



LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Annpasture Lane, Tattershall Thorpe Lincolnshire Archaeological Evaluation

NGR: TF 22300 59500 LCNCC Accession No.: 2003.342 Site Code: TTAL03

Report for
Woodhall Spa
Sand and Gravel Ltd.

By David Britchfield

Conservation Services

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Highways & Planning Directorate

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Summary

Evaluation trenches at Annpasture Lane, Tattershall Thorpe, revealed archaeological remains in the central northern area of the site, around Trench 32 and heading east, and the western corner of the site in the vicinity of Trench 3. These comprise pits and post holes, a possible roundhouse, ring ditch and associated field system, of possible prehistoric date but associate dating evidence is poor. The geology of the assessment area did not respond well to geophysical techniques and while it is, possible that major archaeological features have not been identified by the evaluation the distinct lack of finds and sparse number of features suggests that there is a low density of archaeological activity within the evaluation area. However, the presence of a possible prehistoric building and field system is of great significance and since any archaeological remains would be totally destroyed by quarrying activity further investigation has been requested by the Senior Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council. It has been agreed that all further investigations could be dealt with as a condition on any planning permission.

Introduction

Lindsey Archaeological Services (LAS) was commissioned by Woodhall Spa Sand and Gravel Limited to carry out an archaeological evaluation at the above site. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements of set out in the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* published by the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council (1998) in discussion with the Senior Built Environment Office, Lincoln County Council. Initial phases of the evaluation were carried out between November and December 2003.

Site Description and Topography

Tattershall Thorpe is located approximately 29km (18 miles) south east of Lincoln in the valley of the River Bain at the south western tip of the Lincolnshire Wolds. The proposed extraction site is situated on the terrace sands and gravels and at a height of approximately 10.0m O.D and is c.8ha (20 acres) in extent (Pl. 1). It lies immediately south of old workings and SE of a double ditched Iron Age enclosure which is a scheduled ancient monument.

The Bain valley has seen extensive mineral extraction in recent years. The area immediately north and east of the Iron Age enclosure has been quarried away. To the north the ground has been reinstated as lakes and to the east as grass land, although the ground level remains approximately 2-3m below that of the surrounding area.

Planning Background

A planning application for mineral extraction at the above site was submitted to Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) who requested an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to be undertaken.

Scope of Work

Requirements for the archaeological component of the assessment set out by LCC comprised geophysical and field walking surveys (see below) followed by trial trenching targeting a minimum of 4% of the proposed application area. Following the submission of the results from the first two phases of the investigation, it was agreed with LCC that 2% trial trenching, should be carried out in the first instance in order to target areas of higher archaeological potential, comprising 38 trenches of varying sizes. Depending on the results of the 2% sample there was an option to extend the evaluation to investigate the full 4% sample.

Following the evaluation, a meeting was held between LAS and LCC at which time it was agreed the 2% evaluated area was an adequate sample size and that further investigations (extending investigations in areas identified as being of archaeological interest) could be dealt with as a condition on any planning permission.

Archaeological Background

Although there are no archaeological finds or features directly associated with the assessment area, there have been a number of archaeological sites recorded within the surrounding landscape. The most significant discoveries of this date have been found 2km to the north east of the proposed extraction site in other areas affected by mineral extraction on both banks of the River Bain at Tattershall Thorpe, Kirkby on Bain and Tumby. Excavation at these sites has established that there was extensive exploitation of the valley from the late Mesolithic/early Neolithic period with the collection of raw flint from the fluvio-glacial sands and gravels for production of flint tools. Evidence for occupation was found in 1980/81 at Tattershall Thorpe east of Kirkby Lane (Chowne 1993) and further evidence of Neolithic land divisions and an associated flint production site was revealed at a similar site in Kirkby on Bain approximately 0.5km to the north west of this site in 1995 (Field 1995, Taylor 1996, McDaid 1999). A third flint production site was recorded at Tumby on the east bank of the River Bain in 1998 with further excavations being carried out in 2000 (McDaid 2000).

Excavations carried out in 1979/80, to the north of the proposed extraction site, recorded part of a double ditched enclosure, initially identified on aerial photographs in the 1970's. Iron Age pottery was recovered from the ditches. It has been suggested that the enclosure was used for protecting cattle and that the ditches functioned as a deterrent to predators and rustlers (Seager-Smith 1998). Extensive undated cropmarks have been recorded in the surrounding

fields, although many of these have been quarried away, which are likely to have been Late Iron Age or Romano-British field systems. Very little surface material can be dated to these periods aside from a RB coin hoard found north of the proposed quarry and east of the SAM. No cropmarks have been recorded within the assessment site.

Areas of potential archaeological remains were tentatively identified during the geophysical survey, carried out by Pre-Construct Geophysics in November 2003 (Bunn and Palmer Brown 2003). Linear and circular magnetic anomalies were identified across the site. In addition, a field walking survey (Williams 2003) retrieved a few finds from the site, comprising flints (including waste flakes and tools) dating from the Late Mesolithic to the Early Bronze Age, along with a sparse concentration of burnt flint within the northern area of the site. Pottery, tile and brick dating from medieval to the modern period, along with a single fragment of undated glass, were also retrieved and concentrated primarily within the southern part of the field, showing no obvious concentrations of any particular period.

Aims and Objectives

The purpose of the evaluation was to:

- establish the presence or absence, quality and extent of archaeological remains and their location within the development area
- ii) gather sufficient information to enable an assessment of the potential and significance of any archaeological remains to be made and the impact which development will have upon them
- enable an informed decision to be made regarding the future treatment of any archaeological remains and consider any appropriate mitigatory measures either in advance of and/or during development

Method

Trial trenching commenced on the 1st December 2003, with the excavation of thirty-eight trenches of various sizes (see below). Trench locations were agreed prior to the excavation between Jim Bonnor (LCC) and Mark Williams (LAS). Each trench area was scanned for surface finds prior to excavation. Excavation was carried out using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, removing the overburden to the top of the first recognisable archaeological horizon, under the constant supervision of an experienced archaeologist. Trenches were subsequently hand-cleaned to reveal features in plan and carefully selected cross-sections through the features were excavated to enable sufficient information about form, development date and stratigraphic relationships to be recorded without prejudice to more extensive investigations, should these prove to be necessary.

A single context recording system was used to record the deposits. A full list is presented in Appendix 1. Layers and fills are recorded (100). The cut of the feature is shown [100]. Context numbers were assigned to all deposits for recoding purposes; these are used in the report (in **bold**). Each number has been attributed to a specific trench with the primary number(s) relating to specific trenches (*i.e.* Trench 1, 100+, Trench 2, 200+ etc.)

Monitoring

Curatorial monitoring was carried out during the course of the evaluation by Jim Bonnor (Senior Built Environment Officer – Lincolnshire County Council), at which time methodologies and preliminary results were discussed.

Results

A common stratigraphic sequence was recognised across the site comprising topsoil overlying subsoil which sealed the natural sands and gravels. The topsoil consisted of friable dark brown silt sand clay with frequent to moderate inclusions of sub-rounded – angular flints. A clear line of horizon gave way to the subsoil which consisted of soft mid brown sand silt with frequent inclusions of small rounded and sub-angular flints. Mechanical excavation ceased upon reaching the subsoil where careful examination for, and investigation of, truncating features was carried out. The natural geology varied (ranging from course orange gravel to fine white sand) to an extent that occasionally it was necessary to slightly overcut the trench in order to ensure that the natural gravels had been reached. The depth of the overlying layers varied, with the average depth of the natural geology being located c.0.5m below the existing ground level. Appendix 2 provides a stratigraphic sequence for all trenches, including levels AOD (Above Ordnance Datum).

During the course of the evaluation additional surface finds not included within the field walking survey were noticed. These had no direct relationship with any of the evaluation trenches and were therefore assigned a separate context number (10). A total of four worked flints were retrieved including two retouched flakes, one of which be a possible a knife (Rylatt: this report, Appendix 3), along with a Late Neolithic/Bronze Age flake and the detached base of a pebble core.

Trenches containing no features

Despite the potential offered by the geophysical results, Trenches 1, 2, 6, 8, 10, 21, 25, 27 and 29 proved to be archaeologically sterile. The enhanced magnetic readings recorded on the geophysical survey within these areas proved to be natural iron staining within the gravel, as had been suggested by Bunn and Palmer Brown (2003). In addition Trenches 15, 35, 37 and 38, which were deliberately positioned within 'negative' areas also proved to be barren.

During the machine excavation of these trenches, an assemblage of late 13th to 14th century pottery (see Appendix 4) was found in the subsoil horizon (103), along with a sherd of Staffordshire White Saltglazed stoneware within the topsoil (200), and Toynton Medieval Ware within the subsoil (201) of Trench 2. Added to this, two flakes that were recognised within the topsoil of Trench 10 (1000) and an additional fragment of Toynton Ware (late 13th to 15th century) that was found lying on top of the natural (recorded as 1002 but likely associations with the subsoil 1001). One of the flakes has been positively associated with the Late Neolithic/Bronze Age (Rylatt: this report, Appendix 3). A highly abraded fragment of 3rd+ century Roman pottery was found in the subsoil of Trench 35 (3501).

Trenches containing natural features

Trenches 4, 7, 17, 22 and 23 possessed features which, upon examination, proved to be natural in origin.

Trench 4 (25m x 2m)

The topsoil (400) was 0.46m deep overlying the subsoil (401) to a depth of 0.67m. Directly beneath a layer of loose and soft mid orange brown sand (402) was recorded to a depth of 0.83m. This was originally thought to represent an earlier subsoil or buried soil, although in hindsight it is more likely variation in the natural. Cleaner, coarser gravel (403) was recorded at a depth of 0.85m, at which point machine excavation ceased.

A single feature [404] was investigated at the north eastern end of Trench 4. Its concave base and irregular profile, together with its mottled fill and lack of finds, suggests it was a tree bole.

Trench 7 (25 x 2m)

Trench 7 was located between Trenches 6 and 8 against the southern limit of the site. It was hoped that a potential land division/ditch highlighted on the geophysical survey could be identified, as well as confirming the presence of ridge and furrow. Natural features contained within this trench included a single tree throw [706]. The NW-SE orientated furrow [707] containing mid orange brown sand (704), was recognised within the southern extent of the trench.

Trench 17 (30 x 1.8m)

Despite close examination, no archaeological finds could be associated with this trench, which was positioned in order to target a potential N-S aligned ditch or land division highlighted by the results of the geophysical survey. Two tree boles [1703] and [1705] were recorded at the south-eastern end of the trench.

Trench 22 (30 x 1.8m)

Located in the central part of the site, Trench 22 was positioned to target possible traces of cultivation. Three natural features were recorded within this trench; [2204], [2206], a likely animal burrow and [2205], a tree bole.

Trench 23 (30 x 1.8m)

Approximately 40m to the east of Trench 22, this trench was positioned in order to evaluate an area that was negative on the geophysical survey. It was considered possible that the proximity of a 'modern track' may have distorted results (Bunn and Palmer Brown 2003:Fig. 1). A single root bole [2305], was recorded.

Trenches containing archaeological features

Trench 3 (21 x 2.2m) Figs 2 and 3

Trench 3 was located between Trenches 1 and 2, in the western part of the site (Pls. 2 and 3). Two sherds of medieval Toynton ware pottery were found in the subsoil (301). Aligned approximately east-west, this trench was positioned to record two linear anomalies highlighted in the geophysical survey. Eight features were identified in this trench including two that corresponded with the geophysical anomalies. Towards the western end of the trench was plough furrow [320], with slightly curved north-south orientated edges measured 1.15m in width with a depth of approximately 0.25m. Approximately 10m to the east a second deeper deposit (301) sealed three features that disappeared beneath the baulk edge. [314] was a gully aligned NW-SE (Pl.4). To the west of this was a possible ditch terminal [311], aligned E-W. Its lower fill (313) consisted of mottled soft light brown sand, while the upper fill comprised light brown soft sand. Cutting the south-western edge of (311] was pit [307] (Pl.5). It had steep sides and a flat base and contained three fills, (310), and (309) which contained a notched flake, and (308) the upper fill.

South of [307] was a shallow irregular shaped undulating cut [316] that was most likely natural (Pl.6). At the east end of the trench was gully [302] with convex sides giving way to a concave base (Pl.7). Approximately 10m to the west, was a second curvilinear gully, [318], which had shallower sides with a sloping base (Pl.8). The orientation, dimensions and similarities in fills suggest that these two features may have been contemporary, potentially forming part of a structure (i.e. ring ditch). A clearly defined post hole [304], with a diameter of 0.15m and depth of 0.20m (Pl.9) was located within the potential ring ditch almost exactly opposite a possible entrance.

Trench 5 (20m x 2.2m) Figs 2 and 4

Two possible archaeological features were present within this trench, the largest of which was [503], a NW-SE aligned shallow linear furrow filled by the overlying subsoil (501).

Approximately 4m to the southwest of the furrow was pit [504]. The sterile nature of these deposits likely suggests natural infill or slumping prior to the development of the later subsoil.

Trench 9 (18m x 1.6m + 6.7m x 4.5m) Figs 2 and 5

Trench 9, located in the southern corner of the assessment area, was positioned in order to target magnetic anomalies identified by the geophysical survey. For this reason, the northern extent of the trench was widened to approximately 6m. All of the features were sealed by the subsoil (901), cutting into the natural sands and gravels (902 and 903). A single pit, [905], was identified within this widened area (Pl.10). Measuring 0.61m in diameter with a depth of 0.44m, this pit was filled by dark brown silt sand with frequent pebbles and flint (904), including a retouched flake, overlying a thin deposit of yellow orange gritty sand (903). To the south was a meandering gully with shallow, curved, undulating sides, [907], contained mixed deposits of dark brown and yellow brown sand (906). This feature appeared to have been truncated by a E-W aligned furrow [909] which in turn had be truncated by a second gully [911], aligned E-W, containing dark grey brown sand silt (910) (Pl.11). At southern end of the trench was a single pit [913] sealed by the subsoil, which continued below the eastern baulk edge. It contained no finds. Two modern land drains were also noted within the southern extent of this trench.

Trench 11 (24m x 1.6m) Figs 2 and 6

Examination of the topsoil (1100) prior to machine excavation revealed a small flint waste flake, a Late Mesolithic exhausted pebble core and a fragment of burnt stone. Two features were recognised within this trench, which was located in the southern area of the site, adjacent to Trench 10. At the east end of the trench was a N-S aligned ditch with shallow sloping sides and a concave base [1101]. Its fill (1102) contained fire cracked pebbles. A narrow linear feature was recorded further to the west [1103], which although not confirmed, was probably a modern gully. The fill comprised soft mid-dark grey silty sand with occasional sub-angular flints (1107), which due to its mottled nature, was not recognised as cutting through the subsoil. No drain pipe was present within the cut. A variation in the natural was also investigated (1104), consisting of loose dark brown sand with frequent gravel and iron staining.

