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WYAS

Doncaster Finningley Airport
Finningley
South Yorkshire

Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief

March 2005

Report No. 1368

CLIENT

Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick and Co Ltd.

Doncaster Finningley Airport

Finningley

South Yorkshire

Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief

Contents

Summary

An archaeological evaluation and watching brief was carried out in advance of the development of Doncaster Finningley Airport. The evaluation of one trial trench postponed from earlier investigations revealed two separate alignments of undated drainage ditches. The watching brief revealed the continuation of furrows identified by earlier evaluation trenching.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Archaeological Services WYAS (ASWYAS) was commissioned by Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick and Co Ltd. (Scott Wilson) on behalf of Peel Airports (Finningley) Ltd to carry out a programme of archaeological evaluation and watching brief as a condition of planning permission (Ref. 99/46/4333).

1.2 The proposed airport is the former RAF base at Finningley, which is located to the south-west of the village of Finningley (Fig. 1) and encompasses an area of *c.*3.35km^2 and is centred on grid reference SK 660 986.

1.3 An initial archaeological desk-based assessment (ARCUS 1999) was followed by the first phase of on-site investigation comprising of a geophysical survey (Webb 2003). The second phase of investigation involved trial trenching (Rose 2004) to test anomalies identified by the geophysical survey and also to test areas not covered by the survey. A postponed trial trench from Phase 2 of the works was undertaken during the third phase of works, in addition to a watching brief. These investigations were carried out in adherence to specifications prepared by Scott Wilson (Scott Wilson 2003a, 2003b, 2004a, 2004b), in consultation with the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS).

1.4 The watching brief was the third phase of a programme of on-site archaeological works devised by Scott Wilson (Scott Wilson 2004b) in consultation with SYAS.

1.5 The underlying geological deposits comprise Permo-Triassic Bunter sandstones (British Geological Survey 1969). The soils are of the Wick 1 Association, described as deep well-drained course loamy soils occurring locally over gravel (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

1.6 The archaeological evaluation commenced on the 8th and was completed by the 11th June 2004. The watching brief began on the 24th May and was completed on the 16th June 2004.

2. Archaeological Background

2.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment was carried out by ARCUS (1999). The study area extended to 1km beyond the site boundaries and identified a total of 73 points of archaeological significance. The locations identified included finds spots, crop marks, archaeological sites and historical buildings both standing and demolished.

2.2 The area around Finningley Airfield is rich in archaeological remains. Finds from the area include Neolithic and Bronze Age stone axes, Bronze Age metalwork, Roman coin hoards and hoards of other Roman metalwork and pottery. The Great North Road, originally the course of Roman Road 28b (Margary 1973, 411) runs to the west of the site linking the Roman towns of Doncaster (*Danum*) and Lincoln (*Lindum Colonia*). Further Roman activity is shown by the extensive pottery industry with kilns situated in Potteric Carr, Rossington Bridge and Blaxton. These produced large amounts of pottery for both the military and civilian markets.

2.3 Three areas of crop marks relating to Iron Age/Romano-British land division are located to the south and south-west of the runway. These consist of

possible enclosures and field systems of a 'brickwork' pattern. Also within this area, is a site that is considered to be a Roman military camp. Artefacts reported to have been found from the area were of supposed Roman date, although other sources suggest that the site is medieval in origin. A find of Romano-British pottery was located to the south of the runway in an area of gravel extraction.

2.4 Activity in the medieval period concerns the probable establishment of a deer park within the area of the airfield and possible moated sites to the north and west of the development area. Post-medieval activity mainly relates to Finningley Park, as it developed from the deer park, with the addition of a hall and other park lodges.

2.5 A silver penny of Henry III minted between 1247 and 1279 was found within the area of Finningley RAF camp, although the precise location of the find is not known. A windmill, of post-medieval date, is also marked within the boundaries of the airfield in the area west of Hanger 2. Although destroyed, there is potential for buried remains to survive.

2.6 To the east of the runway, situated adjacent to the eastern boundary of the airfield, are the locations of two post-medieval buildings (now demolished) that were lodges belonging to Finningley Park. As with the windmill situated within the airfield, buried remains of these buildings may survive.

2.7 Remains of the boundary that surrounded Finningley Park, which may have developed from the medieval deer park, may survive to the west of the runway. The boundary may have been in the form of a large bank with an internal ditch to prevent deer escaping and is noted on a map of 1884 (ARCUS 1999). Remains relating to the use of the park may survive within the area of the airfield.

2.8 The development proposals had the potential to impact upon eleven of the identified areas which lay either within or adjacent to the development area.

2.9 The RAF base first opened in 1936 during the re-armament prior to World War Two after it was chosen in preference over the World War One airfield at Brancroft Farm one mile to the south. The airfield was modified in the mid- to late 1950s to allow the airfield to be used as a base for Avro Vulcan nuclear bombers as well as the addition of various buildings. In the 1970s, the function of the base was changed, primarily to a training role, and was closed on the 31st March 1996. The extent and location of the archaeological heritage of the area is detailed in Chapter 13 of the Environmental Statement (Scott Wilson 1999).

2.10 Archaeological Services WYAS undertook a geophysical survey across the proposed development areas that were amenable to survey in October 2003. The results were generally negative, as a result of severe magnetic disturbance across large parts of the site, and although some linear anomalies were detected, it was reported that these were likely to be modern in origin (Webb 2003).

2.11 Archaeological Services WYAS carried out a programme of archaeological trial trenches during January 2004 to test anomalies identified by the geophysical survey and also to test areas not covered by the survey. The results revealed meagre evidence of activity on the site during the medieval and post-

medieval periods. The investigation also demonstrated that the archaeology identified was severely truncated by both past agricultural practices and former use of the airfield as an operational RAF base.

3. Aims and Objectives

3.1 The aims and objectives of the archaeological evaluation are:

- to determine whether the archaeological remains known to be present outside of the site extend into, and survive within the development area;
- to identify the presence or absence, nature, depth, extent and date of any archaeological deposits or features;
- to provide further information on the extent of modern disturbance;
- to confirm the results of the geophysical survey, and
- if significant archaeological remains were identified, to inform the preparation of a strategy to mitigate the impact of the development.

3.2 The objectives of the archaeological watching brief are:

- where possible, to identify and record the presence/absence, nature, extent and date of any archaeological deposits or features which are disturbed as a result of demolition, remediation or construction works within the area of interest.

4. Method

4.1 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with 'Doncaster Finningley Airport, Archaeological Evaluation - Phase 2. Specification for Trial Trenching' prepared by Scott Wilson (Scott Wilson 2004a; Appendix I). The watching brief was undertaken with adherence to the 'Doncaster Finningley Airport, Archaeological Mitigation - Phase 3. Specification for Watching Brief' also prepared by Scott Wilson (Scott Wilson 2004b; Appendix II)

4.2 All archaeological and potentially archaeological features were investigated. An appropriate written, drawn and photographic record was made of all of the features and the trench in accordance with the Archaeological Services WYAS standard methods (ASWYAS 2004).

4.3 The site archive contains all the information gathered during the works and its contents are detailed in Appendix III. Lists of contexts, artefacts and samples can be found in Appendices IV-VI.

Evaluation

4.4 Trench E1 was the last trench of 13 trenches to be investigated within five areas of investigation (Areas A-E, Rose 2004). They measured between 25m and 100m in length and 2m in width and covered a total area of 1450m^2. Trench E1 was 100m by 2m and located in Area E of the site to test an area not covered by the geophysical survey.

