

**HISTORIC BUILDING SURVEY, EARTHWORK SURVEY AND TRIAL TRENCHING REPORT:
LAND AT MANOR FARM, SCHOOL LANE, MEPAL, CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

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Report prepared for Mr Chris Norman

By
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Executive Summary

- Allen Archaeology Limited was commissioned by Mr Chris Norman to undertake a building survey, earthwork survey and trial trench evaluation on land at Manor Farm, Mepal, Cambridgeshire to fulfil a planning condition for the conversion of existing buildings and the erection of five new dwellings.
- No previous archaeological work had been undertaken at the site but it is known to be located adjacent to a number of existing earthworks, likely to be the remains of medieval settlement around the parish church of St Mary, to the north of the site. In addition, and as the name of the site suggests, a manor that existed in the immediate vicinity of the site is recorded in 17th century documents, and aerial photographs have been taken to indicate possible survival of part of a moat associated with this manor.
- The historic building survey recorded the L-shaped range of farm buildings in the northern part of the site. These buildings comprised a two storey threshing barn at the west end of the group which is likely to be the earliest structure on the site, of a probable early 19th century date. This was abutted by a series of single storey open fronted animal shelters, with another open fronted derelict structure in the southwest corner of the site.
- Four trenches were excavated in the proposed development area. Trench 1 was devoid of archaeological activity, with only a modern pond recorded in Trench 3. Linear features of a medieval date were recorded in Trenches 2 and 4, at between 0.3m and 0.85m below the modern ground surface. It seems likely that these features relate to the postulated medieval moat previously recorded at the site.
- The earthwork survey to the north of the site also revealed a series of irregular linear ditches possibly reflecting natural stream courses feeding in to the moated enclosure. Part of these earthworks are shown as an extant watercourse on modern mapping.
- It is likely that groundworks for Plots 5, 6 and 7 of the proposed development will impact upon the archaeological resource and as such further mitigation may be required, depending upon the depth of groundworks in these areas.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Allen Archaeology Limited (hereafter AAL) was commissioned by Mr Chris Norman to undertake an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on land at Manor Farm, School Lane, Mepal, Cambridgeshire to fulfil a planning condition for the conversion of existing buildings and the erection of five new dwellings.
- 1.2 The works were undertaken in line with a specification prepared by this company (AAL 2014) and followed the national guidelines set out by the Institute for Archaeologists in '*Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluations*' (IfA 1999, revised 2001 and 2008) and regional guidelines in '*Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England*' (Medlycott 2011). All relevant English Heritage guidelines on archaeological best practice were also followed (<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/advice/advice-by-topic/heritage-science>).
- 1.3 The documentary and physical archive will be submitted to Cambridgeshire Museums Service within six months of the completion of the fieldwork.

2.0 Site Location and Description

- 2.1 Mepal is situated in the administrative district of East Cambridgeshire District Council, approximately 22km north of central Cambridge. Manor Farm is towards the north side of the village, north of School Lane, and is centred on NGR TL 4411 8097.
- 2.2 The local bedrock geology comprises Ampthill Clay Formation Mudstone, with no overlying superficial geology recorded (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).

3.0 Planning Background

- 3.1 A planning application has been submitted to East Cambridgeshire District Council for the '*Conversion of existing barns to two dwellings and garaging. Erection of three detached houses. Erection of two bungalows for affordable housing. Erection of 2 no. garage buildings. Change of use of paddock to amenity space for barn conversions. New access*' (Reference 13/0799/FUL). 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 A search of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (hereafter CHER) was requested by the client for a 1km radius search area, and the results of this search are detailed below.
- 4.2 Prehistoric activity is represented in the surrounding landscape by the discovery of a Neolithic polished axe c.800m northwest of the site (CHER Reference 08042) as well as a Bronze Age palstave ploughed up in 1958 c.400m south of the site (CHER Reference 05806). Another Bronze palstave is recorded from Mepal, the exact provenance of which is not known (CHER Reference 02013).
- 4.3 The parish church, dedicated to St. Mary, is located north of the current village and north of Manor Farm, suggesting a shift of settlement focus. The church is of a probable early 13th century date, with later additions and alterations and is Grade II* Listed (CHER Reference CB14893). Aerial photographic assessment of the area around the church and Manor Farm has identified a number of degraded village earthworks and cropmarks, including parts of a possible moat surrounding Manor Farm as well as hollow ways, house platforms and field systems (CHER Reference 05831). Ridge and furrow earthworks and cropmarks have been recorded at several locations around the village (CHER References 09269, 09270, 11464 and 11923).
- 4.4 A manor house in Mepal is documented in 1650, when purchased by Robert Croxton. It is recorded at this time as a timber framed building with hall, parlour, buttery, three bedrooms, kitchen wing, outhouses, gardens and orchards, as well as a small cottage (CHER Reference MCB19543). The Manor House is shown immediately east of the current site on the 1887 Ordnance Survey map.

5.0 Methodology

Historic Building Survey

- 5.1 The methodology described below equates to a level of detail commensurate with a Level 3 survey as detailed in the English Heritage document: *Understanding Historic Buildings, A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (English Heritage 2006). The survey was undertaken by Gavin Glover on Tuesday 20th May 2014.
- 5.2 Photographs were taken of the following where accessible: -
 - 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, 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 occur more than once within the structure; and
 - A general internal photographic record of the building. Photographs were taken of each room/discrete internal space from sufficient points to show the form, general appearance and methods of construction.

- 5.3 Metric scales of appropriate length were used when required and all photographs were annotated and their locations shown on a floor plan of the buildings.
- 5.4 In addition to the photographic record, a written description and programme of analysis was undertaken of the structure.
- 5.5 Map regression and the study of readily available documentary sources was undertaken to provide a historical context to the site.

Evaluation Trenching

- 5.6 A programme of trial trenching was agreed with Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team (CHET), which comprised four trenches, two measuring 30m long by 1.6m wide and two measuring 20m long by 1.6m wide. The trial trenching was undertaken by a team of experienced field archaeologists between Wednesday 21st and Friday 23rd May 2014.
- 5.7 Topsoil, subsoil and underlying non-archaeological deposits were removed by mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket in spits no greater than 0.1m in depth. The process was repeated until the first archaeologically significant or natural horizon was exposed. All further excavation was then by hand.
- 5.8 Where archaeological features or deposits were identified a sufficient sample was excavated in order to determine their date, extent, level of preservation, form and where possible, function.
- 5.9 A full written record of the archaeological deposits was made on standard Allen Archaeology Limited context recording sheets. Archaeological deposits were drawn to scale, in plan and section (at scale 1:20 or 1:50), with Ordnance Datum heights being displayed on each class of drawing. Colour photography formed an integral part of the recording strategy, and photographs incorporated scales, an identification board and directional arrow where appropriate.
- 5.10 Each deposit, layer or cut was allocated a unique three digit identifier (context number), and accorded a written description, a summary of these are included in Appendix 1. Numbers within square brackets within this report reflect cut features (e.g. ditch [416]).

Earthwork Survey

- 5.11 The topographic survey was undertaken on Tuesday 20th May 2014, using a Leica GS08 GPS unit receiving RTK corrections. During the survey line codes were employed to differentiate between different features and all survey data was transformed to Ordnance Survey National Grid coordinates.
- 5.12 Illustration of the survey data was undertaken using a combination of CAD and GIS software. Potential archaeologically significant earthworks were depicted using a hachure convention.
- 5.13 Single digit numbers within square brackets refer to specific identified landscape features (e.g. sinuous ditch [1]).

6.0 Results

Building Survey (Figures 2 – 5 and See Appendix 1 for photographs)

- 6.1 The surveyed structures comprise an L-shaped range of buildings, with three components, numbered Buildings A – C (see cover). At the west end of the group was a two storey barn; Building A, appended to the east by a single storey range of outbuildings; Building B, and a north – south range; Building C, at the east end of the group. Each building will be discussed in turn, beginning with the outside of the building, and then the interior. To the southwest was a further single storey outbuilding, D.
- 6.2 Building A is a two storey brick building in a yellow/brown gault brick in English Bond on the north and south elevations and Flemish Bond on the western gable. It has a double pitched gabled roof of plain ceramic tiles, with overhanging eaves and exposed rafters, purlins and ridge piece.
- 6.3 The western gable has two brick buttresses, either side of a doorway or pitching hole at first floor level, with two ventilation slits above (Plate 1). It was not possible to access the first floor at the time of the survey.
- 6.4 The south elevation has a pair of sliding vertically planked wooden doors over a central entrance, flanked by six ventilation slits to either side (Plate 2). On the northern elevation the corresponding central opening had a segmental arch with a wooden lintel directly above that was likely to have carried sliding doors identical to the opposing elevation (Plate 3). Above this was a protruding brick lintel of uncertain function. The opening below was blocked with brick and breeze block. The layout of the opposing large openings in either side of the barn suggest this was originally a threshing barn.
- 6.5 The east elevation also had brick buttresses and a small first floor pitching hole, with ventilation slits above. The brick buttresses were largely concealed by the adjacent Building B, and this arrangement suggests that Building A was earlier and Building B was added at a later date.
- 6.6 The ground floor of the building was in use as a general purpose store and retained few features of note (Plate 4). It had a concrete floor, and the joists supporting the floor above were modern machine sawn timbers suggesting a recent replacement. There was no access point from the ground floor to the first floor, probably as a result of the floor being replaced.
- 6.7 Building B was a broadly east – west aligned single storey range with double pitched gabled roof with plain ceramic tiles. It was also constructed of gault brick and had a north elevation built in Flemish Bond, with a series of external brick buttresses. Its south elevation was partially open fronted and partially Flemish Bond brickwork (see cover image).
- 6.8 At the west end of the range B1 was a brick fronted component of the building, with a small window in the south elevation (Plate 5). An opening had been formed to allow access into A to the west, with another doorway into B2 to the east. At c.2m height was a series of wooden joists and square sockets indicating a floor for a former hayloft had been removed from within the building (Plate 6). The roof structure was consistent throughout Building B, comprising a series of horizontal tie beams with diagonal bracing struts and collar beams (Plate 7).
- 6.9 B2 was partially bricked up but mostly open fronted. A wooden lintel was supported by a square wooden post set in a concrete pad. The post had been repaired at some point, with its

two parts being fitted together with a scarf joint. Attached to the upper part of the post were two reverse ogee diagonal struts supporting the roof lintel and another diagonal strut extended under the roof to the tie beam (Plates 7 and 8).

