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Geophysical Survey

**Land off Netherhall Road
Maryport
Cumbria**

Archaeological Evaluation

Report No. 1772

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Commissioned by	Story Homes Ltd
Date issued	August 2011
Version	3
OASIS Reference	cfaarcha1 -
Planning Application No	N/A
Grid Ref	NY 0406 3692

This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd standard operating procedures.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in April 2010 at Land off Netherhall Road, Maryport, Cumbria (NGR: NY 0406 3692) (Fig 1). The work was commissioned by Story Homes Ltd.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 31 March 2010 for the project was produced by CFA. The WSI was based upon documents provided by Story Homes Ltd and was agreed in advance by Cumbria County Council Archaeology Service (CCCAS) and the English Heritage Hadrian's Wall Archaeologist.

1.2 Background

Story Homes Ltd is proposing to construct a residential development within an area of pasture-land on the north-eastern outskirts of Maryport. The proposed development area lies just off the A596(T), immediately to the north and west of Netherhall School and is currently utilised for the grazing of sheep. The south-eastern part of the field slopes steeply downwards from the north-west to the south-east, whereas the north-western part is more rolling and contains a number of flatter areas. Towards the north-eastern end of the proposed development area, there is a shallow cleft in the field that may mark the line of an old watercourse. The field is bordered by the A596 to the south, an area of allotments gardens to the west, an area of woodland to the north and an area of farmland to the east.

A geophysical survey of the proposed development area was conducted as part of a large scale research survey of Roman Maryport by TimeScape Surveys between 2000 and 2004 (Biggins & Taylor 2004). TimeScape refused to allow their data or plots to be used by CFA. Thus, the area was resurveyed in August 2011 (Tanner 2011) and the resultant plots were used to highlight the locations of geophysical anomalies targeted by the evaluation (Fig. 2c). The geophysical survey results were compared to information available from desk-based sources, including historic maps in a desk-based assessment report produced by CFA (Glendinning & Neighbour 2011) (Fig. 2a). Site numbers in the following text relate to gazetteer entries in the desk-based assessment. The findings of the desk-based assessment are not repeated in this document and this report should be read with reference to that document; site numbers in the following text relate to gazetteer entries.

The proposed development lies c. 250m to the south of the Roman fort of 'Alavna' and a possible Roman road (Site 8) leading to the fort passes through the proposed development area. Consequently, the area was considered to be of high archaeological potential for features dating to the Roman period.

No previous invasive archaeological fieldwork is known to have taken place within the proposed development area prior to this evaluation.

1.3 Objectives

The initial aims of the field evaluation were:

- To determine the date, character, condition and significance of the features recorded by geophysical survey and through desk-based assessment;
- To assess the nature of the remains that survive along the route of the Roman road (Site 8) at its northern end, close to the woods;
- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any other surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development.

During the course of the evaluation, further work was deemed to be necessary in relation to the possible Roman road and to an area of possible cremation burials identified during the evaluation. Additional trial trenching was also carried out within a possible Romano-British enclosure (Site 3) and within an area of geophysical anomalies (Site 5).

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1 General

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations.

2.2 Trial Trenching Strategy

The terms of the WSI required the excavation of c.3600m² (c.5% of the proposed development area) of linear trial trenching. This consisted of forty-seven trial trenches (1–47), located as per the pre-agreed trenching plan (Fig. 2a). The trenches were positioned to provide a representative spread across the area whilst targeting features identified from the desk-based assessment (Glendinning & Neighbour 2011) (Fig. 2d) and were located on the ground using a Thales Mobilemapper GPS system. Additionally, the WSI allowed for up to a further c.1440m² (c.2%) of trial trenching to explore any archaeological features that would merit further exploration to achieve the projects aims. In the event, a further five trenches (48–52) were excavated amounting to c.270m².

Topsoil and modern overburden was removed by a 360° mechanical excavator equipped with a 1.8m-wide smooth-bladed ditching bucket. All groundbreaking work was carried out under constant archaeological supervision. All further excavation required to fulfil the objectives of the evaluation was carried out by hand.

Trench positions were surveyed using industry standard electronic surveying equipment.

All trenches were backfilled on completion of the evaluation.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 General

Site numbers in the following text relate to gazetteer entries in the desk-based assessment (Glendinning & Neighbour 2011) and three figure numbers in bold and parentheses refer to contexts (Appendix 1).

The deposits across the area generally consisted of 0.5m of topsoil (**001**) and subsoil (**003**) overlying orange brown sandy-gravel and sandy-clay natural (**002**). In a number of places, notably within trenches 36, 38 and 39, considerably deeper deposits of up to 2.5m were identified. Information obtained from the landowner indicated that some of the deeper depressions within the field had been filled using a bulldozer in order to level the ground.

Section 3.2 presents information on the significant features identified. Section 3.3 presents a trench by trench account of the evaluation; site numbers in this section relate to gazetteer entries in Glendinning and Neighbour (2011). Section 4 presents information on the finds and environmental sample processing.

3.2 Significant Archaeological Features

Site 3 (Romano-British Enclosure)

Site 3 identified in the DBA (Glendinning & Neighbour 2011) as a roughly square ditch-defined enclosure measuring c.60m by 60m with a possible entrance in the eastern side. Morphologically, the site is similar to other Romano-British enclosures recorded in the Solway Plain in Cumbria (Bewley 1994). Three trenches (Trenches 10, 12 and 13) were excavated across the enclosure ditch; and two (Trench 11 & 48) within the enclosure to look for internal features.

The ditch (**015**) (Fig. 3a and Fig. 7a) uncovered in Trench 10 was 2.2m wide and 0.9m deep and had irregularly sloping sides and a V to U-shaped base. The primary fill (**017**) was orange-brown sandy gravel, and the upper fill (**016**) was orange brown sandy-silt that was indistinguishable from subsoil deposit (**003**). Sherds of a 2nd/3rd-century pottery flagon were recovered from within the upper fill (**016**).

The ditch (**018**) (Fig. 3b and Fig. 7b) uncovered in Trench 13 was 2.8m wide and 1.1m deep and had sloping sides and a rounded base. The primary fill (**019**) was dark brown sand and the upper fill (**020**) was lighter brown sandy-silt. Along the inner edge of the ditch, the possible remains of a bank were exposed consisting of light orange-brown sand (**021**). The bank and ditch had been sealed by subsoil deposit (**003**). A single sherd of Roman pottery, a 2nd-century *mortarium* rim, was recovered from the horizon between the upper (**019**) and lower (**020**) fills.

The enclosure ditch was also revealed in Trench 12 where it was c.2.5m in width, but it was not excavated. Trench 11 was excavated across the location of a possible roundhouse identified in an earlier geophysical survey (Biggins & Taylor 2004), but this feature proved to be a low-lying area of boggy ground and was not archaeological in nature. Trench 48, excavated within the centre of the enclosure, did not reveal any

archaeological features. The evaluation results accord with the 2011 geophysical survey (Tanner 2011), which revealed no anomalies within the enclosure that could be identified as archaeological.

Site 7 (Double Ditches)

two parallel intermittent curvilinear ditches were identified by geophysical survey (Tanner 2011; Glendinning & Neighbour 2011). These ditches are not paralleled closely on the early Ordnance Survey maps, suggesting that they may be of earlier date. Six trenches (Trenches 5, 7, 8, 31, 33 and 40) were positioned to target the ditches. Possible traces of the ditch were revealed in Trenches 8, 33 and 40.

Trench 8 crossed the northernmost of the two ditches. The ditch (**012**) (Fig. 4a) identified at this location was 2.3m wide and 0.6m deep and had sloping sides and a rounded base. The fill of the ditch was slightly orange-brown sandy-silt (**013**), which was indistinguishable from subsoil (**003**). There were no finds from this feature.

Trench 33 revealed only one of the ditches, but it is unclear if it was the inner ditch or the outer ditch. The ditch (**048**) (Fig. 4b) identified at this location was 1.5m wide and 0.6m deep and had steep irregular sloping sides and a sharp almost V-shaped base. The fill of the ditch consisted of a grey-brown sandy-silt (**049**). There were no finds from this feature.

Trench 40 was positioned to target both the linear anomalies. At this location, the inner ditch (**052**) (Fig. 4c and Fig. 8a) was 1.5m wide and 0.9m deep and had a fairly sharp V-shaped profile. This was in contrast with the section of ditch uncovered in Trench 8, which was much broader and had gently sloping sides and a rounded to flat base. The fill of the ditch consisted of orange brown silty sand. There were no finds from the feature.

Where Trench 40 cut the outer ditch (**050**) (Fig. 4d and Fig. 8b), it was very broad and shallow, measuring 2.2m in width by 0.18m in depth, with very gently sloping sides and a flat base. This would indicate either that it had been considerably truncated or that it had only ever been a shallow depression. The fill of the feature was orange-brown sandy silt (**051**). Two sherds of Samian of 2nd century date were recovered from the base of the ditch. Both sections of ditch excavated in Trench 40 had been sealed by subsoil (**003**).

A north to south aligned ditch (**054**), 2.6m by 0.9m deep, was revealed by the excavation of Trench 41. Two fragments of animal bone were recovered from its fill. The ditch appears to be associated with the parallel ditches to its east, perhaps forming the eastern boundary of a field or enclosure to which the track defined by the parallel ditches led.

Site 8 (Possible Roman Road)

The line of the presumed Roman road is shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map curving in a north-westerly direction from the A596 towards the south-east entrance to Maryport Roman fort. An anomaly along the same alignment was

identified by geophysical survey (Tanner 2011). The HER records that this road had a further spur curving to the west towards the entrance of the possible Romano-British farmstead (Site 3), but no evidence of this was found by the 2011 geophysical survey (Tanner 2011). The line of the presumed road is visible on the surface as a hollow way ascending the hillside. The hollow becomes less pronounced as it ascends the hill and disappears at the northern edge of the evaluation area, where there is a steep side slope dropping down from north-east to south-west (Fig. 2e). After traversing the steep side slope, the line of the road drops down into a broad natural depression in the hillside (Fig. 2e).

Four trenches (Trenches 19, 49, 50 and 52) were excavated across the line of the possible Roman road and one trench (Trench 29) was excavated across the possible spur. Gravel deposits **025** (Fig. 9b), **075** (Fig. 5b and Fig. 9a) and **076** (Fig. 5a) were identified in Trenches 19, 49 and 50 (Fig. 2f) respectively, but these had the appearance of being loose natural deposits rather than forming part of a road surface. The deposits were between 3.2m and 4.5m wide and between 0.1m and 0.15m deep. In each trench, the deposits were encountered at the lowest point of a gully or depression and it is considered probable that the gravel deposits were formed as a result of water action rather than being the remains of a road. This hypothesis is strengthened when the abrupt dogleg that would be required to link the deposits in Trenches 19 and 49 is taken into account. There were no other features that gave any indication that a Roman road had once been present here.

Roman Cremation Cemetery

Trial trenching led to the identification of a Roman period cremation cemetery (Fig. 6) situated on a low flat-topped knoll close to the line of the presumed Roman road. The cremation cemetery was initially identified in Trench 19 with the discovery of a shallow pit (**022**) containing a few sherds of Roman pottery of 3rd century date and fragments of cremated bone. The pit was 0.5m in diameter and 0.1m deep.

Two further trenches (Trenches 49 and 52) were excavated to determine the full extent of this site. This led to the discovery of a further nine possible cremations (**064/065**, **066**, **067**, **068**, **069**, **070**, **071**, **072** and **073**) and the base of an upright stone (**074**), which was possibly a marker stone. One of the cremations (**064/065**) (Fig. 10a and Fig. 10b) was excavated. It consisted of two ceramic vessels, both BB1 jars of mid 3rd-century or later date, one of which contained cremated bone. A cut for the insertion of these vessels was not identified, possibly indicating that it had been back-filled straight away. Most of the remaining cremations (**066–072**), consisted of dark patches in the subsoil (**003**) measuring up to 0.7m by 0.3m with evidence of cremated bone and pottery on the surface. One (**073**) consisted of the base of an upturned pottery vessel. These features were left *in situ*.

Medieval and post-medieval remains

Traces of ridge and furrow cultivation of probable medieval and post-medieval date (Sites 11 and 12) were identified in Trenches 2, 4, 6, 7, 22 and 23.

Geophysical anomalies (Site 5) (Tanner 2011) were interpreted as a probable enclosed plantation shown on the Ordnance Survey First edition map (1866). Trenches 16, 24,

25 and 51 were excavated to explore this site. Tree bole holes were revealed in Trenches 24 and 51, confirming the site as the traces of an enclosed plantation.

19th and 20th century features

Seven sites identified by the geophysics (Tanner 2011) and desk-based survey (Glendinning & Neighbour 2011) are interpreted as relating to woodland plantations identified from the 1866 and 1901 Ordnance Survey coverage:

- Sites 1 and 2, which survive as upstanding banks and associated ditches, were identified by trial trenching (Trenches 45, 46 and 47).
- Traces of tree roots and a possible perimeter ditch were discovered (Trenches 17 and 36) that related to Site 13. A natural linear depression that ran northwards from the plantation was revealed in Trenches 38 and 39.
- Tree bole holes were discovered in Trenches 24 and 51 that related to the plantation at Site 5; no trace of a boundary to this plantation (Site 20) was revealed.
- No trace of Sites 17 (Trenches 31 and 32) was revealed by trial trenching.
- Site 9 was not investigated by trial trenching.

No trace of the field boundaries (Sites 15 and 19) were revealed by trial trenching (Trenches 18, 22, 23, 35 and 46). A ditch relating to a third field boundary (Site 16) was revealed in Trench 5.

The remains of a water management system (Site 6) were revealed in Trenches 27 and 28.

Cat scanning prior to excavation of Trench 30 identified that Site 18 was an underground electrical cable running from an electrical pole to a substation at Netherhall School.

No trace was revealed of the 'Stone' (Site 4) recorded on 1866 Ordnance Survey map or of a broad linear geophysical anomaly (Site 14; Trenches 41 and 44).

Borrow pits, excavated within areas of good quality sand were revealed in Trenches 30 and 32. They are suspected to be of late 20th century date.

3.3 Trench Descriptions

Trench 1 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to investigate an apparently blank area between the geophysical anomalies and to give good spatial coverage of the proposed development area. The deposits revealed were 0.3m of topsoil (**001**), which overlay 0.2m of subsoil (**003**), which in turn overlay reddish-brown sandy-gravel natural (**002**). No archaeological features were identified within this trench. All finds were from topsoil and were of recent date (see Appendix 5).

Trench 2 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to investigate an apparently blank area between the geophysical anomalies and to give good spatial coverage of the proposed development area. 0.25m of topsoil (**001**) overlay reddish brown sandy-gravel natural (**002**). A shallow NW to SE aligned linear feature (**004**), 1.1m wide by 0.1m deep,

was revealed. Its fill (**005**) was mid grey-brown silt of the same colour and consistency as the topsoil. It is considered likely that this feature represents the vestigial traces of ridge and furrow cultivation which can be seen on the geophysics grey scale plot (Fig. 2c) and the interpretation plan (Fig. 2d).

Trench 3 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly. 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) overlay reddish-brown sandy-gravel (**002**). No features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance were revealed.