4.5 The area of the trench was scanned for buried services and enclosed within high visibility orange plastic fencing prior to excavation. The trench was stripped under direct archaeological supervision in the first instance using a 360° wheeled mechanical excavator fitted with a 2m wide toothless ditching bucket. The modern overburden was removed in controlled, level spits until the first archaeological horizon or undisturbed natural deposits were identified. The resulting trench surface was then cleaned manually and inspected for archaeological remains.

4.6 The trench was located using a 600 series Geodimeter total station theodolite and was fixed in relation to nearby permanent structures.

Watching Brief

4.7 The watching brief strategy was to monitor and record all groundwork during the construction of the proposed fire station (Stage 1) and construction of the crash gate fencing trench incorporating the topsoil strip for the construction of a bund (Stage 2) within Area C (Fig. 2). On the completion of Trench E1 monitoring was to be undertaken on the surrounding area proposed for the construction of a lagoon (Stage 3).

5. Results

Evaluation

5.1 The location of Trench E1 was re-positioned 2m further to the north-west to maintain a safe working distance from a known high voltage electricity cable. This change to the agreed specification was made in consultation with Scott Wilson and SYAS.

Area E Trench E1 (Figs 2-4)

5.2 Trench E1 measured 100m by 2m and was on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment. Machine removal of topsoil 0.3m in depth and a subsoil of 0.2m in depth revealed two linear features located towards the most northern extent of the trench.

5.3 The most northerly linear was identified as two parallel intersecting ditches (501 and 503) orientated north-west to south-east. Ditches 501 and 503 were exposed for a length of 2.5m, with a combined width of 1.78m and a depth of 0.4m and 0.28m respectively. A deposit (500 and 502) of pale greyish-brown silty sand with occasional to moderate rounded pebble inclusions was identified as the infill of both Ditches 501 and 503.

5.4 Located approximately 16m to the south of Ditches 501 and 503, the second linear was also identified as two parallel east to west orientated intersecting ditches (505 and 507). Ditch 505, which was U-shaped in profile was exposed for a length of 2.5m and measured 1.11m in width and 0.34m in depth. A deposit (504) of pale reddish-brown silty sand with occasional to moderate rounded pebble inclusions was identified as the single infill of Ditch 505.

5.5 Cut by Ditch 505 on its northern side was Ditch 507. This ditch was exposed for a length of 2.25m where it terminated to the east as a butt-end. Ditch 507 was U-shaped in profile and measured 0.6m in width and 0.23m in depth. A

single infill (506) of reddish-brown silty sand with occasional to moderate rounded pebble inclusions was identified within Ditch 507.

5.6 A relationship between Ditches 501 and 503 was undetermined (see Fig. 3), although they were probably part of the same drainage regime as Ditches 505 and 507. The perpendicular orientation between the features would appear to support this.

5.7 No artefacts were retrieved from any of the ditch infills. The only recovery of finds was from the topsoil during the machine excavation of Trench E1. These included was a small number 19th to 20th - century pottery sherds and one single rim sherd of possible Romano-British pottery.

Watching Brief

Stage 1 (Fig. 2)

5.8 An area covering approximately 8200m², which would house the proposed fire station, was monitored. Machine removal of the topsoil to an excavated depth averaging 0.25m exposed the subsoil. A small assemblage of 19th to 20th - century artefacts was recovered from the topsoil and retained. No archaeological features were identified cutting into the subsoil.

5.9 Four engineering test trenches measuring approximately 2m by 1.5m and approximately 2m in depth were machine excavated as part of the ground works. Two trenches were each situated on the corners of the north-facing elevation and the further two trenches were located on the south-facing elevations of the building prior to the excavation of the foundation footings. The subsoil in each of the trenches was observed to an average depth of 0.45m before natural deposits were identified. No archaeological features were identified within any of the test trenches.

5.10 Foundation footings covering an area of approximately 1328m² were excavated to an average depth of 1m and 0.6m in width. Once more the subsoil was noted at an average depth of 0.45m before the natural was encountered. No archaeological features were identified during monitoring of the foundation footings.

Stage 2 (Fig. 2)

5.11 Monitoring was undertaken of the construction of the crash gate fencing trench and topsoil strip for the construction of a bund. Both of these run parallel along the eastern airport boundary fence within the north-eastern area of the site.

5.12 The crash gate fencing trench was approximately 200m in length with a maximum width of 0.6m and between 0.4m and 0.6m in depth. An average topsoil depth of 0.3m and a subsoil of 0.3m were observed. Identified within the sections of the trench and cutting into the subsoil were nine north to south aligned furrows between 3-4m in width and set approximately 9m apart.

5.13 A large circular anomaly identified by geophysical survey (Webb 2003) was also encountered within the fencing trench and appeared to be a limestone rubble platform of probable post-medieval or modern date.

5.14 The monitored area of topsoil strip for the bund construction was approximately 265m in length and 25m in width and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.3m. The continuation of the same north to south furrow system already identified within the fencing trench sections were observed in plan extending southwards. A single sherd of possible medieval pottery was recovered during the topsoil strip. No other archaeological features were identified.

Stage 3 (Fig. 2)

5.15 On completion of Trench E1, an area approximately 360m² was monitored during the machine excavation of the proposed lagoon. A topsoil of 0.2m was observed with no evidence of subsoil and the maximum depth of excavation was recorded at 0.4m. Only modern disturbance and service trenches were observed cutting into the natural deposits.

6. Environmental Record

6.1 A soil-sampling programme was undertaken during the course of the evaluation. Four ten litre soil samples were taken for general biological analysis each from the single fills of Ditches 501, 503, 505 and 507. Given the apparently sterile nature of the ditch fills and the fact that the ditches remain undated, these samples were not assessed further.

7. Discussion and Conclusion

7.1 Investigation of Trench E1 revealed two separate alignments of what appeared to be drainage ditches (501, 503, 505 and 507). Unfortunately these ditches remain undated.

7.2 Monitoring of the crash gate fencing and topsoil strip for the bund construction during the watching brief element of the investigation revealed the continuation of furrows identified by earlier trenching (Trenches C1 and C2, Rose 2004). The monitoring of the crash gate fencing trench was expected to expose the continuation westwards of a ditch identified by earlier evaluation trenching (Trench C2, Rose 2004), but it was not observed here.

7.3 No archaeological features were identified during monitoring within the areas of the proposed fire station or the lagoon and overall, the results of the evaluation trench and watching brief failed to identify any significant archaeological activity.