Trench 12/13 (25m x 1.6m + 7.5m x 4.5m) Figs 2 and 7

Located in the southern part of the assessment area, Trench 12 was orientated NE-SW. The presence of the plano-convex flint knife, retrieved during the field walking survey, however, resulted in the extension of the northern area of the trench, which was recorded as Trench 13. A Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age end scrapper and retouched flake, along with an undated core fragment were retrieved from the topsoil prior to excavation. Immediately recognisable beneath the subsoil (1201) were small areas of natural clay (Fig. 7) contemporary with the

surrounding sand and gravel, which were examined but not recorded. Adjacent to the western end of Trench 12, a small pit-like feature [1205], with a concave profile, was filled by washes of dirty brown grey sand (1204) containing moderate inclusions of pebbles. It is possible that this was a natural feature such a tree bole. Within the extended area of Trenches 12 and 13 the most prominent features comprised shallow three meandering palaeochannels, [1207], [1209] and [1216]. A root bole, or possible undulation, [1213] predated channel [1209] (recorded in section as [1217]). Immediately south was a second bole [1211]. Disappearing beneath the eastern extent of the trench, pit [1215] measured 0.96m in width with a depth of 0.22m.

Trench 14 (25m x 1.6m) Figs 2 and 8

Positioned 20m to the north of Trench 12/13, this trench was positioned in order to investigate a geophysical anomaly orientated E-W across the centre of the site. Examination of the topsoil (1400) prior to excavation produced a fragment of heavily burnt granular flint and an undated oxidized fragment of Roman pottery. A single E-W orientated gully [1403], measuring 0.85m in width with a depth of 0.24m, was the only archaeological feature present within this trench. Sealed by the subsoil (1401) it contained no finds.

Trench 16 (21m x 1.6m) Figs 2 and 9

Surface examination of the topsoil (1600) prior to excavation revealed a Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age knife. A large NE-SW orientated ditch [1605] was present in the south-eastern corner of Trench 16. Measuring 3.40m in width, with slightly convex sides, this ditch contained and at least two fills. The upper fill, (1606), comprised fairly soft mid grey brown silty sand, similar to the sealing subsoil (1601) above. Beneath this, fill (1607) consisted of loose mid grey slightly silty sand with inclusions of extremely friable wood. Excavation ceased as soon as the wood was reached, where planning and recording took place. No visible sign of working was present, although the wood was horizontal, directly on top of (1607). No vertical timbers were visible within the excavated section. Following a meeting on site between LAS and LCC, it was decided that the friable nature of the wood would prevent a decent sample being lifted, and that the best course of action would be to target this feature (in particular, this deposit) during further works. In the interim, the wood was covered in attempt to reduce further degradation. A single fragment of pottery retrieved from (1606) provisionally dated the deposit between the 18th and 19th century, although it is recognised that this may have been deposited through burrowing action.

Approximately half way along the trench, adjacent to and partially beneath the baulk edge, pit [1603] measured 1.10m+ in (visible) length by 1.0m wide. With a depth of 0.25m this feature contained a single fill (1604) comprising heavily iron stained black and red-black compact gravel, with red brown sand mottling. Taking into account similar natural deposits within the

vicinity of this feature, it is likely that this represents rooting or leaching through the overlying subsoil. No other features or finds were present within the trench.

Trench 19 (24m x 1.6m) Figs 2 and 10

Six post holes and two inter-cutting pits were present in the eastern end of this trench. The latest feature, [1907] was a post hole 0.20m in diameter, 0.46m deep, with near vertical sides and a flat base. It produced no finds. It was sealed by the topsoil but cut through the subsoil suggesting a possible medieval date. Approximately 2m to the east, a second post hole [1903] lay partially beneath the southern baulk edge. With a diameter of 0.11m and a depth of 0.17m, it had vertical sides with a slightly pointed base. No finds were present within the fill (1904) which was sealed by the subsoil. To the north was a third, slightly oval post hole [1905] measuring 0.30m x 0.21m by 0.19m in depth was sealed by the subsoil.

To the west, and once again partially beneath the southern baulk edge, post hole [1911] measured 0.32m in diameter, with a depth of 0.27m and vertical sides with a rounded, slightly sloping base. Its fill (1912) produced no finds. Approximately 1.50m to the northeast a fourth post hole [1909] measured 0.38m in diameter, with a depth of 0.23m. Its fill (1910) produced no finds. To the west the smallest post hole [1917] measured 0.13m in diameter with a depth of 0.14m, vertical sides and a slightly concave base. Adjacent to the group of post holes were two inter-cutting pits. The earliest of these, [1915], measured 0.50m in diameter with a depth of 0.12m, filled by mottled light/mid grey slightly silty sand (1916). Cutting through the southern edge of this pit, [1913] measured 0.58m in length with a width of 0.50m and depth of 0.21m. Neither pits produced any finds.

Trench 20 (23.2m x 1.6m) Figs 2 and 11

A single NE-SW orientated gully was present within the western extent of this trench [2003], which cut through the subsoil (2001). Measuring 0.82m in width with a depth of 0.28m the feature possessed two fills. Its lower and upper fills, (2005) and (2004), contained no finds.

Trench 24 (24m x 1.6m) Figs 2 and 12

Located within the eastern half of the trench, ditch [2403] measured 1.71m in width, with a depth of 0.42m, continuing beneath the northern and southern baulks of the trench (Pl.12). It had been recut along its eastern edge [2405[. The earlier phase of ditch contained no finds but the fill of the recut (2406) contained a single Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flake.

Trench 26 (22.3m x 1.6m) Figs 2 and 13

During the machine excavation of this trench a Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flake was found in the subsoil (2601). A single E-W orientated ditch [2603] was recorded close to the south-western end of the trench, with a depth of 0.28m and width of 0.71m. Removal of its fill

(2604) revealed a small post hole [2605] cut into the base of the ditch. This feature measured 0.11m in diameter, 0.03m deep and contained the same fill as the ditch (although recorded as 2606).

Trench 28 (24m x 1.6m) Figs 2 and 14

A mixture of natural and archaeological features were present within this trench, including two investigated geological anomalies, [2803] and [2805], the possible terminal of a gully [2806] and a post hole [2804]. Feature [2806] measured 0.81m in width with a depth of approximately 0.15m. The precise profile of the feature was difficult to determine as subsequent rooting had occurred while the gully was open. No finds were retrieved from either of the deposits.

Trench 30 (24m x 1.6m) Figs 2 and 15

A NW-SE orientated ditch [3003] was recognised within the north-eastern extent of this trench, measuring 0.93m in width with a depth of 0.31m. Its fill, (3004) contained no finds. The ditch had cut through an earlier tree throw, [3005]. With the exception of a modern land drain, no other features were present within this trench.

Trench 31 (21m x 1.6m) Figs 2 and 15

A single Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age retouched flake was retrieved from the subsoil (3101) during machine excavation. Animal burrowing [3105], contemporary with the subsoil, was recorded at the west end of the trench. The only positively identified archaeological feature within this trench was adjacent to the northern baulk edge, forming what appeared to represent a pit or terminal of a ditch/gully, measuring 0.97m in width and with a depth of at least 0.24m. The upper of the three fills (3103) of the feature had been truncated by two modern plough scars, [3112] and [3114]. No finds were associated with any of these deposits.

Trench 32 (50m x 1.6m) Figs 2, 16, 17 and 18

Trench 32 was positioned in order to examine a possible circular anomaly identified during the geophysical survey. It was deliberately positioned off centre to avoid any complex central features that may better be investigated at a later stage. This was the largest trench on site, and a total of eight archaeological features were identified, along with variations in the natural sands and gravels.

Two possible ditch terminals were recognised at the northern end of the trench. [3204] was sealed by the subsoil and extended 0.90m into the trench from the south-eastern facing section. It measured 1.06m in width with a depth of 0.28m (Pl.13) and contained three fills. With the exception of fire cracked pebbles (400.6g) within (3212), no finds were encountered.

On alignment with [3204], disappearing beneath the eastern baulk edge, feature [3205] measured 0.71m in width by 0.21m in depth with an exposed length of 0.40m (Pl.14).

If these two segments of gully are part of a single circular structure with a possible entrance its diameter would be 32-33m, probably too large for a building and more likely a small animal enclosure.

Situated approximately 33m to the southwest, partially beneath the eastern baulk edge, was pit [3211] which was 0.85m wide, with a (exposed) length of 0.90m and depth of 0.10m. Further to the southwest were three inter-cutting pits, [3203], [3207] and [3210] which also continued beneath the eastern baulk edge. The earliest of these, [3203] was only partially visible, with a gradual break of slop at the top and bottom, giving way to shallow sloping sides and a concave base. Cut into [3203], pit [3207] measured 1.23m in width, with a truncated length of 1.19m and depth of 0.34m (Pl.15). Pit [3210] truncated the eastern extent of [3207]. This feature was 0.31m deep.

Towards the south-western end of the trench was a north-south orientated gully [3208] which measured 0.62m wide and 0.15m deep (Pl.16). This gully was initially thought to represent the continuation of the circular feature associated with [3204] and [3205], due to the similarities between the profile and physical properties of the fills. However, a single fragment of abraded 3rd to 4th century Roman pottery was present in the fill of [3208]. Approximately 6m to the west and running parallel to [3208] was a second gully [3209] 0.54m wide and 0.20m deep (Pl.17).

Feature [3206] was recognised as an undulation filled by the subsoil (3201). Directly beneath this bands of laminated natural sands (3217) continued to a depth of 1m below the existing ground level, at which point excavation ceased and it was concluded that this was a variation in the natural geology.

Trench 33 (24.3m x 1.6m) Figs 2 and 19

A shallow pit [3303] and two post holes, [3305] and [3307], were present near the west end of the trench. Pit [3303] measured 0.48m in diameter, with an irregular oval shaped plan, and maximum depth of 0.15m. Its fill (3304), consisted of dark grey silty sand with moderate inclusions of charcoal and fire cracked stone (118.8g). Posthole [3305] was 0.16m in diameter, and 0.04m deep. Its fill (3306) consisted of grey silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks. The second post hole [3307], located approximately 1m south of the first, measured 0.21m in diameter with a depth of 0.06m. Its fill, (3308), comprised mid grey silty sand with occasional flecks of charcoal and heavily burnt granular flint (5.3g).

Trench 34 (23.1m x 1.6m) Figs 2 and 19

Located within the eastern corner of the site, an anomaly identified in the geophysical survey proved to be an oval pit [3403]. Measuring 0.49m in diameter, its single fill comprised mid brown very slightly silty sand with very occasional flecks of charcoal (3404). No finds were associated with this fill, although a single Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic flint was retrieved from the overlying subsoil (3401)

Trench 36 (23m x 1.6m) Figs 2 and 20

Trench 36 was located adjacent to the northern boundary of the site, in between Trenches 35 and 37 to investigate a possible N-S oriented linear feature revealed in the geophysical survey. The anomaly proved to be a pit 0.16m deep and 0.62m in diameter No finds were associated with this feature, which may represent a root bole.

Archaeological Potential of the Evaluation Area

The results of the field walking and geophysical surveys indicated the likely presence of archaeological remains on the site, which has been confirmed by the evaluation trenching. Fieldwalking produced a low density of finds but nevertheless more in the way of finds than the evaluation excavation. While showing no obvious distribution pattern, or concentrations of material, the scatter of finds within the topsoil included a Late Mesolithic flint flake, Bronze Age flints to medieval and post-medieval pottery.

The subsoil contained a variety of medieval finds and a number of features were noted which were sealed by the topsoil and cut through the subsoil, which, with the exception of feature [1605] in Trench 16, were medieval in date. It is therefore possible that the subsoil horizon across the site provides a sealing medieval layer, possibly a buried soil. The ridge and furrow in the western part of the site suggests an arable landscape associated with settlement elsewhere in the parish.

Burnt flint was located primarily in the northern area of the site during the field walking, which has a likely correlation with the density of finds recovered from Trenches 32 and 33.

Eighteen of the thirty-eight evaluation trenches contained archaeological features, which comprised 16 possible pits, 11 postholes, 13 gullies and 8 ditches. Of these 48 recorded features only 10 have tentatively been assigned to the prehistoric period and the only positively dated prehistoric feature was ditch (2406) in Trench 24, which contained a Late Neolithic/Bronze Age flake in its fill. The remaining features contained burnt flints or charcoal and on this basis the two postholes in Trench 33 may be prehistoric, together with five of the 8 recorded ditches and two of the 13 gullies. One gully and one ditch are definitely modern and a further gully is probably medieval.

The irregular profiles of many of the 'pit-like' features suggests that they were natural root boles, burrows, or even periglacial in origin. Other features which possessed regular profiles may be man-made pits, although these possessed little or nothing in the way of finds. Only one of the pits is thought to be prehistoric.

Concentrations of features were founding two parts of the site. In the centre of the area around Trenches 24 and 32 was the possible ring ditch ([3204], [3205] and [3208]) in Trench 32. Its diameter of approximately 32-33m, is probably too large for a house and there were no visible post holes found in association with the ring ditch, although these may have been ploughed out. Unfortunately no datable evidence was retrieved from any of the features although the presence of burnt stone, similar to material found in association with flints on the site, would point towards a prehistoric date.

To the southwest of ditch [3208], a fourth ditch [3209] was recognised in the corner of the trench, although it is not possible at this stage to suggest whether it is linear of curvilinear. Together with a NW-SE orientated ditch, [2405], in Trench 24, dating to the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, along with an E-W aligned ditch, [2603], within Trench 26, there is a suggestion of a group of enclosures of field boundaries extending eastwards towards the lower ground.

Within the eastern corner of the site, the second area of interest focused around features [302], [304] and [308] in Trench 3. Assuming that gullies [302] and [318] are in fact the same feature, coupled with the presence of a post hole [304], suggests a potential roundhouse. Projecting the circular course of the gullies gives a diameter of approximately 10-11m, which would be in keeping with both local and regional examples. Iron Age round houses are not common in the East Midlands and Bronze Age examples are extremely rare. Further excavation will be required in order to ensure that all possible dating evidence is obtained.

In summary there were localised areas where features of likely prehistoric date were present. There was no indication of Roman features and the background of medieval pottery was associated with land divisions and plough furrows indicating that the area was in arable cultivation by that time. The remainder of the evaluation area is probably of low archaeological potential, given the low density of artefacts and features recorded during the fieldwalking, geophysical survey and evaluation excavations.

