

Witham Archaeology

A Report to Hamson Barron Smith Ltd

March 2018



LAND AT OAKDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL, OAKDALE AVENUE, STANGROUND, PETERBOROUGH

Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

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LAND AT OAKDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL, OAKDALE AVENUE, STANGROUND, PETERBOROUGH

Site Code: STOP18

Peterborough Museum Accession No.: TBC

Planning Application No.: 17/01422/R3FUL

NGR: TF 20510 95940

OASIS ID: withamar1-310688

Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

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LAND AT OAKDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL, OAKDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL, STANGROUND, PETERBOROUGH

SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Witham Archaeology Ltd at Oakdale Primary School, Stanground, Peterborough, in advance of construction works to expand the capacity of the school. The project was commissioned by NPS Archaeology on behalf of their client Hamson Barron Smith Ltd in response to a condition attached to planning permission granted by Peterborough City Council requiring evaluation of the archaeological potential of the site. Aerial photographs had indicated possible archaeological features on the site, and significant archaeological remains dating from the Bronze Age through to the medieval period had previously been recorded to the south of the development area.

Five trenches were excavated, located in areas to be impacted on by the proposed development. The earliest feature identified was interpreted as a possible furrow associated with open field cultivation during the medieval period. All of the trenches revealed evidence for extensive landscaping works, most likely associated with the construction of the existing school and the formation of its playing fields.

Artefacts recovered in the course of the evaluation were mostly post-medieval in date, comprising a modest collection of pottery sherds and brick or tile fragments. An abraded fragment of Romano-British pottery, and another sherd of 12th to 14th century date probably represent residual artefacts present in the former ploughsoil of the site.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Archaeological evaluation of the site was prompted by the need to increase the capacity of Oakdale Primary School from the current 210 pupils to 420 pupils with 30 nursery spaces. The development is to comprise a single story classroom extension, refurbishment of the existing school building, realignment of the school boundary, provision of new hard and soft landscaping, a new pick up and drop off area and a new car parking area (Planning ref.17/01422/R3FUL).

In recognition that groundworks associated with the proposed development may have a detrimental impact on any archaeological remains present, Peterborough City Council Archaeological Services (PCCAS) issued a Brief for Archaeological Evaluation (ref. Casa-Hatton 12-12-2017) setting out minimum standard requirements for archaeological work at the site in advance of construction. The evaluation work was intended to assess the potential archaeological resource and the likely impacts of development on that resource.

To comply with this brief, NPS Archaeology were commissioned by Hamson Barron Smith ('the client') to provide a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the archaeological investigation of proposed development at the site. The resulting WSI was approved by Peterborough City Council Archaeological Services (PCCAS).

Witham Archaeology undertook the trenching work on behalf of NPS Archaeology, in accordance with the approved WSI, between 12th and 14th February 2018 (during the school half term break).

2.0 SITE LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY & GEOLOGY (see Figs. 1 and 2)

The village of Stanground is located south-east of Peterborough in the administrative district of Peterborough City Council (Figure 1). The proposed development lies approximately 3km south-east of the city centre, centred on National Grid Reference TL 20509 95941 (Figure 2). Although now subsumed within the urban spread of Peterborough, Stanground was formerly a separate village and parish. Late 19th century Ordnance Survey maps show the development site within open fields approximately 1km south of the village, just north of a group of buildings which form Glebe Farm

The topography is relatively level and even, although the elevation does rise slightly from +11.9m OD just north of the existing school buildings to around +12.8m OD at the southern end of the investigation area. Landscaping and terracing associated with construction of the existing school is evident, particularly around the south-western part of the school.

The underlying superficial geological deposits at the site comprise interglacial deposits of the Oadby Member, accumulated over bedrock geology of the Oxford Clay Formation (British Geological Society: Geology of Britain viewer). Soils on the site are classed as urban and have not been mapped. However, to the south are calcareous clayey soils of the Hanslope Association (Hodge et. al., 1984, 209).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Archaeological remains from the prehistoric era onwards, have been recorded in the general vicinity of the site (Casa-Hatton 2017). Extensive archaeological investigations were carried out south of the school between 2007 and 2009 in advance of the development of Stanground South (Taylor & Aaronson, 2005). These works recorded archaeological remains dating from the Bronze Age through to the medieval period, although the majority dated to the later prehistoric and Romano-British periods. A subsequent archaeological intervention on the west side of Peterborough Road, 500m southwest of the school, also revealed traces of occupation similarly dated to the Iron Age and Romano-British periods (Mellor 2015).

The name Stanground was first mentioned in a charter of AD 954 (Hart 1966, 160). Referred to as *Stangrunde* it derived from the Old English for stony ground or stony foundation (Ekwall 1989, 437). The Domesday Book of 1086 recorded that Stanground belonged to Thorney Abbey and had a church and priest at that time (Victoria County History (VCH) 1936). The existing church is mostly late 13th to early 14th century (Pevsner 2002). During the medieval period, large portions of the site were given over to open field cultivation, as indicated by surviving remains of ridge and furrow in the field immediately southeast of the school.

In the post-medieval period the former open fields were partitioned by the construction of a series of drainage ditches and the Act of Parliament for enclosure of the parish was passed in 1801 (VCH 1936). The Ordnance Survey 25 inch to mile map published in 1899 (revised 1901) shows the site located in fields approximately 1km south of the southern edge of the village of Stanground, just north of buildings comprising Glebe Farm.

In the immediate vicinity of the site, an aerial photographic assessment of land at Stanground College identified remains of medieval ridge and furrow together with a series of undated short, parallel features of uncertain interpretation within the grounds of Oakdale Primary School (Appleby 2008). More recent satellite images also indicate the possible survival of ridge and furrow and other undated features in the playing fields north of the primary school, particularly towards the Whittlesey Road end of the fields (Google Earth, imagery date 08/30/2016).

Recent investigations at Stanground College, less than 50m to the west of the present investigation site, produced only negative evidence due to truncation (Slater, A. 2012.). Other recent nearby interventions at Glebe Farm (Carlsson 2017)) and Bunting Lane similarly revealed evidence either for truncation, or for the presence of ridge and furrow associated with the historic open fields.

