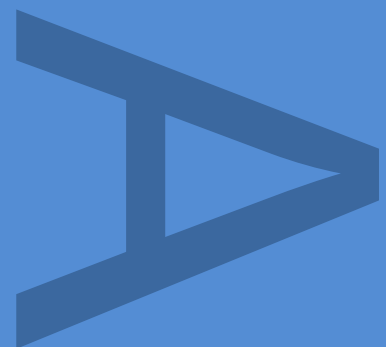


**Land at Fordham Road and
Cherrytree Lane, Soham,
Cambridgeshire:**

**An Archaeological Trial Trench
Evaluation**

January 2016



Land at Fordham Road and Cherrytree Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire:

Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

Local Planning Authority: East Cambridgeshire District Council

Planning Reference: Pre-Application

Central National Grid Reference: TL 6009 7215

Site Code: ECB 4586

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ABSTRACT

This report describes the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on Land at Fordham Road and Cherrytree Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 6009 7215) between the 23rd November and the 2nd December 2015. The archaeological work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the proposed development area.

The evaluation revealed activity relating to three broad periods; prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval. The majority of the features were linear ditches, although several pits and postholes were also recorded.

The prehistoric activity comprised limited concentrations of Early Neolithic flintworking indicative of potential activity in the immediate area. A small quantity of flints of Bronze Age - Iron Age date, coupled with three residual sherds of Early Iron Age pottery from within Trenches 7-10 highlight the potential for a phase of activity relating to this period. The features are in keeping with agricultural activity associated with the edge of settlement.

Romano-British material was equally scarce, with five sherds of pottery and a single fragment of Roman glass, however, the majority of features are considered to relate to this period based on the known settlement remains located immediately north and northeast of the evaluation site. The features identified in the evaluation likely represent peripheral field systems and enclosures for livestock and / or crop.

Three sherds of medieval pottery recovered from one of the ditches alongside the remains of furrows identified in the geophysics and within some trenches highlight agricultural activity on site during this period.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on Land at Fordham Road and Cherrytree Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire, CB7 5AH (centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 6009 7215) from the 23rd November to the 2nd December 2015 (Figure 1).
- 1.2 The archaeological work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting in support of a planning application for residential development.
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Shannon Hogan of PCA (Hogan 2015) in response to a Brief for Archaeological Evaluation issued by Andy Thomas (Thomas 2015) of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET).
- 1.4 The aims of the evaluation as defined in the WSI were to identify, excavate and record the location, extent, date, character and state of preservation of any archaeological remains on the site which are likely to be threatened by the proposed development, and to identify their significance in a local, regional and national context, as appropriate, with reference to the East Anglian regional research agendas (see Hogan 2015).
- 1.5 A total of 18 x 40m trial trenches were excavated and recorded.
- 1.6 This report describes the results of the evaluation and aims to provide a predictive model for the archaeological remains present on site and to inform the design of an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy if necessary. The site archive will be deposited at Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store.

2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

2.1 Geology

2.1.1 The underlying geology of the site is Chalk of the West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation, formed approximately 94 to 100 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period when the local environment was dominated by warm chalk seas (British Geological Survey; Website 1).

2.1.2 The superficial deposits on the site are second terrace river sands and gravels, formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period when the local environment was dominated by rivers (British Geological Survey; Website 1).

2.2 Topography

2.2.1 The site comprises an area of approximately 4.8ha. It is located to the south of the historic town of Soham, 20km north-east of Cambridge and 10km south-east of Ely. The site is on relatively flat ground at an approximate elevation of 5.5m AOD (above Ordnance Datum), the surrounding area is also generally flat, with a slight rise in the ground to the north and east of the site towards the centre of Soham and a corresponding drop to the south and west. The Soham Lode runs east to west 1km north of the site, while the River Cam is located 5km to the west.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 General

3.1.1 The information below has been summarised from the Historic Environment Record (HER) and the Archaeological Design Brief (Thomas 2015). A 1km search of the area has shown there to be high potential for prehistoric, Roman and Saxon remains within the development area. A Geophysical Survey (Davies 2015) of the site did not identify features of probable archaeological origin, although some linear and curvilinear anomalies were identified.

3.2 Prehistoric

3.2.1 Soham lies on the fen edge, a landscape rich in archaeology and well known for its wealth of prehistoric and Roman settlement. Evidence of prehistoric settlement around the site has been represented by a number of findspots within a 1km radius including; Neolithic and Bronze Age flints (HER 02097, HER 0710A, MCB17961), Bronze Age pottery (HER 07492, HER 07493), a Bronze Age metal spearhead tip (HER 07605a) and Iron Age pottery (HER 07503, HER 07560). Within the more immediate vicinity of the site an evaluation at Fordham allotments, 200m north of the development area, identified remains of later Bronze Age-Iron Age settlement (ECB455/CB14631 and MCB19583), including pits, a posthole and a cobbled surface. A Bronze Age urned cremation burial was also discovered to the east of the site (HER 07518).

3.3 Roman

3.3.1 During the Roman period Soham formed part of a settled landscape on the edge of the fens. Roman settlement remains (ditches, pits and building material) were noted during archaeological work between 100m and 200m north of the development area (ECB454, ECB455, ECB1714, ECB3613, CB14630, CB146332) and a large quantity of Roman findspots (pottery, coins and artefacts) are recorded within the southern part of Soham, attesting to a strong presence in the immediate area around the site.

3.4 Saxon

3.4.1 During the mid-19th century, a Saxon cemetery was discovered at the site of the modern cemetery off Newmarket Road, 150m north of the development area (HER 07027). Saxon pottery and metal artefacts have been found close to the development area, elsewhere in south Soham (HER 07121a, HER 07585, HER 07603, MCB17389).

3.5 Medieval and Post-Medieval

3.5.1 The medieval village of Soham stretched north to south along the main street, which from the 12th century formed part of the route from Fordham to Ely. The River Snail was partially canalised in the medieval period and as a result Soham appears to have become a wealthy town as it became a centre of trade with the establishment of an inland port. Archaeological evidence for this period around the site however is restricted to a few metal artefacts which have been recovered from fields to the south of the site (HER 07119a, HER 07502A) and the site of a possible medieval mill which is recorded on the 1841 tithe map 100m north of the development site (HER 07497). Evidence of medieval agricultural activity can still be seen in the area, with a former headland (HER 07104A) to the southwest of the development area.

3.5.2 Post-medieval finds have been found alongside earlier material recovered from fieldwalking and metal detecting across the field in the south of Soham. The development site is located to the south of the historic core of Soham and as such, likely remained rural land throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Excavation and Sampling

- 4.1.1 The Written Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation proposed the excavation of 18 trial trenches, distributed across the site. Some of the trenches have been positioned to target anomalies identified in the geophysical survey of the site, as well as 'blank' spaces.
- 4.1.2 Ground reduction was carried out under archaeological supervision using a 21-ton tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m-wide toothless ditching bucket. Topsoil and subsoil deposits were removed in spits down to the level of the undisturbed natural geological deposits where potential archaeological features could be observed and recorded. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by trowel and hoe as appropriate and all further excavation was undertaken manually using hand tools. Overburden deposits were set aside beside each trench and examined visually and with a metal-detector for finds retrieval.
- 4.1.3 Metal-detecting was carried out during the topsoil and subsoil stripping and throughout the excavation process. Archaeological features and spoilheaps were scanned by metal-detector as they were encountered/ created. No metalwork was recovered from the site.
- 4.1.4 Bucket sampling was conducted for each trench but yielded only a few fragments of post-medieval CBM which is thought to have derived through ploughing and manuring. This material was not retained.
- 4.1.5 Field excavation techniques and recording methods are detailed in the PCA Fieldwork Induction Manual (Operations Manual I) by Joanna Taylor and Gary Brown (2009).
- 4.1.6 Six ditches were not excavated in the trenches either due to localised flooding or because they were investigated in adjacent trenches. The remaining exposed features were investigated and recorded in order to understand the date and nature of the archaeological remains on the site and to recover sufficient finds assemblages to assess the chronological

development and socio-economic character of the site over time.

- 4.1.7 Discrete features such as pits and postholes were at least 50% excavated and, where considered appropriate, 100% excavated.

4.2 Recording Methodology

- 4.2.1 The limits of excavations, heights above Ordnance Datum (m OD) and the locations of archaeological features and interventions were recorded using a Leica 1200 GPS rover unit with RTK differential correction, giving three-dimensional accuracy of 20mm or better.
- 4.2.2 Manual plans and section drawings of archaeological features and deposits were drawn at an appropriate scale (1:10, 1:20 or 1:50).
- 4.2.3 Deposits or the removal of deposits judged by the excavating archaeologist to constitute individual events were each assigned a unique record number (often referred to within British archaeology as 'context numbers') and recorded on individual pre-printed forms (Taylor and Brown 2009). Archaeological processes recognised by the deposition of material are signified in this report by round brackets (thus), while events constituting the removal of deposits are referred to here as 'cuts' and signified by square brackets [thus]. The record numbers assigned to cuts and deposits are entirely arbitrary and in no way reflect the chronological order in which events took place. All features and deposits recorded during the evaluation are listed in Appendix 2. Artefacts recovered during excavation were assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved.
- 4.2.4 High-resolution digital photographs were taken at all stages of the evaluation process. Digital Photographs were taken of all archaeological features and deposits and black and white film photographs were taken when considered appropriate by the excavator and supervisor.
- 4.2.5 Artefacts and ecofacts were collected by hand and assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved, receiving appropriate care prior to removal from the site (Walker 1990; Watkinson 1981).

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The trenches are described below in numerical order, with technical data tabulated. Features and deposits are described from west to east or south to north depending on the alignment of the trench. The evaluation identified three broad phases of activity; prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval.

5.1.2 The archaeological features identified on the site were cut into the natural geology consisting of pale grey clay marl and orange-brown sand and gravel (102). These features were sealed by deposits of subsoil (103) and (101), unless otherwise stated, which were in turn sealed by topsoil (100).

5.2 Trench 1 (Figures 2-4)

5.2.1 Trench 1 contained one ditch aligned north-west to south-east as well as a pit and a watering hole.

5.2.2 Pit [212] (Figure 4) was located at the western end of the trench extending beyond the southern limit of excavation. It was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.4m long, 0.42m wide and 0.22m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (213) of mid grey-brown silty sand, which contained no finds. Pit [212] was located c. 3.0m to the west of Ditch [107].

5.2.3 Ditch [107] (Figure 4) was located at the eastern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-west to south-east measuring 1.82m wide and 0.35m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (108) of mid grey brown silty sand. No finds were recovered from this feature. Ditch [107] was located c. 3.0m to the east of Pit [212] and c. 3.0m west of Watering hole [104].

5.2.4 Watering hole [104] (Figure 4; Plate 2) was located at the eastern end of the trench extending beyond the northern limit of excavation. It was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.5m+ long, 3.5m wide, of which 1.9m was excavated, and 0.48m+ in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a two fills: a lower deposit (106) of dark grey-brown silty sand and

an upper deposit (105) of mid grey-brown silty sand. Watering hole [104] was located c. 3.0m to the east of Ditch [107]

TRENCH 1	Figures 2-4			
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD):m		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		E End	W End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.22m	0.24m	
Upper Subsoil	(101)	0.24m	0.28m	
Lower Subsoil	(103)	0.18m	0.04m	
Natural	(102)	0.64m+	0.52m+	
Summary				
Trench 1 was located in the south-west corner of the site.				
The Trench contained one ditch aligned north-west to south-east as well as a pit and a watering hole				

5.3 Trench 2 (Figures 2-4)

5.3.1 Trench 2 contained four ditches; three aligned east to west and one aligned north-west to south-east.

5.3.2 Ditch [115] (Figure 4) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 1.2m wide and 0.25m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (116) of mid grey brown silty sand. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.3.3 Ditch Terminus [142] (Figure 4; Plate 4) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond the eastern limit of excavation. It was a linear terminus in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 0.7m wide and 0.3m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (143) of mid to pale grey brown silty sand. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.3.4 Ditch [111] (Figure 4) was located midway along the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 0.51m wide and 0.09m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (112) of mid grey brown silty sand. No finds

were recovered from this feature. This may be a modern plough furrow.

- 5.3.5 Ditch [109] (Figure 4; Plate 5) was located at the northern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 2.04m wide and 0.29m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (110) of mid to light grey brown silty sand, which contained fragments of post-medieval CBM. This feature was considered to be a possible medieval or later furrow.

TRENCH 2	Figures 2-4		Plate 3	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD):m		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		NW End	SE End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.24m	0.24m	
Upper Subsoil	(101)	0.3m	0.3m	
Natural	(102)	0.58m+	0.53m+	
Summary				
Trench 2 was located in the north-western corner of the site.				
The trench contained four ditches; three aligned east to west and one aligned north-west to south-east.				

5.4 Trench 3 (Figures 2-4)

- 5.4.1 Trench 3 contained one ditch aligned east to west. This was an extension of Ditch [174] excavated in Trench 6 and so was not further investigated in this Trench.

TRENCH 3	Figures 2-4			
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD):m		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		NW End	SE End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.21m	0.21m	
Upper Subsoil	(101)	0.26m	0.32m	
Lower Subsoil	(103)	N/A	0.16m	
Natural	(102)	0.48m+	0.62m+	
Summary				
Trench 3 was located in the western part of the site.				

The trench contained one ditch aligned east to west. This was an extension of Ditch [174] which was excavated in Trench 6, and so not further investigated in this Trench.

