

Witham Archaeology

A Report to The Symington Partnership

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LAND OFF DINGLEY ROAD, GREAT BOWDEN LEICESTERSHIRE

Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

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LAND OFF DINGLEY ROAD, GREAT BOWDEN, LEICESTERSHIRE

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Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

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LAND OFF DINGLEY ROAD, GREAT BOWDEN, LEICESTERSHIRE - ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

SUMMARY

This report presents the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation undertaken on land off Dingley Road, Great Bowden, Leicestershire. The project was commissioned by The Symington Partnership in order to provide information on the impact of the proposed development on archaeological deposits at the site, and will be submitted in support of a planning application to be submitted to the Local Planning Authority.

The site is located immediately beyond the eastern outskirts of the village, just 150m east of the parish church of St. Peter and St. Paul. Prior to the trial trenching described in this report an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and earthwork survey of the site were undertaken. These demonstrated that earthworks of probable medieval date are located on the eastern part of the site and that sites of Roman, late Saxon and early medieval date are known in the area.

The earliest pottery identified during the investigations dates to the late Iron Age, although it is uncertain whether any of the features on the site date to this period. Saxo-Norman, early medieval and medieval finds were recovered but mainly from within features also containing post medieval artefacts, the latter concentrating within the 16th and 17th centuries.

Most of the features recorded comprised ditches, many of which followed similar alignments to the linear hollows recorded within the area of earthworks to the east of the area of investigation. These, and the ditches recorded during the evaluation, may be part of the same system of rectilinear enclosures or paddocks located at the edge of the village but outside the main area of settlement. An origin in the medieval period is possible but there is no definitive evidence for this. The presence of substantial quantities of post medieval tile suggests demolition of a post medieval building, possibly located close to the site.

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT BACKGROUND

This report presents the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation undertaken on land off Dingley Road, Great Bowden, Leicestershire. The project was commissioned by The Symington Partnership in order to provide information on the impact of the proposed development on archaeological deposits at the site, and will be submitted in support of a planning application to be submitted to the Local Planning Authority. Fieldwork was carried out between the 27th April and May 1st, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation produced by Witham Archaeology and approved by the Leicestershire County Council Senior Planning Archaeologist.

Prior to the trial trenching, an Archaeological Desk Based Assessment and earthwork survey of the site was undertaken by Witham Archaeology (Trimble & Trimble 2015). The survey identified earthworks of probable medieval date but also established that an area towards the west end of the area was level and likely to have been truncated, probably during construction of a tennis court known to have occupied this area of the site. The trial trenches were targeted on this area of the site in order to protect the earthworks on the remainder of the site.

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 of Archaeologists.

2.0 SITE LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY & GEOLOGY (see Figs. 1 and 2)

The village of Great Bowden, located in the parish of the same name and in the administrative district of Harborough, is located less than 1km north of the northern outskirts of the town of Market Harborough, 22km southeast of Leicester and 35km southwest of Stamford (Fig 1). The site is located immediately beyond the eastern outskirts of the village, just 150m east of the medieval parish church of St. Peter and St. Paul (Fig 2). To the south the site is bounded by Dingley Road and to the west by an access road to properties to the north of the site. West of this access road are houses located on the eastern fringe of the village which front onto Dingley Road. To the north the area of investigation is defined by a line of trees and to the east by a post and wire fence. The site is centred on national grid reference SP 74834 88823

Topographically, Great Bowden lies in the upper reaches of the Welland Valley at around 76m OD, the river itself lying just 180m to the east of the study area. The local underlying geology consists of Jurassic and Cretaceous middle and lower lias clays upon which the poorly drained Denchworth soils have developed (SSEW 1983; British Geological Survey 1960, Sheet 170).

3.0 HISTORICAL & ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Great Bowden was named as 'Bucedone' in the Domesday Survey of 1086. Two manors were held in the village at the time with a total of 21 households recorded. The larger of the two manors was held by King William and the smaller by Robert of Bucy (Open Domesday). At the time of the survey Great Bowden was at the centre of a large 'Soke' with land held in twelve other Leicestershire villages (Lee and McKinley, 1964). The origin of this Soke is not known but it is thought to have been in existence during the time of Edward Confessor in the 11th century. The Soke is last mentioned in 1173. The place name is thought to have Anglo-Saxon origins and is a conjunction of the Anglo-Saxon personal name 'Bucga' and 'Dunn', the latter a topographic name for 'a hill, a flat-topped hill, an open upland expanse' (Bourne, 2003).

The Victoria County History relates that there were three principle fields in Great Bowden during the 14th and 15th centuries indicating that, as would be expected for a medieval village in this area, a medieval system of open field arable farming was in operation around the village.

As part of a desk-based study undertaken prior to the trial trenching (Trimble and Trimble, 2015) an enclosure map for the village was not located in the Leicestershire Records Office and the Tithe map is thought to have been lost. However, a reconstruction of the open fields by the Great Bowden Heritage Group, (Lewis *et al*, 2014) based on the first edition Ordnance Survey map and the enclosure award schedule, shows three open fields surrounding the village. The study site appears to be located at the edge of the south field and to lie and within the village area itself, or at least within closes at the perimeter of the settled area. The parish church of St Peter and Paul is first mentioned in the 13th century as is a second chapel or church with its own chaplain. The latter is thought to be the church known as St. Mary in Arden which had a dependent chapel in Harborough.

There have been no archaeological investigations within the proposed development area itself. However, due to the activities of the local heritage group and a number of investigations undertaken in advance of development, the archaeology of the village is well documented in terms of records held in the Historic Environment Record. A full description of the archaeology of the village appears in the Desk-Based Assessment compiled for the project (Trimble and Trimble, 2015). The results of the study are summarised by period below.

Prehistoric (AD43 and earlier)

Prehistoric records consist entirely of point data from the HER and are classed as Find Spots rather than *in-situ* archaeological deposits. Almost all of the material consists of worked flints with a single Neolithic polished axe among the collection. Most of the flints were retrieved as residual objects in deposits of much later date or from topsoil during the excavation of test pits.

Much of the flint work is only broadly dateable to a period spanning the Neolithic period to the Bronze Age, a range of over two thousand years. The earliest flint recovered in the assessment area is of

Mesolithic date and was retrieved during test pit digging at excavations to the rear of 45 Main Street along with other flint of Neolithic and Bronze Age date (HER MLE 21619 A single record relates to the polished Neolithic stone axe recovered during test pitting at 9 Langton (HER MLE 7205).

Iron Age to Roman (750 BC to Romano-British AD43 – AD410)

HER Records of Roman date within the assessment area are concentrated around the village rather than the surrounding area, once again a reflection of the formal programme test pitting within the settlement itself. A single record of Iron Age date from within the assessment is contained in the HER. This is represented by a decorated sherd of late Iron Age date found with early Roman pottery recovered during a watching brief at 7 Upper Green Place during 2007 (HER MLE17526).

As is usually the case with material from test pitting, the Roman artefacts are generally unstratified or residual in later contexts. If a pattern is present within the distribution of finds, it is represented by two clusters at the west end of the village and another more centred on the historic core as represented by the parish church.

However, during test pitting northeast of Glebe Cottage in 2014 approximately 150m northwest of the study area, excavation of test pits recovered 54 sherds of Roman pottery, a spindle whorl and metal working residues (HER MLE 21602). This is highly suggestive that this area of the village was occupied during the Roman period. The only other Roman site is the possible Roman town known as The Ridgeway located 1km southwest of the study site (HER MLE 1948).

Saxon to Medieval

A single record within the assessment area for the desk based study relates to the recovery of early Saxon material. This is for the retrieval of pottery ranging in date from the early Saxon to Post medieval periods during test pitting in 2005 at Knights End Close in Knights End towards the southern limits of the village (HER MLE 16425). However, a look at the detail of the record shows that early Saxon material is not listed separately and this may be an error.

Firm evidence for late Saxon occupation in the village is provided by evaluations and excavations undertaken in advance of development. Of most significance to the study area are the various excavations undertaken in the Nether Green area approximately 250m to the northwest of the proposed development. Investigations at Langton Road west of the church recorded plots and enclosures also of pre-conquest date. These include various ditches, pits and gullies containing late Saxon dateable artefacts and clearly demonstrate occupation of this area of the village during the period. In addition, many of the test pits excavated by the Great Bowden Heritage and Archaeology recovered pottery of late Saxon date. Of most significance to the proposed development site is the material approximately 300m to the northwest (HER MLE 21601) where test pitting recovered late Saxon pottery. Other nearby sites where late Saxon material was retrieved include pottery from test pitting just east of 10 Dingley Road (HER MLE 21575) and pottery of the same date from the garden of 9 Dingley Road 90 metres west of the study area (HER MLE 9868).

Medieval

Records of medieval date form the largest single group within the historic environment record. Within the village these are widespread and are found within all areas of the historic core of the village and the 'outer' areas such as Knights End and Nether Green

Several of the records relate to upstanding earthworks around the village and this includes the extant earthworks on the study site itself. Formal categorisation of features within this record include house platforms and enclosures. Other records of earthworks include those identified in the Green Lane area (HER MLE 1950), medieval village earthworks in the Knights End area (HER MLE 1953) and the graveyard around the parish church of St. Peter and Paul (HER MLE 21368)

The HER record for the historic core of the village was reconstructed from mapping and documentary evidence and describes two separate east and west foci. Excavated medieval remains include those at

Nether Green area where features and pottery of medieval to late medieval date were recorded. Possibly of most significance are the excavations in the Langdon Green area where the remains recorded are thought to be associated with the main manorial centre of Great Bowden.

Post Medieval

As with the periods described above many of the finds spots for the post medieval period derive from test pit digging around the village. Finds of the period in the immediate environs of the study area were recovered during the Great Bowden Heritage and Archaeology investigations in Buckminster Close located immediately to the northwest (HER MLE 17196) and include the oval feature identified by geophysical survey. This ditch was later identified as a track probably associated with horse training. South of Dingley Road in Christchurch paddock post medieval pottery was found during the excavation undertaken by Great Bowden Heritage Group of a possible wall, cobbled surface and possible trackway (HER MLE 18150)

4.0 AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The principal objectives of the project, as set out in a Witham Archaeology specification 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 Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER).*

5.0 METHODOLOGY

The project specification provided for the excavation of four trenches, one measuring 30m x 1.6m (Fig 3), two measuring 15m x 1.6m and one 10m x 1.6m. The 30 metre trench was positioned to investigate linear hollows (104) and (106) recorded during the earthwork survey to determine whether they extended into this area of the site. Trench 1 was located to characterise the irregular shaped earthwork (113). The remaining two trenches were randomly distributed.

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

Soils samples were not recovered for analysis as deposits with significant environmental potential were not identified.

A record of the site was compiled through plans drawn at scale 1:20 and sections at 1:10, colour digital and monochrome (35mm) photographs, and individual written context records on *pro forma* recording sheets. Trenches were located in relation to fixed points on the site.

6.0 RESULTS

For ease of reference, the following account is presented on a trench-by-trench basis. Full context descriptions are provided in Appendix A and a complete catalogue of finds is provided in Appendix B. Figure 3 depicts an overall plan of the site so that features in separate trenches can be easily related to each other.

6.1 Trench 1 (Fig 4) (Plates 3-7)

Trench 1 (c. 10m long x 1.6m wide) was aligned slightly off north to south and located towards the southwest boundary of the proposed development. The south end of the trench was located to investigate the irregular earthwork (113) identified during the earthwork survey.

Five discrete cut features were identified in the trench, comprising three ditches, and two pits. Located 2.86m from the north end of the trench, west to east aligned Ditch [105] measured 0.92m wide, 0.48m deep and contained a single fill (106) of dark grey and yellowish brown silty clay from which a single sherd of sand tempered pottery of Late Iron Age date was recovered (Fig 8, Section 2 & Plate 4).

Approximately 0.35m to the south of [105] a partially exposed pit [103] located at the eastern limit of excavation measured 1.25m north to south and 0.4m deep. No finds were recovered from the grey and yellowish brown silty clay (104) which formed the sole fill of the pit (Fig 8, Section 3 & Plate 5).

