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Flagship Housing Ltd

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LAND TO THE SOUTH-EAST OF CHURCH STREET, GREAT ELLINGHAM, NORFOLK

Informative Trenching as Part of a Programme of Archaeological Mitigatory Work

G Trimble

LAND TO THE SOUTHEAST OF CHURCH STREET, GREAT ELLINGHAM, NORFOLK

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRENCHING AS PART OF A PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATORY WORK

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Informative Trenching as Part of a Programme of Archaeological Mitigatory Work

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LAND TO THE SOUTHEAST OF CHURCH STREET, GREAT ELLINGHAM, NORFOLK

INFORMATIVE TRENCHING AS PART OF A PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATORY WORK

SUMMARY

This report presents the results of Informative Trenching as part of a Programme of Archaeological Mitigatory Work undertaken on Land to the Southeast of Church Street, Great Ellingham, Norfolk. The project was commissioned by Flagship Housing Ltd in response to a condition of planning permission requiring a programme of archaeological informative trenching to assess the potential for significant archaeological deposits and the likely impact of the development upon any surviving remains.

The area of the proposed development comprises approximately 2.65ha of agricultural land situated on the eastern periphery of the village.

Although no known monuments or findspots are located within the development area, finds of prehistoric, Roman, Anglo-Saxon and medieval date have been recorded in the locality. A cemetery of Roman or medieval date has been excavated in close proximity to the site whilst recent work on land north of Attleborough Road, close to the centre of the village, has recorded settlement evidence of Anglo-Saxon and medieval date.

Thirteen trenches were excavated as part of the project, distributed to achieve maximum coverage of the proposed development area. Anomalies identified as potentially significant archaeological features by a preceding geophysical survey were targeted by each trench. The trenching has confirmed that archaeological features are present on the site and survive in a good state of preservation. The features including ditches, pits and occasional post-holes were mainly concentrated in trenches on higher ground in the western part of site. Although the project recorded a high density of features, dateable artefacts were relatively scarce. However, most features appear to date to the Late Saxon period and represent probable settlement evidence in association with ditched enclosures. Occupation of the site appears to have ceased following the Norman conquest although ditched enclosures of 12th to 14th century were recorded on the site. Two very large pits of uncertain function probably date to the 12th or 13th century.

1.0 INTRODUCTION (Figs 1 & 2)

This report presents the results of Informative Trenching as Part of a Programme of Archaeological Mitigatory Work undertaken on land to the southeast of Church Street, Great Ellingham, Norfolk (Figs 1 & 2). The project was commissioned by Flagship Housing Ltd to provide information in support of a planning application submitted to Breckland District Council for residential development on the site. Fieldwork was carried out between the 23rd November 2020 and 8th January 2021, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation produced by Witham Archaeology and approved by the local planning authority Planning Archaeologist.

The information in this document is presented with the proviso that further data may yet emerge. Witham Archaeology cannot, therefore, be held responsible for any loss, delay or damage, material or otherwise, arising out of this report. The document has been prepared in accordance with the Code of Conduct of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

2.0 SITE LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY & GEOLOGY (Figs. 1 & 2, Plates 1 - 5)

The village of Great Ellingham is located in the administrative district of Breckland, approximately 25km southwest of Norwich and 19km northeast of Thetford (Fig. 1). The development site is located south of the village core, centered on NGR TM 0207 9694. It covers an area of 2.65ha, occupying the northern part of a large arable field. The southeast-to-northwest line of Attleborough Road borders the east side of the site whilst Church Street skirts the northwest side. Open cultivated farmland lies beyond the southern perimeter of the site.

The bedrock geology in the locality is the Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation. The superficial deposits comprise Lowestoft Formation chalky tills, sands and gravels (British Geological Survey). The village is located on a gradual west-to-east slope above the floodplain of the River Thet which lies to the east. The site is at an elevation of between 50m and 51m above Ordnance datum (OD) sloping down very gradually to the east.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The following account is largely based on a search of records held by the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER), concentrating on sites within a 1km radius of the site.

Evidence for prehistoric activity in the locality of the development site is sparse and comprises a fragment of a Bronze Age socketed axe found approximately 270m to the west and an Iron Age harness fitting found around 625m to the northwest. An Iron Age coin was found 1km further to the northwest. Several possible Bronze age barrows are visible on aerial photographs at a site known as Barrow Field around 700m northeast of the development site.

The line of Attleborough Road which borders the east side of the site may follow the line of a Roman Road running from Attleborough toward Little Ellingham. No firm evidence of a road has been recorded but the presence of a Saxon settlement identified during recent excavations immediately north of Attleborough Road provides support for the presence one at this location. Although no settlement of Roman date has been identified in the vicinity of the development site, a number of inhumation burial sites have been recorded in Great Ellingham which might be of Roman date. A large cemetery has been archaeologically investigated around 240m northwest of the current site whilst more burials were recorded during excavations on Church Street 250m north of the site. Although these burials were previously thought to be Roman, reinterpretation suggests they might be Late Saxon or medieval (John Percival pers comm). Evidence for Roman settlement is limited and only a small number of artefacts have been recorded in the locality of the development site. These include a Roman brooch found 600m north of the site and two sherds of pottery found 250m to the east. Recent excavations at a site north of Attleborough Road, at a distance of around 400m from the current site, recorded several pits of Roman date and recovered several sherds of pottery and coins.

Until archaeological investigations on the north side of Attleborough Road in 2018 (Mellor 2019 and Pascoe in prep.), the only evidence for Anglo Saxon activity in the area was restricted to several sherds of pottery and a silver mount found in fields to the west of the village. The excavations recorded post-built structures, pits and ditches of Late Anglo-Saxon date representing a settlement near the Attleborough Road frontage and alongside the postulated Roman Road.

Ellingham as recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086 was a large settlement comprising 47 households. St James' church was constructed in the 14th century and is located approximately 160m north of the development site. The historic settlement at Ellingham would have focussed on the church, and this is confirmed by the discovery of in situ medieval remains recorded during archaeological investigations on Church Street. The site of the Post Medieval Bury Hall, approximately 400m north of the development site, is thought to have been the location of a former medieval moated site. The site of another moated manor house, Old Hall, has been identified from aerial photographs and historic map evidence, approximately 650m north of the development site. Cropmarks here, identified as possible banks or ditches of medieval or post-medieval date, have recently been recorded by the National Mapping Programme in Norfolk.

4.0 AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The principal objectives of the project, as set out in a Witham Archaeology specification dated 20th May 2020, were to:

- *provide information on the presence/absence, nature, date and quality of survival of archaeological deposits and remains which might be contained within the site, at the depth of proposed construction disturbance, and to assess the importance of such remains in terms of their local, regional and national context.*
- *assess the possible scale of development impact on any remains and provide information which might influence development design so that impact on any remains can be avoided or minimised.*
- *provide information that will allow the local planning authority to reconcile development proposals with their policy for preserving archaeological remains and make an informed and reasoned decision on the planning application.*
- *provide site specific archaeological information which (if necessary) would allow for the design and integration of timing and funding of any further archaeological work (or other mitigating strategy) which might be required in advance of or during any subsequent development programme.*
- *produce a project archive for deposition with the appropriate museum and from which the potential for further study and academic research could be assessed.*
- *provide information for accession to the Norfolk Environment Record (HER).*

5.0 METHODOLOGY (Fig. 2)

The project specification provided for the excavation of thirteen trenches forming a sample of approximately 4% of the site (Fig. 2). Eleven of the trenches were 50m in length and 1.8m in width and two trenches were 20m in length and 1.8m in width. The trenches were evenly distributed around the area of the proposed development, placed to achieve maximum coverage. Each trench was positioned to target anomalies of possible archaeological origin identified during the preceding geophysical survey.

All topsoil and overburden removal from trenches was carried out by mechanical excavator fitted with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket. Where required, trench bases and sides were then cleaned by hand to allow characterisation and where possible dating of the stratigraphic sequence.

A record of the site was compiled through plans drawn at scale 1:20 and sections at 1: 10, colour digital photographs, and individual written context records on *pro forma* recording sheets.

All features and spoil were scanned with a metal detector. Artefacts recovered included modern iron implements. Many of these artefacts were obviously corroded tractor and other farm machinery parts reflecting the previous use of this area as arable farmland. All of the objects were discarded.

6.0 RESULTS (Figs. 4-29, Plates 6 – 70)

For ease of reference, the following account is presented on a trench-by-trench basis. Full context descriptions are provided in Appendix A, which includes a summary of finds recovered from individual contexts and of the date assigned to the contexts with reference to dateable artefacts. Complete catalogues of finds are provided in further Appendices.

6.1 Trench 1 (Figs. 2 – 15; Plates 6 -32)

Trench 1, aligned south southeast to west northwest, was located at the northwest corner of the site, measuring 50m in length 1.80m in width (Fig. 2). The trench was excavated to an average depth of 0.57m below the present ground surface (Plates 6 & 7) where natural deposits were encountered at a depth of 0.53m (49.37m OD). The natural (102) was a light brown sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. The overlying subsoil (101) was a brownish grey silty sand which measured 0.16m in average thickness. Topsoil (100) comprised grey silty sand and measured an average of 0.32m thick.

A dense concentration of features was recorded in Trench 1, comprising 6 ditches, 2 gullies, 22 pits, 2 post-holes and 2 post-holes or small pits. Most of the pits occurred in clusters, many of which were intercutting. Two of the pits were particularly large. Although some features were identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 3), others were previously unrecorded.

Five prehistoric worked flints were recovered from the spoilheap ranging in date from Earlier Neolithic to Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age. The items included an earlier Neolithic chisel fragment

Pit [118]

The southern edge of a substantial pit [118] was recorded at the northern end of the trench (Fig. 4). It was only partially exposed in the trench, continuing beyond the northern, eastern and western limits of excavation. The interpretation of this feature as a large pit as opposed to an east-to-west orientated ditch is based on the geophysics results which indicated a large circular anomaly in the approximate location of the recorded pit. The exposed portion measured 1.70m north-to-south and extended across the full width of the trench (1.8m).

The top of the cut was steep but broke to a flat and shallow 'berm' at a distance of 100mm from the top (Fig. 9, Section 20 & Plate 8). The berm measured 0.70m in width before breaking gradually to a steep slope toward the base. The presence of ground water and restricted space in which to excavate meant that the base was not reached but a depth of 0.63m was recorded. A primary deposit of light greyish brown silty sand (119) lined the side of the cut to a thickness of 70mm, yielding fragments of large mammal bone. This was sealed by a deposit of dark greyish brown silty sand (120) which measured 1.60m in width and had depth of 0.63m.

Post-Hole [121]

Post-hole [121] was located close to the edge of Pit [118] (Fig. 4). The cut was subcircular in plan, measuring 0.26m (maximum) in diameter and 0.10m in depth. The sides of the cut were steep whilst the base was concave (Fig. 9, Section 21 & Plate 9). It was filled by a single deposit of dark grey mottled silty sand (122).

Post-Hole [103]

Post-hole [103] was situated 0.87m southeast of Post-Hole [121] (Fig. 4). The cut was subcircular in plan, measuring 0.21m (maximum) in diameter and 0.10m in depth. The sides were steeply sloped whilst the base was rounded (Fig. 9, Section 22 & Plate 10). It was filled by a single deposit of grey silty sand (104).

Pit or Post-Hole [105]

Pit or Post-hole [105] was situated 0.90m southeast of [103] (Fig. 4). The feature may have been a large post-hole associated with post-holes [103] and [121] located a short distance to the northwest. The cut was oval in plan and measured 0.55m in length north-to-south, 0.30m in width east-to-west and 0.15m in depth. The sides of the cut were steep whilst the base was concave (Fig. 9, Section 23 & Plate 11). It was filled by a single deposit of pale grey silty sand with yellowish brown and black mottling (106).

Pit or Post-Hole [116]

The cut was only partially exposed within the trench but was either oval or circular in plan (Fig. 4). It could have been a large post-hole associated with the post-holes [103] and [121] and Pit or Post-hole [105]. The upper part of the south side was truncated by the cut of a possible Ditch [176]. The exposed portion measured 0.40m x 0.26m in plan by 0.28m deep. The sides of the cut were steeply sloped whilst the base was concave in profile (Fig. 10, Section 9 & Plate 12). It was filled by a single deposit of brownish grey silty sand (117). The deposit produced a fragment of cut and scraped cattle scapula.

Ditch [174]

East-to-west orientated linear Ditch [174] was located in the northern part of the trench (Fig. 4). Its uppermost parts had been cut away by overlying large pit [169] (Fig. 10, Section 9 & Plate 13). The surviving part of the cut measured 0.96m in width and 0.20m in depth. The sides of the cut were gradually sloped whilst the base was concave. It was filled by a single deposit of light grey silty sand (175).

Ditch [176]

Ditch [176] was severely truncated by the overlying large Pit [169] and located immediately north of Ditch [174] (Fig. 4). It is possible that it forms the north, shallower side of Ditch [174] but the relationship has been lost due to truncation by [169]. The cut was orientated northeast-to-southwest, measuring 1.40m in width and 0.20m (maximum) in depth. The surviving side of the cut was gently sloped whilst the base was concave (Fig. 10, Section 9). It was filled by a single deposit of light grey silty sand (177).

Pit [107]

Pit [107] was situated 6.77m southwest of Ditch [176] (Fig. 4). The upper parts of the pit had been truncated by overlying large pit [169] (Fig. 10, Section 9). The cut was oval in plan and measured 1.60m in length, 0.90m in width and 0.23-0.40m in depth. The longer axis was orientated northwest-to-southeast. The sides were gradually sloped whilst the base was concave (Fig. 11, Section 10 & Plate 15). It was filled by a single deposit of light grey silty sand with whitish grey mottling (108).

Pit [169]

Pit [169] was an extensive cut which continued beyond the eastern and western limits of excavation (Fig. 4). The exposed portion of the cut suggests a circular plan shape. The full north-to-south extent measured 9.50m whilst a depth of 0.50m was recorded. The sides of the cut were very gently sloped to form a dish shaped profile (Fig. 10, Section 9 & Plates 13 & 14). The primary fill (173) consisted of a compact and cemented light grey deposit of rounded and subrounded pebbles. The pebbles measured up to 50mm in diameter and were set within a matrix of grey silty sand which included moderately frequent charcoal flecks and occasional flecks of chalk. The deposit measured 7.80m in extent north-to-south and lined the south side and base uniformly to a depth averaging around 0.15m. The deposit did not continue up the north side of the cut. Above the stony primary fill (173) was a sequence of three stone free fills. The lowest in the sequence was (172) a greyish brown silty sand which extended almost the entire width of the pit. It measured 8.50m in extent north-to-south and had a relatively uniform thickness of 0.20m. Sealing (172) was (171), a yellowish brown and greyish brown silty sand, measuring 6.80m north-to-south, with a maximum thickness of 0.10m. The uppermost fill, (170), was a brownish grey silty sand which measured 8.50m in extent north-to-south and had a thickness of 0.22m.

Three sherds of pottery dated late 12th to 14th century were recovered from (172), together with parts of a dog mandible, fragments of cattle bone and unspecified mammal remains. It is possible that the pottery was residual, given that Pit [169] was cut through the subsoil which sealed other features in the trench. This raises the possibility of a post-medieval or even a modern date for the pit. The function of the pit remains uncertain.

Pit [109]

Pit [109] was located 2.50m southeast of the southern edge of large pit [169] (Fig. 4). The cut was not fully exposed in the trench and continued beyond the western limit of excavation. However, the exposed portion suggests a square or rectangular plan shape with rounded corners. It measured 0.96m in length and was revealed to a width of 0.30m. It had a depth of 0.22m. The cut was gradually sloped at the top but broke to vertical close to the base which was generally flat (Fig. 11, Section 12 & Plate 16). It was filled by a single deposit of grey silty sand with brown mottling (110). A single sherd of 10th or 11th century pottery was recovered from the fill, together fragments of animal bone identified only as from a mammal.

Ditch [111]

Linear northwest-to-southeast orientated Ditch [111] was located 2.95m southeast of Pit [109] (Fig. 4) and revealed over a distance of 2m, extending beyond the limits of excavation in both directions. Its width varied between 1.50m and 2m, and a maximum depth of 0.50m was recorded. The sides of the cut were gradually to gently sloped whilst the base was concave (Fig. 11, Section 2 & Plate 17). Its primary fill (113) was a light brownish grey silty sand 0.50m in width and 0.12m thick, situated on the south side of the ditch and partially covering the base. The remaining fill was grey silty sand (112). Three pottery sherds recovered from (112) indicate deposition in the late 12th to 14th century. The deposit also produced a single equid bone and the unfused bones of a large dog.

Ditch [114]

Linear northwest-to-southeast orientated ditch [114] was located just 0.50m south of Ditch [111] and shared the same alignment (Fig. 4). It was exposed for a distance of 2m, extending beyond the limits of excavation in both directions and varying in width between 1.15m and 1.45m. A depth of 0.22m was recorded. The sides of the cut were gently to gradually sloped whilst the base was concave (Fig. 12, Section 1 & Plate 18). It was filled by a single deposit of grey silty sand (115). Two sherds of pottery were recovered from the ditch suggesting a possible 11th century date for the feature. The deposit also produced a small quantity of animal bone: a dog tibia, a cattle humerus, a sheep/goat tibia and fragments of unspecified mammal bone.

Gully [123]

Linear east-to-west orientated gully [123] was located 1.50m south of Ditch [114] (Fig. 4). The gully terminated in a rounded end but extended beyond the western limit of excavation. It measured 0.50m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.30m. The sides were gradually sloped whilst the base was concave (Fig. 12, Section 11). It was filled by a single deposit of grey silty sand with yellowish brown and rusty brown mottling (124).

Pits [134], [129], [125], [132] & [127]

Located in the central part of the trench was a group of five intercutting pits of various shapes and sizes which occupied an area measuring 3.30m southwest-to-northeast (Figs. 5 & 6).

Pit [134] was situated in the southeastern part of the pit cluster (Fig. 6) but was only partially exposed in the excavation area. Most of the cut lay beyond the eastern limit of excavation and it was severely truncated by overlying pit [132]. In plan, its visible extent was 0.37m southeast-to-northwest and 0.11m southwest-to-northeast. The cut was curving in plan, suggesting a circular or oval shape. In profile the surviving part of the cut was seen to have a steeply inclined side and a flattish but slightly sloping base (Fig. 12, Section 6 & Plate 19). It was filled by a single deposit of pale grey silty sand (135). The deposit yielded a single fragment of medium mammal bone.

Pit [129] was located 0.60m west of Pit [134] (Fig. 6). The northern and southeastern edges of the pit had been truncated by overlying pits [127] and [132]. The cut was oval in plan and measured 0.90m north-to-south and 0.60m east-to-west. It had a depth of 0.44m. The sides of the cut were steep whilst the base was concave (Fig. 12, Sections 7 & 8 & Plates 19 & 20). The primary fill of the pit consisted of brown silty fine sand (130) which measured 0.15m in width and 0.15m thick. The upper fill of dark grey silty sand (131) measured 0.60m in width and 0.30m in depth. The context also produced 3 fragments of fired clay, one with wattle impressions, and a single fragment of large mammal bone.

Pit [125] was mostly recorded in section and was largely cut away by elongated pit [127]. Only a small area was visible close to the western trench baulk (Fig. 6). The cut had a width of 1.25m and a depth of 0.45m. It had gently to gradually sloped sides and a slightly concave base (Fig. 13, Section 3 & Plates 20 & 21). It was filled by a single deposit of dark grey silty sand (126), which yielded a single fragment of mammal bone.

Pit [132] was situated in the southeastern part of the pit cluster, truncated by pits [134] and [129] (Fig. 6). The pit was not itself truncated by any overlying features although part of its east side lay beyond the eastern limit of excavation. It was oval in plan, measuring 1.60m in length north-to-south, 0.70m in width and 0.45m in depth. The sides of the cut were steep to gradually sloped whilst the base was concave (Fig. 12, Section 7 & Plates 19 & 20). It was filled by a single deposit of dark brownish grey silty sand (133).

Pit [127] truncated pits [125] and [129] (Fig. 6). The pit had an elongated rectangular plan shape and was aligned southeast-to-northwest. It had a length of 2.15m, a width of 0.70m and a depth of 0.35. The sides of the cut were steeply inclined whilst the base was flat (Fig 12, Section 8 & Fig. 13 Sections 3 & 4) (Plate 19, 20, 21 & 23). It was filled by a single deposit of dark brownish grey silty sand with orange sand mottling (128).

Pits [178] & [183]

At a distance of 1.65m southwest of the intercutting pits described above were two further intercutting pits [178] and [183] (Fig. 7). The relationship between the pits could not be established owing to the similarity of their respective fills. Both pits were only partially revealed in the trench area and continued beyond the western limit of excavation. Pit [183] was located south of [178]. It had an ovoid plan shape and measured 0.92m north-to-south, 0.52m east-to-west 0.31m in depth. The sides of the cut were steep at the top of the cut but broke to a gradual slope about half of the way down (Fig. 13, Section 13 & Plate 22). The base was gently concave. The cut was filled by a single deposit of grey silty sand with orangey brown mottling (184). Pit [178] had an ovoid but irregular plan shape (Fig. 7). It was recorded for a distance of 1.1m in length north-to-south and 0.32m in width east-to-west. It had a depth of 0.60m. The north and east sides of the cut (the only sides revealed by excavation) were gradually sloped whilst the base was concave (Fig. 13, Section 13 & Plate 22). It was filled by a single deposit of grey silty sand with orangey brown mottling (179).

Ditch [136]

Linear Ditch [136] truncated the northern part of Pit [178] (Fig. 7). The cut was aligned east-to-west, measuring 1.20m in width and a maximum of 0.40m in depth. The sides of the cut were steeply sloped at the top but broke to a gradual slope toward the concave base (Fig. 13, Sections 13 & 14 & Plate 22). It was filled by a single deposit of stiff dark grey silty sand (137). A piece of lava quern dated 9th to 13th century was recovered from the deposit, together with a piece of fired clay, and the rib of an unspecified mammal.

Pit [138]

Pit [138] was located immediately south of Ditch [136] (Fig. 7). The cut had an elongated, oval northeast-to-southwest orientated plan shape and measured 4.30m in length, 1.50m in maximum width and 0.43m in depth. It had steep sides with a step at the south end. The base was slightly concave in cross section but was generally flat. (Fig 13, Sections 14, 15 & 16 & Plate 24). It was filled by a single deposit of light grey silty sand with yellowish brown mottling (139). The deposit produced a single piece of fired clay.

Pits [140], [142], [144], [148], [152], [158], [160], [162] & [165].

South of large pit [138] was a cluster of nine intercutting pits of various shapes and sizes (Figs 5 & 8). Owing to the similarity of the pit fills, very few stratigraphic relationships were evident. Prior to the insertion of three sondages into the cluster, the pitting appeared in plan as a large amorphous and homogeneous spread of material. Excavation revealed that the spread was composed of numerous intercutting pits. More pits are likely to be located in the unexcavated areas of the spread. Two gullies [150] and [146] cut across the pit cluster and are described separately below.

Pit [140] was the most northerly of the recorded pits (Fig. 8). The cut was not fully revealed within the excavation area but the exposed portion suggests that it had an oval or circular plan shape. Its recorded measurements were 0.98m in maximum length, 0.30m in maximum width and 0.30m in depth. The cut had gently to gradually sloped sides and a concave base (Fig. 14, Section 17 & Plate 25). It was filled by a single deposit of grey silty sand with light grey mottling (141).

Pit [142] was located 1m southwest of [140] and was partially revealed in the excavated sondage across the pit cluster (Fig. 8). The revealed part of the cut was hemispherical in plan shape and measured 0.60m in length and 0.35m in depth. The sides of the cut were steep whilst the base was flat (Fig. 14, Section 18 & Plate 26). It was filled by a single deposit of grey silty sand with light grey mottling (143).

Pit [144] was situated 0.30m southwest of [142] (Fig. 8). The cut was not fully exposed in plan but the exposed portion suggests a circular or oval plan shape. The recorded portion of the cut measured 1m in maximum length, 0.30m in width and 0.50m in depth. It had gradually sloped sides and a concave base (Fig. 14, Sections 17 & 18 & Plates 25 & 26). It was filled by a single deposit of grey silty sand with light grey mottling [143].

Pit [148] truncated the south side of Pit [144] (Fig. 8). The cut was not fully exposed in plan but the exposed portion suggests an oval plan shape. The exposed portion of the cut as recorded in plan and section measured 1.15m (maximum) in length, 0.85m in width and 0.60m in depth. It had gradually sloped sides and a flattish base (Fig. 14, Sections 17 & 18 & Plates 25 & 26) and was filled by a single deposit of grey silty sand with yellowish brown mottling (149). A single sherd of pottery with a date range of mid-9th century to mid-12th century was recovered from the pit, together with four pieces of fired clay and fragments of the skull of an equid aged 20 years plus at death.

At the southern limit of the cluster was a large, elongated pit [158] which measured at least 2.80m in length (Fig. 8). It had a width of 1.10m and a depth of 0.37m. The northern end had been truncated by numerous later pits, the original length of [158] therefore remains unknown. Part of the southeast side was located beyond the limit of excavation. The south end of the pit was rounded whilst the sides were straight and roughly parallel. The sides of the cut were steep whilst the base was flat (Fig. 14, Section 24 & Plate 27). It was filled by a single deposit of light greyish brown silty sand (159).

Pit (158) was cut by a pit or possibly a ditch terminus [152] close to its southern end (Fig. 8 & inset). The cut was not fully exposed in plan and continued beyond the eastern limit of excavation. The exposed portion suggests a rectangular shaped pit or a squared terminus of a ditch. As revealed, it measured 0.70m east-to-west and 0.85m north-to-south and had a depth of 0.20m. It had steep sides, a flat base and was filled by a dark grey silty sand with yellow sand mottling (153) (Fig. 14, Section 24 & Plate 27). A fragment of fired clay and a cattle bone were recovered from (153).

Located 1.0m north of [152] was a group of three intercutting pits. The earliest of the pits was [165] (Fig. 8). The cut was severely truncated but a sub-oval plan shape was discernible. The surviving part of the cut measured 0.60m southeast-to-northwest, 0.40m southwest-to-northeast and 0.20m in depth. The sides of the cut were gently to gradually sloped whilst not enough of the base survived to allow characterisation (Fig. 14, Section 26 & Plate 28). It was filled by a single deposit of brownish grey silty sand (166). Pit [165] was cut by Pit [162], which had an oval plan shape and measured 0.90m in length, 0.80m in width and 0.60m in depth (Fig. 8). The sides were steep becoming almost vertical in places whilst the base was flat (Fig. 14, Sections 25 & 26 & Plate 28). The primary fill of the pit (163) consisted of light greyish brown silty sand, which measured 0.50m in length, 0.50m in width and 0.28m in thickness. The upper fill comprised brownish grey silty sand with orange sand mottling (164). Pit [162] was truncated on its west side by Pit [160] (Fig. 8). Its cut was not fully exposed but the exposed portion suggests an oval plan shape. The exposed portion of the cut measured 1.15m in maximum length, 0.85m in width and had a depth of 0.60m. It had gradually sloped sides and a flattish base (Fig. 14, Section 25 & Plate 28) and was filled by dark brownish grey silty sand (161).

Pit 167

Pit [167] was located to the west of large Pit [158] (Fig. 8). It was only partially exposed but an ovoid shape was discernible. It continued beyond the western limit of excavation. The exposed portion measured 1.30m in length north-to-south, 0.40m in width east-to-west and 0.40m in depth. It had gradually sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 15, Section 27 & Plate 30) and was filled by a light greyish brown fine sand (168).

Gully [150].

Linear east-to-west orientated gully truncated the southern part of Pit [158] (Fig. 8 & inset). It measured 0.56m in width and 0.12m in depth and traversed the full width of the trench (1.8m). The sides were gently sloped whilst the base was concave (Fig. 14 Section 24 & Plate 29). The cut was filled by a single deposit of brownish grey silty sand (151). A pottery sherd of 10th or 11th century date was recovered from the fill.

Ditch [146]

East-to-west orientated linear cut [146] was located 4m north of Gully [150]. It measured 1.25m in maximum width and had a depth of 0.32m and was recorded for a distance of 1.80m across the trench. The cut had gradually to gently sloped sides and a concave base (Fig. 14, Sections 17 & 18 & Plates 25 & 26) and was filled by a single deposit of grey silty sand with greyish brown mottling (147). The deposit produced two fragments of fired clay.

Pit [154]

Pit [154] was located close to the southern end of the trench (Fig. 5). The cut was very large and was not fully exposed in plan. The feature was identified during the preceding geophysical survey (Fig. 3). It had an oval shape with the longer axis orientated southwest-to-northeast and measuring around 7m in length. The full width of the cut was revealed in the evaluation trench and measured 5.30m. The cut continued beyond the western and eastern limits of excavation. A hand excavated sondage into the south side of the pit reached a depth of 1.26m below the present ground surface. The ground water level was reached at 1.10m below the present ground surface. Further excavation was undertaken with a mechanical excavator. However, at a depth of 3m, its base was still not reached. Excavation into the waterlogged deposits with the mechanical excavator was discontinued after the collapse of the sondage sides (Plates 31 & 32). To prevent further damage to the pit, no attempt was made to remove the collapsed material. Despite attempts to explore deposits below 3m by hand augering at several locations, no area was found to be free of obstructions.

The recorded south side of the pit was steep (Fig. 15, Section 19). The lowest recorded deposit was (157), a dark brownish grey and greyish brown peaty silty sand which produced a single fragment of fired clay with grass on the rear and cattle bone including a gnawed metacarpal. A depth of 0.55m was recorded but it continued below the recorded level for an unknown extent. Above (157) was a compacted mixture of brownish grey and whitish grey sandy silt (156) which yielded several pieces of fired clay. It measured 2.50m in extent north-to-south and had a depth of 0.10m. This was sealed by (155) a brownish grey silty sand. The deposit measured 0.46m in maximum depth and was recorded for a distance of 4.30m. Twelve sherds of pottery were recovered from (155) dated to the 14th century, together with a piece of lava quern of probable 9th to 13th century date and a sheep goat mandible and unspecified mammal bones. The function of the pit remains unclear.

A sample <3> taken from the otherwise unrecorded lower fills (181) prior to collapse contained (in common with other samples from the site), cereals, chaff and seeds of common weeds at a low to moderate density.

6.2 Trench 2 (Figs. 2, 3, 16, 17 & 18) (Plates 33-37)

Trench 2, which was east-to-west aligned and lay in the northwestern part of the development area (Fig. 2). It measured 50m in length and 1.8m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.55m below the present ground surface (Plate 33). Natural deposits were encountered at a depth of 0.50m (49.28m OD). The natural material (205) consisted of light brown sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. Overlying the natural (205), was a mid to dark grey silty sand subsoil layer (206) which measured an average of 0.25m thick. The topsoil (207) was composed of dark grey silty sand and measured 0.23m in average depth.

Four linear ditches and two linear gullies were recorded in Trench 2 (Fig. 16).

Four prehistoric worked flints were recovered from the spoilheap (223). The items included Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age scraper and Neolithic core fragment.

Gully [204]

North-to-south orientated linear gully [204] was located close to the western end of the trench (Fig. 16). The northern part of the gully had been truncated by Ditch [220]. The remaining portion measured 1.21m in length and continued beyond the southern limit of excavation. It had a width of 0.41m and a maximum depth of just 0.30m. The sides of the cut were gently sloped whilst the base was slightly concave (Fig. 17, Section 45). It was filled by a single deposit of light to mid brownish grey silty sand (215).

Gully [202]

North-to-south orientated linear gully [202] was located 2.57m east of gully [204] (Fig. 16). It measured 0.57m in width, 0.20m in maximum depth and extended across the full width of the trench (1.8m). The west side of the cut had a gradual slope whilst the east side was steep (Fig. 17, Section 44). The base was concave. It was filled by a single deposit of light-to-mid brownish grey silty sand (203), which produced an equid metatarsal.

Ditch [220]

Northeast-to-southwest orientated Ditch [220] was recorded at the western end of the trench and truncated Gully [204] (Fig. 16). The revealed portion is probably located close to a terminus at its northeast end as evidenced by its tapering shape. The postulated terminus would lay just beyond the northern limit of excavation. The excavated part measured 1.10m in width and had a depth of 0.35m. The cut was steep on its southeast side but more gradually sloped on its northwest side (Fig. 17, Section 47). Its base was flat. The primary fill of (221) was a mid-to-dark grey silty sand which measured 0.80m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.27m. The deposit was deepest on the southeast side thinning to 0.04m over the base. It thickening to 0.10 at the lower northwest side of the cut. The upper fill (222) comprised mid grey silty sand which measured a maximum depth of 0.30m.

Ditch [200]

Linear Ditch [200] was located between gullies [204] and [202] close to the western end of the trench (Fig. 16). It followed the same north-to-south orientation as the gullies and measured 1.33m in width, 0.42m in depth and extended across the full width of the trench (1.8m). The sides of the cut were steep whilst the base was concave on the east side which dropped into a deeper gully on the west side (Fig. 17, Section 43 & Plate 34). The gully also had a concave base. The ditch was filled by a single deposit of light to mid brownish grey silty sand (201). Four pottery sherds recovered from the ditch have been dated 12th to 14th century. The deposit also yielded cattle pelvic fragments.

