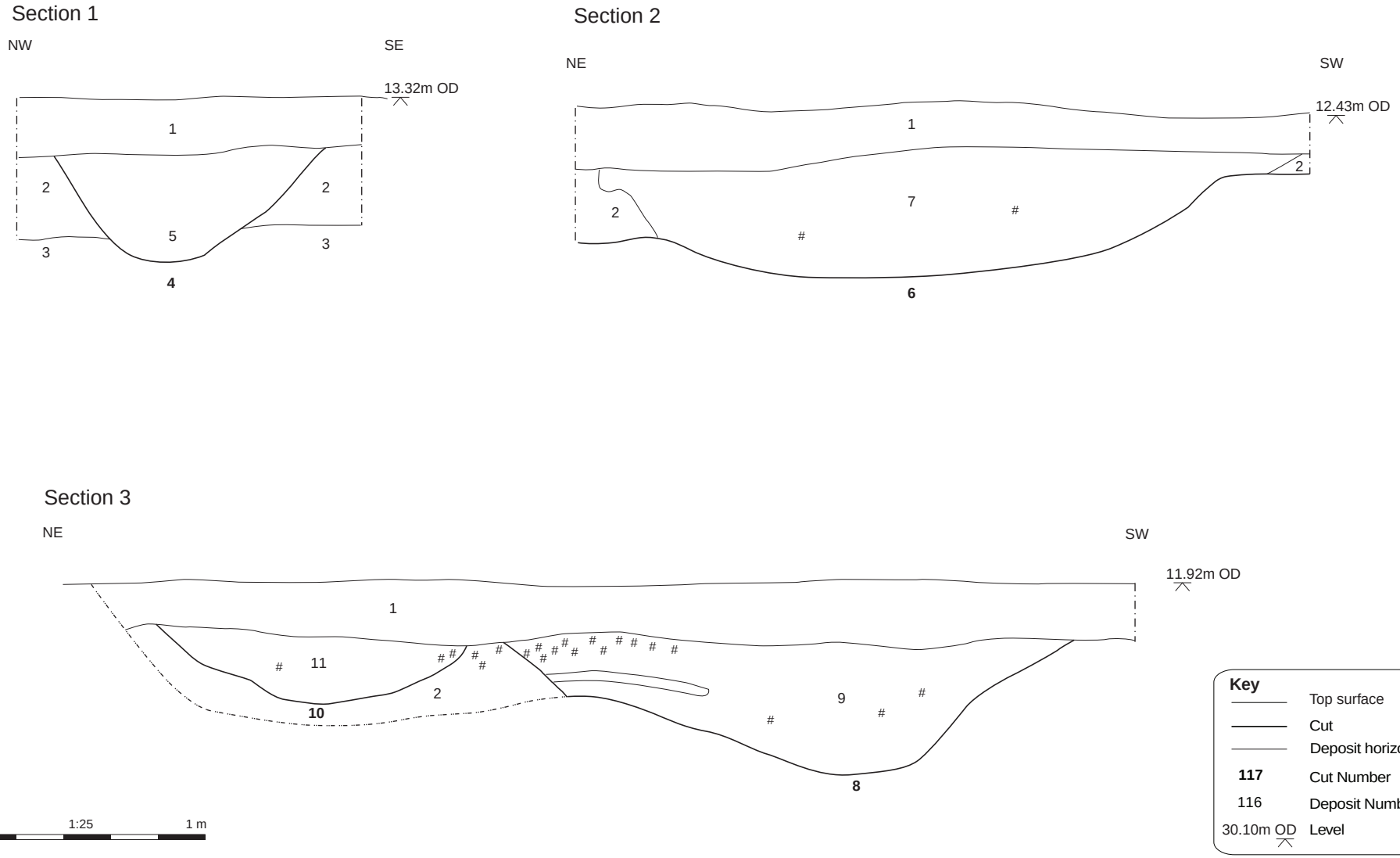

Plate 1: Trench 2, looking north-west

Plate 2: Ditch **6** in Trench 3, looking south-east

Plate 3: Hedge line **10** on the northern side of ditch **8** in Trench 3, looking south-east

Plate 4: Trench 3, looking south-west

Plate 5: Ditch **4** in Trench 4, looking north-east

Plate 6: Trench 4, looking north-west

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