South of the middle of the trench, west to east oriented Ditch [101] measured 2.96m wide and 0.64m deep and contained a single fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (102) from which 10 sherds of pottery of mixed date were recovered (Fig 8, Section 1 & Plate 6). Apart from two pieces dated as post medieval, all of this pottery was of early medieval to medieval date. However, 24 fragments of tile were also recovered from fill (102) and these are likely to be of post medieval date.

At the south end of the trench were two intercut features, narrow Ditch [107] and Pit [109] (Fig 8, Section 16 & Plate 7). The stratigraphic relationship between these two features is unclear but the available evidence indicated that Pit [109] may be the later of the two. A mottled mid yellowish brown silty clay comprised the single fill of WNW to ESE aligned Ditch [107], with a mottled mid yellowish brown and grey silty grey clay forming the only fill of Pit [109]. No finds were recovered from the fills of either feature.

Overlying all of the features in Trench 1 was a 0.3m thick stiff mid yellowish brown subsoil. The boundary between this subsoil and the features was sharp and horizontal except with Ditch [101] which it may have partially filled.

Much of the south end of the trench was occupied by Ditch [101] which introduces some complexity to any interpretations of earthwork (113). In plan the ditch appears to possibly turn from a west east to north south alignment, with a small portion of the latter exposed at the west limit of excavation. As fill (102) in Ditch [101] extends across the whole profile this does suggest that a single phase is represented (Fig 8, Section 1). The section shown in Figure 11 is a composite created from Sections 1, 3 and 4 and levels taken at the top and base of the trench with a survey grade GPS. This clearly shows that ground level at the south end of the trench is not significantly higher than to the north. There are no layers present which show mound construction and the subsoil is no thicker in the area of the earthwork. However, the ground surface does dip over Ditch [101] and it seems that the earthwork is probably an effect created by the sub-surface ditches rather than a built earthwork. This could also indicate that the earthwork is of post-medieval date. Although the cut of the ditch does not extend to the ground surface this is likely to

have been transformed to subsoil by bioturbation. Plate 6 mainly depicts Ditch [101] but the dip in the surface over the feature can clearly be seen.

6.2 Trench 2 (Fig 5) (Plates 8- 12)

Trench 2 (30m long and 1.6m wide) was SSW to NNE aligned, perpendicular to features [104] and [106] recorded during the earthwork survey. Nine cut features excavated in this trench comprised six ditches, one pit, one post hole and a land drain.

At the north end of the trench WNW to ESE aligned Ditch [215] measured 0.9m wide, 0.45m deep and contained a single fill of mid bluish grey silty clay from which three sherds of pottery of Late Iron Age date were retrieved (Fig. 9, Section 17 & Plate 9). An irregularly shaped pit [213] recorded to the south of this ditch measured 1.61m in diameter within the limits of excavation, 0.45m deep and contained a mid blue grey clay (214) from which a single sherd of 12th to 13th century pottery was collected. The west portion of Pit (213) was not visible at the upper level of excavation due to mixing of soils due to disturbance, possibly by trampling by animals Ditch [211] was WNW to ESE aligned and measured 0.59m wide and 0.31m deep and cut through the fills of Pit [213] (Fig. 9, Section 17 & Plate 9). A sherd of 12th to 13th century pottery was recovered from the single mid bluish grey silty clay of this feature but a clay pipe stem of 18th century date was also present in the deposit.

South of Ditch [211] and towards the centre of the trench Post Hole [217] measured 0.39m in diameter and 0.10m deep with a fill of mid brown silty clay (218) (Fig. 9, Section 14). A shallow WNW to SSE aligned ditch [207] located a short distance to the south of the post hole measured 0.85m wide, 60mm deep and contained a single fill of mid bluish grey silty clay with orange mottling (Fig. 9, Section 13 & Plate 10). No finds were recovered from these features.

Ditch [205] represents the northernmost of the three linear features recorded towards the south end of Trench 2 (Fig. 9, Section 12, Plate 11). This ditch measured 1.2m wide and 0.5m deep and in plan curved southwards from an east to west alignment at the eastern limit of excavation. The primary fill of the ditch comprised a mottled light blue and mid orange clay (225) which measured 0.10m in thickness. Six sherds of late Iron Age pottery were recovered from the mid bluish grey silty upper fill of the ditch (206) and derive from a single jar type vessel which disintegrated on excavation. However, two pieces of medieval pottery were retrieved from the same deposit.

South of [205] WNW to ESE aligned Ditch [203] measured 1.0m wide and 0.5m deep (Fig. 9, Section 11, Plate 12). It contained a thin primary fill measuring just 0.04m in depth (226) which consisted of a mottled mid orange and light blue gritty clay. The remainder of the fill was composed of a mid brown silty clay (204) from which two sherds of 12th to 13th century pottery and a number of fragments of tile of probable post medieval tile were recovered. At the south end of the trench, narrow Ditch [201] measured 0.43m wide and 0.19m deep (Fig. 9, Section 10) and was on the same alignment as [203] to the north. Ditch [201] contained a thin mid grey clay primary fill (224) which lined the southern side of the cut. The remainder of the fill was comprised of mid bluish grey clay (202). No artefacts were recovered from ditch [201]

6.3 Trench 3 (Fig 6) (Plates 13 & 14)

Trench 3 (c. 10m long x 1.6m wide) was aligned NNW to SSE and was positioned to characterise the archaeological remains within the flat area of the site occupied by the former tennis court.

The earliest deposit recorded in the trench was a stiff yellowish brown clay (309) which represents the natural undisturbed deposits of the area. The natural was recorded at a depth 0.8m below the current ground level of the site. Immediately overlying the natural was a 0.12m thick spread of mixed sandy clay and medium sized stones (300) which is likely to form the surface of a track or area of hardstanding. The cobbled surface extended over the west end of the trench for approximately 5m and followed a southwest to northeast alignment, although the edges of the deposit were diffuse and irregular. To the east of the cobbled surface, a 0.15m thick soft to firm mottled clay deposit (308) probably represents trample of areas adjacent to the track or surface. Finds retrieved from deposit (300) suggest the surface and track were extant during the 16th to 17th centuries.

Overlying the track was a 0.25m thick deposit of brown silty clay (306) which extended across the full length of the trench. This deposit may have originated as a phase of landscaping post-dating the 17th century track or surface. A pit [303] cut through deposit (307) measured 0.81m in section and 0.49m deep and contained a soft, brownish grey silty clay fill (302) from which sherds of 16th to 17th century pottery were retrieved (Fig. 10, Section 5). A second feature [310] with a similar fill to Pit [303] was recorded 1.5m to the north. This cut through cobble layer (300) and may represent the base of a similar pit to [303] as it is of similar dimensions at this level.

Overlying deposit (307) was a 0.3m thick layer of soft to firm greyish brown sandy clay (306) which extended throughout the trench. This was sealed by a thin 80mm thick layer (305) of silty clay with frequent stones and cinders overlain by the present turf line (304). Deposits (306) and (305) are very likely to represent landscaping and a former surface associated with the tennis court.

6.4 Trench 4 (Fig 7) (Plates 15-17)

Trench 4 (c. 14m long x 1.6m wide) was aligned NW to SE and positioned close to the southwest corner of the site. Much of the area of the trench was occupied by a large feature [409] extending beyond the limit of excavation to the southwest. A section across the feature (Fig 10, Section 6) revealed a gently sloping profile, falling to the southwest. The feature contained a 0.25m thick primary fill of firm, mid yellowish brown sandy clay (408), and may be interpreted as a pond.

Overlying (408) was a 0.1m thick deposit (407) of approximately 70% irregular stone fragments within a matrix of clayey sand. Along with (403) this layer may have formed an area of hard standing around the edge of the pond. Pottery and tile recovered from these deposits suggest a 17th to 18th century date for the layer. A vertical 'bank' of clay, 0.4m thick and 0.44m wide, (401) deposited at a later date may have been 'puddling' around the edge of the pond. Deposit (402), a 0.2m thick greyish brown clay sand, may represent the pre-existing deposits when the pond was constructed.

At the southeast end of the trench natural deposit (410) was overlain by a 0.2m thick mid greyish brown sandy clay (413) which is likely to be the same as layer (402) (Fig 10, Section 6). At the southwest corner of the trench in Section 8 (413) was overlain by (412), a very similar deposit to (403), which may have also formed part of the hard standing surrounding the pond. A 0.12m thick mid greyish brown sandy clay overlay (412) and formed the final layer in the sequence. A vertically sided clay deposit (414) may also represent a later phase of puddling at the edge of the pond in same manner as (401) in [409].

7.0 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

Trial trenching of the site has identified a range of deposits and features comprising predominantly linear ditches but also a possible track or surface, pits, a post hole and a possible pond. The pottery recovered during the trenching is of a mixed date range and includes late Iron Age, early medieval, medieval and post-medieval material. Pottery and dateable artefacts were not abundant and definitive phasing of the site, particularly the linear ditches is problematical.

The earliest pottery recovered is of late Iron Age date and represents only the second discovery of material of this date within the village, the other site being located at Upper Green Place on the west side of the settlement. In Trench 1, two sherds of the Iron Age pottery were unstratified while one was recovered from the fill of Ditch [105]. Given that pottery of later periods was not recovered from the site in abundance, caution should be expressed in assigning an Iron Age date for this feature, although this is a possibility.

In Trench 2 all of the late Iron Age ceramics were derived from features. However, it seems likely that three sherds from Ditch [215] may be residual given the alignment of this ditch on the same orientation as other linear features of medieval or post medieval date. Also, Ditch [215] seems to have been reused to insert of 19th century land drain. The Iron Age pottery from Ditch [205] are derived from a single, fairly large vessel but two pieces of medieval date were also found in the same deposit. However, given that the alignment of ditch [205] is at variance with many of the other linear features, there remains the possibility that the ditch is Iron Age and the later pottery is intrusive. Whether these features are of secure

late Iron date or not, the recovery of ceramics of this date points to occupation of the period somewhere in the vicinity, perhaps in the area of the Romano-British site located to the northwest of the site.

Early medieval and medieval pottery was recovered from the site but this was usually in small quantities or in association with post medieval ceramics or tile. For example, two sherds of medieval pottery recovered from Ditch [205], and a single sherd of 13th century pottery from Pit [213] at the north end of Trench 2 represent the only dateable material recovered from these features. The fill of Ditch [101] in Trench 1 contained eight sherds of Saxo-Norman to medieval date but also two sherds of post medieval type. Tile recovered from the feature also indicates a post medieval date.

It seems that most of the linear ditches recorded on the site are likely to date to the post medieval period, or at least to have been in use up to that date. In general the alignments of the linear features recorded in the trenches accords well with the linear depressions identified during the earthwork survey and it could be suggested that the whole complex represents paddocks and enclosure at the edge of the village, but not directly within the area of settlement. The tile and ceramic building recovered during the trenching probably derive from the demolition of a post medieval building located beyond the area of excavation.

There was no evidence recorded to suggest that earthwork (113) is a built structure. It seems likely that depressions in the ground surface reflect the positions of sub-surface ditches which have created the effect of an irregular mound.

8.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author of this report would like to thank John Symington and La Ronde Wright for their support in ensuring that the project was brought to a successful conclusion. Thanks are also due to Alex Beeby and Gary Taylor for production of the finds report.