Double Ditches [208] and [210]

Parallel ditches [208] and [210] were located in the central part of the trench and orientated north-to-south (Fig. 16 & Plate 35). The ditches were identified by the preceding geophysical survey and can be traced south of the trench for distance of 15m before turning west and extending for 33m in that direction. The ditches extend north of the trench for a distance of 9m before continuing into the unsurveyed wooded area north of the site. Together the recorded ditches form the southeastern part of a rectangular or square double ditched enclosure which occupied the northwest part of the site. Although the ditches produced few datable artefacts several sherds of pottery from the fills of Ditch [210] indicate a date of late 12th to 14th century.

The inner ditch, [208], measured 2.25m in width and had a depth of 0.65m. The cut had a gentle slope on the west side which flattened out to a shallow, very gentle berm located 0.22m from the top (Fig. 18, Section 42 & Plate 36). The berm then broke gradually to form a gradual slope to the base which was narrow and concave. The east side of the cut was gradually sloped. Primary fill (217) consisted of light grey silty sand with orange sand patches and lined the base to a depth of 80mm. It measured 0.30m in width. A primary fill on the west side of the ditch (216) was a light-to-mid greyish brown silty sand with mid yellow patches. The deposit measured 0.88m in width and had a depth of 0.22m. A similar deposit on the east side of the ditch, (213), was a light grey silty sand with light yellowish orange patches. It measured 0.70m in width and 0.17m (maximum) in depth. Secondary fill (212) comprised light-to-mid greyish brown silty sand which measured 1.77m in width and 0.32m in depth. A sample from the deposit <2> yielded cereals, chaff and seeds of common weeds. A further secondary fill (214) measured 0.27m in width, 0.32m in depth and consisted of mid greyish brown silty sand. The uppermost fill (209) was a mid-greyish brown silty sand which measured 0.88m in width and 0.27m in maximum depth. The context produced a sherd of pottery dated 13th to 15th century and an undated sheet of iron interpreted as possibly the handle of a vessel.

The outermost ditch [210] (Fig. 16) measured 1.83m in width and 0.47m in depth. The sides of the cut were gradually sloped whilst the base was narrow and pointed (Fig. 18, Section 46 & Plate 37). The primary fill (218) located on the east side of the ditch was a light-to-mid brownish grey silty sand with dull yellow patches, measuring 0.82m in width and 0.15m thick. The remainder of the ditch was filled by (219), a mid greyish brown silty sand which measured 1.5m (maximum) in width and 0.47m in depth.

6.3 Trench 3 (Figs. 2, 3 19 & 20) (Plates 38 - 45)

Trench 3 measured 20m in length and 1.8m in width and was located in the northwestern part of the site (Fig. 2). It was orientated north-to-south. Topsoil and subsoil deposits were removed to a depth of 0.55m below the present ground surface (Plate 38). Natural deposits were encountered at a depth of 0.50m (48.92m OD). The natural (332) was a light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. The overlying subsoil (330) was a brownish grey silty sand which measured an average of 0.38m in

thickness. The topsoil (331) comprised a dark grey silty sand and measured an average of 0.22m in thickness.

Two linear ditches, two gullies, two pits and a post-hole were recorded in Trench 3 (Fig. 19).

Ditch [319]

Ditch [319] was located close to the northern end of the trench, orientated east-to-west (Fig. 19). The ditch was identified during the geophysical survey and shows as an anomaly extending several metres east and west of Trench 3 (Fig. 3). On the west side of the trench the ditch turns through 90° and continues southward for a distance of around 4m. The ditch appears to represent the northwest corner of a rectilinear enclosure.

The ditch measured 2.13m in width and had a depth of 0.85m. Its sides were generally gradually sloped although steep in places (Fig. 20, Section 54 & Plate 39). The cut was slightly irregular and the base of the cut was slightly concave. A sequence of eight fills were identified. Primary fill (320) was situated on the lower north side of the ditch. It consisted of light-to-mid yellowish brown silty sand with mid yellow mottling, measuring 0.36m in maximum width and 0.44m in depth. Primary deposit (322) was located on the lower south side of the ditch and comprised light-to-mid yellowish brown silty sand with mid yellow mottling. It measured 0.38m in maximum width and 0.22m in depth. Secondary fill (321) was slumped against the primary fill (320) on the north side of the ditch. It consisted of mixture of light yellow brown and light brown silty sand and measured 0.67m in maximum width and 0.41m in depth. The main fill of the ditch (323) was a mid-brownish grey silty sand with light to mid yellowish brown mottling, which measured 1.72m (maximum) in width and with a depth of 0.58m. On the upper north side of the ditch was fill (325). It was a light to mid brownish grey silty sand with mid brownish yellow mottling and measured 1.13m in width and had a depth of 0.25m. On the upper south side of the ditch was fill (324), a light to mid brownish grey silty sand with mid brownish yellow mottling. It included occasional gravel and measured 0.70m in width, with a depth of 0.32m. The deposit was located on the upper south side of the ditch cut. The tertiary fill of the ditch (326) was a concaved layer of light to mid brownish yellow clayey sand with mid brown patches. It measured 1.1m in width and had a depth of 0.14m. The uppermost fill (327) consisted of light to mid greyish brown silty sand with mid yellowish brown mottling. The deposit measured 1.03m in width and had a depth of 0.15m. Six sherds of pottery were recovered from the upper ditch fills (326) and (327) and suggest a date of the late 9th, 10th or 11th century for the ditch.

Pit or possible Ditch Terminus [328]

The cut of Ditch [319] was truncated on its south side by the cut of a pit or possible ditch terminus [328] (Fig. 19). It was only partially exposed in plan but a straight edge was aligned southwest-to-northeast, with the remaining parts continuing beyond the western limit of excavation. The cut could represent the east side of a square or rectangular pit or the edge a linear ditch terminus. It was revealed for a distance of 1.57m southwest-to-northeast and 0.94m southeast-to-northwest and had a depth of 0.27m. The side of the cut was gradually sloped (Fig. 20, Section 54 & Plate 39). It was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish brown silty sand (329).

Post-Hole [313]

Post-hole [313] was situated at a distance of 0.95m southeast of Pit or Ditch Terminus [328] (Fig. 19). The cut had a subcircular plan shape and measured 0.32m (maximum) in diameter. It had a depth of 0.12m. The sides of the cut were gradually sloped whilst the base was concave (Fig. 20, Section 48 & Plate 40). It was filled by a single deposit of light to mid grey silty sand (314). Five sherds of pottery dating to the 10th or 11th century were recovered from the fill.

Gully [311]

Gully [311] was located 2.90m south of Post-hole [313] (Fig. 19). It was aligned east-to-west and measured 0.40m in width and had a depth of 0.07m. It extended across the full width of the trench (1.8m). The sides of the cut were gradually sloped whilst the base was concave (Fig. 20, Section 52 & Plate 41). It was filled by a single deposit of light grey silty sand (312). Two sherds of pottery dating to the 10th or 11th century were recovered from the fill, together with a cattle bone displaying evidence of skinning.

Gully [M333]

Gully [M333] was situated 1.15m south of Gully [311], orientated south southeast-to-north northwest (Fig. 19). It was recorded for a distance of 2.67m. At its southern end it turned through 90° and progressed eastwards for a distance of 1.10m before terminating. It continued northwards beyond the west limit of excavation. The south southeast-to-north northwest section of the gully was explored through excavated segment [305]. Here the gully measured 0.33m in width and had a depth of 0.17m (Fig. 20, Section 51 & Plate 42). The sides of the cut were very steep whilst the base was slightly concave. At the excavated terminus [303], the gully bulbed out to a width of 0.62m. It had a depth of 0.15m (Fig. 20, Section 50 & Plate 43).

Pit [309]

Pit [309] was located 0.90m east of Gully [M333] (Fig. 19). The cut was not fully exposed within the excavation area but the elliptical shape of the revealed portion suggests a circular or ovoid shape. The revealed portion measured 1.76m north-to-south and 0.60m east-to-west. A depth of 0.42m was recorded. The sides of the cut were steeply inclined (Fig. 20, Section 49 & Plate 44). The base was not fully exposed but the slightly sloping nature of the excavated portion suggests a concave profile. The pit was filled by a single deposit of mid to dark brownish grey silty sand (310). Five sherds of 10th or 11th century pottery were recovered from the fill, together with an undated iron object identified as a possible tool or key handle, and cattle metacarpal and vertebrae fragments.

Ditch [300]

Ditch [300] was situated close to the southern end of the trench (Fig. 19), orientated east-to-west. The ditch was identified during the geophysical survey of the site, showing as an anomaly extending several metres east and west of Trench 3 (Fig. 3). On the east side of the trench the ditch turns northward for a distance of around 9m. The recorded ditch line appears to have formed the southeast corner of a rectilinear enclosure.

The ditch cut measured 1.92m in width and 0.39m in maximum depth. The south side of the cut was gradually to steeply inclined but broke gradually to a flat base (Fig. 20, Section 53 & Plate 45). On the north side cut rose gently from the base all of the way to the top. The primary deposit (301) consisted of light brown silty sand which measured 1.98m in width and had a depth of 0.39m. The deposit produced bone from a small terrier sized dog, fragments of cattle bone and fragments of an unspecified mammal. The upper fill (302) was composed of light to mid brownish grey silty sand which measured 1.57m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.13m.

6.4 Trench 4 (Figs. 2, 21, 22 & 23) (Plate 46 - 51)

Trench 4 was located at the southwest corner of the site, orientated southeast-to-northwest (Fig. 2 & Plate 46). The trench was excavated to a depth averaging around 0.57m below the present ground surface revealing the natural deposits (402) of light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling encountered at 48.65m OD. The overlying subsoil (401) consisted of brownish grey silty sand which measured an average of 0.15m in average thickness. The topsoil (400) was a dark grey silty sand and measured an average of 0.30m in thickness.

Four linear ditches were recorded in Trench (Fig. 21). Two large, amorphous features are likely to have been natural in origin.

Ditch [403]

Ditch [403] was located close to the northwest end of the trench (Fig. 21) and aligned southwest-to-northeast. The ditch was identified during the geophysical survey and shows as a linear ditch extending 13m northeast of the trench and 17m southwest of the trench. The ditch turns through 90° at both ends and continues south-eastwards for short distances. The recorded ditch line appears to have formed the northwest end of a rectilinear enclosure.

The cut measured 1.90m in width and 0.75m in depth. The sides of the cut were gradually to steeply sloped whilst the base was very slightly concave (Fig. 22, Section 28 & Plate 47). The primary fill (405) consisted of dark grey silty sand, measuring 1.28m in width and 0.30m (maximum) in depth. The upper fill (404) was a brownish grey silty sand with dark grey and yellowish brown mottling. It measured 1.90m

in width and had a depth of 0.48m. Fourteen sherds of pottery recovered from the upper fill (404) have been dated 13th century.

A sample <1> from the primary fill (405) yielded cereals, chaff and seeds of common weeds.

Ditches [408] and [410]

Ditches [408] and [410] were located in the northwestern half of the trench (Fig.21). Set at right angles to one another, the features appear to have formed part of the same enclosure system. Ditch [408] was orientated northwest-to-southeast but then curved to the south to continue beyond the southwestern limit of excavation. The cut terminated to the northwest, within the limits of Trench 4. The ditch had a width of 1.10m but it appeared to vary significantly in depth along its line. A depth of 0.45m was recorded in the northwest segment (Fig. 22, Section 29 & Plate 48) whilst a maximum depth of just 0.16m was recorded in the excavated segment to the southeast. It had gradual to steeply sloped sides and a base which varied between slightly concave and flat. It was filled by a single deposit of light greyish brown medium sand with grey mottling (409). A single sherd of 10th or 11th century pottery was recovered from the fill. The ditch had been recut with a shallower cut [406] which appeared to traverse the full length of the earlier Ditch [408] and on the same alignment. The recut measured 0.75m in maximum width and had a depth of 0.20m. The sides of the cut were gradually to steeply sloped whilst the base was concave to flat. It was filled by a single deposit of grey silty clay (407). Two sherds of pottery were recovered from the ditch suggesting an 11th century date for the ditch recut.

Ditch [410]

Ditch [410] was southwest-to-northeast orientated (Fig. 21). The ditch appears to have been laid out at the same time as the recut of Ditch [408] and joins it on the northeast side. It measured 1.15m in width and had a depth of 0.20m. It had gently sloped sides and a concave base (Fig. 22, Section 30 & Plate 49). It was filled by a single deposit of mid grey silty sand (411). A single sherd of pottery dating to the 11th or 12th century was recovered from the fill.

Ditch [412]

Ditch [412] was located immediately southeast of the visible line of Ditch [408] (Fig. 21), aligned northeast-to-southwest. The ditch was identified during the geophysical survey, and it forms part of a southeast-to-northwest aligned rectilinear enclosure (Fig. 3).

The cut measured 1.80m in width and 0.50m in depth. The southeast side of the ditch was irregular but gradually sloped whilst the northwest side was gently to gradually sloped (Fig. 22, Section 32 & Plate 50). The base was concave. A primary erosion fill (414) of compacted mid brown silty sand with grey mottling lined the southeast side of the ditch and part of the base. It measured 0.50m in width and had a maximum thickness of 0.15m. A small patch of primary fill material (402) was also located on the northwest side of the ditch. It consisted of compacted light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling and measured 0.19m in width and had depth of 0.07m. The main ditch fill (413) comprised grey silty sand with brown mottling and measured 1.8m in width and 0.50m in depth. A single sherd of 11th century pottery was recovered from the fill, together with a fragment of fired clay.

Probable natural feature [417]

At a distance of 2.90m southeast of Ditch [412] was an elongated and irregularly shaped large patch of light grey sand [417] which included lumps of silty sand and small subangular stones (Fig. 21). Small patches and streaks of rusty orange iron staining were also visible. It was not fully exposed within the excavation area and continued beyond the northeast and southwest limits of excavation. The plan shape was roughly linear but irregular and it measured a maximum of 1.90m in width, traversing the full width of the trench (1.8m). A depth of 0.26m was recorded. The cut was irregular in profile with a base which was undulating but generally flat (Fig. 23, Section 34). The sides were gradually inclined.

Probable natural feature [415]

At a distance of 10.20m from the southeast end of the trench was a further large patch [415] (Fig. 21). It was not fully exposed within the excavation area and continued beyond the northeast and southwest limits of excavation. The plan shape of the feature was roughly linear but irregular and it measured a maximum of 3m in width, traversing the full width of the trench (1.8m). A depth of 0.50m was recorded. The cut was irregular in profile with a base which was undulating but generally flat (Fig. 23, Section 33 & Plate 51). The sides were gradual to steep. It was filled by a firmly compacted dark grey silty sand

with light grey and light brown mottling (416). Rusty brown iron staining was visible in the upper parts of the fill. Fragments of large bone were recovered from the deposit.

6.5 Trench 5 (Figs. 2, 3, 24 & 25) (Plates 52-59)

Trench 5 was located in the northwestern part of the site, aligned southwest-to-northeast (Fig. 2, Plate 52). The Trench was excavated to a depth of 0.65m below the present ground surface where natural deposits were encountered at a level of 48.70m OD. The natural (502) consisted of light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. The overlying subsoil (501) comprised brownish grey silty sand which measured 0.27m in average thickness. The topsoil (500), a dark grey silty sand, was 0.34m thick.

Features of archaeological interest recorded in Trench 5 included four linear features (Fig. 24). One of the linear cuts appeared to serve as a post-bedding trench. Two pits were also recorded.

Ditch [524]

Linear ditch [524] was located in the southwestern part of the trench (Fig. 24). It was southeast-to-northwest orientated and measured 1.04m in width and 0.22m in depth. The sides were gradually sloped whilst the base was concave (Fig. 25, Section 58 & Plate 53). It was filled by a single deposit of firmly compacted brownish grey silty sand (525) with brown mottling.

Pit [503]

Pit [503] occupied a position in the centre of the trench (Fig. 24). It was not fully exposed in the excavation area but the revealed part suggested an ovoid shape in plan. The revealed portion measured 0.70m in length, 0.95m in width and 0.40m in depth. The sides of the cut were moderately steep whilst the base was concave (Fig. 25, Section, 35 & Plate 54). The primary deposit (504) consisted of light grey silty sand with pale grey and yellowish brown mottling, measuring 0.90m in width and 0.40m in maximum depth. The upper fill (505) consisted of mottled brownish grey silty sand. It measured 0.85m in width and had a thickness of 0.25m.

Post-Bedding Trench [508] and Ditch [514]

Located at a distance of 4.40m northeast of Pit [503] were linear features [508] and [514] (Fig. 24). Linear feature [508] was orientated north-to-south whilst ditch [514] was aligned east-to-west at a 90° angle to [508], stopping short of its eastern edge by a distance of 0.12m. This configuration is indicative of a contemporaneous layout. Linear feature [508] contained evidence of post settings and clearly served as a post bedding trench.

Cut [508] measured 0.60m in width and had a depth of 0.49m. It was recorded for a distance of 2.20m and continued beyond the limits of the trench to the north and south. The sides of the cut were steep or almost vertical in places whilst the base was concave (Fig. 25, Section 37). The excavated segment across the ditch was placed so as to half-section a post-pipe (512) observed in plan. The post-pipe was circular in plan, with maximum diameter of 0.25m. In section, (Fig. 25, Section 38 & Plate 55) it measured 0.42m in depth. The post-pipe had regular sides and a flattish base and was slightly tilted to the west by around 20°. The material forming the post-pipe was soft and comprised of dark grey silty sand with brown mottling. A large flint at the top of the post-pipe is likely to have served as post packing. The post-pipe did not extend to the base of the ditch cut but was raised from the base by a distance of 50mm. The primary fill of the post-bedding trench consisted of dark brownish grey silty sand (509) with patches of light brown clay lumps. It measured 0.50m in maximum width and had a depth of 0.15m. Above the primary fill, secondary fill (510) was a mottled brown and grey silty sand. It measured 0.55m in width and had a depth of 0.25m. The uppermost fill (511) was a light grey silty sand which measured 0.60m in width and had a depth of 0.11m and which produced a single fragment of fired clay. A second post-pipe (513) was visible in plan situated on the centre line of the post-bedding trench [508]. It was located at a distance of 1m north of (512) and had a sub-circular plan shape. It measured 0.20m in maximum diameter and consisted of dark brownish grey silty sand. A large flint within the post-pipe is likely to have served as post-packing. The only artefact recovered from the fills of [508] was a single sherd of highly abraded prehistoric – possibly Iron Age – pottery. The abraded nature of the sherd suggests that it was residual.

Located close to the west side of Post-Bedding Trench [508] was Post-hole [506] (Fig. 24). The cut had a subcircular plan shape, measuring 0.30m (maximum) in diameter and with a depth of 0.18m. The sides

were steeply sloped whilst the base was concave and pointed (Fig. 25, Section 36 & Plate 56). It was filled by a single deposit of brownish grey silty sand.

Ditch [514] (Fig. 24) was orientated east-to-west, measuring 1m in width and with a depth of 0.46m. It terminated in a curved end just 0.12m short of the eastern edge of Post Bedding Trench [508]. The sides of the cut were generally steep but gradual in places (Fig. 25, Sections 39 & 40) & Plate 57). The base was concave. The cut was filled by a single deposit of mottled light-to-mid grey and yellowish grey silty sand (515).

Pit [516]

Pit [516] was located 1.5m northeast of the line of Ditch [514] (Fig. 24) and was truncated by the southern edge of Ditch [518] (Fig. 24). The cut was subcircular in plan shape and measured 0.35m in width and 0.22m in depth. It had gradually sloped sides, a narrow, pointed base (Fig. 25, Section 41) and was filled by a single deposit of brownish grey silty sand with brown mottling (517).

Ditch [518]

Ditch [518] was situated 1.50m northeast of Ditch [514] (Fig. 24). The ditch was aligned east southeast-to-west northwest and measured 2.40m in width and 0.77m in depth. The sides of the ditch were irregular but generally steeply sloped (Fig. 25, Section 41 & Plate 58). The upper parts of the cut were more gradually sloped than the lower parts which were very steep. The base was narrow and slightly concave. The cut was filled by a sequence of three separate fills. The primary deposit (521) consisted of light brownish grey sandy silt, measuring 0.72m in width and 0.23m in depth. Above (521) a thin layer of greyish brown slightly silty sand (520) measured 1.05m in width and was 80mm thick. The uppermost fill (519) comprised brownish grey mottled silty sand measuring 2.40m in width and with a maximum depth of 0.48m. Three sherds of pottery dated 10th or 11th century were recovered from (519), together with five pieces of fired clay, and sheep goat pelvic fragments, a cattle bone, and fragments of mammal.

Pit [522]

Ditch [518] was truncated on its north side by Pit [522] (Fig. 24). The cut was not fully exposed in the excavation area but an oval plan shape was discernible. The revealed portion measured 1.25m in length, 0.70m in width and 0.35m in depth. The sides of the cut were steep whilst the base was concave (Fig. 25, Section 41 & Plate 59). It was filled by a single deposit of dark grey silty sand (523).

6.6 Trench 6 (Fig. 2, 3, 26 & 27) (Plates 60-61)

Trench 6 was located in the southwestern part of the site, aligned southwest-to-northeast (Fig. 2, Plate 60). Topsoil and subsoil deposits were excavated to a depth of 0.64m below the present ground level to the surface of natural deposits, which were encountered at 47.72m OD. The natural material (600) consisted of light-to-mid brownish orange silty clay. Situated immediately above the natural was subsoil (601), a brownish grey silty sand averaging 0.25m thick. The overlying topsoil (602) was a dark grey silty sand averaging 0.40m thick.

A south southeast-to-north northwest orientated linear ditch [603] was recorded close to the southwest end of the trench (Fig. 26). The ditch measured 2.41m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.60m. The east side of the cut was formed of a shallow and flat based 'berm' which measured 1.13m in width and 0.16m in maximum depth (Fig. 27, Section 55 & Plate 61). The west side of the berm broke to a gradual slope down to the ditch base which was generally flat. The primary fill of the ditch (604) was a mid brownish orange and mid brown clayey sand measuring 0.58m in width and 0.08m in depth. A sample from the deposit <4> yielded cereals, chaff and seeds of common weeds as well as a particularly large quantity of legumes. Sealing the primary fill was secondary fill (605) which lined the east side of the cut and completely filled the cut of the berm on the east side of the ditch. A mid greyish brown silty sand, it included a moderate quantity of gravel. The deposit measured 1.71m in total extent east-to-west and had a maximum depth of 0.16m. The uppermost fill (606) was a mid-greyish brown silty sand which measured 1.61m in width (measured across the top) with a depth of 0.52m.

6.7 Trench 7 (Fig. 2) (Plate 62)

Trench 7 was located in the central/south part of the site, aligned south southwest-to-north northeast (Fig. 2, Plate 62). Topsoil and subsoil deposits were removed to a depth of 0.42m below the present ground

level to the surface of natural deposits, which were encountered at 47.30m OD. The natural (700) consisted of firmly compacted light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. Subsoil deposit (701) comprised a 0.24m depth of brownish grey silty sand. The topsoil (701) comprised dark grey silty sand an average of 0.20m in average thickness.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 7.

6.8 Trench 8 (Figs. 2 & 3) (Plate 63)

Trench 8 was aligned east-to-west in the central part of the site, southeast of Trench 9 (Fig. 2, Plate 63). Natural deposits (800) were encountered at a depth of 0.40m (47.93m OD) below the present ground surface. The natural was a light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. Above the natural was the subsoil, a brownish grey silty sand (801) averaging 0.20m thick. The topsoil (802) comprised dark grey silty sand of 0.15m average thickness.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in the trench. However, a north-to-south orientated geophysical anomaly was identified and examined through excavation. It was quickly determined that the feature was natural in origin and it was not recorded. However, a late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age end scraper and a flint flake from the same period were recovered from the spoilheap (803).

6.9 Trench 9 (Figs. 2, 3, 27 & 28) (Plate 64)

Trench 9 was located in the central/north part of the site and was aligned east-to-west (Fig. 2, Plate 64). Natural deposits (900) were encountered at a depth of 0.42m (48.90m OD) below the present ground surface. The natural was a firmly compacted light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. Above the natural (900), the subsoil was a brownish grey silty sand (901) with an average depth of 0.14m. The topsoil (902) was a dark grey silty sand averaging 0.28m thick.

A large pit [903] in the western part of the trench (Fig. 28) had been identified during the geophysical survey and was targeted by the Trench 9. The revealed portion of the pit had straight tapering sides with the widest part on the north side of the trench. Here it measured 5.42m in extent whilst it narrowed to 3.12m on the south side of the trench. The geophysical survey results suggest an elongated plan shape with the longer axis measuring around 15m in extent and aligned north-to-south.

A hand excavated sondage was positioned on the east side of the pit and excavated to a depth of 1.20m below the present ground surface. The exposed east side was gradually sloped in profile (Fig. 27, Section 56 & Plate 65). Ground water encountered at a depth of 1.10m below the present ground surface made further excavation problematic. The lower deposits, were therefore examined by means of hand augering. At a depth of 1.35m below the present ground surface a very stony layer was encountered which prevented penetration of the auger down to the lower deposits. Despite attempts to penetrate through the stony layer at various locations, no area was found to be free of obstructions. However, the brownish yellow sandy clay (909) encountered at the lowest depths was very similar to the surrounding natural material suggesting that the deposit may represent a primary fill of the pit. The stones encountered at the lowest level may represent a lining of the base of the pit. The postulated primary fill (909) was 0.11m thick and appeared to extend across the full width of the excavated sondage (1.61m). Above deposit (909) was a series of slightly sloping but generally horizontal secondary fills which all occupied the full width of the excavated sondage. The lowest of these secondary fills was (904), a mid-to-dark grey silty sand, including moderate quantities of gravel and small stones and measuring 0.24m thick. Above (904), secondary fill (906) comprised firmly compacted light to mid yellowy brown silty sand including moderate quantities of gravel and small stone. It was 0.13m thick. Sealing (906) was fill (907) a mid-to-dark grey silty sand which included moderate quantities of gravel and small stones. It averaged 0.16m thick. Tertiary fill (908) sealed (907). It consisted of firmly compacted light-to-mid yellowy brown silty sand and included moderate quantities of gravel and small stones. It measured 0.13m thick. The uppermost fill (905) comprised mid grey silty sand with mid to light brown patches. It included moderate quantities of gravel and small stones and measured 0.23m (maximum) deep towards the centre of the pit but lensed out altogether to the east. A width of 1.54m was recorded. Two sherds of pottery recovered from (905) have been dated 11th century. Three lumps of fired clay with wattle impressions recovered from (905) are likely to have formed part of an oven dome or hearth hood made on a basket-weave frame.

6.10 Trench 10 (Fig. 2) (Plate 66)

Trench 10 was located in northeastern part the site, aligned southeast-to-northwest (Fig. 2, Plate 66). The topsoil and subsoil were removed to a depth of 0.42m below the present ground surface revealing undisturbed natural deposits at 48.30m OD. The natural (1000) consisted of light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. Sealing the natural, the subsoil (1001) comprised brownish grey silty sand averaging 0.24m thick. The topsoil (1002), a dark grey silty sand, averaging 0.22m thick.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 10. However, two joining body sherds of Early Anglo-Saxon date (6th-7th century) were recovered from the spoil.

6.11 Trench 11 (Figs. 2, 3, 27 & 29) (Plates 67 & 68)

Trench 11 was located in the northeast corner of the development, aligned southeast-to-northwest. It measured 20m in length, with a width of 1.8m (Fig. 2, Plate 67). Topsoil and subsoil were removed to a depth of 0.52m below the present ground surface where natural deposits were encountered at 47.64m OD. The natural (1100) consisted of light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. Sealing the natural was the subsoil, a brownish grey silty sand (1101) averaging 0.32m thick. The topsoil (1102) comprised dark grey silty sand averaging 0.20m thick.

The only feature recorded in Trench 11 was a linear Ditch [1103] (Fig. 29). It was orientated southwest-to-northeast and measured 1.06m in width and 0.27m (maximum) in depth. The cut was irregular in places although the sides were generally gradually sloped (Fig.27, Section 57, Plate 68). The base was broad and slightly concave. The cut was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish brown sandy silt (1104). No finds were recovered from the ditch fill.

The geophysical survey had identified the line of Ditch [1103], progressing north-east and southwest, beyond the limits of the trench (Fig. 3). At a distance of around 5m from the trench edge, the ditch curves to the south and then runs in a straight line to the southern edge of the site. Although it traverses the line of Trenches 12 and 13, no evidence of the ditch was recorded in the latter trenches.

6.12 Trench 12 (Fig. 2) (Plate 69)

Trench 12 lay in the eastern part of the site aligned southwest-to-northeast (Fig. 2, Plate 69). It measured 50m in length and had a width of 1.8m. Topsoil and subsoil deposits were removed to a depth of 0.32m below the present ground surface, to reveal undisturbed natural deposits at 47.40mOD. The natural (1200) was a brownish grey silty sand which measured an average of 0.16m in average thickness. The overlying topsoil (1202) was a firmly compacted dark grey silty sand which measured an average of 0.16m in average thickness.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 12.

6.13 Trench 13 (Figs. 2) (Plate 70)

Trench 13 was located southeast of Trench 12 in the southeast corner of the development area. It measured 50m in length, 1.8m in width and was aligned southwest-to-northeast (Fig. 2, Plate 70). Topsoil and subsoil deposit were removed to a depth of 0.35m below the present ground surface, to reveal undisturbed natural deposits at 46. 71m OD. The natural material (1300) was a firmly compacted light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. The natural was sealed by a subsoil deposit of moderately compacted brownish grey silty sand (1301) which averaged 0.18m thick. The overlying topsoil (1302) was a firmly compacted dark grey silty sand which averaged 0.20m thick.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 13.

7.0 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

The programme of archaeological mitigatory work on land southeast of Church Street, Great Ellingham, Norfolk identified archaeological features in eight of the thirteen trenches excavated. Features included ditches, gullies, pits and occasional post-holes. The highest density of features was in the western part of

the site, particularly in Trench 1 at the northwest corner. Significant densities of features were also recorded in Trenches 2, 3, 4 & 5 whilst single features were recorded in Trenches 6 (a ditch), Trench 9 (a large pit) and Trench 11 (a ditch). Despite, the high density of features, artefacts were relatively scarce. The pottery assemblage comprises just 75 sherds weighing 794g. Therefore, accurate dating of many features has been problematic. All of the trenches targeted geophysical anomalies (Fig. 3). Many of these features were confirmed by the trenching but a number of the anomalies were not apparent, including the double ditched enclosure which was absent in Trench 1 although it was recorded in Trench 2. A ditch forming the northwest part of a proposed enclosure was not visible in Trench 4, and no evidence was found for linear anomalies targeted in Trenches 7, 10, 12 and 13, and large, circular anomalies in the vicinity of Trench 13. All other anomalies revealed by the geophysical survey were confirmed as archaeologically significant features and investigated by excavation.

Prehistoric

Prehistoric activity in the area is represented by a scatter of worked flint recovered from the spoil heaps from several trenches and from the land surface around those trenches. Most of the flint was recovered from the vicinity of trenches located on the higher ground to the west of the site. No sub-surface features of prehistoric date were identified although it is feasible that at least some the undated isolated pits recorded around the site could have been prehistoric in date. The recovered flint assemblage mainly dates from the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age although one piece dates from the Early Neolithic. The presence of both tools and debitage on the site suggests local flint working utilising local flint.

Roman

No cut features of Roman date were identified but eight pieces of Roman ceramic building material were found, mostly in association with Saxon and/or medieval pottery. The pieces could have been brought to the site for re-use in fire-related features in the Saxon period (Anderson, this report). One tile was heavily burnt.

Early Anglo-Saxon

Early Anglo-Saxon activity is represented by two joining body sherds of Early Anglo-Saxon date (6th-7th century) recovered from the spoil heap of Trench 10 and a single sherd of 6th to 7th pottery found as a residual artefact in Ditch [319]. No features demonstrably of Early Anglo-Saxon date were recorded although it is possible that some undated features were from that period. Early Anglo-Saxon pottery has been found in small quantities at a site north of Attleborough Road in Great Ellingham (Pascoe in prep) but features of this period have been scarce. This might reflect a more polyfocal settlement pattern, with small, dispersed farmsteads.

Late Anglo-Saxon

The available evidence for the current site suggests that features of Late Saxon date are well represented whilst features later than the 11th century are not as frequent. Trench 1 revealed several intercutting pit clusters, a number of isolated pits, linear ditches and at least two post-holes. Most of the pottery recovered from these features was Thetford Ware spanning the 10th and 11th centuries. The post-holes indicate structures on the site, but these did not yield any dated finds. Considering the significant number of pits recorded in the trench, some of which can be tentatively dated to the 10th or 11th century, domestic occupation on the site at this time is a distinct possibility.

Features in Trench 3 produced a small amount of pottery (eighteen sherds), almost all of which was Thetford Ware with a date range of 10th to 11th century. The only exceptions were a single sherd of 6th to 7th pottery (probably residual) found in ditch [319] and a sherd of St Neots Ware dating from the mid-9th to the 11th century from Pit [309]. It is feasible that all of the features in Trench 3 were Late Saxon, dating from the 10th or 11th century. The east-to-west orientated ditch [319] corresponds to an anomaly revealed by the geophysics survey, extending east and west of the trench (Fig. 3). West of Trench 3 the anomaly turns to the south to form the northwest corner of a rectilinear enclosure. Associated pottery indicates a 10th or 11th century date for the ditch. A ditch with the same orientation further to the south in Trench 3 [300] did not produce dating evidence [319] but in view of the common orientation was probably contemporary. The anomaly recorded by the geophysical survey (Fig. 3) can be interpreted as the south-east corner of a rectilinear enclosure. This enclosure is misaligned with [319], recorded further to the north, and is likely to represent a different phase of activity.

