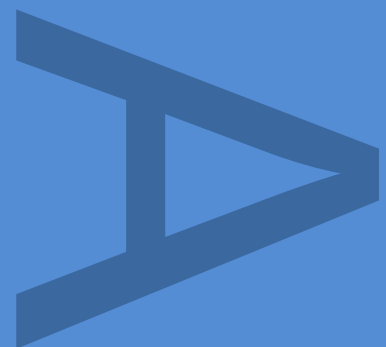


**GILLS HILL FARM, GILLS HILL,  
BOURN, CAMBRIDGESHIRE:  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL  
TRENCH EVALUATION**

**MAY 2016**



**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY  
R12500**

GILLS HILL FARM, GILLS HILL, BOURN,  
CAMBRIDGESHIRE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH  
EVALUATION

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd	
Project Number	K4519
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## **Gills Hill Farm, Gills Hill, Bourn, Cambridgeshire:**

### **Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation**

**Local Planning Authority:** Cambridge City Council

**Planning Reference:** S/1500/15/FL

**Central National Grid Reference:** TL 3270 5617

**Site Code/Event Number:** ECB4725

**Report No.** R12500

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**May 2016**

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## **ABSTRACT**

*This report describes the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology at Gills Hill Farm, Gills Hill, Bourn, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 3270 5617) between the 15th and the 16th May 2016. The archaeological work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting in response to a planning condition attached to the construction of 16 residential dwellings with associated public open space, access and landscaping. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the proposed development area.*

*The evaluation identified a number of undated ditches and two undated pits thought to be associated with agricultural activity. There was no evidence of earlier occupation on the site, which is particularly evidenced by the sterile nature of the features recorded.*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on land at Gills Hill Farm, Gills Hill, Bourn, Cambridgeshire (centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 3270 5617) from the 15th to the 16th May 2016 (Figure 1).
- 1.2 The archaeological work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting in response to an archaeological planning condition attached to the construction of 16 residential dwellings, public open space, access and landscaping (Planning Reference S/1500/15/FL).
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Mary-Anne Slater of PCA (Slater 2016) in response to a Brief for archaeological evaluation issued by Gemma Stewart (Stewart 2016) of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET).
- 1.4 The aim of the evaluation was to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition and quality of any archaeological remains on the site, to assess the significance of any such remains in a local, regional, or national context, as appropriate, and to assess the potential impact of the development proposals on the site's archaeology.
- 1.5 A total of six 30m x 2m trial trenches were excavated and recorded, whilst a seventh trench was shortened to 13m in length due to an underground cable which crossed the site.
- 1.6 This report describes the results of the evaluation and aims to inform the design of an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy. The site archive will be deposited at Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store.

## **2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

### **2.1 Geology**

- 2.1.1 The area is underlain by Gault Formation Mudstone, a Sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 100 to 112 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period when the environment was dominated by shallow seas (BGS; Website 1).
- 2.1.2 The superficial deposits are of Oadby Member - Diamicton (BGS; Website 1). Superficial deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period when the environment was dominated by ice age conditions.
- 2.1.3 The Soil Survey of England and Wales identifies the soils of the site as belonging to the Hanslope Association; a mix of slowly permeable calcareous clayey soils and some slowly permeable non-calcareous clayey soils.

### **2.2 Topography**

- 2.2.1 The site lies within the Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire Claylands Natural England Character Area. The Character Area is a broad, gently undulating, low plateau, intersected with shallow river valleys.
- 2.2.2 The site is generally flat and lies at approximately 45m above Ordnance Datum (AOD).



### **3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

#### **3.1 General**

3.1.1 The following archaeological background is taken from the Archaeological Brief (Stewart 2016), a search of the Cambridgeshire HER and a Desk Based Assessment (Thornton 2015) for the site.

#### **3.2 Roman**

3.2.1 Approximately 850m north of the site lies the Scheduled Monument 'Moulton Hills Roman Barrows' (1019837), which consists of three Roman barrows preserved as earthwork mounds enclosed by ditches. They lie in an area of archaeological interest, approximately 2km east of the Roman Road Ermine Street. Excavations in 1909 revealed that the northernmost barrow consists of two superimposed mounds. The inner mound is thought to date from the late second century and contained a Roman cremation burial accompanied by grave goods including pottery, a bone pin and a loom weight. Evidence of Saxon hearths were found to have been cut into this mound. The mound which overlies the inner Roman mound is medieval in date and contains Roman and medieval debris and medieval coins.

#### **3.3 Medieval**

3.3.1 During the medieval period the site lay within the open fields south-east of Bourn village. The survival of localised blocks of ridge and furrow is recorded to the north, west and south-west of the site (CHER 09564, 09940 and 03424).

3.3.2 The village of Bourn was originally established as a series of smaller settlements within the Bourn valley. By the 14th century Bourn still consisted of a village of 'Ends' and hamlets. A series of house platforms were identified in Crow End, c.800m north of the site (CHER 09939). These earthworks were part of one of the shrunken medieval settlements of Bourn. The parish church of St Helen and St Mary, which originally dates from the 12th century, is located approximately 340m north-west of the site, towards the southern end of the village.

3.3.3 The site of Picot's Castle, an 11th century ringwork and bailey castle, is

situated c.300m west of Gills Hill Farm (CHER 01096). The Scheduled Monument includes the earthwork remains of the castle, much of which has been damaged by the later construction of Bourn Hall in the early 17th century.

### **3.4 Post-Medieval**

- 3.4.1 The earliest detailed map showing the site is the early 19th century Bourn Inclosure Map, which shows the site forming the north-western part of an L-shaped enclosed field. Historic mapping shows that the site appears to have remained as agricultural land throughout the post-medieval period, until the construction of the buildings on the site in the 19th and 20th centuries.
- 3.4.2 Gill's Hill Farm is an early 19th century Grade II listed farmhouse (CHER 03382). It is located c.50m north of the site. The oldest part of the farmhouse is a two storey house built of red brick in a T-shaped plan.
- 3.4.3 To the west of the site lies Bourn Hall, an early 17th century Grade II listed manor house (CHER 01096a) which sits on (and has obscured much of) the site of the 11th century Picot's Castle.

## **4 METHODOLOGY**

### **4.1 Excavation and Sampling**

- 4.1.1 The Written Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation proposed the excavation of seven trial trenches, distributed across the site (Figure 2).
- 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. Concrete surfaces on top of Trenches 2, 3 and 4 were removed with a breaker, after which, topsoil and subsoil deposits were removed in spits in all trenches 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 bucket sampled from each trench and examined visually and with a metal-detector for finds retrieval. Trench 6 was shortened due to a mains cable running along the south-eastern edge of the site.
- 4.1.3 The artefact contents of the subsoil was examined as part of the evaluation using a programme of bucket sampling. 90 litres of topsoil and 90 litres of subsoil were hand sorted at one end of each trench. No artefacts were recovered during this exercise.
- 4.1.4 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.
- 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 All features were investigated and recorded in order to properly understand the date and nature of the archaeological remains on the site.
- 4.1.7 Discrete features such as pits and postholes were at least 50% 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.
- 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.

