

**HISTORIC BUILDING SURVEY AND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION BY TRIAL TRENCHING:
SITE ADJACENT TO 11 CROSS GREEN, WICKEN, ELY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

NGR: TL 57120 70571
Planning Reference: 10/00491/FUL & 10/00492/CAC
AAL Site Code: WICK13
CHER event no: ECB4031
Oasis Reference: allenarc1-160860



Report prepared for Cambridge Design and Build

By
Allen Archaeology Limited
Report Number 2013125

October 2013



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Document Control

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Executive Summary

- Allen Archaeology Limited was commissioned by Cambridge Design and Build to undertake a historic building survey and archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on land adjacent to 11 Cross Green, Wicken, Cambridgeshire, to fulfil a planning condition for the demolition of existing buildings and the erection of two new dwellings.
- The site lies in an area of archaeological interest, in the historic core of the medieval settlement and with several listed buildings of medieval and later date nearby.
- The building survey recorded a group of assorted agricultural buildings, general purpose stores and a dwelling. The majority of buildings on site date from the 1960s to early 1970s are of limited architectural or historical value, and several are in a poor state of repair. The earliest structures, Buildings A and B are possible later 19th century buildings with timber framed structures and pantile roofs, that may be apparent on the 1887 Ordnance Survey Map, and are definitely present by the time of the 1902 map. A modernised dwelling, Building C, may form part of this group of early buildings, although its modernisation conceals any evidence for historic features.
- Two trial trenches were excavated on the site, and both contained features dating to the early medieval period. This includes a north – south aligned ditch which was recorded in both trenches, an undated; although stratigraphically early medieval ditch in Trench 2 and an early medieval pit, also in Trench 2.
- The dating evidence from the features indicates the site was occupied in the 11 – 12th century AD. Environmental evidence suggests the features contain hearth sweepings including fragments of burnt food waste from nearby domestic cooking fires. The botanical assemblage was dominated by wheat, including examples of rivet wheat, an innovation of the early medieval period indicating nearby cereal production and processing.
- The development proposals are likely to entail groundworks and landscaping comprising, strip footings for the new dwellings, access roads and services, which is likely to have a significant impact upon the identified archaeological resource.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Allen Archaeology Limited (hereafter AAL) was commissioned by Cambridge Design and Build to undertake a historic building survey and archaeological evaluation by trial excavation on land adjacent to 11 Cross Green, Wicken, Cambridgeshire, to fulfil a planning condition for the demolition of existing buildings and the erection of two new dwellings.
- 1.2 The excavation, recording and reporting conforms to current national guidelines, as set out in the Institute for Archaeologists '*Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluations*' (IfA 1994, revised 2001 and 2008) and '*Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures*' (1996, revised 2001 and 2008), the regional guidelines in '*Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*' (Gurney 2003) and the English Heritage documents '*Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*' (2006a) and '*Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice*' (2006b). All English Heritage guidelines on archaeological practice were also followed (www.helm.org/server/show/nav.7740).
- 1.3 The documentary and physical archive will be submitted to Cambridgeshire Museums Service within six months of the completion of the report.

2.0 Site Location and Description (Figures 1 and 2)

- 2.1 Wicken is situated in the administrative district of East Cambridgeshire District Council, approximately 10.1km south-southeast of Ely and 17.1km northeast of central Cambridge (Figure 1). Cross Green is immediately adjacent to the High Street, and comprises a series of agricultural buildings, centred on NGR TL 57120 70571 (Figure 2).
- 2.2 The local bedrock geology is recorded as Gault Formation Mudstone, overlain by superficial deposits of Mid Pleistocene glacial till (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>). However, evaluation trenching revealed a localised pocket of chalk, probably representing the known nearby outcrop of West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation, a cretaceous bedrock noted immediately east of the village.

3.0 Planning Background

- 3.1 Planning applications were submitted to East Cambridgeshire District Council in June 2010 for the '*Erection of two dwellings and the demolition of existing buildings*' (Planning References 10/00491/FUL and 10/00492/CAC). Planning permission was granted subject to conditions, including the undertaking of a programme of historic building recording in advance of any demolition works, and a programme of archaeological trial trenching in order to determine the archaeological potential of the proposed development area.
- 3.2 The approach adopted is consistent with the recommendations of Chapter 12: Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (Department for Communities and Local Government 2012).

4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 The site is situated in an area of archaeological interest and potential. A search of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (hereafter CHER) for a 500m radius search was undertaken, the results of which are detailed below.
- 4.2 Findspots of prehistoric artefacts in the area include two Mesolithic transept axes, one found just north of the High Street (CHER Reference 07067) and the other recovered in the 19th century from Wicken Fen, and now stored at the Ashmolean Museum (CHER Reference 07074). A mixed collection of natural and worked flint was recovered c.200m west of the site and includes a core, two scrapers and a flake (CHER Reference 07058). Neolithic axes have also been found nearby; one on Lower Drove c.250m northwest of the site (CHER Reference 07066) and one c.450m to the southeast near Chancel Farm in the 19th century (CHER Reference 07073). A flint arrowhead was also found near to this second axe, also in the 19th century (CHER Reference 07075).
- 4.3 There is no evidence for later prehistoric occupation in the area, when it is possible that rising sea levels may have made the local landscape uninhabitable. Roman occupation is attested by findspots of coins recovered c.450m northeast of the site in 1882 (CHER Reference 07072) and a Bronze pendant found c.100m to the west of the site (CHER Reference 07059). Further Roman coins and a possible Roman building have also been recorded at Hall Farm c.250m to the northeast (CHER Reference 07071).
- 4.4 There are no known Anglo-Saxon remains from the immediate area; however, Wicken was noted in the Domesday Survey of 1086 AD and therefore must have existed as a settlement by the late Saxon period. The name Wicken probably derives from the Old English for 'specialised farms', although it is uncertain what that specialism may have been (<http://kepn.nottingham.ac.uk/map/place/Cambridgeshire/Wicken>).
- 4.5 The survey records Wicken as being owned by Count Alan and containing eleven villains, eight bordars and five slaves. The settlement was relatively well-provided for with ploughland, meadow, pasture for grazing and three mills. There was also provision for three seines (fishing areas) in nearby Soham Mere and 4250 eels are noted as being caught yearly (Williams and Martin 2002, 533). There is no mention of a church in the settlement at this time.
- 4.6 The medieval period marks an increase in land-use with a moated site including three fishponds located c.300m southeast of the site at Chancel Farm (Scheduled Monument 1017845). Cropmarks of a probable lane and moat have also been recorded directly southwest of the scheduled moated site and may denote further occupation (CHER Reference 09232).
- 4.7 St Lawrence's Church (CHER Reference 07126, Grade II* listed 1160994) was built in the 13th century and lies outside of the current village core, some 300m to the east of the site and approximately 100m north of the scheduled moated site, which may suggest a connection between these two sites. A stone village cross of probable 14th century date lies c.100m north of the site on Drury Lane, although this may not be its original location (CHER Reference 07113, Grade II listed 1126421).
- 4.8 Previous excavations have recorded late medieval pottery and a silver coin in a pit on Butts Lane c.50m north of the site (CHER References 07069 and 07069A accordingly). A rubbish pit

containing probable 16th century pottery was also located under a farmhouse extension in 1970 on Wicken Pond Green, some 100m northwest of the site (CHER Reference 07068).