Potential Impact on the Archaeological Resource

Extraction of sand and gravel from the site will result in the total destruction of any archaeological remains which may be present. However, the evaluation located only two

zones of possible archaeological interest with the remainder of the evaluation area containing a range of natural features, wit a very low level of artefacts present in the ploughsoil.

Mitigation

The main aim of the evaluation had been to undertake sufficient work to enable an informed decision to be made regarding the future treatment of any archaeological remains and consider any appropriate mitigatory measures either in advance of and/or during development. After completion of the evaluation a meeting was held between LAS and LCC at which time it was agreed the 2% evaluated area was an adequate sample size since the recorded features correlated well with those identified by the geophysical survey. Excavation had targeted those parts of the site where readings from the geophysical survey were the most promising. The results of the trenching confirmed that areas which had appeared to be blank were genuinely lacking in archaeological remains and there seemed little point in extending the evaluation into areas with less promising geophysical results.

The two areas highlighted in the geophysical survey report as being of interest revealed archaeological features and further investigations would be required to fully investigate their extent and date. It was agreed with Senior Built Environment Officer that all further investigations could be dealt with as a condition on any planning permission.

This will require two areas of excavation centred around the possible ring ditch in Trench 3 and the circular enclosure in Trench 32.

David Britchfield and Naomi Field April 2004

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Contents Of Site Archive

Correspondence:

Photographs: 216 colour prints, LAS film nos. 03/157, 03/161, 04/1, 04/2, 04/3 and 04/4, including those used in this report

Photocopies of Ordnance Survey and other maps:

Drawings: Ten A1 permatrace site drawings & four A3 permatrace site drawings, all of which include post-excavation trench plans and associated sections.

Finds: I box

Context Register including: Trench Progression Sheets (38), Context Register (28), Drawings Register (4), Photographic Register (6), Levels Sheets (12), Environmental Samples Register (1) and Context Sheets (302)

APPENDIX 1

APPENDIX 1

Annpasture Lane, Tattershall Thorpe, Lincs

Site Code: TTAL03
Context Summary

Context	
No.	Description
(100)	Topsoil. Friable dark brown silty sand clay with moderate inclusions of sub
(100)	angular and rounded flints.
(101)	Fill of [102]. Mid brown soft sand with frequent small rounded flints and evidence of
(101)	modern plough scoring.
[102]	Furrow (not excavated).
-Ris v	Subsoil. Mid brown soft sand with frequent inclusions of small round and sub
(103)	angular flints and occasional pockets of silty sand. Moderate-frequent moder
19761	plough scars.
	Natural. Mixture of clean orange, yellow and occasionally white deposits of san
(104)	and gravel, with occasional underlying balls of natural grey blue clay. More
250	waterlogged within the lower eastern areas of the site.
(200)	Topsoil. As above.
(201)	Subsoil. As above.
(202)	Natural. As above.
(300)	Topsoil. As above.
(301)	Subsoil. As above.
[302]	Gully.
(303)	Fill of [302]. Soft mid yellow brown sand with occasional inclusions of small angula
(000)	flints.
[304]	Post hole.
(305)	Fill of [304]. Dark grey brown silt with moderate inclusions of small rounded flints.
(306)	Fill of [304]. Soft mid red brown sand.
[307]	Pit seed to allow the second to the second t
(308)	Fill of [307]. Soft light brown sand with occasional inclusions of small flint.
(309)	Fill of [307]. Soft mixture of light yellow and brown sand.
(310)	Fill of [307]. Mixed red brown and light brown soft sand. Occasional sub-angula
(010)	flints heavy iron staining
[311]	Ditch or channel
(312)	Fill of [311]. Soft light brown sand with occasional small flints

(313)	Fill of [311]. Soft mottled light brown and white sand.
[314]	Gully.
(315)	Fill of [314]. Soft light brown sand with occasional angular flints
[316]	Scrape.
(317)	Fill of [316]. Mid brown soft sand, with frequent soft stones.
[318]	Gully
(319)	Fill of [318]. Light brown soft sand with moderate angular flint inclusions.
[320]	Linear.
(321)	Fill of [320]. Soft mid brown sand with moderate inclusions of small flints.
(322)	Natural. As above.
(400)	Topsoil. As above.
(401)	Subsoil. As above.
(402)	Subsoil. As above.
(403)	Natural. As above.
[404]	Tree bole.
(405)	Fill of [404]. Same as (401)
(406)	Fill of [404]. Mottled orange brown and pale white sand, very fine and loose, wit
(400)	occasional charcoal flecks.
(500)	Topsoil. As above.
(501)	Subsoil. As above.
(502)	Natural. As above.
[503]	Furrow
[504]	?Pit
(505)	Fill of [504]. Very soft, very light grey brown sand.
(506)	Fill of [504]. Loose orange iron stained gravel. Possibly natural or slump.
(507)	Fill of [504].Loose and soft, very light grey and off white sand.
(600)	Topsoil. As above.
(601)	Subsoil. As above.
(602)	Natural. As above.
(700)	Topsoil. As above.
(701)	Subsoil. As above.
(702)	Natural. As above.
(703)	Natural. Very light brown/mottled light cream loose sand.
(704)	Fill of [707]. Loose, mid orange brown sand with occasional rounded stones.
(705)	Fill of [706]. Light-mid brown slightly clayey sand, with occasion al rounded stones
[706]	Tree throw.
[707]	Shallow furrow or undulation in natural.

(800)	Topsoil. As above.
(801)	Subsoil. As above.
(802)	Natural. As above.
(900)	Topsoil. As above.
(901)	Subsoil. As above.
(902)	Natural. As above.
(903)	Natural. Yellow-orange yellow gritty sand.
(904)	Fill of [905]. Dark brown silt sand with frequent inclusions of pebbles and flints
[905]	Pit
(906)	Fill of [907]. Mixed deposits of sands; some dark brown, some yellow brown, with moderate inclusions of 0.01m pebbles
[907]	?Gully
(908)	Fill of [909]. Washed deposits of light brown and yellow brown silty sand, with very occasional pebbles and flint.
[909]	Plough score
(910)	Fill of [911]. Dirty, dark grey brown sandy silt, with occasional tiny pebbles.
[911]	?Gully
(912)	Fill of [913]. Light brown and white brown deposits of sand.
[913]	?Pit Pit Pit Pit Pit Pit Pit Pit Pit Pit
(1000)	Topsoil. As above.
(1001)	Subsoil. As above.
(1002)	Natural. As above.
[1003]	Modern land drain
(1004)	Fill of [1003]. Dark brown grey sand. Modern
(1005)	Organic staining. Dark grey soft silty sand, with iron pan flecks and occasional stones
(1100)	Topsoil. As above.
[1101]	Ditch
(1102)	Fill of [1101]. Pale-mid grey slightly silty sand with frequent angular flints.
[1103]	Gully.
(1104)	Variation in the natural. Mid grey brown sand mixed orange yellow stiff clay with heavy iron staining.
(1105)	Subsoil. As above.
(1106)	Natural. As above.
(1107)	Fill of [1103]. Mid-dark grey soft silty sand with occasional sub-angular flints.
(1200)	Topsoil. As above.
(1201)	Subsoil. As above.

(1202)	Natural. As above.
[1203]	Palaeochannel
(1204)	Fill of [1205]. Washes of dirty brown grey sand, with moderate inclusions of pebbles.
[1205]	Pit or bole.
(1206)	Fill of [1207]. Washes of yellow brown and grey brown sand.
[1207]	Palaeochannel.
(1208)	Fill of [1209]. Washes of yellow brown and grey brown sand.
[1209]	Palaeochannel.
(1210)	Fill of [1211]. Washes of yellow brown and grey brown sand.
[1211]	Pit or bole.
(1212)	Fill of [1217]. Washes of yellow brown and grey brown sand.
[1213]	Pit or bole.
(1214)	Fill of [1215]. Mid grey silty sand. Very wet.
[1215]	?Pit.
[1216]	Palaeochannel.
[1217]	Palaeochannel. Same as [1209]
(1218)	Fill of [1213]. Washes of yellow brown and grey brown sand, mixed in with overlying subsoil (1201).
(1400)	Topsoil. As above.
(1401)	Subsoil. As above.
(1402)	Natural. As above.
[1403]	Ditch.
(1404)	Fill of [1403]. Mid grey brown slightly silty sand with orange sand mottling.
(1500)	Topsoil. As above.
(1501)	Subsoil. As above.
(1502)	Natural. As above.
[1503]	Modern test pit.
(1504)	Fill of [1503]. Mixed deposits comprising topsoil, subsoil and natural – recently backfilled test pit fill.
(1600)	Topsoil. As above.
(1601)	Subsoil. As above.
(1602)	Natural. As above.
[1603]	?Pit.
(1604)	Fill of [1603]. Heavily iron stained black and red compact gravel with inclusions of red brown sand.
	Ditch.

(1606)	Fill of [1605]. Reasonably soft and loose mid grey brown silty sand.
(1607)	Fill of [1605]. Mid brown grey slightly silty sand, relatively loose, with deposits of
(1607)	friable wood and 19 th century tile.
(1700)	Topsoil. As above.
(1701)	Subsoil. As above.
(1702)	Natural. As above.
[1703]	?Pit signal erred survengular and sub-munded errors
(1704)	Fill of [1703]. Mid grey loose sand with moderate inclusions of angular gravel.
[1705]	?Pit Lucianos en
(1706)	Fill of [1705]. Loose mid grey sand with dark brown/black iron staining, and occasional gravel inclusions.
(1800)	Topsoil. As above.
(1801)	Subsoil. As above.
(1802)	Natural. As above.
(1803)	Natural formation of very dark brown/red black iron rich gravel. Very compact.
[1804]	Furrow.
(1805)	Fill of [1804], same as (1801).
(1806)	Variation in the natural comprising pale yellow orange sand.
[1807]	Natural. As above.
(1900)	Topsoil. As above.
(1901)	Subsoil. As above.
(1902)	Natural. As above.
[1903]	Stake hole.
(1904)	Fill of [1903]. Dark grey slightly silty sand with evidence of mineralization.
[1905]	Post hole.
(1906)	Fill of [1905]. Light grey brown slightly silty sand.
[1907]	Post hole.
(1908)	Fill of [1907]. Mid grey brown slightly silty sand.
[1909]	Post hole.
(1910)	Fill of [1909]. Mottled grey brown slightly silty sand.
[1911]	Post hole.
(1912)	Fill of [1911].Mid grey brown slightly silty sand.
[1913]	Pit.
(1914)	Fill of [1913].Mid grey slightly silty sand.
[1915]	Pit.
(1916)	Fill of [1915]Mottled light-mid grey slightly silty sand.
[1917]	Stake hole.

(1918)	Fill of [1917]. Mid grey mottled brown soft sand.
(2000)	Topsoil. As above.
(2001)	Subsoil. As above.
(2002)	Natural. As above.
[2003]	Gully.
(2004)	Fill of [2003]. Mid grey brown slightly silty sand, of soft-moderate density, with occasional small sun-angular and sub-rounded stones
(2005)	Fill of [2003]Mixed deposits of redeposited natural yellow, orange and light brown sand. Occasional inclusions of small sub-angular
(2100)	Topsoil. As above.
(2101)	Subsoil. As above.
(2102)	Natural. As above.
(2200)	Topsoil. As above.
(2201)	Subsoil. As above.
(2202)	Natural. As above.
(2203)	Fill of [2206]. Moderate density mid grey brown silty sand with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones.
[2204]	Natural feature filled with (2201).
(2205)	Tree bole.
[2206]	?Post hole or animal burrow.
(2207)	Fill of [2206]. Mixed deposit of grey-orange sand and gravel.
(2208)	Fill of [2205].Mid grey brown slightly silty sand with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded flints.
(2209)	Fill of [2205]. Mid-dark grey slightly silty sand with frequent iron panning
(2210)	Fill of [2205].Light grey sand and gravel with occasional iron panning
(2211)	Fill of [2205]. Light-mid grey sand with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones.
(2212)	Fill of [2205]. Mixed deposit of mainly light grey sand and gravel with pockets of orange grey sand.
(2300)	Topsoil As above.
(2301)	Subsoil. As above.
(2302)	Natural. As above.
(2303)	Natural sand.
(2304)	Fill of [2305]. Grey brown silty sand with occasional lenses of yellow brown sand.
[2305]	Root bole.
(2306)	Natural iron pan.
(2400)	Topsoil. As above.

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wn sand with frequent sub-angular flints and
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(2811)	Fill of [2806]. Mixed deposit of brown mid grey, light brown, light grey and pale orange soft sand with occasional iron pan.
1222001	Fill of [2803]. Very dark grey, heavily iron paned sand and gravel with frequent
(2812)	areas of dark orange/rust coloured sand and gravel (iron pan)
(2813)	Fill of [2803].
(2900)	Topsoil. As above.
(2901)	Subsoil. As above.
(2902)	Natural. As above.
(3000)	Topsoil. As above.
(3001)	Subsoil. As above.
(3002)	Natural. As above.
[3003]	Ditch.
(3004)	Fill of [3003]. Mid grey brown sand with occasional charcoal flecks and small rounded pebbles.
[3005]	Tree throw.
(3006)	Fill of [3005]. Mid brown, slightly grey, sand with orange/red brown mottling. Occasional inclusions of gravel.
(3100)	Topsoil. As above.
(3101)	Subsoil. As above.
(3102)	Natural. As above.
(3103)	Fill of [3104]. Light-mid grey gravel and sand (80:20).
[3104]	?Pit.
[3105]	Animal burrow.
(3106)	Fill of [3104]. Orange/rust coloured, heavily iron panned sand and gravel (90:10).
(3107)	Fill of [3104]. Yellow light grey gravel and sand (90:10)
(3108)	Fill of [3105]. Very mixed orange light brown slightly silty sand with frequent pockets of dark grey silty sand and orange Redeposited natural sand, with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded flints and stones.
(3109)	Fill of [3105].Soft light grey sand.
(3110)	Fill of [3105]. Soft off white sand.
(3111)	Fill of [3112]. Mid grey brown silty sand with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded flints.
[3112]	?Plough score.
(3113)	Fill of [3114].Mid grey brown silty sand with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded flints.
[3114]	?Plough score.
(3200)	Topsoil. As above.

