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Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Pentney Quarry, Norfolk

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

Between the 11th and 15th of February 2019 OA East carried out a trial trench evaluation on land to the east of Pentney Quarry, Norfolk. This work was carried out in preparation for the future expansion of the quarry.

A total of thirty-seven 30m trenches were excavated. A total of nine possible ditches and gullies were identified along with a large number of periglacial and other natural features.

No finds were recovered from any of these features.

Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology would like to thank David Robertson, and Andrew Josephs of Andrew Joseph Associates for commissioning this project on behalf of Middleton Aggregates, who funded the project. Thank you also to John Percival and Steve Hickling who monitored the work on behalf of Norfolk County Council.

The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by James Drummond-Murray. The fieldwork was directed by Nicholas Cox, who was supported by Andrew Baldwin, Edmund Cole, Matthew Edwards and Andrzej Zanko. Survey and digitizing was carried out by Tom Houghton and Isobelle Ward. Thank you to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Natasha Dodwell, processed the environmental remains under the management of Rachel Fosberry, and prepared the archive under the management of Katherine Hamilton.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by Andy Josephs Associates (on behalf of Middleton Aggregates) to undertake a trial trench evaluation on land to the east of Pentney Quarry (TF 6940 1240; Fig. 1).

1.1.2 The work was undertaken to inform the Planning Authority in advance of a submission of a Planning Application. A brief was set by John Percival outlining the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process . A written scheme of investigation was produced by OA detailing the methods by which OA proposed to meet the requirements of the brief (Drummond-Murray 2018).

1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The site lies within the Nar Valley in west Norfolk; settlement here appears to have been confined to slightly higher islands of land surrounded by low lying fenland.

1.2.2 The area of proposed development consists of arable farmland, with the site of the existing quarry to the west and the River Nar to the south.

1.2.3 The geology of the area is mapped as Leziate Member sands overlain by Peat (British Geological Survey 2014 (British Geological Survey online map viewer http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html) (Dec 2018).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The information below is drawn from the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER, 2/5/2019). Some NHER entries mentioned below are outside the requested search area and do not appear in Fig. 1, where entries are illustrated they are listed below in bold.

Palaeolithic

1.3.2 A Palaeolithic hand axe (**NHER 40727**) was found to the north-east but may have been transported in. A scatter of possible Palaeolithic flints was found on Pentney island to the south-east (**NHER 19879**).

Mesolithic

1.3.3 Several Mesolithic flint blades were recovered to the south-east (**NHER 19882** & **NHER 23636**) and a Mesolithic blade was found south of the site (**NHER 19878**). A possible Mesolithic flint working site was uncovered c 1.4km to the south-east (NHER 24377).

Prehistoric

1.3.4 A burnt mound was identified by the Fenland survey to the west of the site (**NHER 23183**), along with pot boilers and worked flints (**NHER 23179** & **23180**).

1.3.5 Further substantial scatters of worked flints (**NHER 19880** & **19881**) were found on the edge of Pentney island. Further smaller scatters with burnt stone and worked flint have been discovered further south (**NHER 23195**, **23196** & **23198**).

1.3.6 A flint blade was found 1.4km to the south-west (NHER 19669) and further occasional flints to immediate south-east of the site (**NHER 19874**). Further south a possible burnt mound (**NHER 19877**) has been identified along with several small flint scatters (**NHER 19875** & **19876**).

1.3.7 A scatter of pot boilers was found south of Abbey Road (**NHER 23646**).

1.3.8 To the east of the priory was an extensive scatter of flints (**NHER 23012**). A retouched flint flake was also found to the north of the priory (**NHER 23239**). Prehistoric flints have also been found within the area of the scheduled monument itself (**NHER 23240** & **23635**). A number of flints have also been recovered from field south of the Priory (**NHER 23637**, **23638** & **23645**).

Bronze Age

1.3.9 A gold torc of bronze age date was found to the north-east of the site (**NHER 3919**).

Roman

1.3.10 Roman pottery was recovered on the site of Pentney watermill (**NHER 3471**) and from within the plantation to the north (**NHER 3435**).

1.3.11 Metal detecting in fields to the east and north-east of the site produced a Roman coin, copper alloy stud, and brooch (**NHER 61236**) and a set of tweezers (**NHER 61281**) along with medieval and post-medieval finds.

Anglo-Saxon and Early Medieval

1.3.12 The site lies c450m from the scheduled boundary of Pentney Priory (**NHER 3924**; Scheduled Monument No° 1019666). There are a number of find of medieval material (with occasional finds from other periods) within the scheduled monument area (**NHER 23240**, **23635**, **31143**, **36585**, **55920** & **55968**).

Medieval and Post-Medieval

1.3.13 Metal detecting has found a variety of objects of medieval and post-medieval date in fields to the north of the Priory site (**NHER 60959**, **61701**, **61349** & **61389**), including coins, jettons and buckles.

Undated

1.3.14 Undated cropmarks lie to the north-east (**NHER 28264**), east (**NHER 19182**) and the south-east (**NHER 25774**).

1.3.15 An undated ditch on a south-east to north-west alignment has been identified to the south-east to the west of the Priory (**NHER 40204**).

1.3.16 An undated earthwork is located just south-west of the scheduled monument (**NHER 28263**).

1.3.17 An undated ditch and bank survives in West Bilney wood to the north (**NHER 49707**).

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 This evaluation sought to establish the character, date and state of preservation of archaeological remains within the proposed development area. The scheme of works detailed below aimed to:

- ground truth geophysical results, by testing a range of anomalies of likely archaeological and paleo-environmental origin, and areas where no anomalies registered
- establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains on the site, characterise where they are found (location, depth and extent), and establish the quality of preservation of any archaeology and environmental remains
- provide sufficient coverage to establish the character, condition, date and purpose of any archaeological deposits
- provide sufficient coverage to evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking deposits
- set results in the local, regional, and national archaeological context - and, in particular, its wider cultural landscape and past environmental conditions
- provide - in the event that archaeological remains are found - sufficient information to construct an archaeological mitigation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables, and orders of cost.

2.2 Methodology

Background research

2.2.1 A Heritage Appraisal has been produced drawing on information in the County Historic Environment Record and County Records Office, and included historical sources, maps, previous archaeological finds, and past archaeological investigations in the vicinity. The results have been presented separately (Josephs 2017).