## **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 subdivided into feature type, before being described in numeric cut order within the trench. Archaeological features and deposits were sealed by the subsoil, unless otherwise stated. The evaluation identified a number of undated ditches and two small undated pits.

### **5.2 Trench 1**

5.2.1 Trench 1 contained two ditches, one on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment whilst the other, a ditch terminus which extended beyond the southwestern limit of excavation was on a north-east to south-west alignment. Two small pits were also present and all the features within the trench were undated. Modern made ground was present at the southern end of the trench, but had minimal impact on the archaeology as a good amount of subsoil remained.

5.2.2 Ditch [104] (Plate 2; Figure 3, Section 1) was located at the north-western end of the trench and extended beyond the north and south limits of excavation. It was 0.70m wide and 0.28m deep with a v-shaped profile. It had a single fill (105) of light to mid brown silty clay which contained no finds.

5.2.3 Pit [106] (Plate 3; Figure 3, Section 2) was located south of [104]. It was 0.6m wide and 0.20m deep with moderate concave sides and a concave base. It had a single fill of mid greenish-grey silty clay (107), which contained no finds.

5.2.4 Ditch [108] (Figure 3, Section 3) was located south of [106]. The ditch terminus was 0.80m wide and 0.30m deep with steep sides and a flattish base. It had a single fill of mid yellowish-grey silty clay (109), which contained no finds.

5.2.5 Pit [110] (Plate 4; Figure 3, Section 4) was located at the southern end of Trench 1. It was 0.38m wide and 0.20m deep, with a u-shaped profile. It

had a single fill (111) of mid yellowish brown silty clay which contained no finds.

5.2.6 Pit [110] was truncated by an undetermined feature [120] (Plate 4; Figure 3, Section 4) which only just extended out from the south-western side of the trench and was seen mainly in section. The feature contained a single fill of mid yellowish brown silty clay (121) and contained no finds.

5.2.7 The ditches were likely to be drainage ditches of an unknown date as they do not match any of the field boundaries shown on historical maps of the site. The pits were of an unknown function, they were small with a very sterile fill and therefore unlikely to be refuse pits.

<b>TRENCH 1</b>	<b>Figures 2-3</b>		<b>Plates 2-4</b>	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 30m	Level of Natural (m OD): 46.45-46.66m		
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Average Depth (m)</b>		
		<b>SE End</b>	<b>NW End</b>	
Topsoil	(100)	0.40m	0.35m	
Modern Made Ground	(101)	0.20m	N/A	
Subsoil	(102)	0.36m	0.40m	
Natural (max machined depth)	(103)	0.96m+	0.75m+	
<b>Summary</b>				
Trench 1 was located close to the north corner of the site.				
The trench contained two ditches and a couple of pits, all of which were undated. There was evidence of modern rubbish deposits beneath the topsoil however it seems this had minimal impact on the archaeology below.				

### 5.3 Trench 2

5.3.1 The trench contained no archaeological features.

<b>TRENCH 2</b>	<b>Figure 2</b>		<b>Plate 5</b>	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 30m	Level of Natural (m OD): 46.9-47.43m		
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Average Depth (m)</b>		
		<b>NE End</b>	<b>SW End</b>	
Concrete	(+)	0.05m	0.06m	
Modern Made Ground	(101)	0.46m	0.41m	

Subsoil	(102)	0.21m	0.21m
Natural (max machined depth)	(103)	0.72m+	0.68m+
<b>Summary</b>			
<p>Trench 2 was located in the north-west of the site.</p> <p>There were no archaeological features present, though there were a number of modern intrusions along the length of the trench and a layer of modern made ground which lay beneath the concrete. The shallow depth of the subsoil suggests there has been some impact by modern activity on the archaeological strata within this trench, however the intrusions were not extensive enough that the natural geology was not able to be seen, and therefore any potential archaeology.</p>			

## 5.4 Trench 3

5.4.1 The trench contained a single north to south aligned undated ditch.

5.4.2 Ditch [118] (Plate 7 Figure 4, Section 5) was 0.65m wide and over 0.30m deep, with a v-shaped profile and a single backfill of mid blueish grey silty clay (119) which contained no finds. The ditch was unable to be fully excavated due to a rapidly rising water level.

<b>TRENCH 3</b>	<b>Figures 2, 4</b>	<b>Plate 6</b>	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 30m	Level of Natural (m OD): 45.5-46.47m	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Average Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>NW End</b>	<b>SE End</b>
Concrete	(+)	0.15m	0.12m
Modern Made Ground	(101)	0.20m	0.29m
Subsoil	(102)	0.71m	0.81m
Natural (max machined depth)	(103)	0.96m+	1.22m+
<b>Summary</b>			
<p>Trench 3 was located towards the north-east part of the site.</p> <p>The trench contained a single ditch of unknown date.</p> <p>There was evidence of modern made ground beneath a layer of concrete, however due to the sizable depth of the subsoil it seems this had minimal impact on the archaeology below.</p>			

## 5.5 Trench 4

5.5.1 The trench contained no archaeological features.

TRENCH 4	Figure 2		Plate 8	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 30m	Level of Natural (m OD): 46.33-47.09m		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		NW End	SE End	
Concrete	(+)	0.10m	0.06m	
Modern Made Ground	(101)	0.40m	0.54m	
Subsoil	(102)	0.45m	0.24m	
Natural (max machined depth)	(103)	0.85m+	0.84m+	
<b>Summary</b>				
<p>Trench 4 was located along the western part of the site.</p> <p>There were no archaeological features present in the trench, though there were a couple of modern intrusions towards the south-eastern part of the trench. There was also a layer of modern made ground located along the length of the trench, beneath the concrete. This seems to have had some impact on the subsoil layer, as it is of a shallower depth than other trenches (e.g Trench 3), particularly at the south-eastern end of the trench.</p>				

## 5.6 Trench 5

5.6.1 The trench contained three ditches of an unknown date, all on a northwest to southeast alignment, thought to be drainage ditches.

5.6.2 Ditch [115] (Figure 5, Section 8) extended across the central part of trench 5. It was 0.74m wide and 0.19m deep with a moderately sloping side and a flat base. It contained a single fill of sterile mid brown clay (116).

5.6.3 Ditch [112] (Plate 10; Figure 5, Section 7) lay immediately to the southwest of [115] and was on the same alignment. It was 0.73m wide and a depth of 0.36m, with a v-shaped profile. Its basal fill was light yellowish brown clay (114) which was overlain by a fill of mid brown clay (113). Neither fills contained any finds.

5.6.4 Ditch [124] (Plate 11; Figure 5, Section 9) was located at the south-western end of the trench and was 0.70m wide and 0.18m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of sterile mid



greyish brown silty clay (125).

5.6.5 A deposit of mid greyish brown clay (117) was recorded along the length of the trench, sealing the ditches. It was of a slightly different colour to the subsoil and natural and very sterile, suggesting it was naturally formed. Trench 5 was located down slope from the rest of the site, which strongly suggests the deposit was colluvial.