4.0 AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The overall aims of the archaeological work as set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation produced by NPS Archaeology are summarised as:

- Gain information about the heritage assets within the proposed development areas;
- Provide detailed information regarding the date, character, extent, integrity and degree of preservation of the identified heritage assets;
- Inform a strategy for the recording, preservation and/or management of the identified assets;
- Mitigate potential threats;
- Inform proposals for further archaeological investigations (namely, targeted area excavations) within the ongoing programme of research;
- Define the sequence and character of activity at the site, as reflected by the excavated remains;
- Interpret the archaeology of the site within its local, regional, and national, archaeological context;
- If applicable, provide a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains detailing zones of relative importance against known development proposals;
- If applicable, provide an impact assessment

5.0 METHODOLOGY

The five trenches were located in accordance with directions set out in the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI). The most recent deposits were removed mechanically, using a wheeled excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. All mechanical excavation was undertaken under archaeological supervision. Mechanical excavation was discontinued when archaeological deposits were exposed, or when undisturbed natural deposits were revealed. Exposed surfaces, both vertical and horizontal, were then cleaned by hand to define the archaeological remains.

To characterise the artefact content of the topsoil and subsoil, 90 litre samples of appropriate deposits were hand sorted in each trench. A metal detector was also used to aid artefact recovery.

Potential archaeological features were further investigated by manual excavation in accordance with the sampling guidelines outlined in the WSI.

A record of the investigations was compiled through:

- Notes detailing the progress of archaeological fieldwork.
- Individual written descriptions of archaeological contexts made on pro-forma recording sheets and indexed appropriately.
- Measured section drawings showing specific archaeological contexts as well as general stratigraphic sequences, produced at scales 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriately.
- Measured plans of archaeological contexts (individual and/or multiple) at scale 1:20
- Sequences of colour digital and black and white 35mm film photographs showing individual archaeological features and overall site circumstances.

The trenches, the features and the sample hand-excavated slots were located using survey grade GPS equipment, referenced to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

No palaeoenvironmental samples were taken. Deposits exposed by the works were not considered to have sufficient potential for retention and further processing.

6.0 RESULTS (Figs. 3 and 4)

The results of the investigations are described below, with reference to archaeological context numbers assigned in the field. The numbers in square brackets refer to cut features, whereas those in round brackets describe deposits. Full descriptions of the contexts are provided in Appendix 1, the Context Summary. Plans of the trenches 2 to 4 can be found on figure 4.

Trench 1. (Figure 5, Section 1. Plate 2)

The earliest deposit revealed in the trench comprised stiff yellowish brown natural clay (103). Above the natural deposit was a 0.35m thick layer of reddish brown silty clay containing small stones and flints (102). This deposit represented the former topsoil and subsoil of the site. Above (102) was a 0.1m thick dumped deposit of yellowish grey gritty clay containing stones and chalk flecks (101). The most recent deposit was the modern playing-field topsoil and turf (100).

Hand-sorting a sample of deposit (102) at the southern end of the trench failed to recover any artefacts. A decimal penny found using a metal detector was discarded in the field (context (105)).

Trench 2. (Figure 5, Section 2. Plate 3)

Stiff orange or yellow brown clay (205), with seams of mid orange sandy clay comprised the underlying natural. Above the natural clay was a compact mid brown clayey silt subsoil (209). The subsoil was truncated by the narrow north to south aligned linear cut [207] for a land drain. A ceramic pipe was not revealed in the cut, but pottery of 17th to 18th century date recovered from the mixed fill deposit (206) confirmed a post-medieval date for the feature. The fill of [207] was sealed by a 0.07m thick former topsoil of greyish brown silty clay with grits (204), overlain by a deposit (203) of dumped layer of yellowish brown clay with flints, 0.16m thick. A 0.25m thick layer of greyish brown clayey silt (202) had been deposited above (203). Overlying (202) was a second dumped layer of yellowish brown clay (201), itself sealed by the modern playing field topsoil and turf (200).

Post-medieval pottery and slate were recovered from a 90 litre sample of deposit (204) hand-sorted at the western end of the trench (context (208)).

Trench 3. (Figure 5, Section 3. Plate 4)

Stiff light yellowish or orange brown clay (301) comprised the underlying natural geology in the trench. The natural clay was sealed by 0.17m thick compact deposit (305) of mid brown clayey silt with greyish mottles and occasional patches of rusty staining. On the basis of its compaction and uneven colouring this deposit is likely to have been disturbed and transformed by previous construction works on the site. Deposit (305) was sealed by a 0.07m thick dumped deposit of stiff light brown clay with frequent chalk fragments (304), overlain by mid brown clayey silt (303), 0.29m thick. Layer (303) was sealed by a 0.08m thick dumped mixed deposit (302) of mid brown clayey silt and light brown clay, above which was the modern topsoil and turf (300).

An abraded fragment pottery (308) of 12th to 14th century date was recovered from a 90 litre sample of deposit (305) hand-sorted at the northern end of the trench.

Trench 4. (Figure 6, Sections 4 and 5. Plate 5)

The earliest deposit recorded in Trench 4 was light yellowish and orange brown natural clay (401), including occasional seams of orange-brown sandy clay. The natural was truncated by a shallow-sided east to west aligned linear cut [405], which was up to 2.2m wide by 0.2m deep. The feature was interpreted as the possible remains of a furrow from former open field cultivation. Feature [405] was filled by a 0.2m thick mid greyish olive-brown clayey silt (404), from which a fragment of animal bone and pottery of 16th to 18th century date was recovered. One abraded sherd of medieval Ely ware was also recovered from the deposit. Fill (404) was sealed by a compact 0.2m thick layer of mid-dark greyish brown clayey silt (403) with mid orange patches or mottles. Layer (403) was interpreted as former topsoil and subsoil transformed by previous construction works. Above (403), similar mid-dark greyish brown clayey silt (402) was possibly a dumped deposit. Above (402), the modern turf and topsoil (400) was the most recent deposit in the trench.