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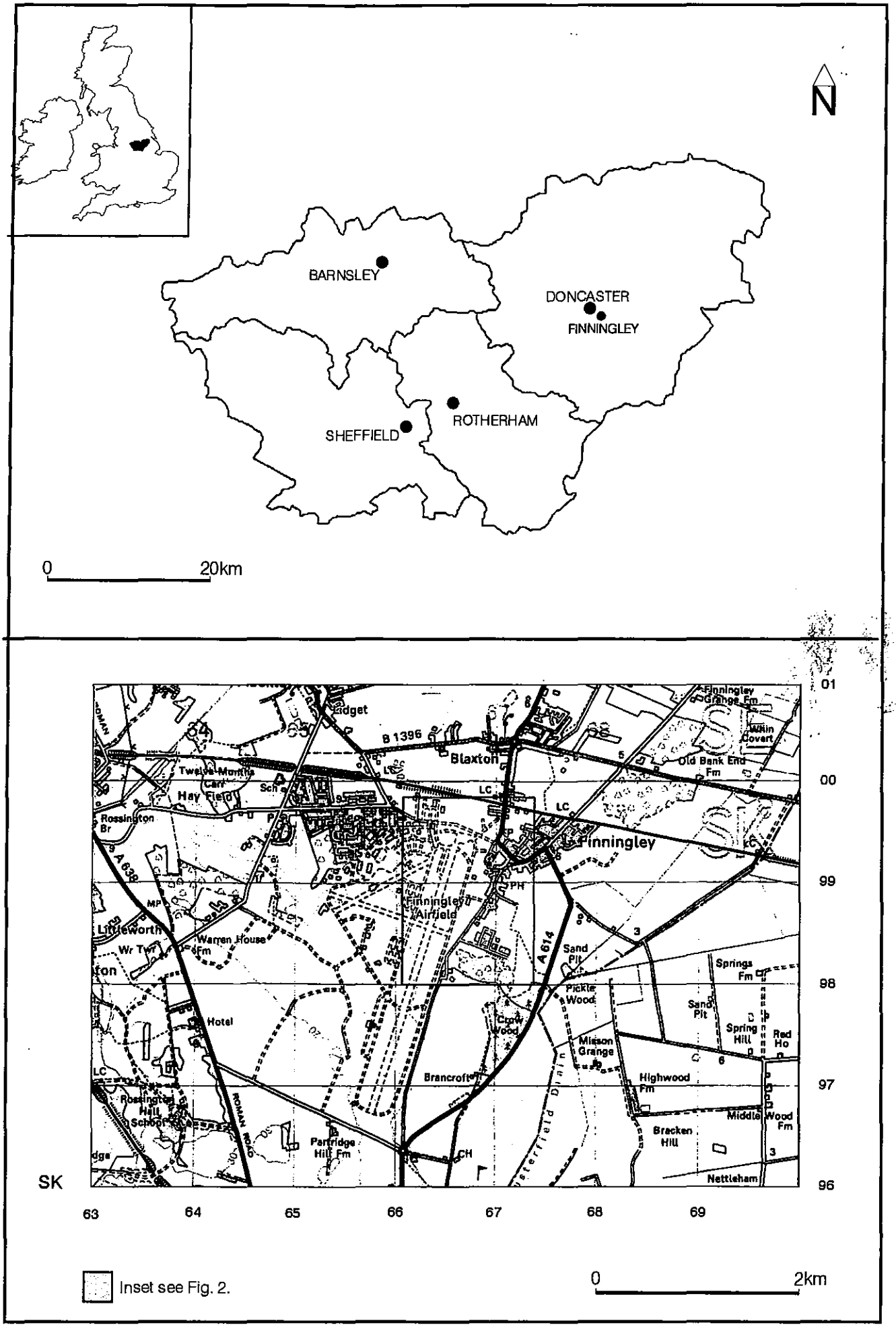
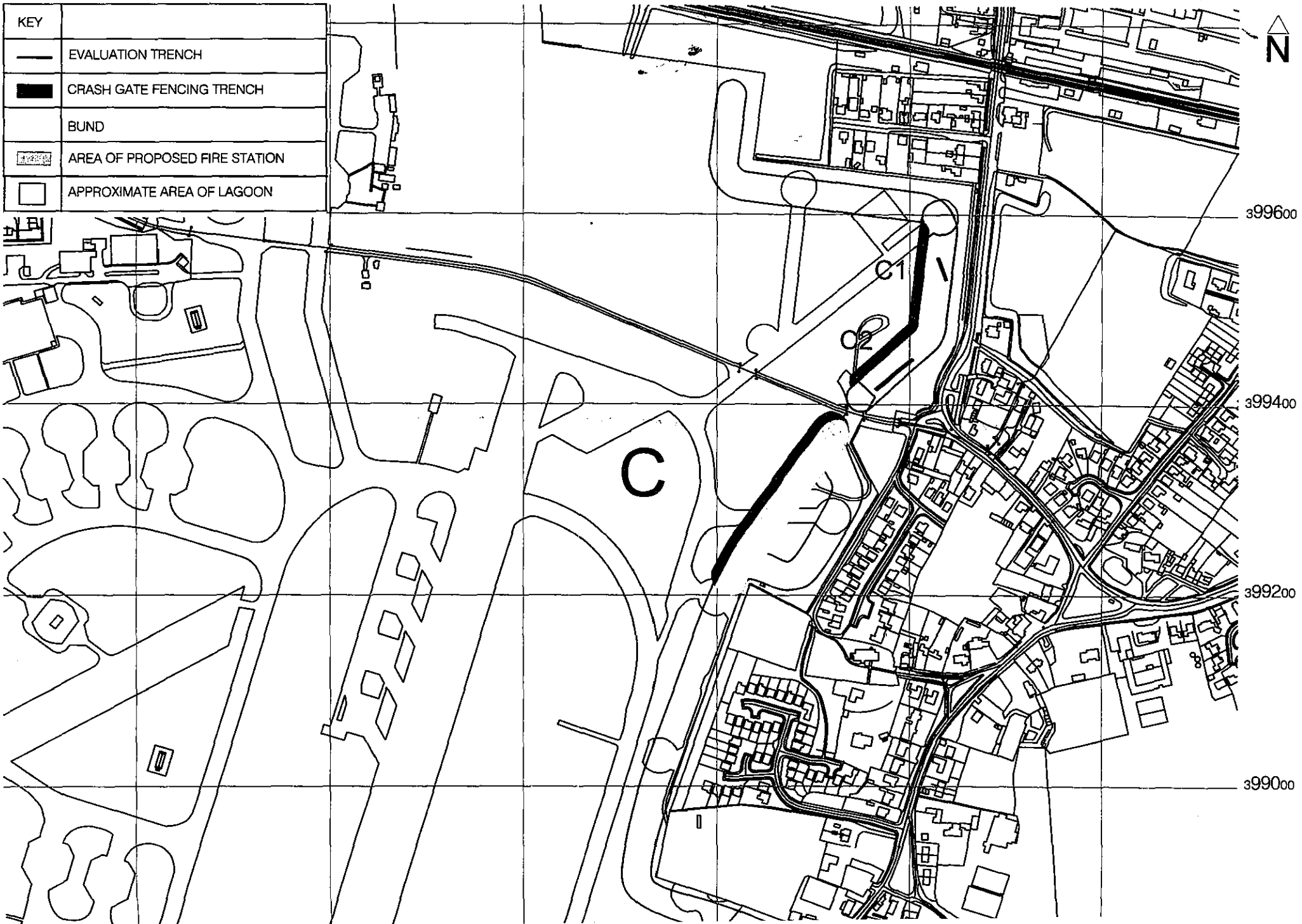


Fig. 1. Site location


KEY
EVALUATION TRENCH
CRASH GATE FENCING TRENCH
BUND
AREA OF PROPOSED FIRE STATION
APPROXIMATE AREA OF LAGOON
N
399600
399400
399200
399000
C1
C2
C

