

Land off Inns Lane, South Wingfield, Derbyshire. Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

Prepared by M. Dodd

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South Wingfield site, looking west from Trench 5

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SUMMARY

- Trent & Peak Archaeology were commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land off Inns Lane, South Wingfield (Derbyshire). The work was required prior to the determination of a Planning Application (AVA/2014/0980) for a residential development of up to 70 dwellings on the site. The proposed development area totals 4.37 hectares of land centred at National Grid Reference SK 3729 5566.
- The work took place between the 8th and 12th December 2014 in accordance with an approved Written Scheme of Investigation produced by CgMs Consulting. Monitoring was provided by the Development Control Archaeologist at Derbyshire County Council.
- An archaeological desk based assessment (CgMs) of the proposed development area was carried out by CgMs Consulting and revealed that there was no previously recorded evidence of Prehistoric or Roman activity within 1km of the site. The earliest recorded settlement evidence, dating to the 12th century, referred to a location further to the east. However, a subsequent geophysical survey of the site did reveal numerous linear and discrete anomalies which demonstrated evidence for cut archaeological features within the proposed development area (Archaeological Surveys 2014), prompting a phase of archaeological trial trenching. A total of 5, 2m x 50m trenches were excavated, with an additional 10m x 10m extension located at the south west end of Trench 1.
- During the course of this evaluation, multiple archaeological features were identified and recorded, with the majority correlating accurately with results from the geophysics. The combined results have led to the identification of two main areas of archaeological activity. The more concentrated of the two was situated on the N-S ridge which traversed the site, whilst the second area was located within the shallow dry valley, to the east.
- Within the western focus numerous ditches indicated a probable double-ditched enclosure, alongside some localised evidence of post holes and pits, although there was no dating evidence to indicate whether the two feature types were contemporary. Meanwhile, the eastern focus was defined by the presence of three ditches, which in combination with the geophysics have indicated the presence of two rectangular enclosures.
- The only artefact recovered from the site was a single fragment of slag, therefore dating of these features has not been possible, although the morphology of the site is consistent with a Later Prehistoric/Roman date. Consequently, the significance of the site remains unspecific, although there is evidence for agricultural, industrial and possible settlement activity within the proposed development area.

Land off Inns Lane, South Wingfield, Derbyshire. Archaeological Trial Trenching

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Trent & Peak Archaeology (TPA) were commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land off Inns Lane, South Wingfield, Derbyshire. The work was requested prior to the determination of a Planning Application (AVA/2014/0980) for a residential development of up to 70 dwellings on the site. The proposed development area totals 4.37 hectares of land centred at National Grid Reference SK 3729 5566.
- 1.2 This report presents the results of archaeological trial trenching and an assessment of the archaeological remains within the proposed development area.

2. PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Working on behalf of Gladman Developments Ltd, CgMs Consulting carried out an Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (CgMs, 2014) and geophysical survey (Archaeological Surveys, 2014) of the proposed development area. The survey revealed evidence for archaeological remains in the form of rectilinear enclosures, pits and possible trackways.
- 2.2 Subsequently TPA was asked to carry out a phase of targeted trial trenching, with the aim of establishing the significance and preservation of any archaeological remains on the site. A total of 5, 50m x 2m trenches were excavated, with an additional 10m x 10m area being stripped at the south west end of Trench1. The locations of these trenches were established in a Written Scheme of Investigation, prepared by CgMs (2014) and approved by Derbyshire County Council Development Control Archaeologist, and were determined using the results of the geophysical survey.

3. SITE TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 3.1 The site is located on the western edge of South Wingfield, comprising approximately 4.37 hectares of land centred at National Grid Reference SK 3729 5566 (Figure 1). The southern edge of the site is marked by Inns Lane, with fields to the north and west. The eastern edge is demarcated by residential development and Lane Farm, which form part of South Wingfield itself. All boundaries are hedged, with low hedges to south and west and more substantial hedgerows, including mature trees, to the east and north.
- 3.2 The site has a shallow dry valley running N-S through the middle of it, 118m AOD at its lowest point, rising to 127m AOD to the east and west. The main area of investigation is located on the western ridge, and the dry valley.
- 3.3 The British Geological Survey (BGS) 1:50,000 records the solid geology of the site as mudstone, siltstone and sandstone belonging to the Pennine Lower Coal Measures Formation across most of the site, with a band of sandstone belonging to the Wingfield Flags Formation at the eastern end of the site. No superficial deposits are recorded for the site. (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html>).
- 3.4 The Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW, 1983) identifies the soils of the study site as slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged loamy over clayey and fine silty soils of the Bardsey association (713a).

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment had been carried out for the site by CgMs. The most significant elements of this report have been included below.
- 4.2 No evidence dating to the Prehistoric or Roman periods is recorded on the Historic Environment Record (HER) within a 1km search area around the site.
- 4.3 The original site of South Wingfield village is believed to have been located 800m east of the site, in the vicinity of All Saint's Church, which dates to the 12th century. The movement of the manorial seat, to Wingfield Manor, built 1439-53 by Ralph Lord Cromwell, probably accounts for the shift to its current position.
- 4.4 The 1845 South Wingfield Tithe Map shows all site boundaries extant, with the site made up of three fields. The only change shown on the subsequent mapping within the site is the amalgamation of the two western fields, by the removal of an internal boundary, which occurs prior to 1984 (CgMs, 2014).
- 4.5 The geophysical survey located a number of positive linear anomalies that appear to relate to cut features with archaeological potential. These features had been truncated by ridge and furrow. It is likely that the anomalies relate to rectilinear enclosures, with associated pits and droveways (Archaeological Surveys, 2014).

5. METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 All work was carried out in accordance with the requirements and standards set out in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment Project Planning Note 3: Archaeological Excavation* (MoRPHE PPN3) (English Heritage 2008), and the requirements and standards set by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) in their *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 1994; revised 2008) *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological material* (IfA 2001; Revised 2008); *Code of Conduct* (IfA 1985; revised to 2008) and *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (IfA, 2009).

General and Specific Aims

- 5.2 The aim of the programme of archaeological works was to establish the significance of any archaeological remains present on the development site through a scheme of targeted trial trenching. The scheme will provide sufficient information to allow the determination of the Planning Application.
- 5.3 The aims were to be realised through the achievement of the following specific objectives:
- to provide sufficient information regarding the character, origin, date, and preservation of any archaeological remains;
 - to test the anomalies identified by geophysical survey;
 - to explore the nature of any human activity at the site and to place the site within its local, regional and national context as appropriate;
 - to assess the site formation processes and the effects that these may have had on the survival and integrity of any archaeological features and deposits;
 - to produce a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum if appropriate;
 - and to provide information for the local HER to ensure the long-term survival of the data.

Trench Excavation

- 5.4 An initial 5 trial trenches with a total area of 500m² were excavated. The locations of these trial trenches were determined in order to evaluate the anomalies identified by the geophysical survey.
- 5.5 An additional 10m x 10m area was excavated at the south west end of Trench 1, at the request of the Development Control Archaeologist following the initial findings within the Trench.

Surveying and setting out

- 5.6 All trenches were set out, surveyed as excavated and tied in to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid and Ordnance datum, using a GPS, Leica CS15/GS15 RTK Differential GNSS. TPA holds full co-ordinate data which can be supplied as DXF/DWG files if necessary

Mechanical excavation

- 5.7 Topsoil and subsoil was removed using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. All such mechanical excavation was undertaken under the direct and continuous supervision of Trent & Peak Archaeology staff. Mechanical excavation ceased at the first archaeologically significant horizon or when the absence of any such horizon was adequately demonstrated.
- 5.8 Where possible any remains of ridge and furrow cultivation were machined carefully to remove the fills of the furrows, following the contour of the natural geology (ie: not necessarily in level spits), resulting in an undulating base to the trench. This was to ensure both that no archaeological features remain sealed by the furrow fill and that the trench was not over excavated, truncating archaeology surviving at the depth of the furrows. Exceptions to this occurred when it was not possible to identify the furrow as such, or when the alignment was too difficult to achieve this.
- 5.9 Topsoil and subsoil was segregated in separate spoil heaps. Spoil from the excavation of archaeological features was stored on the subsoil heap. After the completion of archaeological excavation the material was replaced in reverse order of removal and the soil was graded to a smooth, even profile, free from local mounds and depressions.

Conditions

- 5.10 The site proved to be very poorly drained, with some standing water present, prior to the commencement of works. During the course of the project, existing groundwater and additional rainfall made conditions worse, hampering the excavation work. However, it is believed with a reasonably high confidence level that any features present were accurately identified during the project.

Hand Excavation

- 5.11 All fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the code of conduct of The Institute for Archaeologists. The depth and complexity of archaeological features and deposits across the whole site was evaluated by hand excavation. Hand excavation was undertaken in compliance with the WSI to a level sufficient to characterise all key features and provide opportunities for the recovery of dateable finds and palaeoenvironmental material.

Recording

- 5.12 All excavated contexts were fully recorded on TPA written context records giving details of location, composition, shape, dimensions, relationships, finds, samples, cross-references to other elements of the record and other relevant contexts, etc.
- 5.13 All features were recorded on at least one plan (normally at 1:20 scale) and at least one section drawing (normally at 1:10 scale). A complete post-excavation plan and long section of each trench was prepared. All drawings included co-ordinate data and spot-heights related to the Ordnance Survey Datum and accurate to two decimal places. The level of recording increased relative to the presence of features of archaeological significance.
- 5.14 Photographs were taken utilising digital cameras of no less than 10 megapixels and in RAW format. All photography followed Trent & Peak Archaeology's guidance which conforms to industry best practice (ADS 2013). Images have been converted to uncompressed baseline v.6 TIFF for archiving. All images have accompanying metadata specifying; photo ID, capture device, converting software, colour space, bit depth, resolution, date of capture, photographer, caption, and any alterations made to the image..