<b>TRENCH 5</b>	<b>Figures 2, 5</b>		<b>Plate 9</b>	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 30m	Level of Natural (m OD): 43.96m		
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Average Depth (m)</b>		
		<b>NE End</b>	<b>SW End</b>	
Topsoil	(100)	0.15m	0.14m	
Modern Made Ground	(101)	0.24m	0.14m	
Subsoil	(102)	0.30m	0.24m	
Colluvium deposit	(117)	0.19m	0.34m	
Natural (max machined depth)	(103)	0.88m+	0.76m+	
<b>Summary</b>				
Trench 5 was located along the south-eastern part of the site.				
It contained three parallel ditches on a northwest to southeast alignment. No dating was recovered from any of the ditches. A possible colluvial deposit was recorded in section sealing the ditches. Modern made ground was seen beneath the topsoil layer, however this had minimal impact on the archaeology.				

## 5.7 Trench 6

5.7.1 A deposit of mid greyish brown clay (117) was recorded along the length of the trench, it was of a slightly different colour to the subsoil and natural and very sterile, suggesting it was naturally formed. Trench 6 was located down slope from the rest of the site, which strongly suggests the deposit was colluvial.

<b>TRENCH 6</b>	<b>Figure 2</b>		<b>Plate 12</b>	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 13.1m	Level of Natural (m OD): 43.85-44.36m		
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Average Depth (m)</b>		
		<b>NW End</b>	<b>SE End</b>	
Topsoil	(100)	0.32m	0.46m	

Subsoil	(102)	0.52m	0.45m
Colluvium deposit	(117)	0.20m	0.33m
Natural (max machined depth)	(103)	1.04m+	1.24m+
<b>Summary</b>			
Trench 6 was located towards the southern corner of the site.			
There were no archaeological features present within the trench, however a colluvial layer was recorded in section. A single modern pit was present in the south-eastern part of the trench, which contained modern material such as tarmac, piping and glass.			

## 5.8 Trench 7

5.8.1 Trench 7 contained two ditches of an unknown date. The ditch at the south-western edge of the trench was on a northwest to southeast alignment, whilst the larger ditch of the two was located more centrally within the trench and was on a northeast to southwest alignment.

5.8.2 Ditch [122] (Figure 6, Section 6) was located at the south-western end of Trench 7. It was 0.5m wide and 0.10m deep with a shallow u-shaped profile and contained a fill of mid greyish brown silty clay (123).

5.8.3 Ditch [126] (Plate 14; Figure 6, Section 10) lay to the northwest of ditch [122]. It was 1.10m wide, with a depth of 0.4m and had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a fill of light greyish brown silty clay (127), which contained no finds.

5.8.4 A deposit of mid greyish brown clay (117) was recorded along the length of the trench, sealing the ditches. It was of a slightly different colour to the subsoil and natural and very sterile, suggesting it was naturally formed. Trench 7 was located down slope from the rest of the site, which strongly suggests the deposit was colluvial.

### 5.8.5

<b>TRENCH 7</b>	<b>Figures 2, 6</b>	<b>Plates 13</b>	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 30m	Level of Natural (m OD): 42.7-42.93m	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Average Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>SW End</b>	<b>NE End</b>

---

Topsoil	(100)	0.28m	0.23m
Subsoil	(102)	0.36m	0.40m
Colluvium deposit	(117)	0.14m	0.27m
Natural (max machined depth)	(103)	0.78m+	0.90m+
<b>Summary</b>			
<p>Trench 7 was located towards the south-eastern corner of the site.</p> <p>Two undated ditches were present at the south-western end of the trench.</p> <p>A colluvial deposit was recorded along the length of the trench.</p>			

## **6 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE**

- 6.1 There were no finds recovered from the site and due to the sterile nature of the soil, it was deemed unnecessary to take any environmental samples from any of the features.

## **7 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS**

- 7.1 The evaluation identified seven undated ditches and two, small undated pits. The sterile nature of the soil prominently suggests that the ditches and pits were dug during a period of inoccupation and were likely to have been associated with former agricultural activity on the site.
- 7.2 The results of the evaluation was in keeping with what is known about the site, that it was part of an area of open field and agricultural land from at least the medieval period, through the post-medieval and up to the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The boundary lines and former buildings shown on the historical maps, including the Inclosure map of 1820 and Ordnance survey map of 1887, were not found during the course of the evaluation.
- 7.3 The densest concentration of features was located towards the eastern side of the site, furthest away from the road.
- 7.4 Archaeological preservation on the site seemed good, despite the site recently being an active farmyard with modern truncations and associated buildings. A substantial depth of subsoil remained in places, indicating that modern activity had had minimal impact on any potential archaeology.

## **8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

8.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank CgMs Consulting for commissioning the work and Anthill Hire for operating the excavator. PCA are also grateful to Gemma Stewart of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team for her advice and for monitoring the work. The author would like to thank Taleyna Fletcher for managing the project. The author would also like to thank Ciaran Grace, Dan Britton, and Gary Reid for their work on site, and finally PCA's CAD department for preparing the figures.