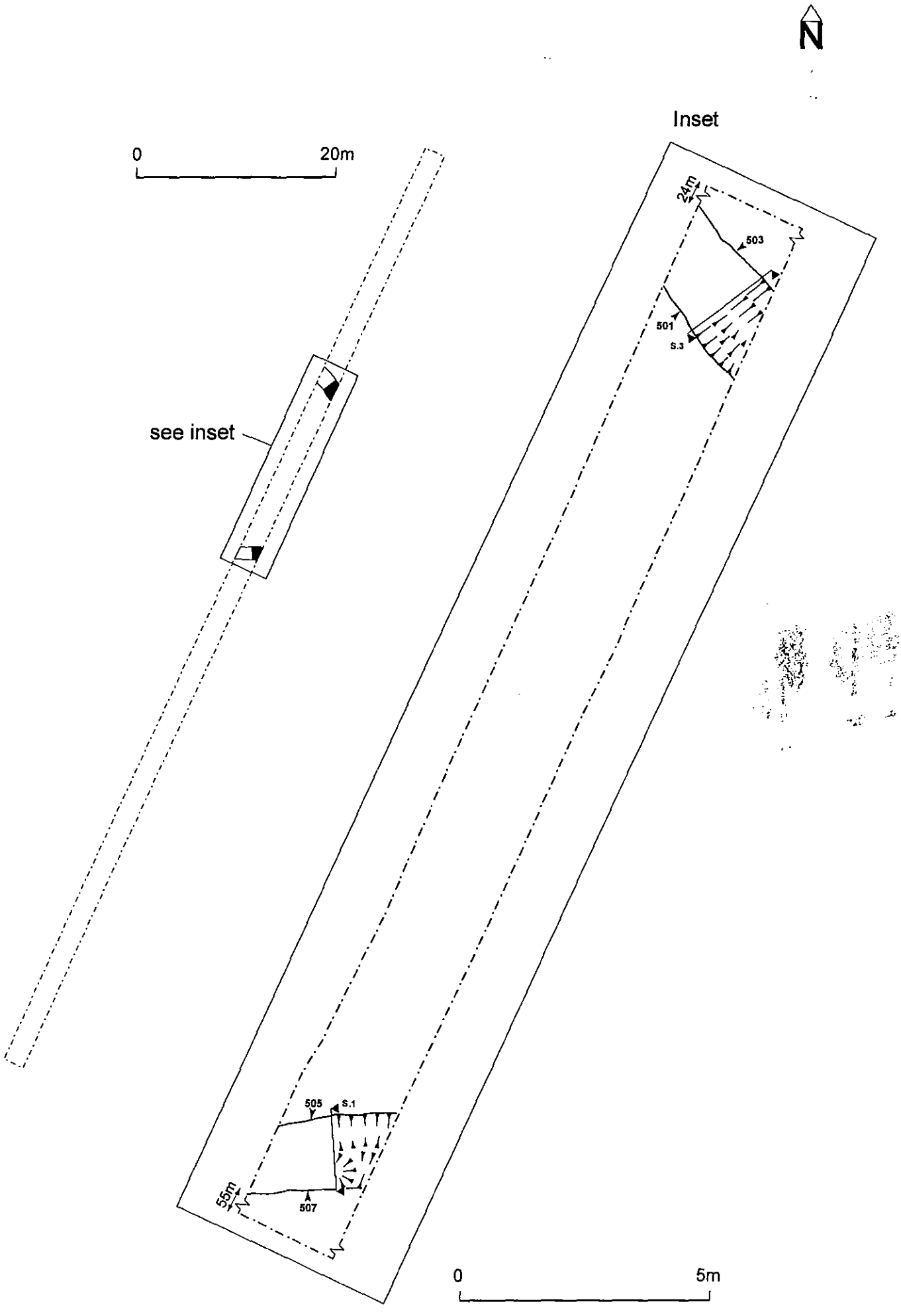


Fig. 3. Full extent of Trench E1 with enlarged inset

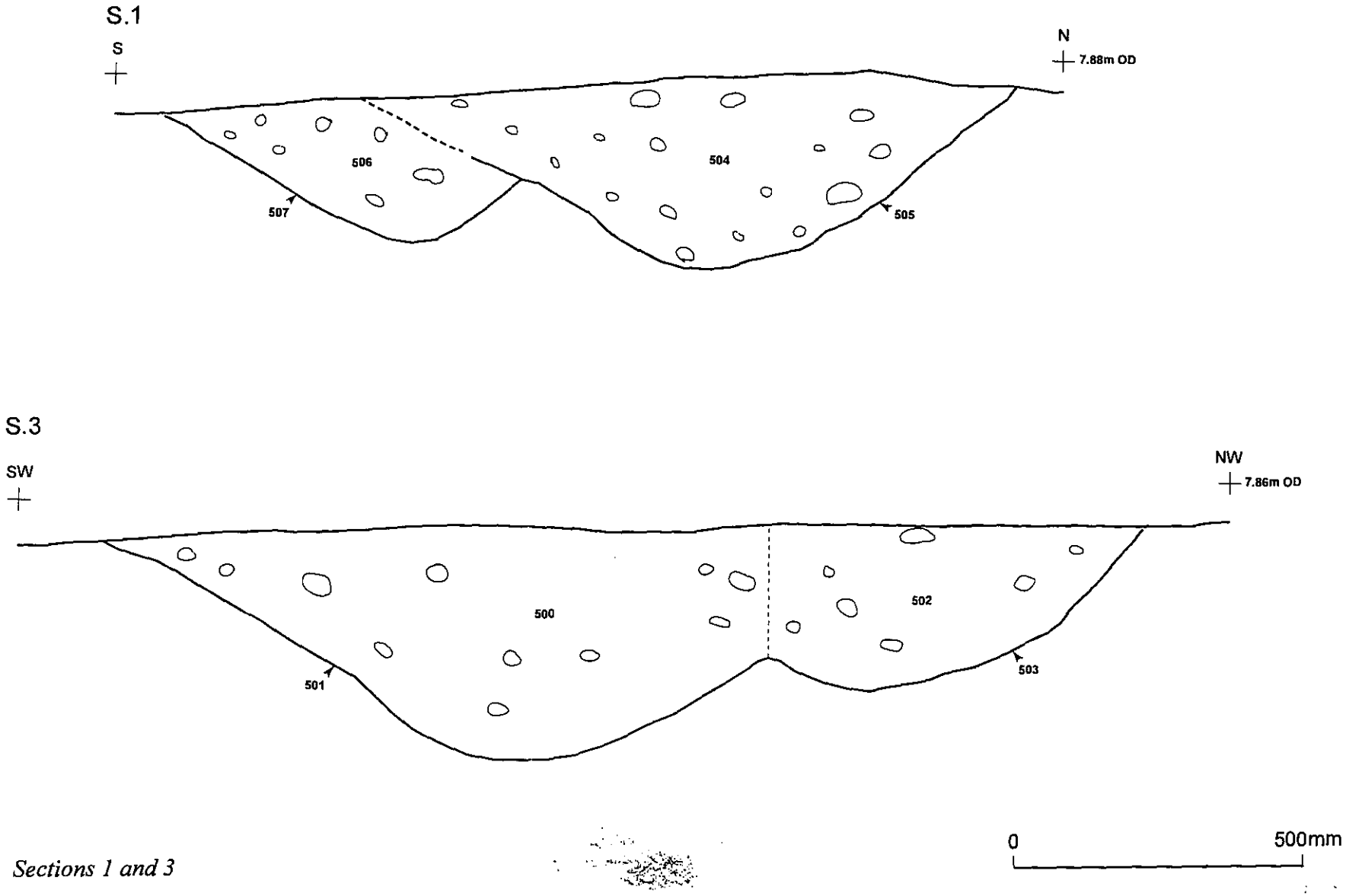


Fig. 4. Sections 1 and 3

Appendix I

Specification for Trial Trenching

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

This specification has been prepared by Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick and Co Ltd in connection with the proposal by Peel Airports (Finningley) Ltd for the redevelopment of the existing airport for use as a commercial airport with related facilities.

Planning permission for the commercial airport was granted by the Secretary of State in April 2003 following Public Inquiry.

An initial archaeological desk-based assessment has revealed the presence of archaeological remains which may extend into the development area.

A staged programme of archaeological investigations has been devised in consultation with the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS). The first stage of investigation, comprising geophysical survey, has been completed. This specification relates to the second stage which will involve intrusive evaluation by trial trenching. Trial trenches are required in areas which are unsuitable for geophysical survey and where the geophysical survey has indicated the presence of anomalies of potential archaeological interest.

