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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
A158 BURGH LE MARSH BYPASS,
BURGH LE MARSH
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BMBE04)**

LCNCC: TBA



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
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Work Undertaken For
Jacobs Babtie
on behalf of
Lincolnshire County Council



Lincolnshire
-IN PARTNERSHIP-
Babtie



February 2005

Report Compiled by
Mark Williams

National Grid Reference: TF 4727 6708 - TF 5162 6471

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in advance of the construction of a bypass around Burgh le Marsh. A series of 38 Trial Trenches was proposed of which 37 were excavated along the line of the proposed road corridor (access could not be arranged to Trench 27 at the time of the evaluation).

The natural deposits ranged from glacial clays in the west (Trenches 1-20) to a covering of marine clays over the glacial deposits in the east (Trenches 21-38).

The majority of the trenches were devoid of archaeological features, although a number of undated features were located on the glacial clays probably representing drainage and/or boundary features.

Trench 34 was the only trench which contained dated features, a ditch and pit of the post-medieval period.

There is no evidence of settlement remains from the glacial clays to the west but the presence of ditches does indicate that drainage and field demarcation was taking place. Trenches at the eastern half of the proposed bypass route had few features and it is likely that archaeological remains, if they exist, are buried at a depth below marine clays.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as, a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and

extent, quality and preservation, and it enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Outline planning permission for the development was subject to a condition requiring the implementation of a scheme of archaeological works within specified areas of the site. The first phase of work consisted of a desk-based assessment (Babtie Group 2003), which confirmed the archaeological potential of the proposed development site.

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Jacobs Babtie on behalf of Lincolnshire County Council to undertake the archaeological evaluation of the proposed bypass route in accordance with the requirements of the local planning authority. The fieldwork was undertaken between the 9th March and 8th of April 2004.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Burgh le Marsh is located 7km west of Skegness in the East Lindsey district of Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The investigation area, the proposed route of the Burgh le Marsh bypass, commences at the north side of the A158(T) road, about 3km northwest of Burgh le Marsh, close to Gunby Park at national grid reference TF 4727 6708. It extends approximately southeast for about 4.5km, skirting the north side of the town of Burgh le Marsh, crossing Orby Lane, Common Lane and Ingoldmells Road, before rejoining the A158(T) about 1km east of Burgh le Marsh at TF 5162 6471 (Figure 2)

Although the western end of the route, at Gunby, is located at the foot of the

Lincolnshire Wolds, most of the site lies in the Lincolnshire Marsh, an area of low lying, relatively flat coastal marsh situated on the north side of Burgh le Marsh (Fig. 2). The ground level is at its highest, at c. 18m OD, at the western end of the route but declines rapidly to a fairly level terrain of between 3m and 5m OD.

Soils in the western part of the route are Holderness Association typical stagnogleys on chalky till and glaciofluvial drift. To the east of Burgh le Marsh town are Wallsea 2 Association pelo-alluvial gleys on reclaimed marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 214; 338). On the north side of the town the proposed bypass route follows the approximate boundary between these two deposits (SSEW 1983). The underlying geology is of Cretaceous chalk bedrock.

2.4 Archaeological Setting

During the Mesolithic period sea levels, and the ground surface of the coastal fringe, were much lower than at present. However, rising sea levels buried large tracts of the earlier prehistoric ground surface, and any archaeological evidence on it, beneath thick deposits of alluvium. As a result, earlier prehistoric remains generally are not well represented in the Burgh le Marsh area. However, flintwork of Mesolithic and Neolithic-Late Bronze Age date has been recovered, and Neolithic pottery is also known from the town.

By the Iron Age period much of the area was tidal flat and the location for salt extraction. Salterns of Iron Age and Roman date have been recorded on the present coastline at Ingoldmells, and also further inland at Orby and Addlethorpe.

Roman remains and artefacts have been revealed previously in the vicinity of Burgh le Marsh. A major Roman road,

from Lincoln via Horncastle toward the coast, passes through the investigation area just north of Burgh le Marsh. This road may have continued southeast to a lost Saxon Shore Fort. The Roman road is crossed by the proposed bypass route, though at the meeting point the Roman thoroughfare has already been disturbed by previous pipelines, therefore it was decided not to evaluate this area of the proposed route.

Roman occupation has been identified at Burgh le Marsh itself, with evidence of burials found around the West End area of the town (Babtie Group 2003, 7-8). Pottery and coins of Roman date have been found in and around the town, and a ditch system of the period, probably associated with nearby settlement, was identified just south of the town centre (Malone 2001). Find spots of Roman pottery and tile are known close to the bypass route on the south side of Orby and to the east of Burgh le Marsh and reflect extensive, though probably non-intensive, occupation of the region at that time.

Within the Burgh le Marsh area, Anglo-Saxon remains are, as with the Roman evidence, largely concentrated around West End. A large mound, Cock Hill, appears to be a barrow of the period and when investigated in 1933 contained human remains and a Saxon bronze buckle plate (Leahy 1993, 39), though it has been suggested the mound was raised to support a windmill or for cock fighting (Everson 1993, 94). Saxon pottery and a loomweight fragment of the period were recovered from the Roman ditch system just south of the town centre and coins of 8th century date have been found in the area (Malone 2001, 2).

The place-name, Burgh, is of Old English derivation and means fort or fortified place and usually refers to a prehistoric or Roman fort, though an Anglo-Saxon burgh

is also a possible explanation (Ekwall 1974, 74). By the Late Saxon period Burgh le Marsh appears to have been a significant place and its importance is demonstrated in the Domesday Survey of c.1086 where it is recorded as a centre of an estate with lands in Sutton in the Marsh, Addlethorpe, Wainfleet and Skegness (Foster and Longley 1976). At the time of the Domesday Inquisition, the land was split into several manors and contained a church (*ibid.*).

Extant remains of the medieval period are restricted to the parish church of SS Peter and Paul that dates from around 1500 (DoE 1988, 6) and which presumably replaced the foundation referred to in Domesday. Traces of the medieval field system, in the form of ridge and furrow, have been recorded around Burgh le Marsh, including in and near Gunby Park, at the western end of the bypass route. Earthworks and cropmarks of medieval settlement remains, including a moat and house platforms, are known to the north of the bypass route around the village of Orby. In addition, scatters of medieval pottery have been recorded to the northeast of Burgh le Marsh.

Gunby Hall, by the western end of the bypass, is first recorded in the 17th century and the present building was commissioned in 1700. In 1730 a new park was laid out around the house, and enlarged by 1780. A boundary plantation was created around some of the park limits in the early 19th century. Several post-medieval trackways have been identified close to the bypass route.

Post-medieval and early modern structures have been identified in the vicinity of the bypass and include the railway station of 1848, near the west end of the bypass, and a late 18th century farmhouse near the eastern end (Babtie Group 2003).

3. AIMS

The aim of the evaluation was to gather information to establish the presence or absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits in order to enable the archaeological curator to formulate a policy for the management of archaeological resources present on the site

4. METHODS

4.1 Trial Trenching

A total of 38 trenches along the line of the proposed bypass were proposed for excavation. These were located in the positions defined on a location plan provided by Jacobs Babtie (Fig. 2). Access could not be arranged for Trench 27 so this trench was not excavated during this phase of fieldwork.

Removal of topsoil deposits was undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. The exposed surfaces of the trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains. Where present, features were excavated by hand in order to retrieve dateable artefacts and other remains.

Each deposit exposed during the evaluation was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was compiled. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and plans at a scale of 1:20. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

4.2 Post-excavation

Following excavation, all records were

checked and ordered to ensure that they constituted a complete Level II archive and a stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced. Artefacts recovered from excavated deposits were examined and a period date assigned where possible. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 1. Context numbers are identified in the text by brackets, square [] for cut features, round () for deposits. Phasing was based on artefact dating, the nature of the deposits and the recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

Descriptions of contexts are found in Appendix 1 together with the thickness of overburden deposits.

5.1 Description of the results

The line of the bypass (Fig. 2) extends across the interface of two different drift geology zones, the glacial clays of the middle marsh and the overlying marine clays of the out marsh. This geological distinction was clearly visible in the trenches. Trenches 1 to 20 were excavated through topsoil and various thickness of subsoil onto a variable glacial clay (see below). Trenches in the eastern part of the route, Trenches 21-38, exposed marine alluvium consisting of red brown clay with very few inclusions characteristic of the low energy deposition environment. There was no evidence of material of anthropogenic origin either within or below the marine clays.

Within the out marsh (eastward beyond Trench 21) there was localised variation within the natural deposits. Generally the deposits were clay but in numerous instances there were sandier and occasional gravelly pockets. This is not inconsistent with the natural accumulation in coastal marshes. The environment in general is low energy with very little wave action leading to deposition of clays.

