Northamptonshire County Council

Northamptonshire Archaeology

Archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Dishley Grange Loughborough, Leicestershire

August 2009

Site code: X.A155.2009

NGR SK 5125 2147

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Report 09/112

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Historic Environment Record

SLE: 2614
ELE: 6827
MLE: 9450 (IA/Roman)
17844 (MIA burial?)
8470 (BA barrow?)

HATHERN

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QUALITY CONTROL

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OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project name	An archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Dishley Grange, Loughborough, Leicestershire	
Short description	In August 2009, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology on behalf of CgMs Consulting on land at Dishley Grange, Loughborough, Leicestershire. Twenty-four trenches each 50m long, and two areas, one 30m by 15m and the other 30m by 5m, were excavated. In Trench 26, to the east, there was an isolated urned cremation burial, provisionally dated to the middle/late Iron Age. Archaeological features, dating to the late Iron Age/Roman period, were concentrated within a group of fourteen trenches in the northern part of the area. Pottery suggests that occupation perhaps began in the mid 1st century AD and continued through the 2nd century. Although there is some later pottery it was not found in very large quantities, perhaps suggesting that there was a decline of activity after the late 2nd century. The settlement comprised a complex of intercutting enclosure/boundary ditches and related features, probably a small rural, agricultural settlement. Although the geophysical survey had indicated the presence of hearths, kilns or other industrial remains, no such features were found.	
Project type	Evaluation	
Site status	None	
Previous work	Geophysical Survey (ArchaeoPhysica 2008)	
Current Land use	Pasture and arable	
Future work	Development for employment and recreational purposes	
Monument type/ period	Romano-British settlement	
Significant finds	Cremation burial, Iron Age/Roman pottery	
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Leicestershire	
Site address	Dishley Grange, Loughborough	
OS Easting & Northing	SK 5125 2147	
Area (ha or sq m)	26ha	
Height OD	c.35-50m aOD	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Project brief originator	Planning Archaeologist, Leicestershire County Council	
Project Design originator	CgMs Consulting	
Director/Supervisor	Christopher Jones	
Project Manager	Adam Yates (NA) Simon Mortimer (CgMs)	
Sponsor or funding body	William Davies Ltd	
PROJECT DATE		
Start date	August 2009	
End date	September 2009	
ARCHIVES	**Location (Accession no.)**	**Content (eg pottery, animal bone etc)**
Physical	LCCEHS Mus. Ser. Accession No: X.A155.2009	Pottery Tile Bone Small finds
Paper	As above	Evaluation pro forma sheets, context sheets, colour slides, black and white contact prints, digital photographs, plans and section drawings
Digital	As above	Report text and figures

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
ON LAND AT DISHLEY GRANGE
LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE
AUGUST 2009

Abstract

In August 2009, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology on behalf of CgMs Consulting on land at Dishley Grange, Loughborough, Leicestershire. Twenty trenches each 50m long, two trenches 30m long and two areas, one 30m by 15m and the other 12m by 5m, were excavated. In Trench 26, to the east, there was an isolated urned cremation burial, provisionally dated to the middle/late Iron Age. Archaeological features, dating to the late Iron Age/early Roman period, were concentrated within a group of fourteen trenches in the northern part of the area. Pottery suggests that occupation perhaps began in the mid 1st century AD and continued through the 2nd century. Although there is some later pottery it was not found in very large quantities, perhaps suggesting that there was a decline of activity after the late 2nd century. The settlement comprised a complex of intercutting enclosure/boundary ditches and related features, probably a small rural, agricultural settlement. Although the geophysical survey had indicated the presence of hearths, kilns or other industrial remains, no such features were found.

1 INTRODUCTION

William Davis Ltd have applied for outline planning permission for the development of land adjacent to Dishley Grange for employment and recreation purposes (Planning Application number: P/08/2048/2). This includes strategic block planting and landscaping and the relocation of the Loughborough Town football ground and flood compensation works in the west (NGR SK 5125 2147; Fig 1).

The programme of archaeological investigation was undertaken as outlined in the specification issued by CgMs Consulting (Mortimer 2009) in response to discussions with the Senior Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council, although no brief was issued. The investigation involved the excavation of 24 trenches across the development area. Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, acting on behalf of William Davis Ltd, to undertake the archaeological trial excavation, the results of which are presented in this report.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the specification (Mortimer 2009) and *Management of Archaeological Projects* (EH 1991, appendix 4: assessment report specification) and the appropriate national standards and guidelines, as recommended by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA).

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Location, topography and geology

The development area lies within the parish of Hathern, located just beyond the north-western limit of Loughborough, which is within the Charnwood district of Leicestershire.

The area is bounded to the south by the A6, to the east by Black Brook, a tributary of the River Soar, and to the north and west by open fields.

The area currently comprises a large pasture in the western part of the site. To the east is an area of former paddocks, now used as arable land. In the north-east of the application boundary is Loughborough Town Football Club. In total the area measures *c*26ha.

The site lies at between *c*35-50m above Ordnance Datum. The geology of the area is of the Worcester Association (SSEW 1983: Sheet 3) comprising slowly permeable non-calcareous reddish clayey soils over mudstone overlying Permo-Triassic reddish mudstone. The site is located in the River Soar valley with land to the south-west rising towards the settlement of Hathern.

2.2 Archaeological and historical background

Archaeological background

The find of a plano-convex flint knife about 500m to the north-east of the site provides the earliest evidence of human activity in the area. A possible Bronze Age barrow was recorded in the south of the development area as an earthwork mound (MLE8970), but subsequent geophysical survey did not show any corresponding below ground features.

Development impact.

?

A series of undated cropmark enclosures within the development area were recorded on aerial photographs (MLE9450). Further enclosures of possible Iron Age or Roman date and an undated field system with a very clear enclosure were also identified to the south of this area. A subsequent geophysical survey was undertaken by ArchaeoPhysica (Roseveare 2008) as part of the assessment of the cropmarks. This survey revealed a complex of settlement enclosures thought likely to date to the late Iron Age/Romano-British periods. These features cover an area of *c*4.6ha in the north-western part of the study area (Fig 3). The enclosures appeared to form a discrete, contained settlement, with little or no archaeological features beyond it.

Historical background

In the early 12th century the whole of Dishley was given to Garendon Abbey and Dishley is later named as one of its granges. The site of the grange may lie beneath the current Dishley Grange house, which was built in the 19th century. Earthwork remains of the depopulated village are said to lie east of the driveway approach to the grange, although they are much degraded and no clear layout is discernable.

Ridge and furrow earthworks have been observed on aerial photographs of the area, aligned in several different directions, indicating the presence of several fields. Interestingly, the geophysical survey mapped further possibly underlying areas of ridge and furrow cultivation which, in some areas, ran perpendicular to those from aerial photographs. This indicates a reorganisation of the land in the area at some period. It was suggested in the geophysical survey report that this may have occurred after Dissolution when the land formerly belonging to the grange was sold into private hands (Roseveare 2008).

Dishley Grange was owned by the pioneer agriculturalist Robert Bakewell in the 18th century. He carried out extensive improvements to the irrigation and drainage of the land in his tenancy and some of the earthworks to the north-east of the present are thought to relate to these. A number of brick-lined drains and a conduit have been observed at different times and are thought to be attributable to him. Some features observed in the geophysical survey may relate to land drainage features.

3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 Objectives

The specification for the trial trenching was prepared in response to the Senior Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire's e-mail to Clare Herring (Mortimer 2009). Within that e-mail he established the following requirements be addressed by any proposed trenching scheme:

- Intrusive excavation of cropmark complex (MLE9450) at *c* 2% sample
- Assessment of possible palaeochannels and an island
- Testing of postulated location of Bronze Age barrow (MLE8970)
- Sampling of the southern extent of flood compensation/terracing area at 2% sample to assess potential for prehistoric archaeology
- Trenching to investigate anomalies potentially associated with Robert Bakewell's Dishley Grange Farm
- Targeting of areas of higher ground along edge of floodplain

The generic objectives of the overall evaluation were:

- to assess the remains of archaeological interest identified from aerial photographic and geophysical surveys; and
- to establish their extent, depth, character, quality, function, state of preservation and date. Also to assess a percentage of negative areas.

If significant remains were found the evaluation should aim to:

- provide further information on the historic character of the development of the site;
- to assess the artefactual and environmental potential of the archaeological features and deposits encountered;
- to place the remains within their local, regional and national context;
- to produce a site archive for deposition, together with finds, to Leicestershire County Council's Museum's Service.

The trial trenching scheme varied slightly from the 'standard' formula, since it was designed to take into account the fact that the known archaeology is located within the area of the proposed balancing pond, the design and location of which is fixed and does not allow for preservation *in situ* (Mortimer 2009). The site is allocated and in these circumstances where the mitigation strategy is clear (strip, map and record) the aims of the evaluation should be adjusted accordingly. In short there was a need to undertake a basic characterisation of the features sufficient to establish their date, state of preservation and morphology and their artefactual and ecofactual potential. The information from the evaluation will be crucial to determine both how far these features can contribute to the local and regional research framework and additionally to develop an accurately costed mitigation scheme. Accordingly the evaluation included the excavation of two small areas in addition to more traditional linear trenching.

3.2 Methodology

The works were conducted in accordance with the specification (Mortimer 2009), *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA1994, revised 2008) and the *Code of Conduct of the Institute for Archaeologists* (IfA1985, revised 2008).

Twenty-two trenches, 1 to 22 and 26, 27 were excavated in accordance with the trench location plan approved by CgMs, with some adjustments (Fig 2). Twenty of the trenches were 50m long and two (Trenches 12 and 18) were 30m long. There were two areas, one 30m by 15m and the other 12m by 5m; this was reduced from the original specification because of the presence of a rising main. Three of the trenches (20, 21 and 22) were also relocated because of the rising main. Trenches 23-25 were not excavated due to unharvested crop. All trenches were machine-excavated using a 2m wide toothless ditching bucket and have been related to Ordnance Survey National Grid (Fig 2). The work was monitored by the Senior Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council.

The topsoil, subsoil and non-structural post-medieval and later deposits were removed to reveal archaeological remains, or where absent to the natural. The topsoil was stacked separately from the subsoil and other deposits. The trenches were cleaned sufficiently to enable the identification of any features.

All deposits encountered during the course of the excavation were given a separate context number and fully recorded. Recording followed standard Northamptonshire Archaeology procedures. Deposits were described on pro-forma context sheets to include details of the context, its relationships, interpretation and a checklist of associated finds.

The trenches were planned at a scale of 1:50. Sections of the sequence of deposits in each trench were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and related to Ordnance Datum. Archaeological artefacts were recovered from the surface and excavated deposits. Deposits suitable for environmental assessment were encountered and sampled. The excavated area and spoil heaps were scanned visually and with a metal detector to ensure maximum finds retrieval.

A full photographic record comprising both 35mm black and white negatives and colour transparencies was maintained, supplemented with digital images. On completion of archaeological recording the trenches were backfilled. There was no requirement for specialist re-instatement.

The field data was compiled into a site archive with appropriate cross-referencing, with the Accession Number: X.A155.2009.

4 THE IRON AGE AND ROMAN SETTLEMENT

4.1 Introduction

The trenches were positioned to provide a full coverage of the area with each trench located to test areas of known archaeology or specific features. The two small rectangular areas were designed to provide more detailed coverage where the geophysical survey had identified a complex of archaeological features.

There were no archaeological features in Trenches 1 to 8. Trench 1 was located in order to test the postulated location of the Bronze Age barrow while Trenches 2, 3 and 4 were located to investigate the potential for prehistoric activity around the barrow. The negative results confirm the geophysical survey, confirming there is no barrow or other prehistoric features in this part of the site. Trenches 5 and 6 were located to establish if there were any masked features relating to the cropmark complex, and Trenches 7, 8 and 9 were located to see if any features extended out from the edge of the complex; Trench 8 also targeted a geophysical anomaly (possible marl pit). The archaeological investigation has shown that the settlement does not extend much beyond the known mapped area of settlement; although there were archaeological features within Trench 9, they appear to be situated at the edge of the settlement.

Archaeological features were found in Trenches 9 to 22, all lying within the area identified by geophysical survey as being occupied by intercutting ditch systems. These trenches were located to further define the nature of the settlement and most confirmed the results of the geophysical survey. However, some of the suggested features were proved not to exist. These include the possible road in Trenches 11 and 12 and the possible hearths/kilns in Trench 19. Trenches 16 and 17 were situated over a possible palaeochannel and island, but there was no evidence of either of these features. Trenches 23 to 27 were situated on an area of higher ground, identified as an area of archaeological potential by the Senior Planning Archaeologist. Trenches 23 -25 could not be excavated due to unharvested crop. An urned cremation was found in Trench 26 and possible, undated archaeological features were found in Trench 27.

Overlying the sand natural was subsoil, up to 0.30m thick, comprising mid orange sandy clay, with an intermittent sand fraction dependant upon the underlying natural. The topsoil was a dark brown sandy loam, up to 0.67m thick. Few inclusions were noted in either the subsoil or the topsoil.

4.2 The Iron Age activity

Two trenches were excavated in the south-eastern part of the development area, close to the southern boundary (Fig 2). In Trench 26 the only definite archaeological feature was a single cremation burial which had been deposited in an inverted urn in a shallow pit, 0.28m in diameter (Fig 2 and Fig 6, Section 5; Plates 9-10). The lower part of the urn had been lost to earlier truncation, possibly ploughing. A full discussion of the cremation burial is presented below (see Section 5.1).