9.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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10.0 PROJECT/ ARCHIVE DETAILS

10.1 Project Information

SITE CODE: GBDR

PLANNING APPLICATION No.: NA

FIELD OFFICER: G. TRIMBLE

NGR: SP 74834 88823

CIVIL PARISH: Great Bowden

DATEs OF INTERVENTION: 27th April and the 1st of May

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Trial Trench Evaluation

UNDERTAKEN FOR: The Symington Partnership

10.2 Archive Details

PRESENT LOCATION: Witham Archaeology, Unit 6, Sleaford Station Business Centre, Station Road, Sleaford Lincolnshire, NG34 7RG

FINAL LOCATION: Leicestershire Museums

MUSEUM ACCESSION No.: X.A40.2015

ACCESSION DATE: TBC

The Site Archive Comprises:

Context Records	33
Plans at Scale 1:50	GPS plans
Section Drawings at Scale 1:20	2 Sheets, Seventeen sections
Black and White photographs	0 frames
Digital Photographs	92
Set of Site Notes	1

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: General view of the site during trial trenching, looking southwest



Plate 2: Machining of Trench 4. Looking southeast



Plate 3: General view of Trench 1, looking south; 1x2m & 1x1m scales



Plate 4: View of Ditch [105] in Trench 1, looking west; 2x1m scales



Plate 5: View of Pit [103] in Trench 1, looking east; 2x1m scales



Plate 6: View of Ditch [101] in Trench 1, looking southwest; 2x1m scales



Plate 7: View of Pit [109] and Gully [107], looking east; 1x1m, 1x0.2m scales



Plate 8: General view of Trench 2, looking northwest; 2x1m scales



Plate 9: Ditch [215], Pit [213] and Ditch [211], looking southeast; 2x1m, 1x2m, 1x0.30m scales



Plate 10: View of Ditch [207] in Trench 2, looking northeast; 2x1m scales



Plate 11: View of Ditch [205] in Trench 2, looking northeast; 2x1m scales



Plate 12: View of Ditch [203] in Trench 2, looking northeast; 2x1m scales



Plate 13: Trench 3, surface\track (300). Looking southeast; 1x1m & 1x2m scales



Plate 14: Trench 3, surface\track (300). Looking southeast; 1x2m scale



Plate 15: General view of Trench 4, looking southeast; 1x2m & 1x1m scales

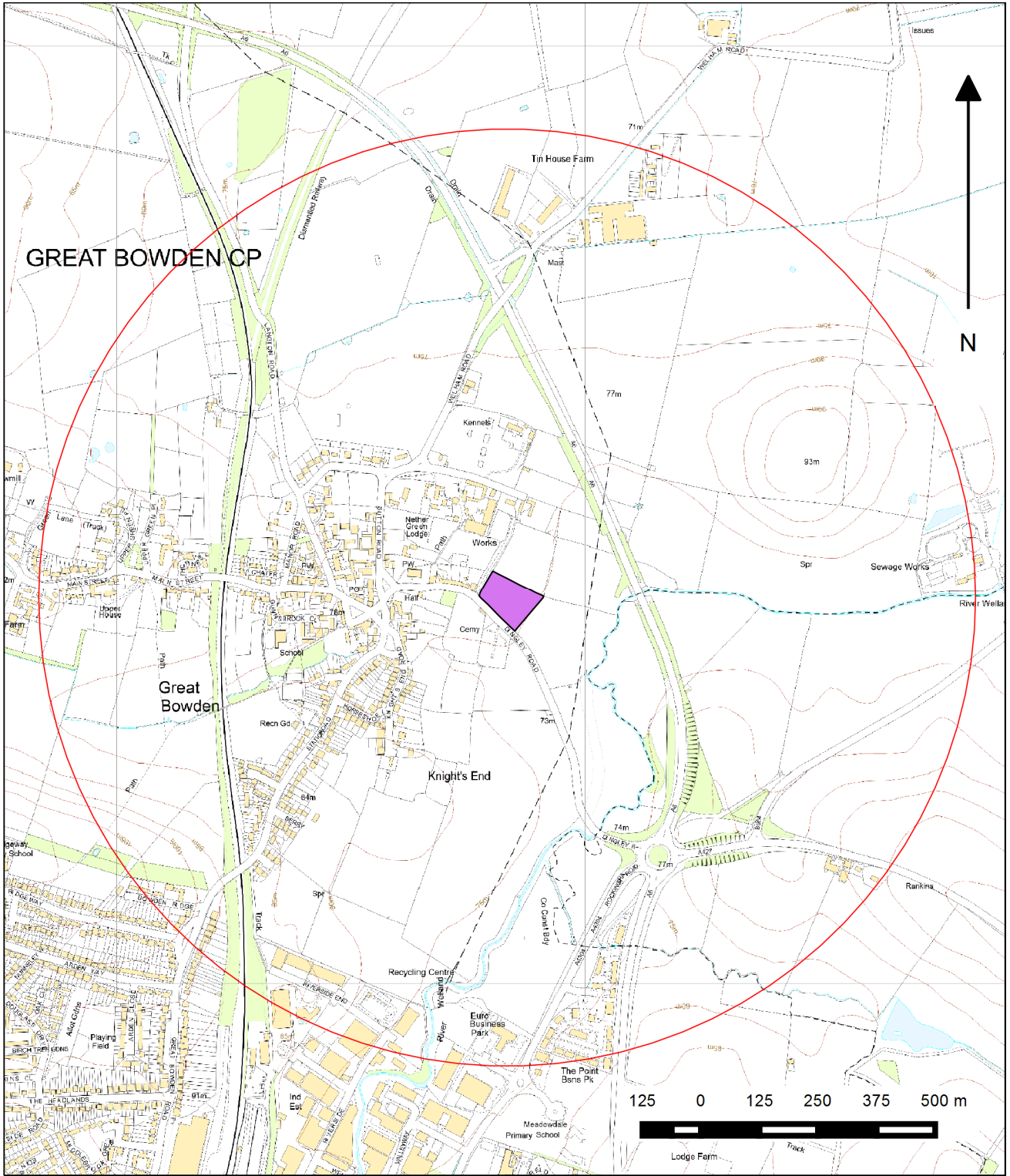


Plate 16: Section 6 in Trench 4 showing cut [409] and bank of clay (401). 1x1m scale



Plate 17: Section 8 in Trench 4 showing bank of clay (401); Looking southwest 1x2m scale



