

Prehistoric occupation,
field systems and
Roman cremations
at Honingham Thorpe
Farms, Norfolk



**Archaeological
Evaluation Report**



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**Prehistoric occupation, field systems and Roman cremations at Honingham
Thorpe Farms, Norfolk**

Archaeological Evaluation

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Summary

From the 10th to the 28th of October 2016, Oxford Archaeology East undertook a trial trench evaluation over c. 18ha of agricultural land at Honingham Thorpe Farms, Honingham, Norfolk (TG 1207 1056). The evaluation comprised the excavation of 63 50m long trenches, and revealed extensive, if somewhat dispersed archaeology comprising mainly ditches, but also pits, post-holes and two cremations scattered across the entire site.

The earliest evidence for occupation dates to the Neolithic period. Flint work from the period was recovered from a range of features across the site, most of which was residual. However, two significant concentrations of Neolithic activity were identified, with 69 sherds of Early Neolithic pottery retrieved from features in Trenches 33 and 34 towards the centre of the site, together with pits yielding groups of Neolithic flint work in Trench 49 toward the south-east corner of the site. Evidence for Early Iron Age occupation was also revealed, with a small number of dispersed and seemingly isolated pits and post-holes recorded across the site.

More importantly, the evaluation revealed two extensive coaxial field systems, both possibly of prehistoric origin. The first comprised ditched boundaries on a north-west to south-east/north-east to south-west alignment. These correspond with the axis of linear cropmarks on and to the east of the site, which were previously thought to be Roman in date. Significantly, the results of this evaluation throw this interpretation/dating into question.

The second field system was on a north to south/east to west axis, and had not been identified by aerial photography and geophysical survey prior to trenching. The field system was aligned in respect to the wider topography of the Tudd Valley, with ditches running down slope toward the river. Although finds were extremely sparse, a crucial piece of dating evidence was recovered from the lower fills of one of the ditches: a complete Late Iron Age-type brooch possibly dating as early as the early 1st century BC. Closely datable finds from such contexts are extremely rare, and this artefact is important for anchoring the chronology of the field system, interpreted as being later than the field system on a north-west to south-east/north-east to south-west alignment.

Two truncated cremations were also revealed in Trenches 46 and 61 towards the eastern side of the site. That from Trench 61 is securely dated to the Early Roman period, and was accompanied by four iron nails and sherds belonging to a small, broken and incomplete grey ware beaker, likely to have been locally produced c. 75-95 AD. It is uncertain whether these represent isolated cremations or were parts of small cemeteries. The environmental potential on site was poor, with no animal bone being present due to acidic soil conditions.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological trial trench evaluation was conducted by Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) at Land at Honingham Thorpe Farms, Honingham, Norfolk (TG 1207 1056; Fig. 1).
- 1.1.2 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Ken Hamilton of the Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service (NHES; pre-application), and by an approved Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by OA East (Brudenell 2016).
- 1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed development area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012). The results will enable decisions to be made by NCC, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.
- 1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the Norfolk Museum and Archaeology Service in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site lies c. 1.3km to the west of Easton village and c. 500m south of the River Tud in the parish of Honingham, Norfolk. The site is broadly rectangular, and covers parts of two agricultural fields, c. 18ha in area, with the eastern limit of the site defined by the Easton-Honingham parish boundary. The site is bordered to the south by Red Barn Lane and to the west by Blind Lane. The northern perimeter is formed by a hedge-lined field boundary.
- 1.2.2 The underlying solid geology of the site comprises chalk belonging to the Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, whilst the superficial geology comprises a mix of Quaternary sands and gravels of the Happisburgh Glacigenic Formation And Lowestoft Formation, and chalky till, outwash sands, gravels and silts of the Lowestoft Formation (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).
- 1.2.3 The site itself slopes gently down northwards toward the River Tud, between 48m OD at the south-east corner of the site to 43m OD at its northern-east corner. The land is currently used for arable farming, and the eastern side of the site is bisected by a north-south aligned field boundary.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The following background is based on information obtained through a Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER) search, summarised in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Brudenell 2016). A map of the HER records locations within a 1km radius of the site is included in Fig. 2. incorporating data from the National Mapping Programme (NMP).

Prehistoric

- 1.3.2 Extensive prehistoric remains have been recorded from the area immediately surrounding the site. Neolithic and Bronze Age activity is attested by a series of flint scatters and find spots, largely recorded by field walking between 1979 and 1980 ahead of the construction of the Norwich Southern Bypass/A47. Three scatters have

been recorded within the site itself (NHER 20009; 20010 – not illustrated; 17038), with finds including part of a polished axehead, flakes, scrapers and blades. Flint scatters and find spots have also been found in adjacent fields (NHER 12808), with notable finds including a fragment of another Neolithic flint axe and Neolithic knives recovered to the east and north-west (NHER 15898; 36671). Further afield, to the east, several flint find spots and another Neolithic axe have been recorded along the line of the A47 beside Easton (NHER 7809; 16308 – not illustrated; 25702; 29040; 29041; 29042), attesting to widespread Neolithic and Bronze Age activity along the Tud Valley.

- 1.3.3 Approximately 1km to the north of the site further field walking revealed further evidence for a prehistoric presence. An area of extensive worked flints including, flakes, blades, cores, scrapers and retouched implements. Sherds of Neolithic pottery were also recovered from this site and the flint was described as 'very early neolithic with strong Mesolithic traits' (NHER 16390 – not illustrated). Early Neolithic flints were uncovered in other fields in this area and comprised blades, cores, scrapers and polished axe heads (NHER 16389; 18265; 23427- not illustrated; 23429).
- 1.3.4 Cropmarks of several possible Bronze Age barrows have also been identified by aerial photography in the area immediately surrounding the site. Around 200m to the north-east, cropmarks of a ring-ditch have been recorded (NHER 53679 – not illustrated), possibly associated with a smaller partial ring-ditch overlying or underlying the main monument. A Bronze Age barrow cemetery has also been recorded in the field immediately west of the site (NHER 12809). Soil marks and slight earthworks of a least four barrows have been identified at this location.

Roman

- 1.3.5 Roman activity is attested by a series of find spots and pottery scatters, and cropmarks of probable Roman sites and enclosure systems. Most significantly, a number of cropmarks have been recorded across the eastern half of the site, the fields to the north, east, and south-west (NHER 53628 – not illustrated). These comprise an area of enclosures and field boundaries. Whilst prehistoric artefacts has been found in the fields, a Roman date is suggested in the HER, as a scatter of Roman material have been recovered from this area. Most notably, 300m east of the site, three fragments of Roman pottery and a Spanish Roman amphora handle were found on the field surface (NHER 15898), whilst further east, field walking and watching briefs along the line of the Norwich Southern Bypass/A47 in Easton yielded a Roman coin and fragments of pottery (NHER 16308 – not illustrated; 25702).
- 1.3.6 Around 800m to the north-west of the site, another cropmark complex has been identified, north of St Andrew's Church. This comprises a rectangular enclosure and enclosures and ditches of probable Roman date (NHER 53627). The main component is a sub-rectangular enclosure, which given the morphology, may be a temporary military camp, although a domestic enclosure is also a strong possibility.
- 1.3.7 The cropmarks of a polygonal or sub-square enclosure of Iron Age or Roman date was identified 1.5km to the west (NHER 53623). This enclosure can be seen through aerial photography along with a narrow outer ditch and a possible associated field system. Prehistoric and Roman finds have been uncovered here (NHER 7818, 8872, 9238, 25966 & 28859 – not illustrated). Roman pottery and a Roman coin have been uncovered to the north-west and south-east of the site (NHER 9244; 25702).

Saxon and Medieval

- 1.3.8 Both Easton and Honingham are recorded in the Domesday survey in 1086, and are likely to have earlier antecedents. In Honingham, the focus of occupation may have

been around St Andrew's Church (NHER 7823), located c. 650m to the north-west of the site. The medieval church now stands in isolation, but c. 350m to the east, earthworks forming a series of platforms and ditched enclosures are thought to relate to medieval tofts (NHER 28552). On the site itself, fragments of medieval pottery were recovered during field walking (NHER 20010; 17038), whilst other stray finds of pottery and a Henry IV penny were discovered further east around Easton (NHER 25702; 17938).

- 1.3.9 St Peter's Church is located c. 650m east of the site, on the edge of the modern village of Easton. Parts of the church are Late Norman, dating to the 12th century.
- 1.3.10 Although undated, many of the cropmarks recorded on and around the site may relate to medieval fields and enclosure systems. Immediately to the north-west, cropmarks of undated ditches are visible (NHER 53683). These consist of a series of fragmentary ditches, a number of which run broadly parallel and perpendicular to one another, and are likely to represent fragments of a field system. The same is true of cropmarks in the field immediately west of the site (NHER 53682), whilst c. 900m to the north, ditches and a possible trackway of unknown date have been recorded by aerial photography (NHER 54360 not illustrated). A further possible medieval trackway has been identified to the north-west where cropmarks show a trackway thought to be part of a system of field boundaries and trackways depicted on the 1839 Honingham Tithe Map (NHER 53624 – not illustrated).
- 1.3.11 The site of possible earthwork boundaries and enclosures are situated at Thorpe Farm, directly south-west of the site (NHER 54366). It is thought that these earthworks are medieval in date. Medieval pottery has been uncovered from the current site (NHER 17038).

Post-medieval and Modern

- 1.3.12 Finds of post-medieval pottery have been recovered by field walking to the north-east of the site (NHER 25702). Other post-medieval sites, monuments and listed buildings from the vicinity include two milestones along the former Norwich, Swaffham and Mattishall turnpike (NHER 56390; 56391 – not illustrated), the landscape park associated with Honingham Hall to the north, visible on Faden's map of 1797 (NHER 7821 – not illustrated), and Church Farm – a brick and flint farmhouse dating to the 17th century (NHER 37298 – not illustrated).
- 1.3.13 A number of buildings in Honingham have post-medieval origins, a 19th century windmill (NHER 7826 – not illustrated), a hand pump built to commemorate the coronation of Edward VII in 1902 (NHER 49140 – no illustrated), the old school which was built in 1840 (NHER 55155 – not illustrated) and the water mill alongside the millers house (NHER 7825).
- 1.3.14 Around 600m to the east of the site, earthworks of a probable post-medieval woodland boundary are visible on aerial photographs within Four Acre Plantation, south of Easton (NHER 53661). Cropmarks of a possible undated rectangular enclosure or post-medieval agricultural boundaries are also visible on aerial photographs to the south of Grange, Honingham, c. 900m west of the site (NHER 54365).
- 1.3.15 Just to the south of Easton a possible post-medieval trackway and undated linear ditches can be seen on aerial photographs (NHER 53546 – not illustrated). Easton has a number of buildings which originate from the post-medieval period including Easton Hall to the south of the village, which is an 18th century brick house (NHER 19820 – not illustrated). The public house 'The Dog' in Easton is largely 18th and 19th century in date, however the north wing has a stepped gable which may have 17th century origins

(NHER 12837). The Methodist Chapel made from flint and brick dates to the 18th century (NHER 42683).

- 1.3.16 The 1823 Easton Tithe map shows the western field of the site divided in two by an east-west aligned field boundary. This boundary is not recorded on the 1882 OS first edition map, which shows boundaries in their current configuration.

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 Thanks to Stephen Scowen of Broadlands District Council for commissioning the work and to Ken Hamilton/James Albone for monitoring the work. Thanks also to Matt Brudenell who managed the project. The site work was conducted by the author with the assistance of Dave Browne, Lindsey Kemp and Malgorzata Kwiatkowska. Site Survey was conducted by Dave Brown.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

2.2 Geophysical Survey

- 2.2.1 Magnitude Surveys undertook a geophysical survey prior to the evaluation in order to identify any potential areas of archaeological interest. The survey did not identify any archaeological features. Weak anomalies associated with ploughing or with changes in the natural geology were identified (Turner 2016, Fig. 3).

2.3 Methodology

- 2.3.1 Following the largely negative results of the geophysical survey, it was agreed with a NHES that a 3.5% trenching sample would be sufficient to evaluate of the site. A total of 63 trenches, each measuring 50m in length, were therefore laid out in a systemic grid array to sample all areas of the site.
- 2.3.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a tracked 360 type excavator using a toothless ditching bucket measuring 2.1m wide.
- 2.3.3 The site survey was carried out using a Leica GS08 GPS system.
- 2.3.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.
- 2.3.5 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.3.6 Sampling took place largely on pits which yielded prehistoric pottery and flint although other features such as ditches were environmentally sampled. Two cremations were also sampled in their entirety.
- 2.3.7 Site conditions were poor for the majority of the time, rain and wind meant features were difficult to identify and excavate.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 A total of 63 trenches were excavated, each measuring 50m in length, aligned either north to south or east to west (Fig. 4). Out of the 63 trenches a total of 23 were devoid of archaeology (Trenches 2, 5, 7-9, 11, 13, 15-16, 19, 22, 31, 35, 41-43, 47, 57-58, 60, 62-63), the main 'blank' area being in the south-west corner of the site. Within the remaining 40 trenches, a total of 127 features were identified comprising 77 ditches, 25 pits, 10 gullies, six post-holes, six tree-throws, two cremations and a natural hollow. A 1m wide slot was excavated into all ditches and gullies; pits and post-holes were half sectioned and the cremations were fully excavated. These features were widely distributed across the site, with most trenches containing between 1 to 3 features. The only major feature concentration was recorded in Trench 34 where 11 features were identified, yielding most of the site's pottery and flint.
- 3.1.2 For ease of reference, the site has been divided into eight areas (Figs 5-12), and results will be described by trench within each area. A full list of all the features and deposits excavated can be found in Appendix A. Feature numbers in the text are written in bold (**43**) while layers and fills are in normal text (66). Finds and Environmental Reports are located in Appendix B and C and a total of 14 figures and 18 plates are included at the end of the text.
- 3.1.3 The natural largely consisted of an orangey yellow sand with gravel patches. Subsoil consisted of a mid orangey brown silty sand with occasional flint inclusions and measured between 0.05m and 0.4m thick. The topsoil consisted of a dark grey brown sandy silt that measured 0.3m thick on average. Soil depths for each trench are recorded in Appendix A.

3.2 Trenches containing archaeology

Trenches 1,3,4,10,17 and 18 (Fig. 5)

Trench 1

- 3.2.1 Located in the north-west corner of the site, Trench 1 had a north to south orientation and contained two pits (Plate 1). Pit **7** measured 1.56m wide and 0.23m deep its single fill (6) consisted of a mid grey brown silty sand that contained no finds. Pit **9** was located further to the north and measured 1.5m wide and 0.13m deep (Plate 2; Section 3), its single fill (8) consisted of a dark brown grey silty sand that contained 15 sherds (214g) of Early Iron Age pottery and burnt flint. This fill was environmentally sampled but contained no preserved remains.

Trench 3

- 3.2.2 Trench 3 had an east to west orientation and contained a gully and a pit. Gully **10** had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 0.8m wide and 0.15m deep. Its single fill (11) consisted of a dark reddish brown silty sand that yielded a single worked flint. Pit **12** was only partially visible and measured 0.85m wide and 0.25m deep, its single fill (13) consisted of a mid brown silty sand and contained no finds.

Trench 4

- 3.2.3 Trench 4 lay directly south of Trench 3 and had a north to south orientation. The trench revealed a single ditch terminus (**14**), with an east to west alignment. It measured 0.7m wide and 0.25m deep with steep sides and a broadly flat base. Its single fill (15)

consisted of a dark brown silty sand that contained no finds. Two tree throws were also recorded in this trench (**33** and **35**), neither of which contained any finds.

Trench 10

- 3.2.4 Trench 10 had a north to south alignment and contained a single ditch terminus (**5**). The ditch had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 1.3m wide and 0.35m deep. Its single fill (4) consisted of a mid brown silty sand containing no finds.

Trench 17 (Figs 5 and 7)

- 3.2.5 Trench 17 was located to the east of Trench 10, on an east to west orientation. The trench contained a series of linear features all with a north to south alignment. From the western end of the trench was ditch terminus **42** which measured 0.7m wide and 0.1m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its single fill (41) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds. To the east was ditch **44** which measured 0.85m wide and 0.3m deep with gentle sides and a concave base. Its single fill (43) consisted of a dark brown sand with no finds. Ditch **46** measured 0.6m wide and 0.1m deep, its single fill (45) consisted of a light brown sand that contained no finds.
- 3.2.6 In the centre of the trench, ditch **48** measured 1.4m wide and 0.1m deep with sloped sides and a slightly concave base. Its single fill (47) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds.
- 3.2.7 Ditch **50** measured 1.4m wide and 0.1m deep with sloped sides and a flat base (Fig. 13: Section 22), its single fill (49) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained pottery. To the east was ditch **52** which measured 0.65m wide and 0.12m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base, its single fill (51) consisted of a mid brown sand with frequent flint inclusions that contained no finds.

Trench 18

- 3.2.8 Trench 18 lay immediately to the south of Trench 17 on a north to south orientation and contained a gully (**187**), pit (**189**) and tree throw (**185**). Tree throw **185** measured 0.76m wide and 0.12m deep. Its single fill (184) consisted of a mid brown grey silty sand that contained no finds.
- 3.2.9 Directly south of this was gully **187**, which had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 0.4m wide and 0.25m deep. Its single fill (186) consisted of a mid grey brown silty sand that contained no finds. This gully was truncated by pit **189**, which measured 2.66m wide and 0.3m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (188) consisted of a mid brown silty sand that contained no finds.

Trenches 6, 12, 14, 20, and 21 (Fig. 6)

Trench 6

- 3.2.10 Trench 6 was located toward the western edge of the site. The trench had a north to south orientation and contained two ditches. Ditch **17** had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 1.18m wide and 0.43m deep with steep sides and a concave base (fig. 13: Section 7). Its single fill (16) consisted of a mid brown silty sand containing no finds. Ditch **19** had an east to west alignment and measured 1.59m wide and 0.34m deep with gentle sides and a concave base. Its single fill (18) contained no finds.

Trench 12

- 3.2.11 A number of ditches on various alignments were excavated in Trench 12, which had a north to south orientation. Ditch **21** had an east to west alignment and measured 1m wide and 0.2m deep. Its single fill (20) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds. The ditch is possibly a continuation of ditches **148/146** in Trench 26 to the east.
- 3.2.12 Ditch **23** had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 0.8m wide and 0.1m deep. Its single fill (22) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds.
- 3.2.13 Post-hole **26** measured 0.3m wide and 0.3m deep. It contained two fills (25); a mid brown sand measuring 0.2m deep was overlain by fill 24, which measured 0.1m deep and consisted of a dark grey silty sand. This fill was environmentally sampled and contained evidence for charred weed seeds. Three small sherds (5g) of Early Iron Age pottery were also recovered from this fill.
- 3.2.14 Ditch **28** had an east-north-east to west-south-west alignment and measured 1.3m wide and 0.25m deep. Its single fill (27) consisted of a mid brown sand and contained a single worked flint. Ditch **32** had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 0.6m wide and 0.15m deep. Its single fill (31) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds. This was truncated by ditch terminus **30** which had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 1m wide and 0.15m deep. Its single fill (29) consisted of a mid brown sand with no finds.

Trench 14

- 3.2.15 Trench 14 had a north to south alignment and contained a single tree throw. Tree throw **38** measured 0.9m wide and 0.3m deep. Its single fill (39) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds.

Trench 20

- 3.2.16 Trench 20 had a north to south alignment and contained two ditches. The northern most ditch in the trench (unexcavated here) was aligned north-west to south-east, and was a continuation of ditch **135** in Trench 27 (Fig. 8). To the south, ditch **129** had an east to west alignment and measured 0.58m wide and 0.14m deep with gentle sides and a concave base. Its single fill (130) consisted of a mid orange brown silty sand and contained no finds.

Trench 21

- 3.2.17 Trench 21 was located to the south of Trench 20 on an east to west orientation. The trench contained a single ditch (**104**) on a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 1.3m wide and 0.36m deep. Its single fill (105) consisted of a mid orange brown silty sand with occasional flint inclusions and contained no finds.

Trenches 23, 24, 30, 37 and 38 (Fig. 7)

Trench 23

- 3.2.18 Along the northern limits of the field was Trench 23. This trench had an east to west orientation and contained a number of features including ditches, pits and post-holes. Ditch **77** had a north to south alignment and measured 0.6m wide and 0.33m deep with moderate sides and a concave base (Plate 3; Fig. 13; Section 24). Its single fill (78) consisted of a mid red brown silty sand that contained frequent flint inclusions towards the base and eastern edge of the features. This was cut by ditch **79** which also had a north to south alignment and measured 0.7m wide and 0.2m deep. Its single fill (80) consisted of a mid red brown silty sand that contained occasional flint inclusions.

Neither ditch yielded any finds. However, the line of these ditches is likely to be a continuation of ditch **48** in Trench 17 to the south.

- 3.2.19 Directly to the east were two post-holes. Post-hole **81** measured 0.2m wide and 0.05m deep with steep sides and a flat base. Its single fill (82) consisted of a mid red brown silty sand that contained one sherd (7g) of Early Iron Age pottery. Post-hole **87** measured 0.2m wide and 0.1m deep, its single fill (88) consisted of a mid red brown silty sand that contained no finds.
- 3.2.20 To the east Ditch **83** had a north to south alignment and measured 1.1m wide and 0.4m deep with steep sides and a concave base, its single fill (84) consisted of a mid red brown silty sand and no finds. This was cut by pit **85** (Plate 4) which measured 0.5m wide and 0.3m deep. Its single fill (86) consisted of a mid yellow brown sand that contained no finds.

Trench 24

- 3.2.21 Trench 24 lay to the south of Trench 23, on a north to south orientation. The trench contained a number of ditches and a possible pit which was only partially uncovered. At the northern end of the trench was pit **90** which measured 0.9m wide and 0.3m deep. Its single fill (89) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds. Further to the south was ditch **92** which had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 0.7m wide and 0.2m deep. This ditch contained two fills, the basal fill (103) consisted of a mid yellow brown sand and measured 0.2m thick and represents a slumping event. Overlying this was fill 91 which consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds.
- 3.2.22 Ditch **94** had an east to west alignment and measured 0.8m wide and 0.5m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (93) consisted of a mid brown sand, with occasional flint inclusions, that contained no finds.

Trench 30

- 3.2.23 East of Trench 24 was Trench 30, which had a north to south orientation and contained a single ditch and a series of pits. At the southern end of the trench was ditch **95** which had an east to west alignment and measured 1.7m wide and 0.36m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (96) consisted of a mid red brown silty sand that contained a single worked flint. The ditch is possibly a continuation of ditch **197** in Trench 44 (Fig. 10).
- 3.2.24 North of ditch **95** were three pits. Pit **97** measured 0.8m wide and 0.13m deep, its single fill (98) consisted of a dark brown silty sand and contained no finds. Pit **99** measured 0.7m wide and 0.09m deep, its single fill consisted of a dark brown silty sand and contained no finds. Pit **101** measured 0.5m wide and 0.08m deep, its single fill (102) consisted of a dark brown silty sand that contained no finds.