There were a number of undated, shallow pits or postholes in Trench 27 to the south that may have been contemporary. They were between 0.50-1.00m in diameter and 0.10-0.24m deep. The fills were fairly sterile with occasional flecks of charcoal.

4.3 The late Iron Age/early Roman settlement

The form and development of the late Iron Age/Roman settlement

The geophysical survey indicated that the features within Trenches 9 to 22 were all part of a single settlement area, measuring in excess of 250m east-west and 250m north-south, although the northern and southern limits of the settlement were not as clearly defined as those to the east and west. No stratigraphical relationships between features were investigated during the evaluation, so discussion regarding the development of the settlement is largely based on pottery dating and morphology of the features.

The earliest phase of settlement appears to have been characterised by a pattern of discrete square enclosures. The presence of some Belgic-style pottery suggests that the origin of the settlement was the middle decades of the 1st century AD, in the late Iron Age rather than post-conquest. One of the earliest features appears to have been a curving ditch [1423] in Trench 14 (Figs 3 and 4). The geophysical survey shows the arc of the ditch continuing beyond the trench, suggesting it was the remains of a curvilinear enclosure with an approximate diameter of 15m. Finds of Belgic-style pottery, including a possible carinated jar or bowl, from other features within the trench may be associated. Two further possible curvilinear gullies [2013] and [2003] were identified in Trench 20 (Fig 3).

In Trench 14, ditch [1406] was apparently mid-1st century and may be the western arm of a square enclosure, *c* 54m long and 45m wide (Figs 3 and 4). There were two further, smaller, enclosures to the south that probably dated to the same period. The westernmost enclosure was only *c* 12m wide and may have been a stock pen. Pottery from the fill of ditch [1604] in Trench 16 was apparently 2nd century, though the differing orientation of the ditch to that suggested in the geophysics indicates that it was later, truncating the earlier enclosure ditch (Fig 3).

By the mid-2nd century the settlement was subject to a major reorganisation and the earlier, discrete, enclosures were replaced by a more structured system of linear boundaries and rectangular enclosures. Ditch [1409] in Trench 14 was firmly 2nd century in date suggesting that this linear boundary was part of the later reorganisation. It appears to share a common alignment with ditch [1019] in Trench 10 which is probably part of a square enclosure with a smaller abutting enclosure to the north. Ditch [1205] in Trench 12 was further major axial boundary aligned perpendicular to that seen in Trench 14. Ditches [2107] and [2209] may have been northern and southern continuations of this ditch. None of these ditches were excavated so were not dated.

The numerous minor gullies, most of which appear to date to the later reorganisation of the settlement, indicate some density of settlement, but as many of these do not appear on the geophysics there is insufficient evidence to characterise them more fully.

There was little pottery dating beyond the 2nd century suggesting that the settlement fell into decline after this period.

Trench descriptions

Trench 9

The most westerly of the trenches containing any settlement evidence, provided a good indication of the western boundary of the settlement (Fig 3). There were two ditches aligned north-west to south-east, one of which may correspond to features revealed by the geophysical survey. Ditch [903] terminated at the south and had a loose dark grey sand fill. Ditch [905] was 1.00m wide and 0.49m deep, the upper fill contained pottery possibly dating to the later 1st or 2nd centuries.

Trench 10

Ditch [1005], which was not excavated, may have been the northern arm of a small rectangular enclosure, approximately 30m north to south. It abutted a larger one to the south, which was *c* 30m north to south and 55m east to west (Figs 3 and 5, Plate 1). Ditch [1019] formed the northern arm of this larger enclosure and was up to 2.10m wide and 0.50m deep, with a stepped profile and rounded base (Fig 6, Section 1). The stepped profile may have resulted from scouring, or recutting of the ditch. The fill was dark orange brown sand with few inclusions. The eastern arm of the enclosure may have been ditch [1211] in Trench 12. A series of narrow gullies ([1007], [1009] and [1011]) in the centre of Trench 10 and the western end of Trench 12 ([1213], [1215], [1217] and [1219]) may represent internal dividing elements.

Shallow ditches [1013] and [1017], each only 0.20m deep, were truncated by ditch [1015], 1.20m wide and 0.60m deep, which terminated within the trench. Pottery from the fill of ditch [1017] dated to the later 2nd century and included mortarium and bag-shaped beaker sherds.

A ditch at the northern end of Trench 10 was at least 2.5m wide, but its northern edge extended beyond the limit of the trench (Fig 5, [1023]). Pottery from the surface of the fill dated to the late 3rd or 4th centuries, indicating that this may have been one of the latest features on site. The ditch was not excavated but its size suggests that it was a major boundary within the settlement. The geophysical survey suggests that it continued at least 30m to the west, but its eastern continuation was not clearly defined.

Trench 11

Two pits in Trench 11, [1103] and [1109], were shallow, with irregular bases and were undated (Fig 3). Ditch [1105] was 1.20m wide and 0.16m deep with a wide U-shaped profile and dark brown sand fill. Further ditches [1111] and [1117] were not excavated.

Trench 12

Ditch [1211] was 1.66m wide and 0.25m deep and may have formed the eastern arm of a small rectangular enclosure (Plate 7). Pottery from the upper fill of the ditch dated to the mid or later-1st century. Ditches ([1213], [1215], [1217] and [1219]) may represent internal dividing elements within the enclosure. Pottery from the fill of [1217] dated to the mid 2nd to 3rd centuries.

A ditch, [1205], was 5m wide but was unexcavated (Fig 3, Plate 2). It was aligned north-west to south-east and the width of the ditch may suggest that it was a major boundary within the settlement. The geophysical survey suggests it was about 100m long, and there was a wide ditch, [2107], on a similar alignment in Trench 21 to the north and a ditch, [2209], in Trench 22 to the south which may be continuations of this feature (Fig 3).

Trench 13

At least seventeen ditches and gullies, most aligned north-east to south-west (Fig 3, Plate 3). At the north, ditch [1304] was 0.82m wide and 0.34m deep with a dark orange-brown silty sand fill. There were a number of large stones in the uppermost part of the fill as well as six sherds of pottery, including a 'Belgic'-style vessel with burnished surfaces, which dated to the mid 1st century. Five sherds of pottery from the top of the fill of unexcavated ditch [1318] dated to the mid 1st -2nd century. Small pit [1320] was 0.88m in diameter and 0.40m deep with a dark orange-brown silty sand fill. There was a small fragment of tile but no other finds.

At the south, ditch [1332] was 0.60m wide and 0.40m deep with a U-shaped profile. The dark orange-brown silty sand fill contained a single sherd of pottery dated to the mid 1st century. None of the other ditches were excavated.

Trench 14

The earliest feature appears to be a fragment of curving ditch [1422], which was not excavated (Fig 4, Plate 4). Ditch [1406] was 1.4m wide and 0.34m deep with a shallow dish-like profile and was aligned north-west to south-east. The primary fill of the ditch was soft mid grey silty sand with occasional small stones and no finds. The upper disuse fill was firm dark grey silty sand with frequent small stones. Pottery from this fill dated to the mid 1st or 2nd centuries. A coin was also found but its condition was too poor for proper identification. The ditch may have formed the western arm of a discrete square or rectangular enclosure; the geophysical survey suggests that this was about 54m long and 45m wide.

Ditch [1429] in the north-west corner of the trench may have been an internal division within the enclosure. The southern arm of the enclosure may have been ditch [1505] or [1507] in Trench 15, of which only [1507] was excavated (Fig 3). It was 2.00m wide and 0.76m deep with a wide U-shaped profile and a narrow slot at the base. The primary fill of the ditch, within the slot, was firm mottled brown-grey silty sand. The mottling suggests that the ditch was waterlogged for at least part of the year.

Gully [1413] was situated 7.5m to the west of ditch [1406]. It was 0.5m wide and 0.3m deep with a wide U-shaped profile. Pottery from the grey-brown silty sand fill was dated to the mid 2nd century. Ditch [1411] truncated the western side of [1413] and was of similar dimensions. A single sherd of grey ware from the fill dated to the late 1st-2nd centuries and may have been residual.

Ditch [1409] was 1.4m wide, where excavated, and 0.52m deep with a stepped, wide U-shaped profile and was aligned north-east to south-west (Plate 8). Further west the ditch was *c*3.4m wide. The primary fill of the ditch was mid brown-grey with some mottling suggesting it was seasonally waterlogged. The upper fill was mid brown-grey silty sand with a relatively large assemblage of pottery. Though largely indicating a later 2nd century date, a small fragment of Nene Valley colour coat may extend the date of the backfill of the ditch into the 3rd century. Also found in the upper fill were fragments of cow bone and spelt glumes. The geophysical survey indicates that the ditch may form the arm of an enclosure and a major axial boundary within the settlement, possibly 150m in length. Ditch [1019] in Trench 10 may be a continuation of this boundary.

Ditch [1419] was situated 5.5m to the south of ditch [1409] on a parallel alignment. It appeared to truncate ditch [1406] and did not re-appear to the east of ditch [1431]. There was a possible pit [1421] measuring 3m long and 2m wide, but it was not excavated.

Trench 15

Similar to Trench 13, there were a number of ditches that were aligned east to west (Fig 3). Ditch [1509] was 1.28m wide and 0.34m deep with a wide dish-shaped profile. The fill was grey-brown silty sand with frequent small pebbles. There was a single sherd of pottery dating to at least the later 2nd century. Ditch [1511] may represent the western arm of an enclosure partially visible on the geophysical survey results. Ditch [1527] at the south of the trench may be the southern arm of a small enclosure. The northern and western arms were visible on the geophysical survey, but the northern arm was not seen in the trench. There were a number of intercutting ditches in the middle of the trench that were not excavated (Fig 3).

Ditches [1509, 1511, 1527] described in Trench 14.

Trench 16

Although the geophysical survey indicated few settlement remains in the eastern part of the site (Fig 3), there were a number of ditches in Trench 16 (although excavation at the eastern end of the trench was kept high due to buried services; Fig 5, Plate 5). Pottery

from two of the ditches dated to the 2nd century and later, perhaps suggesting some settlement drift to the south-east after the 1st century.

Ditch [1604] was 0.98m deep and 0.28m wide with steep sides and a wide, flat base and was aligned north-west to south-east (Fig 6, Section 3). The geophysical survey results indicate that it may have been part of a small square enclosure or pen about 12m wide, although its orientation within the trench appears wrong. The primary fill of the ditch was mid orange-brown clay sand, a result of initial slumping of the sides. The upper fill was mid grey orange-brown silty sand. Pottery found in the upper fill was not closely dated but was at least 2nd century or later. Ditch [1627] truncated the southern edge of ditch [1604] and was similarly aligned, suggesting it may have been a later recut. It was 1.26m wide and 0.44m deep with a wide V-shaped profile. There were a series of unexcavated gullies in the central part of Trench 16, all with fills of orange-brown silty sand: [1606, 1610, 1612, 1614, 1619 and 1620]. Ditch [1619] may be the western arm of the small enclosure.

Two intercutting ditches, [1622] and [1631], were 1.50-1.70m wide and 0.50m deep and had shallow sides and wide, concave bases. The primary fills of each were similar in composition to the natural, and made it difficult to establish a relationship. Pottery from the secondary fill of ditch [1622] suggests at least a mid 2nd-century date. There was a small section of a possible curvilinear ditch, [1624], at the extreme south of the trench, which was unexcavated but had a light orange brown silty sand upper fill.

Trench 17

The few features in Trench 17 perhaps indicated that it was situated on the edge of the settlement. A small pit [1703] may have been a tree hollow or natural depression. At the south of the trench there was a complex series of intercut ditches or pits (Fig 5 and Fig 6, Section 2). The earliest was ditch [1713], 2.2m wide and 0.2m deep, with shallow sides and a wide, flat base. In plan it appears to be the corner of a ditch. It was filled by mottled orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks. The mottling indicated that it was probably seasonally waterlogged. It was truncated by a pit or ditch terminal [1711], *c* 1.3m wide and 0.59m deep, with a wide U-shaped profile. It was filled by mottled grey-orange silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks.

A later gully [1705], 0.6m wide and 0.46m deep with a U-shaped profile, cut both [1713] and [1711]. The primary fill of [1705] was a mottled grey-orange sandy clay, while the upper fill was a dark grey sandy clay. Pottery from this fill dated to the mid 1st or 2nd centuries and there were also charred remains of grassy vegetation, probably used as kindling. There was a small part of a feature, [1707], in the south-western corner of the trench with a very dark fill, but there was too little to ascertain what it was.

Trenches 18 and 19

Two parallel ditches, [1804] and [1906], were 1.8m apart and aligned north-east to south-west; neither were excavated (Figs 3 and 5, Plate 6). In the central part of Trench 18 ditch [1804] turned to the south as presumably did ditch [1906] since it didn't reappear in the southern part of Trench 18. The ditches may have been a field boundary. A large feature may have been intercutting ditches, although the geophysical survey was inconclusive as to what it may represent, [1808] and [1810]. Ditch [1812], aligned north-west to south-east, 2.0m wide and 0.60m deep, had stepped sides from possible recutting. The primary fill was light grey-brown silty clay, while the upper fill was grey-brown silty sand.