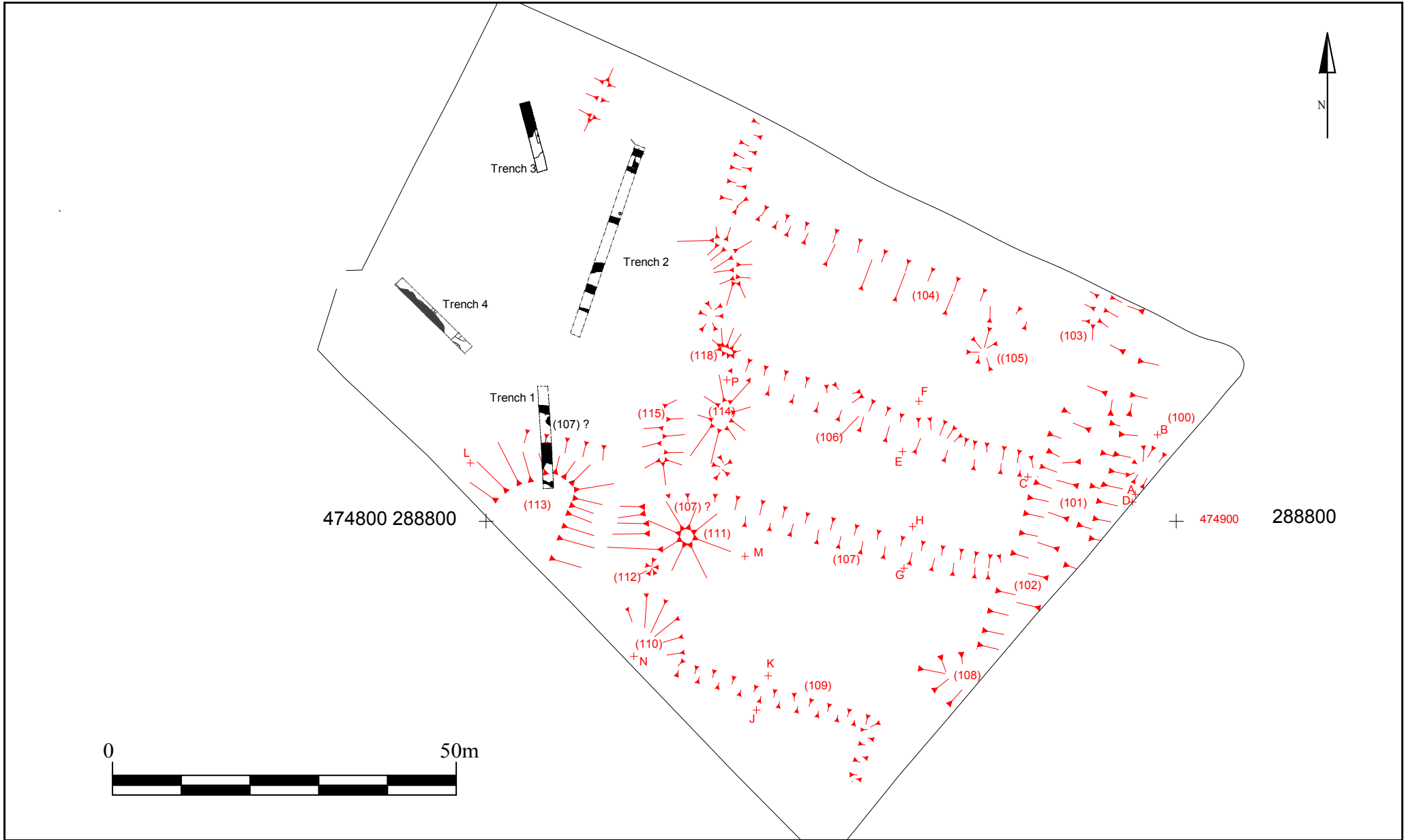


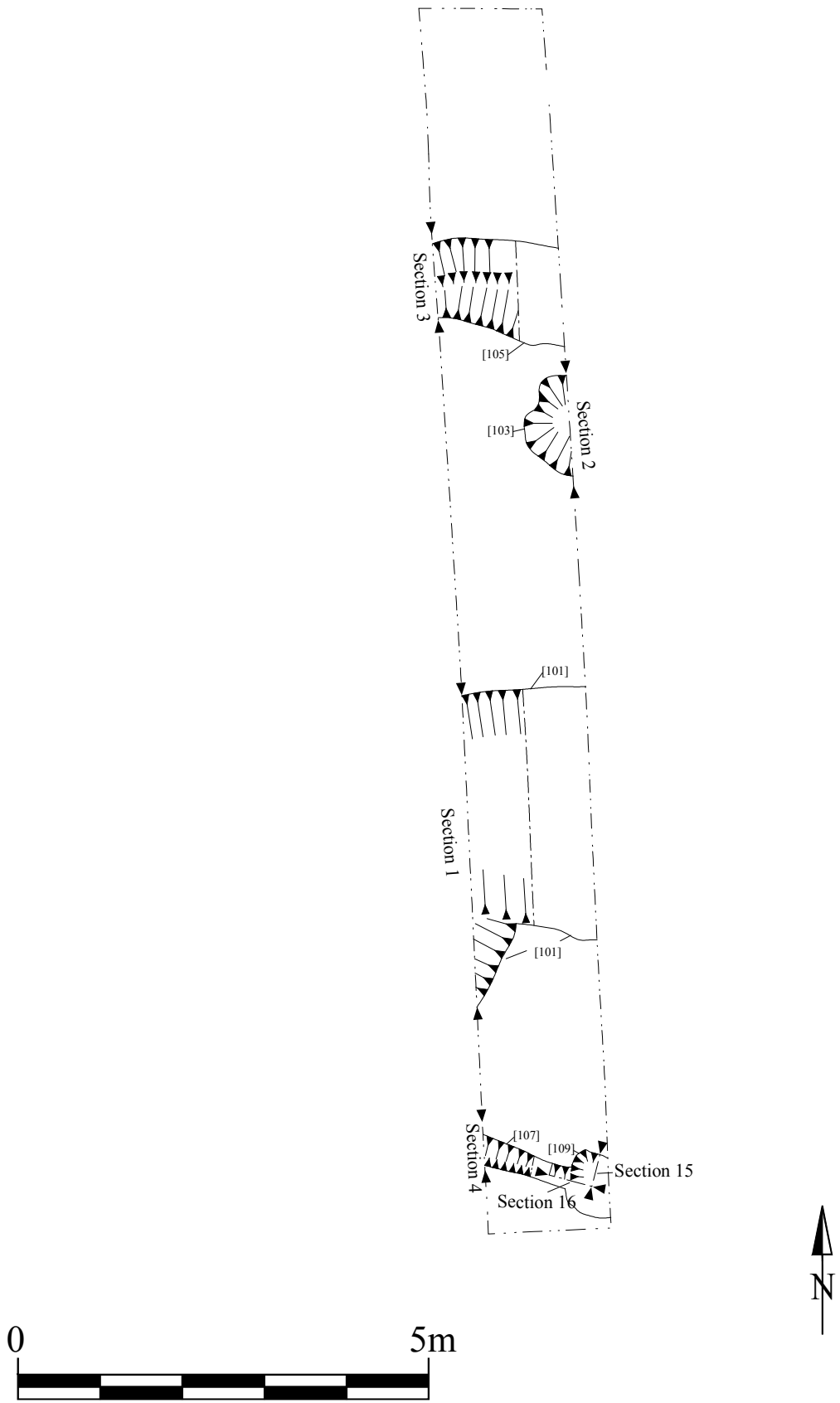
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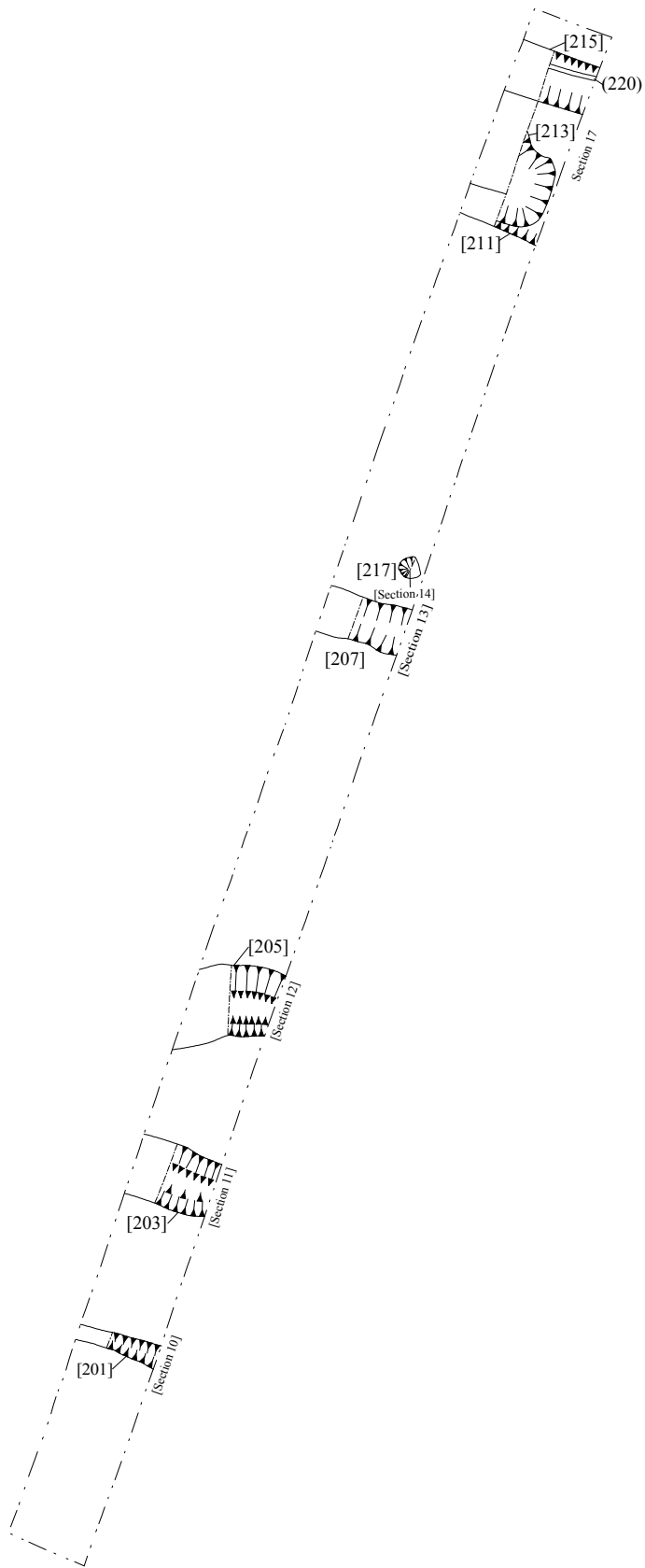
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- Historic Environment Service Search Area

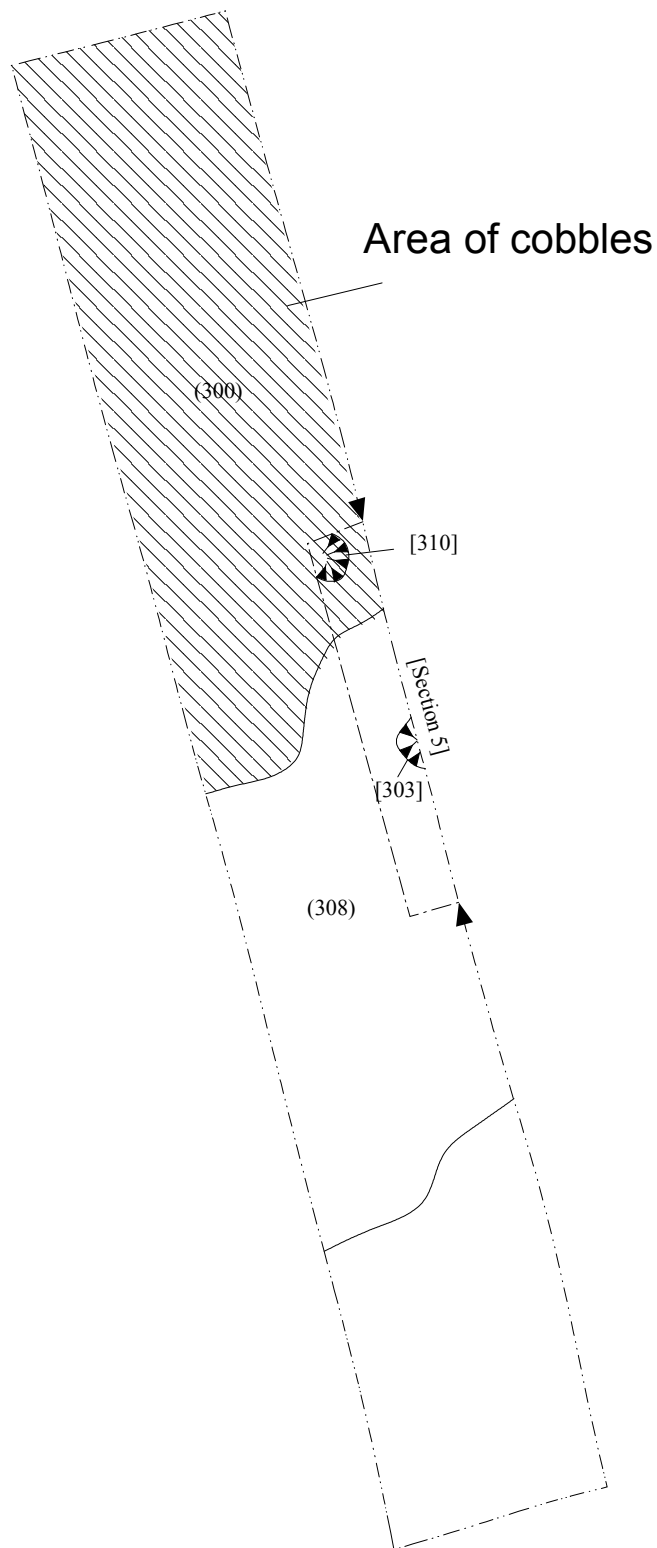
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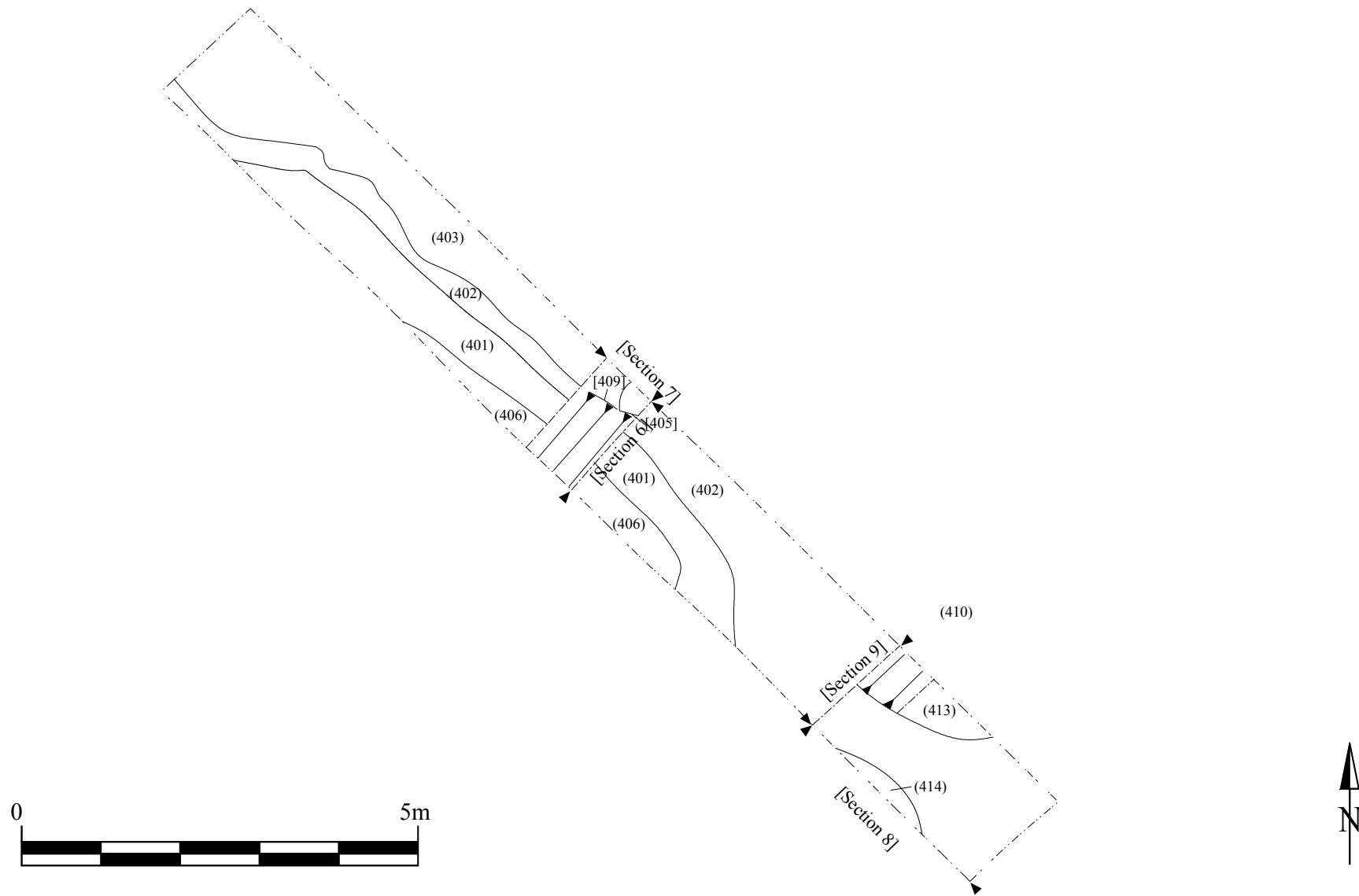
Figure 2 Site and Assessment Area