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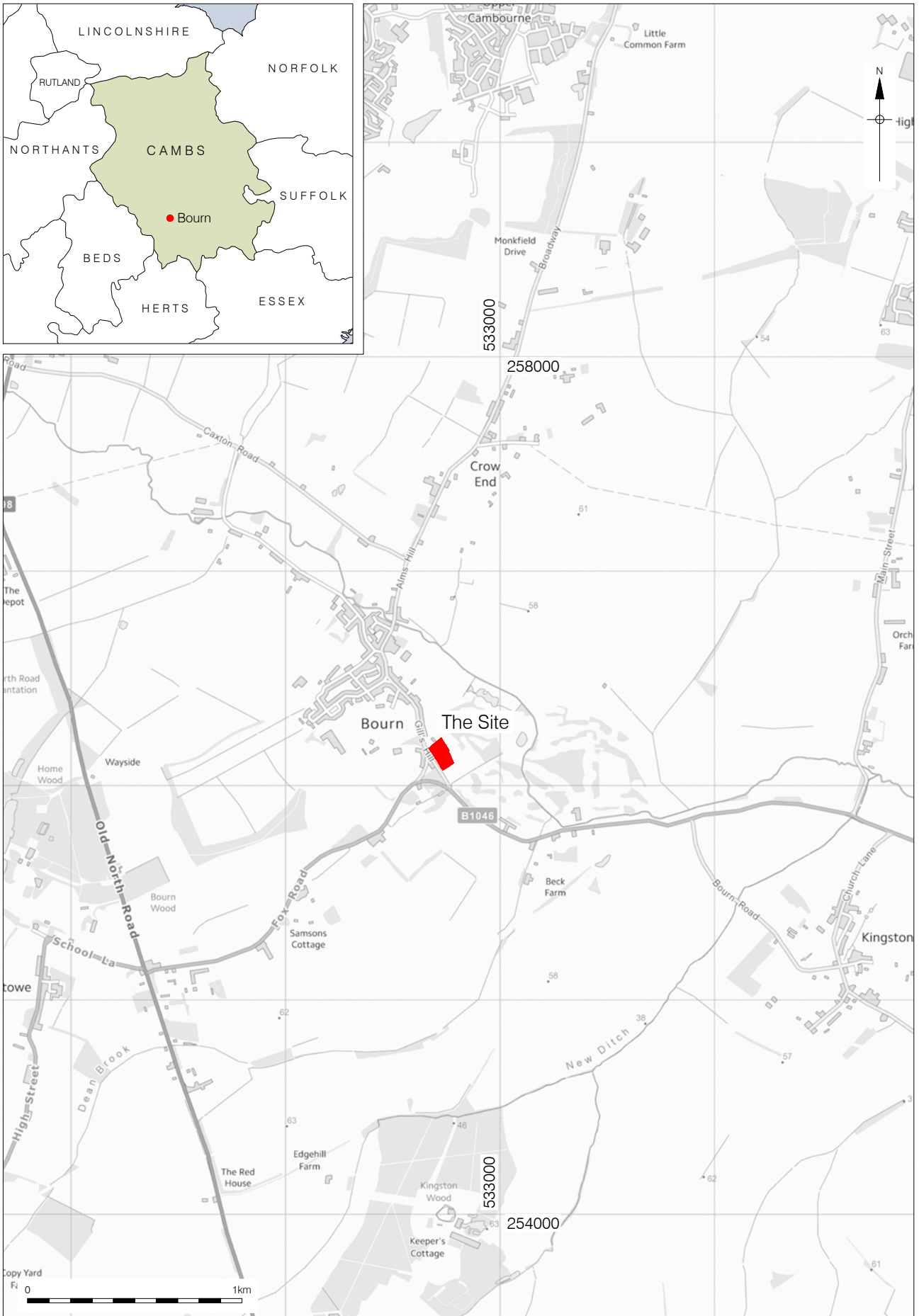
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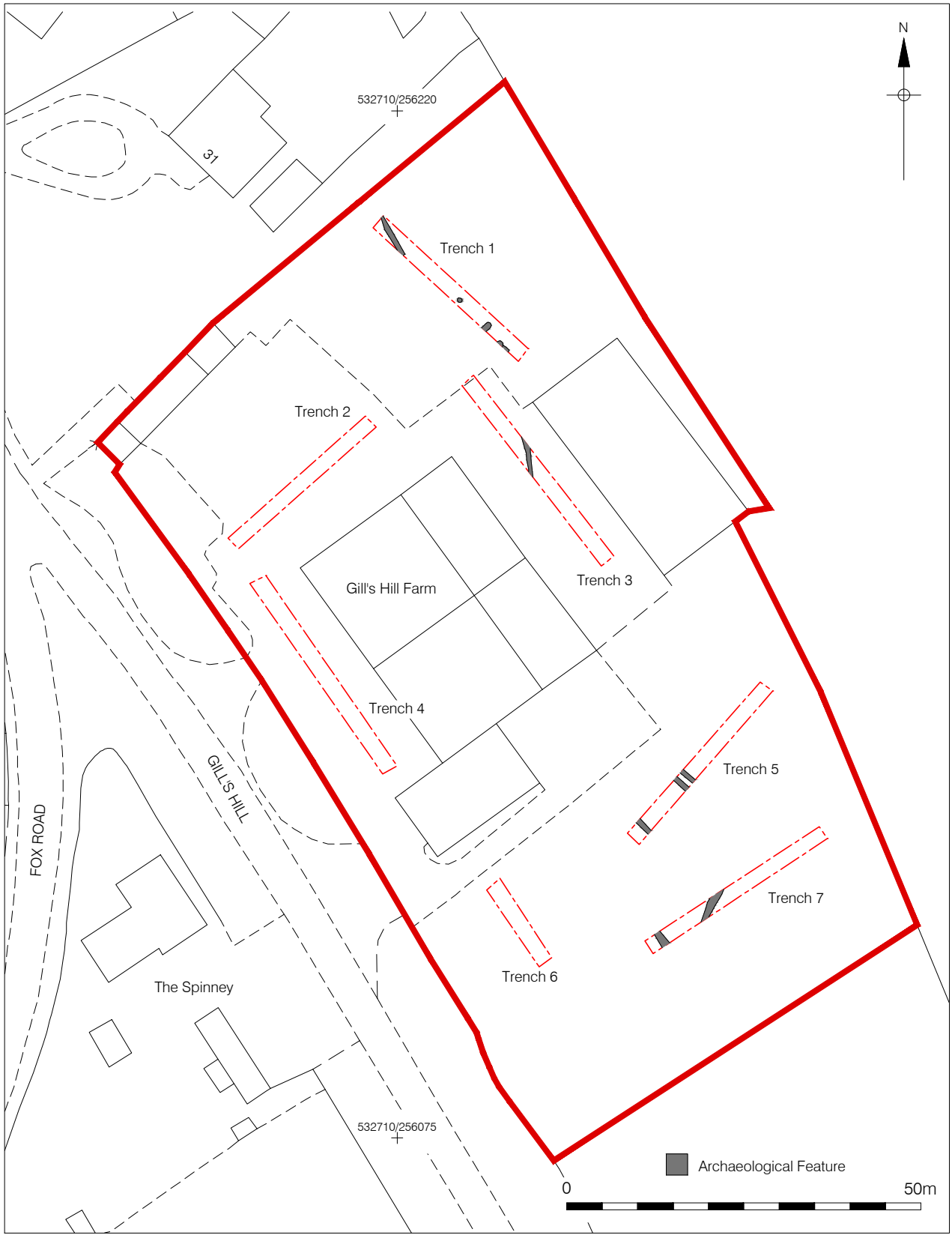
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26/05/16 JS