Geophysical Survey

2.2.2 A geophysical survey took place in January 2019 (Roseveare 2019). The survey identified natural soil variations and possible cultivation features along with a system of modern field drains, but no definitively archaeological features. The results were used to inform the trench plan, targeting the possible soil changes and potential cultivation features as well as areas that appeared blank. The results of the geophysical survey are included on Fig. 2.

Trial Trenching

Evaluation standards

2.2.3 The archaeological evaluation and analysis was conducted in accordance with current best archaeological practice and the appropriate national and regional standards and guidelines.

2.2.4 All work was conducted in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations.

2.2.5 All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Standards for Development-led Archaeological Work in Norfolk (Robertson *et al* 2018).

2.2.6 All fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the OA Field Manual (ed. D Wilkinson 1992), and the revised OA fieldwork manual (publication forthcoming). Further guidance was provided to all excavators in the form of the OA Fieldwork Crib Sheets - a companion guide to the Fieldwork Manual.

Pre-commencement

2.2.7 Before work on site commences, service plans were checked to ensure that access and groundworks could be conducted safely.

2.2.8 In order to minimise damage to the site and disruption to site users, Oxford Archaeology agree the following with the client/landowner before work on site commenced:

- the location of entrance ways
- sites for welfare units
- soil storage areas
- refuelling points for plant (if necessary), and the extent of any bunding required around fuel dumps
- access routes for plant and vehicles across the site

2.2.9 Access routes to, from and between trenches will be agreed on site at the start of works. Where possible, access routes will use tramlines in the crop, in order to reduce crop damage.

Excavation methods

2.2.10 All machine excavation took place under the supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.

2.2.11 Trial trenches were excavated by a mechanical excavator to the depth of geological horizons, or to the upper interface of archaeological features or deposits, whichever was encountered first. A toothless ditching bucket with a bucket width of 2.0m was used to excavate the trenches. Overburden was excavated in spits not greater than 0.1m thick.

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

2.2.13 A representative sample of all archaeological features encountered was investigated and recorded to adequately characterise the remains on site and allow decisions to be made with regard to future mitigation, whilst at the same time minimising disturbance to archaeological structures, features, and deposits. Apparently natural features (such as tree throws) were sampled sufficiently to establish their character.

2.2.14 All excavation of archaeological deposits was carried out by hand.

2.2.15 Investigation slots through all linear features were at least 1m in width. Discrete features were half-sectioned.

Recording of archaeological deposits and features

2.2.16 Records comprised survey, drawn, written, and photographic data.

Survey

2.2.17 Surveying was conducted using a survey-grade differential GPS (Leica CS10/GS08 or Leica 1200) fitted with "smartnet" technology with an accuracy of 5mm horizontal and 10mm vertical.

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

Written records

2.2.19 A register of all trenches, features, photographs and survey levels has been kept.

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

Plans and sections

2.2.21 Site plans were drawn at 1:50. Sections of features were drawn at 1:20. All section levels will be tied in to Ordnance Datum.

2.2.22 All site drawings include the following information: site name, site code, scale, plan or section number, relevant context or feature numbers, orientation, date and the name or initials of the archaeologist who prepared the drawing.

Photographs

2.2.23 The photographic record comprises high resolution digital photographs and follows the following procedures in accordance with Standards for Development-led Archaeological Projects in Norfolk (Robertson *et al.* 2018).

2.2.24 Photographs include both general site shots and photographs of specific features. Every feature was photographed at least once. Photographs include a scale, north

arrow, site code, and feature number (where relevant), unless they are to be used in publications. The photograph register records these details, and photograph numbers are listed on corresponding context sheets.

Metal detecting and the Treasure Act

2.2.25 Metal detector searches took place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user. Excavated areas were detected immediately before and after mechanical stripping. Both excavated areas and spoil heaps were checked. To prevent losses from night-hawking, features were metal detected immediately after stripping.

2.2.26 Metal detectors were not set to discriminate against iron. No finds were recovered during surveying.

Sampling for environmental remains and small artefact retrieval

2.2.27 Environmental samples (20 litres) were taken from a range of potentially datable features and well-stratified deposits to target the recovery of plant remains, fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone and small artefacts. Samples were labelled with the site code, context number and sample number and a register was kept.

2.2.28 Typically, 20 litres of each bulk sample were processed by standard water flotation using a modified Siraf-style machine and meshes of 0.3mm (flot) and 0.5 or 1mm depending on sediment type and like modes of preservation (residue). The remaining soil from a sample was subsequently processed if appropriate based on the results of an initial assessment.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches which contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits are included in Appendix A.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The soil sequence between all trenches was uniform. The natural geology of sands and gravels (3) was overlain by a dark grey brown sandy silt ploughsoil (1).

3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the trenches remained dry throughout, apart from in the south-eastern corner of the site. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Possible archaeological features were present in Trenches 3, 4, 8, 27 and 37.

3.4 Trenches in the northern field

3.4.1 Trenches 1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11 and 15 all contained no recorded features (Fig. 3a).

3.4.2 Trench 2 revealed two natural features towards its western end. One of these (**4**) was excavated, this was irregularly shaped in plan, with an irregular base. It was filled by a dark brown grey silty sand (5).

3.4.3 A short linear feature, possibly a remnant of a ditch (**6**) was exposed near the middle of the Trench 3. This was aligned north to south, with moderately steep sides and a concave base, measuring 0.7m wide and 0.24m deep. The possible ditch shallowed out at both ends within the trench (Fig. 3a; Fig. 4, Section 2). It contained a dark brown silty sand (7), which produced no finds.

3.4.4 In Trench 4 a possible north-west to south-east aligned ditch (**14**) and four natural features (**8**, **10**, **12** and **17**) were exposed (Plate 1). The possible ditch (**14**) was steep sided, with a concave base (Fig.4, Section 4) measuring 1.11m wide and 0.45m deep. It was filled with a dark greyish brown sand (15), overlain by a mid brown grey sand (16), and then a dark brownish grey sand (19), all devoid of finds. To the east of the ditch was an irregular natural feature, possibly a tree bowl (**17**), filled by a dark greyish brown sand (18). Further to the east were three possible pits or tree bowls, all sub-circular with concave bases. Possible pit **12** was filled by a mid brown grey sand (13) and cut by pit **10**, which contained a dark grey sand (11). Finally, possible pit **8** truncated possible pit **10** and was filled by a dark grey sand (9). No finds were recovered from any of these features.

