

**Land at Paston Reserve,
Peterborough:
Archaeological Trial Trench
Evaluation**

October 2016

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Land at Paston Reserve, Peterborough: Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

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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 Paston Reserve, Peterborough (NGR TF 1979 0298) between the 12th and the 28th September 2016. The archaeological work was commissioned by Keepmoat in response to a planning condition attached to residential development with associated access and landscaping. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the proposed development area.

The evaluation identified a concentration of archaeological remains in the north of the development area, at the topographically highest point of the site approximately 130m south of Car Dyke, an artificial water channel constructed during 1st century AD. These archaeological features consisted of concentrations of small pits and postholes and at least three phases of a north to south aligned boundary ditch. Almost all of the features excavated in these trenches produced significant amounts of high-status Roman pottery and CBM. These finds and the nature of the features identified strongly suggest the presence of a Roman settlement of some description in this area of the site.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on land at Paston Reserve, Peterborough (centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) TF 1979 0298) from the 12th to the 28th September 2016 (Figure 1).
- 1.1.2 The archaeological work was commissioned by Keepmoat in response to an archaeological planning condition attached to proposed residential development with associated access, car-parking and landscaping (Planning Reference TBC).
- 1.1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Taleyna Fletcher of PCA (Fletcher 2016) in response to a request by Peterborough City Councils Archaeologist, Rebecca Casa-Hatton.
- 1.1.4 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.
- 1.1.5 A total of 38 trial trenches were excavated and recorded. These consisted of thirty-three 50m trenches and five trenches whose lengths varied between 18m and 41 due to site-specific circumstances.
- 1.1.6 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 Peterborough Museums Stores.

2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

2.1 Geology

2.1.1 The underlying geology comprises Oxford Clay formation with superficial deposits of River Terrace deposits, 3 (BGS, 2016).

2.1.2 The soils consist of loamy soils with naturally high groundwater (Soilscapes, 2016).

2.2 Topography

2.2.1 The site lies to the south of the Roman Canal Car Dyke. It comprises two parcels of land totalling 12 hectares. There is a modern housing development to the west. Norwood Road creates a boundary to the site to the south and Newborough Road to the east (Figure 1).

2.2.2 The site slopes downwards from approximately 13m OD at the southern end to 8m OD to the northern limit at Car Dyke.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 General

- 3.1.1 The following forms a brief summary of the significant heritage assets identified within a 1 km radius search of the survey area on Heritage Gateway.
- 3.1.2 Car Dyke runs north of the site and a number of other Romano-British features are located within a 1 km radius of the survey area. Car Dyke comprises a series of artificial watercourses traditionally thought to be part of a Roman transport system between the rivers Witham and Cam. It is considered to have been part of a wider drainage and reclamation scheme constructed in the late 1st or early 2nd century.
- 3.1.3 To the north of the survey area, evaluation ahead of development revealed an undated water management feature and three Roman ditches (Fletcher, T. 2007 and 2008).
- 3.1.4 Northeast of the survey area, twelve trenches were excavated following desk-based assessment and twelve bore holes were also drilled through the south bank of the Car Dyke. Trenching revealed pits and ditches of a Romano-British settlement containing a structure of some status dating to the later 3rd/4th centuries. Part of the cut for the south bank of the Car Dyke was also identified (Thomas, A. and Wilkinson, K. 1997).
- 3.1.5 Following investigations ahead of development west of the survey area, further evidence of a Romano-British rural site have been recorded (Coates, G. and Hancocks, A. 1998).

3.2 Geophysical Report

- 3.2.1 A geophysical survey of the site was undertaken by Magnitude Surveys in May 2016 (Magnitude Geophysical Survey Report MSTF26). This survey was commissioned by PCA and undertaken at the request of PCC Archaeologist to inform the trenching and monitoring strategies.
- 3.2.2 The magnetic survey responded well to the survey area's environment.

Other than a scatter of magnetic debris associated with a former pump house, no anomalies of probable or possible archaeological origin have been identified. Modern debris and activity associated with a horse paddock has introduced uniform noise across Area 2. This noise prevents confident classification of the specific origins of many of the anomalies detected in this area.

- 3.2.3 Overall, the entire results primarily reflect agricultural and modern activity. Agricultural activity has been detected in the form ploughing schemes in Area 1. Former field boundaries have been detected across both areas. Modern activity is reflected by strong, ferrous anomalies. These are associated with spreading of refuse and debris; activity associated with horse paddocks; vehicles and roads; and modern developments.
- 3.2.4 In light of the results of the survey, the proposed trench plan covered a full sample of the site.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Excavation and Sampling

- 4.1.1 The Written Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation proposed the excavation of 36 trial trenches, distributed across the site (Figure 2). Some trenches were targeted in order to investigate geophysical anomalies, with the others being positioned in order to obtain a representative sample of the 'blank' spaces on the site. This resulted in a 3% sample of the proposed development area.
- 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.
- 4.1.4 Field excavation techniques and recording methods are detailed in the PCA Fieldwork Induction Manual (Operations Manual I) by Joanna Taylor and Gary Brown (2009).
- 4.1.5 All features were investigated and recorded in order to properly 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.
- 4.1.6 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 (IfA 2001; 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 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 concentration of archaeological remains in the north of the development area, at the topographically highest point of the site approximately 130m south of the Car Dyke. These archaeological features consisted of concentrations of small pits and postholes and at least three phases of a north to south aligned boundary ditch. Almost all of the features excavated in these trenches produced significant amounts of high-status Roman pottery and CBM. These finds and the nature of the features identified strongly suggest the presence of a Roman settlement of some description in this area of the site.

5.2 Trench 1

5.2.1 Trench 1 contained two small pits [182] and [184].

5.2.2 Pit [182] (Figure 2) measured 0.8m long by 0.65m wide and was 0.16m deep. It was sub-circular in plan with moderately-sloping rounded sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of dark greyish brown silt (181) which contained no finds.

5.2.3 Pit [184] (Figure 2) measured 1m long by 0.8m wide and was 0.16m deep. It was sub-circular in plan with moderately-sloping rounded sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of mid greyish brown silt (183).

TRENCH 1	Figure 2			
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 11.43		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		SW End	NE End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.28m	0.3m	
Subsoil	(101)	0.17m	0.24m	
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.45m+	0.54m+	

Summary

Trench 1 was located in the west of the site.
 The trench contained two pits [182] and [184]

5.3 Trench 2

5.3.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.

TRENCH 2		Figure 2		Plate	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE		Length: 50m		Level of Natural (m OD): 11.45	
Deposit		Context No.		Average Depth (m)	
				SE End	NW End
Topsoil		(100)		0.33m	0.31m
Subsoil		(101)		0.17m	0.25m
Natural (max machined depth)		(102)		0.5m+	0.56m+
Summary					
Trench 2 was located in the west of the site. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.					

5.4 Trench 3

5.4.1 Trench 3 contained four intercutting ditches at its north-east end (Ditches [187], [189], [191] and [193]). These ditches represented different phases of the same east to west post-medieval boundary. This boundary ditch was also visible in the north-east end of Trench 5. Ditch [180], located in the north-east part of Trench 3 but aligned north-west to south-east was found to contain modern material such as plastic. This ditch appeared to correspond with an anomaly identified by the geophysical survey undertaken prior to the current evaluation (Harris 2016).

5.4.2 Ditch [180] (Figure 2) was 2.6m wide and at least 0.6m deep; [180] was not dug to its full depth as it was identified as a modern feature. It had moderately-sloping sides and a single fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (179) containing modern material such as plastics.

- 5.4.3 Ditch [187] (Figure 2) was 1.52m wide and at least 0.32m deep with moderately-sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish brown silty clay (186) that contained residual Roman pottery dating to AD150-200AD and a nail.
- 5.4.4 Ditch [189] (Figure 2) was at least 0.9m wide and 0.34m deep with moderately-sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of light greyish brown silty clay (188) that contained a single sherd of residual Roman pottery dating to AD50-400. It had been heavily truncated by Ditch [187].
- 5.4.5 Ditch [191] (Figure 2) was at least 1.6m wide and 0.42m deep with moderately-sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (190) that contained residual Roman pottery dating to AD150-400. [191] was truncated by Ditch [187].
- 5.4.6 Ditch [193] (Figure 2) was at least 2.4m wide and 0.64m deep with shallowly-sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of light greyish brown silty clay (192) that contained residual Roman pottery dating to AD150-200. Ditch [193] was truncated by Ditch [191].

TRENCH 3		Figure 2	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW		Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 11.52
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.3m	0.32m
Subsoil	(101)	0.27m	0.21m
Natural (max machined depth)	(108)	0.57m+	0.53m+
Summary			
<p>Trench 3 was located in the west of the site.</p> <p>It contained four intercutting ditches at its north-east end (Ditches [187], [189], [191] and [193]). These ditches represented different phases of the same east to west post-medieval boundary. This boundary ditch was also visible in the north-east end of Trench 5. Ditch [180], located in the north-east part of Trench 3 but aligned north-west to south-east was found to contain modern material such as plastic. This ditch appeared to correspond with an anomaly identified by the geophysical survey undertaken prior to the current evaluation (Harris 2016).</p>			

5.5 Trench 4

5.5.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.

TRENCH 4		Figure 2			
Trench Alignment: NW-SE		Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 11.64		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)			
		SE End	NW End		
Topsoil	(100)	0.3m	0.24m		
Subsoil	(101)	0.22m	0.32m		
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.52m+	0.56m+		
Summary					
Trench 4 was located in the west of the site.					
No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.					

5.6 Trench 5

5.6.1 Trench 5 contained a large ditch at its north-east end which was a continuation of ditches [187], [189], [191] and [193] identified in Trench 3 as a post-medieval boundary. The trench was extended at this end to fully locate the extent of this ditch.

TRENCH 5		Figure 2		Plate	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW		Length: 58m	Level of Natural (m OD): 11.77		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)			
		SW End	NE End		
Topsoil	(100)	0.3m	0.29m		
Subsoil	(101)	0.23m	0.22m		
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.53m+	0.51m+		
Summary					
Trench 5 was located in the west of the site.					
This trench contained a large ditch at its north-east end which was a continuation of Ditches [187], [189], [191] and [193] identified in Trench 3 as a post-medieval boundary. The trench was extended at this end to fully locate the extent of this ditch.					

5.7 Trench 6

5.7.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.

TRENCH 6		Figures 2	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE		Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 11.98
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil	(100)	0.23m	0.28m
Subsoil	(101)	0.36m	0.35m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.59m+	0.63m+
Summary			
Trench 6 was located in the west of the site.			
No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.			

5.8 Trench 7

5.8.1 Trench 7 was not excavated to its full length due to site-specific considerations. Three furrows were investigated and recorded. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within it.

