AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT WHITEHOUSE LANE PLAYING FIELDS, WREKENTON, GATESHEAD, TYNE AND WEAR

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

An Archaeological Evaluation at Whitehouse Lane Playing Fields, Wrekenton, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear

Central National Grid Reference: NZ 2720 5870

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1. NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land at Whitehouse Lane Playing Fields, Wrekenton, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear. The site is to be re-developed as St. Edmund Campion. The central National Grid Reference for the site is NZ 2720 5870.

1.2 A desk-based assessment of the site was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology prior to the evaluation, which indicated a moderate to high potential for remains dating to the Roman and post-medieval periods. In order to determine the nature and extent of any archaeological remains, and hence inform any mitigation strategy that might be required, the Tyne and Wear Archaeology Officer of Newcastle City Council requested that a field evaluation be undertaken.

1.3 Six evaluation trenches were excavated at the site, within the footprint of the proposed development, targeted at potential archaeological features identified in the desk-based assessment. The trenches varied in size from 2m x 10m to 4m x 30m.

1.4 No remains of archaeological significance were encountered within the trenches investigated, the evidence from each trench consistent with the site being heavily landscaped in recent times.

1.5 In Trenches 1, 4 and 5, the natural sub-stratum was sealed by topsoil and turf.

1.6 In Trench 2, the natural sub-stratum was overlain by two deposits, interpreted as post-medieval developed soils. These were overlain by levelling layers deposited during recent landscaping activities. Similar levelling deposits were recorded in Trench 3, overlying the natural sub-stratum. In Trench 6, a substantial levelling dump was recorded, although due to Health and Safety considerations it was not possible to fully determine the depth of the landscaping deposits in this area.

1.7 A series of features recorded throughout Trench 5, truncating the natural sub-stratum, have been interpreted as being caused by machinery during the landscaping of the site. These included a series of parallel, linear features interpreted as wheel ruts.

1.8 Ceramic and plastic field drains, associated with drainage for the playing fields, were also recorded in all of the trenches investigated.

1.9 In conclusion, the evaluation undertaken at Whitehouse Lane Playing Fields demonstrated that no significant archaeological remains were present within the areas investigated. Landscaping activity associated with the laying out of the existing playing fields was recorded across the site.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 This report describes the findings of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology (hereinafter PCA) between the 15th and 29th June 2004, in advance of a proposed re-development of the site at Whitehouse Lane Playing Fields, Wrekenton, Tyne and Wear. The central National Grid Reference of the site is NZ 2720 5870 (Figure 1).

2.2 The evaluation was commissioned by Cundall Johnston & Partners (CJP), on behalf of Miller Construction, in advance of the development of the site as St. Edmund Campion School. PCA was contracted to undertake an archaeological evaluation in order to determine the archaeological potential of the proposed development area. The purpose was to allow the impact of the development proposals upon the archaeological resource to be assessed in order to inform the planning decision.

2.3 The archaeological evaluation was preceded by an archaeological desk-based assessment prepared by PCA.[1] The evaluation was undertaken according to a specification compiled by the Tyne and Wear Archaeology Officer of Newcastle City Council (NCC).[2]

2.4 The proposed re-development site covers an area of *c*. 8.2 hectares. It is bounded to the north by Whitehouse Lane, to the east by Harebell Road, to the south by a footpath in a cutting, which follows the alignment of the Team Colliery Waggonway, and to the west by Old Durham Road, which follows the alignment of the Roman road from the River Tyne to Chester-le-Street.

2.5 At the time of the archaeological evaluation, the proposed re-development site was an open area occupied by playing fields and sports pitches.

2.6 The evaluation comprised six trenches, located to avoid areas of known mine shafts and quarrying. Trenches 1 and 2 were located adjacent to Old Durham Road, which lies along the route of a known Roman road at this point. Trenches 3-6 were positioned to target post-medieval features visible on historic maps and related to the Sheriff Hill Colliery and the Team Colliery Waggonway (Figure 2).

2.7 The completed project archive, comprising written, drawn, and photographic records and artefacts will be deposited at The Museum of Antiquities, Department of Archaeology, Newcastle University, under the site code WRE 04.

[1] PCA, 2004.
[2] NCC, 2004.

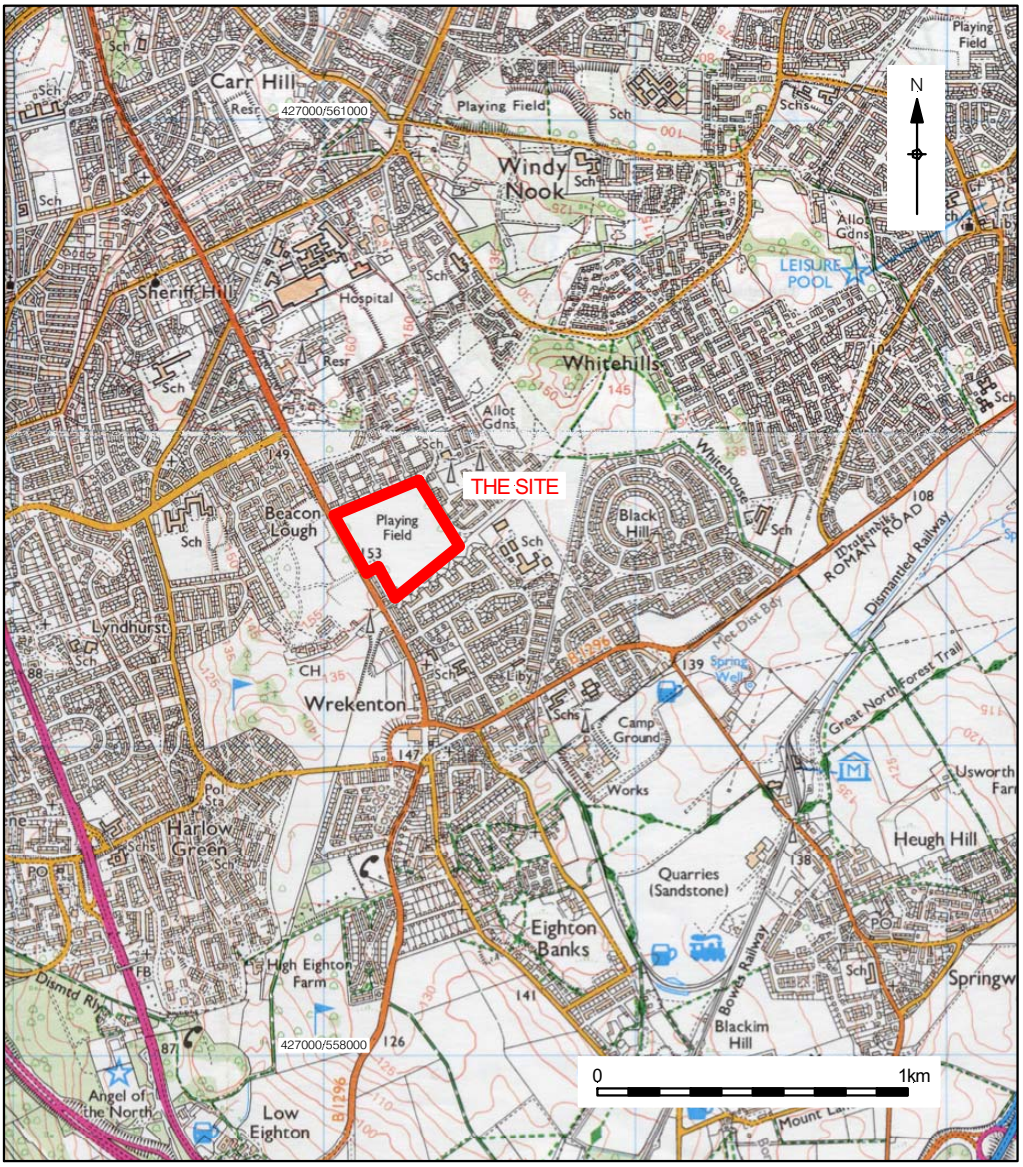


Figure 1. Site location
Scale 1:25,000

Figure 2. Trench location
Scale 1:2500

3. PLANNING BACKGROUND AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

3.1 Planning Background

3.1.1 A planning application is due to be submitted for the construction of new school buildings and associated car parking and sports facilities towards the western side of the site of Whitehouse Lane Playing Fields.

3.1.2 The need for early consultation in the planning process in order to determine the impact of development schemes upon the archaeological resource is identified in the document *'Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: 'Archaeology and Planning'* (PPG 16).[3] The Tyne and Wear Archaeology Officer (TWAO), attached to NCC has responsibility for archaeological development control in Tyne and Wear. The TWAO identifies planning proposals that will be subject to archaeological conditions and is responsible for the implementation of archaeological mitigation schemes.