Occasionally higher energy deposition can occur in times of flood *etc.* Larger particulate matter can become caught in vegetation, leading to the formation of pockets of sand and gravel.

Trenches 1-4

These trenches were located at the western end of the route. Approximately 0.45-0.65m of ploughsoil and subsoil lay over glacial deposits that comprised mixed clays with poorly sorted pebbles and flint. There were no features present.

Trench 5

Within Trench 5 there were a number of features which appeared to be peri-glacial in origin (Fig. 3). Beneath 0.44m depth of ploughsoil (500) and subsoil (501), the natural deposits consisted of glacial clays and sand deposits (512), which showed considerable variation along the length of the trench.

The majority of the features investigated proved to be natural. A sondage was excavated in the eastern part of the trench to test a change in the natural (sections of natural deposits have not been included in the illustrations). An ice wedge was located in the eastern part of the trench [508] filled with a soft greyish brown sandy silt (509). This was in the form of a gully, 0.40m wide and approximately 0.15m deep, with irregular sides (Fig. 6 Section 54). This formed almost the classic polygon shape characteristic of these features, which are caused by the freezing and thawing of water in the ground forming progressively wider and more pronounced features.

A large amorphous feature [510] was identified in the approximate centre of the trench. This feature measured almost 8m along the base of the trench and extended under the southern baulk. It had gradual

but irregular sides and a rounded base. The trench contained a firm reddish-brown clay sandy silt with occasional very small rounded stones (504). Again this feature was interpreted as of geological origin.

Identified immediately to the west of [510] was [505] a concave feature containing a reddish brown silt (504).

Trench 6

This trench was located approximately 20m southeast of Trench 5 and excavated through a ploughsoil (600) approximately 0.45m thick, again onto mixed clays and sands similar to Trench 5 (610, 611).

This trench contained features that were interpreted as natural: two rounded features [602] and [606], an amorphous feature [608]. All of these were irregular in shape and did not show any indication of human origin (Fig. 3; Fig. 6 Sections 611, 612, 613, 614).

Feature [604] ran the width of the trench, and contained a firm reddy brown slightly sandy silt (605). Although no finds were recovered from this feature it was more regular than the other features and may have been a drainage ditch or boundary feature (Pl. 1).

Trench 7

This trench was excavated through approximately 0.33m of dark brown ploughsoil (700) and 0.22m of either a subsoil or more likely a previous deeper ploughing (701). At the base of the trench were glacial sands and clays (709).

Two approximately parallel linear features [704] and [706] orientated northwest-southeast were identified in the trench (Fig. 3, Pl. 2). Feature [704] was approximately 0.80m wide and 0.43m deep with irregular sides and contained a light grey sandy silt (703). Feature [706]

was 0.9m wide and 0.56m deep. This contained a yellow grey sandy silt (705). A small irregular, probably natural feature [708] was truncated by the southwest edge of [706] (Fig 5 Section 11-13)

These features are likely to be field drain or field boundaries but there was no dating evidence found. Their common orientation suggests that they may be contemporary.

Trench 8

Overburden was approximately 0.50m deep in this trench. This trench flooded rapidly upon excavation, there was no obvious reason for this, although it is probably a result of the geological conditions on the site. The Soil Survey records indicate that these soils are liable to flood. No features were present in this trench.

Trench 9

This trench was excavated through 0.35m of topsoil and 0.15m of subsoil on to mixed glacial clays [905].

Two features were recorded in this trench (Pl. 3). A circular feature [901], 1.1m wide and 0.22m deep, and contained a mid brown heavily mottled grey clay (Fig. 3; Fig 5 section 902).

A second feature, ditch [907], was 1.4m deep and 0.6m wide and contained (909), a red clay with chalk fragments Fig 5, 901). It is likely that this feature was a drainage ditch.

No finds were recovered from these features.

Trenches 10 – 13

These trenches had no archaeological features. The natural indicated that they were located on the glacial clays.

Trench 14

Overburden took the form of 0.50m of

topsoil and subsoil over natural glacial clays. No features were present in this trench

Trench 15

Overburden of 0.60m of topsoil and subsoil had formed over natural glacial clays. No features were present.

Trench 16

Overburden of 0.55m of topsoil and subsoil had formed on natural glacial clays.

Trench 17

Overburden, which consisted of 0.45m of topsoil and subsoil had formed on natural glacial clays. A single feature was present, [1702] was not excavated as it contained a single grey brown clay silt fill (1701) with fragments of concrete and bricks. This feature has been interpreted as a modern dyke, backfilled very recently.

Trench 18

Ploughsoil (1800) and subsoil (1801) with a total thickness of 0.6m lay above natural glacial silts and clays (1802).

A large ditch [1805] at the eastern end of the trench was not excavated as it contained modern brick rubble and the land owner had informed the excavator that the feature was a recently backfilled drain. Investigation by auger showed that it was at least 0.80m deep. It contained a mid grey silty clay (1806). It was not present in Trench 19 but may have passed just to the north.

At 9m west of [1805] a second gully feature [1803] was identified. This was approximately 1m wide and 0.28m deep and filled with mottled blue grey brown clayey silt (1804). No finds were recovered from this feature (Fig. 4; Fig. 7 Section 22).

Trench 19

Topsoil and subsoil, in total 0.53m deep had formed on natural glacial clays. No features were present.

Trench 20

This trench was excavated through topsoil (2001) and subsoil (2002) with a total thickness of 0.55m on to natural glacial clays and silts (2003). A single ditch [2004], 1.6m wide by 0.48m deep, was identified in this trench. Its fill, a mid grey blue mottled clay (2005), did not contain any finds.

Trench 21

Overburden of 0.55m had formed above natural marine silts and clays. No features were present.

Trenches 22 – 33 These trenches were excavated through topsoil and subsoil onto marine clays with deposits of sand. Overburden varied between 0.5 and 0.82 in depth. No features were present.

(Trench 27 was not excavated during this phase of work due to access problems)

Trench 34

Ploughsoil (3404) and subsoil (3405) with a combined depth of 0.7m lay above natural marine deposits (3406, 3409).

At the western end of the trench a sub circular feature was located [3401]. This lay immediately below the ploughsoil and appeared to be modern, containing brick rubble *etc.* Redeposited post-medieval artefacts and abundant marine mollusc shells were retrieved from this pit (Appendix 2). The feature was approximately 3m wide, and its northern part extended below the northern baulk (Fig 4; Fig 7 section 341; Pl. 4).

Towards the centre of the trench a pit [3402] was excavated, 1.5m at its widest point and 0.55m deep. This feature had a

gradual break of slope and a flat base (Fig. 7 Section 342). Its fill was a dark brownish grey sandy silt (3403) containing pottery and other material dated to the 18th century (Appendix 2). A field drain truncated the pit but the finds were securely located within the pit fills. This pit was not fully excavated as it rapidly filled with water.

A ditch [3407] that was at least 1.15m wide was identified along the southern bank of the trench (Fig 7 Section 343). Its single fill, a dark brown grey silt (3408), contained pottery and other material dating from the 18th century, possibly into the 19th century, and animal bone (Appendix 2).

Trench 35 – 38

These trenches were excavated through topsoil and subsoil onto marine clays. There were no features or finds recovered. Overburden varied between 0.63 and 1.18m in these trenches.

Marine Clays deposits

The deposit of marine clay in Trenches 21-38 was examined using an auger. It was often difficult to determine the depth of the marine clays as the deposits were frequently waterlogged and lacked cohesion and it was difficult to drive the auger below 1m.

Trenches 22 – 38 had varying depths of marine clay which became progressively deeper to the east (higher Trench numbers). In Trench 22 the marine clays were approximately 0.30m deep. Trenches 22 and 23 had approximately 0.80m of marine clay. The remainder of the trenches were investigated by auger to over a metre before the glacial clays were encountered.

6. DISCUSSION

The proposed road line straddles two broad landscape zones, the glacial clays and the middle marsh. This geological boundary was identified in the trenches, with

investigation by auger showing that the glacial clays were covered by marine clays from Trench 21 eastwards, this marine alluvium becoming progressively thicker toward the eastern end of the investigation.

Although there is abundant evidence for Iron Age and Roman salt production and cattle rearing in this coastal environment (Ellis *et al.* 2001), no such sites were identified during the current archaeological investigation. It might have been expected that Trenches 1-20 on the slightly higher ground at the edge of the marsh, would contain settlement but no evidence was present. Field boundaries were identified but were undated.

The only notable archaeological remains were two pits and a ditch dating to the 18th-19th century, located in Trench 34, toward the eastern end of the route. These are probably related to a post-medieval trackway previously identified at this location (Babtie Group 2003, Gazetteer of Sites of Cultural Heritage Interest).