TRENCH 7		Figure 2	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW		Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 12.18
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.22m	0.25m
Subsoil	(101)	0.2m	0.12m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.44m+	0.37m+
Summary			
Trench 7 was located in the centre of site.			
It was not excavated to its full length due to site-specific considerations. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within it.			

5.9 Trench 8

5.9.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.

TRENCH 8	Figure 2		
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 11.85	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		S End	N End
Topsoil	(100)	0.3m	0.3m
Subsoil	(101)	0.2m	0.2m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.5m+	0.5m+
Summary			
Trench 8 was located in the centre of the site.			
No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.			

5.10 Trench 9

5.10.1 Trench 9 contained a single pit [113].

5.10.2 Pit [113] (Figure 2) measured 0.64m long by 0.49m wide and was 0.11m deep. It was roughly circular in plan with moderately-sloping sides and a flattish base. It had a single fill of light greyish brown silty clay (112) that contained Roman pottery dating to AD50-400.

TRENCH 9	Figure 2		
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 11.71	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil	(100)	0.3m	0.22m
Subsoil	(101)	0.1m	0.1m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.4m+	0.32m+
Summary			
Trench 9 was located in the centre of the site.			
It contained a single pit [113].			

5.11 Trench 10

5.11.1 This trench was not fully excavated due to site-specific considerations. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within it.

TRENCH 10	Figure 2	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 18m	Level of Natural (m OD):

Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.24m	0.26m
Subsoil	(101)	0.31m	0.32m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.55m+	0.58m+
Summary Trench 10 was located in the centre of the site. This trench was not excavated to its full length due to site-specific considerations. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within it.			

5.12 Trench 11

5.12.1 Trench 11 contained a single undated posthole [111].

5.12.2 Posthole [111] (Figure 2) measured 0.7m long by 0.47m wide and was 0.22m deep. It was roughly circular in plan with vertical straight sides and a flat base. It had a lower fill of dark yellowish brown silty clay (110) that had been deliberately backfilled to stabilise the post, and an upper fill of dark blackish brown charcoal-rich silty clay (109) that was presumably the remains of a burnt-out post. No finds were present.

TRENCH 11		Figure 2	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE		Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 12.29
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.29m	0.27m
Subsoil	(101)	0.2m	0.30m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.49m+	0.57m+
Summary Trench 11 was located in the centre of the site. The trench contained a single undated posthole [111].			

5.13 Trench 12

5.13.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.

TRENCH 12	Figure 2		Plate	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 11.56		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		SW End	NE End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.3m	0.25m	
Subsoil	(101)	0.15m	0.15m	
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.45m+	0.4m+	
Summary				
Trench 12 was located centrally, next to the southern border of the site. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.				

5.14 Trench 13

5.14.1 This trench was not fully excavated due to site-specific considerations. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within it.

TRENCH 13	Figure 2		Plate	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 25.5m	Level of Natural (m OD): 11.51		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		SW End	NE End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.27m	0.32m	
Subsoil	(101)	0.08m	0.1m	
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.35m+	0.42m+	
Summary				
Trench 13 was located in the centre of the site. This trench was not excavated to its full length due to site-specific considerations. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within it.				

5.15 Trench 14

5.15.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.

TRENCH 14	Figure 2		Plate	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 11.32		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		SE End	NW End	

Topsoil	(100)	0.28m	0.3m
Subsoil	(101)	0.17m	0.22m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.45m+	0.52m+
Summary			
Trench 14 was located in the centre of the site.			
No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.			

5.16 Trench 15

5.16.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.

TRENCH 15	Figure 2		Plate	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 11.32		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		SW End	NE End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.3m	0.25m	
Subsoil	(101)	0.1m	0.1m	
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.4m+	0.35m+	
Summary				
Trench 15 was located in the centre of the site.				
No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.				

5.17 Trench 16

5.17.1 Trench 16 contained an undated pit [104] and a plough furrow [108].

5.17.2 Pit [104] (Figure 2) measured 1m long by 0.53m wide and was 0.12m deep. It was roughly circular in plan with steeply-sloping straight sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (103). No finds were present.

5.17.3 Furrow [108] (Figure 2) was located at the centre of the trench. It was 0.83m wide and 0.16m deep with shallow straight sides and a flat base. It had a single fill (107) of mid greyish-brown silty clay which contained no finds.

TRENCH 16	Figure 2		Plate	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 10.92		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		SE End	NW End	

Topsoil	(100)	0.27m	0.3m
Subsoil	(101)	0.24m	0.18m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.51m+	0.48m+
Summary			
Trench 16 was located centrally, close to the southern border of the site. The trench contained a pit and a plough furrow.			

5.18 Trench 17

5.18.1 Trench 17 contained a concentration of ten pits, most of which contained Roman pottery. Two postholes could also be dated to this period.

5.18.2 Pit [126] (Figures 2, 4 & 5; Section 12) measured 1.68m long by 0.95m wide and was 0.28m deep. It was roughly circular in plan with gradually-sloping rounded sides and a concave base. It had a single fill of mid yellowish grey silty clay (125) which contained Roman pottery dating to AD150-400. It was truncated by Pit [128].

5.18.3 Pit [128] (Figures 2, 4 & 5; Section 12) measured 0.74m long by 0.45m wide and was 0.24m deep. It was roughly circular in plan with gradually-sloping rounded sides and a concave base. It had a single fill of mid yellowish grey silty clay (127) that contained Roman pottery dating to AD250-400.

5.18.4 Pit [135] (Figures 2 & 5) measured 1.35m long by 1m wide and was 0.15m deep. It was subcircular in plan with gradually-sloping rounded sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (134) that contained Roman pottery dating to AD150-400. It was truncated by Posthole [142].

5.18.5 Pit [136] (Figures 2 & 4) measured 0.95m long by 0.7m wide and was 0.12m deep. It was roughly oval in plan with gradually-sloping rounded sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of dark brownish grey silty clay (133) which was apparently deliberately deposited.

5.18.6 Pit [138] (Figures 2 & 4) measured 1.8m long by 0.55m wide and was 0.19m deep. It was subcircular in plan with steeply-sloping straight sides and a flat

base. It had a single fill of mid brownish grey silty clay (137) that contained Roman pottery dating to AD150-400.

- 5.18.7 Pit [144] (Plate 4; Figures 2 & 4) measured 0.96m long by 0.62m wide and was 0.18m deep. It was roughly oval in plan with steeply-sloping straight sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of light greyish brown silty clay (143) that contained Roman pottery dating to AD150-400. It was truncated by Pit [138].
- 5.18.8 Pit [146] (Plate 4; Figures 2 & 4) measured 0.57m long by 0.31m wide and was 0.11m deep. It was roughly oval in plan with steeply-sloping straight sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of light greyish brown silty clay (145) that contained a single sherd of Roman pottery dating to AD150-400.
- 5.18.9 Pit [148] (Figures 2 & 4) measured 0.54m wide, was 0.11m deep and extended beyond the trench limit of excavation. It appeared to be roughly circular in plan with moderately-sloping concave sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of light greyish brown silty clay (147) that contained Roman pottery dating to AD150-400.
- 5.18.10 Pit [158] (Figures 2 & 4) measured 1.23m long by 0.37m wide and was 0.14m deep. It was subcircular in plan with steeply-sloping straight sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of light greyish brown silty clay.
- 5.18.11 Pit [160] (Figure 2 & 4) measured 2.09m wide and was 0.18m deep. It was subcircular in plan with steeply-sloping straight sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of light greyish brown silty clay (159).
- 5.18.12 Posthole [140] (Figures 2 & 4) measured 0.4m in diameter and was 0.16m deep. It was roughly circular in plan with moderately-sloping sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of light yellowish grey silty clay (139) which contained Roman pottery dating to 150-400AD. It was truncated by Pit [135].
- 5.18.13 Posthole [142] (Figures 2 & 4) measured 0.5m in diameter and was 0.12m deep. It was roughly circular in plan with moderately-sloping sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of mid greyish brown silty clay (141) which contained

Roman Pottery dating to 150-400AD.

5.18.14 Plough Scar [130] (Figures 2, 4 & 5; Section 12) truncated Pit [128]. It was 0.48m long, 0.2m wide and 0.16m deep with shallow straight sides and a narrow base. It had a single fill (129) of mid greyish-brown silty clay which contained Roman pottery dating to AD50-400. These finds were presumably dragged from Pit [128] by the action of the plough.

TRENCH 17	Figures 2 & 4		Plate 4	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 10.68		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		SE End	NW End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.26m	0.28m	
Subsoil	(101)	0.17m	0.22m	
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.43m+	0.5m+	
Summary				
Trench 17 was located in the north of the site.				
It contained a concentration of ten pits, most of which contained Roman pottery. Two postholes could also be dated to this period.				

5.19 Trench 18

5.19.1 Trench 18 contained a pit [176] and a posthole [174]. These features appeared to represent the southern limit of the concentration of Roman activity identified in the north of the evaluation area.

5.19.2 Pit [176] (Figures 2, 3 & 5; Section 27) measured 1.2m long by 0.87m wide and was 0.2m deep. It was roughly circular in plan with gradually-sloping rounded sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of light greyish brown silty clay (175).

5.19.3 Posthole [174] (Figures 2 & 3) measured 0.54m long by 0.45m wide and was 0.47m deep. It was roughly circular in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of dark brownish grey silty clay (173).

TRENCH 18	Figures 2 & 3			
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 10.19		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		SW End	NE End	

Topsoil	(100)	0.28m	0.28m
Subsoil	(101)	0.3m	0.15m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.58m+	0.43m+
Summary			
Trench 18 was located in the centre of the site.			
It contained a pit [176] and a posthole [174]. These features appeared to represent the southernmost limit of the concentration of Roman features identified in the north of the evaluation area.			

5.20 Trench 19

5.20.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.

TRENCH 19	Figure 2		
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 10.62	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil	(100)	0.23m	0.42m
Subsoil	(101)	0.13m	0.08m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.36m+	0.5m+
Summary			
Trench 16 was located in the centre of the site.			
No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.			

5.21 Trench 20

5.21.1 Trench 20 contained seven plough furrows, one of which was excavated.

5.21.2 Furrow [106] (Figure 2) was located in the west of the trench and aligned north-east to south-west. It was 0.55m wide and 0.12m deep with shallow straight sides and a flat base. It had a single fill (105) of dark greyish-brown silty clay which contained pottery dating to AD 150-400.

TRENCH 20	Figure 2		
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 10.23	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.34m	0.33m
Subsoil	(101)	0.26m	0.17m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.6m+	0.5m+

Summary

Trench 20 was located next to the southern border of the site.
 It contained four plough furrows, one of which was excavated.

5.22 Trench 21

5.22.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.

TRENCH 21	Figure 2		
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 9.4	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil	(100)	0.27m	0.25m
Subsoil	(101)	0.28m	0.5m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.55m+	0.75m+
Summary			
Trench 21 was located next to the northern border of the site. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.			