5.5 Trench 4 (Figures 2-4)

5.5.1 Trench 4 contained one pit.

5.5.2 Pit [113] (Figure 4) was located at the eastern end of the trench. It was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.14m long, 0.86m wide and 0.16m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (114) of mid grey-brown sandy silt, which contained no finds.

TRENCH 4		Figures 2-4	
Trench Alignment: E-W		Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD):m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		E End	W End
Topsoil	(100)	0.23m	0.24m
Upper Subsoil	(101)	0.28m	0.26m
Lower Subsoil	(103)	0.1m	0.12m
Natural	(102)	0.64m+	0.62m+
Summary			
Trench 4 was located in the western part of the site.			
The trench contained one pit.			

5.6 Trench 5 (Figures 2-4)

5.6.1 Trench 5 contained four ditches aligned north-east to south-west.

5.6.2 Ditch [232] (Figure 4; Plate 6) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 0.87m wide and 0.27m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (233) of mid grey brown silty sand. Ditch [232] was truncated by Ditch [225] on its northern edge. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.6.3 Ditch [225] (Figure 4; Plate 6) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 0.79m wide and 0.22m deep with

moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (226) of dark grey brown silty sand. Ditch [225] truncated Ditch [232] on its northern edge. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.6.4 Ditch [190] (Figure 4) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 0.95m wide and 0.29m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (191) of mid grey brown silty sand. Ditch [190] was truncated by Ditch [188] which was located to the north. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.6.5 Ditch [188] (Figure 4) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 0.85m wide and 0.28m deep with moderate to steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (189) of dark grey brown silty sand. Ditch [188] truncated Ditch [190] to the south. No finds were recovered from this feature.

TRENCH 5		Figures 2-4	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE		Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD):m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		NW End	SE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.22m	0.3m
Upper Subsoil	(101)	0.18m	0.1m
Lower Subsoil	(103)	0.2m	0.14m
Natural	(102)	0.62m+	0.58m+
Summary			
Trench 5 was located in the western part of the site.			
The trench contained four ditches aligned north-east to south-west.			

5.7 Trench 6 (Figures 2-4)

5.7.1 Trench 6 contained two ditches aligned east to west.

5.7.2 Furrow [172] (Figure 4) was located midway along the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned west to east measuring 1.7m wide and 0.1m deep with gently sloping sides and a

concave base. It contained a single fill (173) of mid grey brown silty sand. No finds were recovered from this feature.

- 5.7.3 Ditch [174] (Figure 4) was located midway along the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned west to east measuring 1.4m wide and 0.22m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (175) of mid grey brown silty sand. No finds were recovered from this feature.

TRENCH 6		Figures 2-4	
Trench Alignment: N-S		Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD):m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		N End	S End
Topsoil	(100)	0.28m	0.24m
Upper Subsoil	(101)	0.2m	0.21m
Natural	(102)	0.48m+	0.4m+
Summary			
Trench 6 was located in the western part of the site.			
The trench contained two ditches aligned east to west			

5.8 Trench 7 (Figures 2, 3, 5)

- 5.8.1 Trench 7 contained three ditches; two aligned north to south and one aligned north-west to south-east, as well as four post-holes.
- 5.8.2 Ditch [140] (Figure 5) was located midway along the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south measuring 1.04m wide and 0.24m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It contained two fills: a lower deposit (244) of slightly greenish-grey silty sand, and an upper deposit (141) of mid to dark grey brown silty sand. Ditch [140] was located c. 1.6m to the west of Post-hole [138]. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.8.3 Post-hole [138] (Figure 5) was located midway along the trench. It was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.24m long, 0.27m wide and 0.14m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (139) of mid grey brown silty sand. Post-hole [138] was located c. 1.6m to the east of Ditch

[140]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

- 5.8.4 Post-hole [136] (Figure 5; Plate 8) was located midway along the trench. It was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.2m long, 0.24m wide and 0.09m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (137) of mid grey brown silty sand. Post-hole [136] truncated Ditch [134]. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.8.5 Ditch [134] (Figure 5; Plate 8) was located at the eastern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south measuring 0.78m wide and 0.21m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained two fills: a lower deposit (245) of pale grey brown silty marl, and an upper deposit (135) of mid grey-brown sandy silt, containing a single piece of Mesolithic/Early Neolithic worked flint. Ditch [134] was truncated by Post-holes [136], [168] and [170] which are likely to be contemporary with one another.
- 5.8.6 Post-hole [170] (Figure 5) was located at the eastern end of the trench. It was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.28m long, 0.31m wide and 0.14m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (171) of mid grey brown silty sand. Post-hole [170] truncated Ditch [134]. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.8.7 Post-hole [168] (Figure 5) was located at the eastern end of the trench. It was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.25m long, 0.28m wide and 0.09m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (169) of mid grey brown silty sand. Post-hole [168] truncated Ditch [134]. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.8.8 Ditch [132] (Figure 5; Plate 7) was located at the eastern end of the trench extending beyond the southern limit of excavation. It was a linear terminus in plan, aligned north-west to south-east measuring 0.43m wide and 0.16m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained two fills: a lower deposit (245) of pale grey brown silty marl, and an upper deposit (135) of mid grey-brown sandy silt. Ditch [132] was located c. 1.3m to the east of Post-holes [136], [168] and [170] and Ditch [134].

5.8.9 Post-holes [138], [136], [168] and [170] are likely to be contemporary, this is based on morphological similarities as well as the similarities in the deposits within them and the fact that they are all cut through the infilled Ditch [134]. There is the potential for Post-holes [136], [168] and [170] forming part of a structure.

TRENCH 7		Figures 2, 3, 5		Plate	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW		Length: 40m		Level of Natural (m OD):m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)			
		NE End	SW End		
Topsoil	(100)	0.26m	0.24m		
Upper Subsoil	(101)	0.1m	0.1m		
Natural	(102)	0.29m+	0.32m+		
Summary					
Trench 7 was located in the western half of the site.					
The trench contained three ditches; two aligned north to south and one aligned north-west to south-east, as well as four post-holes.					

5.9 Trench 8 (Figures 2, 3, 5)

5.9.1 Trench 8 contained two ditches one aligned north-east to south-west and one aligned east to west.

5.9.2 Ditch [166] (Figure 5) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 1.27m wide and 0.25m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained two fills: a lower deposit (246) of pale grey silty marl, and an upper deposit (167) of mid grey brown silty sand containing ten worked flints, of which one was a complete Mesolithic blade and five were of Bronze Age-Iron Age date. Ditch [166] was located c. 1.5m to the south of Ditch [164].

5.9.3 Ditch [164] (Figure 5; Plate 9) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 0.68m wide and 0.18m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (165) of mid grey brown silty sand containing four worked flints, one of which was Mesolithic/ Early

Neolithic date. Ditch [164] was located c. 1.5m to the north of Ditch [166].

TRENCH 8		Figures 2, 3, 5	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE		Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD):m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		NW End	SE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.28m	0.21m
Upper Subsoil	(101)	0.14m	0.24m
Natural	(102)	0.42m+	0.46m+
Summary			
Trench 8 was located in the centre of the site.			
The trench contained two ditches one aligned north-east to south-west and one aligned east to west			

5.10 Trench 9 (Figures 2, 3, 6)

5.10.1 Trench 9 contained one pit and six ditches. Five of these ditches were aligned north to south and one ditch corner was initially aligned east to west before turning through 90° to be aligned north to south. Trench 9 was extended at the eastern end to further investigate a possible corner of an enclosure.

5.10.2 Ditch [160] (Figure 6) was located at the western end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south measuring 1.7m wide and 0.4m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (159) of mid yellowish grey sandy silt, containing one Mesolithic blade. Ditch [160] truncated Ditch [158] and was truncated by Ditch [156].

5.10.3 Ditch [158] (Figure 6) was located at the western end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south measuring 0.85m wide and 0.2m deep. Its full profile could not be ascertained as it was heavily truncated. It contained a single fill (157) of pale grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [158] was truncated by Ditches [156] and [160]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.10.4 Ditch [156] (Figure 6) was located at the western end of the trench extending

beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south measuring 2.0m wide and 0.4m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (155) of mid to pale grey brown sandy silt, containing two sherds of Roman pottery, (AD50-100), two sherds of Early Iron Age pottery, four pieces of flint (two of which were of Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date), and one fragment (4g) of burnt flint. Ditch [156] truncated Ditches [158] and Ditch [160].

- 5.10.5 Ditch [154] (Figure 6; Plate 10) was located at the eastern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south measuring 0.66m wide and 0.35m deep with moderate to steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (153) of mid grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [154] truncated Ditch [152]. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.10.6 Ditch [152] (Figure 6; Plate 10) was located at the eastern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south measuring 1.56m wide and 0.46m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (151) of pale grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [152] was truncated by Ditch [154] and Pit [150]. Three sherds of 12th-14th century pottery were found in this ditch.
- 5.10.7 Pit [150] (Figure 6; Plate 10) was located at the eastern end of the trench. It was sub-circular in plan measuring 0.65m long, 0.6m wide and 0.25m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (149) of mid to pale grey brown sandy silt. Pit [150] truncated Ditches [152] and [148]. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.10.8 Ditch [148] (Figure 6; Plate 10) was located at the eastern end of the trench extending beyond the eastern and southern limits of excavation. It was a linear corner in plan, initially aligned north to south before turning through 90° to be aligned east to west. This ditch measured 0.82m wide and 0.36m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (147) of mid to pale grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [148] was truncated by Pit [150]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

TRENCH 9	Figures 2, 3, 6			
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD):m		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		NE End	SW End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.28m	0.28m	
Upper Subsoil	(101)	0.16m	0.14m	
Lower Subsoil	(103)	0.2m	0.2m	
Natural	(102)	0.64m+	0.62m+	
Summary				
<p>Trench 9 was located in the centre of the site.</p> <p>The trench contained one pit and six ditches. Five of these ditches were aligned north to south and one ditch corner was initially aligned east to west before turning through 90° to be aligned north to south. Trench 9 was extended at the eastern end to further investigate a possible corner of an enclosure.</p>				

5.11 Trench 10 (Figures 2, 3, 6)

- 5.11.1 Trench 10 contained two pits and six ditches; one aligned north-east to south-west, three aligned north to south and two aligned north-west to south-east. The trench was extended southwards at the western end to fully expose Pit [119].
- 5.11.2 Ditch [131] (Figure 6) was located midway along the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 1.74m wide and 0.27m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (130) of mid grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [131] was located c. 1.5m to the west of Ditches [121]-[129]. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.11.3 Ditch [129] (Figure 6) was located midway along the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south measuring 1.72m wide and 0.67m deep with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (128) of mid grey brown sandy silt, which contained two fragments (32g) of burnt, unworked flint. Ditch [129] was located c. 1.5m to the east of Ditch [131], it truncated Ditch [125] and was truncated by Ditch [127].

- 5.11.4 Ditch [127] (Figure 6) was located midway along the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-west to south-east measuring 0.77m wide and 0.33m deep with moderate to steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (126) of mid grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [127] was located c. 1.5m to the east of Ditch [131] and truncated Ditch [129]. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.11.5 Ditch [125] (Figure 6) was located midway along the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-west to south-east measuring 0.72m wide and 0.23m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (124) of mid to pale grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [125] was located c. 3.0m to the east of Ditch [131] it truncated Ditch [123] and was truncated by Ditch [129].
- 5.11.6 Ditch [123] (Figure 6) was located midway along the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south measuring 0.52m wide and 0.2m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (122) of mid to pale grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [123] was located c. 3.5m to the east of Ditch [131] and was truncated by Ditches [125] and [121]. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.11.7 Ditch [121] (Figure 6) was located midway along the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south measuring 0.82m wide and 0.22m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (120) of mid grey brown sandy silt, containing one sherd of Roman pottery. Ditch [121] was located c. 4.5m to the east of Ditch [131] and c. 1.5m to the west of Pit [119]. Ditch [121] truncated Ditch [123].
- 5.11.8 Pit [119] (Figure 6; Plate 11) was located midway along the trench. It was sub-circular in plan measuring 1.31m long, 1.52m wide and 0.24m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained three fills: a lower deposit (146) of mid grey brown sandy silt, a middle deposit (145) of very dark grey silty sand and an upper deposit (144) of charcoal rich black silty

sand. Pit [119] was located c. 1.5m to the east of Ditches [121]-[129] and c. 1.8m to the west of Pit [118] which contained burnt flint and is considered to be prehistoric in date.

5.11.9 Pit [118] (Figure 6) was located midway along the trench extending beyond the southern limit of excavation. It was sub-circular in plan measuring 0.79m+ long, 1.82m wide and 0.21m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained two fills: a lower deposit (303) of mid to pale grey brown sandy silt and an upper deposit (117) of dark grey brown silty sand, which contained five fragments (91g) of burnt, unworked flint. Pit [118] was located c. 1.5m to the east of Pit [119].

TRENCH 10		Figures 2, 3, 6	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW		Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD):m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		NE End	SW End
Topsoil	(100)	0.26m	0.32m
Upper Subsoil	(101)	0.24m	0.18m
Lower Subsoil	(103)	0.1m	N/A
Natural	(102)	0.58m+	0.52m+
Summary			
Trench 10 was located in the centre of the site.			
The trench contained two pits and six ditches; one aligned north-east to south-west, three aligned north to south and two aligned north-west to south-east. The trench was extended at the western end of the trench to fully expose Pit [119].			