3.1.3 The historical and archaeological significance of the site was initially noted by the TWAO, which provides advice on archaeological issues of development control to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), in this case Gateshead Borough Council. The land under consideration is located in an area of potential archaeological sensitivity. In summary, the Old Durham Road (B1296), which forms the western boundary of the site, follows the line of the Roman Road running from the River Tyne to Chester-le-Street. A possible Roman fort is located *c*. 400m to the south-west at Ravensworth golf club. Sheriff Hill Colliery, sunk in the 18th century, probably *c.* 1780, was located within the boundaries of the site and associated buildings and waggonway are clearly marked on historic maps from this date onwards.

3.1.4 In order to comply with PPG 16, an archaeological desk-based assessment of the overall development area at Whitehouse Lane Playing Fields was undertaken. The assessment concluded that there was low to moderate potential for prehistoric remains, moderate to high potential for Roman remains, low potential for Anglo-Saxon and medieval remains, and high potential for post-medieval remains.

3.1.5 Invasive groundworks to create a project formation level, as well as for the foundations of new buildings and the connection of associated services, will impact on any potential buried archaeological remains. There is unlikely to be significant impact across much of the site to the east of the proposed buildings, which is to remain as sports pitches for the new school. The TWAO determined that archaeology would be a material consideration in the determination of the planning application for the development of the site. It was the recommendation of the TWAO that a programme of archaeological assessment and evaluation should be undertaken at the site prior to development in order to further inform the planning decision.

[3] Department of the Environment, 1990.

3.1.6 Archaeological investigation, comprising trial trenching evaluation, was required in order to determine the extent, nature, date and degree of preservation of any archaeological remains at the site, pre-determination of the planning application. For the purposes of archaeological development control, the aim of the evaluation was to assess the potential of the archaeological resource at the site in order to inform a decision regarding an appropriate mitigation strategy.

3.1.7 The TWAO prepared a specification for the evaluation, which also indicated the trench locations.

3.2 Research Objectives

3.2.1 In broad terms, the archaeological evaluation aimed to establish the date, nature, extent and significance of archaeological remains at the site as evidenced by any buried deposits and features and any artefactual and ecofactual evidence that they may contain.

3.2.2 The specific objectives of the archaeological trial trenching were:

- to determine if any undisturbed archaeological deposits or features survive within the area of the proposed redevelopment;
- to determine or confirm the general nature of any remains present;
- to determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains by means of artefactual or other evidence;
- to determine or confirm the approximate extent of any remains;
- to determine the condition and state of preservation of any remains;
- to determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present;
- to determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of any artefactual evidence present;
- to determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present.

3.2.3 Additional aims and objectives of the project were:

- to set out the background of the site, drawing together the results of previous archaeological, historical, and environmental work in the area;
- to compile a site archive consisting of all site and project documentary and photographic records, as well as artefactual and palaeoenvironmental material recovered;
- to compile a report that contains an assessment of the nature and significance of the stratigraphic, artefactual, archaeological and palaeoenvironmental data.

3.2.4 Trial trenches were to be used to investigate the archaeological potential and assess the impact of the development on the archaeological resource.

3.2.5 The evaluation aimed to provide sufficient data to enable an appropriate mitigation strategy to be devised in order to minimise the impact of the proposed development upon the site's archaeological resource.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Prehistoric

4.1.1 There are no known prehistoric sites within the vicinity of the site and no finds from the various prehistoric eras have been collected from directly within its boundaries.

4.1.2 The only HER entry within the immediate vicinity of the site is a small assemblage of Mesolithic flints discovered in the 1920's or 1930's at Wrekenton, Black Hill, in the area now occupied by Ravensworth Golf Course, *c*. 400m to the south-west of the site.

4.1.3 A much larger group of flint artefacts was discovered further to the south at Sheddons Hill, *c*. 2km from the site. This comprised 421 flint tools and chips, which included Mesolithic elements. Flint artefacts and a bronze axe and spearheads have also been discovered at Birtley. Although no evidence for prehistoric settlement has, as yet, been discovered in the area, the artefacts suggest that the area was at least sporadically exploited throughout the prehistoric periods.

4.1.4 The potential for prehistoric remains being present within the site was considered **low** to **moderate.**

4.2 Roman

4.2.1 The HER does not list any entries for the Roman period within the boundaries of the site.

4.2.2 Two Roman roads are known to have run close to the south and west of the site. The course of the Roman north-south road from Chester-le-Street to Newcastle forms the western boundary of the site, along the line of Old Durham Road. This road branched *c*. 800m to the south of the site, and the branch road ran in a north-easterly direction to the fort at South Shields. The course of this branch road, known as the 'Wrekendyke' or 'Wrekendike', is well known, since the modern road, the B1288, follows its line for 5 miles.[4] The course of the Wrekendyke was apparently chosen to run along higher ground as far as possible.

4.2.3 It was noted in 1832 that traces of the Wrekendyke, which formed the boundary between Chester-le-Street and Gateshead, could be seen in Eighton Banks. In Wrekenton, the road was visible north of Ravensworth Avenue, but is now covered by development. The main north-south Roman road was observed by Bruce in 1853 to have been ploughed up in fields south of the junction with the Wrekendyke.

[4] Wright, 1940.

4.2.4 There is some debate as to whether another branch of the Roman road system ran west of the junction of the Wrekendyke with the main north-south road. Horsley wrote in 1732 that the Wrekendyke led from South Shields to Gateshead Fell from which point it continued towards Lamesley and Kibblesworth. In 1938 an attempt was made to identify this stretch of road, but this proved unsuccessful and the presence of the road was considered unproven. An aerial photograph published by Selkirk in 1983 may show this western extension of the Wrekendyke as a crop mark.

4.2.5 Another ancient road is located to the north-east of the site, listed in the HER as of undetermined date. The enclosure award maps for Gateshead Fell show a continuous '*public foot road'*, usually entitled *'Roman Causeway'*, from the Old Durham Road in the north to the Wrekendyke in the south. The case for this road being of Roman date is as yet unproven.

4.2.6 The HER lists a possible Roman fort at a distance of *c*. 400m to the south-west of the site, in the area now occupied by Ravensworth Golf Club, although this has never been proven. This feature, identified through aerial photographs, is *c.* 200m long and is orientated NW-SE. The shape of the feature is typically Roman with rounded corners, the northern corner contains stone and has been interpreted as a built rampart.

4.2.8 It was thought possible that roadside activity, associated with the main north-south Roman road, which runs along the western boundary of the site, may have been present within the site boundaries. The proximity of these Roman roads and the possible Roman fort meant that the potential for remains from this period at the site was considered **moderate** to **high**.

4.3 Anglo-Saxon

4.3.1 The HER does not list any entries from this period in the vicinity of the site.

4.3.2 There is a reference in Bede to a monastery in Gateshead under Abbot Utta in AD 653, but its location is unknown and there is no indication that there was a settlement of any size at this time.

4.3.3 The potential for Anglo-Saxon remains at the site was thought to be **low.**

4.4 Medieval

4.4.1 During the medieval period, Wrekenton was situated within Gateshead Fell which was largely uninhabited at this time. There are no entries in the HER from the medieval period within the immediate vicinity of the site.

4.4.2 In summary, the likelihood of archaeological features of medieval date at the site was considered **low**.

4.5 Post-medieval

4.5.1 Sheriff Hill Colliery, also known as Ellison Main Colliery, was located within the boundaries of the site. This colliery is listed on the SINE website as having been in existence by 1717. However, the pit may have been founded at the end of the 18th century. The 'Plan of Collieries of Gateshead Fell', dated 1773, has a colliery marked *'pit not sunk yet'*. Durham County Record Office has compiled a list of references to the Durham collieries and the date of sinking or opening at Sheriff Hill Colliery is listed as the 1780's. Dowding lists the date of sinking as 1780. The date of closure for Sheriff Hill Colliery is listed in the DCRO publication as 1880-1919. The Ordnance Survey (OS) 2nd edition map of 1897 labels the Sheriff Hill Colliery as disused by this time.

4.5.2 The earliest map to show the site is Kitchen's map of 1760. By this time a waggonway running from Lanchester to wharves south of South Shields is present. The modern footpath, which forms the southern boundary of the site, follows the line of this waggonway, known as the Team Colliery Waggonway.

4.5.3 Thomas Bell's plan of 1826 is the earliest map to shows Sheriff Hill Colliery and its buildings in some detail. The pithead and several associated colliery buildings are located in the centre of the site. A waggonway leads into the colliery from the north-east, and this fans into six sidings close to the pithead. The line of this waggonway is listed on the HER as a possible 18th century waggonway. The earlier waggonway leading from the north-west of the site still appears to be extant at this time and feeds into the aforementioned sidings.