- 6.10 B3 was a small room with a single doorway into B2 to the west and a window in the south elevation covered with wooden slats (Plate 9).
- 6.11 B4 was open fronted with wooden posts supporting the roof along the south elevation (Plate 10). One of these posts was identical to that in B2, with the second being a plain round post, adjacent to which was a disused post with attached struts (Plate 11). This arrangement indicates that the diagonal bracing struts are likely to be original features, with the circular post and the scarf jointed lower parts of the other uprights being later repairs.
- 6.12 B5 and B6 were both brick fronted (Plate 12), each with a doorway and window in the south elevation. Both windows had a brick segmental arch and wooden slats. B6 had a wooden trough and hayrack on the north elevation (Plate 14). To the east, is a partition wall that appears to be a later addition to the building. Part of the upper half of the partition wall since has been removed to form an opening into B7, the reason for which is not clear, as the retention of the lower part of the wall would preclude the free movement of livestock, people or goods (Plate 15).
- 6.13 B7, at the east end of the range, had a stable door into C1 to the south, and a square window opening in the eastern gable.
- 6.14 Building C was similar in form to Building B, being a single storey brick structure, which was largely open fronted, and had a double pitched gabled roof of plain ceramic tiles (see cover). The east elevation was in Flemish Bond with no openings, the south elevation was also in Flemish Bond, and a single vertically planked wooden door with strap hinges, above which was a small pitching hole with wooden door and segmental arch above (Plate 16). The open fronted west elevation had a series of wooden supports similar to those along the south elevation of Building B (Plate 17).
- 6.15 C1 had a wooden trough along the full length of the east elevation, with hayrack above (Plate 18). Part of this trough was subdivided with a rough wooden partition towards its north end, the reason for which is not clear (Plate 19).
- 6.16 A brick partition separated C1 and C2 to its south. This was also open fronted and had scars on the north, south and west walls indicating that a feeding trough had formerly been present (Plate 20). There was a door in the south elevation into C3. C3 was not accessible at the time of the survey. A square brick chimney with a single ceramic pot protruded through the roof, suggesting this may have been a room for use of farm labourers.
- 6.17 In the southwest corner of the site, Building D is a single storey structure with double pitched gabled roof of corrugated steel (Plate 21). The north, south and west elevations are weatherboarded and in a poor state of repair (Plate 22). The east elevation is open fronted, and supported by square wooden posts. The interior is overgrown and retains no features of note (Plate 23).

Trial Trenching (Figures 6 – 8 and see Appendix 3 for photographs)

Trench 1

- 6.18 The earliest deposit revealed in Trench 1 was an alluvial deposit of mottled mid yellowish orange silty clay, 105, encountered approximately 1.2m below the current ground surface. It was sealed by a second possible alluvial deposit, 104, which comprised greenish grey silt and was 0.30m thick. A 0.20m thick layer of dark grey organic-rich silt, 103, sealed the alluvial layers and may have been a buried topsoil or former ground surface. It was in turn sealed by a 0.20m thick layer of greyish brown sandy silt, 102, which may have been a further buried soil layer and was overlain by a 0.40m thick deposit of brick and stone rubble, likely to represent a former yard surface. The uppermost deposit in the trench was a further layer of topsoil, which measured 0.10m thick and formed the present ground surface.

Trench 2

- 6.19 The earliest deposit encountered within the trench was a natural geological deposit of orange brown silty clay, 201. It was cut by a probable linear feature, [207] which was exposed approximately 0.85m below the current ground surface and extended along almost the entire length of the trench on a broadly north-northwest to south-southeast orientation. Only one side of the feature was visible within the trench and whilst it seems likely it was linear in shape it could conceivably have been the edge of a very large discrete feature such as a pond. Excavation of this poorly defined feature was not possible due to water ingress but investigation of its fills by augering indicated that the feature was approximately 0.95m deep. The feature contained three fills, 205, 208 and 212, all of which comprised silty clays and are likely to have been the result of alluvial deposition. An assemblage of four sherds of pottery was recovered from fill 205, all sherds coming from the base of a single jug dated to the 13th or 14th century. The uppermost fill, 212, was sealed by a 0.18m thick layer of brownish grey sandy silt, 211 and was in turn sealed by a 0.04m thick layer of silty sand 210. Both of the layers are most likely alluvially derived and perhaps indicate one or more periods of flooding after feature [207] had been completely infilled.
- 6.20 A 0.15m thick layer of possible buried topsoil, 203, extended across the trench sealing the possible flood deposits and ditch [207]. It was overlain by a 0.10m thick layer of brick and rubble fragments, 209, and a 0.20m thick layer of limestone fragments, 202, likely to represent former yard surfaces. It was sealed by a 0.25m thick layer of topsoil, 200, which formed the modern ground surface.

Trench 3

- 6.21 The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 3 was a soft, greyish blue, organic-rich alluvial silt, 306, revealed approximately 1.1m below the current ground surface. It was sealed by a 0.40m thick layer of dark yellowish brown silty sand, 305 which may also have been waterlain.
- 6.22 A 0.45m thick layer of dark brown sandy silt, 304, which contained fragments of modern building material (not retained) had been deposited on top of the alluvial layers, possibly in an attempt to consolidate and level the soft ground below. This deposit was cut at the northeast end of the trench by the cut, [308], of a small pond shown on recent mapping. It contained two undated dumped deposits, 302 and 303. A 0.60m thick, dark brown silty clay layer, 301,

which contained more modern building material, sealed feature [308]. It was in turn sealed by a 0.20m thick layer of topsoil, 300 which formed the modern ground surface.

Trench 4

- 6.23 The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 4 was the natural geology, 401, of light orange brown silty clay. It was cut at the south end of the trench by a sequence of east – west aligned intercutting ditches. A slot was hand excavated through these features to a safe maximum depth of 1.2m below the existing ground surface, with further augering undertaken to define the depth of the deposits.
- 6.24 The earliest ditch in the hand excavated sequence was a shallow sloping cut [404/423]. Another cut, [422] identified at 1m depth in an auger hole may represent the base of the feature. It was filled by a natural silting deposit 411/417 that contained a small group of seven sherds of 11th to 13th century pottery, and a single intrusive post-medieval sherd.
- 6.25 The north edge of cut [404/423] was truncated by two steep sided linear cuts, [418] and [419], both of which were filled by undated natural silting deposits, 410 and 414 respectively.
- 6.26 A second east to west orientated ditch, [416], cut ditch [423] close to its southern edge. It measured 1.88m wide and 1.22m deep and contained three distinct backfill events, 421, 413 and 412, producing a group of 58 sherds of pottery of a 13th – 14th century date.
- 6.27 A further feature, [402], abutted ditch [404] and extended across the southern end of the trench. The feature had shallow sides and measured 0.16m deep and may have been a large truncated pit or natural hollow but its function is unclear. It produced 10 sherds of pottery of mid 12th – 14th century date.
- 6.28 A 0.12m thick stony layer, 409, sealed ditches [416], [418] and [419] and is likely to represent a former yard surface. The layer had been cut by a modern posthole, [420], before a series of further yard surfaces or levelling layers, 408, 407 and 406 had been deposited. A 0.10m thick layer of topsoil, 400 formed the uppermost deposit encountered in the trench.

Earthwork Survey (Figure 6 and see Appendix 3 for photograph)

- 6.29 The earthwork survey was undertaken in an area of pronounced earthworks that extended into the northern site boundary. The survey was focused on the earthworks within the proposed development area and a small area beyond to provide context, but the extensive earthworks further to the north were not surveyed.
- 6.30 A sinuous ditch [1] extended on a broadly northeast to southwest orientation approximately 6m to the northwest of the existing farm buildings. The ditch measured 4-5m wide and joined with a northwest to southeast orientated ditch [2] at its northeastern end which appeared to be partially overlain by the eastern range of the farm buildings. A low amorphous mound [3] was visible within the western part of the area enclosed by these two ditches and a shallow, at times barely perceptible hollow [4] extended on a northwest to southeast orientation from ditch [1].
- 6.31 To the northwest of ditch [2] a northwest to southeast orientated ditch and a northeast to southwest ditch joined [3]; the northwest to southeast orientated element almost certainly being a continuation of ditch [2], which had become separated after the filling of a portion of

the ditch to create a causeway for livestock. The northeast to southwest element of ditch [5] extended for a considerable distance beyond the surveyed area in a relatively straight line.

- 6.32 The sinuous ditches and shallow hollow revealed during the earthwork survey seem most likely to be related to former stream courses whilst the straight, linear ditch [5] feature appears on modern mapping (see Figure 1), suggesting it has only recently been infilled. Low mounds were apparent in the surveyed area and amongst the earthworks beyond the surveyed area but there is little reason to suppose that those within the surveyed area were related to significant archaeological features, and they seem more likely to be related to spoil from levelling of the farmyard and construction of the adjacent L-shaped building block. It is conceivable that ditches [1] and [2] may form part of a ditch system enclosing a parcel of ground which includes at least part of the proposed development area. Given the documented presence of a manor in the immediate vicinity the possibility that the ditches could be part of a moat for the manor house must be considered and but, whilst this possibility remains, on balance the sinuous nature of the ditches seems more likely to point to them being naturally occurring stream courses.

7.0 Discussion

- 7.1 The historic building recording has served to make a permanent record of the farm buildings prior to development. The earliest component of the complex is likely to be the two storey barn, A, at the west end of the group. The form of this barn, with the two opposing double doors is typical of a threshing barn, These doors would have allowed carts to pass through to unload the crop, and also provided a throughflow of air to carry away the chaff during threshing and winnowing of the grain. Threshing barns are often the largest and earliest buildings on a farm (other than the farmhouse), and tend to date to before c.1850 (Wade Martins 1991). After this date, the processing of crops was increasingly mechanised, reducing the need for the threshing floor and the large storage areas for unprocessed crops (*ibid.*).
- 7.2 The range of outbuildings B and C are clearly later, as Building B abuts the buttressed east gable of A, and a new opening has been formed to allow access between the two buildings. These were originally open fronted, although parts have been later bricked up, and the presence of feeding troughs and hayracks in several buildings suggest they were used as animal shelters. Building D to the southwest is similar in form, but with a later corrugated steel roof.
- 7.3 All the structures appear on the First Edition 1887 Ordnance Survey map of the site, with four small yards or stock enclosures shown in front of A – C.
- 7.4 Trial trenching at the site revealed features and deposits of archaeological significance in Trenches 2 and 4 with Trenches 1 and 3 either being devoid of features or containing only features of modern date, the latter two trenches exposing a modern pond and a sequence of levelling layers and yard surfaces. The pond recorded in Trench 3 appears on the 1887 Ordnance Survey map, but appears to have been recently recut and contained modern backfills.
- 7.5 Trench 2 contained a single linear feature producing a small group of medieval pottery, and in Trench 4 a complex of broadly contemporary intercutting ditches was identified. The repeated cutting of the ditches in Trench 4 probably indicates the maintenance, over a period of time, of a single boundary or drainage feature. The earliest ditch in the sequence measured over 5m wide and 1m deep, with later recuts being much smaller. It is plausible that these features

represent two sides of a potential moated enclosure, previously suggested by aerial photographs of the site (CHER Reference 05831). These may be related to the earthwork features recorded immediately to the north of the site, but these were very irregular in form and may conceivably be natural stream channels, perhaps feeding into a moated enclosure or other water management feature

8.0 Conclusions

8.1 The archaeological works undertaken at the Manor Farm site indicate the survival of archaeological features and deposits dating to the medieval period in Trenches 2 and 4. In Trench 2, located in the area of Plots 6 and 7 of the proposed development, the horizon of archaeological interest was at a depth of 0.85m below the existing ground surface. In Trench 4, located in the area of Plot 5, the depth of cover varied between 0.3m and 0.8m. Therefore, depending on the depth of groundworks associated with any future development in these areas, there may be an impact on buried archaeological remains that will necessitate a suitable programme of further mitigation.