7. CONCLUSION

No significant archaeological remains were located during the evaluation.

Trenches 1-20 were excavated on the glacial deposits but no evidence of significant archaeological deposits were found. The only possible features of any antiquity were undated ditches which seemed likely to be drainage channels and field boundaries. It is considered unlikely that these will contribute significantly to our knowledge of the development of Burgh le Marsh or its environment.

With the exception of the post-medieval activity at Trench 34, Trenches 21 - 38 did not contain significant archaeological remains at the level of the proposed road scheme.

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9. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

OD Ordnance Datum (height above sea level)

SSEW Soil Survey of England and Wales

Appendix 1: Trench Descriptions

The following are brief context descriptions for the trenches. The depth of deposits was recorded at five metre intervals (on blank trenches) across the trench and the soil thickness details recorded below represent an average depth of the deposit within the trench. Fuller descriptions are recorded in the project archive.

Trench 1

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
100	L	Brown Clayey silt with occ. Pebbles	0.36	Ploughsoil
101	L	Firm yellow brown silty clay	0.30	Subsoil
102	L	Yellow brown clay	-	Glacial clay natural

Trench 2

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
200	L	Brown Clayey silt with occ. Pebbles	0.27	Ploughsoil
201	L	Firm yellow brown silty clay	0.20	Subsoil
202	L	Yellow brown clay	-	Glacial clay natural

Trench 3

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
300	L	Brown Clayey silt with occ. Pebbles	0.36	Ploughsoil
301	L	Firm yellow brown silty clay	0.30	Subsoil
302	L	Yellow brown clay	-	Glacial clay natural

Trench 4

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
400	L	Brown clayey silt with occasional pebbles	0.20-0.25m	Ploughsoil
401	L	Yellow brown silty clay	0.26m	Subsoil
402	L	Yellow brown clay	-	Glacial clay natural

Trench 5

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
500	L	Firm grey clayey silt occ. Sub rounded flint	0.31	Ploughsoil
501	L	Firm yellow brown clayey silt	0.13	Subsoil
502	F	Yellow brown clay with chalk fragments		Fill of 503
503	C	Linear		Field drain
504	F	Firm yellowish brown clayey		Fill of 505

		silt		
505	C	Linear		Shallow gully
508	C	Curving feature		Natural Ice wedge
509	F	Soft greyish brown sandy silt		Fill of 508
510	C	Linear		Natural?
511	F	Soft reddish brown clayey sandy silt		Fill of 510
512	L	Light sandy brown clay sandy silt		Natural glacial clay and sand deposits.

Plan?

Trench 6

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
600	L	mid brown grey slightly sandy silt	0.45	Ploughsoil
601		Unused		
602	C	Sub circular		Tree hole?
603	F	mid dark grey slightly silty clay		Fill of 602
604	C	Cut		Possibly a drainage ditch
605	F	Firm dark reddy brown slightly sandy silt		Fill of 604
606	C	Sub circular		Root hole
607	F	Very light grey white silty sand		Fill of 606
608	C	Cut		Tree hole
609	F	Mid grey white slightly silty sand		Fill of 608
610	L	Mid orange brown sandy clay		Glacial clay natural
611	L	Light mid yellow brown sandy clay		Sandy clay natural

Trench 7

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
700	L	Blackish brown silt	0.33	Ploughsoil
701	L	Mid yellow brown sandy silt	0.30	Subsoil
703	F	Mid red brown clayey silt		Fill of 704
704	C	Linear		Gully
705	F	Red brown clayey silt		Fill of 706
706	C	Linear		Gully
707	F	Light yellowish brown silty clay		Natural glacial deposits
708	C	Linear		Gully
709	L	Yellow sands and clays		Natural glacial sands and clays

Plan?

Trench 8

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
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800	L	Dark grey brown clayey silt	0.3	Ploughsoil
801	L	Dark yellowish brown silty clay	0.2	Subsoil
802	N	Light yellowish brown silty clay		Natural glacial deposits

Trench 9

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
900	L	Dark grey brown clayey silt	0.3	Topsoil
901	C	Shallow circular pit		Pit
902	F	Red brown mottled grey clay		Fill of 901
904	L	Dark red brown sandy silt	0.2	Subsoil
905	L	Mixed yellow brown silty clays		Natural glacial deposits
907	C	linear		Ditch
909	F	Red clay with chalk fragments		Fill of 907

How?

Trench 10

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
1001	L	Dark grey brown sandy silt	0.4	Ploughsoil
1002	L	Dark yellow brown clay silt	0.1	Subsoil
1003	N	Mixed yellow brown silty clays		Natural glacial deposits

Trench 11

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
1101	L	Dark grey brown clayey silt	0.30	Ploughsoil
1102	L	mid yellow brown silty clay	0.10	Subsoil
1103	L	mid brown clayey silt		Natural gravel layer
1104	L	Loose dark red silt		Natural sand lenses Glacial sands

Trench 12

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
1200	L	Mid grey sandy silt	0.35	Ploughsoil
1201	L	Mid to light brown sandy clay	0.10	Subsoil
1202	L	Natural		Natural Glacial sands and clays

Trench 13

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
1300	L	Firm mid greyish brown clay silt	0.45	Ploughsoil
1301	L	Mid grey brown clay silt	0.20	Subsoil

1302	L	Moist plastic yellow brown clay silt		Natural glacial clays
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Trench 14

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
1401	L	Mid grey brown fine sandy silt	0.35	Ploughsoil
1402	L	Mid yellow brown sandy silt	0.15	Subsoil
1403	L	Blue to yellow silty sandy clay		Natural Glacial deposit

Trench 15

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
1501	L	Mid grey brown silty sand	0.40	Ploughsoil
1502	L	Mid yellow brown sandy silt	0.20	Subsoil
1503	L	Mid reddish brown sandy silty clay with frequent chalk		Natural Glacial Deposits

Trench 16

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
1601	L	Mid grey brown sandy silt	0.35	Ploughsoil
1602	L	Mid yellow brown sandy silt	0.20	Subsoil
1603	L	Mid yellow brown silty clay		Natural glacial silts and clays

Trench 17

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
1700	L	Dark greyish brown silty loam	0.40	Ploughsoil
1701	F	Dark grey brown clayey silt		Modern backfill
1702	C	Linear		Modern backfilled dyke
1703	L	Firm dark grey brown clayey silt	0.15	Subsoil
1704	L	Mid reddish brown sandy silty clay with frequent chalk		Natural glacial silts and clays

Trench 18

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
1800	L	Dark brown clayey silt	0.45	Ploughsoil
1801	L	Mid yellow brown clayey silt	0.15	Subsoil
1802	L	Mottled light and dark brown/yellow silty clay		Natural glacial silts and clays
1803	C	Linear		Gully
1804	F	Mottled blue grey brown clayey silt		Fill of 1803
1805	C	Linear		Dyke cut
1806	F	Mid grey silty clay		Fill of 1805

Plan?

Trench 19

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
1901	L	Loose mid grey brown sandy silt	0.35	Ploughsoil
1902	L	Mid yellow brown sandy silt	0.24	Subsoil
1903	L	Red brown / blue grey silty clay		Natural Glacial Silts and clays

Trench 20

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
2001	L	Mid grey brown sandy silt	0.35	Ploughsoil
2002	L	Mid yellow brown sandy silt	0.20	Subsoil
2003	L	Reddish brown blue grey silty clays		Natural Glacial silts and clays
2004	C	Linear		Gully
2005	F	Mid grey blue mottled clay		Fill of 2004

Trench 21

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
2100	L	Moderate dark grey silty sand	0.40	Ploughsoil
2101	L	Compact orange grey clay	0.15	Subsoil
2102	L	Grey orange clay		Natural marine clays

Trench 22

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
2200	L	Red brown silty clay with occasional small pebbles	0.36	Ploughsoil
2201	L	Red brown silty clay	0.15	Subsoil
2202	L	Red brown clay		Natural marine clays

Trench 23

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
2301	L	Red brown silty clay	0.40	Topsoil
2302	L	Red brown clayey silt	0.10	Subsoil
2303	L	Blue grey clay		Natural marine clays

Trench 24

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
2400	L	Red brown silty clay	0.42	Topsoil
2401	L	Reddish brown silty clay	0.20	Subsoil
2402	L	Reddish blue clay		Natural marine clays

Trench 25

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
2500	L	Red brown silty clay	0.30	Ploughsoil
2501	L	Red brown silty clay	0.20	Subsoil
2502	L	Red brown silty clay		Natural marine silts