5.23 Trench 22

5.23.1 Trench 22 contained a single ditch [178], located in the west end of the trench. This ditch was aligned north to south and roughly contemporaneous with the similarly aligned ditches in Trench 38. This feature represents the eastern limit of the concentration of Roman activity identified in the north of the evaluation area.

5.23.2 Ditch [178] (Figures 2, 3 & 5; Section 31) was 0.8m wide and 0.29m deep with steep, straight sides and a flat base. It had a lower fill of mid greyish brown silty clay (185) which contained no finds and an upper fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (177) which contained Roman pottery dating to AD200-400 and a nail.

TRENCH 22	Figures 2 & 3		
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 9.44	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.32m	0.26m

Subsoil	(101)	0.45m	0.15m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.77m+	0.41m+
Summary			
Trench 22 was located in the north of the site.			
This trench contained a single ditch [178], located in the west end of the trench. This ditch was aligned north to south and roughly contemporaneous with the similarly aligned ditches in Trench 38. This feature represents the eastern limit of the concentration of Roman activity identified in the north of the evaluation area.			

5.24 Trench 23

5.24.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.

TRENCH 23	Figure 2		
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 9.42	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil	(100)	0.32m	0.26m
Subsoil	(101)	0.45m	0.15m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.77m+	0.41m+
Summary			
Trench 23 was located in the centre of the site.			
No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.			

5.25 Trench 24

5.25.1 Trench 24 contained the remains of a modern wall that corresponded with an anomaly identified by the previously undertaken geophysical survey (Harris 2016).

TRENCH 24	Figure 2		
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 9.51	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.34m	0.28m
Subsoil	(101)	0.35m	0.1m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.69m+	0.38m+
Summary			
Trench 24 was located in the north of the site.			
This trench contained the remains of a modern wall that corresponded with an anomaly			

identified by the previously undertaken geophysical survey (Harris 2016).

5.26 Trench 25

5.26.1 Trench 25 contained a single pit [115] and two furrows (unexcavated).

5.26.2 Pit [115] (Figure 2) measured 1.1m long by 0.61m wide and was 0.12m deep. It was roughly circular in plan with gradually-sloping rounded sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (114). No finds were present.

TRENCH 25	Figure 2			
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 10.2		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		SE End	NW End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.38m	0.34m	
Subsoil	(101)	0.19m	0.2m	
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.57m+	0.54m+	
Summary				
Trench 25 was located next to the southern border of the site.				
This trench contained a single pit [115].				

5.27 Trench 26

5.27.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.

TRENCH 26	Figure 2			
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 7.82		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		SW End	NE End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.25m	0.28m	
Subsoil	(101)	0.2m	0.2m	
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.45m+	0.48m+	
Summary				
Trench 26 was located next to the northern border of the site.				
No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.				

5.28 Trench 27

5.28.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this

trench.

TRENCH 27	Figure 2		
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 8.44	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil	(100)	0.3m	0.26m
Subsoil	(101)	0.16m	0.5m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.46m+	0.76m+
Summary			
Trench 27 was located in the north of the site.			
No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.			

5.29 Trench 28

5.29.1 Trench 28 contained a single large pit.

5.29.2 Pit [132] (Figure 2) measured 1.8m long by 1.55m wide and was 0.22m deep. It was roughly circular in plan with gradually-sloping straight sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of light greyish brown silty clay (131). No datable finds were present.

TRENCH 28	Figure 2		
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 8.47	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.39m	0.3m
Subsoil	(101)	0.14m	0.2m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.53m+	0.5m+
Summary			
Trench 28 was located in the east of the site.			
This trench contained a single large pit.			

5.30 Trench 29

5.30.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.

TRENCH 29	Figure 2		
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 9.6	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	

		SE End	NW End
Topsoil	(100)	0.27m	0.29m
Subsoil	(101)	0.15m	0.31m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.42m+	0.6m+
Summary			
Trench 29 was located in the east of the site.			
No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.			

5.31 Trench 30

5.31.1 Trench 30 contained a single pit [117].

5.31.2 Pit [117] (Figure 2) measured 1.48m long by 1.3m wide and was 0.27m deep. It extended beyond the limit of excavation of Trench 30 but appeared to be possibly rectangular in plan with steeply-sloping straight sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of mid greyish brown silty clay (116) which contained Roman pottery dating to AD120-400 and a fragment of Roman glass.

TRENCH 30		Figure 2	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW		Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 11.06
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.29m	0.3m
Subsoil	(101)	0.12m	0.16m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.41m+	0.46m+
Summary			
Trench 30 was located next to the southern border of the site.			
This trench contained a single pit [117].			

5.32 Trench 31

5.32.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench. A layer of alluvium was identified in the south-east part of the trench.

TRENCH 31		Figure 2	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE		Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 7.56
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End

Topsoil	(100)	0.26m	0.3m
Subsoil	(101)	0.14m	0.29m
Alluvium		0.3	-
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.43m+	0.59m+
Summary			
Trench 31 was located in the east of the site.			
No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.			

5.33 Trench 32

5.33.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench. Two furrows were noted and recorded.

TRENCH 32	Figure 2		
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 10.29	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.29m	0.32m
Subsoil	(101)	0.2m	0.09m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.49m+	0.41m+
Summary			
Trench 32 was located in the east part of the site.			
No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.			

5.34 Trench 33

5.34.1 Trench 33 contained a plough furrow [121] that was truncated by a later, unexcavated furrow aligned north to south.

5.34.2 Furrow [121] (Figure 2) was located in the north of the trench and aligned north-east to south-west. It was 0.55m wide and 0.5m deep with shallow straight sides and a flat base. It had a single fill (120) of mid greyish-brown silty clay. No finds were present.

TRENCH 33	Figure 2		
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 11.19	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil	(100)	0.28m	0.3m

Subsoil	(101)	0.32m	0.18m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.6m+	0.48m+
Summary			
Trench 33 was located in the east of the site.			
This trench contained a plough furrow [121] that was truncated by a later, unexcavated furrow aligned north to south.			

5.35 Trench 34

5.35.1 This trench contained three furrows; two aligned north-east to south-west, one of which was excavated, and another aligned north to south.

5.35.2 Furrow [119] (Figure 2) was located in the west of the trench and aligned north-east to south-west. It was 1.15m wide and 0.14m deep with shallow straight sides and a flat base. It had a single fill (118) of light greyish-brown silty clay. A cast copper alloy ingot was recovered which could date from the Roman to Medieval period.

TRENCH 34	Figure 2		
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 8.06	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.37m	0.28m
Subsoil	(101)	0.26m	0.2m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.63m+	0.48m+
Summary			
Trench 34 was located in the east part of the site.			
This trench contained			

5.36 Trench 35

5.36.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.

TRENCH 35	Figure 2		
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 9.76	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil	(100)	0.32m	0.24m
Subsoil	(101)	0.23m	0.17m

Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.55m+	0.41m+
Summary			
Trench 35 was located next to the eastern border of the site.			
No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench.			

5.37 Trench 36

5.37.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench. Part of the trench was left unexcavated due to modern disturbance.

TRENCH 36	Figure 2		
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 45m	Level of Natural (m OD): 11.68	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.3m	0.33m
Subsoil	(101)	0.12m	0.12m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.42m+	0.45m+
Summary			
Trench 36 was located in the south-east corner of the site.			
No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within this trench. Part of the trench was left unexcavated due to modern disturbance.			

5.38 Trench 37

5.38.1 Trench 37 was excavated at the request of PCCs Archaeologist to the west of Trench 17 to identify the extent of the concentration of archaeological features in that trench. Trench 37 contained a small, shallow curvilinear feature [162] that although it was undated possibly represented the remains of a ditch or gully.

5.38.2 Ditch [162] (Figures 2 & 4) was 1.7m long, 0.29m wide and 0.08m deep with moderately steep straight sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of light greyish-brown sandy silt (161) which contained no finds.

TRENCH 37	Figure 2 & 4		
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 36m	Level of Natural (m OD): 10.9	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil	(100)	0.3m	0.3m
Subsoil	(101)	0.16m	0.26m

Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.46m+	0.56m+
Summary			
Trench 37 was located in the north of the site. It was excavated to the west of Trench 17 to identify the extent of the concentration of archaeological features in that trench. Trench 37 contained.			

5.39 Trench 38

- 5.39.1 Trench 38 was excavated to the east of Trench 17 at the request of PCCs Archaeologist to identify the extent of the concentration of archaeological features in that trench. Trench 38 contained a concentration of five ditches at its north end (Slots [152], [150], [164], [166], [163] and [154]) which represented a north to south aligned Roman boundary. Another ditch, [156], was an earlier boundary, aligned east to west and truncated by Ditch [154]. Two pits [170] and [172] were also identified close to these ditches.
- 5.39.2 Ditch [150] (Plate 3, Figures 2 & 4) was 0.74m wide and 0.17m deep with moderately-sloping rounded sides and a concave base. It had a single fill of mid greyish brown silty clay (149), which contained Roman pottery dating to AD150-200.
- 5.39.3 Ditch [152] (Plate 3, Figures 2 & 4) was 0.65m wide and 0.22m deep with moderately-sloping rounded sides and a concave base. It had a single fill of mid greyish brown silty clay (151), which contained Roman pottery dating to AD150-400.
- 5.39.4 Ditch [154] (Plates 1 & 2, Figures 2 & 4) was 0.65m wide and 0.1m deep with moderately steep rounded sides and a concave base. It had a single fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (153), which contained Roman pottery dating to AD150-200.
- 5.39.5 Ditch [156] (Figure 2, 4 & 5; Section 23) was 1m wide and 0.53m deep with moderately-sloping sides and a concave base. It had a single fill of mid greyish brown silty clay (153), which contained Roman pottery dating to AD150-400.
- 5.39.6 Ditch [164] (Figures 2, 4 & 5; Section 28) was 0.66m wide and 0.17m deep with moderately-sloping rounded sides and a concave base. It had a single

fill of mid greyish brown sandy silt (163), which contained Roman pottery dating to AD150-400.

5.39.7 Ditch [166] (Figures 2, 4 & 5; Section 28) was 0.53m wide and 0.15m deep with moderately-sloping rounded sides and a concave base. It had a single fill of mid greyish brown sandy silt (165), which contained Roman pottery dating to AD150-400.

5.39.8 Ditch [168] (Figures 2, 4 & 5; Section 28) was 0.43m wide and 0.28m deep with steeply-sloping rounded sides and a concave base. It had a single fill of mid greyish brown sandy silt (167), which contained a sherd of potentially Iron Age pottery.