9.0 Effectiveness of Methodology

9.1 The archaeological methodology was appropriate to the nature and extent of the proposed development. It has made a permanent record of the historic buildings and earthworks within the development area, and determined the presence of features and deposits of archaeological interest in select parts of the site.

10.0 Acknowledgements

10.1 Allen Archaeology would like to thank Mr Chris Norman for this commission and for providing plant for trench excavation and backfilling.

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Appendix 1: Building Survey Colour Plates



Plate 1 (Shot 9): Western gable of Building A, looking east-northeast. 2m scale



Plate 2 (Shot 2): South elevation of Building A, looking north-northwest. 2m scale



Plate 3 (Shot 10): North elevation of Building A, looking south-southeast



Plate 4 (Shot 57): Building A interior, looking east-northeast. 2m scale



Plate 5 (Shot 3): Building B south elevation showing B1 –B3, looking north-northwest. 2m scale



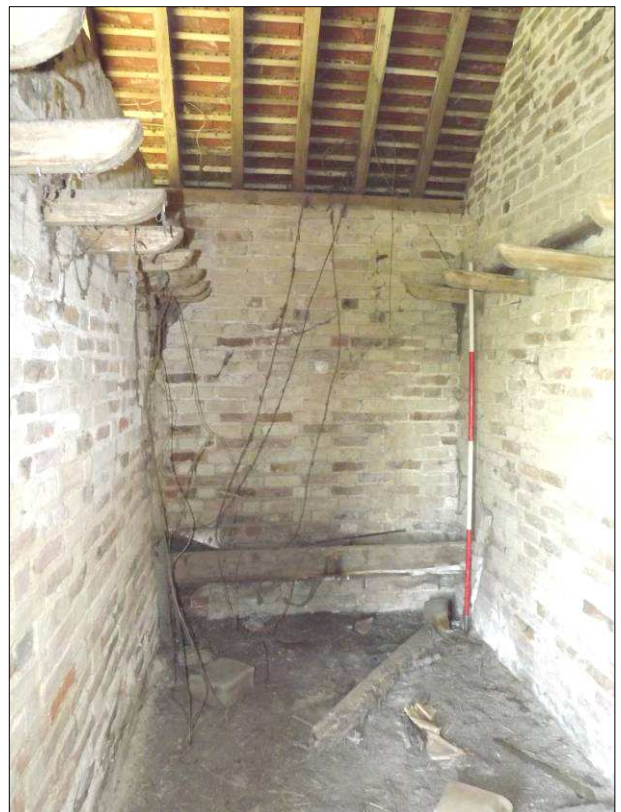
Plate 6 (Shot 55): B1 interior, looking north-northwest. Note former floor joists in wall to left of shot. 2m scale



Plate 7 (Shot 47): B2 interior and roof structure, looking east-northeast. 2m scale



Left: Plate 8 (Shot 50): Detail of wooden joist in B2, looking south-southwest



Right: Plate 9 (Shot 45): B3 interior, looking north-northwest. 2m scale



Plate 10 (Shot 5): B4 south elevation, looking, looking north-northwest. 2m scale



Plate 11 (Shot 43): Detail of cut off roof support and replacement post, looking southeast. 2m scale



Plate 12 (Shot 6): South elevation of B5 and B6, looking north-northwest. 2m scale



Plate 13 (Shot 37): B5 interior, looking north-northwest. 2m scale



Plate 14 (Shot 35): B6 interior, looking north-northwest. 2m scale



Plate 15 (Shot 33): Partition between B6 and B7, looking west-southwest. 2m scale



Plate 16 (Shot 75): Building C, south and east elevations, looking northwest. 2m scale



Plate 17 (Shot 7): West elevation of C1, looking east-northeast. 2m scale



Plate 18 (Shot 24): Interior of C1, looking north-northwest. 2m scale



Plate 19 (Shot 26): Partitioned trough at north end of C1, looking north-northwest. 2m scale



Plate 20 (Shot 21): C2 interior, looking east-northeast. 2m scale



Plate 21 (Shot 15): Building D, east elevation, looking south. 2m scale

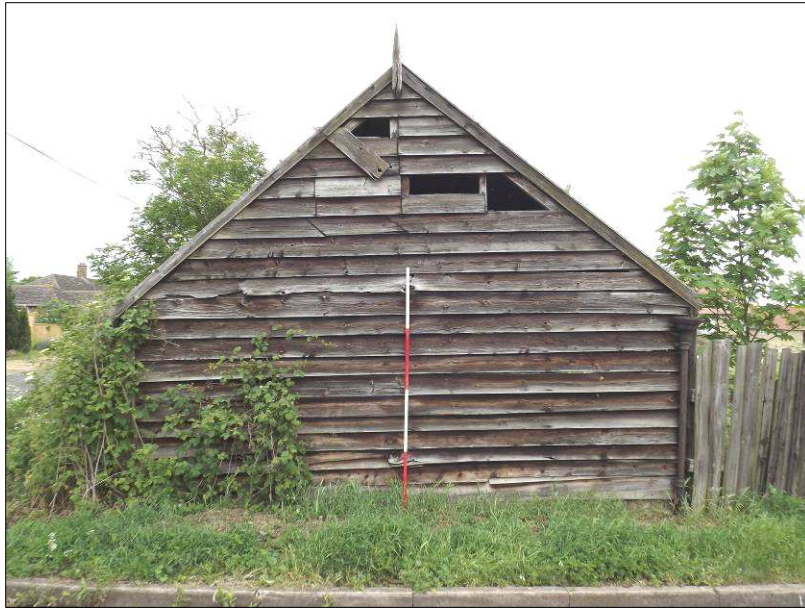


Plate 22 (Shot 13): Building D, south elevation, looking north-northwest. 2m scale



Plate 23 (Shot 69): Interior of Building D, looking northwest. 2m scale

Appendix 2: Building Survey Photographic Record

Shot number	Direction facing	Building/Area	Description
1	NE	A, B, C	General view of site
2	NNW	A	South elevation
3	NNW	B1, B2	South elevation
4	NNW	B1, B2	South elevation
5	NNW	B4	South elevation
6	NNW	B4, B5, B6, B7	South elevation
7	ENE	C1	West elevation
8	ENE	C2, C3	West elevation
9	ENE	A	West elevation
10	SSE	A	North elevation
11	SE	A, B	Rear general shot
12	SE	A, B	Rear general shot
13	NNW	D	South elevation
14	NW	D	East elevation general shot
15	S	D	East elevation general shot
16	NNW	-	South elevation of modern farm building
17	SSE	C2	C2 doorway
18	SSW	C2	C2 roof timbers
19	SSW	C2	C2 roof timbers
20	SSW	C2	C2 roof timbers
21	ENE	C2	C2 interior
22	SSE	C1	C1 interior
23	NNW	C2	C2 interior
24	ENE	C1	C1 interior
25	SE	C1	Trough in C1
26	ENE	C1	Trough in C1
27	SSE	C1	C1 roof timbers
28	S	C1	C1 roof supports
29	NNW	C1	C1 doorway
30	SSE	B7	B7 doorway
31	ENE	B6	B7 interior
32	NNE	B6	B7 roof timbers
33	WSW	B7	B6/B7 partition
34	NNW	B7	B7 interior
35	NNW	B6	B6 interior
36	SSE	B6	B6 interior
37	NNW	B5	B5 interior
38	SSE	B5	B5 interior
39	ENE	B5	B5 roof timbers
40	ENE	B4	B4 interior and roof structure
41	WSW	B4	B4 interior and roof structure
42	WNW	B4	B4 north elevation
43	SE	B4	B4 cut off post and replacement
44	SE	B4	B4 cut off post and replacement
45	NNW	B3	B3 interior
46	SSE	B3	B3 interior
47	ENE	B2	B2 interior
48	NNE	B2	B2 north elevation
49	WSW	B2	B2 interior and roof structure
50	SSW	B2	B2 roof support
51	SSW	B2	B2 brick structure
52	ENE	B1	B1 interior

Shot number	Direction facing	Building/Area	Description
53	ENE	B1	B1 roof structure
54	WSW	B1	B1 floor joists
55	NNW	B1	B1 interior
56	SSE	B1	B1 interior
57	ENE	A	A ground floor interior
58	ENE	A	A, doorway to B1
59	SSE	A	A, doorway on south elevation
60	SE	A	A, blocked ventilation slit
61	WSW	A	A ground floor interior
62	NNW	A	A, doorway on north elevation
63	NNW	A	A, blocked ventilation slit
64	NE	A	A ground floor interior
65	SSE	A	A ground floor interior
66	WNW	A	A, ceiling
67	NNE	A	A, west elevation
68	NNW	D	D interior
69	WNW	D	D interior
70	SSE	D	D interior
71	SSE	A, B	North elevation general shot
72	SW	A, B	North and east elevation general shot
73	SW	B	East elevation
74	SW	B, C	East elevation
75	WNW	B, C	East and south elevations
76	NW	C	South elevation
77	NNW	-	General location shots
78	ENE	-	General location shots
79	SW	A	Rear general shot