Trench 26

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
2600	L	Compact red brown silty clay	0.48	Ploughsoil
2601	L	Red brown silty clay	0.30	Subsoil
2602	L	Red brown silty clay		Natural marine silts

Trench 28

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
2800	L	Red brown silty sand clay	0.27	Ploughsoil
2801	L	Loose red brown silty clay	0.31	Subsoil
2802	L	Brown silty clay		Natural marine silts

Trench 29

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
2900	L	Red brown silty clay	0.35	Ploughsoil
2901	L	Red brown silty clay	0.47	Subsoil
2902	L	Brown silty clay		Natural marine silts

Trench 30

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
3000	L	Red brown silty clay	0.50	Ploughsoil
3001	L	Red brown silty clay	0.25	Subsoil
3002	L	Red brown silty clay		Natural marine silts

Trench 31

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
3100	L	Red brown silty clay	0.36	Ploughsoil
3101	L	Red brown silty sand	0.24	Subsoil
3102	L	Red brown silty sand		Natural marine silts

Trench 32

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
3200	L	Red brown silty clay	0.42	Ploughsoil
3201	L	Red brown silty clay	0.21	Subsoil
3202	L	Red brown clay		Natural marine clay

Trench 33

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
3300	L	Red brown silty clay	0.38	Ploughsoil
3301	L	Red brown silty clay	0.28	Subsoil
3302	L	Red brown silty clay		Natural marine clays

Trench 34

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
3400	F	Dark orange brown silty clay		Fill of 3401
3401	C	Sub circular feature		Pit
3402	C	Sub circular feature		Pit
3403	F	Brown grey sandy silt		Fill of 3402
3404	F	Brown grey sandy silt	0.40	Ploughsoil
3405	L	Light grey brown sandy silt	0.30	Subsoil
3406	L	Light red brown silty clay		Natural marine silts
3407	C	Linear feature		Linear ditch
3408	L	Dark brown grey clay silt		Fill of 3407
3409	L	Red brown silty clay		Natural marine clays

Trench 35

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
3500	L	Dark grey clayey silt	0.40	Ploughsoil
3501	L	Dark grey brown silty clay	0.23	Subsoil
3502	L	Red brown silty clay		Natural marine silts

Trench 36

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
3601	L	Red brown silty clay	0.60	Ploughsoil
3602	L	Red brown silty clay	0.40	Subsoil
3603	L	Red brown clay		Natural marine clays

Trench 37

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
3701	L	Red brown silty clay	0.65	Ploughsoil
3702	L	Red brown silty clay	0.53	Subsoil
3703	L	Red brown clay		Natural marine clays

Trench 38

Context No.	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
3801	L	Red brown silty clay	0.59	Ploughsoil
3802	L	Red brown silty clay	0.56	Subsoil
3803	L	Red brown clay		Natural marine clays

plum?

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

C Cut feature
F Fill of cut feature
Frag. Fragments
Freq. Frequently occurring
L Layer
Mod. Moderately occurring
Occ. Occasionally occurring
Thck Deposit thickness

Appendix 2

THE FINDS

by Paul Cope-Faulkner, Tom Lane, Rachael Hall,
Hilary Healey and Gary Taylor

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Lincolnshire ceramic type series. A total of 24 fragments of pottery weighing 487g was recovered from 4 separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, a quantity of other artefacts, brick/tile, metals, glass and flint, comprising 22 items weighing a total of 2337g, was retrieved.

The excavated faunal assemblage comprises 25 stratified fragments weighing 184g. The animal bone was identified by reference to published catalogues. No attempt is made to sex or age animals represented within the assemblage, although where this is readily apparent is noted in the comments column.

Provenance

The material was recovered from ploughsoil (700, 800), ditch fills (3401, 3408), a pit (3403) and as unstratified artefacts. The majority of the artefacts and faunal remains were retrieved from Trench 34.

Most of the pottery was made in moderate proximity to Burgh le Marsh, at Old Bolingbroke, Toynton All Saints or elsewhere around the southern end of the Lincolnshire Wolds, 10km to the west. There is also material from Staffordshire.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Fabric Name	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
700 (ploughsoil)	TOY??	Toynton All Saints ware??	Bowl?, abraded	1	8	Medieval?
3401 (pit)	TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke ware	Pancheon	1	59	17 th century
3403 (pit)	TGE	Tin glazed earthenware	Plate, 18 th century	2	7	18 th century
	STSL	Staffordshire slipware	Posset pot, 18 th century	3(2 link)	16	
	WS	White salt glazed stoneware	Moulded pedestal foot of bowl?, 18 th century	1	6	
	TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke ware	Bowl?, 17 th century	1	10	
	TOYII	Toynton late medieval ware	Jug, 15 th -16 th century	1	7	
	GRE	Glazed red earthenware	Handled pancheon, possibly Bolingbroke product, 17 th century	1	160	
	GRE	Glazed red earthenware	Pancheon?, burnt on broken edge, 17 th -18 th century	3(2 link)	79	
	GRE	Glazed red earthenware	Possibly Dutch, incl drinking vessel? 17 th century	3	16	
LONS?	Stoneware, possibly London	Drinking vessel, 17 th century	1	2		

Context	Fabric Code	Fabric Name	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
3408 (fill of ditch 3407)	STSL	Staffordshire slipware	Dish, abraded, 18 th century	1	17	19 th century (or 18 th century if transfer printed ware intrusive)
	WS	White salt glazed stoneware	Moulded pedestal foot of bowl?, 18 th century	1	6	
	GRE	Glazed red earthenware	Separate vessels, incl pancheon (abraded), possibly Bolingbroke products, 17 th -18 th century	3	93	
	TPW	Transfer printed ware	Blue and white cup, 19 th century	1	1	

Most of the material from Trench 34 (contexts 3401, 3403) is 17th-18th century. In addition to the predominantly 18th century collection, context (3408) also yielded a small piece of 19th century ceramic that may be intrusive.

Contexts (3403) and (3408) both contained decorative feet from a white stoneware bowl. Although these pieces do not link they are almost certainly from the same vessel.

Table 2: Other Artefacts

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
Unstratified	Flint	Blade fragment, late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age	1	1	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age
	Flint	Retouched pot lid, early Neolithic	1	8	
	Flint	Waste flake, late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age	1	1	
	Flint	Chunk/waste flake, late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age	1	2	
700 (ploughsoil)	Flint	Waste flake	1	3	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age
800 (ploughsoil)	Flint	Flake	1	2	
3401 (pit)	Copper alloy	Sub-circular loop 43mm across with 3 adjacent smaller loops each 15mm across on one side; possible harness distributor ring	1	19	Post-medieval
3403 (pit)	CBM	Brick/tile	3	27	Post-medieval
	CBM	Handmade brick, post-medieval	1	77	
	CBM	Handmade brick, 81mm wide, 46mm thick, late medieval-early post-medieval	1	617	
	Iron	Lock plate, post-medieval	1	12	
3408 (fill of ditch 3407)	Glass	Wine bottle base, green, moderate kick-up, 18 th century	2(link)	374	18 th century
	Glass	Window glass, very pale green, much iridescence, post-medieval	1	2	
	Iron	Scale tang knife, handle 55mm long, max width 24mm, blade >56mm long, max width 30mm; back of tang and blade in straight line, post-medieval	1	47	
	CBM	Handmade brick, 104mm wide, 51mm thick, post-medieval	1	957	
	CBM	Handmade brick, post-medieval	1	102	
	CBM	Brick/tile, burnt, post-medieval	1	21	

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
	CBM	Tile, oxidized throughout, 16mm thick, post-medieval	2(link)	65	

A broken iron knife was recovered from (3408). This is a scale tang implement with the back of the tang and blade in a straight line. Such knives are typically 14th century and later (Cowgill *et al.* 1987, 92-104). Comparable knives have been found in Norwich and there dated to the 17th century (Goodall 1993, 128-9).

Table 3: The Faunal Remains

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
3401 (pit)	Cockle	Shell	7	10	
	Mussel	Shell	12	23	
3408 (fill of ditch 3407)	Deer	Tibia	1	50	
	Cattle sized	Mandible	1	25	
	Sheep sized	Radius	1	30	
	Sheep sized	Humerus	1	30	
	Sheep sized	Mandible	1	12	
	Sheep sized	Metacarpal	1	4	Juvenile

The faunal assemblage is too small to invite further comment.

Condition

All the material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

Documentation

There have been previous archaeological investigations at Burgh le Marsh that are the subjects of reports. Moreover, the present site has been the subject of previous research and non-invasive field investigations. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

The collection of artefacts is of limited-moderate local potential and significance. Although mostly unstratified, the flintwork indicates prehistoric activity in the area. A moderately large collection of mixed post-medieval artefacts was recovered from Trench 34 and indicates 17th-18th century occupation in the general vicinity of this trench.