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





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 26/05/16 JS

Figure 2  
 Trench Location  
 1:800 at A4

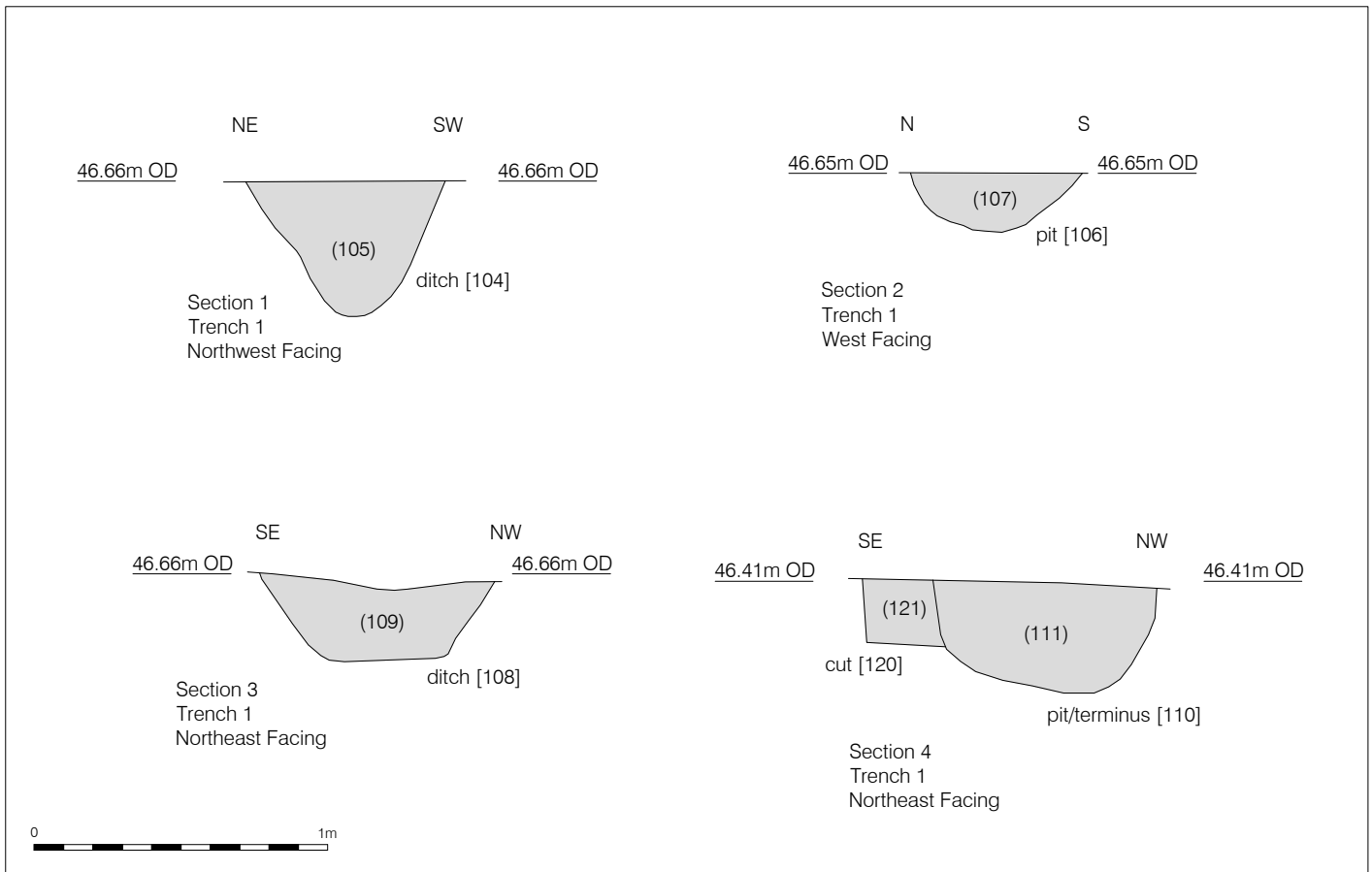
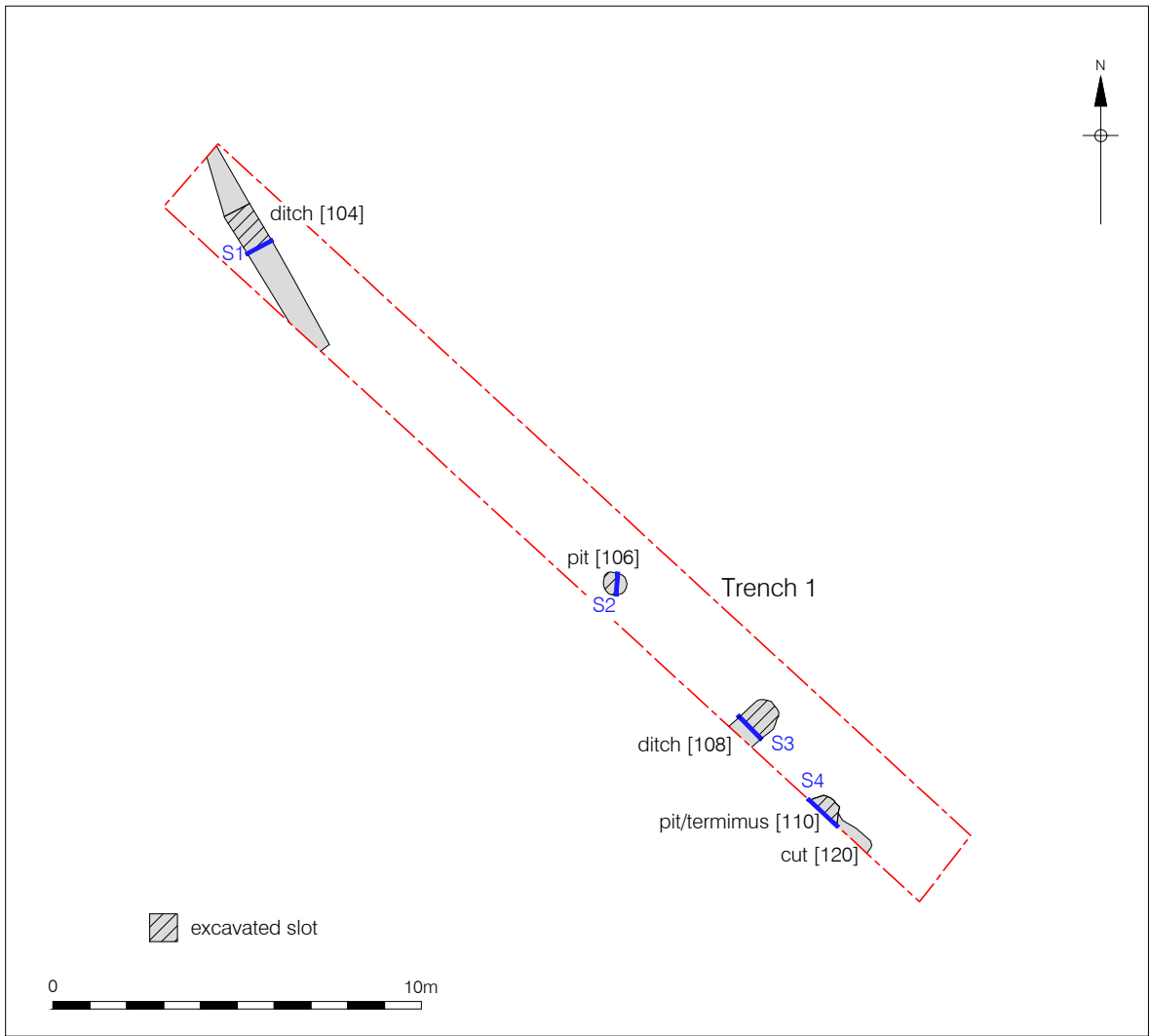
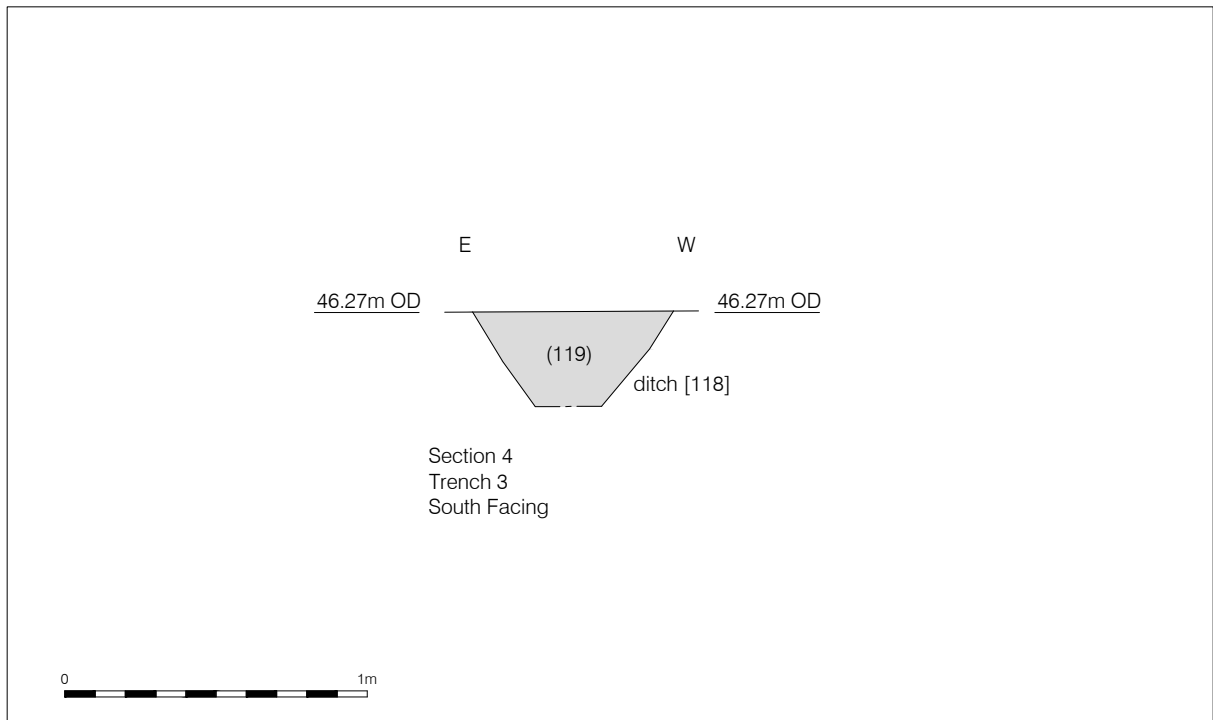