Appendix 3: Trial Trenching and Earthwork Survey Colour Plates



Plate 24: Trench 1 section, looking northwest. 1m scale



Plate 25: Trench 2 section, looking southwest. 1m scale



Plate 26: Trench 3 looking southwest. 1m scale

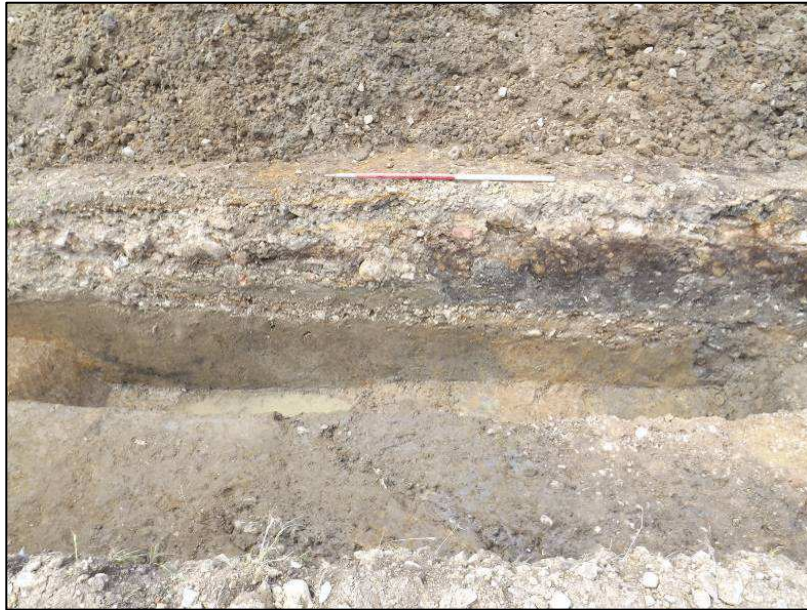


Plate 27: View of the ditches and posthole in Trench 4 looking west. 1m scale



Plate 28: View of the earthworks with ditch [1] in the foreground, looking southwest

Appendix 4: Post-Roman Pottery Report

By Jane Young

Introduction

An assemblage of eighty-four sherds, representing thirty-eight vessels in total, was submitted for examination. The pottery was recovered from six deposits in two trenches on the site (Trenches 2 and 4). The assemblage was quantified by three measures: number of sherds, weight and vessel count within each context. Fabric identification of some sherds was undertaken by x20 binocular microscope. The ceramic data was entered on an Access database using Cambridgeshire fabric codenames with a concordance to Cambridgeshire codes. Recording of the assemblage was in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski, *et al.* (2001).

Condition

The pottery is mainly in a slightly abraded to fairly fresh condition. Sherd size is extremely variable and mainly falls into the small to medium size range (between 1 and 50 grams). Twelve vessels are represented by more than one sherd and there are no cross-context joining vessels. The material is in a stable condition.

Overall Chronology and Source

Seven pottery ware types were recognised including local and regionally imported types. The material ranges in date from the medieval to post-medieval periods. A narrow range of identifiable vessel types was recovered, mainly various types of jugs and jars.

Table 1 Pottery types with total quantities by sherd and vessel count

Cambridgeshire CNAME	Full name	Total sherds	Total vessels	Total weight in grams
BONB	Medieval Bourne Fabric B	2	2	68
EMW	Early Medieval Handmade	14	7	59
MELC	Calcareous Medieval Ely ware	3	3	23
MELCO	Coarse-tempered Medieval Ely ware	28	10	242
MELS	Medieval Ely ware	33	13	669
PMR	Post-medieval Red ware	1	1	5
SHW	Shelly ware	3	2	80

Early Medieval to Medieval

Seven vessels are of early medieval to medieval type. These quartz-tempered Early Medieval Handmade ware jars (EMW), first produced in the late 11th century, were manufactured in several centres in Cambridgeshire, South Lincolnshire and East Anglia until the mid to late 13th century. Microscopic examination of the vessels from this site suggests that they are probably all regional imports from Norfolk. Few chronologically diagnostic features occur within the type making close dating impossible.

Medieval

Thirty of the recovered vessels, most of which would have been produced in nearby Ely, are of medieval type. Sixty-four sherds, from twenty-six vessels in three fabric groups, are in Medieval Ely-type ware. Of these, thirteen vessels are of standard Medieval type (see Spoerry 2008 for Cambridgeshire code MELS), three are in a predominantly calcareous fabric (MELC) and ten are in a coarse quartz-tempered fabric (MELCO). Five of the standard Medieval Ely ware vessels are identifiable as jugs of medium to large size. These jugs have varying amount of a thin reduced light-green external glaze. The largest jug is decorated with a single incised wavy horizontal line just above the glaze line on the lower body. Three of the vessels are jars of small to medium size whilst the other sherds could come from jugs, jars or bowls. The three Calcareous Medieval Ely ware vessels all appear to be jugs. Two of the Coarse-tempered Medieval Ely ware vessels are jugs and two are jars. One of these jars is extremely thin-walled and this vessel may be a local variation of Early Medieval Handmade ware. The larger of the two jugs has a row of wavy horizontal three-pronged combing around the shoulder. Most of these Ely ware vessels are likely to be of 13th to 14th century date, although some may belong to the second half of the 12th century.

Two sherds are from a jar and a jar or bowl in the very conservative Medieval Bourne-type ware (BONB). Neither sherd is chronologically distinctive and these vessels can only be generally dated to between the 13th and 14th centuries.

Two large bowls are in leached Medieval Shell-tempered fabrics (SHW). The bowls are of similar sloping type and share a similar visual fabric of flattened voids from decayed medium to coarse fossil shell inclusions together with sparse quartz grains. The fabric is too leached to determine which industry these bowls come from but they can be dated to between the late 12th and 14th centuries.

Post-medieval

Glazed Post-medieval Red Earthenwares (PMR) first appear in mid 16th century groups in East Anglia and Lincolnshire and reflect Flemish or Dutch influence. Major production sites are known in Cambridgeshire (notably at Ely see Cessford et al. 2006), Norfolk and in Lincolnshire, but the type was also produced in other counties. They are often considered a type fossil for the period between the mid/late 16th and mid 17th centuries, although they continue to be manufactured into the 18th century. The presence of a single jar sherd in an otherwise medieval group (ditch 422) may suggest that it is intrusive.

Site sequence

Pottery was recovered from one deposit in Trench 2 and five deposits in Trench 4. In Trench 2 possible linear feature 207 contained four fairly fresh sherds from the base of a single jug, jar or bowl in Medieval Ely ware. This vessel can only be generally dated to the 13th or 14th centuries.

Ditch 422 in Trench 4 produced a small group of eight sherds from six vessels. Four sherds come from two Early Medieval Handmade ware jars. This type originates in the late 11th century and continues to be produced at some centres until the late 13th century. The two jars from this ditch are most likely to be of late 11th to early 13th century date. A jar, a jug and a jar or bowl are in Coarse-tempered Medieval Ely ware. The jug has a row of wavy horizontal three-pronged combing around the shoulder and a thin splashed-type glaze. This Ely-type is dated between the mid 12th and 14th centuries. One possibly intrusive sherd is from a Post-medieval Red Earthenware jar of mid 16th to 18th century date.

A small group of fifty-nine sherds representing twenty-three vessels was recovered from two of the fills (412 and 421) of ditch 416. Most of the pottery recovered is of Ely-type. The seven Medieval Ely ware vessels include at least four jugs and a jar. The largest jug is decorated with a single incised wavy horizontal line just above the glaze line on the lower body. Three jugs are in Calcareous Medieval Ely and

six vessels including at least one small jug represented by thirteen sherds are in Coarse-tempered Medieval Ely ware. These vessels are probably of 13th to 14th century date. Two sherds are from a jar and a jar or bowl in 13th to 14th century Medieval Bourne-type ware. The only recognisable bowls in the group are in leached shell-tempered fabrics. These two large sloping bowls are of the late 12th and 14th century date. The group also includes three Early Medieval Handmade ware jars of probable late 11th to early 13th century date. This small group is of 13th or 14th century date and may represent primary discard.

Ditch 404 produced three sherds from a single Medieval Ely ware jar or bowl of probable 13th to 14th century date.

A small group of ten sherds representing seven vessels was recovered from ditch 402. The pottery is covered in concretions suggesting it was deposited in a water-lain environment. The group includes two handmade Early Medieval jars, four Medieval Ely ware jars or bowls and a Coarse Medieval Ely ware jar. This group is of mid 12th to 14th century date.

Summary and Recommendations

This is a small group of pottery of mainly early medieval to medieval date, but also including a single post-medieval sherd. Several of the sherds are in a fairly fresh condition, which is possibly indicative of primary discard. The assemblage suggests activity in the area from at least the 13th century but is not large enough to infer the status of the medieval occupation. The assemblage should be kept for future study, especially as part of any further characterisation of the Early Medieval Handmade fabrics.

References

Cessford, C., Alexander, M. and Dickens, A. 2006. *Between Broad Street and the Great Ouse: Waterfront Archaeology in Ely*. East Anglian Archaeology **114**

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Pottery Archive

context	Cambs. CNAME	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	decoration	part	description
205	MELS	jug/jar/ bowl	4	1	103		base	fresh breaks no joining sherds
403	MELS	jug	1	1	25		base	concretions inc on breaks
403	MELS	jug/jar	1	1	3		BS	concretions inc on breaks
403	MELCO	jar	1	1	7		BS	thin walled;soot;concretions inc on breaks
403	MELS	jar ?	1	1	3		BS	soot;concretions inc on breaks
403	MELS	jar	1	1	3		BS	soot;concretions inc on breaks
403	EMW	jar	4	1	8		BS	soot;concretions inc on breaks;fresh breaks with no joining sherds
403	EMW	jar	1	1	3		BS	concretions inc on breaks
405	MELS	jar/bowl	3	1	41		base	soot;fresh breaks no joining sherds
411	EMW	jar	1	1	2		BS	soot
411	EMW	jar	3	1	11		BS	soot
411	MELCO	jar/bowl	1	1	11		base	
411	MELCO	jar ?	1	1	15		BS	
411	MELCO	jug	1	1	7	3 combed wavy lines on shoulder	BS	splashed glaze
411	PMR	jar ?	1	1	5		BS	int & ext brown fe flecked glaze
412	MELCO	jug/jar	1	1	15		base	
412	BONB	jar	1	1	43		BS	Fabric B./C;large fresh frag;soot ext ;glaze int
412	MELS	jar	1	1	27		rim	everted rim;small soot patch
412	MELS	jug/jar	3	1	27		base	
412	MELCO	jug/jar	1	1	3		BS	
412	MELS	jug	2	1	29		BS	spots ext glaze
412	MELCO	jug/jar	1	1	6		BS	internal 'kettle fur' deposit
412	EMW	jar ?	1	1	3		BS	soot
412	EMW	jar ?	1	1	4		BS	soot
412	MELC	jug	1	1	6		BS	abraded;glaze spots
412	MELC	small jug	1	1	11		BS	abraded;splashed glaze;lower handle join
412	EMW	small jar	3	1	28		base	soot;flat base
412	MELCO	?	1	1	30		base	abraded;thick walled
412	MELS	jug	3	1	24		BS	spots of glaze over partial white slip
421	MELC	jug ?	1	1	6		BS	glazed
421	SHW	large sloping bowl	2	1	66		rim & BS	leached;soot int & ext;poss wheelthrown;comm med to coarse fossil shell voids & sparse quartz
421	SHW	large bowl	1	1	14		rim	comm med to coarse fossil shell voids & sparse quartz
421	MELS	jug	1	1	33		base	
421	MELCO	small jug	13	1	104		BS	abraded;fresh breaks no joining sherds
421	MELS	jar/bowl	1	1	7		BS	abraded
421	BONB	jar/bowl	1	1	25		base	soot;abraded
421	MELCO	jug/jar	7	1	44		BS	abraded
421	MELS	large jug	11	1	344	incised wavy line on lower body	base & BS	glazed;fresh breaks no joining sherds

Appendix 5: Animal Bone Report

By Jennifer Wood

Introduction

A total of five (215g) refitted fragments of animal bone were recovered during archaeological works undertaken by Allen Archaeology Ltd on Land at Manor Farm, School Lane, Mepal, Cambridgeshire. The animal bone assemblage was recovered from Trench 2, linear ditch [207] and Trench 4, linear ditch [416].