3.4.5 Within Trench 6 contained a slight variation in the natural material, being stonier and more iron rich than elsewhere. This is possibly associated with Area 7 highlighted on the geophysical plot (Fig. 2).

3.4.6 Trench 8 revealed a narrow possible ditch (**20**) at the north-west end and a natural feature (**26**) at the south-east end. The possible ditch was aligned north-north-east to south-south-west, with a gentle slope on the west side and steep on the east (Fig. 4, Section 5) measuring 0.76m in width and 0.18m deep. It was filled by a dark brown silty sand (21), which produced no finds. The natural feature was filled by a dark brown silty sand (27).

3.4.7 Within Trench 10 two possible NE-SW aligned ditches (**40** and **44**) were exposed along with a natural feature (**42**). The two possible ditches were steep sided with concave base. Possible ditch **40** was 0.48m wide and 0.33m deep, filled by a dark grey brown sand (41). Possible ditch **42** measured 0.94m in width, 0.36m deep, and was filled by a mid grey brown sand (45). The natural feature was irregular, filled by a dark grey brown sand (43). No finds were recovered from any of these features.

3.4.8 In Trench 12 a possible east to west aligned ditch terminus (**28**) was revealed in the southern end with two natural features (**30** and **32**) to the north. The possible ditch was steep sided with a concave base (Fig. 4, Section 9; Plate 2) measuring 0.8m in width, 0.55m in depth, and was filled by dark grey sand (29). The two irregular natural features were also filled by dark grey sands (31 and 33 respectively).

3.4.9 Trench 13 exposed several natural features, two of which were recorded (**22** and **24**) in the western end of the trench. These were filled with a mid brown grey sand (23) and dark brown grey sand (25) respectively.

3.4.10 Two natural features were exposed in Trench 16 (**46** and **48**). These were filled by dark grey brown sands (47 and 48 respectively). No finds were recovered from either feature.

3.4.11 Trench 17 revealed a single natural feature (**54**) at the south-west end. This was irregular in shape with a fill of mid grey brown sand (55). The natural material was a reddish gravely sand with higher iron content similar to that it Trench 6.

3.5 Trenches in the southern field

3.5.1 Trenches 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 28, 31, 33 and 35 all contained no recorded features (Fig. 3b).

3.5.2 Two natural features were exposed within Trench 20 (**36** and **38**). These were filled by dark brown silty sands (37 and 38 respectively). No finds were recovered from either feature.

3.5.3 Trench 21 revealed two natural features (**63** and **65**). The first, located near the western end of the trench (**63**), was linear in plan and probably periglacial. It was filled by a light grey brown sand (64), which continued under the natural layers on the western side. The second feature (**64**) was irregular in shape and filled by mid brown grey sand (66).

3.5.4 Within Trench 25 two natural features were exposed, one of which (**57**) was excavated. This was irregular in plan and profile, filled by a dark greyish sand (58). This trench and Trench 24 to the north-east contained a reddish iron-rich gravelly sand different from the general white-black sands.

3.5.5 Trench 26 did not contain any features but did expose a sharp change in the natural material between the white-black sands of the majority of the site at southern end of the trench and a reddish iron-rich gravelly sand in the north (Plate 3). This change may correspond with highlighted Area 10 on the geophysical plot (Fig. 2; Rosevere 2019)

3.5.6 Trench 27 exposed a ditch terminus at its northern end (**50**) and a probable natural feature (**52**) close to the centre. The ditch was shallow measuring 1.09m wide and 0.21m deep, with a concave base and was filled by a dark grey sand (51), which produced no finds (Fig. 4, Section 20; Plate 4). The natural feature was filled with dark brown grey sand (53), overlain by a mid brown grey sand (54).

3.5.7 Two natural features were exposed within Trench 29 (**55** and **59**). These were filled by dark brown silty sands (56 and 60 respectively). No finds were recovered from either feature.

3.5.8 Trench 30 exposed a possible ditch terminus at its south-eastern end (**67**) and a probable natural feature (**61**) to the north-west. The ditch was shallow with a concave base and was filled by a very dark grey sand (68), which produced no finds. The natural feature was filled with dark grey sand (62). A change in natural material between white/black sands in the western half of the trench and reddish gravellier sand in the eastern half was notable, the geophysical plot (Fig. 2) identified a possible soil change running through the trench at this location.

3.5.9 Within Trench 32 there were two natural features (**81** and **83**) exposed at the north-west end. Both were irregular, filled by dark brown silty sands (82 and 84 respectively). No finds were recovered from either of these features.

3.5.10 Trench 34 revealed three natural features (**73**, **75** and **77**). These were irregular in plan with dark or mid grey sand fills (74, 76 and 78 respectively). The same reddish gravellier sand noted in Trenches 6, 17, and 24-26 was also present in this trench.

3.5.11 Trench 36 revealed a shallow modern feature on the northern edge, which contained a bundle of modern barbed wire. The trench also contained same reddish gravellier sand natural noted in Trench 35.

3.5.12 In Trench 37 two possible gullies (**69** and **71**), two natural features (unrecorded) and a modern wheel rut were exposed. The possible gully (**69**) at the eastern end was on a north-east to south-west alignment. It was very shallow, measuring 0.41m in width and 0.07m deep, and filled with a dark brownish grey sand (70). The second possible gully (**71**) was near the centre of the trench, aligned west to east. It measured 0.42m in width, 0.23m in depth and terminated just within the trench. It was filled by a dark grey sand (72).

3.6 Finds and environmental summary

3.6.1 No finds were recovered from any of the features on the site.

3.6.2 Environmental evidence comprised only a very small amount of charcoal (Appendix B.1).

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 In general, it was easy to identify features within the trenches, despite similarities in the fills to variation in the natural sands. Whilst the water table was high, and most excavated slots filled with water only Trench 36 in the south-east corner of the site was affected by flooding, even then primarily by surface water.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 Ground proofing of the geophysics produced mixed results. The excavated features, both natural and the few possible archaeological, do not appear on the geophysical plot. However, continuations of field drain alignments identified by the geophysics were picked up in a number of trenches and the green highlighted areas (Fig. 2, in Trenches 6, 17, 24-26, 30 and 35-36) were identifiable as changes in the natural deposits. No evidence of the cultivation features was found, although they may have been present in the topsoil and thus removed during machine stripping.

4.2.2 The evaluation has shown a lack of archaeological features within the investigation area, with a wide variety of natural features across the site. No artefactual or dating evidence was recovered from any of the trenches.