This specification details the method which will be used for all of the trial trenches, the locations of which have been determined in consultation with SYAS.

The aim of this fieldwork is to evaluate the archaeology of the site in order that an informed strategy to mitigate the impact of the development can be prepared if necessary.

2. SITE LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

The site of the proposed Doncaster Finningley Airport is the former RAF base at Finningley, which encompasses an area of *c.*3.35km^2 to the southeast of Doncaster (NGR SK 660 986 site centred). The area is southwest of the village of Finningley between the A614 and the A638.

A number of ex-RAF buildings occupy the north-western part of the site and the runway and taxi-ways are orientated north-south to the east of these. Between the runways the site is predominantly under coarse grassland although there are several isolated structures and several areas known to have been previously disturbed.

The underlying geological conditions are complex Superficial deposits above Permo-Triassic and Carboniferous deposits. The Superficial deposits comprise Older River Gravels, Glacial Sands and Gravels and Glacial Boulder Clay. Borehole data from the site indicate that the overburden comprises *c.*0.3m-0.6m of subsoil/topsoil directly overlying natural deposits – typically clays in the western part of the site and sands in the east.

3. PLANNING BACKGROUND

An Environmental Assessment was prepared to support the application for planning permission (LPA Ref. 99/46/4333) submitted by Peel Airports (Finningley) Ltd for redevelopment of the site as a commercial airport, and now subsequently approved.

Planning permission is subject to a number of conditions which include archaeology (condition no 73). This condition requires the implementation of a programme of archaeological work, in accordance with a specification approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Arcus undertook a desk-based survey in May 1999, which did not identify direct evidence for archaeological remains within the proposed development area. There is, however, an indication that features relating to Iron Age or Romano-British field systems are present on the site, since a number of cropmarks have been identified in the adjacent fields. In addition there is some potential for the presence of features relating to a medieval parkland and post-medieval estate which previously occupied the site.

The geophysical survey undertaken by ARCUS identified linear anomalies of potential archaeological interest in Areas B and C (Fig.1).

5. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The general objectives of the project are:

- to determine whether the archaeological remains known to be present outside of the site extend into, and survive within, the development area;
- to identify the presence/absence, nature, depth, extent and date of any archaeological deposits or features encountered;
- to provide further information on the extent of modern disturbance;
- to confirm the results of the geophysical survey;
- if significant archaeological remains are identified, to inform the preparation of a strategy to mitigate the impact of the development.

6. THE PROPOSED TRENCHES

The proposed trenches have been positioned in order to test geophysical anomalies, to test areas where ferrous interference may mask the presence of archaeological features, or to evaluate areas where geophysical survey was an inappropriate method of evaluation.

Trench	Dimensions	Objective
Ai	25m x 2m	To test 'noisy'areas in geophysical survey
Aii	50m x 2m	To test 'noisy'areas in geophysical survey
Aiii	25m x 2m	To test 'noisy'areas in geophysical survey
Bi	50m x 2m	To test 'blank' area in geophysical survey
Bii	100m x 2m	To test geophysical anomalies
Biii	100m x 2m	To test geophysical anomalies
Ci	25m x 2m	To test geophysical anomalies
Cii	50m x 2m	To test geophysical anomalies
Ciii	25m x 2m	To test area nearest to the medieval church
Civ	25m x 2m	To test 'blank' area in geophysical survey
Di	50m x 2m	To test area not covered by geophysical survey
Dii	100m x 2m	To test area not covered by geophysical survey
Total	**1250m^2**	

7. METHODOLOGY

The evaluation strategy has been developed in consultation with the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service Assistant Archaeologist, Roy Sykes. All work will be carried out in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (1999) and with the IFA *Code of Conduct.*

The trial trenches will be excavated in the locations agreed with SYAS and shown on Figures 2-5. A level of contingency trenching will also be allowed for in order that trenches can be extended if significant archaeological remains are identified. Contingency should be made for a further 100m^2 trenching. If this is required, the position will be determined by Scott Wilson and SYAS and it will only be implemented following discussion and agreement between Scott Wilson and SYAS.

The trenches will be opened using an appropriate mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.

The excavation will proceed under direct archaeological supervision, in level spits, until either the top of the first archaeological horizon or undisturbed natural deposits are encountered. Under no circumstances should the machine be used to cut arbitrary trenches down to natural deposits. The resulting surface will be inspected for archaeological remains.

All archaeological deposits/features will be hand excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner in order to meet the aims and objectives of the investigation. Machine-assisted excavation may be permissible if large deposits are encountered but only after consultation with Scott Wilson and SYAS. A sufficient sample of deposits/features will be investigated in each trench to understand the complete stratigraphic sequence down to naturally occurring deposits. No archaeological deposit should be entirely removed unless this is unavoidable. The following sampling strategies will be employed.

Linear features: A minimum of 20% along the length (each section not less than 1m wide) or a minimum of a 1m wide section through if the feature is less than 10m in length. Where possible one section will be located and recorded adjacent to the trench edge. All intersections will be investigated to determine the relationship between the component features.

Discrete features: Pits, post-holes and other isolated features will normally be half-sectioned as a minimum. If large pits or deposits (over 1.5m diameter) are encountered then the sample excavated should be sufficient to define the extent of the feature and to achieve the objectives of the investigation but should not be less than 25%.

Structures: To be excavated sufficient to define the extent of the feature and to achieve the objectives of the investigation.

A full written, drawn and photographic record will be made of each trench even where no archaeological features are identified. Hand drawn plans and sections of features will be produced at an appropriate scale (normally 1:20 for plans and 1:10 for sections). One long section of each trench will be drawn at a scale of not less than 1:50 and each trench will be planned at a scale of 1:50. All plans and sections will include spot heights relative to Ordnance Datum in metres, correct to two decimal places.

Colour transparency and monochrome negative photographs will be taken at a minimum format of 35mm. In addition to records of archaeological features, a number of general site photographs will also be taken to give an overview of the site.

The trench limits will be accurately located using electronic survey equipment, fixed in relation to nearby permanent structures and roads, and overlaid onto digital map data.

All non-modern artefacts will be retained. If appropriate all 'small' finds will be recorded three dimensionally. Bulk finds will be collected by context. Finds will be treated in accordance with the English heritage guidance document 'A strategy for the care and investigation of finds' (1995) and stored in controlled conditions where appropriate. All artefacts will be retained, cleaned, labelled and stored as detailed in the guidelines of the UKIC. All ferrous objects and a selection of non-ferous objects (including all coins) will be x-rayed.

An environmental specialist will visit the site to advise on a sampling strategy. Provision will also be made for the recovery of material suitable for scientific dating.

Should human remains be discovered during the course of the excavations the remains will be covered and protected and left *in situ* in the first instance. The removal of human remains will only take place in accordance with the appropriate Home office and Environmental Health regulations and the Burial Act 1857. In such an event the contractor will notify Scott Wilson notified immediately.

Any artefacts which are recovered that fall within the scope of the Treasure Act 1996 will be reported to Scott Wilson and to H.M. Coroner.

8. REPORTING

Verbal progress reports will be provided to Scott Wilson on request and upon completion of the archaeological works an interim statement will be prepared and submitted to Scott Wilson. It will include:

- a brief summary of the results
- a draft or sketch plan of any features/deposits
- a summary of the primary archive including finds and samples

Immediately after completion of fieldwork any finds and samples will be processed. Each category of find or environmental material will be examined by a suitably qualified archaeologist or specialist.