Results

The remains were fairly fragmentary and of moderate overall condition, averaging at grade 3 on the Lyman criteria (1996).

No evidence of butchery, pathology or burning was noted on any of the remains.

A single fragment of cattle femur recovered from [207] displayed evidence of carnivore gnawing, which suggests that the remains were left open to scavengers as part of or after the disposal process.

Table 2, Summary of Identified Bone

Cut	Context	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	Weight	Comments
207	205	Equid (Horse Family)	Phalanx II	L	1	32	BP=56mm, Bfp=49mm, Mostly complete, Mineral concretions, Cess?
		Cattle	Femur	L	1	61	Distal shaft, Possible carnivore gnawing on distal end. In two pieces
		Large Mammal Size	Rib	X	1	13	Blade
		Cattle	Scapula	L	1	65	Fragmentary blade
416	421	Cattle	Humerus	L	1	44	Distal medial condyle

As can be seen from Table 2, the fragments were predominantly from cattle, with a single fragment of *equid* (Horse Family) also identified.

The assemblage is too small to provide meaningful information on animal husbandry and utilisation, save the presence of the animals/remains on site. In the event of further the works the site is liable to produce most remains of a similar nature with a moderate potential for providing further information on the underlying animal husbandry and diet economy that supplies the site.

References

Lyman, R L, 1996 *Vertebrate Taphonomy*, Cambridge Manuals in Archaeology, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge

Appendix 6: Context Summary List

Trench 1

Context	Type	Description	Interpretation
100	Layer	Mid grey brown firm silty sand with occasional stones; seals 101	Topsoil
101	Layer	Rubble layer of frequent brick and stone fragments; sealed by 100, seals 102	Levelling layer/yard surface
102	Layer	Mid grey brown firm sandy silt with orangey brown and bluish grey mottling; sealed by 101, seals 103	Levelling layer
103	Layer	Dark grey laminated organic silt; sealed by 102, seals 104	Buried topsoil
104	Layer	Light greenish grey firm clayey silt with dark grey flecking; sealed by 103, seals 105	Natural alluvium
105	Layer	Mid yellowish orange firm silty clay with greenish grey patches; sealed by 104	Natural alluvium

Trench 2

Context	Type	Description	Interpretation
200	Layer	Mid grey brown firm silty sand with occasional stones; seals 202	Topsoil
201	Layer	Mid orangey brown silty clay mottled with light grey patches. Cut by [207]	Natural geology
202	Layer	Yellowish orangey brown firm sand with very frequent limestone fragments; sealed by 200 and seals 209	Levelling layer/yard surface
203	Layer	Light grey firm sandy silt with occasional small rounded pebbles; sealed by 209 and seals 210	Buried topsoil
204	Layer	Orangey brown sandy gravel with frequent limestone fragments; sealed by 202 and seals 204	Levelling layer/yard surface
205	Fill	Mid greenish grey firm silty clay; sealed by 212 and seals 208	Natural silting of cut [207]
206	Void	Void	Void
207	Cut	Northwest to southeast aligned linear (not excavated but augered). Contains 205, 208, 212, cuts 201	Linear cut
208	Fill	Grey green firm silty clay, sealed by 205	Natural silting of cut [207]
209	Layer	Reddish orange silt with grey mottling with mostly red brick dust and fragments; sealed by 202, seals 203	Levelling layer/yard surface
210	Layer	Light grey firm sandy silt with occasional small rounded pebbles; sealed by 209, seals 211	Flood deposit
211	Layer	Mid greenish grey firm sandy silt; sealed by 210, seals 212	Flood deposit
212	Fill	Light blue grey soft silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks; sealed by 211, seals 205	Natural silting of cut [207]

Trench 3

Context	Type	Description	Interpretation
300	Layer	Mid grey brown firm silty sand with Frequent stones and CBM; seals 301 and is 0.20m thick	Topsoil
301	Layer	Dark brown firm silty clay with occasional CBM and stone; sealed by 300 and seals 302 and is 0.60m thick	Levelling layer
302	Fill	Very dark grey soft silty clay with frequent plant remains, straw and dung, sealed by 301, seals 303	Backfill of pond cut [308]
303	Fill	Very dark grey soft silt with occasional plant remains; sealed by 302, seals 307	Backfill of pond cut [308]
304	Layer	Dark brown firm sandy silty with occasional CBM and stone; cut by [308] and seals 305 and is 0.45m thick	Levelling layer
305	Layer	Dark yellow brown soft silty sand with frequent pea grit sized stones; sealed by 304 and seals 306 and is 0.45m thick	Levelling layer
306	Layer	Mid blue grey soft silt, slightly organic; sealed by 305	Levelling layer
307	Void	Void	Void
308	Cut	Very steep sided cut, contains 302, 303	Pond cut. Possible recut of earlier pond

Trench 4

Context	Type	Description	Interpretation
400	Layer	Mid grey brown loose silty sand with occasional gravel; seals 406	Topsoil
401	Layer	Light orangey brown silty clay with light greenish grey patches	Natural geology
402	Cut	shallow sides and flat base, abuts [404]	Linear ditch cut
403	Fill	Mid greyish brown firm sandy clay with orange sandy patches	Natural silting of [402]
404	Cut	E – W aligned, shallow sides and flat base. Contains 405	Linear ditch cut. Same as [422], [423]
405	Fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay, occasional angular stones and charcoal flecks; Cut by [402]	Natural silting of cut [404]. Same as 411, 417
406	Layer	Mid grey brown firm sandy silt with frequent small to large stones; sealed by 400, seals 407	Levelling layer/yard surface
407	Layer	Dark brown firm sandy silt with frequent orangey yellow patches of clay; sealed by 406, seals 408	Levelling layer
408	Layer	Mid greenish grey clay with dark grey patches, occasional small stones. Sealed by 407, seals 409	Levelling layer
409	Layer	Mid orangey brown silty sand with frequent small stones. Cut by [420], sealed by 408, seals 412, 414	Levelling layer
410	Fill	Orange clay with greenish grey patches. Cut by [419], contained by [418]	Natural silting of [418]
411	Fill	Mid greenish grey silty clay with orange patches, occasional charcoal flecks. Cut by [416] and [418]	Natural silting of cut [422]. Same as 405, 417
412	Fill	Mid greenish grey silty clay with brownish orange patches, occasional charcoal flecks; sealed by 409, seals 413	Backfill of [416]
413	Fill	Dark grey soft clay silt with moderate charcoal flecks; sealed by 412, seals 421	Backfill of [416]
414	Fill	Mid greenish grey with patches of yellowish brown firm clay with occasional charcoal flecks. Cut by [420],	Natural silting of [419]

Context	Type	Description	Interpretation
		sealed by 409	
415	Fill	Dark brownish grey firm silty clay with frequent stones and occasional wood; sealed by 408	Backfill of [420]
416	Cut	E – W aligned linear, steep sides, base only exposed by auger. Contains 421, 413, 412, cuts 411, 417	Linear ditch cut
417	Fill	Mid orangey brown firm silty clay with occasional small stones. Cut by [416], sealed by 409	Natural silting of [423], same as 405, 411
418	Cut	E - W aligned steep north edge. Contains 410, cuts 411	Linear ditch cut
419	Cut	E – W aligned linear, steep sides. Contains 414, cuts 410	Linear ditch cut
420	Cut	Near vertical sides to a flat base. Contains 415, cuts 409	Modern post hole cut
421	Fill	Mid orange brown firm sandy silt with occasional small stones; sealed by 413	Backfill of [416]
422	Cut	Ditch cut exposed in base of auger hole. Contains 411. Cuts 401	Ditch cut, same as [405], [423]
423	Cut	E – W aligned, shallow sides and flat base. Contains 417. Cuts 401	Ditch cut, same as [405], [422]