Two sherds of 10th to 11th century pottery were recovered from the fill of Gully [311]. Taken together Gullies [M333] and [311] may have had a structural function. Although no post-holes were recorded in

the gullies, it could be that they related to sill beams. The presence of a post-hole [313] located a short distance north of the gullies adds support for a possible structural interpretation. A single sherd of 10th – 11th century pottery was found in the post-hole. Several sherds of Late Saxon pottery were also recovered from Pit [309]. Evidence of a structure comes from Post Bedding Trench [508] recorded in Trench 5 located a short distance southeast of Trench 3. No dating evidence was recovered from the feature but the post-in-trench structural technique is a characteristic of Anglo-Saxon buildings (Hamerow 2012, 27) and was increasingly used after AD 600. However, it is unlikely that [508] forms part of a building as no opposing wall was recorded. The feature is more likely to represent a fenceline with the contemporary ditch on its east side representing a land division outside the area enclosed by the line of posts. Ditch [518] located a short distance northeast of [508] was a curving ditch on a general north-to-south orientation recorded during the geophysical survey. Three sherds of Thetford Ware pottery dating to the 10th or 11th century were recovered from Ditch [518]. The same ditch was recorded in the southwestern part of Trench 6. The only other feature recorded on the site which can be dated with at least some confidence is the large Pit [903] recorded in Trench 9. It produced two sherds of 11th century pottery.

Medieval

Only twelve sherds of medieval pottery were recovered during the course of the project. Following the Late Saxon phase of activity on the site, which may well have involved domestic occupation, it appears that the land was given over to purely agricultural activity after the Norman conquest. Some enclosures identified during the geophysical survey certainly postdate the conquest. It could be that this change is a result of deliberate reorganisation of the settlement under a newly installed Norman administration, with settlement now nucleated centrally around the church.

Ditches and gullies recorded at the western end of Trench 2 (Fig. 16) were not securely dated although two sherds of pottery from Ditch [200] were dated 12th to 14th century. Ditch [200] is on the same north-to-south alignment as the east side of the double ditched enclosure recorded as [208] and [210] at the centre of Trench 2; a single sherd of pottery dated 12th to 14th century was found in Ditch [208]. The geophysical survey (Fig.3) indicates the east side of the enclosure intersecting at right angles with Trench 2 and the south side extending to meet with Trench 1. These ditches were not visible in Trench 1, but an east-to-west linear anomaly located further to the north by the geophysics survey could correlate with one or both of ditches [111] and [114] recorded in Trench 1 (Fig. 5). Each of these ditches produced pottery dated late 12th to 14th century.

Trench 4 located in the southwestern part of the site targeted southwest-to-northeast aligned anomalies relating to two possible enclosures identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 3). Ditch [403], near the northwestern end of Trench 4 and apparently correlating with one of the enclosures indicated by geophysical survey, produced a sizeable assemblage of 13th century pottery. In contrast, Ditches [410] and [412], on similar orientations further to the southeast, and [408], set at right angles to [410], each produced only one or two sherds of 11th century pottery. However, given the similarities in alignment, there is a strong possibility that the late Saxon material was residual and that the ditches were broadly contemporary with one another.

A large circular feature identified by geophysics and targeted by Trench 1 almost certainly corresponds to Pit [118] at the northern end of the trench. Unfortunately, only a small part of the feature fell within the limits of the trench and no evidence for its date was recovered. However, a similar feature [154], although smaller than [118], was recorded further to the south in Trench 1. Twelve sherds of pottery giving a spot date of 12th to 13th century were recovered from the upper fills of the pit. A combination of hand excavation and machine excavation failed to reach the base of the feature owing to the instability of the fills, which did in fact collapse during machine excavation. A depth of around 3m was reached prior to the collapse of the sondage. The function of these large pits remains uncertain. Their substantial size would rule out interpretations as wells, and it is the sandy clay natural is likely to be suitable clay for pottery production.

Post-medieval

In contrast to other features in Trench 1, Pit [169] was cut through rather than sealed by the subsoil (relict medieval plough soil?). For this reason, the feature might be regarded as being from a significantly later phase of activity, possibly post medieval or even modern. In general, there was little evidence for post medieval and later activity on the site, either in the form of features or in terms of artefacts recovered from the site.

8.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author of this report would like to thank Flagship Housing Ltd, and John Percival of the Historic Environment Team, Norfolk County Council for their assistance in ensuring a successful outcome to the project.

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10.0 PROJECT/ ARCHIVE DETAILS

10.1 Project Information

SITE CODE: ENF 150397

PLANNING APPLICATION No: 3PL/2017/1547/0 (APP/F2605/W/17/3185511)

FIELD OFFICER: Gary Trimble

NGR: TM 0207 9694.

CIVIL PARISH: Great Ellingham

DATES OF INTERVENTION: 23rd November 2020 to 8th January 2021

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Informative Trenching as part of a Programme of archaeological mitigation Work

UNDERTAKEN FOR: Flagship Housing

10.2 Archive Details

PRESENT LOCATION: Witham Archaeology, 2 High Street, Ruskington, Sleaford, Lincolnshire NG349DT

FINAL LOCATION: Norfolk Museums

MUSEUM ACCESSION No.: NWHCM : 2021.197

ACCESSION DATE: TBC

The Site Archive Comprises:

Context Records	325
Plans at Scale 1:20	4
Section Drawings at Scale 1:20	21 Sheets, 58 sections
Digital Photographs	439

It is intended that transfer of the archive in accordance with current published requirements will be undertaken following completion of this project.

COLOUR PLATES



Plate 1: View of northwest part of the site fronting onto Church Street.



Plate 2: View of the western part of the site facing south. The tower of Great Ellingham windmill is visible in the distance.



Plate 3: View of the northern part of the site facing northeast.



Plate 4: View over the central and eastern parts the site facing east towards Attleborough Road.



Plate 5: View of the central and eastern parts of the site from Attleborough Road facing west.



Plate 6: View of Trench 1 after cleaning facing southeast.



Plate 7: General view of Trench 1 following excavation of features facing north, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 8: View of Pit [118] facing east, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 9: View of Post-Hole [121] facing west, scale 1 x 0.20m



Plate 10: View of Post-Hole [103] facing north, scale 1 x 0.20m



Plate 11: View of Pit or Post-Hole [105] facing east, scale 1 x 0.20m



Plate 12: View of Pit [118], Post-Hole [121] and Pit or Post-Hole [116] facing west, scales 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.20m



Plate 13: View of north side of shallow Pit [169] and Ditch [174] facing west, scale 1 x 1m

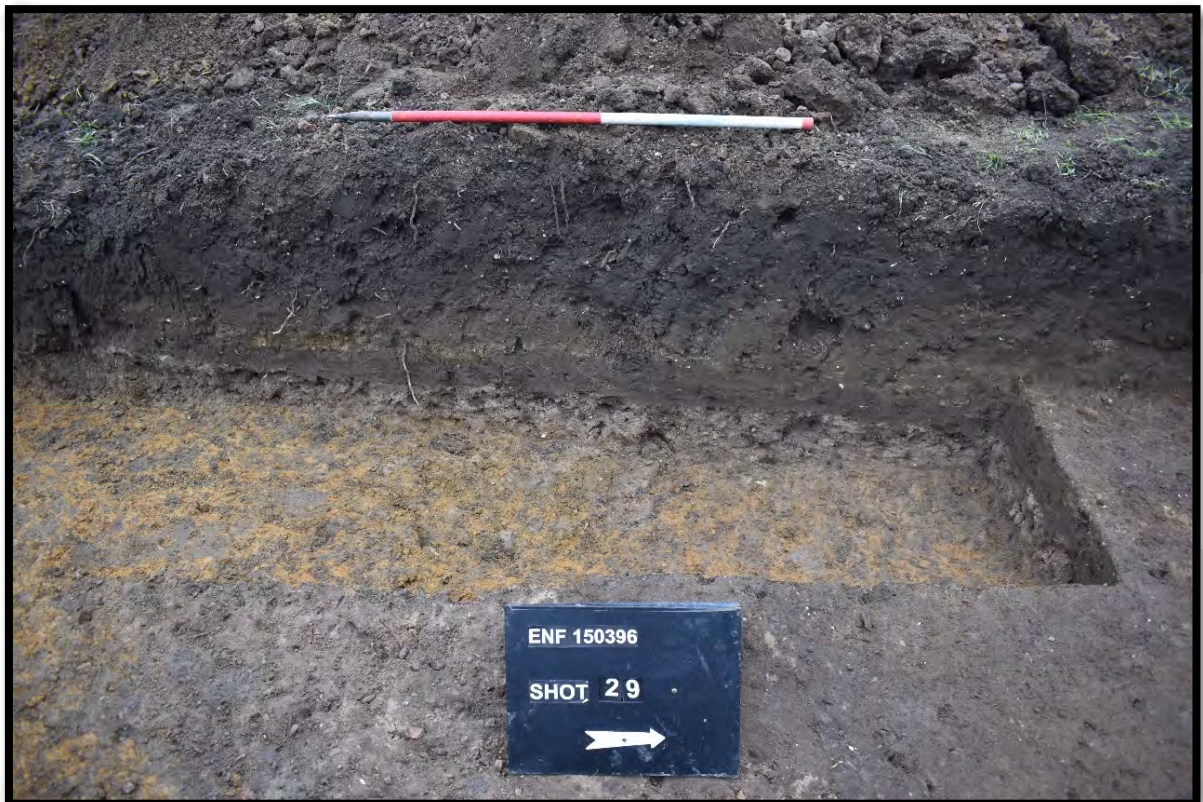


Plate 14: View of south side of shallow Pit [169] facing west, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 15: View of Pit [107] facing west, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 16: View of Pit [109] facing west, scale 1 x 0.20m



Plate 17: View of Ditch [111] facing west, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 18: View of Ditch [114] facing west, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 19: View of Pits [127], [129], [132] & [134] facing south, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 20: View of Pits [125], [127], [129], & [132], facing west scale 1 x 1m



Plate 21: View of Pits [125] & [127] facing north, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 22: View of Linear Ditch [136] and Pits [183] & [178] facing north, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 23: View of Pits [127] & [129] in Section 8, facing west, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 24: View of southern part of Pit [138] facing east, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 25: View of sondage through [140], [144], [146] & [148], facing west, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 26: View of sondage through [142], [144], [146] & [148], facing east, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 27: View of Pit [158], scale 1 x 1m



Plate 28: View of Pits [160], [162] & [165] facing north, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 29: View of Gully [150] & Pit [152] facing east, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 30: View of Pit [167] facing west, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 31: View of Pit [154] upper layers facing east, scale 2 x 1m



Plate 32: View of machine excavated [Pit 154] after collapse facing east, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 33: General view of Trench 2 facing east, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 34: View of Ditch [200] facing north, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 35: View of Ditches [208] and [210] facing north, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 36: View of Ditch [208] facing north, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 37: View of Ditch [210] facing north, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 38: General view of Trench 3 facing south, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 39: View of Ditch [319] facing west, scale 2 x 1m



Plate 40: View of Post-Hole [313] facing north,, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 41: View of Gully [311] facing west, scale 1 x 0.20m



Plate 42: View of Gully [305] facing south, scale 1 x 0.20m



Plate 43: View of Gully Terminus [303] facing west, scale 1 x 0.20m



Plate 44: View of Pit [309] facing northwest, scale 1 x 0.20m



Plate 45: View of Ditch [300] facing northwest, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 46: General view of Trench 4 facing southeast, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 47: View of Ditch [403] facing west, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 48: View of Ditch [408] facing northwest, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 49: View of Ditch [410] facing east, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 50: View of Ditch [412] facing southwest, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 51: View of probable natural feature [415] facing northwest, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 52: General view of Trench 5 facing southwest, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 53: View of Ditch [524] facing northwest, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 54: View of Pit [503] facing northwest, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 55: View of Gully [508] showing Post-Pipe (513) facing south, scale 1 x 0.20m



Plate 56: View of Post-Hole [506] facing northeast, scale 1 x 0.20m



Plate 57: View of Ditch Terminus or Pit [514] facing south, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 58: View of Ditch [518] facing northwest, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 59: View of Pit [522] facing northwest, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 60: General view of Trench 6 facing northeast, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 61: View of Ditch [603] facing northwest, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 62: General view of Trench 7 facing north, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 63: General view of Trench 8 facing north, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 64: General view of Trench 9 facing east, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 65: General view of Pit [900] facing north, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 66: General view of Trench 10 facing southeast, scale 1 x 1m



Plate 67: General view of Trench 11 facing northwest, scale 1 x 1m



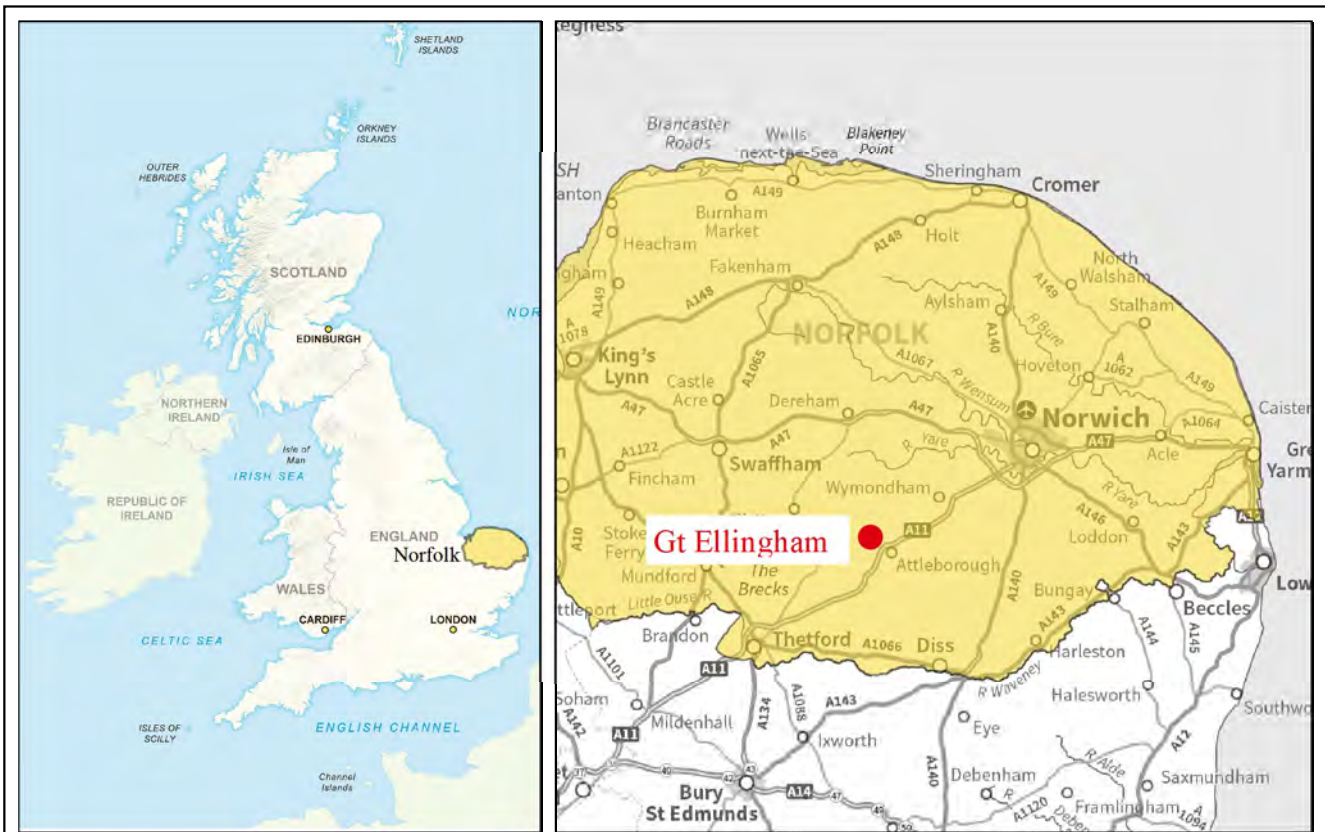
Plate 68: View of Ditch [1103] facing southwest, scale 1 x 1m

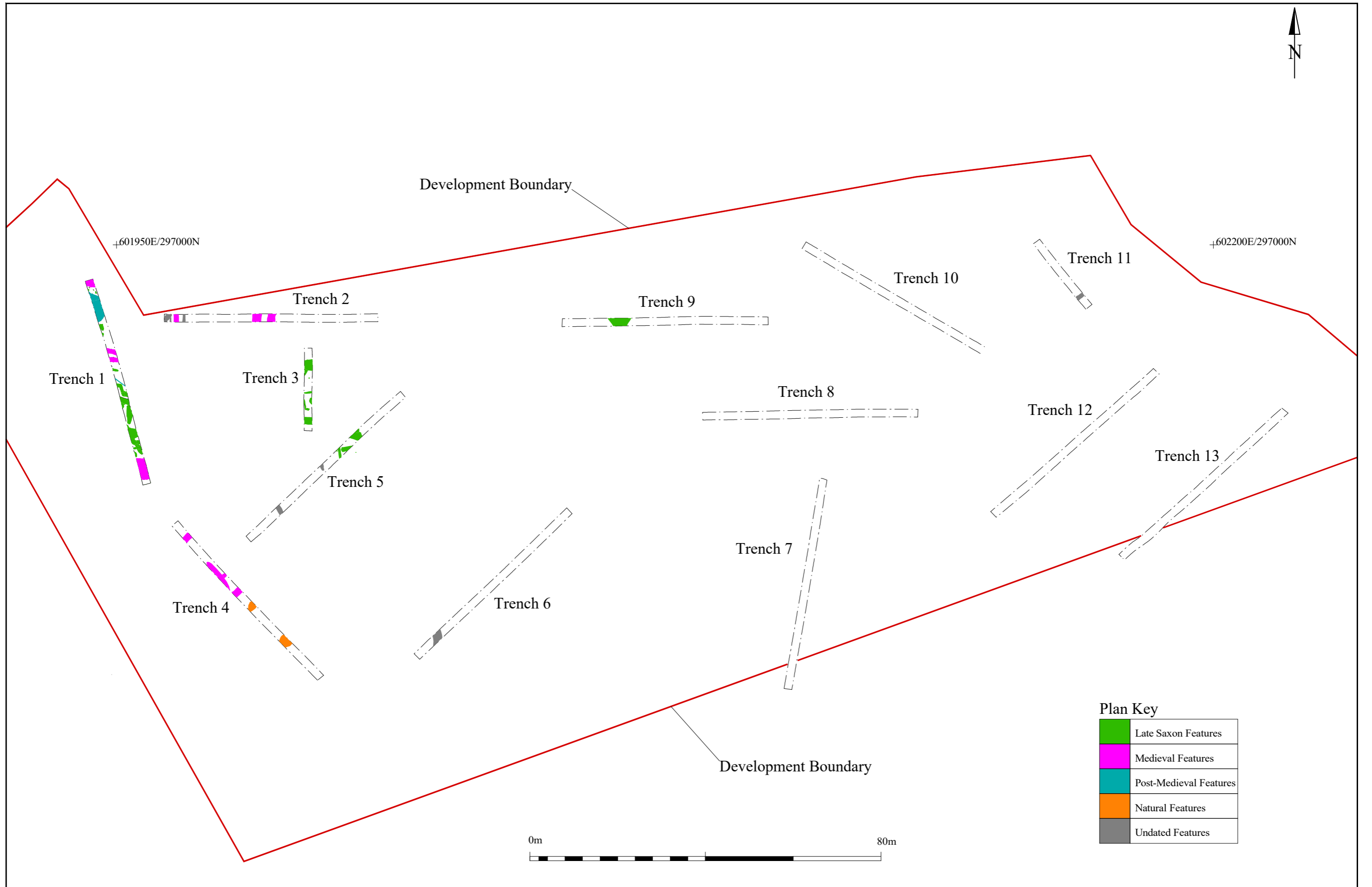


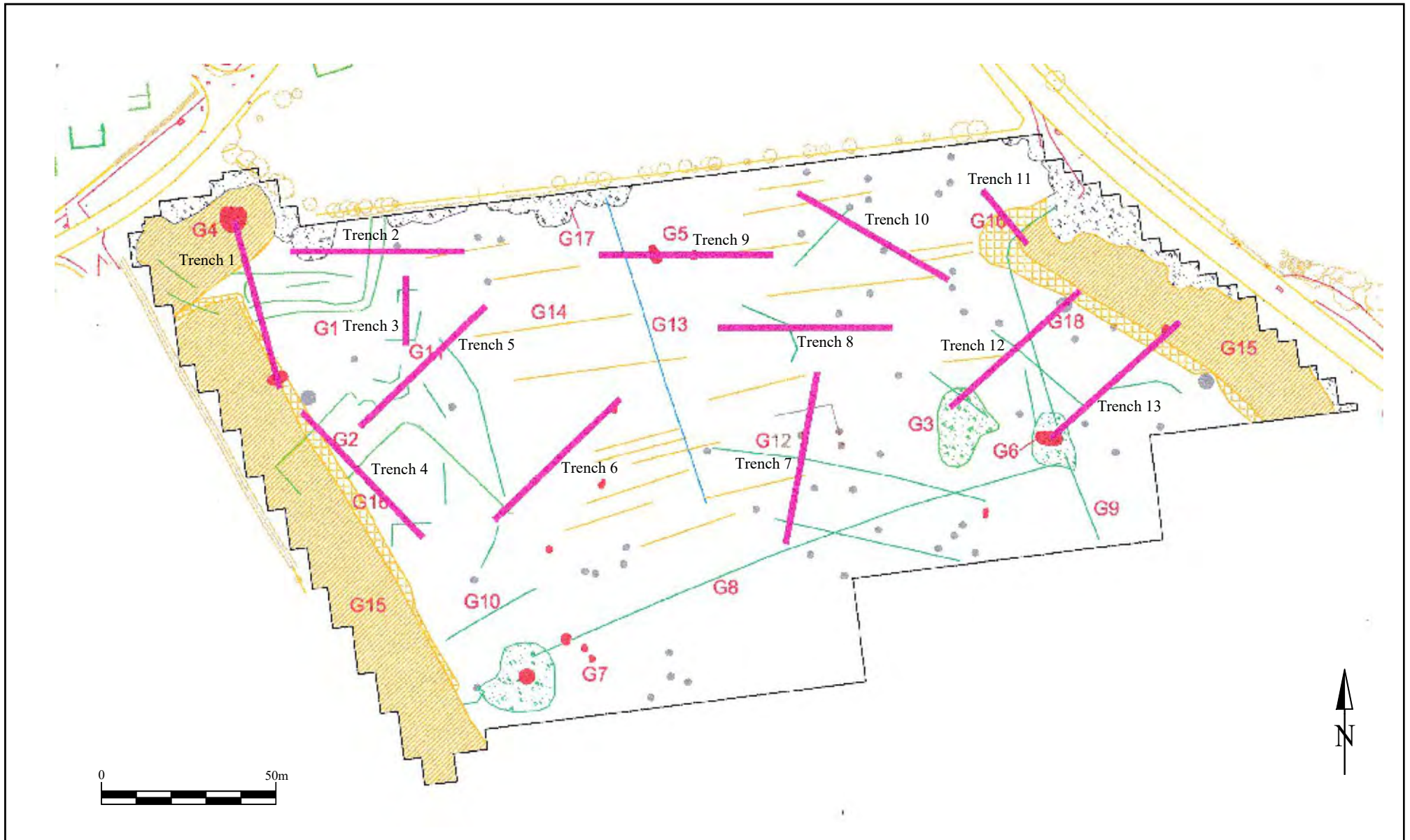
Plate 69: General view of Trench 12 facing northeast, scale 1 x 1m

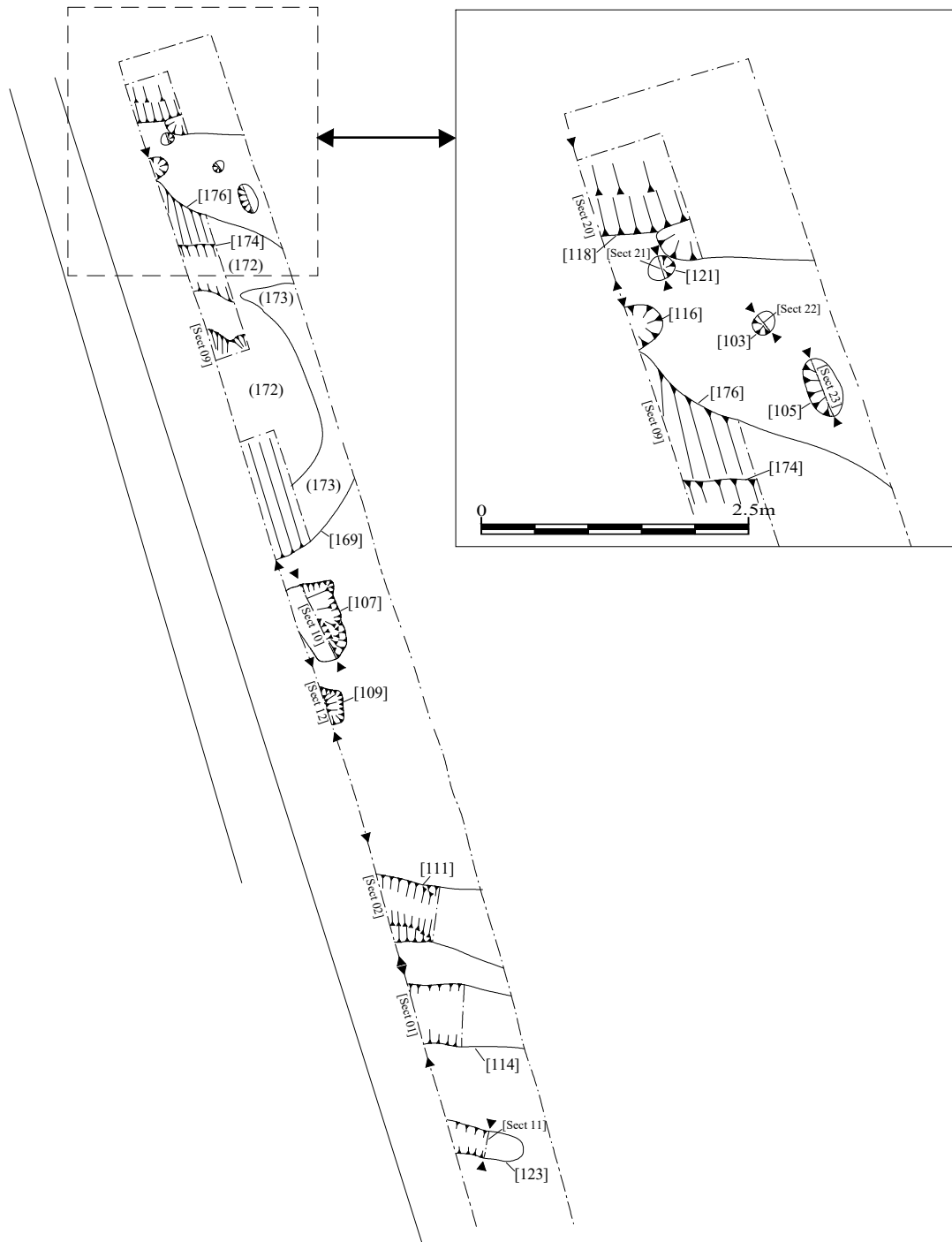


Plate 70: General view of Trench 13 facing northeast, scale 1 x 1m

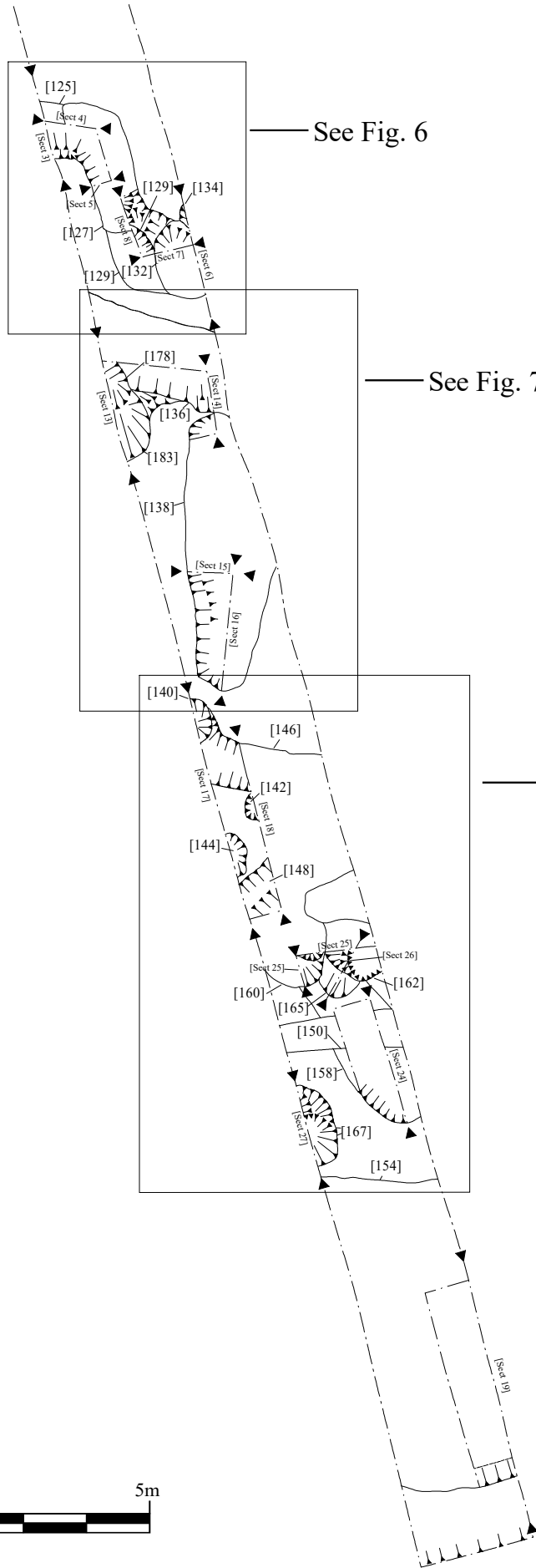








Trench 1. Plan of North Part of Trench 1. Scale 1:125

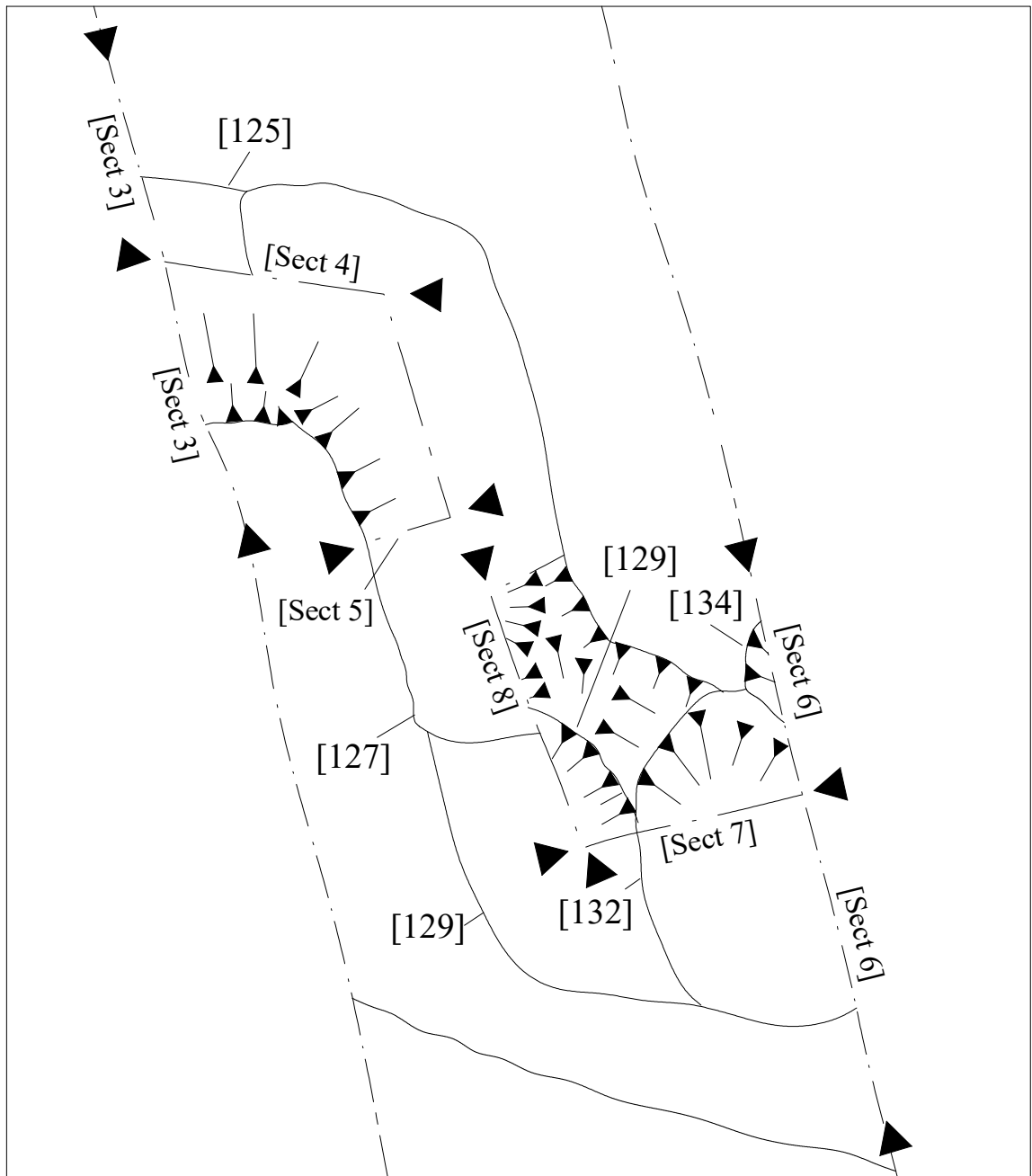


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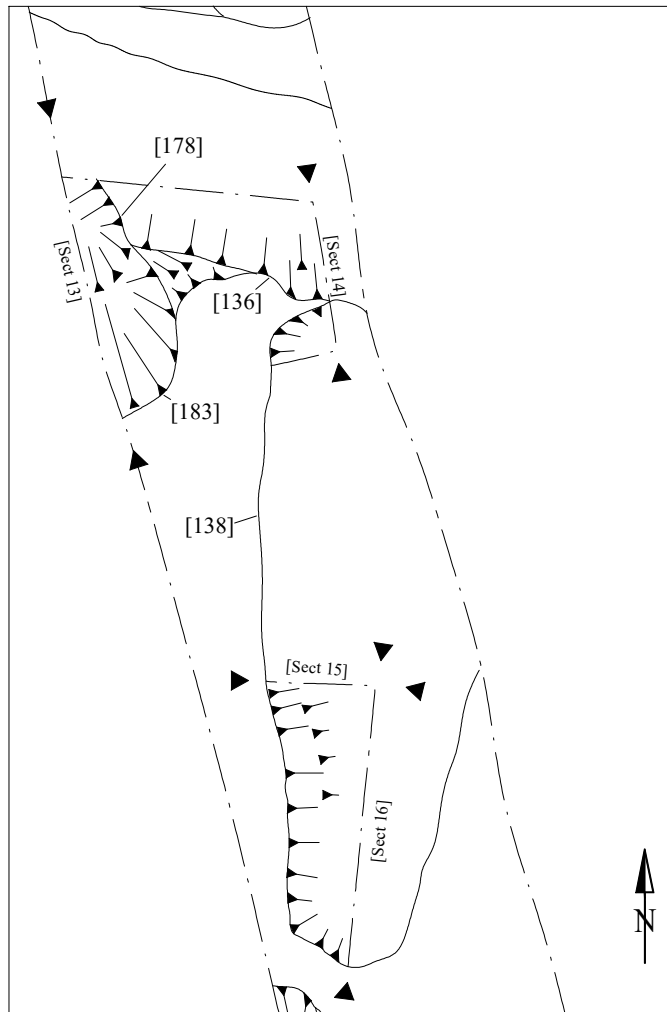
See Fig. 7