Trench 37

- 3.2.25 Trench 37 had an east to west orientation and contained two ditches and two possible pits. Ditch **224** had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 0.95m wide and 0.33m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Plate 5). Its single fill (225) consisted of a mid brown silty sand that contained no finds. Directly east was pit **228** which measured 0.4m wide and 0.45m deep, its single fill (229) consisted of a dark red brown silty sand that contained no finds. This pit was truncated on its western side by ditch **226** which had a north to south alignment. Ditch **226** measured 1.1m wide and 0.33m deep with moderate sides and a broadly flat base. Its single fill (227) consisted of a dark red brown silty sand that contained no finds. At the eastern end of the trench

was pit **230** which measured 1m wide and 0.33m deep, its single fill (231) contained two sherds (8g) of Early Iron Age pottery.

Trench 38

- 3.2.26 Trench 38 was aligned north to south and contained two ditches. Ditch terminus **111** had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 1m wide and 0.1m deep. Its single fill (110) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds. Ditch **113** had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 1m wide and 0.3m deep. Its single fill (112) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds.

Trenches 25, 26, 27, 32, 33, 34, 39 and 40 (Fig. 8)

Trench 25

- 3.2.27 Trench 25 had an east to west orientation and contained a ditch, pit and tree throw. Pit **173** measured 1.08m wide and 0.23m deep. Its single fill (172) consisted of a mid brown silty sand and contained no finds.
- 3.2.28 To the west was ditch **175** which had a north to south alignment and measured 1.18m wide and 0.29m deep. Its single fill (174) consisted of a mid grey brown silty sand that contained no finds. Tree throw **177** measured 1.39m wide and 0.19m deep, its single fill (176) contained no finds.

Trench 26

- 3.2.29 Three ditches all aligned east to west were uncovered in Trench 26, which had a north to south orientation. Ditch terminus **144** measured 0.6m wide and 0.18m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. Its single fill (143) consisted of a mid grey brown silty sand that contained no finds. To the south was ditch **148** which measured 0.36m wide and 0.18m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (147) consisted of a mid grey brown silty sand that contained no finds. This was truncated by ditch **146** which measured 1.19m wide and 0.45m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. Its single fill (145) consisted of a mid brown silty sand with frequent small flint inclusions and no finds. Ditches **146/148** are likely to be continuation of ditch **21** in Trench 12 to the west (Fig. 6), and ditch **192** in Trench 40 to the east.

Trench 27

- 3.2.30 Trench 27 lay to the south of Trench 26 on an east to west orientation. The trench contained a ditch, a gully and a pit. Ditch **135** was located at the eastern end of the trench with a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 0.95m wide and 0.2m deep (Fig. 13; Section 59). Its single fill (136) consisted of a mid orange brown silty sand which contained no finds. The ditch is likely to be a continuation of an unexcavated ditch in Trench 20 (Fig. 6).
- 3.2.31 To the west of ditch **135** was gully **133** with which it shared a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 0.37m wide and 0.07m deep. Its single fill (134) contained no finds. This gully was truncated by pit **131**. Pit **131** measured 1.1m wide and 0.24m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (132) consisted of an orange brown silty sand that contained no finds.

Trench 32

- 3.2.32 North to south orientated Trench 32 contained two ditches and a gully. At the southern end of the trench was ditch terminus **138** which had a north-west to south-east

alignment and measured 0.61m wide and 0.21m deep. Its single fill (137) consisted of a mid grey brown silty sand that contained no finds.

- 3.2.33 To the south ditch **142** had an east to west alignment and measured 1.47m wide and 0.22m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (141) consisted of a mid grey brown sandy silt that contained no finds. This fill was cut by gully **140**. This gully had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 0.37m wide and 0.08m deep with gentle sides and a concave base. Its single fill (139) consisted of a mid red brown sandy silt that contained no finds.

Trench 33

- 3.2.34 Trench 33 had an east to west orientation and contained two ditches and a gully. Ditch **122** had an east to west alignment and measured 1.17m wide and 0.71m deep with vertical sides and a concave base (Fig.13; Section 62). This ditch contained two fills. The basal fill (121) consisted of a dark brown silty sand that contained no finds, overlying this was fill 120 which consisted of a mid yellow brown silty sand that also contained no finds. This ditch appeared to have been re-cut. Ditch **119** had a north to south alignment and measured 0.85m wide and 0.33m deep with steep sides and a broadly flat base. Its single fill (118) consisted of a mid grey brown silty sand that contained no finds.
- 3.2.35 Gully terminus **117** had a north to south alignment and measured 0.42m wide and 0.14m deep. Its single fill (116) consisted of a mid brown grey silty sand that contained 11 sherds (63g) of Early Neolithic pottery and four worked flints.

Trench 34

- 3.2.36 Trench 34 was located to the south of Trench 33 on a north to south orientation. The trench contained a series of features including ditches, pits and post-holes (Plate 6). At the southern end of the trench was gully **54** which had an east to west alignment and measured 0.42m wide and 0.08m deep with gentle sides and a concave base. Its single fill (53) consisted of a light grey brown silty sand and contained no finds. Ditch **56** had an east to west alignment and measured 0.58m wide and 0.22m deep. Its single fill (55) contained no finds and was cut by ditch **58** on the same east to west alignment. This ditch measured 0.84m wide and 0.26m deep and contained a single fill (57) which consisted of a mid grey brown silty sand that contained 13 sherds (93g) of Early Neolithic pottery.
- 3.2.37 Possible ditch **60** had an east to west alignment and measured 0.32m wide and 0.2m deep. Its single fill (59) consisted of a mid grey brown silty sand and was cut by ditch **62**. Possible ditch **64** also had an east to west alignment and measured 0.68m wide and 0.14m deep, its single fill (63) was also truncated by ditch **62**. Ditch **62** had an east to west alignment and measured 1.52m wide and 0.28m deep. Its single fill (61) consisted of a mid brown grey silty sand that contained no finds.
- 3.2.38 Ditch **66** had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 1.14m wide and 0.2m deep with moderate sides and a concave base. Its single fill (65) consisted of a mid brown grey silty sand that contained 11 sherds (30g) of Early Neolithic pottery. Ditch **68** had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 1.24m wide and 0.5m deep with near vertical sides and a concave base (Section 39; Plate 7). Its single fill (67) consisted of a dark brown silty sand with frequent large stone inclusions that contained 24 sherds (161g) of Early Neolithic pottery. Twelve worked flints were also recovered which included a core and a knife all dating to the Neolithic period. This fill was environmentally sampled and contained five charred cereal grains.

- 3.2.39 Directly north were three post-holes (Plate 8). Post-hole **70** measured 0.32m wide and 0.08m deep and contained a single fill (69) which consisted of a mid brown grey silty sand with no finds. Post-hole **72** measured 0.2m wide and 0.07m deep and its single fill (71) consisted of a mid brown silty sand and no finds. Post-hole **74** measured 0.43m wide and 0.13m deep and its single fill (73) consisted of a mid grey brown silty sand that contained ten sherds (44g) of Early Neolithic pottery. This fill was environmentally sampled and contained evidence of charred weed seeds.
- 3.2.40 Ditch terminus or pit **76** measured 0.66m wide and 0.14m deep with moderate sides and a concave base. Its single fill (75) consisted of a dark grey silty sand that contained no finds but was environmentally sampled.
- 3.2.41 Two possible furrows were uncovered in this trench with an east to west alignment, however they were not recorded.

Trench 39

- 3.2.42 East of Trench 32 was Trench 39 which had an east to west orientation and contained two pits, a gully and a ditch. Gully **219** had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 0.6m wide and 0.15m deep with gentle sides and a concave base. Its single fill (218) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds. This gully was truncated by pit **217** which measured 0.85m wide and 0.1m deep, its single fill (216) contained no finds.
- 3.2.43 To the east was ditch **223** which had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 0.45m wide and 0.1m deep. Its single fill (222) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds. This ditch was truncated by pit **221** which measured 0.8m wide and 0.25m deep with gentle sides and a concave base. Its single fill (220) contained no finds.

Trench 40

- 3.2.44 Trench 40 had a north to south orientation and contained a single ditch at the northern end. Ditch **192** had an east to west alignment and measured 1.15m wide and 0.35m deep (Plate 9). Its single fill (193) consisted of a mid grey brown sandy silt that contained no finds. The ditch is likely to be a continuation of ditches **148/146** in Trench 26 to the west.

Trenches 28, 29 and 36 (Fig. 9)

Trench 28

- 3.2.45 Trench 28 had a north to south orientation and contained a single ditch. Ditch **106** had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 1m wide and 0.18m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (107) consisted of a mid orange brown silty sand that contained one sherd of Early Iron Age pottery.

Trench 29

- 3.2.46 South of this was Trench 29 which had an east to west orientation and contained a single ditch. Ditch **108** had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 1m wide and 0.2m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (109) contained no finds.

Trench 36

- 3.2.47 At the southern end of the site was Trench 36 which had a north to south orientation and contained a single pit. Pit **114** measured 1m wide and 0.2m deep with moderate

sides and concave base (Fig. 13; Section 49). Its single fill (115) consisted of a mid brown grey silty sand that contained 60g of Early Iron Age pottery. This fill was environmentally sampled and contained no preserved remains.

- 3.2.48 A single tree throw was identified at the southern end of this trench but not recorded.

Trenches 44, 45, 50, 51 and 56 (Fig.10)

Trench 44

- 3.2.49 At the northern end of the field was Trench 44 which had a north to south orientation and contained two ditches and a pit. Ditch **195** was at the northern end of the trench and had an east to west alignment. This ditch measured 1.15m wide and 0.37m deep (Plate 10), its single fill (194) consisted of a dark grey brown silty sand that contained no finds. To the south was ditch **197** which also had an east to west alignment and measured 0.93m wide and 0.34m deep (Fig. 13: Section 85), its single fill (196) consisted of a mid grey brown silty sand that contained no finds. Pit **199** could only partially be seen and measured 1m wide and 0.36m deep, its single fill (198) contained no finds.

Trench 45

- 3.2.50 Trench 45 had an east to west orientation and contained a ditch and two pits. Ditch **124** had a north to south alignment and measured 1.25m wide and 0.3m deep with gentle sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (123) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds. Directly east was pit **126** which measured 1m wide and 0.2m deep. Its single fill (125) consisted of a mid brown sand with no finds. Pit **128** measured 1m wide and 0.15m deep. Its single fill (127) was a mid brown sand that produced no finds.

Trench 50

- 3.2.51 In the north-east corner of the main field was Trench 50 which had an east to west orientation and contained a single pit. Pit **209** measured 0.98m wide and 0.35m deep. Its single fill (208) consisted of a mid grey brown silty sand that contained no finds.

Trench 51

- 3.2.52 Trench 51 had a north to south orientation and contained three ditches and a gully on various alignments. At the southern end of the trench was ditch **151** which had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 1.2m wide and 0.3m deep with gently sides and a concave base. Its single fill (150) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds. Directly north was ditch terminus **153** which had an east to west alignment and measured 0.8m wide and 0.4m deep, its single fill (152) consisted of a mid brown silty sand that contained no finds.

- 3.2.53 Gully **157** (also known as **159**) had a north north-west to south south-east alignment and measured 18m long, 0.3m wide and 0.06m deep with gentle sides and a flat base. Its single fill (156) consisted of a light brown sand that contained no finds. This gully was truncated by ditch terminus **155** which had an east to west alignment and measured 0.8m wide and 0.25m deep. Its single fill (154) consisted of a mid red brown sand that contained 9g of Early Iron Age pottery; it was environmentally sampled but no preserved remains were recovered.

Trench 56

- 3.2.54 At the north-east end of site was Trench 56 which had an east to west orientation and contained a single ditch. Ditch **178** had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 0.5m wide and 0.09m deep with gentle sides and a concave base. Its single fill (179) consisted of a mid orangey brown silty sand that contained no finds.

Trenches 46, 52, 53, 59 and 61 (Fig. 11)

Trench 46

- 3.2.55 Trench 46 had a north to south orientation and contained a single ditch and a cremation. Ditch **207** had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 1.4m wide and 0.15m deep. Its single fill (206) consisted of a dark brown sand and contained no finds. Directly to the south was cremation **232** which measured 0.25m wide and 0.07m deep (Fig. 13; Section 101; Plate 11). Its single fill (233) contained small burnt bone fragments. No finds were recovered from this cremation and no preserved remains were found in the environmental sample.

Trench 52

- 3.2.56 Immediately east was Trench 52 which had an east to west orientation and contained a furrow and two gullies. Furrow **201** had a north to south alignment and measured 1.4m wide and 0.2m deep. Its single fill (200) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds. To the east was gully **203** which had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 0.6m wide and 0.1m deep with gentle sides and a concave base. Its single fill (202) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds. On the same alignment and directly east was gully **205** which measured 1.2m wide and 0.5m deep with steep sides and a flat base. Its single fill (204) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds.

Trench 53

- 3.2.57 Trench 53 was located centrally and had a north to south orientation and contained three ditches, a pit and a tree throw (Plate 12). A natural hollow was also noted at the southern end of the trench measuring at least 2m wide and at least 3m deep (244). At the northern end of the trench was ditch **237** which had a north-west to south-east alignment and measured 0.7m wide and 0.3m deep. Its single fill (236) consisted of a mid brown sand that contained no finds. This ditch was truncated by ditch **235** which had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 0.75m wide and 0.16m deep. Its single fill (234) consisted of a dark brown sand that contained no finds.

- 3.2.58 Tree throw **239** could only partially be seen in the trench and measured 0.75m wide and 0.16m deep. Its single fill (238) consisted of a dark brown sand that contained no finds. Directly south was ditch **241** which had an east to west alignment and measured 1.3m wide and 0.5m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Fig.13; Section 104; Plate 13). Its single fill (240) consisted of a mid brown silty sand that contained SF 1, a Late Iron Age copper alloy brooch. This fill was environmentally sampled and contained no preserved remains. Pit **243** was only partially visible and measured 0.75m wide and 0.5m deep with gentle sides and a concave base. Its single fill (242) contained no finds.

- 3.2.59 A large natural hollow (**244**) was identified at the southern end of Trench 53, its full extent was not clear but it measured at least 3m deep and contained no finds.

Trench 59

- 3.2.60 Trench 59 had a north to south orientation and contained a single pit. Pit **180** measured 1.2m wide and 0.27m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (181) consisted of a mid grey brown silty sand that contained no finds.

Trench 61

- 3.2.61 To the south was Trench 61 which had a north to south orientation and contained a single ditch and cremation (Plate 14). Ditch **182** had an east to west alignment and measured 1m wide and 0.2m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 13; Section 80; Plate 15). Its single fill (183) consisted of a mid orangey brown sandy silt and contained no finds. Cremation **190** was located at the southern end of the trench and measured 0.35m wide and 0.2m deep (Section 100; Plate 16). Its single fill (191) consisted of a dark brown grey silty sand that contained small fragments of burnt bone alongside Roman pottery from a single vessel dating to the late 1st century AD which may have been an accessory vessel. Four iron nails were also recovered from this fill. This fill was environmentally sampled and contained evidence for charred weed seeds.

Trenches 48, 49, 54 and 55 (Fig. 12)

Trench 48

- 3.2.62 Trench 48 had a north to south orientation and contained two ditches. At the southern end was ditch **212** which had a north-west to south-east orientation and measured 0.5m wide and 0.15m deep with moderately sloping sides and a flat base. Its single fill (213) consisted of a dark brown silty sand that contained no finds. To the north was ditch terminus **210** which had an east to west alignment and measured 1.4m wide and 0.26m deep with moderately sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (211) consisted of a dark brown silty sand that contained no finds.

Trench 49

- 3.2.63 Towards the southern end of the field was Trench 49 which had an east to west orientation and contained a single ditch and three pits. Ditch **160** had a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 0.7m wide and 0.2m deep. Its single fill (161) consisted of a dark red brown silty sand that contained no finds.
- 3.2.64 Directly to the east were three pits which appeared to be aligned north-west to south-east (Plate 17). Pit **162** was only partially visible and measured 0.6m wide and 0.26m deep with moderately sloped sides and a flat base, its single fill (163) consisted of a dark red brown grey silty sand that contained worked flint and a small undiagnostic sherd of pottery. This fill was environmentally sampled and contained no preserved remains. Pit **164** measured 0.7m wide and 0.12m deep (Fig. 13; Section 71). Its single fill (165) consisted of a dark red brown grey that contained flint. Pit **166** measured 0.6m wide and 0.17m deep with moderate sides and a concave base. Its single fill (167) consisted of a dark red brown silty sand that contained flint. This fill was also environmentally sampled and contained no preserved remains.

Trench 54

- 3.2.65 Trench 54 had an east to west orientation and contained a single ditch. Ditch **214** had a north to south alignment and measured 0.5m wide and 0.18m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (215) consisted of a dark grey brown silty sand that contained no finds.

Trench 55

- 3.2.66 In the south-east corner of the main field was Trench 55 which had a north to south orientation and contained two ditches. Ditch **168** was located at the northern end of the trench and had an east to west alignment. This ditch measured 0.7m wide and 0.2m deep with moderately sloping sides and a flat base, its single fill (169) consisted of a dark brown sandy silt that contained no finds. At the southern end of the trench was ditch **170** which had a north-west to south-east alignment. This ditch measured 1m wide and 0.18m deep with steep sides and an irregular base (Fig.13; Section 74), its single fill (171) consisted of a dark red brown silty sand that contained 24g of Early Iron Age pottery.

3.3 Finds Summary

- 3.3.1 Only a small amount of material was uncovered from this evaluation, consisting largely of pottery and flint. Other finds comprise a copper alloy brooch recovered from ditch **241** and four iron nails recovered from cremation **190**, alongside Roman pottery from a single vessel dating to the late 1st century AD. A total of 110 sherds of prehistoric pottery were recovered, 69 sherds dated to the Early Neolithic period and were recovered from ditches and a post-hole in Trenches 33 and 34. The remaining 41 sherds dated to the Early Iron Age and were recovered from pits, post-holes and ditches across the site.
- 3.3.2 A total of 36 pieces of burnt and struck flint were also recovered, from site including flakes, a core, a possible awl and a knife. These flints appear to be Neolithic in date. No animal bone was recovered on site due to the acidic soil.

3.4 Environmental Summary

- 3.4.1 A total of eleven samples were taken from across the site: the two cremations were 100% sampled and the other samples were largely taken from isolated pits containing pottery or flint, although a small number of ditches were also sampled. Preservation of plant remains is poor with only ditch **68** containing charred grains and post-hole **26**, cremation **190** and ditch terminus **74** containing charred weed seeds.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

By Matt Brudenell with Kathryn Blackbourn

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Although no features of archaeological origin registered in the geophysical survey (Turner 2016), trial trenching has revealed extensive, if somewhat dispersed archaeology across almost all areas of the site. Indeed, two thirds of the trenches excavated (40 out of 63) contained archaeological features, the vast majority of which included multiple ditches on varying alignments, or a combination of ditches, small pits and post-holes. However, most of this archaeology was relatively slight, with no large deep features encountered, and few finds-rich contexts excavated. Typically, features were small in dimension and contained simple, single fills of silty sands devoid of finds or even charcoal. This partly accounts for their 'invisibility' in the geophysical survey, though given the size of the area investigated and the number of features examined, the finds tally is still notably low, amounting to just 120 sherds of pottery from all periods, 34 worked and burnt flints, a single copper alloy brooch and four iron nails (bone not surviving, other than in the site's two cremations). Nonetheless, when viewed in combination, and against the patterning and alignment of features both on the site and in the immediate surroundings, there is sufficient chronological resolution to provide some broad phasing and a discussion structured around the dominant characteristics of the site's archaeology.

4.2 Prehistoric settlement-related activity

4.2.1 Whilst there is no obvious or easily definable nucleus of prehistoric settlement at the site, there is widespread if somewhat ephemeral evidence for occupation in the form of scattered features yielding relatively small quantities of Early Neolithic and Early Iron Age pottery and flint.

4.2.2 Evidence for Neolithic activity was found in Trenches 1, 3, 12, 23, 30, 33-34, 36, 49 and 50, and is primarily attested by pieces of worked flint and, to a lesser extent, pottery. Most of the contexts yielding Neolithic material contained just one or two flint flakes, which often derived from the infill of ditches and gullies and may therefore be residual. This is arguably the case for the material from Trenches 1, 3, 12, 23, 30, 36, and 55, which attests to a background of Neolithic activity at the site, but cannot be taken as evidence for sustained usage of specific areas. Even so, it is worth noting that the finds from Trenches 23 and 55 (five worked flints in total), overlap with with artefact scatters recorded from previous episodes of fieldwalking at the site (Fig.2; NHER 2009 and 20010).

4.2.3 Trenches 33-34 and 49 yielded more convincing evidence of Neolithic concentrations of activity. Most significantly, all the Early Neolithic pottery from the site – totalling 69 sherds (391g) – derived from five features across Trenches 33-34: ditches **57**, **65**, **67**, gully **116** and post-hole **73**. These also yielded most of the diagnostic flint work, including a knife, core, blades and other waste debitage. The pottery sherds are predominately small and abraded and, given the ditch-context of most of the finds, may also be residual. Nonetheless, the overall quantity of datable material yielded from this concentration of features is significant, and does point towards a focus of Early Neolithic activity in and around these trenches. Worth noting is that the pottery assemblage from gully terminus **117** appear to have been burnt and the deposit may represent dumped hearth debris. The presence of post-holes in this trench may also be of significance in terms of identifying a possible structure of Early Neolithic date. A

second concentration is also hinted at by the number of worked flints recovered from features in Trench 49, which includes pits **164** and **166** that yielded a combined total of 15 flints. Interestingly, this trench lies immediately south-west one of the artefact scatters recorded by fieldwalking (Fig. 2: NHER 20010), and is possibly part of a wider swathe of occupation.

- 4.2.4 In some respects the evidence for Early Iron Age occupation is even more dispersed than that of the Neolithic, with pottery-yielding features found in Trenches 1, 12, 23, 28, 36, 37, 51 and 55. However, only one features in each of these trenches contained datable material, and of these, only pits **9** and **114** in Trenches 1 and 36 respectively yielded more than three sherds apiece (15 sherds recovered from pit **9**; 13 sherds from pit **144**). That being said, with the exception of material from ditches **155** and **170** in Trenches 51 and 55 (five sherds in total), the features with Early Iron Age pottery were all pits and post-holes, and is unlikely to be residual. What these features represent is harder to decipher, for whilst low-density scatters of unenclosed pits and post-holes are typical of Norfolk's Early Iron Age settlement record (Ashwin 1999), it is difficult to equate such low levels of activity here with settlement *per se*. Rather, these remains may represent traces of off-site activities in areas between local foci of occupation.