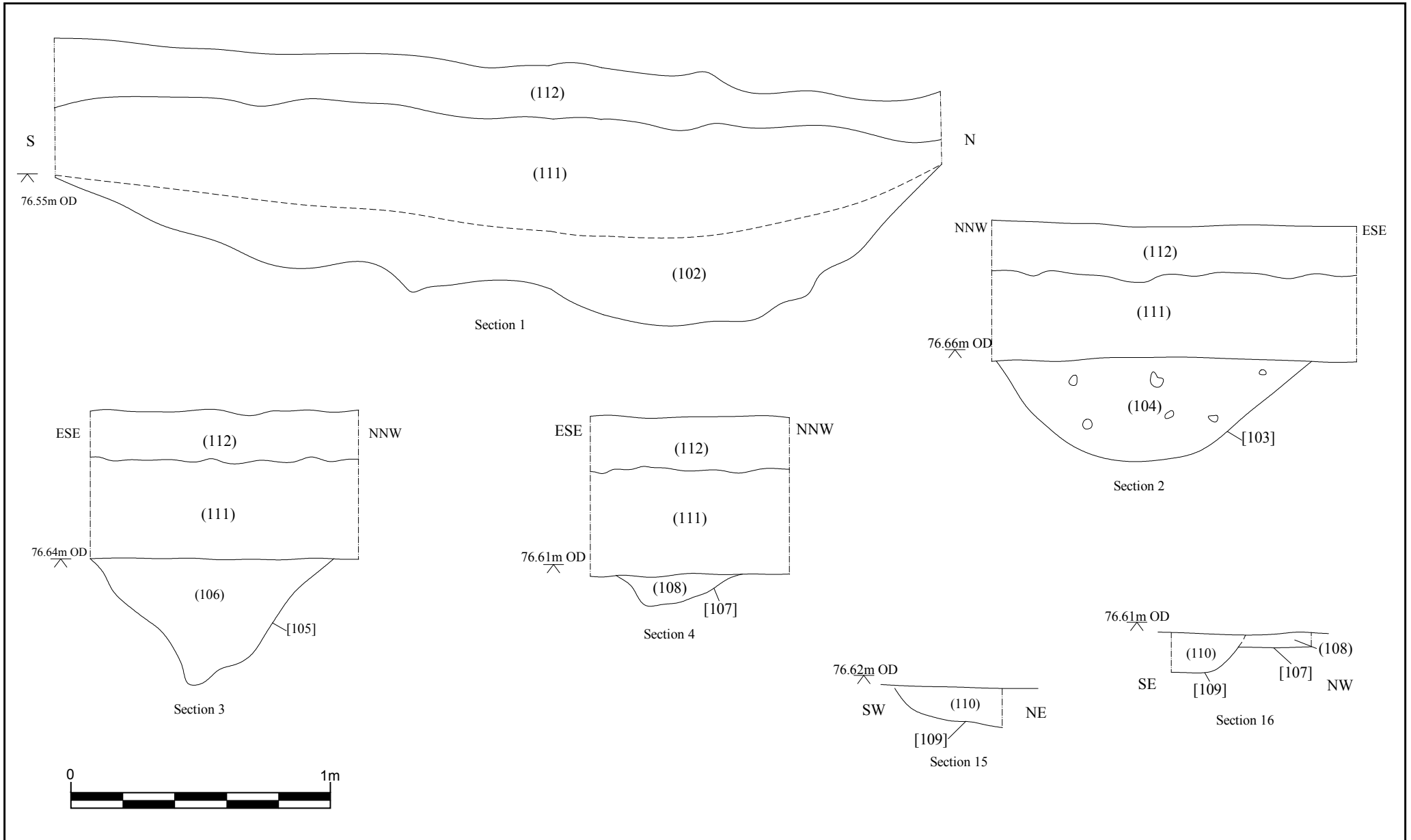


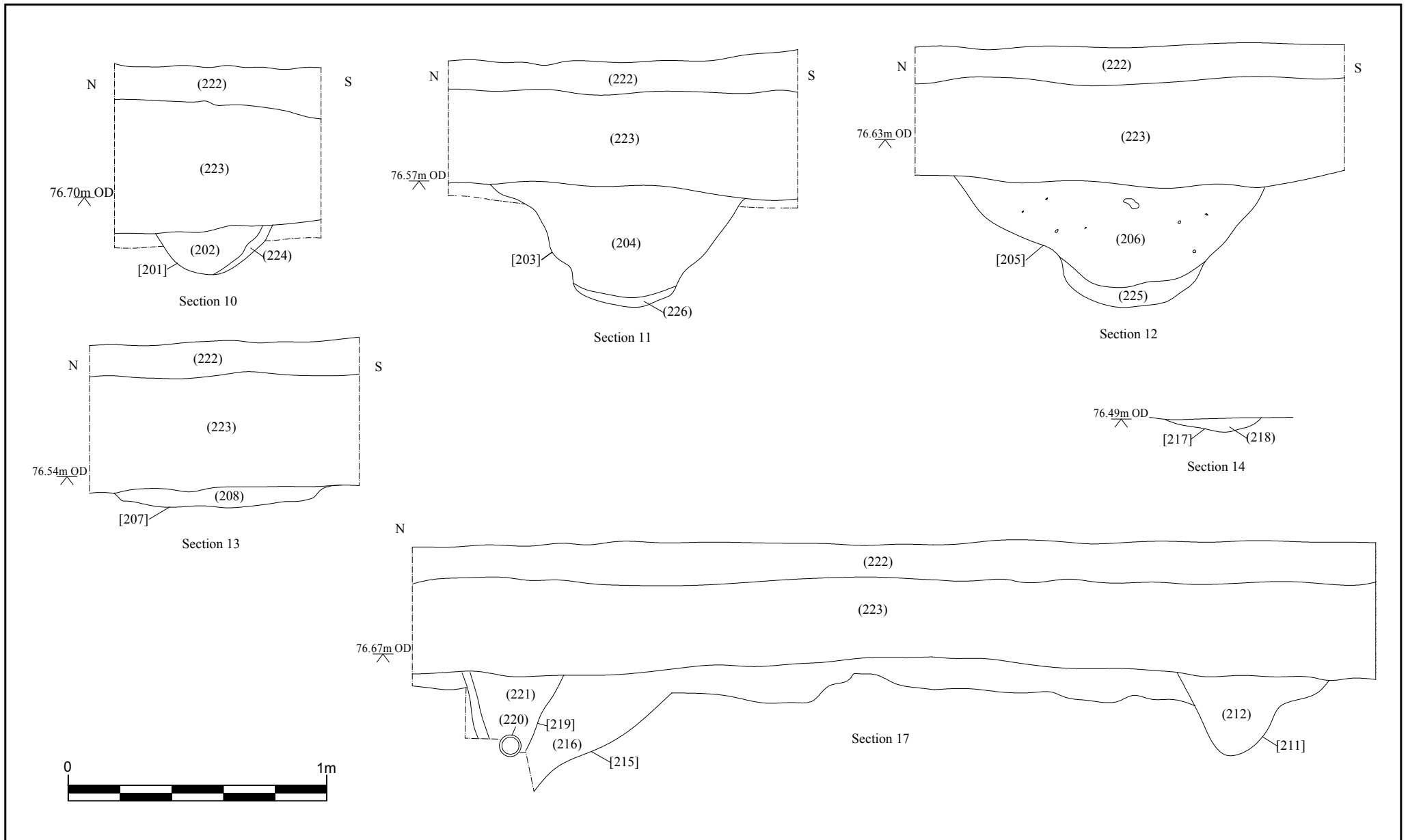


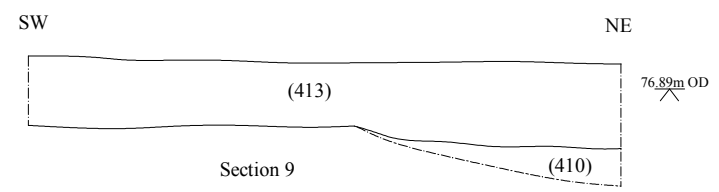
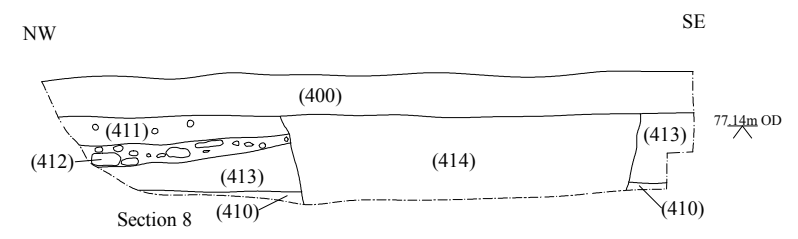
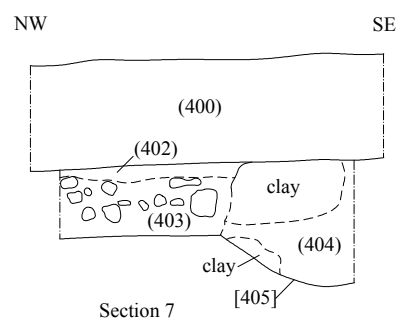
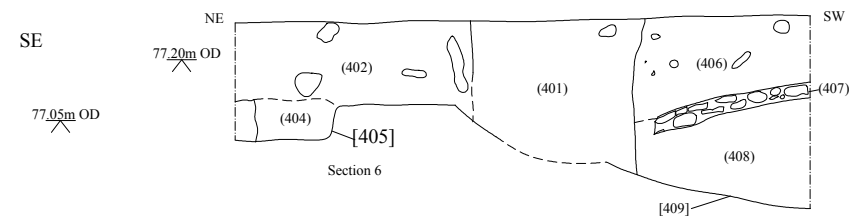
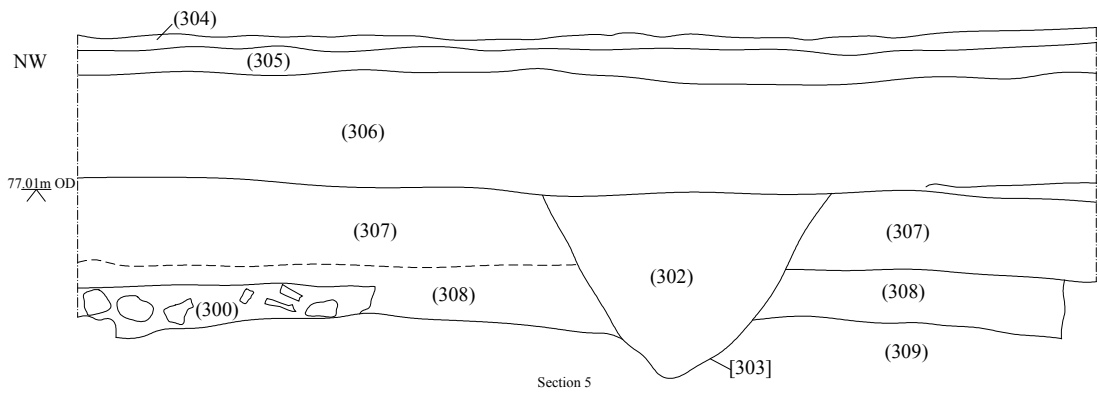


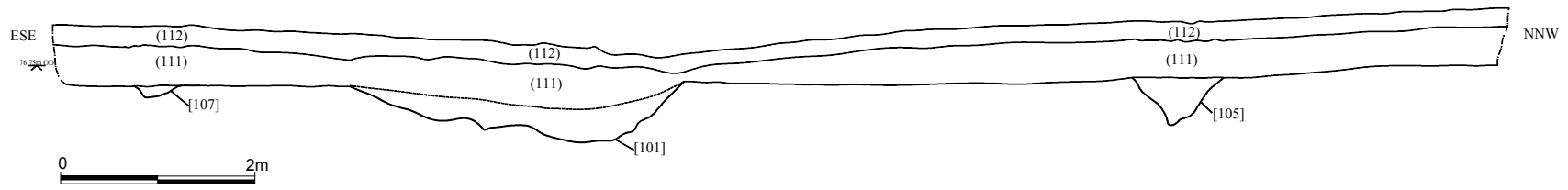












This section is a composite of Sections 1, 3 and 4 combined with levels from a surey grade GPS for the ground surface and base of trench