See Fig. 8

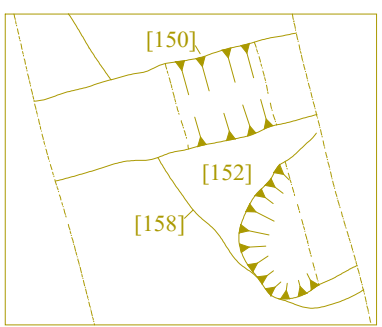
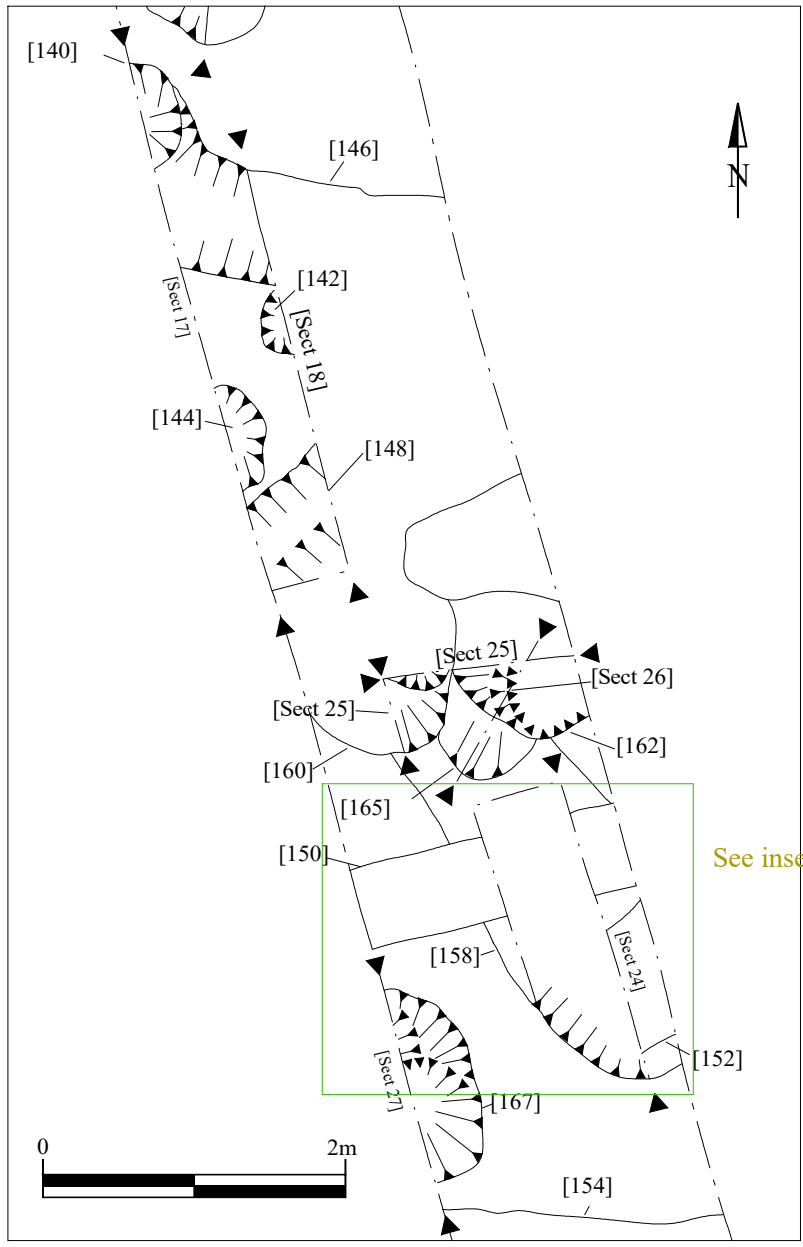




Detail Plan of Pits [125], [127], [129], [132], [134]. Scale 1:25

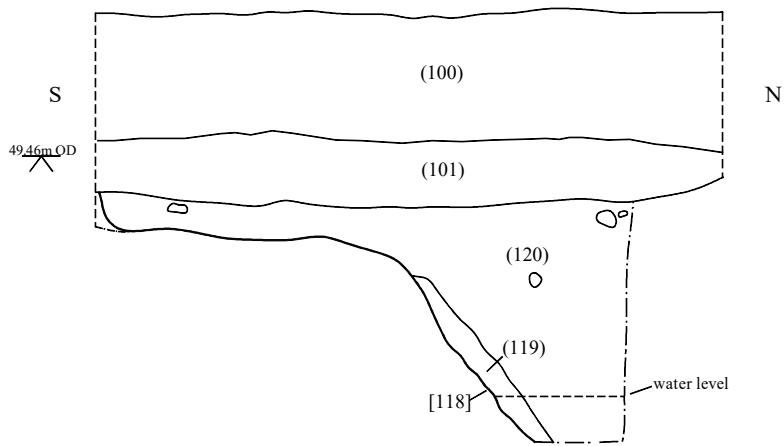


Detail Plan of Pits [138], [178] & [183] and Ditch [136]. Scale 1:50

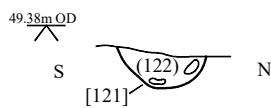


Overlying Gully [150] and possible Pit or Ditch Terminus [152].

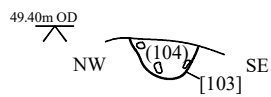
Detail Plan of Pits [140], [142], [144], [148], [152], [158], [160], [162] & [165], Scale 1: 50



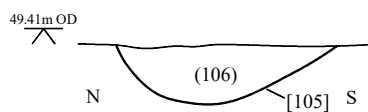
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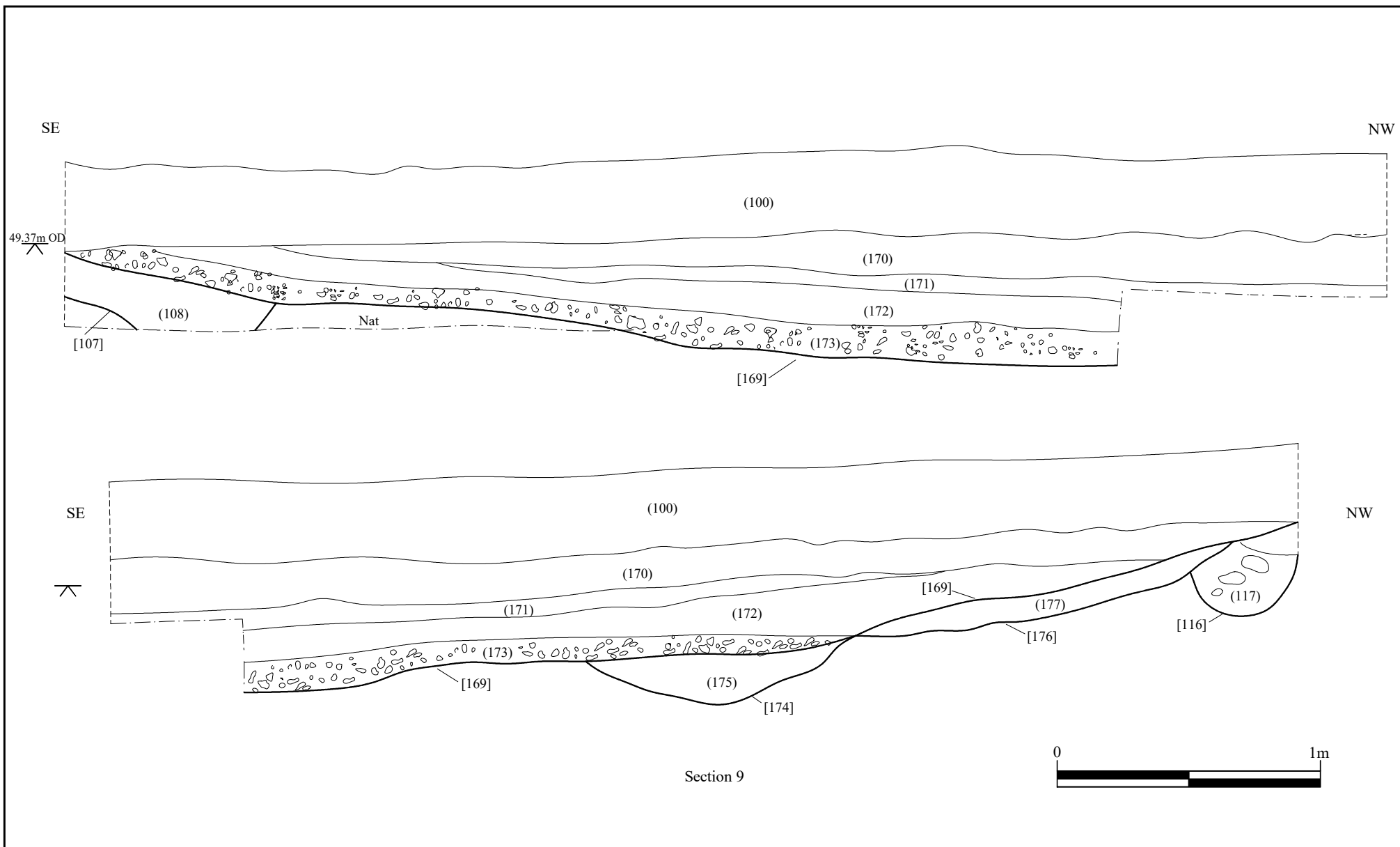


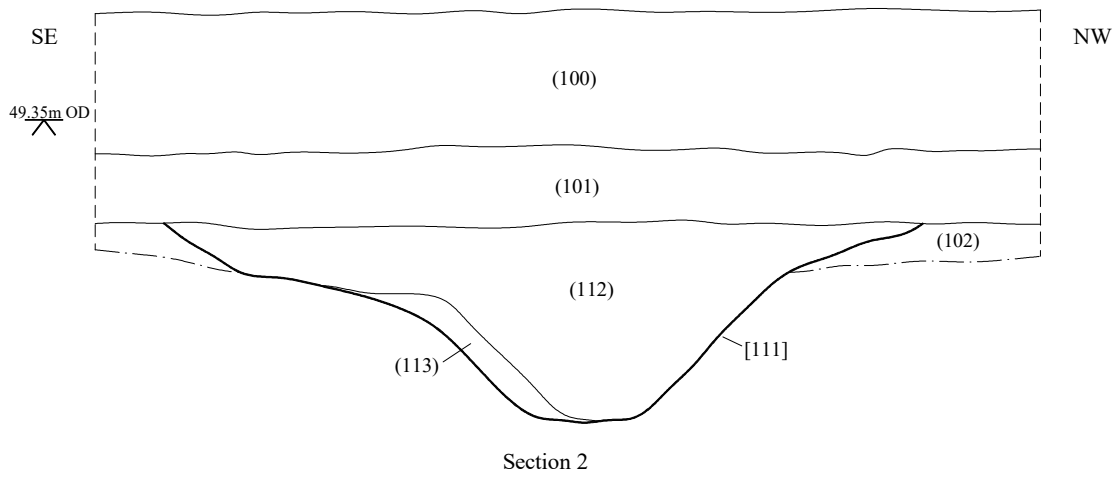
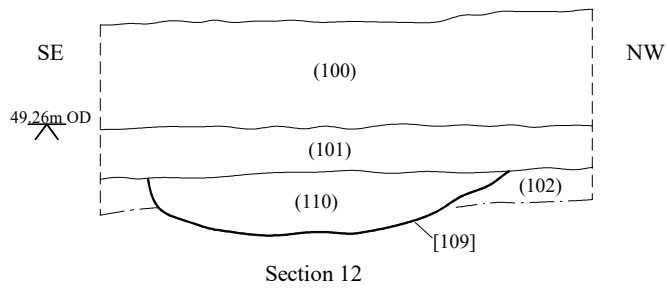
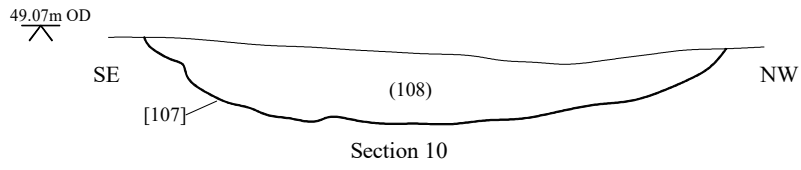
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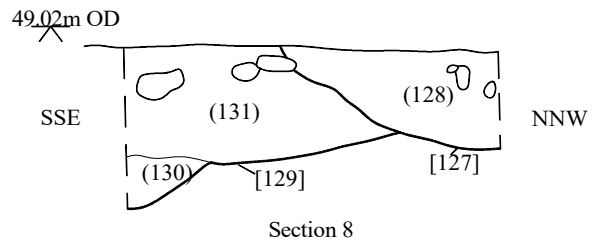
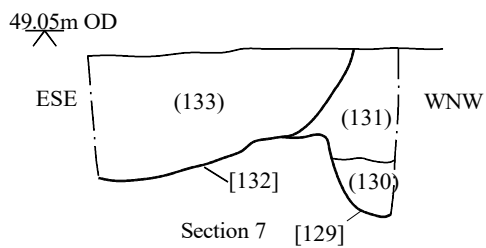
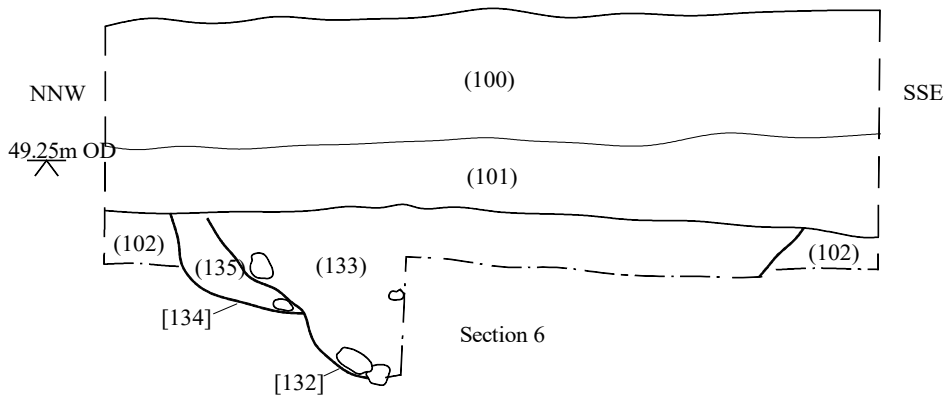
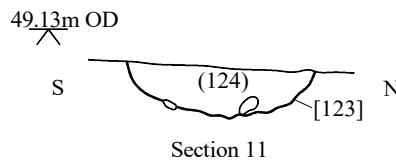
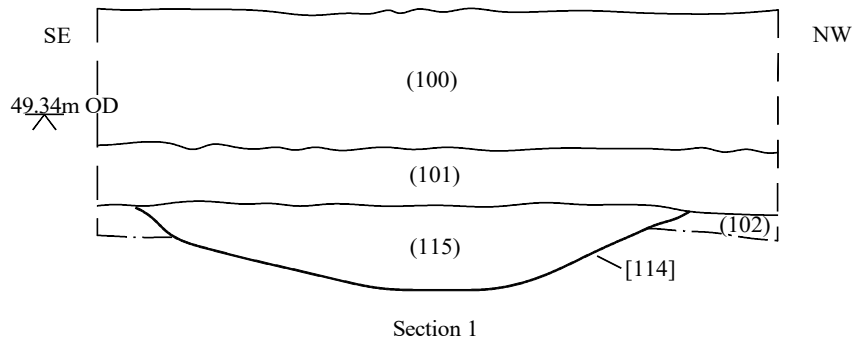


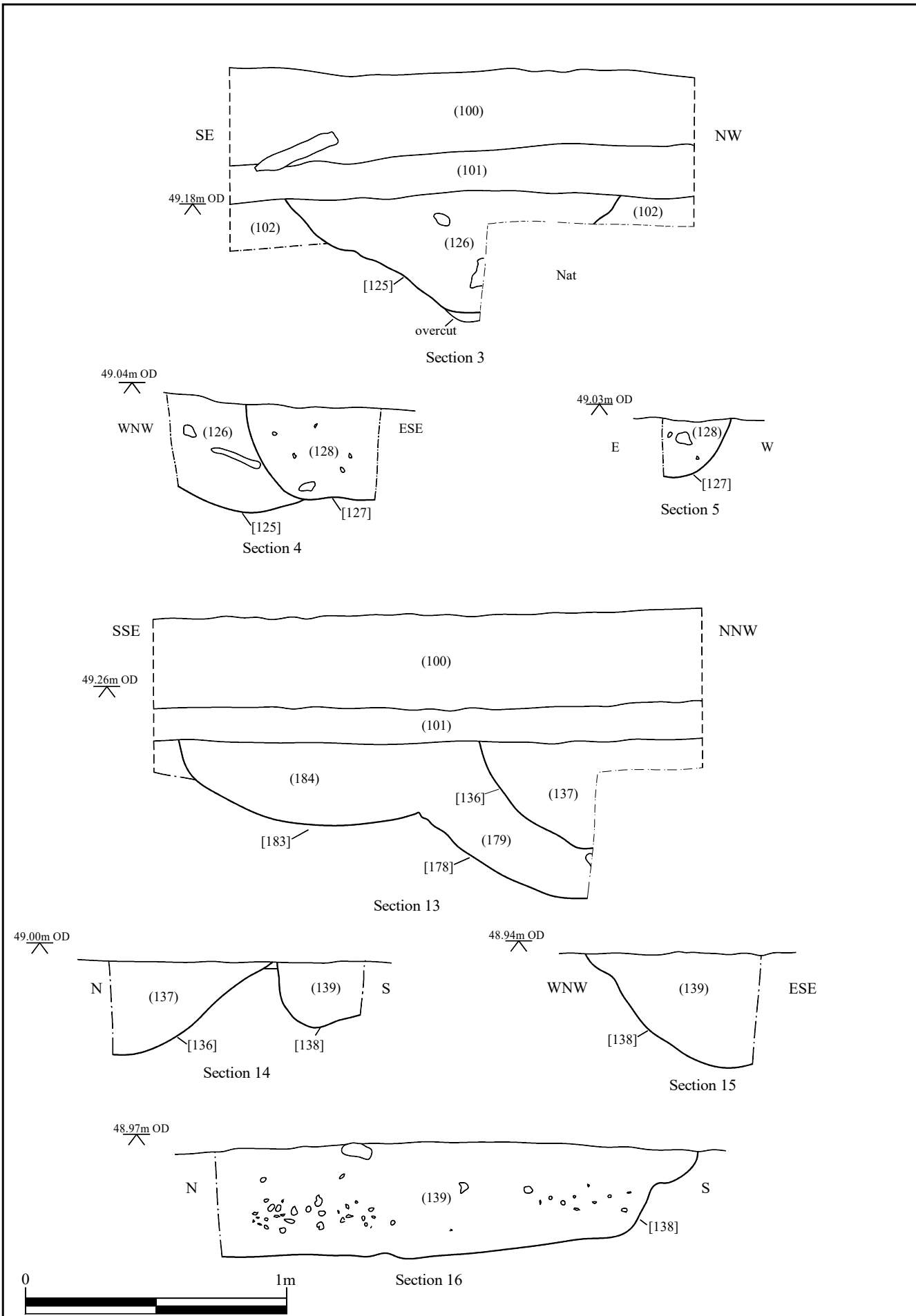
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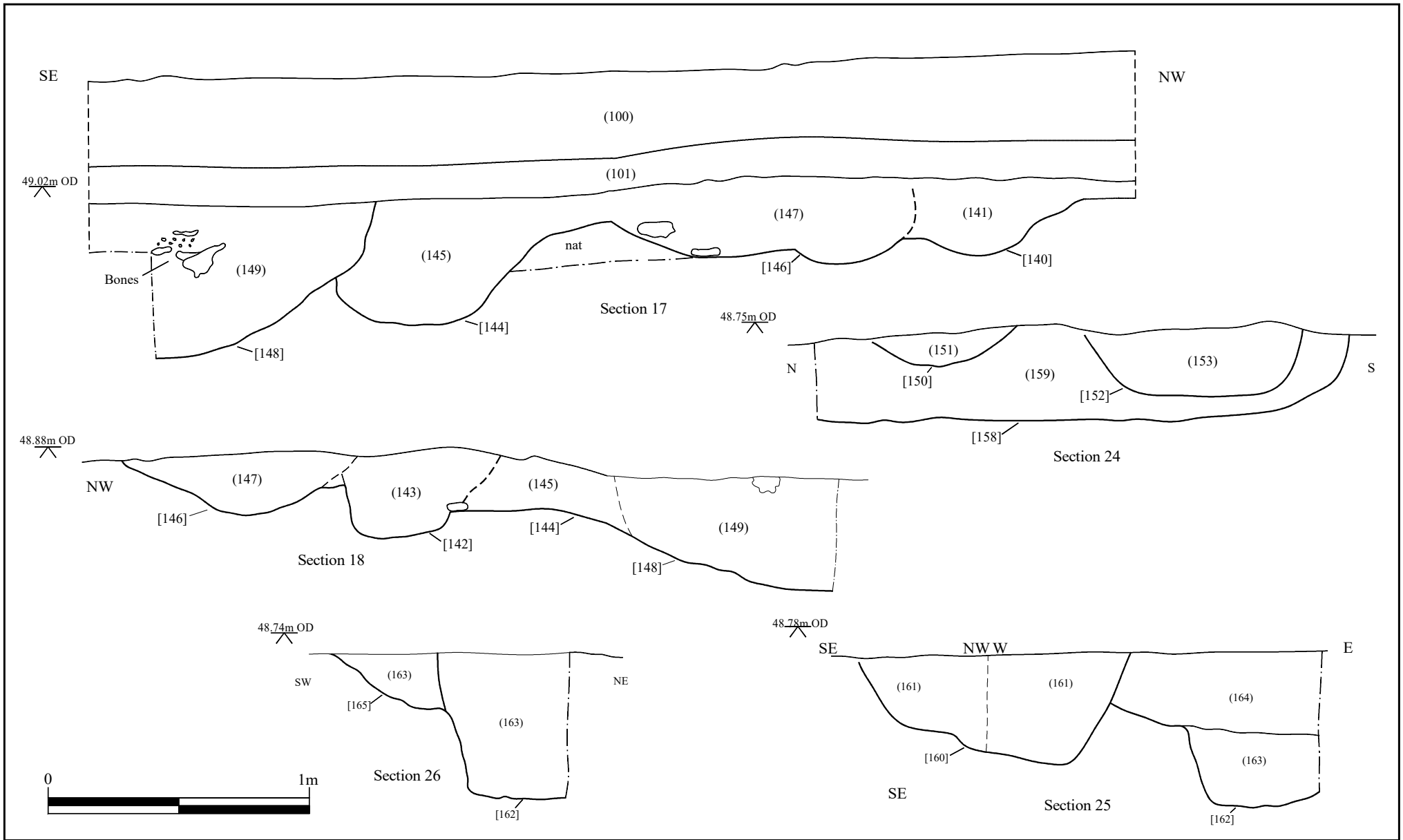


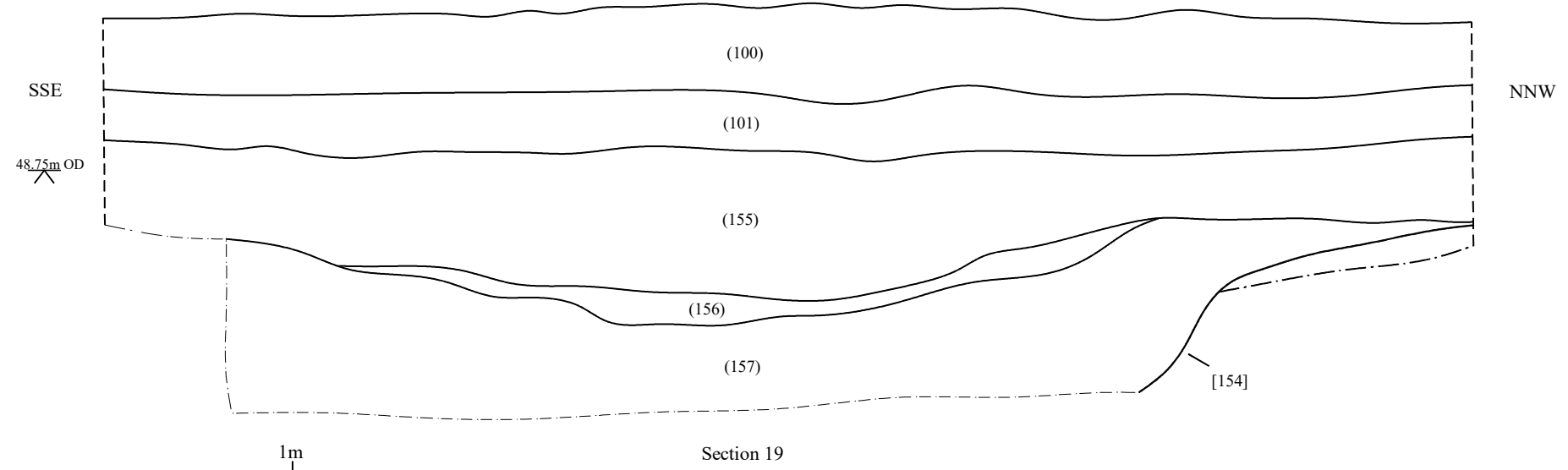
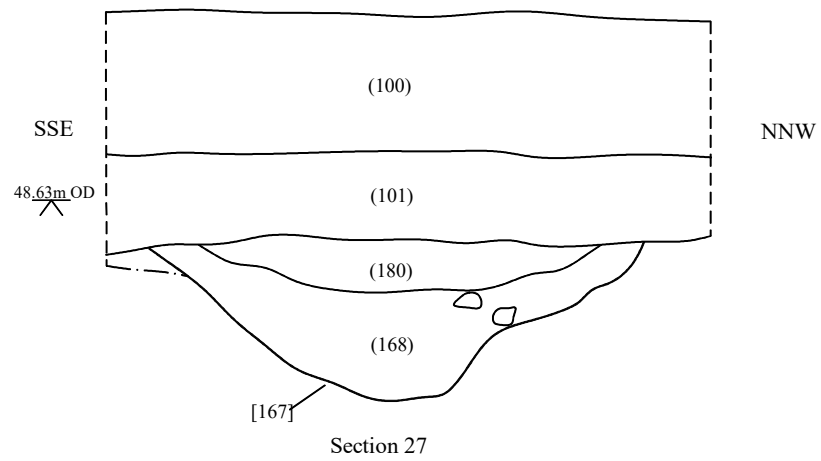


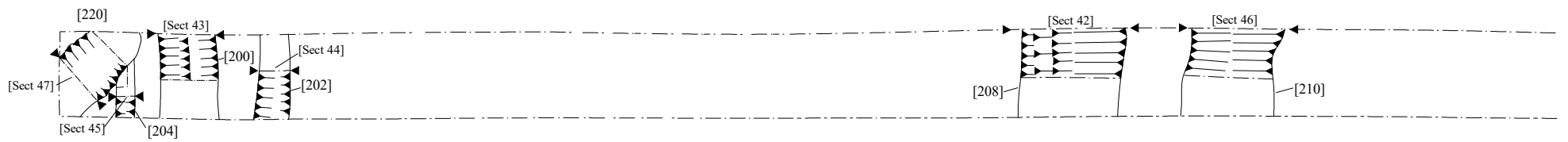






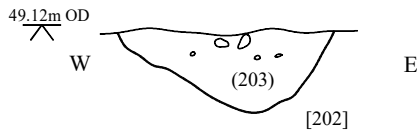




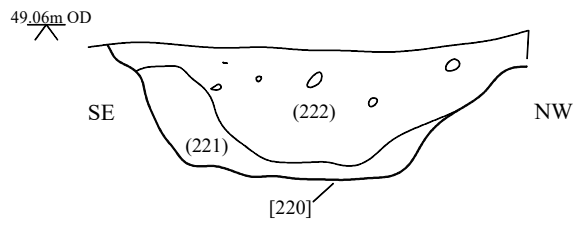




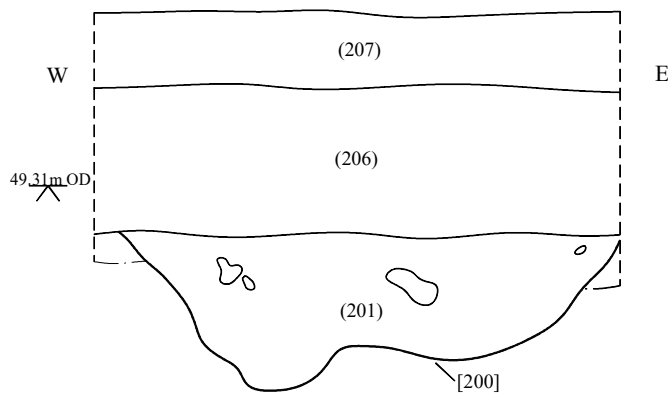
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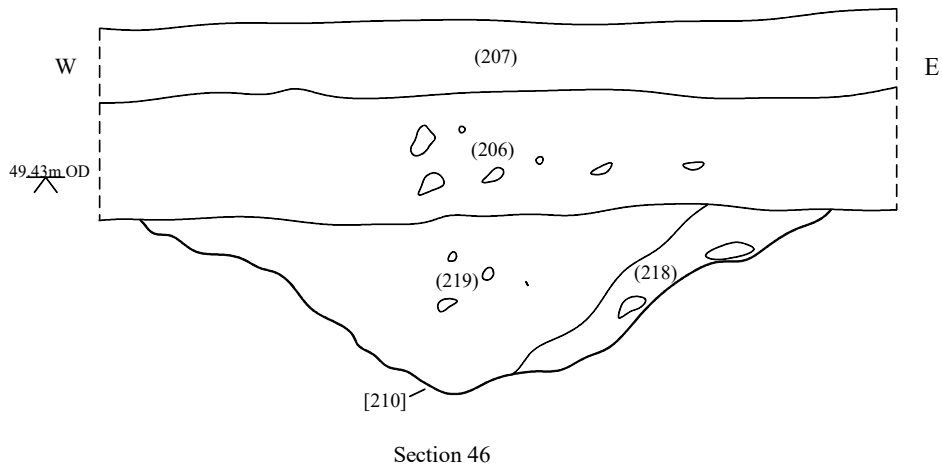
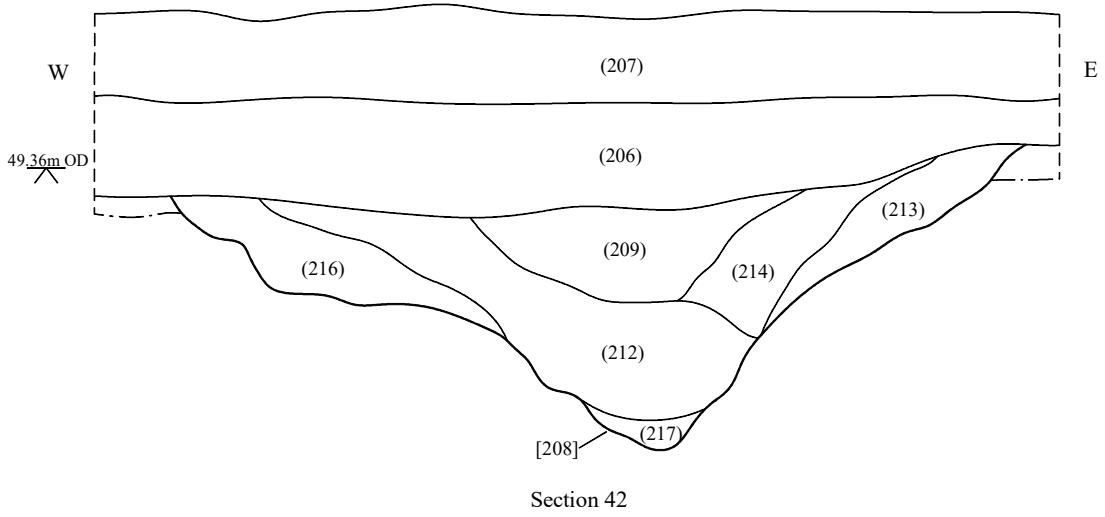