A narrow gully [1904] 0.8m wide and 0.36m deep in Trench 19 appeared to terminate in Trench 18.

5 THE FINDS

5.1 **The cremation burial** by Andy Chapman

A cremation burial in an inverted urn, with the base lost to later truncation, had been deposited in a shallow circular pit (Fig 6, Section 5; Fig 7 and Plates 9 and 10).

The cremation deposit

The urn and cremation deposit was lifted as one mass but, given the soft and friable sandy matrix, the urn was disintegrating before and during lifting and, following transportation, the soil mass within the urn had also fallen apart, making it impossible to determine the exact distribution of the bone within the urn. However, it is likely that the bone had formed a dense mass, with at least some of the skull fragments in a single cluster, and it is likely that much of the sandy matrix had filtered into the bone deposit following the loss of the base of the urn.

The absence of any amount of other pyre debris indicates that the bone had been carefully separated from the pyre debris, although the soil matrix did also contain a small quantity of charcoal fragments, 7.5g (from which it would be possible to establish the fuel used for the pyre and to obtain a radiocarbon date).

The urn

This is a plain, hand-built jar in a fabric containing sparse but large rounded grit, up to 4mm long (Fig 7 and Plate 10). It has a grey-black core with a dark brown inner surface. The outer surface is orange-brown on the body of the vessel and becomes progressively darker near the top, with the rim brown to grey-brown in colour. The surface has been wiped smooth but is pimply above the rounded grits. The vessel has been poorly fired and multiple cracks resulted in it falling apart and fragmenting during excavation and lifting, making reconstruction near impossible. It has often broken along coil joins, and oblique coil joins below the rim show how the rim was attached and how it was thinned internally during shaping. The body is typically 11mm thick, but thickens to 15mm just below the rim, and then tapers in again to 11mm.

The vessel has a rim diameter of 270mm and a maximum diameter of 300mm, and only the upper 120mm survive. The rim is turned inwards and flattened, but there is no neck, the rim running smoothly into the body. The upper body is rounded, but the lower body is straight sided.

The fabric and general form of this vessel, with no neck and a simple flattened rim, is difficult to date precisely, and it could be anywhere from the late Bronze/early Iron Age to the middle to late Iron Age, although a date in the later middle Iron Age, perhaps the 2nd to 1st centuries BC, may be tentatively suggested on the basis of the absence of a neck, which is a characteristic of later assemblages.

Trench 20
Although Trench 20 was located beyond the apparent focus of settlement, as suggested by the geophysical survey, there were a number of features (Fig 3). A curvilinear gully [2013] in the centre of the trench was 0.60m wide, but was not excavated. It may have formed a ring ditch of about 10m in diameter. Adjacent to the gully was a pair of parallel ditches, [2009] and [2011], 1.70m wide and 1.50m apart, aligned east to west. At the north of the trench was a further small length of a possible curvilinear gully, although too little was revealed to be sure since it terminated ([2003]). There was a further short length of gully [2005] adjacent to the terminal, 2.5m long, 0.55m wide and 0.17m deep.

Two further parallel gullies ([2007] and [2015]) were situated on a different alignment, north-west to south-east and were 23m apart.

Trench 21
Ditch [2103] was 1.5m wide and 0.2m deep, aligned north-east to south-west with steep sides and a wide concave base. It was adjacent to ditch [2105] but there was no discernable relationship. Ditch [2107] was unexcavated but at least 3m wide. It may form the continuation of a major axial boundary within the settlement seen in Trench 12 ([1205]). There were two further ditches on a similar alignment. A ditch on an east to west alignment, [2111], may have formed a continuation of one seen in Trench 13, the others in Trench 13 either terminating or turning further to the east.

Trench 22
At the north of Trench 22, were two adjacent, intercutting gullies, [2203] and [2205]. There was no discernable relationship between the two. Both had shallow, dish-shaped profiles and were 1.50m wide and 0.30m deep. The fills were mid orange-brown sand.

Ditches [2207] and [2209] were not excavated and were on a similar alignment; either one may have formed the continuation of a major north-west to south-east axial boundary seen elsewhere. Pottery dating to the mid 2nd century and a fragment of tile were retrieved from the upper fill of [2209].

Ditch [2211] was not excavated but may form the southern arm of an enclosure partially visible on the geophysical survey results.

Ditches [2215] and [2217] may form continuations of ditches in Trench 11.

4.4 Later land use

Undated gullies were found in Trench 2 and a possible pit in Trench 8 (Fig 2).

In Trenches 7 and 9 there were remnant furrows from a truncated medieval ridge and furrow field system (Fig 2). The majority of the furrows were orientated north-west to south-east, suggesting that they lay within a single field. The furrows were *c*7m apart and were up to 3m wide. In Trenches 26 and 27 there were further remnant furrows orientated north-east to south-west suggesting they lay within a different field to those to the north.

There were a large number of field drains across the area.

The human bone

For the purposes of the evaluation, the human bone has not been submitted for specialist reporting, but a preliminary interpretation is provided.

A total of 1150g of cremated bone was recovered, but as bone was exposed at the level of the truncated inverted urn, an unknown quantity had previously been lost. The amount recovered would be at least a half of that produced in the cremation of an adult, indicating that the cremation deposit had come from the extensive and thorough collection of material from the funeral pyre. The presence of individual phalanges confirms this.

The bone itself is white in colour, indicating that it is fully oxidised, having been burnt at a temperature above 600°C, with only a small proportion of smaller fragments grey, indicating incomplete oxidation. It is well preserved, containing many large pieces that are recognisable skeletal elements: skull, long bones, vertebra, pelvis and ribs, and hand and foot bones. There are lengths of long bone up to 80mm long, and fragments 40-60mm long are common, and fragments of cranium up to 50mm across and 2-3mm thick.

The cranial sutures have not closed but the epiphysis on the proximal end of the right radius is fused. This would suggest that the individual was a young adult, probably late teens to early 20s. The cranial vault is also thin, and the remains of the vertebra seem small, even allowing for shrinkage during cremation. It is therefore suggested that this was a small individual, probably female. There is no evident duplication or mismatch to indicate the presence of a second individual, but it must be stressed that a full record of skeletal elements has not been compiled.

Conclusion

Although this cremation burial could lie anywhere within a span of several hundred years, from the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age to the middle/late Iron Age, it has been tentatively suggested that the urn could date to the later middle Iron Age, perhaps the 2nd or 1st century BC. If this was so, this cremation burial would be of at least regional importance as Iron Age burials, particularly cremation burials, are in short supply (Willis 2006, 116-177). The only known example from Leicestershire is an unurned cremation burial within a four-post structure at Wanlip (Beamish, 1998, 28-30, fig 17), which has been radiocarbon dated to the early/middle Iron Age, perhaps the 5th century BC.

Given the lack of diagnostic features on the urn, only radiocarbon dating could place this burial within its true context.

5.2 Roman pottery by Nicholas Cooper

Assemblage size and condition

An assemblage of 114 sherds weighing 1.96kg and with an average sherd weight of 17.2g was retrieved from nine of the 24 evaluation trenches. All but two of the sherds were stratified and the average sherd weight would be regarded as fairly high for a rural assemblage of this date, suggesting primary or secondary deposition of domestic rubbish in features close to settlement. Levels of abrasion would indicate normal exposure of midden material prior to deposition in ditch fills.

Methodology

The material was examined in hand specimen using a binocular microscope at x20 magnification and classified using the Leicestershire Fabric Series held at the University

of Leicester (loaned by Leicester City Museums), which is summarised below (Pollard 1994).

Quantification was by sherd count and weight (g). Vessel forms were assigned where diagnostic sherds allowed, using the Leicestershire Form Series and other published typologies (Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, Howe *et al* 1980, Clamp 1985, Tyers 1996 and Webster 1996). The complete dataset was recorded and analysed within an Excel workbook, which comprises the archive record (Appendix 2).

Table 1: Roman pottery fabrics referred to in the text and archive record

Fabric	Description
Samian	Samian wares
C2/3	Nene Valley colour-coated wares
BB1	Black Burnished wares
MO	Mortaria
MO4	Mancetter-Hartshill mortaria
GW3, 5, 6	Grey wares: fine, medium and coarse sandy
OW2, 3	Oxidised wares: fine and coarse sandy
CG1A	Early Roman shelly wares (late Iron Age to 2nd century)
GT2	Fine grog-tempered wares in "Belgic style" forms
SW2	Fine sandy wares in "Belgic style" forms
SW4	Coarse sandy wares

(Pollard 1994, 112-114)

Description and analysis of the assemblage

Stratified material was recovered from Trenches 9, 10, 12-17 and 22 which lie towards the centre of the cropmark enclosure complex. In summary, the assemblage as a whole appears to date to the 1st and 2nd centuries, with the possibility of some material extending into the 3rd. The distinction of 1st and 2nd century groups is often clear and this may help define separate phases suggested by stratigraphic relationships.

Trench 9

A single coarse greyware sherd came from (907) which, whilst on its own is not closely dateable, its similarity to the material from surrounding trenches suggests a later first or second century date.

Trench 10

Twenty-six sherds (522g) were recovered from ditches [1015, 1017, 1019 and 1023] as detailed below. Ditch [1017] contained a coherent later 2nd-century group comprising a mortarium from Mancetter-Hartshill, a bag-shaped beaker with clay roughcast decoration and a south-east Dorset BB1 flanged bowl (Holbrook and Bidwell 1991 Type 39). Ditch (1019) might conceivably date slightly earlier, probably to the later 1st or earlier 2nd centuries and contained an abraded sherd from a South Gaulish samian dish of Form 18 and a number of transitional sandy wares and coarse grey ware sherds. Ditch (1023) appears slightly anomalous, containing a bead and flanged bowl with incised decoration beneath the bead, similar to those produced in East Midlands burnished ware in the later 3rd and 4th centuries from kilns such as Swanpool near Lincoln (Todd 1968, Fig.1.6).

Trench 12

Thirteen sherds (203g) were retrieved from ditches [1217], [1219] and [1211] as detailed below. The diagnostic wares from this trench comprise a Derbyshire ware jar with campanulate rim (Kay 1962, Type A) from [1217] which can date from the mid-2nd century but become more common in the 3rd, and an early BB1 jar with acute lattice

(Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, Type 12) from [1219]. The occurrence of transitional sandy wares in [1211] would suggest a mid- or later 1st century date.

Trench 13
Twelve sherds (243g) came from ditches [1304], [1318] and [1332] as detailed below. The group from [1304] suggests a mid-1st century date for the fill as it includes a 'Belgic' style vessel in a characteristic fine grog-tempered fabric (GT2) with burnished surfaces and a transitional sandy ware jar, whilst those from the [1318] and [1332] are not as closely datable.

Trench 14
This wide trench at the centre of the complex produced the largest group comprising 41 sherds (603g) from secondary fill (1404) ditch [1406], secondary fill (1407) ditch [1409], and gullies [1411] and [1413] as detailed below. The two jar bases from ditch [1406] suggest a mid-1st century date, the pedestal one indicating a 'Belgic' style vessel such as a carinated jar or bowl. However, two tiny scraps retrieved from the environmental sample [1], though not closely dateable would appear to be at least later 1st century in date.

The group from ditch [1409] is more firmly fixed in the later 2nd century and includes a Derbyshire ware jar and a BB1 jar and dish of 2nd century date. In addition there is a small sherd of colour-coated ware from a beaker which is probably from the lower Nene Valley. Whilst the dating of these items could extend into the 3rd century, the nature of the accompanying reduced wares would not necessarily support this. The presence of BB1 in gully [1413] would again indicate at least a mid-2nd century date for this.

Trench 15
Only four sherds (70g) were retrieved from secondary fill (1508) ditch [1507] and ditch [1509] as detailed below. Whilst (1508) is not very closely datable, the occurrence of Derbyshire ware in [1509] indicates at least a later 2nd century date.

Trench 16
Twelve sherds (220g) came from ditch [1604] and primary fill (1629) of ditch [1622] as detailed below. Ditch [1604] is not closely dated, whilst the presence of BB1 indicates at least a mid-2nd century date for (1629).

Trench 17
Ditch [1705] produced as single sherd of early Roman shell-tempered ware suggesting a mid-1st to 2nd century date.

Trench 19
Ditch [1904] contained a small fragment of fired clay or daub, not pottery.

Trench 22
Four joining sherds from a grey ware necked jar with a beaded rim of 2nd century date came from [2209].

Summary

Whilst only a small assemblage, the presence of 'Belgic'-style forms has informed the character of the earlier groups which appear to lie within the second half of the 1st century. The occurrence of regionally traded wares such as BB1 and Derbyshire ware have helped to define the later 2nd-century groups. Across all the groups, the predominance of sandy transitional reduced wares rather than fully developed grey

wares would tend to indicate that nearly all the material could date within the first two centuries AD with the possibility of extending into the early 3rd. The opportunity to excavate and analyse larger groups would no doubt be rewarded with better quality quantified data regarding trade, but the character so far indicates a typical early Roman rural assemblage with a predominance of jar forms and low numbers of imports and specialist wares, but with traded wares beginning to appear in the later groups as these industries emerge during the 2nd century.