5.12 Trench 11 (Figures 2, 3, 5)

5.12.1 Trench 11 contained three post-holes.

5.12.2 Post-hole [181] (Figure 5; Plate 12) was located at the northern end of the trench. It was sub-circular in plan measuring 0.3m long, 0.38m wide and 0.16m deep with steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (182) of pale grey brown silty sand containing one piece of worked flint. Post-hole [181] was located c. 0.75m to the west of Post-hole [183] and c. 4.7m to the south of Post-hole [185].

5.12.3 Post-hole [183] (Figure 5; Plate 12) was located at the northern end of the

trench. It was sub-circular in plan measuring 0.32m long, 0.33m wide and 0.16m deep with steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (184) of pale grey brown silty sand containing one sherd of Roman pottery and two pieces of worked flint. Post-hole [183] was located c. 0.75m to the east of Post-hole [181] and c. 4.7m to the south of Post-hole [185].

5.12.4 Post-hole [185] (Figure 5) was located at the northern end of the trench. It was sub-circular in plan measuring 0.3m long, 0.32m wide and 0.15m deep with steep sloping sides and a flat to concave base. It contained a two fills: a lower deposit (186) of pale grey marly-silt, containing one sherd of Roman pottery, and one sherd of glass (Plate 19), and an upper deposit (187) of pale grey brown silty sand containing one fragment (15g) of burnt, unworked flint. Post-hole [185] was located c. 4.7m to the north of Post-holes [181] and [183].

TRENCH 11	Figures		Plate	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD):m		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		NW End	SE End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.2m	0.18m	
Upper Subsoil	(101)	N/A	0.14m	
Lower Subsoil	(103)	0.1m	0.06m	
Natural	(102)	0.32m+	0.44m+	
Summary				
Trench 11 was located in the eastern half of the site.				
The trench contained three post-holes.				

5.13 Trench 12 (Figures 2, 3, 5)

5.13.1 Trench 12 contained no archaeological features or deposits.

TRENCH 12	Figures 2, 3, 5			
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD):m		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		NE End	SW End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.23m	0.24m	
Upper Subsoil	(101)	0.15m	0.14m	
Lower Subsoil	(103)	0.16m	0.16m	

Natural	(102)	0.54m+	0.58m+
Summary			
Trench 12 was located in the eastern half of the site.			
The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

5.14 Trench 13 (Figures 2, 3, 6)

- 5.14.1 Trench 13 contained four ditches, aligned east to west, a furrow and a pit.
- 5.14.2 Furrow [304] (Figure 6) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 1.07m wide and 0.2m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (305) of mid to pale grey brown sandy silt. Furrow [304] truncated Ditch [204]. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.14.3 Ditch [204] (Figure 6) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 1.01m wide and 0.44m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (205) of mid grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [204] was truncated by Furrow [304]. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.14.4 Ditch [206] (Figure 6) was located midway along the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 1.07m wide and 0.08m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (207) of mid reddish brown sandy silt. Ditch [206] truncated Ditch [208]. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.14.5 Ditch [208] (Figure 6) was located midway along the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 1.32m wide and 0.26m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (209) of mid grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [208] truncated Pit [249] and was truncated by Ditch [206]. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.14.6 Pit [249] (Figure 6) was located midway along the trench. It was sub-circular

in plan measuring 0.87m long, 0.46m wide and 0.15m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (250) of pale grey brown silty sand. Pit [249] was truncated by Ditch [208]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.14.7 Ditch [210] (Figure 6) was located at the northern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 0.74m wide and 0.09m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (211) of mid grey brown sandy silt. No finds were recovered from this feature.

TRENCH 13		Figures 2, 3, 6	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD):m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		NW End	SE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.28m	0.24m
Upper Subsoil	(101)	0.21m	0.28m
Lower Subsoil	(103)	0.11m	N/A
Natural	(102)	0.6m+	0.52m+
Summary			
Trench 13 was located in the eastern half of the site.			
The trench contained four ditches, aligned east to west, a furrow and a pit.			

5.15 Trench 14 (Figures 2, 3, 6)

5.15.1 Trench 14 contained nine ditches, six aligned north-east to south-west and three aligned east to west, and a post-hole. Six of the ditches were excavated, the remainder could not be excavated due to the high water table.

5.15.2 Ditch [229] (Figure 6; Plate 13) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 0.99m wide and 0.25m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It contained two fills: a lower deposit (230) of mid yellowish-grey sandy silt, and an upper deposit (231) of pale grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [229] was truncated by Ditch [242] and was located c. 0.75m to the south of Post-hole [227] to which it may be related due to similarities in

the fills. No finds were recovered from this feature.

- 5.15.3 Ditch [242] (Figure 6; Plate 13) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 0.45m wide and 0.13m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (243) of dark grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [242] truncated Ditch [229] and was located c. 0.75m to the south of Post-hole [227]. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.15.4 Post-hole [227] (Figure 6; Plate 13) was located at the southern end of the trench. It was sub-circular in plan measuring 0.36m long, 0.35m wide and 0.19m deep with steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (228) of pale grey brown sandy silt. Post-hole [227] was located c. 0.75m to the north of Ditches [242] and [229] to which it is likely to be related due to the similarities in the fills.
- 5.15.5 Ditch Terminus [255] (Figure 6) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond the western limit of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 1.06m wide and 0.23m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (256) of mid grey brown sandy silt. Ditch Terminus [255] was located c. 1.95m to the north of Post-hole [227]. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.15.6 Ditch [240] (Figure 6) was located midway along the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 0.49m wide and 0.18m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (241) of mid grey brown sandy silt. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.15.7 Ditch [253] (Figure 6) was located at the northern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 1.27m wide and 0.35m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (254) of mid grey brown sandy silt. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.15.8 Ditch [251] (Figure 6) was located at the northern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 1.28m wide and 0.47m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (252) of mid grey brown sandy silt. No finds were recovered from this feature.

TRENCH 14	Figures 2, 3, 6		
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD):m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		NW End	SE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.28m	0.32m
Upper Subsoil	(101)	0.24m	0.18m
Lower Subsoil	(103)	0.3m	0.17m
Natural	(102)	0.84m+	0.72m+
Summary			
Trench 14 was located in the eastern half of the site.			
The trench contained nine ditches, six aligned north-east to south-west and three aligned east to west, and a post-hole. Six of the ditches were excavated, the remainder could not be excavated due to the high water table.			

5.16 Trench 15 (Figures 2, 3, 7)

5.16.1 Trench 15 contained seven ditches, aligned east to west, and two pits.

5.16.2 Ditch [163] (Figure 7) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 0.64m wide and 0.15m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (162) of mid grey brown sandy silt containing two pieces of worked flint, one likely to be of Mesolithic/ Early Neolithic date.

5.16.3 Ditch [193] (Figure 7; Plate 14) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 0.62m wide and 0.24m deep with steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (192) of pale grey brown sandy silt containing twelve pieces of worked flint, seven of which were of late Mesolithic/ Early Neolithic date. Ditch [193] was located c. 1.5m to the north

of Ditch [161] and truncated shallow Pit [195].

- 5.16.4 Pit [195] (Figure 7; Plate 14) was located at the southern end of the trench. It was sub-circular in plan measuring 1.2m long, 2.4m wide and 0.06m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (194) of pale grey brown sandy silt, containing seven pieces of late Mesolithic/ Early Neolithic worked flint as well one sherd of Roman pottery (AD50-100). Pit [195] was truncated by Ditch [193] and it is likely that the pit is prehistoric in origin, the Roman pottery sherd being intrusively incorporated.
- 5.16.5 Ditch [179] (Figure 7) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 0.42m wide and 0.24m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (178) of mid grey brown sandy silt, which contained four pieces of flint, three of which were Bronze Age-Iron Age date. Ditch [179] truncated Pit [177] and was one of a sequence of three parallel ditches along with Ditches [197] and [199] to the north.
- 5.16.6 Pit [177] (Figure 7) was located at the southern end of the trench. It was sub-circular in plan measuring 0.43m long, 0.42m wide and 0.24m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (176) of pale grey brown sandy silt. Pit [177] was truncated by Ditch [179]. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.16.7 Ditch [197] (Figure 7) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 0.2m wide and 0.05m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (178) of mid grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [197] was one of a sequence of three parallel ditches along with Ditches [179] to the south and [199] to the north. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.16.8 Ditch [199] (Figure 7) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 0.42m wide and 0.15m deep with moderate to steep

sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (198) of mid grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [199] was one of a sequence of three parallel ditches along with Ditches [197] and [179] to the south. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.16.9 Ditch [201] (Figure 7) was located midway along the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 0.34m wide and 0.08m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (200) of mid grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [201] truncated Ditch [203]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.16.10 Ditch [203] (Figure 7) was located midway along the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 0.42m wide and 0.1m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (202) of mid to pale grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [203] was truncated by Ditch [201]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

TRENCH 15	Figures	Plate	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD):m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		NW End	SE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.32m	0.26m
Upper Subsoil	(101)	0.26m	0.15m
Lower Subsoil	(103)	0.22m	0.18m
Natural	(102)	0.84m+	0.54m+
Summary			
Trench 15 was located in the eastern half of the site.			
The trench contained seven ditches, aligned east to west, and two pits.			

5.17 Trench 16 (Figures 2, 3, 7)

5.17.1 Trench 16 contained six ditches, three aligned north-west to south-east, one north-east to south-west, one east to west and one north to south.

5.17.2 Ditch [306] (Figure 7) was located at the western end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-west to

south-east measuring 0.42m wide and 0.1m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (307) of mid grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [306] located c. 2m to the west of Ditch [224]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.17.3 Ditch [224] (Figure 7) was located at the western end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-west to south-east measuring 1.06m wide and 0.3m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (223) of mid grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [224] was located c. 2m to the east of Ditch [306] and was truncated by Ditch [222].

5.17.4 Ditch [222] (Figure 7) was located at the western end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-west to south-east measuring 1.7m wide and 0.44m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained two fills: a lower deposit (221) of pale grey brown sandy silt and an upper deposit (220) of mid grey brown. Ditch [222] truncated Ditch [224]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.17.5 Ditch [237] (Figure 7) was located at the eastern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south measuring 0.82m wide and 0.24m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (236) of mid grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [237] was truncated by Ditch [235/239]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.17.6 Ditch [235/239] (Figure 7) was located at the eastern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 1.02m wide and 0.21m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (234) of mid grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [235/239] was truncated Ditch [237] and was truncated by Ditch [219] to the east. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.17.7 Ditch [219] (Figure 7; Plate 15) was located at the eastern end of the trench

extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 2.01m wide and 0.62m deep with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained nine fills: a basal slump (217) of grey brown silty gravel, a basal deposit (218) of dark grey brown sandy silt, a slump (216) of dark reddish brown silty sand, a lower deposit (215) of dark grey silty sand, a middle deposit (296) of mottled orange and orange brown silty sand, a middle deposit (214) of mid grey fine sandy silt with light reddish brown mottling, an upper deposit (295) of mid grey fine sandy silt, a upper deposit (294) of mottled pale grey brown and mid grey sandy silt and a top fill (293) of mid grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [219] truncated Ditches [235/239]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

TRENCH 16		Figures 2, 3, 7	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW		Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD):m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		NE End	SW End
Topsoil	(100)	0.26m	0.24m
Upper Subsoil	(101)	0.1m	0.2m
Natural	(102)	0.34m+	0.42m+
Summary			
Trench 16 was located in the eastern half of the site.			
The trench contained six ditches, three aligned north-west to south-east, one north-east to south-west, one east to west and one north to south.			

5.18 Trench 17 (Figures 2, 3, 7)

5.18.1 Trench 17 contained three ditches one aligned north-east to south-west and two aligned east to west, which were also identified in Trench 18. Only one of these ditches was excavated as they were fully investigated in Trench 18.

5.18.2 Ditch [247] (Figure 7) was located at the north-eastern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 0.5m wide and 0.1m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (248) of mid to pale grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [247] may form part of an enclosure with either Ditch [274] or [278]. No finds were recovered from this

feature.

TRENCH 17	Figures 2, 3, 7		
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD):m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		NE End	SW End
Topsoil	(100)	0.23m	0.24m
Upper Subsoil	(101)	0.24m	0.22m
Lower Subsoil	(103)	0.31m	0.34m
Natural	(102)	0.8m+	0.82m+
Summary			
<p>Trench 17 was located in the eastern half of the site.</p> <p>The trench contained three ditches one aligned north-east to south-west and two aligned east to west, which were also identified in Trench 18. Only one of these ditches was excavated as they were fully investigated in Trench 18.</p>			

5.19 Trench 18 (Figures 2, 3, 7)

5.19.1 Trench 18 contained 16 linear features of which ten were identified as being archaeological ditches, and six identified as possible furrows. Two pits were also identified in the trench.