Palaeoenvironmental Sampling

- 5.15 All environmental archaeology was undertaken in accordance with the principles set out in *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011) and with reference to the Association for Environmental Archaeology's Working Paper No. 2, *Environmental Archaeology and Archaeological Evaluation* (1995).
- 5.16 In accordance with the approved WSI, the environmental sampling strategy included the routine (a minimum of 40 litres, or the entire deposit if smaller than 40 litres) sampling of undisturbed, securely dated deposits for the retrieval and assessment of the preservation conditions and potential for analysis of all biological remains, and sampling of deposits and features identified as having a high palaeoenvironmental potential.

Site Archive

- 5.17 Archive consolidation was undertaken immediately following the conclusion of fieldwork. The site record was checked, cross-referenced and indexed.
- 5.18 Following any further mitigation, the archive shall be assembled in accordance with the guidelines set out in Appendix 1, P1 of MoRPHE PPN3 (English Heritage 2008) along with those of Derbyshire Museums (2004). In addition to the site records, artefacts, ecofacts and other sample residues, the archive shall contain:
site matrices where appropriate;
a summary report synthesising the context records;
a summary of the artefact record; and
a summary of any other records or materials recovered.
The integrity of the primary field records shall be preserved and the Contractor shall create security copies in digital, fiche or microfilm format of all primary field records.
- 5.19 An online OASIS form at <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/> will, also be completed as part of the project, and a digital copy of the report will be uploaded to the OASIS site. This will be on the understanding that this information will be made available through the above website, unless otherwise agreed.

6. RESULTS

- 6.1 An outline narrative of the results of the archaeological evaluation is presented below. The overall location of the trenches is shown on Figure 2 with more detailed plans of the archaeological features shown on Figures 3 to 7. A full context list is provided as Appendix 1.

Trench 1 (2m x 50m with 10m x 10m extension; Figure 3)

- 6.2 Trench 1 was located within the northern portion of the development, aligned SW-NE. The topography sloped moderately to the east into the dry valley, with a slight rise to the west onto the ridge that runs N-S across the site. Machine excavation of the trench removed a layer of topsoil, approximately 0.28m thick, followed by the underlying subsoil deposit, which was present in places up to 0.08m thick. Along the length of the trench numerous furrows were observed along E-W orientations, and these were also excavated by machine, to depths of up to 0.25m. The underlying natural was comprised of silty clay deposits with occasional outcrops of mudstone bedrock.
- 6.3 At the southwest end of the trench a post hole [1003] was observed cutting into the natural geology of mid orange clay with fragments of mudstone throughout. On the basis of the post hole, the decision was taken by the Development Control Archaeologist to open a larger 10m x 10m area, centred on [1003]. On completion, a further three post holes were also noted within close proximity, [1007], [1009] and [1011]. Together they formed a slightly curved alignment orientated approximately E-W.
- 6.4 The smallest of the four post holes, [1007] appeared to have been severely truncated. It was sub-circular in plan 0.23m in diameter, with a shallow concave profile just 0.06m deep. Within the cut, a single deposit of mid grey, silty clay containing frequent charcoal fragments was present.
- 6.5 The remaining three post holes were very similar in character. Both [1003] and [1009] were sub-oval in plan, measuring 0.4m x 0.6m, with concave profiles 0.2m and 0.15m deep respectively. Post hole [1011] was slightly smaller, with a circular form in plan, just 0.3m across and 0.16m deep. Within all three features was a single deposit of mid grey silty clay containing occasional charcoal fragments and several large angular stones, up to 0.2m in diameter. Within both [1003] and [1009], these stones were still vertically situated at the edges of the cut, suggesting their use as post-packing material. Although no post-pipes were observed, the positioning of these stones would have allowed for posts approximately 0.2m in diameter.
- 6.6 Located at the north western edge of the extended area was a probable pit, [1005]. Although it extended beyond the excavated area, it appeared to be circular in plan and at least 0.98m in diameter. It had steep sides, and a rounded concave base, 0.36m deep. At the northern edge of the pit was a primary deposit of mid brown orange, silty clay (1015). This was overlain by a slightly more mixed fill of mid to dark grey, silty clay, with frequent small angular stones, and moderately frequent charcoal fragments. It is suspected that this upper fill represents a deliberate deposit, associated with the final use of the feature.
- 6.7 It is important to note that these discrete features were only identified along a narrow ridge, left between two E-W aligned furrows. Both furrows were emptied during machine stripping, and were shown to measure up to 0.3m in depth. It is therefore quite possible that additional post holes had been entirely truncated due to the agricultural activity.
- 6.8 Also within the extension area, a curvilinear ditch [1016] was observed. It entered the southwest edge of the excavation area along a SW-NE alignment, and then curved to an E-W orientation. It measured approximately 0.8m wide, with moderately steep sides, leading down to a flat base, 0.24m deep. Within the ditch was a single homogenous fill of compact, mid orange grey, silty clay.

- 6.9 Further to the north, within the original limits of Trench 1, was a second ditch, [1013]. It was aligned NNW-SSE with a maximum width of 1.12m and a broad concave profile 0.22m deep. It was filled by a single deposit very compact, mid grey silty clay. When correlated with the results of the geophysics, it becomes apparent that these two ditches may have formed a double-ditched enclosure.

Trench 2 (2m x 50m; Figure 3)

- 6.10 Trench 2 was orientated WNW-ESE, on a slope descending into the dry valley to the east, a total drop of 3m. The topsoil within the trench was recorded to a maximum depth of 0.3m, with a shallow 0.13m thick, subsoil or colluvium present in the lower lying portion of the trench. The underlying natural was comprised of silty clay deposits with occasional outcrops of mudstone bedrock.
- 6.11 At the north western end of the trench, two parallel ditches, [2004] and [2015] were recorded. Ditch [2004] measured 0.8m in width with a shallow concave profile, 0.16m deep. It contained a single fill of mid orangey grey, silty clay, with occasional angular stones. The second ditch, [2015] was located 3.5m to the south east, with with a slightly narrower concave profile, 0.58m wide and 0.14m deep. The fill was identical to that of ditch [2004]. Neither of the ditches produced finds, even though they were both fully excavated within the limits of the trench.
- 6.12 These ditches matched two linear anomalies identified in the geophysical survey, and are likely to be continuations of the two ditches [1016] and [1013], forming the western limit of a possible double-ditched enclosure.
- 6.13 At the south east end of the trench, towards the base of the slope, were a further two, broadly NE-SW aligned linear features. The larger of the two, [2006] measured 1.2m wide and 0.36m deep. Cutting into marbled clay natural, the edges of the feature were difficult to discern, but appeared to be steep, with a rounded concave base. The primary fill within the feature was a very compact, mid grey brown, slightly silty clay. This was overlain by a second deposit of compact, mid to dark grey brown, silty clay, with orange flecks. Overall, they gave the impression of naturally accumulated fills that had subsequently gleyed due to the presence of water. Because the full extent of this feature was not observable, it is difficult to establish whether this was a ditch or pit.
- 6.14 Less than 1m to the east, was a much narrower feature, [2007]. This measured just 0.5m wide, with moderately steep sides, and a narrow concave base up to 0.22m deep. Within the ditch was a single fill of soft, mid greyish brown, silty clay.
- 6.15 The north eastern extents of both these ditches had been truncated by an E-W aligned shallow linear, ([2002], [2008]). This later feature had slightly irregular edges and width of between 0.7m and 1m. The shallow concave profile, just 0.1m deep is indicative that this was one of the many E-W aligned furrows highlighted by the geophysical survey. However, the ditches identified, do not appear to accurately correspond with any of the anomalies identified by the geophysics at this location.

Trench 3 (2m x 50m; Figure 3)

- 6.16 Situated near the southern limit of the site, Trench 3 was orientated SW-NE. A 0.2m thick layer of topsoil was removed to expose the natural geology, which comprised a mixture of mid orange, clay deposits, and outcrops of mudstone solid geology.
- 6.17 At the south west end of the trench, a large pit, [3002] was recorded cutting into the natural. The full extent of the feature was not revealed as it extended beyond the limits of the excavation. The visible portion measured at least 3m across, with a moderately steep side,

excavated to a depth of at least 1.1m. Due to concerns over health and safety, it was not possible to reveal the base of the feature as it continued to slope downwards to a depth in excess of 1.3m below ground level. The earliest fill observable within the pit, (3003) was mid yellow grey, silty clay up to 0.1m thick. This was in turn overlain by a layer of dark grey brown, silty clay (3005). Onto this, a mixed fill of moderately compact, yellow brown, and orange brown, clay and silty clay (3004) had been deliberately dumped. A single piece of slag was retrieved from this deposit and the presence of oxidised material indicated some of it had been burnt, although very little charcoal was observed. The final fill (3014) was very similar to (3005), a dark grey brown silty clay. No artefactual material was recovered from this feature, but it matches a sub-circular anomaly on the geophysical survey, and is likely to be a large pit.