4.5.4 The Team Colliery Waggonway along the southern boundary of the site is shown as '*North reserved Waggon Way'* on the 1826 map. Four large reservoirs are shown to the south and east of the colliery buildings and various paths and roads are also shown crossing the site. Several large mounds of pit waste are present at the site by this time. A large quarry and a smaller disused quarry are located in the south-western corner of the site. Several more quarries are visible beyond the site boundary to the west.

4.5.5 Bell's map of 1843 shows the waggonway running north-east from the pit but the north-westerly waggonway had evidently fallen into disuse by this time. The Team Colliery Waggonway is marked as running in a NE-SW direction south of the Sheriff Hill Colliery, to join the Pelaw Main Colliery Railway. This map also shows the extensive quarrying to the south and west of the site.

4.5.6 The Tithe Plan of 1844 shows a similar layout to that shown on Bell's plan of 1826. The fan of sidings is shown adjacent to the colliery buildings and pithead and runs in a north easterly direction. The line of the disused waggonway running to the north-west is still visible as a path. The waggonway skirting the southern boundary of the site is shown as a railway by this time. The southern pair of reservoirs are still extant, as is the quarry in the south-western corner of the site.

4.5.7 The 'Board of Health Plan' of 1850 shows two quarries, one in the south-western corner of the site and one in the north-western corner. This map also shows a new waggonway, leading east-west from the pit buildings to the Team Colliery Waggonway; the line leading to the north-east appears to have gone into disuse by this time.

4.5.8 The OS 1st edition map of 1856 shows the site as being mostly rough ground with the colliery having several buildings, including an engine house. The east-west waggonway is shown leading from the colliery to the Team Colliery Waggonway. A number of possible paths run across the site and the line of the former waggonway, which led from the north-east of the site, is still evident as a path. Three large reservoirs are located to the east of the colliery buildings, along with a much smaller one in the south of the site. Two quarries are situated near the north-western and south-western boundaries of the site. Quarries are also shown immediately to the west of Old Durham Road, part of the Mossheap Quarries.

4.5.10 By the time of the OS 2nd edition map of 1897, Sheriff Hill Colliery had gone out of use. The majority of the colliery buildings were still in existence at this time, suggesting that it may have only just closed down. The quarry in the north-western corner of the site is labelled as 'Old Quarry', suggesting that this too had gone out of use. The quarry in the south-western corner of the site appears to be still in use at this time. The Mossheap Quarries to the west of Old Durham Road had become more extensive. One of the reservoirs to the east of the colliery buildings is still present, as is the southern small reservoir. Two extensive pit heaps are shown to the east and north of the pit buildings, along with a smaller heap to the west. The remainder of the surrounding area appears to be rough ground. The line of the former east-west tramway can still be seen on this map, marked as a path or track. The Team Colliery Waggonway however, was still in existence, presumably still in use.

4.5.11 By 1919, the OS map shows that activity at the site had increased following the earlier demise of coal mining operations. The quarry in the south-western corner of the site had gone out of use, but a third quarry, the Coxheath Quarry, had been opened between the two disused quarries. Several buildings associated with this quarry were in existence in the central area of the site. One building associated with the colliery appears to have remained in use and the mine shaft is still marked on the map. The pit heap to the west of the old colliery buildings had been removed by this time and the one to the north of the buildings had a path running through. All the remaining heaps appear to have become grassed over by this time. The two reservoirs shown on the 1897 map were still extant at this time, and two more reservoirs were located along the eastern boundary of the site. The line of the disused east-west tramway was present as a footpath, and the earlier waggonway from the north-east of the site is also shown as a footpath. The Team Colliery Waggonway was still present and apparently in use.

4.5.12 The 1938 OS map shows that the Coxheath Quarry had closed down by this time and all the buildings formerly associated with the quarry or colliery were no longer in existence. The position of Sheriff Hill Colliery shaft is still shown at this time. All that remained of the pit heaps and two of the quarries were earthworks. The southern reservoir was no longer visible, but the other three reservoirs were still in existence. The lines of the former waggonways and tramways could still be seen as footpaths running across the site. There was no trace of the quarry in the south-western corner of the site. It was probably landscaped when the houses on West View gained allotment gardens.

4.5.13 By the time of the *c.* 1960 OS map, the Team Colliery Waggonway had become a mineral railway, apparently running in a cutting where it bounds the site. The earthworks associated with the pit heaps also appear to have reduced in size. Four ponds were present on the site by this time, the three easterly ones in the locations of former reservoirs. The large westerly pond did not appear to have an earlier precedent. A football ground with a small pavilion on its south-western side, had been created in the northern part of the site. The number of footpaths across the site had been reduced with only one running from the north-eastern boundary to the south-western corner (the northern part of this following the line of the former waggonway) and one running south from this path to the mineral railway.

4.5.14 An aerial photograph from 1974 shows that by this time the whole site had been landscaped and was in use as playing fields with a pavilion built where the allotment gardens once were, just outside the boundary of the site. The *c*. 1980 OS map shows that the mineral railway was still present and in use at the site's southern boundary. The site is shown as being wholly occupied by the Whitehouse Lane Playing Field.

5. GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 Geology

5.1.1 The underlying geology of the site comprises Carboniferous Coal Measures overlain by glacial drift deposits.

5.2 Topography

5.2.1 The site has been landscaped to form level playing fields, at the same height as Old Durham Road. A spot height on this road, near to the playing field, is 153m OD. Land to the east and north-east of the site is at a lower level than the site itself and the footpath at the southern boundary of the site is located in a cutting. A contour of 150m OD runs just outside the southern and eastern boundaries of the site as well the eastern part of the northern boundary.

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

6.1 Trial Trenching

6.1.1 The archaeological fieldwork at Whitehouse Lane Playing Fields was undertaken in accordance with the relevant standard and guidance documents of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.[5] The evaluation comprised six trenches, the locations of which were proposed by the TWAO.

6.1.2 Trench 1 was located adjacent to the western boundary of the site, aligned approximately NE-SW, and measured 20.0m x 3.0m. Trench 2, located to the east on an approximately east-west alignment, measured 10.0m x 2.0m. These two trenches were located in order to identify any potential Roman deposits. Trench 3 was located towards the centre of the site and measured 23.0m NE-SW x 3.0m. To the south, Trench 4 measured 30.0m NE-SW x 4.0m. These two trenches were located in the position of two former colliery buildings shown on the OS 1st edition map. Trench 5 measured 25.0m NW-SE x 4.0m and Trench 6 measured 25.0m NW-SE x 4.0m.These two trenches were located in the south-western portion of the site, across the line of a possible colliery waggonway.

6.1.3 Ground reduction was undertaken using a Caterpillar back-hoe excavator utilising a wide-blade ditching (non-toothed) bucket. All work was directed by the supervising archaeologist. Overburden and archaeologically insignificant material was removed gradually by the machine, in spits of approximately 100mm thickness, down to the first significant archaeological horizon. Spoil was mounded away from the edge of each trench by the machine.

6.1.4 Subsequent excavation and recording was undertaken in accordance with recognised archaeological practice and following methodology set out in PCA's field recording manual.[6] Following machine clearance, the sections and the base of each trench were cleaned using appropriate hand tools. Where appropriate, long sections of the trenches were drawn. The base of each trench was planned at a scale of 1:20 or 1:50 relative to a baseline established along the trench. The position of each trench baseline was precisely located using a Geodimeter Total Station EDM.

6.1.5 Archaeological deposits were recorded using a 'single context recording' system. Features, deposits and structures were recorded on *pro forma* context record sheets. The height of all principal strata and features were calculated relative to Ordnance Datum and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections. A 'Harris Matrix' stratification diagram to record stratigraphic relationships was compiled and fully checked during the course of the fieldwork.

6.1.6 Within appropriate archaeological horizons, partial excavation, the recovery of dating evidence or cleaning and recording of deposits was preferred to full excavation, and was practised wherever possible.

[5] Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1999.
[6] PCA, 1999.

6.1.7 A photographic record of the investigations was compiled using SLR cameras. This comprised black and white prints and colour transparencies (on 35mm film), illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. The photographic record also included 'working shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted. All photographs included a legible graduated metric scale.

6.1.8 Three Temporary Bench Marks (TBMs) were established on the site using a Total Station EDM employing the Client's survey data. The TBMs had values of 152.02m OD, 151.47m OD and 151.79m OD.

6.2 Post-Excavation

6.2.1 The site's stratigraphic data is represented by the written, drawn and photographic records. A total of 112 archaeological contexts were defined in the evaluation trenches (Appendix B). Post-excavation work involved checking and collating site records, grouping contexts and phasing the stratigraphic data (Appendix A). A written summary of the archaeological sequence was then compiled, as described below in Section 7.