- 4.9 The settlement contains several listed buildings of later medieval date suggesting the village gained in affluence at this time, all within c.200m of the site and centred on the current village core. Fifteenth century dwellings (all Grade II listed) are known from 7 Pond Green (CHER Reference MCB17335, Listed Building Reference 1126428), 45 High Street (CHER Reference MCB17336, Listed Building Reference 1161082), Butts Farmhouse (CHER Reference MCB17345, Listed Building Reference 1126429) and the Maids Head Public House (CHER Reference MCB17346, Listed Building Reference 1126422).
- 4.10 Further buildings of 16th and 17th century are recorded (all Grade II listed), including Wicken Hall (CHER Reference DCB657, Listed Building Reference 1126420), The Chestnuts (CHER Reference DCB931, Listed Building Reference 11610573), Wicken Cross Green (CHER Reference DCB928, Listed Building Reference 1161034), 3 North Street (CHER Reference DCB938 Listed Building Reference 1161108), 5 North Street (CHER Reference DCB663, Listed Building Reference 1126426), Rose Cottage on North Street (CHER Reference DCB939, Listed Building Reference 1161112), 3 Wicken Pond Green (CHER Reference DCB941 Listed Building Reference 1161128), 8 Wicken Cross Green (CHER Reference DCB1438, Listed Building Reference 1331762) and 36 High Street/12 Wicken Pond Green (CHER Reference DCB942, Listed Building Reference 1161144).
- 4.11 Grade II Listed buildings from the 18th and 19th century are also recorded within 200m of the site including 68 High Street (CHER Reference DCB932, Listed Building Reference 1161062), The Almhouses (CHER Reference DCB662, Listed Building Reference 1126425), Breeds Farmhouse at 57 High Street (CHER Reference DCB1400, Listed Building Reference 1331724) and 42 Drury Lane (CHER Reference DCB930, Listed Building Reference 1161046).
- 4.12 Wicken contains several mills and historic wind pumps which attest to its history as a Fenland settlement. A post-medieval wind pump (CHER Reference 06975) lies c.300m to the east of the development site adjacent to New River. A second wind pump lies c.450m to the west of the site on Lode Lane. This pump is known as Norman's Mill (CHER Reference 07109, Listed Building Reference 1161096) and was moved to this site in the 1950s. A post-medieval smock mill (CHER Reference 07057, Listed Building Reference 1126423) was located just south of the development site, while another Grade II* listed smock mill dating from late 18th to early 19th century (CHER Reference DCB660, Listed Building Reference 1126423) is located immediately to the west.

5.0 Photographic Survey Methodology

- 5.1 The building survey was undertaken by the author and Matt Gault of AAL on Thursday 19th September 2013, and was commensurate with a Level 2 survey as detailed in the English Heritage document: *Understanding Historic Buildings, A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (English Heritage 2006). The weather was generally bright and light was good for all external shots. Limited natural light was available for the interior shots and an appropriate use of flash photography was used where necessary to adequately illuminate rooms.
- 5.2 Photographs incorporated metric scales where appropriate, and all shots were located on scaled plans of the site (Figures 2 and 3). A selection of the photographs is included in this

report (See Appendix 1), and a list of all shots taken is reproduced in Appendix 2 at the end of the report.

5.3 Photographs were taken of the following: -

- All external elevations;
- All internal elevations, including internal walls and subdivisions;
- The roof structure of the buildings, internally and externally, where visible;
- The relationship of the structures to their surroundings;
- Architectural details, i.e. windows, doors, decorative brickwork, carpentry joints, re-used timbers and other significant features, fixtures or fittings. Generally a single representative shot was taken of particular features such as windows or openings of a single type that occurred more than once within each structure; and
- A general internal photographic record of the building. Shots were taken of each room/discrete internal space from sufficient points to show the form, general appearance and methods of construction.

5.4 For the purpose of this report the buildings have been assigned the letters A – K.

6.0 Photographic Survey Results (Appendix 1 and Figures 2 and 3)

6.1 Building A

- 6.1.1 Building A comprises a single storey wooden framed structure (Plate 1) built against a brick and flint banded wall which forms the northern boundary of the site (Plate 2). It has a hipped roof of ceramic pantiles. This building measures 7.72m by 3.16m with a crude wooden lean to measuring 3.48m by 3.84m, built onto the southern elevation. The lean to is in the process of collapse and is supported by a tree growing against and partially through its structure.
- 6.1.2 The wall which forms the northern elevation is constructed from a mix of machine made bricks, and coursed flint rubble, and is likely to predate the extant structure, although the upper courses of brickwork are likely to represent a later repair.
- 6.1.3 The building retains a plank and batten style door in the south elevation, which resembles those of the later 19th century and may be a reused piece.

6.2 Building B

- 6.2.1 Building B comprises a single storey wooden framed, weather-boarded structure, with a gabled pantile roof, and measures 5.96 by 3.8m (Plates 3 and 4). It is attached to the east end of Building A and was also built up against the brick and flint wall that forms the northern site boundary. The eastern end of the roof had collapsed and this part of the building was not safe to enter.
- 6.2.2 The remaining part of the building has plywood panels affixed to the internal walls and ceiling and has a stable door in the south elevation. A plank and batten door forms the opening in the damaged portion of the building to the east. The building contained large quantities of assorted household waste.

6.3 Building C

- 6.3.1 Building C comprises a single storey dwelling measuring 6.07m by 5.22m and retains an external sign marking it as '11 The Flat'. This building appears to have been built against the northern wall previously noted, with cement rendered external walls. The roof is gabled and uses the same style of pantiles as in Buildings A and B (Plate 5).
- 6.3.2 Internally, the building contains a bedroom, bathroom and kitchen/diner area, separated by modern stud walling. Fixtures and fittings are all modern in date including double-glazed PVC windows and external door. The walls and ceiling are faced with painted plaster-board and no historic features were identified (Plate 6).
- 6.3.3 Externally, a whitewashed concrete feeding trough with attached tethering rings was positioned against the east – west aligned boundary wall between Buildings B and C (Plate 7). It is probable that this is a feature associated with a former animal shed. A short stretch of rendered wall extending from the west elevation of Building C may be a surviving part of the south wall of this former building (Plate 5). The boundary wall in this area is entirely in brick and has clearly been raised in height.

6.4 Building D

- 6.4.1 Building D was constructed of corrugated steel sheets fastened to a simple wooden frame (Plates 8 and 9) with a crudely constructed door formed from two corrugated steel sheets. This structure is located in a similar position to a building shown on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey; however this structure is clearly of a more recent date.

6.5 Building E

- 6.5.1 Building E comprises a north – south aligned single storey wooden framed and weather boarded structure, which measured c.20m long by 5.5m wide. This building was in a poor state of repair and had a double pitched gabled roof of badly corroded corrugated sheets. The south elevation had a wooden plank and batten door, with another similar example on the eastern side. The west elevation was abutted by Building F, while the eastern elevation was derelict and open to the elements (Plate 10).
- 6.5.2 This building was not noted on the 1958-59 Ordnance Survey mapping and first appears on the map of 1973, suggesting a likely construction date of 1960-1972.

6.6 Building F

- 6.6.1 Building F is a lean to structure positioned against the west elevation of Building E and measures c.16m by 4m. This building was formed from an ad-hoc assembly of corrugated sheeting affixed to a wooden frame on a concrete base and as with Building E, first appears on the 1973 mapping (Plate 10). An additional structure was once attached to the eastern side based on the 1970s mapping, however all that now remains is a short stretch of east – west aligned brick wall.

6.7 Building G

- 6.7.1 Building G is a free-standing single storey shed formed from corrugated sheets affixed to a simple wooden on a concrete base with a low gabled roof, also formed from corrugated sheets fixed to a timber frame (Plate 11). This structure measured approximately 7.5m square and first appears on the 1973 map.

6.8 Building H

- 6.8.1 Building H is a free-standing shed built on a concrete base with weather-boarded sides and a flat roof formed from corrugated sheets (Plate 12). This building measured approximately 7m by 5.5m and first appears on the 1973 mapping.

6.9 Building I

- 6.9.1 Building I is a lean to structure with mono pitched roof, formed from a wooden frame and weather boarding, abutting the western side of Building J and measuring approximately 23m by 7.8m (Plate 13). In the north elevation is a double door of two weather-boarded panels and a window with small top hung casement and thin wooden glazing bars.
- 6.9.2 This structure first appears on the 1973 mapping and was probably ancillary storage for the associated agricultural Building J.

6.10 Building J

- 6.10.1 Building J is a large modern agricultural barn measuring approximately 23m by 11m and formed from breeze block lower walls with corrugated sheet upper walls, presumably attached to an internal steel frame (Plate 14) and built on a concrete base. It has a double pitched gabled roof. Two large corrugated sheet panel doors were located on the northern elevation sufficient to allow access for large agricultural machinery. A small access or wicket door had been cut into the main door to allow pedestrian access.
- 6.10.2 This building is modern in date, again first appearing on the 1973 map.