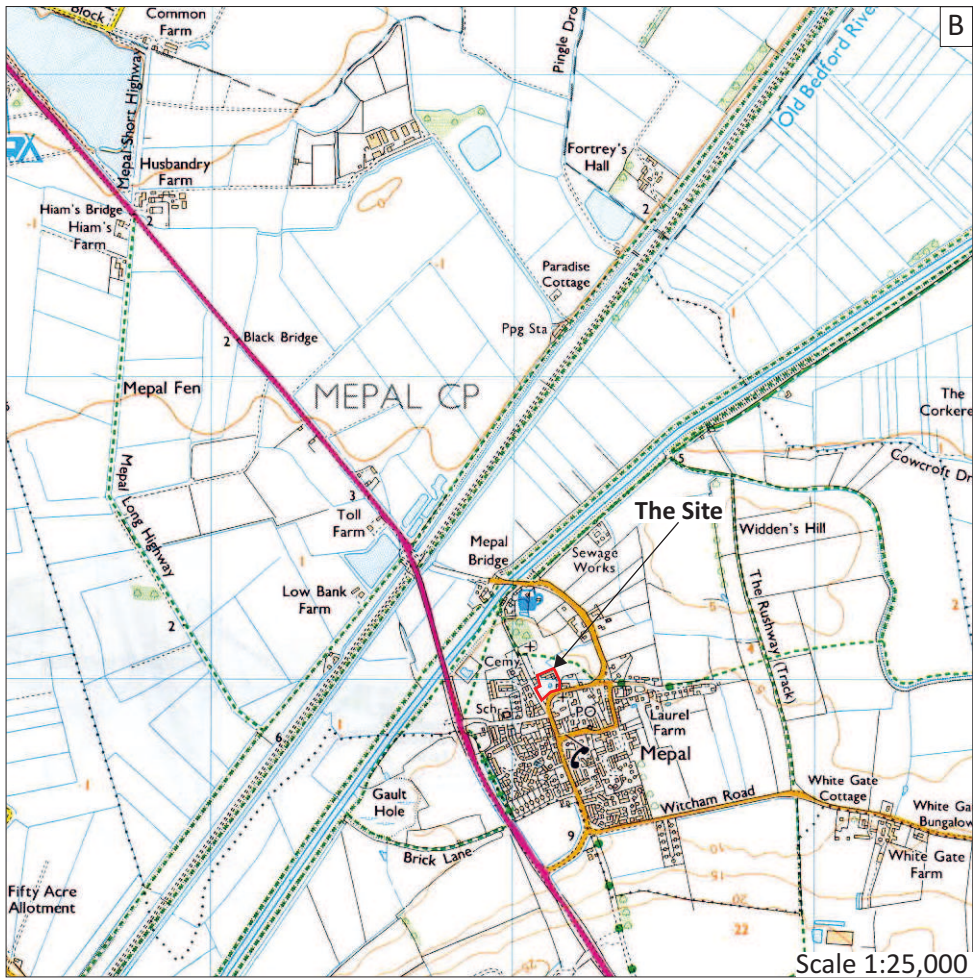
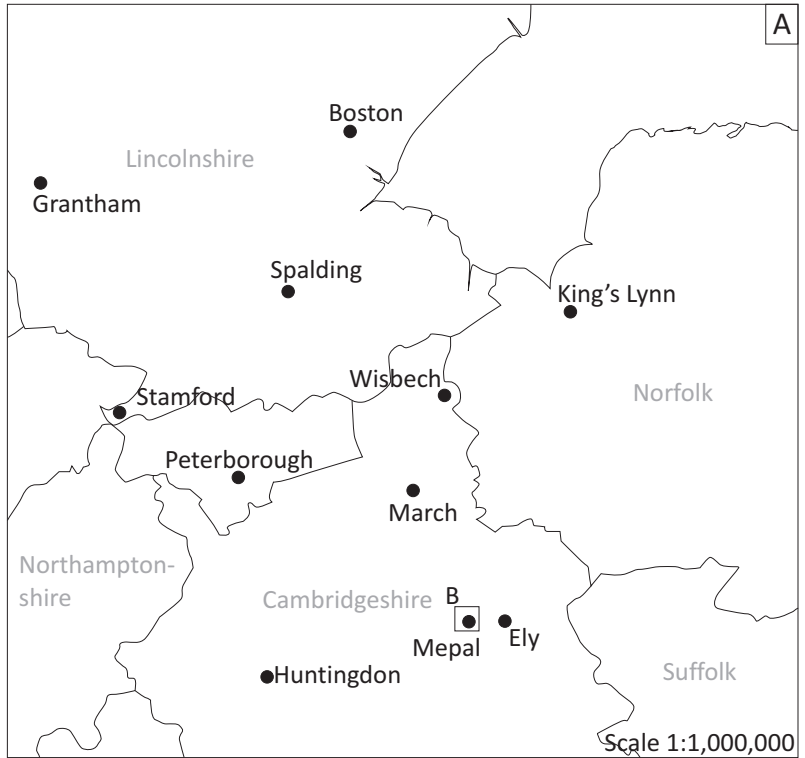
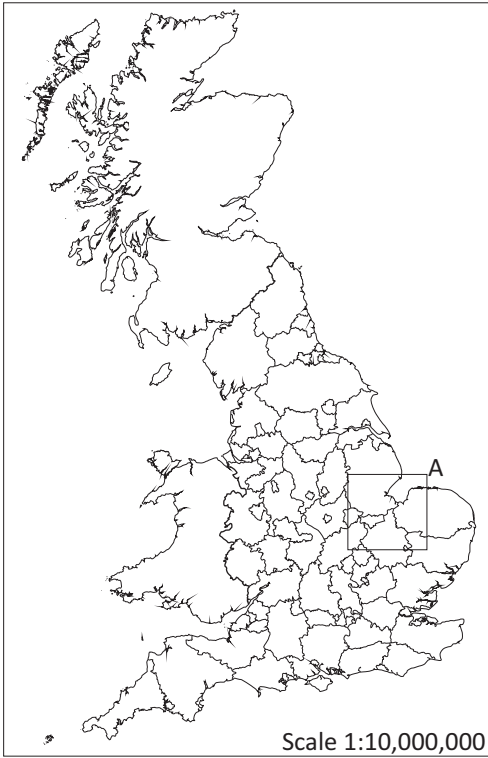


Figure 1: Site location outlined in red

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Site Code	MEMA 14
Scales	1:10,000,000 1:1,000,000 1:25,000 @ A4
Drawn by	G Glover
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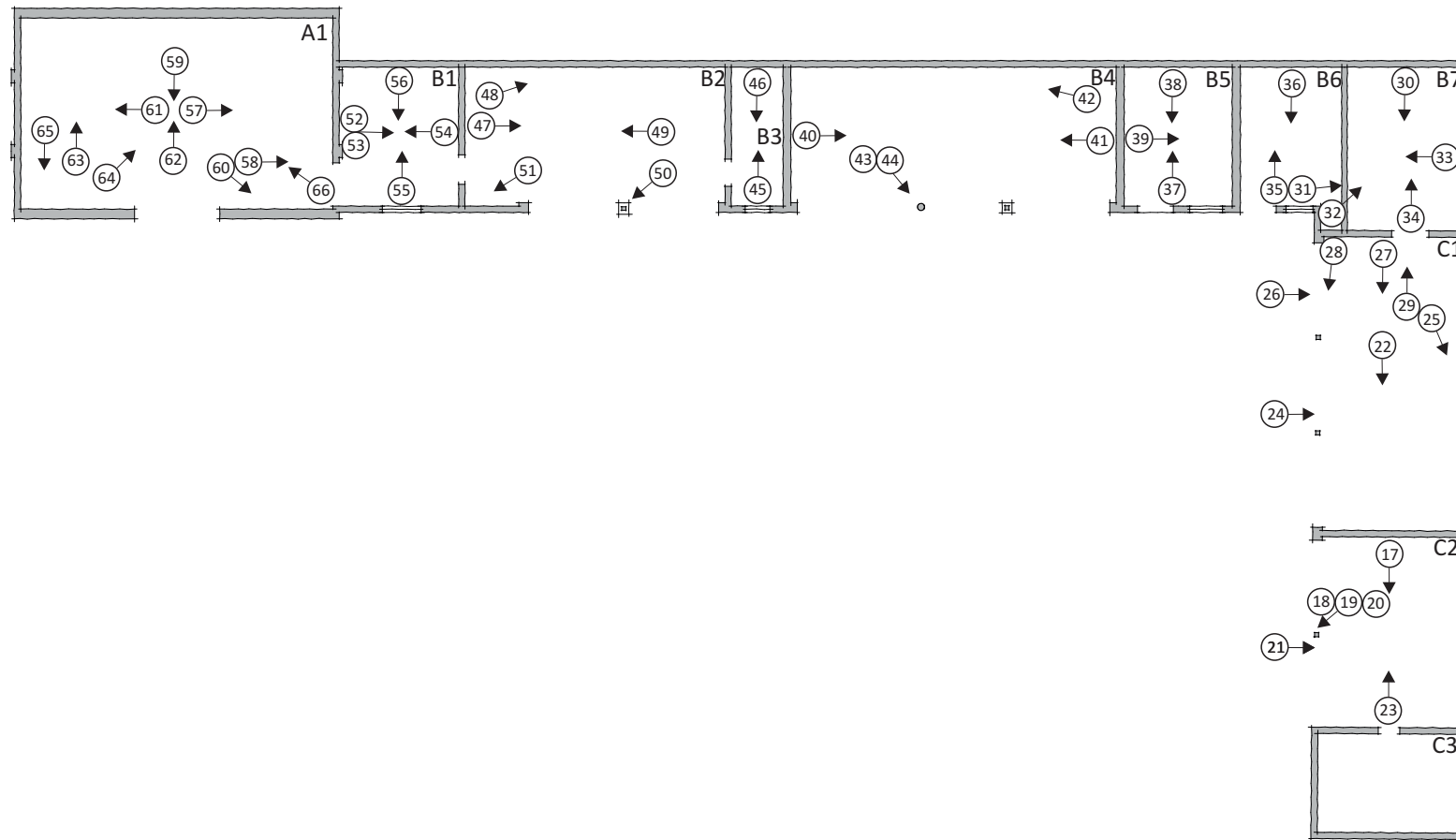
Figure 2: Site location plan showing location and direction of exterior photographs. (Base plan provided by the client)

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Date	24/06/14

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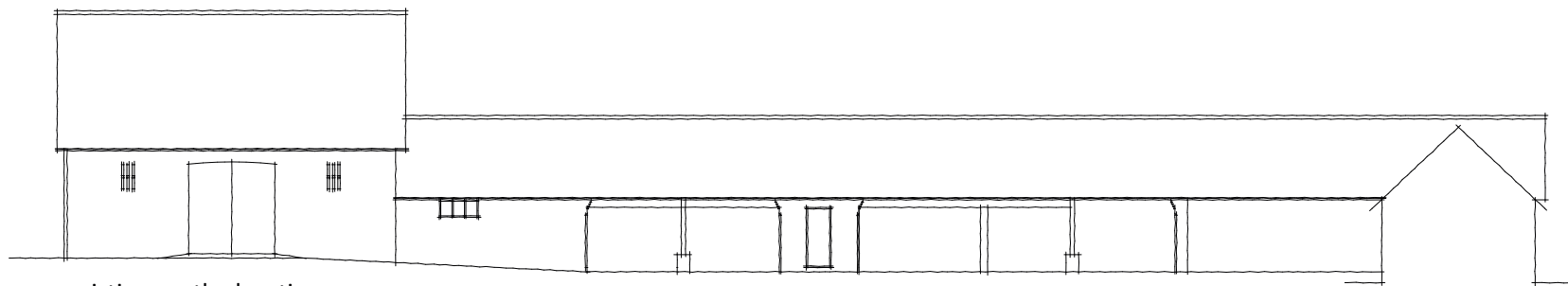
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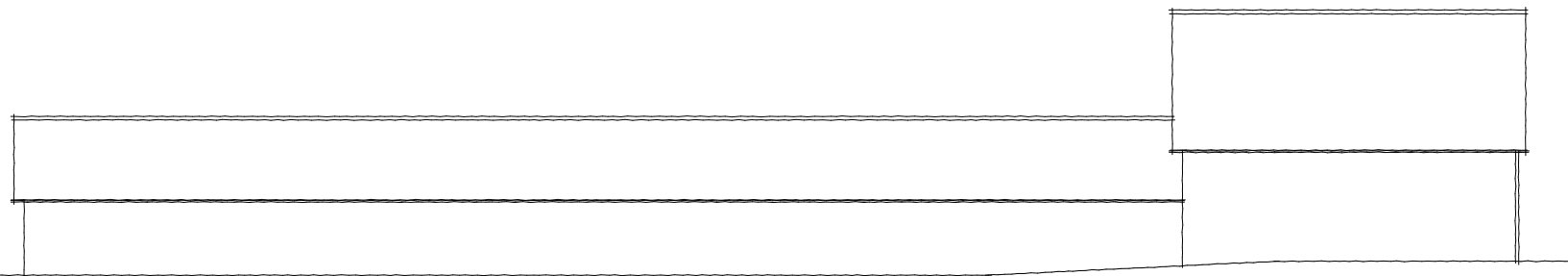
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Drawn by	G Glover
Date	24/06/14