5.3 Ceramic building material by Pat Chapman

There are two tile sherds and two fragments of fired clay, from four contexts. The tile sherds together weigh 95g. The larger sherd, from context (2220) ditch [2219], is made from hard coarse sandy orange clay with some fine grit inclusions. It is *c* 20mm thick with one sandy surface, probably from the drying area, but the other surface is worn down. The other sherd, from context (1321) pit [1320], is made from a slightly soft fine orange fabric and also has a sandy surface surviving. Neither sherd can be identified further.

The two tiny fragments of fired clay, from contexts (1706 and 1712), weigh only 27g. One fragment is hard, irregular with sharp edges and pinkish brown; the other fragment is very thin, flat and orange with a hint of light brown.

5.4 Other finds by Ian Meadows

There are four finds from four contexts; three were found in the topsoil, only one was securely stratified.

SF 1: Topsoil, Trench 2 Fragment of the head of a copper alloy brooch, probably a Colchester or Colchester derivative. The corroded fragment comprises the severely truncated wings (14mm) with the spring inside along with a short section (18mm) of the bow, which originally had a triangular cross section with an incised groove along each edge. This piece is too fragmentary to closely discuss but it probably dates to the second half of the 1st century AD.

SF2: [1407] A copper alloy coin flan, 20mm diameter, which retaining little of the original surface. Its condition precludes identification beyond probably Roman and possibly 3rd or 4th century in date.

SF3: Topsoil, Trench 15 A small copper alloy coin flan, 10mm diameter, retaining none of the original surface. The piece is on the grounds of size probably a late 3rd or 4th century Roman coin.

SF4: Topsoil, Trench 1 A copper alloy radiate coin, 18mm diameter, of Gallienus (253-268). The piece preserves the obverse bust and part of the legend; the reverse has an unidentified standing figure.

Apart from a possible Roman date these finds were all of a group in that they were all severely corroded, in most instances rendering close identification impossible. No further work is recommended as the pieces are too corroded.

6 THE FAUNAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

6.1 **Animal bone** by Jennifer Browning

The table below presents details of a small quantity of animal bones (n=57) recovered during trenching at Dishley Grange, Loughborough. Material was retrieved both by hand and through sieving and was recovered from features of the early Roman period. The available evidence indicates that bone preservation at the site was poor: the small amount recovered; the degree of fragmentation and abraded bone surfaces. There is a relative abundance of burnt bones and tooth enamel, which tend to survive better than more porous specimens. Within this small group, calcined fragments suggest that some bones had been exposed to temperatures higher than 700°C, destroying the organic content of the bone (Gilchrist and Mytum 1986, 30). Cattle and horse were the only positively identified species, a factor which again points towards poor survival of smaller and more fragile bones.

Table 2: Catalogue of animal bone

Context/ feature	Sample No:	Trench No:	Species	Bone	Comments
1018/1017	-	10	medium mammal	shaft fragment	Possibly radius shaft. Completely calcined-white
1508/1507	-	15	cattle	upper molar	Incomplete. Irregular fragmentation of the occlusal surface suggests fracture caused by heat.
1706/1705	-	17	equid	phalange 2	Very poor preservation: 3 fragments and very abraded surfaces.
1706/1705	-	17	large mammal	shaft fragment	Long bone
1706/1705	3	17	mammalian	tooth	11x fragments of tooth enamel. Poss. cattle
1404/1406	1	14	mammalian	shaft fragments	1 charred, 1 calcined and 1 apparently unburnt.
1222/1211	4	12	cattle	lower molar (m2?)	Incomplete. Light wear on the occlusal surface.
1222/1211	4	12	cattle	tooth	Enamel fragments x7, including remains of part of the occlusal surface (in wear)
1222/1211	4	12	mammalian	fragments	8 x calcined fragments
1222/1211	4	12	mammalian	fragments	8 x fragments
1407/1409	2	14	cattle	metacarpal	Distal condyle (prob. medial). Distal epiphysis fused.
1407/1409	2	14	mammalian	fragments	12 x fragments

Key: mammalian= indeterminate mammal; medium mammal= undiagnostic fragments likely to derive from sheep/goat, pig or other mammals of similar size; large mammal= undiagnostic fragments likely to derive from cattle, horse or other mammals of similar size.

6.2 **The charred plant remains** by Angela Monckton

Methods

Samples were wet-sieved in a York tank using a 0.5mm mesh with flotation into a 0.3mm mesh sieve. The flotation fractions (flots) were air dried and packed in self seal polythene bags. The residues were also air dried and the fraction over c.4mm sorted for all finds reserved for analysis. The fraction of the residue below 4mm was reserved for analysis stage if required. This work was carried out at Northamptonshire Archaeology.

The flots were sorted for plant and animal remains using a x10-30 stereo microscope and the remains were removed to glass specimen tubes. The plant remains were identified by comparison with modern reference material at ULAS and were counted and recorded below (Table 3). Some of the fine fractions were also sorted in the same way. For full analysis samples with over 50 items are required so that the proportions and ratios of the different types of remains, ie cereal grains, chaff and weed seeds can be considered to interpret the samples (van der Veen 1992). Unfortunately none with sufficient remains were found so the results are described below. The plant names follow Stace (1991).

Table 3: Assessment of flots and residues for charred plant remains

Samp No.	Cont/ feat	Feat type	Samp Vol. litres	Flot Vol. (ml)	Gr ch	Cf ch	Se ch	Se un	Oth ch	Ch c	i/L	Charred plant remains and comments.
1	1404/ 1406	D	20	50	1	-	2	++	rts	+	0.25	A barley grain, seeds of chickweed type. Few small charred roots, charcoal fragments. (Flot mostly fine roots and soil).
1	1404/ 1406	..	..	FF x2	-	-	2	+	rts	+	-	Fine fraction c.800 mls 50% sorted, charred vetch type seeds, small charred roots, few charcoal frags.
2	1407/ 1409	D	20	70	8	3	6	++	-	+	1.2	Spelt glumes, wheat and barley grains, seeds of large grass, and vetch type. (Flot mostly fine roots and soil)
2	1407/ 1409	..	..	FF x1	2	3	-	1	-	+	-	Fine fraction c.600 mls 50% sorted. A few wheat glumes and cereal grain frags and charcoal frags, similar to above. Small bone frags x3.
3	1706/ 1705	D	20	50	1	-	2	3	1tu 4gs	+	0.4	A tuber of onion couch, a bud, seed indet frags. Flot mostly roots.
3	1706/ 1705	..	..	FF x2							-	Fine fraction clean, not sorted.
4	1222/ 1211	D	20	60	1	-	1	-	4gs	+	0.1	A wheat grain, grass stem bases. Flot mostly roots.
4	1222/ 1211	..	..	FF x2							-	Fine fraction not sorted.
5	1321/ 1320	D	10	15	-	-	1	++	-	+	0.1	Small flot, mostly roots.
5	1321/ 1320	..		FF x1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Fine fraction small, clean, nothing.

Key: Gr = cereal grain, Cf = chaff, Se = seed, ch = charred, un = uncharred, Chc = charcoal, Oth = other charred item, tu = tuber, gs = grass stem bases, rts = small root fragments, fl = flecks, frag = fragments, lg = large, sm = small, + = present, ++ = moderate amount, +++ = abundant. # = further work required. D = ditch, i/L = items of charred remains per litre of soil sieved.

Results

Cereal grains were few and were mainly broken and abraded. The identifiable cereal grains were of glume wheat (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*). Barley grains (*Hordeum vulgare*) were also found which could not be identified further. Very few wheat chaff fragments (glumes) were found and some were identifiable as glumes of spelt (*Triticum spelta*) with prominent minor veins, one prominent wide angled keel and wide bases. Glumes which were broken too short to distinguish these features or were of intermediate type were identified only as the glume wheats either emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*).

Weed seeds were few in number, but were probably of arable weeds; these included the large grasses probably brome grass (*Bromus* sp.) are the most common weed as is often the case at this period. The only others which could be identified were of vetch type (*Vicia/Lathyrus*) and possibly chickweed type (*Stellaria* sp.) but the seeds were abraded and damaged. The samples also contained charred small roots, stem bases of grasses and a tuber of onion couch grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*). Uncharred seeds were present, mainly of goose-foots (*Chenopodium* sp.) probably as modern intrusive material with the many modern roots in the flots.

The samples were all from enclosure ditches or associated features, and all contained some items of charred plant remains and charcoal fragments. Samples 1, 2, 3 and 4 contained evidence of cereals as a few grains including some of wheat and barley with a few weed seeds, chaff including identified spelt was found only in sample 2 (context (1407), ditch [1409]). The charred plant remains were typically Roman (Greig 1991). Grassy vegetation was also present as stems and tubers, particularly in sample 3 (context (1706), ditch [1705]) as a tuber of onion couch grass, this was probably from the surrounding vegetation used as kindling, or from the site of the fire. Little was found in sample 5. In all the samples roots and uncharred seeds were present from modern disturbance.

Discussion

Charred cereal grains were found in four of the five samples with occasional weed seeds and chaff in one of the samples; the cereals were barley and spelt. There were too few remains to interpret the samples except as a low density scatter of domestic or other waste from cereal use. The maximum density of remains in the best sample was only 1.2 items per litre of soil. The chaff of the glume wheats can be waste from small scale domestic processing as the grain can be stored in the chaff because the ears of glume wheat cereals such as spelt only break into segments called spikelets when they are threshed (Hillman 1981). In the spikelet the grain is still held in the chaff and requires parching and pounding to free the grain, then the chaff and small weed seeds can be removed by sieving in a sieve which retains the grains. Some of this waste may be present in sample 2. All these samples with low densities of grain and seeds may represent waste from hand sorting of cereals before consumption, such remains, which can include grains spilled during food preparation, may represent domestic waste burnt in hearths. This waste may be raked from hearths and dumped or accumulated as a scatter on occupation sites. Plant materials for other purposes such as kindling may be represented by the grassy remains here in sample 3.

Around only a dozen Roman rural sites have been sampled in Leicestershire and Rutland which seem to fall into two types, those with few remains, and those with abundant cereal processing evidence dominated by spelt chaff including the sites with corn driers (summarized in Monckton 2004, 160). The plant remains from this site are similar in quantity and type to the local sites with few plant remains below ten items per litre of soil which now includes Rearsby sites 2 and 6, and Market Overton. This group includes some farmsteads as at Normanton 1, Kirby Muxloe, Desford and Gimbro Farm, and some where only part of a larger site was sampled such as at Drayton villa II.

Possible explanations are that some of these sites may be more concerned with animal husbandry such as at some farmsteads, or may be from the parts of the settlement concerned with animal husbandry as is possibly the case at Rearsby site 6 where grassy remains were also found. Some low density plant remains may be from parts of a site further away from sites of cereal processing where the extent of the site is unknown, such as at Stamford Rd Oakham. This site is unusual in having early Roman samples, also found at Market Overton, while at Rearsby the only early Roman sample was from a gully on site 2 which had very few remains, a barley grain, a wheat glume and a brome grass seeds at a density of 0.3 items per litre. More evidence is needed from Roman sites outside Leicester of all periods in the two counties.

Conclusions

The samples contained charred plant remains but very low densities similar to a few other Roman sites in the county but distinct from the sites with cereal processing evidence from sites with corn driers. The plant remains were typically Roman and included occasional grains of glume wheat and barley with single numbers of chaff fragments (glumes) mainly of spelt. Charred seeds included, large grasses, known as arable weeds of the time. The cereal remains were abraded and these together with the weed seeds, may represented a scatter of waste from either domestic activity perhaps from cereal processing at some distance from the area. Some remains could represent grassy material used as kindling. The samples produced low densities of charred plants from the features sampled, possibly near the edge of domestic activity, or perhaps at some distance from where the cereals were being processed.

Although these samples were not very productive and probably represent ditches at some distance from occupation or agricultural activities concerned with crops, if other areas of the site are investigated areas of activity may be found. Hence samples should be taken and assessed if further excavations are carried out.

7 DISCUSSION

The evaluation has identified one area of archaeological significance relating to the late Iron Age/Roman settlement (Fig 8). The area investigated by Trenches 1-7 to the west contained no features or deposits of archaeological interest, and this area will require no further archaeological work. However, an urned cremation burial that may have dated to the middle/late Iron Age was found in the south-eastern part of the site. While there were further small pits and possible gullies in the adjacent trench, they were undated, so it is not known whether they were contemporary. The geophysical scan of this area did not identify any extensive areas of settlement, so while it is unlikely that this area contains settlement activity, it is possible that further cremations/burials or other discrete features may be present. Therefore further conditioned fieldwork may be necessary in order to assess the significance of the area.

The trial trenching has confirmed the validity of the earlier geophysical survey results which showed that the main concentration of archaeological remains lay in the north-east of the site, particularly in the area of Trench 14. The exposure of archaeological features within the two areas was particularly valuable in understanding the likely complexity of the site as a whole and the potential for stratigraphic inter-relationships, particularly in areas of dense archaeology, which would have been difficult to assess with traditional linear trenching.

The late Iron Age/Roman settlement comprised a sequence of overlapping enclosures and ditches, some of which formed extensive linear boundaries; these contained relatively widely dispersed pits and gullies. No hearths, kilns or other evidence of

industrial activity was found during the evaluation as had been suggested may be present by the geophysical survey.

It was noted during the fieldwork that the surface topography of the field was very uneven and that soil depths varied greatly between the trenches. This together with only partial survival of ridge and furrow may indicate that the site has been subject to significant alterations, perhaps resulting in the truncation of larger features, and the removal of more ephemeral ones.