- 6.18 Approximately 7m to the north east, three intersecting linear features were observed, [3010], [3008] and [3006]. Linear [3010] was a N-S aligned gully, measuring 0.4m in width, with moderately steep sides and a concave base, 0.24m deep. It contained a single fill of mottled, light grey brown and orange, silty clay. It cut an earlier, sub-circular feature, [3012] on its western edge, which measured 0.44m in diameter. However, as this was very ephemeral and just 0.04m deep, with a fill identical to that of gully [3010]. The confidence in this relationship is low, and it may be that [3012] was simply a patch of bioturbation.
- 6.19 Gully [3008] was situated to the northeast of [3010]. It was orientated NNE-SSW, with an identical width of 0.4m, although it was much shallower, with a broad, flat profile just 0.06m deep. Within the gully was a single fill of mottled grey brown and orange, silty clay, similar to that within [3008]. Although, there was no direct relationship between these two linears, and neither contained any dateable material, the similarity of their gleyed fills may be an indication that they were broadly contemporary.
- 6.20 The third linear recorded at this location, [3006] was observed along an E-W alignment and truncated both [3010] and [3008]. With a width of 0.7m and a shallow concave profile of just 0.08m, it is suspected that this was probably the truncated remains of a furrow. Contained within the cut, was a deposit of mid to dark, grey brown clay silt.
- 6.21 Two further furrows were noted further to the north east, which due to their alignment they were not possible to remove during machining. One of these, [3015] was excavated to confirm its character, revealing a broad, shallow cut 1.1m wide and 0.1m deep containing a mid to dark grey brown, silty clay. Furrow [3015] had not been identified by the geophysical survey, but the adjacent unexcavated furrow was later shown to correlate with an anomaly identified by the geophysics.

Trench 4 (2m x 50m; Figure 3)

- 6.22 Trench 4 was located on the lower lying terrain within the southeast corner of the proposed development area and was orientated WNW-ESE. Machine excavation removed a layer of topsoil up to 0.2m deep, and revealed a series of E-W aligned furrows, which were removed during stripping. The underlying geology consisted of mudstone bedrock, with patches of orange brown clay.
- 6.23 Approximately 10.5m from the south eastern end of the trench, a single linear feature, [4004] was observed cutting into the natural geology on a NNE-SSW alignment. Excavation of the feature demonstrated that it was probably a ditch, measuring 0.7m wide, with moderately steep sides and a narrow concave base, 0.3m deep. It had been filled by a single deposit of compact, mid grey brown, silty clay which appeared to have accumulated naturally. This ditch matched with a linear anomaly highlighted by the geophysics and is likely to form part of an enclosure. Also identified by the survey, was a discrete anomaly towards the northwest end of the trench, but this was not observed during the fieldwork.

Trench 5 (2m x 50m; Figure 3)

- 6.24 Trench 5 was orientated ENE-WSW, within the shallow dry valley towards the east of the proposed development area. Excavation of the trench revealed a 0.3m thick deposit of topsoil, overlying a mixed geology, largely consisting of mudstone bedrock, with greyish yellow clay deposits marbled throughout.
- 6.25 Two ditches [5003] and [5005] were identified, cutting into the natural geology. Ditch [5003] was located 16m from the SW end of the trench, and was aligned NE-SW. It measured 0.7m wide, with steep sides and a broad, slightly concave base. The maximum depth was 0.3m, and it contained a deposit of mid to dark grey brown, silty clay, with a significant proportion of bedrock fragments present throughout. The mixed nature of this deposit indicates that it may have been deliberately backfilled, rather than left open to infill naturally.
- 6.26 The second ditch, [5005] was located 9.5m from the NE end of the trench, along a NW-SE alignment. It measured 0.7m wide, with moderately sloped sides, and a flat base, 0.2m deep. The fill was a mottled, slightly gleyed deposit of mid grey brown, silty clay which is likely to have naturally accumulated.
- 6.27 No material culture was recovered from either of the features within Trench 5, but they did correlate accurately with the two linear anomalies from the geophysical survey that this trench was intended to investigate.

7. ARTEFACTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

7.1 ARTEFACTS

- 7.1.1 Other than a single fragment of slag (77g) collected from an environmental sample from deposit (3004), a fill of pit [3002], no artefactual evidence was retrieved during the course of the excavation.

7.2 ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

Introduction

- 7.2.1 In total, 7 environmental samples were retrieved from the features identified during the evaluation. The sample size was 40 litres when possible, although 10 litre samples were taken when features were too small for full sampling. A list of the samples is provided in the following table.

Sample	Context	Feature
01	(2010)	Ditch [2006]
02	(2005)	Ditch [2004]
03	(1004)	Post hole [1003]
04	(3004)	Pit [3002]
05	(1008)	Post hole [1007]
06	(1010)	Post hole [1009]
07	(1006)	Pit [1005]

Method

- 7.2.3 For each sample, the weight and volume was measured prior to processing and a sub-sample was removed in case any further analysis should be required. The non-waterlogged samples were then processed using a 'Siraf' flotation tank (Williams 1973), using a sieve with a 250µ mesh and an internal 1mm mesh for the residue. Both the residues and flots were dried and retained. A total of 116 litres of soil was processed in this way.

7.2.4 The weight and volume of the residue was recorded, before it was sorted by eye for any environmental and archaeological finds. These were picked out, noted on the assessment sheet and bagged. A magnet was run through the residue in order to recover any magnetised material such as hammerscale. The residue was then discarded.

7.2.5 The flots of each sample was studied using 10x magnification and the presence of environmental finds noted and their abundance and species recorded on the assessment sheet. The flots were then bagged and along with the finds from the residue constitute the material archive of the samples.

Results

7.2.6 The samples are listed in table form below, with a brief description of the deposit from which the samples were taken and any environmental material found.

Environmental sample no: 01
 Trench 2, Context (2010),
 Feature description: Ditch/pit [2006]
 Sample volume before processing: 25 litres
 Sample weight before processing: 31 kilograms
 % of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 1-10 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	3 x degraded, possibly spelt (<i>Triticum spelta</i>)

Environmental sample no: 02
 Trench 2, Context (2005)
 Feature description: Linear/ditch [2004]
 Sample volume before processing: 33 litres
 Sample weight before processing: 35 kilograms
 % of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 1-10 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm

Environmental sample no: 03
 Trench 1, Context (1004)
 Feature description: Post hole [1003]
 Sample volume before processing: 8 litres
 Sample weight before processing: 11 kilograms
 % of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 1-10 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm

Environmental sample no: 04
 Trench 3, Context (3004)
 Feature description: Pit [3002]
 Sample volume before processing: 34 litres
 Sample weight before processing: 40 kilograms
 % of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 1-10 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm

Environmental sample no: 05
 Trench 1, Context (1008)
 Feature description: Post hole [1007]
 Sample volume before processing: 1 litre
 Sample weight before processing: 1.5 kilograms
 % of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance >250 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm

Environmental sample no: 06
 Trench 1, Context (1010)
 Feature description: Post hole [1009]
 Sample volume before processing: 5 litres
 Sample weight before processing: 8 kilograms
 % of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 1-10 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm

Environmental sample no: 07
 Trench 1, Context (1006)
 Feature description: Pit [1005]
 Sample volume before processing: 10 litres
 Sample weight before processing: 12 kilograms
 % of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 1-10 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	1 x degraded, possibly spelt (<i>Triticum spelta</i>)
Charred seed	1 x grass (<i>Poaceae sp.</i>)

Residues

7.2.7 The samples washed down to produce residues of varying proportions of sub-rounded gravel, mostly between 1mm and 10mm in size. The residues yielded very little in the way of archaeological finds, most samples contained a mix of coal (local geology) and charcoal, and Trench 3, context (3004) contained a single piece of slag. Some magnetic material was present, which on examination was shown to be magnetised as a result of exposure to prolonged and intense heat. No hammerscale was found.

Flots

7.2.8 All of the flots contained small quantities of charcoal, but mostly unidentified, comminuted fragments measuring less than 2mm. The charred plant remains found in Trench 1 (1006) and Trench 2 (2010) were degraded and difficult to identify but could possibly be Spelt

(*Triticum spelta*). Uncharred seeds of Elder (*Sambucus nigra*), Fat Hen (*Chenopodium Album*), and Dock (*Polygonaceae sp.*) were also present in the flots but are likely to be modern intrusions as they are not carbonised and the deposit is not waterlogged.

Conclusion

- 7.2.9 In summary, although charcoal and charred grain was present in the samples it was poorly preserved and in very low concentrations. It was scattered in small quantities across all features, suggesting natural distribution over time with no direct evidence of processing and storage.
- 7.2.10 Although the grain from trenches 1 and 2 could be used for radio-carbon dating, the disturbed nature of the features and the likelihood that the material was blown or washed in means that a reliable date is unlikely to be achieved.
- 7.2.11 The small quantity of archaeobotanical remains and the poor state of preservation, leads to the conclusion that the environmental data is of little interpretive value. Therefore further analysis of these samples or others from similar deposits does not seem likely to be worthwhile from an archaeobotanical view point. However, if further excavation is required on the basis of other archaeological criteria, then environmental sampling should be a component of the fieldwork as the relatively small number of samples examined from one area of the site need not reflect the true nature of the archaeology of the site as a whole.

8. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

- 8.1 The desk based assessment of the proposed development area, revealed that there was no previously recorded evidence of Prehistoric or Roman activity within 1km of the site. With the earliest recorded settlement evidence dating to the 12th century, in a location further to the east. However, a geophysical survey of the site did reveal numerous linear and discrete anomalies which demonstrated evidence for cut archaeological features within the site.
- 8.2 During the course of this evaluation, multiple archaeological features were identified and recorded. The condition and preservation of these features varied slightly, dependent on their location in relation to the local topography, as those positioned on the higher ground tended to be truncated to a certain degree. Furthermore, a persistent pattern of E-W aligned ridge and furrow has contributed to this truncation. It is suspected that where this coincided with discrete features such as the post holes in Trench 1, there is a possibility that some archaeological remains have been truncated away in their entirety.
- 8.3 Based upon the results of the evaluation and the geophysical survey, it is possible to determine two main areas of archaeological activity. The more concentrated of the two was situated on the N-S ridge which traversed the site, whilst the second area was located within the shallow dry valley, to the east. Due to a lack of dating evidence it is uncertain if, or how the two areas are related, but both are defined by the presence of rectangular ditched enclosures. The main difference between the two was the presence of several discrete features on the ridge, which may represent settlement evidence.
- 8.4 The combined evidence appears to show that the western limit to the activity is defined by the parallel ditches, [2004] and [2015] identified within Trench 2. Forming a NNE-SSW aligned boundary, it seems likely that they continued within Trench 1 as ditches [1013] and [1016], where a change in their alignment was observed. It is this change in orientation that then seems to have formed part of a possible double-ditched enclosure, around which the western activity seems to be focussed.
- 8.5 Of the two features at the southeast end of Trench 2, [2006] and [2007], it seems likely that [2007] is part of a small ditch or gully, but as this feature cannot be clearly identified on the geophysics, it is uncertain what happens to this feature beyond the limits of the trench excavated. The character of [2006], means that confident interpretation of its function cannot be made at this stage.
- 8.6 The two shallow gullies recorded within Trench 3, were slightly different in character to the main enclosure ditches within trenches 1 and 2. Although probably truncated, the shallow and narrow nature of these linears is indicative that they were unlikely to be forming large enclosures.
- 8.7 Despite the lack of material culture within these linear features, there were notable discrete features that suggest the activity might have been more than just agricultural. This evidence was most notable within the southern end of Trench 1, where a probable pit and four post holes were observed. Although moderately sterile, the presence of such features clearly indicates some structures had been present. However, the relationship between this possible settlement evidence, and the enclosures was not clearly established. All four post holes were located within the interior of the double-ditched enclosure, but pit [1005] was located in between the two enclosure ditches, perhaps indicating the presence of additional discrete features to the exterior of the enclosure. Furthermore, their location coincides with a larger zone of magnetic responses identified by the geophysics, which according to the report:

“appears to be associated with a cluster of pits and a fragmented linear anomaly and indicates a spread of magnetically thermoremnant material which may be associated with occupation or possible industrial activity”. (Sabin and Donaldson, 2014, p. 8)

The extent of this activity is clearly shown in Figure 2, as both occupying the northern half of the double-ditched enclosure, but also extending beyond the north of the enclosure. Consequently if the discrete features do not respect the limits established by the enclosure

ditches, then it may be concluded that this possible settlement evidence represents a separate phase of activity to the enclosures.

- 8.8 Although the large pit [3002], was not fully exposed by the evaluation trench, it was identified in the geophysics as covering an area measuring 5.5m x 7m. Cut features on this scale can occur for a variety of reasons, ranging from waterholes to quarrying, but unfortunately the nature of the primary fills could not be established, and therefore, interpretation of the original function is difficult. However, it did appear to have been deliberately backfilled, and within this very mixed material there was a fragment of slag and evidence for heat affected soil. Consequently it seems likely that this pit was associated with, or located close to some form of industrial activity.
- 8.9 In contrast, the eastern focus lacked any discrete features, despite Trench 4 being located to target a discrete anomaly. The two ditches within Trench 5 are likely to form two sides of a large rectangular enclosure, with the ditch in Trench 4, forming one side of a smaller enclosure to the south. As with the other features observed during the evaluation, there was no artefactual material recovered from any of these ditches.
- 8.10 The absence of artefactual material is a considerable problem for this site as it has not been possible to establish a date for any of these features. It is therefore only possible to make assumptions based on the typology of the features present. Although some ditched enclosures from the Late Bronze Age have been identified within the East Midlands at sites such as Billingborough and Kirmond le Mire (Pryor 1996, cited by Willis, 2006), Willis notes that, "rectangular ditched enclosures, covering not more than c. 0.5 hectares...are seen as the typical site type of the Middle and Late Iron Age" (101, 2006). The various enclosures identified during this investigation might well fit into this model, but enclosures of this nature are also common during the Roman period, and even later. Potentially helpful then is the fact that many of the fills encountered were gleyed to some extent, a process which can be indicative of greater antiquity, as it takes time for it to occur. Ultimately this adds weight to the suggestion that these were more likely to be Later Iron Age or perhaps Roman in date. Although neither feature morphology, nor the nature of the fills can be conclusive indicators of date, and the question remains open.
- 8.11 Given that there were previously no known sites earlier than the 12th century within 1km of the site, these remains are at least of local significance, with the possibility that they may provide evidence of new Prehistoric or Roman activity, or even a separate focus to the medieval origins of South Wingfield.

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10. PLATES



PLATE 1. Trench 1 looking NE with post hole [1003] in foreground



PLATE 2. Post hole [1003] in Trench 1.



PLATE 3. Post hole [1007] in Trench 1.



PLATE 4. Post hole [1009] in Trench 1.



PLATE 5. Post hole [1011] in Trench 1.



PLATE 6. Pit [1005] in Trench 1.



PLATE 7. Trench 2, looking WNW.



PLATE 8. Ditch [2004], one of two parallel ditches in Trench 2 (fully excavated).



PLATE 9. Gully [2007] within Trench 2.



PLATE 10. Pit or Ditch [2006], being cut by Furrow [2008]



PLATE 11. Trench 3, looking SE.



PLATE 12. Pit [3002] at SW end of Trench 3.



PLATE 13. Trench 4, looking WNW.



PLATE 14. Ditch [4004] within Trench 4.



PLATE 15. Trench 5, looking SW.



PLATE 16. Ditch [5003] within Trench 5.



PLATE 17. Ditch [5005] within Trench 5.

Appendix 1 Context Register

Trench 1				
Context Number	Context Type	Description	Length x Width (m)	Depth (m)
1000	Layer	Topsoil - Dark brown clay silt	-	0.28
1001	Layer	Subsoil - Mid orange brown, silty clay	-	0.08
1002	Layer	Natural – Mid to light brown clay	-	unknown
1003	Cut	Post hole – Sub oval, steep sides, rounded base	0.4	0.2
1004	Fill	Fill of [1003] – Mod' compact, mid grey, silty clay, 0.2m diameter packing stones	0.4	0.2
1005	Cut	Pit – Not fully exposed, rounded plan, rounded base	0.98	0.36
1006	Fill	Fill of [1005] – Compact, mid grey silty clay, occasional stone and 30% charcoal	0.78	0.36
1007	Cut	Post hole – Sub-circular, mod' sloped sides and concave base	0.23	0.06
1008	Fill	Fill of [1007] – Friable, light grey, silty clay, 10% charcoal	0.23	0.06
1009	Cut	Post hole – Sub-circular, rounded concave profile	0.4	0.15
1010	Fill	Fill of [1009] – Mod compact, mid to light grey, silty clay, rare charcoal	0.4	0.15
1011	Cut	Post hole – Circular, concave profile	0.3	0.16
1012	Fill	Fill of [1011] – Mod' compact, mid grey, silty clay	0.3	0.16
1013	Cut	Ditch – NW-SE linear, mod steep, broad flat base	1.12	0.22
1014	Fill	Fill of [1013] – V. Compact, mid grey silty clay	1.12	0.22
1015	Fill	Fill of [1005] – V. Compact, mid orangey brown, silt clay	0.2	0.36
1016	Cut	Ditch – Curvilinear, mod' sloped, flat base	0.78	0.24
1017	Fill	Fill of [1016] – V. Compact, mid orangey grey, silty clay	0.78	0.24

Trench 2				
Context Number	Context Type	Description	Length x Width (m)	Depth (m)
2000	Layer	Topsoil - Dark brown clay silt	-	0.3
2001	Layer	Subsoil - Mid orange brown, silty clay	-	0.13
2002	Cut	Furrow	14.5 x 1	0.09
2003	Fill	Fill of [2002] – Soft, mid to dark, brown grey, clay silt	14.5 x 1	0.09
2004	Cut	Ditch – Linear, concave profile	>1.5 x 0.8	0.16
2005	Fill	Fill of [2004] – Mid grey, with orange flecks, silty clay, occ' angular stones and charcoal flecking	>1.5 x 0.8	0.16
2006	Cut	Ditch or Pit – NE-SW aligned, concave sides, flattish base	1.2	0.36
2007	Cut	Gully – Narrow linear NE-SW, mod steep sides, concave base	0.5	0.22
2008	Cut	Furrow – Same as [2002]	14.5 x 1	0.09
2009	Fill	Fill of [2006] – Mod compact, mid grey brown, with orange, silty clay with manganese flecking	1.2	0.16
2010	Fill	Fill of [2006] – Mod compact, grey brown, silty clay, with manganese and rare charcoal	1.2	0.17
2011	Fill	Fill of [2008] – Same as (2003)	14.5 x 1	0.09
2012	Fill	Fill of [2007] – Loose/soft, mid greyish brown, silty clay, occasional fragments of stone <0.2m diameter	0.5	0.22