6.2.2 The artefactual material from the site comprised a small assemblage of late post-medieval pottery and clay pipe fragments. The material was washed, dried, marked and packaged as appropriate and according to relevant guidelines.[7]

6.2.3 The project's palaeoenvironmental sampling strategy was to recover bulk samples where appropriate, from well-dated (where possible), stratified deposits covering the main periods or phases of occupation and the range of feature types represented, with specific reference to the objectives of the evaluation. To this end, no features of significance were encountered to warrant the recovery of bulk samples

6.2.4 No other categories of inorganic artefactual material were represented.

6.2.5 Survival of all materials from archaeological fieldwork depends upon suitable storage. The complete project archive, comprising written, drawn and photographic records (including all material generated electronically during post-excavation) and all 'finds' will be packaged for long term curation according to relevant guidelines.[8] None of the material recovered required specialist stabilisation or an assessment of its potential for conservation research. The depositional requirements of the receiving body, in this case the Museum of Antiquities, Department of Archaeology, Newcastle University, will be met in full.

[7] Watkinson and Neal, 1998; UKIC, 1983.
[8] UKIC, 1990.

7. THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

Note: Discrete stratigraphic entities (e.g., a cut, a fill, a deposit) were assigned unique and individual archaeological 'context' numbers, and these are indicated in the following text as [*]. The archaeological sequence at the site has been described by stratigraphic phases, detailing the progression of deposition. Standard archaeological phase numbers have been allocated to each of the deposits encountered even where these may have formed as part of the natural geological sub-strata. These phases are indicated by Roman numerals (e.g., III). This was considered an appropriate strategy, since broad, site-wide, phases of activity have been assigned.

7.1 Phase I – Natural Sub-stratum

7.1.1 Natural deposits were recorded in all of the trenches investigated, with the exception of Trench 6, and were broadly comparable. The natural sub-stratum comprised mid brown clayey sand or sandy clay, recorded as [7], [93], [108], [99], [61] and [101], in Trenches 1-5, respectively. The maximum height at which the natural sub-stratum was encountered varied across the site, from a height of 152.13m OD in Trench 1, to 150.86m OD in Trench 3.

7.2 Phase II – Post-medieval

7.2.1 Sub-surface archaeological deposits assigned to this phase were only encountered in Trench 2.

7.2.2 The natural sub-stratum was overlain by an 80mm thick layer comprising grey sandy clay, [91], with a high humic content. This deposit extended across the trench and was recorded at a maximum height of 151.38m OD. It was overlain by a similar layer, [92], comprising brownish grey silty clayey sand. This extended across the trench and was 0.25m thick.

7.2.3 These deposits are interpreted as representing post-medieval developed soil. Although no dateable material was recovered from these deposits, they have been assigned to this phase of activity as they were sealed by modern layers. The presence of these deposits indicates that horizontal truncation during recent landscaping activity had not occurred in this part of the site.

7.3 Phase III – Late post-medieval/modern

7.3.1 Deposits and features assigned to this phase were recorded in all of the trenches investigated.

7.3.2 In Trench 1, two parallel, N-S aligned, field drains, [3] and [5], were recorded extending across the trench. Both were 0.30m wide and contained circular bore ceramic drainpipes, and were presumably of recent origin, to improve drainage for the playing fields.

7.3.3 In Trench 2, the developed soil was overlain by a deposit comprising sandstone fragments and clayey sand, [90], up to 0.44m thick. This was overlain by a deposit of coal and silty sand, [89], with occasional sandstone fragments, up to 0.26m thick. The combined maximum thickness of these deposits was 0.60m and they are interpreted as levelling layers associated with the recent landscaping of the area. Their composition suggests that some of the material originated from the post-medieval industrial activity at the site. These dumps were truncated by two ceramic field drains of recent origin, [86] and [88].

7.3.4 A similar sequence of activity was recorded In Trench 3, where the natural sub-stratum was overlain by a levelling dump, [107], comprising silty clay and coal fines, up to 0.54m thick. This was truncated by two ceramic field drains, [110] and [112].

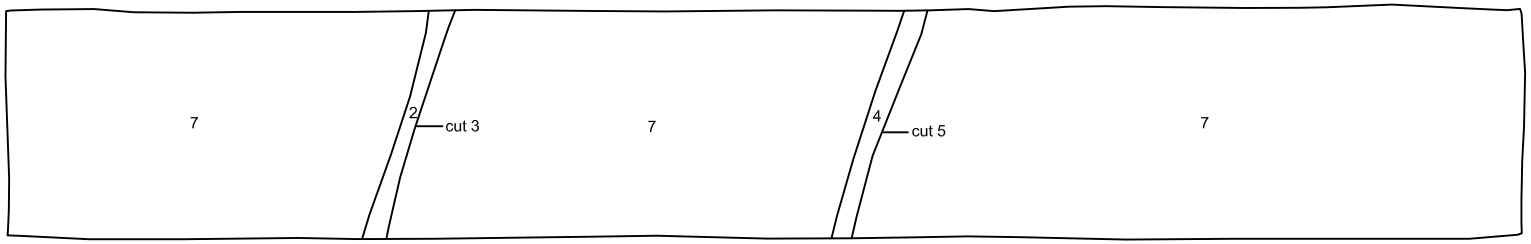
7.3.5 There was no levelling deposit present in Trench 4, where the natural sub-stratum was directly overlain by topsoil. In this trench the natural was truncated by a plastic pipe trench, [98], in turn truncated by a ceramic field drain, [96].

7.3.6 The natural sub-stratum in Trench 5 was truncated by numerous shallow features, interpreted as being associated with recent landscaping activity. These included a series of linear features, on average 0.40m-0.60m wide x 30mm-100mm deep, interpreted as wheel ruts caused by machinery during the landscaping of the area. A few sherds of post-medieval pottery, dating from the early 20th century, and a single clay pipe fragment were recovered from two of these features. Four ceramic field drains, [69], [79], [83] and [105], were also recorded in Trench 5.

7.3.7 In Trench 6, a levelling dump, [101], comprising coal fines and silty sandy clay with sandstone fragments was encountered throughout the trench. This was excavated for a maximum depth of 1.00m; due to Health and Safety reasons it was not possible to fully determine the depth of this deposit. A few sherds of post-medieval pottery, dating from the early 20th century, were recovered from this deposit. The levelling dump was truncated by a ceramic field drain, [103].

7.4 Phase IV – Modern

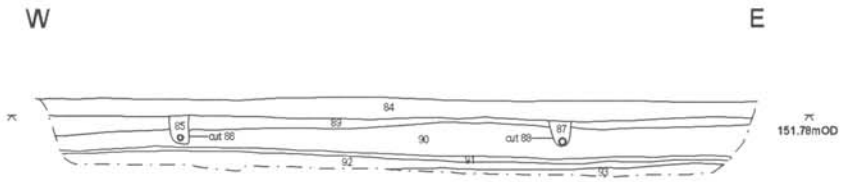
7.4.1 Topsoil and turf was present in all trenches excavated, recorded as [1], [84], [106], [94], [8] and [100], in Trenches 1-6, respectively. This varied in thickness from 0.20m-0.30m.



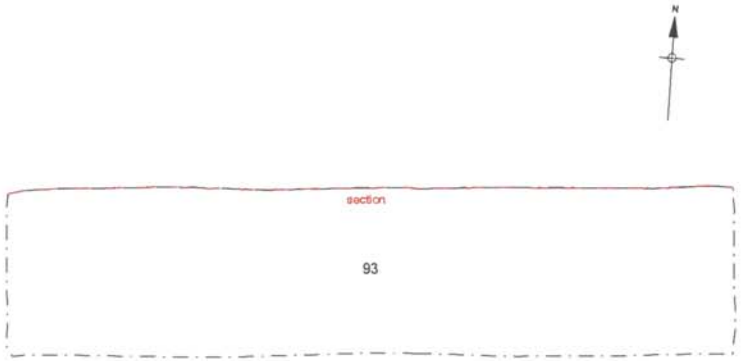
Trench 1, plan.

Figure 3. Trench 1, plan

Scale 1:100



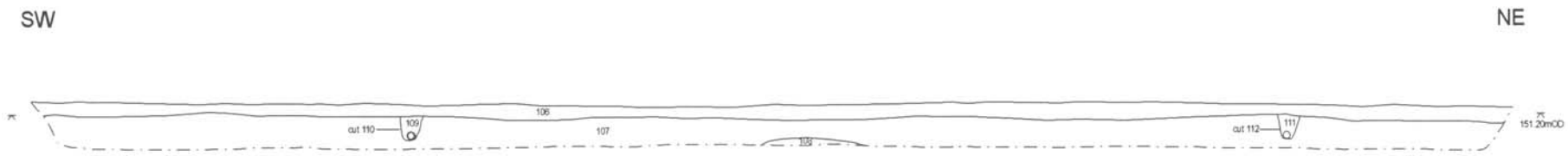
Trench 2, south facing section.