Figure 3  
Trench 1 Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:25 at A4



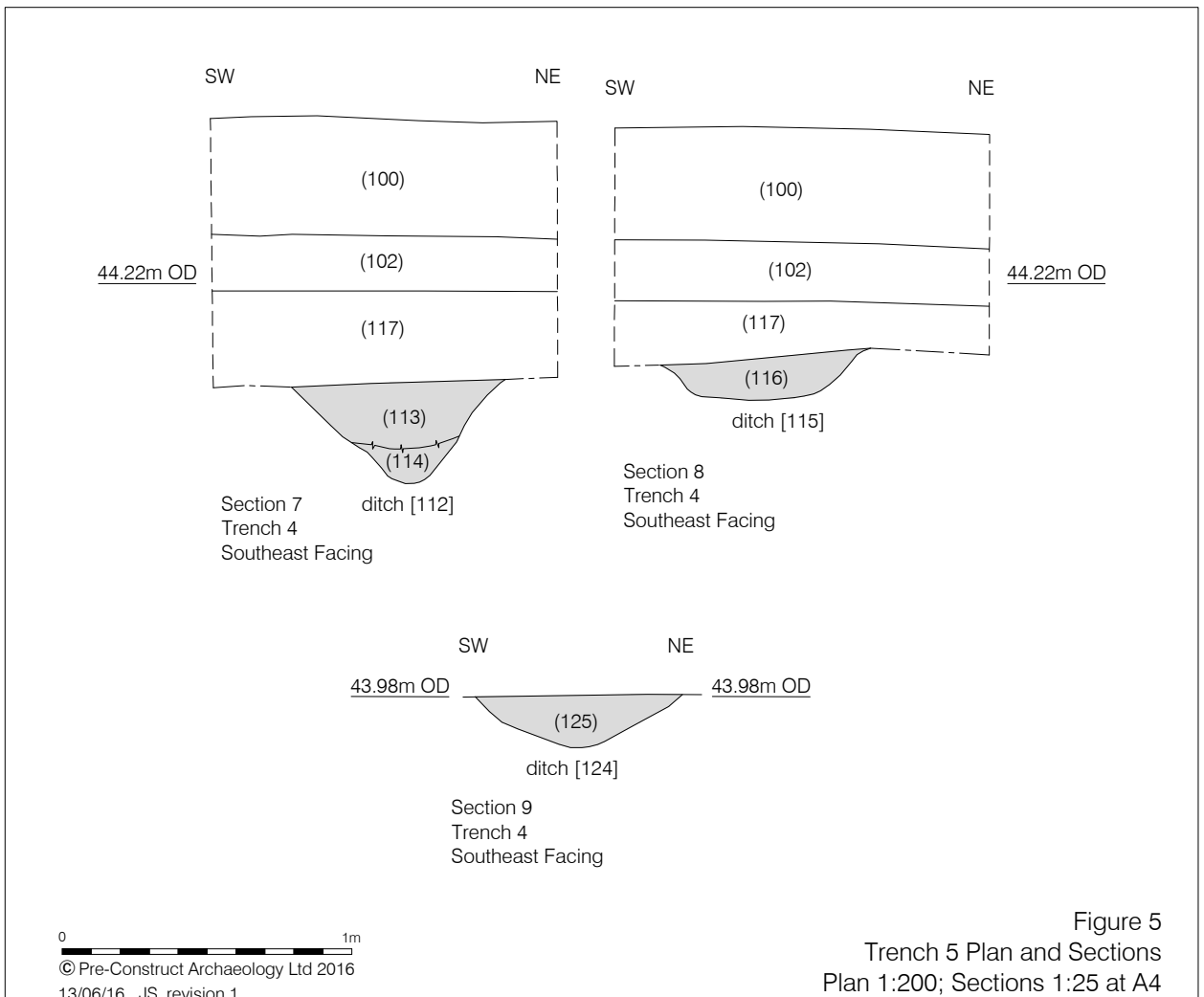
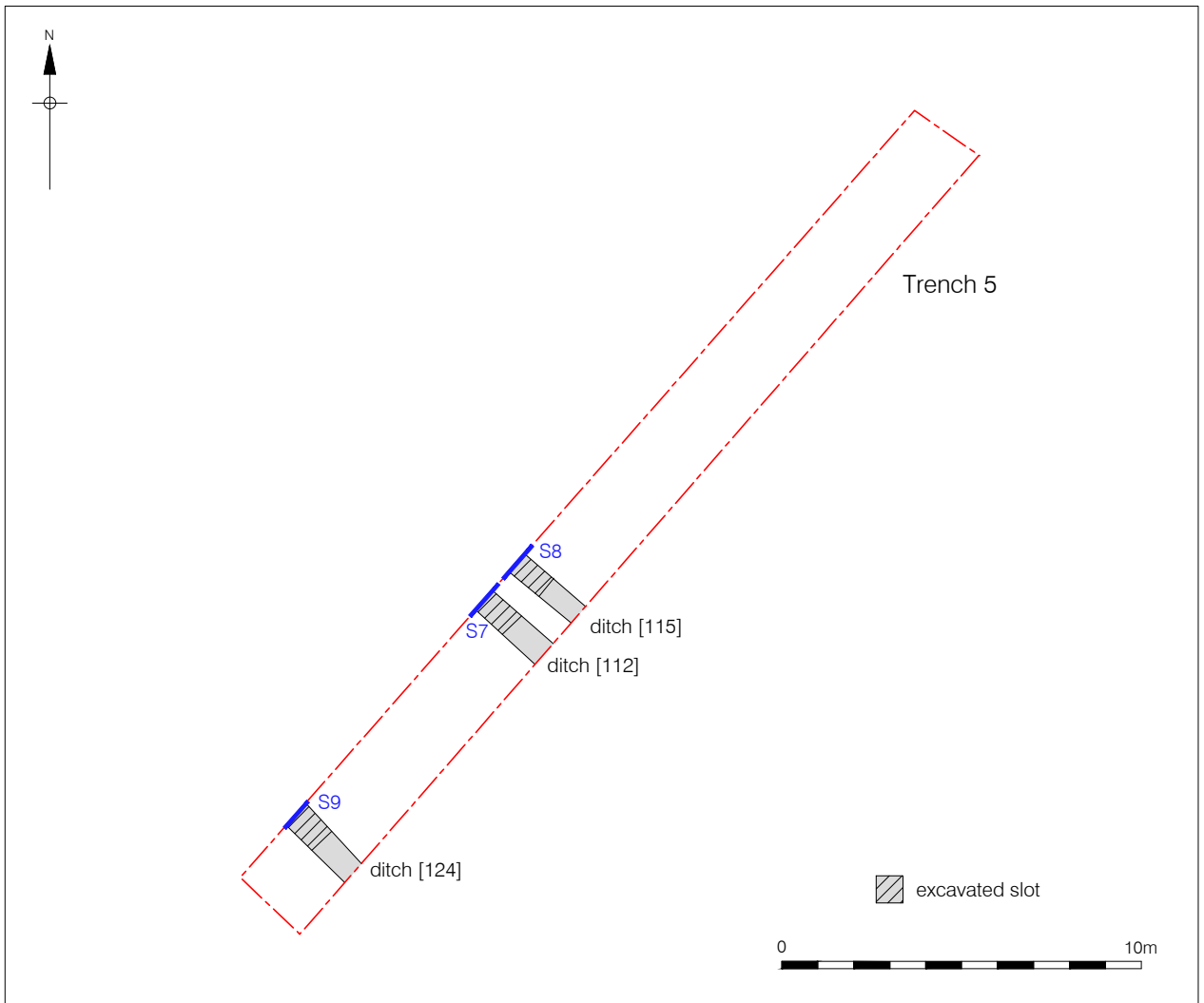