5.39.9 Pit [170] (Figures 2 & 4) measured 0.8m long by 0.75m wide and was 0.14m deep. It was circular in plan with moderately-sloping straight sides and a concave base. It had a single fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (169) which contained Roman pottery dating to AD150-400

5.39.10 Pit [172] (Figures 2 & 4) measured 2.2m long by 0.65m wide and was 0.24m deep. It extended beyond the limit of excavation of Trench 38 but appeared to be circular in plan with moderately-sloping straight sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of mid greyish brown silty clay (171) which contained a single sherd of Roman pottery dating to AD150-400. It was truncated by Pit [170].

TRENCH 38	Figures 2 & 4	Plate 1	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 41m	Level of Natural (m OD): 10.48	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil	(100)	0.2m	0.26m
Subsoil	(101)	0.1m	0.29m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	0.3m+	0.55m+
Summary			
Trench 38 was located in the north of the site.			
It was excavated to the east of Trench 17 to identify the extent of the concentration of archaeological features in that trench. Trench 38 contained a concentration of five ditches at its north end (Slots [152], [150], [164], [166], [163] and [154]) which represented a north to south aligned Roman boundary. Another ditch, [156], was an earlier boundary, aligned			

east to west and truncated by Ditch [154]. Two pits [170] and [172] were also identified close to these ditches.

6 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

6.1 The Romano-British Pottery

By Eniko Hudak

- 6.1.1 The evaluation at Paston Reserve, Peterborough (PCCHER54011) produced a small assemblage of Roman pottery totalling at 479 sherds weighing 5.336 kg (6.03 EVEs). The assemblage was fully quantified and catalogued using the standard measures of sherd count, weight, and Estimated Vessel Equivalents (EVEs). The assemblage was recorded using Museum of London fabric codes (Symonds 2002) and the data was entered into an MS Access database.
- 6.1.2 The assemblage was recovered from Trenches 3, 9, 17, 20, 22, 30, and 38, from 29 individually numbered contexts including a range of different features such as boundary ditches, pits and postholes. A large amount of sherds was unstratified (106 sherds, 1.473 kg, 1.84 EVEs), mostly from machine spoil associated with context (153) of Trench 38, which context also yielded the largest individual context assemblage of 110 sherds weighing 1.521kg, 2.19 EVEs, and is very similar in composition to the total site assemblage, see below. All of the other context assemblages were small, consisting of less than 30 sherds.
- 6.1.3 The condition of the assemblage is abraded to heavily abraded with a mean sherd weight of 11.14g suggesting a degree of redeposition had taken place. Very few sherds were noted showing signs of burning, and only two sherds had post-firing holes.
- 6.1.4 There is a limited range of fabrics represented in the assemblage, most of which can be dated to the mid- to late-Roman period (AD150-400). Coarsewares, especially sand and shell tempered coarse wares from local and nearby sources, account for over 78.2% of the assemblage by sherd count and 83.2% by weight. The assemblage is dominated by Nene Valley Grey Ware (NVGW, 46.1% of sherd count, 55.9% of weight) in forms of wide-mouthed and cordoned jars (2D, cf. Perrin 1999 Figure 57), which is not surprising given the site's proximity to the Nene Valley potteries. Other

sourced coarseware fabrics included small amounts of Alice Holt Farnham Wares (AHFA) and Verulamium Region White Wares (VRW).

- 6.1.5 The rest of the assemblage consists of fine wares including Central Gaulish Terra Sigillata in forms of dishes and cups (5DR18/31 and 6DR80) and Nene Valley Colour Coated ware (NVCC) in forms of beakers with barbotine dot and swirl and animal decoration and triangular rim bowls (4H), most of them being so heavily abraded that hardly any of the slip remains. There are two potters' stamps on Samian ware, both fragmented. There are no amphora or mortarium sherds in the assemblage.
- 6.1.6 Functional analysis of the pottery can provide useful information about site types (Evans 2001), however, the small size of this assemblage does not justify such conclusions to be drawn at this stage. In case the site goes to excavation the complete assemblage will provide a better picture of the nature of Roman activity on the site, where the proximity of the Nene Valley potteries and Car Dyke will also need to be taken into consideration.

Recommendations

- 6.1.7 All of the pottery has been fully recorded and needs no further analysis. Should further work be required on the site, it is recommended to consider the Romano-British pottery in its local and regional context, including comparison to pottery assemblages from nearby sites. Also in this case Terra Sigillata sherds are recommended to be sent to a specialist for further examination, especially the stamped sherds.

Fabric	SC	%	Wt(g)	%	EVEs	%
AHFA	4	0.84%	83	1.56%		0.00%
BBS	19	3.97%	179	3.35%	0.03	0.50%
BUFF	7	1.46%	29	0.54%	0.16	2.65%
GREY	2	0.42%	7	0.13%		0.00%
GROG	6	1.25%	68	1.27%		0.00%
MHAD?	2	0.42%	3	0.06%		0.00%
MICA	16	3.34%	52	0.97%	0.26	4.31%

NVCC	53	11.06%	267	5.00%	0.48	7.96%
NVCC?	1	0.21%	1	0.02%		0.00%
NVGW	221	46.14%	2985	55.94%	2.85	47.26%
NVGW?	1	0.21%	7	0.13%		0.00%
NVWW?	1	0.21%	36	0.67%	0.11	1.82%
OXID	10	2.09%	53	0.99%	0.04	0.66%
SAM	28	5.85%	507	9.50%	0.91	15.09%
SAMCG	6	1.25%	66	1.24%	0.64	10.61%
SAND	16	3.34%	160	3.00%		0.00%
SHEL	18	3.76%	258	4.84%	0.06	1.00%
SHEL1	28	5.85%	257	4.82%		0.00%
SHEL- RDU	30	6.26%	278	5.21%	0.49	8.13%
SHEL- RDU1	4	0.84%	22	0.41%		0.00%
VRW	5	1.04%	14	0.26%		0.00%
WW	1	0.21%	4	0.07%		0.00%
TOTAL	479	100.00%	5336	100.00%	6.03	100.00%

Table 1: Quantification of all pottery by fabric

Trench	SC	Wt(g)	EVEs
3	23	197	0.05
9	3	10	
17	131	1362	1.67
20	6	11	0.05
22	27	226	0.12
30	23	185	0.03
38	266	3345	4.11
TOTAL	479	5336	6.03

Table 2: Quantification of pottery by trenches

Context	Size	Context Spotdate	Notes
0	S	-	
0	M	AD200-250	from machine spoil associated with (153)[154]
0	S	AD150-250	unstrat spoil associated with [126][128][130][135][140][142]
100	S	AD150-400	Tr17
100	S	AD120-250	Tr38
101	S	AD50-400	Tr17
101	S	AD150-400	Tr38

105	S	AD150-400	
112	S	AD50-400	
116	S	AD120-400	
125	S	AD150-400	
127	S	AD250-400	
129	S	AD250-400	
134	S	AD150-400	
137	S	AD150-400	
139	S	AD150-400	
141	S	AD150-400	
143	S	AD150-400	
145	S	AD150-400	single sherd
147	S	AD150-400	
149	S	AD150-200	
151	S	AD150-400	
153	L	AD150-200	
155	S	AD150-400	
163	S	AD150-400	
165	S	AD150-400	
167	S	PRIA?	check with prehistoric specialist
169	S	AD150-400	
171	S	AD150-400	single sherd
177	S	AD200-400	
186	S	AD150-200	
188	S	AD50-400	single sherd
190	S	AD150-400	
192	S	AD50-200	

Table 3: Spotdates

6.2 The Animal Bone

Kevin Reilly

Introduction

6.2.1 Animal bones were principally recovered from the Roman features and all retrieved by hand.

Methodology

6.2.2 The bone was recorded to species/taxonomic category where possible and to size class in the case of unidentifiable bones such as ribs, fragments of longbone shaft and the majority of vertebra fragments. Recording follows

the established techniques whereby details of the element, species, bone portion, state of fusion, wear of the dentition, anatomical measurements and taphonomic including natural and anthropogenic modifications to the bone were registered.

Description of faunal assemblage

- 6.2.3 The site provided a grand total of 123 hand collected animal bones, this reducing to 51 after refitting. Almost all the bones were less than 25% complete, the assemblage clearly undergoing a high level of fragmentation with about 30% showing a marked level of surface erosion. They were largely concentrated within just two trenches, namely 17 and 38, as shown in Table 1, with almost all the bones, including those from these two trenches, derived from ditches and pits (as shown in Table 1).
- 6.2.4 As mentioned above, there is a broad spatial definition with the trenches in the western area probably post-medieval and those from the east dating to the Roman era, principally from the 2nd century. Notably, the great majority of the potsherds are abraded, these probably representing materials spread over the neighbouring fields prior to their eventual deposition within near-by cut features. It can be supposed that the bones display the effects of a similar taphonomic history.

Trench:	1	3	17		30	34	38	
Type:	Pit	Ditch	Furrow	Pit	Pit	Furrow	Ditch	Pit
Cut								
117					3			
119						1		
126				3				
128				5				
130			1					
138				1				
150							3	
154							1	
164							1	
166							7	
170								20
184	2							
187		1						
191		2						
Grand Total	2	3	1	9	3	1	12	20

Table 4: Distribution of site assemblage by trench, type of deposit and cut

6.2.5 Despite the level of damage, there is a notably high proportion of identifiable fragments. These include an abundance of cattle accompanied by a relatively high count of sheep/goat bones (see Tables 2 and 3). Notably, the majority of this identifiable collection is composed of teeth, another indication of fragmentation, these parts tending to survive better than others, with their generally light colouration also an aid to their recovery. Such damage will inevitably lead to the greater abundance of cattle compared to the smaller domesticates, this related to the relative robustness of their osseous anatomy. It is perhaps surprising then that sheep/goat is relatively well represented, the comparison also extending to include sheep-size and cattle-size fragments. Not surprisingly on the other hand, pig, which tends towards the greatest level of fragmentation, is entirely absent.

Trench:	1	3	17		30	34	38	
Type:	Pit	Ditch	Furrow	Pit	Pit	Furrow	Ditch	Pit
Species								
Cattle	2			1	1		4	1
Equid		1	1					
Cattle-size		1		7		1	8	5
Sheep/Goat				1	2			4
Sheep-size		1						10
Grand Total	2	3	1	9	3	1	12	20

Table 5: Distribution of bones by trench, type and species

6.2.6 In addition, this site also provided two equid fragments, a loose mandibular tooth from trench 3 and a distal radius fragment from trench 17.

Trench:	1,3	17-38
Species		
Cattle	2	7
Equid	1	1
Cattle-size	1	21
Sheep/Goat		7
Sheep-size	1	10
Grand Total	5	46

Table 6: Species representation within each of the two excavation areas

Conclusion and recommendations for further work

6.2.7 The bone collection is rather small and highly fragmented. Most of these bones were taken from a specific part of the site (towards the northern perimeter of the large eastern area), these dated to the Roman era. It should be stated that the accompanying dating evidence and indeed the bones themselves have undoubtedly been subjected to redeposition, presumably plough damaged. There is little doubt that the bone assemblage will be biased, both in terms of the species represented and the range of skeletal parts. Further excavation should obviously be concentrated within the aforementioned northern part of this area. However, it can be envisioned that any additional bones will be similarly damaged and thus similarly biased.