A detailed report will be submitted within 4 weeks of the completion of fieldwork. The report will take account of the results of previous research and investigations at the site and will include the following:

- a non-technical summary
- site location
- archaeological and historical background
- methodology
- results
- interpretation and discussion placing the results in a local and regional context

- the report will include a phased interpretation of the site, if possible
- general and detailed plans showing the location of the trenches accurately positioned on an OS base with grid co-ordinates (to a known scale)
- detailed plans and sections as appropriate (to a known scale)
- photographs if appropriate
- a complete matrix for each trench
- an index and description of contexts
- a cross-referenced index of the project archive

Illustrations to be included are: a detailed location map, a detailed site plan showing all trenches, all trench plans and sections and detailed plans and sections of features, select artefact illustrations and a selection of scanned photographs. An overall site plan showing all (phased) archaeological features recorded will also be included if possible.

One copy of the complete report will be submitted to Scott Wilson as a draft. SYAS will also be given the opportunity to comment at this stage. The draft will be returned with comments within seven days of receipt. In finalising the report the comments will be taken into account.

Five bound copies, one unbound copy and a digital version of the report will be required within one week of the receipt of Scott Wilson's comments on the draft report. The electronic text files will be provided in Word for Windows and text (ASCII) formats and the illustrations will be provided in AutoCAD or MapInfo format.

9. DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS

Provision should be made for the publication of the results in the appropriate issue of *Archaeology in South Yorkshire* and, if of regional or national significance, in an archaeological journal. Where appropriate the contractor will also be expected to make provision for public presentation of the results of the work, for example at the South Yorkshire Archaeology Day.

A summary (of appropriate length, to be discussed with SYAS) of the findings of the work, accompanied by appropriate illustrations, will be submitted to SYAS in digital format for inclusion in the South Yorkshire Archaeology Annual Review. Text will be in ASCII format and any images in .tif form.

SYAS is taking part in the pilot study for the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. The archaeological contractor will complete the online OASIS form at http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/. Contractors are advised to contact SYAS before completing the form.

10. ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

The archive of finds and records generated during the fieldwork will be kept secure at all stages of the project. All records and materials produced will be archived to the standards outlined in Appendix 3 of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects* (1991).

The archaeological sub-contractor shall, prior to the start of fieldwork, liase with the appropriate museum to obtain agreement in principle of Doncaster museum to accept the archive for long term storage and curation. The sub-contractor shall be

responsible for identifying any specific requirements or policies of the museum in respect of the archive, and for adhering to those requirements.

The deposition of the archive forms the final stage of the project. The archaeological sub-contractor shall provide copies of communication with the recipient museum and written confirmation of the deposition of the archive.

11. MONITORING

The contractor will be subject to regular monitoring by Scott Wilson who will be given full access to site records or any other information.

Scott Wilson will liase with the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service to inform them of the commencement of site works and to offer them the opportunity to monitor the work in progress.

12. COPYRIGHT

The archaeological sub-contactor shall assign copyright in all reports and documentation/images produced as part of this project to Scott Wilson. The sub-contractor retains the right to be identified as the author/originator of the material. This applies to all aspects of the project. It is the responsibility of the archaeological sub-contractor to obtain such rights from sub-contracted specialists.

The archaeological sub-contractor may apply in writing to use/disseminate any of the project archive or documentation (including images). Such permission will not be unreasonably withheld.

The results of the archaeological work will be submitted to the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service by Scott Wilson and will ultimately be made available for public access.

13. RESOURCES AND TIMETABLE

All archaeological personnel involved in the project should be suitably qualified and experienced professionals. The sub-contractor will provide staff details and CVs if requested by Scott Wilson or SYAS.

The sub-contractor will provide a programme for the works (fieldwork and post-excavation) at the time of the tender submission.

14. ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS

Access to the site is restricted to authorised personnel. Scott Wilson will require the names of all individuals involved with the survey at least one week in advance of the commencement of work in order to obtain permits.

15. INSURANCES

The archaeological sub-contractor will provide details of public and professional indemnity insurance with the tender submission.

16. HEALTH AND SAFETY

The archaeological sub-contractor will have their own Health and Safety policies compiled using national guidelines and which conform to all relevant Health and Safety legislation. A copy of the Health and Safety policy shall be submitted at the time of the tender submission.

The archaeological sub-contractor will undertake a risk assessment detailing project specific Health and Safety requirements. The risk assessment shall be submitted to

Scott Wilson in advance of commencement of site work. Health and Safety will take priority over archaeological issues.

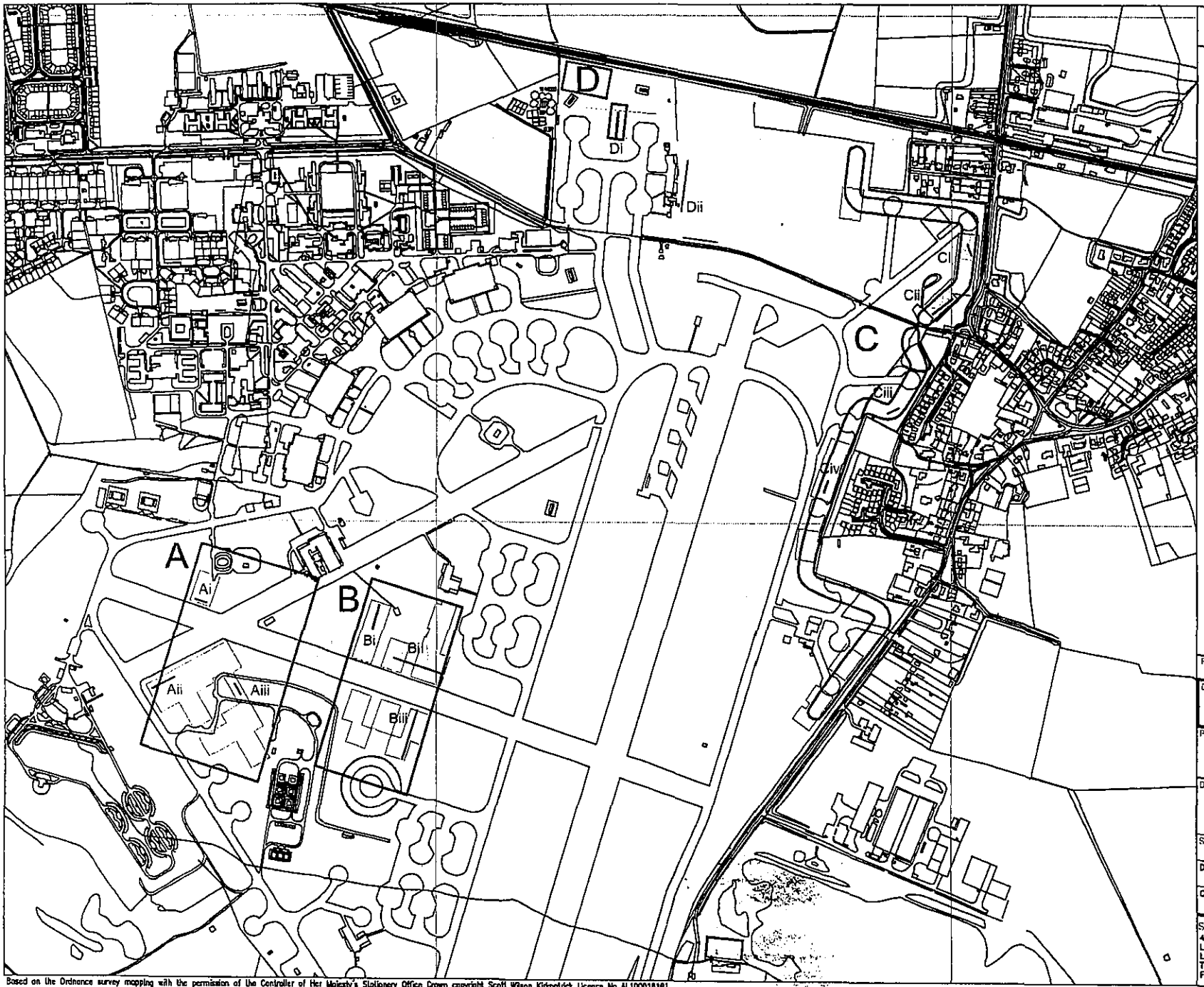
There may be other contractors on site at the time of the evaluation. Scott Wilson will provide details of the principal contractor, their Health and Safety plan and contact information prior to the commencement of fieldwork. The archaeological sub-contractor will familiarise themselves with, and comply with, the requirements of the principal contractor's Health and Safety plan.