Trench 4 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to investigate an apparently blank area between the geophysical anomalies and to give good spatial coverage of the proposed development area. The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) overlying reddish-brown sandy-gravel natural (**002**). There were no archaeological features identified within this trench.

Trench 5 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target two geophysical anomalies (Sites 7 and 16). Site 16 corresponds with the location of a field boundary depicted on the Ordnance Survey first edition map (1866), but Site 7 was shown on the early Ordnance Survey maps, suggesting that it may be of earlier date. The deposits consisted of 0.4m of topsoil (**001**) overlying reddish-brown sandy gravel natural (**002**). One north to south aligned linear feature (**006**) measuring 2.3m wide by 0.33m deep was identified at the location of Site 16. The ditch (**006**) supports the interpretation of the geophysical anomaly as a field boundary. No features were revealed at the location of the geophysical anomalies for Site 7 which accords with the 2011 geophysics results (Tanner 2011).

Trench 6 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to investigate a largely blank area between the geophysical anomalies and to give good spatial coverage of the proposed development area. The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) overlying reddish brown sandy-gravel natural (**002**). A shallow NW to SE aligned linear feature (**008**), 1m wide by 0.1m deep, was identified. Its fill (**009**) was mid grey-brown silt of the same colour and consistency as the topsoil. It is considered likely that this feature represents the vestigial traces of ridge and furrow cultivation which can be seen on the geophysics grey scale plot (Fig. 2c) and the interpretation plan (Fig. 2d).

Trench 7 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 7). The deposits consisted of c. 0.3m topsoil (**001**) at the northern end, deepening to 0.3m of topsoil over 0.8m of subsoil (**003**) at the southern end. One shallow NW to SE aligned linear feature (**010**), 0.9m wide by 0.1m deep, was identified. Its fill (**011**) was mid grey-brown silt of the same colour and consistency as the topsoil. It is considered likely that this feature represents the vestigial traces of ridge and furrow cultivation which can be seen on the interpretation plan (Fig. 2d). No features were revealed at the location of the geophysical anomalies.

Trench 8 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 7). The deposits consisted of up to 0.3m topsoil (**001**) at the northern end, deepening to 0.3m of topsoil over 0.8m of subsoil (**003**) at the southern end. One east to west aligned linear feature (**012**), 2.3m by 0.6m deep, corresponding to the position of the northernmost ditch of Site 7 was identified. Its fill (**013**) was orange-brown sandy-silt.

Trench 9 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 13), which corresponds to the location of a plantation boundary depicted on the Ordnance Survey First Edition map (1866). The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (001) overlying orange-brown sandy clay natural (002). No evidence relating to Site 13 was identified, and there were no other features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance.

Trench 10 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 3), which was thought to be a ditch-defined Romano-British enclosure. The deposits consisted of 0.3m topsoil (001) and 0.3m of subsoil (003) over reddish-brown sandy-clay natural (002). A SW to NE aligned ditch (015) was discovered that corresponded to the location of the anomaly identified by geophysical survey.

Trench 11 (25m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a circular geophysical anomaly within the interior of Site 3, which had been interpreted as a possible roundhouse (Biggins & Taylor 2004). The deposits within the location of the circular anomaly consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (001) and 0.4m of subsoil (003) overlying an area of wet grey clay natural (002), whereas the deposits immediately to the north and south of the circular anomaly consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (001) and 0.2m of subsoil (003) overlying reddish-brown sandy clay natural (002). Consequently, it was concluded that the circular anomaly was a response to a localised wetter area of natural and not a feature or deposit of archaeological significance.

Trench 12 (25m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 3) which was thought to be a ditch-defined Romano-British enclosure. The deposits consisted of 0.3m topsoil (001) and 0.2m subsoil (003) over reddish-brown sandy-clay natural (002). One roughly north to south aligned ditch was discovered that corresponded to the location of the anomaly identified by geophysical survey. The ditch was c.2.5m wide, but was not excavated.

Trench 13 (25m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 3) which was thought to be a ditch-defined Romano-British enclosure. The deposits consisted of 0.6m topsoil (001) and 0.2m of subsoil (003) over reddish-brown sandy-clay (002). An east to west aligned ditch (018) was discovered that corresponded to the location of the anomaly identified by geophysical survey.

Trench 14 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to the east of the Romano-British enclosure (Site 3). The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (001) and 0.2m of subsoil (003) overlying reddish-brown sandy-gravel natural (002). No archaeological features were identified.

Trench 15 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to investigate an apparently blank area between the geophysical anomalies and to give good spatial coverage of the proposed development area. The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (001) overlying reddish-brown sandy-clay natural (002). No archaeological features were identified.

Trench 16 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to a blank area. The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (001) overlying reddish-brown sandy-clay natural (002). No archaeological features were identified.

Trench 17 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 13), which corresponds to the location of a plantation boundary depicted on the Ordnance Survey First Edition map (1866). The deposits within this trench consisted of 0.5m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.1m of subsoil (**003**) overlying orange-brown sandy clay natural (**002**). Evidence of decayed tree roots was identified, but there were no features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance. The presence of decayed tree roots supports the interpretation of this anomaly as part of a plantation.

Trench 18 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target part of a collection of less intensive or defuse linear anomalies. The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.3m of subsoil (**003**) overlying reddish-brown sandy-clay natural (**002**). No archaeological features were identified. An unstratified copper alloy disc was discovered.

Trench 19 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target the line of the possible Roman road (Site 8). The deposits consisted of 0.4m of topsoil (**001**) overlying reddish-brown sandy-clay natural (**002**). An area of gravel (**025**) roughly corresponding to the assumed line of the Roman road and a cremation burial (**022**) were identified. A SW to NE aligned linear feature (**026**), 0.8m wide by 0.3m deep, was also identified. This feature corresponds with a field boundary depicted on the Ordnance Survey First Edition map (1866).

Trench 20 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 20), which corresponds to the location of a plantation boundary depicted on the Ordnance Survey First Edition map (1866). The deposits consisted of 0.4m of topsoil (**001**) overlying orange-brown sandy clay natural (**002**). No features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance were identified.

Trench 21 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to investigate an apparently blank area between the geophysical anomalies and to give good spatial coverage of the proposed development area. The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) overlying reddish-brown sandy-clay natural (**002**). No archaeological features were identified. Three small fragments of ceramic building material, possibly Roman, were unstratified finds.

Trench 22 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target part of a collection of less intensive or defuse linear anomalies. The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.1m of subsoil (**003**) overlying reddish-brown sandy-clay natural (**002**). One north-west to south-east aligned linear feature (**032**) was identified that coincided with one of the geophysical anomalies. This feature, which was 0.8m wide by 0.2m deep, is likely to be the remains of ridge and furrow cultivation that can be seen in the grey scale geophysics plot (Fig. 2c).

Trench 23 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target part of a collection of less intensive or defuse linear anomalies and a blank area. The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.1m of subsoil (**003**) overlying reddish-brown sandy-clay natural (**002**). Two linear features (**028** and **030**) were identified. One (**028**) was 0.95m wide by 0.28m deep. The other (**030**) was 2m wide by 0.44m deep and is co-linear with Site 16 and may be a continuation of it. These features are likely to be the remains of ridge and furrow cultivation that can be seen in the grey scale geophysics plots (Fig. 2c) and the interpretation plan (Fig. 2d).

Trench 24 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target geophysical anomalies (Site 5), which were interpreted as a probable enclosed plantation shown on the Ordnance Survey First Edition map (1866) (Glendinning & Neighbour 2011). The deposits consisted of 0.5m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.2m of subsoil (**003**) overlying orange-brown sandy clay natural (**002**). Trial trenching identified numerous irregular dark patches of soil containing the remains of tree roots; the results of the trial trenching confirm the interpretation in Glendinning & Neighbour (2011).

Trench 25 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target geophysical anomalies (Site 5), which were interpreted as a probable enclosed plantation shown on the Ordnance Survey First Edition map (1866) (Glendinning & Neighbour 2011). The deposits consisted of 0.5m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.2m of subsoil (**003**) overlying orange-brown sandy clay natural (**002**). Trial trenching did not identify any archaeological features.

Trench 26 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target geophysical anomalies (Site 5), which were interpreted as a probable enclosed plantation shown on the Ordnance Survey First Edition map (1866) (Glendinning & Neighbour 2011). The deposits consisted of 0.4m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.2m of subsoil (**003**) overlying orange-brown sandy clay natural (**002**). Trial trenching did not identify any archaeological features. No structural features were encountered.

Trench 27 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 6), which corresponded with the location of a water channel depicted on the Ordnance Survey Edition of 1925. The deposits consisted of 0.25m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.15m of subsoil (**003**), deepening to 0.4m of topsoil and 0.6m of subsoil directly over the location of the watercourse. There was no evidence of a cut for the watercourse, indicating that it ran down a natural depression in the hillside. The deeper deposits across the line of the watercourse are likely to relate to an episode of landscaping carried out during the 1950s, when a number of the deeper depressions were infilled using a bulldozer.

Trench 28 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 6), which corresponded with the location of a water channel depicted on the Ordnance Survey Edition of 1925. The deposits consisted of 0.2m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.1m of subsoil (**003**), deepening to 0.5m of topsoil and 1m of made ground directly over the watercourse. One north to south aligned linear feature (**034**), 3m wide by 0.24m deep, is probably the remains of ridge and furrow cultivation that can be seen in the grey scale geophysics plots (Fig. 2c). A natural depression filled with a black buried soil (**036**), 3.4m wide by 0.3m deep, was revealed. This deposit is likely to represent silting within a watercourse (site 6). No evidence of a cut was identified, indicating that the watercourse ran down a natural depression within the hillside.

Trench 29 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned over the location a feature described in the HER as a possible spur off the possible Roman road (Site 8) leading to the Romano-British enclosure (Site 3). The deposits consisted of 0.2m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.1m of subsoil (**003**) overlying orange-brown sandy clay natural (**002**). No archaeological features were identified.

Trench 30 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 18). The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.3m of subsoil (**003**) overlying orange-brown sand natural (**002**). Cat scanning prior to excavation identified that Site 18 was an underground electrical cable running from an electrical pole to a substation at Netherhall School. Trial trenching identified a large shallow pit (**037**) measuring 4m wide by 0.38m deep. This pit had been excavated into an area of good quality sand and is likely to represent a borrow pit for sand quarrying.

Trench 31 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a cluster of geophysical anomalies including elements of Site 7 and Site 17. Site 17 corresponds with the position of a field boundary marked on the Ordnance Survey map of 1901 and Site 7 has been previously interpreted as a pair of parallel ditches. The deposits consisted of up to 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.8m of subsoil (**003**) overlying orange-brown sandy-clay natural (**002**). One north to south aligned linear feature (**042**), 1.7m wide by 0.48m deep, was identified, which maybe a continuation of the watercourse (Site 6) revealed in Trenches 27 and 28, or may be related to Site 7. No features correlating with Site 17 were identified. Finds were all of recent date and included pottery and glass.

Trench 32 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 17). The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.3m of subsoil (**003**) overlying orange-brown sand natural (**002**). Trial trenching identified a large shallow pit (**039**) measuring c.3m by 1.8m by 0.38m deep. This pit had been excavated into an area of good quality sand and is likely to be a recent borrow pit for sand quarrying. No features correlating with Site 17 were identified.

Trench 33 (20m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 7). The deposits consisted of 0.4m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.3m of subsoil (**003**) overlying orange-brown sandy clay natural (**002**). Trial trenching identified a linear feature (**048**) roughly corresponding with the location of Site 7.

Trench 34 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to investigate an apparently blank area between the geophysical anomalies and hence to give good spatial coverage of the proposed development area. The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.9m of subsoil (**003**) overlying reddish-brown sandy-gravel natural and bedrock (**002**). No archaeological features were identified and the unstratified finds that were recovered were all recent.

Trench 35 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target an irregular geophysical anomaly (Site 15). The deposits consisted of 0.2m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.3m of subsoil (**003**) overlying reddish-brown sandy-clay natural (**002**). No archaeological features were identified.

Trench 36 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 15), which corresponds to the location of a plantation depicted on the Ordnance Survey First Edition map (1866). The deposits consisted of 0.2m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.2m of subsoil (**003**) overlying orange-brown sandy clay natural (**002**). A south-west to north-east aligned linear feature (**044**) corresponding to the location of the boundary of Site 13 was identified. This feature measured 1.4m wide by 0.5m deep and had sloping sides and a flat base.

Trench 37 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to investigate an apparently blank area between the geophysical anomalies and to give good spatial coverage of the proposed development area. The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.2m of subsoil (**003**) overlying reddish-brown sandy-clay natural (**002**). A shallow SW to NE aligned linear feature (**046**), 1.6m wide by 0.4m deep, was identified within this trench. This feature may be the remains of a field boundary and is likely to be a continuation of the feature (**062**) recorded in Trench 47.

Trench 38 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a linear anomaly to the north of Site 13, which was interpreted as a possible trackway (Glendinning & Neighbour 2011). The deposits generally consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.2m of subsoil (**003**) overlying reddish-brown sandy-clay natural (**002**). However, where the trench crossed the linear anomaly, a deep geological depression was revealed, filled with 2m of mixed sandy silt and 0.2m of dark silt. This geological depression was probably filled when landscaping works were carried out during the 1950s. The geophysical anomaly was therefore caused by the deep deposit of soil at this location.

Trench 39 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target the line of the same linear geophysical anomaly to the north of Site 13 as Trench 38. The deposits generally consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.4m of subsoil (**003**) overlying reddish-brown sandy-clay natural (**002**). However, where the trench crossed the linear anomaly, a geological depression was revealed, filled with 1.3m of mixed sandy silt. This geological depression was probably filled when landscaping works were carried out during the 1950s. The geophysical anomaly was therefore caused by the deep deposit of soil at this location.

Trench 40 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 7). The deposits consisted of 0.3m topsoil at the northern end, deepening to 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) over 1m of subsoil (**003**) at the southern end. Two east to west aligned ditches (**050** and **052**) corresponding to the position of Site 7 were identified.

Trench 41 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a broad, diffuse geophysical anomaly (Site 14) and a curvilinear anomaly at the end of Site 7. The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.2m of subsoil (**003**) over orange-brown sandy-clay natural (**002**). A north to south aligned ditch (**054**), 2.6m by 0.9m deep, corresponding to the position of the anomaly to the south-east of Site 14 was identified. This feature contained two fragments of animal bone and may be associated with the parallel ditches to its east (Site 7). Site 14 was not identified.

Trench 42 (50m by 1.8m) was one of a number of trenches positioned to fill in the blank areas between the geophysical anomalies and to give good spatial coverage throughout the proposed development area. The deposits consisted of 0.2m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.2m of subsoil (**003**) overlying reddish-brown sandy-clay natural (**002**). No archaeological features were identified.

Trench 43 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target an irregular geophysical anomaly. The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.3m of subsoil (**003**) overlying reddish-brown sandy-clay natural (**002**). No archaeological features were identified.

Trench 44 (20m by 1.8m) was positioned to target the location of a linear geophysical anomaly (Site 14). The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (001) and 0.2m of subsoil (003) over orange-brown sandy-clay natural (002). There were no archaeological features.