6.2.8 While certainly not ideal, these collections do however offer some information of note. It is well known that highly Romanised sites tend to provide a wealth of cattle relative to sheep/goat and pig bones (see King 1978 and 1984). Given the level of damage it can be proposed that cattle is over represented at this site and yet sheep/goat is clearly abundant. This would perhaps suggest that these bones derive from a native settlement rather than a villa or urban centre. It would certainly be advantageous to increase the size of the collection in order to prove or refute this suggestion. Also of interest perhaps is the association between the rather damp nature of the local environment and the keeping of domestic stock, the water meadows in this area far more conducive to the keeping of cattle than sheep. Any further studies will clearly require comparisons with contemporary animal bone collections from other sites in this general locality. Roman levels were recovered at the nearby site of Castor (south-west Peterborough) but unfortunately the earliest animal bones at this site date from the Early Saxon period (Higbee 1998, 22).

6.3 The Small Finds

Ruth Beveridge

6.3.1 A total of seven objects were recovered from the evaluation, one of glass, two of copper alloy and four of iron. These finds have been fully recorded and a complete listing is provided in the catalogue. They have been examined with low level magnification and are discussed below. They were

recovered from five contexts, including a pit fill and boundary ditch fills.

- 6.3.2 The condition of the objects overall is fair with the glass vessel fragment being stable; corrosion is apparent on the metalwork.

Roman

Glass

- 6.3.3 Fill 116 of pit [117], Trench 30.

A fragment of mid-green, bubbly vessel glass, roughly triangular in plan and curved in profile. The outer surface is decorated with two horizontal trails of cobalt blue glass, pinched together in a spectacle pattern. Such decoration occurs throughout the Roman period, but is most frequently found in the later part (Cool and Price, 1994, 176). The fourth century was dominated by lightly tinted green, bubbly glass (ibid, 218). It is therefore possible that this is a piece from a funnel mouthed flask such as those found between AD 300 - 350 and compares in form, though not colour, to a fragment from Colchester and illustrated in Cool and Price, 1994, 177, fig. 10.5, no. 1733.

Post-Medieval

Copper Alloy

- 6.3.4 SF 1, subsoil layer 101, Trench 35.

Complete, discoidal object, worn on both faces. Possibly a halfpenny coin of either George II or George III.

Uncertain Date

Copper Alloy

- 6.3.5 Fill 118 of furrow [119], Trench 34.

Cast copper alloy ingot, rectangular in plan, slightly curved; trapezoidal in section. It has a weight of 49g. The base is flat and there is ovoid shaped mouldings on the exterior of the inner long edge. Possibly an ingot of Roman to Medieval date.

Iron

Four iron objects were identified as possible nails. Whilst these are difficult to date to a particular period, the nails recovered here are from features that have Roman spot dates and are likely to be of that period. The nail from boundary ditch [178] is a Manning Type 1B (Manning, 1985, fig. 32, 133).

6.3.6 Unstratified spoil, Trench 17

Elongate object with rectangular section shank tapering to a point. Possibly a nail or tack. No head.

6.3.7 Fill 177 of boundary ditch [178], Trench 22.

Incomplete nail with slightly convex, sub-square head and tapering shank that is square in section. Tip missing.

6.3.8 Subsoil layer 101, Trench 17/37

Incomplete nail with flat, sub-square head and shank that is rectangular in section. Corroded.

6.3.9 Fill 186 of boundary ditch [187], Trench 3.

Incomplete nail with globular head and shank that is square in section. Tip missing.

Recommendations for further work

6.3.10 The glass vessel fragment and copper ingot should be photographed. They could be examined further by specific specialists in any future publication.

Discussion

6.3.11 The objects found during the evaluation appear to reflect a low level of Roman activity scattered across the site, albeit in the form of casual loss or discarding of rubbish. It should be noted that the vessel glass could be a Rhineland import.

6.3.12 The copper alloy ingot may reflect the re-use of resources either during the Roman or later periods. It was not found in association with pottery that could aid its dating.

6.3.13 The post-medieval coin, found in the subsoil, is likely to be intrusive as the result of a later casual loss.

6.4 The Environmental Evidence

Kate Turner

Introduction

6.4.1 This report summarises the findings of the rapid assessment of 9 bulk samples taken during an archaeological evaluation at Paston Reserve, Peterborough. These samples were taken from the fills of four boundary ditches, four pits and a post hole, the context information for which is given in table 7.

Sample No.	Context No.	Feature No.	Feature type	Description	Pottery date	spot	Location
1	109	111	Fill	Fill of posthole			Trench 11
2	116	117	Fill	Fill of pit			Trench 30
3	134	135	Fill	Fill of pit	AD150-400		Trench 17
4	153	154	Fill	Fill of boundary ditch	AD150-200		Trench 38
5	155	156	Fill	Fill of boundary ditch	AD150-400		Trench 38
6	169	170	Fill	Fill of pit	AD150-400		Trench 38
7	171	172	Fill	Fill of pit	AD150-400		Trench 38
8	177	178	Fill	Fill of boundary ditch	AD200-400		Trench 22
9	192	193	Fill	Fill of boundary ditch	AD50-200		Trench 3

Table 7: Context information for environmental samples

6.4.2 The aim of this assessment is to:

- Give an overview of the contents of the assessed samples
- Determine the environmental potential of these samples
- Establish whether any further analysis is necessary

Methodology

6.4.3 9 bulk samples were processed using the flotation method; material was collected using a 300µm mesh for the light fraction and a 1mm mesh for the heavy residue. The heavy residue was then dried, sieved at 1, 2 and 4mm and sorted to extract artefacts and ecofacts. The abundance of each category of material was recorded using a non-linear scale where '1' indicates occasional occurrence (1-10 items), '2' indicates occurrence is fairly frequent (11-30 items), '3' indicates presence is frequent (31-100 items) and '4' indicates an abundance of material (>100 items). The results for this stage of the assessment are presented in table 8.

6.4.4 The light residue (>300 µm), once dried, was scanned under a low-power binocular microscope in order to quantify the level of environmental material, such as seeds, chaff, charred grains, molluscs and charcoal. Abundance was recorded as above. A note was also made of any other significant inclusions, for example roots and modern plant material. The results of this assessment are shown in table 9.

Results and Discussion

Residues

6.4.5 The heavy residues contained very little in the way of environmental remains; wood charcoal was identified in samples <2>, <4>, <6>, <8> and <9>, though only samples <4>, <8> and <9> contained pieces of a suitable size for species to be determined. The remainder of the assemblage was devoid of environmental material.

Sample number	Context number	Feature number	No. Buckets	Residue					
				Charcoal	Seeds	Grain	Shells	Insect remains	Other
1	109	111	2						
2	116	117	2	3					
3	134	135	4						
4	153	154	4	3*					
5	155	156	3						
6	169	170	1	1					

7	171	172	4						
8	177	178	4	4*					
9	192	193	4	1*					

Key: 1- Occasional, 2- fairly frequent, 3- frequent, 4- abundant. * indicates pieces large enough for species ID

Table 8: Assessment of environmental residues

Flots

- 6.4.6 All of the processed samples produced flots, ranging in volume from 24ml to 160ml. Wood charcoal was found throughout the sample set, generally in high concentrations (>100 fragments per sample), with five out of the nine samples containing pieces for which species could be identified. Sample <1>, the fill of an un-dated posthole, contained the largest proportion of material, with the sample matrix being almost entirely composed of charcoal fragments.
- 6.4.7 Samples <1>, <2>, <3>, <4> and <9> also contained a small amount of seeds, largely from herbaceous plant taxa including Veronica spp. (speedwell) and Chenopodium album (fat hen). Concentrations were generally low, less than 20 specimens in each instance, with Sonchus asper (prickly sow-thistle), a plant native to waste and cultivated ground, being the most widely represented species. Additionally, a small amount of charred grain (<5 specimens) was found in samples <4> and <5>; in both cases this material was too heavily charred to be identified, suggesting that it has been subjected to prolonged, high-temperature burning.
- 6.4.8 Mollusc remains were present in all of the samples, aside from sample <1>. The majority of identified shells belong to terrestrial species, such as Vallonia excentrica and Vertigo pygmaea both of which are commonly found in dry, open spaces, and are generally intolerant of shade. Sample <9> however contained a large concentration of freshwater shells of the genus Planorbis, suggesting that this feature (a boundary ditch) may have been an aqueous environment for an extended period. A single specimen of Planorbis sp. was also found in sample <2>.

6.4.9 With the exception of samples <5>, <6> and <8> all of the samples also contained insect remains; sample <2> contained the highest concentration (11-30 specimens), though the majority of these appeared to be from modern sources. Modern entomological material was also found in samples <7> and <9>. Other indicators of contamination, in the form of modern roots, grasses and/or fibres and sprouting seeds, were found throughout the assemblage, suggesting the potential for post-depositional reworking of ecofacts.

Sample number	Context number	Vol (ml)	Flot					
			Charcoal >1mm	Charcoal <1mm	Seeds	Grains	Mollusca	Other
1	109	160	4*	4	2			Roots (4) Insect remains (2) Sprouting seeds (1)
2	116	24	3	4	2		Land (1) Freshwater (1)	Roots (3) Fibre (2) Insect remains (1)
3	134	41	4*	4	1		Land (1)	Roots (3) Straw/grass (2) Insect remains (1)
4	153	95	3*	4	1	1	Land (2)	Roots (3) Coal (1) Insect remains (1)
5	155	85	3*	4		1	Land (2)	Roots (3) Straw/grass (2) Coal (1)
6	169	30	3	4			Land (1)	Roots (3) Small animal bone (1)
7	171	25	1	2			Land (2)	Roots (2) Insect remains (1)
8	177	44	4*	4			Land (1)	Roots (1)
9	192	43	2	2	1		Freshwater (4)	Roots (3) Coal (1) Insect remains (1)

Key: 1- Occasional, 2- fairly frequent, 3- frequent, 4- abundant; * indicates pieces large enough for species ID

Table 9: Assessment of flots

Conclusion and Recommendations For Further Work

6.4.10 A rapid assessment of the samples from Paston Reserve has shown that, aside from wood charcoal, the preservation of environmental remains is generally poor. It is recommended that, should any further work be carried out, viable samples of charcoal should be sent to an external specialist for analysis, as this may provide more information on local vegetation and resource use, as well as providing material for radiocarbon dating. Further

assessment of the mollusc assemblage, with specific attention to feature [193], is also recommended if an intact stratigraphic sequence or appropriated column sample is available, as this may aid in developing a reconstruction of the local environment. It is essential that, when undertaking any subsequent analysis using the environmental material in this assemblage the possibility of bioturbation be considered, particularly with reference to smaller material, such as seeds.