6.11 Building K

- 6.11.1 Building K is another mono-pitched lean to structure built against the east side of Building J, and measures 22m by 6m. This structure was constructed of corrugated sheets attached to an internal frame (Plate 15). No entrance was noted, which may suggest an internal access from Building J.
- 6.11.2 As with previous buildings on this side of the site, this structure first appears on the 1973 mapping.

7.0 Evaluation Methodology

- 7.1 The archaeological evaluation was carried out by a team of experienced field archaeologists over a period of one day, Friday 20th September 2013. Each trench was stripped of topsoil and subsoil to the first archaeological horizon, using a mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.6m wide toothless bucket. All further excavation was then by hand.
- 7.2 All exposed plan and section surfaces were inspected for any archaeological features and deposits to determine the stratigraphic sequence. Each context was recorded on pro-forma AAL context record sheets, accompanied by plan and section drawings at appropriate scales. Each deposit, layer or cut was allocated a unique identifier (context number), and accorded a written description, a summary of these are included in Appendix 7. Three digit numbers within square brackets reflect cut features (for example ditch [103]).
- 7.3 A photographic record was maintained and a representative selection of these images is reproduced in Appendix 3.

8.0 Evaluation Results (Figures 2 – 4, Plates 13 – 17)

8.1 Trench 1 (Figure 3-4)

- 8.1.1 Trench 1 was aligned east – west in the southern part of the site. The uppermost deposit was a greyish brown silty clay topsoil 100, 0.3m thick, overlying made ground or levelling layer 101, which was also 0.3m thick. This layer sealed a north – south aligned ditch [103], which measured 1.19m wide by 0.52m deep, with a concave profile and was filled by a dumped deposit of dark grey silty clay 102.
- 8.1.2 Pottery dating from the 12th century AD and a single fragment of animal bone was recovered from the ditch. Environmental sampling indicated the presence of moderate densities of cereal grains indicative of burnt crop processing or storage waste, although the presence of moderate densities of charcoal and small amounts of other food detritus suggests this may represent crop processing waste burnt as fuel on a domestic hearth.
- 8.1.3 Natural glacial clay 104, measuring 0.2m thick, overlay natural chalk bedrock 105, which was present at approximately 7.38mOD.

8.2 Trench 2 (Figure 3 – 4)

- 8.2.1 Trench 2 was aligned north – south in the northern part of the site. The uppermost deposit was again greyish brown silty clay topsoil 200, 0.13m thick, overlying a 0.08m thick layer of crushed brick rubble, 201 used as hard standing in the former farmyard. This overlay two similar layers of clayey silt made ground; 202 and 203, with a total thickness of 0.62m.
- 8.2.2 203 sealed a pit and two ditches, all cut into natural chalky clay 204. The latest in the sequence was sub-rounded pit [208], which had steep sides leading to a slightly irregular concave base and measured 0.8m wide by 0.39m deep. This pit was filled by a charcoal rich dump, 209 containing 12th century pottery and a fragment of animal bone. An environmental sample was taken and revealed a similar pattern to ditch [103], containing charred cereals and scattered food waste.

- 8.2.3 The pit cut through two ditches [206] and [212], which are unlikely to be the same feature, being of different size and alignment.
- 8.2.4 Northwest to southeast aligned ditch [212] extended from the southern limits of the trench and represents a continuation of ditch [103] from Trench 1. This ditch measured 0.74m wide by 0.48m deep with a concave profile and contained a primary natural silting deposit, 211, 0.1m thick, sealed by an orange brown sandy silt 210, which was overlain by another brown sandy silt 209, 0.3m thick.
- 8.2.5 Pottery recovered from the ditch again dated to the 12th century AD and an environmental sample displayed the same pattern as in pit [208], comprising charred cereals, food waste and occasional weed seeds.
- 8.2.6 Linear ditch [206] was aligned north-northeast to south-southwest with shallow sloping sides leading to a concave base and measured 0.6m wide by 0.15m deep, with a rounded terminus at its north end. This feature contained a single sterile fill 205, which produced no dating. However, as this was truncated by medieval pit [208], it is reasonable to assume ditch [206] is of early medieval or earlier origin.
- 8.2.7 A vertically sided northeast to southwest aligned modern feature truncated ditch [212]. The feature was not fully excavated or recorded after modern material including plastic and recent waste was noted in the fill. This feature does not extend into Trench 1 and is probably an isolated pit or backfilled trench relating to the former farmyard.

9.0 Discussion

- 9.1 The building survey recorded a series of general purpose stores, agricultural outbuildings and a single dwelling, ranging in date from early 20th century to late 20th century.
- 9.2 The two oldest structures appear to be Buildings A and B, which abut an earlier brick and stone banded wall that forms the northern site boundary. The two buildings are simple wooden-framed structures with weather boarding and pantile roofs and appear to be in the same location as structures marked on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1887, and are likely to have originated at this time. Both are in a poor state of repair, with few original features, and contain large amounts of domestic rubbish as a result of recent fly tipping.
- 9.3 The 1902 map shows a longer range of buildings abutting the northern site boundary. The presence of a concrete feeding trough between Buildings B and C indicates the former use of these earlier buildings as animal sheds. It is possible that Building C reuses parts of these earlier buildings, although all exterior walls are rendered, and the interior has been thoroughly modernised, leaving no historic elements intact or visible.
- 9.4 All the remaining structures on the site are of a much later date, and as such are of negligible architectural value. Building D is located in the area of the early range of buildings, but is clearly a modern addition. Likewise, all the other structures; Buildings E – K are modern in appearance and are first shown on historic mapping dating to 1973.
- 9.5 None of the surviving buildings are of any architectural merit, lack any apparent relation to the listed smock mill adjacent to the site and could therefore be considered of minimal value

as a heritage asset. Indeed the clearance of the buildings from the site could be considered to have a minor positive impact on the setting of the adjacent listed windmill.

- 9.6 The trial trenching identified two early medieval ditches and a single medieval pit, all located within the footprint of the proposed development. The two ditches are on slightly different alignments and may represent two phases of land division, although both alignments are close to the predominant layout of the existing property boundaries, aligned broadly north-northeast to south-southwest, perpendicular to High Street to the north. Unfortunately the relationship between the two ditches has been removed by the later pit [208], which although dating from a broadly similar period, is stratigraphically the latest feature on site and must have been excavated after both ditches had gone out of use. This may indicate periodic shifting of property boundaries and changes of land use during the medieval period.
- 9.7 Artefactual evidence suggests the features all date from 12th century, or possibly earlier in the case of the stratigraphically early ditch [206]. Environmental samples have produced a rich assemblage of charred cereals, chaff and seeds, probably used as fire kindling, along with fragments of food waste including small animal bones, fish and molluscs included as hearth sweepings. The Domesday Survey noted that the settlement had the right to fish in Soham Mere and also produced over 4000 eels each year, which indicates the importance of fish, eels and presumably shellfish recovered from nearby tidal creeks, in the early medieval diet for the inhabitants of Wicken and perhaps as trade items.
- 9.8 Environmental evidence also gives an indication of the types of crops grown locally including oats, rye, barley, field pulses and the dominant cereal: wheat. Both bread wheat and Rivet wheat were identified, with Rivet wheat known to be an early medieval cultivar. Both of these types of wheat are free-threshing varieties, which are much easier to harvest compared to older hulled varieties, which require drying and de-husking.
- 9.9 Archaeological features and deposits were recorded at a depth of approximately 0.7m below the existing ground surface. The extent of groundworks for the proposed development is not yet known, although it is likely that the foundations for the proposed dwellings will entail standard strip footings, which are likely to be of a depth that will impact upon the archaeological resource. Further potential impacts are likely to occur as a result of the construction of access roads, services and landscaping.

10.0 Effectiveness of Methodology

- 10.1 The building survey methodology applied has allowed for an adequate permanent record to be made of the buildings prior to the proposed development. The trial trenching methodology was appropriate to the scale and nature of the development, and revealed deposits of archaeological interest within the proposed development area.