4.3 Interpretation

4.3.1 The majority of the features identified on the site appear to be natural, primarily periglacial, with some possible tree bowls and rooting.

4.3.2 The few possible archaeological features are narrow linear ditches and gullies. None of these features were datable and were only identified within one trench with no continuations observed. The possibility exists that many of these are also natural but were simply more regular in shape than the other features.

4.3.3 Ditch **6** in Trench 3 had the most regular profile, yet appears to only be a short stretch, shallowing up in both directions within the trench. It does however match the alignment of the cultivation features identified on the geophysics in that area.

4.3.4 The ditch terminus (**50**) in Trench 27 also had a sharp profile but did not continue into Trench 26 to the west.

4.3.5 Several trenches contained stonier natural deposits with a higher iron content compared to the normal natural sands in the rest of the trenches. These areas correspond exactly with a number of areas highlighted (Areas 2 and 7-11) on the geophysical plot (Fig. 2; Roseveare 2019), with the division in Trench 26 being the clearest (Plate 3) associated with Area 10 on the geophysical plot. In the geophysical survey these were identified as being probably modern agricultural land improvements but with the possibility of being archaeological (Roseveare 2019, 9-10), the evaluation suggests that they may just be natural variations as a similar change was visible in Trench 30 which the geophysics suggested the possible line of a soil change.

4.4 Significance

4.4.1 The results indicate very limited evidence of human activity within the investigation area, prior to recent agricultural activity.

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.38	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 2						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained two tree throws, one of which was recorded. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.43
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4	Cut	1.10	0.30	Natural Feature	-	-
5	Fill	-	0.30	Fill of Natural Feature **4**	-	-

Trench 3						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained a small N-S aligned ditch. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.42
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
6	Cut	0.70	0.24	Ditch	-	-
7	Fill	-	0.24	Fill of Ditch **6**	-	-

Trench 4						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained a NW-SE aligned ditch and several natural features. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.45	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
8	Cut	0.64	0.33	Natural Feature	-	-
9	Fill	-	0.33	Fill of Natural Feature **9**	-	-
10	Cut	1.00	0.50	Natural Feature	-	-

11	Fill	-	0.50	Fill of Natural Feature **11**	-	-
12	Cut	0.90	0.44	Natural Feature	-	-
13	Fill	-	0.44	Fill of Natural Feature **13**	-	-
14	Cut	1.11	0.45	Ditch	-	-
15	Fill	0.42	0.22	Fill of Ditch **14**	-	-
16	Fill	-	0.26	Fill of Ditch **14**	-	-
17	Cut	1.00	0.54	Natural Feature	-	-
18	Fill	-	0.54	Fill of Natural Feature **17**	-	-
19	Fill	0.80	0.14	Fill of Ditch **14**	-	-

Trench 5						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.46
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.40	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 6						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.38	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 7						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.41
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 8						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained a possible NE-SW aligned ditch and tree bowls. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.31	Topsoil	-	-

3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
20	Cut	0.76	0.18	Ditch	-	-
21	Fill	-	0.18	Fill of Ditch **20**	-	-
26	Cut	0.52	0.16	Natural Feature	-	-
27	Fill	-	0.16	Fill of Natural Feature **26**	-	-

Trench 9						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.36
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 10						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained two possible E-W aligned ditch and a tree bowl. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
40	Cut	0.48	0.33	Ditch	-	-
41	Fill	-	0.33	Fill of Ditch **40**	-	-
42	Cut	0.94	0.36	Natural Feature	-	-
43	Fill	-	0.36	Fill of Natural Feature **42**	-	-
44	Cut	1.10	0.37	Ditch	-	-
45	Fill	-	0.37	Fill of Ditch **44**	-	-

Trench 11						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.36
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.37	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 12						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained a possible ditch terminus and two tree bowls. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.46
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.39	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
28	Cut	0.80	0.55	Ditch	-	-
29	Fill	-	0.55	Fill of Ditch **28**	-	-
30	Cut	1.00	0.15	Natural Feature	-	-
31	Fill	-	0.15	Fill of Natural Feature **30**	-	-
32	Cut	1.50	0.21	Natural Feature	-	-
33	Fill	-	0.21	Fill of Natural Feature **32**	-	-

Trench 13						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained a number of natural features, two of which were recorded. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.40	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
22	Cut	0.80	0.23	Natural Feature	-	-
23	Fill	-	0.23	Fill of Natural Feature **22**	-	-
24	Cut	0.50	0.40	Natural Feature	-	-
25	Fill	-	0.40	Fill of Natural Feature **24**	-	-

Trench 14						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.36
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.37	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 15						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.39
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.37	Topsoil	-	-

3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 16						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained two tree bowls. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.41
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
46	Cut	0.75	0.34	Natural Feature	-	-
47	Fill	-	0.34	Fill of Natural Feature **46**	-	-
48	Cut	0.90	0.40	Natural Feature	-	-
49	Fill	-	0.40	Fill of Natural Feature **48**	-	-

Trench 17						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained a tree bowl. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.32
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
34	Cut	1.00	0.36	Natural Feature	-	-
35	Fill	-	0.36	Fill of Natural Feature **34**	-	-

Trench 18						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.37
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.43	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 19						
General description					**Orientation**	WNW-ESE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.37
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 20						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained two tree bowls. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.36
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
36	Cut	0.90	0.22	Natural Feature	-	-
37	Fill	-	0.22	Fill of Natural Feature **36**	-	-
38	Cut	1.56	0.18	Natural Feature	-	-
39	Fill	-	0.18	Fill of Natural Feature **38**	-	-

Trench 21						
General description					**Orientation**	WNW-ESE
Trench contained a tree bowl and a periglacial feature. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.33
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.31	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
63	Cut	0.46	0.37	Periglacial Feature	-	-
64	Fill	-	0.37	Fill of Periglacial Feature **63**	-	-
65	Cut	0.40	0.20	Natural Feature	-	-
66	Fill	-	0.20	Fill of Natural Feature **65**	-	-

Trench 22						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.33
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 23						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.33
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 24						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.39	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 25						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained a several tree throws, one of which was recorded. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.33
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
57	Cut	1.03	0.34	Natural Feature	-	-
58	Fill	-	0.34	Fill of Natural Feature **57**	-	-