5.19.2 Ditch [271] (Figure 7; Plate 16) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west measuring 1.29m wide and 0.49m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It contained two fills: a basal fill (272) of mottled grey brown and orange brown sandy silt, and an upper deposit (273) of mid grey brown silty sand. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.19.3 Pit [269] (Figure 7) was located at the southern end of the trench. It was sub-circular in plan measuring 0.63m long, 0.54m wide and 0.15m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (270) of mid to dark yellowish grey silty sand. Pit [269] truncated Ditch [269] and in turn was truncated by Furrow [263]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.19.4 Ditch [267] (Figure 7; Plate 16) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned

north-east to south-west measuring 0.42m wide and 0.11m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (268) of mid grey brown silty sand. Ditch [267] was truncated by Furrows [263] and [265] and truncated Ditch [271]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.19.5 Furrow [263] (Figure 7; Plate 16) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 0.7m wide and 0.18m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (264) of pale grey brown silty sand. Furrow [263] truncated Pit [269]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.19.6 Furrow [265] (Figure 7; Plate 16) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 0.56m wide and 0.15m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (266) of pale grey brown silty sand. Furrow [265] truncated Ditches [267]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.19.7 Ditch [288] (Figure 7) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 0.38m wide and 0.13m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (289) of mid reddish brown silty sand. Ditch [288] was truncated by Ditch [284]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.19.8 Ditch [284] (Figure 7) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 0.54m wide and 0.24m deep with steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (285) of mid grey brown sandy silt. Ditch [284] was truncated by Furrow [282] and truncated Ditch [288]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.19.9 Ditch [286] (Figure 7) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 0.33m wide and 0.11m deep with gently

sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (287) of mid to pale reddish brown silty sand. Ditch [286] was truncated by Furrow [282]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.19.10 Furrow [282] (Figure 7) was located at the southern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 0.79m wide and 0.18m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (283) of mid to pale reddish brown silty sand. Furrow [282] truncated Ditches [286] and [284]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.19.11 Ditch [300] (Figure 7; Plate 17) was located at the northern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 1.18m wide and 0.66m deep with steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained three fills: a basal deposit (292) of dark yellowish brown silty sand containing one piece of late Mesolithic/ Early Neolithic worked flint, a lower deposit (299) of dark grey sand, and an upper deposit (291) of mottled grey brown and orange brown silty sand containing one piece of worked flint. Ditch [300] was truncated by Ditch [298] and Furrows [260] and [262].

5.19.12 Ditch [298] (Figure 7; Plate 17) was located at the northern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 2.21m wide and 0.64m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (297) of mid to dark grey brown silty sand. Ditch [298] was truncated by Furrows [260] and [258] and truncated Ditch [300]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.19.13 Furrow [262] (Figure 7; Plate 17) was located at the northern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 1.72m wide and 0.58m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained two fills: a lower deposit (302) of mid to pale grey brown silty sand and an upper deposit (301) of mid to dark grey brown silty sand. Furrow [262] was

truncated by Furrow [260]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.19.14 Furrow [260] (Figure 7; Plate 17) was located at the northern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 2.06m wide and 0.62m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained two fills: a lower deposit (259) of mid to pale brown silty sand and an upper deposit (261) of mid to dark grey brown silty sand. Furrow [260] truncated Ditches [298] and [300] and Furrow [262] and was truncated by Furrow [258]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.19.15 Furrow [258] (Figure 7; Plate 17) was located at the northern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west measuring 1.98m wide and 0.52m deep with moderate to gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (257) of pale grey brown silty sand. Furrow [258] truncated Furrow [260]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.19.16 Ditch [281] (Figure 7; Plate 18) was located at the northern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south measuring 0.9m wide and 0.43m deep with steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (280) of mid grey brown silty sand. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.19.17 Ditch [278] (Figure 7) was located at the northern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south measuring 0.8m wide and 0.2m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (279) of mid grey brown silty sand. Ditch [278] was truncated by Pit [276]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.19.18 Ditch [274] (Figure 7) was located at the northern end of the trench extending beyond both limits of excavation. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south measuring 0.5m wide and 0.2m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (275) of mid grey brown silty sand. Ditch [274] was truncated by Pit [276]. No finds were recovered

from this feature.

5.19.19 Pit [276] (Figure 7) was located at the northern end of the trench. It was sub-circular in plan measuring 0.6m long, 0.73m wide and 0.1m deep with moderate to gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (277) of pale yellowish grey silty sand. Pit [276] truncated Ditches [274] and [278]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

TRENCH 18	Figures		Plate	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 40m	Level of Natural (m OD):m		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		NW End	SE End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.21m	0.23m	
Upper Subsoil	(101)	0.24m	0.21m	
Lower Subsoil	(103)	0.31m	0.27m	
Natural	(102)	0.8m+	0.64m+	
Summary				
Trench 18 was located close to the eastern limit of the site.				
The trench contained 16 linear features of which ten were identified as being archaeological ditches, and six identified as possible furrows. Two pits were also identified in the trench.				

6 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

6.1 Flint

By Barry Bishop

Introduction

- 6.1.1 The Archaeological Evaluation resulted in the recovery of a moderately sized assemblage of struck flint and a small quantity of unworked burnt flint. This report describes the assemblages and discusses their archaeological significance. It should be read in conjunction with the catalogue which provides further details of each piece, including contextual origins, raw material, condition and, where possible, suggests a possible date of manufacture (Appendix 3). All metrical descriptions follow the methodology of Saville (1980).

Quantification

- 6.1.2 The lithic assemblage from the site consists of 52 struck flints that were recovered from 14 separate features located within six of the evaluation trenches (Table 1). The features comprise pits, ditches and postholes, the majority of which only produced small quantities of struck flint. The most notable quantities came from pit [195] and ditch [193] in Trench 15, which contained seven and twelve pieces respectively, whilst ditch [166] in Trench 8 produced ten pieces; the remaining features all yielded five or fewer pieces (Appendix 3).
- 6.1.3 Nine pieces of unworked burnt flint were also recovered. Trench 10 produced five of these from pit [118] and two from ditch [129], and single pieces also came from ditch [156] in Trench 9 and posthole [185] in Trench 11. All of these pieces had been intensely heated to the extent that they had changed colour and become 'fire crazed'. No specific concentrations indicative of in-situ burning are evident and together they are most suggestive of 'background waste' arising from occasional hearth use at the site.

Location	Decortication flake	Core rejuvenation	Flake	Chips (flakes <15mm))	Blade-like flake	Prismatic blade	Non-prismatic blade	Flake fragments <15mm	Flake fragment >15mm	Retouched	Core-tool	Burnt Stone (no.)	Burnt Stone (wt:g)
Unstratified	1									1			
Trench 7						1							
Trench 8	1	1	3	3		1		3	1	1			
Trench 9			1	3		1						1	4
Trench 10												7	123
Trench 11	1		1						1			1	15
Trench 15	2	2	10	2	1	2	2	1		2	1		
Trench 18	1					1							
Total	6	3	15	8	1	6	2	4	2	4	1	9	142

Table 1: Quantification of Lithic Material

Description of the Assemblage

6.1.4 The raw materials all consist of good knapping-quality translucent flint of variable colours and hues but are predominantly dark greyish brown with occasional cherty mottling. Cortex varies from being rough but weathered to hard and smooth rolled, indicating that the raw materials were likely to have been obtained from the alluvial River Terrace deposits that are common in the locality.

6.1.5 The bulk of the assemblage is the product of a blade-based reduction strategy that can be dated to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic periods. Blades contribute 18% of the assemblage and many of the flakes have been competently struck from prepared cores. No cores are present, but the preparation of cores at the site is attested by a number of decortication flakes and the relatively high proportions of core rejuvenation flakes demonstrate the routine maintenance of cores.

6.1.6 Pieces that can be dated to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic periods were found scattered in low numbers across the extent of the site. However, the most significant concentration of this material was in Trench 15 where two features contained notable assemblages. Ditch [193] produced an

assemblage of twelve pieces, which although probably residually deposited within the ditch, are in a good condition indicating they had been redeposited from a relatively undisturbed context. Most of the pieces have been well struck and many are narrow, although there is only limited evidence for sustained attempts at prismatic blade production, suggesting that a Neolithic rather than a Mesolithic date may be most appropriate. The assemblage includes a core-tablet rejuvenation flake and a small narrow flake with light edge retouch, probably used as a knife. Also present is a prismatic blade that, unlike the rest of the assemblage from this feature, had recorticated. It has subsequently been abruptly retouched along its distal end, forming a sharp point or piercing tool. As the retouch had occurred after recortication it must have been undertaken long after the blade had been detached, indicating the re-working of an ancient, possibly even Mesolithic, piece. A further example of re-use of earlier flintwork is demonstrated by an approximately circular flake recovered from the surface. After it had recorticated it was subsequently retouched with bifacially thinning around its proximal end and with similar but unifacial thinning at its distal end. It is not a formal tool type as such, but is possibly an unfinished attempt at making a leaf-shaped arrowhead, which would indicate the retouching was undertaken during the Early Neolithic.

6.1.7 The other feature in Trench 15 that contained Mesolithic or Early Neolithic struck flint is pit [195]. This produced seven pieces, including two prismatic blades and a large blade that had rejuvenated or extended its core's platform. This material is again in a good condition and is likely to be either contemporary with the pit or had been redeposited into it from an undisturbed context close by.

6.1.8 Although dominated by early pieces, there are also some indications of later flintworking occurring at the site. Occasional possibly later prehistoric flakes were present across the site but many of those from Trench 8 and particularly ditch [166] are thick and broad with wide, unmodified and obtuse striking platforms. These are comparable to Martingell's 'squat' flakes (1990; 2003) and are most characteristic of later prehistoric industries, particularly

those of the later second and first millennia BC. One of the cortical flakes from ditch [166] has irregular and sporadic inverse and 'normal' retouch along one edge, as is typical of the informal tools types of the later prehistoric period. The condition of this material is variable but rather poor, and it is likely that it had been 'kicking around' on the surface for quite some time between discard and final deposition.

Discussion

- 6.1.9 The struck flint assemblage may be considered as reasonably large given the extent of the excavations and the lack of flintwork found within the top and subsoil layers. There are few if any secure contextual associations, and although the bulk of the assemblage is technology homogeneous overall it probably reflects flintworking over a long period. The flintwork most comfortably fits a scenario of scattered Mesolithic activity across the site resulting in the discard of occasional prismatic blades. There is evidence of more focussed (earlier) Neolithic activity, particularly in the vicinity of Trench 15 where two thirds of the flintwork was found. This material includes evidence for core reduction and tool use and some of the earlier flintwork was re-used and worked into tools. There is also some later Bronze or even Iron Age flint at the site, this time appearing to be concentrated around Trench 8. This picture of long term, although not necessarily intensive, activity is consistent with patterns recorded elsewhere in the Soham area (e.g. Edmonds et al. 1999). This indicates persistent activity throughout the prehistoric period around the Fenland edge that has left often-extensive spreads of flintwork, and testifies to the wealth of the resources available in this location to prehistoric communities.

Significance and Recommendations

- 6.1.10 The assemblage by itself is too small to warrant further technological, functional or metrical analyses and no further analytical work is recommended. It does, however, indicate that further work at the site would have the potential of significantly increasing understanding of the prehistoric activity in the area. Should further work be considered, the assemblage reported here should be re-documented in conjunction with any additional

material found following the completion of the archaeological programmes. Should sufficient quantities of lithic artefacts be procured from any future work, full metrical, typological and technological analysis may be warranted.

6.2 Prehistoric Pottery

By Matt Brudenell

6.2.1 Three small plain body sherds (15g) of prehistoric pottery were recovered from the evaluation. The sherds derived from context (155), cut [156] (2 sherds, 9g) and topsoil (100) in Trench 12 (1 sherd, 6g). The sherds were in coarse burnt flint and sand tempered fabrics characteristic of the Early Iron Age, c. 800-350 BC. All the sherds were small and abraded, with those from context (156) recovered alongside Romano-British sherds.

6.3 Roman Pottery

By Katie Anderson

6.3.1 A small quantity of early Roman pottery was recovered from the evaluation, totalling five sherds weighing 43g. All of the pottery was examined and recorded in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Perrin 2011) and using the standard terminology and codes advocated by the Museum of London Archaeology Service (Symonds 2002).

6.3.2 One heavily abraded sherd of South Gaulish Samian (1g) dating to AD50-100 was recovered from pit fill (194), cut [195], which given the size and condition is likely to be residual. Context (155) of ditch [156] contained two sherds of a coarse sandy black-surfaced vessel dating to AD50-100. A coarse sandy greyware sherd (3g) was collected from (120) of ditch [121], along with some residual prehistoric pottery, while feature [185] context (184) produced one sherd from a Horningsea greyware storage jar (36g).

6.3.3 Overall the assemblage was very small and abraded, suggesting a degree of residuality and/or redeposition. That said, the pottery is indicative of a limited early Roman presence.

6.4 Medieval Pottery

By Berni Sudds

Introduction

6.4.1 Three sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the investigations, all from the fill of ditch [152]. The fabrics were examined under x20 magnification and the sherds were recorded by fabric, form, sherd count and weight (see Table 2). As far as possible these comply with the published fabric codes for the region, principally for the locally produced wares (Spoerry 2008).

Context	Fabric Code	Common name	Form code	Sherd count	Weight	Date range	Spot date
151	MEL	Ely Ware	Jug, glazed body sherd	1	11g	12th – 14th C	12th – 14th C
151	MELT/MCW	Medieval Ely-type ware/ Sand and calcareous tempered coarseware	Flat base sherd (fresh break)	1	8g	12th – 14th C	
151	MISC OX	Buff sandy ware with iron-stained quartz and iron oxide	Simple, everted rim. Small and highly abraded	1	3g	12th – 14th C	

Table 2: Pottery by context

Discussion

6.4.2 The sherds recovered appear to be consistent with contemporary assemblages excavated from elsewhere in Soham, primarily comprised of Ely wares (Spoerry 2004; Thompson 2014). The Ely ware jug sherd has a very dark grey core with sparse calcareous inclusions. The fabric of the base sherd is similar to the Ely ware, characterised by fine to medium sand and sparse calcareous inclusions, but the core is a lighter grey/ greyish brown and the surfaces are buff coloured.