There is a general dearth of cultural material from the route that would tend to suggest the area was agricultural in function, or unoccupied, for most of the past.

References

Cowgill, J., de Neergaard, M. and Griffiths, N., 1987 *Knives and Scabbards*, Medieval Finds from Excavations in London **1**

Goodall, I. H., 1993 'Iron knives', in S. Margeson, *Norwich Households: The Medieval and Post-Medieval Finds from Norwich Survey Excavations 1971-1978*, East Anglian Archaeology **58**

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

Appendix 3

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

165	-	Context records
6	-	Photographic record sheets
8	-	Drawing sheets
1	-	Stratigraphic matrix
2	-	Bag of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Lincolnshire City and County Museum
12 Friars Lane
Lincoln
LN2 1HQ

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

Accession Number: TBA

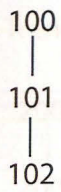
Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BMBE 04

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

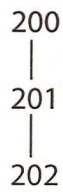
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Appendix 4: Individual Trench Matrices

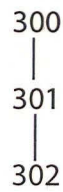
Trench 1



Trench 2



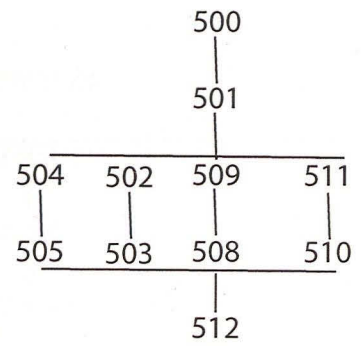
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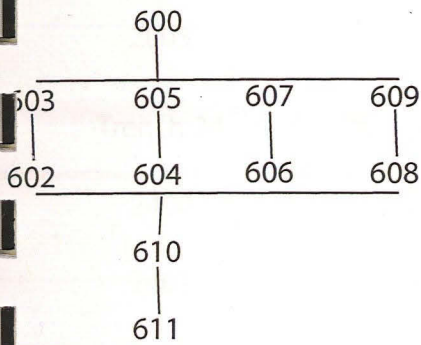
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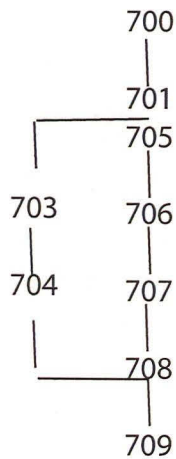
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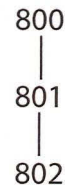
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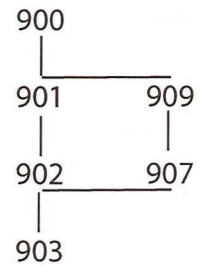
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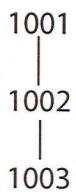
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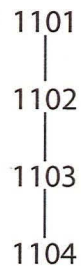
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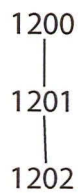
Trench 10



Trench 11



Trench 12



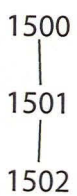
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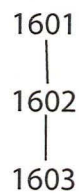
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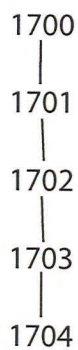
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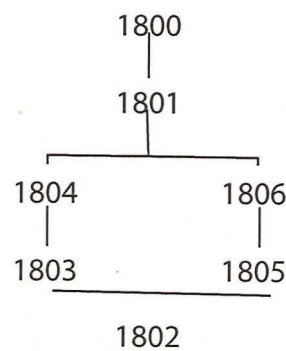
Trench 16



Trench 17



Trench 18



Trench 19



Individual Trench Matrix

Trench 20

2000
|
2001
|
2002
|
2005
|
2004
|
2003

Trench 21

2100
|
2101
|
2102

Trench 22

2200
|
2201
|
2202

Trench 23

2301
|
2302
|
2303

Trench 24

2400
|
2401
|
2402

Trench 25

2500
|
2501
|
2502

Trench 26

2600
|
2601
|
2602

Trench 28

2800
|
2801
|
2802

Trench 29

2900
|
2901
|
2902

Trench 30

3000
|
3001
|
3002

Trench 31

3100
|
3101
|
3102

Trench 32

3200
|
3201
|
3202

Trench 33

3300
|
3301
|
3302

Trench 34

3404
|
3405

3400 3403 3408
| | |
3401 3402 3407

3406/3409

Trench 35

3500
|
3501
|
3502

Trench 36

3601
|
3602
|
3603

Trench 37

3701
|
3702
|
3703

Trench 38

3801
|
3802
|
3803

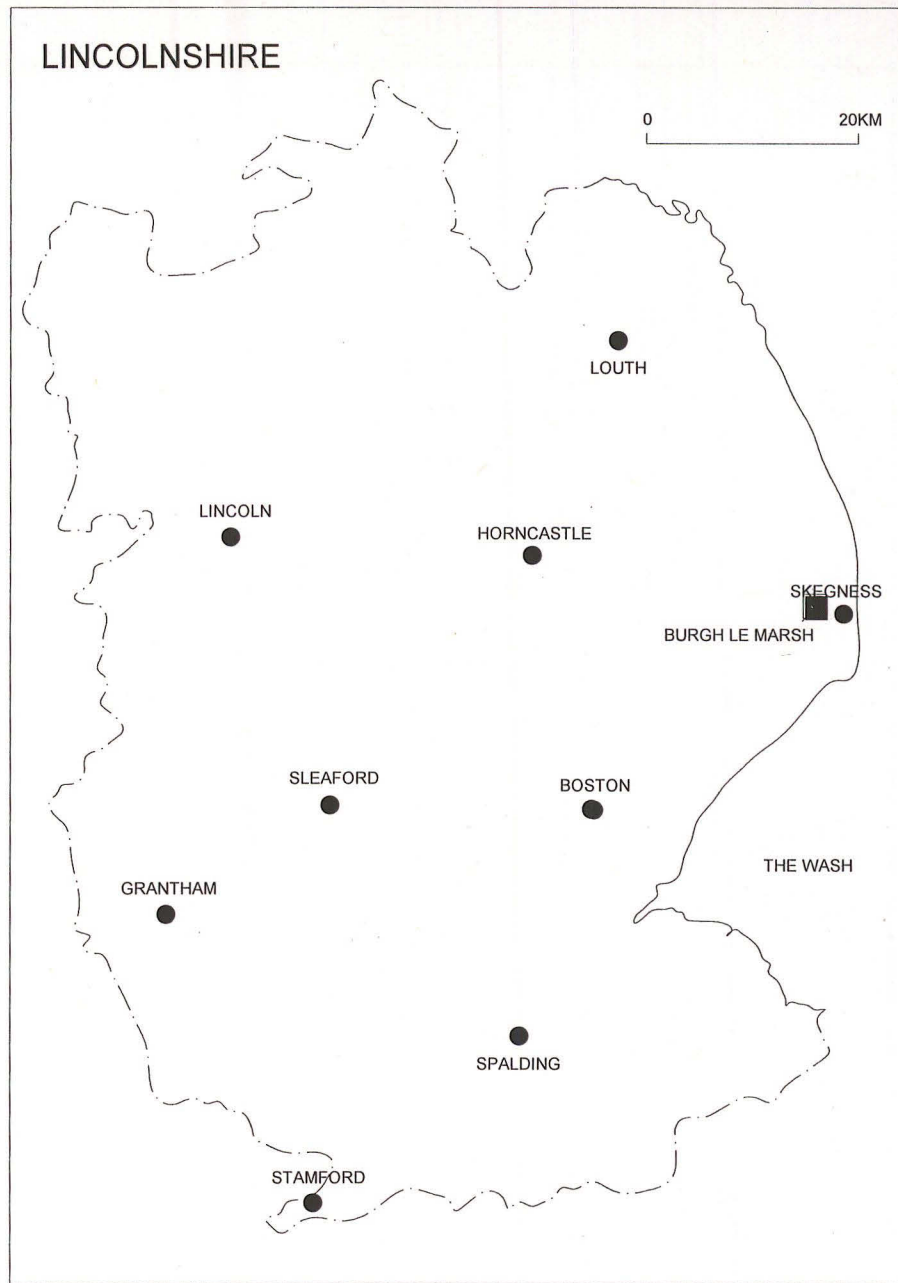
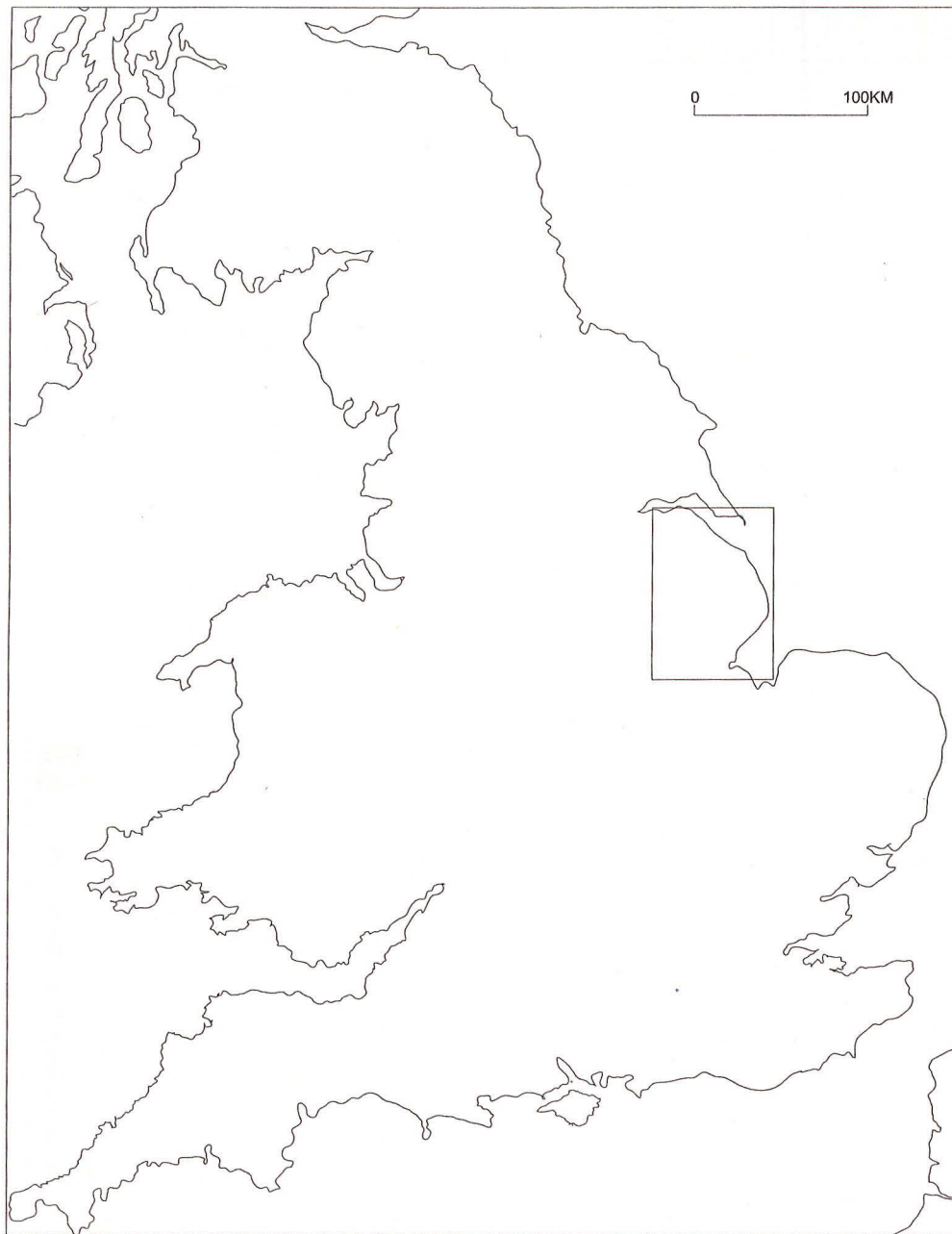