Figure 3: Site location plan showing location and direction of interior ground floor photographs. (Base plan provided by the client)

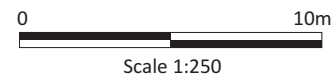
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existing south elevation



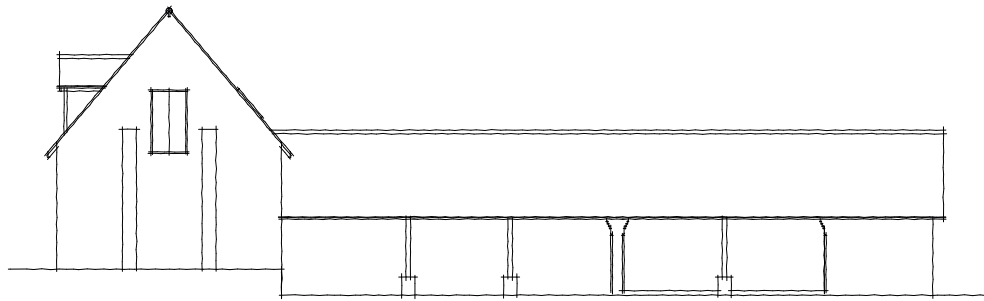
existing north elevation



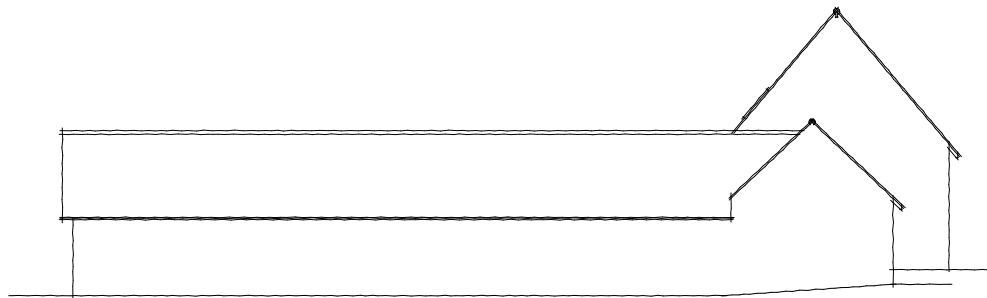
Site Code	MEMA 14
Scale	1:200 @ A4
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Date	24/06/14

Figure 4: Existing elevations of Buildings A - C (Elevation drawings supplied by the client)

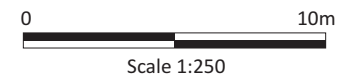
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existing west elevation

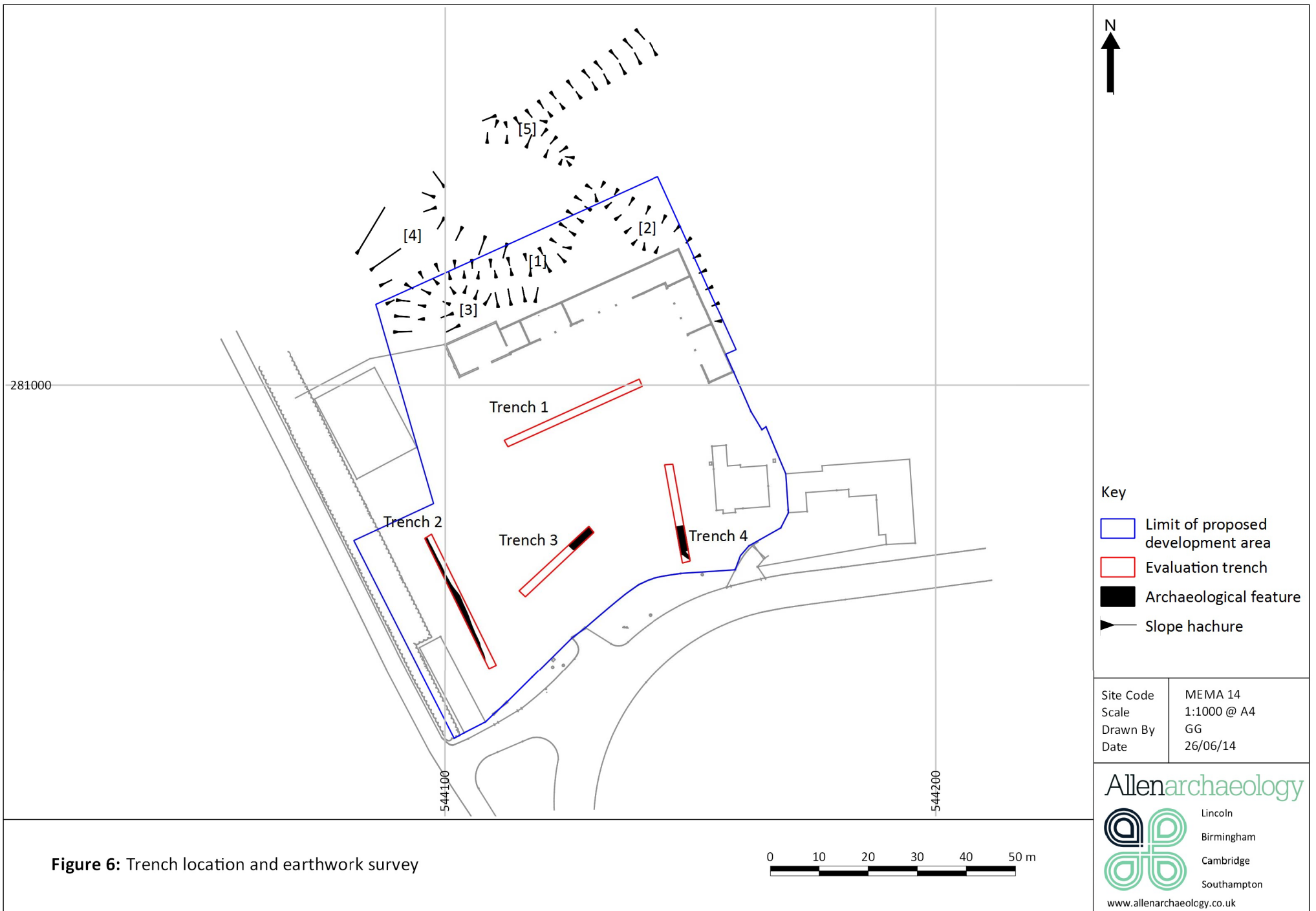


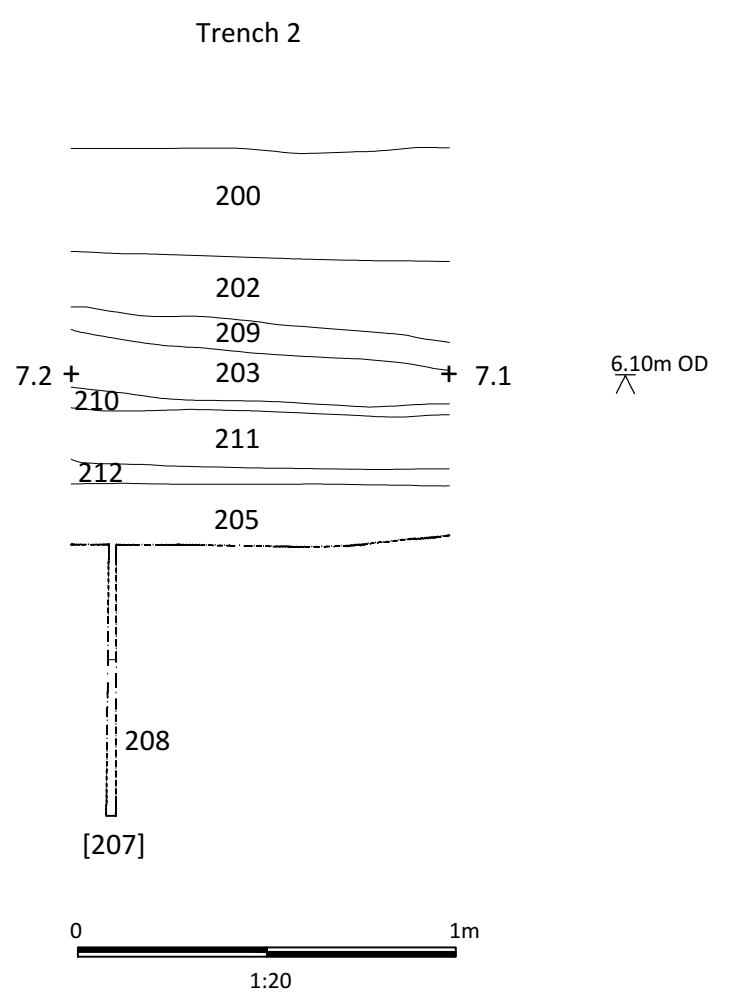
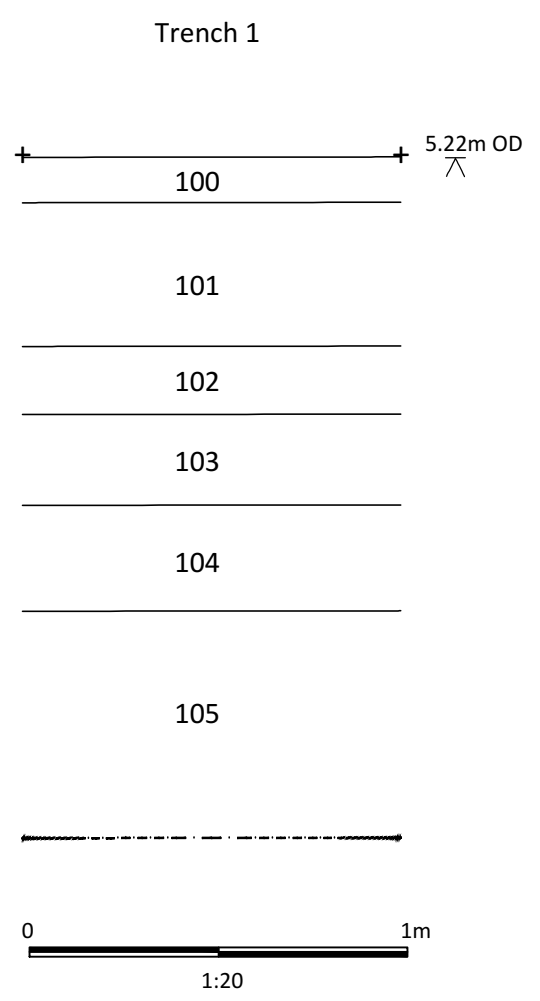
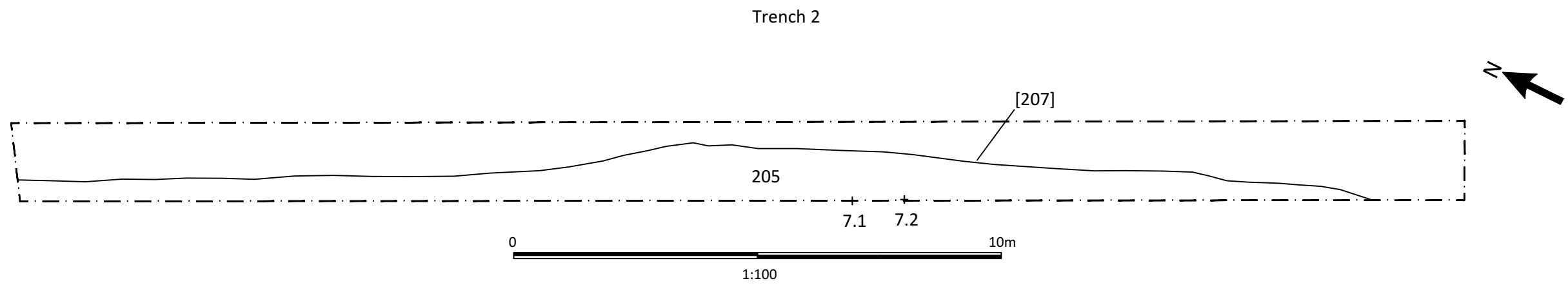
existing east elevation