Sample Number		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Uncharred seeds										
<i>Brassica spp.</i>	Mustards				1					
<i>Chenopodium album</i>	Fat hen		1	1	2					
<i>Juncus spp</i>	Rushes		9							
<i>Persicaria spp.</i>	Knotweed									1
<i>Picris echioides</i>	Bristly oxtongue	1								1
<i>Rumex/polygonum spp.</i>	Docks/sorrels/knotweed				1					
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	prickly sow-thistle	10	5	5	2					
<i>Veronica spp.</i>	Speedwell	8	3							
Charred Grain										
Too charred to ID		3			1					
Mollusca										
<i>Carychium tridentatum</i>	Slender herald snail			1						
<i>Cecilioides acicula</i>	Blind snail			2				1	1	
<i>Euconulus spp.</i>	Hive snails				2	1				
<i>Planorbis spp.</i>	Ram's horn snails		1							115
<i>Punctum pygmaeum</i>	Dwarf snail				4	3				
<i>Pupilla muscorum</i>	Moss chrysalis snail			2	1	2				
<i>Succinea spp.</i>	Amber snails									1
<i>Vallonia excentrica</i>	Eccentric grass snail		1	4	4	5	1	11	1	
<i>Vallonia pulchella</i>	Smooth grass snail					2				
<i>Vertigo pygmaea</i>	Common whorl snail		1		5	3		2	2	
Broken			1							
Misc juveniles					14			7		

Table 10: Quantification of archaeobotanical and molluscan remains

7 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1.1 The evaluation consisted of a total of 38 trenches placed to assess the archaeological potential of the development area and to test the results of the geophysical survey. Two of these trenches, No.s 37 and 38, were opened either side of Trench 17 to assess the extent of the archaeological features identified in that trench. Four of the trenches (Trenches 7, 10, 13 and 36) could not be excavated to their intended length due to site-specific conditions.
- 7.1.2 Previous archaeological work undertaken in the vicinity of the site by BUFAU (Ellis, Coates, Cuttler and Mould 2001) identified two phases of Romano-British enclosure ditches approximately 400 metres west of the site of the current evaluation. The presence of pottery and building material indicated domestic occupation although no structural evidence was found. An excavation carried out by CAM ARC (Fletcher 2007) still further west of the current site identified evidence of Late Iron Age settlement with occupation continuing on through the Roman period. The present evaluation has identified features and finds of comparable date and nature.
- 7.1.3 The evaluation identified a concentration of archaeological remains in the north of the development area, at the topographically highest point of the site approximately 130m south of the Car Dyke in Trenches 37, 38, 17, 22 and 18. These archaeological features consisted of concentrations of small pits and postholes, the majority of which were identified in Trench 17, and at least three phases of a north to south aligned boundary ditch identified in Trench 38. A typologically similar ditch on the same alignment was identified in Trench 22 to the east of Trench 38 and is undoubtedly related to this boundary. The fact that these ditches are potentially leading towards to the Car Dyke, which is aligned east to west at this point in its course, is significant. It is possible that they acted to drain water into the Dyke or to orient the activity of any potential settlement with the canal. Almost all of the features excavated in these trenches produced significant amounts of high-status Roman pottery and CBM. These finds and the nature of the features identified strongly suggest the presence of a Roman settlement of some

description in this area of the site.

- 7.1.4 As no further features were identified in the trenches surrounding this area it can be assumed that this intensive archaeological activity is limited to the area of the site described above.
- 7.1.5 The remaining trenches in the east part of the site identified only sporadic, low-level pits and possible post-holes that failed to form any cohesive pattern of activity. Many plough furrows, as indicated by the geophysical survey (Harris 2016) undertaken before the current evaluation, were identified throughout this area. Some of these produced abraded sherds of Roman pottery, which indicates the presence of large amounts of such material on the site and therefore the potentially substantial nature of the Roman activity here.
- 7.1.6 The small field in the west part of the site (Trenches 1-6) failed to identify any significant archaeological remains. A modern ditch aligned north-west to south-east in Trench 3 corresponded with an anomaly identified by the geophysical survey (Harris 2016). Another large ditch identified in Trench 3, also visible in Trench 5, was found to consist of four phases of the same east to west aligned post-medieval boundary, of which the current northern limit of this area is the present phase.