11.0 Acknowledgements

- 11.1 Allen Archaeology Limited would like to thank Cambridge Design and Build for this commission and cooperation during the building survey and trial trenching.

12.0 References

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Appendix 1: Colour Plates (Building Survey)



Plate 1 (Shot 14): South elevation of Building A, looking north. Scale is 1m



Plate 2 (Shot 39): Interior of Building A, looking north, showing brick and flint banded wall, which predates building. Scale is 1m



Plate 3 (Shot 15): South elevation of Building B. Scale is 1m



Plate 4 (Shot 36): Interior of Building B, looking north. Scale is 1m



Plate 5 (Shot 19): South elevation of building C. Scale is 1m



Plate 6 (Shot 23): Kitchen/diner area in Building C, looking west. Scale is 1m



Plate 7 (Shot 17): Feeding trough between Buildings C and D, looking north. Scale is 1m



Plate 8 (Shot 11): South elevation of Building D, looking north. Scale is 1m



Plate 9 (Shot 47): Interior of Building D, looking north. Scale is 1m



Plate 10 (Shot 9): Buildings E and F, looking north.



Plate 11 (Shot 5): Building G, looking west. Scale is 1m.



Plate 12 (Shot 6): South elevation of Building H, looking north, with Building G to the left of the shot and Building F to the right. Scale is 1m



Plate 13 (Shot 2): Building I, looking south. Scales are both 1m



Plate 14 (Shot 3): Building J, looking south. Scales are both 1m



Plate 15 (Shot 4): Building K, looking southeast. Scales are both 1m

Appendix 2: Photographic Archive List

| Shot No | Facing | Type | Description |
|---------|--------|----------|---|
| 1 | SW | Exterior | Windmill |
| 2 | S | Exterior | North elevation of Building I |
| 3 | S | Exterior | North elevation of Building J |
| 4 | SE | Exterior | North elevation of Building K |
| 5 | WSW | Exterior | East elevation of Building G |
| 6 | NNE | Exterior | South elevation of Building H |
| 7 | ENE | Exterior | West elevation of Building F |
| 8 | WNW | Exterior | West elevation of Building G |
| 9 | NNW | Exterior | South elevation of Building E |
| 10 | NW | Exterior | Overview of fly tipping between east elevation of Building E and west elevation of Building D |
| 11 | NNW | Exterior | South elevation of Building D |
| 12 | NNW | Exterior | South elevation of extension between Building D and A |
| 13 | WSW | Exterior | East elevation of extension between Building D and A |
| 14 | NNW | Exterior | South elevation of Building A |
| 15 | NNW | Exterior | South elevation of Building B |
| 16 | WSW | Exterior | East elevation of Building B |
| 17 | NNW | Exterior | Trough between Building B and C |
| 18 | ENE | Exterior | West elevation of Building C |
| 19 | NNW | Exterior | South elevation of Building C |
| 20 | WSW | Exterior | East elevation of Building C |
| 21 | E | Interior | West facing elevation Building C |
| 22 | N | Interior | South facing internal elevation Building C |
| 23 | E | Interior | Diving internal wall between kitchen and living room Building C |
| 24 | S | Interior | North facing internal wall Building C |
| 25 | W | Interior | East facing wall of kitchen Building C |
| 26 | N | Interior | South facing kitchen wall Building C |
| 27 | W | Interior | East facing bedroom wall Building C |
| 28 | E | Interior | West facing bedroom wall Building C |
| 29 | N | Interior | Oblique, south facing bedroom wall Building C |
| 30 | S | Interior | Oblique, north facing bedroom wall Building C |
| 31 | N | Interior | South facing bathroom wall Building C |
| 32 | S | Interior | North facing bathroom wall Building C |
| 33 | E | Interior | Oblique west facing bathroom wall Building C |
| 34 | W | Interior | Oblique east facing bathroom wall Building C |
| 35 | E | Interior | West facing internal wall Building B |
| 36 | N | Interior | South facing internal wall Building B |
| 37 | W | Interior | East facing internal wall Building B |
| 38 | S | Interior | North facing internal wall Building B |
| 39 | N | Interior | South facing internal wall Building A |
| 40 | E | Interior | West facing internal wall Building A |
| 41 | N | Interior | South facing internal wall Building A |
| 42 | W | Interior | East facing internal wall Building A |
| 43 | S | Interior | North facing internal wall Building A |
| 44 | | Interior | Rafters of Building A |
| 45 | W | Interior | East facing wall extension Building A |
| 46 | N | Interior | South facing internal wall Building A |
| 47 | N | Interior | South facing internal wall Building D |
| 48 | W | Interior | East facing internal wall of Building D |
| 49 | | Interior | Oblique view of the rear of Building D, looking northwest |
| 50 | WSW | Interior | Detail view of re-used wooden trough in Building G, looking west |
| 51 | - | Interior | Detail view of re-used wooden trough in Building F |

Appendix 3: Colour Plates (Evaluation Trenching)



Plate 16: Trench 1 looking west.
Scales are 2m and 1m



Plate 17: South facing section of
ditch [103], looking north. Scales
are both 1m



Plate 18: Trench 2 looking north. Scales are 2m and 1m



Plate 19: South facing section of Pit [208]. Ditch [206] extends to the northeast. Scale is 1m. Looking north



Plate 20: North facing section of ditch [212], looking south. Scale is 1m

Appendix 4: Post-Roman Pottery and Ceramic Building Material Report

By Dr Anne Irving

Pottery

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by Slowikowski et al. (2001). All of the pottery codenames (Cname) are those established for Lincolnshire and surrounding counties. A total of six sherds from six vessels, weighing 79 grams were 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 4.1.

Results

| Cxt | Cname | Full name | Form | NoS | NoV | W (g) | Part | Description | Date |
|-----|-------|------------------------------|--------------|-----|-----|-------|------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| 102 | EMHM | Early Medieval Handmade ware | Jar/ bowl | 1 | 1 | 7 | Base | Soot | 12th to mid 13th |
| 102 | SNEOT | St Neots-type ware | Jar/ bowl | 1 | 1 | 8 | BS | Soot | 10th to 12th |
| 102 | THETT | Thetford-type fabrics | Jar/ bowl | 1 | 1 | 20 | Base | Soot | 11th to mid 12th |
| 207 | EMHM | Early Medieval Handmade ware | Jar/ bowl | 1 | 1 | 11 | BS | Soot | 12th to mid 13th |
| 207 | SNEOT | St Neots-type ware | Jar | 1 | 1 | 25 | Rim | In-turned rim with sharp carination | 11th to 12th |
| 210 | ST | Stamford Ware | Jar/ Pitcher | 1 | 1 | 8 | Base | Soot | 10th to 12th |

Table 4.1: Archive of the Pottery

Potential

All of the material is stable and poses no problems for long-term storage. No further work is required on the pottery.

Summary

A small amount of Saxo-Norman and early medieval pottery was recovered, indicating habitation of this date occurring close to the site. The material shows signs of abrasion and is probably re-deposited.

Spot-dating

The dating in Table 4.2 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

| Cxt | Date | Comment |
|-----|--------------|------------------------|
| 102 | 12th? | |
| 207 | 12th? | |
| 210 | 10th to 12th | Date on a single sherd |

Table 4.2: Spot dates

Abbreviations

| | |
|-------|---------------------|
| BS | Body sherd |
| CXT | Context |
| NoF | Number of Fragments |
| NoS | Number of sherds |
| NoV | Number of vessels |
| UHJ | Upper Handle Join |
| W (g) | Weight (grams) |

References

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Slowikowski, A. M., Nenke, B., and Pearce, J., 2001, *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

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Appendix 5: Animal Bone Report

By Grace Monnery

Introduction

A total 2 (27g) fragments of animal bone and 1 (18g) fragment of marine shell were recovered during archaeological works at land adjacent to 11 Cross Green, Wicken, Ely, Cambridgeshire. The animal bone was recovered from the fill of ditch [103], and pit [208]. The marine shell was recovered from a tip deposit in ditch [212].