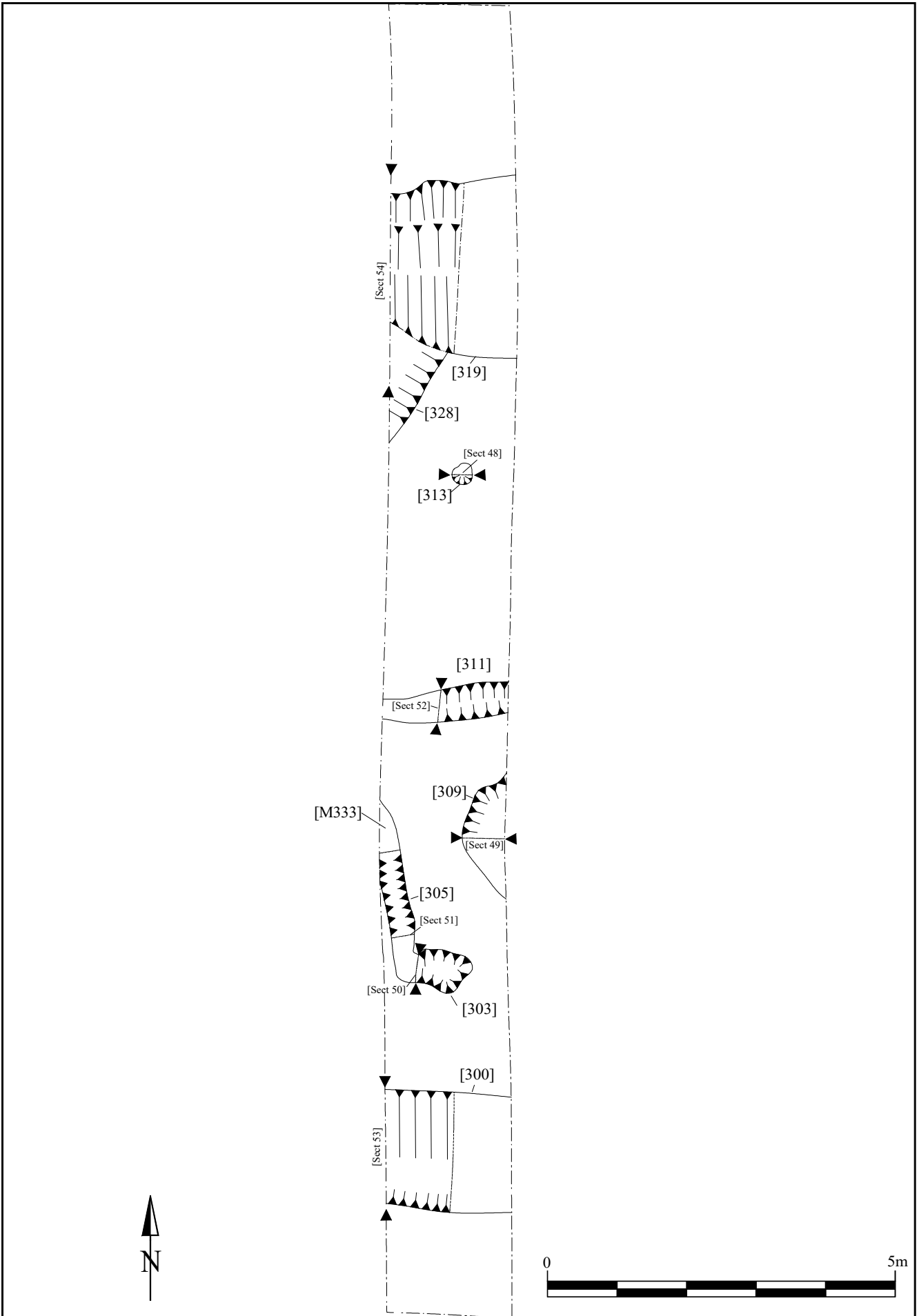
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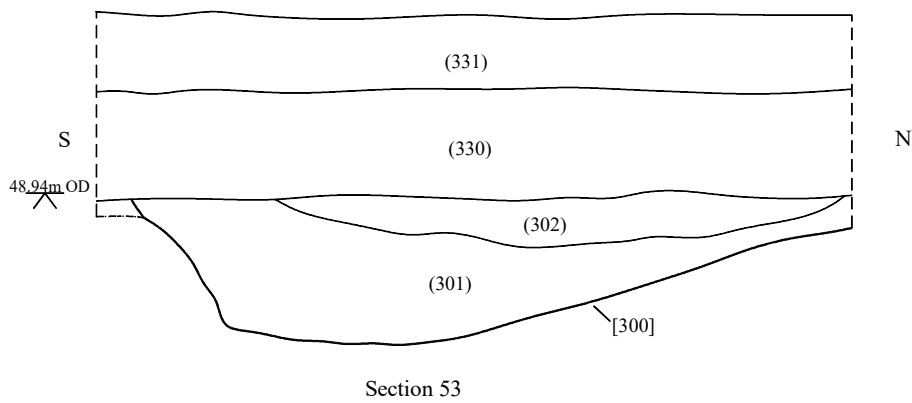
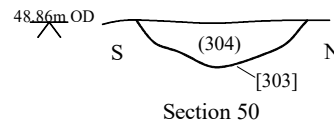
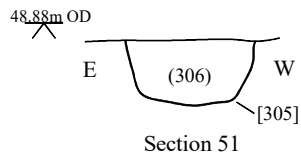
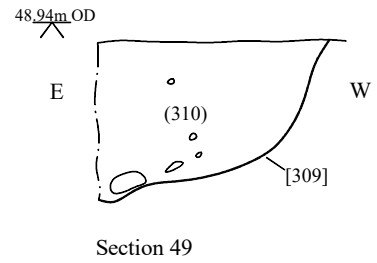
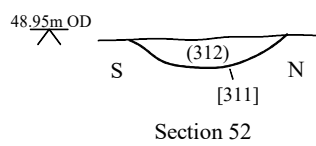
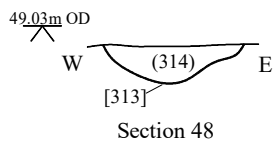
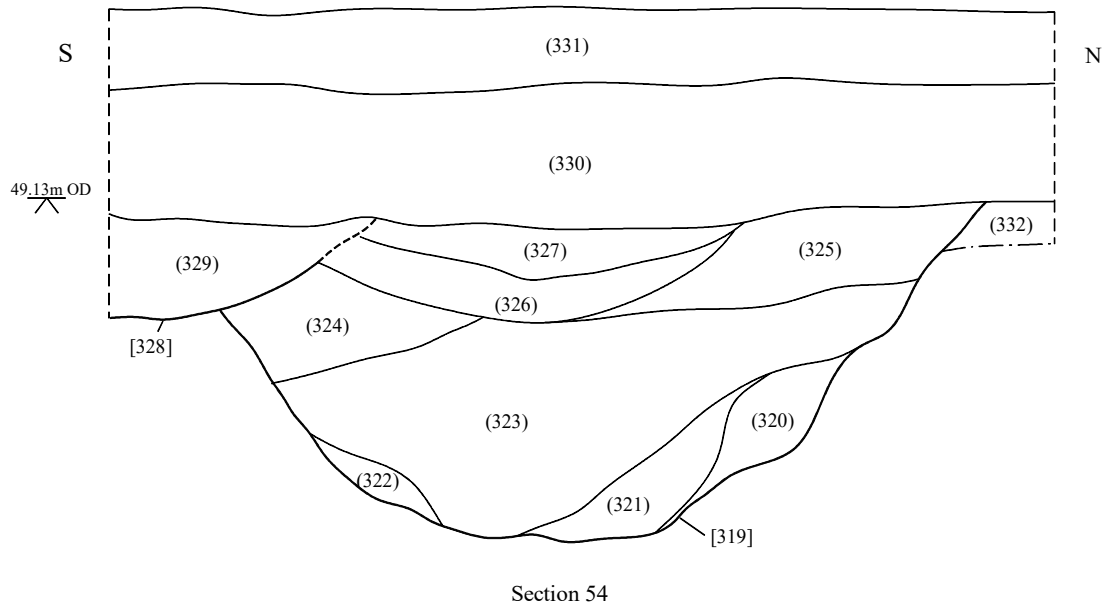


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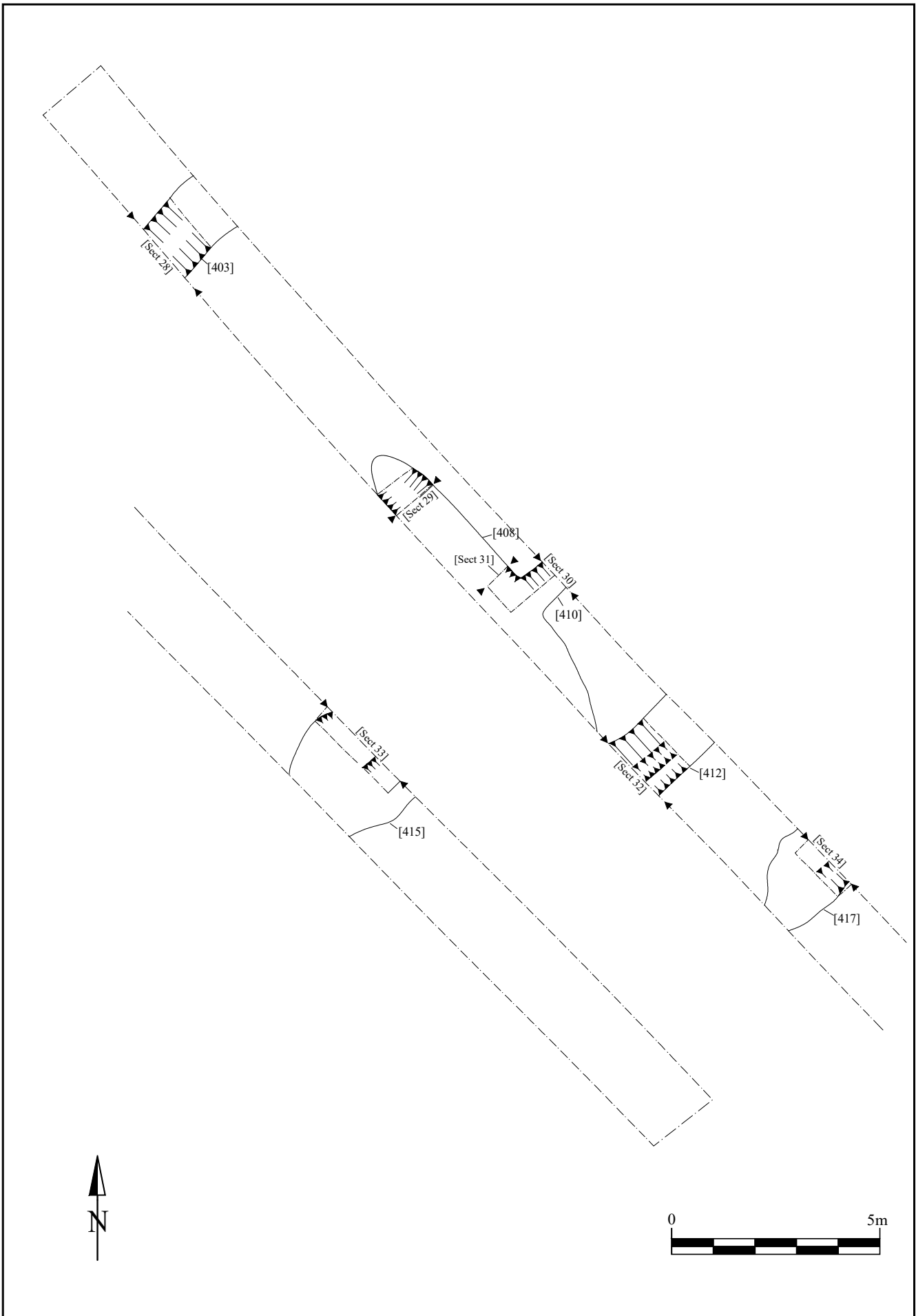


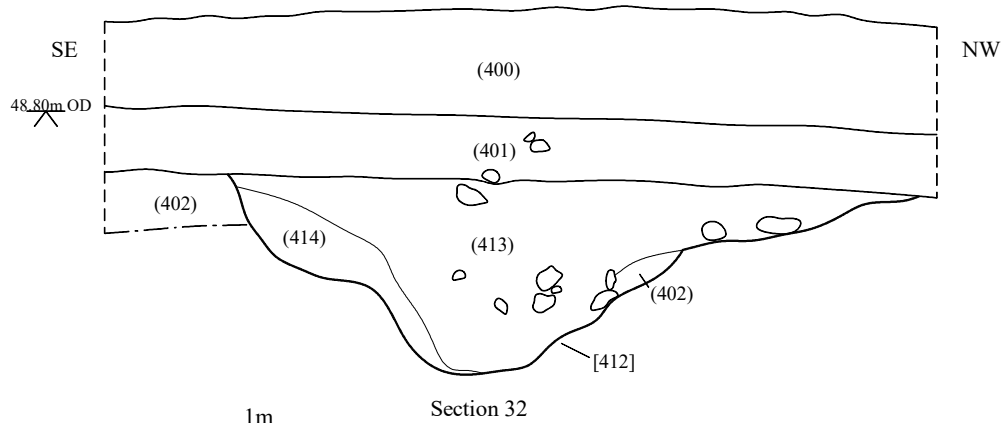
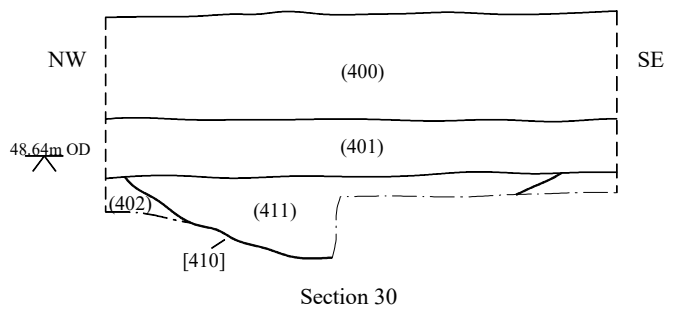
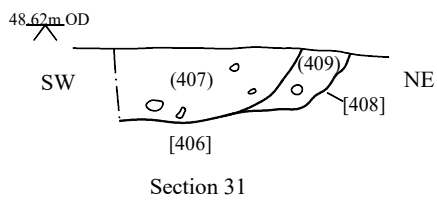
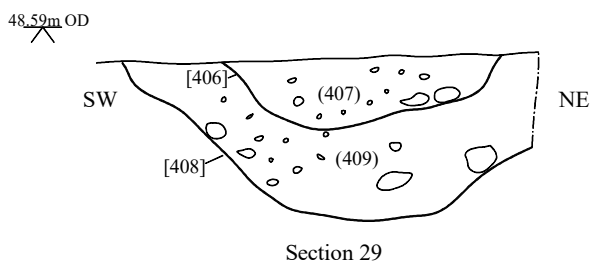
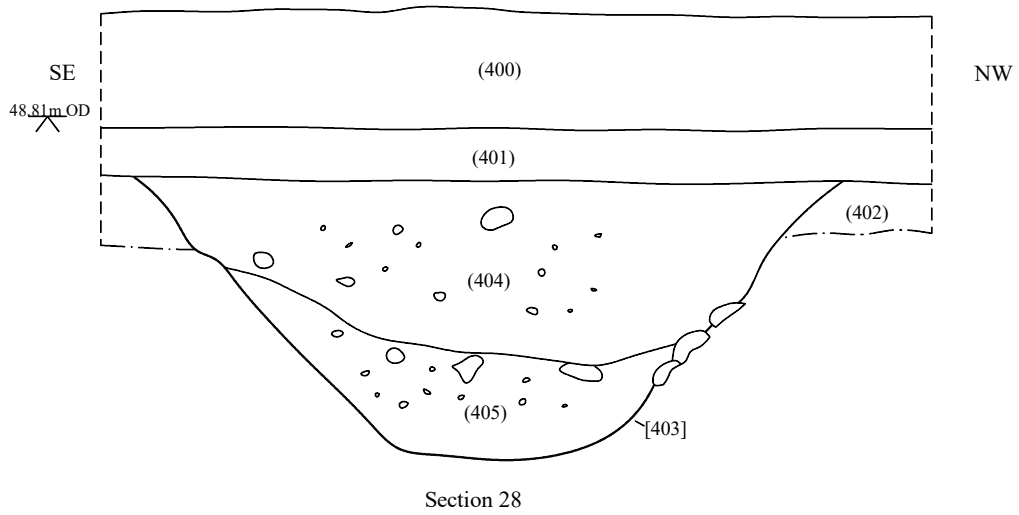


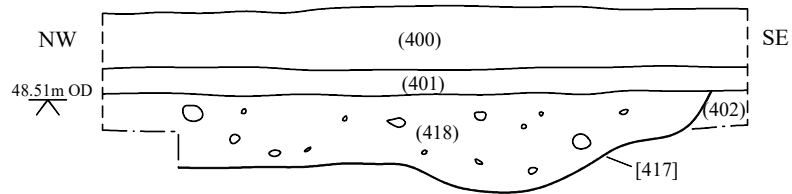


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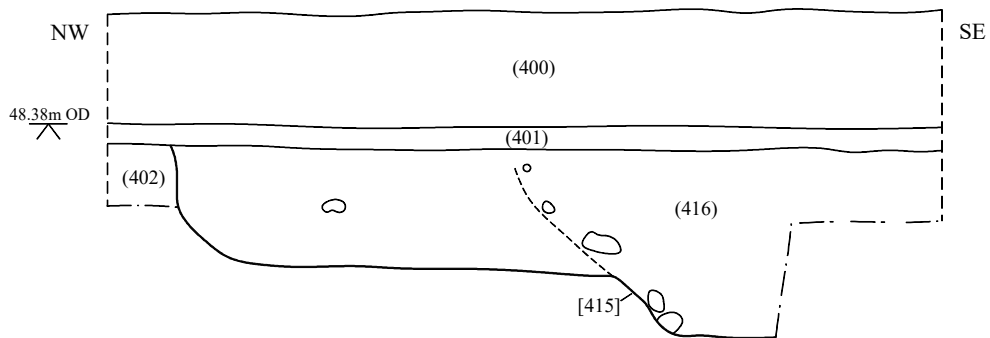
Fig. 20





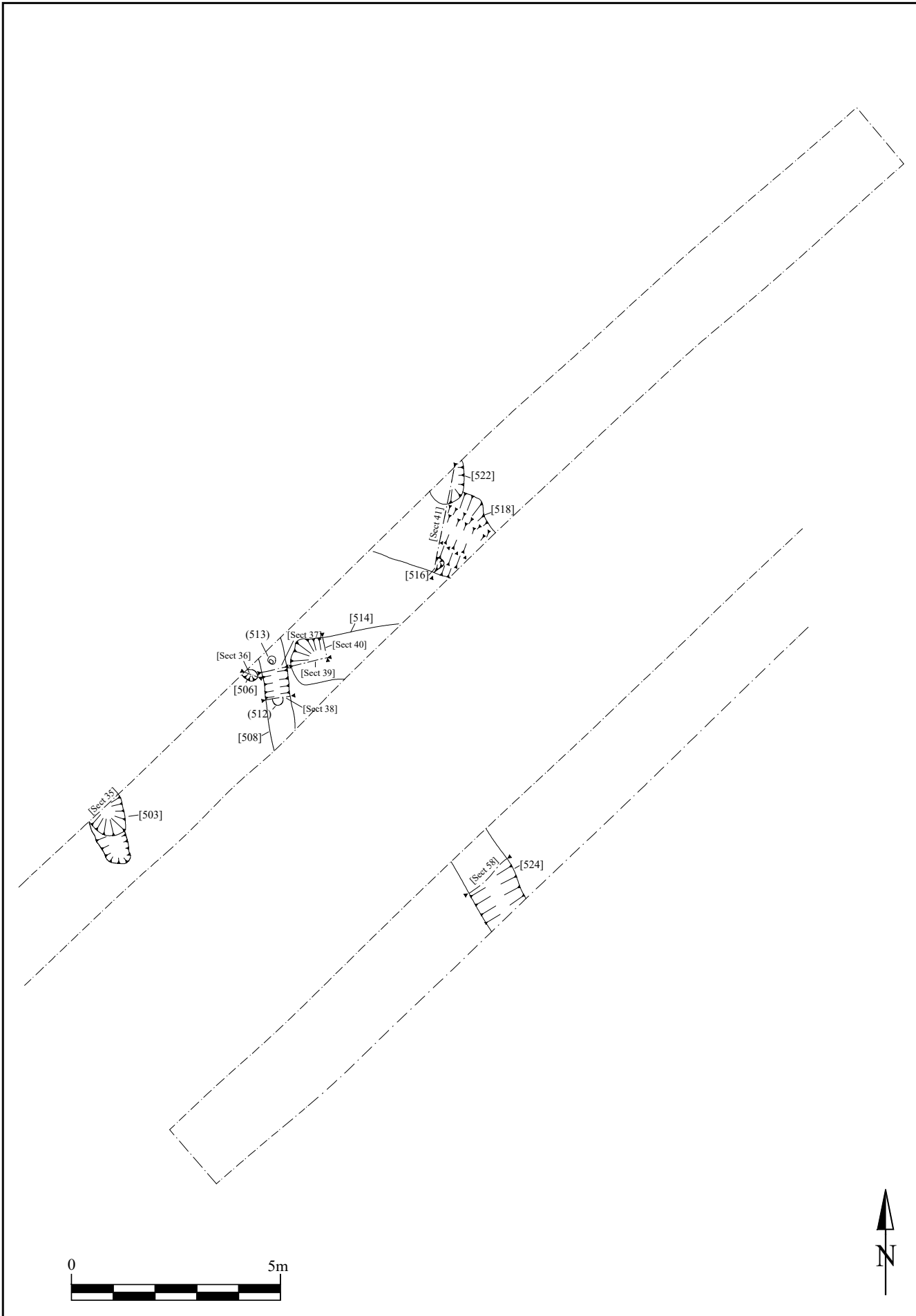


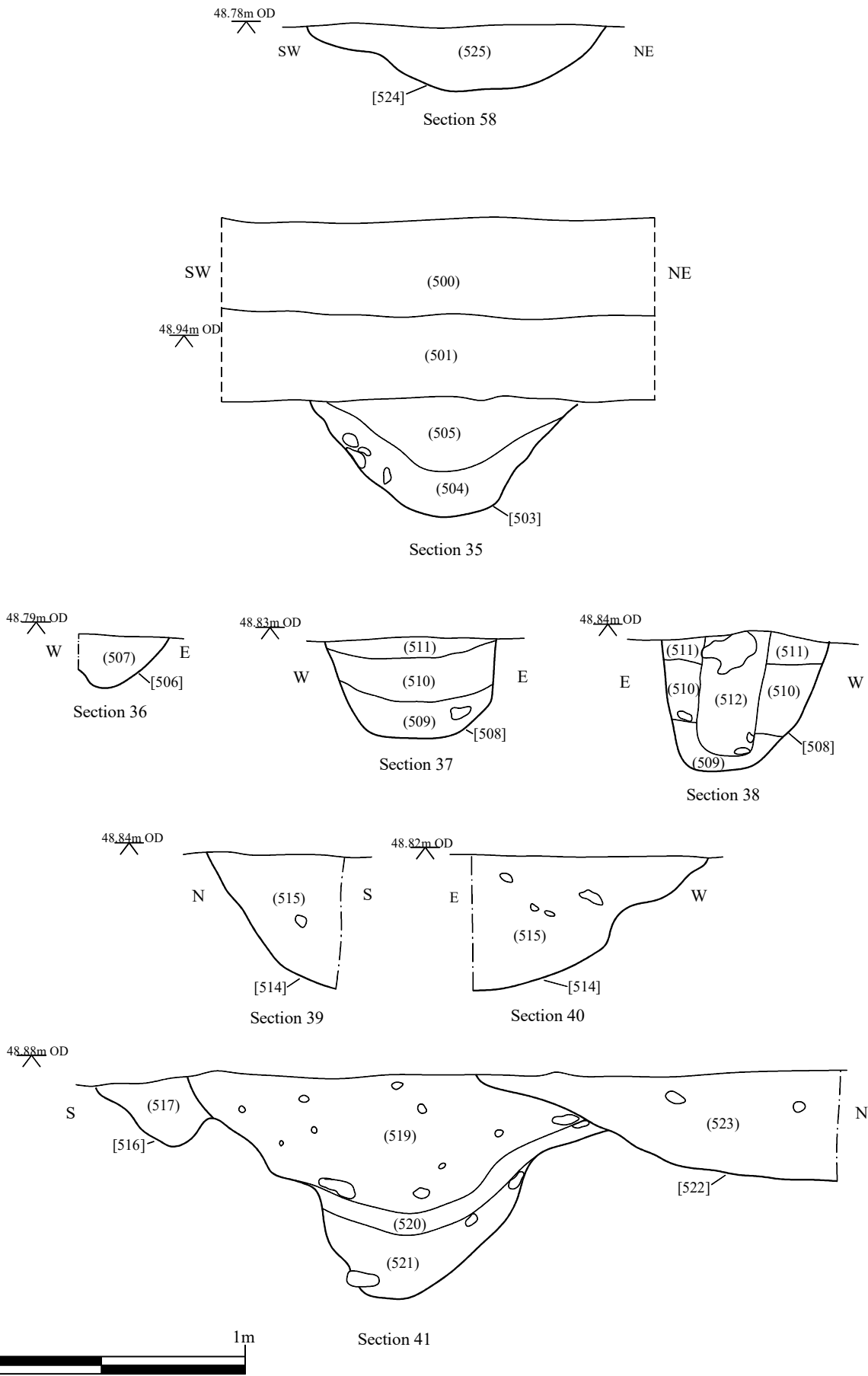
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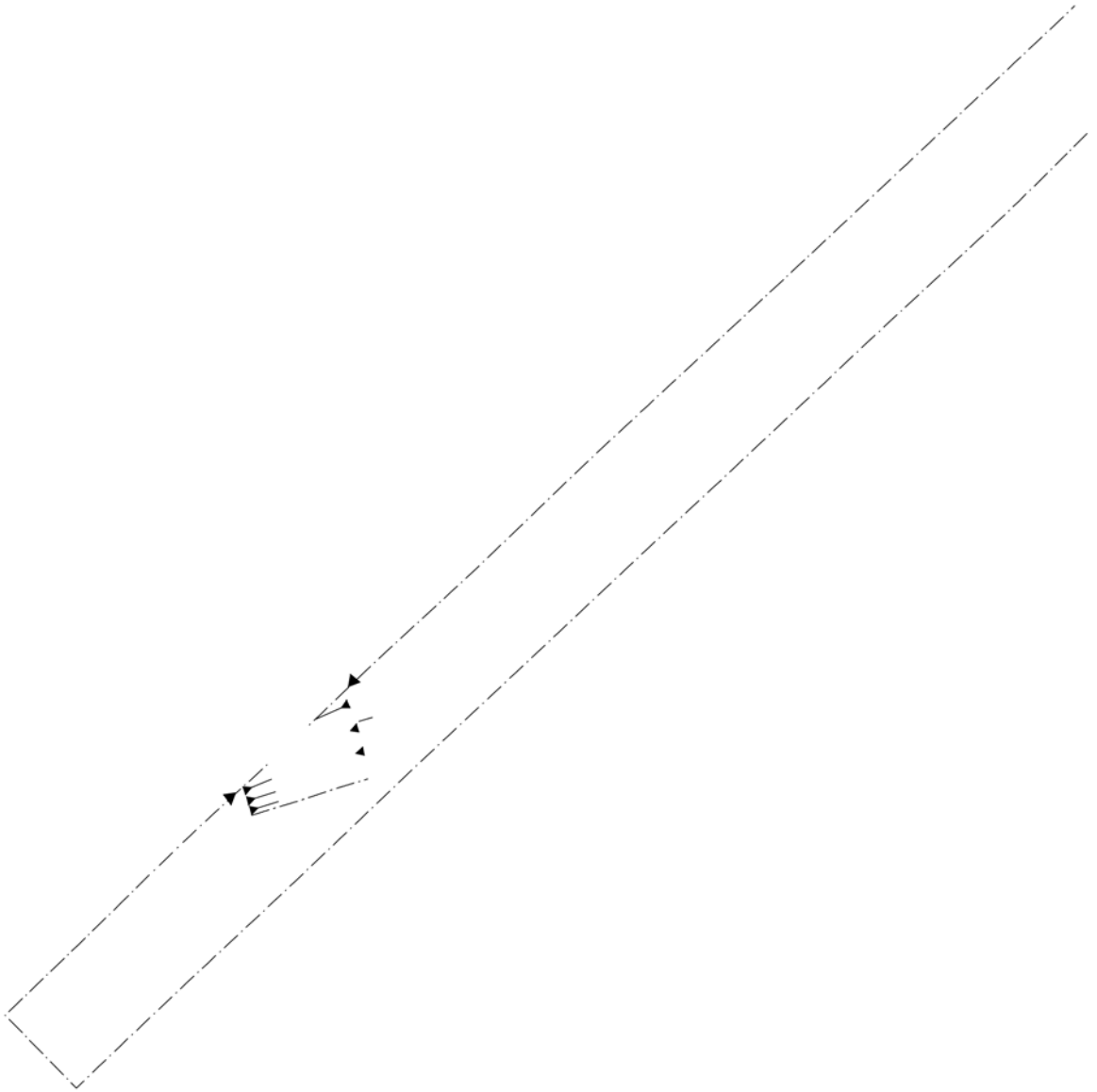