4.3 Possible prehistoric field systems

- 4.3.1 The vast majority of features uncovered in the evaluation were ditches, very few of which contained finds. Though the ditches were recorded on a number of slightly different alignments, with only a small number traceable between trenches, most can be grouped as sharing either a north-west to south-east/north-east to south-west axis (Group 1), or a north to south/east to west axis (Group 2). With the exception of the site's south-west corner (which is largely devoid of all features), ditches on both alignments were found across the entire site, and form two separate grid-like coaxial field systems.
- 4.3.2 Ditches in the Group 1 field system follow the same axis as cropmark linear features recorded from aerial photography immediately east of the site (NHER 53628). Indeed, this complex partially extends onto the eastern half of the site, although none of the plotted cropmarks registered as features in instances where the trenches directly intersected them (Trenches 17, 28, 39, 48, 50, 53, 57 and 60). Features were found in the location of the plots in Trenches 39 and 48, but their alignment did not correspond. This point aside, the *general* alignment of the cropmarks is very much in keeping with that of the Group 1 ditches, and they undoubtedly formed part of the same extensive field system.
- 4.3.3 On morphological grounds and on the basis of associations with surface artefact scatters, the cropmarks have provisionally been assigned a Roman date in the NHER. The evaluation here, however, recovered no Roman material from the ditches. Finds were admittedly scarce, but those recovered were exclusively prehistoric, with almost all the prehistoric pottery from the ditches derived from the Group 1 alignment (the exceptions being 13 sherds of Neolithic pottery from ditch 57, Trench 34 and two sherds of Early Iron Age pottery from ditch 155, Trench 51 – both on the Group 2 alignment). The implication is that the Group 1 field system is likely to be prehistoric, and may well prove to be of Bronze Age origin, as is now suggested for other early field systems in Norfolk (Gilmour *et al.* 2014).
- 4.3.4 Ditches in the Group 2 alignment had not registered in plots of previous aerial photographs, with perhaps the exception of a single east-west aligned linear plotted between Trenches 28 and 36 (which was not encountered in Trench 28). In general the

alignment of the Group 2 ditches followed that of the contemporary field boundary, and that of modern and historic field boundaries to the north, east and west. Indeed, the east to west axis of ditches **21**, **148/146** and **192** across Trenches 12, 26 and 40 broadly matches that of a boundary shown on the 19th century Tithe map. Unlike the Group 1 ditches, however, both the Group 2 boundaries and modern ones in this area are aligned in respect to the local topography, and run down the valley, broadly perpendicular to the River Tudd.

- 4.3.5 With few finds recovered and no stratigraphic relationships established with the Group 1 ditches, the dating of the Group 2 system currently hinges upon the recovery of a Late Iron Age-type brooch from ditch **241** in Trench 53. The intact brooch, dating from the first half of the 1st century BC, but potentially having a currency that stretches into the Early Roman period (J. Albone *pers. comm*), was recovered toward the base of the ditch. This may represent causal loss, though the possibility that this find is residual cannot be ruled out. However, given how difficult field system ditches can be to date, this find is highly significant, and could imply that the Group 2 system is later Iron Age or Early Roman in origin.

4.4 Cremations

- 4.4.1 Two cremations were uncovered and excavated during the evaluation: cremation **232** in Trench 46 and cremation **190** in Trench 61. The cremations were located towards the eastern end of the site, c. 160m apart. Both were inserted into small post-hole sized pits, which were heavily truncated. The best preserved and only datable cremation was **190**, surviving to a depth of 0.20m. This yielded 52g of bone from a sub-adult/adult accompanied by four iron nails and 10 pottery sherds from a small, broken and incomplete Early Roman grey ware beaker, likely to have been locally produced c. 75-95 AD.
- 4.4.2 By contrast, cremation **232** survived to a depth of just 0.07m. Unsurprisingly, it yielded only 2g of cremated bone and no finds. Whilst it cannot be closely dated, it may also be Roman.
- 4.4.3 In the context of evaluation is it difficult to be sure whether these cremations are isolated or part of small, localised cemeteries. Isolated examples of Roman cremations are relatively common in the region, and in a recent evaluation west of Blind Lane, another single Roman cremation was recovered, buried within an inverted vessel (J. Albone *pers.com*). Based on the result of the evaluation, the examples from Honingham Thorpe Farm clearly fall beyond the limit of any settlement focus, although there is ample evidence for Roman occupation in the vicinity, as revealed by artefact scatters recorded from field walking and metal detecting (Fig. 2; NHER 15898; 16308; 9244; 16308; 25702).

4.5 Significance

- 4.5.1 The evaluation has revealed extensive, if somewhat dispersed, archaeology across almost all areas of the site. The earliest occupation dates to the Neolithic, with Early Neolithic finds and features indicating a significant concentration of activity centred upon Trenches 33, 34 and 49 in the south and central part of the site. The evaluation also revealed scattered pits and post-holes of Early Iron Age date, although no feature concentrations or areas of sustained activity were identified, suggesting the focus of settlement lay beyond the site.
- 4.5.2 More importantly, the evaluation has revealed two extensive coaxial field systems, both possibly of prehistoric origin. The earliest is thought to be made up of ditched

boundaries on a north-west to south-east/north-east to south-west alignment. These correspond with the axis of linear cropmarks to the east of the site, which were previously thought to be Roman in date. Significantly, the result of this evaluation has thrown this interpretation/dating into question, with suggestion here that they may in fact be Bronze Age in origin.

- 4.5.3 This earlier field system appears to have been overlain by a new system, possibly in the later Iron Age or Early Roman period on a north to south and east to west axis. This was aligned in respect to the wider topography of the Tudd Valley, with boundaries running down slope perpendicular to the flow of the river. A crucial piece of dating evidence was recovered from the lower fills of one of the east-west ditches: a complete Late Iron Age-type brooch dating possibly as early as the early 1st century BC. Closely datable finds from such contexts are extremely rare, and this is important for anchoring the chronology of and understanding the patterning of these field boundaries in the surrounding landscape.
- 4.5.4 Two cremations were also revealed in the evaluation, one of which can be securely date to the Early Roman period. It is uncertain whether these were isolated cremations or part of small cemeteries lying beyond the area of settlement. The environmental potential on site was poor, with environmental samples containing little in the way of preserved remains. Animal bone was not present on site due to the acidic soil conditions.

4.6 Recommendations

- 4.6.1 Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be made by the County Archaeology Office.

APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained two pits overlain by subsoil and topsoil. The natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand					Avg. depth (m)	0.7
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.24 - 0.28	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
6	Fill	1.56	0.23	Pit	-	-
7	Cut	1.56	0.23	Pit	-	-
8	Fill	1.5	0.13	Pit	Pot and flint	Early Iron Age
9	Cut	1.5	0.13	Pit	-	Early Iron Age
Trench 2						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench was devoid of archaeology. The natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.7
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.32-0.43	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.27-0.39	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 3						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a single gully overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.52
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-

2	Layer	-	0.15-0.3	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
10	Cut	0.8	0.15	Gully	-	-
11	Fill	0.8	0.15	Gully	Flint	Neolithic
12	Cut	0.85	0.25	Pit	-	-
13	Fill	0.85	0.25	Pit	-	-

Trench 4						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench consisted of a single ditch and two tree throws overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.1-0.3	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
14	Cut	0.7	0.25	Ditch	-	-
15	Fill	0.7	0.25	Ditch	-	-
33	Cut	1	0.4	Tree throw	-	-
34	Fill	1	0.4	Tree throw	-	-
35	Cut	1.4	0.32	Tree throw	-	-
36	Fill	1.4	0.32	Tree throw	-	-

Trench 5						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench was devoid of archaeology. The archaeology consisted of an orangey yellow sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.55
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.12-0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 6						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained two ditches on a roughly east to west alignment					Avg. depth (m)	0.57

overlain by subsoil and topsoil. The natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.		Width (m)	2.1			
		Length (m)	50			
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
16	Fill	1.18	0.43	Ditch	-	-
17	Cut	1.18	0.43	Ditch	-	-
18	Fill	1.59	0.34	Ditch	-	-
19	Cut	1.59	0.34	Ditch	-	-

Trench 7						
General description	Orientation	E-W				
Trench was devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand and gravel patches	Avg. depth (m)	0.6				
	Width (m)	2.1				
	Length (m)	50				
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.17-0.32	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 8						
General description	Orientation	N-S				
Trench was devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand and gravel patches	Avg. depth (m)	0.4				
	Width (m)	2.1				
	Length (m)	50				
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 9		
General description	Orientation	E-W
Trench was devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of an orangey	Avg. depth (m)	0.39

yellow sand and gravel patches		Width (m)	2.1			
		Length (m)	50			
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.05	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 10						
General description		Orientation	N-S			
Trench contained a single ditch terminus aligned NE-SW overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.		Avg. depth (m)	0.6			
		Width (m)	2.1			
		Length (m)	50			
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.25-0.4	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4	Fill	1.3	0.35	Ditch terminus	-	-
5	Cut	1.3	0.35	Ditch terminus	-	-

Trench 11						
General description		Orientation	E-W			
Trench devoid of archaeology. The natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand		Avg. depth (m)	0.55			
		Width (m)	2.1			
		Length (m)	50			
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.25-0.45	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 12			
General description		Orientation	N-S
Trench contained a number of ditches on various alignments and a single post-hole, overlain by subsoil and topsoil. The natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.		Avg. depth (m)	0.5
		Width (m)	2.1
		Length (m)	50

Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
20	Fill	1	0.2	Ditch	-	-
21	Cut	1	0.2	Ditch	-	-
22	Fill	0.8	0.1	Ditch	-	-
23	Cut	0.8	0.1	Ditch	-	-
24	Fill	0.3	0.1	Post-hole	pottery	Early Iron Age
25	Fill	0.3	0.1	Post-hole	-	-
26	Cut	0.3	0.3	Post-hole		Early Iron age
27	Fill	1.3	0.25	Ditch	Flint	Neolithic
28	Cut	1.3	0.25	Ditch		
29	Fill	1	0.15	Ditch terminus	-	-
30	Cut	1	0.15	Ditch terminus	-	-
31	Fill	0.6	0.15	Ditch	-	-
32	Cut	0.6	0.15	Ditch	-	-

Trench 13						
General description	Orientation	E-W				
Trench is devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.	Avg. depth (m)	0.5				
	Width (m)	2.1				
	Length (m)	50				
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 14						
General description	Orientation	N-S				
Trench is devoid of archaeology but contained a single tree throw. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand	Avg. depth (m)	0.5				
	Width (m)	2.1				
	Length (m)	50				
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date

1	Layer	-	0.25-0.4	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
37	Fill	0.9	0.3	Tree throw	-	-
38	Cut	0.9	0.3	Tree throw	-	-

Trench 15						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench is devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 16						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 17						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a number of linear features on a roughly N-S alignment. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-

3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
41	Fill	0.7	0.1	Ditch terminus	-	-
42	Cut	0.7	0.1	Ditch terminus	-	-
43	Fill	0.85	0.3	Ditch	-	-
44	Cut	0.85	0.3	Ditch	-	-
45	Fill	0.6	0.1	Ditch	-	-
46	Cut	0.6	0.1	Ditch	-	-
47	Fill	1.4	0.1	Ditch	-	-
48	Cut	1.4	0.1	Ditch	-	-
49	Fill	0.8	0.06	Ditch	-	-
50	Cut	0.8	0.06	Ditch	-	-
51	Fill	0.65	0.12	Ditch	-	-
52	Cut	0.65	0.12	Ditch	-	-

Trench 18						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained a ditch, pit and tree throw overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.53
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.16-0.19	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
184	Fill	0.76	0.12	Tree throw	-	-
185	Cut	0.76	0.12	Tree throw	-	-
186	Fill	0.4	0.25	Ditch	-	-
187	Cut	0.4	0.25	Ditch	-	-
188	Fill	2.66	0.3	Pit	-	-
189	Cut	2.66	0.3	Pit	-	-

Trench 19						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. One tree throw noted at the western end and not recorded. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context	type	Width	Depth	comment	finds	date

no		(m)	(m)			
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 20						
General description				Orientation		N-S
Trench contained a ditch running E-W and another ditch running NW-SE which was not excavated, overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.				Avg. depth (m)		0.55
				Width (m)		2.1
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
129	Cut	0.58	0.14	Cut of Ditch	-	-
130	Fill	0.58	0.14	Fill of Ditch 129	-	-

Trench 21						
General description				Orientation		E-W
Trench contained a single ditch aligned NE-SW overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.				Avg. depth (m)		0.55
				Width (m)		2.1
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
104	Cut	1.3	0.36	Ditch	-	-
105	Fill	1.3	0.36	Ditch	-	-

Trench 22						
General description				Orientation		N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.				Avg. depth (m)		0.4
				Width (m)		2.1
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context	type	Width	Depth	comment	finds	date

no		(m)	(m)			
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 23						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained features including ditches, pits and a post-hole overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.27-0.4	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.12-0.3	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
77	Cut	0.6	0.33	Ditch	-	-
78	Fill	0.6	0.33	Ditch	-	-
79	Cut	0.7	0.2	Ditch	-	-
80	Fill	0.7	0.2	Ditch	-	-
81	Cut	0.2	0.05	Post-hole	-	Early Iron Age
82	Fill	0.2	0.05	Post-hole	Pot	Early Iron Age
83	Cut	1.1	0.4	Ditch	-	-
84	Fill	1.1	0.4	Ditch	Flint	Neolithic
85	Cut	0.5	0.3	Pit	-	-
86	Fill	0.5	0.3	Pit	-	-
87	Cut	0.2	0.1	Post-hole	-	-
88	Fill	0.2	0.1	Post-hole	-	-

Trench 24						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained two ditches and a possible pit, overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

89	Fill	0.9	0.3	Pit ?	-	-
90	Cut	0.9	0.3	Pit ?	-	-
91	Fill	0.3	0.2	Ditch	-	-
92	Cut	0.7	0.2	Ditch	-	-
93	Fill	0.8	0.5	Ditch	-	-
94	Cut	0.8	0.5	Ditch	-	-
103	Fill	0.4	0.2	Ditch	-	-

Trench 25						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a ditch, pit and tree throw overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.49
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.06-0.11	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
172	Fill	1.08	0.23	Pit	-	-
173	Cut	1.08	0.23	Pit	-	-
174	Fill	1.18	0.29	Ditch	-	-
175	Cut	1.18	0.29	Ditch	-	-
176	Fill	1.39	0.19	Tree throw	-	-
177	Cut	1.39	0.19	Tree throw	-	-

Trench 26						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained a number of ditches on an E-W alignment overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.55
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.28-0.41	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
143	Fill	0.6	0.18	Ditch terminus	-	-

144	Cut	0.6	0.18	Ditch terminus	-	-
145	Fill	1.19	0.45	Ditch	-	-
146	Cut	1.19	0.45	Ditch	-	-
147	Fill	0.36	0.18	Ditch	-	-
148	Cut	0.36	0.18	Ditch	-	-

Trench 27						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contains a ditch and gully on a north-west to south-east alignment and a pit. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.55
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
131	Cut	1.1	0.24	Pit	-	-
132	Fill	1.1	0.24	Pit	-	-
133	Cut	0.37	0.07	Gully	-	-
134	Fill	0.37	0.07	Gully	-	-
135	Cut	0.95	0.2	Ditch	-	-
136	Fill	0.95	0.2	Ditch	-	-

Trench 28						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained a single ditch aligned NE-SW overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
106	Cut	1	0.18	Ditch	-	Early Iron Age
107	Fill	1	0.18	Ditch	Pot	Early Iron Age

Trench 29						
General description					Orientation	E-W

Trench contained a single ditch on a NE-SW alignment overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand		Avg. depth (m)	0.5			
		Width (m)	2.1			
		Length (m)	50			
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
108	Cut	1	0.2	Ditch	-	-
109	Fill	1	0.2	Ditch	-	-

Trench 30						
General description		Orientation		N-S		
Trench contained a ditch and a number of pits overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.		Avg. depth (m)		0.58		
		Width (m)		2.1		
		Length (m)		50		
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.25-0.3	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
95	Cut	1.7	0.36	Ditch	-	-
96	Fill	1.7	0.36	Ditch	Flint	Neolithic
97	Cut	0.8	0.13	Pit	-	-
98	Fill	0.8	0.13	Pit	-	-
99	Cut	0.7	0.09	Pit	-	-
100	Fill	0.7	0.09	Pit	-	-
101	Cut	0.5	0.08	Pit	-	-
102	Pit	0.5	0.08	Pit	-	-

Trench 31						
General description		Orientation		E-W		
Trench devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.		Avg. depth (m)		0.45		
		Width (m)		2.1		
		Length (m)		50		
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date

1	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 32						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contains two ditches on an E-W alignments and a gully on a NW-SE alignment overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
137	Fill	0.61	0.21	Ditch terminus	-	-
138	Cut	0.61	0.21	Ditch terminus	-	-
139	Fill	0.37	0.08	Gully	-	-
140	Cut	0.37	0.08	Gully	-	-
141	Fill	1.47	0.22	Ditch	-	-
142	Cut	1.47	0.22	Ditch	-	-

Trench 33						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a ditch aligned N-S and a gully terminus on the same alignment, overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.42
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
116	Fill	0.42	0.14	Gully terminus	Pot and flint	Early Neolithic
117	Cut	0.42	0.14	Gully terminus	-	Early Neolithic
118	Fill	0.85	0.33	Ditch	-	-
119	Cut	0.85	0.33	Ditch	-	-
120	Fill	0.54	0.52	Ditch	-	-
121	Fill	0.46	0.71	Ditch	-	-

122	Cut	1.17	0.71	Ditch	-	-
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Trench 34							
General description					Orientation		
Trench contained a number of features including ditches, pits and post-holes overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.					N-S		
					Avg. depth (m)		0.46
					Width (m)		2.1
					Length (m)		50
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date	
1	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-	
2	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-	
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-	
53	Fill	0.42	0.08	Gully	-	-	
54	Cut	0.42	0.08	Gully	-	-	
55	Fill	0.58	0.22	Ditch	-	-	
56	Cut	0.58	0.22	Ditch	-	-	
57	Fill	0.84	0.26	Ditch	Pot	Early Neolithic	
58	Cut	0.84	0.26	Ditch	-	Early Neolithic	
59	Fill	0.32	0.2	Ditch terminus	-	-	
60	Cut	0.32	0.2	Ditch terminus	-	-	
61	Fill	1.52	0.28	Ditch	-	-	
62	Cut	1.52	0.28	Ditch	-	-	
63	Fill	0.68	0.14	Ditch	-	-	
64	Cut	0.69	0.14	Ditch	-	-	
65	Fill	1.14	0.2	Ditch	Pot and flint	Early Neolithic	
66	Cut	1.14	0.2	Ditch	-	Early Neolithic	
67	Fill	1.24	0.5	Ditch	Pot and flint	Early Neolithic	
68	Cut	1.24	0.5	Ditch	-	-	
69	Fill	0.32	0.08	Post-hole	-	-	
70	Cut	0.32	0.08	Post-hole	-	-	
71	Fill	0.2	0.07	Post-hole	-	-	
72	Cut	0.2	0.07	Post-hole	-	-	
73	Fill	0.43	0.13	Post-hole	Pot	Early Neolithic	
74	Cut	0.43	0.13	Post-hole	-	Early Neolithic	
75	Fill	0.66	0.14	Ditch terminus	-	-	
76	Cut	0.66	0.14	Ditch terminus	-	-	

Trench 35						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.				Avg. depth (m)	0.44	
				Width (m)	2.1	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 36						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Trench contained a single pit overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.				Avg. depth (m)	0.4	
				Width (m)	2.1	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
114	Cut	1	0.2	Pit	-	Early Iron Age
115	Fill	1	0.2	Pit	Pot and flint	Early Iron Age

Trench 37						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench contained two pits and two ditches overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand				Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
				Width (m)	2.1	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
224	Cut	0.95	0.33	Ditch	-	-
225	Fill	0.95	0.33	Ditch	-	-

226	Cut	1.1	0.33	Ditch	-	
227	Fill	1.1	0.33	Ditch	flint	Neolithic
228	Cut	0.4	0.45	Pit	-	-
229	Fill	0.4	0.45	Pit	-	-
230	Cut	1	0.33	Pit	-	Early Iron Age
231	Fill	1	0.33	Pit	pot	Early Iron Age

Trench 38						
General description				Orientation		N-S
Trench contained a ditch and ditch terminus overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orange yellow sand.				Avg. depth (m)		0.5
				Width (m)		2.1
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.25-0.4	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.05-0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
110	Fill	1	0.1	Ditch terminus	-	-
111	Cut	1	0.1	Ditch terminus	-	-
112	Fill	1	0.3	Ditch	-	-
113	Cut	1	0.3	Ditch	-	-

Trench 39						
General description				Orientation		E-W
Trench contained two pits alongside a gully and a ditch with a NE-SW alignment. Natural consisted of an orange yellow sand.				Avg. depth (m)		0.45
				Width (m)		2.1
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3-0.35	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.1-0.15	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
216	Fill	0.85	0.1	Pit	-	-
217	Cut	0.85	0.1	Pit	-	-
218	Fill	0.6	0.15	Gully	-	-
219	Cut	0.6	0.15	Gully	-	-
220	Fill	0.8	0.25	Pit	-	-
221	Cut	0.8	0.25	Pit	-	-

222	Fill	0.45	0.1	Ditch	-	-
223	Cut	0.45	0.1	Ditch	-	-

Trench 40						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Trench contained a single ditch overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.				Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
				Width (m)	2.1	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
192	Cut	1.15	0.35	Ditch	-	-
193	Fill	1.15	0.35	Ditch	-	-

Trench 41						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench was devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.				Avg. depth (m)	0.7	
				Width (m)	2.1	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.38-0.4	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 42						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand				Avg. depth (m)	0.6	
				Width (m)	2.1	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 43						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand				Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
				Width (m)	2.1	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 44						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Trench contained two ditches and a pit overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.				Avg. depth (m)	0.61	
				Width (m)	2.1	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3-0.33	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.26-0.38	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
194	Fill	1.15	0.37	Ditch	-	-
195	Cut	1.15	0.37	Ditch	-	-
196	Fill	0.93	0.34	Ditch	-	-
197	Cut	0.93	0.34	Ditch	-	-
198	Fill	1	0.36	Pit	-	-
199	Cut	1	0.36	Pit	-	-

Trench 45						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench contained a ditch aligned N-S and two pits overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.				Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
				Width (m)	2.1	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-