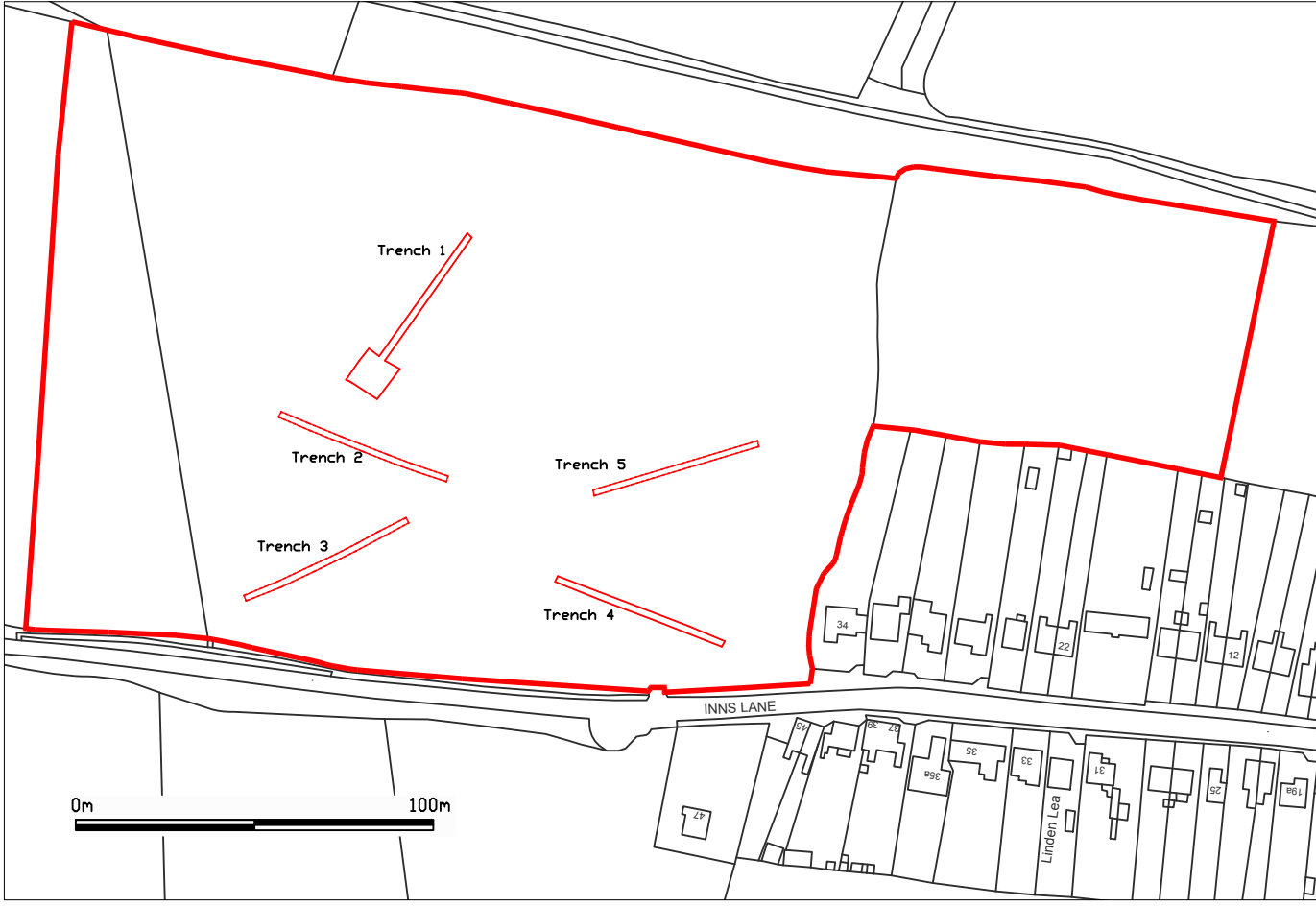
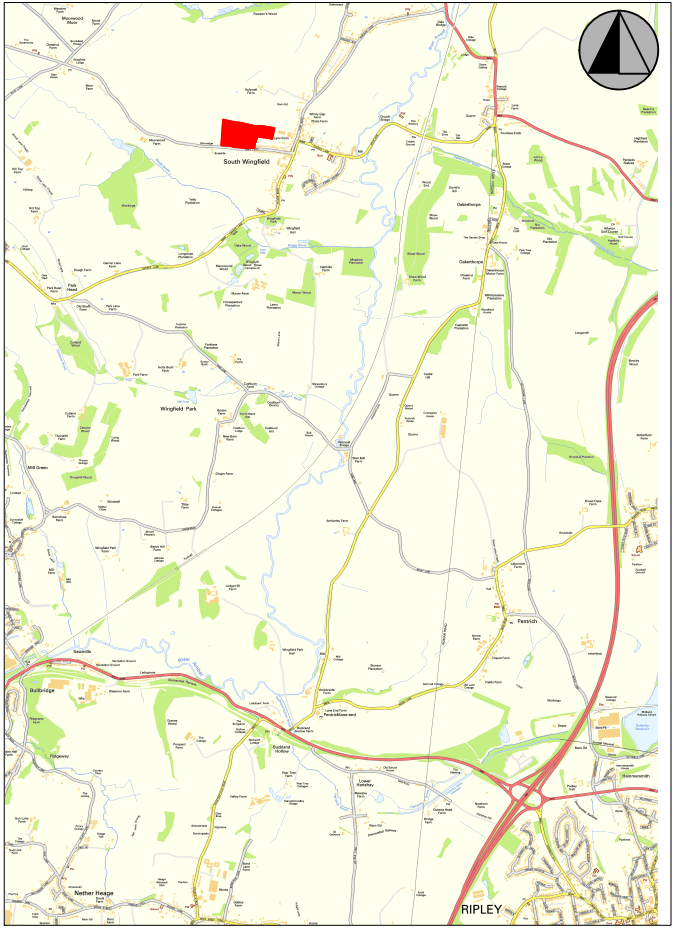
2013	Layer	Subsoil – Same as (2001)	-	0.13
2014	Fill	Fill of [2015] – Dark to mid grey, with occasional orange flecks	0.58	0.14
2015	Cut	Ditch – Moderate slope, concave base	0.58	0.14

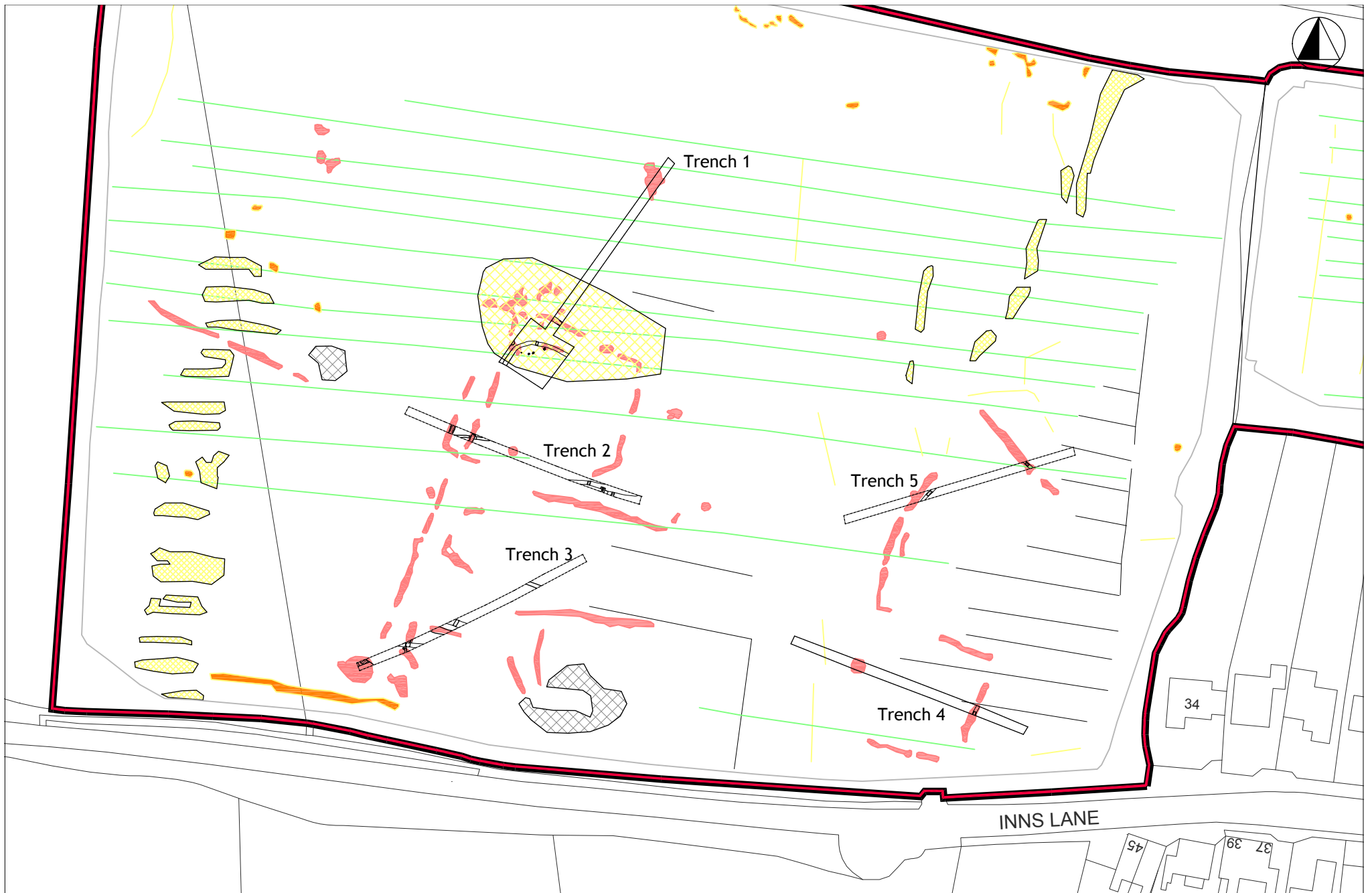
Trench 3				
Context Number	Context Type	Description	Length x Width (m)	Depth (m)
3000	Layer	Topsoil - Dark brown clay silt	-	0.3
3001	Layer	Natural - Mid orange brown, silty clay and mudstone bedrock	-	unknown
3002	Cut	Pit – Sub-circular, not fully exposed, moderately steep sides, not bottomed	>2.8 x >1.5	>0.95
3003	Fill	Fill of [3002] – Mod' compact, mid yellow grey, silty clay with stone fragments	-	0.1
3004	Fill	Fill of [3002] – Mod' compact, mixed yellow brown and orange brown, with grey mottling, clay and silty clay (some burnt?)	-	0.5
3005	Fill	Fill of [3002] – Friable, dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	0.21
3006	Cut	Furrow – Linear E-W, shallow concave profile	0.7	0.08
3007	Fill	Fill of [3006] – Soft, mid to dark grey brown, clay silt	0.7	0.08
3008	Cut	Gully – Linear, steep, but shallow sides, broad flat base	<0.75 x 0.4	0.06
3009	Fill	Fill of [3008] – Soft, mottled light grey brown and orange, silty clay, gleyed	<0.75 x 0.4	0.06
3010	Cut	Gully – Linear, steep sides, narrow concave base	>1.1m x 0.41	0.24
3011	Fill	Fill of [3010] – Friable, mottled light grey brown and orange, silty clay	>1.1m x 0.41	0.24
3012	Cut	Pit or bioturbation – Sub-circular, ephemeral, shallow flat based	0.44	0.04
3013	Fill	Fill of [3012] – Firm to light grey brown with orange mottling, silty clay, slightly gleyed	0.44	0.04
3014	Fill	Fill of [3002] – Friable, dark greyish brown, silty clay	-	0.22
3015	Cut	Furrow - Linear E-W shallow, concave	>2m x 1.1	0.1
3016	Fill	Fill of [3015] – Soft, mid to dark grey brown, clay silt	>2m x 1.1	0.1