Pottery of 16th to 17th century date was recovered from a 90 litre hand-sorted sample of deposit (403) at the northern end of the trench (context (406)). An abraded fragment of Romano-British pottery was recovered from the machined surface towards the southern end of the trench (context 407).

Trench 5. (Figure 6, Section 6. Plate 6)

Stiff light yellowish or olive brown clay (501) comprised the underlying natural deposit in the trench. The natural clay was sealed by a compact 0.18m thick deposit (503) of mid brownish grey clayey silt with light brown mottles and patches and occasional rusty staining. The layer was interpreted as former topsoil or subsoil transformed through disturbance by previous construction works. Above (503) was a possible dumped mid brownish grey clayey silt (502), 0.22m thick. Deposit (502) had been truncated by three cement-filled intrusions which represented a former modern fence-line. The most recent deposit comprised modern topsoil and turf (500).

Hand-sorted samples of deposit (503) failed to recover any artefacts. A fragment of a modern nail recovered from the spoil-heap using a metal detector (context (504) was discarded in the field.

7.0 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

Natural deposits were consistent across the development area, comprising yellowish or orange-brown clay with seams and patches of orange sandy clay. Flint inclusions and small chalk fragments were common. In Trench 4 [405] a possible furrow associated with former open-field cultivation during the medieval and post-medieval was recorded. All the trenches contained layers interpreted as topsoil and/or subsoil deposits; namely (102), (209), (305), (403), and (503). In Trench 2, deposit (209) had been truncated by narrow linear cut [207], interpreted as an early land drain.

It appears that traces of the medieval and post-medieval agricultural landscape have been covered by a series of dumped layers, presumably during landscaping associated with construction of the school and the creation of the school playing fields. No archaeological features were revealed of a date earlier than the medieval open-field landscape.

Finds recovered from the investigation comprised a modest collection of post-medieval pottery sherds and ceramic building material. One abraded fragment of Romano-British pottery, and another sherd of 12th to 14th century date, (both from Trench 4) were probably residual artefacts present in the former ploughsoil. One small fragment of animal bone was also recovered. The assemblage does not indicate the likely presence of significant settlement remains in the immediate vicinity of the investigation area.

Findings are consistent with location of the site in open fields well to the south of Stanground village, as evidenced by the possible plough furrow and the location as depicted on 1st and 2nd edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey County maps.

8.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Witham Archaeology would like to thank NPS Archaeology for commissioning the fieldwork on behalf of their client, Hamson Barron Smith.

9.0 PROJECT/ ARCHIVE DETAILS

9.1. Project Information

SITE CODE: STOP18

PLANNING APPLICATION No.: 17/01422/R3FUL

FIELD OFFICER: C. Moulis

NGR: TL 20509 95941

ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT: The City of Peterborough

DATE OF INTERVENTION: February 12th to 14th 2018

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Evaluation

UNDERTAKEN FOR: Hamson Barron Smith

9.2 Archive Details

PRESENT LOCATION: Witham Archaeology, 2 High Street, Ruskington, Sleaford, NG34 9DT

FINAL LOCATION: Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery

MUSEUM ACCESSION No.: TBC

ACCESSION DATE: TBC

The Site Archive Comprises:

Context Register	5 Sheets
Context Records	38 Sheets
Section Register	1 Sheet
Section Drawings	3 Sheets -Drawing film
Photographic Register	1 Sheet
Black and White photographs	36 Frames
Digital Photographs	33 Frames
GPS digital survey data	.txt, .dxf and esri shape-files
Daily Record Sheets	3 Sheets

COLOUR PLATES



Plate 1: General view. Trenches 1, 2 and 3, from the south end of the site



Plate 2: Trench 1, Section 1



Plate 3: General view, looking northwest (NW end part excavated; leaving drain intact): 1m scale