6.4.3 Similar, lighter firing fabrics have been identified on other sites in the town that do not correspond well to the Potters Lane Ely Wares (Spoerry 2008)

but may originate from different production sites in or near Ely (Rátkai 2002, 11; Thompson 2014, 41), although other analysts have favoured a Huntingdon source (HUNFSW; Vince 2008).

6.4.4 The small abraded oxidised rim sherd is difficult to place. It is not typical of the generic East Anglian/ Essex sandy orange wares observed to the east, nor of the Brill industry to the west. A more local source is perhaps likely.

6.4.5 The small size of the sherds and moderate to high level of abrasion, indicate they are likely to be redeposited.

6.5 Burnt Clay and CBM

6.5.1 A total of 7 fragments (221g) of post-medieval tile were collected mostly as surface finds from the evaluation field and are indicative of stray material distributed through ploughing and manuring.

6.5.2 Burnt clay was recovered from a single context on site (144). A total of 240 fragments (1572g) was hand collected from a shallow pit. There were no obvious diagnostic pieces within the assemblage, most were small, friable fragments. No wattle or finger impressions were noted and there was no indication of any broken weights within the material. The burnt clay was found within a charcoal rich fill of a pit, which also contained pieces of burnt stone and burnt flint but no pottery. Given the level of burning and associated material within the context, it is likely that this material derived from a nearby oven or hearth structure. Without dating evidence, the material cannot be further attributed to any phase of activity on site, although a later prehistoric (Bronze-Iron Age) or early Roman date is considered to be appropriate.

6.6 Glass

By Chris Jarrett

6.6.1 A single fragment of glass (6g) was recovered from Post-hole [185] which dates to the Romano-British period (Plate 19). The fragment consists of blue green natron glass and has fine, rounded bubbles. The fragment is not naturally weathered and therefore in keeping with most glass of a Romano-

British date. The fragment is thick walled (7mm), flat and therefore likely to be derived from the wall of a mould-blown, large, square-sectioned bottle dated to the late first or second century (Isings 1957).

6.7 Animal Bone

By Stephanie Emra

Introduction

6.7.1 The assemblage is small with only 19 bone fragments recovered.

Methodology

6.7.2 The assemblage, where possible, was recorded to a species or taxon level, where the bones were unidentifiable to this level a size category was given with the aid of a reference collection (Schmid 1972) and bone atlas (Hillson 1999). When possible element, species, level of fusion and any bone modifications were recorded using established methods.

Description of Assemblage

6.7.3 The Fragmentation was on the whole fairly heavy with most bones at the shaft or fragment stage. The high level of fragmentation adversely affected identification with some bones unable to be assigned to a taxa or group. Surface condition of the bone was reasonable with a low level of erosion and root etching. A small amount of evidence for butchery (largely chopping) was noted.

6.7.4 Burnt material was noted from context 105 only, this included three fragments of long bone from a medium sized animal that had fragmented into crescent shaped pieces, indicative of being subject to high temperatures.

Context	Cut	Trench	Cattle	Sheep/goat	Pig	Horse	Sheep/goat	Dog	Indeterminate
105	104	1	1		1				5
147	148	9		1			2	1	2
151	152	9					2		
187	185	15					1		
192	193	15				1			
223	224	16		1			1		
Totals			1	2	1	1	6	1	7

Table 3: Taxa by context

Discussion

6.7.5 The assemblage consisted largely of the major domesticates. The heavy fragmentation and mixture of taxa suggests the assemblage to be the result of waste disposal, however with such a small assemblage it is difficult to identify the activities which generated the waste.

6.7.6 Surface condition of the majority of the assemblage from this site was relatively poor, which may be a combination of weathering from surface exposure and the local geological, which although has underlying chalk also contained more recent gravel deposits.

6.8 Environmental Results

By Val Fryer

Introduction and method statement

6.8.1 Samples from the evaluation of the content and preservation of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken and eleven were submitted for assessment.

6.8.2 The samples were bulk floated by PCA and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 4. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (2010) for the plant macrofossils and Kerney and Cameron (1979) and Macan (1977) for the mollusc shells. All plant remains were charred. Modern roots, chaff and seeds were also recorded, being abundant within some assemblages.

Results

- 6.8.3 Plant macrofossils are generally scarce, with three assemblages containing no charred material whatsoever. A single possible oat (*Avena* sp.) grain is present within the assemblage from post-hole [168], and ditch [134] includes very fragmentary indeterminate cereals and a dock (*Rumex* sp.) fruit. Extremely comminuted charcoal/charred wood fragments are noted elsewhere.
- 6.8.4 Small pieces of black porous and tarry material are recorded within six assemblages, but it is unclear whether these may be residues of the combustion of organic remains at very high temperatures, or modern contaminants. Other materials are exceedingly scarce.
- 6.8.5 Although specific sieving for molluscan remains was not undertaken, shells of terrestrial and marsh/freshwater snails are present at varying densities within all eleven assemblages. However, although occasional specimens are abraded and fragmented, possibly suggesting that they be of some antiquity, others retain delicate surface structures and coloration and are almost certainly contaminants within the features from which the samples were taken. Notwithstanding this, open country and catholic species occur most frequently, although ditch [152] appears to have been shaded/overgrown at some point, while ditches [222], [239], [232] and [134] have, at some stage, been seasonally wet or semi-permanently water filled.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

- 6.8.6 In summary, the samples revealed poorly preserved and limited remains. It would appear most likely that the few macrofossils which are recorded are derived from scattered refuse, all of which was probably accidentally incorporated within the feature fills. However, it is unclear whether the general lack of material indicates that the features were peripheral to any particular focus of activity, or whether there may be other cultural/economic reasons why the assemblages are so sparse.
- 6.8.7 On the basis of these assemblages, it is extremely difficult to make recommendations for a future sampling strategy. However, if further

interventions are planned, it is suggested that additional samples could be taken from any well-sealed features where bioturbation (particularly root intrusion) is minimal.

7 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Overview

- 7.1.1 Although relatively little material culture was found within the evaluation, the evidence suggests three broad phases of activity on site; prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval. The adjacent archaeological excavations to the north and northeast comprised later prehistoric (Later Bronze Age- Iron Age) and Romano-British settlement remains, and whilst the phasing in the present evaluation cannot be wholly refined, it is presumed that the linear ditches represent several phases of field systems and enclosures possibly relating to this settlement. Medieval pottery found in a single ditch could highlight a phase of later agricultural activity on site, also suggested by the furrows, whilst small concentrations of Early Neolithic flintworking likely represents localised activity within the site boundary.
- 7.1.2 In some cases the ditches identified in the trenches are likely to be continuations of the same features. Perpendicular Ditches [247] and [274] as well as Ditches [281] and [278] are likely to form part of a larger system of rectilinear fields. Variation in ditch orientation gives credence to a multi-period site. These shifts in field alignment through time are good evidence for the synthesis of new field systems being created or reused from period to period. Some of the ditches on the site show evidence for being reused or maintained over long periods, for example in Trenches 9 and 10, where a number of ditches intercut along the same alignment.
- 7.1.3 The scarcity of Roman finds relative to the quantity of features of assumed Romano-British date present on site suggests that whilst the site is located close to settlement, there is unlikely to be a settlement foci within the site boundary. Most likely the settlement evidence excavated to the north and northeast of the site represents the main settlement area (Connor 2001, Quinn 2012), whilst this recent evaluation has identified the associated peripheral agricultural activity, such as field systems and enclosures for crop and/ or livestock.
- 7.1.4 The geophysical survey did not identify the ditches and features present

within the site, most likely due to the heavy clay geology and high water table but also possibly as a result of the truncation evident on site. The survey did identify potential furrow features, several of which were noted in the evaluation trenches and highlight the medieval agricultural activity.

7.2 Prehistoric Activity

- 7.2.1 Flintwork recovered from concentrated areas within the site (most notably Trench 15) indicate some limited Early Neolithic activity in the area. Whilst the material was considered to be a residual component of the ditches in which it was found, it is not thought to have been transported far from its original context, i.e. flintworking was likely carried out in the immediate vicinity. No worked flint was recovered from the ploughsoil or subsoil to suggest that the material found within the cut features has been redeposited through later ploughing and agricultural activity.
- 7.2.2 Although many of the ditches excavated on site are assumed to be of Romano-British date, it is possible that some were of prehistoric origins, most likely later Bronze Age - Iron Age date as indicated by the recovery of flintwork dating from this period from Trenches 7, 8, 9 and 10.
- 7.2.3 Furthermore, a single pit in Trench 10 contained a large quantity of burnt clay and burnt stone, suggestive of the deposition from hearth clearance. Although an earlier Roman date is plausible for this feature, the assemblage is indicative of later prehistoric activity and suggests some localised settlement-related features in the general vicinity. The presence of small quantities of burnt flint found in this region of the site is similarly indicative of prehistoric waste arising from occasional hearth use and clearance.
- 7.2.4 Postholes in Trench 7 were not conclusively dated but have been suggested as prehistoric in origin given their proximity to the aforementioned flintwork and burnt flint debris. The limited material culture found within this area of site suggest that the postholes may not relate to settlement features (i.e. roundhouse structures), but rather could represent agricultural features such as fence lines for fields and enclosures, although at this stage, this is merely speculative.

7.2.5 The presence of the potential Watering Hole [104] in Trench 1 is likely to suggest 'out-field' systems, exploiting the fen edge, however the date of this feature is uncertain and it could equally be of prehistoric or Roman date.

7.3 Roman Activity

7.3.1 Ditches or Romano-British and presumed Romano-British date were present across the site and variations in their alignment suggest more than one phase of agricultural or settlement-edge activity.

7.3.2 Ditches displaying north-east to south-west alignments were revealed in the evaluation at Fordham Road allotments (Connor 2001) and it is likely that many of the ditches exposed by the present evaluation and sharing this alignment are of broadly contemporary date.

7.3.3 The ditches excavated on the site likely represent peripheral enclosures and field systems associated with the known Romano-British settlement (Quinn et al 2012; Connor 2001). The settlement core itself is on the higher ground, raised above the fen edge but positioned to exploit the seasonal resources of the fen-edge environment. This is paralleled in other fen-edge sites such as Wardy Hill, Ely (Hill, J.D., and Horne, L. 2003) where there was a marked division between the wet and dry ground. This location allowed for the exploitation of the better drained up-terrace slopes for arable practices, whilst allowing access to seasonal marshland resources and a ready water source. The present evaluation appears to have identified a portion of the agricultural activity likely relating to the adjacent settlement.

7.3.4 Romano-British activity has not only been identified in the adjacent excavation sites (Connor 2001; Quinn et al 2012), but also further north where the site of a probably villa has been noted (Hall 1996) and to the south of the development site where finds scatters of coins, pottery and brooches provide further indications for Roman activity (Casa Hatton 2001).

7.4 Medieval

7.4.1 Three sherds of medieval pottery (12th-14th Century) were recovered from one of the ditches on the site, this was truncated by two later ditches and itself truncated an earlier ditch, providing evidence for the multi-period and

potential long-term use of the site. The medieval activity is likely to be agricultural in nature as attested to by the known furrows across site. No evidence for medieval settlement was found.

7.5 Conclusions

- 7.5.1 The trial trench evaluation has identified some limited Early Neolithic flintworking evidence suggesting some localised knapping within the site boundary. No flint was found in the ploughsoil or subsoil to indicate this material had derived from later agricultural activity and it has been suggested that the material has not been transported far from its primary context (see Section 6.1). The evaluation also revealed some potential evidence for agricultural features relating to later prehistoric activity, most likely later Bronze Age to Early Iron Age based on the limited pottery and flintwork recovered. The low quantities of later prehistoric finds indicates that the site is unlikely to be the focus for settlement activity, but rather be associated with peripheral field systems and enclosures for livestock and/ or crop.
- 7.5.2 There is an equally limited quantity of early Roman material culture indicating that the some of the ditches and other features are of this date, however very few features can be dated with any certainty. Again, there is no indication that settlement occurred within the site boundary and these features are considered to be largely agricultural in nature, relating to agriculture, field systems and enclosures perhaps associated with the adjacent settlement remains located to the north and northeast. The suggested dating is based on the limited finds as well as the results of adjacent excavations (Connor 2001, and Quinn 2012) which identified settlement of Roman date with underlying later Bronze Age - Early Iron Age activity.
- 7.5.3 Medieval evidence is limited and once again, the presumed medieval features and known furrows are indicative of agricultural activity, with no indication of nearby settlement.
- 7.5.4 Dating evidence was scarce, although undated features were considered to

belong to one of these three main periods with no indication of any other periods being represented on site. The evidence for re-cutting of some ditches and the multiple alignments represented on site indicate clear re-use or re-establishment of some of these features as well as shifting alignments associated with different periods of activity.

7.5.5 The low quantity of material culture compared to the relative density of features indicates that the features identified on site do not fall within the core of settlement activity, but rather are part of the peripheral activity associated with occupation, such as fields and enclosures for agricultural and livestock practices.