2	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
123	Fill	1.25	0.3	Ditch	-	-
124	Cut	1.25	0.3	Ditch	-	-
125	Fill	1	0.2	Pit	-	-
126	Cut	1	0.2	Pit	-	-
127	Fill	1	0.15	Pit	-	-
128	Cut	1	0.15	Pit	-	-

Trench 46						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained a single ditch running NW-SE and a cremation, overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.15-0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.05-0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
206	Fill	1.4	0.15	Ditch	-	-
207	Cut	1.4	0.15	Ditch	-	-
232	Cut	0.25	0.07	Cremation	-	-
233	Fill	0.25	0.07	Cremation	-	-

Trench 47						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench was devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand and gravels.					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 48						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained two ditches on varying alignments, overlain by					Avg. depth (m)	0.51

subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand		Width (m)	2.1			
		Length (m)	50			
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3-0.35	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.15-0.22	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
210	Cut	1.4	0.26	Ditch terminus	-	-
211	Fill	1.4	0.26	Ditch terminus	-	-
212	Cut	0.5	0.15	Ditch	-	-
213	Fill	0.5	0.15	Ditch	-	-

Trench 49						
General description		Orientation	E-W			
Trench contained a single ditch running NE-SW and three pits, overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.		Avg. depth (m)	0.45			
		Width (m)	2.1			
		Length (m)	50			
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3-0.4	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
160	Cut	0.7	0.2	Ditch	-	-
161	Fill	0.7	0.2	Ditch	flint	Neolithic
162	Cut	0.6	0.26	Pit	-	-
163	Fill	0.6	0.26	Pit	Pot and flint	?
164	Cut	0.7	0.12	Pit	-	-
165	Fill	0.7	0.12	Pit	flint	Neolithic
166	Cut	0.6	0.17	Pit	-	-
167	Fill	0.6	0.17	Pit	flint	Neolithic

Trench 50			
General description		Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a single pit overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand		Avg. depth (m)	0.65
		Width (m)	2.1
		Length (m)	50

Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.38-0.41	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.18-0.34	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
208	Fill	0.98	0.35	Pit	-	-
209	Cut	0.98	0.35	Pit	-	-

Trench 51						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Trench contained a number of ditches on various alignments, overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.				Avg. depth (m)	0.55	
				Width (m)	2.1	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3-0.4	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.1-0.3	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
150	Fill	1.2	0.3	Ditch	-	-
151	Cut	1.2	0.3	Ditch	-	-
152	Fill	0.8	0.4	Ditch	-	-
153	Cut	0.8	0.4	Ditch	-	-
154	Fill	0.8	0.25	Ditch	pot	Early Iron Age
155	Cut	0.8	0.25	Ditch	-	Early Iron Age
156	Fill	0.3	0.06	Gully	-	-
157	Cut	0.3	0.06	Gully	-	-
158	Fill	0.4	0.06	Gully	-	-
159	Cut	0.4	0.06	Gully (same as 157)	-	-

Trench 52						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench contained a furrow and two gullies on a NE-SW alignment overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand.				Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
				Width (m)	2.1	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date

1	Layer	-	0.3-0.45	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.1-0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
200	Fill	1.4	0.2	Furrow	-	-
201	Cut	1.4	0.2	Furrow	-	-
202	Fill	0.6	0.1	Gully	-	-
203	Cut	0.6	0.1	Gully	-	-
204	Fill	1.2	0.5	Gully	-	-
205	Cut	1.2	0.5	Gully	-	-

Trench 53						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained a number of ditches and a pit, a large natural hollow was also present at the southern end. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand					Avg. depth (m)	0.52
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3-0.4	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.1-0.3	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
234	Fill	0.75	0.16	Ditch	flint	Neolithic
235	Cut	0.75	0.16	Ditch	-	-
236	Fill	0.7	0.3	Ditch	-	-
237	Cut	0.7	0.3	Ditch	-	-
238	Fill	0.75	0.16	Tree throw	-	-
239	Cut	0.75	0.16	Tree throw	-	-
240	Fill	1.3	0.5	Ditch	Brooch	Late Iron Age
241	Cut	1.3	0.5	Ditch	-	-
242	Fill	0.75	0.5	Pit	-	-
243	Cut	0.75	0.5	Pit	-	-
244	Layer	2m +	3m +	Natural Hollow	-	-

Trench 54						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a single ditch aligned N-S overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand					Avg. depth (m)	0.52
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context	type	Width	Depth	comment	finds	date

no		(m)	(m)			
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.15-0.3	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
214	Cut	0.5	0.18	Ditch	-	-
215	Fill	0.5	0.18	Ditch	-	-

Trench 55						
General description				Orientation		N-S
Trench contained two ditches overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand				Avg. depth (m)		0.45
				Width (m)		2.1
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3-0.35	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.1-0.18	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
168	Cut	0.7	0.2	Ditch		
169	Fill	0.7	0.2	Ditch	flint	Neolithic
170	Cut	1	0.18	Ditch		Early Iron Age
171	Fill	1	0.18	ditch	Pot and flint	Early Iron Age

Trench 56						
General description				Orientation		E-W
Trench contained a single NW-SE ditch overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand				Avg. depth (m)		0.58
				Width (m)		2.1
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.2-0.35	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
178	Cut	0.5	0.09	Ditch		
179	Fill	0.5	0.09	Ditch	flint	Neolithic

Trench 57						
General description				Orientation		E-W

Trench contained an unexcavated furrow at the eastern end overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand		Avg. depth (m)	0.5			
		Width (m)	2.1			
		Length (m)	50			
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 58						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand				Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
				Width (m)	2.1	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.15-0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 59						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Trench contained a single pit overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand				Avg. depth (m)	0.54	
				Width (m)	2.1	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.18-0.3	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
180	Cut	1.2	0.27	Pit	-	-
181	Fill	1.2	0.27	Pit	-	-

Trench 60						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand				Avg. depth (m)	0.46	
				Width (m)	2.1	

					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.12-0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 61						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained a single ditch running E-W and a cremation overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand					Avg. depth (m)	0.56
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.25-0.28	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
182	Cut	1	0.2	Ditch	-	-
183	Fill	1	0.2	Ditch	-	-
190	Cut	0.35	0.2	Cremation		Roman
191	Fill	0.35	0.2	Cremation	Pottery and Fe nails	Roman

Trench 62						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand					Avg. depth (m)	0.52
					Width (m)	2.1
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.18-0.28	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 63						
General description					Orientation	N-S

Trench devoid of archaeology. Natural consisted of an orangey yellow sand		Avg. depth (m)	0.5			
		Width (m)	2.1			
		Length (m)	50			
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Metalwork

By Anna Booth

Description

- B.1.1 The single brooch found on the site came from within fill 240 from ditch **241**, in Trench 53. This brooch is a copper alloy Late Iron Age drahtfibel or filiform type in an incomplete condition. It has an internally-chorded four coiled spring, but the central left-hand coil of this is missing, leaving the bow detached. There is an additional iron axis bar through the coils of the spring, a feature paralleled on an example from Maiden Castle (Wheeler 1943, 259, fig.83, no.11), which Mackreth (2011, vol.I, 15) suggests might be a later feature. Its bow is simple - circular in cross-section, curving downwards sharply in profile and tapering to a point at the foot. To the rear of the lower bow are the remains of the upper part of a 'framed' (pierced with a triangular hole) catch-plate, its lower section missing (Plate 18).

Condition

- B.1.2 The metal is heavily corroded with parts of the surface flaking away around the breaks. The loss of one spring means that the bow is detached from the head and now only sits loosely within it. The majority of the pin and part of the catch-plate are missing.

Discussion

- B.1.3 Drahtfibel, as the name suggests, were formed from rods of metal of various cross-sections, unlike the flattened bows of its more common relative the Nauheim (Mackreth 2011, vol.1, 15). The framed catch-plate distinguishes the form from its derivative, which has a solid catch-plate (ibid.). This framed-catch-plate together with the internal chord places the example within Mackreth's Drahtfibel Type 1b (ibid., 21) and within Feugère's continental Type 5b1 (1985, 180). Re-dating of the group from the Westhampnett cemetery now suggests that the form is likely to date from the first half of the 1st century BC and possibly even earlier (Fitzpatrick 1997).
- B.1.4 The form more typically appears in iron and is more common on the continent. British finds come from the coastal counties of southern England with a small group from East Anglia (Mackreth 2011, vol.I, 21). Several were found during excavation of the nearby site of Fison Way, Thetford (Gregory 1991, fig.113), but only one of these, an iron example, has a comparable internal chord. This was found in a context dating to the middle decades of the 1st century AD and so is likely to have been residual.

B.2 Flint

By Anthony Haskins

Introduction

- B.2.1 An assemblage of 87 flint artefacts was recovered during the evaluation works, including 53 natural and 16 burnt fragments. This report provides a rapid assessment of the material identifying chronological and typological indicators.

Methodology

- B.2.2 The recovered lithics were rapidly scanned and attributed to an arbitrary classification based on the size and form of the material. This assessment took into account typological and chronological indicators but no further detailed work was undertaken. As

a result this assessment is based on a rapid scan of the material and the results could change if a more detailed study following excavation was undertaken. For the purposes of this report the burnt flint was counted but no further work was carried out.

B.2.3 The assemblage is made up of a mix of natural, burnt and struck flints.

Discussion

B.2.4 The knapped flints are struck from a light grey to white porcelain flint with a dark greyish brown or black band immediately underneath the cortex, similar to material recovered from Little Melton (Haskins 2016); between Easton and Bawburgh (de Caux 1942); Postwick (Green and Haskins 2015) and Hartford Park and Ride (Bishop pers. Comm.) - and rolled and abraded pebble flint. The cortex, where present, is largely a thin abraded chalk suggesting the material has been recovered from a secondary source.

B.2.5 Within the assemblage is a range of debitage reflecting some of the stages of the reduction sequence. The core tablet from ditch 68 (fill 67) is well struck and demonstrates core maintenance and curation of raw materials. The removed platform, which is suggestive of blade or narrow flake production, is well structured and trimmed indicating an Early Neolithic or Mesolithic date. The amorphous core recovered from the subsoil (2) in Trench 7 is heavily abraded and plough damaged with little indication of structured working, suggesting a later prehistoric date.

B.2.6 The remaining material is largely made up of narrow blade-like flakes and blades, again suggesting that the majority of the assemblage is of Neolithic date.

B.2.7 The most notable group of flints is that recovered from ditch fill (67). This small group of struck flint has characteristics of Neolithic flint working. The group is in good but not fresh condition, suggesting it has not been significantly moved around or rolled; indicating that the ditch was potentially contemporary with the flints. The largest piece is a large knife made from a blade-like flake (121mm long and 55mm wide) with use damage along the left lateral edge and a slight concave patch of semi-abrupt retouch halfway along the right lateral edge, possibly for hafting.

B.2.8 An awl like piece was also recovered from the topsoil (1) in Trench 15. The flint is heavily damaged but has a small point formed on the left lateral edge using abrupt retouch.

Conclusions

B.2.9 Although a small assemblage, the majority of the material is similar to that recovered from a number of Neolithic sites scattered along the river valleys of the Yare, Wensun and their tributaries. The material is similar in form to material recovered from sites such as Little Melton, to the south of Easton, and Hartford Park and Ride and adds another Neolithic site to a growing number within Norfolk. Whether the site is an axe production factory such as that identified at Easton (de Caux 1942 and Barber *et al* 1999) or more of a domestic site such as was found at Mousehold Heath (Bishop and Proctor 2011) cannot be determined from the current assemblage.

Type	Subtype	Totals
Core	Amorphous	1
	Tablet/trimming	2
Flake >50mm	Secondary	2
Flake <50mm >25mm	Secondary	2
	Tertiary	5

Type	Subtype	Totals
Flake <25mm >10mm	Secondary	0
	Tertiary	3
Blade >10mm wide	Tertiary	0
	Secondary	1
Bladelet <10mm wide	Tertiary	0
Tool	Awl?	1
	Knife	1
Natural		53
Burnt		16
totals		87

Table 1: Flint quantification by type

Context	Cut	Feature type	Weight (g)	Count
1	-	Topsoil	11	10
2	-	Subsoil	3	3
8	9	Pit	2	2
11	10	Gully	1	1
27	28	Ditch	1	1
65	66	Ditch	1	1
67	68	Ditch	30	12
84	83	Ditch	5	3
96	95	Ditch	1	1
115	114	Pit	2	3
116	117	Gully	10	4
161	160	Ditch	1	3
163	162	Ditch	30	18
165	164	Pit	8	6
167	166	Pit	12	9
169	168	Pit	154	2
171	170	Ditch	2	4
179	178	Gully	1	1
227	226	Ditch	1	1
234	235	Ditch	1	2
			277	87

Table 2: flint quantification by context

B.3 Prehistoric Pottery

By Sarah Percival

Introduction and methodology

B.3.1 A total of 110 sherds weighing 726g were collected from fourteen features in eleven trenches. The assemblage includes 69 sherds weighing 391g of Earlier Neolithic pottery and 40 sherds (334g) of earlier Iron Age date. All the pottery is fragmentary and most is abraded.

Trench	Feature	Context	Feature type	Spot date	Quantity	Weight (g)
1	9	8	Pit	Earlier Iron Age	15	214
12	26	24	Post hole	Earlier Iron Age	3	5
23	81	82	Post hole	Earlier Iron Age	1	7
28	106	107	Ditch	Earlier Iron Age	1	7
33	117	116	Gully terminus	Earlier Neolithic	11	63
34	58	57	Ditch	Earlier Neolithic	13	93
	66	65	Ditch	Earlier Neolithic	11	30
	68	67	Ditch	Earlier Neolithic	24	161
	74	73	Post hole	Earlier Neolithic	10	44
36	114	115	Pit	Earlier Iron Age	13	60
37	230	231	Pit	Earlier Iron Age	2	8
49	162	163	Pit	Not closely datable	1	1
51	155	154	Ditch	Earlier Iron Age	3	9
55	170	171	Ditch	Earlier Iron Age	2	24
Total					110	726

Table 3: Quantity and weight of prehistoric pottery by trench and feature.

Methodology

B.3.2 The assemblage was analysed in accordance with the guidelines for analysis and

publication laid down by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (PCRG 1997, 2010). The total assemblage was studied and a full catalogue prepared. The sherds were examined using a binocular microscope (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of inclusion types. Fabric codes were prefixed by a letter code representing the main inclusion type: F representing flint, G representing grog and Q representing quartz. Vessel form was recorded: R representing rim sherds, B representing base sherds, D representing decorated sherds and U representing undecorated body sherds. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gramme. Decoration, condition, food residues and sooting were also noted. The catalogue was recorded using Microsoft Excel 2010.

Trench 1

- B.3.3 Trench 1 produced a total of fifteen sherds weighing 214g from the fill (8) of pit **9**. All are of earlier Iron Age date in sandy fabrics with crushed angular flint inclusions, and include a body sherd decorated with incised lines perhaps forming a geometric design.

Trench 12

- B.3.4 Three undecorated body sherds weighing 5g in sandy flint-tempered fabric were recovered from fill 24 of post-hole **26** in Trench 12. All are probably earlier Iron Age.

Trench 23

- B.3.5 A single flint-tempered sherd weighing 7g from fill 82 of post-hole **81** is probably earlier Iron Age.

Trench 28

- B.3.6 Trench 28 produced a single sherd weighing 7g from the fill of ditch **106**. The flint-tempered sherd is probably earlier Iron Age.

Trench 33

- B.3.7 Eleven extremely coarse flint-tempered body sherds from fill 116 of gully terminus **117** are earlier Neolithic. The assemblage includes a single rim from a Plain Bowl with simple everted rim. All the sherds from this assemblage appear to have been burnt and the deposit may represent dumped hearth debris.

Trench 34

- B.3.8 Trench 34 produced 58 sherds of pottery weighing 328g. All are earlier Neolithic and were recovered from three ditches and a post-hole. Twenty-four sherds weighing 161g came from fill 67 of ditch **68**, including a substantial rim from an Earlier Neolithic Plain Bowl, similar to examples found locally at Spong Hill (Healy 1988, fig.69, P102), and a distinctive channelled body sherd also found at earlier Neolithic sites such as Hurst Fen, Mildenhall (Longworth 1960, plate XXIV).

Trench 36

- B.3.9 Pit **114** contained 13 earlier Iron Age sherds in a range of sandy flint-tempered fabrics weighing 60g, including two rims; one too small to identify and the second from an ellipsoid jar (Brudenell 2012, fig.4.1).

Trench 37

- B.3.10 Two small flint and sand tempered sherds from the fill of pit **230** are probably earlier Iron Age.

Trench 49

- B.3.11 A small scrap of prehistoric pottery came from the fill of pit **162**. The sherd is too small to

identify further.

Trench 51

B.3.12 Fill 154 of ditch **155**, contained small quantities of earlier Iron Age pottery, producing a total of three body sherds weighing 9g.

Trench 55

B.3.13 Two sherds including a flat, gritted base were collected from ditch **170** in Trench 55. The sherds are sand and flint-tempered and are both of earlier Iron Age date.

Discussion

B.3.14 The small assemblage suggests activity at the site in the earlier Neolithic centred on Trenches 33 and 34. The pottery found in these trenches is typical of earlier Neolithic pottery from Norfolk being extensively flint-tempered and featuring round-based bowls often with rolled or out-turned rims and distinctive channelled decoration believed to mimic chisel marks on wooden vessels. Plain Bowl of this form is believed to have been in use from c.3855/3730BC to c.3355/3210BC (Whittle, Healy and Bayliss 2011).

B.3.15 The earlier Iron Age assemblage is scrappier but appears to contain domestic plain and decorated jar forms current from c.800-500BC (Brudenell 2012). The similarity between the flint-tempered fabrics used in both the earlier Neolithic and earlier Iron Age mean that it is often hard to distinguish between sherds. It will be of interest therefore to examine any additional pottery found at the site should further archaeological work be undertaken there.

B.4 Roman Pottery

By Alice Lyons

Introduction and methodology

B.4.1 A total of 10 sherds, weighing 73.3g, were recovered from cremation **190**, in Trench 61.

B.4.2 The Roman pottery was analysed following the guidelines of the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Barclay *et al* 2016). The total assemblage was studied and a full catalogue was prepared. The sherds were examined using a hand lens (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of inclusion types present. Vessel forms (jar, bowl) were recorded and vessel types cross-referenced and compared to other examples. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram and recorded by context. Decoration, residues and abrasion were also noted. OA East curates the pottery and archive.

Results and Discussion

B.4.3 The sherds recovered are from a small sandy grey ware beaker - with high shoulders and an everted rim. It is not possible to assign to a source but it is consistent with relatively local production. Combined they form the incomplete remains of the upper part of a beaker (no base was found). It seems to have been exposed to heat possibly scorched during the cremation process suggesting that it may have been an accessory vessel. It probably dates to the late 1st century AD (75-95AD).

Cut	Context	Trench	Weight (g)	Sherd count	Fabric	Date
190	191	61	73.3	10	SGW	Late 1 st C AD

Table 4: Roman pottery by context

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

- C.1.1 Eleven bulk samples were taken from features within the evaluated areas in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations. Features sampled include prehistoric ditches, pits, post-holes and a Roman cremation.

Methodology

- C.1.1 The total volume (up to 17 litres) of each bulk sample was then processed by water flotation (using a modified Siraff three-tank system) for the recovery of charred 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. Both flot and residues were allowed to air dry. A magnet was dragged through each residue fraction prior to sorting for artefacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds. The dried flots were subsequently sorted using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 1. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands* (Cappers *et al.* 2006) and the authors' own reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and Stace (1997) for other plants. Carbonised seeds and grains, by the process of burning and burial, become blackened and often distort and fragment leading to difficulty in identification. Plant remains have been identified to species where possible. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

Quantification

- C.1.1 For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as seeds, cereal grains and legumes have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories

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

Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal and fragmented bone have been scored for abundance

+ = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant

Results

- C.1.2 There was a considerable amount of rooting and intrusive modern seeds within most of the samples.
- C.1.3 Samples were taken from features excavated within Trenches 1, 12, 34, 36, 46, 49, 51, 53 and 61. Preservation of plant remains is generally poor but occasional charred remains were noted. Five cereal grains were recovered from fill 67 of ditch 68 in Trench 34. One of the grains could be identified as wheat (*Triticum* sp.), probably one of the hulled wheat varieties spelt (*T. spelta*) or emmer (*T. dicoccum*).
- C.1.4 Charred weed seeds are present as single specimens in three samples; sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*) fill 24 of post-hole 26 (Trench 12), vetch (*Vicia* sp.) in fill 191 of

cremation **190** (Trench 61) and black-bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*) in fill 73 of ditch terminus **74** (Trench 34).

Discussion

C.1.5 The environmental samples taken at Honingham suggest that there is limited potential for the recovery of plant remains from this site, however any further excavations in the area should include a strategy of targeted environmental sampling.

Sample No.	Context No.	Feature No.	Feature Type	% context sampled	Trench No.	Volume processed (L)	Flot Vol (ml)	Cereals	Weed Seeds	Estimated charcoal volume (ml)	Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal > 2mm	Pottery	Human skeletal remains	Burnt flint	Flint debris	Metal Fe	Hammer-scale: flake	
1	8	9	Pit	25	1	16	10	0	0	<1	++	+	##	0	0	#	0	0	
2	24	26	Post-hole	50	12	12	15	0	#	<1	++	+	#	0	0	0	0	0	
3	67	68	Ditch	10	34	17	15	#	0	1	++	++	##	0	0	0	0	0	
10	73	74	Ditch terminus	<10	34	6	1	0	#	<1	+	0	0	0	#	0	0	0	
9	115	114	Pit	<20	36	13	5	0	0	<1	++	0	##	0	#	#	0	0	
8	23 3	232	Cremation	100	46	7	1	0	0	<1	++	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	
5	16 3	162	Pit	50	49	14	10	0	0	<1	++	0	#	0	0	#	0	0	
6	16 7	166	Pit	50	49	15	10	0	0	<1	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+
4	15 4	155	Ditch	10	51	14	10	0	0	0	0	0	#	0	0	0	0	0	+
11	24 0	241	Ditch	<20	53	16	30	0	0	<1	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
7	19 1	190	Cremation	100	61	16	10	0	#	2	+++	++	#	++	0	0	#	0	

Table 5: Environmental samples

C.2 Human Bone

By Natasha Dodwell

Introduction and methodology

C.2.1 Very small quantities of extremely fragmented cremated bone were recovered from two truncated features, cut **190** which contained sherds of an Early Roman funerary urn or accessory vessel and some iron nails and cut **232**, where no associated finds were recovered. The fills of these features were 100% sampled and processed in accordance to national guidelines outlined by McKinley (2004). A summary of the osteological data is presented in tabular form below.