Results

The remains scored 1-2 on the Lyman scale; overall good condition of preservation (1994). None of the remains exhibited evidence of pathologies or butchery marks neither was evidence of burning of cooking observed (Lyman 1994).

| Context | Cut | Taxon | Element | Side | Count | Weight (g) | Comments |
|---------|-------|---------------|--------------------|------|-------|------------|--|
| 102 | [103] | Medium mammal | Long bone fragment | X | 1 | 16 | Shaft fragment |
| 207 | [208] | Sheep/goat | Ilium | R | 1 | 11 | Iliac crest and small portion of blade |
| 210 | [212] | Oyster | Shell | R | 1 | 18 | |

Little can be ascertained from the assemblage due to its size and lack of any distinctive processing marks. However it is plausible that the assemblage represents human consumption waste.

The remains should be retained within the site archive.

In the event of further work the site is liable to produce more remains and therefore provide more information on the utilisation of animals within the site.

References

Lyman, R L, 1994. *Vertebrate Taphonomy*, Cambridge Manuals in Archaeology, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge

Appendix 6: Palaeoenvironmental Report

By Val Fryer

Introduction and method statement

Evaluation excavations at Wicken, undertaken by Allen Archaeology Ltd, recorded a limited number of features of probable twelfth century date. Samples for the evaluation of the content and preservation of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from ditch and pit fills, and three were submitted for assessment.

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 6.1. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. A small number of modern roots were also recorded.

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and will be sorted when dry. All artefacts/ecofacts will be retained for further specialist analysis.

Results

Cereal grains/chaff and seeds of common weeds were present at varying densities within all three assemblages. Preservation was variable, but most cereals and some seeds were severely puffed and distorted, probably as a result of combustion at very high temperatures, possibly on repeated occasions.

Oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.), rye (*Secale cereale*) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains were recorded, with wheat being predominant. Rachis nodes of both bread wheat (*T. aestivum/compactum*) and rivet wheat (*T. turgidum*) types were noted, with the latter constituting yet another early record for this particular crop. A single, large, angular cotyledon of probable field bean (*Vicia faba*) type was noted within the assemblage from sample 1 (ditch [103]) along with other fragmentary indeterminate large pulse (Fabaceae) seeds.

Seeds of common segetal weeds were present throughout, with taxa noted including corn cockle (*Agrostemma githago*), stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), orache (*Atriplex* sp.), brome (*Bromus* sp.), cornflower (*Centaurea* sp.), small legumes (Fabaceae), goosegrass (*Galium aparine*), corn gromwell (*Lithospermum arvense*), grasses (Poaceae), dock (*Rumex* sp.) and field madder (*Sherardia arvensis*). A single possible sedge (*Carex* sp.) nutlet was noted within the assemblage from sample 1. Charcoal/charred wood fragments were present throughout along within indeterminate root/stem fragments, culm nodes and inflorescence fragments.

Black porous residues, all of which were probably derived from the high temperature combustion of organic remains, were common or abundant within all three assemblages. Other remains occurred less frequently, but did include bone fragments, fish and small mammal/amphibian bones, and small pieces of coal (coal 'dust'). Sample 1 also included a number of siliceous concretions, probably derived from the high temperature combustion of straw/grass.

Although mollusc shells were present within all three assemblages, most were well preserved, possibly indicating that they were intrusive within the features from which the samples were taken.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, although the density of material recovered from each sample varies, the composition of the assemblages is very uniform, possibly indicating that all have a common source. As cereals, chaff and weed seeds are all recorded, it would appear that the remains are primarily derived from either burnt processing or storage waste. However, it should be noted that processing waste was often used as tinder or kindling within a domestic context and this, along with the presence of small quantities of other food detritus (in the form of bone fragments and fish bones), may suggest that the remains are derived from small, discrete deposits of domestic hearth waste. The record of rye wheat within these assemblages is important, as the introduction of this crop appears to have been an innovation of the early medieval period.

As plant macrofossil data from rural contexts of this date is scarce, the remains from Wicken are of both local and national importance. It is, therefore, strongly recommended that if further interventions are planned, additional plant macrofossil samples of approximately 20 – 40 litres in volume are taken from all dated and well-sealed contexts recorded during excavation.

Reference

Stace, C., 1997 *New Flora of the British Isles*. 2nd edition. Cambridge University Press

| Sample No. | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|-----------|-----|-------|
| Context No. | 102 | 207 | 210 |
| Feature No. | 103 | 208 | 212 |
| Feature type | Ditch | Pit | Ditch |
| Cereals and other food plants | | | |
| <i>Avena</i> sp. (grains) | xxx | xx | x |
| (awn frags.) | x | | |
| <i>Hordeum</i> sp. (grains) | xx | x | x |
| (rachis nodes) | x | | x |
| <i>Hordeum/Secale cereale</i> type (rachis nodes) | xxx | x | |
| <i>Secale cereale</i> L. | x | x | |
| <i>Triticum</i> sp. (grains) | xxxx | xx | x |
| <i>T. aestivum/compactum</i> type (rachis nodes) | xxx | x | x |
| <i>T. turgidum</i> type (rachis nodes) | x | x | |
| Cereal indet. (grains) | xxxx | xxx | x |
| (detached sprouts) | x | | |
| <i>Vicia faba</i> L. | xcfcotyfg | | |
| Large Fabaceae indet. | x | | |
| Herbs | | | |
| <i>Agrostemma githago</i> L. | x | | |
| <i>Anthemis cotula</i> L. | x | | |
| Apiaceae indet. | x | | |
| <i>Atriplex</i> sp. | x | | |
| <i>Bromus</i> sp. | xx | x | x |
| <i>Centaurea</i> sp. | x | x | |
| Fabaceae indet. | xx | x | |
| <i>Galium aparine</i> L. | x | | |
| <i>Lithospermum arvense</i> L. | x xxfg | x | |
| Small Poaceae indet. | x | x | |
| Large Poaceae indet. | x | | |
| <i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> L. (silique frag.) | | | x |
| <i>Rumex</i> sp. | xxx | xx | x |
| <i>Sherardia arvensis</i> L. | x | x | x |
| <i>Silene</i> sp. | x | | |
| Wetland plants | | | |
| <i>Carex</i> sp. | xcf | | |
| Other plant macrofossils | | | |
| Charcoal <2mm | xx | xxx | xx |
| Charcoal >2mm | xx | xx | xx |
| Charcoal >5mm | x | x | x |
| Charred root/stem | x | x | |
| Indet.culm nodes | xx | x | |
| Indet.inflorescence frags. | x | x | |
| Indet.seeds | x | | |

| Sample No. | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------------------------------|-------|------|-------|
| Context No. | 102 | 207 | 210 |
| Feature No. | 103 | 208 | 212 |
| Feature type | Ditch | Pit | Ditch |
| Indet.seed head fragment | | x | |
| Other remains | | | |
| Black porous 'cokey' material | xxxx | xxx | xx |
| Bone | | x | x |
| Burnt/fired clay | x | | |
| Ferrous fragment | x | | |
| Fish bone | xx | | x |
| Marine mollusc shell | x | | |
| Siliceous concretions | x | | |
| Small coal frags. | x | x | |
| Small mammal/amphibian bones | x | x | x |
| Mollusc shells | | | |
| Woodland/shade loving species | | | |
| <i>Oxychilus</i> sp. | x | x | |
| Open country species | | | |
| <i>Pupilla muscorum</i> | | x | x |
| <i>Vallonia</i> sp. | x | x | x |
| <i>V. costata</i> | | x | |
| <i>V. pulchella</i> | x | | |
| <i>Vertigo pygmaea</i> | x | x | |
| Catholic species | | | |
| <i>Cochlicopa</i> sp. | x | x | |
| <i>Trichia hispida</i> group | x | x | x |
| Freshwater obligate species | | | |
| <i>Bithynia</i> sp. | | | x |
| (operculum) | x | | |
| Sample volume (litres) | 16 | 15 | 15 |
| Volume of flot (litres) | 0.2 | <0.1 | <0.1 |
| % flot sorted | 50% | 100% | 100% |