The pottery evidence shows that the settlement continued from the late 1st century and through the 2nd century. The settlement appears to decline after the late 2nd century. The assemblage, though small, appears to be typical of a small rural settlement. The sandy soils of the site have meant that preservation of bone is extremely poor, with only bones from larger animals, teeth and burnt bone surviving. There were also low densities of charred plant remains, but further environmental sampling has been recommended in subsequent phases of archaeological investigation.

In conclusion, the limits of the settlement have largely been defined by the evaluation, which has also discounted other possible areas of archaeological interest, such as a barrow, the palaeochannel and island complex and features associated with Robert Bakewell's farming regime. The settlement is composed of a series of intercutting enclosures and linear boundaries, with few discrete features. It seems that many of these more ephemeral features, such as pits or the remains of buildings, have been ploughed out. The material culture of the site is generally poor, with relatively small amounts of pottery for a site of this type and little bone or charred plant remains.

— area to be with excavation and trenches.

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Appendix 1: Context list

Context Number	Type	Brief description	Date
101	Layer	Topsoil: 0.10-0.36m thick	-
102	Layer	Natural	-
103	Cut	Cut of gully	Modern
104	Fill	Fill of gully [103]	-
201	Layer	Topsoil: 0.37-0.25m thick	-
202	Layer	Natural	-
203	Cut	Cut of gully	Modern
204	Fill	Fill of gully [203]	
205	Cut	Cut of gully	Modern
206	Fill	Fill of gully [205]	-
301	Layer	Topsoil: 0.26-0.40m thick	-
302	Layer	Natural	-
401	Layer	Topsoil: 0.32-0.35m thick	-
402	Layer	Natural	-
501	Layer	Topsoil: 0.27-0.37m thick	-
502	Layer	Natural	-
601	Layer	Topsoil: 0.27-0.35m thick	-
612	Layer	Natural	-
701	Layer	Topsoil: 0.22-0.35m thick	-
702	Layer	Natural	-
801	Layer	Topsoil: 0.28-0.37m thick	-
802	Layer	Natural	-
803	Cut	Cut of shallow depression	Natural
804	Fill	Fill of [803]	-
901	Layer	Topsoil: 0.31-0.51m thick	-
902	Layer	Natural	-
903	Cut	Cut of ditch butt-end	?
904	Fill	Fill of [903]	-
905	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
906	Fill	Primary fill of [905]	-
907	Fill	Secondary fill of [905]	Undated
908	Layer	Tree bole	-
909	Fill	Fill of [908]	-
1001	Layer	Topsoil: 0.34-0.62m thick	-
1002	Layer	Natural	-
1003	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1004	Cut/fill	Fill of [1003]	Undated
1005	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1006	Fill	Fill of [1005]	Undated
1007	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1008	Fill	Fill of [1007]	Undated
1009	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1010	Fill	Fill of [1009]	-
1011	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1012	Fill	Fill of [1011]	-
1013	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1014	Fill	Fill of [1013]	Roman
1015	Cut	Cut of butt-end	-
1016	Fill	Fill of [1015]	Roman
1017	Cut	Cut of ditch	Same as 1013
1018	Fill	Fill of [1017]	Roman
1019	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1020	Fill	Fill of [1019]	Roman

Context Number	Type	Brief description	Date
1021	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1022	Fill	Fill of [1021]	Undated
1023	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1024	Fill	Fill of [1023]	Roman
1101	Layer	Topsoil: 0.38m thick	-
1102	Layer	Natural	-
1103	Cut	Cut of pit	-
1104	Fill	Fill of [1103]	Undated
1105	Cut	Cut of ditch	Modern
1106	Fill	Fill of [1105]	-
1107	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1108	Fill	Fill of [1107]	Undated
1109	Cut	Cut of pit	-
1110	Fill	Fill of [1109]	Undated
1111	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1112	Fill	Fill of [1111]	-
1113	Cut	Cut of pit	Modern
1114	Fill	Fill of [1113]	-
1115	Cut	Cut of pit	Modern
1116	Fill	Fill of [1115]	-
1117	Cut	Cut of ditch	Modern
1118	Fill	Fill of [1117]	-
1201	Layer	Topsoil: 0.48-0.67m thick	-
1202	Layer	Natural	-
1203	Cut	Cut of gully	-
1204	Fill	Fill of [1203]	Undated
1205	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1206	Fill	Fill of [1205]	Undated
1207	Cut	Cut of ditch butt-end or pit	-
1208	Fill	Fill of [1207]	Undated
1209	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1210	Fill	Fill of [1209]	Undated
1211	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1212	Fill	Primary fill of [1211]	-
1213	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1214	Fill	Fill of [1213]	Undated
1215	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1216	Fill	Fill of [1215]	Undated
1217	Cut	Cut of gully	-
1218	Fill	Fill of [1217	Roman
1219	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1220	Fill	Fill of [1219]	Roman
1221	Layer	Fill of [1211]	-
1222	Fill	Secondary fill of [1211]	Roman
1301	Layer	Topsoil: 0.32-0.45m thick	-
1302	Layer	Subsoil: 0.17-0.23m thick	-
1303	Layer	Natural	-
1304	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1305	Fill	Fill of [1304[	Iron Age
1306	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1307	Fill	Fill of [1306]	Undated
1308	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1309	Fill	Fill of [1308]	Undated
1310	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1311	Fill	Fill of [1310]	Undated

Context Number	Type	Brief description	Date
1312	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1313	Fill	Fill of [1312]	Undated
1314	Cut	Cut of ditch butt-end	-
1315	Fill	Fill of [1314]	Undated
1316	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1317	Fill	Fill of [1316]	Undated
1318	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1319	Fill	Fill of [1318]	Roman
1320	Cut	Cut of pit	-
1321	Fill	Fill of [1320]	Undated
1322	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1323	Fill	Fill of [1322]	Undated
1324	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1325	Fill	Fill of [1324]	Undated
1326	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1327	Fill	Fill of [1326]	Undated
1328	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1329	Fill	Fill of [1328]	Undated
1330	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1331	Fill	Fill of [1330]	Undated
1332	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1333	Fill	Fill of [1332]	Roman
1401	Layer	Topsoil: 0.35m thick	-
1402	Layer	Subsoil: 0.02-0.15m thick	-
1403	Layer	Natural	-
1404	Fill	Secondary fill of [1406]	Roman
1405	Fill	Primary fill of [1406]	-
1406	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1407	Fill	Secondary fill of [1409]	Roman
1408	Fill	Primary fill of [1409]	-
1409	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1410	Fill	Fill of [1411]	Roman
1411	Cut	Cut of gully	-
1412	Fill	Fill of [1413]	Roman
1413	Cut	Cut of gully	-
1414	Fill	Fill of [1415]	Undated
1415	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1416	Fill	Fill of [1417]	Undated
1417	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1418	Fill	Fill of [1419]	Undated
1419	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1420	Fill	Fill of [1421]	Undated
1421	Cut	Cut possible pit	-
1422	Fill	Fill of [1423]	Undated
1423	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1424	Fill	Fill of [1425]	Undated
1425	Cut	Cut of pit	-
1426	Fill	Fill of [1427]	Undated
1427	Cut	Cut of pit	-
1428	Fill	Fill of [1429]	Undated
1429	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1430	Fill	Fill of [1431]	Roman
1431	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1432	Fill	Fill of [1433]	Undated
1433	Cut	Cut of pit	-
1501	Layer	Topsoil: 0.36m thick	-

Context Number	Type	Brief description	Date
1502	Layer	Natural	-
1503	Cut	Field drain	Modern
1504	Fill	Fill of [1503]	-
1505	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1506	Fill	Fill of [1505]	Undated
1507	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1508	Fill	Secondary fill of [1507]	Roman?
1509	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1510	Fill	Fill of [1509]	Roman
1511	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1512	Fill	Fill of [1511]	Undated
1513	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1514	Fill	Fill of [1513]	
1515	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1516	Fill	Fill of [1515]	
1517	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1518	Fill	Fill of [1517]	
1519	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1520	Fill	Fill of [1519]	
1521	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1522	Fill	Fill of [1521]	
1523	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1524	Fill	Fill of [1523]	
1525	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1526	Fill	Fill of [1525]	
1527	Fill	Primary fill of [1507]	
1601	Layer	Topsoil: 0.11-0.31m thick	-
1602	Layer	Subsoil: 0.13m thick	-
1603	Layer	Natural	-
1604	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1605	Fill	Fill of [1604]	
1606	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1607	Fill	Fill of [1606]	
1608	Cut	Cut of drain	Modern
1609	Fill	Fill of [1608]	-
1610	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1611	Fill	Fill of [1610]	
1612	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1613	Fill	Fill of [1612]	
1614	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1615	Fill	Fill of [1614]	
1616	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1617	Fill	Fill of [1616]	
1618	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1619	Fill	Fill of [1618]	
1620	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1621	Fill	Fill of [1620]	
1622	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1623	Fill	Secondary fill of [1622]	
1624	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1625	Fill	Fill of [1624]	
1626	Fill	Primary fill of [1604]	
1627	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1628	Fill	Fill of [1627]	Undated
1629	Fill	Primary fill of [1622]	-
1630	Fill	Redeposit natural	-

Context Number	Type	Brief description	Date
1631	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1632	Fill	Primary fill of [1631]	
1633	Fill	Secondary fill of [1631]	
1634	Fill	Upper fill of [1631]	
1701	Layer	Topsoil: 0.30m thick	-
1702	Layer	Natural	-
1703	Cut	Cut of pit	-
1704	Fill	Fill of [1703]	Undated
1705	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1706	Fill	Fill of [1705]	
1707	Cut	Cut of possible ditch	-
1708	Fill	Fill of [1707]	-
1709	Fill	Primary fill of [1705]	
1710	Fill	Fill of [1711]	
1711	Cut	Cut of pit	-
1712	Fill	Fill of [1713]	
1713	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
1801	Layer	Topsoil: 0.30m thick	-
1802	Layer	Subsoil: 0.28m thick	-
1803	Layer	Natural	-
1804	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1805	Fill	Fill of [1804]	
1806	Cut	Cut of pit	
1807	Fill	Fill of [1806]	
1808	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1809	Fill	Fill of [1808]	
1810	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1811	Fill	Fill of [1810]	
1812	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1813	Fill	Secondary fill of [1812]	
1814	Fill	Primary fill of [1812]	
1901	Layer	Topsoil: 0.31m thick	-
1902	Layer	Subsoil: 0.15m thick	-
1903	Layer	Natural	-
1904	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1905	Fill	Fill of [1904]	
1906	Cut	Cut of ditch	
1907	Fill	Fill of [1906]	
1908	Cut	Cut of pit	
1909	Fill	Fill of [1908]	
2001	Layer	Topsoil: 0.39m thick	-
2002	Layer	Natural	-
2003	Cut	Cut of gully	
2004	Fill	Fill of [2003]	
2005	Cut	Cut of gully	
2006	Fill	Fill of [2005]	
2007	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2008	Fill	Fill of [2007]	
2009	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2010	Fill	Fill of [2009]	
2011	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2012	Fill	Fill of [2011]	
2013	Cut	Cut of gully	
2014	Fill	Fill of [2013]	
2015	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2016	Fill	Fill of [2015]	

Context Number	Type	Brief description	Date
2101	Layer	Topsoil: 0.30-0.46m thick	-
2102	Layer	Natural	-
2103	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2104	Fill	Fill of [2103]	
2105	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2106	Fill	Fill of [2105]	
2107	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2108	Fill	Fill of [2107]	
2109	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2110	Fill	Fill of [2109]	
2111	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2112	Fill	Fill of [2111]	
2113	Cut	Cut of pit	
2114	Fill	Fill of [2113]	
2115	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2116	Fill	Fill of [2115]	
2201	Layer	Topsoil: 0.26-0.41m thick	-
2202	Layer	Natural	-
2203	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2204	Fill	Fill of [2203]	
2205	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2206	Fill	Fill of [2205]	
2207	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2208	Fill	Fill of [2207]	
2209	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2210	Fill	Fill of [2209]	
2211	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2212	Fill	Fill of [2211]	
2213	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2214	Fill	Fill of [2213]	
2215	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2216	Fill	Fill of [2215]	
2217	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2218	Fill	Fill of [2217]	
2219	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2220	Fill	Fill of [2219]	
2601	Layer	Topsoil: 0.32m thick	-
2602	Layer	Subsoil: 0.25m thick	-
2603	Layer	Natural	-
2604	Cut	Cremation burial	BronzeAge/Iron Age
2605	Fill	Fill of [2604]	
2606	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2607	Fill	Fill of [2006]	
2608	Cut	Cut of furrow	
2609	Fill	Fill of [2608]	
2610	Cut	Cut of ditch/furrow	
2611	Fill	Fill of [2610]	
2701	Layer	Topsoil: 0.20-0.39m thick	-
2702	Layer	Subsoil: 0.16m thick	-
2703	Layer	Natural	-
2704	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2705	Fill	Fill of [2704]	
2706	Cut	Cut of gully	
2707	Fill	Fill of [2706]	
2708	Cut	Cut of pit	