Figure 5  
Trench 5 Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:25 at A4

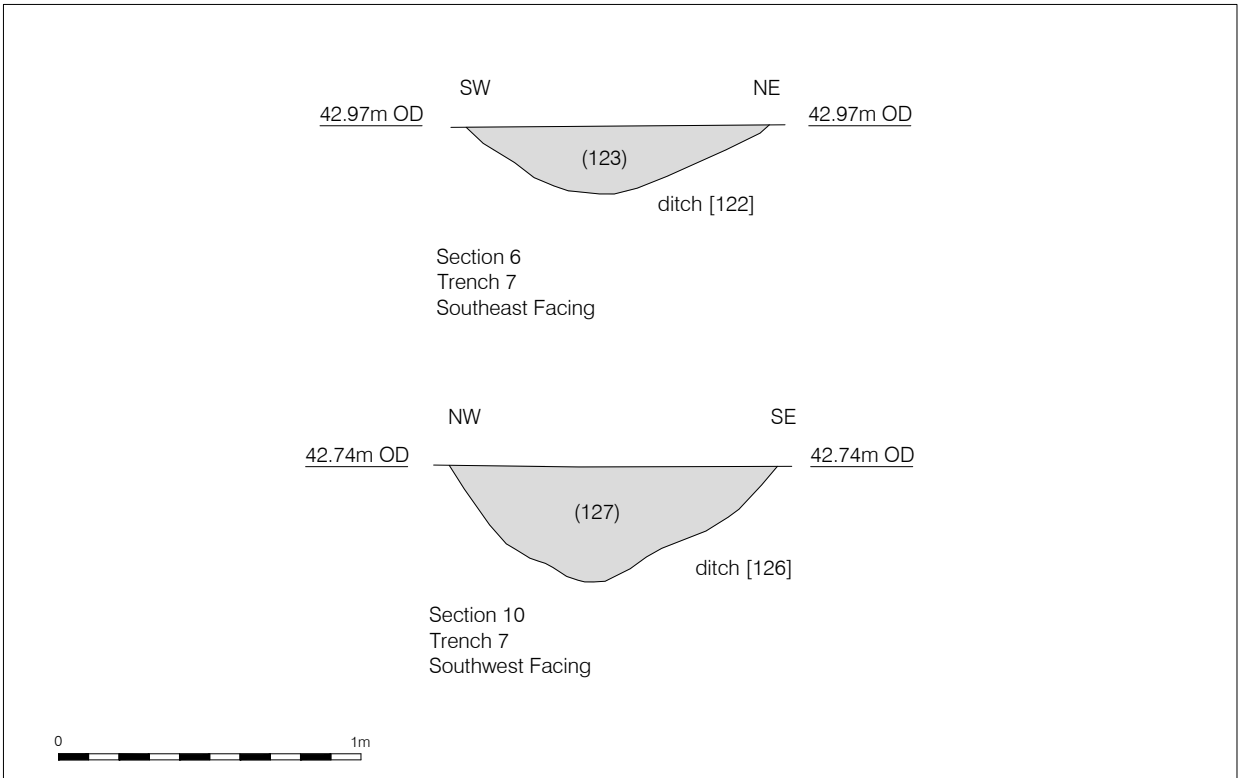
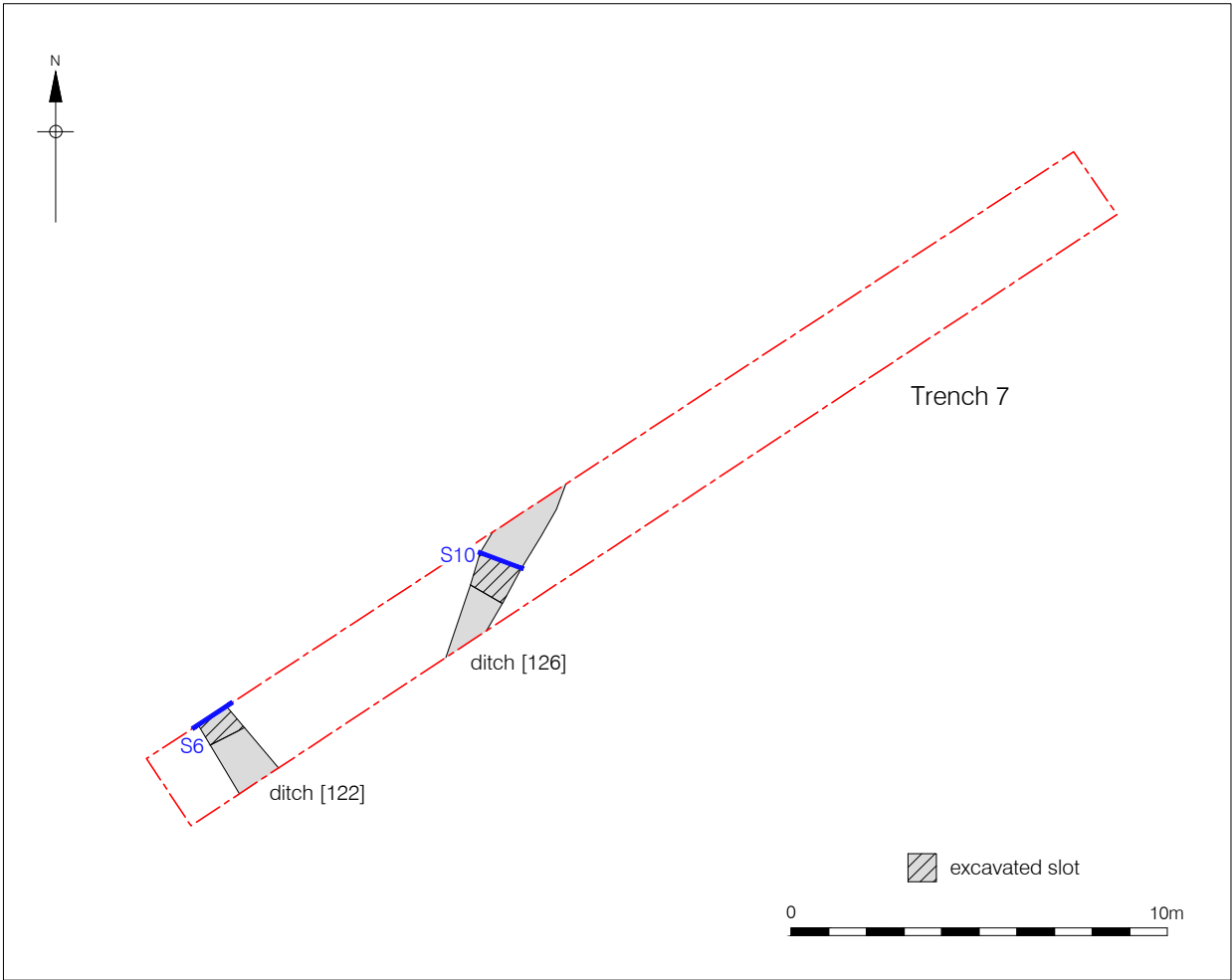