(3201)	Subsoil. As above.
(3202)	Natural. As above.
[3203]	Pit. September of the Control of the
[3204]	Gully.
[3205]	Gully.
[3206]	Natural feature.
[3207]	Pit.
[3208]	Gully.
[3209]	Gully.
[3210]	Pit.
[3211]	?Pit.
(3212)	Fill of [3204]. Light grey brown and light grey sand with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded flints.
(3113)	Fill of [3204]. Pale orange sand with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded flints.
(3214)	Fill of [3204]. Light grey and off white coarse sand and gravel with occasional iron panning.
(3215)	Fill of [3205]. Light-mid grey sand with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded flints. Frequent iron panning.
(3216)	Fill of [3205]. Pale yellow/light grey yellow sand with moderate iron panning and very occasional small flints,
(3217)	Natural fill of [3206].
(3218)	Fill of [3207]. Mid grey slightly silty sand with moderate small sub-angular and sub-rounded flints.
(3219)	Fill of [3207]. Light grey pale yellow sand and gravel (60:40) with very occasional iron panning.
(3220)	Fill of [3207]. Quite dark grey slightly silty sand with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded flints. Moderate iron panning.
(3221)	Fill of [3207]. Light grey yellow sand and gravel (80:20).
(3222)	Fill of [3210]. Very dark grey heavily iron panned silty sand with frequent small sub-angular and sub-rounded flints.
(3223)	Fill of [3210]. Orange brown sand and gravel (60:40). Frequent iron panning.
(3224)	Fill of [3210]. Light grey and pale yellow sand and gravel.
(3225)	Fill of [3203]. Quite dark grey slightly silty sand with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded flints. Moderate iron panning.
(3226)	Fill of [3208]. Grey mid brown silty sand with occasional-moderate small sub-angular and sub-rounded flints. Frequent iron panning.
(3227)	Fill of [3208].Brown orange sand and gravel.

(2220)	Fill of [3209]. Grey mid brown silty sand with occasional small sub-angular and
(3228)	sub-rounded flints. Occasional iron panning flecks. Similar to (3226).
(3229)	Fill of [3209].Brown orange sand and gravel.
(2220)	Fill of [3211]. Grey mid brown slightly silty sand with occasional small sub-angular
(3230)	and sub-rounded flints
(3231)	Fill of [3211]. Light grey sand with very frequent heavy iron panning.
(3300)	Topsoil. As above.
(3301)	Subsoil. As above.
(3302)	Natural. As above.
[3303]	Post hole.
(3304)	Fill of [3303]. Dark grey silty sand with occasional flecks of charcoal.
[3305]	Stake hole.
(3306)	Fill of [3305]. Mid grey silty sand.
[3307]	Post hole.
(3308)	Fill of [3207]. Mid grey silty sand with occasional small lumps of charcoal.
(3400)	Topsoil.
(3401)	Subsoil.
(3402)	Natural.
[3403]	Post hole
(2404)	Fill of [3403]. Mid brown grey slightly silty sand (15:85) with very occasional
(3404)	charcoal flecks.
(3500)	Topsoil. As above.
(3501)	Subsoil. As above.
(3502)	Natural. As above.
(3600)	Topsoil. As above.
(3601)	Subsoil. As above.
(3602)	Natural. As above.
[3603]	Pit.
(3604)	Fill of [3603]. Mid yellow sand and gravel, with occasional lensing of light
(3604)	grey/white sand. Frequent gravel inclusions.
(3700)	Topsoil. As above.
(3701)	Subsoil. As above.
(3702)	Natural. As above.
(3800)	Topsoil. As above.
(3801)	Subsoil. As above.
(3802)	Natural. As above.

APPENDIX 2

Annpasture Lane, Tattershall Thorpe, Lincs

Site Code: TTAL03 Stratigraphic Sequence

Trench - Number	Topsoil		Subsoil		Natural	
	Context Number	Level AOD	Context Number	Level AOD	Context Number	Level AOD
1	100	10.19 - 9.98m	101	9.98 - 9.79m	104	9.79m+
2	200	10.21 - 9.89m	201	9.89 - 9.64m	202	9.64m+
3	300	10.74 - 10.61m	301	10.61 - 9.61m	322	9.61m+
4	400	10.19 - 9.73m	401	9.73 - 9.52m	403	9.52m+
5	500	10.22 - 10.05m	501	10.05 - 9.60m	502	9.60m+
6	600	10.25 - 9.98m	601	9.98 - 9.54m	602	9.54m+
7	700	10.57 - 10.17m	701	10.17 - 9.98m	702 & 703	9.98m+
8	800	10.50- 10.21m	801	10.21 - 9.85m	802	9.85m+
9	900	10.43 - 10.24m	901	10.24 - 9.97m	902 & 903	9.97m+
10	1000	10.49 - 10.18m	1001	10.18 - 9.86m	1002	9.86m+
11	1100	10.55 - 10.01m	1105	10.01 - 9.91m	1106	9.91m
12/13	1200	10.75 - 10.36m	1201	10.36 - 10.11m	1202	10.11m+
14	1400	10.81 - 10.53m	1401	10.53 - 10.30m	1402	10.30m+
15	1500	10.53 - 10.26m	1501	10.26 - 10.08m	1502	10.08m+
16	1600	10.55 - 10.28m	1601	10.28 - 10.03m	1602	10.03m
17	1700	10.46 - 10.07m	1701	10.07 - 9.85m	1702	9.85m+
18	1800	10.53 - 10.05m	1801	10.05 - 9.82m	1802	9.82m+
19	1900	10.50 - 10.12m	1901	10.12 - 9.94m	1902	9.94m+
20	2000	10.59 - 10.22m	2001	10.22 - 10.07m	2002	10.07m+
21	2100	10.66 - 10.32m	2101	10.32 - 10.06m	2102	10.06m+
22	2200	10.75 - 10.38m	2201	10.38 - 10.19m	2202	10.19m
23	2300	10.67 - 10.39m	2301	10.39 - 10.11m	2302 & 2303	10.11m+
24	2400	10.90 - 10.52m	2401	10.52 - 10.41m	2402	10.41m
25	2500	10.41 - 10.12m	2501	10.01 - 9.87m	2502	9.87m+
26	2600	10.84 - 10.53m	2601	10.53 - 10.41m	2602	10.41m+
27	2700	10.75 - 10.49m	2701	10.49 - 10.33m	2702	10.33m+
28	2800	10.77 - 10.45m	2801	10.45 - 10.29m	2802	10.29m+
29	2900	10.73 - 10.32m	2901	10.32 - 10.06m	2902	10.32m+
30	3000	10.85 - 10.62m	3001	10.62 - 10.42m	3002	10.42m+
31	3100	10.77 - 10.37m	3101	10.37 - 10.18m	3102	10.18m+
32	3200	10.83 - 10.47m	3201	10.47 - 10.41m	3202	10.41m+
33	3300	10.96 - 10.66m	3301	10.66 - 10.45m	3302	10.45m+

Annpasture Lane, Tattershall Thorpe, Lincs Site Code: TTAL03 Stratigraphic Sequence

Trench - Number	Topsoil		Subsoil		Natural	
	Context Number	Level AOD	Context Number	Level AOD	Context Number	Level AOD
34	3400	10.97 - 10.45m	3401	10.45 - 10.27m	3402	10.27m+
35	3500	10.95 - 10.72m	3501	10.72 - 10.43m	3502	10.43m
36	3600	10.82 - 10.45m	3601	10.45 - 10.27m	3604	10.27m+
37	3700	10.83 - 10.52m	3701	10.52 - 10.40m	3702	10.40m+
38	3800	10.84 - 10.41m	3801	10.41 - 10.25m	3802	10.25m+

APPENDIX 3

Land off Annpasture Road, Tattershall Thorpe, Lincolnshire TTAL 03

Lithic Materials: Assessment

Report by Jim Rylatt - February, 2004

1.0 Introduction

This report relates to a small assemblage of lithic material that was recovered during archaeological trial trenching on a site at Tattershall Thorpe, Lincolnshire. A total of 45 pieces of struck or modified flint were retrieved, which weighed a total of 762 grams. This assemblage comprised one core, one core fragment, one scraper, one knife, one notched flake, five retouched flakes, seven unmodified secondary flakes and 28 chips/chunks.

A fragment of a heat shattered sandstone pebble was also recovered.

2.0 Description

2.1 Raw material

All of the worked lithic artefacts that were recovered were produced from flint cores. Where cortical surfaces survived it was possible to establish that the raw materials were derived from secondary deposits. The core, primary flakes, secondary flakes and much of the irregular waste (chips/chunks) had areas of thin, abraded cortex. Any relatively large areas of this surface generally exhibit a rounded profile, which indicates that the parent nodules consisted of water-transported pebbles and cobbles. The processes involved in the formation of river terrace deposits limit the size of the constituent nodules, and also account for the significant variations in the colour and quality of the components of the assemblage.

The site at Tattershall Thorpe overlies an extensive accumulation of river and glacio-fluvial sheet deposits, which are comprised of interleaving layers of sand and gravel (B.G.S., 1995). The flint pebbles will almost certainly been derived from these gravels, coming either from the site itself, or from its immediate environs. Such pebbles would have been rolled and battered by glacial and fluvial forces prior to their initial deposition, and the extreme temperatures experienced are likely to have caused many of the nodules to fracture. This process accounts for the sub-angular, recorticated surfaces evident on a number of the artefacts examined.

The collection of flint from secondary deposits is likely to have been a relatively expedient process. This may simply have involved the inspection of tree throws, or the banks of streams and other adjacent bodies of moving water (Edmonds, 1995). Alternatively, the creation of slight delves into the upper surface of out cropping gravel beds may have proved to be a more reliable means of acquisition.

2.2 Condition

The assemblage can be divided into two almost mutually exclusive components; worked flint and burnt flint. The burnt material forms the larger proportion of the assemblage (26 items - 56.5%), but only two of these pieces exhibit evidence of having been worked. Most of this material has been heavily burnt, resulting in a change in the structure of the flint and a loss of definition to the flake surfaces and scars.

Only a very small proportion of the worked flint exhibits any evidence of post-depositional breaks or damage along the flake margins (equating to 6.5% of the total, or 15.0% of this subset, these three pieces all having been found in the topsoil). The relatively fresh condition of the majority of the struck flint suggests that it was buried shortly after being manufactured or discarded, and was recovered from primary contexts. Consequently, these artefacts could provide a good indication of the date of any associated features.

3.0 Composition and dating

Cores

The only complete core in this assemblage was an exhausted type A1 blade core, from (1100), which is indicative of Late Mesolithic microlith production. A core fragment found in (1200) also appeared to have been used to produce blades, but too little survived to be certain of its exact form or date. The presence of one or two blade cores indicates that core reduction was undertaken on the site during the Late Mesolithic and possibly into the Early Neolithic. However, the absence of any primary or largely cortical secondary flakes indicative of this industry may indicate that the initial stages of core preparation were conducted elsewhere (e.g. at the source of the raw materials).

The majority of the diagnostic pieces of worked flint were the product of technologies consistent with Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age activity. The dearth of associated cores could indicate that core reduction was undertaken elsewhere, a possibility that may be borne out by the high incidence of retouched and utilised pieces. However, the recovery of some irregular waste raises the possibility that knapping floors/concentrations of debitage probably lie undiscovered on other parts of the site, as there is little reason for such material to have been moved.

Flakes

There were seven unmodified flakes (15.2% of the total assemblage, or 33.3% of the worked flint), which were all secondary removals. Examination of the scars on the dorsal surfaces of the flakes indicates that there were two distinct patterns of working. One of these flakes, found in (3401), were removed from blade cores and were the products of the highly controlled pattern of working practiced during the later Mesolithic and Early Neolithic. A further four flakes, (10) (1000) (2406) (2601), were the product of a less formalised system of working characteristic of later Neolithic to Bronze Age technologies. Traits indicative of this system of lithic reduction include the use of multiple-platform cores, the production of squat flakes and, a greater tendency toward more pronounced bulbs and hinged terminations.

The other two flakes did not have traits that could be confidently attributed to a particular tradition.

The high proportion of modified flakes represents one of the most significant properties of this assemblage. Twelve of the 21 pieces of worked flint had been retouched or exhibited evidence of use-wear (57.1%). The morphology of three of these items corresponded to formal tool typologies, the end scraper and an edge retouched knife exhibiting traits indicative of Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age activity. A plano-convex knife, probably of Early Bronze Age date, was recovered from this site during the fieldwalking survey that preceded the programme of trial trenching.

The less formally retouched items are perhaps the most interesting. The majority have irregular abrupt to semi-abrupt retouch, which generally creates a 70 - 80° angle along the worked edge. Most of these items are only retouched along a short section of one edge, the modified area most commonly having either a slightly concave or slightly convex profile. In general, the thinnest edge of the flake has been retouched, which is somewhat unusual given the steepness of the finished edge. Many of these 'miscellaneous' retouched items had traits that allowed them to be identified as products of Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age industries. With this in mind, it is interesting to note that the three more formally manufactured and classified tools shared some of the characteristics of the 'miscellaneous' pieces; both the notched flake and the knife have concave edges, while the end scraper has a distinctly convex edge created on the thinnest part of the flake. These common features possibly indicate that the 'tools' represent more formally manufactured elements of a relatively expedient local industry. In total, ten of the twelve retouched or utilised pieces exhibited several of the traits outlined above. These commonalities suggest that most of the retouched artefacts were created to perform a particular form of specialist activity that was practiced on, or in the immediate environs of the site.

There are indications that there is a broad correlation between the angle of retouch and the intended purpose of a tool. However, these relationships create relatively simplistic generalisations and accordingly it is possible that they do not reflect the actual purpose of the retouched items from the Annpasture Lane site. Nonetheless, edges that are inclined at 45° - 55° appear to have been used with a pulling motion and are generally associated with the skinning and scraping of hide. In contrast edges above 65° are robust enough to be pushed and were frequently utilised in wood and bone working. The consequent implication is that much of the worked lithic material recovered from the site was utilised in a specific form of wood or bone working, or in some comparable activity. The curvature of the retouched edges presumably provides a further clue as to the purpose of these items.

Burnt flint

The assemblage contained 26 pieces of flint that had been burnt. Of these, 24 fragments showed no sign of having been worked (53.3% of the total number of artefacts). This material included most of the largest pieces of flint that were found (70.0% of the total weight). The irregular, angular faces and facets indicated that these pieces of stone had been heated to high temperatures and had then been placed in colder water, which caused them to fragment. This indicates that they were used as 'pot boilers'. Sandstone and quartzite pebbles were the most common materials that were utilised for pot boilers; one such fragment was recovered from (1102). The thermal properties of these materials were ideally suited to heating water and such pebbles were probably not required for other purposes. In contrast, flint was generally reserved for tools, as it would have been a limited resource in many areas. The utilisation of flint for heating water at the Annpasture Lane site directly reflects the abundance and prevalence of this material.