C.2.2 All of the bone analysed is buff white in colour indicative of full oxidation of the organic part of the bone and high pyre temperatures. The fragment size is small making identification of elements difficult if not impossible. In the case of bone from cut **232**, only 2g of bone survived and the fragments could not be positively identified as either animal or human. The 52g of bone associated with the vessel in cut **190** are predominantly limb shafts and their size and robustness suggests that they derive from a sub adult/adult.

	Weight(g)
--	-----------

Context	Cut	Sample No	Largest Fragment	> 10mm	5-10mm	<5mm	Total
191	190	7	30.50mm	8	21	23	52
233	232	8	7.25mm	0	1	1	2

Table 6: Summary of human bone

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APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-262169		
Project Name	Prehistoric occupation, field systems and Roman cremations at Honingham Thorpe Farms, Norfolk		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	10-10-2016	Finish	28-10-2016
Previous Work (by OA East)	No	Future Work	

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	ENF141317	Planning App. No.	pre planning app
HER No.	ENF141317	Related HER/OASIS No.	magnitude1-262148

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	Select Prompt (this should be in your brief/spec)...
Development Type	For DBA/Evaluation - select the type of development planned for the site...

Please select all techniques used:

<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - interpretation	<input type="checkbox"/> Grab-Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Gravity-Core	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sample Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Annotated Sketch	<input type="checkbox"/> Laser Scanning	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure
<input type="checkbox"/> Augering	<input type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Dendrochronological Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal Detectors	<input type="checkbox"/> Test Pits
<input type="checkbox"/> Documentary Search	<input type="checkbox"/> Phosphate Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Topographic Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Vibro-core
<input type="checkbox"/> Fieldwalking	<input type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Rectified Photography	

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

List feature types using the [NMR Monument Type Thesaurus](#) and significant finds using the [MDA Object type Thesaurus](#) together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

Monument	Period	Object	Period
ditch	Neolithic -4k to -2k	pot	Roman 43 to 410
ditch	Iron Age -800 to 43	pot	Iron Age -800 to 43
pit	Iron Age -800 to 43	flint	Neolithic -4k to -2k

Project Location

County	Norfolk	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	
District	Broadland	Honingham Thorpe Farms Norwich Rd Colton	
Parish	Honingham		
HER	Norfolk		
Study Area	18ha	National Grid Reference	TG 1207 1056

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Ken Hamilton
Project Design Originator	Matt Brudenell
Project Manager	Matt Brudenell
Supervisor	Kathryn Blackburn

Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
Norfolk	OA East	Norfolk
ENF141317	ENF141317	ENF141317

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Bones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
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<input type="checkbox"/> GIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Images	<input type="checkbox"/> Diary
<input type="checkbox"/> Illustrations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing
<input type="checkbox"/> Moving Image	<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscript
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spreadsheets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Map
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matrices
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	<input type="checkbox"/> Research/Notes
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:

APPENDIX F. GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY REPORT



**magnitude
surveys**

Geophysical Survey Report MSTG46

of

**Land at Thorpe Farm,
Honingham, Norfolk**

For

Oxford Archaeology East

On Behalf Of

Broadlands District Council

Magnitude Surveys Ref: MSTG46

HER Event No. ENF141316

OASIS No. Magnitude1-262148

October 2016



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Draft Issued:

04 October 2016

Abstract

Magnitude Surveys was commissioned to assess the subsurface archaeological potential of a c. 15 ha area of land at Thorpe Farm, Honingham, Norfolk. A hand towed, cart-mounted fluxgate gradiometer survey was successfully completed and no anomalies of probable or possible archaeological origin were identified. The geophysical results primarily reflect modern ploughing and ferrous anomalies.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. Magnitude Surveys Ltd (MS) was commissioned by Oxford Archaeology East (OAE) on behalf of Broadlands District Council (BDC) to undertake a geophysical survey on a c. 18 ha area of land at Thorpe Farm, Honingham, Norfolk (TG 1213 1056).
- 1.2. The geophysical survey comprised hand pulled, cart-mounted fluxgate gradiometer survey.
- 1.3. The survey was conducted in line with the current best practice guidelines produced by Historic England (David et al., 2008), the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists (CifA, 2014) and the European Archaeological Council (Schmidt et al., 2015).
- 1.4. The survey was conducted in-line with a WSI submitted to Norfolk County Council.
- 1.5. The survey commenced on the 26th of September 2016 and was completed in four days.

2. Quality Assurance

- 2.1. Project management, survey work, data processing and report production have been carried out by qualified and professional geophysicists to standards exceeding the current best practice (CifA, 2014; David et al., 2008, Schmidt et al., 2015).
- 2.2. Magnitude Surveys is a corporate member of ISAP (International Society of Archaeological Prospection).
- 2.3. Director Graeme Attwood is a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CifA), the chartered UK body for archaeologists, as well as a member of GeoSIG, the CifA Geophysics Special Interest Group. Director Finnegan Pope-Carter is a Fellow of the London Geological Society, the chartered UK body for geophysicists and geologists, as well as a member of GeoSIG, the CifA Geophysics Special Interest Group. Director Chrys Harris is a doctoral candidate in archaeological geophysics at the University of Bradford.
- 2.4. All MS managers have postgraduate qualifications in archaeological geophysics. All MS field staff have relevant archaeology or geophysics degrees and supervisors have at least three years' field experience.
- 2.5. Multiple calibration routines have been conducted over the same point and compared to ensure the calibration values match real world values.

3. Objectives

- 3.1. The geophysical survey aimed to assess the subsurface archaeological potential of the survey area.
- 3.2. The survey forms part of the archaeological evaluation by the Norfolk County Council and shall be used to inform further investigative work.

4. Geographic Background

- 4.1. The underlying geology comprises Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation; superficial deposits consist of diamicton of the Lowestoft formation (BGS, 2016).
- 4.2. The soils consist of slightly acid loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage (Soilscapes, 2016).
- 4.3. The site lies approximately 1km west of the village of Easton and 2.2km south-east of Honingham. Survey was undertaken over two arable fields: one large field and the south-western portion of the adjacent field to the east. The survey area is bounded on the west by Blind Lane and Dereham Road to the south. The northern boundary was formed by a modern agricultural field. The smaller field's eastern boundary correlates with a parish boundary. The site was generally flat with a gentle slope downwards to the northwest.

5. Archaeological Background

- 5.1. The following forms a brief summary of the archaeological background of the survey area and its immediate environs, as outlined in written scheme of investigation (WSI) produced by OAE. No heritage assets have been recorded in within the survey area itself, although a number have been identified in the greater landscape. For a more detailed discussion of the archaeological background, see Brudenell (2016).
- 5.2. Prehistoric remains have been recorded in the area immediately surrounding the site. These consist of finds comprising Neolithic and Bronze Age stone tools and flint scatters (NHER 12808; 15898; 19755; 20011; 36671; 15898; 36671). Around 200m to the north east, several Bronze Age barrows have been identified in aerial photographs (NHER 53679; 12809).
- 5.3. Roman activity has been identified by a series of find spots and pottery scatters, and cropmarks of probable Roman sites and enclosure systems. Most significantly, a swathe of cropmarks has been recorded east of the survey area and in the surrounding fields (NHER 53628). These comprise an area of enclosures and field boundaries. Given the proximity of the site to the villages of Easton and Honingham, which are recorded in the Domesday survey, a Medieval origin for these cropmarks is also possible.
- 5.4. Post-Medieval pottery has been recovered to the east of the site (NHER 25702). There are a number of listed buildings within the vicinity of the site, including the 17th century Church Farm (NHER 37298) and the landscape park associated with Honingham Hall to the north, visible on Faden's map of 1797 (NHER 7821). The 1823 Easton Tithe map shows the larger, western field of the survey area as divided by an east-west aligned field boundary. This boundary is not recorded on the 1882 first edition Ordnance Survey map, which records the field boundaries in their present configuration.

6. Methodology

6.1. Data Collection

6.1.1. Geophysical prospection comprised the magnetic method as described in the following table.

6.1.2. Table of survey strategies:

Method	Instrument	Traverse Interval	Sample Interval
Magnetic	Bartington Instruments Grad-13 Digital Three-Axis Gradiometer	1 m	200 Hz reprojected to 0.125 m

6.1.3. The magnetic data were collected using MS' bespoke hand-pulled cart system.

- 6.1.3.1. MS' cart system was comprised of Bartington Instruments Grad 13 Digital Three-Axis Gradiometers. Positional referencing was through a Hemisphere S321 GNSS Smart Antenna RTK GPS outputting in NMEA mode to ensure high positional accuracy of collected measurements. The Hemisphere S321 GNSS Smart Antenna is accurate to 0.008 m + 1 ppm in the horizontal and 0.015 m + 1 ppm in the vertical.
- 6.1.3.2. Magnetic and GPS data were logged on a USB flash drive housed in MS' bespoke data-logger and transferred to a laptop computer for processing.
- 6.1.3.3. A series of temporary sight markers were established in each survey area to guide the surveyor and ensure full coverage with the cart. Data were collected by traversing the survey area along the longest possible lines, to ensure that the data was efficiently collected and processed.

6.2. Data Processing

6.2.1. Magnetic data were processed in bespoke in-house software produced by MS. Processing steps conform to Historic England's standards for "raw or minimally processed data" (see sect 4.2 in David et al., 2008: 11).

Sensor Calibration – The sensors were calibrated using a bespoke in-house algorithm, which conforms to Olsen et al. (2003).

Zero Median Traverse – The median of each sensor traverse is calculated within a specified range and subtracted from the collected data. This removes striping effects caused by small variations in sensor electronics.

Projection to a Regular Grid – Data collected using RTK GPS positioning requires a uniform grid projection to visualise data. Data are rotated to best fit an orthogonal grid projection and are resampled onto the grid using an inverse distance-weighting algorithm.

Interpolation to Square Pixels – Data are interpolated using a bicubic algorithm to increase the pixel density between sensor traverses. This produces images with square pixels for ease of visualisation.

6.3.Data Visualisation and Interpretation

6.3.1. This report presents geophysical results as greyscale images. Multiple greyscales images have been used for data interpretation; these were at different plotting ranges and show different components of the vector magnetic field. This report presents the gradient of the sensors' total field data. Greyscale images should be viewed alongside the XY trace plots, found on the archive disk. XY trace plots visualise the magnitude and form of the geophysical response, aiding in anomaly interpretation.

6.3.2. Geophysical results have been interpreted using greyscale images and XY traces in a layered environment, overlaid against open street mapping, satellite imagery, historic mapping and LiDAR data.

7. Results

7.1.Qualification

7.1.1. *Geophysical techniques are not a map of the ground and are instead a direct measurement of subsurface properties. Detecting and mapping features requires that said features have properties that can be measured by the chosen technique(s) and that these properties have sufficient contrast with the background to be identifiable. The interpretation of any identified anomalies is inherently subjective. While the scrutiny of the results is undertaken by qualified, experienced individuals and rigorously checked for quality and consistency, it is often not possible to classify all anomaly sources. Where possible an anomaly source will be identified along with the certainty of the interpretation. The only way to improve the interpretation of results is through a process of comparing excavated results with the geophysical reports. MS actively seek feedback on their reports as well as reports of further work in order to constantly improve our knowledge and service.*

7.2.Survey Considerations

Survey Area	No. Survey Blocks	Surveyed Y/N	Ground Conditions	Further notes:
1	1	Y	Young oilseed rape crop across site. Ground conditions good and flat.	Traverses were walked in-line with the direction of current cultivation. Evidence of previous cultivation off alignment of the current ploughing was visible.
2	1	Y		

Refer to Figure 2 for survey area locations.

7.3. Discussion

7.3.1. The geophysical results, both greyscale images and XY traces, were interpreted in consideration with satellite imagery (Bing, 2016; Figure 5) and historic mapping (Ordnance Survey, 6" 2nd edition c.1882-1913; Figure 6).

7.3.2. The magnetic method has responded well to the survey area's environment. No anomalies of a probable or possible archaeological origin were detected. The geophysical results primarily reflect modern agricultural and modern activity. Across the site, weak pit-like responses and amorphous anomalies reflect minor geological or pedological changes. The culmination of these responses, both weak and strong, indicates that any archaeological features with a sufficient magnetic contrast would have been detected by the geophysical survey, if present.

7.4. Interpretation

7.4.1. General Statements

7.4.1.1. Geophysical anomalies will be discussed broadly as classification types across the survey area. Only anomalies that are distinctive or unusual will be discussed individually. Specific anomalies discussed within the text have been assigned numbers, which are emboldened within square parenthesis e.g. [1].

7.4.1.2. **Undetermined** – Anomalies are classified as Undetermined when the anomaly origin is ambiguous through the geophysical results and there is no supporting or correlative evidence to warrant a more certain classification. These anomalies are likely to be the result of geological, pedological or agricultural processes--although an archaeological origin cannot be entirely ruled out. Undetermined anomalies are generally not ferrous in nature.

7.4.1.1. **Ferrous (Discrete/Spread)** – Discrete ferrous-like, dipolar anomalies are likely to be the result of modern metallic disturbance on or near the ground surface. A ferrous spread refers to a concentrated scattering of these discrete, dipolar anomalies. Broad dipolar ferrous responses from modern metallic features, such as fences, gates, neighbouring buildings and services, may mask any weaker underlying archaeological anomalies should they be present.

7.4.2. Magnetic Results - Specific Anomalies

- 7.4.2.1. **Ferrous (Discrete)** – The site is scattered with discrete ferrous anomalies caused by metallic debris relating to modern agricultural use. Neighbouring fences have produced strong ferrous-type responses as well.
- 7.4.2.2. **Agricultural** – A series of parallel, linear anomalies have been detected across the survey area. The patterning of these anomalies suggests an agricultural origin. Given the incredibly weak magnitude of response, a modern origin is likely. These features likely reflect a previous cultivation scheme, potentially what was identified on the ground surface (see para. 7.2).
- 7.4.2.3. **Natural** – Several areas of weak, amorphous responses have been classified as Natural – Spread and are resultant from the natural variation in the underlying soil or geology. Numerous weak, pit-like responses are also detected across the survey area, which most likely reflect superficial deposits.

8. Conclusions

- 8.1. The magnetic survey has responded well to the survey area's environment. No anomalies of possible or probable archaeological origin have been identified. The presence of weak anomalies associated with ploughing activity and the underlying geology/pedology indicates that any archaeological features of sufficient magnetic contrast would have been detected by the survey.
- 8.2. Agricultural activity has been detected across the site in the form of parallel, linear anomalies associated with ploughing activity. These follow at least two previous alignments in contrast to the current direction of ploughing.
- 8.3. Modern activity has been detected across the site in the form of ferrous-type anomalies. Discrete, dipolar point responses are caused by metallic debris on or near the ground surface. Broad ferrous responses around the perimeter of the fields are generally caused by fences and gates.

9. Archiving

- 9.1. MS maintains an in-house digital archive, which is based on Schmidt and Ernenwein (2013). This stores the collected measurements, minimally processed data, georeferenced and un-georeferenced images, XY traces and a copy of the final report. A copy of this archive will be included in a disk with the final printed report.
- 9.2. MS contributes all reports to the ADS Grey Literature Library subject to any time embargo dictated by the client.
- 9.3. Whenever possible, MS has a policy of making data available to view in easy to use forms on its website. This can benefit the client by making all of their reports available in a single repository, while also being a useful resource for research. Should a client wish to impose a time embargo on the availability of data, this can be achieved in discussion with MS.

10. Copyright

10.1. Copyright and the intellectual property pertaining to all reports, figures, and datasets produced by Magnitude Services Ltd. is retained by MS. The client is given full licence to use such material for their own purposes. Permission must be sought by any third party wishing to use or reproduce any IP owned by MS.

11. References

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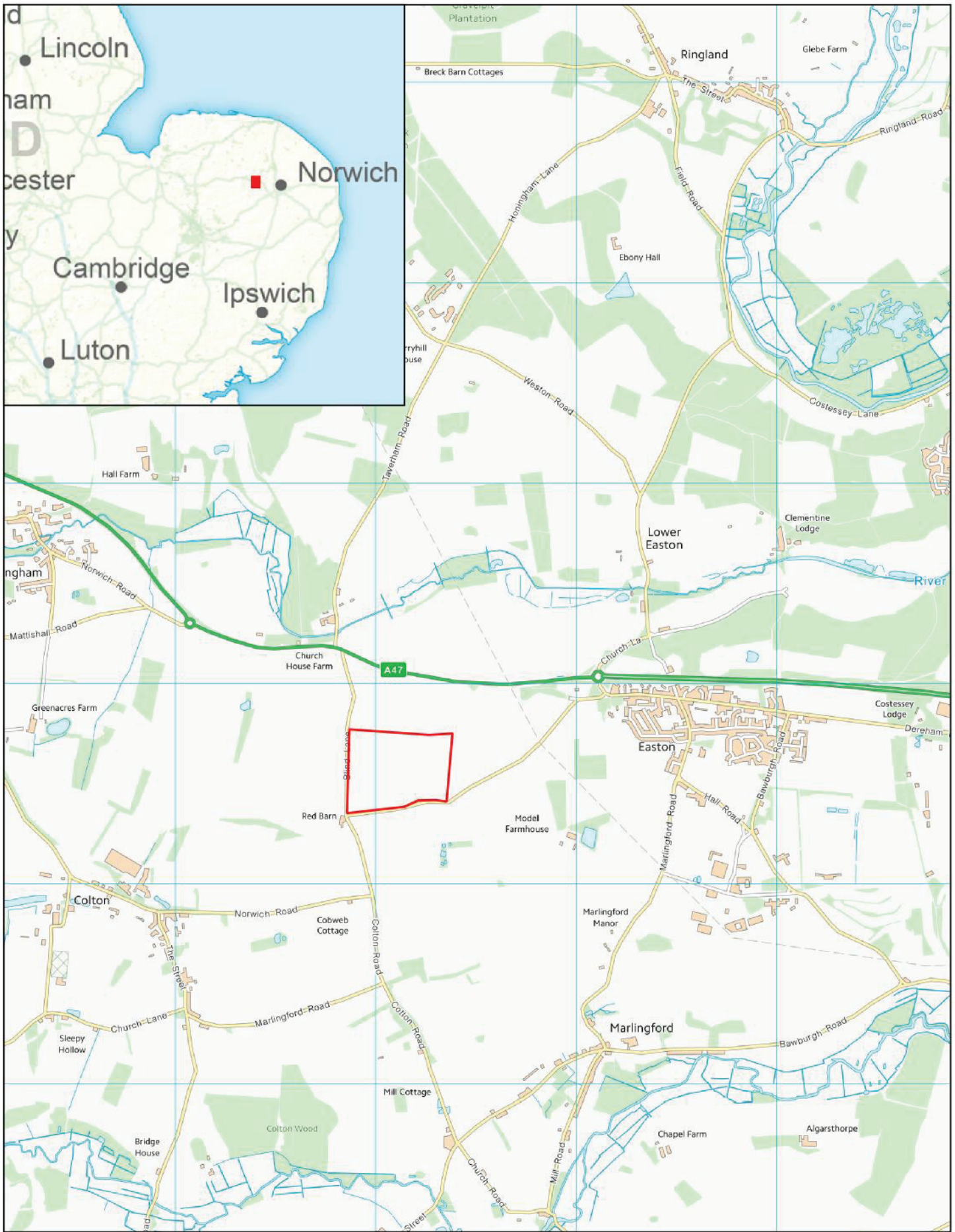
Olsen, N., Toffner-Clausen, L., Sabaka, T.J., Brauer, P., Merayo, J.M.G., Jorgensen, J.L., Leger, J.M., Nielsen, O.V., Primdahl, F., and Risbo, T., 2003. Calibration of the Orsted vector magnetometer. *Earth Planets Space* 55: 11-18.

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[<http://maps.nls.uk>]. [Accessed 03/10/2016].

Schmidt, A. and Ernenwein, E., 2013. Guide to Good Practice: Geophysical Data in Archaeology. 2nd ed., Oxbow Books, Oxford.

Schmidt, A., Linford, P., Linford, N., David, A., Gaffney, C., Sarris, A. and Fassbinder, J., 2015. Guidelines for the use of geophysics in archaeology: questions to ask and points to consider. EAC Guidelines 2. European Archaeological Council: Belgium.

Soilscapes, 2016. [Honingham, Norfolkshire]. Cranfield University, National Soil Resources Institute
[<http://landis.org.uk>]. [Accessed 03/10/2016].