7.5.6 The evaluation has revealed evidence for earlier Neolithic flintworking, peripheral settlement activity relating to later Bronze Age - Iron Age as well as Romano-British archaeology as well as medieval agricultural activity. The results are in keeping within the known archaeology of Soham.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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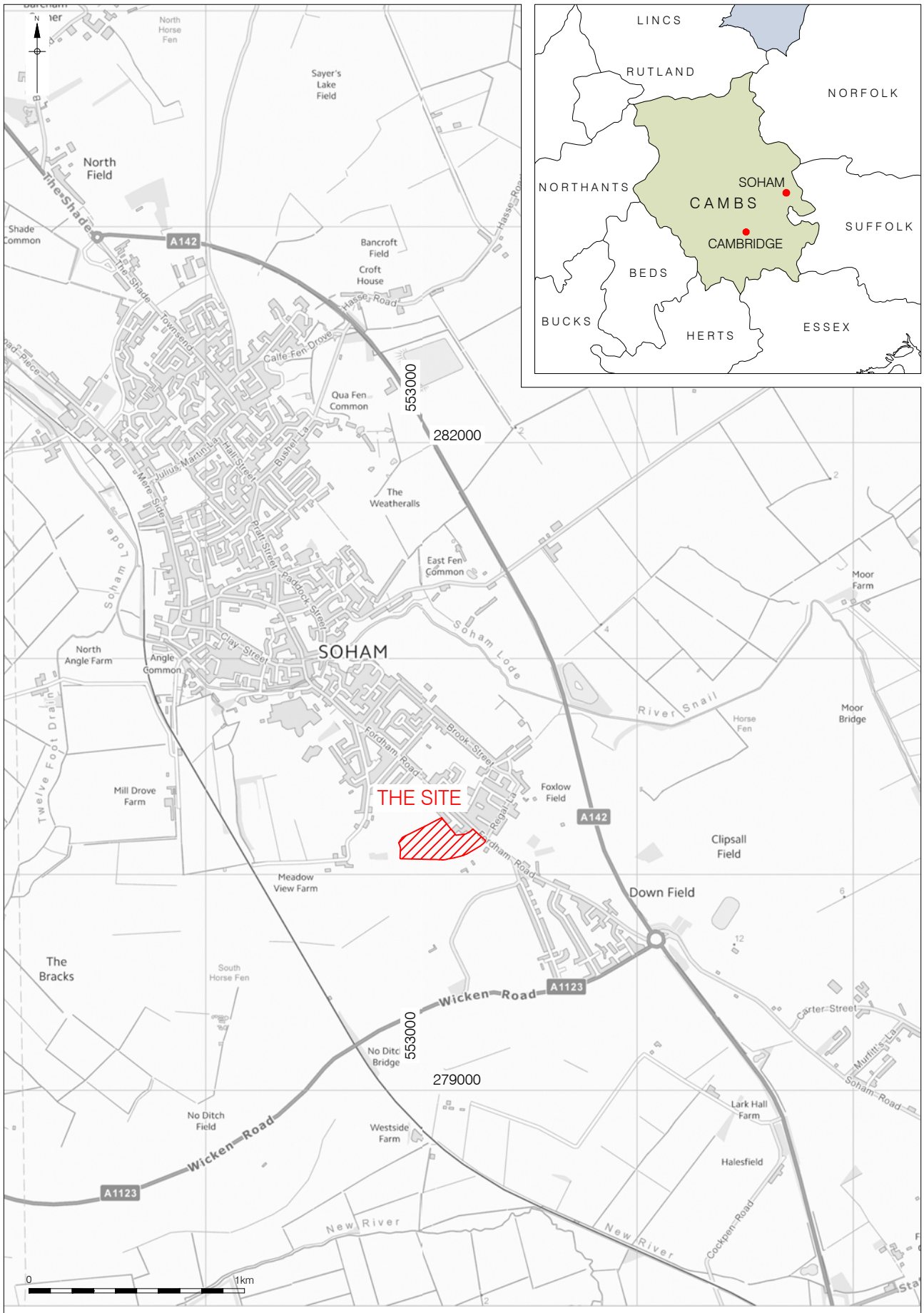
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Date accessed 06/01/16



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 15/12/15 RM

Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:2,000,000 and 25,000 at A4

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

- Archaeological feature within trench
- Probable plough furrow
- Excavated slot
- Modern feature
- Trench containing archaeology
- Trench without archaeology