Scott Wilson will provide information regarding the approximate location of known services within the area of investigation. The archaeological sub-contractor shall, however, be responsible for identifying any buried or overhead services and taking the necessary precautions to avoid damage to such services, prior to excavation.

17. GENERAL PROVISIONS

The archaeological sub-contractor will undertake the works to the specification/project design as issued by Scott Wilson and in any subsequent written variations. No variation from, or changes to, the specification will occur except by prior agreement with Scott Wilson in consultation with SYAS.

All communications on archaeological matters to the archaeological curators (SYAS) or other interested parties will be directed through Scott Wilson.



This drawing may be used for the Purpose intended and only written dimensions shall be used.

B — Evaluation Areas

Geophysical Survey Areas

Geophysical Anomalies

Proposed Trenches

Revision Details	By / Chk	Date	Suffix

Drawing Number — Revision

Figure 1

Project

Doncaster Finningley Airport

Drawing Title

Location of Evaluation Zones

Scale at A4

1:10,000

Drn	Dat		Appd
AR			SM
Chk	**Tech Chk**	**Dat Chk**	**Date**
AB			Nov 03

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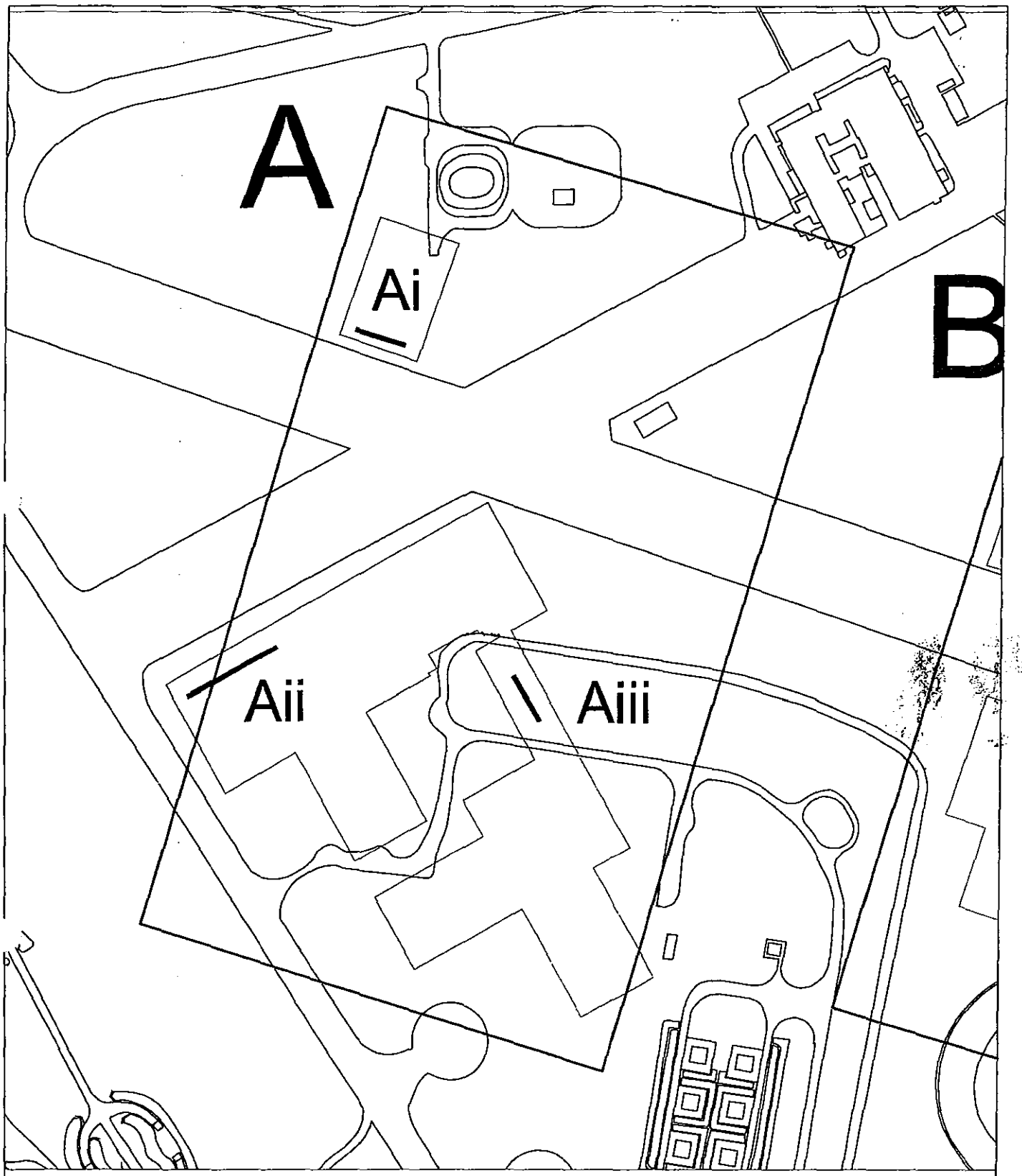
Scott Wilson



B Evaluation Areas | Geophysical Survey Areas | Geophysical Anomalies | Proposed Trenches