Trench 26						
General description					**Orientation**	NNW-SSE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.32
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 27						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained an undated ditch terminus and a tree bowl. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.32
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	0.10	Natural	-	-
50	Cut	1.09	0.21	Ditch Terminus	-	-
51	Fill	-	0.21	Fill of Ditch **50**	-	-
52	Cut	0.78	0.48	Natural Feature	-	-
53	Fill	0.38	0.19	Fill of Natural Feature **53**	-	-
54	Fill	-	0.29	Fill of Natural Feature **53**	-	-

Trench 28						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.33
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 29						
General description					**Orientation**	WNW-ESE
Trench contained two tree bowls. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	0.14	Natural	-	-
55	Cut	0.70	0.08	Natural Feature	-	-
56	Fill	-	0.08	Fill of Natural Feature **55**	-	-
59	Cut	0.65	0.11	Natural Feature	-	-
60	Fill	-	0.11	Fill of Natural Feature **59**	-	-

Trench 30						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained two tree bowls. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.31
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
61	Cut	0.71	0.10	Natural Feature	-	-
62	Fill	-	0.10	Fill of Natural Feature **62**	-	-
67	Cut	0.44	0.08	Natural Feature	-	-
68	Fill	-	0.08	Fill of Natural Feature **67**	-	-

Trench 31						
General description					**Orientation**	WNW-ESE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.32
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 32						
General description					**Orientation**	WNW-ESE
Trench contained two tree bowls. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.36
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.31	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	0.06	Natural	-	-
81	Cut	0.76	0.30	Natural Feature	-	-
82	Fill	-	0.30	Fill of Natural Feature **81**	-	-
83	Cut	0.68	0.28	Natural Feature	-	-
84	Fill	-	0.28	Fill of Natural Feature **83**	-	-

Trench 33						
General description					**Orientation**	WNW-ESE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	0.07	Natural	-	-

Trench 34						
General description					**Orientation**	WNW-ESE
Trench contained three tree bowls. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.33
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
73	Cut	0.75	0.26	Natural Feature	-	-
74	Fill	-	0.26	Fill of Natural Feature **73**	-	-
75	Cut	0.85	0.24	Natural Feature	-	-
76	Fill	-	0.24	Fill of Natural Feature **75**	-	-
77	Cut	1.26	0.26	Natural Feature	-	-
78	Fill	-	0.26	Fill of Natural Feature **77**	-	-

Trench 35						
General description					**Orientation**	WNW-ESE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.33
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.38	Topsoil	-	-

3	Layer	-	0.07	Natural	-	-

Trench 36						
General description					**Orientation**	WNW-ESE
Trench contained only a modern feature (unrecorded). Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	0.07	Natural	-	-

Trench 37						
General description					**Orientation**	WNW-ESE
Trench contained two possible gullies (undated) and a modern tire track. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.33
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.47	Topsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
69	Cut	0.41	0.07	Gully	-	-
70	Fill	-	0.07	Fill of Gully **69**	-	-
71	Cut	0.42	0.23	Gully	-	-
72	Fill	-	0.23	Fill of Gully **71**	-	-

APPENDIX B ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

B.1 Environmental Samples

By Martha Craven

Introduction

B.1.1 Three bulk samples were taken from features within the evaluated area in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations. Samples were taken from features encountered within Trenches 4 and 27 from deposits of unknown date.

Methodology

B.1.2 The total volume (up to 16L) of each of the samples was processed by tank flotation using modified Siraff-type equipment for the recovery of preserved plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve.

B.1.3 The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 1.

Results

B.1.4 Preservation of plant remains is by carbonisation and is very poor; many of the flots contain rootlets which may have caused movement of material between contexts.

B.1.5 Sample 2, fill 18 of tree throw **17**, contained a very small amount of charcoal. There were no cereals, chaff or weed seeds present in any of the samples.

B.1.6 There were no artefacts or molluscs present in any of the samples.

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut no.	Trench no.	Feature type	Volume processed (L)	Flot volume (ml)	Charcoal volume (ml)
1	19	14	4	Ditch	16	75	0
2	18	17	4	Tree throw (?)	16	30	<1
3	51	50	27	Ditch terminus	16	20	0

Table 1: Environmental samples from Pentney Quarry, Norfolk

Discussion

B.1.7 The recovery of a very small quantity of charcoal indicates that there is limited potential for the preservation of plant remains at this site.

B.1.8 If further excavation is planned for this area, it is recommended that environmental sampling is carried out in accordance with Historic England guidelines (2011).

APPENDIX C BIBLIOGRAPHY

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APPENDIX D OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-343425
Project Name	Pentney Quarry, Norfolk

Start of Fieldwork	11/02/2019	End of Fieldwork	15/02/2019
Previous Work	No	Future Work	No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	XNFPYQ19	Planning App. No.	
HER Number	ENF145780	Related Numbers	

Prompt	NPPF
Development Type	Mineral Extraction
Place in Planning Process	Pre-application

Techniques used (tick all that apply)

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

Monument	Period
Ditch	Uncertain
	Choose an item.
	Choose an item.

Object	Period
None	None
	Choose an item.
	Choose an item.

Insert more lines as appropriate.

Project Location

County	Norfolk
District	King's Lynn and West Norfolk
Parish	Pentney
HER office	Norfolk
Size of Study Area	68,400 sq. m
National Grid Ref	TF 6940 1240

Address (including Postcode)

Middleton Aggregates Ltd,
Abbey Road,
Pentney,
King's Lynn,
Norfolk,
PE32 1JT

Project Originators

Organisation	OA East
Project Brief Originator	NCC

Project Design Originator	James Drummond-Murray
Project Manager	James Drummond-Murray
Project Supervisor	Nicholas Cox

Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	N/A	N/A
Digital Archive	Norwich Castle Museum	TBC
Paper Archive	Norwich Castle Museum	TBC