APPENDIX A – CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

<i>Context</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>
100	T1	Unstratified finds from machining of Trench 1.	
101	T1	Cut of ditch	Broad relatively shallow ditch measuring 2.96m wide and 0.64m in depth.
102	T1	Fill of Ditch [101]	Firm mid to dark greyish brown silt clay.
103	T1	Cut of Pit	Circular pit measuring 1.25m in diameter and 0.40m in depth
104	T1	Fill of Pit [103]	Moderately compacted grey and yellowish brown silty clay
105	T1	Cut of ditch	Linear ditch measuring 0.92m in width and 0.48m in depth
106	T1	Fill of Ditch [105]	Mottled mid to dark grey and yellowish brown silty clay.
107	T1	Cut of gully	Linear gully measuring 0.40m in depth and 0.18m in depth
108	T1	Fill of gully [107]	Firmly compacted, mottled mid yellowish brown and mid grey silty clay
109	T1	Cut of pit.	Circular pit measuring 0.75m in diameter and 0.15m in depth.
110	T1	Fill of pit [109]	Firmly compacted, mottled mid yellowish brown and mid grey silty clay
111	T1	Subsoil in Trench 1	Compact and stiff mid yellowish brown clay. Depth averages 0.30m in depth.
112	T1	Topsoil in Trench 1	Mid to dark grey sand. 0.35m depth
200	T2	Unstratified finds from machining of Trench 2.	
201	T2	Cut of ditch	Linear gully measuring 0.43m in width and 0.19m in depth
202	T2	Fill of ditch [201]	Light to mid bluish grey clay
203	T2	Cut of ditch	Linear ditch measuring 1.00m in width and 0.47m in depth
204	T2	Fill of ditch [203]	Mid brown silty clay with mid reddish orange mottling
205	T2	Cut of ditch	Linear ditch measuring 1.20m in width and 0.50m in depth.
206	T2	Fill of ditch [205]	Mid bluish grey silty clay with mid reddish brown mottling
207	T2	Cut of ditch	Linear, shallow ditch measuring 0.85m in width and 0.06m in depth
208	T2	Fill of ditch [207]	Mid bluish grey silty clay with mid reddish brown mottling
209	T2	Void	
210	T2	Void	
211	T2	Cut of ditch	Linear ditch measuring 0.59m in width and 0.31m in depth.
212	T2	Fill of Gully [211]	Mid bluish grey silty clay.
213	T2	Cut of pit	Amorphous but generally rounded pit measuring 1.61m in diameter and 0.55m in depth
214	T2	Fill of pit [213]	Mid bluish grey silty clay.
215	T2	Cut of ditch	Linear ditch measuring 0.90m in width and 0.45m in depth.
216	T2	Fill of Ditch [215]	Mid bluish grey silty clay.
217	T2	Cut of Post-hole	Circular post hole measuring 0.39m in diameter and 0.10m in depth.
218	T2	Fill of [217]	Mid brown silty clay with mid orange mottling

219	T2	Cut of land drain	Linear land drain cut measuring 0.36m in width and 0.32m in depth.
220	T2	Ceramic land drain	
221	T2	Fill of [219]	Mixed blue grey clay and mid orange clay. Some mid to dark grey brown topsoil
222	T2	Subsoil in Trench 2	Compact and stiff mid yellowish brown clay. Depth averages 0.30m in depth.
223	T2	Topsoil in Trench 2	Mid to dark grey sand. 0.35m depth
224	T2	Primary fill of Gully [201]	Mid grey silt. 0.05m maximum thickness
225	T2	Primary fill of Ditch [205]	Mottled light blue and mid orange clay. 0.10m depth
226	T2	Primary fill of Ditch [203]	Mottled light blue and mid orange clay. 0.03m depth
300	T3	Cobbled surface	Mainly rounded cobbles including small (20-30mm) and medium (upto 100mm) cobbles. Cobbles in matrix of greyish brown stiff clay. Includes occasional brick fragments and charcoal. 0.15m in thickness.
301	T3	Finds from machining immediately above (300)	
302	T3	Fill of pit/post hole [303]	Soft brownish grey silty clay
303	T3	Cut of Pit/post hole	Rounded cut measuring 0.80m in width and 0.50m in depth
304	T3	Turfline	Loose and friable greyish brown sandy clay
305	T3	Spread of stones. Levelling for tennis court	Loose greyish brown silty clay containing small stones and cinders
306	T3	Make up layer for tennis court	Firm mid greyish brown sandy clay containing frequent charcoal and small stones.
307	T3	Dumped deposit over cobbles (300)	Soft to firm greyish brown silty clay measuring 0.25m in average thickness
308	T3	Tramples/ disturbed layer adjacent to track (300)	Soft to firm lightly mottled light yellowish brown and mid grey silty clay.
309	T3	Natural	Stiff yellowish brown clay
400	T4	Topsoil in Trench 4	Moderately compacted mid greyish brown clayey sand. Average 0.28m thickness
401	T4	Possibly 'puddling' around a pond. Probably same deposit as (414)	Firm light yellow brown clay. Patches of greyish brown sandy clay. 0.05m across. 0.42m maximum thickness
402	T4	Layer	Moderately compacted greyish brown clayey sand. 0.20m maximum thickness
403	T4	Probably metalling or hard standing	Deposit comprises approximately 70% irregular stone fragments and 10% tile fragments. In matrix of clayey sand. 0.1m maximum thickness
404	T4	Fill of [405]	Loose to moderately compacted mid greyish brown clayey sand
405	T4	Probable animal burrow.	
406	T4	Layer	Moderately compacted greyish brown clayey sand
407	T4	Possibly part of metallated surface with (403)	Same description as (403)
408	T4	Layer	Firm mid yellowish brown with mid grey mottling sandy clay. 0.25m maximum thickness
409	T4	Cut of pond edge?	Curving cut recorded for distance of 1.05m wide and 0.28m depth
410	T4	Natural deposits	Very compact light yellowish brown clay
411	T4	Layer	Moderately compacted mid greyish brown sandy clay. 0.12m maximum thickness

412	T4	Probably metalling or hard standing	Deposit comprises approximately 70% irregular stone fragments and 10% tile fragments. In matrix of clayey sand. 0.1m maximum thickness
413	T4	Layer	Moderately compacted mid greyish brown sandy clay
414	T4	Possibly 'puddling' around a pond. Probably same deposit as (401)	Firm light yellow brown clay. Patches of greyish brown sandy clay. 0.05m across. 0.42m maximum thickness

APPENDIX B

FINDS REPORT

GREAT BOWDEN, DINGLEY RD (GBDR15) – FINDS REPORT

LATE IRON AGE AND ROMAN POTTERY

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by Darling (2004). The pottery was recorded using the codes and system developed for the City of Lincoln Archaeological Unit (Darling and Precious, 2014). An equivalent code to the type series for Leicestershire (c.f. Pollard, 1994) is included in Table 1 below. A total of 12 sherds from five vessels, weighing 170 grams were recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 1 below.

Condition

The pottery is in a fragmentary and abraded state. A single vessel has an internal bitumen-like substance within it.

Results

Table 1, Late Iron Age and Roman Pottery Archive

Tr	Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Leics Code	Form	Dec	Alter	Comments	NoV	NoS	W(g)
1	100	IAGROG	Native Tradition Grog Tempered	GT	Unclassified		VABR	BS; OX with grey core; hard fabric	1	1	9
1	100	IASH	Native Tradition Shell Tempered	CG	Unclassified		ABR; LEACH	BS	1	1	5
1	100	ZDATE						LATE IRON AGE			
1	106	IASA	Native Tradition Sand Tempered	SW	Unclassified		INT YELLOW DEP	BS	1	1	6
1	106	ZDATE						LATE IRON AGE			
2	206	IAGROG	Native Tradition Grog Tempered	GT	Jar	WM or WF	ABR	BASES; BSS; GREY with fine GROG	1	6	97
2	206	ZDATE						1ST AD			
2	216	IAGROG	Native Tradition Grog Tempered	GT	Closed	WM OR WF?	Thick INT bitumen type DEP; SOOT	BSS; cream fab with GREY core; pink grog	1	3	53
2	216	ZDATE						1ST AD			
Total									5	12	170

Provenance

All of the pottery was recovered from features within Trenches 1 and 2. Fill (106) in Ditch [105] produced a single sherd in Trench 1, whilst Trench 2 gave six pieces from (206) in ditch [205] and three fragments from (216) in pit [215].

Range

Trench 1 gave just three sherds, two of which are unstratified. The pottery abraded, fragmentary and undiagnostic of form, but the fabrics, including hard grog, sand and shell tempered types are likely to be later Iron Age in date. These types were produced into the 1st century AD and may be contemporary with the more diagnostically significant material recovered from features in Trench 2.

Fragments from just two vessels were recovered from Trench 2. These items are both closed forms and are almost certainly 1st century in date. A jar from ditch [205] is in a native tradition grog tempered type fabric, but the fine finish with a pale grey colouration and narrow Roman style base suggest strong Roman or Belgic influence. The second sherd, from pit [215] is cream in colour. Both items may be wheelmade. Grog tempered wares are common in Belgic style pottery in this area, with the development of grey, oxidised and white/cream shades of vessel body colouration perhaps related to advances in kiln firing techniques in the mid 1st century AD (Clay and Pollard, 1994, 74).

Potential

The material would warrant further examination along side any further material recovered, should further work be undertaken. The pottery should be retained as part of the site archive and should pose no problems for long term storage.

Summary

A total of 12 sherds of pottery, or native tradition type, were recovered from two trenches. The material from one of these trenches (Trench 2) is likely to be of 1st century date AD, whilst the remainder, from Trench 1 is abraded and less diagnostic.

POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001). The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* (2005), which also includes material from surrounding counties. An equivalent code from the type series for Leicestershire (*c.f.* Sawday, unpublished) is included in Table 2 below. A total of 37 sherds from 28 vessels, weighing 947 grams were recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Archive Catalogue 1, with a summary of fabric types shown in Table 2 below. The pottery ranges in date from the Saxo-Norman to the Post Medieval period.

Condition

The condition of the pottery is mixed, with some large fresh pieces as well as a high number of smaller abraded fragments. Sherds from three vessels are sooted, which is indicative of use over a hearth or fire.

Results

Table 2, Post Roman Pottery Archive

Period	Cname	Full Name	Leics Cname	Earliest Date	Latest Date	NoS	NoV	W(g)
--------	-------	-----------	-------------	---------------	-------------	-----	-----	------

Period	Cname	Full Name	Leics Cname	Earliest Date	Latest Date	NoS	NoV	W(g)
Late Saxon to early medieval	ST	Stamford Ware	ST2-3	970	1200	3	3	28
Early medieval to medieval	EMHM	Early Medieval Handmade ware	RS	1100	1250	2	2	13
	STANLY	Stanion/Lyveden ware	LY1-4	1150	1300	12	10	136
Medieval to post medieval	MP	Midlands Purple ware	MP	1400	1700	4	3	298
Late medieval to post medieval	CIST	Cistercian-type ware	CW2	1480	1650	4	2	69
Post medieval	PMED	Post-medieval Red Earthenwares	EA	1500	1800	2	1	23
	FREC	Frechen stoneware	FR	1530	1680	1	1	1
	BERTH	Brown glazed earthenware	EA	1550	1800	6	3	290
	STSL	Staffordshire/Bristol slipware	EA7	1650	1780	2	2	88
Unknown	MISC	Unidentified types	-	-	-	1	1	1
Total						37	28	947

Provenance

A total of four trenches produced pottery a summary of features and layers which gave fragments is shown in Table 3 below.

Table 3, the Origin of the Pottery

Tr	Fill/ Deposit	Cut	Feature Type	NoS
1	102	101	Ditch	10
2	204	203	Ditch	2
2	206	205	Ditch	2
2	209	210	Ditch	2
2	212	211	Gully	1
2	214	213	Pit	1
3	300	-	Surface	3
3	301	-	Finds	2
3	302	303	Pit or Post Hole	4
4	402	-	Layer	3
4	403	-	Surface	7
Total				37

Range

There is a range of Saxo-Norman to early medieval and post medieval ceramics.