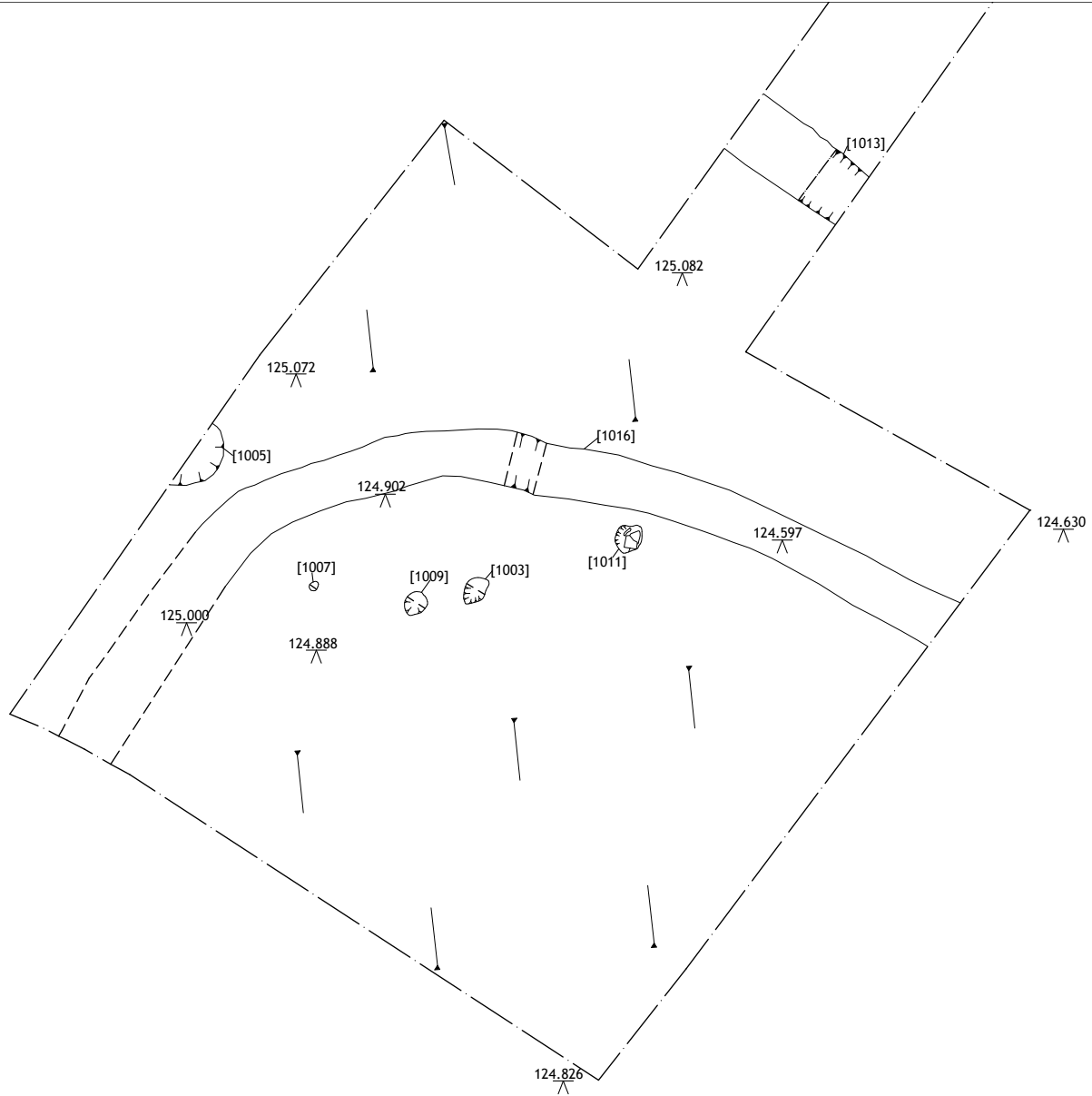
Trench 4				
Context Number	Context Type	Description	Length x Width (m)	Depth (m)
4001	Layer	Topsoil - Dark brown clay silt	-	0.2
4002	Layer	Natural - Mid orange brown, silty clay	-	Unknown
4003	Layer	Natural – Mudstone bedrock	-	Unknown
4004	Cut	Ditch – Linear, steep concave sides, concave base	>1.6 x 0.7	0.3
4005	Fill	Fill of [4004] – Compact, mid greyish brown, silty clay	>1.6 x 0.7	0.3

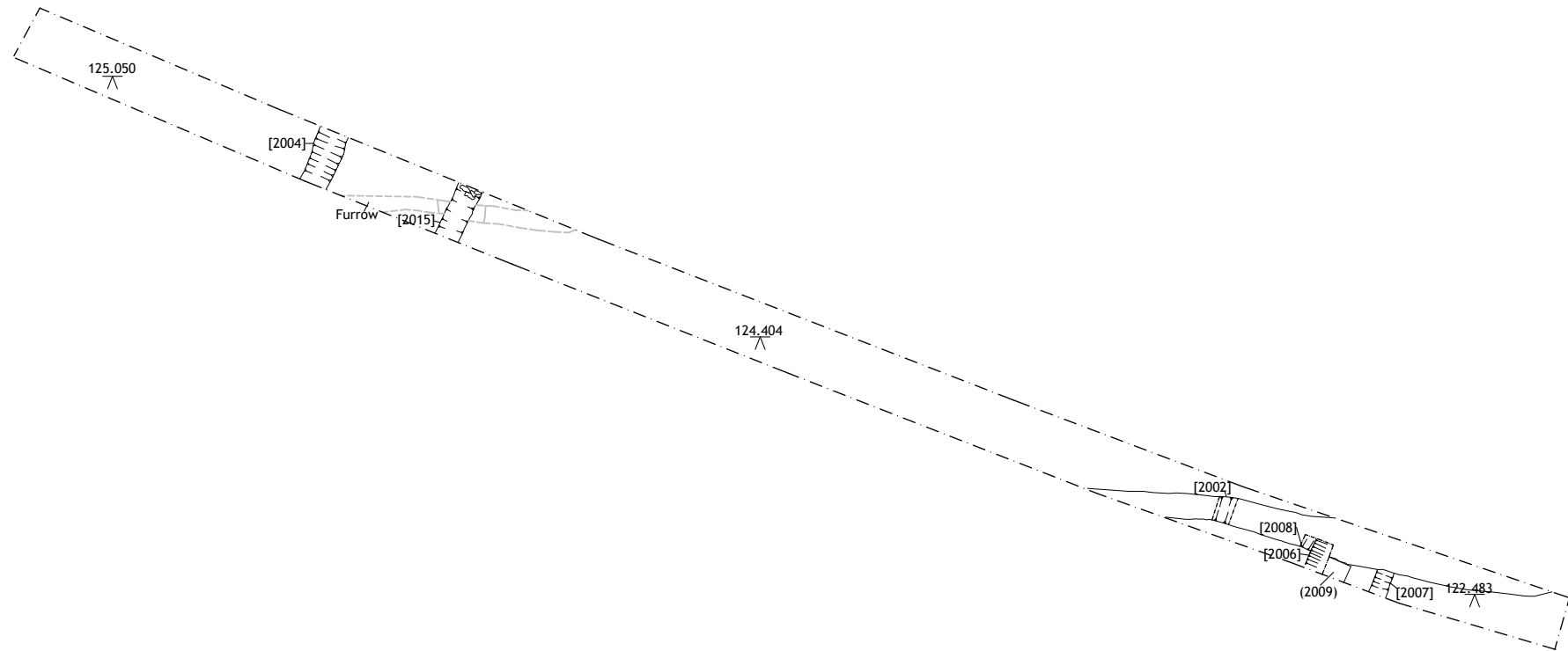
Trench 5				
Context Number	Context Type	Description	Length x Width (m)	Depth (m)
5000	Layer	Topsoil - Dark brown clay silt	-	0.32
5001	Layer	Natural – Mudstone bedrock and yellow clay	-	0.2
5002	VOID	-	-	-
5003	Cut	Ditch – Linear NE-SW, steep sides, flat base	>3 x 0.7	0.3
5004	Fill	Fill of Ditch [5002] – Compact, mid grey, silty clay, fragments of bedrock throughout	>3 x 0.7	0.3
5005	Cut	Ditch Cut – Linear NW-SE, moderate slope, flat base	>2 x 0.8	0.3
5006	Fill	Fill of Drain [5005] – Compact, mid grey brown, silty clay	>2 x 0.8	0.3