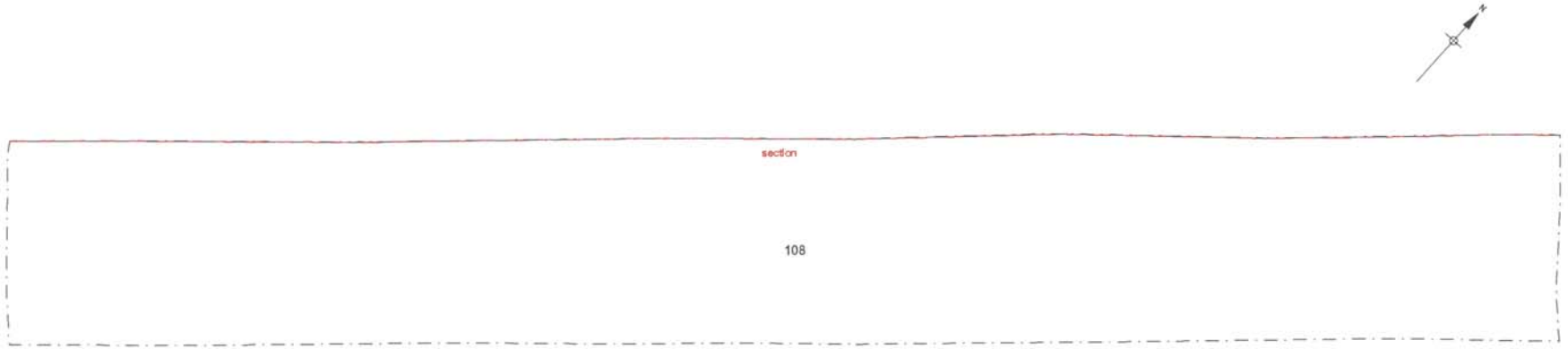
Trench 2, plan.

0 5m

Figure 4. Trench 2, plan and section
Scale 1:100



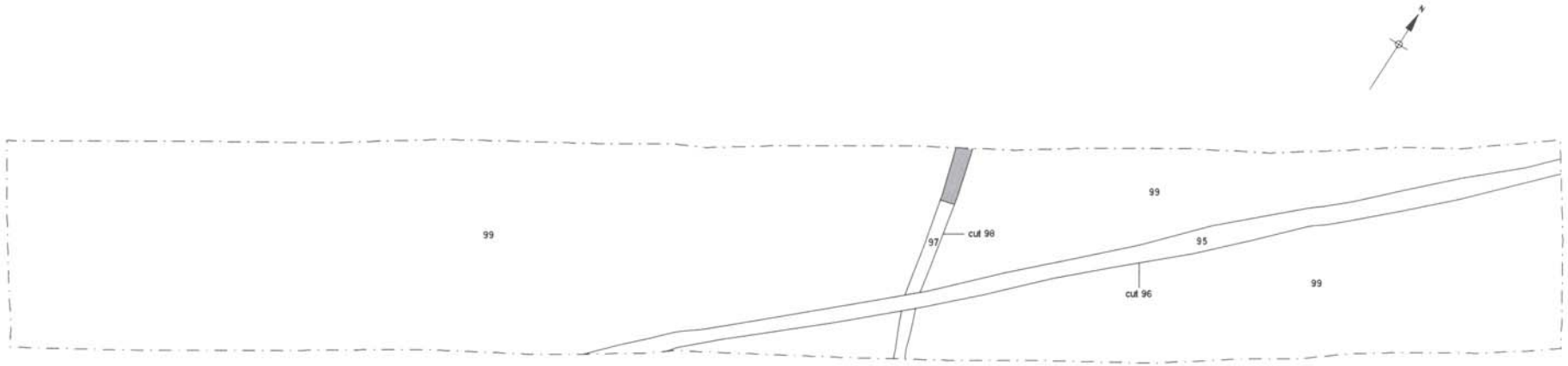
Trench 3, south-east facing section.



Trench 3, plan.

0 5m

Figure 5. Trench 3, plan and section
Scale 1:100

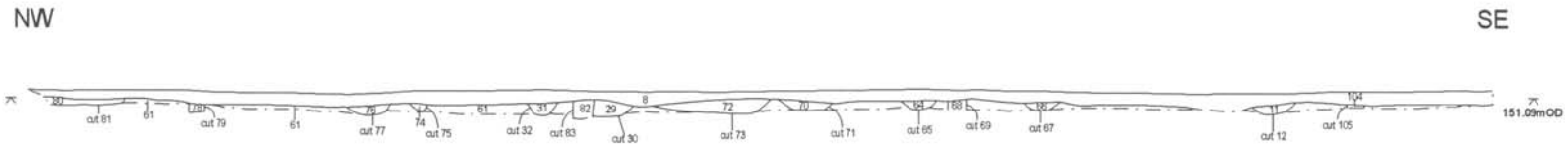


Trench 4, plan.

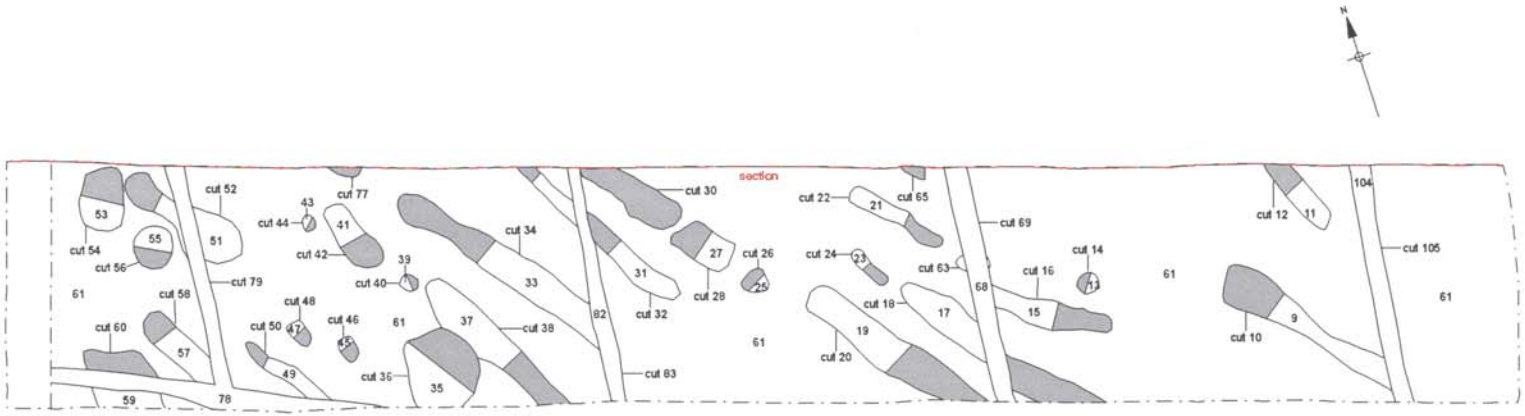
excavated portion

0 5m

Figure 6. Trench 4, plan
Scale 1:125

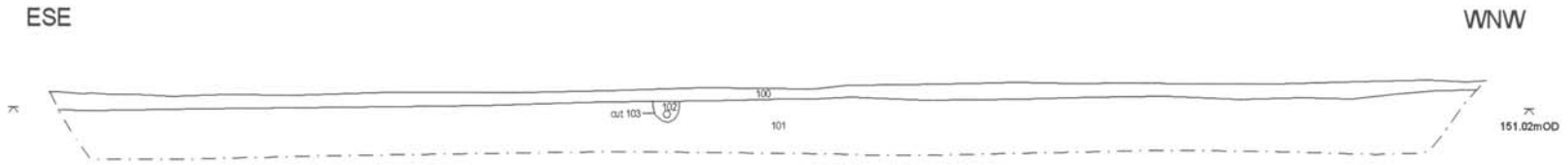


Trench 5, south-west facing section.