Trench 1

This trench gave 10 sherds, all which came from ditch [101]. The material is very mixed in date, with pieces of Stamford ware (ST), Early Medieval Handmade ware (EMHM) and Stanion Lyveden types A and B (STANLY) dating to the 10th to 13th centuries, whilst two pieces of Post Medieval earthenware (PMED) are of 16th to 18th century date. The fragments of PMED are from the same vessel and may be intrusive, although a reasonable quantity of later medieval to post medieval dated ceramic building material was also recovered from this feature, suggesting that the earlier material is most likely redeposited here.

Trench 2

A total of eight sherds came from this trench, fragments of Stanion Lyveden ware (STANLY), which are most likely of mid 12th to 13th century date, came from ditches [203] and [210] as well as gully [211] and pit [213]. This is a common domestic type of the early medieval period. Ditch [205] yielded single fragments of Early Medieval Handmade ware (EMHM) and Stamford ware (ST) also suggesting an early medieval date, perhaps in the 12th century.

Trench 3

Nine sherds were recovered from Trench 3, with pieces retrieved from a surface (300), and a pit or posthole [303]. Two additional pieces are unstratified. Most of the pottery from this trench is likely to be of 16th or 17th century date with common types recorded, including Brown Glazed Earthenware (BERTH), Frechen stoneware (FREC) and Cistercian ware (CIST). There are some large fresh pieces here and this material is likely to be domestic waste. Fragments of Stanion Lyveden ware (STANLY) from this trench are almost certainly redeposited, but suggest that features of a similar date to those in Trench 3 are within close proximity of these later features.

Trench 4

A total of 10 sherds came from this trench, with pieces recovered from layer (402) and surface (403). The pottery is post medieval in date, with the latest material, a fragment of Staffordshire Slipware, recovered from (403).

Potential

A significant quantity of Saxo-Norman to Early Medieval pottery was recovered from Trenches 1 and 2 and there is likely to be more features of this date here. The pottery is in a stable condition and should pose no problems for long term storage. This material requires no further work

Summary

Domestic type pottery of 10th to 13th and 16th to 18th century date was recovered during the evaluation with the majority of the earlier material coming from Trenches 1 and 2.

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group (2002). A total of 60 fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 5970 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments were counted and weighed within each context. The ceramic building material was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the ceramic building material is included in Archive Catalogue 1, with a summary of form types shown in Table 4 below.

Condition

The ceramic building material is relatively fragmentary but most pieces are in a fresh condition. Several fragments are sooted; this may have happened during rubbish disposal activities.

Results

Table 4, Summary of the Ceramic Building Material

Cname	Full name	NoF	W(g)
BRK	Brick	1	36
CBM	Ceramic Building Material	1	3
GRFURN	Glazed Roof Furniture	1	47
NIB	Nibbed Tile	8	1650
PNR	Peg, Nib or Ridge Tile	48	4132

RID	Unidentified Ridge Tile	1	102
Total		60	5970

Provenance

Ceramic building material was recovered from Trench 1, 2, 3 and 4. Table 5 below shows a summary of the features which yielded material.

Table 5, the Origin of the Ceramic Building Material

Tr	Fill/Deposit	Cut	Feature Type	NoF
1	102	101	Ditch	24
2	204	203	Ditch	6
2	209	210	Ditch	1
3	301	-	Finds	1
3	302	303	Pit or Post Hole	1
4	401	-	Layer/Puddling	2
4	402	-	Layer	9
4	403	-	Surface	4
4	406	-	Layer	12
Total				60

Range

The assemblage is dominated by fragments of flat, plain roofing tile, with these pieces accounting for 93% of the total number recovered. The fabric of these items is remarkably uniform and most fragments are in a bright, oxidised, and hard fired clay with fine to medium quartz sand inclusions. Ferruginous grits and sparse fine white mica is also visible in most cases. The finish of most of the tiles would suggest a Later Medieval or more likely Post Medieval date between the 14th and 16th and perhaps in to the 17th centuries AD. Even so, precise dating is difficult and the material is unlikely to be of entirely the same date. Eight of the fragments in this group have rectangular nibs, all of which are of the folded rather than applied type. These pieces probably represent building or demolition waste of post medieval date.

Other notable fragments include a piece of glazed roof furniture from ditch [210] in Trench 2, and an unstratified section of ridge tile from Trench 3 (301). These pieces are most probably of medieval or early post medieval date.

Potential

There is limited potential for further work, although it maybe possible to refine the date of the tile should further stratified material be recovered. The ceramic building material should be retained as part of the site archive and should pose no problems for long storage.

Summary

A relatively large quantity of roof tile was recovered during the evaluation. The pieces are difficult to date closely but are most likely to be of later Medieval or post medieval date.

FAUNAL REMAINS

By Paul Cope-Faulkner

Introduction

A total of 20 (1224g) fragments of animal bone were recovered from stratified contexts.

Methodology

The faunal remains were laid out in context order and reference made to published catalogues (e.g. Schmid 1972; Hillson 2003). All the animal remains were counted and weighed, and where possible identified to

species, element and side. Also fusion data, butchery marks, gnawing, burning and pathological changes were noted when present. Ribs and vertebrae were only recorded to species when they were substantially complete and could accurately be identified. Undiagnostic bones were recorded as micro (mouse size), small (rabbit size), medium (sheep size) or large (cattle size).

The condition of the bone was graded using the criteria stipulated by Lyman (1996). Grade 0 being the best preserved bone and grade 5 indicating that the bone had suffered such structural and attritional damage as to make it unrecognisable.

Provenance

The bone was retrieved from ditch [101] and pit [103] in Trench 1 and ditch [203] in Trench 2.

Condition

The overall condition of the remains was good to moderate, averaging at grades 2-3 on the Lyman Criteria (1996).

Results

Table 6, Fragments Identified to Taxa

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	W (g)	Comments
102	cattle	scapula	R	1	81	
	cattle	molar	-	2	28	
	large mammal	vertebra	-	1	18	
	sheep/goat	tibia	-	1	14	
	medium mammal	long bone	-	1	4	
104	large mammal	radius	-	2	19	both join
	large mammal	long bone	-	1	7	butchery marks
204	cattle	mandible	B	3	524	
	cattle	maxilla	-	1	43	1 molar
	horse	phalange	-	1	42	
	large mammal	humerus	B	2	222	butchery marks
	large mammal	long bone	-	2	188	juvenile
	deer	metatarsus	-	2	34	both join

Summary

The animal bone falls below the threshold of c. 200 bones required for meaningful analysis. The main domesticates are represented, horse, cattle and sheep/goat. The cattle bones are large and are suggestive of post-medieval improved stock. The presence of a deer bone probably indicates hunting.

The bone is archive stable and should be retained. The assemblage may warrant re-examination in the light of further discoveries.

CLAY PIPE

By Gary Taylor

Introduction

Analysis of the clay pipes followed the guidance published by Davey (1981) and the material is detailed in the accompanying table.

Condition

The clay pipe is in good condition.

Results

Table 7, Clay Pipes

Context no.	Bore diameter /64"					NoF	W(g)	Comments	Date
	8	7	6	5	4				

212	1			1		2	4	stems only, mixed	18 th century
-----	---	--	--	---	--	---	---	-------------------	-----------------------------

Provenance

The clay pipes were recovered from the fill (212) of gully [211]. They are probably fairly local products, perhaps made in nearby Market Harborough.

Range

Two stems, of 17th and 18th century date, were recovered.

Potential

The clay pipe is of limited potential but provides some dating evidence.

OTHER FINDS

By Gary Taylor and Denise Buckley

Introduction

Four other finds weighing a total of 64g were recovered.

Condition

The other finds are in moderate condition though the iron items are corroded.

Results

Table 8, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
402	stone	slate, probably Swithland, post-medieval?	1	6	post-medieval?
	iron	ring-headed pin, post-medieval?	1	11	
403	copper alloy	cauldron rim, late medieval – post-medieval	1	34	late medieval – post-medieval
	iron	rectangular strip, wedge-sectioned, 67mm long, max 16mm wide and 5mm thick, probable blade or handle, post-medieval?	1	13	

Provenance

The other finds were recovered from a layer (402) and probable metalling (403). The stone is perhaps from Swithland, 28km to the northwest.

Range

Three metal finds and one of stone were recovered. The stone is slate, perhaps for roofing but lacks finished surfaces and could be a chip off a larger block, such as a grave slab. It is perhaps of post-medieval date.

Two iron items were recovered. One is a probable retaining pin and is ring-headed and perhaps of post-medieval date. The second piece is probable part of a knife. It has a wedge-shaped profile suggesting it is a blade, though a rounded end perhaps indicates it is more likely to be a handle. If a handle then it forms a scale tang, a type introduced in the 13th or 14th century (Goodall 1993, 128)

Potential

The other finds are of limited potential

SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 9 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 9, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
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Cxt	Date	Comments
100		Unstratified
102	16 th -17 th century	
106	Late Iron Age	
204	14 th -17 th century	Based on CBM
206	12 th – Mid 13 th century	
210/209	13 th -16 th century	
212	18 th century	based on 1 clay pipe
214	13 th century	
216	1 st century	
300	16 th – 17 th century	
301	16 th – 17 th century	
302/303	16 th - 17 th century	
401	14 th -17 th century	Based on CBM
402	16 th – 18 th century	
403	Mid 17 th – 18 th century	
406	14 th – 17 th	Based on CBM

ABBREVIATIONS

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group
BS	Body sherd
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
CXT	Context
HJ	Handle Join
NoF	Number of Fragments
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
TR	Trench
W (g)	Weight (grams)

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ARCHIVE CATALOGUES

Archive Catalogue 1, the Post Roman Pottery

Tr	Cxt	Cname	Sub Fabric	Form	NoS	NoV	W(g)	Decoration	Part	Description	Date
1	102	ST	B/C?	?	1	1	7		BS	Burnt; thick pale green-yellow glaze	10th-E13th
1	102	ST	A/D	Jar	1	1	3		BS		10th-11th
1	102	MISC		?	1	1	1		BS	Abraded; burnt; leached; possibly STNLY type B	
1	102	EMHM		?	1	1	11		BS	Abraded; HM; ?ID could be LIA/EROM	12th-M13th
1	102	STANLY	B +Fe	Closed	2	2	15		BSS		13th
1	102	STANLY	A	Jar	2	1	3		Base; BS	Abraded	M12th-13th
1	102	PMED		Closed	2	1	23		BSS		16th-18th
2	204	STANLY	A	Closed	1	1	7		BS	Leached	M12th-13th
2	204	STANLY	B	Closed Closed	1	1	32		Base	Leached	13th
2	206	EMHM		Jar	1	1	2		BS	Sooted; abraded	12th-M13th
2	206	ST	A/D	Jar	1	1	18		BS	Unglazed	10th-12th
2	209	STANLY	B	Jug	2	1	38		BS		13th
2	212	STANLY	A	Jar	1	1	3		Base	Leached; sooted interior	M12th-13th
2	214	STANLY	B +Fe	?	1	1	10		BS	Abraded	13th
3	300	BERTH		Bowl	1	1	54		BS		16th-M18th
3	300	FREC		Bartmann Jug	1	1	1	Armorial crest reads "WW"	BS	?Fabric ID	16th-17th
3	300	STANLY	A	?	1	1	13		BS	?ID' degraded shell; burnt; sooted exterior; internal scale	
3	301	CIST		Drinking Vessel	2	1	59		BS; BS with HJ		16th-17th
3	302	CIST		Drinking Vessel	2	1	10		BSS		16th-17th
3	302	BERTH		Open	1	1	18		BS	Abraded	16th-17th
3	302	STANLY	B	Jug or Jar	1	1	15		BS		
4	402	MP		Jar	1	1	172		Base	Thick brown glaze; as Ticknall; butter pot?	16th-18th
4	402	MP		Closed	2	1	117		BSS	Thick brown glaze; as Ticknall	

Tr	Cxt	Cname	Sub Fabric	Form	NoS	NoV	W(g)	Decoration	Part	Description	Date
4	403	MP		Closed	1	1	9		BS	Goose skin; patchy brown glaze	15th-16th
4	403	STSL		PMD	2	2	88	Brown on yellow; thick trailed dec	Base; rim		M17th-18th
4	403	BERTH		Large Bowl	4	1	218		Rims; BS	Rounded inturned rim	17th-18th