599900/272200

560250/272200

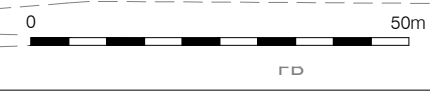


Figure 2
 Trench Locations
 1:1,000 at A3



Figure 3
 Trench Locations overlain on geophysics plot
 1:1,000 at A3

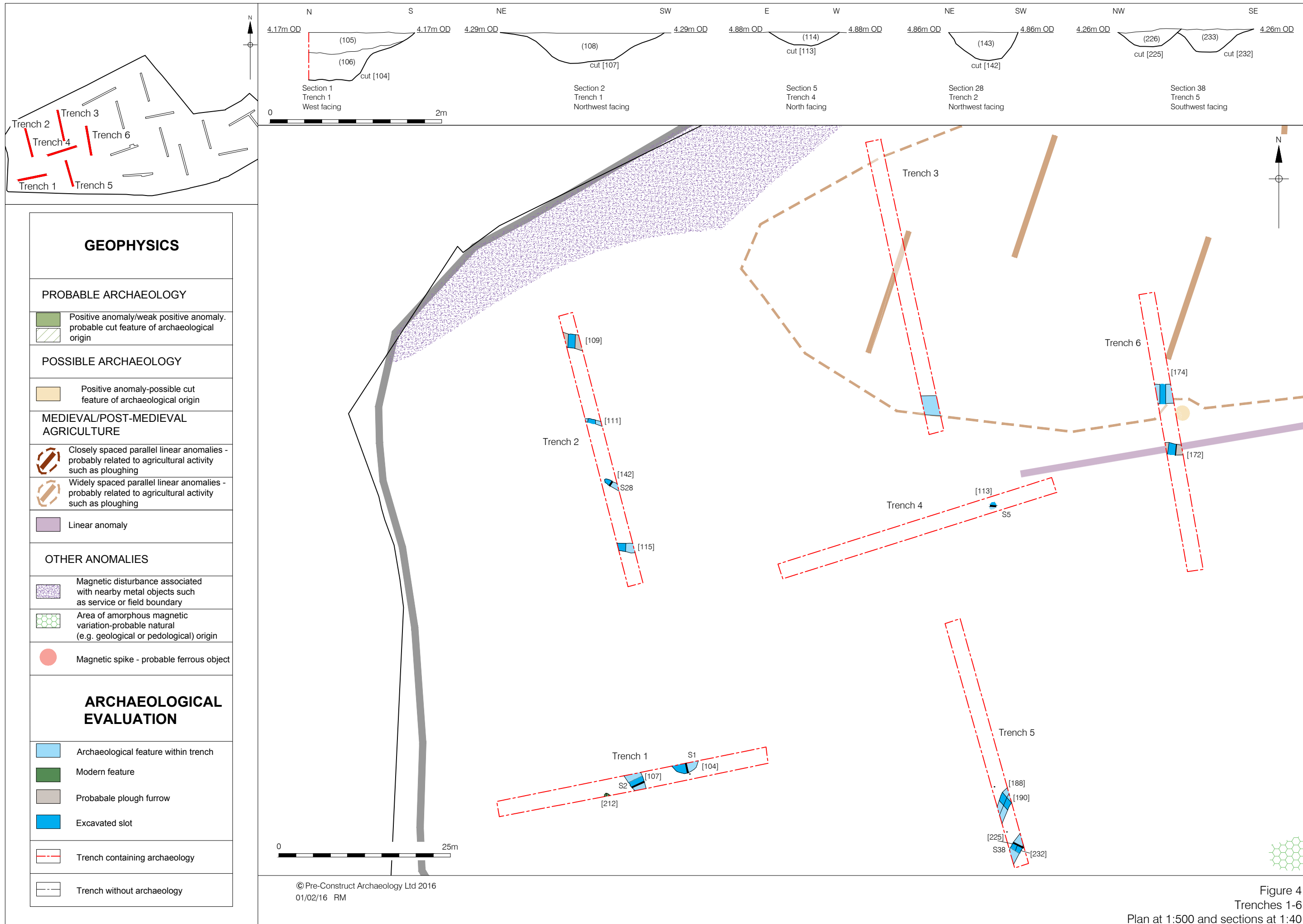


Figure 4
Trenches 1-6
Plan at 1:500 and sections at 1:40

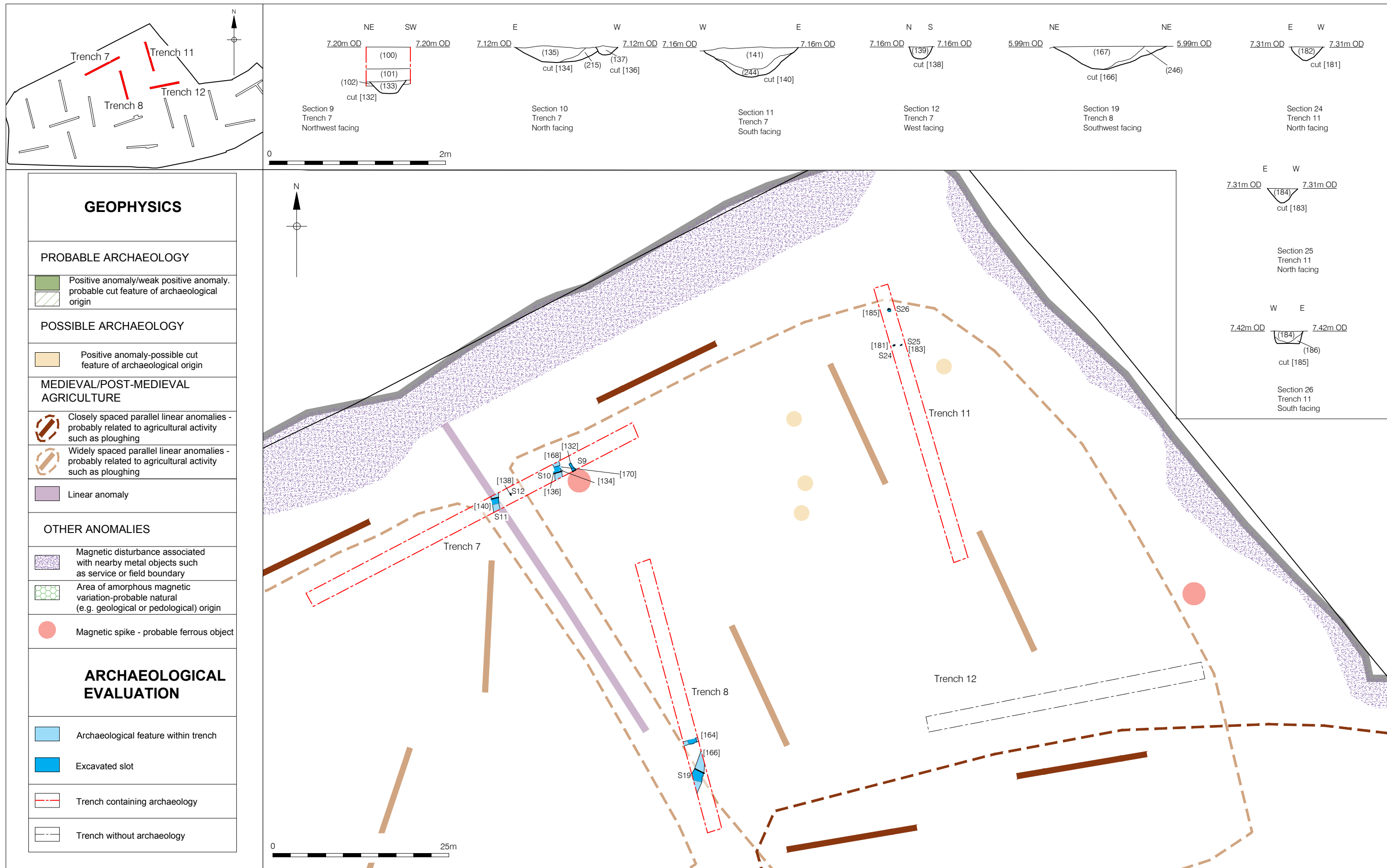


Figure 5
Trenches 7,8,11 and 12
Plan at 1:500 and sections at 1:40

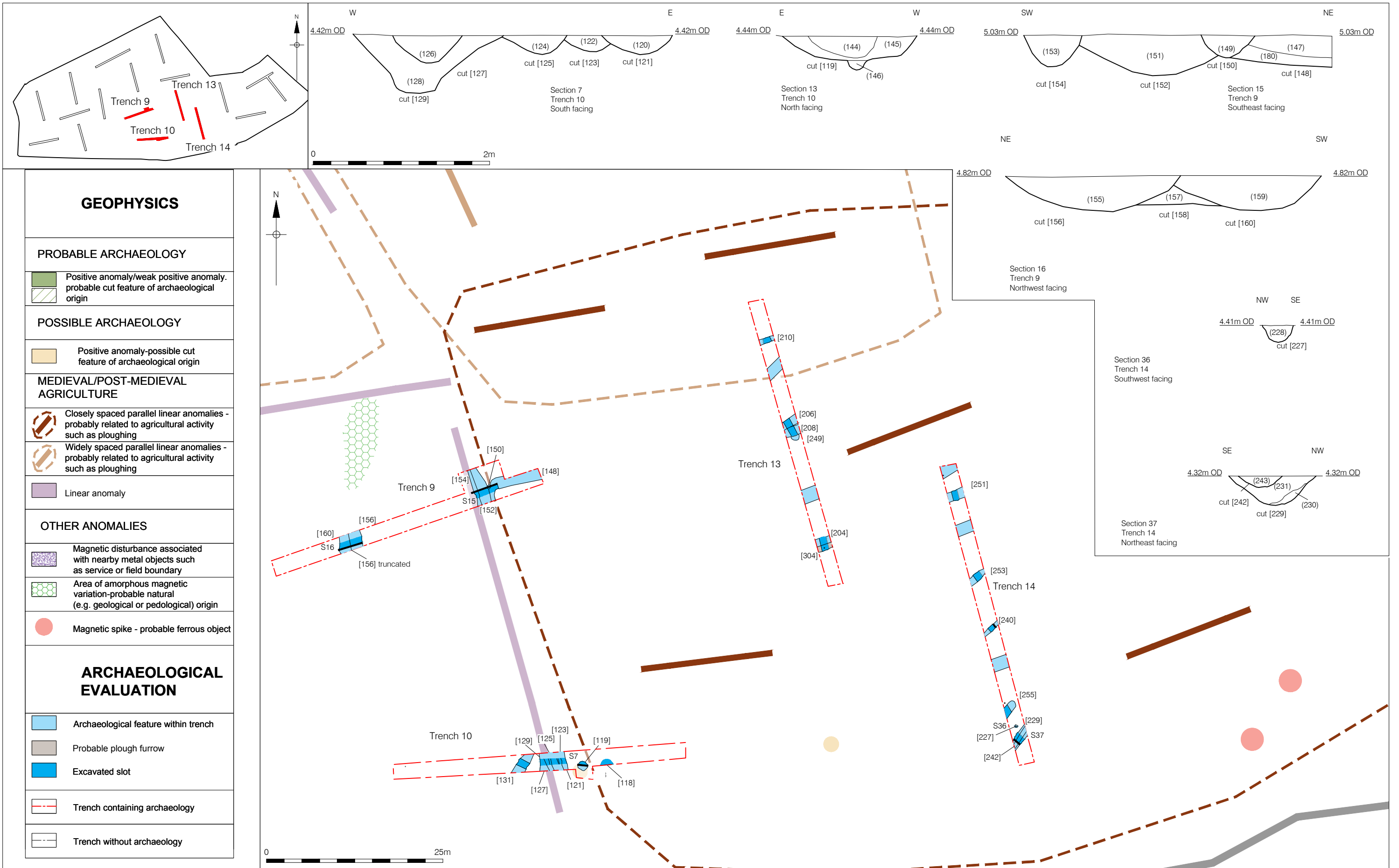


Figure 6
Trenches 9,10,13 and 14
Plan at 1:500 and sections at 1:40

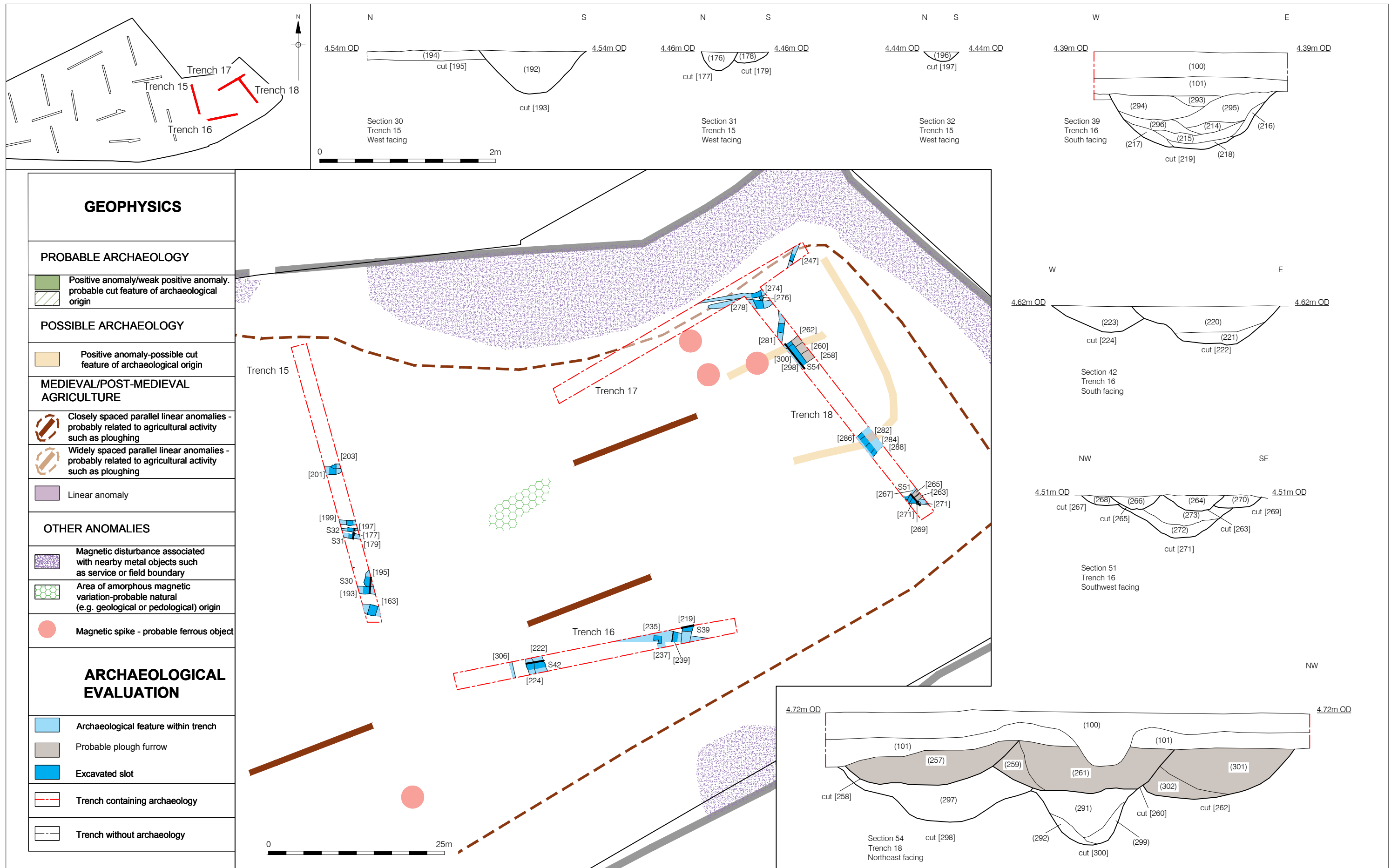


Figure 7
Trenches 15-18
Plan at 1:500 and sections at 1:40

10 APPENDIX 1: PLATES



Plate 1: Site, view south-east



Plate 2: Trench 1, view north showing Pit [104]



Plate 3: Trench 2, view north-west showing Ditch [142]



Plate 4: Trench 2, view north-east showing Ditch [109]



Plate 5: Trench 5, view north-east showing Ditches [225] and [232]



Plate 6: Trench 7, view south showing Ditch [132]



Plate 7: Trench 7, view south showing Post-holes [168] & [136] and Ditch [134]



Plate 8: Trench 8, view west showing Ditch [164]



Plate 9: Trench 9, view south showing Ditches [148], [152] & [154]



Plate 10: Trench 10, view south showing Pit [119]



Plate 11: Trench 11, view north showing Post-holes [181] & [183]



Plate 12: Trench 14, view north-east Ditches [229], [242] & Post-hole [227]



Plate 13: Trench 15, view south-east showing Pit [193] and Ditch [195]



Plate 14: Trench 16, view north showing Ditch [219]

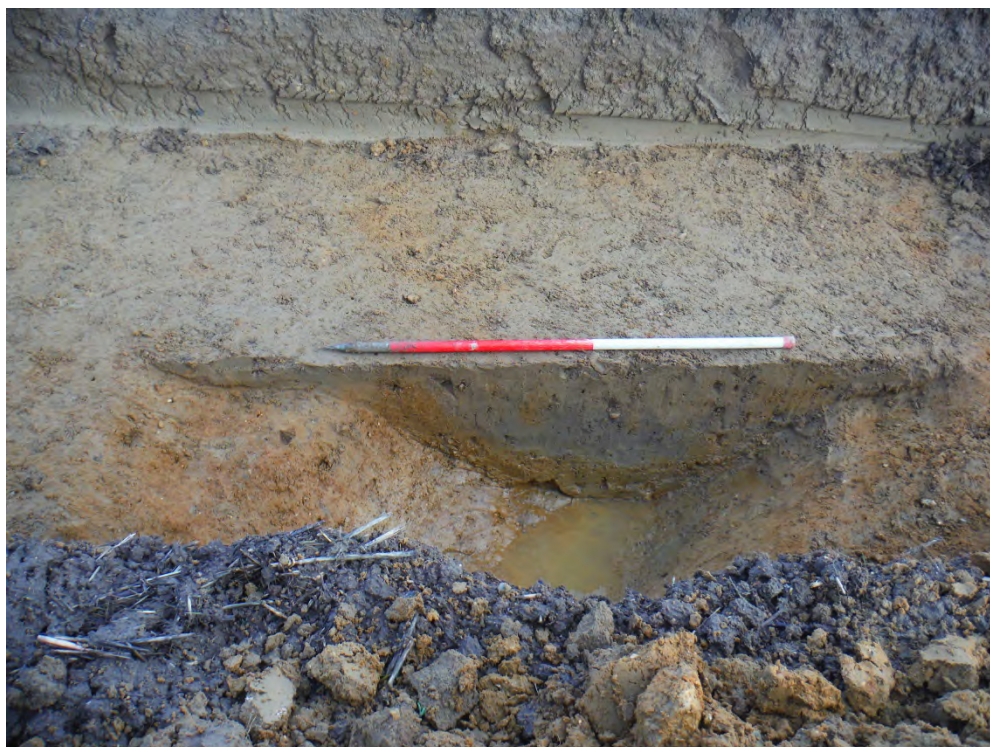


Plate 15: Trench 18, view east showing Furrows [263], [265], Ditches [267], [271] and Pit [269]



Plate 16: Trench 18, view west showing Furrow [258], Ditches [260], [262], [298] & [300]



Plate 17: Trench 18, view south-west showing Ditch [281]



Plate 18: Roman Glass recovered from Post-hole [185]

11 APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Trench	Cut	Type	Category	Interpretation
100	0	0	Layer	Topsoil	
101	0	0	Layer	Subsoil	
102	0	0	Layer	Natural	
103	0	0	Layer	Subsoil	Lower subsoil
104	1	104	Cut	Pit	Watering hole
105	1	104	Fill	Pit	Watering hole
106	1	104	Fill	Pit	Watering hole
107	1	107	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
108	1	107	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
109	2	109	Cut	Ditch	Furrow?
110	2	109	Fill	Ditch	
111	2	111	Cut	Ditch	
112	2	111	Fill	Ditch	
113	4	113	Cut	Pit	
114	4	113	Fill	Pit	
115	2	115	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
116	2	115	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
117	10	118	Fill	Pit	
118	10	118	Cut	Pit	
119	10	119	Cut	Pit	
120	10	121	Fill	Ditch	
121	10	121	Cut	Ditch	
122	10	123	Fill	Ditch	
123	10	123	Cut	Ditch	
124	10	125	Fill	Ditch	
125	10	125	Cut	Ditch	
126	10	127	Fill	Ditch	
127	10	127	Cut	Ditch	
128	10	129	Fill	Ditch	
129	10	129	Cut	Ditch	

130	10	131	Fill	Ditch	
131	10	131	Cut	Ditch	
132	7	132	Cut	Ditch	Terminus
133	7	132	Fill	Ditch	
134	7	134	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
135	7	134	Fill	Ditch	
136	7	136	Cut	Posthole	
137	7	136	Fill	Posthole	
138	7	138	Cut	Posthole	
139	7	138	Fill	Posthole	
140	7	140	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
141	7	140	Fill	Ditch	
142	2	142	Cut	Ditch	Terminus
143	2	142	Fill	Ditch	
144	10	119	Fill	Pit	
145	10	119	Fill	Pit	
146	10	119	Fill	Pit	
147	9	148	Fill	Ditch	
148	9	148	Cut	Ditch	
149	9	150	Fill	Pit	
150	9	150	Cut	Pit	
151	9	152	Fill	Ditch	
152	9	152	Cut	Ditch	
153	9	154	Fill	Ditch	
154	9	154	Cut	Ditch	
155	9	156	Fill	Ditch	
156	9	156	Cut	Ditch	
157	9	158	Fill	Ditch	
158	9	158	Cut	Ditch	
159	9	160	Fill	Ditch	
160	9	160	Cut	Ditch	
161	0	0	0	VOID	
162	15	163	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
163	15	163	Cut	Ditch	Boundary