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

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

Further Comments

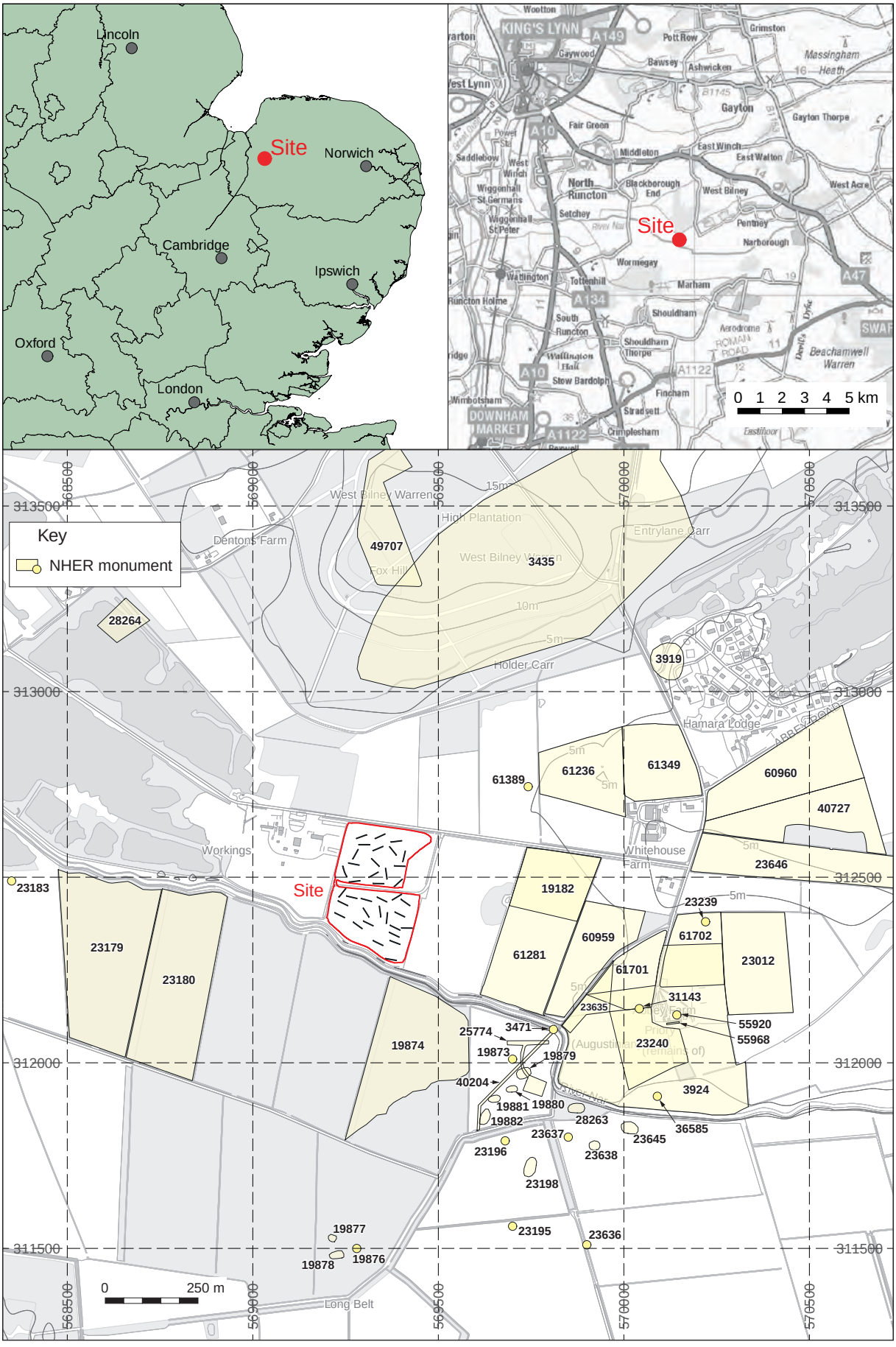

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Figure 1: Site location showing archaeological trenches (black) in development area (red), with Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER) entries mentioned in the text. Scale 1:15000

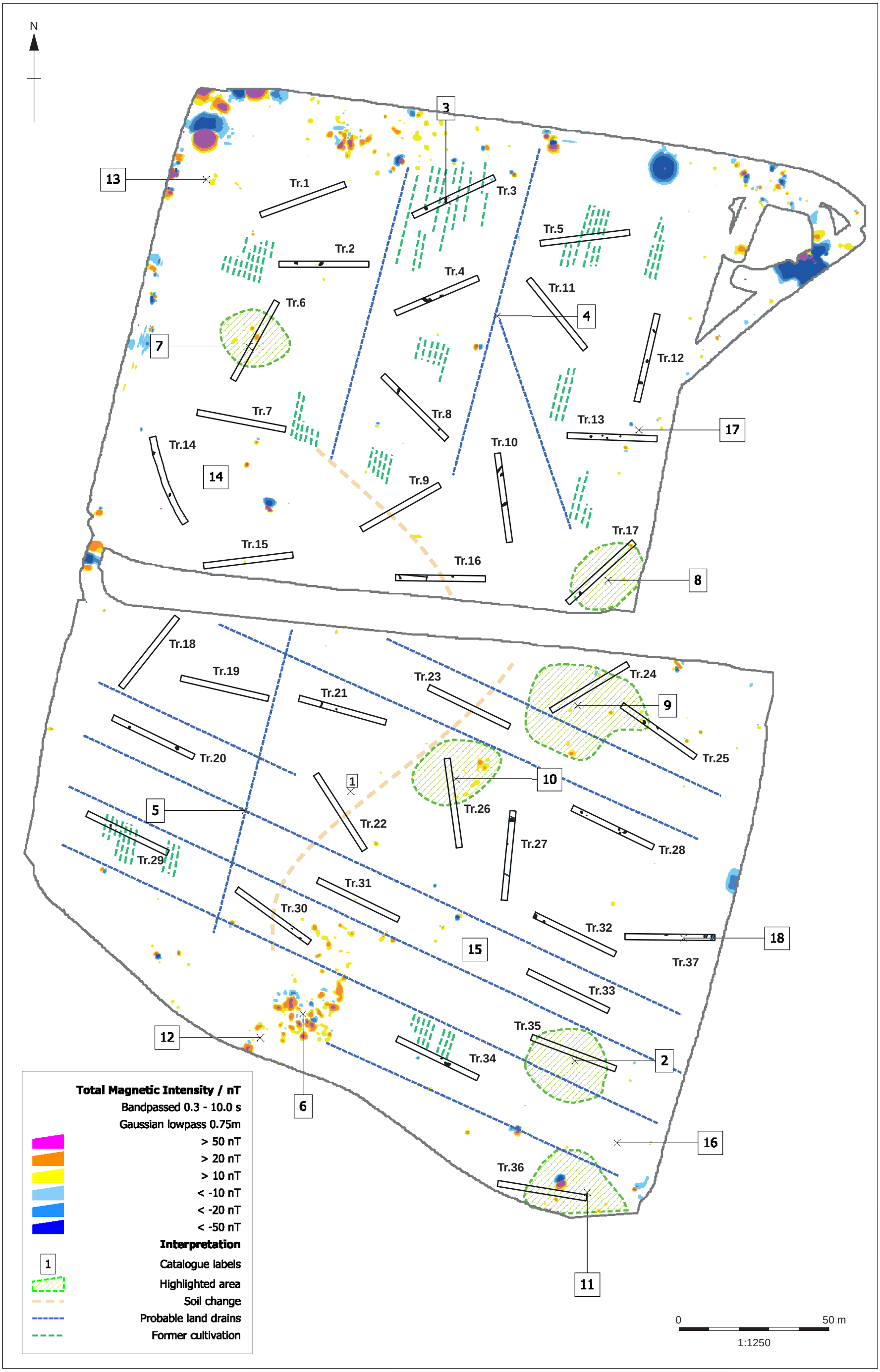

Figure 2: Trench plan overlaid on geophysical survey interpretation (after Roseveare 2019)