Table 6.1

Key to Table

x = 1 – 10 specimens xx = 11 – 50 specimens xxx = 51 – 100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens
 cf = compare coty = cotyledon fg = fragments

Appendix 7: Context Summary List

| Context | Deposit Type | Description | Interpretation |
|---------|--------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 100 | Layer | Friable mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional modern building material, 0.3m thick, seals 101 | Topsoil |
| 101 | Layer | Compact mid to light greyish brown silty clay with occasional inclusions of modern material, 0.3m thick, sealed by 100, seals 102 | Made ground/levelling |
| 102 | Fill | Friable dark grey silty clay with frequent charcoal fragments, 0.52m thick. Sealed by 101 | Dumped deposit in ditch [103] |
| 103 | Cut | North south aligned linear with a concave profile, 1.19m wide by 0.52m deep, contains 102 | Ditch cut |
| 104 | Layer | Friable mid grey clay, c.0.2m thick, seals 105, cut by [103] | Natural drift geology |
| 105 | Layer | Compact chalk natural, sealed by 104 | Natural bedrock geology |

| Context | Deposit Type | Description | Interpretation |
|---------|--------------|--|---|
| 200 | Layer | Friable mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional modern CBM (tile) inclusions, 0.13m thick. Seals 201 | Topsoil |
| 201 | Layer | Friable yellow sandy rubble, 0.08m thick. Sealed by 200, seals 202 | Modern rubble layer |
| 202 | Layer | Firm dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional chalk flecks, 0.4m thick. Sealed by 201, seals 203 | Made ground/levelling |
| 203 | Layer | Firm mid greyish brown silty clay with areas of redeposited natural and occasional flint nodules inclusions, 0.22m thick. Sealed by 202, seals 207 | Made ground/levelling |
| 204 | Layer | Firm yellowish grey chalky clay | Natural geology |
| 205 | Fill | Firm medium brown sandy silt with occasional patches of redeposited natural, 0.15m thick. Sealed by 203 | Natural silting in ditch [206] |
| 206 | Cut | Northnorth-east to south-southwest aligned linear with shallow sloping sides to a concave base, 0.6m wide by 0.15m deep, contains 205 | Ditch terminus |
| 207 | Fill | Friable black sandy silt with occasional flecks of charcoal, 0.39m thick, fills [208], sealed by 203 | Dumped deposit in pit [208] |
| 208 | Cut | Oval pit, steep sides to a slightly irregular concave base, 0.8m wide by 0.39m deep, contains 207 | Rubbish pit |
| 209 | Fill | Firm orangey brown sandy silt, 0.3m thick, sealed by 203, seals 210 | Tertiary natural silting of ditch [212] |
| 210 | Fill | Firm brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal, 0.11m thick, sealed by 209, seals 211 | Secondary silting of ditch [212] |
| 211 | Fill | Friable brown sandy silt, 0.1m thick, fills [212], sealed by 210 | Primary natural silting of ditch [212] |
| 212 | Cut | Northeast to southwest aligned ditch with concave sides and base, 0.74m wide by 0.48m deep | Ditch |

CBM: Ceramic Building Material (i.e. tiles and bricks)

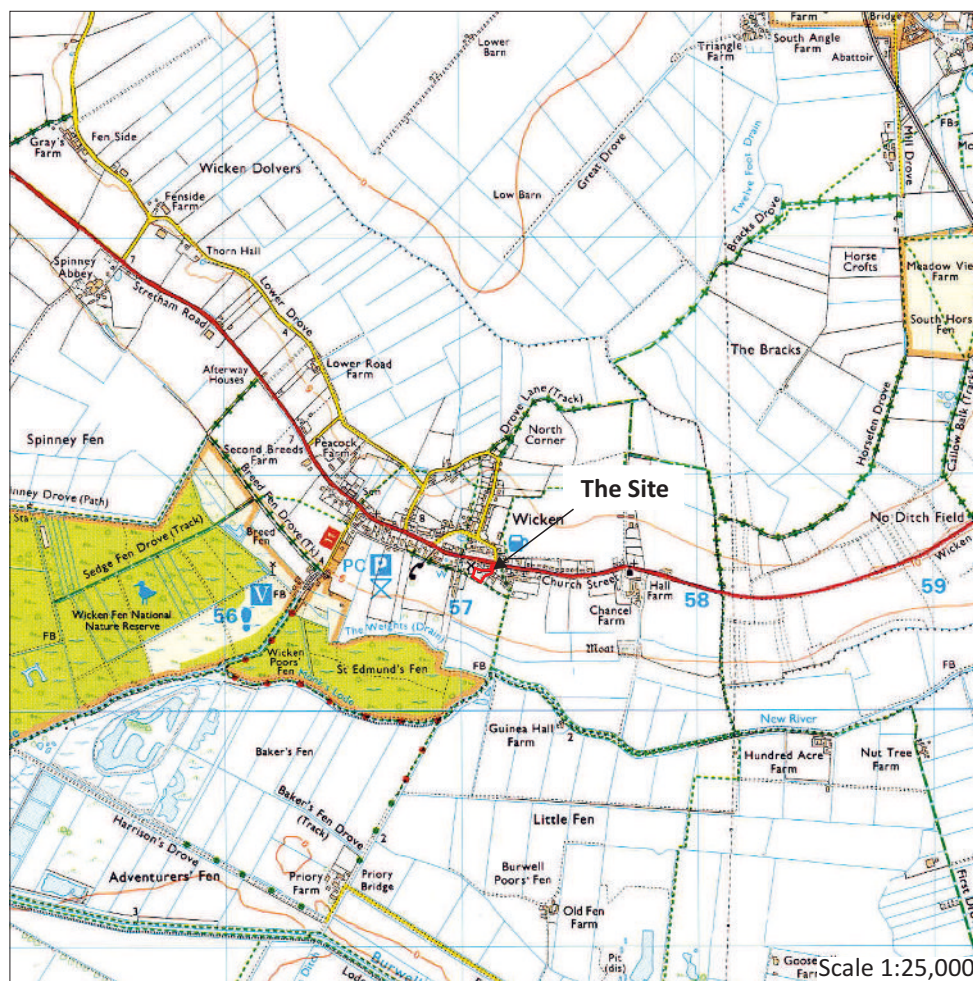
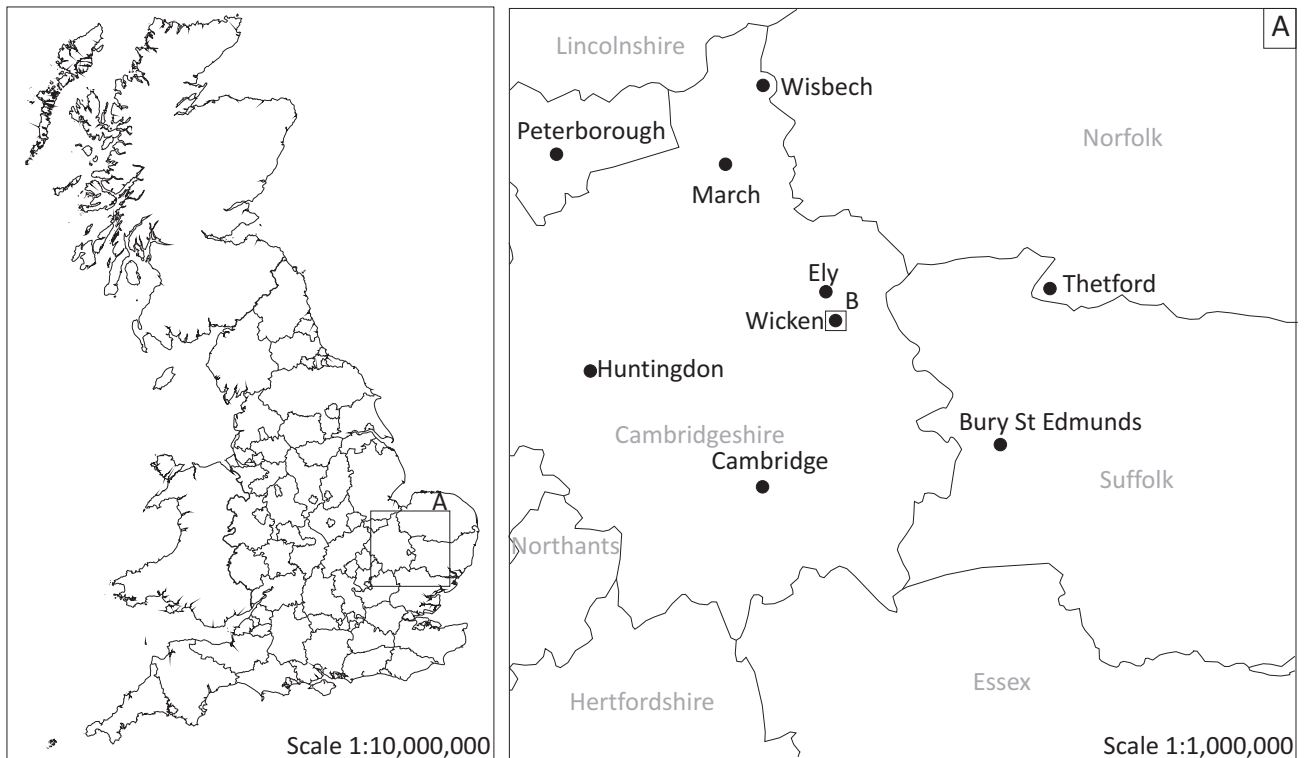