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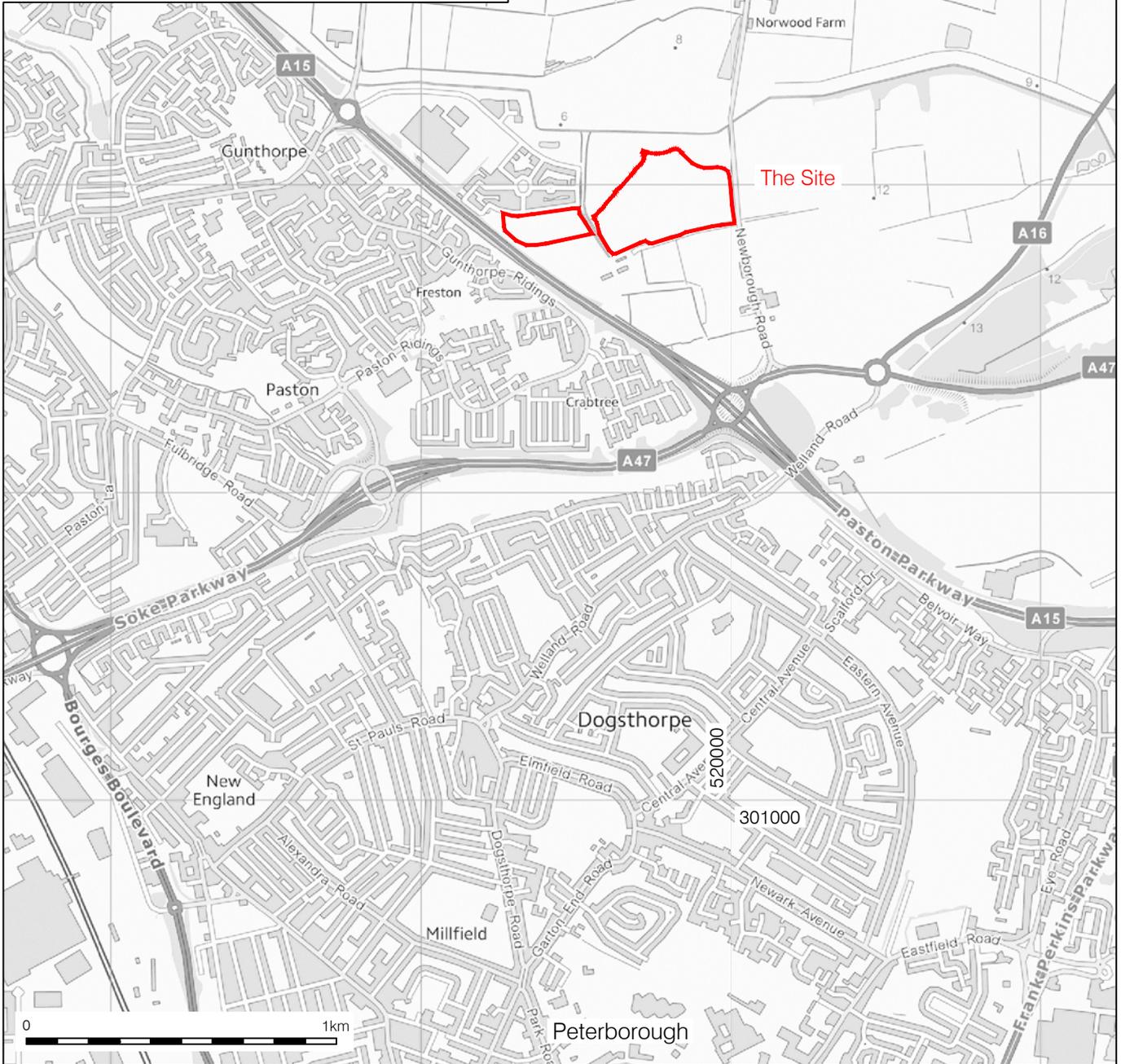
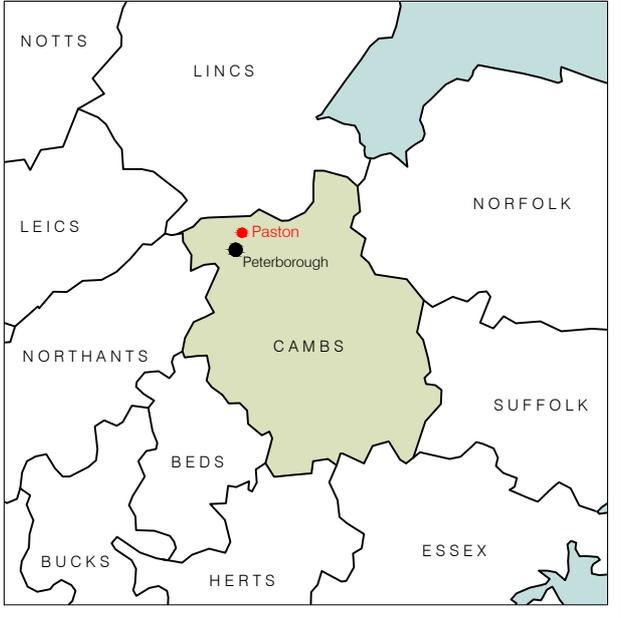
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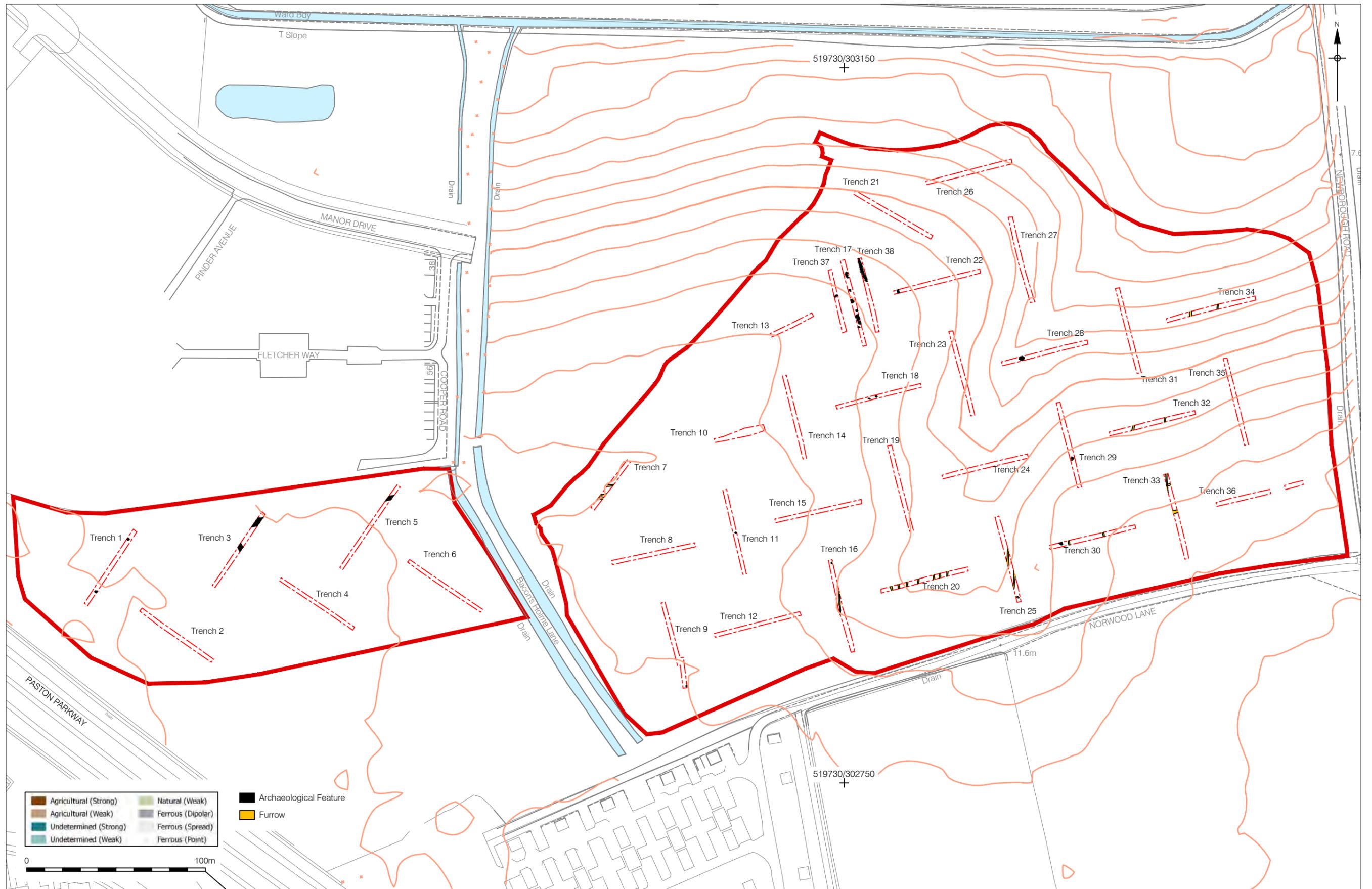
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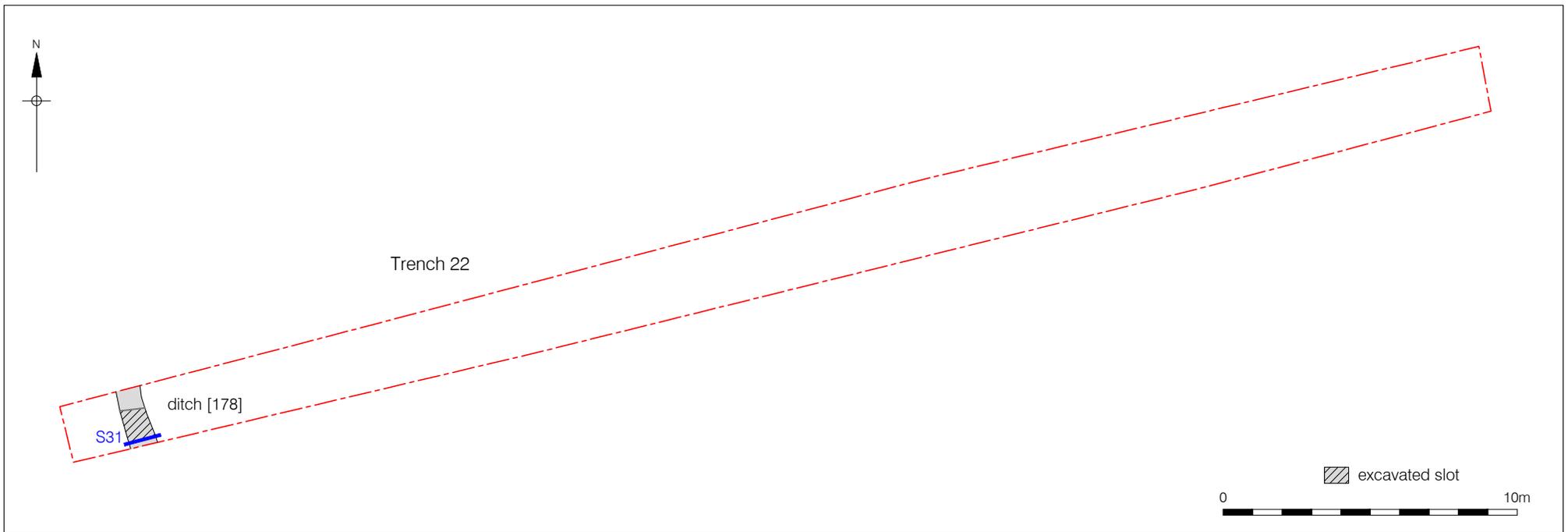
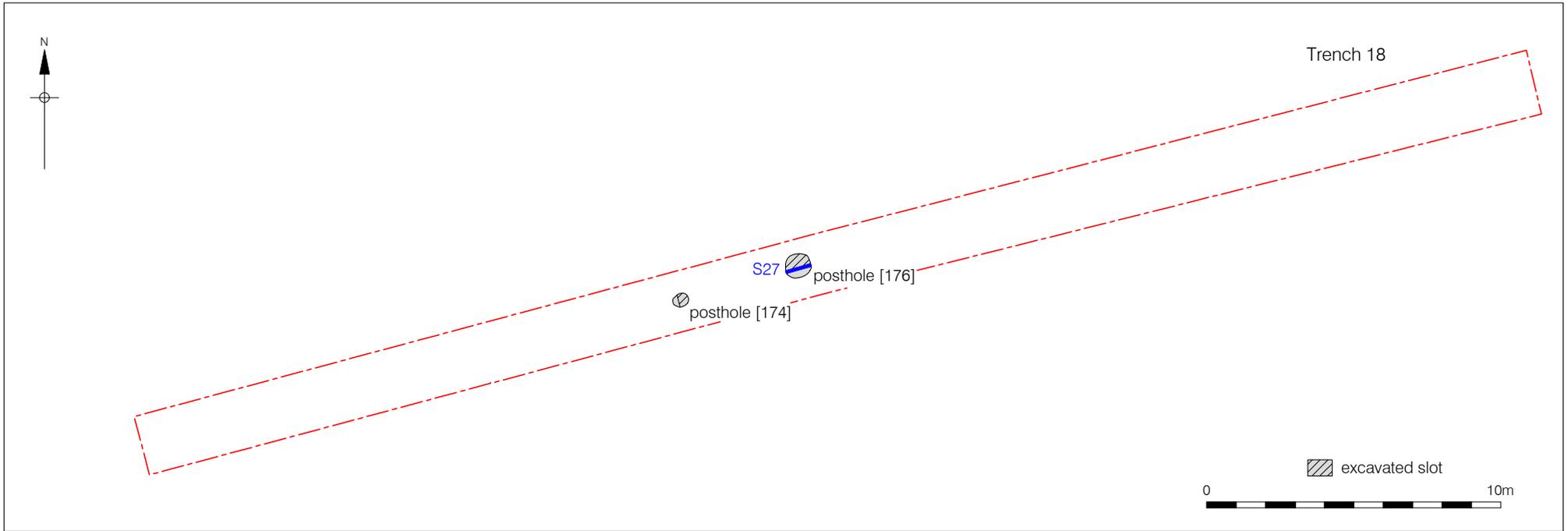
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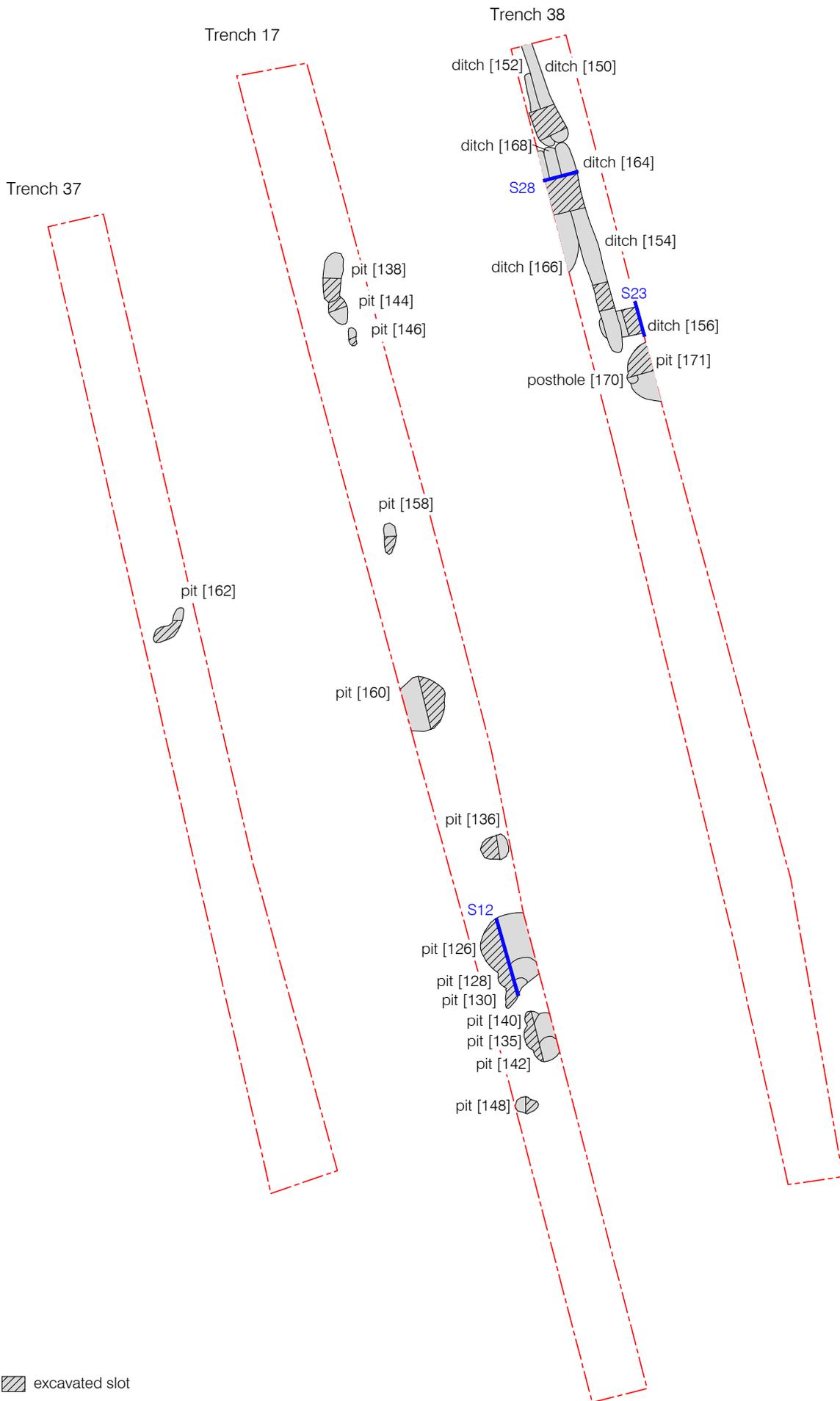
Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:2,000,000 & 1:20,000 at A4