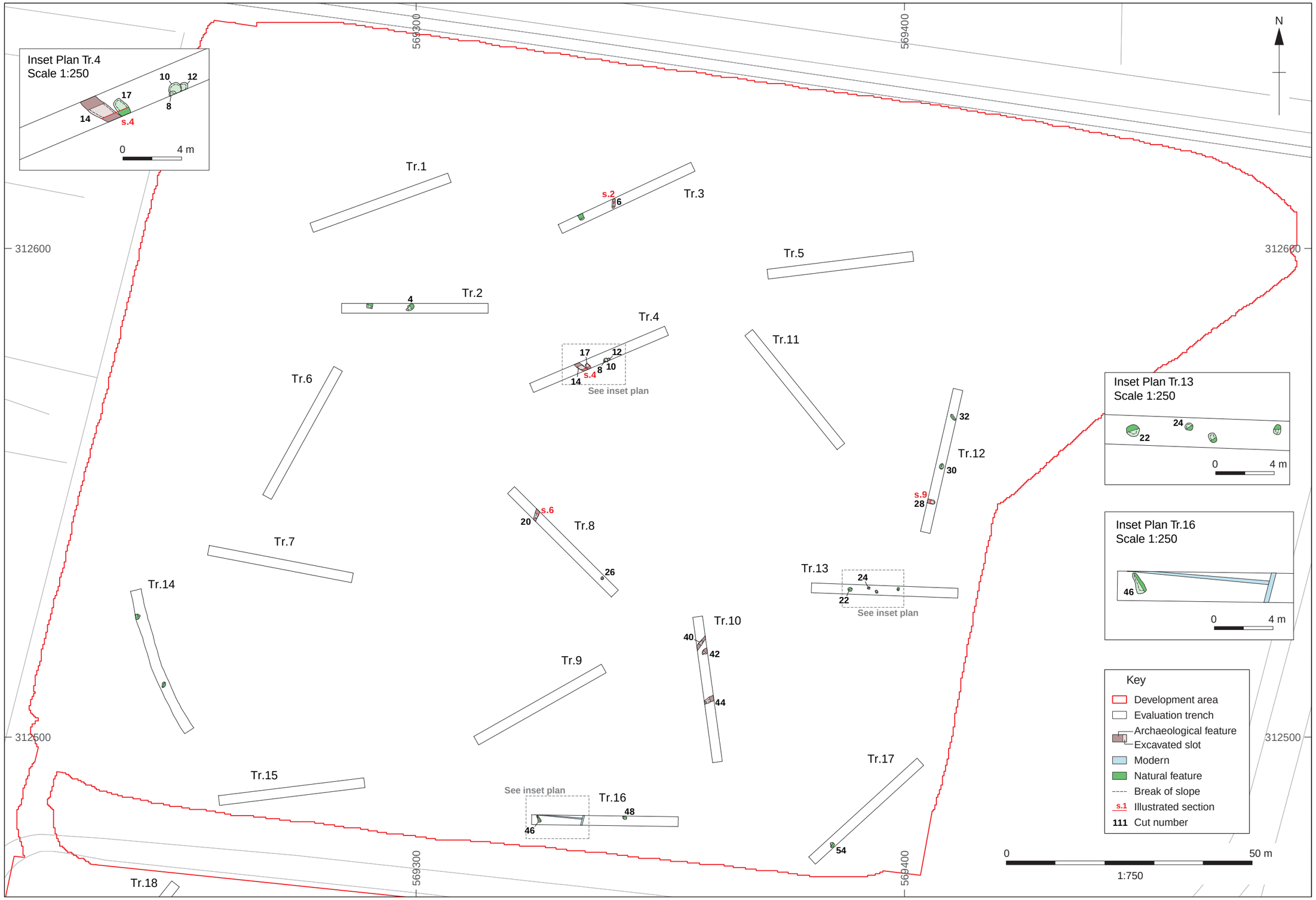

Figure 3a: Trenching results (north)