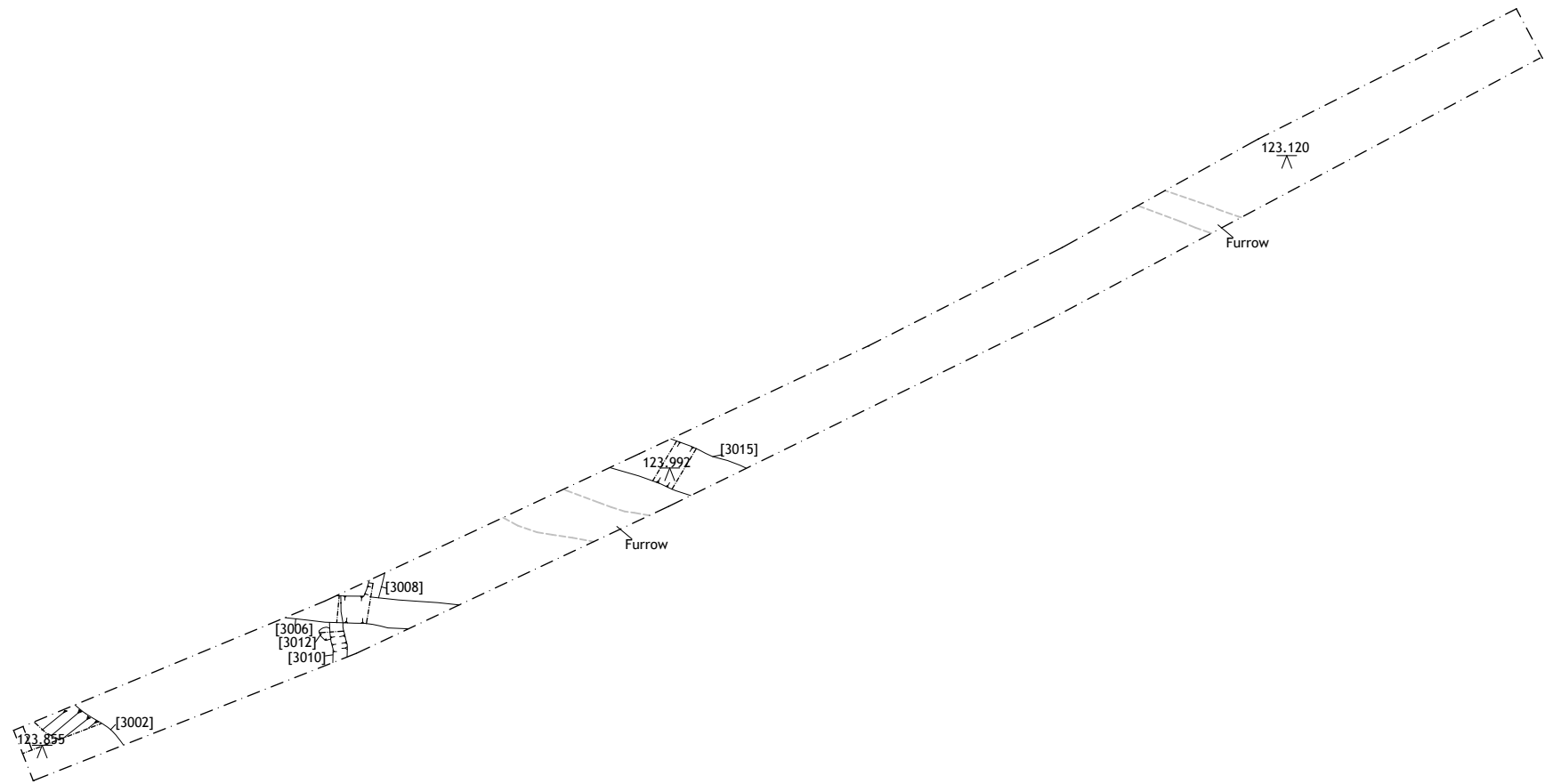
Appendix 2 Figures

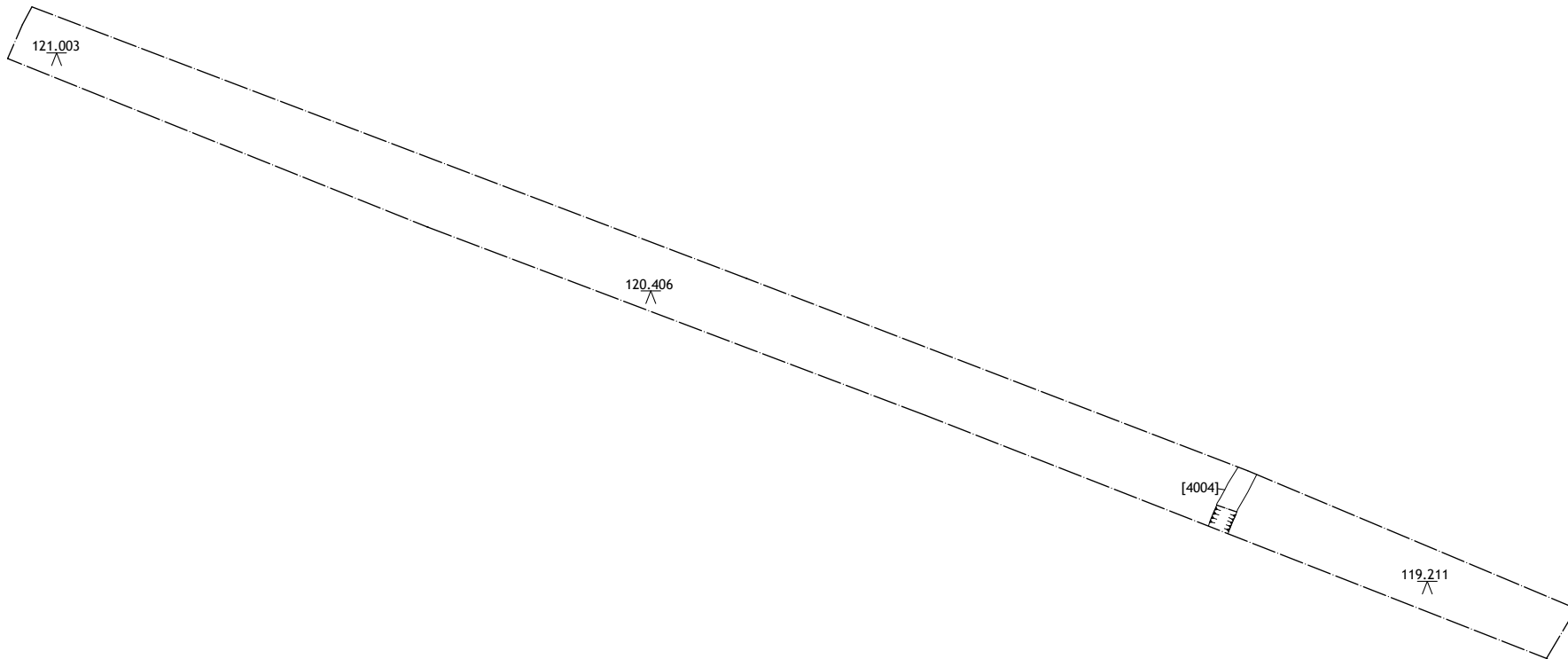


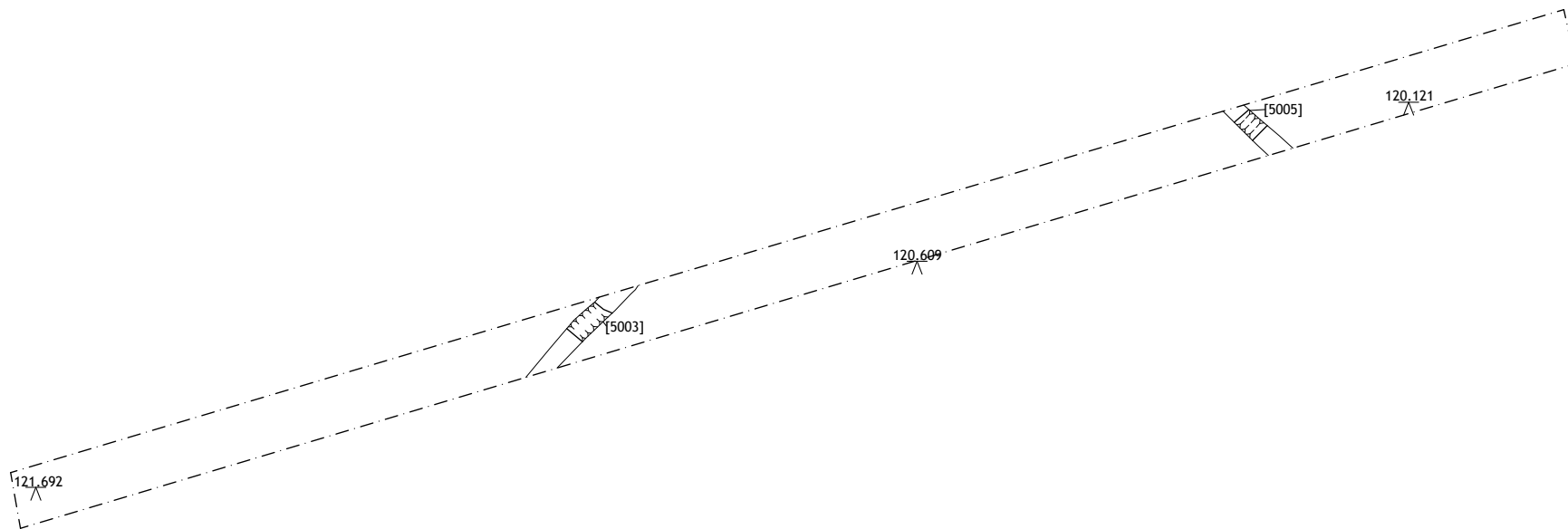


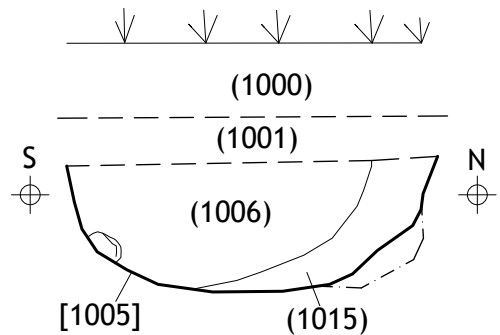




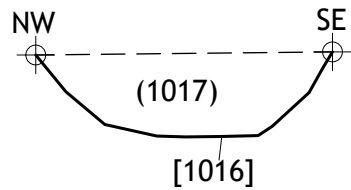




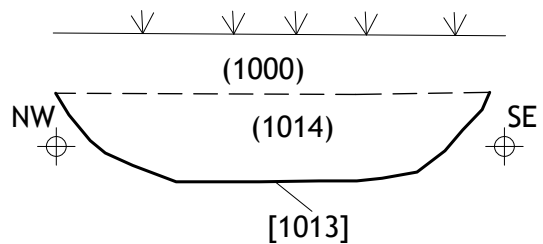
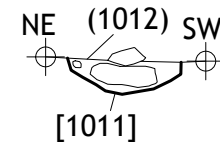