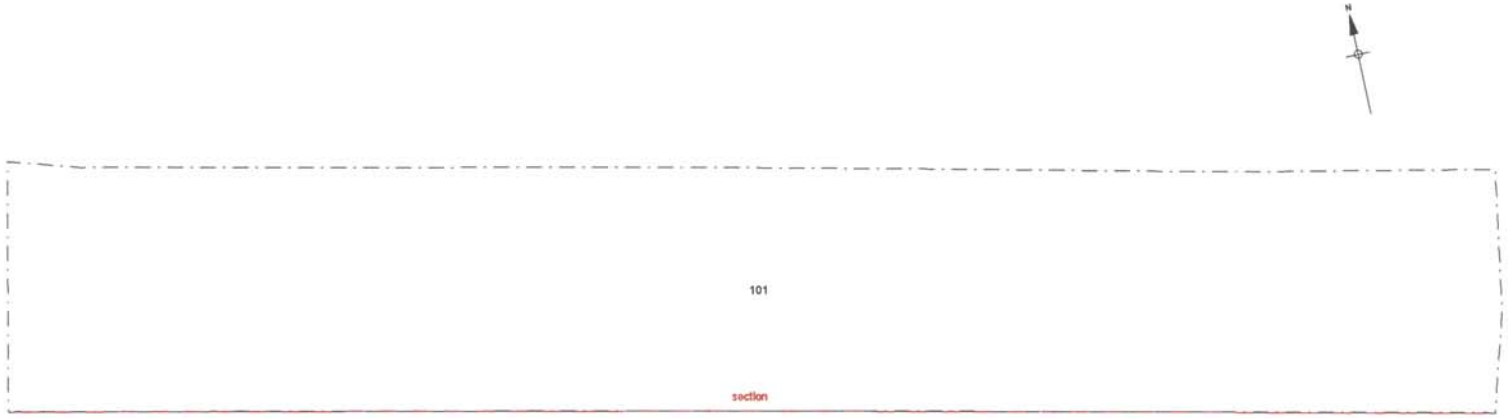


Trench 5, plan.

Figure 7. Trench 5, plan and section
Scale 1:125



Trench 6, north north-west facing section.



Trench 6, plan.

0 5m

Figure 8. Trench 6, plan and section
Scale 1:125

8. CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Conclusions: the Archaeological Resource

8.1.1 The archaeological investigations at Whitehouse Lane Playing Fields, Wrekenton, did not encounter any evidence of significant archaeological activity within the areas investigated.

8.1.2 Trenches 1 and 2 were positioned in the western portion of the site, to test for potential Roman activity. In Trench 1, the natural sub-stratum was overlain by topsoil and turf. In Trench 2, the natural sub-stratum was overlain by deposits interpreted as post-medieval developed soils. These in turn were overlain by levelling dumps up to 0.60m thick, deposited to create level playing fields.

8.1.3 Trenches 3 and 4 were located towards the centre of the site, over the position of former colliery buildings, as depicted on the OS 1st edition map. In Trench 3, levelling dumps up to 0.54m thick were recorded overlying the natural sub-stratum. In Trench 4, the natural sub-stratum was overlain by topsoil and turf.

8.1.4 Trenches 5 and 6 were positioned in the south-western portion of the site, over the line of a possible colliery waggonway. A group of features truncating the natural sub-stratum in Trench 5 have been interpreted as being caused by machinery during the recent landscaping activity, including a series of wheel ruts. In Trench 6, a deep levelling dump was encountered across the trench, this was excavated for a maximum depth of 1.00m; it was not possible to ascertain the full depth due to Health and Safety considerations.

8.2 Conclusions: the Impact of the Development Proposals

8.2.1 No significant archaeological features were encountered within the areas investigated at the site. The trial trenching identified evidence for extensive landscaping activity associated with the recent construction of level playing fields.

8.2.2 It is concluded that no further archaeological work is warranted at the development site if the proposed plans are implemented. However, it should be noted that significant industrial archaeological remains associated with the colliery engine house and waggonway sidings are likely to be present in an area scheduled to remain as playing fields. If plans for any invasive ground works are submitted for this area, then further archaeological mitigation will be necessary.

9. REFERENCES

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10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND CREDITS

Acknowledgements

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PCA Credits

Report: Gavin Glover

Fieldwork: Gavin Glover (Site Supervisor), Emma Allen, Julie Parker

Project Management: Robin Taylor-Wilson

Post-Excavation Manager: Jenny Proctor

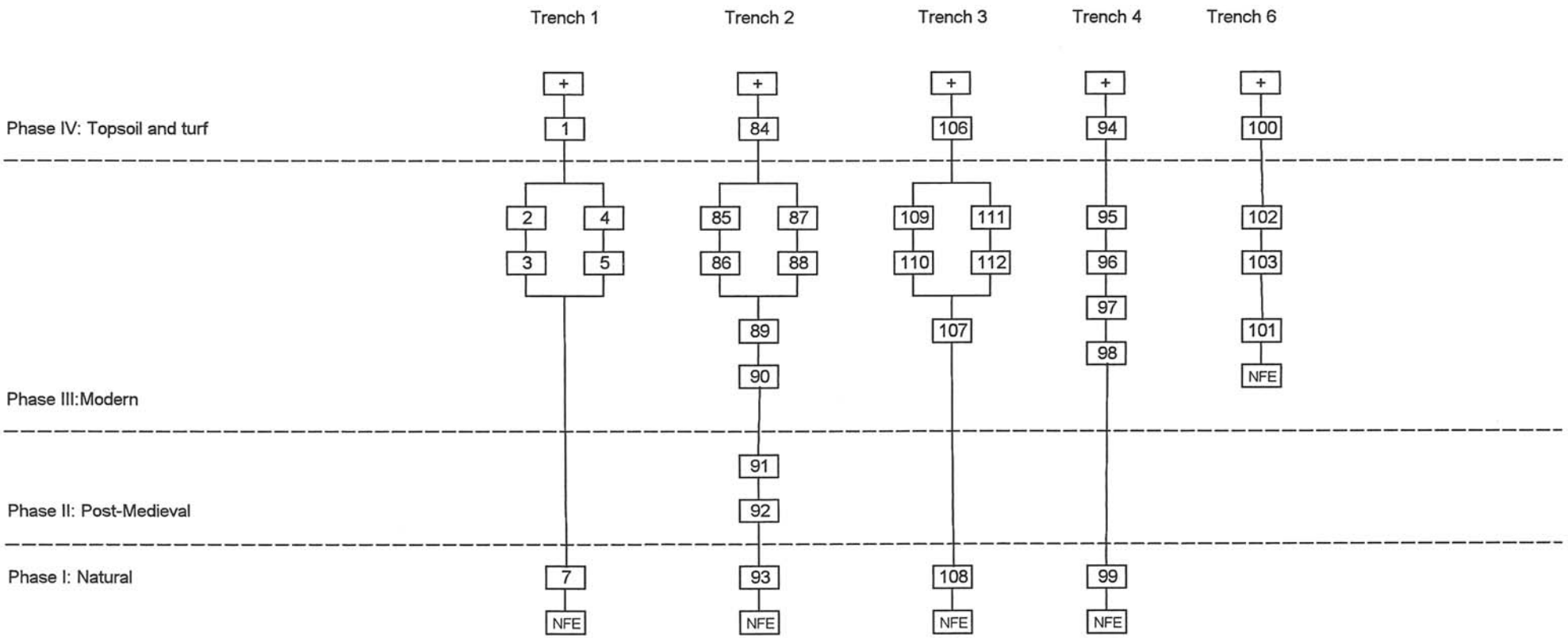
CAD: Adrian Bailey

Other Credits

Pottery Assessment: Jenny Vaughan

Survey: Jim Wright

APPENDIX A
STRATIGRAPHIC MATRICES


Trench 1
Trench 2
Trench 3
Trench 4
Trench 6
Phase IV: Topsoil and turf
Phase III:Modern
Phase II: Post-Medieval
Phase I: Natural
+
1
2
3
4
5
7
NFE
84
85
86
87
88
89
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92
93
NFE
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NFE
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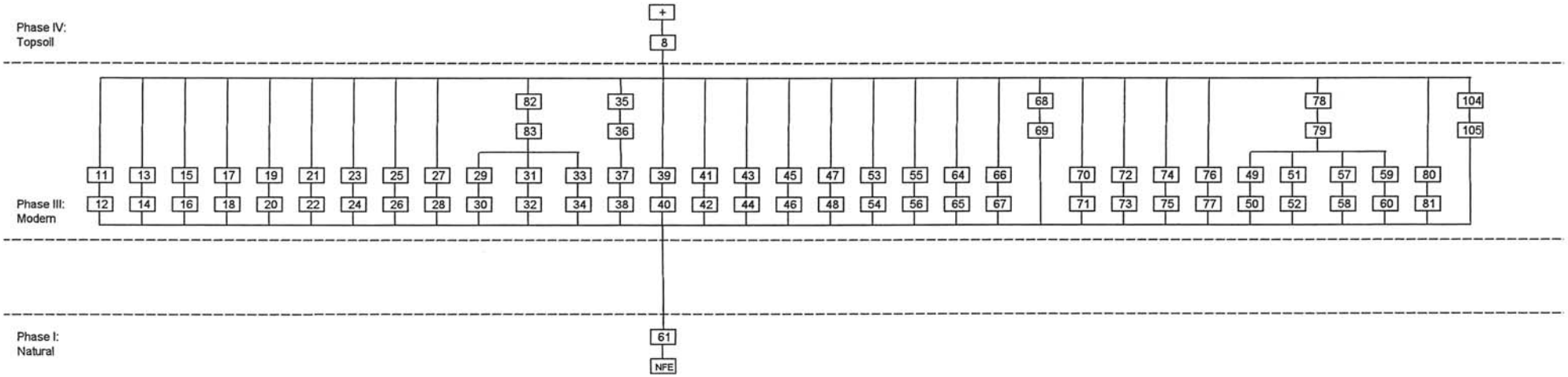
NFE