MSTG46 - Honingham
Figure 1 - Site Location

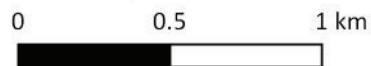
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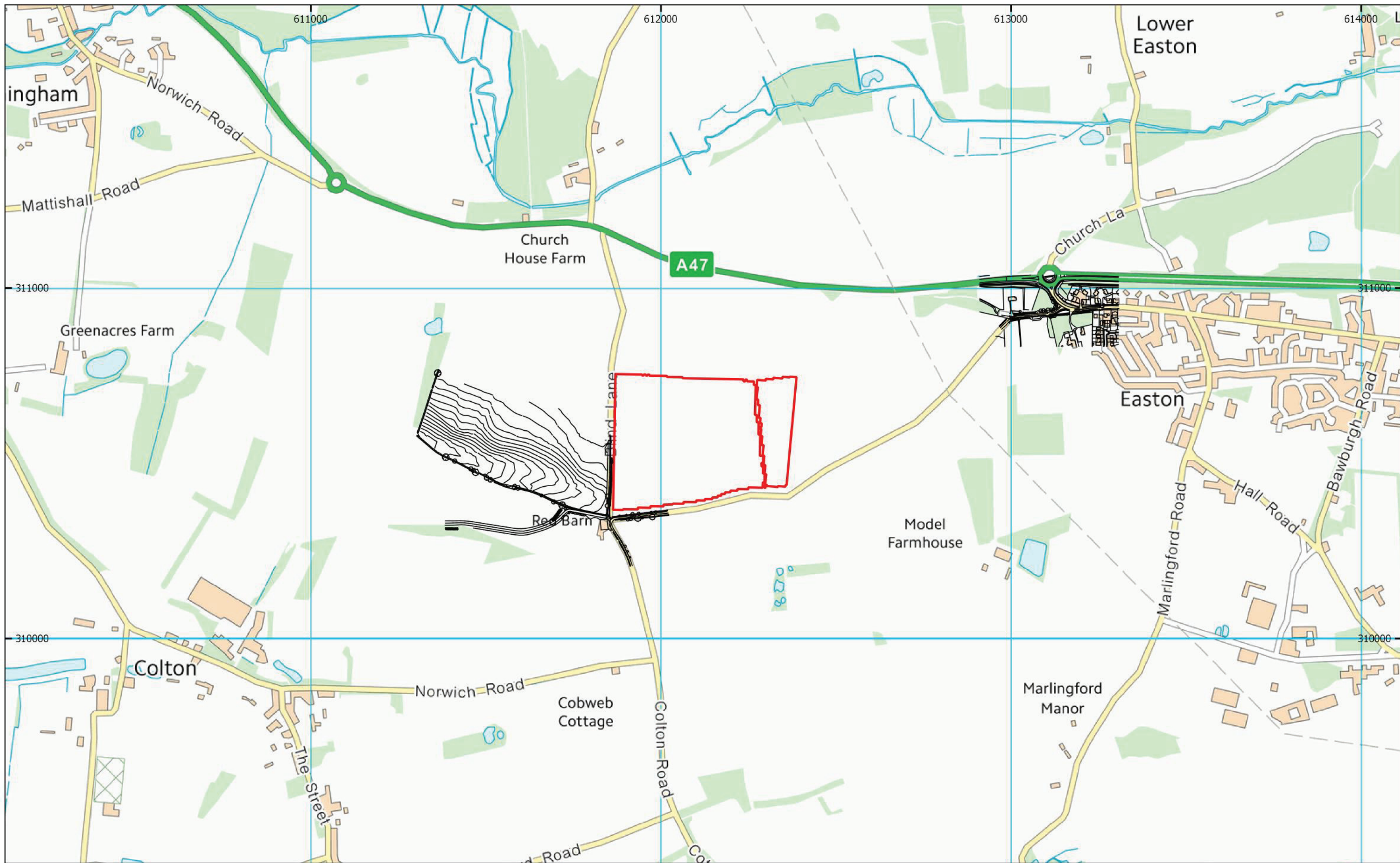
Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright and database right 2016

OS (100056946)

 Survey Area

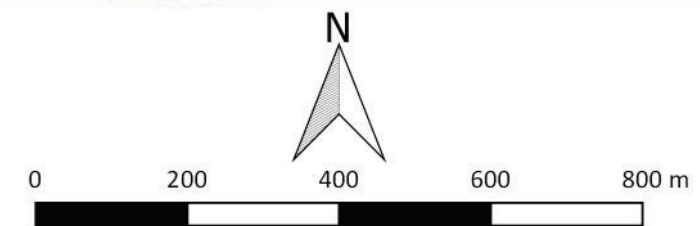


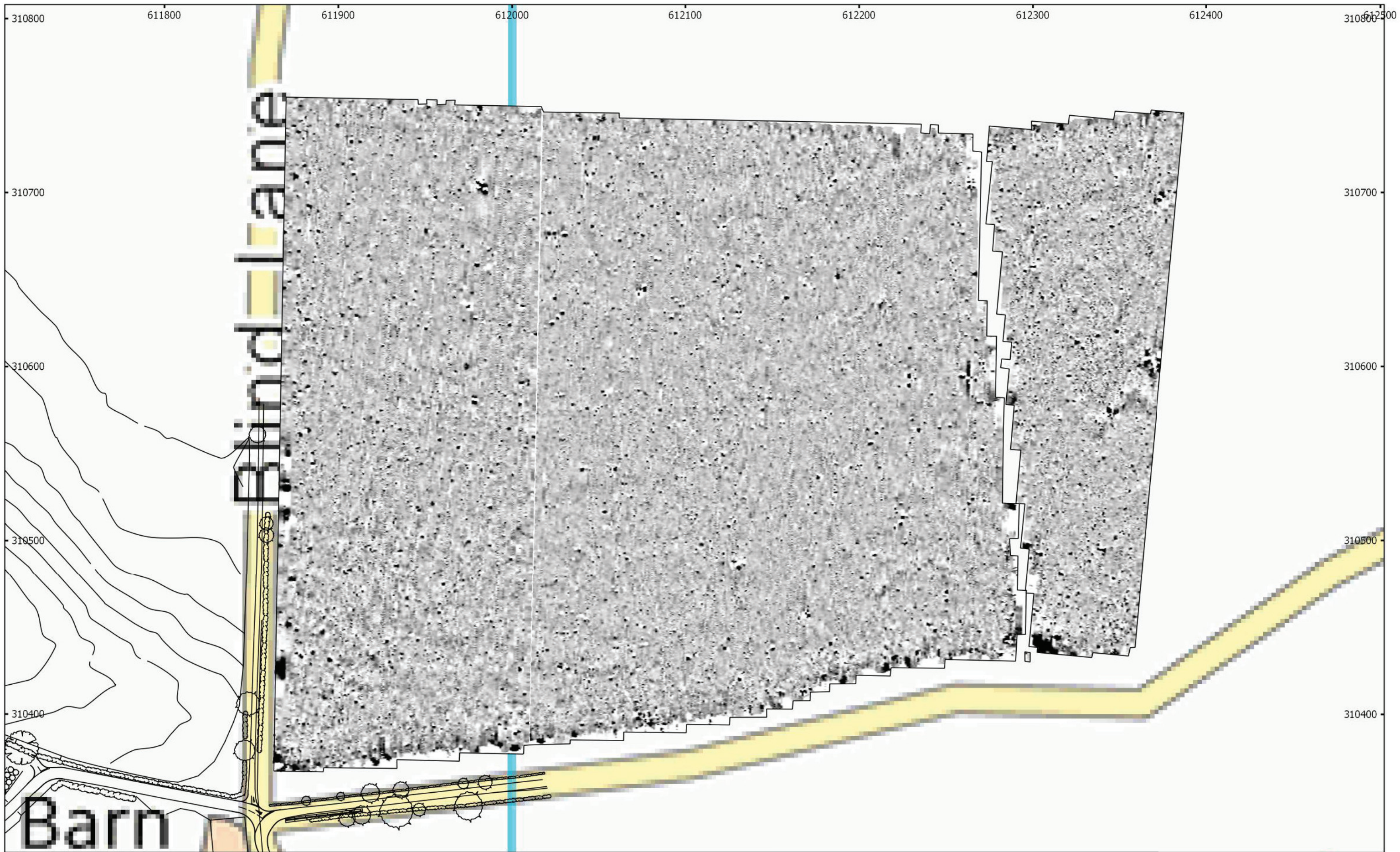
**magnitude
surveys**



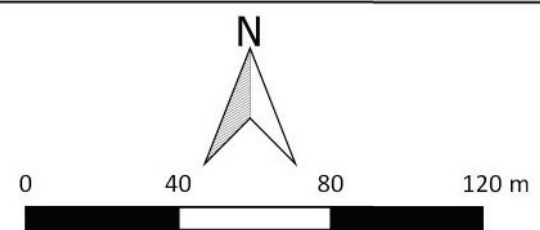
MSTG46 - Honingham
 Figure 2 - Location of Survey Area
 1 : 10,000 @ A3
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 OS (100056946)

 Survey Area





MSTG46 - Honingham
 Figure 3 - Magnetic Greyscale
 1 : 2000 @ A3
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 OS (100056946)

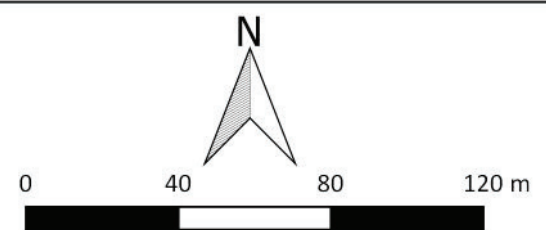


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MSTG46 - Honingham
 Figure 4 - Magnetic Interpretation
 1 : 2000 @ A3
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 OS (100056946)

- Agricultural (Weak)
- Ferrous (Dipolar)
- Natural (Spread)

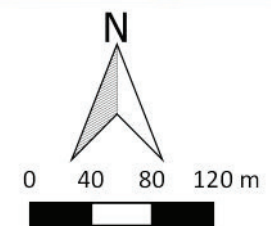


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surveys

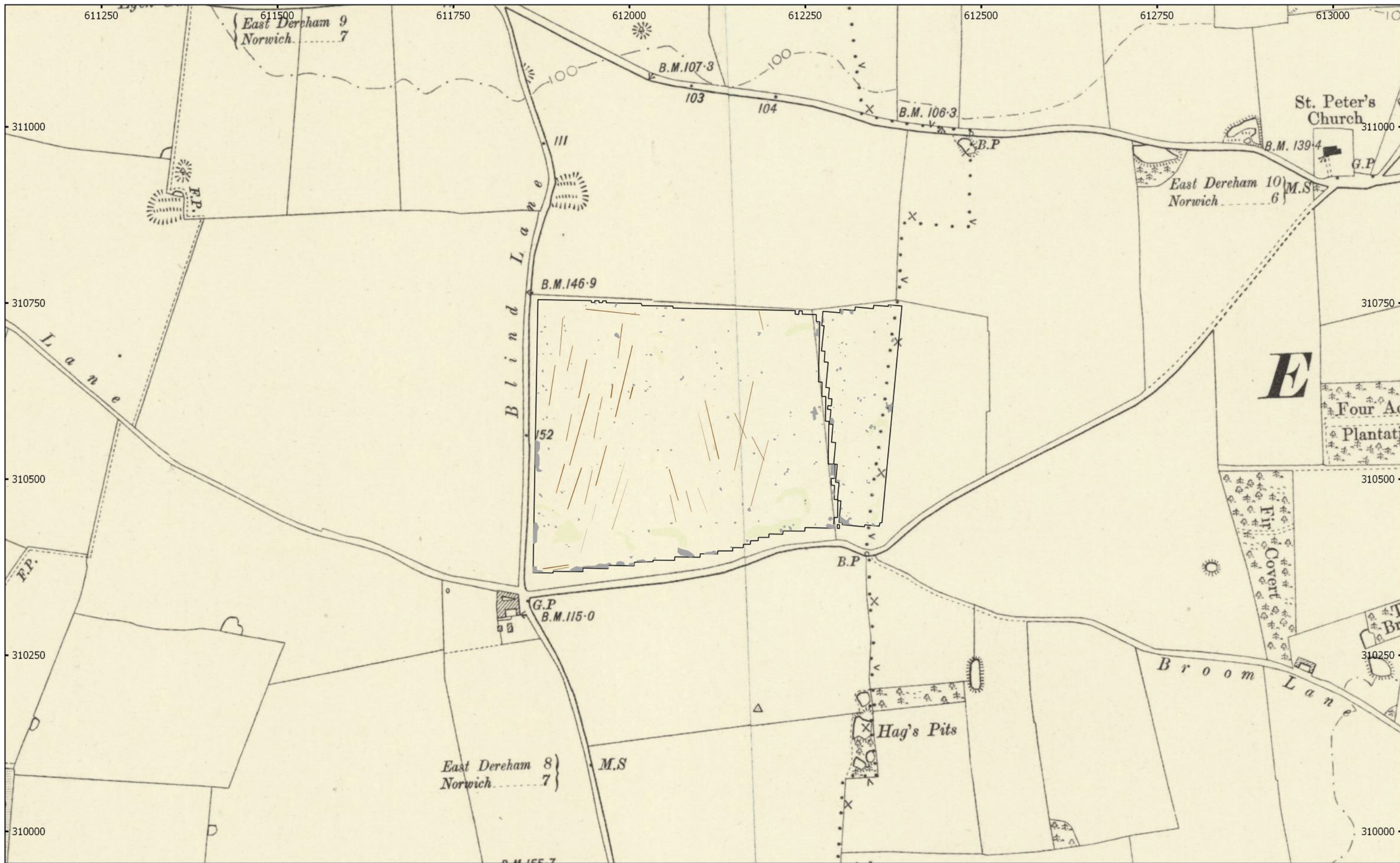


MSTG46 - Honingham
 Figure 5 - Magnetic Interpretation - Satellite
 1 : 5000 @ A3
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 Contains Satellite Imagery © Bing 2016

- Agricultural (Weak)
- Ferrous (Dipolar)
- Natural (Spread)

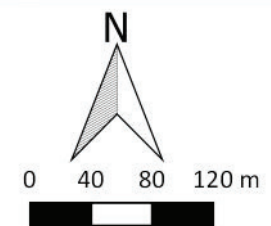


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surveys**

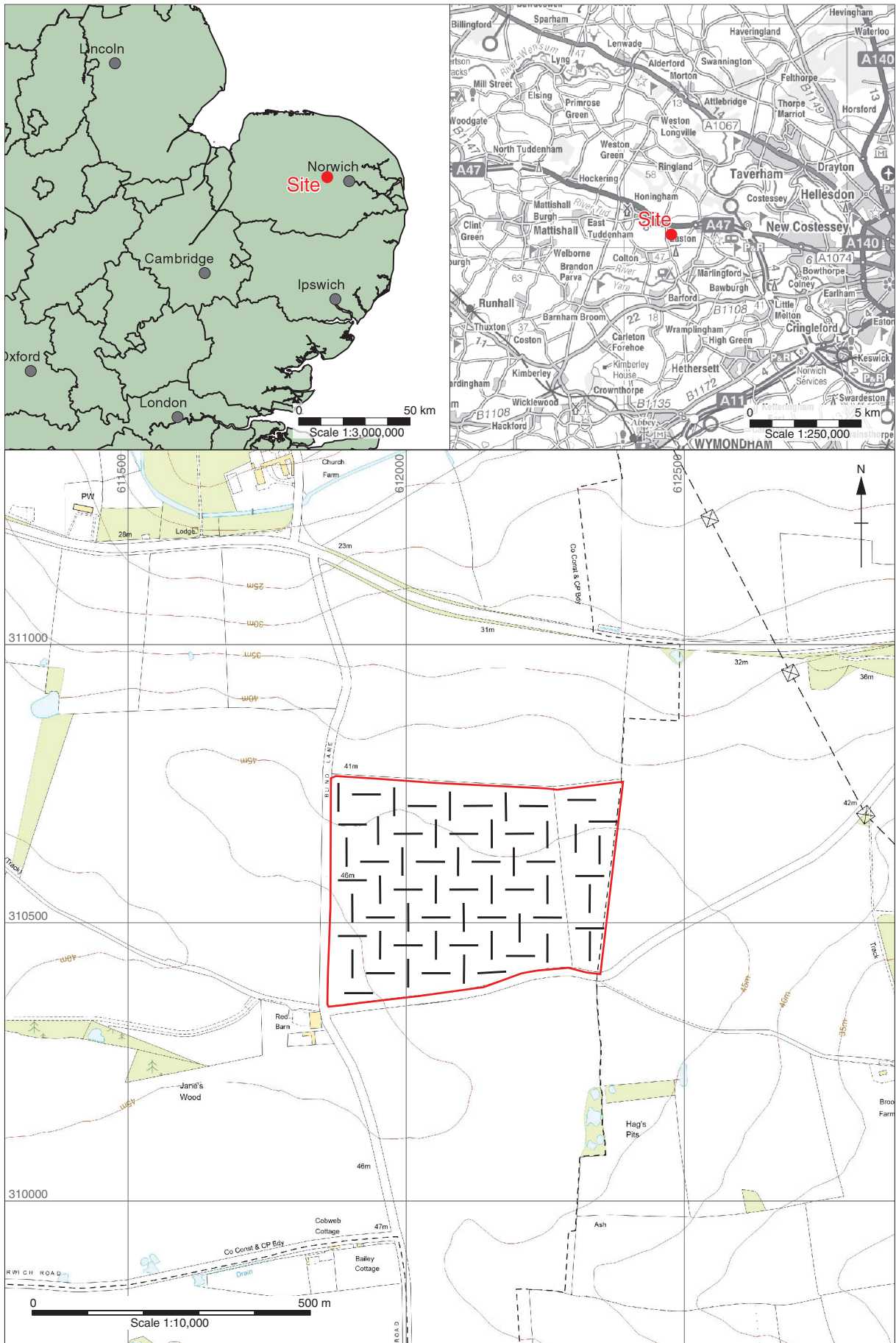


MSTG46 - Honingham
 Figure 6 - Magnetic Interpretation - Historic
 1 : 5000 @ A3
 Copyright Magnitude Surveys Ltd 2016
 Historic mapping Ordnance Survey, 6" 2nd edition c.1882-1913 © National Library of Scotland

- Agricultural (Weak)
- Ferrous (Dipolar)
- Natural (Spread)



magnitude
surveys



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Figure 1: Site location map with trenches (black) and development area outlined (red)

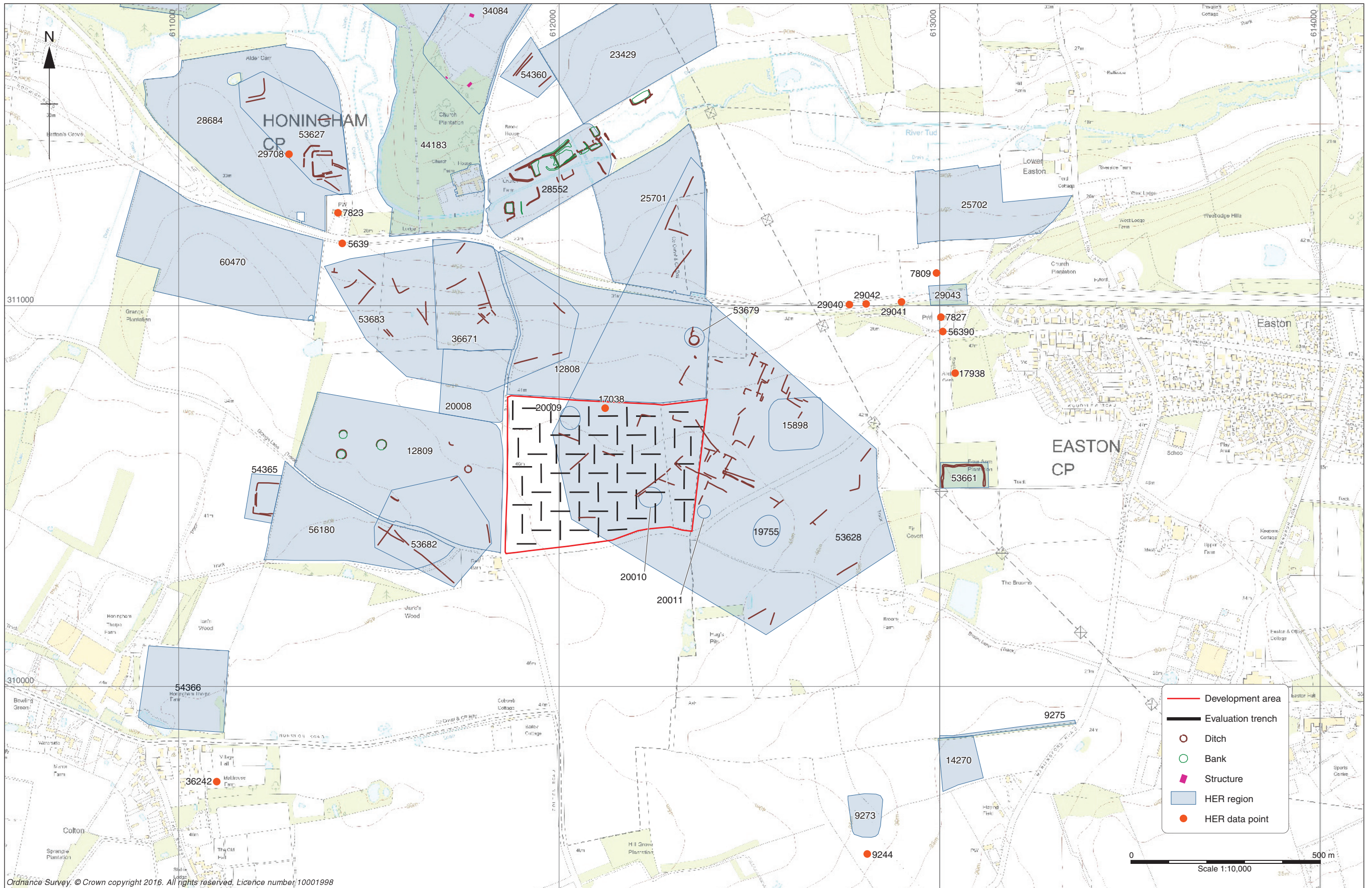


Figure 2: Map showing HER data and Air photo data from the National Mapping Programme



Figure 3: Map of the evaluation trenches showing all features, overlaying the geophysical survey data by Magnitude Surveys (Turner 2016)