Context Number	Type	Brief description	Date
2709	Fill	Fill of [2708]	
2710	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2711	Fill	Fill of [2710]	
2712	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2713	Fill	Fill of [2712]	
2714	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2715	Fill	Fill of [2714]	
2716	Cut	Cut of pit	
2717	Fill	Fill of [2716]	
2718	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2719	Fill	Fill of [2718]	
2720	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2721	Fill	Fill of [2720]	
2722	Cut	Cut of pit	
2723	Fill	Fill of [2722]	
2724	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2725	Fill	Fill of [2724]	
2726	Cut	Cut of small pit	
2727	Fill	Fill of [2726]	
2728	Cut	Cut of pit	
2729	Fill	Fill of [2728]	
2730	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2731	Fill	Fill of [2730]	
2732	Cut	Cut of ditch	
2733	Fill	Fill of [2732]	
2734	Cut	Cut of possible pit	
2735	Fill	Fill of [2734]	

Appendix 2: Roman Pottery Quantification

Table 1: Trench 10 contexts

Context/ feature	Fabric	Form	Type	Decoration	Sherds	Wt (g)	Dating
1016/ 1015	GW5	misc			1	6	L1st+
1018/ 1017	MO4	mortarium			1	63	150+
1018/ 1017	OW3	beaker	bag-shaped	clay r/cast	2	18	80-150
1018/ 1017	BB1	bowl	HB 39		2	65	120-160
1018/ 1017	GW3	platter	LAU 7E1		1	55	L1st-E2nd
1018/ 1017	GW3	jar			9	130	2nd cent
1020/ 1019	samianSG	dish	Dr18		1	6	M-L1st
1020/ 1019	SW4	jar	necked		2	16	M-L1st
1020/ 1019	SW4	jar	base		1	63	M-L1st
1020/ 1019	GW6	jar	base		2	32	L1st-E2nd
1020/ 1019	GW5	jar			1	14	L1-E2nd
1024/ 1023	samianSG	dish			1	11	L1st
1024/ 1023	GW5	misc			1	4	2nd-4th
1024/ 1023	GW5	Bowl	bead&flange	incised bead	1	39	L3rd-4th

Table 2: Trench 12 contexts

Context/ feature	Fabric	Form	Type	Decoration	Sherds	Wt (g)	Dating
1218/ 1217	Derbys	jar	Kay Type A		4	75	M2nd-3rd
1218/ 1217	GW5	misc			1	6	L1st+
1220/ 1291	BB1	jar	HB12?	acute lattice	1	2	120-160
1220/ 1291	GW5	misc			1	4	L1st+
1222/ 1211	SW4	jar			3	43	Mid1st
1222/ 1211	SW4	jar			3	73	Mid1st

Table 3: Trench 13 contexts

Context/ feature	Fabric	Form	Type	Decoration	Sherds	Wt (g)	Dating
1305/ 1304	SW4	jar	base		2	139	Mid1st
1305/ 1304	GT2	misc		burnished	2	34	Mid1st
1305/ 1304	CG1A	jar			1	7	Mid1st
1305/ 1304	SW4	jar			1	16	Mid1st
1319/ 1318	OW2	misc			1	6	L1st-2nd
1319/ 1318	MG	Misc			4	32	Mid1st
1333/ 1332	SW4	misc			1	9	Mid1st

Table 4: Trench 14 contexts

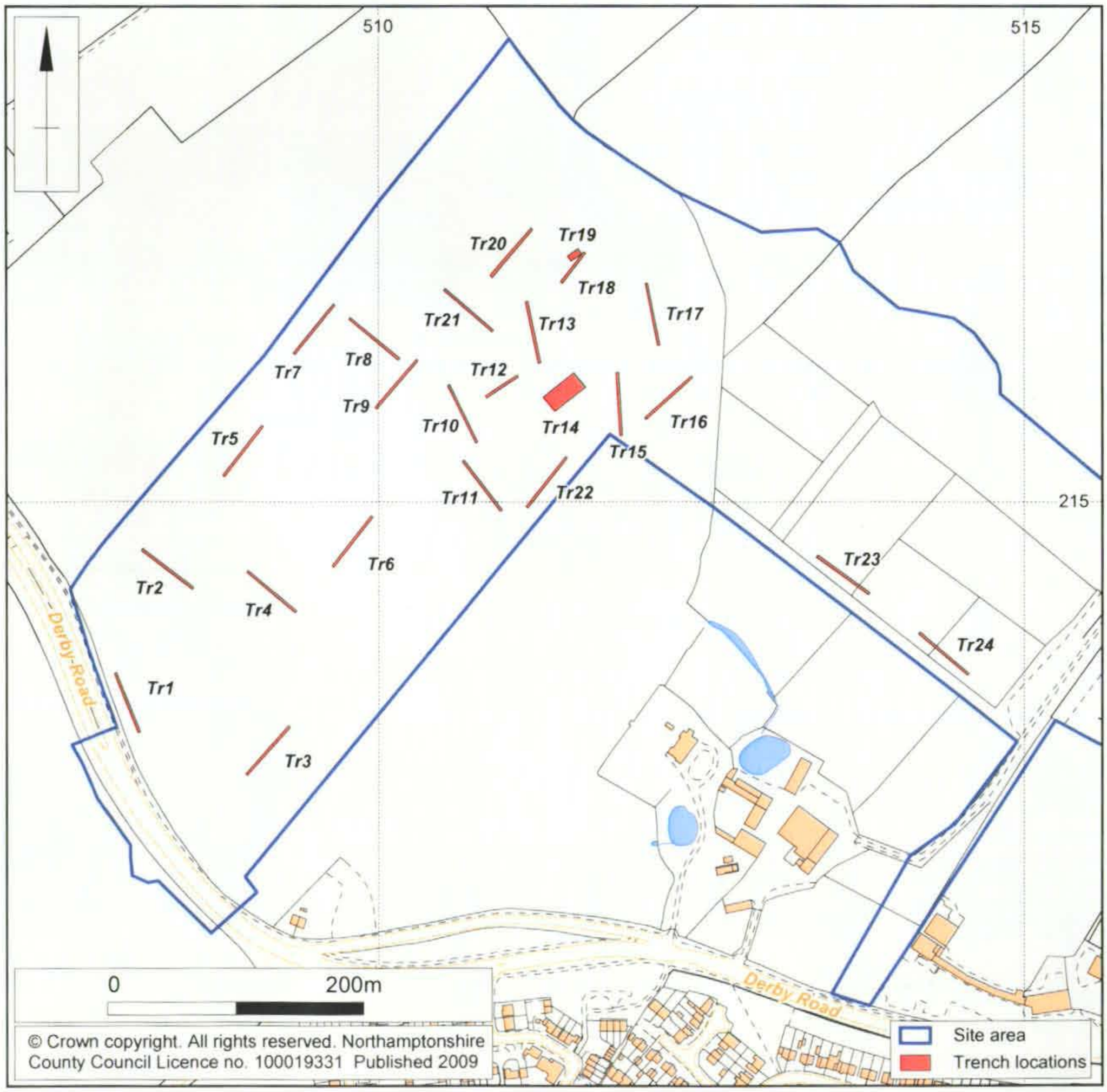
Context/ Feature	Fabric	Form	Type	Decoration	Sherds	Wt (g)	Dating
1404/ 1406	samian	misc			1	1	1st-2nd
1404/ 1406	SW2	jar	pedestal base		1	77	Mid1st
1404/ 1406	SW4	jar	base		1	25	Mid1st
1404/ 1406	MO	mort			1	2	L1st/2nd+
1407/ 1409	C3	beaker			1	1	M2nd+
1407/ 1409	Derbys	jar	campanulate		16	116	M2nd-3rd
1407/ 1409	SW4	jar	necked		2	43	M-L1st
1407/ 1409	BB1	jar			3	22	Mid2nd+
1407/ 1409	BB1	dish			1	6	Mid2nd+
1407/ 1409	GW3	jar	base		1	20	2nd+
1407/ 1409	GW5	misc			8	100	L1st-2nd
1410/ 1411	GW5	misc			1	4	L1st-2nd
1412/ 1413	BB1	jar			1	5	Mid2nd+
1412/ 1413	CG1A	jar			1	27	M1st-2nd
U/S	GW5	jar			2	154	2nd+

Table 5: Trench 15 contexts

Context/ feature	Fabric	Form	Type	Decoration	Sherds	Wt (g)	Dating
1508/ 1507	GW5	jar	lid-seated		1	11	L1st-2nd
1508/ 1507	CG1A	jar			2	19	M1st-2nd
1510/ 1509	Derbys	jar	base		1	40	M2nd-3rd

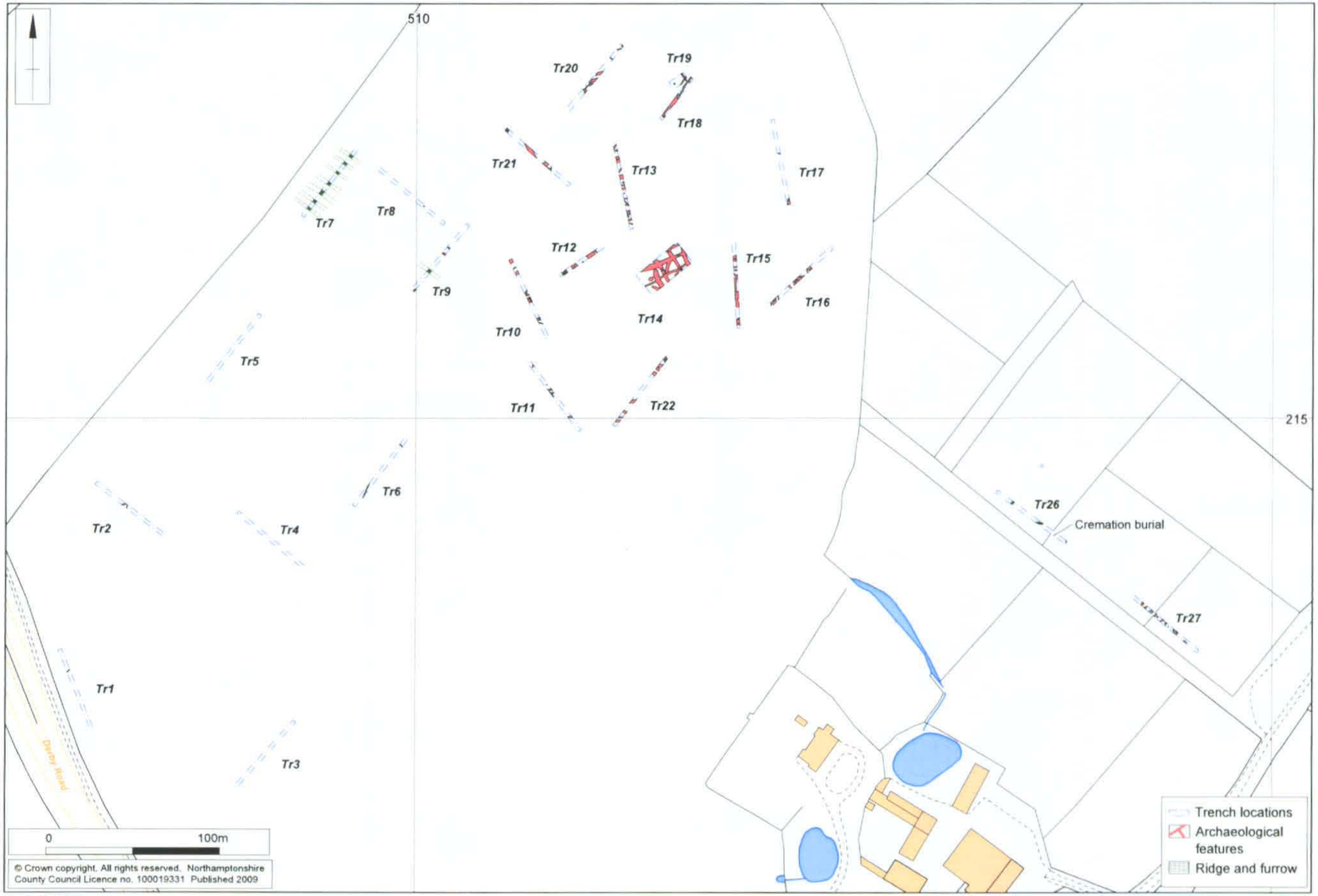
Table 6: Trench 16 contexts

Context/ feature	Fabric	Form	Type	Decoration	Sherds	Wt (g)	Dating
1605/ 1604	GW5	jar	base		4	91	2nd+
1629/ 1622	BB1	jar	base		1	14	Mid2nd+
1629/ 1622	GW3	jar			7	115	2nd+