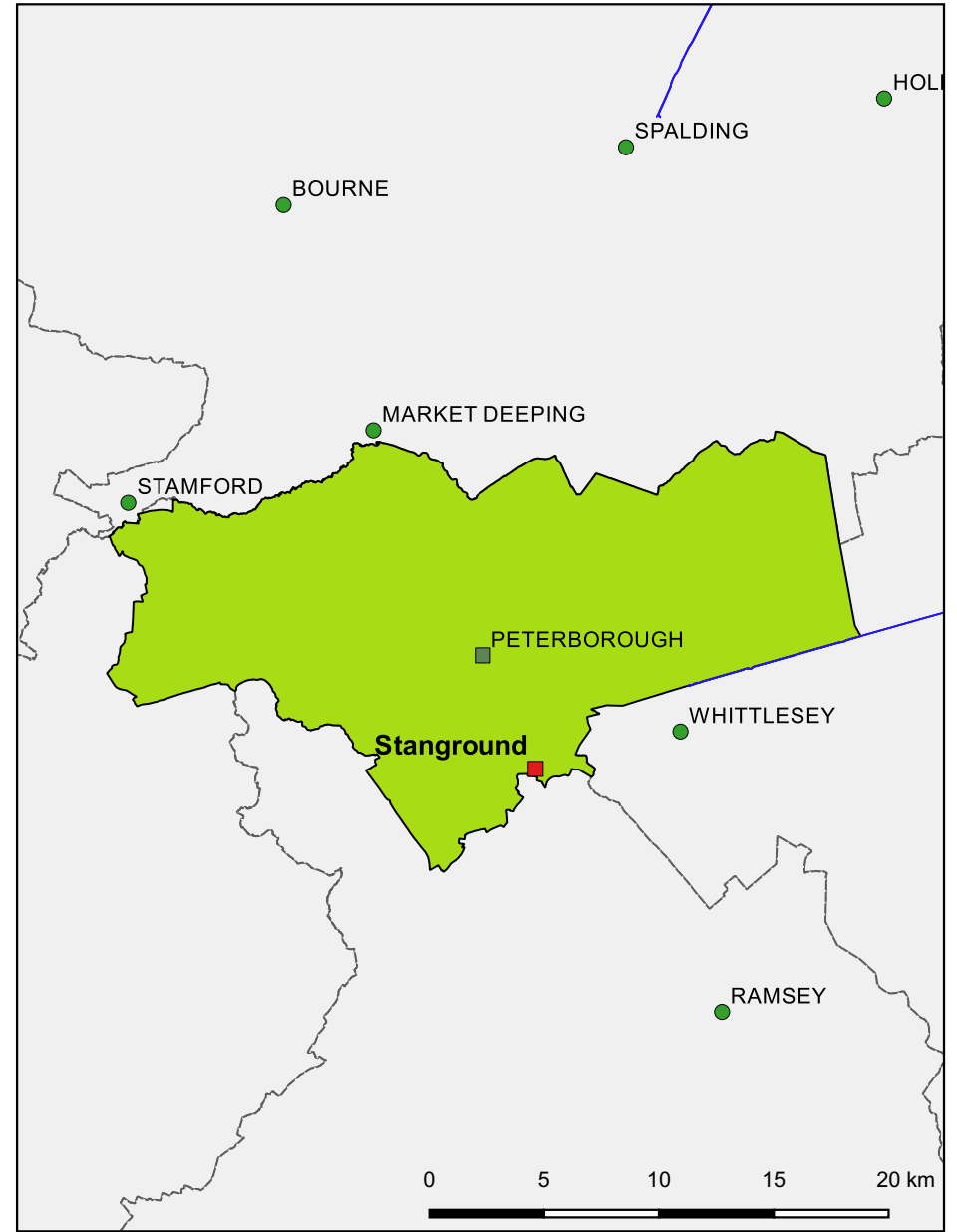
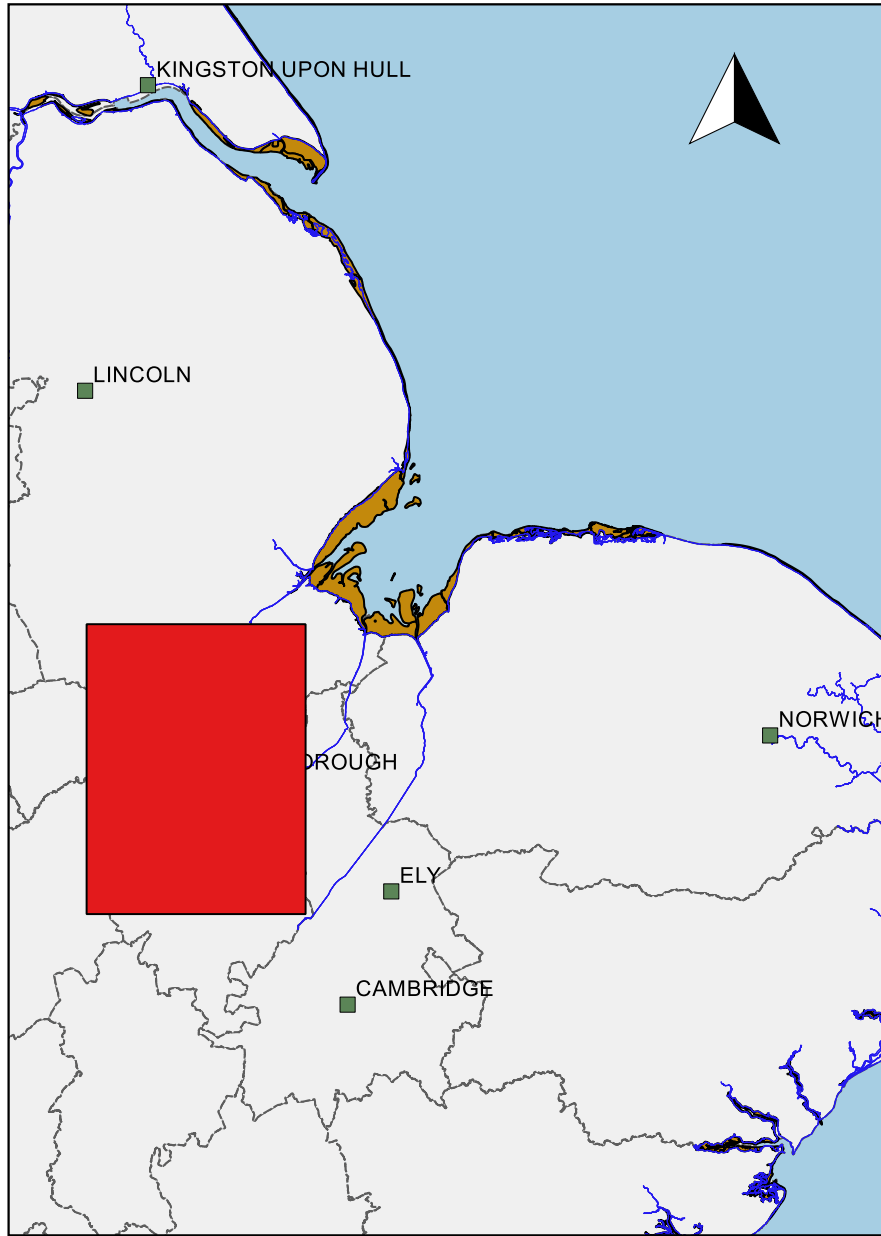
Plate 4: Section 1 including 'cut' [103], looking west; 1m scale