Pot boilers are broadly indicative of prehistoric activity and seem to have been used in two different contexts. Generally, they appear to have been utilised to heat water in trough hearths

that were used to cook food. Such material is usually recovered from occupation sites and is commonly associated with other forms of domestic debris. In contrast, the fire shattered pebbles recovered from sites adjacent to bodies of open water, or those situated in close proximity to funerary monuments, are usually derived from relatively informal structures known as burnt mounds (Barfield & Hodder, 1987). It is postulated that these features were associated with saunas that may have been used for ritual purification. The majority of the burnt mounds discovered in Britain were created during the Bronze Age, although this practice did continue into the Iron Age.

4.0 Discussion

A proportion of this lithic assemblage provides evidence that the site was visited during the Late Mesolithic period, although the small number of artefacts suggests that there was no sustained activity or occupation.

A larger quantity of worked lithic material was indicative of Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age activity, but again, the small amount of artefacts is not suggestive of permanent settlement. However, the relatively high frequency of a particularly form of retouched flake suggests that some form of specialist processing was undertaken on the site during this period. There are tentative indications that this might involve the working of wood or bone. It is possible that microwear analysis of some of the retouched pieces might provide a more informed idea of a specific purpose, but at present it is only possible to make speculative suggestions. The curvature exhibited by some of the worked edges could indicate that they were used for shaping or shaving wood. For example, they may have been used to remove bark from withies that were to be used in basket making.

More than half of the modified flint had been heated and utilised as 'pot boilers', this pattern being mirrored in the material collected during the fieldwalking survey. The presence of this burnt flint implies that there must have been several fireplaces and associated trough hearths on, or in the immediate vicinity of the site, during the prehistoric period. Given the absence of a broad range of tools that would be more indicative of domestic activity, it is tempting to see a direct relationship between the flint potboilers and the group of minimally retouched tools (i.e. both elements may have been utilised during different stages of the same process). Alternatively, it is possible that the heat affected material could be unrelated and may have been derived from a 'burnt flint mound'. These heaps of burnt flint have been identified in the Cambridgeshire fens, where they have been dated to the Bronze Age (Edmonds, *et al*, 1999: 67-70). Such structures are analogous to the mounds of sandstone and quartzite pebble fragments that are found close to water, and which are thought to be associated with ritual bathing (Barfield & Hodder, 1987).

5.0 References

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B.G.S. 1995 Horncastle, England and Wales Sheet 115. Solid and Drift Geology. 1: 50,000 Provisional Series. Keyworth, British Geological Survey.

Edmonds, M. E. 1995 Stone Tools and Society. London, Batsford.

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TTAL 03 evaluation: worked and modified lithic materials

Context	Туре	Date	Weight	Comp	Recort.	Burnt	Retouch	Platf	Bulb	Term	Comments
10	retouch'd flake (S)		6	yes			yes	cort	diffuse		ends of dist. edge abruptly ret'ched, u/w along concave area between
10	flake (S)	L.Neo/BA	7.5				poss	4		hinge	platf & bulb detached; poss u/w along 'new' prox end
10	retouch'd flake (S)		4.8	yes			yes	flat	pron.		knife? prox end 1 lat edge abrupt ret'ch; dist end other, semi-abrupt ret'ch
10	chunk		17.9		partly						detached base of pebble core; prob broad flake technology
309	notched flake (S)		4.7	,	×		yes	flat	sm. pr		1 lat edge cort, 12mm x 3mm notch removed from dist end of other
904	retouch'd flake (T)		6	yes	partly		yes	flat	sm. pr	hinge	irreg flake; semi-abrupt retouch on vent surface of curving lat edge
1000	flake (S)	L.Neo/BA	24.2	yes			poss u/w	comp.	sm. pr	hinge	large, thick flake; 1 insipient cone (miss-hit); small spalls from 1 lat edge
1000	chunk		7.5	no							flake frag; flake surfaces survive; slight post-dep damage
1100 1100	flake (S)	L.Mes	2.6 11.8	yes			poss u/w	cort.	diffuse	feath.	small, irreg flake; some post-dep damage, but prob u/w along dist end exhausted pebble core; v. small blades - type A1; 8+ flakes
1100	COTE	L.IVICS	11.0								removed
1100	chunk		8.9			yes					black surface/red core; split after burning; flake surfaces survive
1200	end scraper (P)	L.Neo/EBA	13.2	yes			yes	cort.	pron	feath.	broad flake; semi-abrupt ret'ch around dist end forming rounded projection
1200	core frag		30.7								2 platfs, scars suggest some blade removals; some post-dep damage
1200	retouch'd flake (S)	L.Neo/BA	10.3	no			yes			feath.	med & dist frag thick flake; serial retouch along prox end 1 lat edge
1400	chunk		22.2			yes					heavily burnt, granular structure
1600	knife (S)	L.Neo/BA	8	yes			yes	cort.	pron.	feath.	semi-abrupt ret'ch 1 lat edge; abrupt ret'ch dist end
2406	flake (S)	L.Neo/BA	3.2	yes				cort.	diffuse	hinge	broad flake; dorsal scras indicate removal of similar flakes from 2 platfs.
2500	chunk	L.Neo/BA	17.8					fl-4	J:66	facth	part of water-worn pebble, with broad flake surfaces
2500	flake (S)		4.4			yes		flat	diffuse	feath.	burnt, with dark grey surface, pink core exposed at detached lat edge
2601	flake (S)	L. Neo/BA	2.4	no			u/w	flat	pron.		prox frag of truncated flake; lost small spalls from 'dist' end = use-wear
3101	retouch'd flake (P)	L.Neo/EBA	20.5	yes	partly		yes				natural flake, 1 lat edge modified by semi-abrupt retouch
3212	chunk		90.6			yes					angular fractures = fire shattered
3212	chunk		85.3			yes					angular fractures = fire shattered
3212	chunk		77.5			yes					angular fractures = fire shattered
3212	chunk		80.8			yes					angular fractures = fire shattered

TTAL 03 evaluation: worked and modified lithic materials

Context	Туре	Date	Weight	Comp	Recort.	Burnt	Retouch	Platf	Bulb	Term	Comments
3212	chunk		49.6		***************************************	yes					angular fractures = fire shattered
3212	chunk		16.8			yes					angular fractures = fire shattered
3304	chunk		40.2		7, 44	yes					some angular fractures; heavily worn/abraded edges
3304	chunk		10.9			yes					some pot-lid fractures; heavily worn/abraded edges
304	chip		6.3	4		yes					heavily worn/abraded edges
304	chunk		8.7	1 d		yes					worn/abraded edges; greasy lustre
304	chip		1.7			yes					worn/abraded edges
304	chip		3.8			yes					heavily worn/abraded edges; greasy lustre
304	chunk		8.2			yes					heavily worn/abraded edges
3304	chip		6.8			yes					heavily worn/abraded edges
3304	chip		2.4			yes					heavily worn/abraded edges
304	chunk		10.1			yes					heavily worn/abraded edges
304	chunk		7.6			yes					crazed cortical surface; fire shattered
304	chunk		9.4			yes					heavily worn/abraded edges
304	chip		2.7			yes					calcined/granular structure
308	chip		2.7			yes					heavily burnt, granular structure; flake surfaces survive
308	chip		0.9			yes					heavily burnt, granular structure; flake surfaces survive
308	chip		1.6			yes					heavily burnt, granular structure; flake surfaces survive
308	chip		0.1			yes					heavily burnt, granular structure; flake surfaces survive
3401	flake (S)	L.Mes/E. Neo	3	yes				v.sm.	diffuse	feath.	dorsal scars indicate blade core; rounded pebble
5		LM/EN 3	762.3g			26	8				
		LN/BA 8					1 poss				
							1 u/w				
							2 possu/w				
102	pot boiler frag		47.4								fire shattered pebble; white sandstone, well-sorted qua

APPENDIX 4

Pottery Archive

Barbara Precious and Jane Young

contex	cname	sub fabric	full name	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	decoratio	part	description	date	condition
0100	RAER		Raeren stoneware	panel jug	1	1	11	cut decoration	BS		late 16th	fresh
0103	MEDLOC	dull OX/R/OX;med sandy	Medieval local fabrics	jar ?	1	1	3		BS	unglazed; abund ant subround to round quartz occ flint occ ca mod	12th to 15th	very abraded
0103	TOY		Toynton Medieval Ware	jug/jar	1	1	5		BS		late 13th to 14th	fresh
0103	TOY		Toynton Medieval Ware	bowl	1	1	20		rim	internal glaze;folded everted rim	late 13th to 14th	very abraded
0103	TOY		Toynton Medieval Ware	jug/jar	1	1	17		BS	cracked during firing	late 13th to 14th	very abraded
0103	TOY		Toynton Medieval Ware	jug/jar	1	1	7		BS		late 13th to 14th	very abraded
0103	TOY		Toynton Medieval Ware	jug	1	1	3		BS		late 13th to 14th	very abraded
0103	TOY		Toynton Medieval Ware	jug/jar	1	1	26		BS		late 13th to 14th	very abraded
0103	TOY		Toynton Medieval Ware	jug	1	1	13		BS		late 13th to 14th	very abraded
0103	MEDLOC	dull OX/R/OX;med sandy	Medieval local fabrics	large vessel	1	1	14		BS	unglazed, abund ant subround to round quartz occ flint occ ca mod	12th to 15th	very abraded

conte	x cname	sub fabric	full name	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	decoratio	part	description	date	condition
0200	SWSG		Staffordshire White Saltglazed stoneware	mug	1	1	21		rim	brown dipped rim edge		fresh
0201	TOY		Toynton Medieval Ware	large jug/jar	1	1	58		BS		15th to 16th	very abraded
0301	TOY		Toynton Medieval Ware	jug/jar	1	1	17		BS		late 13th to 14th	very abraded
0301	TOY		Toynton Medieval Ware	jug/jar	1	1	14		BS		late 13th to 14th	very abraded
1002	TOY		Toynton Medieval Ware	bowl	3	1	84		base		late 13th to 15th	very abraded
1200	TOY		Toynton Medieval Ware	jug	1	1	28	frilled basal edge	base	restricted base;cracked during firing ?	15th	very abraded
1400	R	oxid	Roman pottery	large jar	1	1	15		BS	not Lincoln area	Roman	very abraded
1606	BL		Black-glazed wares	large bowl?	1	1	33		base		18th to 19th	slightly abraded
3226	R	grey	Roman pottery	bowl/dish	1	1	32		base	not Lincoln area	3rd to 4th	very abraded
3501	R	grey	Roman pottery	jar	1	1	25		BS	not Lincoln area	3rd+	very abraded

APPENDIX 5

Ceramic Building Material Archive TTAL03

Jane Young

cname	full name	frags	weight	description	date
MISC	Unidentified types	1	5	probably brick	16th to 20th
BRK	Brick	1	45	handmade	16th to 19th
MISC	Unidentified types	2	8	probably brick	16th to 20th

THE FIGURES

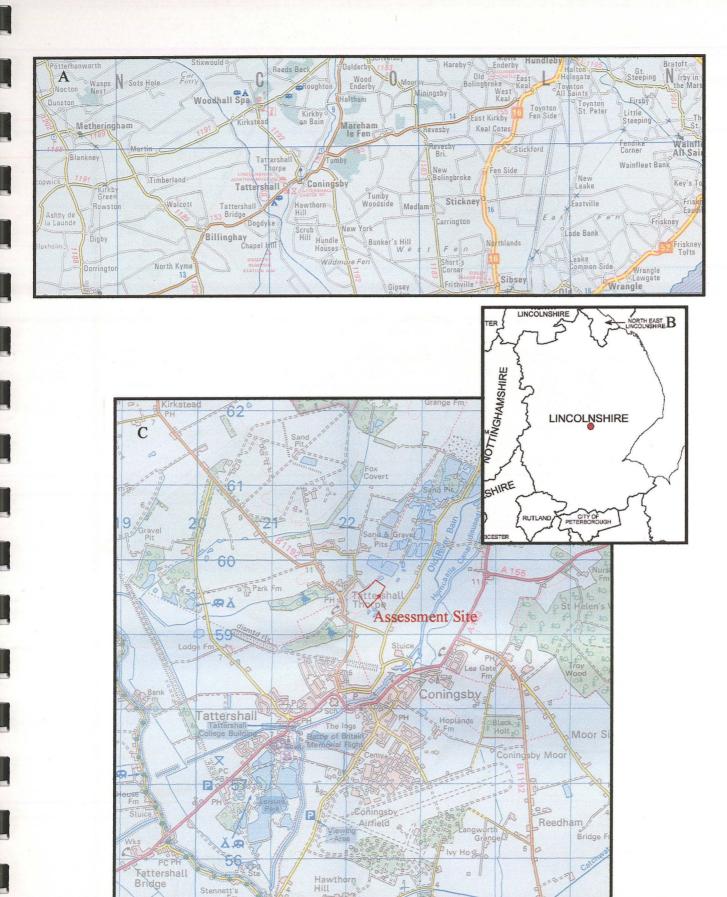
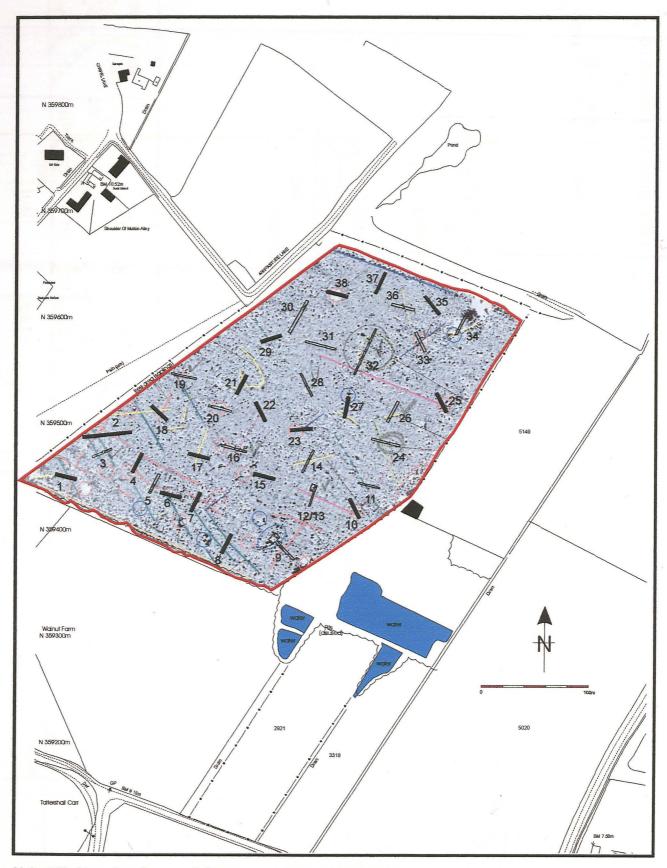


Fig. 1 Location of Tattershall Thorpe, based on the 2002 Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 Landranger map, Sheet 122. © Crown copyright, reduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO, LAS Licence No. AL 100002165).