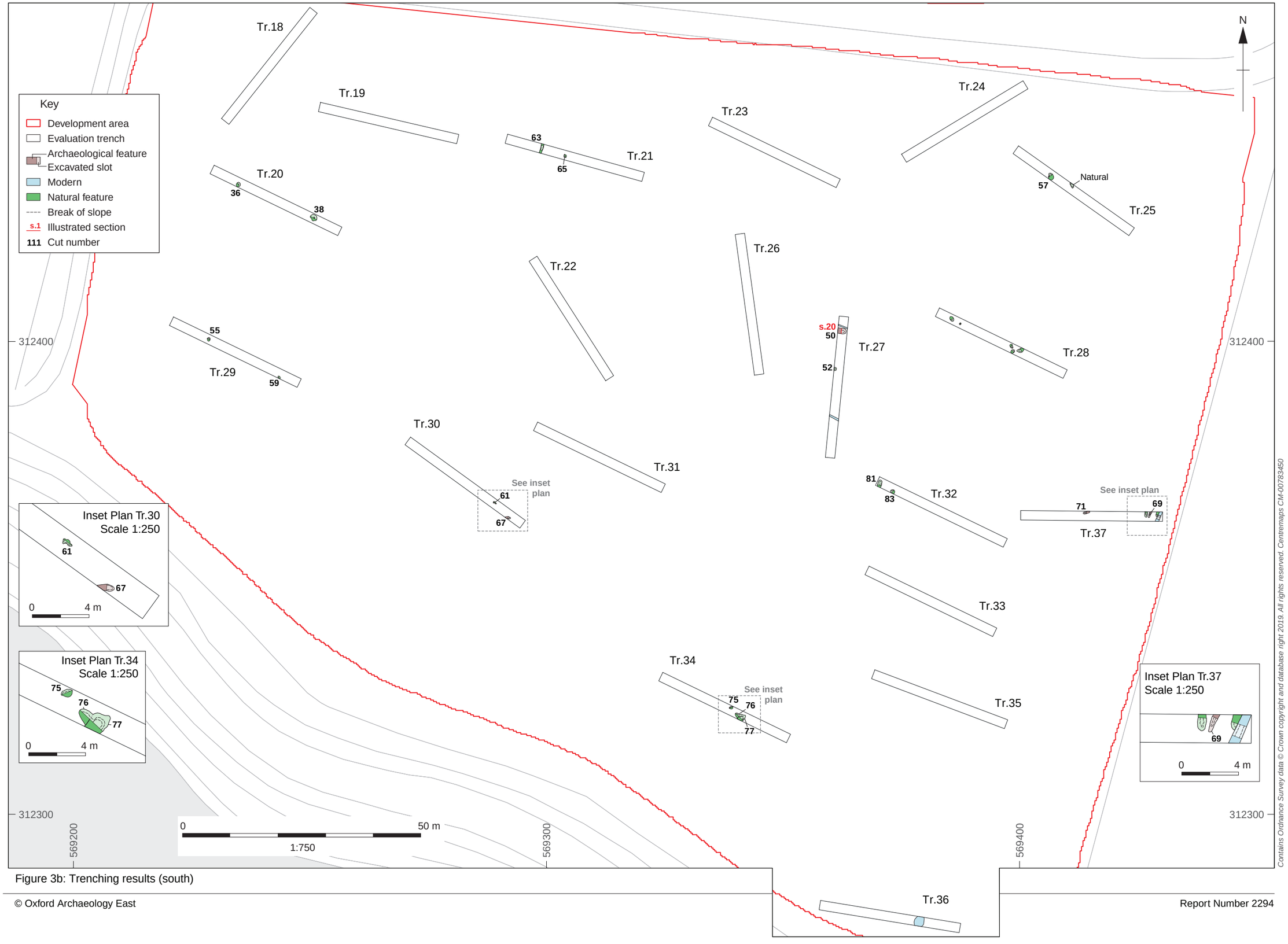

Figure 3b: Trenching results (south)

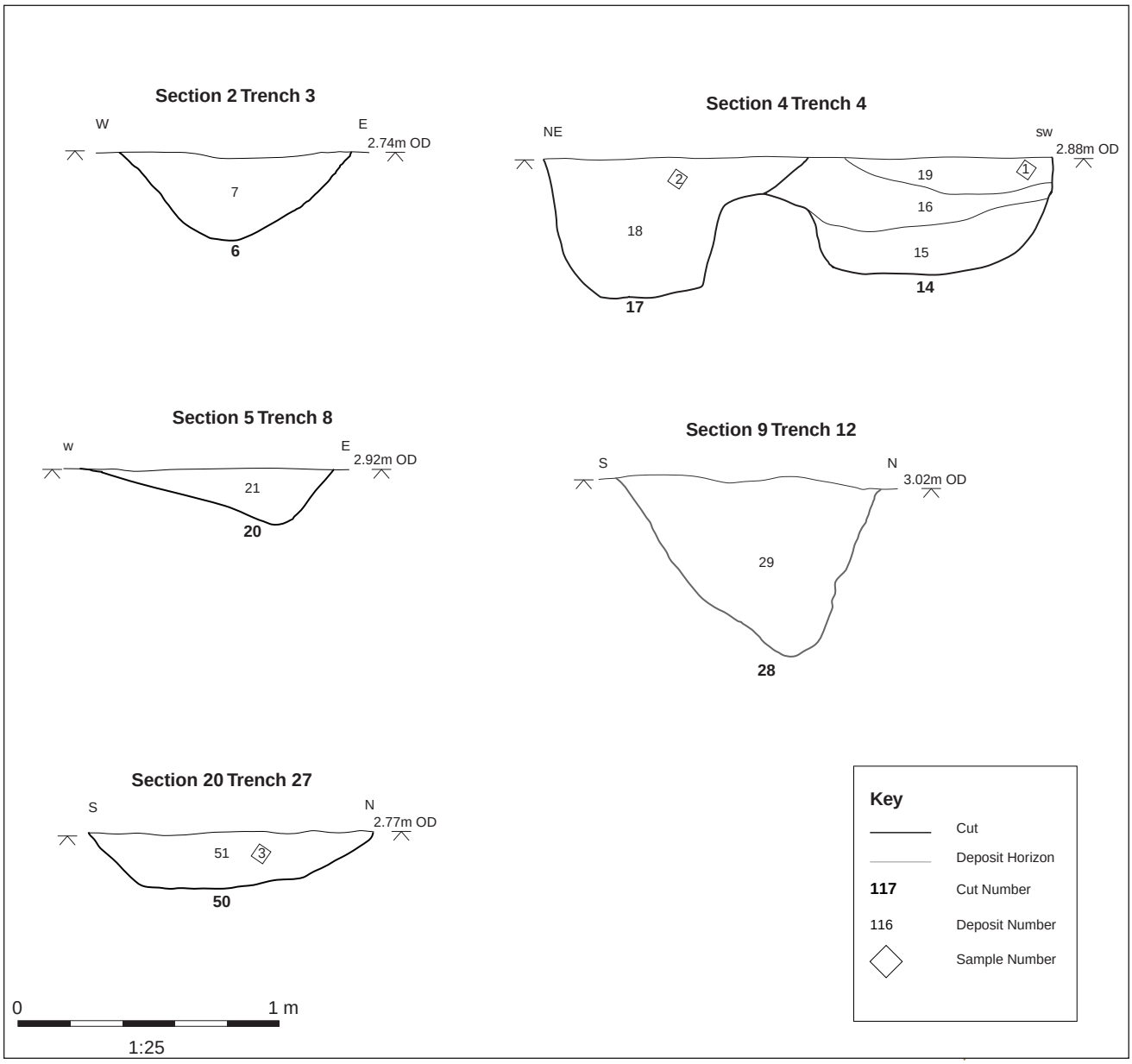

Figure 4: Selected Sections

Plate 1: Trench 4, looking north-east

Plate 2: Ditch **28**, Trench 12, looking west

Plate 3: Trench 26, looking north

Plate 4: Ditch **50**, Trench 27, looking west

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