Plate 5: 'Cut' [005]/Section 2, looking northwest; 1m scale

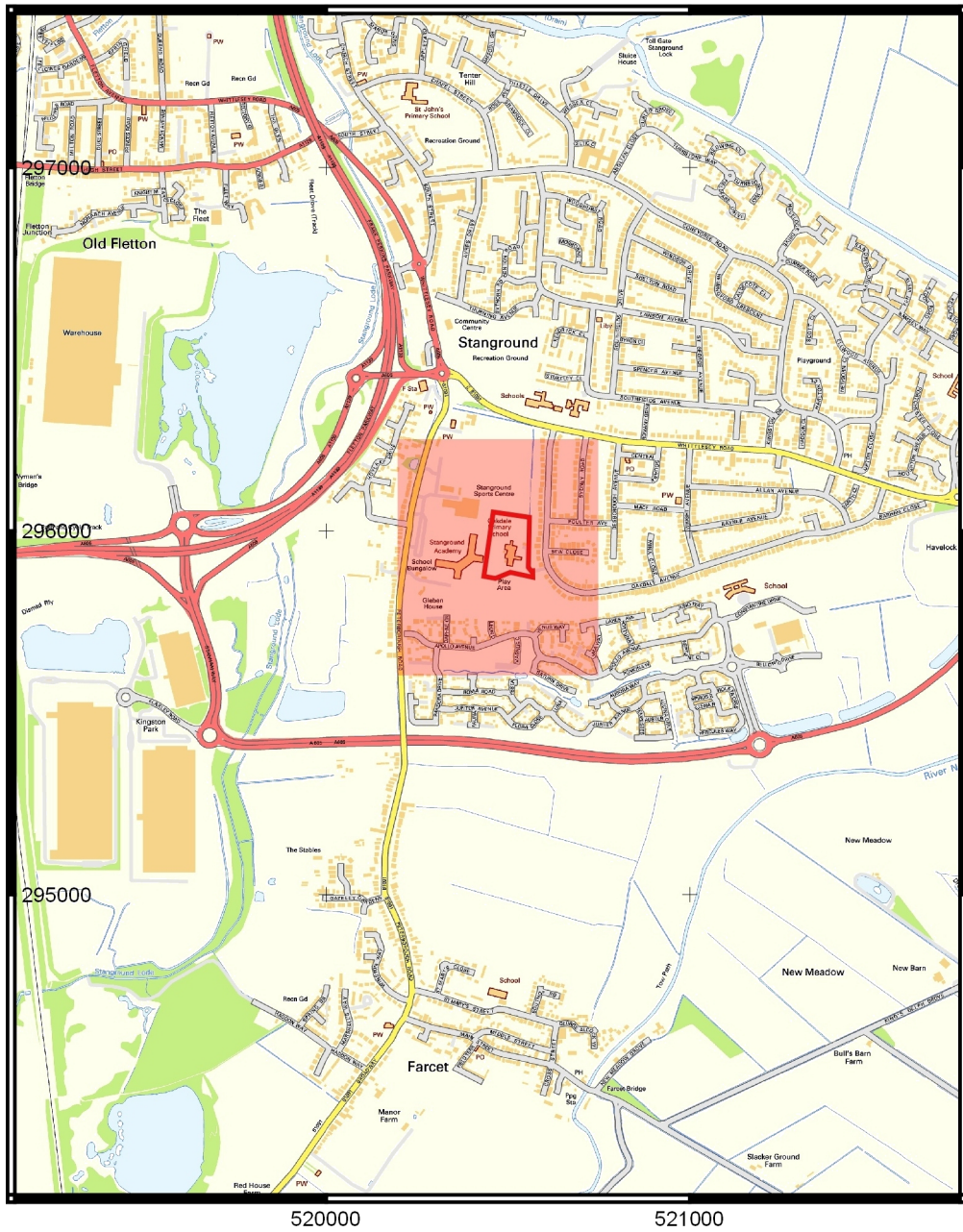


Plate 6: General view of trench (post excavation), looking northwest; 1m scale



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Figure 1. General location