Dogdyke

Scrub Hill



Note: Filled trenches (i.e. ____) denote no archaeological features present

Fig.2 Trench location plan, including corresponding geophysical data (Bunn & Palmer Brown 2003)

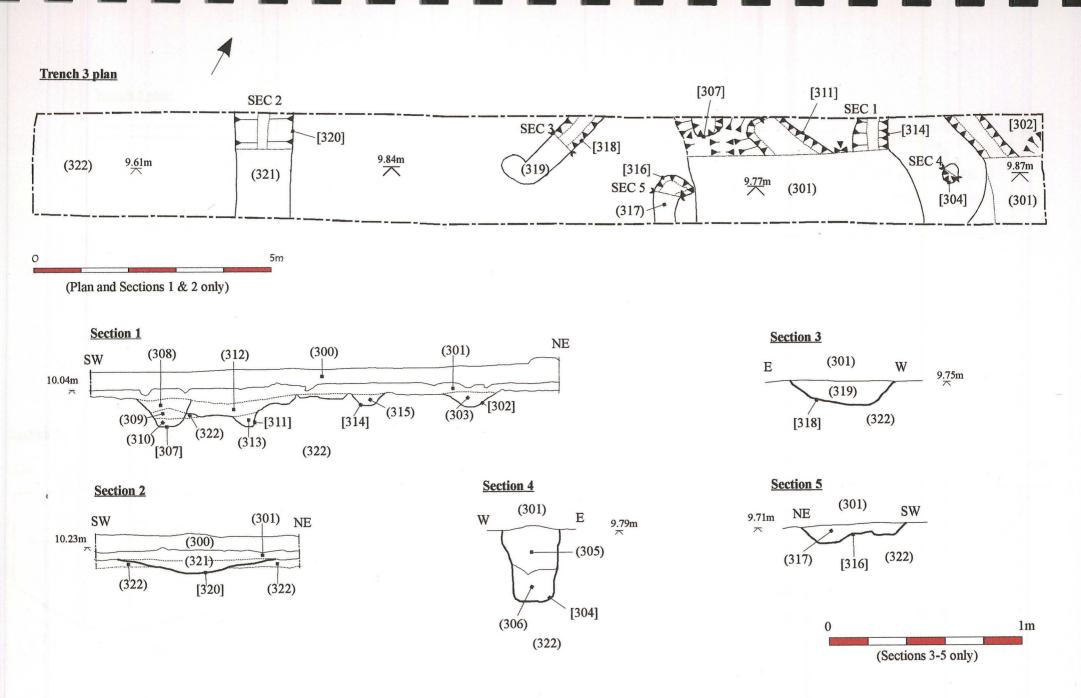
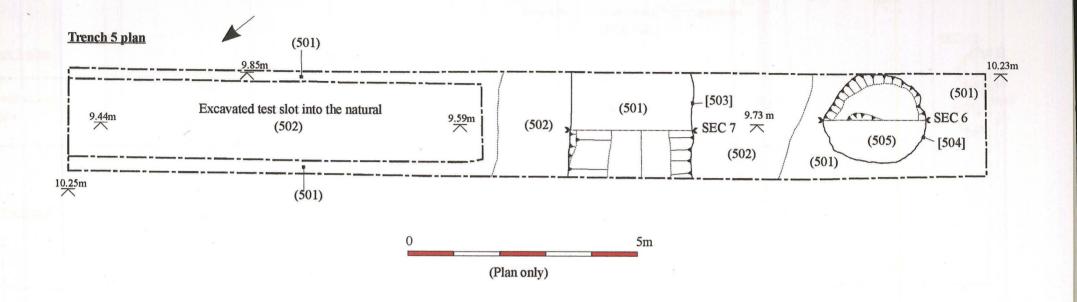


Fig. 3 Trench 3 and Sections 1-5



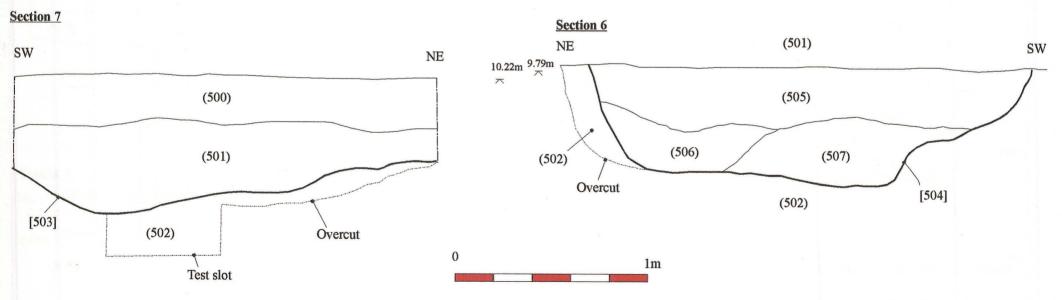
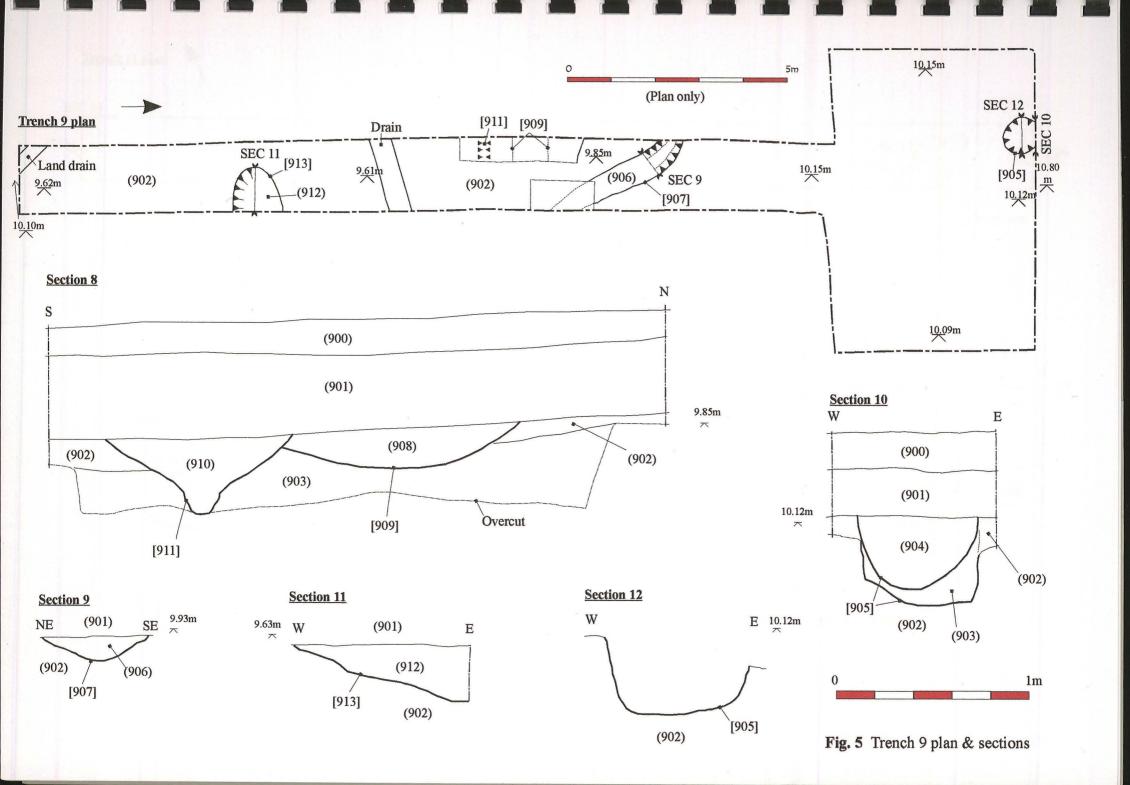


Fig.4 Trench 5 plan and sections



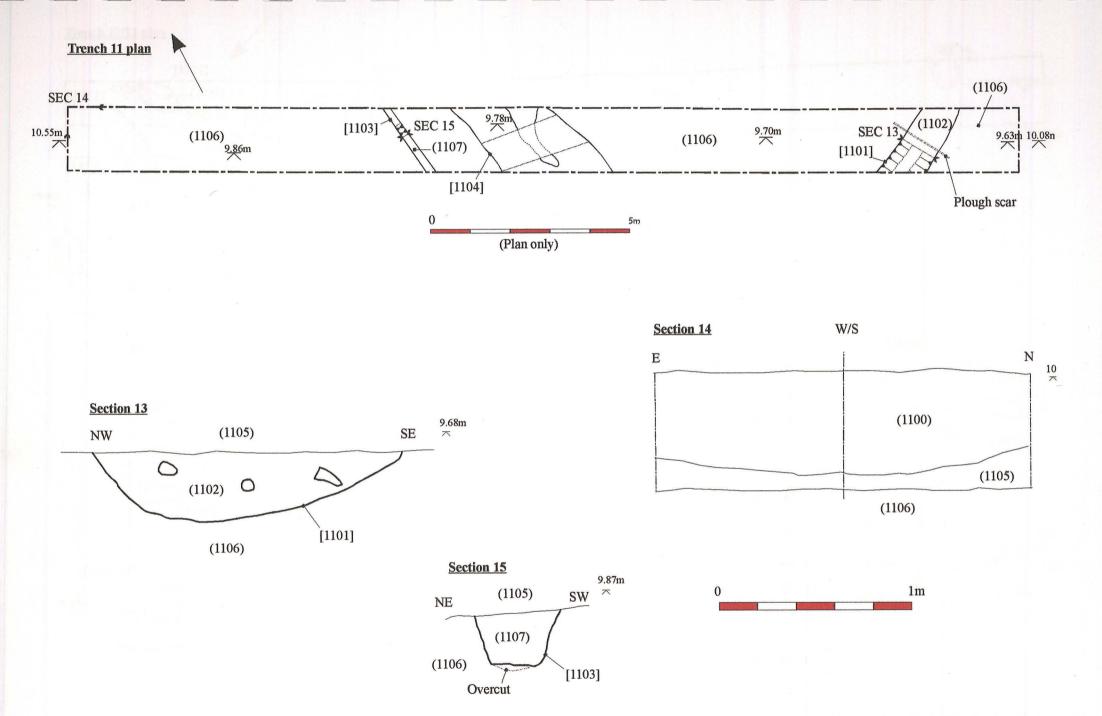


Fig. 6 Trench 11 plan & sections

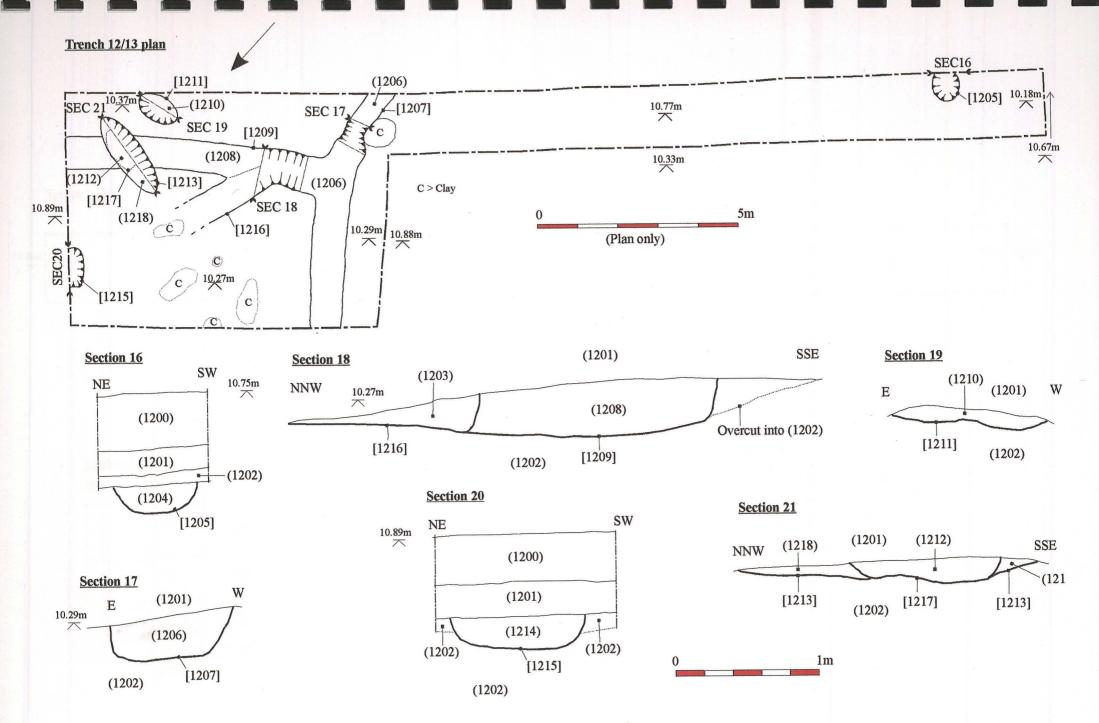
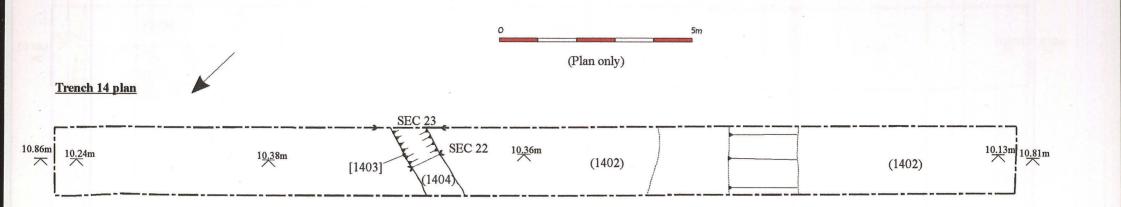