Trench 5


Phase IV:
Topsoil
Phase III:
Modern
Phase I:
Natural
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APPENDIX B
CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Trench	Phase	Type	Type	Description	Interpretation
1	1	IV	Deposit	Layer	Loose; dark greyish brown; clayey silty sand; frequent small sub-angular stones; extends across the trench, 0.23m thick	Topsoil and turfline
2	1	III	Deposit	Fill	Loose; mid brownish grey; silty sand and medium sub-angular limestone fragments; contains single circular bore ceramic field drain; extends across the trench, 0.30m wide	Fill of field drain [3]
3	1	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, straight; steep sides; extends across the trench, 0.30m wide, not fully excavated; N-S aligned	Field drain
4	1	III	Deposit	Fill	Loose; mid brownish grey; silty sand and medium sub-angular limestone fragments; contains single circular bore ceramic field drain; extends across the trench, 0.30m wide	Fill of field drain [5]
5	1	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, straight; steep sides; extends across the trench, 0.30m wide, not fully excavated; N-S aligned	Field drain
7	1	I	Deposit	Layer	Compact; mid yellowish brown; clayey sand; frequent medium sandstone fragments	Natural
8	5	IV	Deposit	Layer	Friable; mid brown; clayey silt; frequent small sub-angular stones; extends across entire trench, 0.30m thick	Topsoil and turfline
9	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; occasional sub-angular sandstone fragments; 3.30m x 0.72m x 0.10m thick	Fill of feature [10]
10	5	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, butt ended; irregular sides; concave base; 3.30m x 0.72m x 0.10m deep; NW-SE aligned	Possible wheel rut
11	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 1.42m x 0.36m x 0.16m thick	Fill of feature [12]
12	5	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, butt ended; moderately steep sides; concave base; 1.42m x 0.36m x 0.16m deep; NW-SE aligned	Possible wheel rut
13	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 0.38m diameter x 0.05m thick	Fill of possible posthole [14]
14	5	III	Cut	Sub-circular	Sub-circular; moderately steep side; concave base; 0.38m diameter x 0.05m deep	Possible posthole or stone hole
15	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 2.14m x 0.48m x 0.06m thick	Fill of feature [16]
16	5	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, butt ended; irregular sides; concave base; 2.14m x 0.48m x 0.06m deep; NW-SE aligned	Possible wheel rut
17	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 3.60m x 0.50m x 0.06m thick	Fill of feature [18]
18	5	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, butt ended; irregular sides; concave base; 3.60m x 0.50m x 0.06m deep; NW-SE aligned	Possible wheel rut
19	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 3.30m x 0.50m x 0.04m thick	Fill of feature [20]
20	5	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, butt ended; irregular sides; concave base; 3.30m x 0.50m x 0.04m deep; NW-SE aligned	Possible wheel rut

Context	Trench	Phase	Type	Type	Description	Interpretation
21	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 1.76m x 0.26m x 0.03m thick	Fill of feature [22]
22	5	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, butt ended; irregular sides; concave base; 1.76m x 0.26m x 0.03m deep; NW-SE aligned	Possible wheel rut
23	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 0.76m x 0.18m x 0.02m thick	Fill of feature [24]
24	5	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, butt ended; irregular sides; concave base; 0.76m x 0.18m x 0.02m deep; NW-SE aligned	Possible wheel rut
25	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 0.40m x 0.43m x 0.06m thick	Fill of feature [26]
26	5	III	Cut	Linear	Irregular, approximately square shaped; irregular, gradually sloping sides, irregular base; 0.40m x 0.43m x 0.06m deep	Possible wheel rut
27	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 0.96m x 0.54m x 0.06m thick	Fill of feature [28]
28	5	III	Cut	Linear	Irregular, approximately rectangular shaped; irregular gradually sloping sides; concave base; 0.96m x 0.54m x 0.06m deep; NW-SE aligned	Possible wheel rut
29	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 1.61m x 0.60m x 0.29m thick	Fill of feature [30]
30	5	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, butt ended; irregular sides; concave base; 1.61m x 0.60m x 0.29m deep; NW-SE aligned	Possible wheel rut
31	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 3.23m x 0.36m x 0.22m thick	Fill of feature [32]
32	5	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, butt ended; moderately steep sides; concave base; 3.23m x 0.36m x 0.22m deep; NW-SE aligned	Possible wheel rut
33	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 3.83m x 0.50m x 0.05m thick	Fill of feature [34]
34	5	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, butt ended; moderately steep sides; concave base; 3.83m x 0.50m x 0.05m deep; NW-SE aligned	Possible wheel rut
35	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; dark grey; sandy clay, coal fines and charcoal; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 1.30m 1.20m x 0.08m thick	Fill of [36]
36	5	III	Cut	Sub-circular	Approximately sub-circular; gentle sloping sides; concave base; 1.30m x 1.20m x 0.08m deep	Shallow pit
37	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 2.90m x 0.60m x 0.13m thick	Fill of feature [38]
38	5	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, butt ended; irregular sides; concave base; 2.90m x 0.60m x 0.13m deep; NW-SE aligned	Possible wheel rut
39	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 0.32m diameter x 0.03m thick	Fill of possible posthole [40]
40	5	III	Cut	Sub-circular	Sub-circular; gradual sides; concave base; 0.32m diameter x 0.03m deep	Possible posthole or stone hole

Context	Trench	Phase	Type	Type	Description	Interpretation
41	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 1.31m x 0.49m x 0.08m thick	Fill of feature [42]
42	5	III	Cut	Linear	Sub-rectangular; gradual sides; concave base; 1.31m x 0.49m x 0.08m; NW-SE aligned	Possible wheel rut
43	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 0.22m diameter x 0.04m thick	Fill of possible posthole [44]
44	5	III	Cut	Sub-circular	Sub-circular; gradual sides; concave base; 0.22m diameter x 0.04m deep	Possible posthole or stone hole
45	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 0.26m x 0.40m x 0.05m thick	Fill of possible posthole [46]
46	5	III	Cut	Sub-rectangular	Sub-rectangular; gradual sides; concave base; 0.26m x 0.40m x 0.05m deep	Possible posthole or stone hole
47	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 0.49m x 0.27m x 0.04m thick	Fill of possible posthole [48]
48	5	III	Cut	Sub-rectangular	Sub-rectangular; gradual sides; concave base; 0.49m x 0.27m x 0.04m deep	Possible posthole or stone hole
49	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 1.74m x 0.24m x 0.10m thick	Fill of feature [50]
50	5	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, butt ended; gradual sides; concave base; 1.74m x 0.24m x 0.10m deep; NW-SE aligned	Possible wheel rut
51	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 1.74m x 0.24m x 0.10m thick	Fill of feature [52]
52	5	III	Cut	Linear	Irregular in plan; gradual sides; concave base; 2.25m x 0.83m x 0.04m deep; NW-SE aligned	Possible wheel rut
53	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 1.00m x 0.76m x 0.09m thick	fill of feature [54]
54	5	III	Cut	Sub-rectangular	Sub-rectangular; gradual sides; concave base; 1.00m x 0.76m x 0.09m deep; NW-SE aligned	Possible pit or landscaping feature
55	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 0.70m x 0.64m x 0.10m thick	Fill of feature [56]
56	5	III	Cut	?Pit	Sub-circular; gradual sides; concave base; 0.70m x 0.64m x 0.10m deep	Possible pit or landscaping feature
57	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 1.58m x 0.45m x 0.05m thick	Fill of feature [58]
58	5	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, butt ended; gradual sides; concave base; 1.58m x 0.45m x 0.03m deep; NW-SE aligned	Possible wheel rut
59	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 1.13m x 0.94m x 0.09m thick	Fill of possible pit [60]
60	5	III	Cut	Irregular	Irregular in plan; gradual sides; concave base; 1.13m x 0.94m x 0.09m deep	Possible pit or landscaping feature
61	5	I	Deposit	Layer	Firm; mid brownish orange and yellow; sandy clay; occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded sandstone fragments; extends across the whole trench	Natural
62	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 0.58m x 0.22m; unexcavated	Fill of feature [63]