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Figure 2. Site location

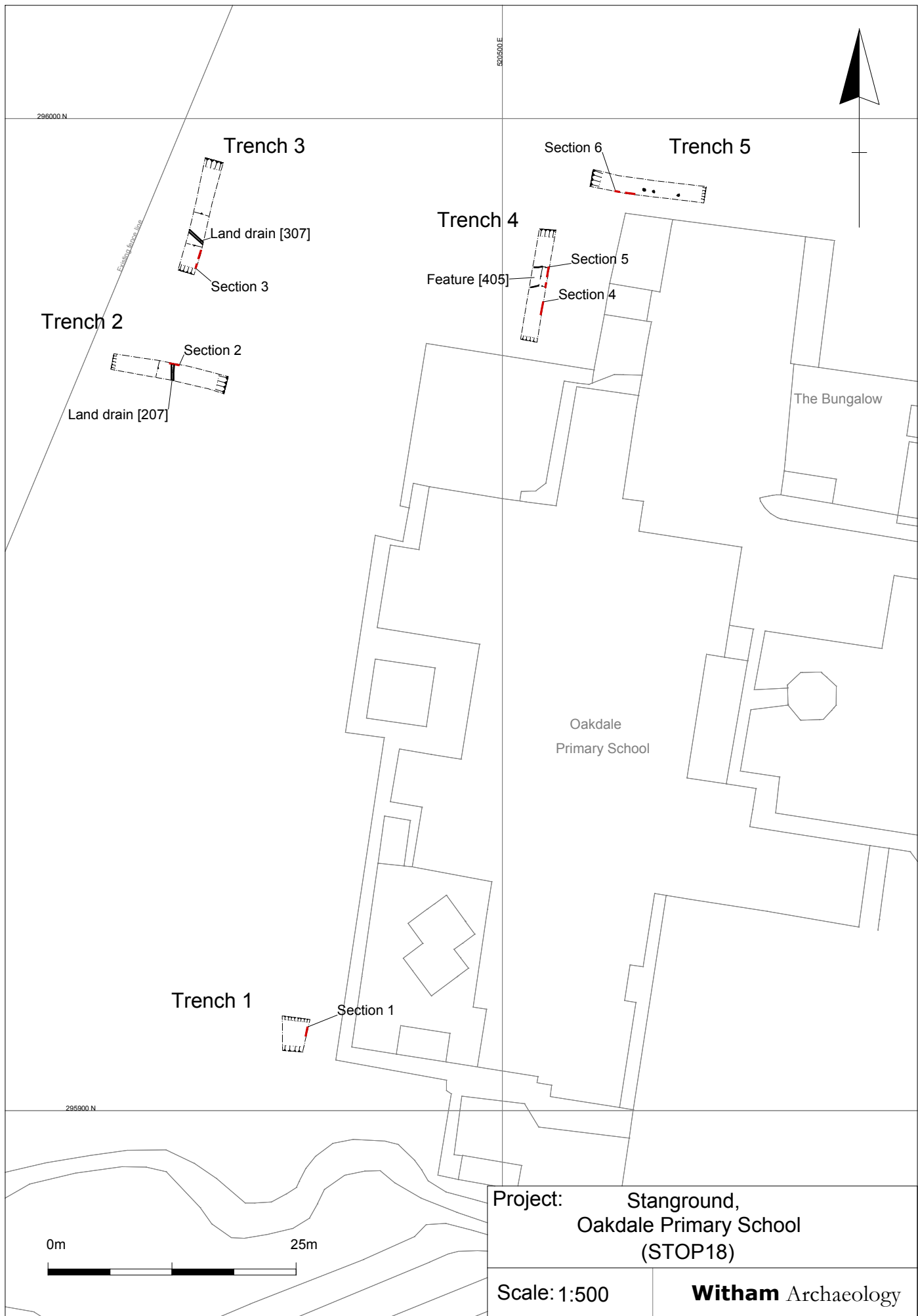


Figure 3. Trench location

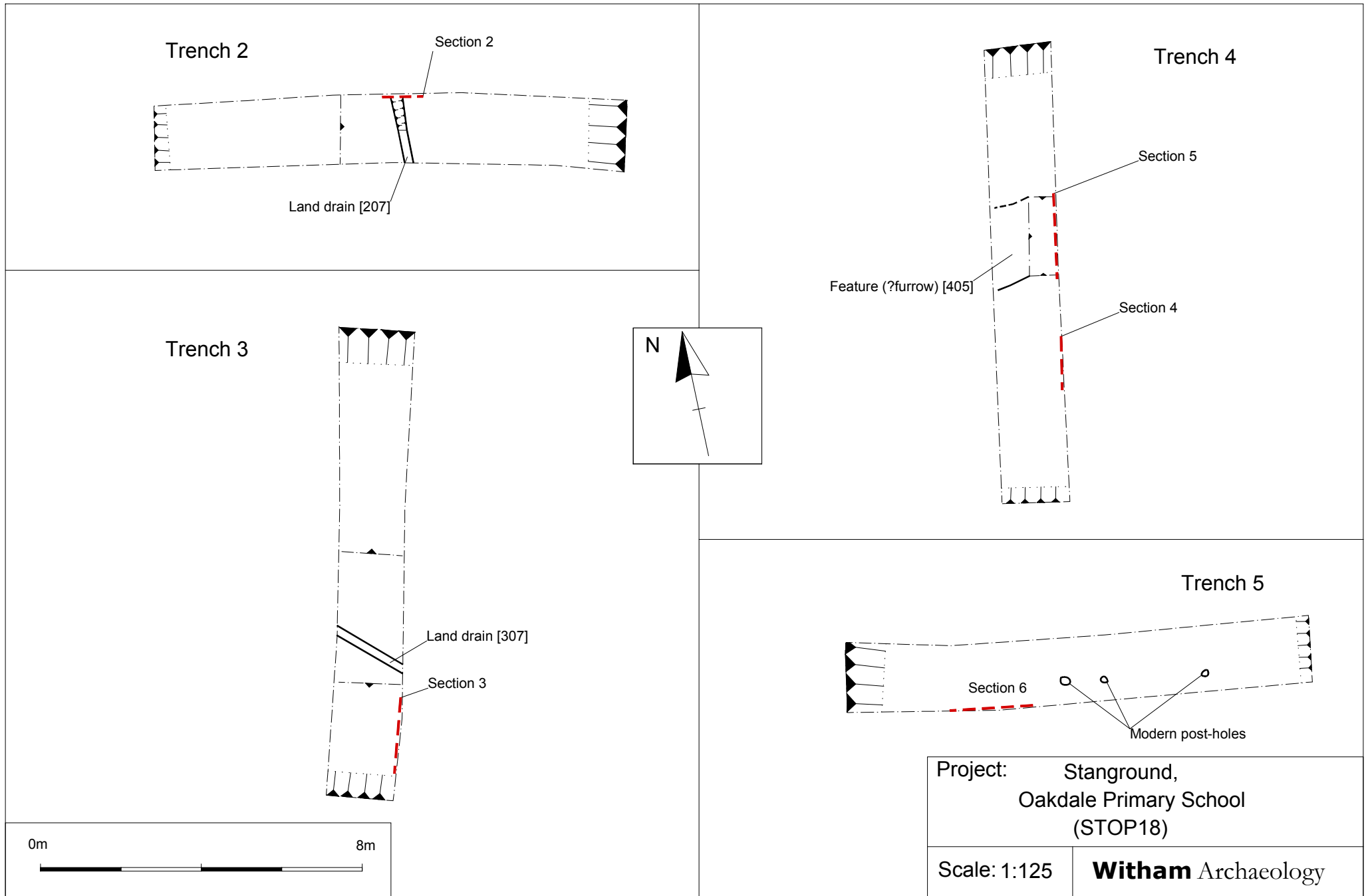
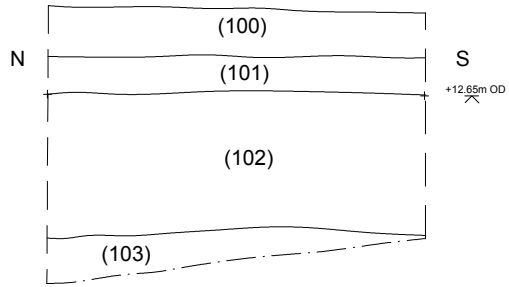
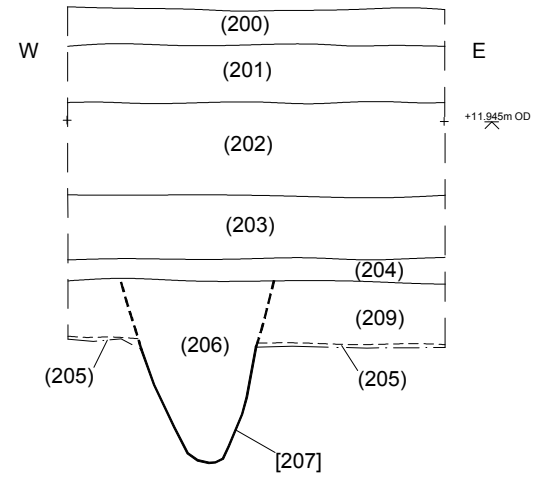