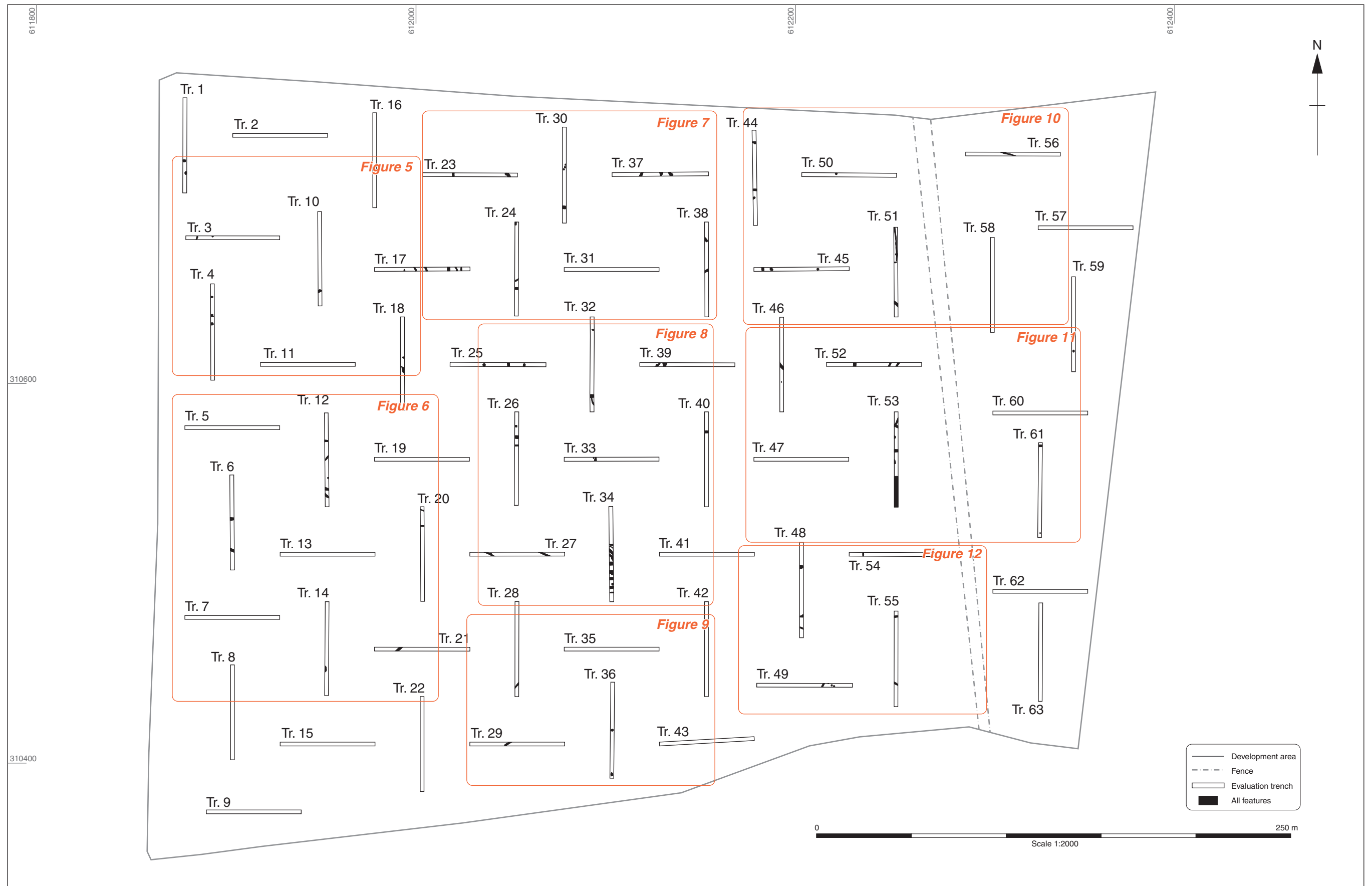


Figure 4: Figure locations

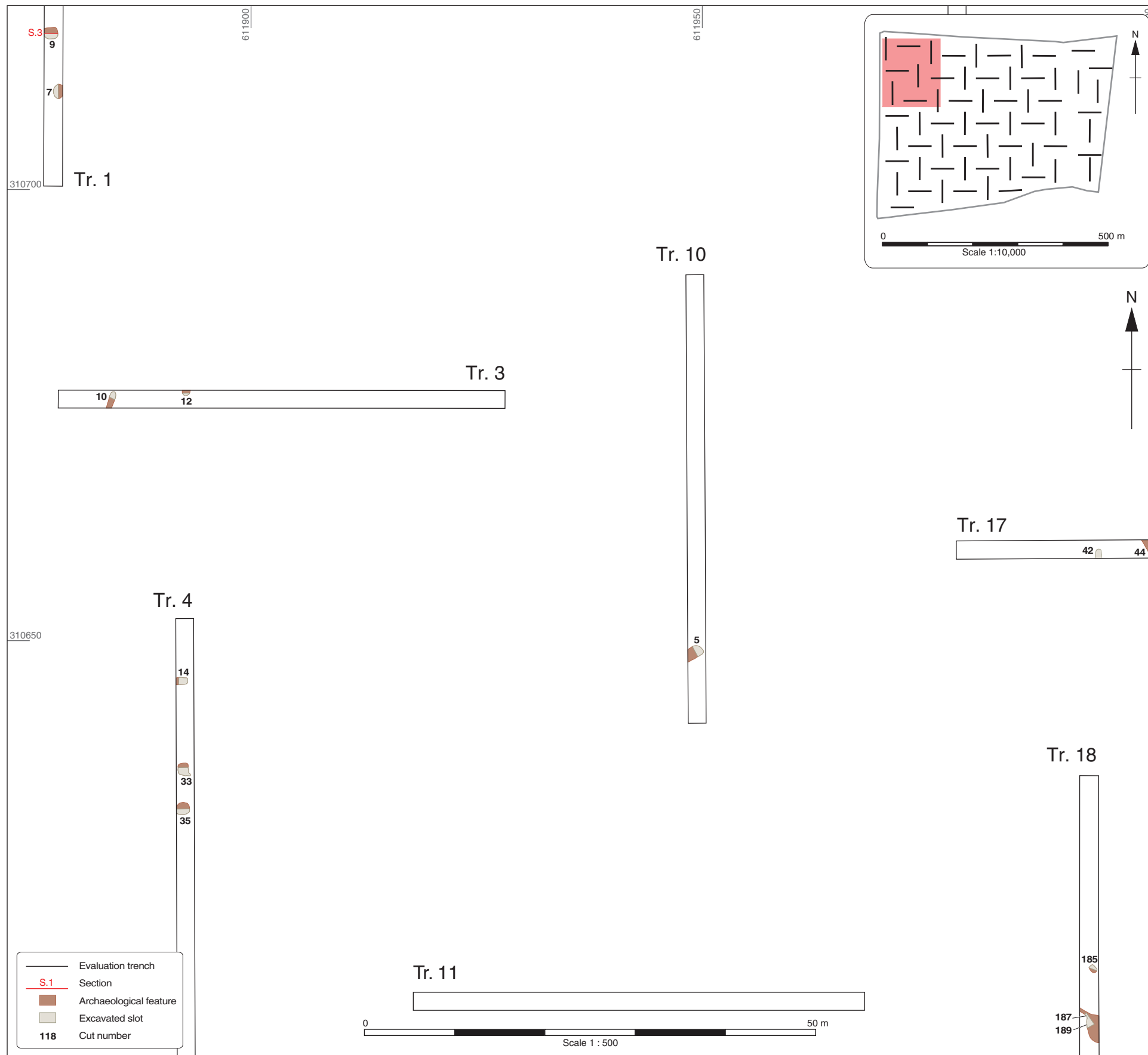


Figure 5: Detailed plan of Trenches 1, 3, 4, 10, 11, 17 and 18

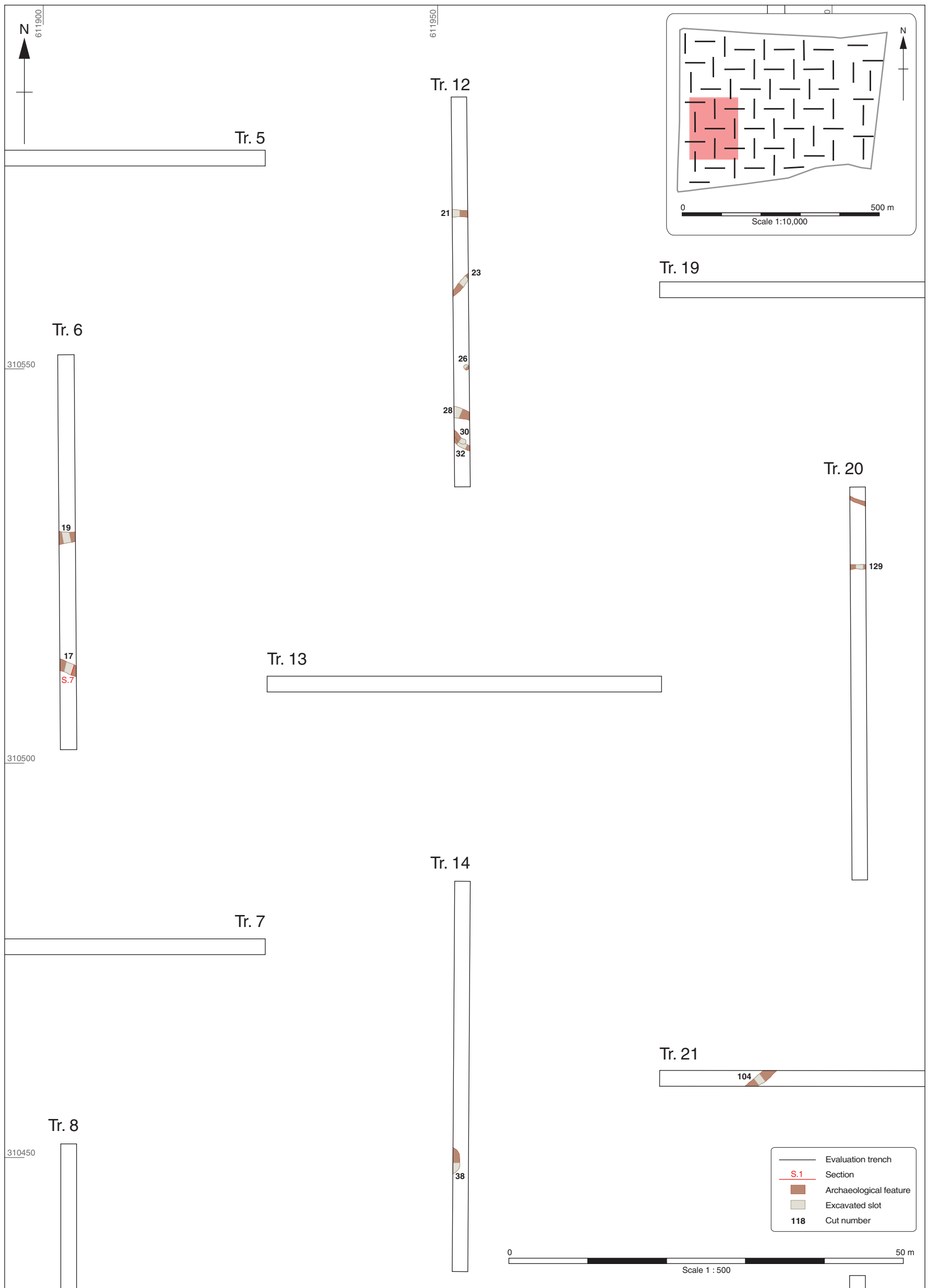


Figure 6: Detailed plan of Trenches 6, 12, 14, 20 and 21

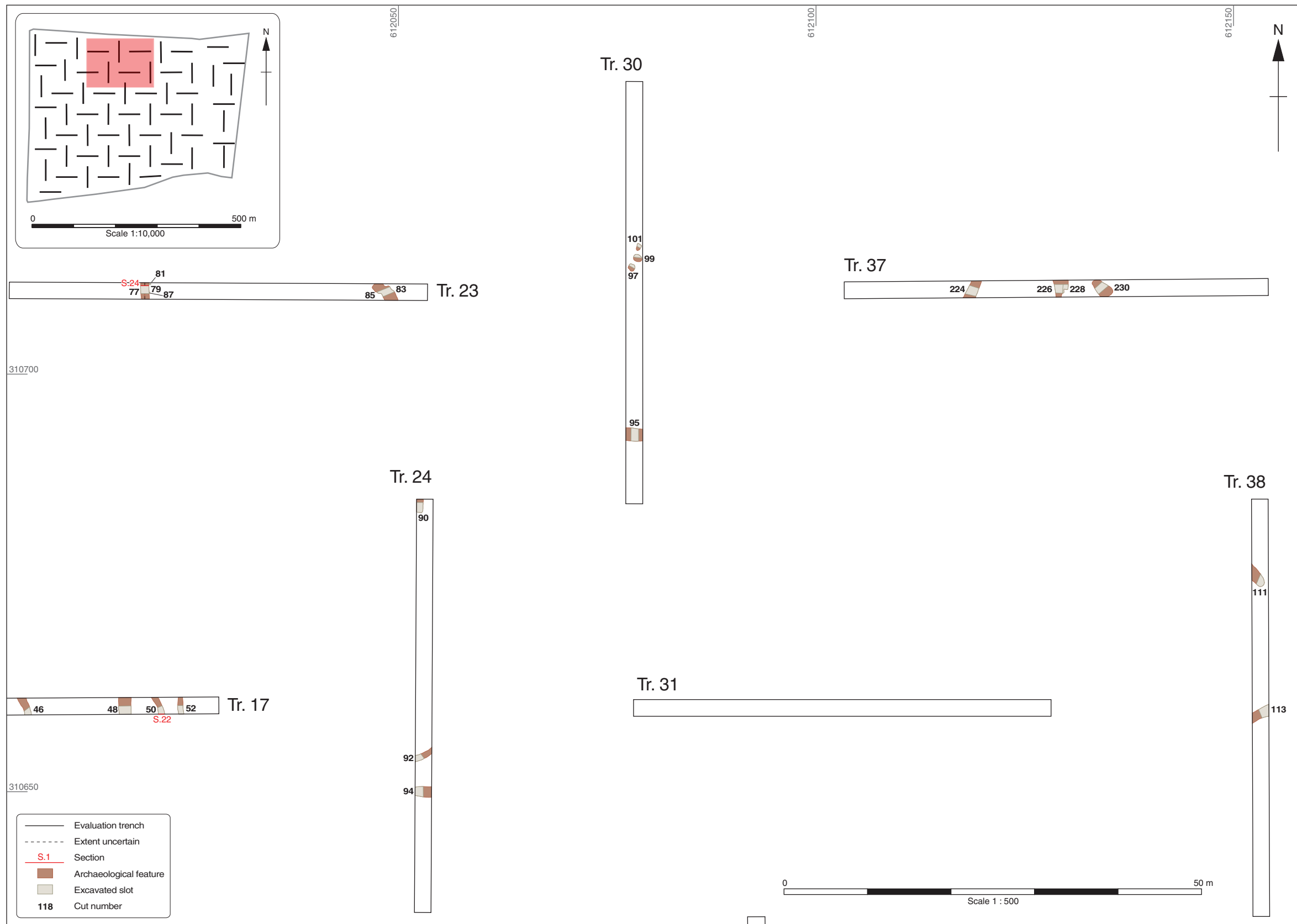


Figure 7: Detailed plan of Trenches 17, 23, 24, 30, 37 and 38

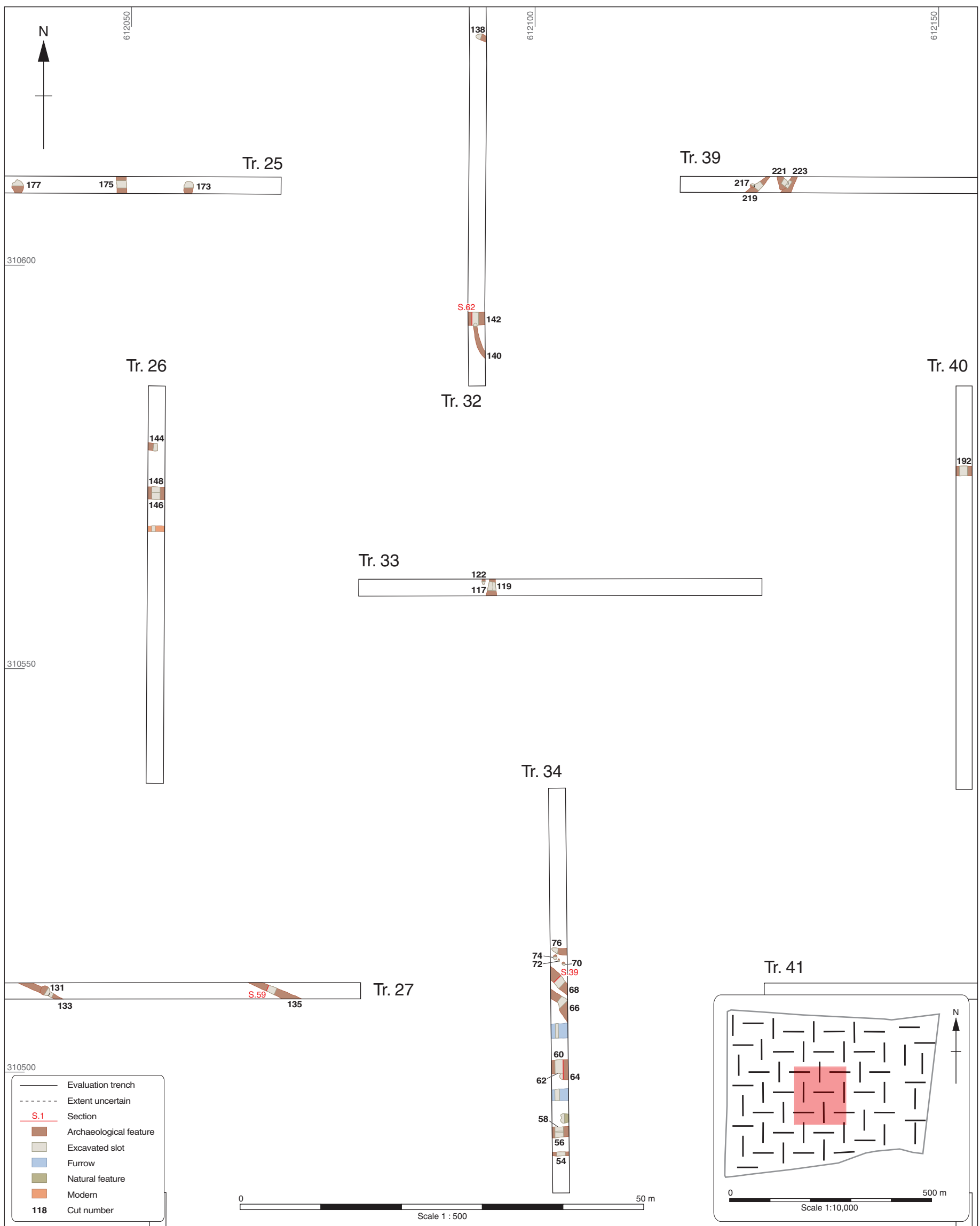


Figure 8: Detailed plan of Trenches 25, 26, 27, 32, 33, 34, 39 and 40

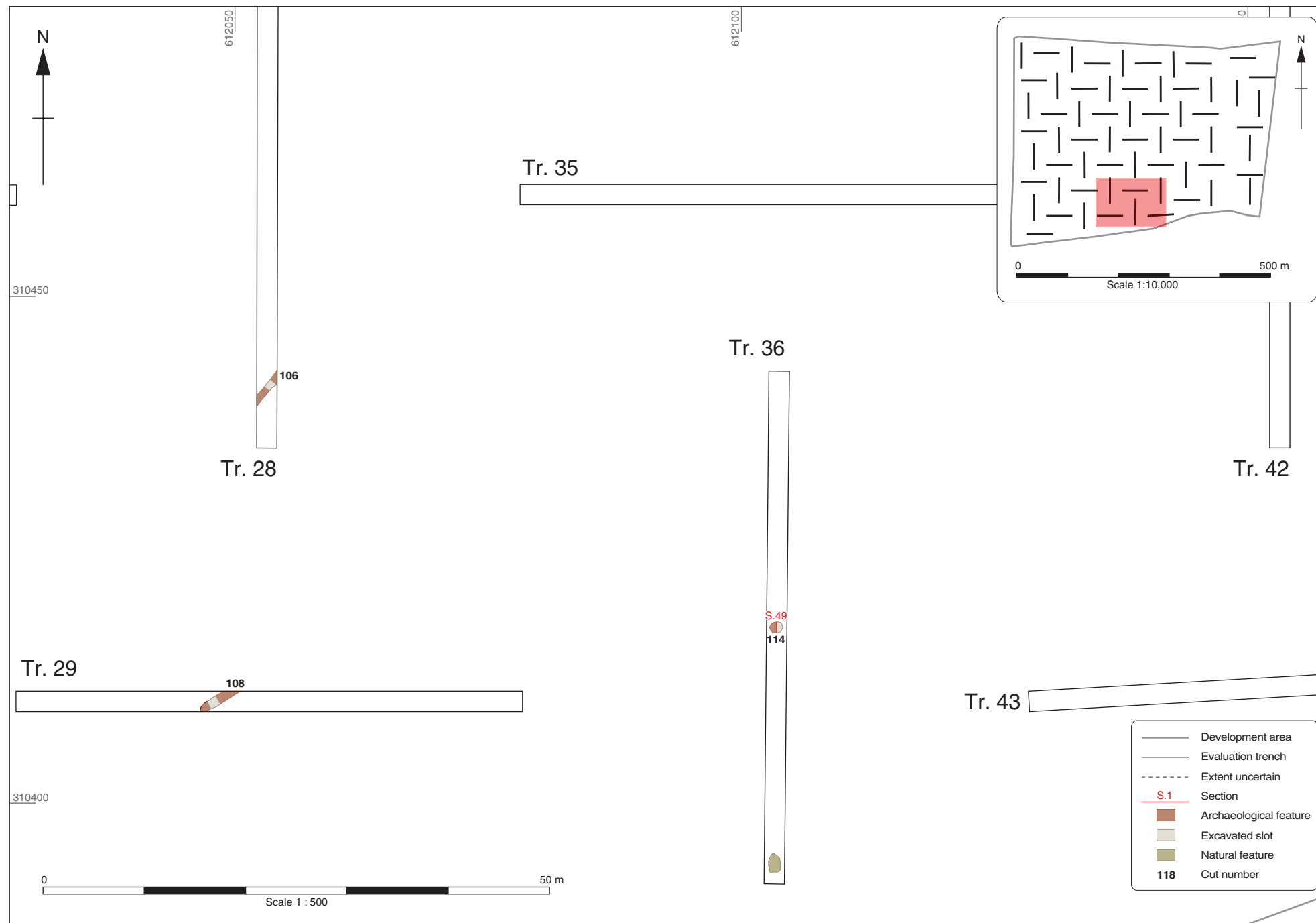


Figure 9: Detailed plan of Trenches 28, 29 and 36

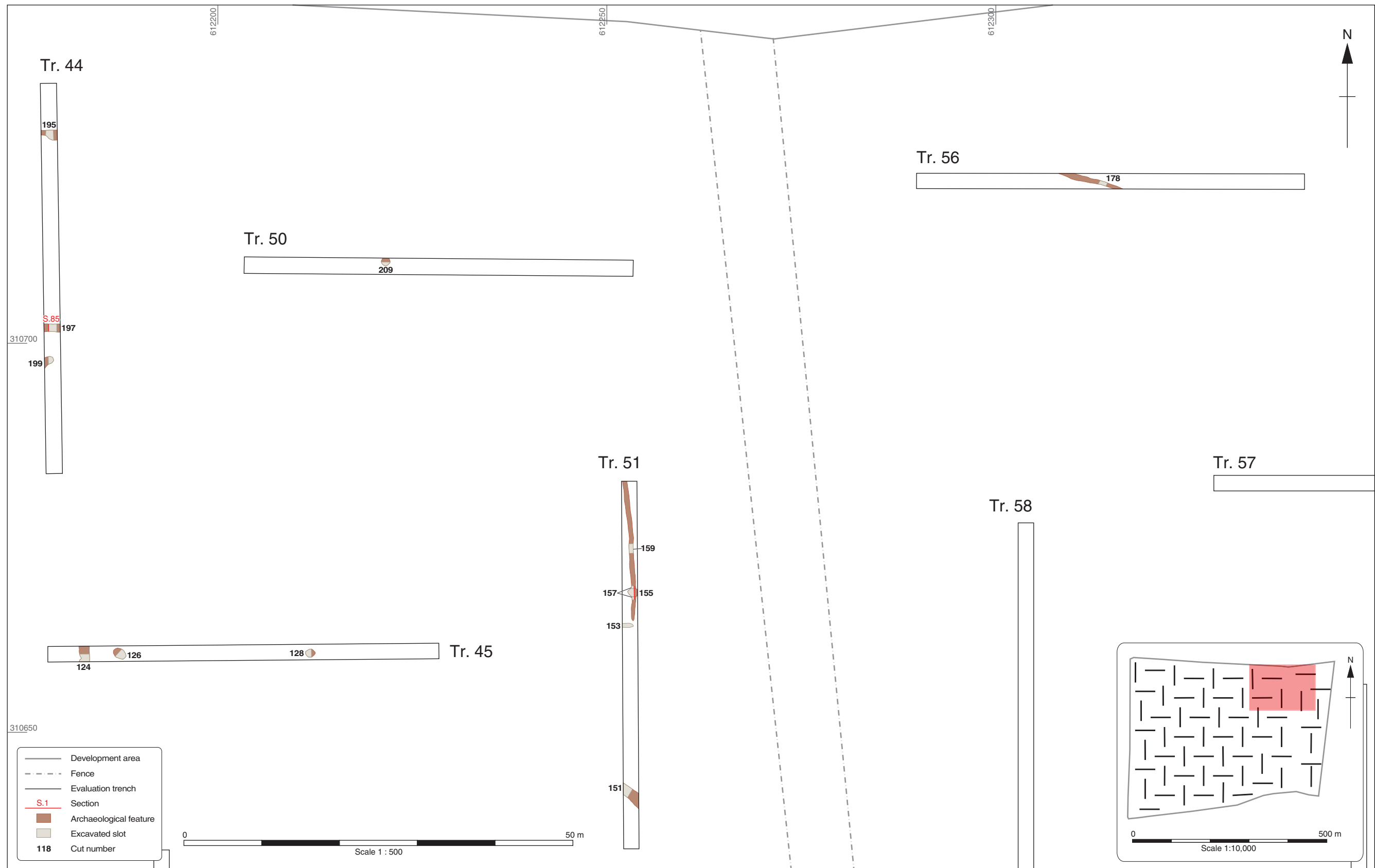


Figure 10: Detailed plan of Trenches 44, 45, 50, 51 and 56

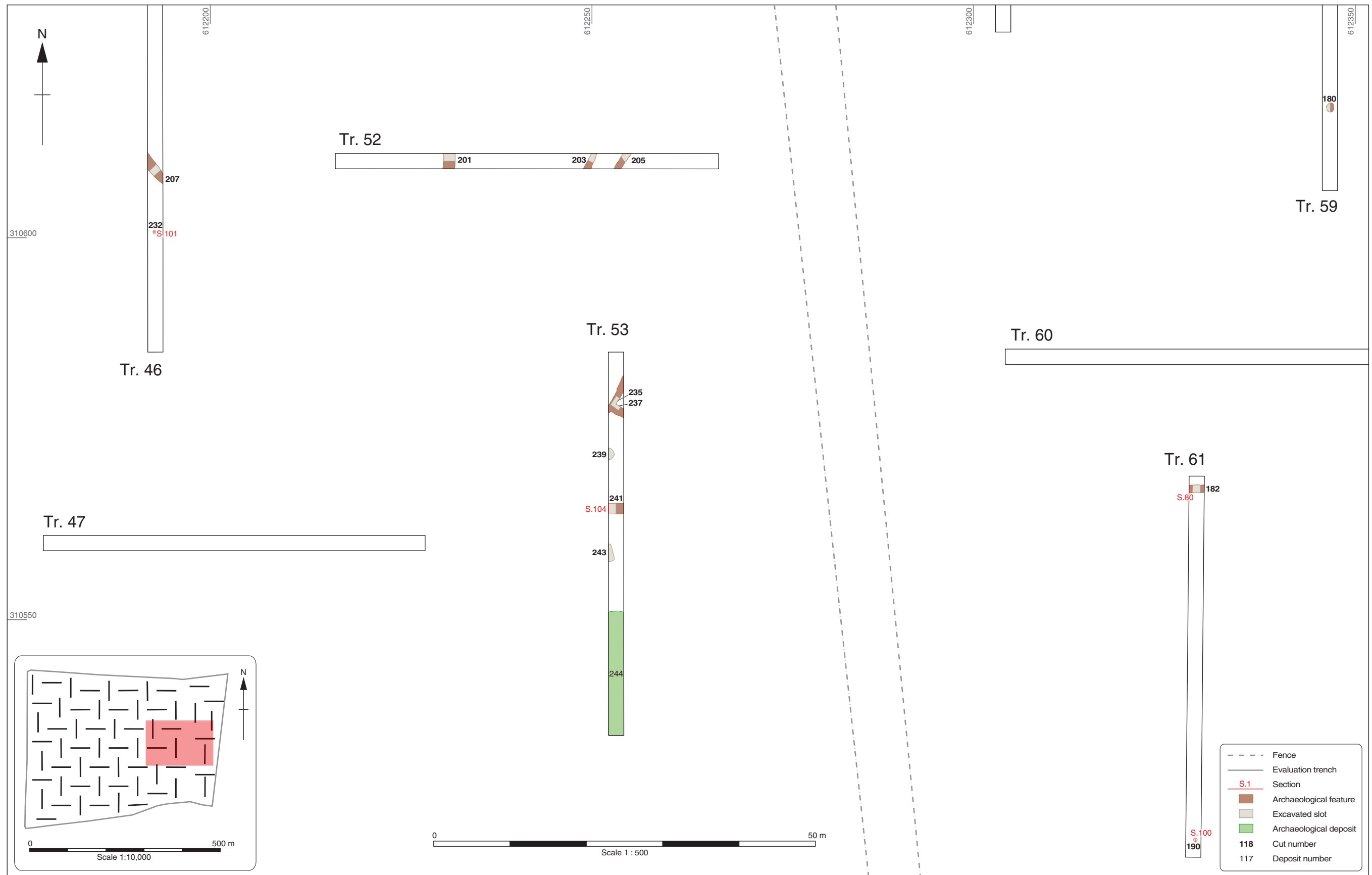


Figure 11: Detailed plan of Trenches 46, 52, 53, 59 and 61

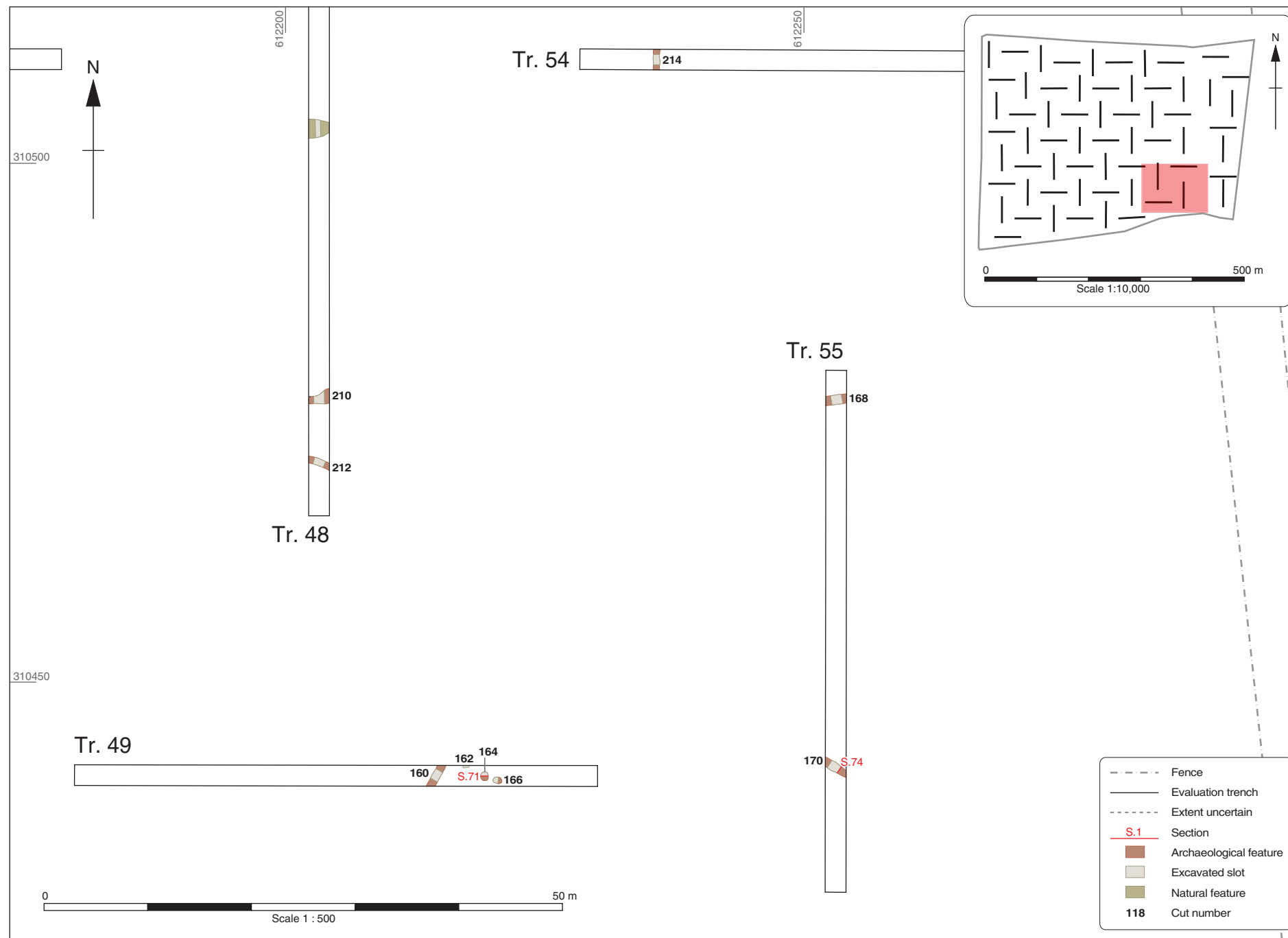


Figure 12: Detailed plan of Trenches 48, 49, 54 and 55

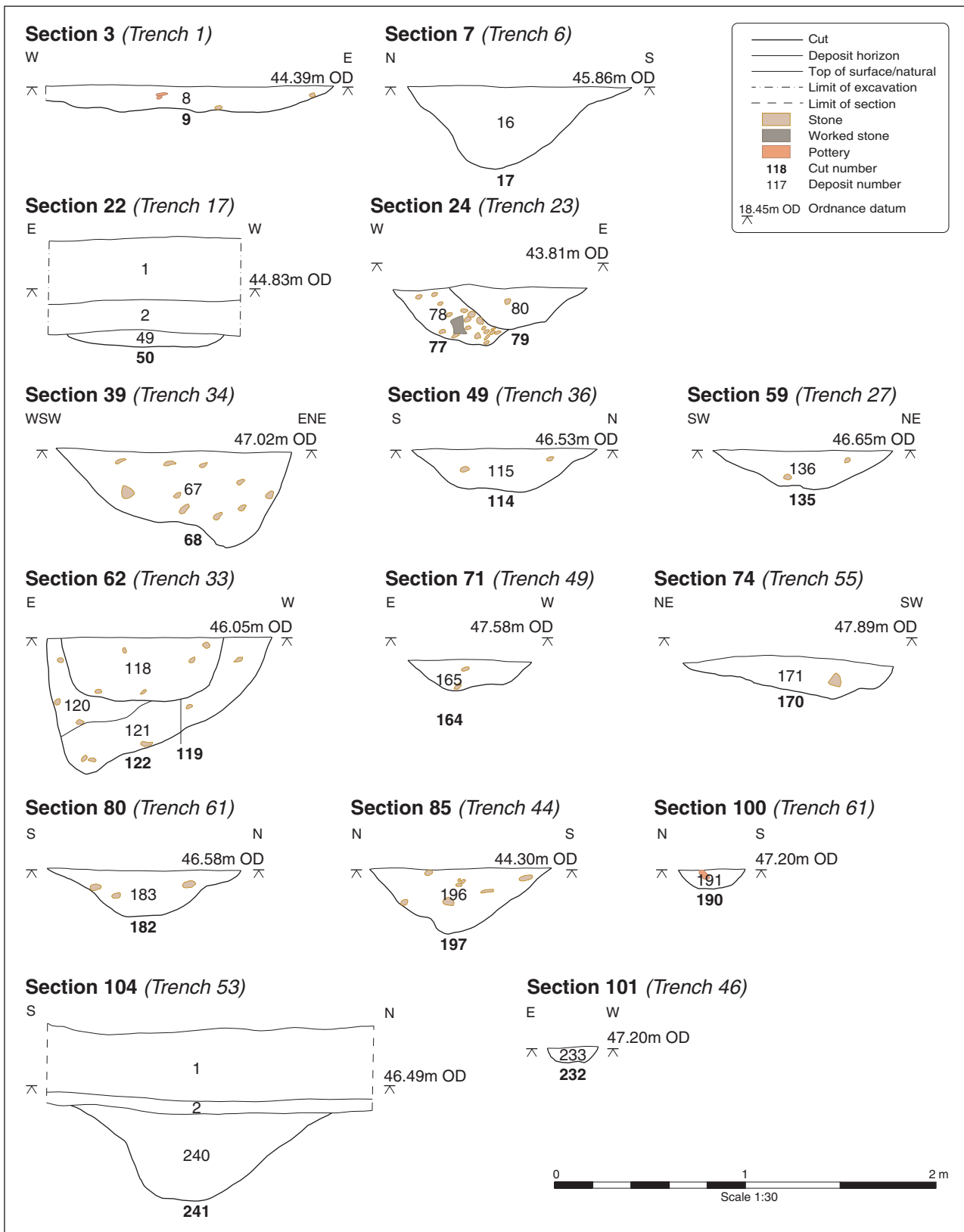


Figure 13: Selected sections

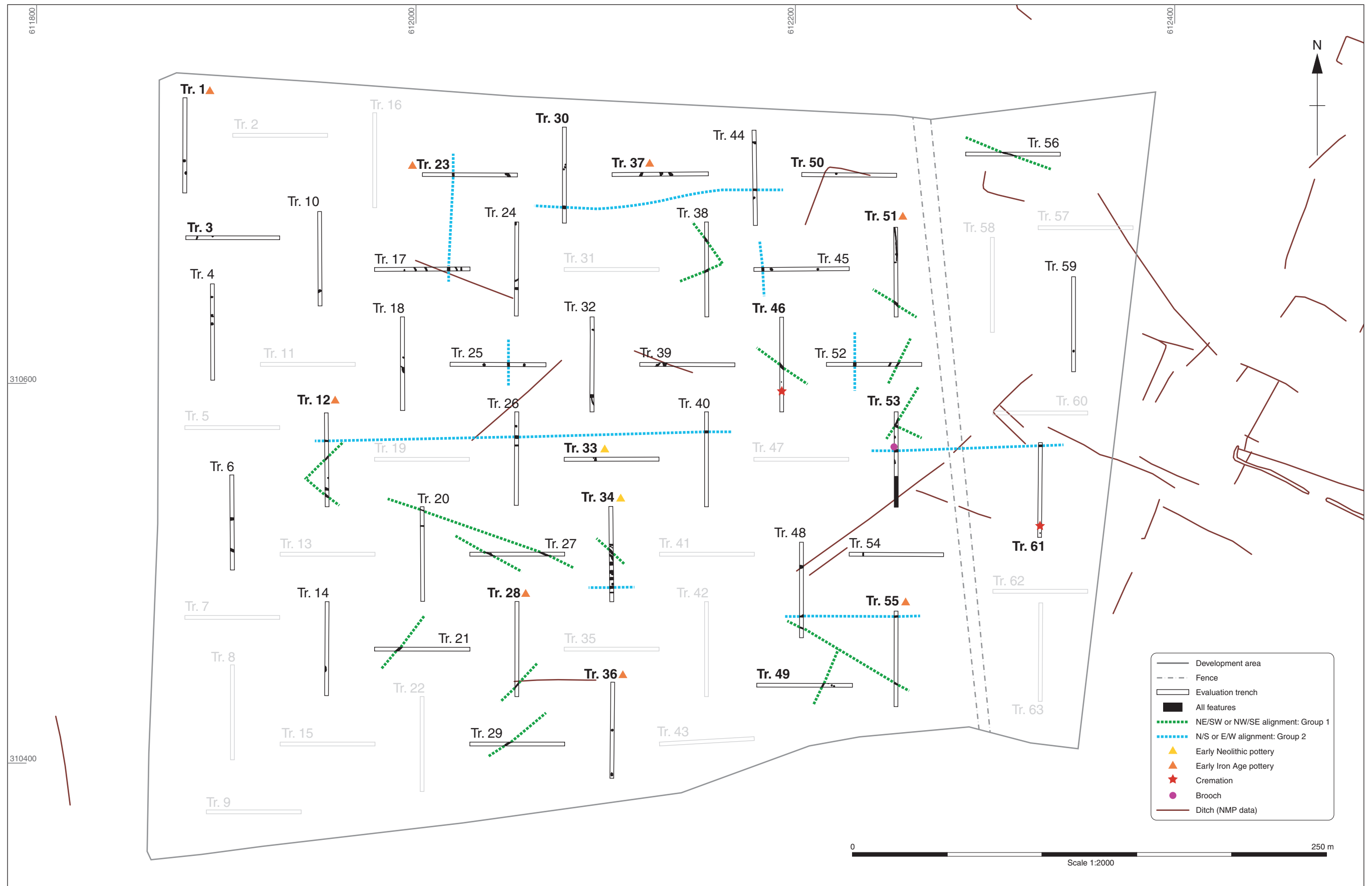


Figure 14: Plan of evaluation trenches and all features overlaying the Air photo data from the National Mapping Programme