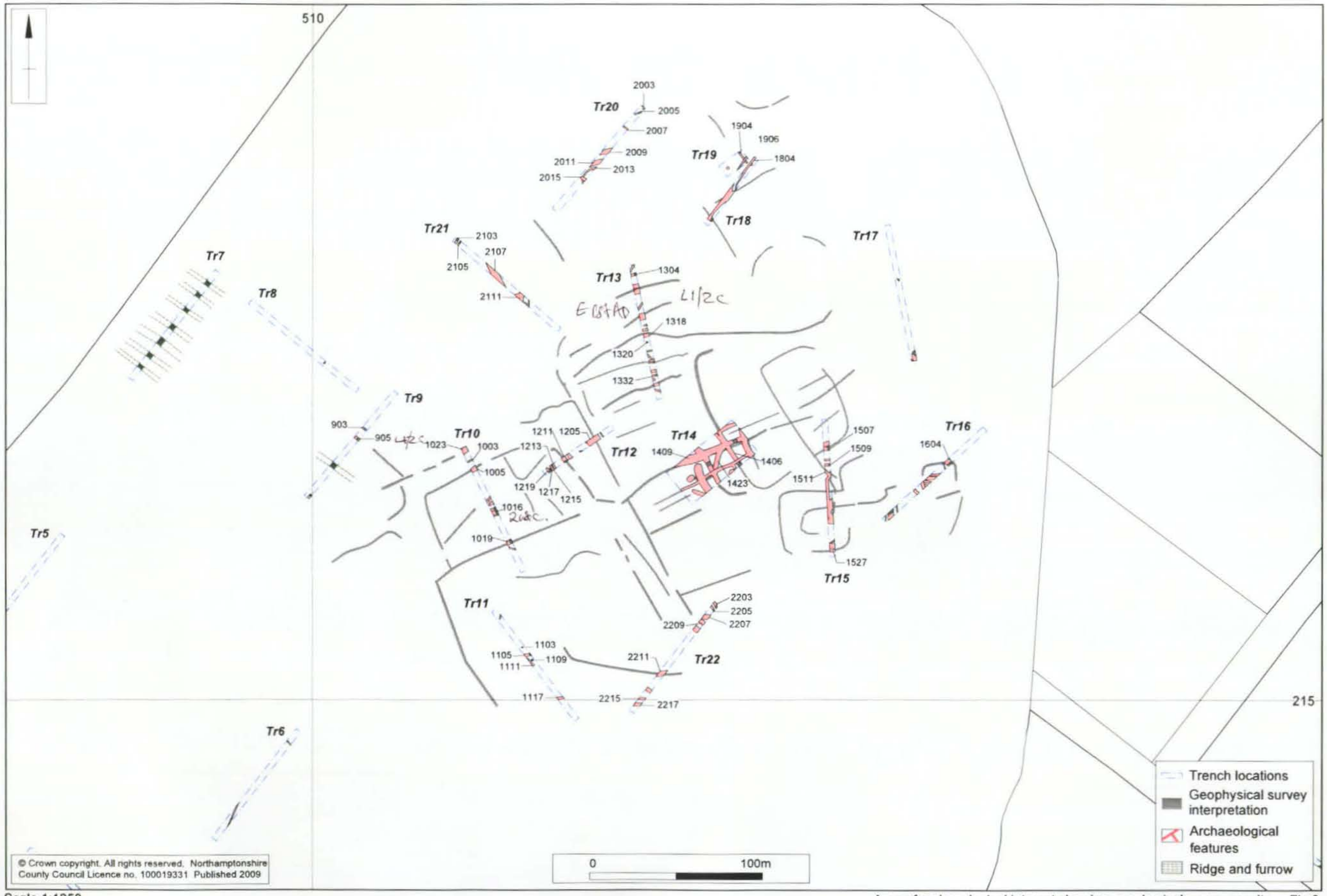
Scale 1:5000

Site location Fig 1



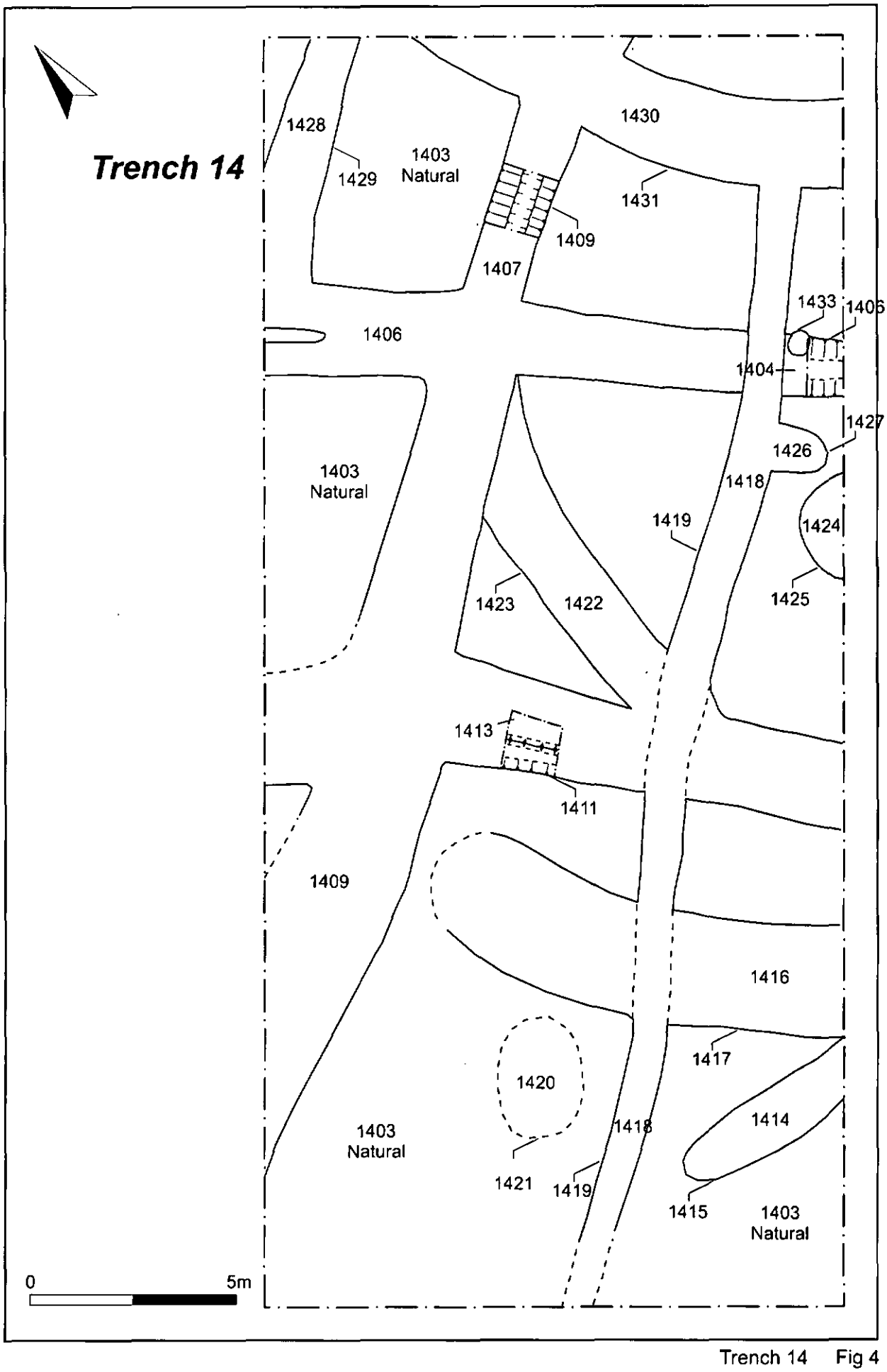
Scale 1:2000

Trench locations, showing archaeological features Fig 2



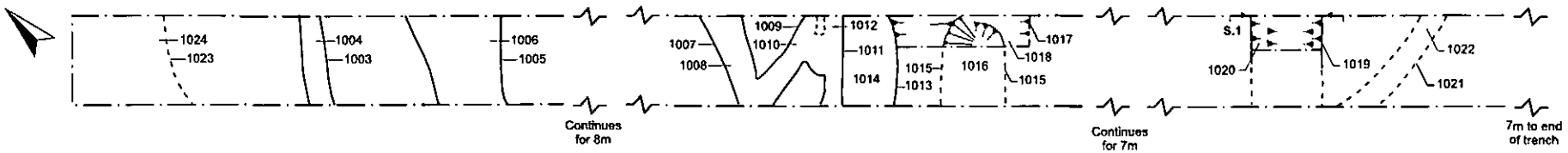
Scale 1:1250

Area of archaeological interest showing geophysical survey results Fig 3

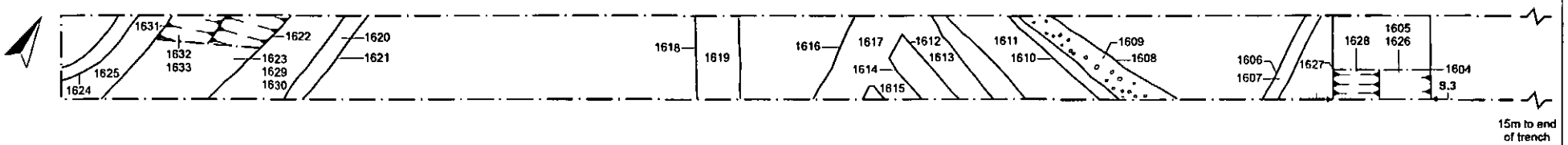


Trench 14 Fig 4

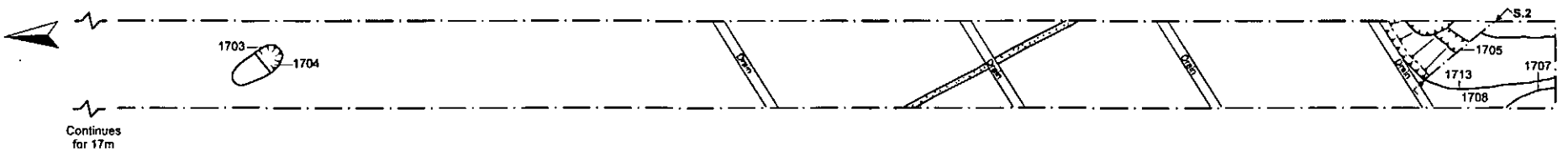
Trench 10



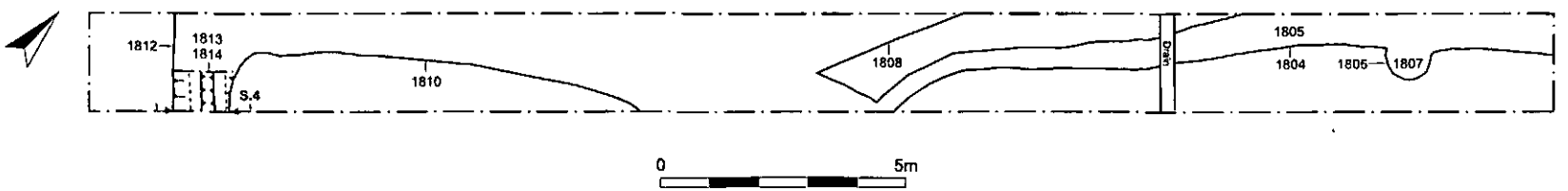
Trench 16



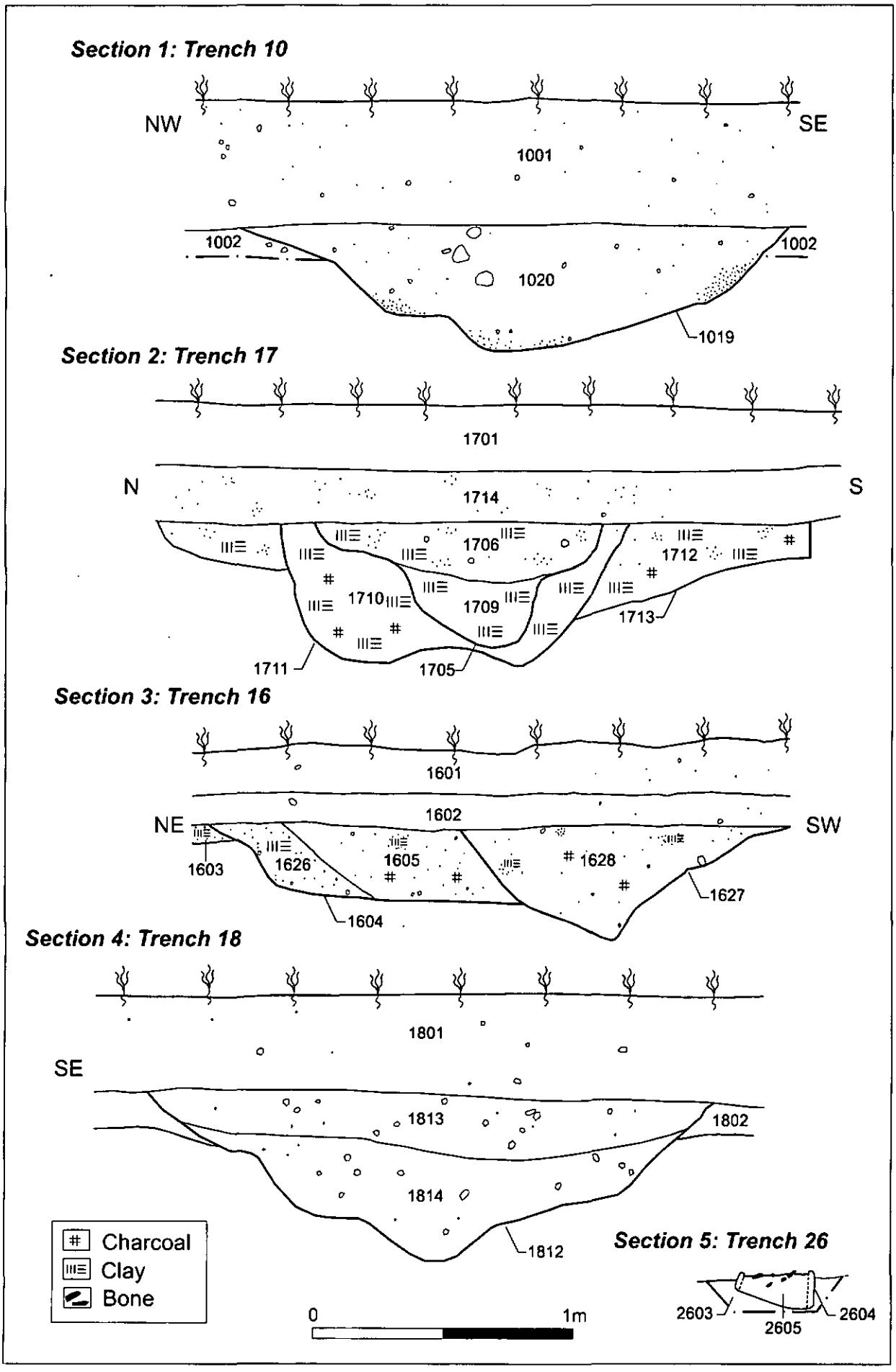
Trench 17



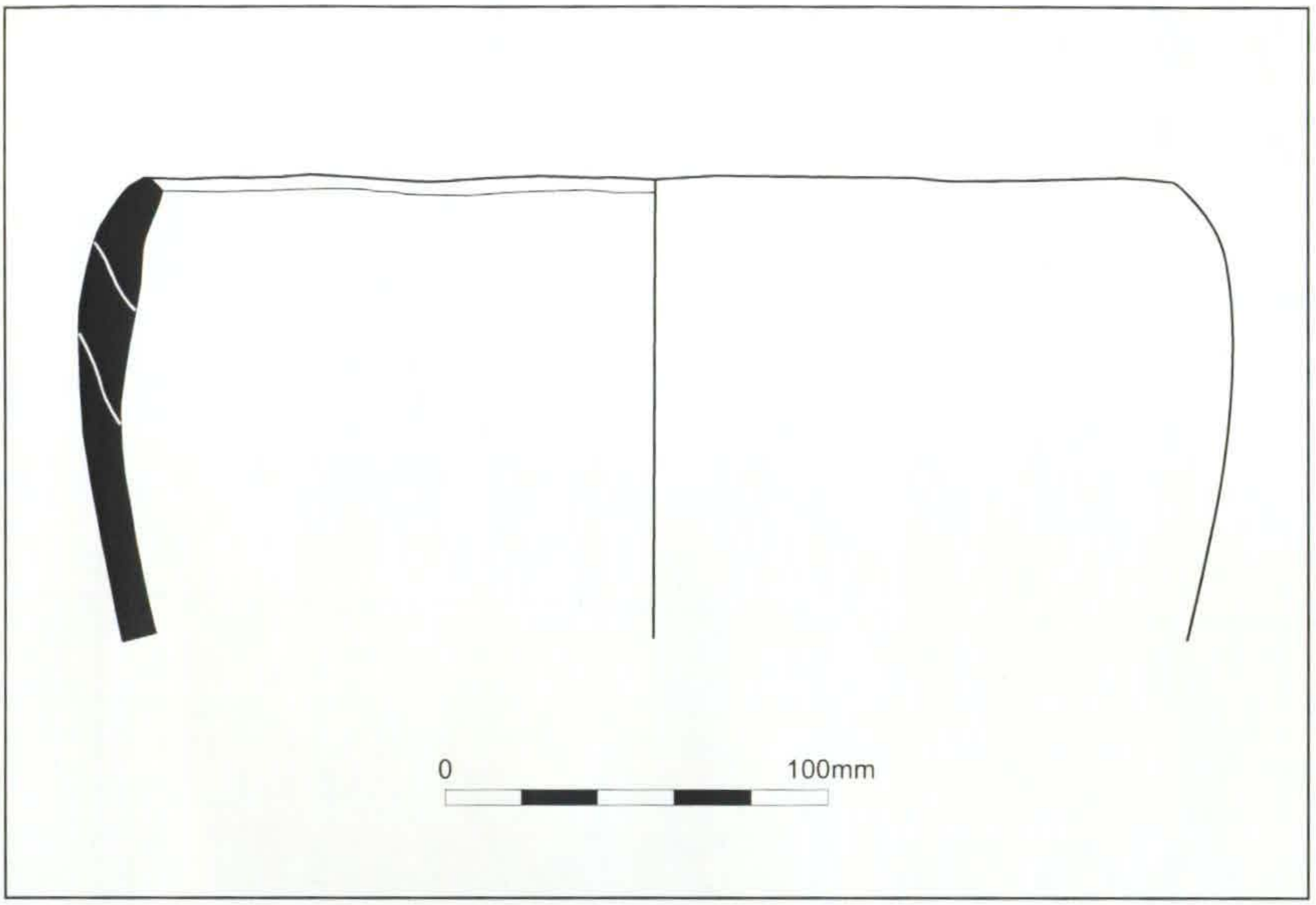
Trench 18



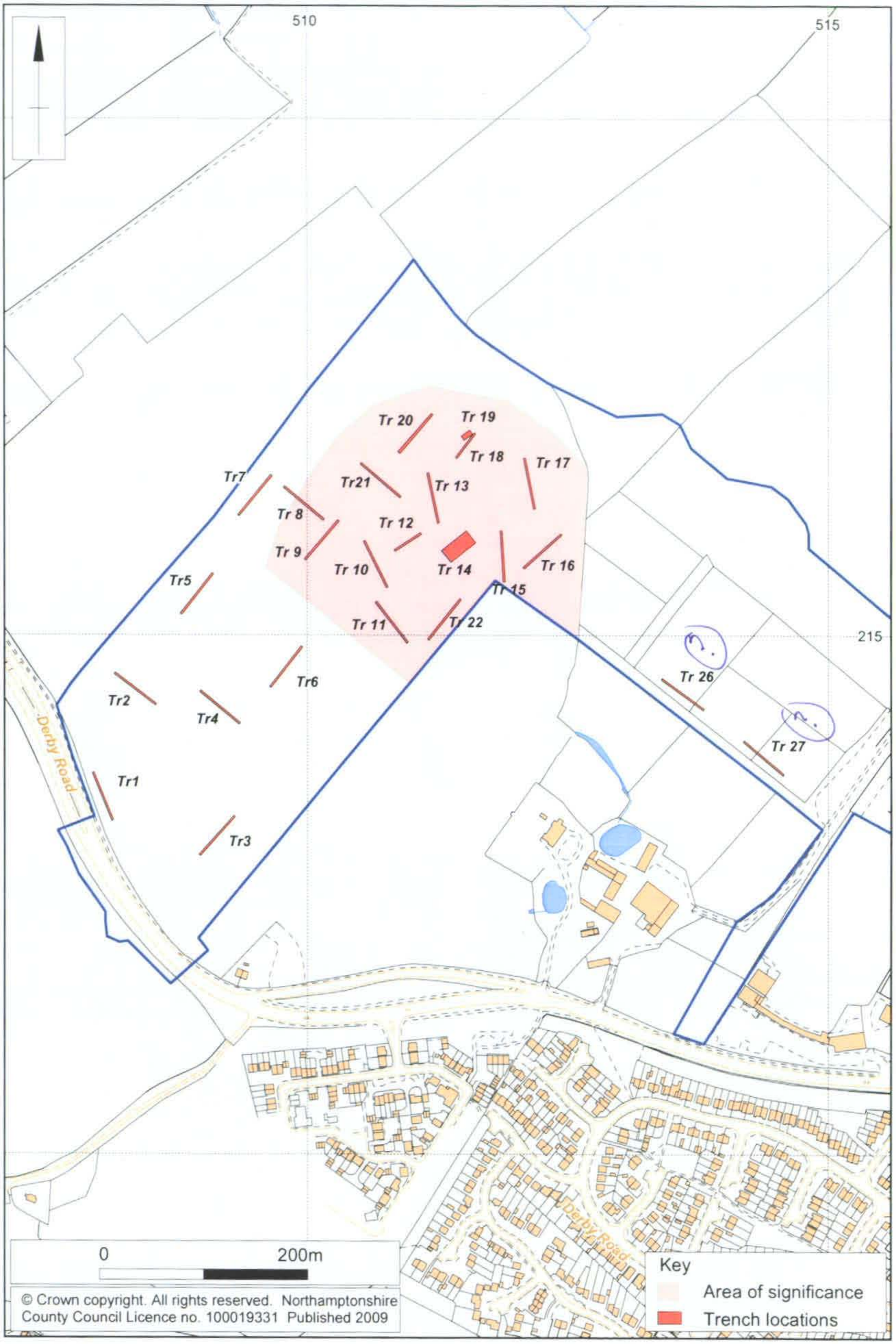
Trenches 10, 16, 17 & 18 Fig 5