Figure 6  
Trench 7 Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:25 at A4

**10 APPENDIX 1: PLATES**



Plate 1: Trench 1, view northwest



Plate 2: Ditch [104], view south



Plate 3: Ditch terminus [106], view southwest



Plate 4: Pit [110] truncated by feature [121], view southwest



Plate 5: Trench 2, view northeast





Plate 6: Trench 3, view southeast



Plate 7: Ditch [118], view south



Plate 8: Trench 4, view southeast



Plate 9: Trench 5, view northeast



Plate 10: Ditch [112], view northwest



Plate 11: Ditch [124], view northwest



Plate 12: Trench 6, view northwest



Plate 13: Trench 7, view northeast



Plate 14: Ditch [126], view southwest



## 11 APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Context List					
Context Number	Trench	Cut	Type	Category	Section
100	0	0	Layer	Topsoil	0
101	0	0	Layer	Made Ground	0
102	0	0	Layer	Subsoil	0
103	0	0	Layer	Natural	0
104	1	104	Cut	Ditch	1
105	1	105	Fill	Ditch	1
106	1	106	Cut	Pit	2
107	1	106	Fill	Pit	2
108	1	108	Cut	Ditch	3
109	1	108	Fill	Ditch	3
110	1	110	Cut	Ditch	4
111	1	110	Fill	Ditch	4
112	5	112	Cut	Ditch	7
113	5	112	Fill	Ditch	7
114	5	112	Fill	Ditch	7
115	5	115	Cut	Ditch	8
116	5	115	Fill	Ditch	8
117	0	0	Layer	Subsoil	7, 8
118	3	118	Cut	Ditch	5
119	3	118	Fill	Ditch	5
120	1	120	Cut	Unknown	4
121	1	120	Fill	Unknown	4
122	7	122	Cut	Ditch	6
123	7	122	Fill	Ditch	6
124	5	124	Cut	Ditch	9
125	5	124	Fill	Ditch	9
126	7	126	Cut	Ditch	10
127	7	126	Fill	Ditch	10

## 12 APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM

### OASIS ID: preconst1-253193

#### Project details

Project name	Gills Hill Farm, Gills Hill, Bourn, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation
Short description of the project	This report describes the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology at Gills Hill Farm, Gills Hill, Bourn, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 3270 5617) between the 19th and the 20th May 2016. The archaeological work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting in response to a planning condition attached to the construction of 16 residential dwellings with associated public open space, access and landscaping. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the proposed development area. The evaluation identified a number of undated ditches and two undated pits thought to be associated with agricultural activity. There was no evidence of earlier occupation on the site, which is particularly evidenced by the sterile nature of the features recorded.
Project dates	Start: 19-05-2016 End: 20-05-2016
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ECB4725 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Significant Finds	N/A None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

#### Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE BOURN Gills Hill Farm, Gills Hill, Bourn
Study area	0 Square metres

Site coordinates TL 3270 5617 52.187366639981 -0.058627569618 52 11 14 N 000 03 31  
W Point

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### Project creators

Name of Organisation Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Project brief originator Gemma Stewart

Project design originator Mary-Anne Slater

Project director/manager Taleyna Fletcher

Project supervisor Clare Jackson

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### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store

Digital Archive ID ECB4725

Digital Contents "none"

Digital Media available "Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"

Paper Archive recipient Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store

Paper Archive ID ECB4725

Paper Contents "none"

Paper Media available "Context sheet","Report","Section","Survey "

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### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Gills Hill Farm, Gills Hill, Bourn, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

Author(s)/Editor(s) Jackson, C.

Date 2016

Issuer or publisher Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

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