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 12/10/16 JS_r2

Figure 2
 Trench Location
 1:2,000 at A3



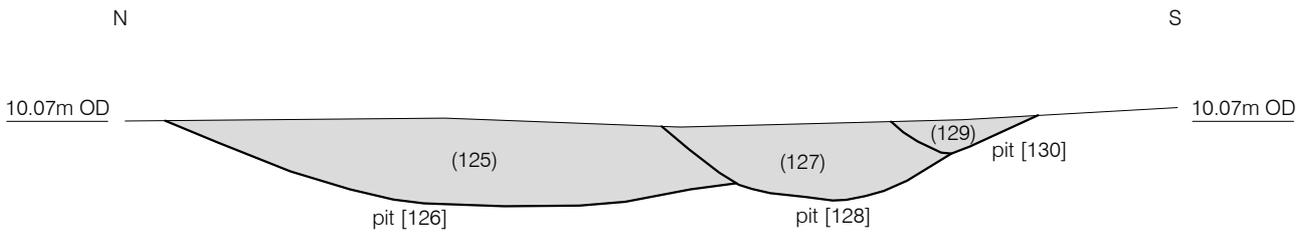


▨ excavated slot

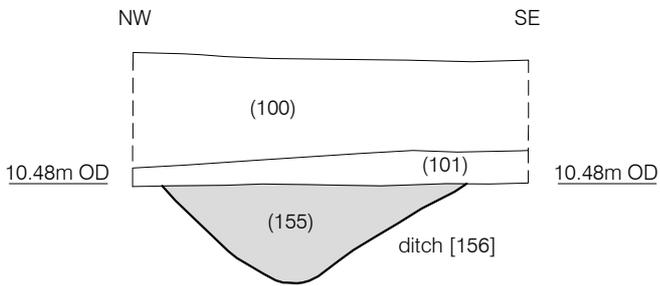
0 10m

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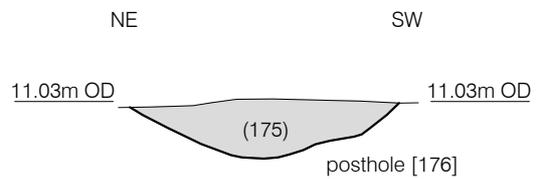
Figure 4
Trenches 17, 37 & 38 Plans
1:200 at A4



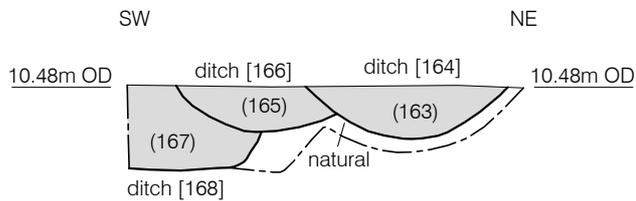
Section 12
Trench 17
West Facing



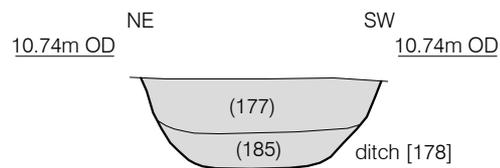
Section 23
Trench 38
Southwest Facing



Section 27
Trench 18
Northwest Facing



Section 28
Trench 38
Southeast Facing



Section 31
Trench 22
North Facing

10 APPENDIX 1: PLATES

Plate 1: Excavating in Trench 38, view south-east.



Plate 2: Roman pottery in Ditch [154].



Plate 3: Ditches [152] and [150], view north-west.



Plate 4: Pits [146], [144] and [138] in Trench 17, view north-west



Plate 5: Roman Nene Valley Colour Coated ware pottery with dog motif, retrieved from Ditch [150].



Plate 6: View of Car Dyke, looking east.



11 APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Interpretation	Trench Number
100	-	Layer	Topsoil	Overburden	-
101	-	Layer	Subsoil	Overburden	-
102	-	Layer	Natural	Geology	-
103	104	Fill	Pit	Fill of [104]	16
104	104	Cut	Pit	Small Pit	16
105	106	Fill	Furrow	Fill of [106]	20
106	106	Cut	Furrow	Agricultural	20
107	108	Fill	Furrow	Fill of [108]	16
108	108	Cut	Furrow	Agricultural	16
109	111	Fill	Posthole	Fill of [111]	11
110	111	Fill	Posthole	Fill of [111]	11
111	111	Cut	Posthole	Structural	11
112	113	Fill	Pit	Fill of [113]	9
113	113	Cut	Pit	Small Pit	9
114	115	Fill	Pit	Fill of [115]	25
115	115	Cut	Pit	Pit	25
116	117	Fill	Pit	Fill of [117]	30
117	117	Cut	Pit	Pit	30
118	119	Fill	Furrow	Fill of [119]	34
119	119	Cut	Furrow	Agricultural	34
120	121	Fill	Furrow	Fill of [121]	33
121	121	Cut	Furrow	Agricultural	33
122	124	Fill	Pit	Fill of [124]	29
123	124	Fill	Pit	Fill of [124]	29
124	124	Cut	Pit	Pit	29
125	126	Fill	Pit	Fill of [126]	17
126	126	Cut	Pit	Pit	17
127	128	Fill	Pit	Fill of [128]	17
128	128	Cut	Pit	Pit	17
129	130	Fill	Furrow	Fill of [129]	17
130	130	Cut	Furrow	Plough Scar	17
131	132	Fill	Pit	Fill of [132]	28
132	132	Cut	Pit	Pit	28
133	136	Fill	Pit	Fill of [136]	17
134	135	Fill	Pit	Fill of [135]	17
135	135	Cut	Pit	Pit	17

136	136	Fill	Pit	Small Pit	17
137	138	Fill	Pit	Fill of [138]	17
138	138	Cut	Pit	Pit	17
139	140	Fill	Posthole	Fill of [140]	17
140	140	Cut	Posthole	Structural	17
141	142	Fill	Posthole	Fill of [142]	17
142	142	Cut	Posthole	Structural	17
143	144	Fill	Pit	Fill of [144]	17
144	144	Cut	Pit	Pit	17
145	146	Fill	Pit	Fill of [146]	17
146	146	Cut	Pit	Pit	17
147	148	Fill	Pit	Fill of [148]	17
148	148	Cut	Pit	Pit	17
149	150	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [150]	38
150	150	Cut	Ditch	Boundary	38
151	152	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [152]	38
152	152	Cut	Ditch	Boundary	38
153	154	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [154]	38
154	154	Cut	Ditch	Boundary	38
155	156	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [156]	38
156	156	Cut	Ditch	Boundary	38
157	158	Fill	Pit	Fill of [158]	17
158	158	Cut	Pit	Pit	17
159	160	Fill	Pit	Fill of [160]	17
160	160	Cut	Pit	Pit	17
161	162	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [162]	37
162	162	Cut	Ditch	Structural?	37
163	164	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [164]	38
164	164	Cut	Ditch	Boundary	38
165	166	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [166]	38
166	166	Cut	Ditch	Boundary	38
167	168	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [168]	38
168	168	Cut	Ditch	Boundary	38
169	170	Fill	Pit	Fill of [170]	38
170	170	Cut	Pit	Pit	38
171	172	Fill	Pit	Fill of [172]	38
172	172	Cut	Pit	Pit	38
173	174	Fill	Posthole	Fill of [174]	18
174	174	Cut	Posthole	Structural	18

175	176	Fill	Pit	Fill of 176	18
176	176	Cut	Pit	Pit	18
177	178	Fill	Ditch	Fill of 178	22
178	178	Cut	Ditch	Boundary	22
179	180	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [180]	3
180	180	Cut	Ditch	Boundary	3
181	182	Fill	Pit	Fill of [182]	1
182	182	Cut	Pit	Pit	1
183	184	Fill	Pit	Fill of [184]	1
184	184	Cut	Pit	Pit	1
185	178	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [178]	22
186	187	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [187]	3
187	187	Cut	Ditch	Boundary	3
188	189	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [189]	3
189	189	Cut	Ditch	Boundary	3
190	191	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [191]	3
191	191	Cut	Ditch	Boundary	3
192	193	Fill	Ditch	Boundary	3
193	193	Cut	Ditch	Boundary	3

12 APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-264698

Project details

Project name	Land at Paston Reserve, Peterborough: 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 on land at Paston Reserve, Peterborough (NGR TF 1979 0298) between the 12th and the 28th September 2016. The archaeological work was commissioned by Keepmoat in response to a planning condition attached to residential development with associated access and landscaping. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the proposed development area. The evaluation identified a concentration of archaeological remains in the north of the development area, at the topographically highest point of the site approximately 130m south of the Car Dyke. These archaeological features consisted of concentrations of small pits and postholes and at least three phases of a north to south aligned boundary ditch. Almost all of the features excavated in these trenches produced significant amounts of high-status Roman pottery and CBM. These finds and the nature of the features identified strongly suggest the presence of a Roman settlement of some description in this area of the site.
Project dates	Start: 12-09-2016 End: 28-09-2016
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	PCCHER54011 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	PIT Roman
Monument type	POSTHOLE Roman
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After outline determination (eg. As a reserved matter)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE PETERBOROUGH NEWBOROUGH Land at Paston Reserve, Peterborough
Study area	12 Hectares
Site coordinates	TF 1979 0298 52.611003419141 -0.230644197746 52 36 39 N 000 13 50 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	Rebecca Casa-Hatton
Project design originator	Taleyna Fletcher
Project director/manager	Taleyna Fletcher
Project supervisor	Stephen Porter
Name of sponsor/funding body	Keepmoat

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store
Physical Archive ID	PCCHER54011
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental"
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store
Digital Archive ID	PCCHER54011
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Survey"
Digital Media available	"Database","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store
Paper Archive ID	PCCHER54011
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at Paston Reserve, Peterborough: Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Porter, S.
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
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Entered by	Stephen Porter (sporter@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	5 October 2016

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