Site Code	MEMA 14
Scale	1:250 @ A4
Drawn by	G Glover
Date	24/06/14

Figure 5: Existing elevations of Buildings A - C (Elevation drawings supplied by the client)





Site Name	MEMA 14
Scale	1:20 and 1:100 @ A3
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Figure 7: Representative section of Trench 1 and plan and section of Trench 2

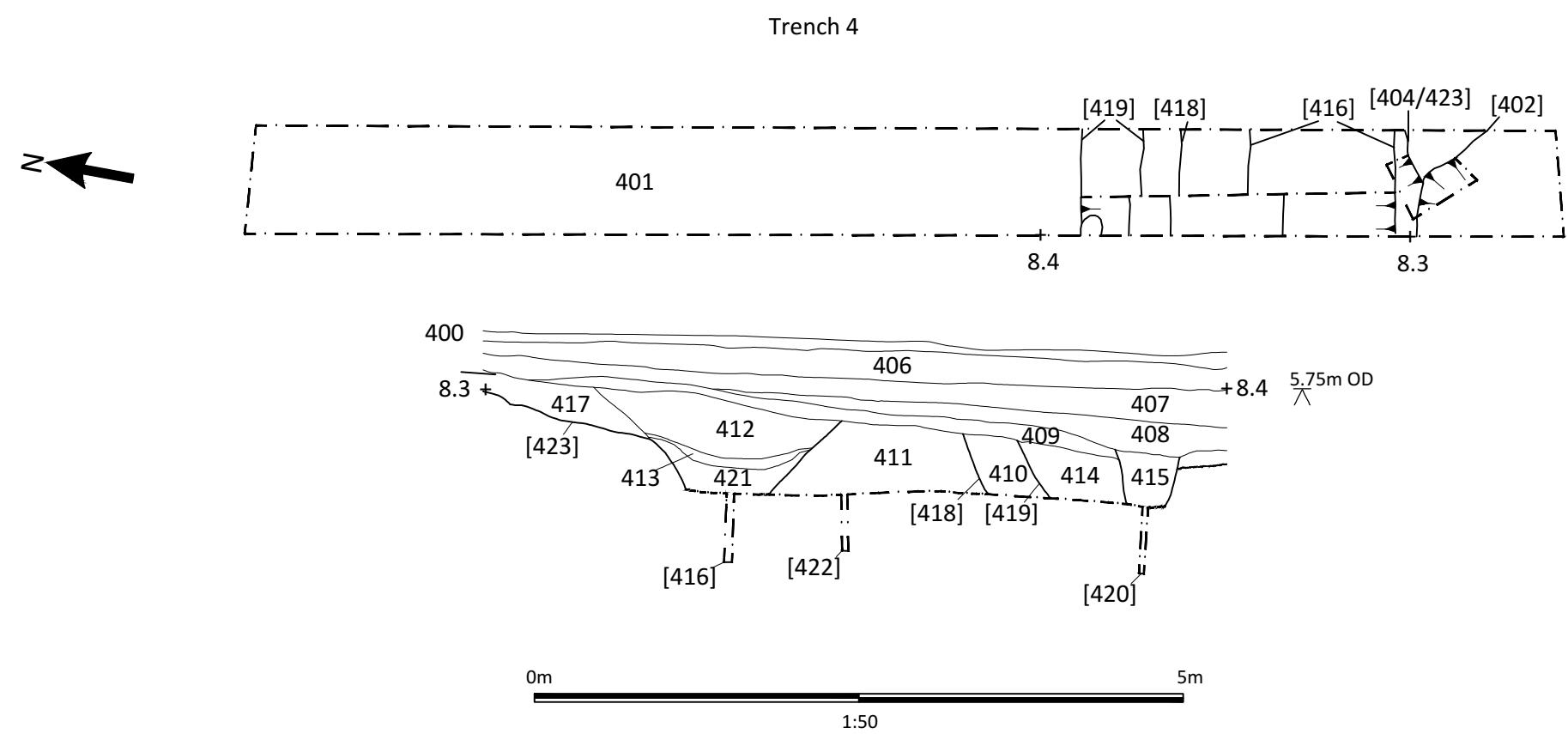
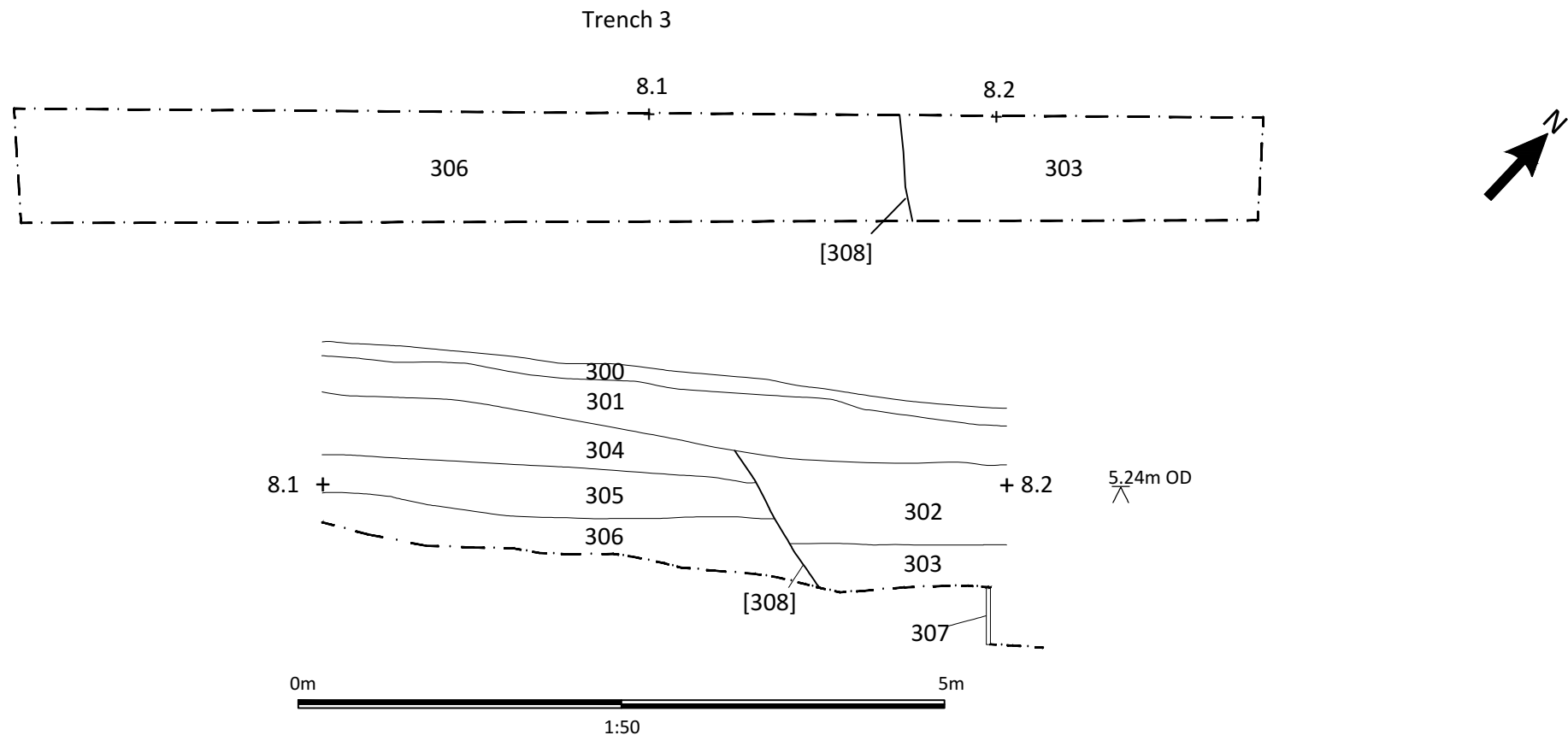


Figure 8: Plans and sections of Trenches 3 and 4

Site Name	MEMA 14
Scale	1:100 and 1:50 @ A3
Drawn by	GG
Date	23/06/2014



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