Context	Trench	Phase	Type	Type	Description	Interpretation
63	5	III	Cut	Linear	Sub-oval; unexcavated; 0.58m x 0.22m	Possible wheel rut
64	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 0.70m x 0.22m x 0.16m thick	Fill of feature [65]
65	5	III	Cut	Linear	Sub-triangular; moderately steep sides; concave base; 0.70m x 0.22m x 0.16m deep	Possible wheel rut
66	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; recorded in section, 0.60m x 0.13m thick	Fill of feature [67]
67	5	III	Cut	Linear	Recorded from section only; moderately steep sides; concave base; 0.60m x 0.13 deep	Possible wheel rut
68	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Loose; mid greyish brown; sandy silt; frequent sub-rounded and sub-angular limestone fragments and a single circular bore ceramic field drain; 3.93m x 0.30m wide x 0.20m thick	Fill of field drain [69]
69	5	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, straight; vertical sides; extends across the trench, 0.30m wide, in excess of 0.20m deep; N-S aligned	Field drain
70	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; recorded in section, 0.89m x 0.15m thick	Fill of feature [71]
71	5	III	Cut	Linear	Recorded from section only; moderately steep sides; flat base; 0.89m x 0.15 deep	Possible wheel rut
72	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; recorded in section, 2.11m x 0.22m thick	Fill of feature [73]
73	5	III	Cut	?Circular	Recorded from section only; steep south-east side , gentle north-west side; flat base; 2.11m x 0.22 deep	Wide feature ssociated with landscaping activity
74	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; recorded in section, 0.30m x 0.12m thick	Fill of feature [75]
75	5	III	Cut	?Circular	Recorded from section only; steep south-east side, moderate north-west side; concave base; 0.30m x 0.22 deep	Possible small posthole associated with landscaping activity
76	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid-dark grey; sandy clay and coal fines; moderate sub-angular sandstone fragments; 0.70m x 0.14m x 0.17m thick	Fill of feature [77]
77	5	III	Cut	?Circular	Sub-semi circular; moderately steep sides; concave base; 0.70m x 0.14m x 0.17m deep	Possible pit or landscaping feature associated with landscaping activity
78	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Loose; mid greyish brown; sandy silt; frequent sub-rounded and sub-angular limestone fragments and a single circular bore ceramic field drain; 4.15m (N-S stretch) x 5.52m (NW-SE stretch) average width 0.27m x 0.25m thick	Fill of field drain [79]
79	5	III	Cut	Linear	Linear; bifurcating to form a T-shape; vertical sides, not fully excavated; NW-SE 5.52m, N-S 4.15m, average width 0.27m x 0.25m deep (as seen)	Field drain
80	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Compact; dark grey; coal fines and clayey silt; frequent coal, charcoal and coal waste fragments; recorded in section only, 1.36m x 0.12m deep	Fill of feature [81]
81	5	III	Cut	?Circular	Recorded from section only; moderately steep south-east side; flat base; 1.36m x 0.12 deep	Wide feature, possible pit, associated with landscaping activity

Context	Trench	Phase	Type	Type	Description	Interpretation
82	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Loose; mid greyish brown; sandy silt and limestone fragments; extends across the trench 0.34m wide x 0.32m thick (as seen); not fully excavated	Fill of field drain [83]
83	5	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, straight; vertical sides; extends across the trench, 0.34m wide, in excess of 0.32m deep; N-S aligned; not fully excavated	Field drain
84	2	IV	Deposit	Layer	Friable; dark greyish brown; sandy clayey silt; frequent small sub-angular stones, moderate coal flecks; extends across entire trench, 0.22m-0.28m thick	Topsoil and turfline
85	2	III	Deposit	Fill	Loose; mid brownish grey; silty sand; frequent sub-angular limestone fragments; contains single circular bore ceramic field drain; extends across the trench, 0.24m wide x 0.38m thick	Fill of field drain [86]
86	2	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, straight; vertical sides; extends across the trench, 0.34m wide, 0.38m deep; N-S aligned	Field drain
87	2	III	Deposit	Fill	Loose; mid brownish grey; silty sand; frequent sub-angular limestone fragments; contains single circular bore ceramic field drain; extends across the trench, 0.32m wide x 0.32m thick	Fill of field drain [88]
88	2	III	Cut	Linear	Linear, straight; vertical sides; concave base; extends across the trench, 0.32m wide, 0.32m deep; N-S aligned	Field drain
89	2	III	Deposit	Layer	Loose; dark grey/black; coal fragments and silty sand; occasional large sub-angular sandstone fragments; extends across entire trench, 0.26m thick	Made ground or landscaping
90	2	III	Deposit	Layer	Loose; mid brownish pink; sub-angular sandstone fragments and clayey sand; extends across entire trench, 0.44m thick	Made ground or landscaping
91	2	II	Deposit	Layer	Soft; dark greyish black; sandy clay; extends across the entire trench, 0.08m thick	Possible post-medieval developed soil
92	2	II	Deposit	Layer	Loose; dark brownish grey; silty clayey sand; occasional sub-angular sandstone fragments; extends across the entire trench up to 0.25m thick	Possible post-medieval developed soil
93	2	II	Deposit	Layer	Firm; light-mid brownish yellow with grey patches; sandy clay; moderate sub-rounded and sub-angular sandstone fragments; extends across the entire trench	Natural
94	2	II	Deposit	Layer	Loose; dark brownish grey; clayey silt; frequent small sub-angular stones; extends across the entire trench, 0.28m thick	Topsoil and turfline
95	4	III	Deposit	Fill	Loose; mid brownish grey; silty sand; frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and a single, circular bore ceramic field drain.	Fill of field drain [96]
96	4	III	Cut	Linear	Linear; steep sides; base not visible; 19.20m x 0.25m wide; aligned NE-SW	Field drain
97	4	III	Deposit	Fill	Firm; mid yellowish brown; sandy clay; frequent sub-rounded pebbles and a single black plastic service pipe; 4.20m x 0.35m wide x 0.81m thick (as seen)	Fill of service trench [98]
98	4	III	Cut	Linear	Linear; near vertical sides; base not visible; 4.20m long (as seen) x 0.35m wide x 0.81m deep (as seen); N-S aligned	Service trench
99	4	I	Deposit	Layer	Firm; mid brownish yellow; sandy clay; moderate sub-rounded sandstone fragments; extends across the entire trench	Natural

Context	Trench	Phase	Type	Type	Description	Interpretation
100	6	IV	Deposit	Layer	Loose; dark greyish brown; clayey silty sand; frequent small sub-angular stones; extends across the trench, 0.20m thick	Topsoil and turfline
101	6	III	Deposit	Layer	Firm; mixed dark brownish grey and mid brownish yellow; coal fines and silty sandy and clay; moderate sandstone fragments; extends across the entire trench, in excess of 1m thick	Mixed dump deposit, landscaping
102	6	III	Deposit	Fill	Loose; mid brownish grey; silty sand; frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and a single circular bore ceramic drainpipe; recorded from section, 0.40m wide x 0.35m thick	Fill of field drain [103]
103	6	III	Cut	Linear	Linear; steep sides; flat base; recorded from section, 0.40m wide x 0.35m deep; approximately aligned NE-SW	Field drain
104	5	III	Deposit	Fill	Loose; dark brown; clayey silt and limestone fragments; occasional coal and charcoal fragments; extends across the trench, 0.30m wide	Fill of field drain [105]
105	5	III	Cut	Linear	Linear; vertical sides; base not visible; extends across the trench, 0.30m wide; aligned NE-SW;	Field drain
106	3	IV	Deposit	Layer	Friable; mid brown; clayey silt; frequent small sub-angular stones; extends across entire trench, 0.26m thick	Topsoil and turfline
107	3	III	Deposit	Layer	Firm; mottled light brown and dark grey; mixed clay, silty clay and coal fines; frequent sandstone fragments and coal fragments; extends across the trench, up to 0.54m thick	Made ground, landscaping
108	3	I	Deposit	Layer	Firm; light-mid brownish yellow with grey mottling and sub-angular sandstone fragments; extends across the entire trench, in excess of 0.08m thick	Natural
109	3	III	Deposit	Fill	Loose; dark greyish brown; clayey silty and limestone fragments; frequent coal and charcoal fragments and a single circular bore ceramic drainpipe; recorded from section, 0.34m wide x 0.36m thick	Fill of field drain [110]
110	3	III	Cut	Linear	Linear; steep sides; flat base; recorded from section, 0.34m wide x 0.36m deep; approximately aligned N-S	Field drain
111	3	III	Deposit	Fill	Loose; dark greyish brown; clayey silt and limestone fragments; frequent coal and charcoal fragments and a single circular bore ceramic drainpipe; recorded in section, 0.34m wide x 0.36m thick	Fill of field drain [112]
112	3	III	Cut	Linear	Linear; steep sides; flat base; recorded from section but extends across the trench 0.34m wide x 0.36m deep; approximately aligned N-S	Field drain

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