164	8	164	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
165	8	164	Fill	Ditch	
166	8	166	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
167	8	166	Fill	Ditch	
168	7	168	Cut	Posthole	
169	7	168	Fill	Posthole	
170	7	170	Cut	Posthole	
171	7	170	Fill	Posthole	
172	6	172	Cut	Ditch	Furrow
173	6	172	Fill	Ditch	
174	6	174	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
175	6	174	Fill	Ditch	
176	15	177	Fill	Ditch	
177	15	177	Cut	Ditch	
178	15	179	Fill	Pit	
179	15	179	Cut	Pit	
180	9	148	Fill	Ditch	
181	11	181	Cut	Posthole	
182	11	181	Fill	Posthole	
183	11	183	Cut	Posthole	
184	11	183	Fill	Posthole	
185	11	185	Cut	Posthole	
186	11	185	Fill	Posthole	
187	11	185	Fill	Posthole	
188	5	188	Cut	Ditch	
189	5	188	Fill	Ditch	
190	5	190	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
191	5	190	Fill	Ditch	
192	15	193	Fill	Ditch	
193	15	193	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
194	15	195	Fill	Pit	
195	15	195	Cut	Pit	
196	15	197	Fill	Ditch	
197	15	197	Cut	Ditch	Boundary

198	15	199	Fill	Ditch	
199	15	199	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
200	15	201	Fill	Ditch	
201	15	201	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
202	15	203	Fill	Ditch	
203	15	203	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
204	13	204	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
205	13	204	Fill	Ditch	
206	13	206	Cut	Ditch	
207	13	206	Fill	Ditch	
208	13	208	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
209	13	208	Fill	Ditch	
210	13	210	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
211	13	210	Fill	Ditch	
212	13	212	Cut	Pit	
213	13	212	Fill	Pit	
214	16	219	Fill	Ditch	
215	16	219	Fill	Ditch	
216	16	219	Fill	Ditch	
217	16	219	Fill	Ditch	
218	16	219	Fill	Ditch	
219	16	219	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
220	16	222	Fill	Ditch	
221	16	222	Fill	Ditch	
222	16	222	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
223	16	224	Fill	Ditch	
224	16	224	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
225	5	225	Cut	Ditch	
226	5	225	Fill	Ditch	
227	14	227	Cut	Posthole	
228	14	227	Fill	Posthole	
229	14	229	Cut	Ditch	

230	14	229	Fill	Ditch	
231	14	229	Fill	Ditch	
232	5	232	Cut	Ditch	
233	5	232	Fill	Ditch	
234	16	235	Fill	Ditch	
235	16	235	Cut	Ditch	
236	16	237	Fill	Ditch	
237	16	237	Cut	Ditch	
238	16	239	Fill	Ditch	
239	16	239	Cut	Ditch	
240	14	240	Cut	Ditch	
241	14	240	Fill	Ditch	
242	14	242	Cut	Ditch	
243	14	242	Fill	Ditch	
244	7	140	Fill	Ditch	
245	7	134	Fill	Ditch	
246	8	167	Fill	Ditch	
247	17	247	Cut	Ditch	Enclosure
248	17	247	Fill	Ditch	
249	13	249	Cut	Ditch	
250	13	249	Fill	Ditch	
251	14	251	Cut	Ditch	
252	14	251	Fill	Ditch	
253	14	253	Cut	Ditch	
254	14	253	Fill	Ditch	
255	14	255	Cut	Ditch	Terminus
256	14	255	Fill	Ditch	
257	18	258	Fill	Ditch	
258	18	258	Cut	Ditch	Furrow
259	18	260	Fill	Pit	
260	18	260	Cut	Ditch	Furrow
261	18	262	Fill	Ditch	
262	18	162	Cut	Ditch	Furrow
263	18	263	Cut	Ditch	Furrow
264	18	263	Fill	Ditch	
265	18	265	Cut	Ditch	Furrow
266	18	265	Fill	Ditch	

267	18	267	Cut	Ditch	
268	18	267	Fill	Ditch	
269	18	269	Cut	Pit	
270	18	270	Fill	Pit	
271	18	271	Cut	Ditch	
272	18	271	Fill	Ditch	
273	18	271	Fill	Ditch	
274	18	274	Cut	Ditch	
275	18	274	Fill	Ditch	
276	18	276	Cut	Pit	
277	18	276	Fill	Pit	
278	18	278	Cut	Ditch	
279	18	278	Fill	Ditch	
280	18	281	Fill	Ditch	
281	18	281	Cut	Ditch	
282	18	282	Cut	Ditch	Furrow
283	18	282	Fill	Ditch	
284	18	284	Cut	Ditch	
285	18	284	Fill	Ditch	
286	18	286	Cut	Ditch	
287	18	286	Fill	Ditch	
288	18	288	Cut	Ditch	
289	18	288	Fill	Ditch	
290	18	258	Fill	Ditch	
291	18	300	Fill	Ditch	
292	18	300	Fill	Ditch	
293	16	219	Fill	Ditch	
294	16	219	Fill	Ditch	
295	16	219	Fill	Ditch	
296	16	219	Fill	Ditch	
297	18	298	Fill	Ditch	
298	18	298	Cut	Ditch	
299	18	300	Fill	Ditch	
300	18	300	Cut	Ditch	
301	18	262	Fill	Ditch	
302	18	262	Fill	Ditch	
303	10	118	Fill	Pit	
304	13	304	Cut	Ditch	Furrow
305	13	304	Fill	Ditch	

306	16	306	Cut	Ditch	
307	16	306	Fill	Ditch	

APPENDIX 3: LITHIC CATALOGUE

Context	Location	Feature	Decortication flake	Core rejuvenation	Flake	Chips (flakes <15mm))	Blade-like flake	Prismatic blade	Non-prismatic blade	Flake fragments <15mm	Flake fragment >15mm	Retouched	Core-tool	Burnt Stone (no.)	Burnt Stone (wt:g)	Comments
117	Tr10	P118												5	91	Heavily burnt unworked flint
128	Tr10	D129												2	32	Heavily burnt unworked flint
135	Tr7	D134						1								Very battered and missing proximal end. Possibly edge trimmed but this could be post-depositional damage.
155	Tr9	D156												1	4	Heavily burnt unworked flint
155	Tr9	D156			1											Small flake
155	Tr9	D156				1										Platform trimming flake
155	Tr9	D156				1										Knapping waste
155	Tr9	D156				1										Knapping waste
159	Tr9	D160						1								Complete
162	Tr15	D163											1			Thermal spall with a series of small flakes removed centripetally from the internal face, forming a coarsely denticulated implement. 60x48x19mm
162	Tr15	D163					1									Mis-hit but possibly blade-like
165	Tr8	D164		1												Prismatic blade, removes a series of hinge fracture scars on core face

165	Tr8	D164									1					Undiagnostic thick flake
165	Tr8	D164				1										Knapping waste
165	Tr8	D164				1										Knapping waste
167	Tr8	D166						1								Complete
167	Tr8	D166	1													Thick almost primary squat flake
167	Tr8	D166	1													Small, obtuse platform
167	Tr8	D166			1											Very thick and squat, obtuse platform
167	Tr8	D166			1											Small, obtuse platform
167	Tr8	D166				1										Platform trimming flake
167	Tr8	D166							1							Undiagnostic
167	Tr8	D166							1							Undiagnostic
167	Tr8	D166							1							Undiagnostic
167	Tr8	D166								1						Edge retouched thick decortication flake with spodic variable inverse and normal edge trimming along right margin. 41x33x10mm
178	Tr15	P179			1	1			1							Thick squat flake and 2 small pieces
178	Tr15	P179			1											Heavily burnt thick flake
182	Tr11	PH181			1											Fragment, quite thick but possibly narrow
184	Tr11	PH183	1							1						Not diagnostic

187	Tr11	PH185												1	15	Heavily burnt unworked flint
192	Tr15	D193											1			Edge trimmed narrow flake with fine shallow retouch along right margin and cortex 'backing along left. Moderate wear. 31x18x6mm
192	Tr15	D193							1							Thick, possibly later prehistoric
192	Tr15	D193			1											Narrow, almost a blade
192	Tr15	D193											1			Prismatic blade with apparent abrupt retouch forming a point along distal end, could be post-depositional damage. Light wear. 47x15x5mm
192	Tr15	D193							1							Narrow, almost a blade
192	Tr15	D193	1													Primary flake
192	Tr15	D193	1													Mis-hit
192	Tr15	D193			1											Small, possibly utilized
192	Tr15	D193			1											Obtuse platform but well struck
192	Tr15	D193			1											Narrow
192	Tr15	D193		1												Thick core-tablet struck from face of core
192	Tr15	D193			1											Rather squat,
194	Tr15	P195			1											Small, almost blade-like
194	Tr15	P195		1												Large non-prismatic blade struck from across the top of the core
194	Tr15	P195				1										Small core trimming flake

APPENDIX 4: ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

Sample No.	1000	1001	1002	1003	1004	1005	1006	1007	1008	1009	1010
Context No.	144	221	218	238	233	252	169	155	151	135	292
Feature No.	119	222	219	239	232	251	168	156	152	134	262
Feature type	Pit	Ditch	Pit	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	ph	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch
Date											
Plant macrofossils											
<i>Avena</i> sp. (grain)							xcf				
Cereal indet. (grains)										xfg	
<i>Rumex</i> sp.										x	
Charcoal <2mm	xx	x	x	x	x					x	x
Charcoal >2mm	x									x	
Charred root/stem	x										
Indet. seed				x							
Other remains											
Black porous material				x	x	x	x	x		x	
Black tarry material				x				x			
Bone	x										
Burnt/mineralised soil concretions	xxx										
Burnt stone	x										
Ostracods		x									
Small coal frags.											x
Mollusc shells											
Woodland/shade loving species											
<i>Aegopinella</i> sp.									x		
<i>Carychium</i> sp.		x		x	x	x	x	x	xxx		
<i>Ena</i> sp.									xx		
<i>Oxychilus</i> sp.									x		

<i>Punctum pygmaeum</i>									xxx		
Zonitidae indet.									x		
Open country species											
<i>Helicella itala</i>								x	x		
<i>Pupilla muscorum</i>					x		x	xx	xx	x	
<i>Vallonia</i> sp.		xxx		xx	x	xx		xxx	xxxx	x	
<i>V. costata</i>		x	x	x	x			xx	xxx	x	
<i>V. excentrica</i>				xcf			xcf		xx	xcf	
<i>V. pulchella</i>		xcf				x		xx	xcf		
<i>Vertigo pygmaea</i>		xx	x	x	x	x		xx	x	x	
Catholic species											
<i>Cepaea</i> sp.									x		
<i>Cochlicopa</i> sp.	x	xx		x	xx	x		x	xx	x	
<i>Trichia hispida</i> group	x	xxx	x	xxx	x	xx		xx	xxxx	x	x
Marsh/freshwater species											
<i>Anisus leucostoma</i>		x		x	xxxx				x		
<i>Bathymphalus contortus</i>				x							
<i>Gyraulus albus</i>				xx						x	
<i>Lymnaea</i> sp.		xx		xx	x			x	x		
<i>L. truncatula</i>									x		
<i>Pisidium</i> sp.									x		
<i>Planorbis planorbis</i>				x							
<i>Succinea</i> sp.				x	x						
<i>Valvata piscinalis</i>				x							
Sample volume (litres)	40	40	20	40	20	40	10	20	20	20	40
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
% flot sorted	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

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

14 APPENDIX 5: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-231104

Project details

Project name Land at Fordham Road and Cherrytree Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

Short description of the project The evaluation revealed activity relating to three broad periods; prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval. The majority of the features were linear ditches, although several pits and postholes were also recorded. The prehistoric activity comprised limited concentrations of Early Neolithic flintworking indicative of potential activity in the immediate area. A small quantity of flints of Bronze Age - Iron Age date, coupled with three residual sherds of Early Iron Age pottery from within Trenches 7-10 highlight the potential for a phase of activity relating to this period. The features are in keeping with agricultural activity associated with the edge of settlement. Romano-British material was equally scarce, with five sherds of pottery and a single fragment of Roman glass, however, the majority of features are considered to relate to this period based on the known settlement remains located immediately north and northeast of the evaluation site. The features identified in the evaluation likely represent peripheral field systems and enclosures for livestock and / or crop. Three sherds of medieval pottery recovered from one of the ditches alongside the remains of furrows identified in the geophysics and within some trenches highlight agricultural activity on site during this period.

Project dates Start: 23-11-2015 End: 02-12-2015

Previous/future work No / Not known

Any associated project reference codes ECB 4586 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Cultivated Land 2 - Operations to a depth less than 0.25m

Monument type DITCHES Late Prehistoric

Monument type DITCHES Roman

Significant Finds POTTERY Roman

Significant Finds POTTERY Late Prehistoric

Methods & "Targeted Trenches"
techniques

Development type Housing estate

Prompt National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Position in the Between deposition of an application and determination
planning process

Project location

Country England

Site location CAMBRIDGESHIRE EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE SOHAM Land at
Fordham Road and Cherrytree Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire

Postcode CB7 5AH

Study area 2440 Square metres

Site coordinates TL 6009 7215 52.323638028843 0.349326998355 52 19 25 N 000 20
57 E Point

Project creators

Name of PCA
Organisation

Project brief CCC Historic Environment Team
originator

Project design Shannon Hogan
originator

Project Shannon Hogan

director/manager

Project supervisor Matthew Jones

Type of Consultant

sponsor/funding

body

Name of CgMs Consulting

sponsor/funding

body

Project archives

Physical Archive Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store
recipient

Physical Archive ID ECB4586

Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics"

Digital Archive Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store
recipient

Digital Archive ID ECB4586

Digital Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Survey"

Digital Media "Survey","Text"

available

Paper Archive Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store
recipient

Paper Archive ID ECB4586

Paper Contents "none"

Paper Media "Context sheet","Plan","Report","Section","Survey ","Unpublished
available Text"

Project bibliography

1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

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