Figure 1 - General location plan

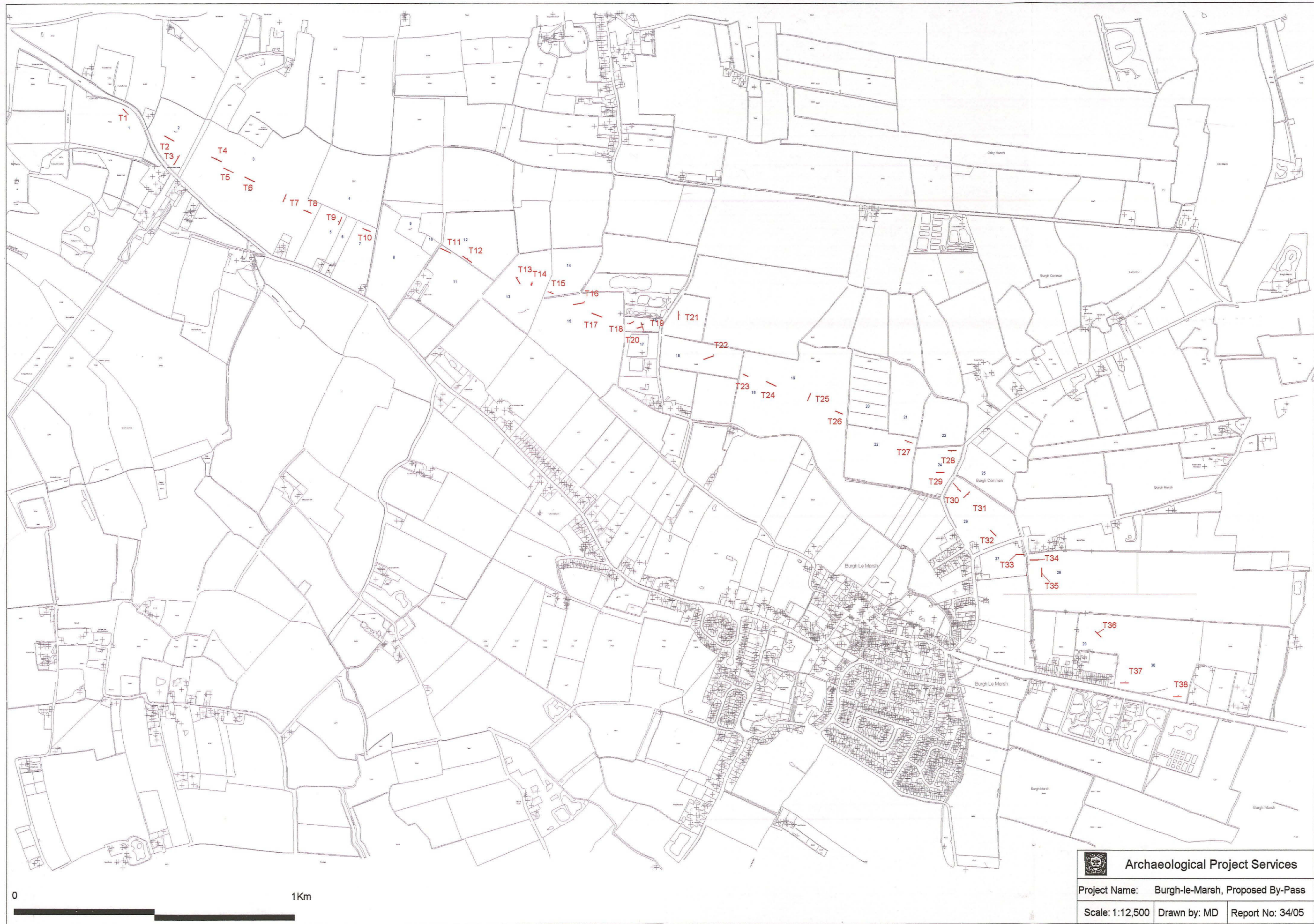


Figure 2 Trench location plan

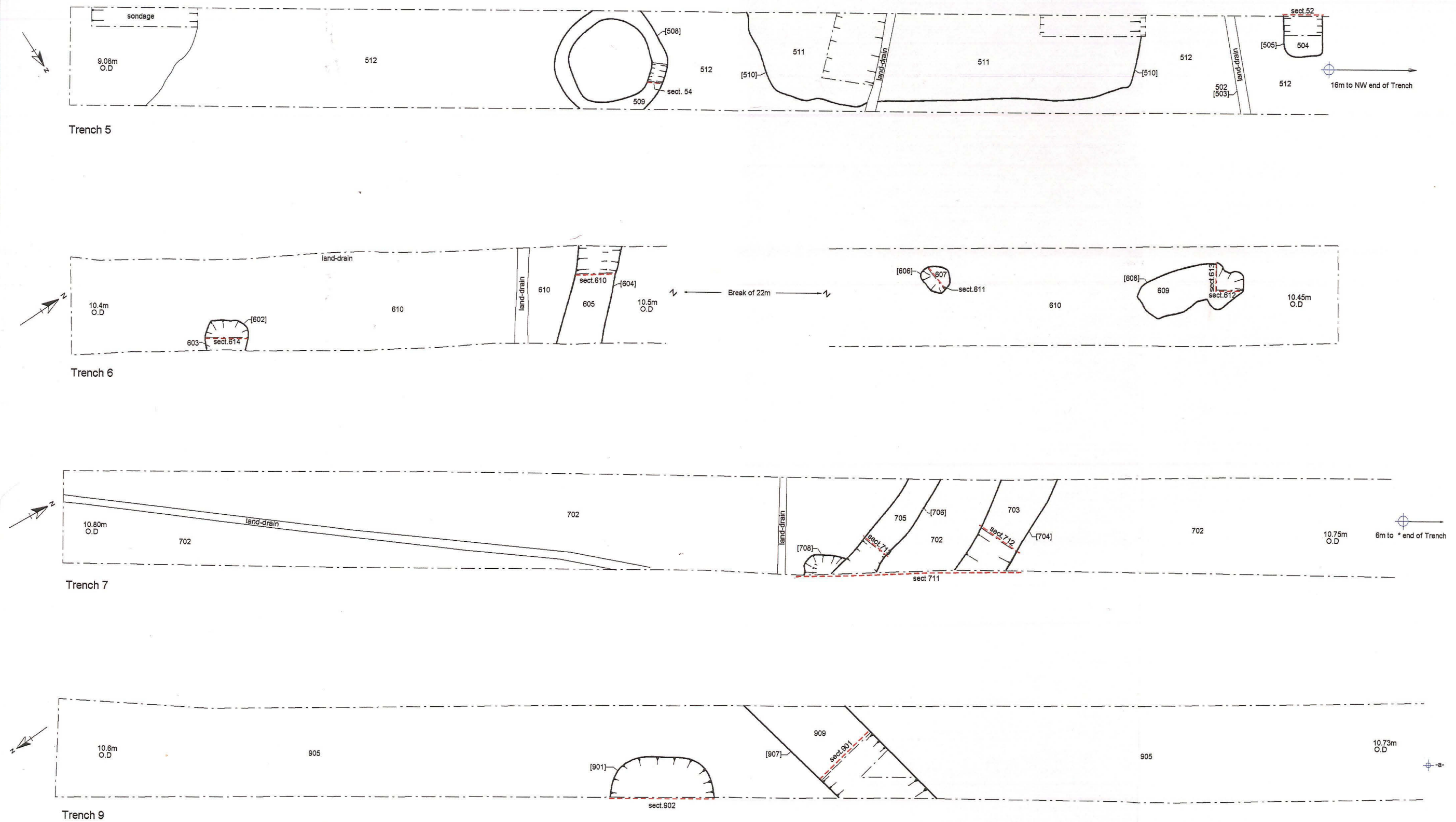



Figure 3: Plans, Trenches 5, 6, 7 and 9

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Project Name: Burgh Le March Bypass (BMBE04)		
Scale: 1:75	Drawn by: RVH	Report No: 34/05