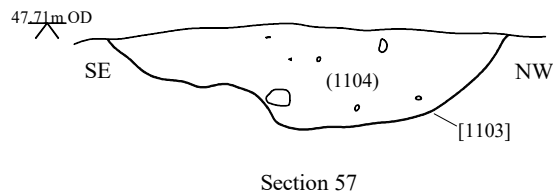
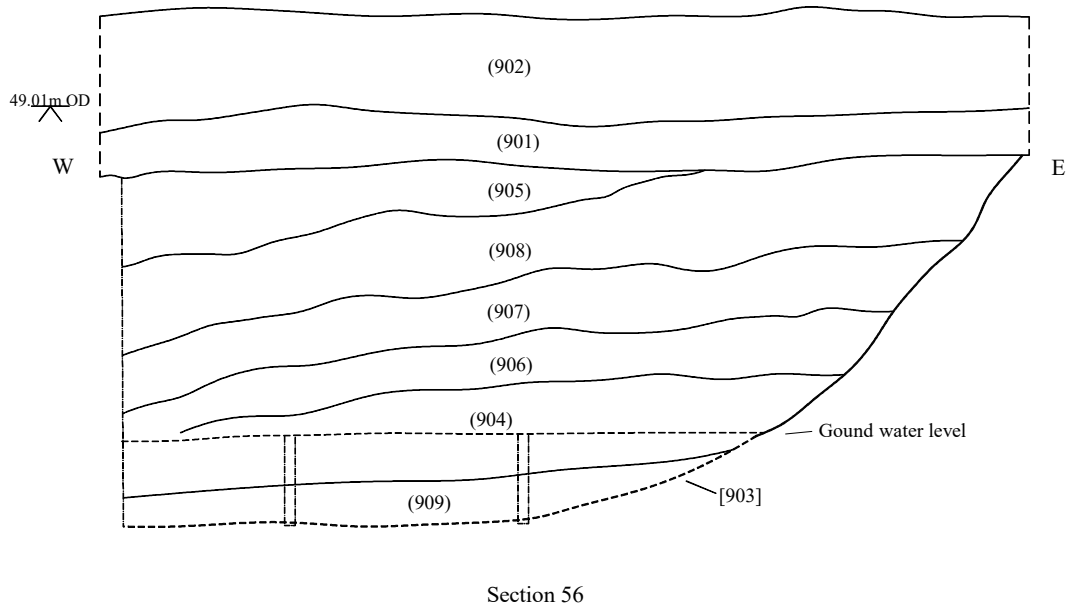
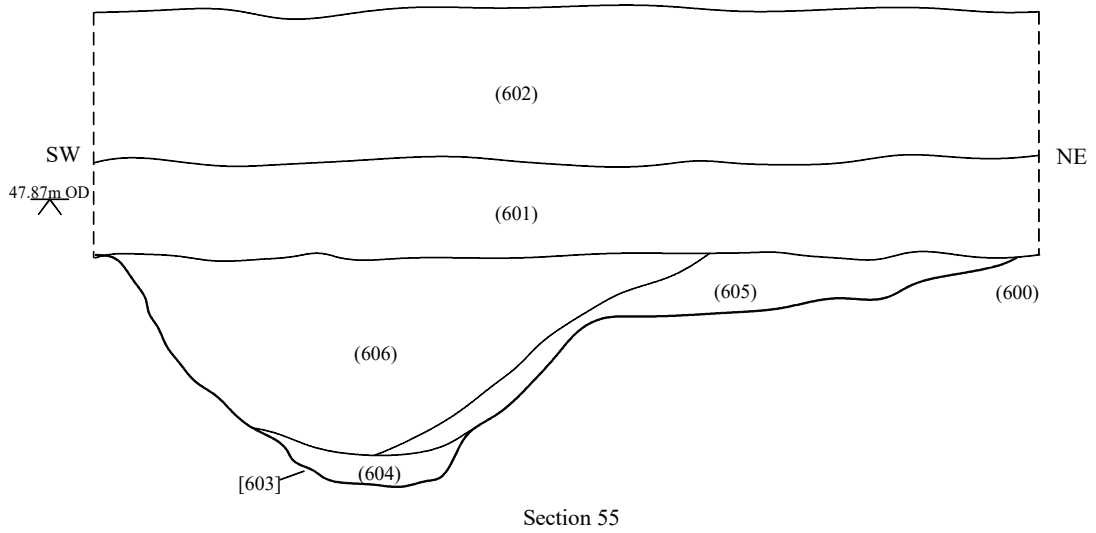
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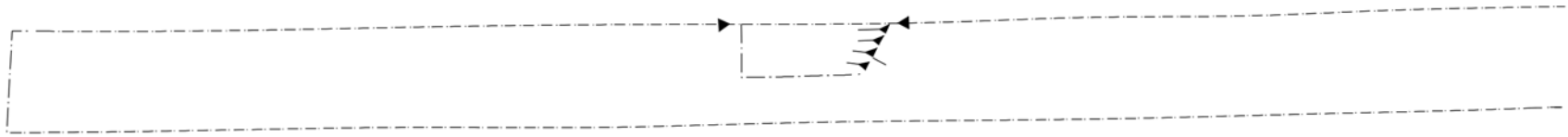


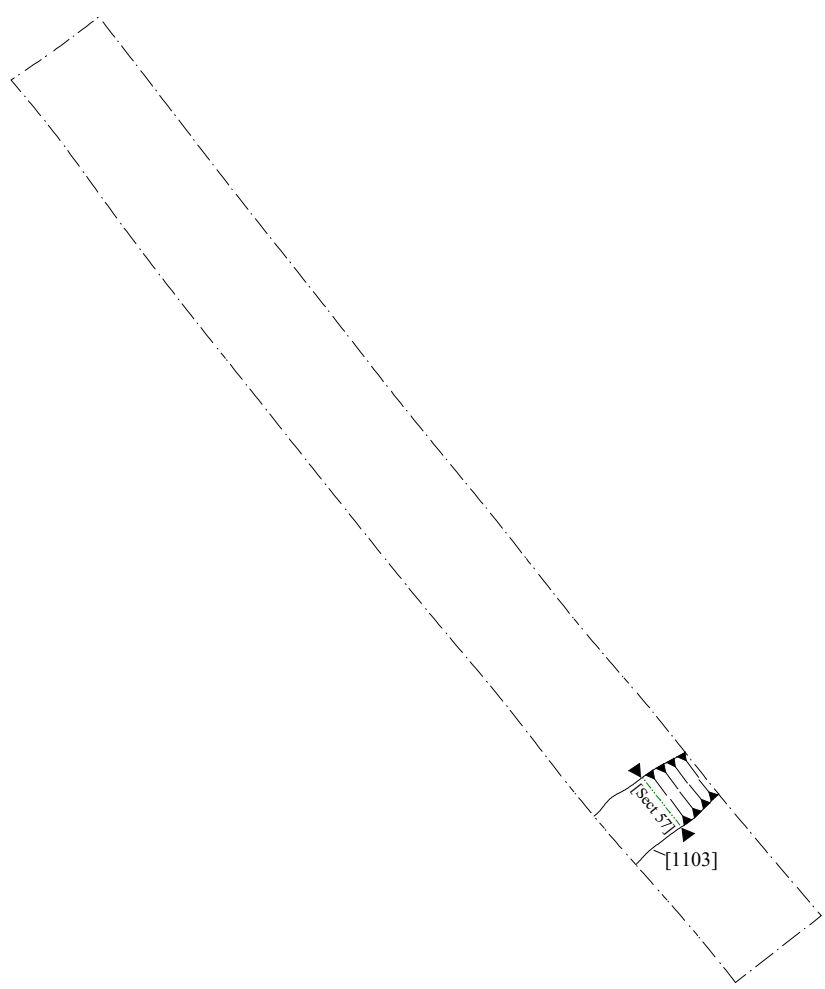












APPENDIX A

APPENDIX A - CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS AND FINDS CONCORDANCE

<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Finds</i>
100	Trench 1	Topsoil in Trench 1	Firmly compacted dark grey silty sand. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small and medium sized pebbles. It measured an average of 0.32m in thickness.	
101	Trench 1	Subsoil in Trench 1	Firm to soft compaction. Brownish grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of subrounded and subangular stones up to 0.25m in diameter. The deposit also included very occasional charcoal flecks.	
102	Trench 1	Natural material in Trench 1	Firmly compacted light brown sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small stones.	
103	Trench 1	Cut of small post-hole	Subcircular in plan shape and measured 0.21m in maximum diameter and 0.10m in depth. The sides were steeply sloped whilst the base was rounded.	
104	Trench 1	Fill of Post-Hole [103]	Softly compacted grey silty sand which included occasional flecks of charcoal and small stones.	
105	Trench 1	Cut of possible pit	Oval in plan shape and measured 0.55m in length north-to-south and 0.30m in width east-to-west. It had a depth of 0.15m. The sides of the cut were steep whilst the base was concave.	
106	Trench 1	Fill of possible Pit [105]	Softly compacted but friable pale grey silty sand with yellowish brown and black mottling. It included moderate quantities of small rounded stones and pebbles.	
107	Trench 1	Cut of Pit	The cut was oval in plan shape and measured 1.60m in length, 0.90m in width and 0.23-0.40m in depth. The longer axis was orientated northwest-to-southeast. The sides were gradually sloped whilst the base was concave.	
108	Trench 1	Fill of possible pit [107]	The deposit was soft and loosely compacted. It comprised light grey silty sand with whitish grey mottling. It included occasional quantities of rounded grave and very occasional pebbles and flecks of charcoal.	

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i> Finds</i>
109	Trench 1	Cut of Pit	The cut was square or rectangular in plan shape with rounded corners. It measured 0.96m in length and had a revealed width of 0.30m although the cut continued beyond the limit of excavation. It had a depth of 0.22m. The cut was gradually sloped to the top but broke to vertical close to the base which was generally flat.	
110	Trench 1	Fill of possible pit [109]	Softly compacted of grey silty sand with brown mottling. It included moderate quantities of angular pebbles and flecks and small fragments of charcoal.	1 sherd pottery spot dated 10 th – 11 th c. fragments of mammal bone
111	Trench 1	Cut of Ditch	Linear northwest-to-southeast orientated cut which was revealed for a distance of 2m in the trench. Its width varied between 1.50m and 2m whilst a maximum depth of 0.5m was recorded. The sides of the cut were gradually to gently sloped whilst the base was concave in profile.	Calcaneous of an equid
112	Trench 1	Upper fill of Ditch [111]	Soft compacted loose deposit of grey silty sand. It included moderate quantities of subangular pebbles and occasional quantities of charcoal. The deposit measured 1.5m to 2m in width and had a depth of 0.5m.	3 sherds pottery spot dated L12th-14 th Century 1 fragment Roman tile Unfused bones of a large dog Mollusc remains (<i>Helix aspera</i>)
113	Trench 1	Primary fill of Ditch [111]	Softly compacted light brownish grey silty sand which included occasional flecks of charcoal. It measured 0.50m in width and 0.12m in thickness. It represents a localised deposit on the south side of the ditch and partially on the base.	2 sherds pottery spot dated L12th-14 th Century
114	Trench 1	Cut of ditch	Linear northwest-to-southeast orientated cut. It was exposed for a distance of 2m in the trench and varied in width between 1.15m and 1.45m. The sides of the cut were gently to gradually sloped whilst the base was concave in profile.	
115	Trench 1	Fill of Ditch [114]	Soft and loosely compacted grey silty sand. The deposit included moderate quantities of sub angular pebbles and occasional flecks of charcoal.	2 sherds pottery spot dated 11 th Century dog, cattle and sheep/goat bones fragment of bone identified only as mammal
116	Trench 1	Cut of probable pit	The cut only partially exposed within the excavation area but was either oval or circular in plan shape. The exposed portion measured 0.40m x 0.26m in plan and had a depth of 0.28m. The sides of the cut were steeply sloped whilst the base was concave in profile.	

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Finds</i>
117	Trench 1	Fill of probable Pit [116]	Softly compacted brownish grey silty sand which included moderate quantities of angular stones up to 0.10m diameter, flecks of charcoal and occasional gravel.	Cattle bone – fragments of a scapula
118	Trench 1	Cut of ditch	Linear east-to-west orientated ditch which measured 1.40m in width and 0.63m in depth. The sides were steep but the base was not exposed.	
119	Trench 1	Primary fill of Ditch [118]	Softly compacted light greyish brown silty sand. The deposit measured 0.45m in depth.	
120	Trench 1	Upper fill of Ditch [118]	Soft but friable deposit of dark greyish brown silty sand. It measured 1.60m in width and had depth of 0.65m. The deposit included frequent quantities of sub-angular medium sized stones (up to 0.10m diameter) and occasional quantities of angular flints and charcoal flecks.	1 Roman tile fragment Fragments of bone identified as large mammal
121	Trench 1	Cut of possible post-hole	The cut was sub-circular in plan shape and measured 0.26m in maximum diameter. It had a depth of 0.10m. The sides of the cut were steep whilst the base was concave.	
122	Trench 1	Fill of possible post-hole [121]	Softly compacted dark grey mottled silty sand. It included occasional quantities of small rounded stones.	
123	Trench 1	Cut of gully	Linear northwest-to-southeast orientated ditch. It measured 0.50m in width and had a depth which varied between 0.25m and 0.30m. The sides were gradually sloped whilst the base was concave.	
124	Trench 1	Fill of gully [123]	Very soft and loosely compacted grey silty sand with yellowish brown and rusty brown mottling.	
125	Trench 1	Cut of possible pit	Recorded mostly in section and largely truncated away by linear Ditch [127]. The cut had a width of 1.25m and a depth of 0.45m. It had gently to gradually sloped sides and a slightly concave base.	
126	Trench 1	Fill of possible Pit [125]	Soft but friable deposit of dark grey silty sand. It contained lenses of mid orange sand. The deposit included flecks of charcoal and subrounded small stones.	Single fragment mammal bone
127	Trench 1	Cut of Ditch	Linear north-to-south orientated ditch. It was recorded for a distance of 2m within the trench and measured 0.70m in width and 0.35m in depth. The sides of the cut were steeply inclines whilst the base was flat.	
128	Trench 1	Fill of Ditch [127]	Firm but friable deposit of dark brownish grey silty sand with orange sand mottling. It included frequent flecks of charcoal and occasional small rounded stones.	

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Finds</i>
129	Trench 1	Cut of pit	The cut was oval shaped in plan and measured 0.90m north-to-south and 0.60m east-to-west. It had a depth of 0.44m. The sides of the cut were steep whilst the base was concave.	
130	Trench 1	Primary fill of Pit [129]	Soft brown silty fine sand. It measured 0.15m in width and 0.15m in depth.	
131	Trench 1	Upper fill of Pit [129]	Firm but friable dark grey silty sand. The deposit included occasional quantities of large stones and flint fragments. It measured 0.60m in width and had a depth of 0.30m	3 fragment fired clay, 1 with wattle impressions Single fragment of large mammal bone
132	Trench 1	Cut of large oval shaped pit	Not fully exposed in the trench area. It measured 1.60m in length north-to-south and 0.70m in width. It had a depth of 0.45m. The side of the cut were steep to gradually sloped whilst the base was concave.	
133	Trench 1	Fill of Pit [132]	Firm but friable deposit of dark brownish grey silty sand. It included frequent quantities of subrounded and subrounded stones, chalk flecks and occasional quantities of charcoal.	
134	Trench 1	Cut of possible post-hole or small pit.	The cut had a semi-circular plan shape and measured 0.25m in maximum diameter and had a depth of 0.20m. It had steeply inclined sides and a flattish but slightly sloping base.	
135	Trench 1	Fill of possible post-hole or small pit [134].	Loosely compacted pale grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of small rounded stones.	Single fragment of medium mammal bone
136	Trench 1	Cut of Ditch	Linear northwest-to-southeast orientated cut which was recorded for a distance of 2m within the trench. It had a width of 1.20m and a maximum depth of 0.40m. The sides of the cut were steeply sloped to the top breaking to gradual toward the base. The base was concave.	Mollusc remains (helix species)
137	Trench 1	Fill of Ditch [136]	Firm and stiff dark grey silty sand which included moderate quantities of small pebbles and gravel and occasional flecks of chalk and charcoal.	1 fragment fired clay 1 piece of lava quern – 9 th – 13 th century Mammal rib
138	Trench 1	Cut of large pit.	The cut had an elongated oval plan shape and measured 4.30m in length, 1.50m in maximum width and had a depth of 0.43m. It had steep sides with at step at ends and a generally flat but slightly concave base. The feature was orientated northeast-to-southwest.	
139	Trench 1	Fill of large Pit [138].	The deposit was soft and loosely compacted and comprised light grey silty sand. It had yellowish brown mottling. It included moderate quantities of angular gravel and occasional flecks of charcoal.	1 fragment fired clay

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i> Finds</i>
140	Trench 1	Cut of pit.	The cut was not revealed within the excavation area but the exposed portion suggests that it represents an oval or circular shaped pit. The recorded measurements 0.98m in maximum length, 0.30m in maximum width and 0.30m in depth. It had gentle to gradually sloped sides and a concave base.	
141	Trench 1	Fill of Pit [140]	Softly compacted grey silty sand with light grey mottling. The deposit included occasional quantities of flecks of charcoal.	
142	Trench 1	Cut of possible post-hole or small pit.	The cut was oval shaped in plan and measured 0.60m in length and had a depth of 0.35m.	
143	Trench 1	Fill of Pit [142]	Softly compacted grey silty sand with light grey mottling. The deposit included occasional quantities of subrounded and subangular pebbles and occasional flecks of charcoal.	
144	Trench 1	Cut of Pit	The cut was not fully exposed in plan but the exposed portion suggests a circular or oval plan shape. The exposed portion of the cut measured 1m in maximum length, 0.30m in width and had a depth of 0.50m. It had gradually sloped sides and a concave base.	
145	Trench 1	Fill of Pit [144]	Softly compacted grey silty sand with light grey mottling. The deposit included occasional quantities of subrounded and subangular pebbles and occasional flecks of charcoal.	
146	Trench 1	Cut of ditch	East-to-west orientated linear cut which measured 1.25m in maximum width and had a depth of 0.32m. It was recorded for a distance of 1.80m across the trench. The cut had gradually to gently sloped sides and a concave base.	
147	Trench 1	Fill of Ditch [146]	Softly compacted grey silty sand with greyish brown mottling. The deposit included occasional pebbles and subrounded to subangular stones and charcoal flecks.	2 fragments fired clay
148	Trench 1	Cut of pit	The cut was not fully exposed in plan but the exposed portion suggests an oval plan shape. The exposed portion of the cut measured 1.15m in maximum length, 0.85m in width and had a depth of 0.60m. It had gradually sloped sides and a flattish base.	
149	Trench 1	Fill of Pit	Softly compacted grey silty sand with yellowish brown mottling. The deposit included moderate quantities of gravel.	1 sherd pottery spot dated 11 th Century 4 fragments fired clay Fragment skull of an equid Mollusc – helix aspera

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i> Finds</i>
150	Trench 1	Cut of gully	Linear east-to-west orientated gully which measured 0.56m in width and 0.12m in depth. It crossed the full width of the trench (1.8m). The sides were gently sloped whilst the base was concave.	
151	Trench 1	Fill of Gully [150]	Softly compacted brownish grey silty sand. The deposit included occasional quantities of small pebbles and subrounded stones. It also included occasional charcoal flecks.	1 sherd pottery spot dated 10 th – 11 th Century
152	Trench 1	Cut of pit or ditch terminus	The cut was not fully exposed in plan and continued beyond the east limit of excavation. The exposed portion suggests a rectangular pit or the terminus of a ditch. The exposed portion of the cut measured 0.70m east-to-west and 0.85m north-to-south. It had a depth of 0.20m.. It had steep sides and a flat base.	
153	Trench 1	Fill of Pit [152]	Soft but friable dark grey silty sand with yellow sand mottling. The deposit included moderate quantities of small subrounded stones and occasional flecks of charcoal.	1 fragment fired clay Cattle bone - jaw and 1 molar
154	Trench 1	Cut of large pit	The cut is very large and not fully exposed in plan. The exposed portion suggests a possible circular or rectangular plan shape. The cut continued beyond the west and east limits of excavation and was recorded for a distance of 5m north-to-south. A hand excavated sondage reached a depth of 1.26m from the present ground surface. Depths below 1.20m were explored by mechanical excavator. However, at a depth of 3m the base was still not reached. Excavation with the mechanical excavator was discontinued after the collapse of the sondage sides. The recorded side of the pit was steep.	
155	Trench 1	Upper fill of Pit [154]	Softly compacted brownish grey silty sand. It included moderate quantities of gravel and subrounded pebbles. It also included occasional flecks of charcoal and chalk. The deposit measured 0.46m in maximum depth and was recorded for a distance of 4.30m.	12 sherds pottery spot dated 12 th – 13 th century 1 piece of lava quern – 9 th – 13 th century Fragments of mammal bone A sheep/goat mandible
156	Trench 1	Secondary fill of Pit [154]	Softly compacted mixture of brownish grey and whitish grey sandy silt. It measured 2.50m in extent north-to-south and had a depth of 0.10m. The deposit included occasional fragments of burnt clay and occasional flecks of charcoal.	9 fragments fired clay
157	Trench 1	Secondary fill of Pit [154]	Very soft deposit of dark brownish grey and greyish brown peaty silty sand. It included moderate quantities of subangular and angular stones and pebbles and occasional flecks of charcoal.	1 fragment fired clay Cattle bone including gnawed metacarpal

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i> Finds</i>
158	Trench 1	Cut of Pit	Large elongated oblong plan shape which measured a maximum of 2.80m in length. 1.10m in width and had a depth of 0.37m. The south end was truncated away by numerous later pits cuts so the original length remains unknown. Part of the southeast side was located beyond the limit of excavation. The sides of the were steep whilst the base was flat.	
159	Trench 1	Fill of Pit [158].	Softly compacted deposit of light greyish brown silty sand. It included moderate quantities of small subrounded stones and occasional flecks of charcoal.	
160	Trench 1	Cut of pit	The cut was not fully exposed in plan but the exposed portion suggests an oval plan shape. The exposed portion of the cut measured 1.15m in maximum length, 0.85m in width and had a depth of 0.60m. It had gradually sloped sides and a flattish base.	
161	Trench 1	Fill of Pit [160].	Softly compacted dark brownish grey silty sand. It included moderate quantities of charcoal flecks and occasional small subangular stones.	
162	Trench 1	Cut of Pit	The cut had an oval plan shape and measured 0.90m in length, 0.80m in width and had a depth of 0.60m. The sides were steep becoming almost vertical in places whilst the base was flat.	
163	Trench 1	Primary fill of Pit [162]	Stiff deposit of light greyish brown silty sand. It included moderate quantities of small stones and measured 0.50m in length, 0.50m in width and had a thickness of 0.28m	
164	Trench 1	Upper fill of Pit [162]	Soft but friable deposit of brownish grey silty sand with orange sand mottling.	
165	Trench 1	Cut of pit.	Badly truncated sub oval shaped cut. The surviving part of the cut measured 0.60m southeast-to-northwest, 0.40m southwest-to-northeast and had a depth of 0.20m. The sides of the cut were gently to gradually sloped whilst not enough of the base survived in order to characterise it.	
166	Trench 1	Fill of Pit [165]	Softly compacted brownish grey silty sand. The deposit included occasional quantities of small stones.	
167	Trench 1	'Cut' of possible natural feature.	The feature was only partially exposed in the evaluation trench but an ovoid shape is discernible. It continued beyond the west limit of excavation. The exposed portion measured 1.30m in length north-to-	

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i> Finds</i>
			south, 0.40m in width east-to-west and 0.40m in depth. It had gradually sloping sides and a concave base.	
168	Trench 1	Primary deposit in Pit [167]	Very soft and loose deposit of light greyish brown fine sand. It measured 1.31m in width and had a depth of 0.30m.	
169	Trench 1	Cut of Pit	Very large cut which continued beyond the east and west limits of excavation. The exposed portion of the cut suggests a circular plan shape. The full north-to-south extent measured 9.50m and it had a depth of 0.50m. The sides of the cut were very gently sloped whilst the base was concave.	
170	Trench 1	Upper fill of Pit [169]	Softly compacted deposit of brownish grey silty sand. It included occasional quantities of gravel and pebbles and occasional flecks of charcoal and chalk. It measured 8.50m in extent north-to-south and had a thickness of 0.22m.	
171	Trench 1	Secondary fill of Pit [169]	Softly compacted striations yellowish brown and greyish brown silty sand. The deposit included very occasional flecks of charcoal. It measured 6.80m in extent north-to-south and had a thickness of 0.10m.	
172	Trench 1	Secondary fill of Pit [169]	Softly compacted greyish brown silty sand. The deposit included occasional quantities of gravel and very occasional flecks of charcoal. It measured 8.50m in extent north-to-south and had a thickness of 0.20m.	3 sherds pottery dated Late 12 th -14 th century Fragments of a dog mandible – skinned Cattle bone and fragment of mammal
173	Trench 1	Primary fill of Pit [169]	Compact and cemented light grey deposit of rounded and subrounded pebbles up to 50mm in diameter in a matrix of medium sand and silty sand. The deposit includes moderate quantities of charcoal flecks and occasional flecks of chalk. It measured 7.80m in extent north-to-south and had a depth of 0.15m.	
174	Trench 1	Cut of ditch	Linear east-to-west orientated linear cut which measured 0.96m in width and had a depth of 0.20m. The sides of the cut were gradually sloped whilst the base was concave.	
175	Trench 1	Fill of Ditch [174]	Softly compacted light grey silty sand. It included occasional quantities of angular stones up to 100mm in diameter and occasional flecks of charcoal.	
176	Trench 1	Possible cut of ditch	Cut of east-to-west orientated feature which may be the remains of a linear ditch partly truncated away by overlying pit [169]. It measured 1.40m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.20m. The surviving south side was gently sloped whilst the base was concave.	

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Find</i> s
177	Trench 1	Fill of possible Ditch [176].	Softly compacted brownish grey silty sand which included occasional flecks of charcoal.	
178	Trench 1	Cut of probable pit	General oval but irregular plan shape. The cut was not fully revealed in the excavation area and continued beyond the west limit of excavation. The exposed portion in plan measured 1.1m in length north-to-south and 0.32m in width east-to-west. It had a depth of 0.60m. The north and east sides of the cut (the only sides revealed by excavation) were gradually sloped and the base was concave.	
179	Trench 1	Fill of Pit [178]	Soft and loosely compacted deposit of grey silty sand with orangey brown mottling. It included frequent quantities of subangular pebbles and occasional flecks of charcoal.	
180	Trench 1	Upper fill of possible natural feature [167]	Softly compacted grey silty sand with orangey red patches. It included occasional quantities of subangular stones and measured 1.10m in width and 0.12m in thickness.	
181	Trench 1	Lower fills of Pit [154]	Deposits revealed in lower parts of large Pit [154]. There was no opportunity to record these fills in detail as the machine excavated sondage collapsed without warning. However, they appeared to be mid to dark grey silts of at least 1.80m depth. The base of the pit was not reached.	Sample <3> - Cereals, chaff and seeds of common weeds are present at a low to moderate density. Could be hearth waste
182	Trench 1	Unstratified finds from Trench 1 spoilheap		Prehistoric utilized flint flake Earlier Neolithic flint chisel fragment Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flint flake Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age utilized flint flake Undated flint flake 1 sherd pottery dated 9 th - 10 th century 1 fragment Roman tile
183	Trench 1	Cut of pit	The cut was not fully revealed in the excavation area but the exposed portion suggests an ovoid plan shape. It continues beyond the west limit of excavation. Its revealed measurements were 0.92m north-to-south, 0.52m east-to-west whilst a depth of 0.31m was recorded. The sides of the cut were steep at the top of the cut but breaking to gradual about half of the way down. The base was gently concave	

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i> Finds</i>
184	Trench 1	Fill of Pit [183]	Soft and loosely compacted deposit of grey silty sand with orangey brown mottling. It included frequent quantities of subangular pebbles and occasional flecks of charcoal.	
200	Trench 2	Cut of ditch	North-to-south orientated linear ditch which measured 1.33m in width and 0.42m in depth. It extended across the full width of the trench (1.8m). The sides of the cut were steep. It had a concave base on the east side which dropped in to a deeper gully on the west side. The gully had a concave base.	1 sherd pottery dated 12 th – 14 th century (from context 201?) 2 fragments Roman tile 1 fragment post medieval tile (from 201)
201	Trench 2	Fill of Ditch [200]	Firmly compacted light to mid brownish grey silty sand which included moderate quantities of small stones and gravel. It also included occasional quantities of medium sized stones up to 150mm in diameter.	1 sherd pottery dated L9 th -11 th century Cattle bone – pelvic fragments
202	Trench 2	Cut of gully	North-to-south orientated linear gully which measured 0.57m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.20m. It extended across the full width of the trench (1.8m). The west side of the cut had a gradual slope whilst the east side was steep. It had a concave base.	
203	Trench 2	Fill of Gully [202]	Firmly compacted light to mid brownish grey silty sand which included moderate quantities of small stones and gravel. It also included occasional quantities of medium sized stones up to 150mm in diameter	Equid metatarsal
204	Trench 2	Cut of gully	North-to-south orientated linear gully which measured 0.41m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.30mm. It extended across the full width of the trench (1.8m). The sides of the cut were gently sloped whilst the base was slightly concave.	
205	Trench 2	Natural deposits in Trench 2	Firmly compacted light brown sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small stones.	
206	Trench 2	Subsoil in Trench 2	Firmly compacted mid to dark grey silty sand. It included moderate quantities of small stones up to 20mm in diameter and occasional medium sized stones up to 50mm in diameter.	
207	Trench 2	Topsoil in Trench 2	Moderately compacted mid to dark grey silty sand. It included moderate quantities of small stones up to 20mm in diameter and occasional medium sized stones up to 50mm in diameter.	

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Finds</i>
208	Trench 2	Cut of ditch	North-to-south orientated linear cut which measured 2.25m in width and had a depth of 0.65m. It had a gentle slope on the west side and a shallow, very gentle berm located 0.22m from the top. This breaks gradually to form a gradual slope to the base. The east side was gradually sloped. The base of the cut was narrow and concave.	
209	Trench 2	Upper fill of Ditch [208]	Soft and friable deposit of mid greyish brown silty sand. It included moderate quantities of small stones and pebbles up to 20mm in diameter and occasional flint fragments up to 100mm in diameter. The deposit measured 0.88m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.27m.	1 sherd pottery dated spot dated 13 th to 15 th century 1 iron sheet – possibly vessel handle (undated)
210	Trench 2	Cut of ditch	North-to-south orientated linear cut which measured 1.83m in width and had a depth of 0.47m. The sides of the cut were gradually sloped whilst the base was narrow and pointed.	
211	Trench 2	Finds	Unstratified finds Trench 2	1 sherd pottery spot dated L9 th – 11 th Century
212	Trench 2	Secondary fill of Ditch [208]	Soft and friable deposit of light to mid greyish brown silty sand. It included occasional small stones up to 15mm in diameter and measured 1.77m in width and 0.32m in depth.	Sample <2> - Cereals, chaff and seeds of common weeds are present at a low to moderate density. Could be hearth waste.
213	Trench 2	Primary fill of Ditch [208]	Soft and friable deposit of light grey silty sand with light yellowish orange patches. It included occasional quantities of small stones and measured 0.70m in width and 0.17m in maximum depth.	
214	Trench 2	Tertiary fill of Ditch [208]	Soft and friable deposit of mid greyish brown silty sand with flecks and small patches of orange sand. It included occasional quantities of small stones up to 10mm in diameter and occasional gravel. It measured 0.27m in width and had a depth of 0.32m	
216	Trench 2	Primary fill of Ditch [208]	Soft and friable deposit of mid to light greyish brown silty sand with mid yellow patches. It included moderate quantities of small stones up to 20mm in diameter. The deposit measured 0.88m in width and had a depth of 0.22m.	
217	Trench 2	Primary fill of Ditch [208]	Moderately loose and friable deposit of light grey silty sand with orange sand patches. It included occasional quantities of gravel and measured 0.30m in width and 80mm in depth.	
218	Trench 2	Primary fill of Ditch [210]	Soft and friable deposit of light to mid brownish grey silty sand with dull yellow patches. The deposit measured 0.82m in width and 0.15m	L9 th – 11 th Century

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Finds</i>
			in thickness. It included occasional quantities of stones up to 80mm in diameter and moderate quantities of gravel.	
219	Trench 2	Secondary fill of Ditch [210]	Soft and friable deposit of mid greyish brown silty sand. It included moderate quantities of medium sized stones up to 40mm in diameter and measured 1.50m in width and 0.47m in depth.	L9 th – 11 th Century
220	Trench 2	Cut of Ditch	Northeast-to-southwest orientated cut. The revealed portion appears to be located close to a terminus on its northeast end as evidenced by its tapering shape. The excavated part measured 1.10m in width and had a depth of 0.35m. The cut was steep on its southeast side but more gradually sloped on its northwest side. The base was flat.	
221	Trench 2	Primary fill of Ditch [220]	Mid to dark grey deposit of silty sand. It included moderate gravel and small rounded pebbles up to 15mm in diameter. It measured 0.80m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.27m (on the southeast side) thinning to 0.04m over the base and thickening to 0.10 to the lower northwest side of the cut.	
222	Trench 2	Upper fill of Ditch [220]	Mid grey deposit of silty sand. It included moderate gravel and small rounded pebbles up to 15mm in diameter. It measured a maximum depth of 0.30m.	
223	Trench 2	Finds	Unstratified finds from Trench 2 spoil heap	Prehistoric flint flake Later Neolithic/Ealy Bronze Age scraper Neolithic core fragment Neolithic utilized flake
300	Trench 3	Cut of ditch	East-to-west orientated ditch which measured 1.92m in width and 0.39m in maximum depth. The south side of the cut was gradually to steeply inclined breaking gradually to a flat base. On the north side cut rose gently from the base all the way to the top.	
301	Trench 3	Primary fill of Ditch [300]	Moderately compacted deposit of light brown silty sand. It included moderate quantities of small stones, flint fragments and gravel. It measured 1.98m in width and had a depth of 0.39m	Cattle bone – fragments of vertebrae Dog bones – mandibles and radius of a small dog Fragments of mammal bone
302	Trench 3	Upper fill of Ditch [300]	Moderately compacted deposit of light to mid brownish grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of small stones, flint fragments	

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Find</i>
			and gravel. It measured 1.57m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.13m.	
303	Trench 3	Gully terminus (Master No [333])	Excavated terminus of gully [M--]. The terminus measured formed the southeast end of the gully which turned through 90° eastwards from the north northwest-to-south southeast line of the gully M---. The terminus measured 0.62m in width and had a depth of 0.15m.	
304	Trench 3	Fill of [303]	Moderately firm deposit of light to mid brownish grey silty sand which included occasional small stones up to 15mm in diameter.	
305	Trench 3	Cut of gully segment (Master No [M333])	Excavated segment through gully (M---). Here the gully measured 0.33m in width and had a depth of 0.17m. The sides of the cut were very steep whilst the base was slightly concave.	
306	Trench 3	Fill of Gully [305]	Moderately firm deposit of light to mid brownish grey silty sand which included occasional small stones up to 15mm in diameter.	
308	Trench 3	Finds	Unstratified finds Trench 3.	1 fragment Roman tile
309	Trench 3	Cut of pit	The cut was not fully exposed within the excavation area but the semi-circular exposed portion suggests a circular or ovoid shape. The revealed portion measured 1.76m north-to-south and 0.60m east-to-west. A depth of 0.42m was recorded. The sides of the cut were steeply inclined. The base was not fully exposed but the slightly sloping nature of the revealed portion suggests a concave profile.	
310	Trench 3	Fill of Pit [309]	Moderately compact deposit of mid to dark brownish grey silty sand. It included occasional quantities of gravel and small stones.	5 sherds pottery spot dated 11 th Century Unidentified iron object, possibly a tang or a handle and possibly handle of a padlock of 10 th to mid 13 th century date Cattle bone – metacarpal and vertebrae fragments
311	Trench 3	Cut of gully	East-to-west orientated cut of linear gully. The cut measured 0.40m in width and had a depth of 0.07m. It extended across the full width of the trench (1.8m). The sides of the were gradually sloped whilst the base was concave.	
312	Trench 3	Fill of Gully [311]	Moderately compact deposit of light grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of gravel.	2 sherds pottery spot dated 10 th -11 th Century Cattle bone – evidence of skinning
313	Trench 3	Cut of post-hole	The cut of the post-hole was subcircular in plan shape and measured 0.32m in maximum diameter. It had a depth of 0.12m. The sides of the cut were gradually sloped whilst the base was concave.	