Archive Catalogue 2, the Ceramic Building Material

Cxt	Cname	Fabric	Comment	Date	NoF	W(g)
102	NIB	Oxidised; fine-medium sandy; Fe; Mica; Ca	Highly fired; 14mm thick; long, highly fired; angular sub rectangular folded nib measuring 25mm wide; thumb tip impress alongside nib	14th-17th	1	225
102	NIB	Oxidised; fine-medium sandy; Fe; Mica; Ca	Folded rectangular nib measuring approx 30mm x15mm; groove behind nib; 13mm thick	14th-17th	1	70
102	NIB	Oxidised; fine-medium sandy; Fe; Mica; Ca	Folded rectangular nib; 13mm thick		1	225
102	NIB	Oxidised; fine-medium sandy; Fe; mica; Ca	Folded rectangular nib measuring; groove behind nib; 14mm thick		1	53
102	CBM	Oxidised; fine-medium sandy	Flake		1	3
102	PNR	Oxidised; medium sandy; Fe; mica; Ca	Sooted; stone impressions		2	244
102	PNR	Oxidised; medium sandy; Fe; mica; Ca	Sooted		1	32
102	PNR	Oxidised; medium to fine-medium sandy; Fe; mica; Ca	Various thicknesses	14th-17th	14	1121
102	PNR	Oxidised; fine-medium sandy; Fe; mica; Ca	Spalled		1	103
102	NIB	Oxidised; fine-medium sandy; Fe; mica	Folded rectangular nib measuring 30mmx20mm; groove behind nib; 16mm thick		1	322
204	PNR	Oxidised; fine-medium sandy; Fe; mica; Ca			3	444
204	PNR	Oxidised; medium sandy; Fe; mica; Ca	Salt surface; sooted	14th-17th	2	390
204	PNR	Oxidised; medium sandy; Fe			1	137
209	GRFURN	Oxidised; medium sandy; Fe; mica	Misfired ?amber glaze	13th-16th	1	47
301	RID	Oxidised; medium sandy; Fe; mica	Sooted base; mortar on upper surface	13th-16th	1	102
302	BRK	Oxidised; fine; Fe	Abundant ferruginous mudstone	14th-17th	1	36
401	PNR	Oxidised; medium sandy; Fe; mica	Sooted base		1	33

Cxt	Cname	Fabric	Comment	Date	NoF	W(g)
401	PNR	Oxidised; medium sandy; Fe; mica; Ca	15mm thick	14th-17th	1	53
402	PNR	Oxidised; fine-medium sandy; Fe; mica; Ca	Sooted	14th-17th	6	113
402	PNR	Oxidised; fine-medium sandy; Fe; mica; Ca	Sooted		2	127
402	NIB	Oxidised; medium sandy; Fe; mica; Ca		14th-17th	1	191
403	NIB	Reduced; medium sandy	Folded rectangular nib measuring approx 20mm x10mm; groove behind nib; 16mm thick	14th-17th	1	264
403	PNR	Oxidised; medium sandy; Fe; mica; Ca			2	200
403	PNR	Oxidised; fine-medium sandy; Fe; mica; Ca	Abraded		1	61
406	PNR	Oxidised; fine-medium sandy; Fe; mica; Ca	Sooted over the break		10	679
406	PNR	Oxidised; fine-medium sandy; Fe; mica; Ca	Sooted over the break; 165 wide x 19mm thick; circular hole 4mm across in upper surface - drilled?	14th-17th	1	395
406	NIB	Oxidised; fine-medium sandy; Fe; mica; Ca	Sooted over the break; 165 wide x 19mm thick		1	300

<i>Context</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>
100	T1	Unstratified finds from machining of Trench 1.	
101	T1	Cut of ditch	Broad relatively shallow ditch measuring 2.96m wide and 0.64m in depth.
102	T1	Fill of Ditch [101]	Firm mid to dark greyish brown silt clay.
103	T1	Cut of Pit	Circular pit measuring 1.25m in diameter and 0.40m in depth
104	T1	Fill of Pit [103]	Moderately compacted grey and yellowish brown silty clay
105	T1	Cut of ditch	Linear ditch measuring 0.92m in width and 0.48m in depth
106	T1	Fill of Ditch [105]	Mottled mid to dark grey and yellowish brown silty clay.
107	T1	Cut of gully	Linear gully measuring 0.40m in depth and 0.18m in depth
108	T1	Fill of gully [107]	Firmly compacted, mottled mid yellowish brown and mid grey silty clay
109	T1	Cut of pit.	Circular pit measuring 0.75m in diameter and 0.15m in depth.
110	T1	Fill of pit [109]	Firmly compacted, mottled mid yellowish brown and mid grey silty clay
111	T1	Subsoil in Trench 1	Compact and stiff mid yellowish brown clay. Depth averages 0.30m in depth.
112	T1	Topsoil in Trench 1	Mid to dark grey sand. 0.35m depth
200	T2	Unstratified finds from machining of Trench 2.	
201	T2	Cut of ditch	Linear gully measuring 0.43m in width and 0.19m in depth
202	T2	Fill of ditch [201]	Light to mid bluish grey clay
203	T2	Cut of ditch	Linear ditch measuring 1.00m in width and 0.47m in depth
204	T2	Fill of ditch [203]	Mid brown silty clay with mid reddish orange mottling
205	T2	Cut of ditch	Linear ditch measuring 1.20m in width and 0.50m in depth.
206	T2	Fill of ditch [205]	Mid bluish grey silty clay with mid reddish brown mottling
207	T2	Cut of ditch	Linear, shallow ditch measuring 0.85m in width and 0.06m in depth
208	T2	Fill of ditch [207]	Mid bluish grey silty clay with mid reddish brown mottling
209	T2	Void	
210	T2	Void	
211	T2	Cut of ditch	Linear ditch measuring 0.59m in width and 0.31m in depth.
212	T2	Fill of Gully [211]	Mid bluish grey silty clay.
213	T2	Cut of pit	Amorphous but generally rounded pit measuring 1.61m in diameter and 0.55m in depth
214	T2	Fill of pit [213]	Mid bluish grey silty clay.
215	T2	Cut of ditch	Linear ditch measuring 0.90m in width and 0.45m in depth.
216	T2	Fill of Ditch [215]	Mid bluish grey silty clay.
217	T2	Cut of Post-hole	Circular post hole measuring 0.39m in diameter and 0.10m in depth.
218	T2	Fill of [217]	Mid brown silty clay with mid orange mottling

219	T2	Cut of land drain	Linear land drain cut measuring 0.36m in width and 0.32m in depth.
220	T2	Ceramic land drain	
221	T2	Fill of [219]	Mixed blue grey clay and mid orange clay. Some mid to dark grey brown topsoil
222	T2	Subsoil in Trench 2	Compact and stiff mid yellowish brown clay. Depth averages 0.30m in depth.
223	T2	Topsoil in Trench 2	Mid to dark grey sand. 0.35m depth
224	T2	Primary fill of Gully [201]	Mid grey silt. 0.05m maximum thickness
225	T2	Primary fill of Ditch [205]	Mottled light blue and mid orange clay. 0.10m depth
226	T2	Primary fill of Ditch [203]	Mottled light blue and mid orange clay. 0.03m depth
300	T3	Cobbled surface	Mainly rounded cobbles including small (20-30mm) and medium (upto 100mm) cobbles. Cobbles in matrix of greyish brown stiff clay. Includes occasional brick fragments and charcoal. 0.15m in thickness.
301	T3	Finds from machining immediately above (300)	
302	T3	Fill of pit/post hole [303]	Soft brownish grey silty clay
303	T3	Cut of Pit/post hole	Rounded cut measuring 0.80m in width and 0.50m in depth
304	T3	Turfline	Loose and friable greyish brown sandy clay
305	T3	Spread of stones. Levelling for tennis court	Loose greyish brown silty clay containing small stones and cinders
306	T3	Make up layer for tennis court	Firm mid greyish brown sandy clay containing frequent charcoal and small stones.
307	T3	Dumped deposit over cobbles (300)	Soft to firm greyish brown silty clay measuring 0.25m in average thickness
308	T3	Tramples/ disturbed layer adjacent to track (300)	Soft to firm lightly mottled light yellowish brown and mid grey silty clay.
309	T3	Natural	Stiff yellowish brown clay
400	T4	Topsoil in Trench 4	Moderately compacted mid greyish brown clayey sand. Average 0.28m thickness
401	T4	Possibly 'puddling' around a pond. Probably same deposit as (414)	Firm light yellow brown clay. Patches of greyish brown sandy clay. 0.05m across. 0.42m maximum thickness
402	T4	Layer	Moderately compacted greyish brown clayey sand. 0.20m maximum thickness
403	T4	Probably metalling or hard standing	Deposit comprises approximately 70% irregular stone fragments and 10% tile fragments. In matrix of clayey sand. 0.1m maximum thickness
404	T4	Fill of [405]	Loose to moderately compacted mid greyish brown clayey sand
405	T4	Probable animal burrow.	
406	T4	Layer	Moderately compacted greyish brown clayey sand
407	T4	Possibly part of metallated surface with (403)	Same description as (403)
408	T4	Layer	Firm mid yellowish brown with mid grey mottling sandy clay. 0.25m maximum thickness
409	T4	Cut of pond edge?	Curving cut recorded for distance of 1.05m wide and 0.28m depth
410	T4	Natural deposits	Very compact light yellowish brown clay
411	T4	Layer	Moderately compacted mid greyish brown sandy clay. 0.12m maximum thickness

412	T4	Probably metalling or hard standing	Deposit comprises approximately 70% irregular stone fragments and 10% tile fragments. In matrix of clayey sand. 0.1m maximum thickness
413	T4	Layer	Moderately compacted mid greyish brown sandy clay
414	T4	Possibly 'puddling' around a pond. Probably same deposit as (401)	Firm light yellow brown clay. Patches of greyish brown sandy clay. 0.05m across. 0.42m maximum thickness

APPENDIX C – OASIS FORM

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: withamar1-212523

Project details

Project name	Archaeological trial trenching on land off Digley Road, Great Bowden, Leicestershire
Short description of the project	<p>This report presents the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation undertaken on land off Dingley Road, Great Bowden, Leicestershire. The project was commissioned by The Symington Partnership in order to provide information on the archaeological impact of proposed development at the site to support a planning application to be submitted to the Local Planning Authority. The site is located immediately beyond the eastern outskirts of the village, just 150m east of the historic core as defined by the parish church of St. Peter and St. Paul. Prior to the trial trenching described in this report an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and earthwork survey of the site have been undertaken. These demonstrated that earthworks of probable medieval date are located on the eastern part of the site and that the site lies in an archaeologically sensitive area with known sites of Roman, late Saxon and early medieval date. The earliest pottery identified during the investigations dates to the late Iron Age, although it is uncertain whether any of the features on the site date to this period. Saxo-Norman, early medieval and medieval finds were recovered but mainly from within features also containing post medieval artefacts, the latter concentrating within the 16th and 17th centuries. Most of the features recorded comprised ditches and many of these followed similar alignments to the linear hollows recorded within the area of earthworks to the east of the area of investigation.</p>
Project dates	Start: 27-04-2015 End: 01-05-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	X.A40.2015 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	GBDR15 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 2 - Vacant land not previously developed
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	TRACK\SURFACE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the	Pre-application

planning process

Project location

Country England
Site location LEICESTERSHIRE HARBOROUGH GREAT BOWDEN Land off Dingley Road
Postcode LE16 7ET
Study area 0.3 Hectares
Site coordinates SP 74834 88823 52.4918096063 -0.897685458671 52 29 30 N 000 53 51 W Point
Height OD / Depth Min: 76.6m Max: 77.7m

Project creators

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

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Leicestershire Museums
Physical Archive ID X.A40.2015
Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient Leicestershire Museums
Digital Archive ID X.A40.2015
Digital Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient Leicestershire Museums
Paper Archive ID X.A40.2015
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Paper Media available "Context sheet","Drawing","Matrices","Photograph","Plan","Report","Survey","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

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