Trench 45 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 1), which corresponds to the location of a plantation boundary depicted on the Ordnance Survey First Edition map (1866). This site was visible on the surface as a curving ditch and the vestigial traces of a bank. The deposits within this trench consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (001) and 0.3m of subsoil (003) overlying orange-brown sandy clay natural (002). Trial excavation recorded a ditch (057) measuring 1.1m wide and 0.34m deep. The bank did not survive where this feature was cut by the trial trench.

Trench 46 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 2), which corresponds to the location of a plantation bank depicted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1901. This site was visible on the surface as a curving bank and ditch. The deposits within this trench consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (001) and 0.3m of subsoil (003) overlying orange-brown sandy clay natural (002). Trial trenching identified that the bank measured 3.1m wide by 0.2m high. The ditch measured c.2m in width, but was not excavated.

Trench 47 (50m by 1.8m) was positioned to target a geophysical anomaly (Site 2), which corresponds to the location of a plantation bank depicted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1901. This site was visible on the surface as a curving bank (061) and ditch (059). The deposits within this trench consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (001) and 0.3m of subsoil (003) overlying orange-brown sandy clay natural (002). Trial excavation recorded a ditch measuring 2.3m wide and 0.6m deep, with an internal bank measuring 3.5m wide by 0.6m high. A SW to NE aligned linear feature (062), 1.5m wide by 0.26m deep, was also revealed. This feature is likely to be a continuation of the linear feature (046) in Trench 37 and a continuation of Site 19.

Trench 48 (7m by 7m) was additional to the original trench layout and was positioned to target the centre of the possible Romano-British enclosure (Site 3). The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (001) and 0.3m of subsoil (003) overlying orange-brown sandy-clay natural (002). No archaeological features were identified.

Trench 49 (30m by 1.8m) was additional to the original trench layout and was positioned both to target the line of the possible Roman road (Site 8) and to determine the extent of the cremation cemetery originally identified within Trench 19. The deposits generally consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (001) and 0.3m of subsoil (003) overlying orange-brown sandy-clay natural (002). A number of additional cremation burials were identified within this trench, and where the trench crossed the line of the possible Roman road, an area of gravel (075) measuring 4.5m wide by 0.1m deep was identified. A NW to SE aligned linear feature (077), 3.5m wide by 1.25m deep, was also uncovered. Its position correlates with an inlet drain feeding a water tank (Site 6) depicted on the Ordnance Survey Edition of 1925. Sherds of 19th/20th-century pottery were recovered from its fill.

Trench 50 (40m by 1.8m) was additional to the original trench layout and was positioned to target the line of the Roman road (Site 8). The deposits consisted of

0.3m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.3m of subsoil (**003**) overlying orange-brown sandy clay natural (**002**). An area of gravel (**076**), 4m wide by 0.1m deep, was identified towards the centre of the trench, but there was no clear evidence of a Roman road.

Trench 51 (7m by 7m) was additional to the original trench layout and was positioned to target geophysical anomalies (Site 5) which were interpreted as a probable enclosed plantation shown on the Ordnance Survey First edition map (1866) (Glendinning & Neighbour 2011). The deposits consisted of 0.3m (**001**) of topsoil and 0.5m of subsoil (**003**) overlying orange-brown sandy-clay natural (**002**). Slight traces of tree boles were visible within the subsoil; traces of the enclosed plantation shown on the Ordnance Survey First edition map.

Trench 52 (25m by 1.8m) was additional to the original trench layout and was positioned both to target the line of the Roman road (Site 8) and to determine the extent of the cremation cemetery. The deposits consisted of 0.3m of topsoil (**001**) and 0.3m of subsoil (**003**) overlying orange-brown sandy clay natural (**002**). No evidence of the Roman road was identified and there were no cremation burials within this trench.

4 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS

by Sue Anderson, Alex Croom, Mhairi Hastie and Mike Cressey

4.1 Introduction

Table 1 shows the quantities of finds recovered (including material from samples), and a full list by context is presented as Appendix 5.

Find type	No.	Wt (g)
Pot	192	1904
CBM	7	43
Fired clay	3	9
Clay pipe	3	5.8
Flint	2	2
Glass	3	288.3
Iron	48	127
Copper alloy	8	74.1
Lead	1	10.1
Bone	4	26
Cremated human bone	-	659
Coal	1	5.4
Shell	1	64.4

Table 1. Finds quantities.

4.2 Flint

Two flints were recovered. One was abraded and heavily patinated and is likely to be natural gravel (U/S Tr. 2). The other was a tiny flake recovered during sample processing (**027**).

Assessment of potential

This material is undiagnostic and has no potential for research unless further lithic artefact assemblages are recovered during future fieldwork.

4.3 Roman pottery

The site produced 178 sherds of Roman pottery weighing 1.724kg. The assemblage consisted of sizeable parts of three vessels from two cremations that date to the 3rd century. There was very little pottery recovered from the other features. Only three sherds were unstratified.

Samian

There were three sherds of samian; one scrap, and two sherds from a single Form 33 cup.

Fine and coarse wares

The vessels from the cremation (**064/065**) were both BB1SED (black burnished ware fabric 1 from south-east Dorset). The profile of the cremation vessel (**065**) can be reconstructed up to the rim. It has obtuse angle lattice with a groove above and dates to the mid 3rd century or later. The accessory vessel (**064**) has similar decoration and is of a similar date. There is only a very small part of the rim surviving.

The vessel from cremation pit (**022**) is a bead-rimmed beaker with barbotine decoration from Central Gaul, dating to the 3rd century.

There are sherds from two vessels from the enclosure (**016, 020**) and from one vessel from the double ditch feature (**051**).

Mortaria

There is a single vessel, represented by a rim sherd, of a locally produced Raetian mortarium.

Discussion

The material from the enclosure ditch and the double ditch is earlier in date than the material from the cremations, but the assemblage is very small and may not be representative.

The cremation pots are typical of the vessels to be found in northern cemeteries in the 3rd century. Similar BB1 pots were in use at the Beckfoot cemetery further up the coast. Some research is required on the beaker in order to narrow down the dating.

Recommendations

The pottery requires a fully quantified ceramic archive catalogue (as defined by the Study Group for Roman Pottery guidelines: Darling 1999). This should comprise a

detailed description of the various fabrics and forms, and their quantification by weight, sherd count and EVE (estimated vessel equivalents). For spot dating see Appendix 5. It is recommended that all the Roman pottery should be kept.

It is our recommendation that a brief publication report is produced for the vessels from the cremations. Three vessels would require illustration.

The material from the ditches is generally in poor condition, but no conservation work is required. The cremation vessels require gluing to provide complete profiles for illustration, but are otherwise in better condition than the ditches material.

4.4 Roman glass

A small shard of burnt blue glass is likely to be of Roman date. It was recovered from cremation burial (065).

Assessment of potential

Further work is required to identify the type of vessel and possible date. However, the single shard itself would provide little information on the use of glass at this site and further work is limited in potential unless more glass is recovered.

4.5 Roman ceramic building material

Small fragments of abraded CBM were recovered, the majority unstratified (U/S). These were in soft, fine fabrics which are likely to be Roman tiles. Three fragments of fired clay, possibly daub, were collected with one cremation burial (065).

Assessment of potential

No further work is required on this material, unless a larger assemblage is recovered from further excavation.

4.6 Roman metalwork

Forty-seven iron objects and five copper alloy fragments were from one cremation burial (064/065). Most of the iron objects were nails or hobnails, although some larger fragments may be the remains of fittings or tools. The copper alloy fragments included at least two studs with sheet heads.

Assessment of potential

This material has potential to provide information on any pyre goods which were included during the cremation ceremony. The assemblage requires x-rays to provide a record and to enable identification of the objects, particularly those which may be fittings or tools. The material will then require full specialist analysis.

4.7 Cremated bone

Cremated bone was recovered from three contexts (**023**, **064** and **065**). The burials were sampled and some material was lifted with one of the cremation vessels. The samples were wet-sieved to extract the bone and other artefacts. The bone was assessed by rapid scanning and the remains were quantified by weight only.

Context **023**, from cremation pit **022**, produced only 15g of bone, made up of very small fragments. Initial assessment suggests that **023** may be the remains of a ?human juvenile, but clearly the quantity of bone is very small and this deposit does not represent the complete remains of an individual.

Contexts **064** and **065** represent a single burial with two pottery vessels. A total of 644g of well-preserved bone was recovered from sieving and as bulk finds. The remains were those of a human adult, but again the weight was low for a complete body. It is common for the weight of a Roman cremation burial to be relatively low in comparison with the expected weight for a complete adult burial, however. No indicators of age or sex were seen during the rapid scan, but there is potential for more detail on these aspects, and for other observations such as dental or pathological features to be recorded during full analysis.

Assessment of potential

There is potential for full analysis to provide further information on the two individuals recovered from these burials. This potential would be greatly enhanced if further work were to be carried out which resulted in a greater proportion of the population being recovered for analysis.

4.8 Post-medieval and modern finds

Fourteen sherds of pottery were of post-medieval or modern date, including refined white factory-made whitewares, black-glazed redwares, glazed red earthenware and yellow ware.

Miscellaneous post-medieval or modern finds included an uncoloured glass vessel/bottle shard (U/S Trench 31), a complete rectangular bottle (001 Trench 1), clay pipe stems (**033** and U/S Trench 46), a lead strip (U/S Trench 46), a hemispherical copper pan or bowl (001 Trench 1), a possible jetton (U/S Trench 18) and a piece of burnt coal (U/S Trench 34).

Although intrinsically undateable, it is likely that the complete oyster shell (U/S Trench 34) and the large mammal vertebra fragments (ditch fill **055**) are of post-medieval date.

Assessment of potential

This material is largely unstratified or from topsoil contexts, with the exception of a clay pipe stem from ditch fill **033**. As such, no further work is recommended on this assemblage.

4.9 Industrial debris

Tiny quantities of slag were recovered from seven samples collected from gravel deposit 025 and linear features 026, 037, 044, 046, 050 and 054. All fragments totalled less than 1g per context, and this material is undiagnostic for the processes involved or for date.

‘Slaggy’ material was also recovered in small quantities from the samples associated with the cremation burials 064/065. Again the fragments were tiny and they could be residual in the contexts, but it is more likely that they represent by-products of the cremation process. This type of material is commonly found in cremated bone deposits.

Assessment of potential

No further work is required on this material.

4.10 Environmental Samples

Methodology

Twenty-one bulk soil samples, all 10 litres in volume, were taken during the archaeological evaluation. Each soil sample was processed through a system of flotation and wet sieving. The floating debris (flot) was collected in a 250 μ m sieve and, once dry, scanned using a low-powered microscope. The material remaining in the flotation tank (retent) was wet-sieved through a 1mm mesh and air dried. The flots were scanned using a binocular microscope to assess the preservation of carbonised plant remains. The retents were sorted to identify any archaeological significant material or small finds. Results are summarised in Appendix 6 Tables A1 and A2; the findings are expressed quantitatively using the following criteria: + = rare, ++ = occasional, +++ = common and ++++ = abundant.

Results

Carbonised plant remains including wood charcoal, heather charcoal, cereal grain, weed seeds, chaff fragments, hazelnut shell and grape pips were recovered from a variety of samples.

- The bulk of the cereal remains were recovered from one sample taken from the upper fill of a ditch (**018**). Cereal grains, including wheat and barley, were present along with a high concentration of free-threshing wheat spiklet forks and glume bases probably from spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*).
- Small fragments of charred hazelnut shell were present in the fills of two cremation vessels (**064/065**), along with a small number of carbonised grape pips (*Vitis vinifera*) which were recovered from one of the cremation vessels (**064**).
- Wood charcoal was present in the bulk of the samples albeit in small quantities, only one sample taken from the fill of a cremation (**023**) contained large quantities of charcoal.

- Fragments of burnt heather twigs were recovered from two samples: the upper fill of a ditch (**018**) along with a large concentration of chaff remains; and within the fill of a linear feature (**050**).

Discussion

The samples contained a large variety of material, including domestic debris (small pottery sherds, glass, and small fragments of worked metal); industrial debris (such as slag); small amounts of building material (including fired clay); carbonised plant material (with charred cereals grain, hazelnut shell and more exotic material such as grape pips); and large quantities of cremated bone (recovered from three cremation burials). The mix of domestic and industrial debris recovered would be consistent with a settlement site and indicates that many different activities were being carried out on or near to the excavated areas.

The bulk of the material was recovered from the fill of two cremation vessels recovered within the same cremation pit (**064/065**).

The upper fill of ditch (**018**) stood out due to the concentration of charred cereal remains particularly chaff fragments. The high concentration of cereal chaff recovered from this sample potentially suggests that it could be cereal processing waste produced during the threshing and winnowing stages; however its presence in the upper fill means that it is unlikely to be connected with the working life of the enclosure.

Of interest is the recovery of a number of charred grape pips from the fill of one of the cremation burials (**064**). The fruit pips were present along with a large quantity of wood charcoal, probably pyre debris. Grapes would have been an imported delicacy in Roman Britain. The presence of charred fruit pips associated with the cremation suggests that they may have been given as an offering during the cremation ceremony. Other examples of burnt food offerings, including fruit pips and stones, lentils, bread remains and cereals have all been recovered from cremation burials, for example from France (Bouby & Marinval 2004), and within secondary pyre deposits in Belgium (Cooremans 2007).

Recommendations

Detailed analysis of the charcoal (pyre deposits) recovered from cremation pit 023 (Sample 7) to determine the overall species composition of the types of wood collected for the cremation.

Full identification and quantification of the carbonised plant remains recovered from the samples, particularly the large assemblage of plant remains recovered from the fill of ditch (**018**) and the cremation (**022**).

4.11 Soil assessment for pollen

Most of the features that were revealed by the evaluation were shallow. Such features are not suitable to provide samples for pollen analysis, since desiccation is likely to

have caused pollen not to have survived; certainly none of the archeologically significant deposits that were revealed were sufficiently moist.

Only the Romano British enclosure ditch (**015** and **018**) is of sufficient depth to promote moist conditions to enable the preservation of pollen. The primary fills of the ditch were homogenous sandy silt clay at the subsoil/fill interface; a qualitative inspection of a grab sample from the base of the ditch suggests that it would be suitable for preserving pollen grains.

Potential for future pollen analysis

Pollen grains do not survive well where soils have a moderately high sand content, since sand is detrimental to the survival of pollen. Combined pollen and thin-section analysis on organically rich lenses or putative old ground surfaces would be appropriate where these are encountered in the ditch fill. Paradoxically, basal ditch fills by their nature tend to concentrate pollen towards the subsoil/fill interface and such areas will preserve pollen in sufficient quantities (optimum >300 grains of total land pollen (TLP) to be statistically viable). The pollen spectrum from the ditch of the Romano-British enclosure is likely to represent local slope-derived soil pollen as a result of erosion; the local vegetation surrounding the feature; and the wider 'regional' pollen spectrum.

Charcoal analysis would provide a more reliable insight into the local tree cover that was exploited close to the site.

Recommendations

An appropriate sampling regime should be carried out on any future excavation of the Romano-British enclosure. A programme of soil pollen analysis should be undertaken to complement thin section work. Pilot samples for skeletal pollen analysis to establish presence or absence should be carried out before recommending more detailed work. This work should be carried out where discrete organic layers survive, such as suspected buried turf horizons.