Fig. 7 Trench 12 plan & sections



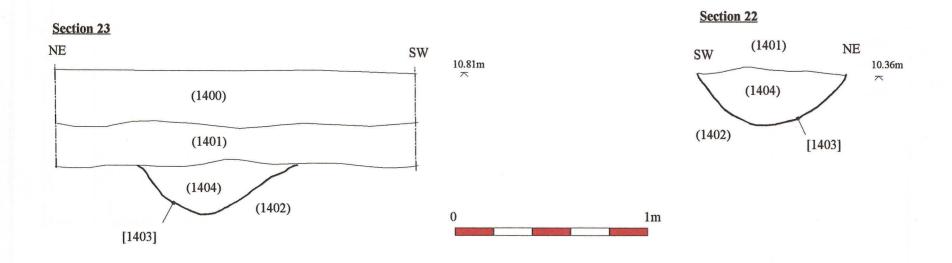


Fig. 8 Trench 14 plan & sections

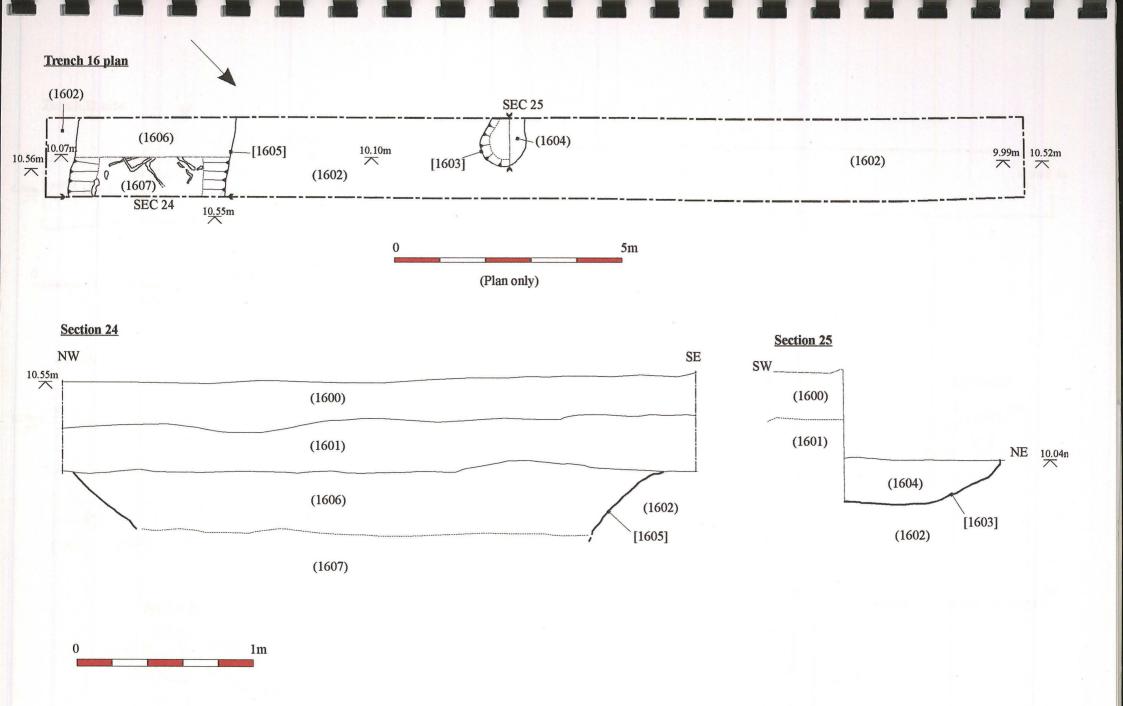


Fig. 9 Trench 16 plan & sections

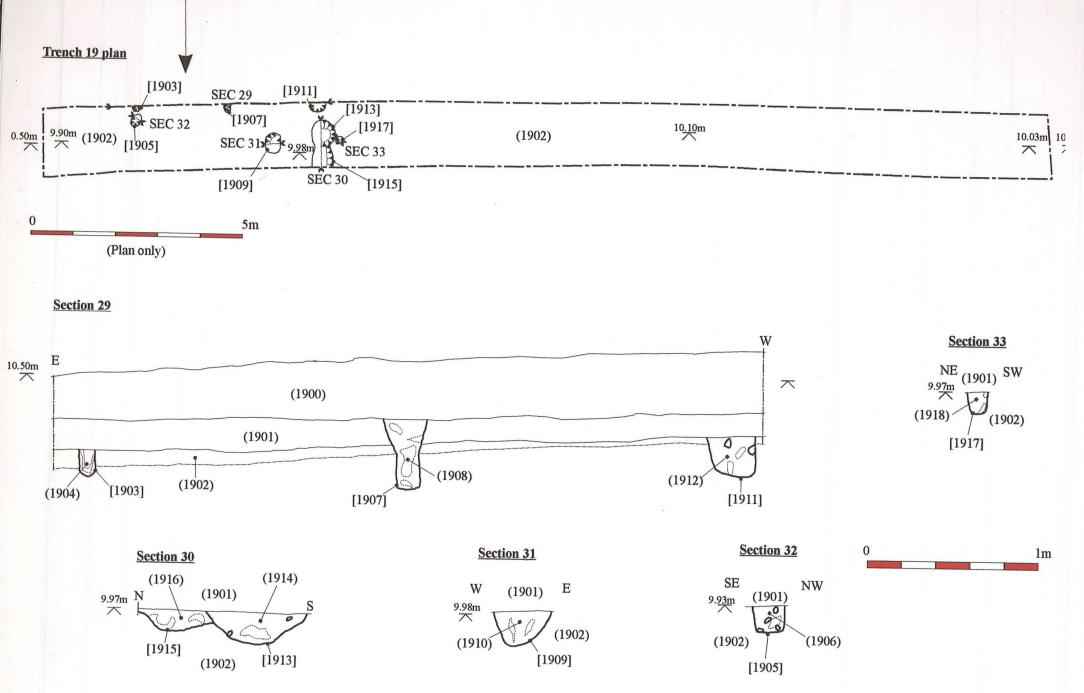
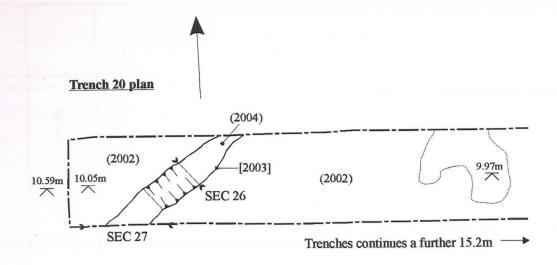
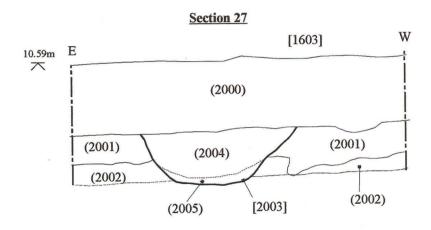


Fig. 10 Trench 19 plan & sections







Section 26

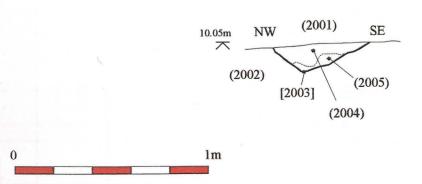
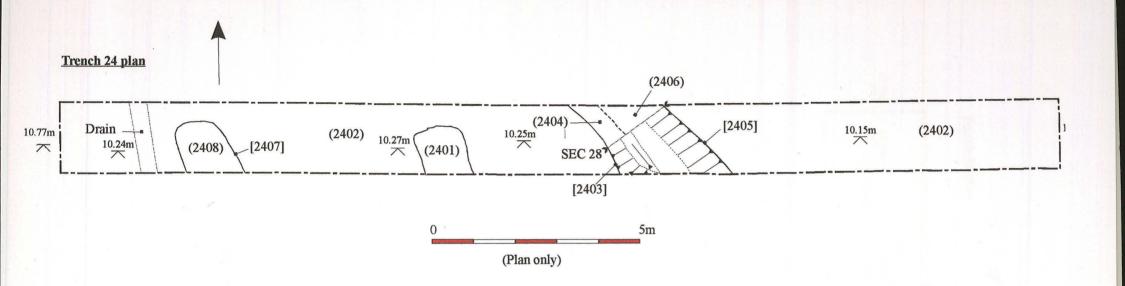


Fig. 11 Trench 20 plan and sections



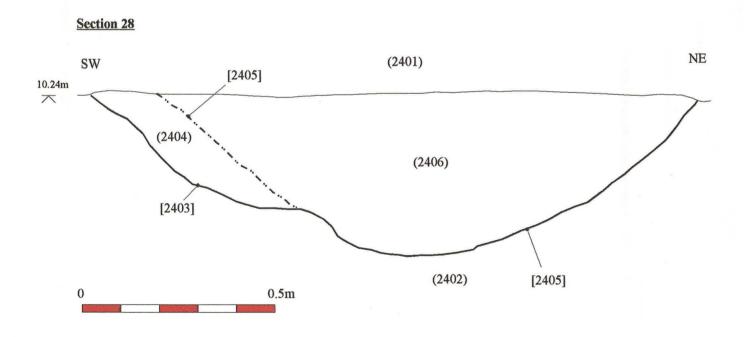
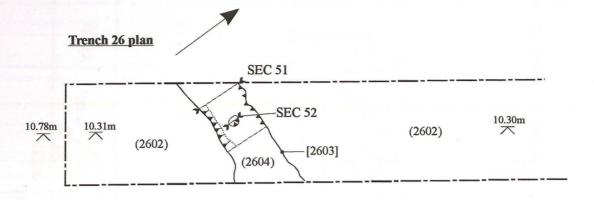


Fig. 12 Trench 24 plan & section



Trenches continues a further 13.5m



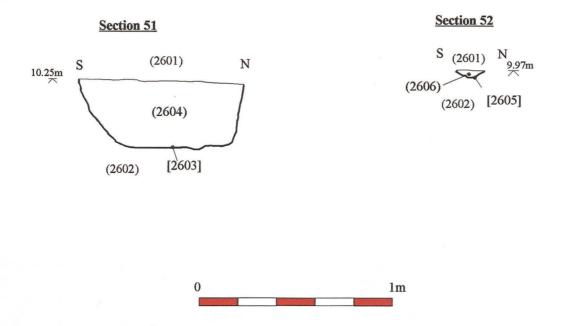
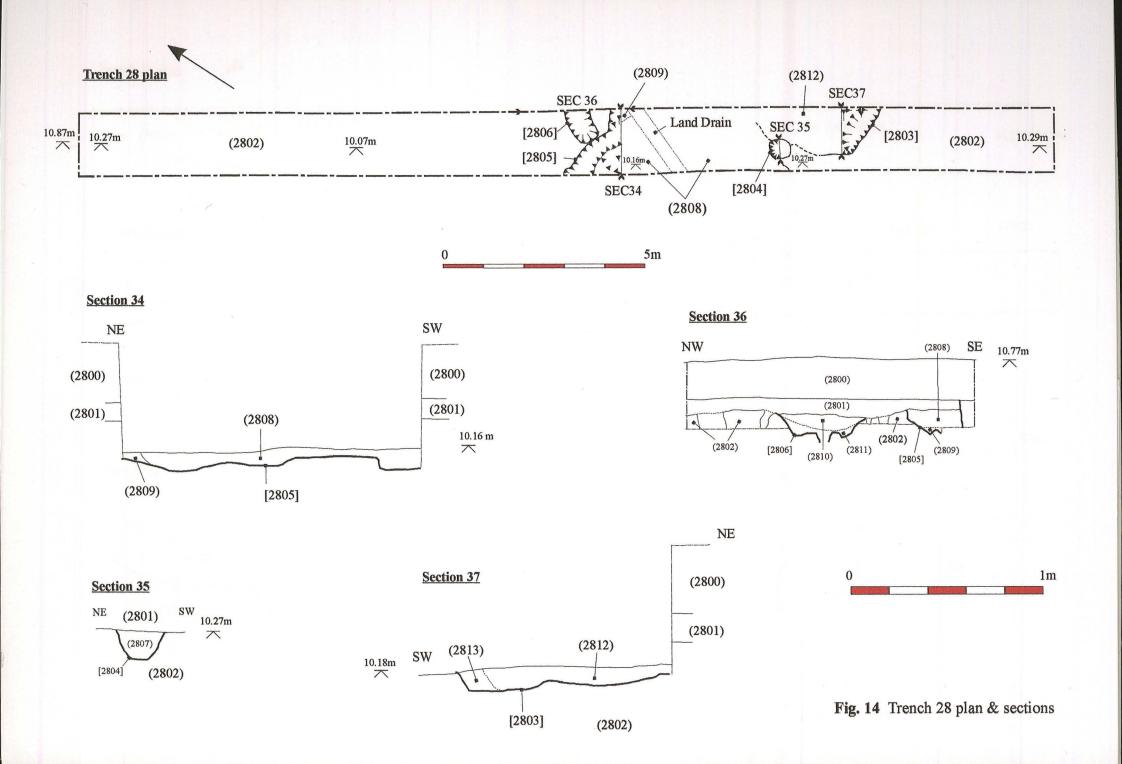
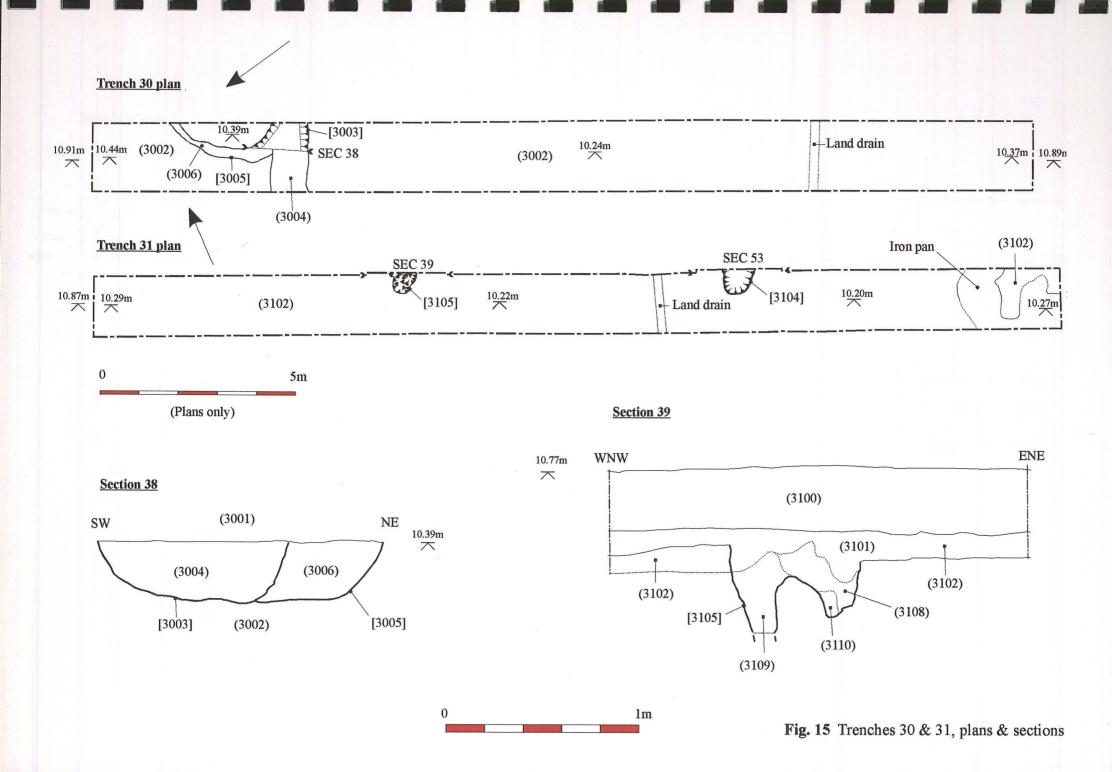
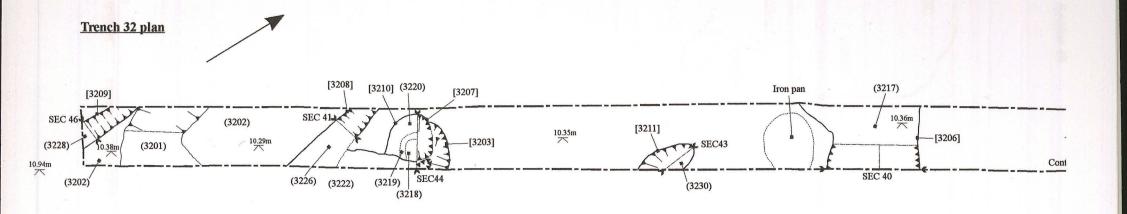
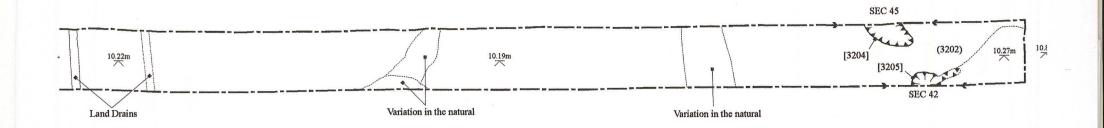