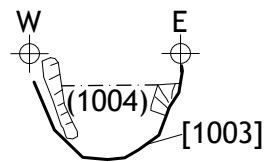
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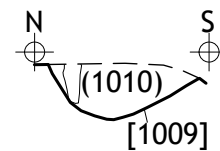
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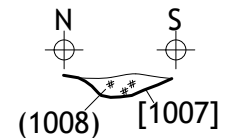
South West Facing Section [1013]



South Facing Section [1003]

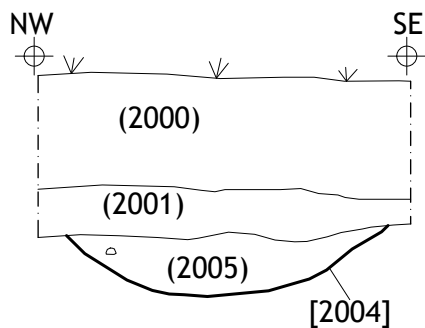


West Facing Section [1009]

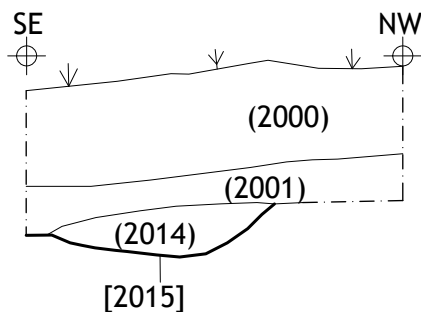


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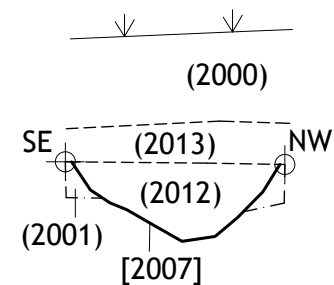




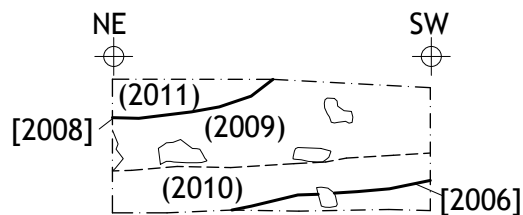
South West Facing Section [2004]



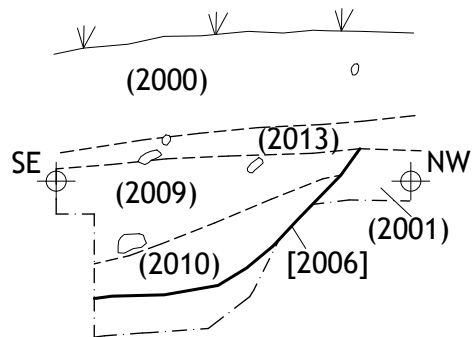
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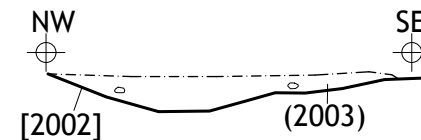
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North West Facing Section [2006]

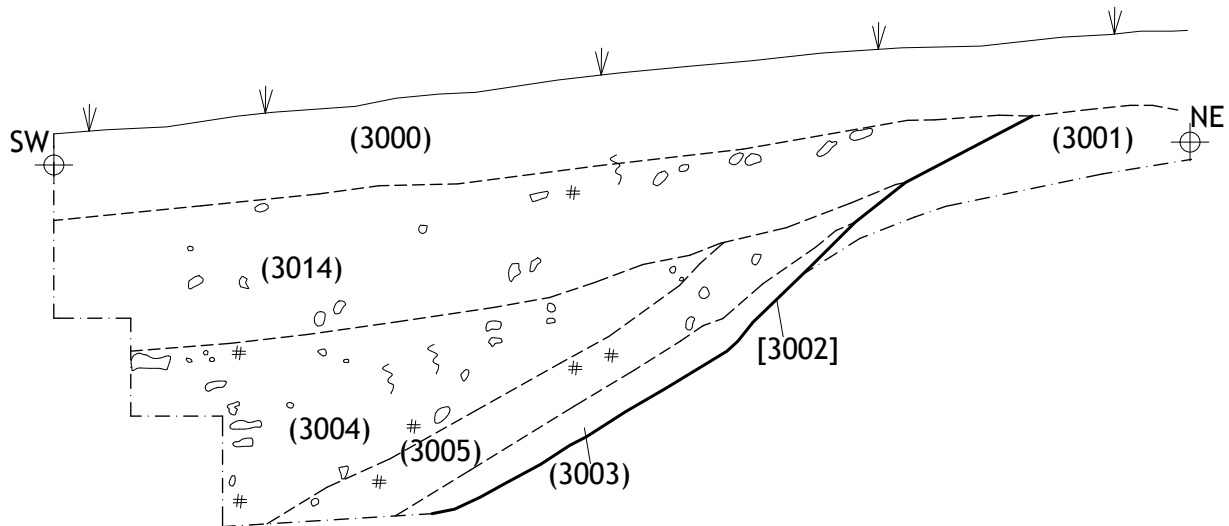


North East Facing Section [2006]

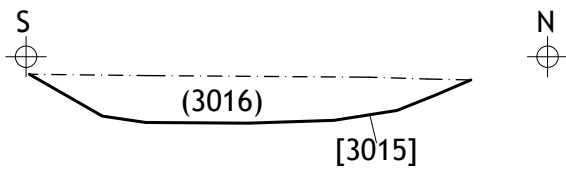


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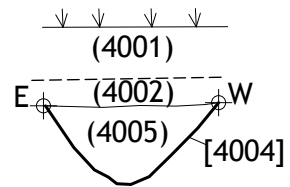




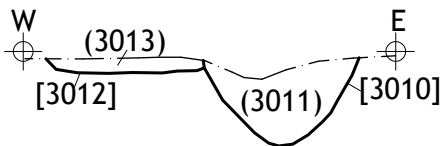
South East Facing Section [3002]



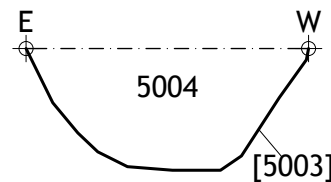
East Facing Section [3015]



North Facing Section [4004]



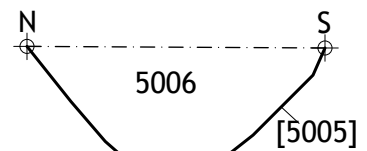
South East Facing Section [3012] and [3010]



North Facing Section [5003]



West Facing Section [3008] and [3006]



West Facing Section [5005]



Appendix 3 OASIS Form

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Project details

Project name	South Wingfield, Inns Lane
Short description of the project	Trent and Peak Archaeology were commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land off Inns Lane, South Wingfield (Derbyshire). The work was required prior to the determination of a Planning Application (AVA/2014/0980) for a residential development of up to 70 dwellings on the site. The proposed development area totals 4.37 hectares of land centred at National Grid Reference SK 3729 5566. Numerous ditches indicated a probable double-ditched enclosure, alongside some localised evidence of post holes and pits, although there was no dating evidence to indicate whether the two feature types were contemporary. Meanwhile, the eastern focus was defined by the presence of three ditches, which in combination with the geophysics have indicated the presence of two rectangular enclosures. No artefactual material was recovered from the site, and therefore dating of these features has not been possible, although the morphology of the site is consistent with a Later Prehistoric/Roman date. Consequently, the significance of the site remains unspecific, although there is evidence for both agricultural and possible settlement activity within the proposed development area.
Project dates	Start: 08-12-2014 End: 12-12-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 2 - Vacant land not previously developed
Monument type	DOUBLE DITCHED ENCLOSURE Iron Age
Significant Finds	N/A None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country England
 Site location DERBYSHIRE AMBER VALLEY SOUTH WINGFIELD Inns Lane, South Wingfield
 Postcode DE557LW
 Study area 4.37 Hectares
 Site coordinates SK 3729 5566 53.096542605 -1.44304907422 53 05 47 N 001 26 34 W Point
 Height OD / Depth Min: 127.00m Max: 127.50m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Trent and Peak Archaeology
 Project brief originator Development Control Archaeologist
 Project design originator CgMs
 Project director/manager Edmund Taylor
 Project supervisor Mark Dodd
 Name of sponsor/funding body CgMs

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No
 Digital Archive recipient Chesterfield Museum and Art Gallery
 Digital Contents "none"
 Digital Media available "Database","GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Survey","Text"
 Paper Archive recipient Chesterfield Museum and Art Gallery
 Paper Contents "none"
 Paper Media available "Context sheet","Drawing","Map","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey ","Unpublished Text"
 Entered by Ed Taylor (etaylor@yorkat.co.uk)
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