5. DISCUSSION

An archaeological trial-trenching evaluation was carried out on land off Netherhall Road, Maryport. The trial trenches were positioned to target a series of features identified by desk-based assessment (Glendinning & Neighbour 2011) and geophysical survey (Tanner 2011) and to provide good spatial coverage throughout the proposed development area whilst also testing blank areas on the geophysics..

Roman Remains

Roman pottery of 2nd century and 2nd/3rd century date was recovered from a probable Romano-British enclosure (Site 3) and pottery of 2nd century date was recovered from two parallel ditches (Site 7). The sherd from the parallel ditches is probably not taphonomically secure enough to indicate a date of formation or use for these features; in an area such as Maryport residual artefacts of Roman date could be

expected to turn up both in topsoil and within the backfills of post-Roman features. Contrastingly, the enclosure seems almost certain to be of Romano-British origins, based upon the exclusively Roman date finds, which pre-date the third century BC, and by comparison with other sites of similar morphology in the wider area (Bewley 1994). At 3600m² (60m by 60m), this site falls between Bewley's Sub-Group 13 (2900–3400m²) and Sub Group 14 (3850–4140 m²) of square and sub-square enclosures. Bewley (1994, 27) records five sites within Sub Group 13 and a further five sites within Sub Group 14. Morphologically, the enclosure at Netherhall Road bears the greatest similarity to Site 5531 (Bewley 1994, 42), which Bewley (*ibid*, 33) suggests is morphologically similar to the smaller Romano-British sites in sub-Groups 11 and 12 and may be part of a hierarchy of farm sites. A farm site within this location may have served the Roman fort of 'Alavna' located c.250m to the north and Site 7 may represent the limit of the *Vicus*. However, there was no evidence of Roman period field boundaries of the type that have been found elsewhere in Cumbria (eg Masser & Evans 2005; Mitchell forthcoming).

Trial trenches that were excavated across the line of the presumed Roman road (Site 8) proposed on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map (Fig 2b) produced no clear evidence of a metalled surface within the hollow-way (clearly visible on the contour plot; Fig 2e). The gravel deposit that was found in Trenches 19, 49 and 50 does not form a convincing Roman road, particularly when the sudden dogleg that would be required to link the deposits in Trenches 19 and 49 is taken into account. Despite the lack of a metalled surface, the proximity to a hitherto unknown Roman cremation cemetery, which was discovered in Trenches 19 and 49, perhaps lends credence to the possibility that a Roman road did once run along the line proposed on the First Edition map. Conversely, however, the cremation cemetery cannot be taken as definitive evidence for an adjacent Roman road, and no independent source has been found that corroborates the First Edition map's labelling (a brief trawl of the readily available antiquarian and historical sources has been carried out by Dr Alastair Ross to attempt to find out where the tradition for the Roman road comes from and to see whether there are any earlier details of the deer park; no relevant sources could be found). It is conceivable that the hollow-way is of medieval or later date, perhaps related to the deer park, and that later tradition has mistakenly classified it as a Roman road because of the nearby fort and the fact that it aims roughly at the south-western entrance to the fort. The sides of the gully within which the road has been hypothesised to run are natural; no artificial banking was observed during trial trenching and there was no sign that the gully was artificially formed. Thus, it is considered that the presumed hollow-way is more likely to be a natural feature and that the gravel at its base is a natural accumulation, rather than a deliberately laid road.

The Roman period cremation cemetery that was discovered in Trenches 19 and 49 on a flat-topped hill immediately to the north-east of the line of the possible Roman road was unknown prior to the evaluation. Analysis of the pottery indicates a 3rd century date for the cremations; possibly a century later than the formation of the Romano-British enclosure.

Later features

A number of medieval and later remains were revealed by the trial trenching programme, including traces of ridge and furrow cultivation which can be seen on the geophysical survey grey scale plot (Fig.3); woodland plantations; field boundaries; and remains related to water management and electricity supply. With the exception of the ridge and furrow cultivation remains and the electricity supply, these appear to relate to features depicted on the Ordnance Survey maps of 1866 and 1901.

6. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The trial trenching evaluation at Netherhall Road has been successful in characterising a suite of remains recorded by geophysical survey and desk-based assessment. One hitherto unknown site was discovered: a Roman age cremation cemetery. With the exception of this site, no other remains were discovered in the apparently blank areas on the geophysical survey plots.

Many of sites that were revealed were known from cartographic sources of 19th and 20th century date and relate to the use of the area as parkland associated with Nether Hall, to the south of the evaluation area. It is doubtful whether further excavation of these sites would add anything to the cartographic evidence and the results from evaluation.

Remains of Roman date comprise a Romano-British enclosure and a cremation cemetery. Excavation of a gully, recorded on the 1866 and 1901 Ordnance Survey maps as a 'Roman road', did not find remains that could conclusively be used to confirm the labelling on that map. Excavation indicated that the gully is best interpreted as a natural feature, although this interpretation does not, of course, rule out its use as a hollow-way. A pair of parallel ditches that define a probable trackway are of uncertain date. Pottery of 2nd century date recovered from the base of one of the ditches is not considered to be taphonomically secure enough to date the ditches; nevertheless, it is not inconceivable that they are of Roman origins, although a medieval or later date is considered more likely. The features summarised in this paragraph would all merit further work, should they fall within the areas proposed for development. One of the sites, the cremation cemetery, should be preserved *in situ*.

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APPENDIX 1: Context Register

Context	Trench	Description
001	All	Topsoil (mid-brown silt)
002	All	Natural subsoil (reddish-brown sandy-clay and sandy gravel)
003	All	Mixed reddish-brown sandy-silt slope-wash subsoil
004	2	Cut of possible ridge and furrow cultivation
005	2	Fill of 004 (mid brown silt similar to topsoil)
006	5	Cut of ditch
007	5	Fill of ditch 006 (mid-brown sandy-silt)
008	6	Cut of possible ridge and furrow cultivation
009	6	Fill of 008 (mid-brown silt similar to topsoil)
010	7	Cut of possible ridge and furrow cultivation
011	7	Fill of 007 (mid-brown silt similar to topsoil)
012	8	Cut of ditch
013	8	Fill of ditch 012 (mixed reddish-brown sandy silt indistinguishable from 003)
014	7	Bedrock
015	10	Cut of large ditch
016	10	Upper fill of ditch 015 (orange-brown sandy-silt)
017	10	Primary fill of ditch 015 (orange-brown sandy-gravel)
018	13	Cut of large enclosure ditch
019	13	Primary fill of ditch 018 (dark-brown sand)
020	13	Upper fill of ditch 018 (brown sand)
021	13	Possible bank material on the inside of ditch 018 (light orange sand)
022	19	Cut for cremation burial
023	19	Fill of cremation pit 022 (dark charcoal layer)
024	19	Sandy deposit underlying gravel 025 along line of possible Roman road (light orange sand)
025	19	Gravel deposit along line of possible Roman road (gravel within matrix of sandy silt)
026	19	Cut of linear feature
027	19	Fill of linear feature 026 (orange-brown sandy silt)
028	23	Cut of linear feature
029	23	Fill of linear feature 028 (dark orange sandy-silt)
030	23	Cut of linear feature
031	23	Fill of linear feature 030 (orange-brown sandy-silt)
032	22	Cut of linear feature
033	22	Fill of linear feature 032 (orange-brown sandy-silt)
034	28	Cut of linear feature
035	28	Fill of linear feature 034 (mid-brown sandy-silt)
036	28	Buried soil within dip in field (dark-brown silty clay)
037	30	Cut of pit
038	30	Fill of pit 037 (orange-brown silty sand)
039	32	Cut of pit
040	32	Fill of pit (orange-brown silty-sand)
041	31	Buried soil within dip in field (dark-brown silty clay)
042	31	Cut of linear feature
043	31	Fill of linear feature 042 (grey-brown sandy-silt with numerous rounded-stones and dark silt lens)
044	36	Cut of linear feature
045	36	Fill of linear feature 044 (mid-brown silt similar to topsoil)
046	37	Cut of linear feature
047	37	Fill of linear feature 046 (orange-brown sandy-silt)
048	33	Cut of linear feature
049	33	Fill of linear feature 048 (orange-brown sandy-silt with a number of rounded and sub-rounded stones)

Context	Trench	Description
050	40	Cut of linear feature
051	40	Fill of linear feature 050 (orange-brown sandy-silt)
052	40	Cut of linear feature
053	40	Fill of linear feature 052 (orange-brown silty-sand)
054	41	Cut of linear feature
055	41	Primary fill of linear 054 (tan sandy-silt)
056	41	Upper fill of linear 054 (dark-brown silt)
057	45	Cut of ditch
058	45	Fill of ditch 057 (mid-brown silt)
059	47	Cut of ditch
060	47	Fill of ditch 059 (mid-brown sandy-silt similar to topsoil)
061	47	Bank material up-cast from ditch 059 (mid-brown silt similar to topsoil)
062	42	Cut of linear feature
063	43	Fill of linear 062 (mixed sand-silt indistinguishable from deposit 003)
064	49	Cremation vessel
065	49	Cremation vessel
066	49	Possible cremation burial (dark charcoal rich deposit with pottery fragments on surface)
067	49	Possible cremation burial (dark charcoal rich deposit with pottery fragments on surface)
068	49	Possible cremation burial (dark charcoal rich deposit with pottery fragments on surface)
069	49	Possible cremation burial (dark charcoal rich deposit with pottery fragments on surface)
070	49	Possible cremation burial (dark charcoal rich deposit with pottery fragments on surface)
071	49	Possible cremation burial (dark charcoal rich deposit with pottery fragments on surface)
072	49	Possible cremation burial (dark charcoal rich deposit with pottery fragments on surface)
073	49	Inverted pottery vessel
074	49	Base of broken off upright stone
075	49	Area of gravel along line of possible Roman road (grey clay lens with abundant rounded and sub-rounded stones)
076	50	Area of gravel along line of possible Roman road (grey clay lens with abundant rounded and sub-rounded stones)
077	49	Cut of linear ditch
078	49	Fill of ditch 077
079	12	Cut of enclosure ditch (not excavated)
080	12	Fill of enclosure ditch 077 (orange-brown sandy-silt)

APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

Digital

No	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Trench 1, general shot	NE	Sun
3-4	Trench 2, general shot	NNW	Sun
5-6	Trench 2, linear 004 (fill 005)	South	Sun
7-8	Trench 3, general shot	NE	Sun
9-10	Trench 4, general shot	North	Overcast
11-12	Trench 5, linear 006 (fill 007)	SE	Overcast
13-14	Trench 5, general shot	North	Overcast
15-16	Trench 6, general shot	North	Overcast
17-18	Trench 7, general shot	North	Overcast
19-20	Trench 8, general shot	North	Overcast
21-22	Trench 9, general shot	North	Overcast
23-24	Trench 8, ditch 012, east-facing section	East	Overcast

No	Description	From	Conditions
25-26	Trench 7, bedrock 014	North	Overcast
27-28	Trench 7, bedrock 014	South	Overcast
29-30	Trench 10, ditch 015 showing pottery in situ	East	Sun
31-32	Trench 15, general shot	NW	Sun
33-34	Trench 14, general shot	North	Sun
35-36	Trench 10, general shot	North	Sun
37-40	Trench 10, ditch 015, east-facing section	East	Sun
41-42	Trench 12, general shot	West	Sun
43-44	Trench 11, general shot	North	Sun
45-46	Trench 11, wet area towards centre of trench	North	Sun
47-48	Trench 13, general shot	South	Sun
49-50	Trench 13, ditch 018, east-facing section	East	Overcast
51-52	Cremation burial 022, pre-excavation	North	Overcast
53-54	Trench 16, general shot	East	Overcast
55-56	Trench 17, general shot	North	Overcast
57-58	Trench 18, general shot	North	Overcast
59-60	Trench 13, possible bank material 021	East	Overcast
61-62	Trench 19, cremation 022, north-facing section	North	Overcast
63-64	Trench 19, cremation 022 fully excavated	North	Overcast
65-66	Trench 20, general shot	East	Overcast
67-68	Trench 21, general shot	East	Overcast
69-70	Trench 10, ditch 015, east-facing section	East	Overcast
71-72	Trench 19, gravel patch 025 along course of possible Roman road	East	Overcast
73-74	Trench 19, gravel patch 025, south-facing section	South	Sun
75-76	Trench 19, linear 026, west-facing section	West	Sun
77-78	Trench 19, General shot	West	Sun
79-80	Trench 22, general shot	East	Sun
81-82	Trench 23, general shot	East	Sun
83-84	Trench 23, linear 028, north-facing section	North	Sun
85-86	Trench 25, general shot	North	Sun
87-88	Trench 24, general shot	North	Sun
89-90	Trench 23, linear 030, south-facing section	South	Sun
91-92	Trench 22, linear 032, south-facing section	South	Sun
93-94	Trench 26, general shot	SW	Sun
95-96	Trench 27, general shot	NW	Sun
97-98	Trench 28, linear 034	South	Sun
99-100	Trench 29, general shot	North	Sun
101-102	Trench 28, deposit 036	South	Sun
103-104	Trench 28, general shot	West	Sun
105-106	Trench 34, general shot	East	Sun
107-108	Trench 30, general shot	NW	Sun
109-110	Trench 30, linear 039, south-facing section	South	Sun
111-112	Trench 32, general shot	SW	Sun
113-114	Trench 31, west-facing trench section showing buried soil 041	SW	Sun
115-116	Trench 31, general shot	NW	Sun
117-118	Trench 33, general shot	NW	Sun
119-120	Trench 32, pit 039, general	NW	Sun
121-122	Trench 31, linear 042, SW-facing section	SW	Sun
123-124	Trench 35, general	SE	Sun
125-126	Trench 36, general	NW	Sun
127-128	Trench 36, linear 044, south-facing section	South	Sun
129-130	Trench 37, general shot	SE	Sun
131-132	Trench 30, linear 046, west-facing section	West	Sun
133-134	Trench 38, general shot	NW	Sun
135-136	Trench 39, general shot	SW	Sun
137-138	Trench 33, linear 048	NE	Sun
139-140	Trench 43, general shot	North	Sun