Figure 1: Site location outlined in red

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Site Code
WICK 13

Scales
1:10,000,000
1:1,000,000
1:25,000 @ A4

Drawn by
M Wood

Date
22/10/2013

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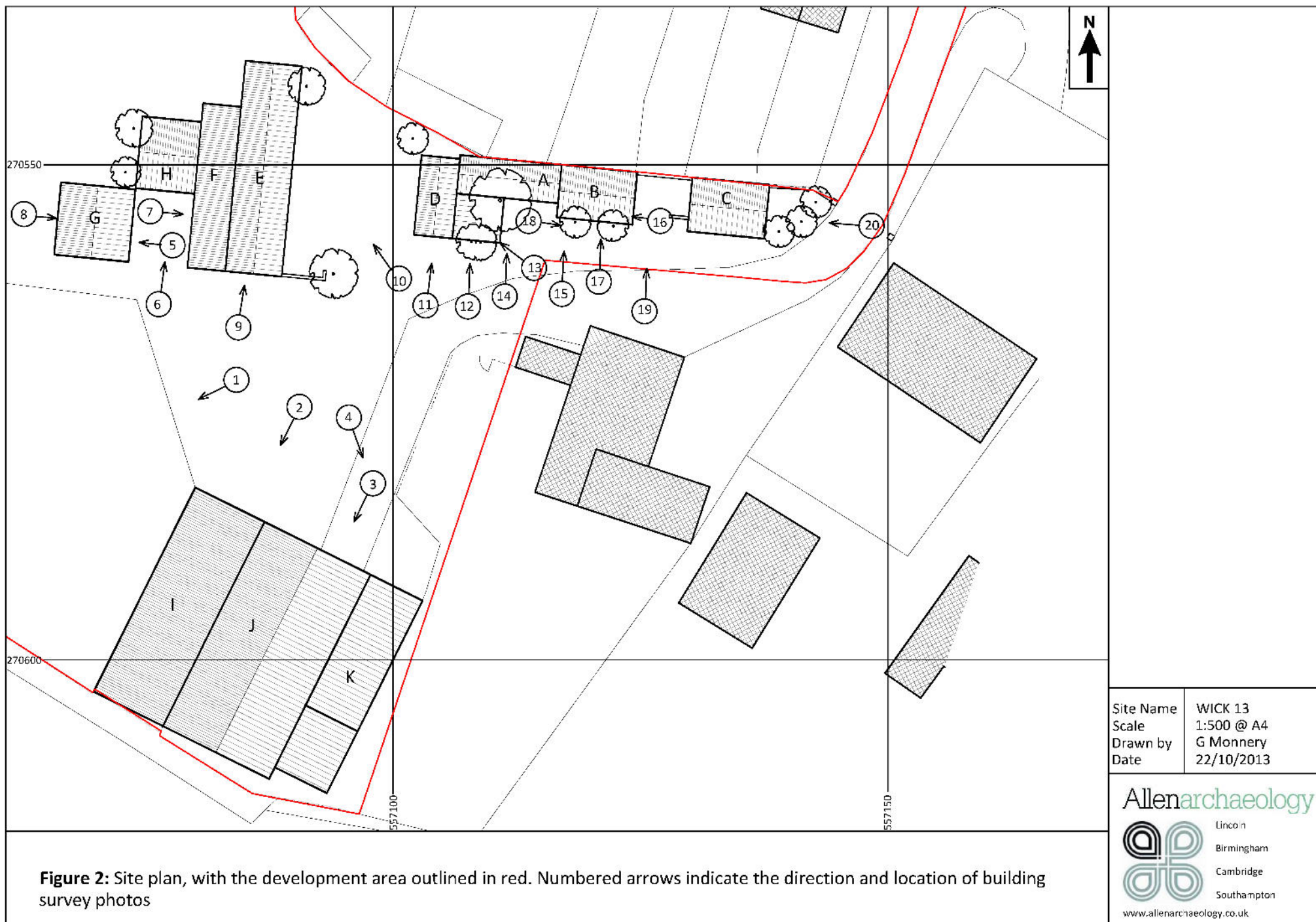
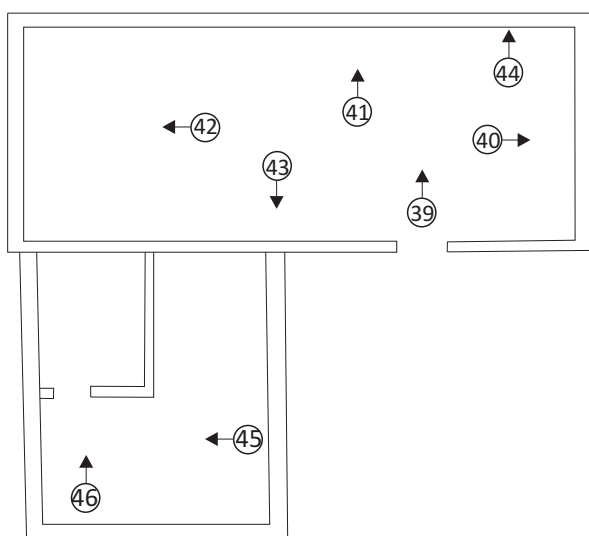
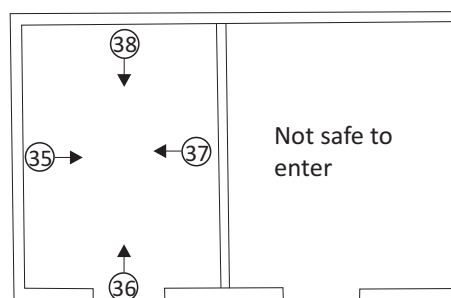


Figure 2: Site plan, with the development area outlined in red. Numbered arrows indicate the direction and location of building survey photos

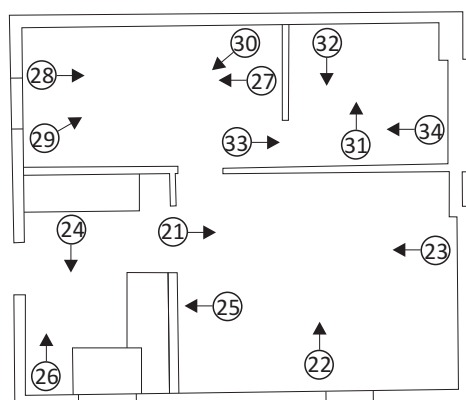
Building A



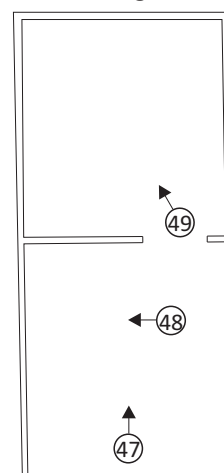
Building B



Building C



Building D



| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Site Name | WICK 13 |
| Scale | 1:100 @A4 |
| Drawn by | G Monnery |
| Date | 22/10/13 |