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Finds</i>
314	Trench 3	Fill of Post-Hole [313]	Moderately compact deposit of light to mid grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of gravel and moderately sized stones up to 12mm in diameter.	5 sherds pottery spot dated 11 th Century
316	Trench 3	Finds	Unstratified finds Trench 3	1 fragment post medieval brick Cattle bone – scapula (chopped) and vertebrae Pig teeth Single fragment of mammal bone
317	Trench 3	Finds	Unstratified finds Trench 3	Cattle bone – vertebrae fragment and ribs
319	Trench 3	Cut of ditch	East-to-west orientated linear ditch. It measured 2.13m in width and had a depth of 0.85m. The sides of the ditch were generally gradually sloped although steep in places. The cut was slightly irregular. The base of the cut was slightly concave.	L9 th – 11 th Century
320	Trench 3	Primary fill of Ditch [319]	Firmly compacted light to mid yellowish brown silty sand with mid yellow mottling. It included occasional gravel and small stones up to 20mm in diameter. The deposit measured 0.36m in maximum width and had a depth of 0.44m. It was located on the north lower side of the ditch cut.	L9 th – 11 th Century
321	Trench 3	Secondary fill of Ditch [319]	Firmly compacted mixture of light yellow brown and light brown silty sand. The deposit measured 0.67m in maximum width and 0.41m in depth and included occasional gravel and small stones up to 20mm in diameter.	L9 th – 11 th Century
322	Trench 3	Primary fill of Ditch [319]	Firmly compacted light to mid yellowish brown silty sand with mid yellow mottling. It included occasional gravel and small stones up to 20mm in diameter. The deposit measured 0.38m in maximum width and had a depth of 0.22m. It was located on the south lower side of the ditch cut.	
323	Trench 3	Secondary fill of Ditch [319]	Firmly compacted mid brownish grey silty sand with light to mid yellowish brown mottling. The deposit included moderate quantities of gravel and small to medium sized stones up to 40mm in diameter. It measured 1.72m in maximum width and had a depth of 0.58m. This deposit represents the main fill of the ditch.	
324	Trench 3	Secondary fill of Ditch [319]	Firmly compacted light to mid brownish grey silty sand with mid brownish yellow mottling. It included occasional quantities of gravel	

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Finds</i>
			and measured 0.70m in width and had a depth of 0.32m. The deposit was located on the upper south side of the ditch cut.	
325	Trench 3	Secondary fill of Ditch [319]	Firmly compacted light to mid brownish grey silty sand with mid brownish yellow mottling. It included occasional quantities of gravel and medium sized stones up to 40mm in diameter. It measured 1.13m in width and had a depth of 0.25m. The deposit was located on the upper north side of the ditch cut.	
326	Trench 3	Tertiary fill of Ditch [319]	Firmly compacted light to mid brownish yellow clayey sand with mid brown patches. The deposit measured 1.1m in width and had a depth of 0.14m. It included moderate quantities of gravel and occasional small stones.	2 sherds pottery spot dated L9th – 11 th Century (1 of these 6-7 th Century)
327	Trench 3	Uppermost fill of Ditch [319]	Firmly compacted light to mid greyish brown silty sand with mid yellowish brown mottling. The deposit measured 1.03m in width and had a depth of 0.15m. It included moderate quantities of gravel and occasional small stones.	4 sherds pottery spot dated L9th – 11 th Century
328	Trench 3	Cut of pit or possible ditch terminus	The cut was only partially exposed in plan. A straight edge was recorded orientated on a southwest-to-northeast alignment with the remaining parts continuing beyond the west limit of excavation. The cut could represent the east side of a square or rectangular pit or the edge a linear ditch terminus. It truncated the upper parts of Ditch [319]. It was revealed for a distance of 1.57m southwest-to-northeast and 0.94m southeast-to-northwest. It had a depth of 0.27m. The recorded side of the cut was gradually sloped.	
329	Trench 3	Fill of Pit or Ditch Terminus [328]	Firmly compacted mid greyish brown silty sand which included occasional quantities of gravel and small stones.	
330	Trench 3	Subsoil in Trench 3	Firm to soft compaction. Brownish grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of subrounded and subangular stones up to 0.25m in diameter. The deposit also included very occasional charcoal flecks. It measured an average of 0.38m in thickness.	
331	Trench 3	Topsoil in Trench 3	Firmly compacted dark grey silty sand. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small and medium sized pebbles. It measured an average of 0.22m in thickness.	
332	Trench 3	Natural material in Trench 3	Firmly compacted light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small stones.	

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i> Finds</i>
M333	Trench 3	Master number for Gully (segments 303 & 305)		
400	Trench 4	Topsoil in Trench 4	Firmly compacted dark grey silty sand. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small and medium sized pebbles. It measured an average of 0.30m in thickness.	
401	Trench 4	Subsoil in Trench 4	Moderately compacted brownish grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of subrounded and subangular stones up to 0.25m in diameter. The deposit also included very occasional charcoal flecks. It measured an average of 0.15m in average thickness	
402	Trench 4	Natural deposits in Trench 4	Firmly compacted light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small stones.	
403	Trench 4	Cut of ditch	Southwest-to-northeast orientated linear ditch which measured 1.90m in width and 0.75m in depth. The sides of the cut were gradually to steeply sloped whilst the base was very slightly concave.	
404	Trench 4	Upper fill of Ditch [403]	Firmly compacted deposit of brownish grey silty sand with dark grey and yellowish brown mottling. The deposit included angular and subrounded flint fragments and pebbles. It also included occasional flecks of chalk and charcoal. It measured 1.90m in width and had a depth of 0.48m	14 sherds pottery spot dated 13 th century
405	Trench 4	Primary fill of Ditch [403].	Firmly compacted deposit of dark grey silty sand. It included moderate quantities of subangular and subrounded stones up to 200mm in diameter. It also included occasional flecks of chalk and charcoal. It measured 1.28m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.30m	Sample <1> - Cereals, chaff and seeds of common weeds are present at a low to moderate density. Could be hearth waste
406	Trench 4	Cut of ditch	Southeast-to-northwest orientated cut of linear ditch. It measured 0.75m in maximum width and had a depth of 0.20m. The sides of the cut were gradually to steeply sloped whilst the base was concave to flat.	
407	Trench 4	Fill of Ditch [406]	Firmly compacted deposit of grey silty clay. It included moderate quantities of subangular stones and moderate quantities of charcoal flecks. It measured 1.20m in maximum width.	2 sherds pottery spot dated 11 th Century

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i> Finds</i>
408	Trench 4	Cut of ditch	Northwest-to-southeast orientated linear cut which measured 1.10m in width and 0.45m in maximum depth. It had gradual to steeply sloped sides and a slightly concave base.	
409	Trench 4	Fill of Ditch [408]	Softly compacted light greyish brown medium sand with grey mottling. It included occasional quantities of subangular stones and charcoal flecks.	1 sherd pottery dated L9th-10 th Century
410	Trench 4	Cut of ditch	Southwest-to-northeast orientated linear cut which measured 1.15m in width and had a depth of 0.20m. It had gently sloped sides and a concave base.	
411	Trench 4	Fill of Ditch [410]	Firmly compacted grey silty sand which included moderate quantities of charcoal.	1 sherd pottery spot dated 11 th -12 th Century
412	Trench 4	Cut of ditch	Northeast-to-southwest orientated linear ditch which measured 1.80m in width and had a depth of 0.50m. The southeast side of the ditch was irregular but gradually sloped whilst the northwest side was gently to gradually sloped. The base was concave. It traversed the full width of the trench (1.8m).	
413	Trench 4	Upper fill of Ditch [412]	Firmly compacted deposit of grey silty sand with brown mottling. It included moderate quantities of subangular and subrounded stones up to 0.10m in diameter and moderate flecks of charcoal. The deposit measured 1.8m in width and had a depth of 0.50m	1 sherd pottery spot dated 11 th Century 1 fragment fired clay
414	Trench 4	Primary fill of Ditch [412]	Firmly compacted deposit of brown silty sand with grey mottling. The deposit included occasional flecks of charcoal. It measured 0.50m in width and had a maximum thickness of 0.15m	
415	Trench 4	Probable natural feature	Large 'patch' visible in southeast part of Trench 4. It was not fully exposed with the excavation area and continued beyond the northeast and southwest limits of excavation. The plan shape was roughly linear but irregular. It measured a maximum of 3m in width and traversed the full width of the trench (1.8m). A depth of 0.50m was recorded. The cut was irregular in profile with a base which was undulating but generally flat. The sides were gradual to steep.	
416	Trench 4	Fill of probable natural feature [415]	Firmly compacted dark grey silty sand with light grey and light brown mottling. Rusty brown iron staining in upper parts of the fill. It included moderate quantities of subangular stones and pebbles.	Large mammal bone fragments

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i> Finds</i>
417	Trench 4	Probable natural feature	Large 'patch' visible in central part of Trench 4. It was not fully exposed with the excavation area and continued beyond the northeast and southwest limits of excavation. The plan shape was roughly linear but irregular. It measured a maximum of 1.90m in width and traversed the full width of the trench (1.8m). A depth of 0.26m was recorded. The cut was irregular in profile with a base which was undulating but generally flat. The sides were gradually inclined.	
418	Trench 4	Fill of probable natural feature [417]	Firmly compacted light grey sand which included lumps of silty sand and small subangular stones.	
500	Trench 5	Topsoil in Trench 5	Firmly compacted dark grey silty sand. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small and medium sized pebbles. It measured an average of 0.34m in thickness.	
501	Trench 5	Subsoil in Trench 5	Moderately compacted brownish grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of subrounded and subangular stones up to 0.20mm in diameter. The deposit also included very occasional charcoal flecks. It measured an average of 0.28m in average thickness	
502	Trench 5	Natural material in Trench 5	Firmly compacted light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small stones.	
503	Trench 5	Cut of pit	Not fully exposed in the excavation area but the revealed part suggests an ovoid shape in plan. The revealed portion measured 0.70m in length, 0.95m in width and a depth of 0.40m. The sides of the cut were moderately steep whilst the base was concave.	
504	Trench 5	Primary fill of Pit [503]	Soft and loosely compacted deposit of light grey silty sand with pale grey and yellowish brown mottling. The deposit included occasional quantities of subangular stones and flint fragments. It measured 0.90m in width and had a depth of 0.40m	
505	Trench 5	Upper fill of pit [503]	Soft compaction. Mottled brownish grey silty sand which included occasional flecks of charcoal. It measured 0.85m in width and had a thickness of 0.25m	
506	Trench 5	Cut of post-hole	The cut had a subcircular plan shape and measured 0.30m in maximum diameter. It had a depth of 0.18m. The sides were steeply sloped whilst the base was concave and pointed.	

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Find</i>
507	Trench 5	Fill of post-hole [506]	Soft compaction. Brownish grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of charcoal and small pebbles.	
508	Trench 5	Cut of ditch or structural gully	North-to-south orientated linear cut which measured 0.60m in width and had a depth of 0.49m. It was recorded for a distance of 2.20m and continued beyond the limits of excavation to the north and south. The sides of the cut were steep becoming almost vertical in places. The base was concave. This feature contained evidence for post-holes suggesting that it had a structural function.	
509	Trench 5	Primary fill of ditch or post bedding trench [508]	Firm but friable deposit of dark brownish grey silty sand with patches of light brown clay lumps. It contained occasional flecks of charcoal and occasional pebbles. The deposit measured 0.50m in maximum width and had a depth of 0.15m	
510	Trench 5	Secondary fill of ditch or post bedding trench [508]	Soft compaction. Mottled brown and grey silty sand which included occasional small flints, flecks of chalk and charcoal. It measured 0.55m in width and had a depth of 0.25m	
511	Trench 5	Upper fill of ditch or post bedding trench [508]	Soft compaction. Light grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of subangular small stones. It measured 0.60m in width and had a depth of 0.11m.	1 fragment fired clay
512	Trench 5	Post-pipe	Post-pipe in fill of possible post-bedding trench [508]. It was circular in plan shape with a maximum diameter of 0.25m. It measured 0.42m in depth. The post pipe had regular sides and a flattish base. It was slightly tilted and leaning to the west. A large flint to the top may have served as post packing. The fill was soft and comprised dark grey silty sand with brown mottling. It contained occasional quantities of charcoal flecks and small stones.	
513	Trench 5	Post-pipe	Post-pipe in fill of possible post-bedding trench [508]. Circular in plan and 0.20m in diameter. Composed of dark brownish grey silty sand. A large flint within the post-pipe is likely to have served as post-packing	
514	Trench 5	Cut of ditch	East-to-west orientated linear cut which measured 1m in width and had a depth of 0.46m. The ditch terminated in the trench very close to [508] which suggest that they are contemporary features and possibly functioned together. The sides of the cut were generally steep but gradual in places. The base was concave.	IA

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i> Finds</i>
515	Trench 5	Fill of [514]	Mottled light to mid grey and yellowish grey silty sand. It included moderate quantities of flint fragments and nodules up to 100mm in diameter. It also included moderate gravel.	1 sherd pottery – possibly Iron Age
516	Trench 5	Cut of pit	Subcircular cut in plan shape on the edge of Ditch [518]. Its north side has been truncated by the ditch. It measured 0.35m in width and had a depth of 0.22m. It had gradually sloped sides and a narrow pointed base.	
517	Trench 5	Fill of Ditch [516]	Firmly compacted brownish grey silty sand with brown mottling.	
518	Trench 5	Cut of ditch	East-to-west orientated linear ditch which measured 2.40m in width and 0.77m in depth. The sides of the ditch were rather irregular but generally steeply sloped. The upper parts of the cut were more gradually sloped than the lower parts. The base was rather narrow and slightly concave.	
519	Trench 5	Upper fill of Ditch [518]	Firmly compacted brownish grey mottled silty sand. It included frequent quantities of angular pebbles and occasional stones up to 0.15m diameter. It also included moderate quantities of charcoal. It measured 2.40m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.48m	3 sherds pottery spot dated 10 th – 11 th Century 2 fragments fired clay Sheep/goat pelvic fragments (chopped) Cattle vertebrae Mammal fragments
520	Trench 5	Secondary fill of Ditch [518]	Soft compaction. Greyish brown slightly silty sand. It included occasional quantities of angular pebbles and measured 1.05m in width and 80mm in thickness.	
521	Trench 5	Primary fill of Ditch [518]	Firmly compacted light brownish grey sandy silt. It included moderate quantities of subrounded and subangular stones and pebbles and moderate quantities of charcoal. It measured 0.72m in width and had a depth of 0.23m	
522	Trench 5	Cut of pit	The cut was not fully exposed in the excavation area but an oval plan shape was discernible. The revealed portion measured 1.25m in length, 0.70m in width and 0.35m in depth. The sides of the cut were steep whilst the base was concave.	
523	Trench 5	Fill of Pit [522]	Firmly compacted dark grey silty sand which included moderate quantities of subrounded stones and flecks of chalk and charcoal.	

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i> Finds</i>
524	Trench 5	Cut of Ditch	Linear southeast-to-northwest orientated cut which measured 1.04m in width and had a depth of 0.22m. The sides were gradually sloped whilst the base was concave.	
525	Trench 5	Fill of Ditch [525]	Firmly compacted brownish grey silty sand with brown mottling.	
600		Natural material in Trench 6	Firmly compacted light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small stones.	
601		Subsoil in Trench 6	Moderately compacted brownish grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of subrounded and subangular stones up to 0.20mm in diameter. The deposit also included very occasional charcoal flecks. It measured an average of 0.26m in average thickness	
602		Topsoil in Trench 6	Firmly compacted dark grey silty sand. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small and medium sized pebbles. It measured an average of 0.40m in thickness.	
603		Cut of Ditch	North-to-south orientated linear ditch. It measured 2.41m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.60m. The east side of the ditch consisted of a shallow and flat based 'berm' which measured 1.13m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.16m. The west side of the berm broke to a gradual slope down to the ditch base. The deeper part of the ditch measured 1.12m in width. The base of the ditch was flat.	
604		Primary fill of Ditch [603]	Firmly compacted mixture of mid brownish orange and mid brown clayey sand. It measured 0.58m in width and had a depth of 0.08m.	Sample <4> Cereals, chaff and seeds of common weeds are present at a low to moderate density. Could be hearth waste. Particular abundance of small legumes.
605		Secondary fill of Ditch [603]	Moderately compacted mid greyish brown silty sand which included moderate quantities of gravel. The deposit measured 1.71m in extent east-to-west and had a maximum depth of 0.16m. It filled the full depth of the berm on the east side of the ditch and also lines the east side of the deeper part of the ditch and part of the ditch base.	
606		Upper fill of Ditch [603]	Moderately compacted mid greyish brown silty sand. It measured 1.61m in width (measured across the top) and had a depth of 0.52m. It included moderate quantities of gravel and small and medium stones up to 30mm in diameter.	

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Finds</i>
700		Natural material in Trench 7	Firmly compacted light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small stones.	
701		Topsoil in Trench 7	Firmly compacted dark grey silty sand. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small and medium sized pebbles. It measured an average of 0.32m in thickness.	
702		Subsoil in Trench7	Moderately compacted brownish grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of subrounded and subangular stones up to 0.20mm in diameter. The deposit also included very occasional charcoal flecks. It measured an average of 0.24m in average thickness	
800		Natural material in Trench 8	Firmly compacted light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small stones.	
801		Subsoil in Trench 8	Moderately compacted brownish grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of subrounded and subangular stones up to 0.20mm in diameter. The deposit also included very occasional charcoal flecks. It measured an average of 0.26m in average thickness	
802		Topsoil in Trench 8	Firmly compacted dark grey silty sand. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small and medium sized pebbles. It measured an average of 0.30m in thickness.	
803		Unstratified finds from spoilheap		Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flint end scraper Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flint flake
900		Natural material in Trench 9	Firmly compacted light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small stones.	
901		Subsoil in Trench 9	Moderately compacted brownish grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of subrounded and subangular stones up to 0.20mm in diameter. The deposit also included very occasional charcoal flecks. It measured an average of 0.14m in average thickness	

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Finds</i>
902		Topsoil in Trench 9	Firmly compacted dark grey silty sand. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small and medium sized pebbles. It measured an average of 0.28m in thickness.	
903		Cut of Pit	Large cut which was only partially revealed in the excavation area. It continued beyond the north and south limits of excavation. The shape of the pit is difficult to determine from the exposed portion but is likely to be rectangular. A maximum width of 5.41m was recorded. Waterlogging meant excavation of the lower deposits and the base was not possible. Augering located the probable base at around 1m depth.	11 th Century
904		Secondary fill of pit [903]	Mid to dark grey silty sand which included moderate quantities of gravel and small stones. The deposit was located immediately above the primary deposit (909). It measured 0.24m in thickness and occupied the full width of the sondage (1.92m)	
905		Upper fill of pit [903]	Mid grey silty sand with mid to light brown patches. It included moderate quantities of gravel and small stones. The deposit measured 0.23m in maximum depth thinning out to nothing toward the east side of the pit. A width of 1.54m was recorded.	2 sherds pottery spot dated 11 th Century (1 of these Middle Saxon) 3 fragment fired clay, 1 with wattles
906		Secondary fill of pit [903]	Firmly compacted light to mid yellowy brown silty sand. It included moderate quantities of gravel and small stone and measured 0.13m in thickness. A width of 2.06m was recorded in the sondage but the deposit is presumed to extend across the full width of the pit (5.41m)	
907		Secondary fill of pit [903]	Mid to dark grey silty sand which included moderate quantities of gravel and small stones. It measured 0.16m in average thickness and occupied the full width of the sondage (2.25m). It is likely to have occupied the full width of the pit (5.41m)	
908		Secondary fill of pit [903]	Firmly compacted light to mid yellowy brown silty sand. It included moderate quantities of gravel and small stone and measured 0.13m in thickness. A width of 2.39m was recorded in the sondage but the deposit is presumed to extend across the full width of the pit (5.41m).	
1000		Natural material in Trench 10	Firmly compacted light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small stones.	

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i> Finds</i>
1001		Subsoil in Trench 10	Moderately compacted brownish grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of subrounded and subangular stones up to 0.20mm in diameter. The deposit also included very occasional charcoal flecks. It measured an average of 0.18m in average thickness	
1002		Topsoil in Trench 10	Firmly compacted dark grey silty sand. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small and medium sized pebbles. It measured an average of 0.24m in thickness.	
1003		U/S finds from Spoilheap		1 sherd pottery dated 6th-7 th Century
1100		Natural material in Trench 11	Firmly compacted light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small stones.	
1101		Subsoil in Trench 11	Moderately compacted brownish grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of subrounded and subangular stones up to 0.20mm in diameter. The deposit also included very occasional charcoal flecks. It measured an average of 0.18m in average thickness	
1102		Topsoil in Trench 11	Firmly compacted dark grey silty sand. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small and medium sized pebbles. It measured an average of 0.20m in thickness.	
1103		Cut of Ditch	Southwest-to-northeast orientated linear ditch. It measured 1.06m in width and had a depth of 0.27m. The cut was irregular in places although the sides were generally gradually sloped. The base was broad and slightly concave.	
1104		Fill of Ditch [1103]	Loosely compacted mid greyish brown sandy silt which included moderate gravel and occasional small and medium sized stones up to 50mm in diameter.	
1200		Natural material in Trench 12	Firmly compacted light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small stones.	
1201		Subsoil in Trench 12	Moderately compacted brownish grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of subrounded and subangular stones up to	

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Finds</i>
			0.20mm in diameter. The deposit also included very occasional charcoal flecks. It measured an average of 0.16m in average thickness	
1202		Topsoil in Trench 12	Firmly compacted dark grey silty sand. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small and medium sized pebbles. It measured an average of 0.25m in thickness.	
1300		Natural material in Trench 13	Firmly compacted light brownish yellow sandy clay with greyish brown mottling. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small stones.	
1301		Subsoil in Trench 13	Moderately compacted brownish grey silty sand which included occasional quantities of subrounded and subangular stones up to 0.20mm in diameter. The deposit also included very occasional charcoal flecks. It measured an average of 0.16m in average thickness	
1302		Topsoil in Trench 13	Firmly compacted dark grey silty sand. The deposit included occasional to moderate quantities of gravel and small and medium sized pebbles. It measured an average of 0.24m in thickness.	

APPENDIX B – CERAMICS REPORT

By Sue Anderson

Pottery

Introduction

Seventy-five sherds of pottery weighing 794g were collected from 26 contexts. Table 1 shows the quantification by fabric, and a summary quantification by context is included in Appendix 1.

Description	Fabric	Date range	No	Wt/g	Eve	MNV
Unidentified flint tempered	UNFT	Prehistoric	1	3		1
EAS organic with granite/gold mica	ESOM	ESax	3	73	0.15	2
Sandy Ipswich ware	SIPS	650-850	1	49		1
St. Neots-type ware	NEOT	850-1150	5	32	0.18	5
Thetford-type ware	THET	L.9th-11th c.	22	158	0.62	20
Thetford-type ware, local fabrics	THETL	10th-11th c.?	18	133	0.08	16
Early medieval ware	EMW	11th-12th c.	9	37		9
Early medieval ware with flint	EMWFL	11th-12th c.	4	31		4
Local medieval unglazed	LMU	11th-14th c.	1	16		1
Medieval coarseware 4	MCW4	12th-14th c.	2	105	0.08	2
Medieval coarseware 5	MCW5	12th-14th c.	1	44		1
Medieval coarseware micaceous	MCWM	12th-14th c.	2	48		2
Medieval Essex-type micaceous coarseware	MEMS	12th-14th c.	1	12	0.05	1
Grimston-type ware	GRIM	L.12th-14th c.	1	6		1
Heddingham ware	HFW1	M.12th-M.13th c.	1	20		1
Bourne medieval glazed ware	BOUB	L.12th-14th c.	1	2		1
Unprovenanced glazed	UPG	L.12th-14th c.	1	24		1
Unidentified	UNID	?	1	1		1
<i>Totals</i>			<i>75</i>	<i>794</i>	<i>1.16</i>	<i>70</i>

Table 1. Pottery quantification by fabric.

Methodology

Quantification was carried out using sherd count, weight and estimated vessel equivalent (eve). The minimum number of vessels (MNV) within each context was also recorded. All fabric codes were assigned from the author's post-Roman fabric series, and fabrics were identified using a x20 microscope and, where possible, reference sherds. Thetford-type ware fabrics are based on Dallas (1984), and Late Saxon forms on Anderson (2004). Medieval and later wares were identified following Jennings (1981). Methods follow MPRG recommendations (MPRG 2001) and form terminology follows MPRG classifications (1998). The results were input directly onto an MS Access database, which forms the archive catalogue. Prehistoric and Roman pottery was extracted for study by appropriate specialists.

The assemblage

One sherd of flint-tempered pottery was of prehistoric date. Although it was the only pottery find from context (515), the degree of abrasion suggests that it was residual in this context.

Three sherds of Early Anglo-Saxon date comprised two joining body fragments from context (1003) and a jar rim from (326). Both vessels were in organic-tempered fabrics with coarse inclusions of probable granite.

Forty-five sherds were of Late Saxon date and comprised largely Thetford-type wares in the typical range of fine and medium fabrics, and 'local' sherds most of which were in a fine fabric (very fine sand, brown surfaces), but there were also two sherds with coarser inclusions (mainly flint and quartz). Five rims were found, all small to medium jars (but all between 100–130mm diameter). The rim forms suggest that the sherds span the whole date range of this ware, with both early and late types identified. St Neots-type ware was also present, the five sherds including two jar rims of 11th-century type and a fragment of a carinated bowl.

Early medieval ware was present in the typical fine thin-walled type and a similar type which contains sparse coarse flint. Only one rim was found, a simple everted type with edge thumbing.

Eleven sherds were of high medieval date. Recent work at Hingham Road has identified three main medieval coarsewares (MCW1–3; Anderson 2021), but a further two types were identified at this site and have been numbered following on from the Hingham Road sequence. There was one body sherd in a fabric similar to Norwich-type LMU and two other sherds in a micaceous fabric which is again similar to LMU. A jar fragment in a fabric comparable with south Suffolk/north Essex greywares and with an Essex H2 rim form has been recorded as MEMS. MCW4 has a very fine, dense, silty matrix containing moderate fine sand, sparse mica and sparse coarse ferrous oxide. This fabric was represented by a base fragment and a bowl rim (Fig. **), the latter with vertical striations externally which may be the result of grass-wiping. One large body sherd of MCW5 was identified; the fabric was similar to Colchester ware and it may be from north Essex.

Medieval glazed wares comprised a body sherd of Grimston ware, a small sherd of ?Bourne B ware, a handle/body fragment of Hedingham ware and a red-bodied sherd of uncertain origin (UPG). The latter may be a local variant of late medieval and transitional ware.

One small, heavily abraded fine sandy orange sherd was unidentified.

Pottery by context

Table 2 shows the distribution of pottery by context with suggested spotdates (based on pottery only).

Trench	Context	Feature	Fabrics	Spotdate
1	110	Pit 109	THETL	10th-11th c.
	112	Ditch 111	THETL NEOT BOUB	L.12th-14th c.
	115	Ditch 114	THET EMW	11th c.
	149	Pit 148	NEOT	11th c.
	151	Gully 150	THETL	10th-11th c.
	155	Pit 154	THET THETL EMW MCW4 MCWM	12th-13th c.
	172	Pit 169	THET THETL GRIM	L.12th-14th c.
	182	U/S finds	THET	L.9th-10th c.?
2	200	Ditch cut	THET MCW5	12th-14th c.
	201	Ditch 200	THET	L.9th-11th c.
	209	Ditch 208	UPG	13th-15th c.
	211	???	THET	L.9th-11th c.
3	314	Post-hole 313	THET THETL	11th c.
	310	Pit 309	THETL NEOT	11th c.
	312	Gully 311	THET THETL	10th-11th c.
	327	Ditch 319	THET	L.9th-10th c.?

Trench	Context	Feature	Fabrics	Spotdate
	326	Ditch 319	ESOM THET	L.9th-11th c.
4	404	Ditch 403	THET THETL EMW EMWFL LMU MEMS HFW1 UNID	13th c.
	407	Ditch 406	THETL EMWFL	11th c.
	409	Ditch 408	THET	L.9th-11th c.
	411	Ditch 410	EMWFL	11th-12th c.
	413	Ditch 412	NEOT	11th c.
5	515	Ditch 514	UNFT	IA?
	519	Ditch 518	THET THETL	10th-11th c.
9	905	Pit 903	SIPS NEOT	11th c.
10	1003	U/S finds	ESOM	6th-7th c.

Table 2. Pottery by context

Most of these contexts contained only 1–2 sherds. The only contexts with more than four sherds were post-hole fill 308 and pit fill 310 (5 sherds each), pit fill 155 (12 sherds) and ditch fill 404 (14 sherds). Despite this, most sherds were unabraded, and although there is some redeposition of earlier wares with medieval pottery, it appears likely that many contexts in the area of trenches 1–4 in particular may be of Late Saxon date.

Discussion

Small quantities of prehistoric and Early to Middle Anglo-Saxon pottery may indicate activity of these periods. The majority of pottery from this site was of Late Saxon date, with only a few early and high medieval sherds. However the latter included several non-local glazed and unglazed wares and spanned the whole medieval period. Apart from the Grimston sherd from pit fill 172, high medieval wares were all recovered from the upper fills of features.

Recent work in Great Ellingham has resulted in a number of comparable post-Roman pottery assemblages (Anderson 2018a–c, 2019a–c, 2020, 2021) with Early and Middle Saxon wares occurring in small quantities on sites close to Attleborough Road, and with a few sherds of Late Saxon pottery at most of them. However, the latter dominates on the south side of the road at the corner of Church Street, and now on this site to the SE of the street, suggesting a concentration around the church. The lack of medieval wares on this site may suggest that any occupation on the site did not last much beyond the 12th century and that the land returned to agricultural use after this.

Ceramic Building Material

Eight fragments (402g) of CBM were recovered from six contexts (Appendix 2). The material was quantified by basic fabric groups (based on major inclusions) and forms. Thicknesses and other dimensions were recorded as appropriate. Roman tiles were identified with the aid of Brodrigg (1987).

Table 3 shows the distribution of CBM by fabric and form.

fabric	code	RBT	PAN	LB?	Totals
fine sandy	fs	3			3
fine sandy with ferrous oxide	fsfe		1		1
fine sandy with voids	fsv	1			1
medium sandy with ferrous oxide	msfe			1	1
medium sandy with flint and ferrous oxide	msffe	2			2
<i>Totals</i>		6	1	1	8
Total weight		358	34	10	402

Table 3. Quantities of CBM fabrics and forms (fragment count)

The majority of this small assemblage was of Roman date. Roman fragments were in soft fine to medium sandy fabrics with a range of 'local' inclusions. The Roman tiles (RBT) were all of uncertain form but three full-thickness fragments were between 24–31mm thick and one fragment was >32mm thick, suggesting that they were fragments of roof tiles or possibly bricks. Roman tiles were recovered from ditch fills (112), (120) and (200), post-hole fill (308) and u/s finds (182), mostly in association with Late Saxon and/or medieval pottery. They may have been brought to the site for re-use in fire-related features in the Saxon period – one tile from (182) was heavily burnt.

A small fragment of possible post-medieval brick (LB?) in a medium sandy fabric came from ditch fill (316), and there was a fragment of black-glazed pantile (PAN) in ditch [200].

Fired clay

There were 32 fragments (436g) of fired clay from 12 contexts (Appendix 3). The majority of fragments were small pieces of fine sandy clay containing chalk and sometimes flint, generally oxidised to cream, pink, buff or red colours, and occasionally with convex or flattish surfaces. These fragments are likely to be pieces of oven dome.

Two larger fragments from pit fill (905) had wattle impressions – one of these had large right-angled impressions of withies with diameters of c.30mm, and the other had parallel impressions of withies in the range 10–13mm. The latter is more typical of woven wattle, whereas the former might suggest that the daub had coated part of a frame. The fragments may be from an oven dome or hearth hood made on a basket-weave frame.