Sections 1 - 5 Fig 6



Cremation burial urn Fig 7



Scale 1:5000

Areas of archaeological interest Fig 8

Plate 1: Trench 10, looking south-east

Plate 2: Trench 12, looking west. The wide boundary ditch is visible in the middle of the trench.

Plate 3: Trench 13, looking north.

Plate 4: Trench 14, looking south-west.

Plate 5: Trench 16, looking north-east.

Plate 6: Trench 18, looking north-east.

Plate 7: Trench 12, ditch [1211], looking south-east.

Plate 8: Trench 14, ditch [1409], looking west.

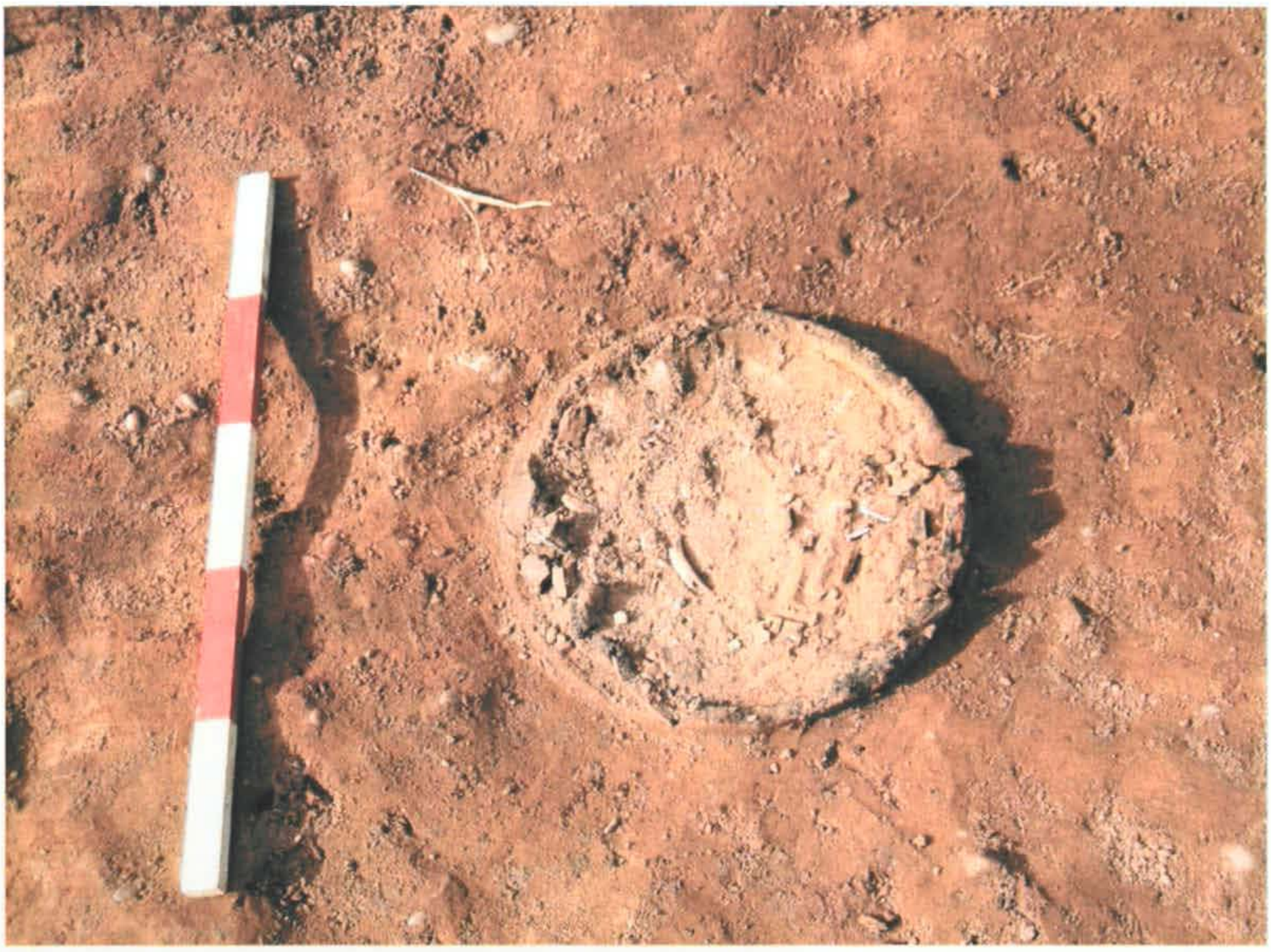


Plate 9: Trench 26, cremation [2604].

Plate 10: Trench 26, cremation [2604].

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