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Figure 3: Plan of Buildings A, B, C and D showing direction and location of photographs



Figure 4: Trench locations in blue with site boundary in red

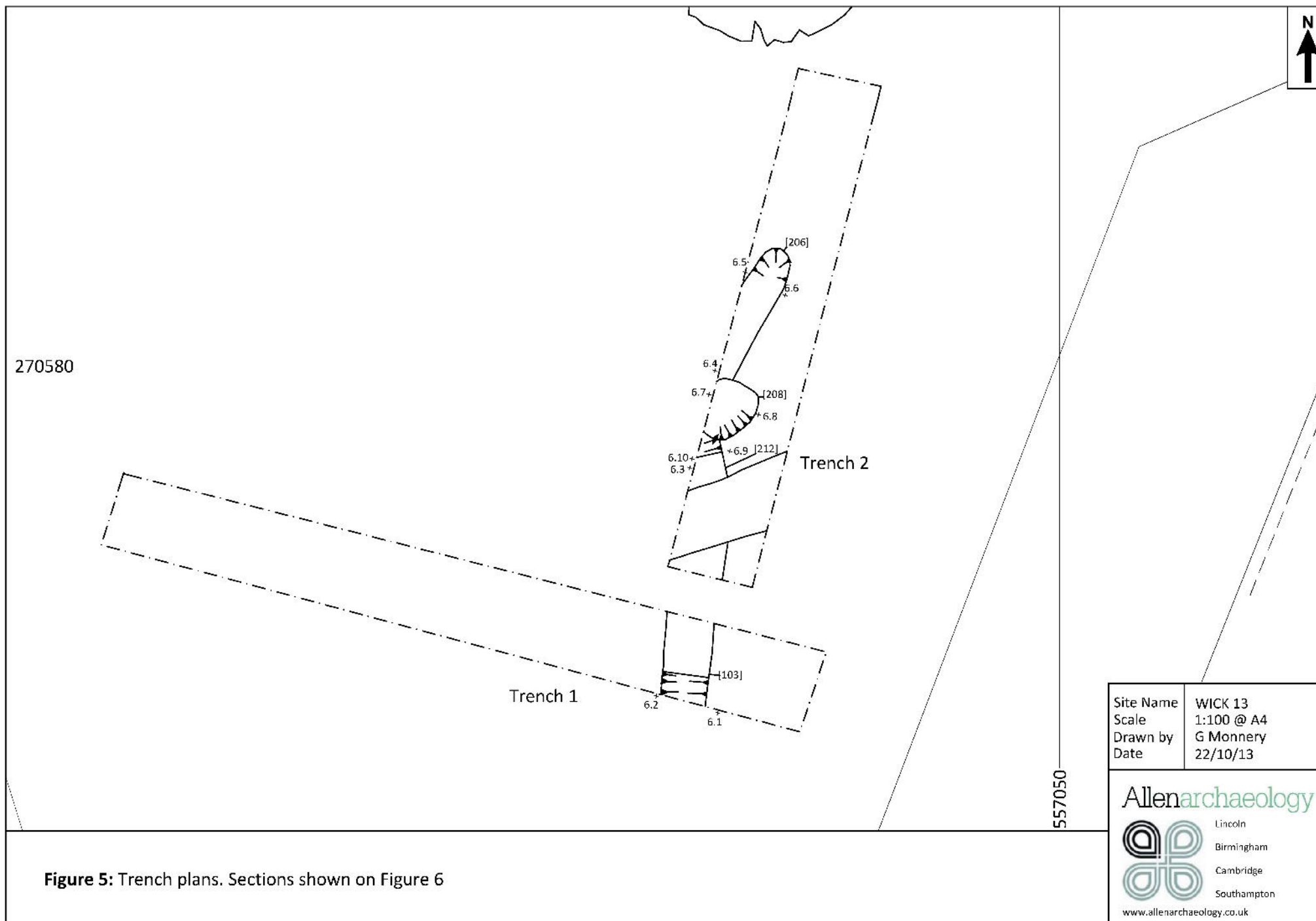


Figure 5: Trench plans. Sections shown on Figure 6

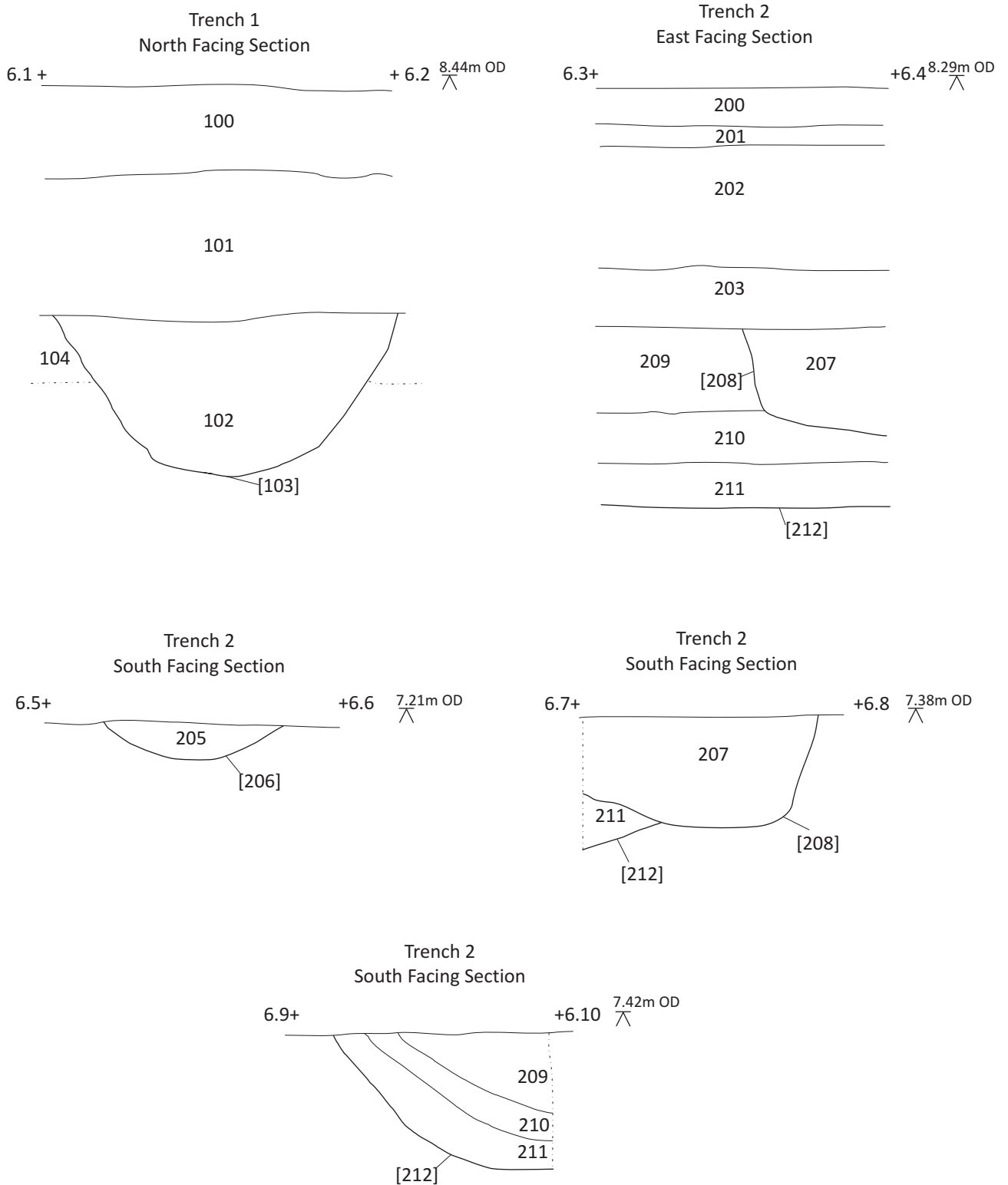


Figure 6: Trench 1 and 2 sections, located on Figure 5



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