Figure 4. Trench plans

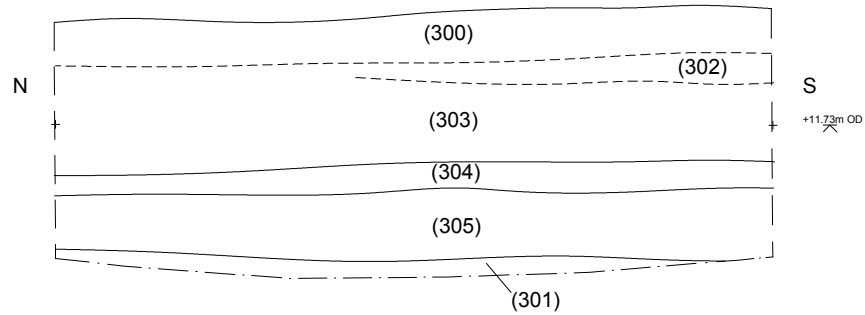
Section 1



Section 2



Section 3

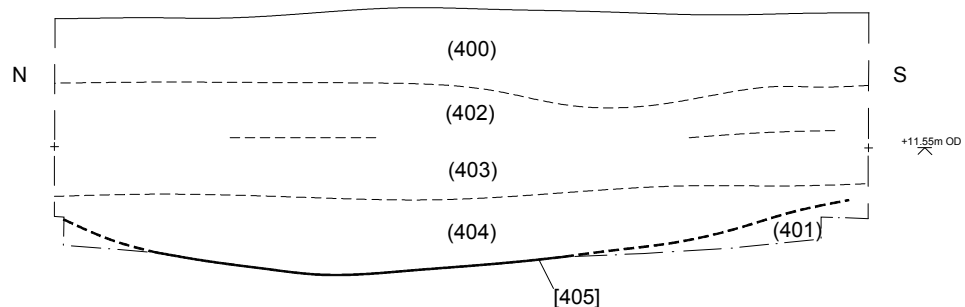


Project: Stanground,
Oakdale Primary School
(STOP18)

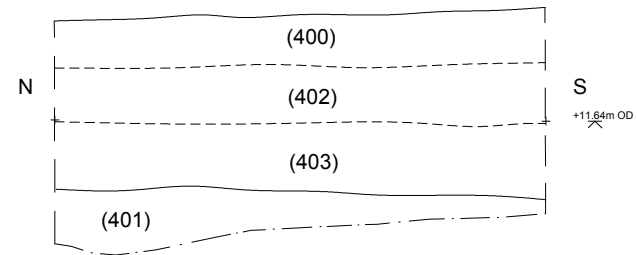
Scale: 1:20 **Witham** Archaeology

Figure 5. Sections 1 to 3

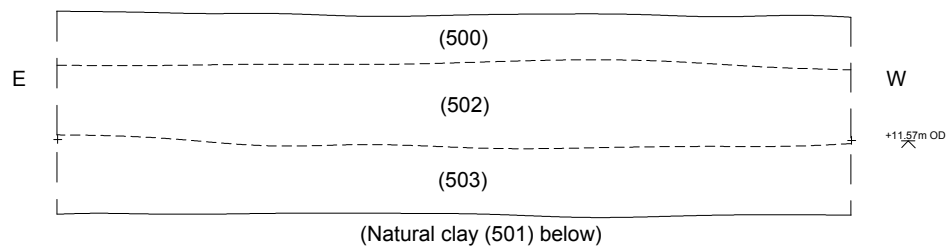
Section 5



Section 4



Section 6



Project: Stanground,
Oakdale Primary School
(STOP18)

Scale: 1:20

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Figure 6. Sections 4 to 6

APPENDIX B

STANGROUND, OAKDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL (STOP18)

ROMAN POTTERY

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

The material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by Darling (2004). The pottery was recorded using the codes and system developed for the City of Lincoln Archaeological Unit (Darling and Precious, 2014). The material was recorded in February 2018. A single sherd from a single vessel, weighing 10 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 1 below.

Condition

There is a single sherd. The piece is small and abraded.

Results

Table 1, Roman Pottery Archive

Context	Cname	Full Name	Form	Vessel	Alter	Comments	Sherds	Weight
407	GREY	Greyware	JB	1	ABRADED		1	10
407	ZDATE					ROMAN		

Provenance

The pottery is unstratified and was recovered during machining at the southern end of Trench 4.

Range

There is a single fragment of Roman dated Greyware (GREY). The piece is otherwise undiagnostic.

Potential

There is no potential for further work. The items are not worthy of retention and have been discarded.

POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001). The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* (2005), which can also be used to record material from surrounding counties. The material was recorded in February 2018. A total of five sherds from five vessels, weighing 27 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 2 below. The pottery ranges in date from the medieval to the post medieval period.

Condition

The pottery is in a very fragmentary state. One piece has been burnt.

Results

Table 2, Post Roman Pottery Archive

Tr	Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Sub Fabric	Form	Part	Description	Date	NoS	NoV	W(g)
2	206	BERTH	Brown Glazed Earthenware	Pale orange; Fe	Bowl	Base		17th-18th	1	1	10
3	308	ELY	Ely ware		?	Flake	?ID; abraded	L12th-M14th	1	1	2
4	404	BL	Black Glazed Earthenware		Open or hollow	Rim	Burnt reduced	L16th-18th	1	1	8
4	404	ELY	Ely ware		?	BS	Abraded		1	1	6
4	406	GRE	Glazed red earthenware		?	Flake		16th-17th	1	1	1
Total									5	5	27

Provenance

Pottery was recovered from within three of the excavated trenches. Table 3 below shows a summary of where this material came from.

Table 3, the Origin of the Pottery

Tr	Feature Type	Cut	Fill/Layer	NoS	NoV	W(g)
2	Linear cut - land drain?	207	206	1	1	10
3	Finds Recovery	-	308	1	1	2
4	Furrow	405	404	2	2	14
4	Finds Recovery	-	406	1	1	1
Total				5	5	27

Range

There are two fragments of medieval Ely ware (ELY), one of which came from probable furrow [404] in Trench 4, whilst the second piece, from Trench 3, is unstratified. The remaining material is post-medieval in date. The material may be plough scatter.