No	Description	From	Conditions
141-142	Trench 42, general shot	NW	Sun
143-144	Trench 40, linear 052, west-facing section	West	Sun
145-146	Trench 40, linear 050, west-facing section	West	Sun
147-148	Trench 40, general shot	North	Sun
149-150	Trench 45, feature 057, south-facing section	South	Sun
151-152	Trench 44, general shot	NE	Sun
153-154	Trench 41, linear 054, SW-facing section	SW	Sun
155-156	Trench 41, general shot	NW	Sun
157-158	Trench 45, general shot	NW	Sun
159-160	Trench 46, general shot	South	Sun
161-162	Trench 48, general	East	Overcast
163-164	Trench 47, bank 061, SW-facing section	SW	Overcast
165-166	Trench 47, bank 060, SW-facing section	SW	Overcast
167-168	Trench 47, ditch 062	SW	Overcast
169-170	Trench 47, general shot	SE	Overcast
171-176	Trench 49, cremations 064/065	Above	Overcast
177-178	Trench 49, pottery 073	Above	Overcast
179-180	Trench 49, possible cremation 072	Above	Overcast
181-182	Trench 49, cremation 064/065 partially excavated	Above	Overcast
183-184	Trench 49, gravel layer 075 across line of possible Roman road	NE	Overcast
185-186	Trench 49, possible cremation 070	Above	Overcast
187-188	Trench 49, possible cremation 066	Above	Overcast
189-192	Trench 49, general shot showing area of cremation cemetery	NW	Overcast
193-194	Trench 49, base of upright stone	Above	Overcast
195-196	Line of possible Roman road, pre-excavation	NW	Overcast
197-198	Line of possible Roman road, pre-excavation	SE	Overcast
199-200	Trench 50 where it cuts the line of the possible Roman road	NE	Overcast
201-202	Trench 50 where it cuts the line of the possible Roman road	SE	Overcast
203-204	Trench 51, general shot	NW	Overcast
205-206	Trench 52, general shot	SW	Overcast
207-225	Trench 50 across line of possible Roman road, various shots	Various	Overcast
226-227	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (0m – 2m)	NW	Overcast
228-229	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (2m – 4m)	NW	Overcast
230-231	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (4m – 6m)	NW	Overcast
232-233	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (6m – 8m)	NW	Overcast
234-235	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (8m – 10m)	NW	Overcast
236-237	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (10m – 12m)	NW	Overcast
238-239	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (12m – 14m)	NW	Overcast
240-241	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (14m – 16m)	NW	Overcast
242-243	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (16m – 18m)	NW	Overcast
244-245	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (18m – 20m)	NW	Overcast
246-247	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (20m – 22m)	NW	Overcast
248-249	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (22m – 24m)	NW	Overcast
250-251	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (24m – 26m)	NW	Overcast

No	Description	From	Conditions
252-253	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (26m – 28m)	NW	Overcast
254-267	Trench 49, SE-facing section across possible Roman road in 2m wide spits from SW to NE	SE	Overcast
268-277	Trench 50 and Trench 49 showing sondages excavated at the base of trenches	Various	Overcast
278-286	General site shots showing trenches excavated across the line of the possible Roman road	Various	Overcast

Colour Slide Film 1

No	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Trench 1, general shot	NE	Sun
3-4	Trench 2, general shot	NNW	Sun
5-6	Trench 2, linear 004 (fill 005)	South	Sun
7-8	Trench 3, general shot	NE	Sun
9-10	Trench 4, general shot	North	Overcast
11-12	Trench 5, linear 006 (fill 007)	SE	Overcast
13-14	Trench 5, general shot	North	Overcast
15-16	Trench 6, general shot	North	Overcast
17-18	Trench 7, general shot	North	Overcast
19-20	Trench 8, general shot	North	Overcast
21-22	Trench 9, general shot	North	Overcast
23-24	Trench 8, ditch 012, east-facing section	East	Overcast
25-26	Trench 7, bedrock 014	North	Overcast
27-28	Trench 7, bedrock 014	South	Overcast
29-30	Trench 10, ditch 015 showing pottery in situ	East	Sun
31-32	Trench 15, general shot	NW	Sun
33-34	Trench 14, general shot	North	Sun
35-36	Trench 10, general shot	North	Sun

Colour Slide Film 2

No	Description	From	Conditions
1-4	Trench 10, ditch 015, east-facing section	East	Sun
5-6	Trench 12, general shot	West	Sun
7-8	Trench 11, general shot	North	Sun
9-10	Trench 11, wet area towards centre of trench	North	Sun
11-12	Trench 13, general shot	South	Sun
13-14	Trench 13, ditch 018, east-facing section	East	Overcast
15-16	Cremation burial 022, pre-excavation	North	Overcast
17-18	Trench 16, general shot	East	Overcast
19-20	Trench 17, general shot	North	Overcast
21-22	Trench 18, general shot	North	Overcast
23-24	Trench 13, possible bank material 021	East	Overcast
25-26	Trench 19, cremation 022, north-facing section	North	Overcast
27-28	Trench 19, cremation 022 fully excavated	North	Overcast
29-30	Trench 20, general shot	East	Overcast
31-32	Trench 21, general shot	East	Overcast
33-34	Trench 10, ditch 015, east-facing section	East	Overcast
35-36	Trench 19, gravel patch 025 along course of possible Roman road	East	Overcast

Colour Slide Film 3

No	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Trench 19, gravel patch 025, south-facing section	South	Sun
3-4	Trench 19, linear 026, west-facing section	West	Sun
5-6	Trench 19, General shot	West	Sun
7-8	Trench 22, general shot	East	Sun

9-10	Trench 23, general shot	East	Sun
11-12	Trench 23, linear 028, north-facing section	North	Sun
13-14	Trench 25, general shot	North	Sun
15-16	Trench 24, general shot	North	Sun
17-18	Trench 23, linear 030, south-facing section	South	Sun
19-20	Trench 22, linear 032, south-facing section	South	Sun
21-22	Trench 26, general shot	SW	Sun
23-24	Trench 27, general shot	NW	Sun
25-26	Trench 28, linear 034	South	Sun
27-28	Trench 29, general shot	North	Sun
29-30	Trench 28, deposit 036	South	Sun
31-32	Trench 28, general shot	West	Sun
33-34	Trench 34, general shot	East	Sun
35-36	Trench 30, general shot	NW	Sun

Colour Slide Film 4

No	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Trench 30, linear 039, south-facing section	South	Sun
3-4	Trench 32, general shot	SW	Sun
5-6	Trench 31, west-facing trench section showing buried soil 041	SW	Sun
7-8	Trench 31, general shot	NW	Sun
9-10	Trench 33, general shot	NW	Sun
11-12	Trench 32, pit 039, general	NW	Sun
13-14	Trench 31, linear 042, SW-facing section	SW	Sun
15-16	Trench 35, general	SE	Sun
17-18	Trench 36, general	NW	Sun
19-20	Trench 36, linear 044, south-facing section	South	Sun
21-22	Trench 37, general shot	SE	Sun
23-24	Trench 30, linear 046, west-facing section	West	Sun
25-26	Trench 38, general shot	NW	Sun
27-28	Trench 39, general shot	SW	Sun
29-30	Trench 33, linear 048	NE	Sun
31-32	Trench 43, general shot	North	Sun
33-34	Trench 42, general shot	NW	Sun
35-36	Trench 40, linear 052, west-facing section	West	Sun

Colour Slide Film 5

No	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Trench 40, linear 050, west-facing section	West	Sun
3-4	Trench 40, general shot	North	Sun
5-6	Trench 45, feature 058, south-facing section	South	Sun
7-8	Trench 44, general shot	NE	Sun
9-10	Trench 41, linear 054, SW-facing section	SW	Sun
11-12	Trench 41, general shot	NW	Sun
13-14	Trench 45, general shot	NW	Sun
15-16	Trench 46, general shot	South	Sun
17-18	Trench 48, general	East	Overcast
19-20	Trench 47, bank 061, SW-facing section	SW	Overcast
21-22	Trench 47, bank 060, SW-facing section	SW	Overcast
23-24	Trench 47, ditch 062	SW	Overcast
25-26	Trench 47, general shot	SE	Overcast
27-32	Trench 49, cremations 064/065	Above	Overcast
33-34	Trench 49, pottery 073	Above	Overcast
35-36	Trench 49, possible cremation 072	Above	Overcast

Colour Slide Film 6

No	Description	From	Conditions
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1-2	Trench 49, cremation 064/065 partially excavated	Above	Overcast
3-4	Trench 49, gravel layer 075 across line of possible Roman road	NE	Overcast
5-6	Trench 49, possible cremation 070	Above	Overcast
7-8	Trench 49, possible cremation 066	Above	Overcast
9-12	Trench 49, general shot showing area of cremation cemetery	NW	Overcast
13-14	Line of possible Roman road, pre-excavation	NW	Overcast
15-16	Line of possible Roman road, pre-excavation	SE	Overcast
17-18	Trench 50 where it cuts the line of the possible Roman road	NE	Overcast
19-20	Trench 50 where it cuts the line of the possible Roman road	SE	Overcast
21-22	Trench 51, general shot	NW	Overcast
23-24	Trench 52, general shot	SW	Overcast
25-26	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (0m – 2m)	NW	Overcast
27-28	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (2m – 4m)	NW	Overcast
29-30	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (4m – 6m)	NW	Overcast
31-32	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (6m – 8m)	NW	Overcast
33-34	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (8m – 10m)	NW	Overcast
35-36	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (10m – 12m)	NW	Overcast

Colour Slide Film 7

No	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (12m – 14m)	NW	Overcast
3-4	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (14m – 16m)	NW	Overcast
5-6	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (16m – 18m)	NW	Overcast

Colour Slide Film 8

No	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (14m – 16m)	NW	Overcast
3-4	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (16m – 18m)	NW	Overcast
5-6	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (18m – 20m)	NW	Overcast
7-8	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (20m – 22m)	NW	Overcast
9-12	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (22m – 24m)	NW	Overcast
13-14	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (24m – 26m)	NW	Overcast
15-16	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (26m – 28m)	NW	Overcast

Black and White Film 1

No	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Trench 1, general shot	NE	Sun
3-4	Trench 2, general shot	NNW	Sun
5-6	Trench 2, linear 004 (fill 005)	South	Sun
7-8	Trench 3, general shot	NE	Sun
9-10	Trench 4, general shot	North	Overcast

Black and White Film 2

No	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Trench 5, linear 006 (fill 007)	SE	Overcast
3-4	Trench 5, general shot	North	Overcast
5-8	Trench 6, general shot	North	Overcast
9-10	Trench 7, general shot	North	Overcast
11-12	Trench 8, general shot	North	Overcast
13-14	Trench 9, general shot	North	Overcast
15-16	Trench 8, ditch 012, east-facing section	East	Overcast
17-18	Trench 7, bedrock 014	North	Overcast
19-20	Trench 7, bedrock 014	South	Overcast
21-22	Trench 10, ditch 015 showing pottery in situ	East	Sun
23-24	Trench 15, general shot	NW	Sun
25-26	Trench 14, general shot	North	Sun
27-28	Trench 10, general shot	North	Sun
29-30	Trench 10, ditch 015, east-facing section	East	Sun
31-32	Trench 12, general shot	West	Sun
33-34	Trench 11, general shot	North	Sun
35-36	Trench 11, wet area towards centre of trench	North	Sun

Black and White Film 3

No	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Trench 13, ditch 018, east-facing section	East	Overcast
3-4	Cremation burial 022, pre-excavation	North	Overcast
5-6	Trench 16, general shot	East	Overcast
7-8	Trench 17, general shot	North	Overcast
9-10	Trench 18, general shot	North	Overcast
11-12	Trench 13, possible bank material 021	East	Overcast
13-14	Trench 19, cremation 022, north-facing section	North	Overcast
15-16	Trench 19, cremation 022 fully excavated	North	Overcast
17-18	Trench 20, general shot	East	Overcast
19-20	Trench 21, general shot	East	Overcast
21-22	Trench 10, ditch 015, east-facing section	East	Overcast
23-24	Trench 19, gravel patch 025 along course of possible Roman road	East	Overcast
25-26	Trench 19, gravel patch 025, south-facing section	South	Sun
27-28	Trench 19, linear 026, west-facing section	West	Sun
29-30	Trench 19, General shot	West	Sun
31-32	Trench 22, general shot	East	Sun
33-34	Trench 23, general shot	East	Sun
35-36	Trench 23, linear 028, north-facing section	North	Sun

Black and White Film 4

No	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Trench 25, general shot	North	Sun
3-4	Trench 24, general shot	North	Sun
5-6	Trench 23, linear 030, south-facing section	South	Sun
7-8	Trench 22, linear 032, south-facing section	South	Sun
9-10	Trench 26, general shot	SW	Sun
11-12	Trench 27, general shot	NW	Sun
13-14	Trench 28, linear 034	South	Sun
15-16	Trench 29, general shot	North	Sun
17-18	Trench 28, deposit 036	South	Sun
19-20	Trench 28, general shot	West	Sun
21-22	Trench 34, general shot	East	Sun
23-24	Trench 30, general shot	NW	Sun
25-26	Trench 30, linear 039, south-facing section	South	Sun

27-28	Trench 32, general shot	SW	Sun
29-30	Trench 31, west-facing trench section showing buried soil 041	SW	Sun
31-32	Trench 31, general shot	NW	Sun
33-34	Trench 33, general shot	NW	Sun
35-36	Trench 32, pit 039, general	NW	Sun

Black and White Film 5

No	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Trench 31, linear 042, SW-facing section	SW	Sun
3-4	Trench 35, general	SE	Sun
5-6	Trench 36, general	NW	Sun
7-8	Trench 36, linear 044, south-facing section	South	Sun
9-10	Trench 37, general shot	SE	Sun
11-12	Trench 30, linear 046, west-facing section	West	Sun
13-14	Trench 38, general shot	NW	Sun
15-16	Trench 39, general shot	SW	Sun
17-18	Trench 33, linear 048	NE	Sun
19-20	Trench 43, general shot	North	Sun
21-22	Trench 42, general shot	NW	Sun
23-24	Trench 40, linear 052, west-facing section	West	Sun
25-26	Trench 40, linear 050, west-facing section	West	Sun
27-28	Trench 40, general shot	North	Sun
29-30	Trench 45, feature 058, south-facing section	South	Sun
31-32	Trench 44, general shot	NE	Sun
33-34	Trench 41, linear 054, SW-facing section	SW	Sun
35-36	Trench 41, general shot	NW	Sun

Black and White Film 6

No	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Trench 49, cremation 064/065 partially excavated	Above	Overcast
3-4	Trench 49, gravel layer 075 across line of possible Roman road	NE	Overcast
5-6	Trench 49, possible cremation 070	Above	Overcast
7-8	Trench 49, possible cremation 066	Above	Overcast
9-12	Trench 49, general shot showing area of cremation cemetery	NW	Overcast
13-14	Line of possible Roman road, pre-excavation	NW	Overcast
15-16	Line of possible Roman road, pre-excavation	SE	Overcast
17-18	Trench 50 where it cuts the line of the possible Roman road	NE	Overcast
19-20	Trench 50 where it cuts the line of the possible Roman road	SE	Overcast
21-22	Trench 51, general shot	NW	Overcast
23-24	Trench 52, general shot	SW	Overcast

Black and White Film 7

No	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (0m – 2m)	NW	Overcast
3-4	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (2m – 4m)	NW	Overcast
5-6	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (4m – 6m)	NW	Overcast
7-8	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (6m – 8m)	NW	Overcast
9-10	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (8m – 10m)	NW	Overcast
11-12	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (10m – 12m)	NW	Overcast
13-14	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (12m – 14m)	NW	Overcast

15-16	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (14m – 16m)	NW	Overcast
17-18	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (16m – 18m)	NW	Overcast
19-20	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (18m – 20m)	NW	Overcast
21-22	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (20m – 22m)	NW	Overcast
23-24	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (22m – 24m)	NW	Overcast
25-26	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (24m – 26m)	NW	Overcast
27-28	Trench 50, NW facing section across possible Roman road (26m – 28m)	NW	Overcast