Fig. 13 Trench 26 plan & sections











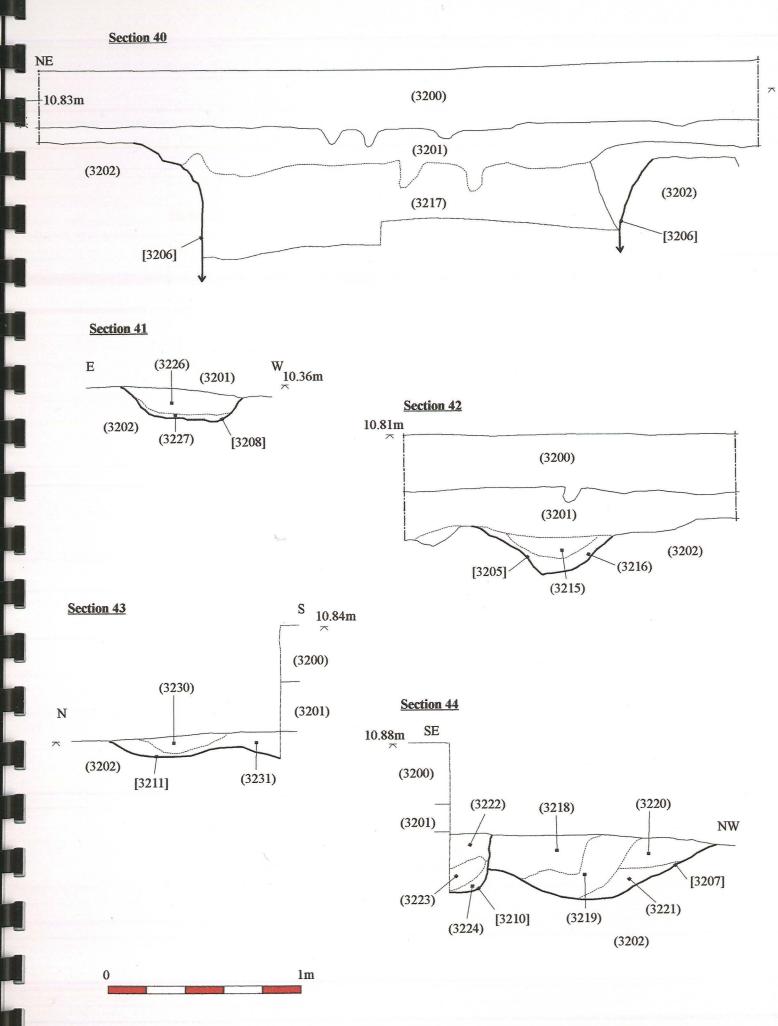
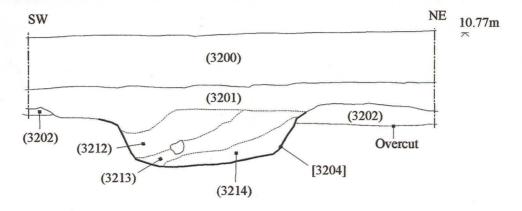
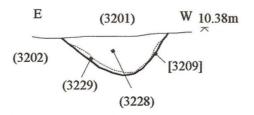


Fig. 17 Trench 32 sections 40-44

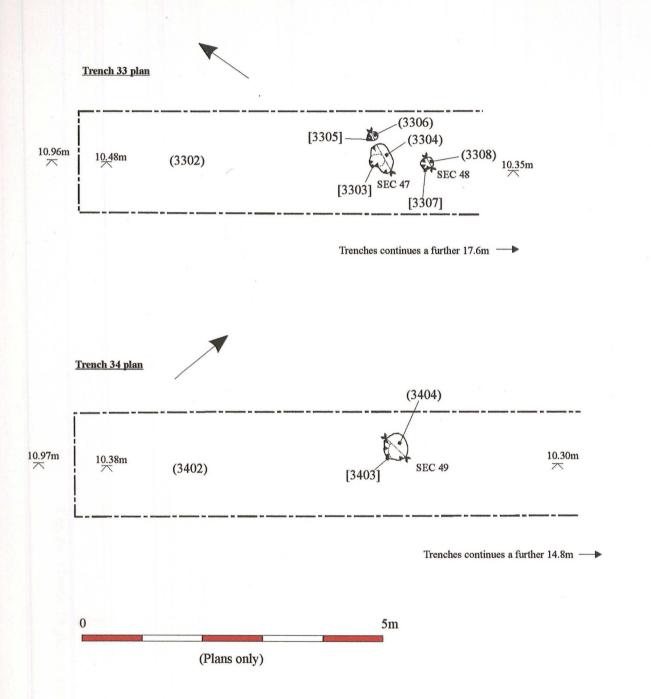




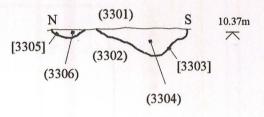
Section 46



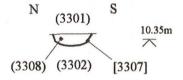




Section 47



Section 48



Section 49

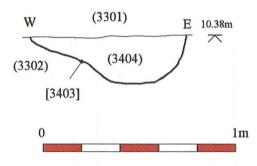
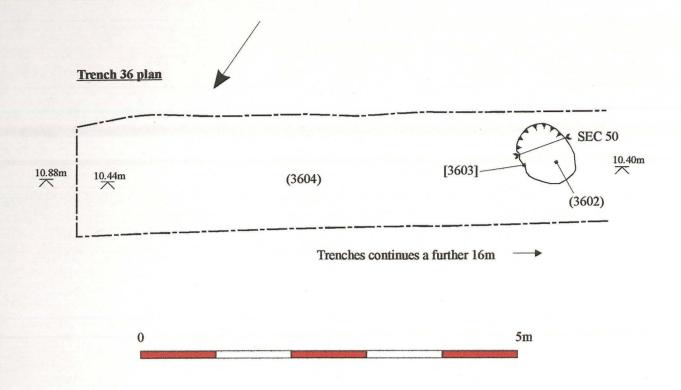
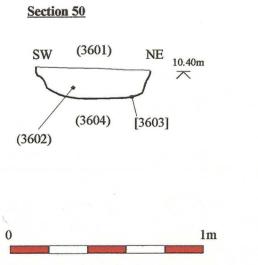
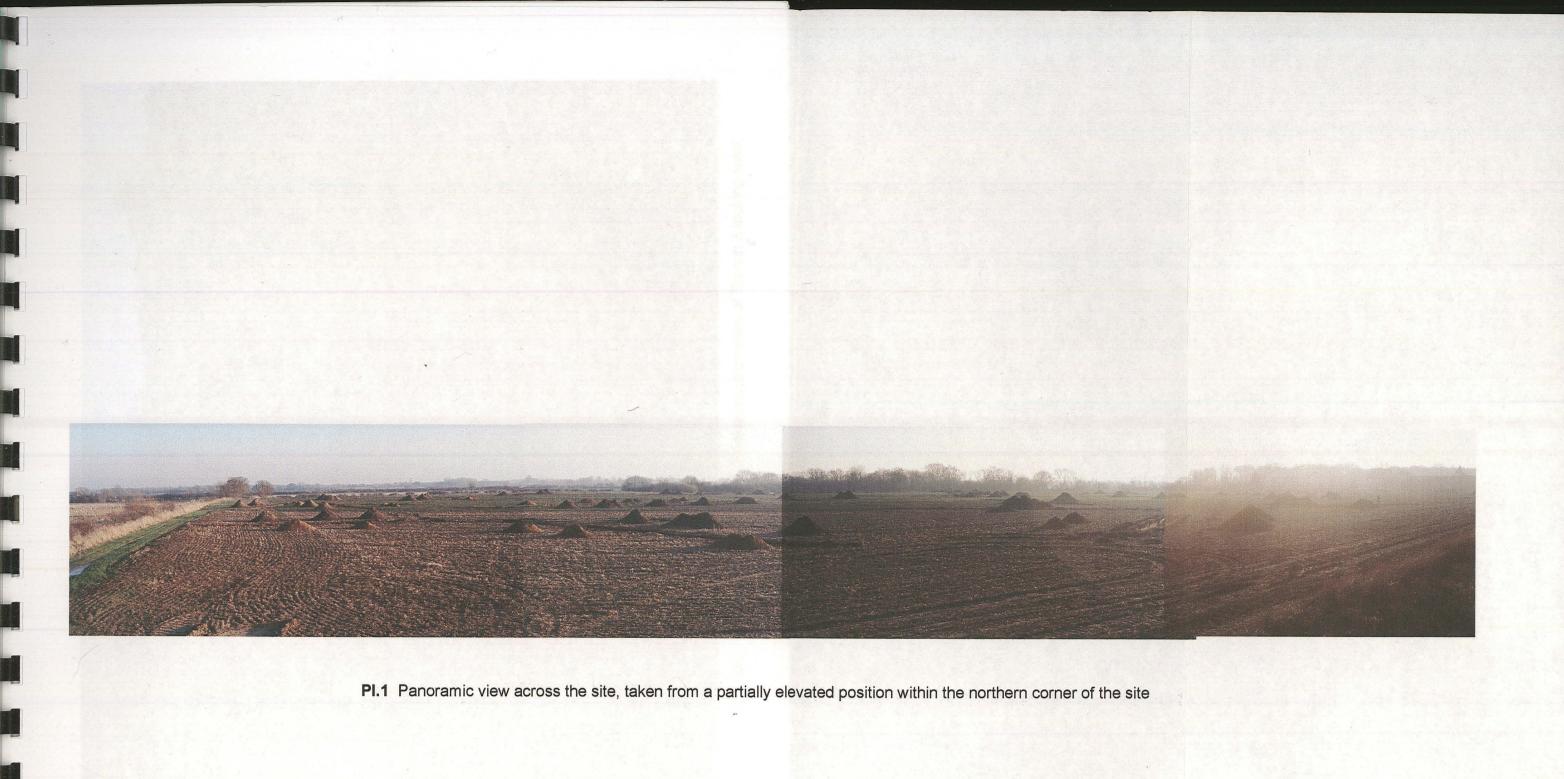


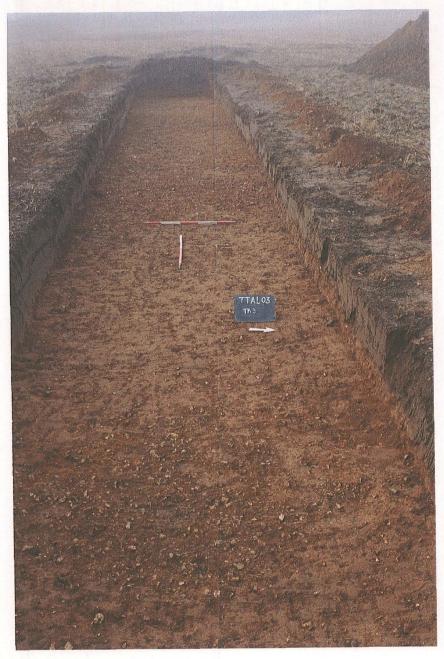
Fig. 19 Trenches 33 & 34, plans and section











PI.2 Pre-excavation view of Trench 3 looking west



PI.3 Post-excavation view of Trench 3 looking west



PI.4 Feature [314], Section 1



PI.5 Feature [307], Section 1



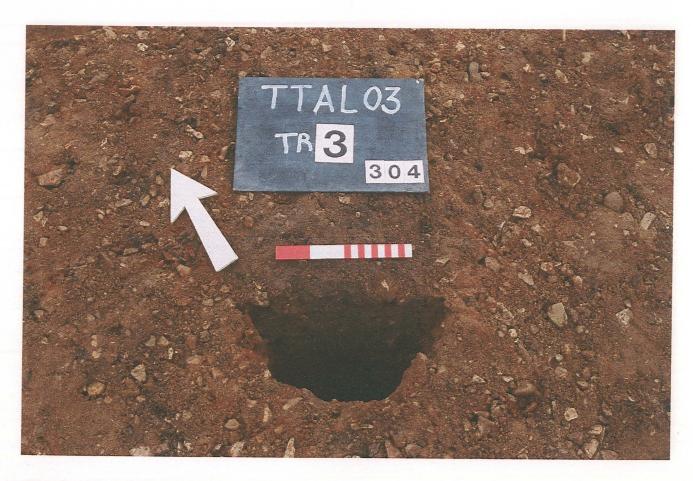
PI.6 Feature [316], Section 5



PI.7 Feature [302], Section 1



PI.8 Feature [318], Section 3



PI.9 Feature [304], Section 4



PI.10 Feature [905], Section 10



PI.11 Features [911] & [909], Section 8



PI.12 Features [2403] & [2405], Section 28



PI.13 Feature [3204] Section 45



PI.14 Feature [3205], Section 42



PI.15 Features [3210] & [3207] Section 44



PI.16 Feature [3208], Section 41



PI.17 Feature [3209] Section 46