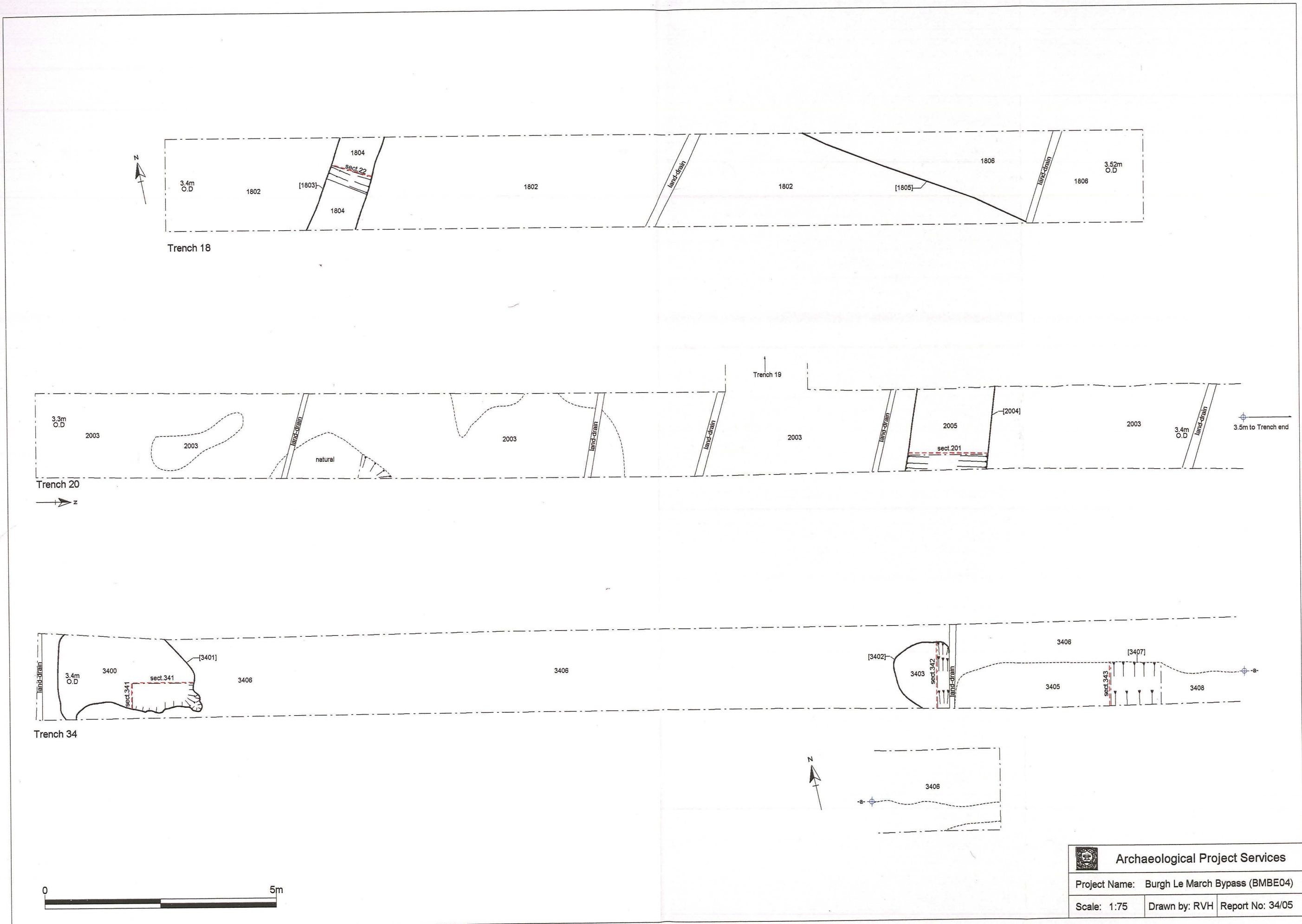


Figure 4: Plans, Trenches 18, 20 and 34

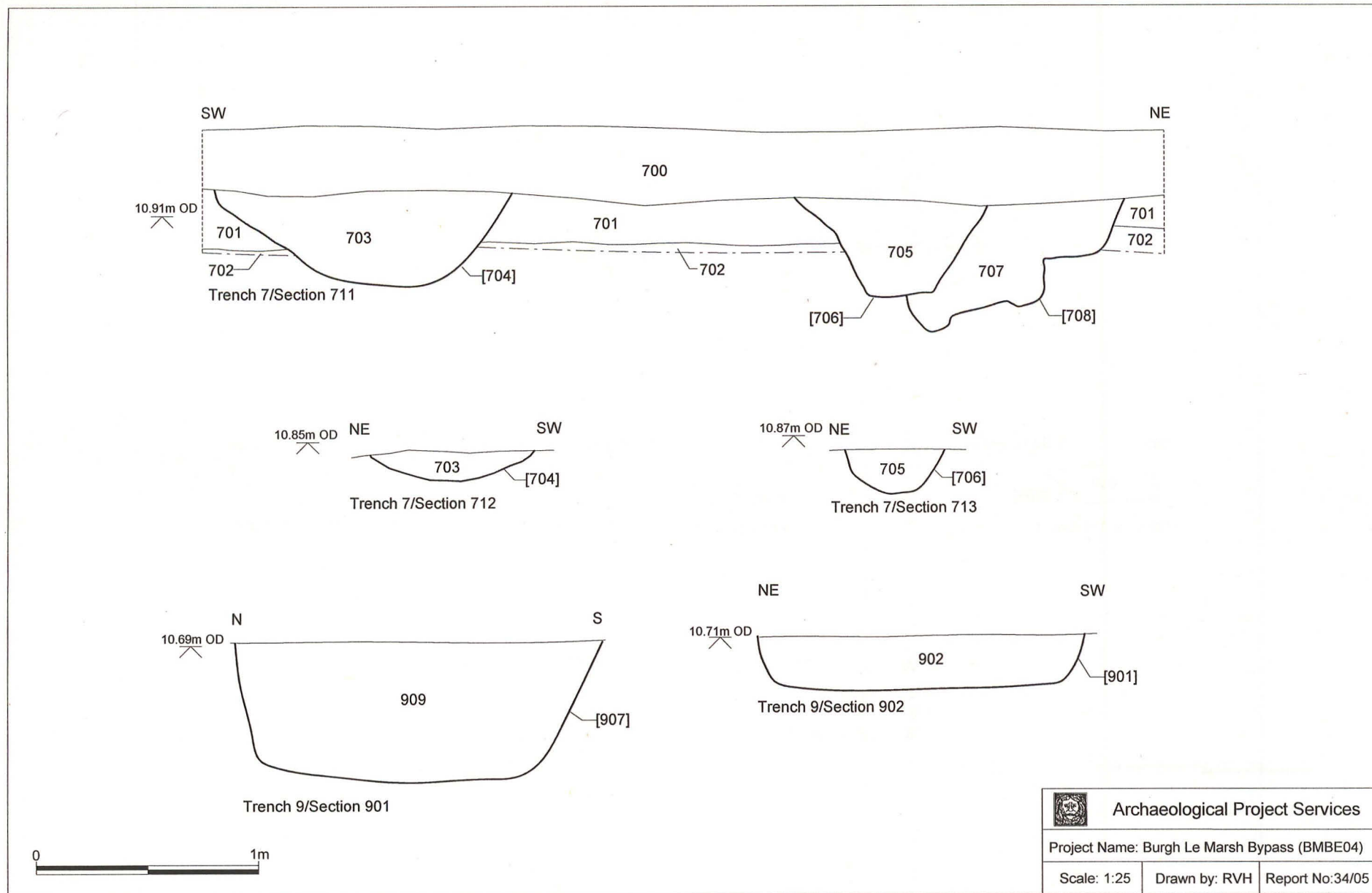


Figure 5: Trenches 7 and 9, sections

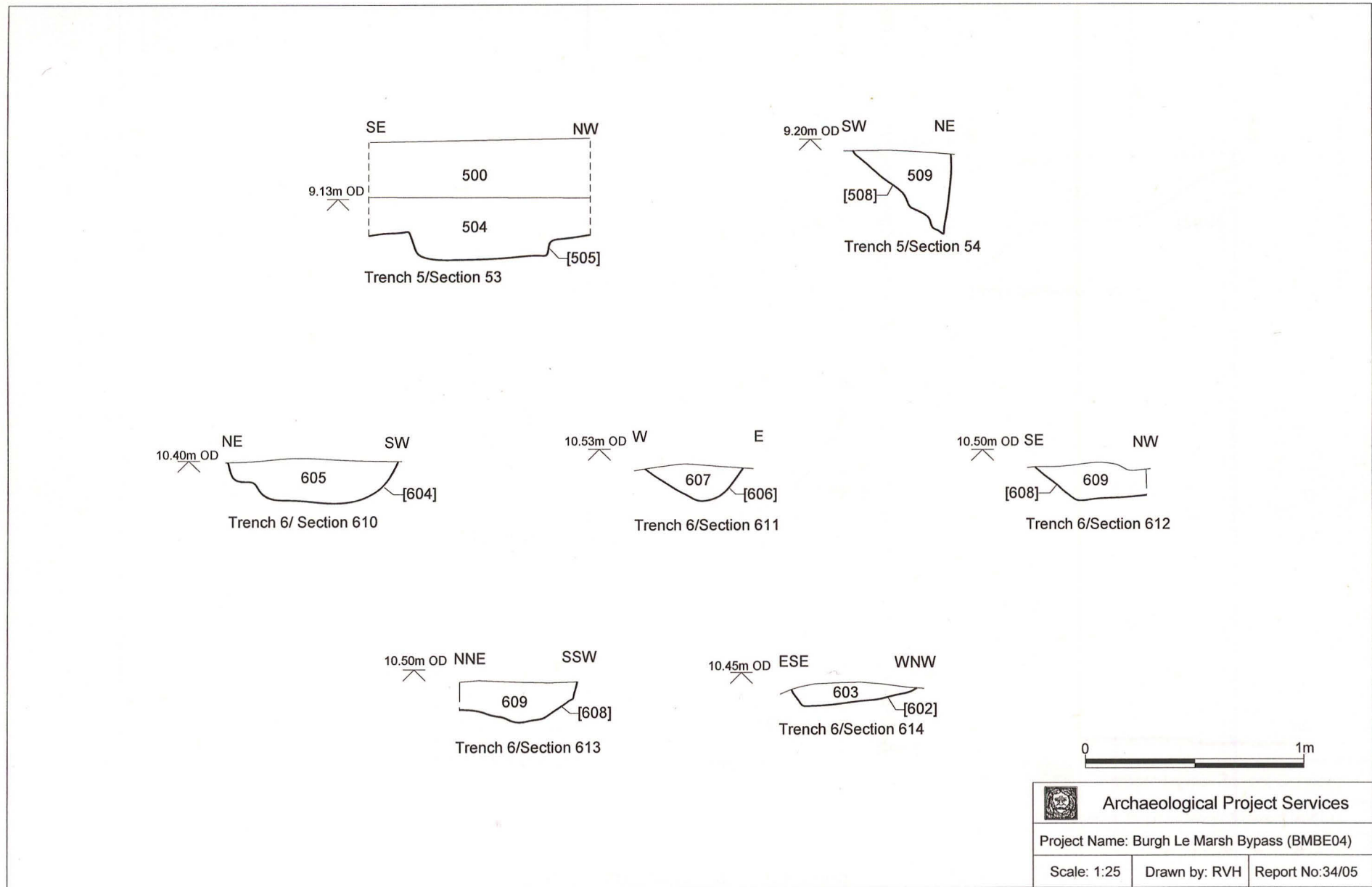

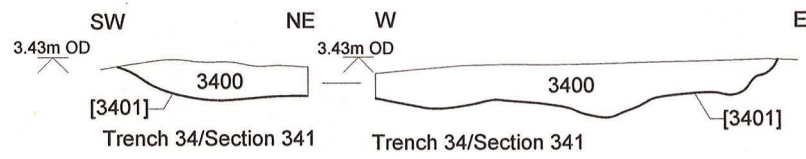
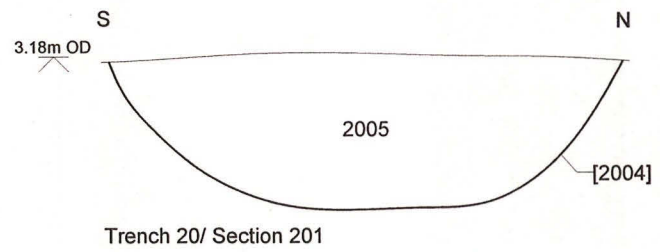
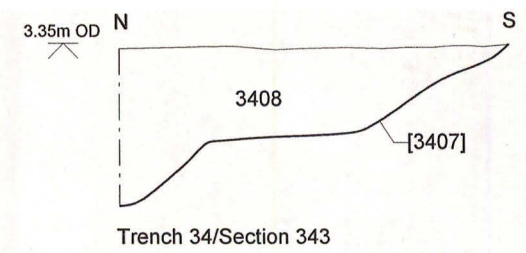
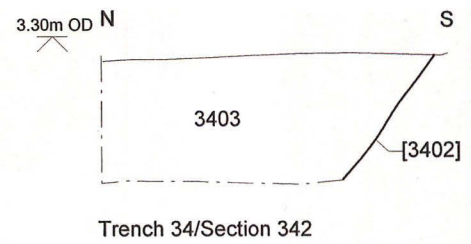
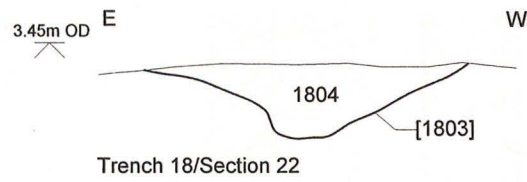


Figure 6: Trenches 5 and 6, sections

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Project Name: Burgh Le Marsh Bypass (BMBE04)		
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Scale: 1:25	Drawn by: RVH	Report No: 34/05

Figure 7: Trenches 18 and 34, sections



Trench 6
Post excavation



Trench 6 Feature 604,



Trench 7. Features 704 and 706



Trench 7. Gulley 704



Trench 9, Pit 901



Trench 9, Ditch 907



Trench 34 Pre Excavation. Note feature 3401 in the near distance.



Trench 34 Feature 3402 with field drain.

Pl. 4 Trench 34 Features 3401 and 3402