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Appendix 1: Pottery

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	No	Wt/g	MNV	Spot date	Fabric date range
110	THETL			1	16	1		10th-11th c.?
112	THETL			1	3	1		10th-11th c.?
112	NEOT			1	3	1		850-1150
112	BOUB			1	2	1		L.12th-14th c.
115	THET			1	4	1		10th-11th c.
115	EMW			1	4	1		11th-12th c.
149	NEOT	Bowl		1	8	1		850-1150
151	THETL			1	3	1		10th-11th c.?
155?	THETL			3	8	2		10th-11th c.?
155?	THETL	Small AA jar	6	1	6	1	11	10th-11th c.?
155?	THET			2	10	2		10th-11th c.
155	EMW			2	9	2		11th-12th c.
155	MCW4			1	25	1		12th-14th c.
155	MCW4	Bowl	EVFTBD	1	80	1	12-13	12th-14th c.
155	MCWM			1	10	1		12th-14th c.
155	MCWM			1	38	1		12th-14th c.
172	THETL			1	3	1		10th-11th c.?
172	THET	Medium AB jar	5	1	21	1	L9-10?	10th-11th c.
172	GRIM			1	6	1		L.12th-14th c.
182	THET	Medium AB jar	3?	1	22	1	L9-10?	10th-11th c.
200	THET			2	12	1		10th-11th c.
200	MCW5			1	44	1		12th-14th c.
201	THET			1	2	1		10th-11th c.
209	UPG			1	24	1		L.12th-14th c.
211	THET			1	2	1		10th-11th c.
314	THETL			1	9	1		10th-11th c.?
314	THET	Medium AB jar	6	1	13	1	11	10th-11th c.
314	THET			2	7	1		10th-11th c.
314	THETL			1	8	1		10th-11th c.?
310	THETL			1	5	1		10th-11th c.?
310	NEOT			1	4	1		850-1150
310	THETL			2	14	1		10th-11th c.?
310	THETL			1	5	1		10th-11th c.?
312	THET			1	3	1		10th-11th c.
312	THETL			1	8	1		10th-11th c.?
327	THET			3	16	3		10th-11th c.
327	THET	Small AA jar	5	1	7	1	L9-10	10th-11th c.
326	ESOM	Jar	VERT	1	17	1		6th-7th c.
326	THET			1	15	1		10th-11th c.
404	UNID			1	1	1		?
404	THETL			1	23	1		10th-11th c.?
404	THET			1	2	1		10th-11th c.
404	EMWFL	Jar	SEV	1	4	1		11th-12th c.
404	EMWFL			1	12	1		11th-12th c.
404	EMW			6	24	6		11th-12th c.
404	LMU			1	16	1		11th-14th c.
404	HF1	Jug		1	20	1		M.12th-M.13th c.
404	MEMS	Jar	UPEV	1	12	1	13	12th-14th c.
407	THETL			1	18	1		10th-11th c.?
407	EMWFL			1	8	1		11th-12th c.

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	No	Wt/g	MNV	Spot date	Fabric date range
409	THET			1	12	1		10th-11th c.
411	EMWFL			1	7	1		11th-12th c.
413	NEOT	Jar	6	1	5	1	11	850-1150
515	UNFT			1	3	1	IA?	Prehistoric
519	THET			2	10	2		10th-11th c.
519	THETL			1	4	1		10th-11th c.?
905	SIPS			1	49	1		650-850
905	NEOT	Jar	6	1	12	1	11	850-1150
1003	ESOM			2	56	1		ESax

Appendix 2: CBM

context	fabric	form	no	wt/g	abr	L	W	T	glaze	comments	date
112	msffe	RBT	1	4	+					silty soft orange	Rom
120	msffe	RBT	1	4						grass imp on flat surface	Rom
182	fs	RBT	1	105	++			24		burnt	Rom
200	fsv	RBT	1	38	+			>32			Rom
200	fs	RBT	1	151	+			31		grass imp on surface	Rom
200	fsfe	PAN	1	34	+				black		pmed
308	fs	RBT	1	56	+			23		reduced	Rom
316	msfe	LB?	1	10	++						pmed?

Appendix 3: Fired clay

Context	Sample	Fabric	Type	No	Wt/g	Abr	Colour	Surface	Impressions
131		fsc		2	28	+	orange-cream		poss wattles in 1?
131		fscf		1	5	+	buff-red	flat	
137		fsc		1	10	++	cream		
139		fsc		1	3	+	cream/orange	flat?	
147		fsc		2	4	+	grey-orange		
149		fsc		3	16	+	cream	1 poss roughly flattened on 2 sides (right-angle)	
149		fscf		1	8	+	buff	flat	
153		fscf		1	5	++	red-cream	flat	
156		fsc		9	72	+	orange	1 convex, 2 roughly flat	
157		fsc		1	135		orange	convex with area of concavity	grass on rear(?)
413		fsc		1	3	+	orange		
511		fsx		1	1	++	buff/red		
519		fsc		2	7	+	pink		
519		fsc		3	13	+	red		
905		fsc		1	18		cream-red	slight convex, rough right-angle edge	
905		fsc	D?	1	38		pink		2 large wattles at right-angles c.30mm diam
905		fsc	D	1	70		pink	flattish-concave	parallel wattles 10-13mm diam

Fabric –fsc – fine sandy with chalk inclusions; fsx – fine sandy poorly mixed; fscf – fsc with flint.

APPENDIX C – ANIMAL BONE AND MOLLUSCS

By Julie Curl

THE ANIMAL BONE (Appendixes 1 and 2, Tables 1 and 2)

Methodology

A summary assessment was carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis, 1992) and Baker and Worley, 2014. All of the bone was examined to determine range of species and elements present. A record was also made of butchering and any indications of skinning, hornworking and other modifications. When possible ages were estimated along with any other relevant information, such as pathologies. Measurements were considered where appropriate following Von Den Driesch, 1976, and bones suitable for a tooth record following Hillson, 1996 recorded. Sheep and goat were distinguished where possible using criteria by Albarella and Salvagno, 2017, Halstead, *et al*, 2002 and Payne 1969 and 1985. Counts and weights were noted for each context and counts made for each species. Where bone could not be identified to species, they were grouped as, for example, 'large mammal', 'bird' or 'small mammal'. Attempts were made, where possible, to refit possible fragments in the same bag and these were included in NISP counts. Information was recorded into an Excel database for quantification, analysis and production of tables with the data in the digital archive. A summary catalogue is in the appendix and the appendix includes a table of measurements from suitable bones following Von Den Driesch, 1976.

The bone assemblage

Quantification, provenance and preservation

A total of 3516g of bone, consisting of 145 elements was recovered, with the totals quantified by feature, count and weight in Table 1. Just over 61% of the assemblage was recovered from pit fills, with further remains from ditches, gullies, a pit/posthole and a natural feature. Not all deposits produced datable finds, those that did suggest a wide Medieval date range for most finds, with perhaps with some Late Saxon material included.

The bone is in reasonable to good condition. A good deal of fragmentation has occurred from butchering and breakages.

One cattle metacarpal from the Pit fill 157 showed canid gnawing on both ends of the bone, these are common bones on archaeological sites from skinning waste and have often been gnawed, suggesting they may be kept for dogs. The presence of a gnawed bone in a pit rules out scavengers as the bones would be carried away, with waste in pits suggesting domestic or working dogs.

Feature Type	Total weights	Total counts
?PH/Pit	1g	1
Ditch	910g	62
Gully	204g	2
Natural Feature	76g	4
Pit	2146g	68
Void	179g	8
Totals	3516g	145

Table 1. Quantification of the faunal remains

Species range and modifications and other observations

Five species were positively identified in the assemblage. The assemblage is quantified by species, feature and NISP in Table 2.

Cattle were the most frequent species and they were discovered in twelve deposits. Most bones were from adults, with some sub-adult and juvenile bones, suggesting a range of uses for animals at this site. Elements present included a range of cranial and post-cranial elements, suggesting that a variety of cuts of meat were used. A few metapodials are present and one from Pit fill 157 had been gnawed at both ends; these metapodials are usually from skinning waste, but might be used for marrow and they are popular bones for dogs to gnaw, so may have been selected for feeding dogs.

The metrical data from a cattle metatarsal from 157 indicates a shoulder height of 116cm, which is in the range for smaller breeds such as the Celtic Short-horn, with these smaller cattle commonly kept for ploughing, cart pulling, meat and by-products in most periods.

Sheep/goat were produced from three fills of a Medieval date with butchered meat bone waste from Ditch fills 115 and 519 and from pit fill 155.

Pig/Boar were only represented from one deposit, with two teeth seen in the fill 316 and found with pottery of a late 9th to 11th century date range. Very young porcine remains can be porous and degrade easily, so may be lost from the archaeological record, but the evidence here suggests pigs

Equid were produced from three features, with a calcaneus in the Ditch fill 112, a fragmented skull in the Pit fill 149 and a metatarsal from the Gully deposit 203.

An equid metatarsal from 203 was measured and suggests an animal of 13 Hands High, so in the range for a medium to large pony, similar to a Fell Pony, this metapodial showed knife cuts showing the animal had been skinned.

Dog remains were produced from four deposits. Dog activity was indicated in this assemblage with a cattle metacarpal from the Pit fill 157 which showed canid gnawing on both ends of the bone, these are common bones on archaeological sites from skinning waste and have often been thoroughly gnawed, suggesting they may be kept for dogs.

The Medieval Ditch fill 112 produced several elements including a femur, radius, ulna, humerus and upper jaw, suggesting a burial; the bones were a juvenile with unfused bones, so this may have been a sick or injured dog or perhaps a feral animal. A dog tibia from the Ditch fill 115 indicates an animal with a shoulder height of 425mm or around 16 to 17 inches at the shoulder, which would be in the range for a larger terrier, spaniel or many Spitz breeds. A small dog was represented in the Ditch fill 301 with mandibles and a radius; this dog was very young with unerupted adult canine teeth.

A dog mandible from the 12th to 14th century Pit fill showed several knife cuts on the bone, suggesting the dog had been skinned.

Numerous fragments of bone could only be identified as ‘mammal’ due to a lack of diagnostic features, medium (sheep/pig sized) and large (cattle/equid sized). Some of these fragments were butchered and are likely to be fragments from the meat waste animals in the assemblage.

Feature Type	Species and NISP								Totals
	Cattle	Dog	Equid	Large Mammal	Mammal	Medium Mammal	Pig	Sheep/goat	
?PH/Pit						1			1
Ditch	11	17	1	4	27			2	62
Gully	1		1						2
Natural Feature				4					4
Pit	17	2	34	1	13			1	68
Void	5				1		2		8
Totals	34	19	36	9	41	1	2	3	145

Table 2. Quantification of the faunal remains by species and NISP.

Discussion and conclusions

This assemblage consists mostly of meat and butchering waste that is dominated by cattle, with some sheep and pig. Cattle would be the main meat providers on most sites and with secondary uses such as traction animals and providers of milk. Sheep were a common and increasing species in medieval times with the demands of the wool trade and the need to provide fleeces. Pig do not appear to have provided a great deal to the diet at this site, but the numbers may be affected by the often poor preservation of juvenile remains and pigs are usually culled young.

There is a relatively high number of equid and dog bones for a small assemblage and some show butchering that indicate both equid and dog were occasionally skinned, both suggesting working animals and not remains of pets. The dog assemblage is also dominated by young animal bones and teeth from three fills, which might suggest this was a site for dog breeding and perhaps working dogs. Working dogs, such as guards or hunters, often succumb to fatal accidents at a young age and could account for the relatively high number of young. It might be possible that both the dogs and equids worked together hunting and were occasionally skinned if the coat was desirable. Often equids and dogs will be used for both skins and meat for feeding working dogs, particularly if several dogs are kept and is a fairly common practice in medieval times when larger hunts were a popular pastime.

Recommendations for further work

This is a fairly small assemblage that has limited potential for further study. If dating of the currently undated contexts became available and suggested a greater range of dates, then there may be potential to re-examine the evidence. Otherwise, no further work is recommended.

If further work is carried out at this site it is recommended that samples are taken for sieving to maximise chances of recovery for small bones. If further work produces bone, then this assemblage can be considered in the analysis.

THE MOLLUSC ASSEMBLAGE (Appendix 3, Table 3)

Methodology

The molluscs were identified to species using a variety of reference material. Shells were catalogued by species and where appropriate, counts were made of the number of individual species present (NISP), counts of top and base shells and an estimate of the minimum number of individuals (MNI). Shells are also examined for any cut marks that would confirm their use for food from the prising apart of the shells or removal of meat with a knife. Information was recorded directly into an Excel database (available in the digital archive) and a summary is in the appendix with this report.

The assemblage

A total of 10g of shell, consisting of 9 elements, was recovered from this excavation, which is quantified by feature type in Table 3 by feature, species and NISP.

Context	Trench	Type	Period	Ctxt Qty	Weight	Species	NISP
112	1	Ditch 111	12th - 14th	3	4	<i>Helix aspersa</i>	3
137	1	Ditch 136	Undated	4	1	Helix species	1
149	1	Pit 146	11th C	2	5	<i>Helix aspersa</i>	2

Table 3. Quantification of the mollusc assemblage.

Species and observations

All of the remains in the mollusc assemblage are from the common garden snail *Helix aspersa*, an abundant land species. The assemblage is in a fairly good state of preservation with two shells complete, but others in fragments. It is possible to eat these snails, which are closely related to the edible Roman Snail, but there were no signs of them being used for food.

Discussion and conclusions

This is a small shell assemblage, it is dominated by the remains of a frequent land mollusc species on archaeological sites. *Helix aspersa* is common in a wide range of habitats, from woodland and hedges to gardens, rubbish dumps and around houses and will often congregate in large numbers, especially to hibernate. Their discovery in ditches and a pit fill on this site is to be expected as they are quite sheltered places and with a supply of food if being used for rubbish disposal, where they will consume meat, vegetable matter and bone for calcium.

Recommendations for further work

Sufficient recording has been made and no further work is required on this assemblage.

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Appendixes 1 to 3

1. Summary catalogue of the animal bone
2. Measurements of selected bones following Von Den Driesch, 1976
3. Catalogue of the mollusc assemblage.

Appendix 1

Catalogue of the animal bone recovered from ENF150397

Listed in context order.

A full catalogue (with additional information) is available as an Excel file in the digital archive.

Key:

NISP = Number of Individual Species elements Present

Measurable following Von Den Driesch, 1976.

Countable following Davis, 1992.

Butchering: ch = chopped, c = cut, s = sawn, sp = split

Context	Trench	Feature	Type	Date	Ctxt Qty	Wt (g)	Species	NISP	Mature	Adult	Sub-Adult	Juvenile	Neonate	MNI	Element range	Measure	Count	Butcherin g	Comments
110	1	109	Pit	10th - 11th	2	10	Mammal	2							fragments				
112	1	111	Ditch	12th - 14th	11	182	Equid	1		1					calcaneus		1		incomplete
112	1	111	Ditch	12th - 14th			Dog	10				1			femur, radius, ulna, humerus, upper jaw, skull frags, vertebra		3		unfused bones of large dog
115	1	114	Ditch	11th C	22	217	Dog	1		1					tibia		1		GL145
115	1	114	Ditch	11th C			Cattle	2		1					humerus		1	chopped	

															shaft, ulna				
115	1	114	Ditch	11th C			Sheep/goat	1		1					proximal tibia			chopped	
115	1	114	Ditch	11th C			Mammal	18							fragments				
117	1	116	Pit	Undated	1	38	Cattle	1		1					scapula fragment		1	cut, scraped	
120	1	118	Ditch	Undated	4	75	Large Mammal	4							fragments				
126	1	125	Pit	Undated	1	27	Mammal	1							single fragment				
131	1	129	Pit	Undated	1	39	Large Mammal	1							single fragment				
135	1	134	?PH/Pit	Undated	1	1	Medium Mammal	1							single fragment				
137	1	136	Ditch	Undated	1	8	Mammal	1							rib			chopped	
149	1	148	Pit	11th C	34	1093	Equid	34	1						upper jaw frags with molars, skull frags				20 years + at death
153	1	152	Pit	Undated	2	55	Cattle	2		1					upper jaw frag and one molar				
155	1	154	Pit	12th - 13th	4	20	Mammal	4							fragments				
155	1	154	Pit	12th - 13th	3	48	Sheep/goat	1			1				mandible		1		M1 and 2 in low wear
155	1	154	Pit	12th - 13th			Mammal	2							fragments				
157	1	154	Pit	12th - 13th	9	604	Cattle	9		1	1				metacarpal, metatarsal, ulna and tibia frags	1	2	cut, chopped	metacarpal gnawed at both ends
172	1	169	Pit	12th - 14th	9	176	Dog	2		?	?				mandible frags		1	cuts	low wear on teeth, 3 sets of cuts

																			from skinning
172	1	169	Pit	12th - 14th			Cattle	3		1					radius and metacarpal frags				
172	1	169	Pit	12th - 14th			Mammal	4							fragments				
201	2	200	Ditch	L9th - 11th	6	175	Cattle	6		1					pelvic fragments (refit)		1		
203	2	202	Gully	Undated	1	177	Equid	1		1					metatarsal	1	1	cut marks	slender bone, approx 13 HH
301	3	300	Ditch	Undated	10	94	Cattle	2			1				vertebrae frags				
301	3	300	Ditch	Undated			Dog	6				1			2 mandibles, radius		3		small dog, terrier sized, unfused bones and some teeth unerupted, estimated 3 to 4 months
301	3	300	Ditch	Undated			Mammal	2							fragments				
310	3	309	Pit	11th C	2	36	Cattle	2		1					metacarpal and vertebra frags				
312	3	311	Gully	10th - 11th	1	27	Cattle	1		1					proximal phalange		0.5	cut	skinning cut
316	3	316	Void	L9th - 11th	5	82	Cattle	2		1					scapula		1	chopped	

137	1	Ditch 136	Undated	4	1			4		Helix species	1					4							Probably <i>Helix aspersa</i>
149	1	Pit 146	11th C	2	5			2		<i>Helix aspersa</i>	2			2	2								

APPENDIX D – FLINT REPORT

By Tom Lane

Introduction

Flints from land east of Church Street, Great Ellingham, Norfolk, were submitted for Assessment. All had been collected from the spoil heaps of Trenches 1,2 and 8, following evaluation.

Condition

All items were abraded, some highly so and damaged. No conservation measures are required ahead of deposition in a museum or similar repository

Results

Cxt No	Description	No	Wt(g)	Date
182	Utilized Flake. Cortical over most of dorsal surface. Small area of flake removal at proximal end for platform preparation. Small length of irregular secondary working on one lateral edge near proximal end. 38 x 39 x 10mm	1	17	Prehistoric
182	Chisel fragment. End of broken chisel-type axe. Bifacially worked. Lenticular section. Wear at the end. Broken 37mm from end. Flint is grey in section but black at tip then honey-coloured on external surface. 43 x 38 x 20mm	1	40	Earlier Neolithic
182	Flake. Utilized. Irregular-shaped. Two small areas of cortex on dorsal surface. Steep retouch along one lateral edge. Damage and a notch along opposing lateral edge. Combination Tool? Non-Patinated. 40 x 31 x 9mm.	1	13	Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age
182	Flake. Waste Flake. Dorsal scars and ridges. Non-patinated. 38 x 15 x 6mm	1	5	Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age
182	Flake. Waste Flake. Non-patinated. 41 x 37 x 9mm	1	14	
223	Flake. Primary flake. Cortical on dorsal surface. Non-patinated. 28 x 22 x 4mm	1	4	Prehistoric
223	Scraper. Side and End Scraper. Cortex over much of dorsal surface. Possibly an unfinished disc scraper with short length near to proximal end unworked. Non-patinated. 31 x 27 x 8mm	1	9	Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age
223	Core fragment. Very heavily abraded and damaged. Flake removal in two areas of dorsal surface. Cortex remaining on c30% of remaining dorsal surface area. Non-Patinated. 45 x 40 x 24.	1	71	Neolithic
223	Flake. Utilized. Narrow at proximal end widening out. Triangular-shape in plan. Secondary working along the wide distal end. Non-patinated. 37 x 43 x 5mm	1	12	Neolithic?
803	End Scraper. Steep angle of retouch along the end. Some secondary working extending along both lateral edges, Small area of cortex remaining on dorsal surface. Non-patinated. 44 x 38 x 11mm	1	25	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age
803	Flake. Irregular shape. Short length of irregular secondary working on one lateral edge. Are of severe abrasion on opposite lateral edge. Non-Patinated. 65 x 35 x 13mm	1	24	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age

Range

This collection of flints ranges from tools, including the broken-off end of a chisel axe and two scrapers, through to predominantly debitage. Where dateable, much is Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age while the chisel axe fragment is from the earlier Neolithic. A few of the pieces may be ad hoc items made on the spot for a single task and subsequently discarded. One of the flints from 182 may have been a Combination Tool, with a scraper along one lateral edge and a notch along the opposing edge.

Potential

It would appear from this collection of material from the spoil heaps that there is a reasonable density of worked (and natural?) flint in the area. The presence of both tools and debitage suggests local flintworking and it would be worth bearing this in mind if any further work is planned on the site or the immediate vicinity.

APPENDIX E - THE 'OTHER' FINDS

By Gary Taylor

Artefacts recovered during investigations at Great Ellingham, Norfolk (ENF150397), are reported, below.

The finds were examined and reported in accordance with ClfA guidelines (2020). The material was examined and reported in February 2021.

Metal Finds

Introduction

Two metal finds weighing a total of 58g were recovered.

Results

Table 1, The Metal Finds

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt(g)	Context date
209	iron	Sub-rectangular sheet, 70mm x 35mm, very encrusted, possible vessel handle?	1	43	
310	iron	Unidentified, 100mm long, max width 13mm, thickness 5mm, possible tool or key handle	1	15	10 th -13 th century?
Totals			2	58	

Provenance

The metal items were recovered from ditch fill (209) and pit fill (310).

Discussion

A section of iron sheet, gently curved and possibly part of a vessel handle, or perhaps binding, was recovered. It is, however, very encrusted and lacks discriminatory features and its identity and function are uncertain.

A second iron object was also retrieved. This also is of uncertain form and function but may be a tang or handle for an implement that is mostly broken away. It consists of a flattened tapering bar with, at the surviving narrow terminal, a tightly-wound loop. This loop may have been for suspension or possibly to retain a socketed handle of organic material (bone, wood). The opposite, wider, terminal begins to flare but is then broken off. It may be the handle of a padlock key and not dissimilar objects were found at Beverley in deposits ranging in date from the 10th to mid-13th centuries (Goodall 1991, 143-4).

Potential and Recommendations

The metal items are of uncertain function and consequently of limited potential. No further work is required. The material should be retained for archive storage.

Other Finds

Introduction

Six other finds weighing a total of 112g were recovered.

Results

Table 2, The Other Finds

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt(g)	Context date
137	stone	Lava quern	5	73	9 th -13 th century?
155	stone	Lava quern	1	39	9 th -13 th century?
TOTALS			6	112	

Provenance

The items were recovered from ditch fill (137) and pit fill (155). The pieces are all of material from the Rhineland of Germany.

Discussion

All the other finds are of stone, Rhenish lava quern. Such material was traded widely around Europe in the Roman period, and then, after a hiatus, resumed in the 8th century, thereafter continuing well into the medieval period (Mann 1982, 21-2; Pohl 2010, 149). The recovered pieces lack discriminatory features but are likely to be medieval rather than Roman. These quern fragments are likely to indicate general domestic food grinding processes at the site during the medieval period.

Potential and Recommendations

The other finds are of limited potential. They indicate the grinding of foodstuffs, perhaps during the Saxo-Norman - medieval period.

No further work is required. The material can be discarded.

CONTEXT DATE SUMMARY

The dating in the following Table is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 3, Summary of context dating

Cxt	Date (Century AD)	Comments
137	9 th -13 th ?	Based on stone
155	9 th -13 th ?	Based on 1 stone
209		
310	10 th -13 th ?	Based on 1 metal

References

ClfA, 2020 *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*

Goodall, I H, 1991 'The ironwork', in P Armstrong, D Tomlinson and D H Evans, *Excavations at Lurk Lane Beverley, 1979-82*, Sheffield Excavation Reports **1**, 132-146

Mann, J E, 1982 *Early Medieval Finds from Flaxengate I: Objects of antler, bone, stone, horn, ivory, amber, and jet*, The Archaeology of Lincoln **XIV-1**

Pohl, M, 2010 Quern-stones and tuff as indicators of medieval European trade patterns, *Papers from the Institute of Archaeology* **20**, 148-153

Abbreviations

ClfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

No. Number

W(g) Weight (grams)

APPENDIX F – ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

AN ASSESSMENT OF THE CHARRED PLANT MACROFOSSILS AND OTHER REMAINS

By Val Fryer

Introduction and method statement

Excavations at Great Ellingham were undertaken by Witham Archaeology. Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken and four were submitted for assessment.

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 1. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (2010). All plant remains were charred. Modern seeds and roots were also recorded but not tabulated.

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and dried prior to sorting. All artefacts/ecofacts were removed for further specialist analysis.

Results

Cereals, chaff and seeds of common weeds are present at a low to moderate density within all four assemblages. Preservation is generally poor, with both cereals and seeds being puffed and distorted, probably as a result of high temperature combustion. In addition, some material is fragmented and many macrofossils are heavily coated with fine mineral concretions and small grits.

Oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.) rye (*Secale cereale*) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains are recorded, mostly as single specimens within an assemblage. Cereals which are too poorly preserved for close identification are also present, most notably within the assemblage from sample 4. Chaff is mostly scarce, but barley and rye rachis nodes are recorded along with oat awn fragments and a single rachis node of possible bread wheat (*T. aestivum/compactum*) type.

Seeds of common segetal weeds are present, although mostly at a very low density. Taxa noted include corn cockle (*Agrostemma githago*), stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), brome (*Bromus* sp.), small legumes (Fabaceae), large grasses (Poaceae), and wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*). Fragments of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell are present within the assemblage from sample 4. Comminuted charcoal/charred wood fragments are present throughout, along with small pieces of charred root/stem (including some fragments of heather (Ericaceae)). Other plant macrofossils are exceedingly scarce, but do include an indeterminate culm node, inflorescence fragments and a single piece of a possible tuber.

Other remains are generally scarce. The small pieces of black porous material are all probably derived from the high temperature combustion of organic materials (including cereal grains). Other remains include small pieces of bone, pellets of burnt or fired clay and a fragment of what appears to be volcanic lava (probably from a quern or mill stone). Mollusc shells are noted, but it is currently unclear whether they are contemporary with the contexts from which the samples were taken, or later contaminants. The burnt shells noted within sample 3 are, perhaps, more likely to be contemporary, and were probably transported to the site along with plant materials used as flooring or thatch.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, the broad similarities in composition between these four assemblages may indicate that the remains are all derived from a common source namely, hearth waste. The cereals, which are possibly derived from semi-cleaned or prime grain, may well have been charred during culinary preparation. Chaff and weed seeds (particularly the larger specimens like corn cockle, the small legumes and the wild radish) either persisted alongside the grains, being of a similar size, or are present as constituents of processing waste, which was commonly used as tinder or fuel. Wood/charcoal was probably the main fuel of choice, although heather was also frequently used in hearths and ovens, as it was readily available, it ignited easily and it maintained an even, high

temperature through combustion. Local environmental indicators are scarce, but the composition of the weed assemblage may suggest that cereals were being grown on both heavier clay soils (well suited to wheat) and lighter sandy soils (tolerated by both barley and rye). The abundance of small legumes (particularly within sample 4) may also indicate that soils depleted by over production and poor land management, were being improved by means of a rotational cropping regime.

As none of the current assemblages contain a sufficient density of material for quantification (i.e. 100+ specimens), no further analysis is recommended. However, the information within this assessment should be included within any synthesis of data from the Great Ellingham sites.

Reference

Stace, C., 2010 *New Flora of the British Isles*. 3rd edition. Cambridge University Press

Key to Table

x = 1 – 10 specimens xx = 11 – 50 specimens xxx = 51 – 100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens
cf = compare fg = fragment tf = testa fragment b = burnt

Sample No.	1	2	3	4
Context No.	405	212	181	604
Feature No.				
Feature type				
Date				
Cereals				
<i>Avena</i> sp. (grains)			x	x
(awn frags.)			x	x
<i>Hordeum</i> sp. (grains)		x	x	x
(rachis nodes)				x
<i>Hordeum/Secale cereale</i> type (rachis nodes)		x		xx
<i>Secale cereale</i> L. (grains)			x	
(rachis nodes)				x
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (grains)		xcf		x
<i>T. aestivum/compactum</i> type (rachis node)				xcf
Cereal indet. (grains)	x	x	xx	xxx
(rachis node frag.)	x			
(basal rachis node)				x
Dry land herbs				
<i>Agrostemma githago</i> L.	xcffg	x		x
<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.				x
<i>Atriplex</i> sp.				x
<i>Bromus</i> sp.	x			x
Small Fabaceae indet.	x	xcf	x	xxx
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i> (L.)A.Love			xtf	
<i>Galeopsis</i> sp.			x	
Large Poaceae indet.	x		x	x
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> L. (siliquae)	xfg		x	xfg
<i>Rumex</i> sp.	x			
<i>R. acetosella</i> L.				x
Tree/shrub species				
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.				x
Other plant macrofossils				
Charcoal <2mm	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx
Charcoal >2mm	xx	xxx	xxxx	xxxx
Charcoal >5mm	x	x	x	xx
Charcoal >10mm	x	x	x	x
Charred root/stem	x	x	xxx	x
Ericaceae indet. (stem)	xcf		xx	x
Indet. culm node			x	
Indet. inflorescence frags.				x
Indet. seeds		x	x	x
Indet. tuber frag.		xcf		
Other remains				
Black porous material	x	x	x	x
Black tarry material				x
Bone	x	x	x	x xb
Burnt/fired clay	x	x	x	x
Fish bone	x			
Lava frag.	xcf			

Table 1. Charred plant macrofossils and other remains from Great Ellingham, Norfolk

Small coal frags.	x	x		x
Small mammal/amphibian bone	x	x	x	
Mollusc shells				
Woodland/shade loving species				
<i>Aegopinella</i> sp.	x			x
<i>Punctum pygmaeum</i>	x			
<i>Trichia striolata</i>	xcf			
Open country species				
<i>Helicella itala</i>	x			
<i>Vallonia</i> sp.	x		x	x
Catholic species				
<i>Cochlicopa</i> sp.			xb	
<i>Trichia hispida</i> group	x	x		x
Marsh/freshwater slum species				
<i>Anisus leucostoma</i>				x
<i>Lymnaea</i> sp.			xb	
<i>Succinea</i> sp.			xb	
Sample volume (litres)	30	40	40	40
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1	0.2	0.2
% flot sorted	100%	100%	50%	50%

Table 1. Charred plant macrofossils and other remains from Great Ellingham, Norfolk

APPENDIX G
OASIS SUMMARY DETAILS FORM

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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Printable version

OASIS ID: withamar1-418226

Project details

Project name	Land to the Southeast of Church Street, Great Ellingham , Norfolk
Short description of the project	<p>Informative Trenching as part of a Programme of Archaeological Mitigatory Work was undertaken on Land to the Southeast of Church Street, Great Ellingham, Norfolk. The area of the proposed development comprises approximately 2.65ha of open agricultural land situated on the east periphery of Great Ellingham village. Thirteen trenches were excavated as part of the project. The trenches were distributed to achieve maximum coverage of the proposed development area. Anomalies identified during a preceding geophysical survey of the development area as potential archaeological features were targeted by each trench.. The results of the work indicates that archaeological features are present on the site and survive in a good state of preservation. The features are mainly concentrated in trenches in the west part of site which occupy the higher ground and are represented by ditches, pits and occasional post-holes. Although the project recorded a high density of features, dating evidence in the form of datable artefacts was relatively scarce. However, most features appear to date to the Late Saxon period and represent probable settlement evidence in association with ditched enclosures. Occupation of the site appears to have ceased following the Norman conquest although ditched enclosures of 12th to 14th century were recorded. Two very large pits of uncertain function probably date to the 12th or 13th century.</p>
Project dates	Start: 23-11-2020 End: 08-01-2021
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ENF150397 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Early Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	POST-HOLE Early Medieval
Monument type	GULLY Early Medieval
Monument type	PIT Early Medieval

Monument type	PIT Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Early Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Early Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Medieval
Significant Finds	SCRAPER Late Neolithic
Significant Finds	FLAKE Late Neolithic
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination

Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORFOLK BRECKLAND GREAT ELLINGHAM Land Southeast of Church Street, Great Ellingham, Norfolk
Postcode	NR17 1LE
Study area	2.65 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 0207 9694 52.532320699891 0.97956491349 52 31 56 N 000 58 46 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 46.71m Max: 49.28m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Witham Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Gary Trimble
Project director/manager	Gary Trimble
Project supervisor	Gary Trimble
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Flagship Housing

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Metal", "Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Report","Survey ","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land Southeast of Church Street, Great Ellingham, Norfolk.
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Trimble, G
Other bibliographic details	434
Date	2021
Issuer or publisher	Witham Archaeology Ltd
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Entered by	Gary Trimble (gary.trimble@withamarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	26 March 2021

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