Potential

There is no potential for further work. The items are not worthy of retention and have been discarded.

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group (2002). The material was recorded in February 2018. A total of three fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 86 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments were counted and weighed within each context. The ceramic building material was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the ceramic building material is included in Table 4 below.

Condition

The assemblage is fragmentary, but not overly abraded.

Results

Table 4, Ceramic Building Material Archive

Tr	Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	Description	Date	NoF	W(g)
2	206	RTMISC	Roof Tile	Oxidised; fine sandy; Fe	Probably post medieval/early modern; PANT?	16th-19th	1	8
2	208	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine sandy; Ca	Struck surface; slop moulded; probably late post med/early modern; 19th?	16th-19th	1	65
4	404	CBM	Ceramic Building Material	Oxidised; medium sandy	Sanded surface; flake	Roman or post Roman	1	13
Total							3	86

Provenance

Ceramic building material was recovered from (206) within probably land drain [207] and (404) within furrow [405] in Trench 4. A single unstratified piece from Trench 2 was labelled with context number (208)

Range

There are three pieces of ceramic building material, including two items of post-medieval or early modern date and a third undiagnostic fragment.

Potential

There is no potential for further work. The items are not worthy of retention and have been discarded.

FAUNAL REMAINS

By Denise Buckley and Paul Cope-Faulkner

Introduction

A single (4 g) fragment of animal bone were recovered from a stratified context.

Methodology

The faunal remains were laid out in context order and reference made to published catalogues (e.g. Schmid 1972; Hillson 2003). All the animal remains were counted and weighed, and where possible identified to species, element and side. Also fusion data, butchery marks, gnawing, burning and pathological changes were noted when present. Ribs and vertebrae were only recorded to species when they were substantially complete and could accurately be identified. Undiagnostic bones were recorded as micro (mouse size), small (rabbit size), medium (sheep size) or large (cattle size).

The condition of the bone was graded using the criteria stipulated by Lyman (1996). Grade 0 being the best preserved bone and grade 5 indicating that the bone had suffered such structural and attritional damage as to make it unrecognisable.

Provenance

The bone was recovered from (404), the fill of a probable open-field furrow [405].

Condition

The overall condition of the remains is poor, averaging grade 4 on the Lyman Criteria (1996).

Results

Table 5, Fragments Identified to Taxa

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	W (g)	Comments
404	Medium mammal	Mandible		1	4	

Summary

A single piece of animal bone was recovered . There is no potential for further work and the piece has been discarded.

OTHER FINDS

By Denise Buckley

Introduction

One item, weighing 2g, was recovered.

Condition

Although fragmented, the item is in fairly good condition.

Results

Table 6, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	Date	NoF	W (g)
208	Stone	Fragment of Welsh slate	19 th -20 th century	1	2

Provenance

The slate was recovered from (208), a 90 litre hand-sorted sample of deposit (204).

Range

A single fragment of Welsh slate of 19th-20th century date was recovered.

Potential

Apart from dating evidence, the slate is of no further potential and has been discarded.

SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 7 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 7, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
206	17 th to 18 th	
208	19 th -20 th	
308	Late 12 th to Mid 14 th	
404	Late 16 th to 18 th	
406	16 th to 17 th	
407	Roman	

ABBREVIATIONS

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group
BS	Body sherd
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
CXT	Context
NoF	Number of Fragments
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
TR	Trench

UHJ Upper Handle Join
 W (g) Weight (grams)

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APPENDIX C – OASIS FORM

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: withamar1-310688

Project details

Project name	Archaeological trial trenching at Oakdale Primary School, Stanground, Peterborough
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Witham Archaeology Ltd at Oakdale Primary School, Stanground, Peterborough, in advance of construction works to expand the capacity of the school. The project was commissioned by NPS Archaeology on behalf of their client Hamson Barron Smith Ltd in response to a condition attached to planning permission granted by Peterborough City Council requiring evaluation of the archaeological potential of the site. Aerial photographs had indicated possible archaeological features on the site, and significant archaeological remains dating from the Bronze Age through to the medieval period had previously been recorded to the south of the development area. Five trenches were excavated, located in areas to be impacted on by the proposed development. The earliest feature identified was interpreted as a possible furrow associated with open field cultivation during the medieval period. All of the trenches revealed evidence for extensive landscaping works, most likely associated with the construction of the existing school and the formation of its playing fields. Artefacts recovered in the course of the evaluation were mostly post-medieval in date, comprising a modest collection of pottery sherds and brick or tile fragments. An abraded fragment of Romano-British pottery, and another sherd of 12th to 14th century date probably represent residual artefacts present in the former ploughsoil of the site.
Project dates	Start: 12-02-2018 End: 14-12-2018
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	STOP18 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	17/01422/R3FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 14 - Recreational usage
Monument type	FURROW Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""
Development type	Large/ medium scale extensions to existing structures (e.g. church, school, hospitals, law courts, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

planning process

Project location

Country England
Site location CAMBRIDGESHIRE PETERBOROUGH STANGROUND NORTH Oakdale Primary School, Oakdale Avenue
Postcode PE2 8TD
Study area 1.6 Hectares
Site coordinates TL 20509 95941 52.547588034809 -0.222590767784 52 32 51 N 000 13 21 W Point
Height OD / Depth Min: 11.32m Max: 12.3m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Witham Archaeology
Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator NPS Archaeology
Project director/manager Dale Trimble
Project supervisor Chris Moulis
Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery
Physical Archive ID TBC
Physical Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery
Digital Archive ID TBC
Digital Contents "Animal Bones", "Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Media available "GIS", "Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery
Paper Archive ID TBC
Paper Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Stratigraphic", "Survey", "Worked stone/lithics"
Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Map", "Matrices", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Survey", "Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title and at Oakdale Primary School, Oakdale Avenue, Stanground, Peterbororough. Archaeological Trial Trenching
Author(s)/Editor(s) Moulis, CJ

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