APPENDIX 3: Field Drawings Register

Sheet No	Drawing No	Scale	Section/Plan	Description
1	1	1:100	Plan	Plan of trench 19 showing location of pit 022
1	2	1:10	Plan	Plan of pit 022
1	3	1:10	Section	North-facing section of pit 022
1	4	1:50	Plan	Plan of trench 13 showing location of ditch 018
1	5	1:20	Section	Ditch 018. East-facing section
2	6	1:20	Section	South-facing section across possible roman road
2	7	1:10	Section	Ditch 028, north-facing section
2	8	1:20	Section	Ditch 030, south-facing section
3	9	1:20	Section	Ditch 034, south-facing section
3	10	1:20	Section	Feature 037, south-facing section
3	11	1:50	Plan	Plan of trench 30 showing location of 037
3	12	1:20	Section	Ditch 039, SE-facing section
4	13	1:20	Section	Ditch 062, west-facing section
4	14	1:20	Section	Ditch 050, west-facing section
4	15	1:50	Plan	Pit 039, plan
5	16	1:20	Section	Ditch 032, south-facing section
6	17	1:20	Section	Ditch 052, west-facing section
6	18	1:20	Section	Ditch 054, SSW-facing section
6	19	1:20	Section	Ditch 059 and bank 061
7	20	1:20	Section	Ditch 015, east-facing section
7	21	1:50	Plan	Plan of trench 10 showing location of ditch 015
7	22	1:50	Plan	Plan of trench 7 showing location of stone 014
7	23	1:20	Section	Ditch 012, west-facing section
7	24	1:20	Section	Ditch 006, SE-facing section
7	25	1:50	Plan	Plan of trench 8 showing location of ditch 012
8	26	1:50	Plan	Plan of trench 19 showing location of linear 026
8	27	1:10	Section	Linear 026, west-facing section
9	28	1:20	Section	Ditch 042, south-facing section
9	29	1:20	Section	Ditch 044, SW-facing section
9	30	1:20	Section	Ditch 046, west-facing section
9	31	1:20	Section	Ditch 048, east-facing section
9	32	1:20	Section	Trench 28, deposit 036
10	33	1:20	Section	Ditch 057, SW-facing section
11	34	1:50	Plan	Plan of trench 49 showing location of cremations
12	35	1:50	Section	Trench 50, section across possible Roman road
12	36	1:50	Section	Trench 49, section across possible Roman road

APPENDIX 4: Samples Register

Sample no.	Context	Feature	Comment	Size
1	013	012	Fill of ditch	1 bucket
2	017	015	Upper fill of ditch	1 bucket
3	016	015	Primary fill of ditch	1 bucket
4	020	018	Upper fill of ditch	1 bucket
5	021	018	Possible bank material	1 bucket
6	019	018	Primary fill of ditch	1 bucket
7	023	022	Fill of possible cremation pit	1 bucket
8	025	025	Area of gravel	1 bucket
9	027	026	Fill of linear feature	1 bucket
10	038	037	Fill of ditch	1 bucket
11	041	041	Buried soil	1 bucket
12	040	039	Fill of pit	1 bucket
13	045	044	Fill of ditch	1 bucket
14	047	046	Fill of ditch	1 bucket
15	049	048	Fill of ditch	1 bucket
16	051	050	Fill of ditch	1 bucket
17	053	052	Fill of ditch	1 bucket
18	055	054	Primary fill of ditch	1 bucket
19	064/065	064/065	Mixed deposits from cremation burial 064/065	1 bucket
20	065	065	Cremation burial	1 bucket
21	064	064	Cremation burial	1 bucket

APPENDIX 5: Finds Quantification

Tr.	Context	Find type	No.	Wt/g	Notes	Spotdate
	Cleaning	CBM	1	13.4	soft, abraded tile	Rom?
	Cleaning	Pot	2	7.2	BB1SED and possible BB1 base	U/S
1	001	Ae	1	68.6	small copper alloy pan/bowl?	PMed?
1	001	Pot	2	22	1 yellow ware, 1 blackware	19-20
1	001	Glass	1	274	complete rectangular bottle	L.19-20
2	U/S	Flint	1	1.4	abraded, heavily patinated, poss natural	preh??
10	016	Pot	7	120.6	v abraded Roman redware flagon base, unknown gritty oxidised fabric in poor condition	2nd/3rd c.?
13	020	Pot	1	146.1	Raetian mortarium rim	2nd c.
18	U/S	Ae	1	1.9	sheet disc, poss jetton	PMed
19	U/S	Pot	1	0.9	v abraded samian	2nd c.?
19	023	Pot	20	33	Central Gaulish black slipped ware bead-rimmed beaker with barbotine decoration	mid 2nd-early 3rd c.
19	023	HSR?	-	15	?cremated bone, poss juvenile	
19	025	CBM	2	2.2	brick?	?
19	025	Bone	1	<0.1	tiny, burnt	
19	027	Bone	1	<0.1	tiny, burnt	
19	027	Flint	1	0.1	tiny	
21	U/S	CBM?	3	9.3	abraded	Rom?
22	U/S	Pot	1	61.8	BG earthenware base	PMed
22	033	Pot	4	5.7	3 refined whiteware, 1 porcelain	19-20
22	033	Clay pipe	1	3.2	stem, narrow bore	19?
27	U/S	Ae	1	1.9	stud, or poss just cartridge cap	?
31	U/S	Pot	1	10	black-glazed coarseware	PMed
31	U/S	Glass	1	13.3	thick uncoloured body	Modern
34	U/S	Shell	1	64.4	oyster	
34	U/S	Coal	1	5.4	burnt	

Tr.	Context	Find type	No.	Wt/g	Notes	Spotdate
34	U/S	Pot	3	73.2	1 glazed red earthenware, 2 unglazed redware	19-20
36	045	Fe	1	1	small, abraded	
40	051	Pot	2	6.9	Central Gaulish samian Form 33 & body sherd	Hadrianic
41	055	Bone	2	26.4	large mammal vertebra	
46	U/S	Pb	1	10.1	strip offcut	PMed?
46	U/S	Clay pipe	2	2.6	2 stems, wide bores	17-18
46	U/S	CBM	1	18.1	soft, abraded tile	Rom/pmed?
46	U/S	Pot	3	9	2 refined whiteware, 1 blackware	19-20
49	064	Pot	97	848	BB1SED cooking pot, with obtuse angle lattice and groove; also sherds from 065 and a worn flagon sherd	mid 3rd c.+
49	064	Glass	1	1	pale blue, burnt?	Rom
49	064	Fe	18	78	nails incl hobnails, 3 objects?	Rom
49	064	HSR	-	11	cremated bone	
49	064/065	Pot	6	6	frags from pots in 064 or 065	mid 3rd c.+
49	064/065	HSR	-	103	cremated bone	
49	064/065	Fe	15	20	incl nail	
49	064/065	Ae	1	1	tiny frag	
49	065	Pot	42	554	BB1SED cooking pot, with obtuse angle lattice and groove	mid 3rd c.+
49	065	Fired clay	3	9	1 with surface	
49	065	Fe	14	28	incl some with bone attached, nails	
49	065	Ae	4	0.7	Frag of studs	Rom?
49	065	HSR	-	530	cremated bone	

NB includes sample finds

Notes: CBM = ceramic building materials; HSR = human skeletal remains; Ae = copper alloy

APPENDIX 6: Palaeobotanical results

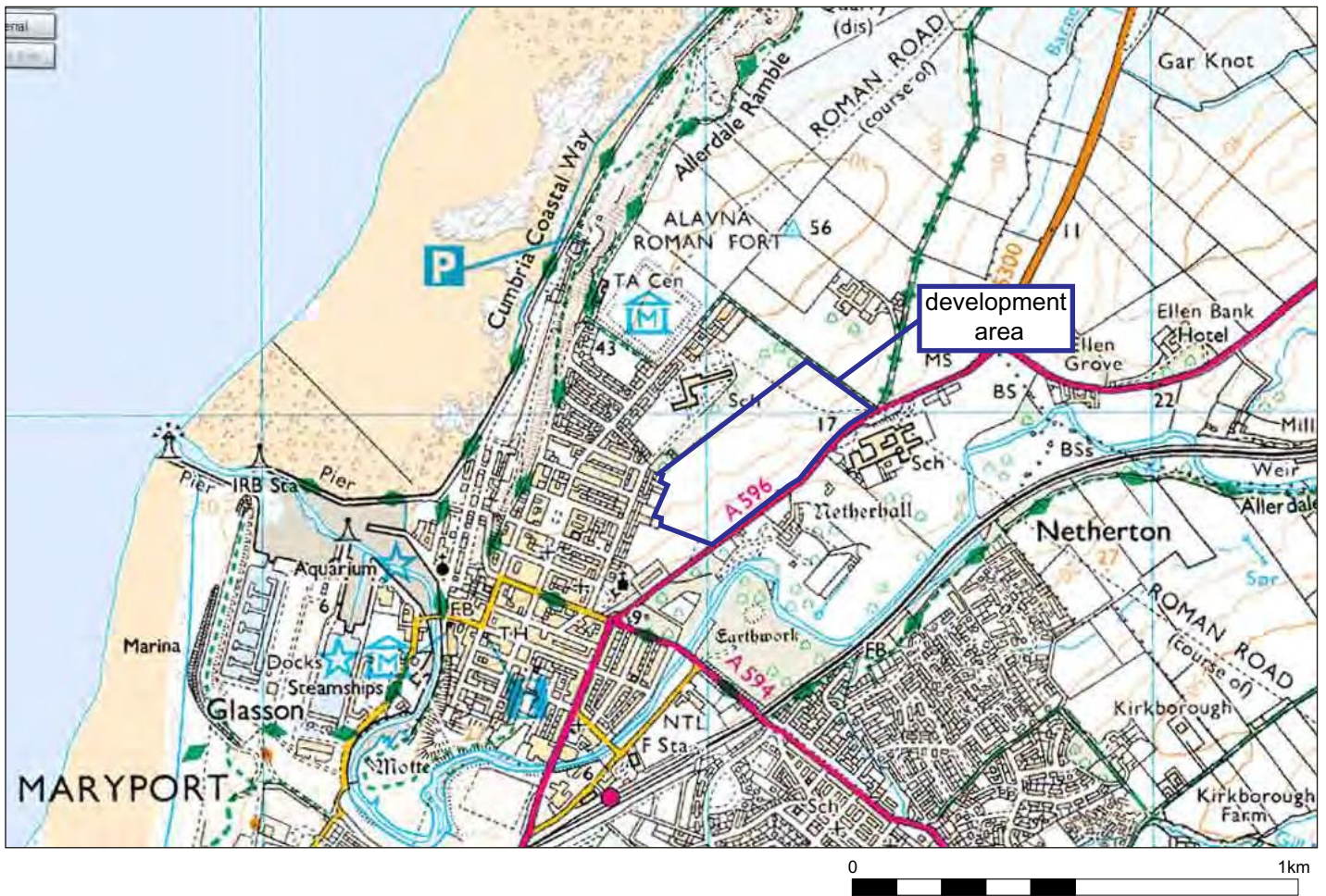
Table A1. Composition of flots

Trench no	Sample no	Context no	Context Description	Flot vol (ml)	Cereal grains	Weed seeds	Chaff remains	Culm node frags	Charred Grape Pips	Charcoal	Heather Charcoal	Cinders	Comments
8	1	013	Fill of ditch [012]	20						+			
10	2	017	Primary fill of ditch [015]	10						+			
10	3	016	Upper fill of ditch [015]	20						+			
13	4	020	Upper fill of ditch [018]	50	++	+	+++	++		+	+		Wheat ++ (including bread wheat, spelt) Barley + Spelt chaff +++
13	5	021	Possible bank material on inside of ditch [018]	20								+	
13	6	019	Primary fill of ditch [018]	10						+			
19	7	023	Fill of cremation pit [022]	50					+	++++			
19	8	025	Gravel deposit along line of possible Roman road	20						+			
19	9	027	Fill of linear feature [026]	20						++			
30	10	038	Fill of linear feature [037]	50						+			
31	11	041	Buried soil within dip in field	10						+			
32	12	040	Fill of pit [039]	50						+			
36	13	045	Fill of linear [044]	50						+			
37	14	047	Fill of linear feature 046	20						+			
33	15	049	Fill of linear feature [048]	10						+			
40	16	051	Fill of linear feature [050]	20	+					++	+		Barley (cf. hulled)x1 Oat x 1 Cereal indet x 2
40	17	053	Fill of linear feature [052]	20	+								Barley indet x 1
41	18	055	Primary fill of linear [054]	10						+			
49	19	064/065	Cremation vessel	30						++			Burnt bone + Hazelnut shell +
49	20	065	Cremation vessel	20						++			Partially burnt bone ++ Hazelnut shell +
49	21	064	Cremation vessel	50	+					++		++	Burnt bone + Hazelnut shell 1 Barley indet x 1

Table A2. Composition of retents

Trench no	Sample no	Context no	Context Description	Pottery	Glass	Flint flake	Cu Alloy frags	Iron frags / objs	Industrial debris	Burnt shale	Burnt bone	Mortar	Fired clay	Hazelnut Shell	Charcoal
8	1	013	Fill of ditch [012]												+
10	2	017	Primary fill of ditch [015]												+
10	3	016	Upper fill of ditch [015]												+
13	4	020	Upper fill of ditch [018]												+
13	5	021	Possible bank material on inside of ditch [018]												+
13	6	019	Primary fill of ditch [018]												+
19	7	023	Fill of cremation pit [022]	+							+++				+
19	8	025	Gravel deposit along line of possible Roman road						+		+				+
19	9	027	Fill of linear feature [026]			+			+		+				+
30	10	038	Fill of linear feature [037]						+	+					
31	11	041	Buried soil within dip in field											+	+
32	12	040	Fill of pit [039]												+
36	13	045	Fill of linear feature [044]					+	+						+
37	14	047	Fill of linear feature [046]						+						+
33	15	049	Fill of linear feature [048]												+
40	16	051	Fill of linear feature [050]						+						+
40	17	053	Fill of linear feature [052]												+
41	18	055	Primary fill of linear [054]						+						
49	19	064/065	Cremation vessel	++				++	+		++++			+	+
49	20	065	Cremation vessel	++			+	+	+		++++	+	+	+	+
49	21	064	Cremation vessel	++	+		+	++	+	+	++			+	+

Key: + = rare, ++ = occasional, +++ = common & ++++ = abundant



Key:



Fig. No: 1 Revision: A Client: Story Homes

Title: Location map

Project: Netherhall Road, Maryport

Scale:



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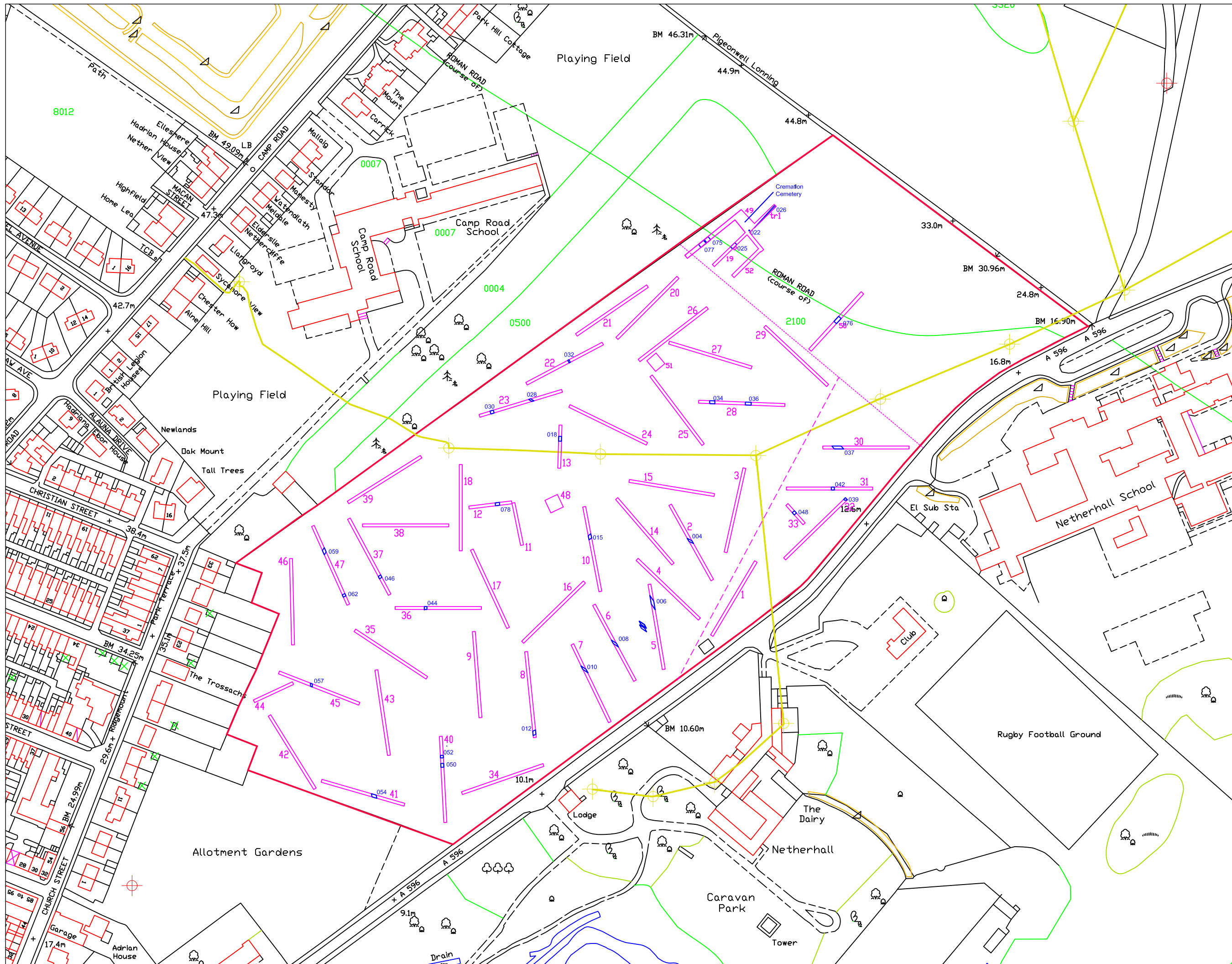
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Key:

- Evaluation Trench
- Overhead Electric Cable
- Archaeological feature
- Site number in gazetteer



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Fig. No: 2a Revision: A

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Trench Plan

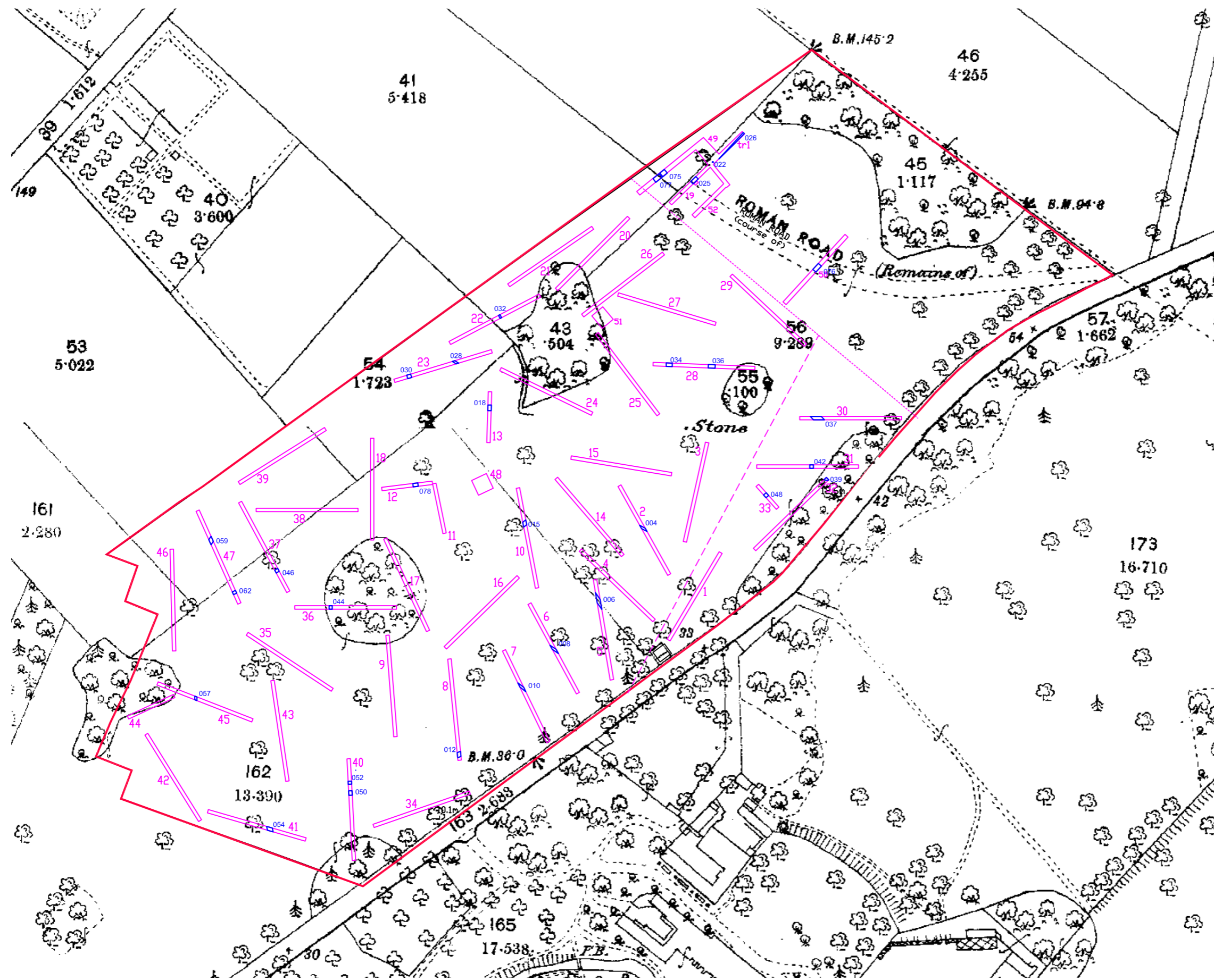
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Fig. No: 2b Revision: A

Title:
 Trench plan overlaid onto
 Ordnance Survey map 1866

Project:
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
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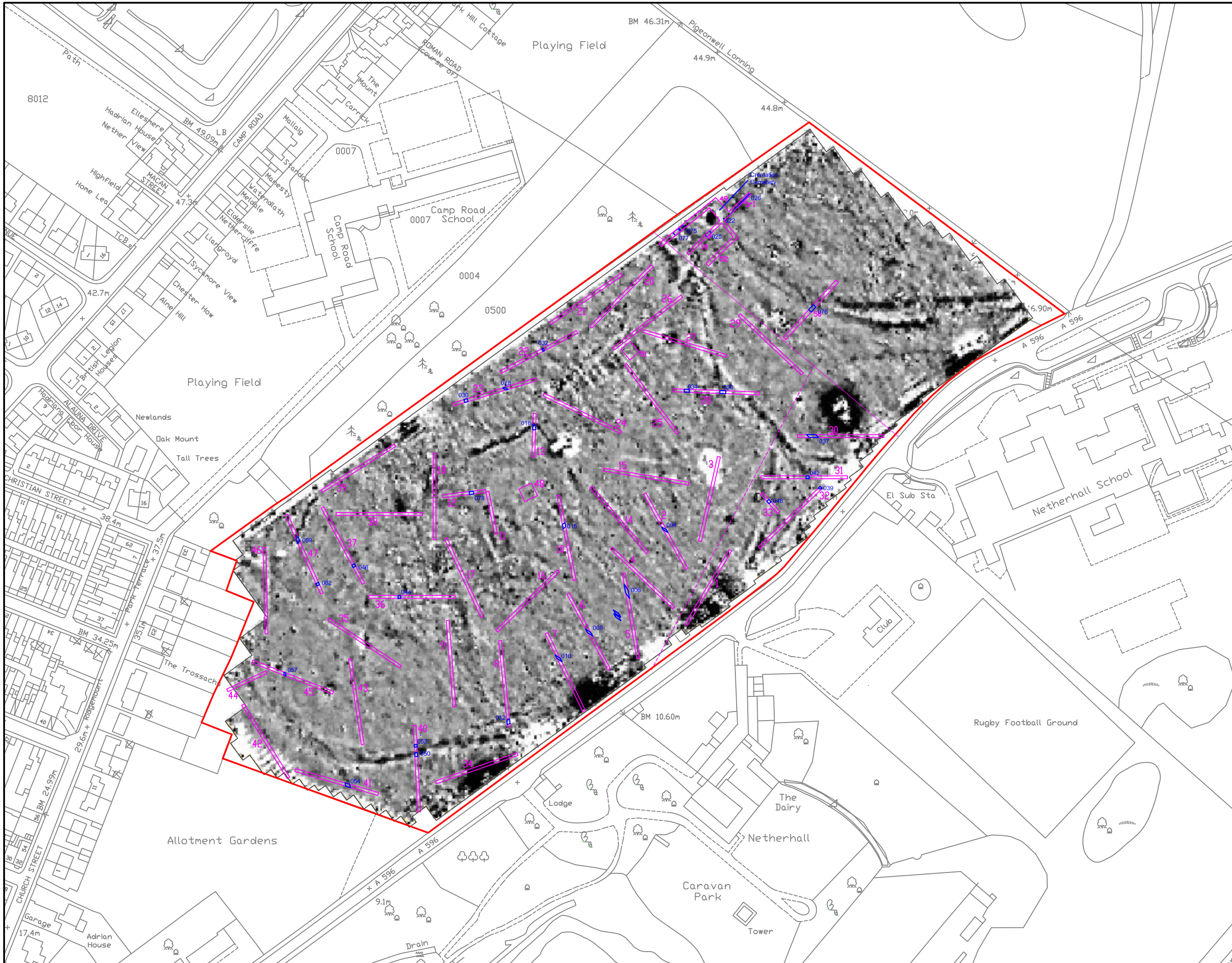
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Key:

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Fig. No: 2c Revision: B

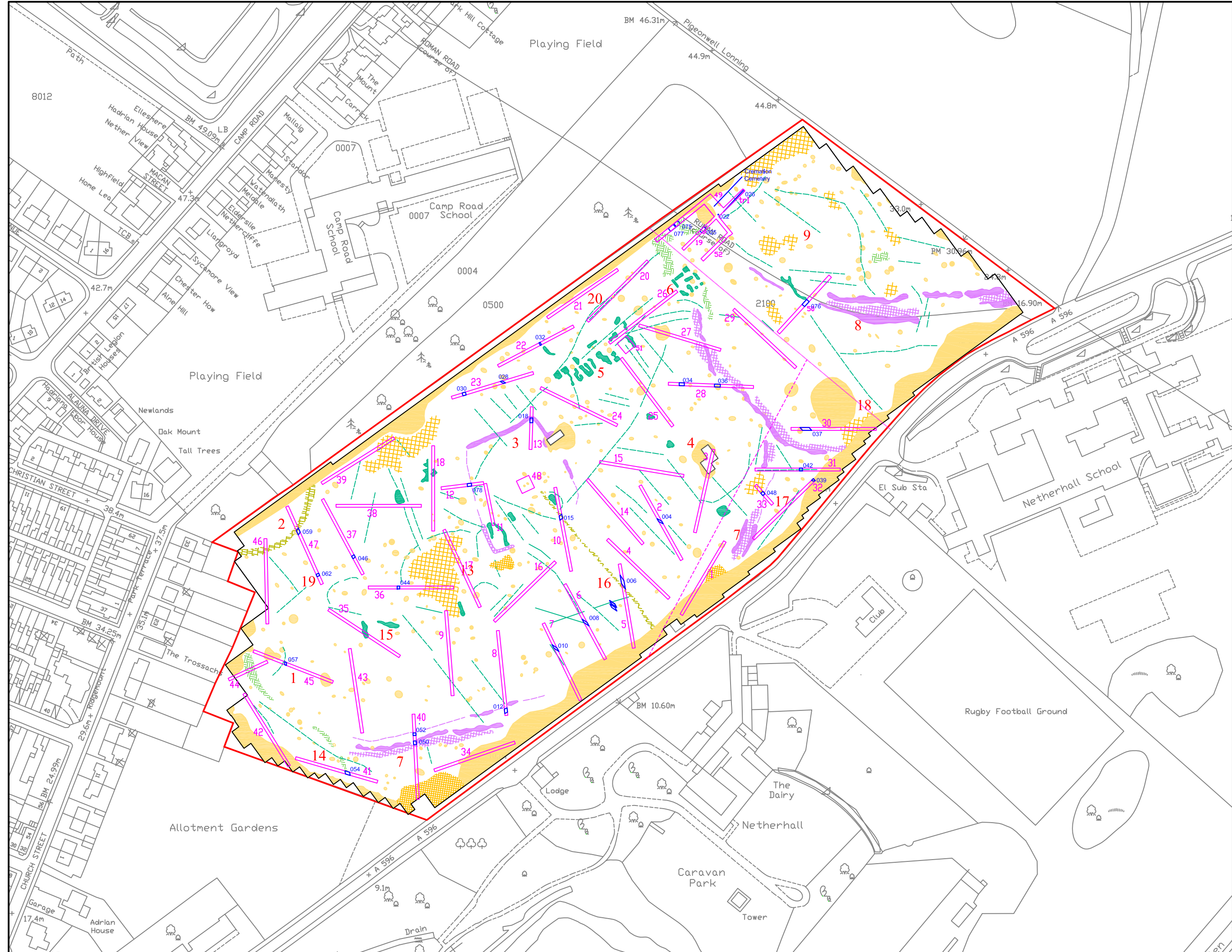
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results of geophysical survey

Project:
Netherhall Road,
Maryport

Client:
Story Homes

Scale at A3:
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Drawn by: LW Checked: LW Report No: 1772



- Key:
- 16** Features indicated in text
 - ?Archaeology +ve
 - ?Archaeology -ve
 - ?Archaeology Trend
 - Uncertain +ve
 - Uncertain Trend
 - Old Field Boundary
 - ?Natural
 - Area of Magnetic Disturbance
 - Ferrous
 - Evaluation Trench

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Fig. No: **2d** Revision: **B**

Title:
Trench plan overlaid onto interpretation of geophysical survey

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Client:
Story Homes

Scale at A3:
1:2000



Key:



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Fig. No:	2e	Revision:	A
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Title:
Trench plan overlaid onto contour map