Plate 1: Trench 1, looking north



Plate 2: Pit 9, Trench 1, looking north



Plate 3: Ditches **77** and **79**, Trench 23, looking north



Plate 4: Ditch **83** and pit **85**, Trench 23, looking north-west



Plate 5: Ditch 224, Trench 37, looking south



Plate 6: Trench 34, looking north



Plate 7: Ditch 68, Trench 34, looking north-west



Plate 8: Post-holes 70, 72 and 74, Trench 34, looking north

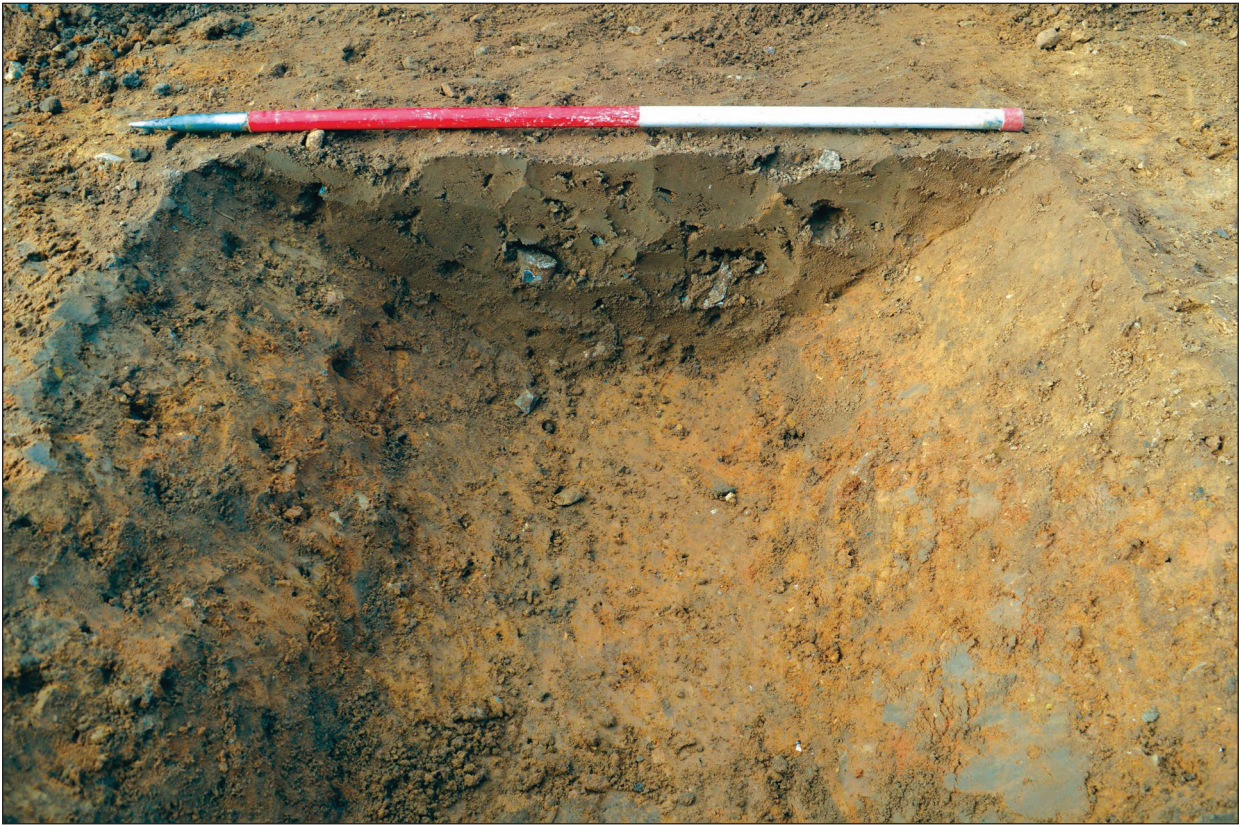


Plate 9: Ditch 192, Trench 40, looking west



Plate 10: Ditch 195, Trench 44, looking east



Plate 11: Cremation 232, pre excavation, Trench 46, looking south



Plate 12: Trench 53, looking north



Plate 13: Ditch 241, Trench 53, looking west



Plate 14: Trench 61, looking north



Plate 15: Ditch **182**, Trench 61, looking west



Plate 16: Cremation **190**, mid excavation, Trench 61, Looking east

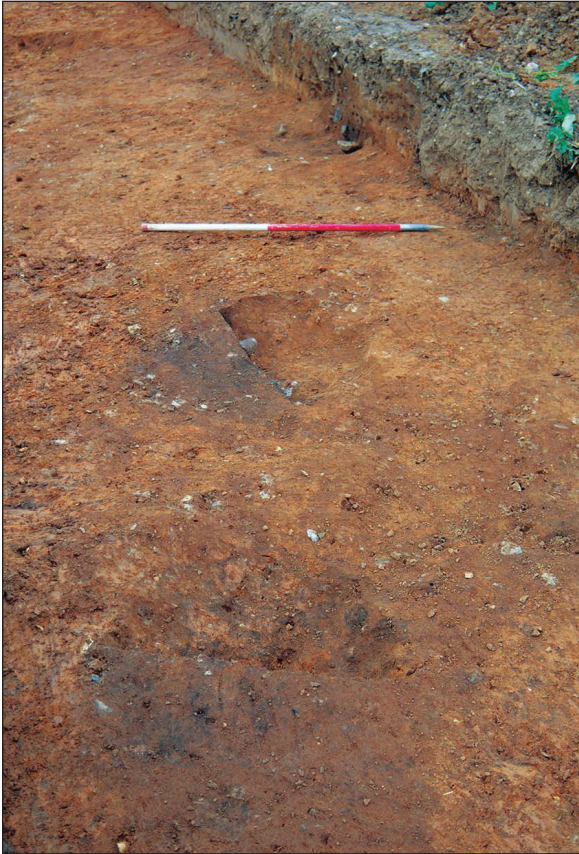


Plate 17: Pits **162**, **164** and **166**, looking north-west



Plate 18: Late Iron Age brooch from ditch **241**



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