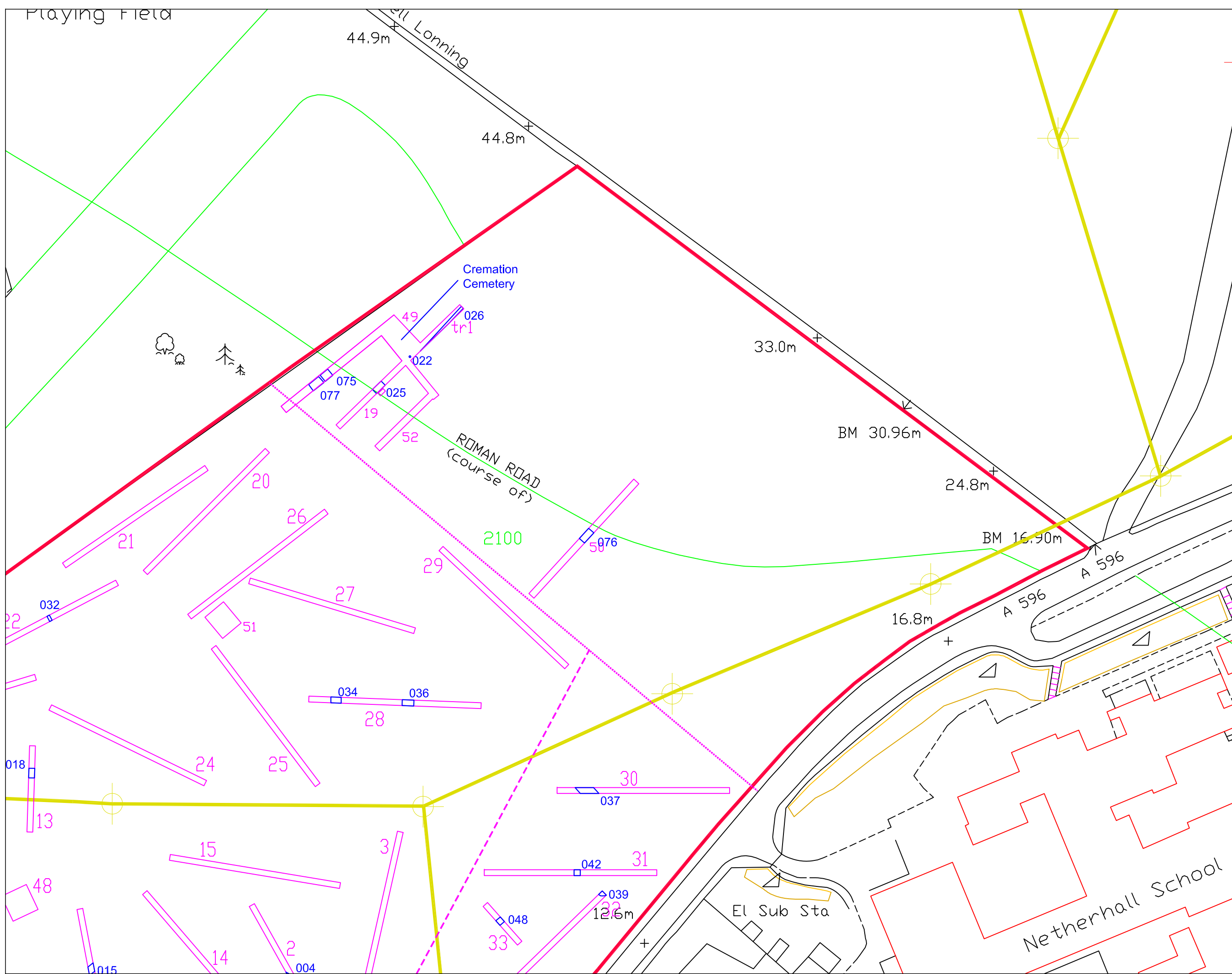
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- Key:
- Evaluation Trench
 - Overhead Electric Cable
 - Gravel

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Fig. No: **2f** Revision: **A**

Title:
**DETAIL SHOWING GRAVEL
DEPOSITS OVER LINE OF
ROMAN ROAD**

Project:
**NETHERHALL ROAD,
MARYPORT**

Client:
STORY HOMES

Scale:
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Drawn by: **GC** Report No: **1772**

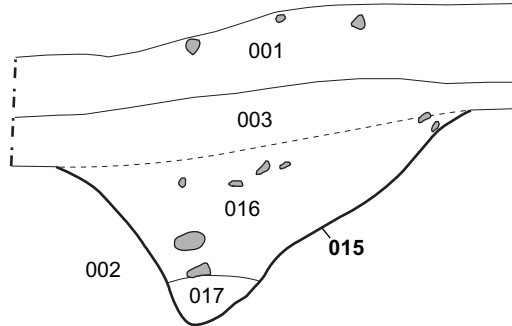


Fig. 3a Ditch 015, east facing section

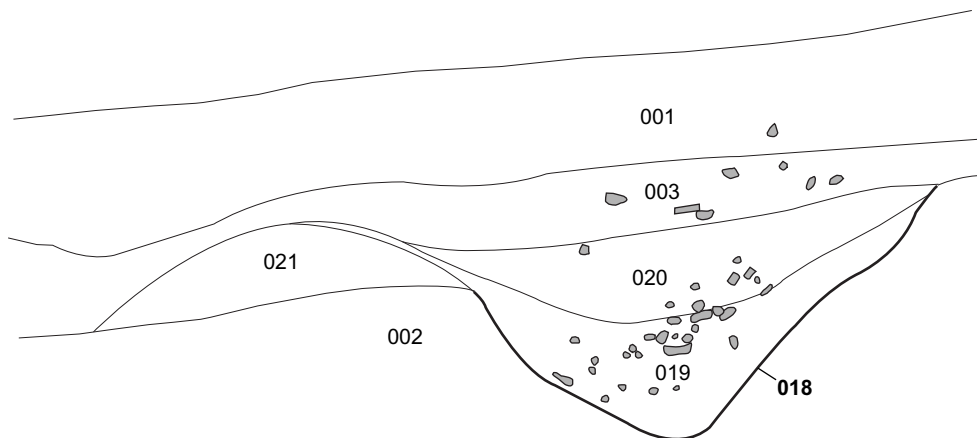


Fig. 3b Ditch 018, east facing section

Key:  Stone

Fig. No: 3a-3b

Revision:

Client: Story Homes

Title: Site 3 sections

Project: Land off Netherhall Road,
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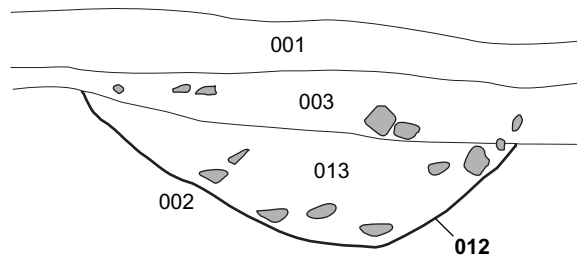


Fig. 4a Ditch 012, west facing section

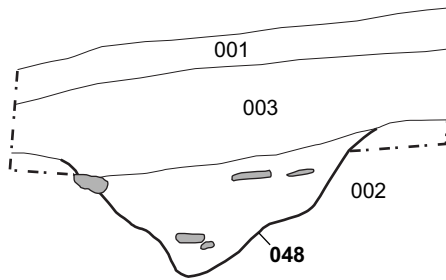


Fig. 4b Ditch 048, east facing section

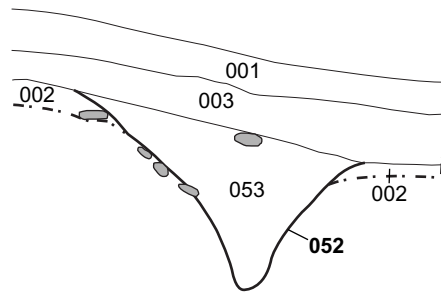


Fig. 4c Ditch 052, west facing section

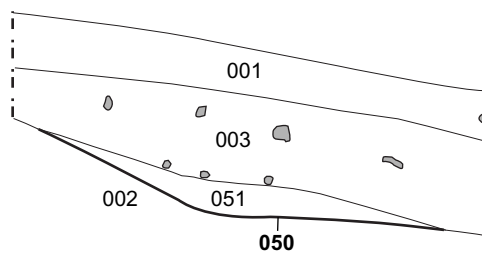


Fig. 4d Ditch 050, west facing section


Key:  Stone

Fig. No: 4a-4d

Revision:

Client:

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Title: Site 7 drawings

Project:

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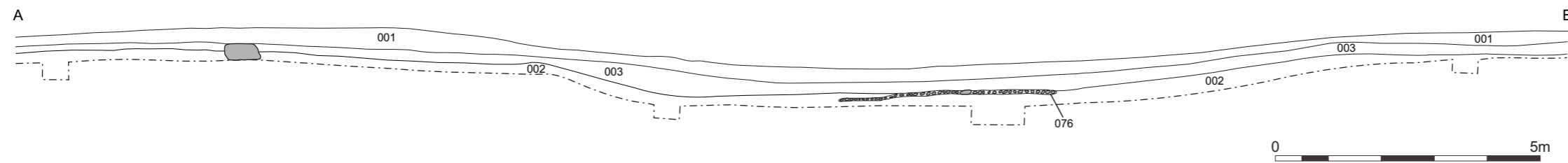


Fig. 5a NW facing section of Trench 50 across possible Roman Road

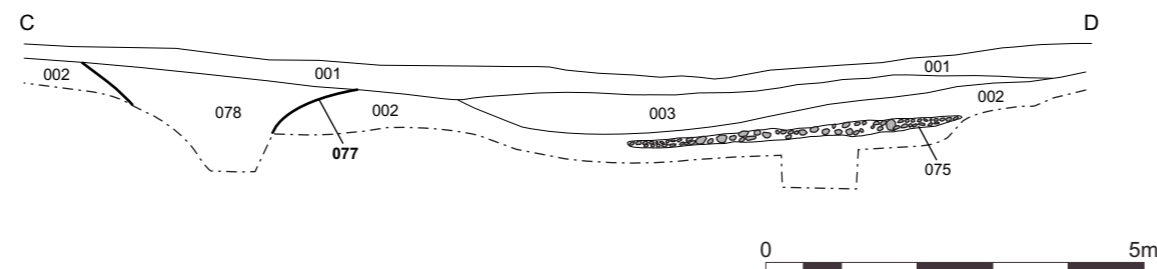


Fig. 5b SE facing section of Trench 49 across possible Roman Road

Key: Stone

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Fig. No: **5a-5b** Revision: **A**

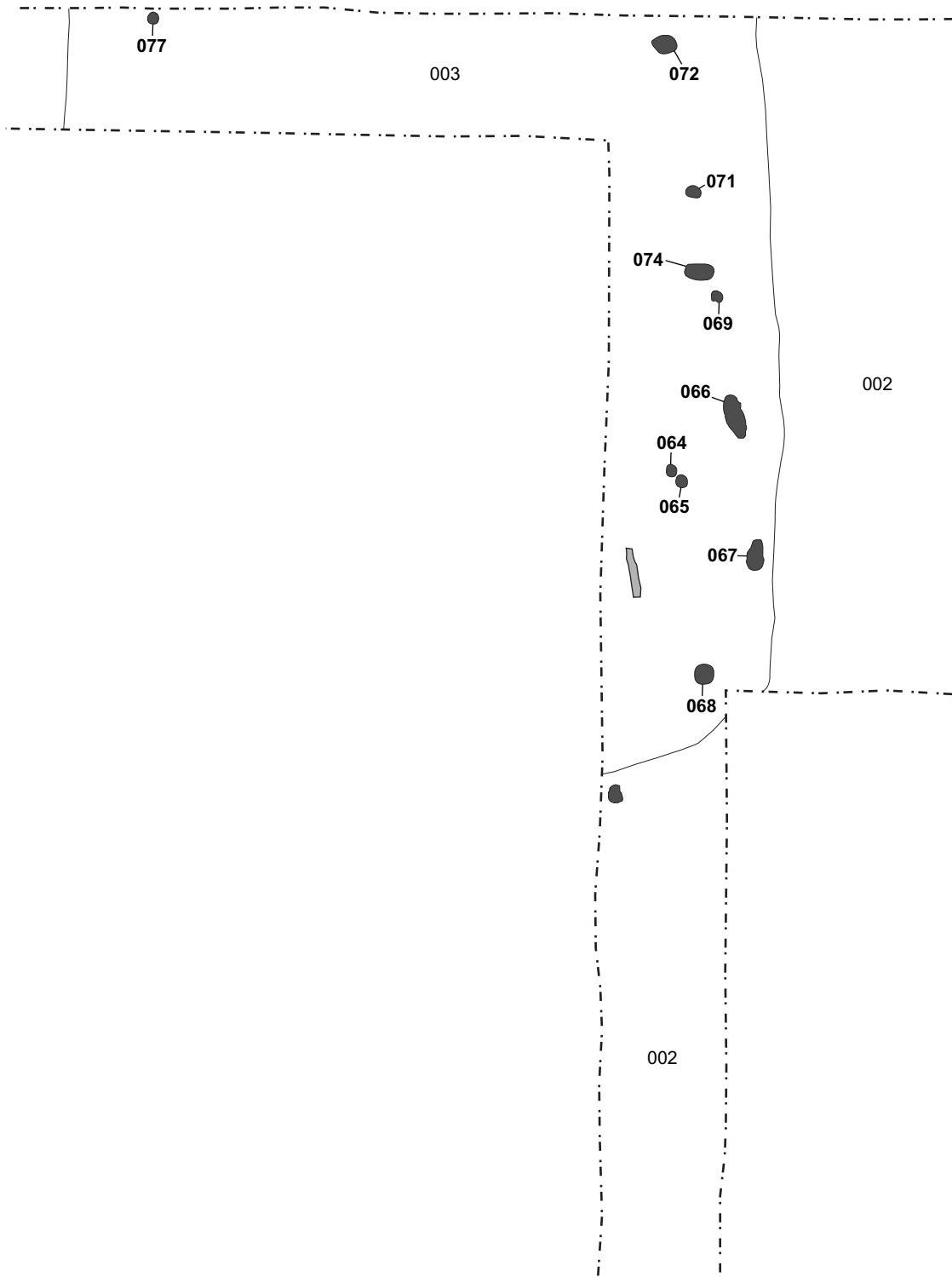
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Project:
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Maryport**

Scale:
1:100 @ A3

Client:
Story Homes

Drawn by: **GC** Report No: **1772**



Key:
 Stone
 Cremation



Fig. No:	6	Revision:		Client:	Story Homes
Title: Plan of Trench 49 showing location of cremations					
Project: Land off Netherhall Road, Maryport					



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Fig. 7a Site 3, Ditch 015 east facing section



Fig. 7b Site 3, Ditch 018 east facing section

Key:	Fig. No:	7	Revision:		Client:	Story Homes	
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Fig. 8a Site 7, Ditch 052 west facing section



Fig. 8b Site 7, Ditch 050 west facing section

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Fig. 9a Site 8, gravel 075



Fig. 9b Site 8, SE facing section through gravel 025

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Fig. 10a Cremation burial 64/65



Fig. 10b Cremation burial 64/65

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