Drawing Title
FIGURE 2 - LOCATION OF EVALUATION TRENCHES Ai, Aii and Aiii

Project Title
DONCASTER FINNINGLEY AIRPORT

Drawing Number
DDKBDCL/DFA/spec/02

SCALE AT A4 1:2500		
Drn AR	Appd SM	Revised
Chk AB	Date Nov 03	Date

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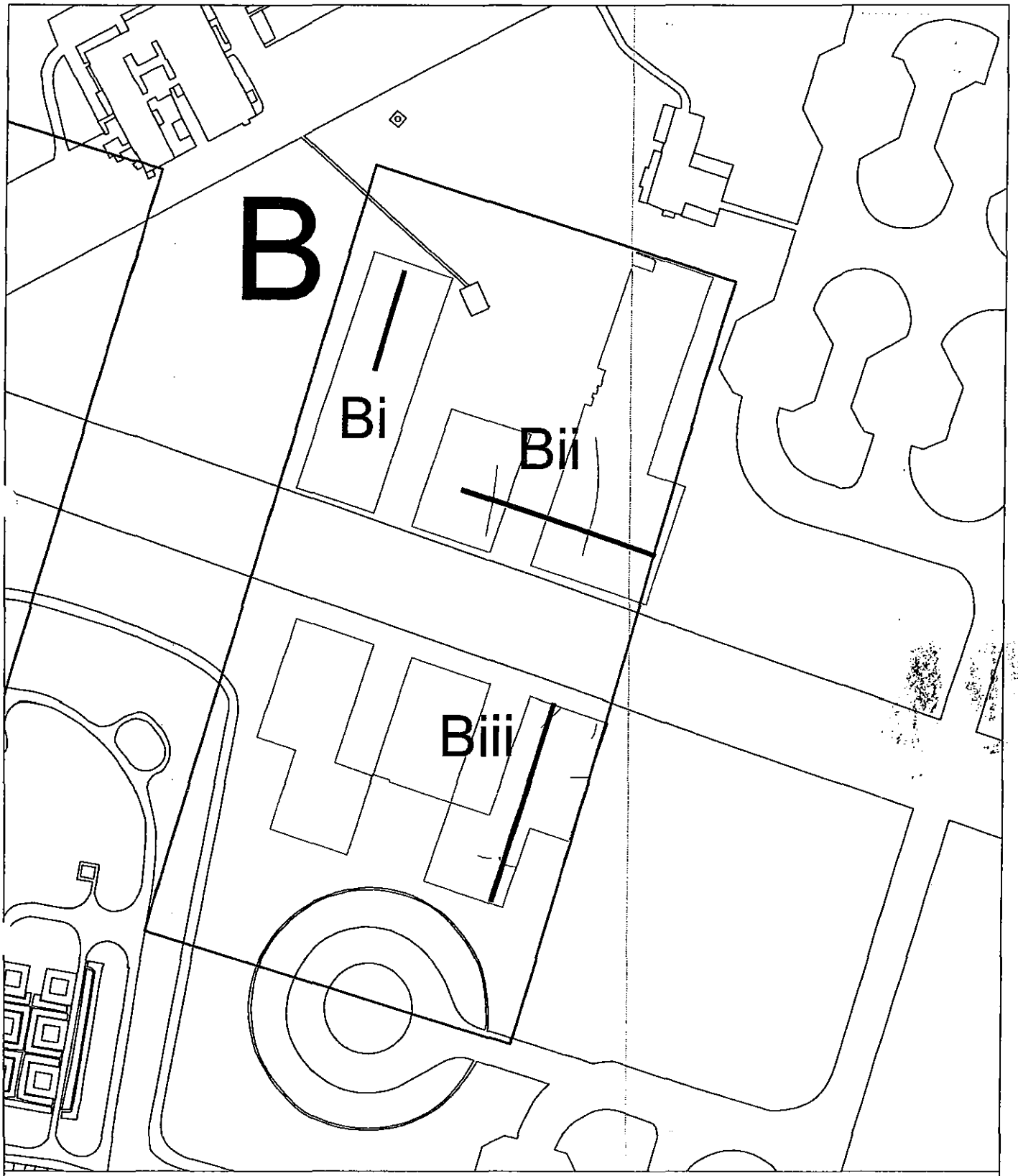

B Evaluation Areas

Geophysical Survey Areas

Geophysical Anomalies

Proposed Trenches

Drawing Title
FIGURE 3 - LOCATION OF EVALUATION TRENCHES Bi, Bii and Biii

Project Title
DONCASTER FINNINGLEY AIRPORT

Drawing Number
DDKBDCL/DFA/spec/03

SCALE AT A4 1:2500		
Drn AR	Appd SM	Revised
Chk AB	Date Nov 03	Date

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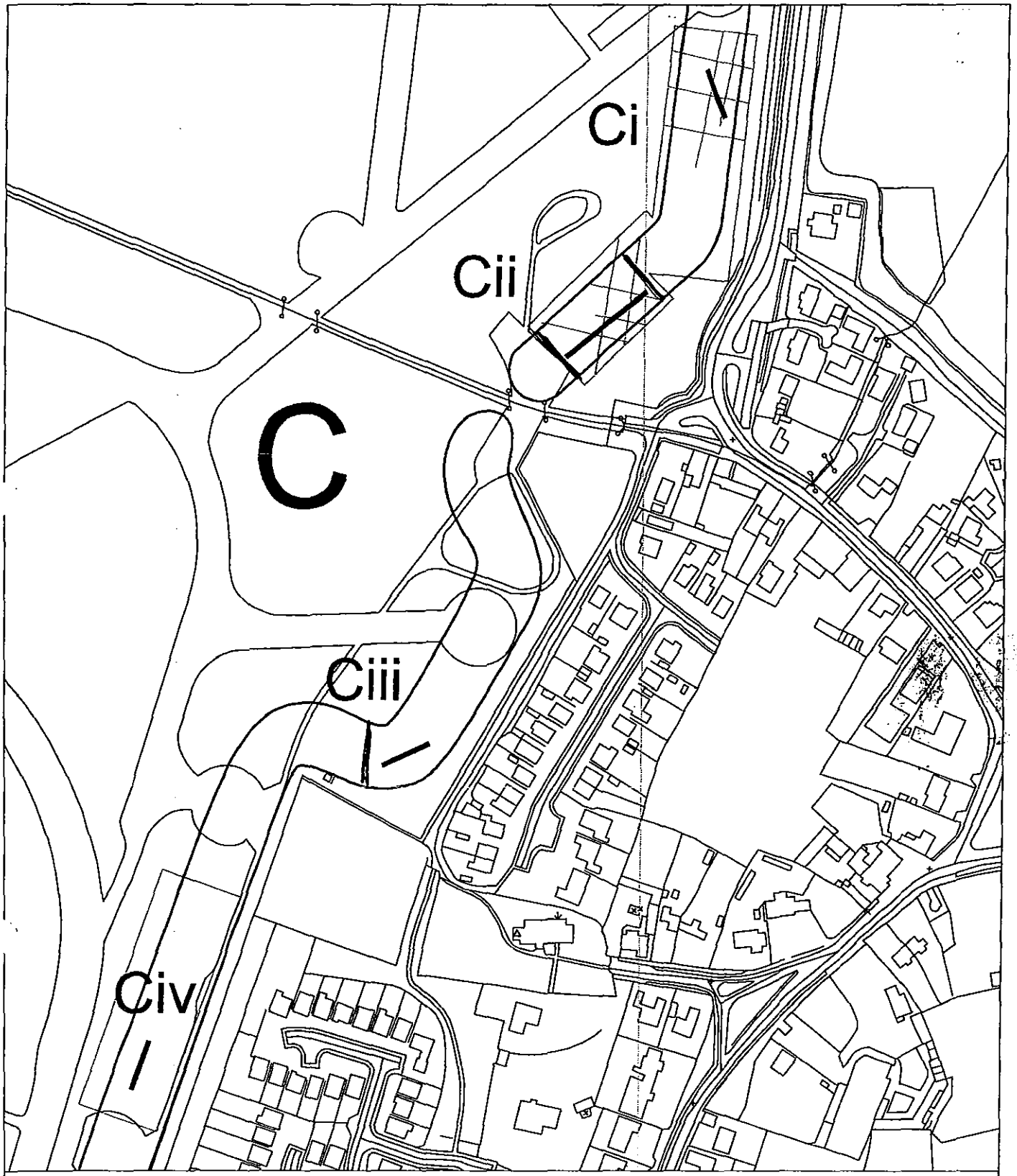

B Evaluation Areas | Geophysical Survey Areas | Geophysical Anomalies | Proposed Trenches

Drawing Title
FIGURE 4 - LOCATION OF EVALUATION TRENCHES Ci, Cii, Ciii and Civ

Project Title
DONCASTER FINNINGLEY AIRPORT

Drawing Number
DDKBDCL/DFA/spec/04

SCALE AT A4 1:2500		
Drn AR	Appd SM	Revised
Chk AB	Date Nov 03	Date

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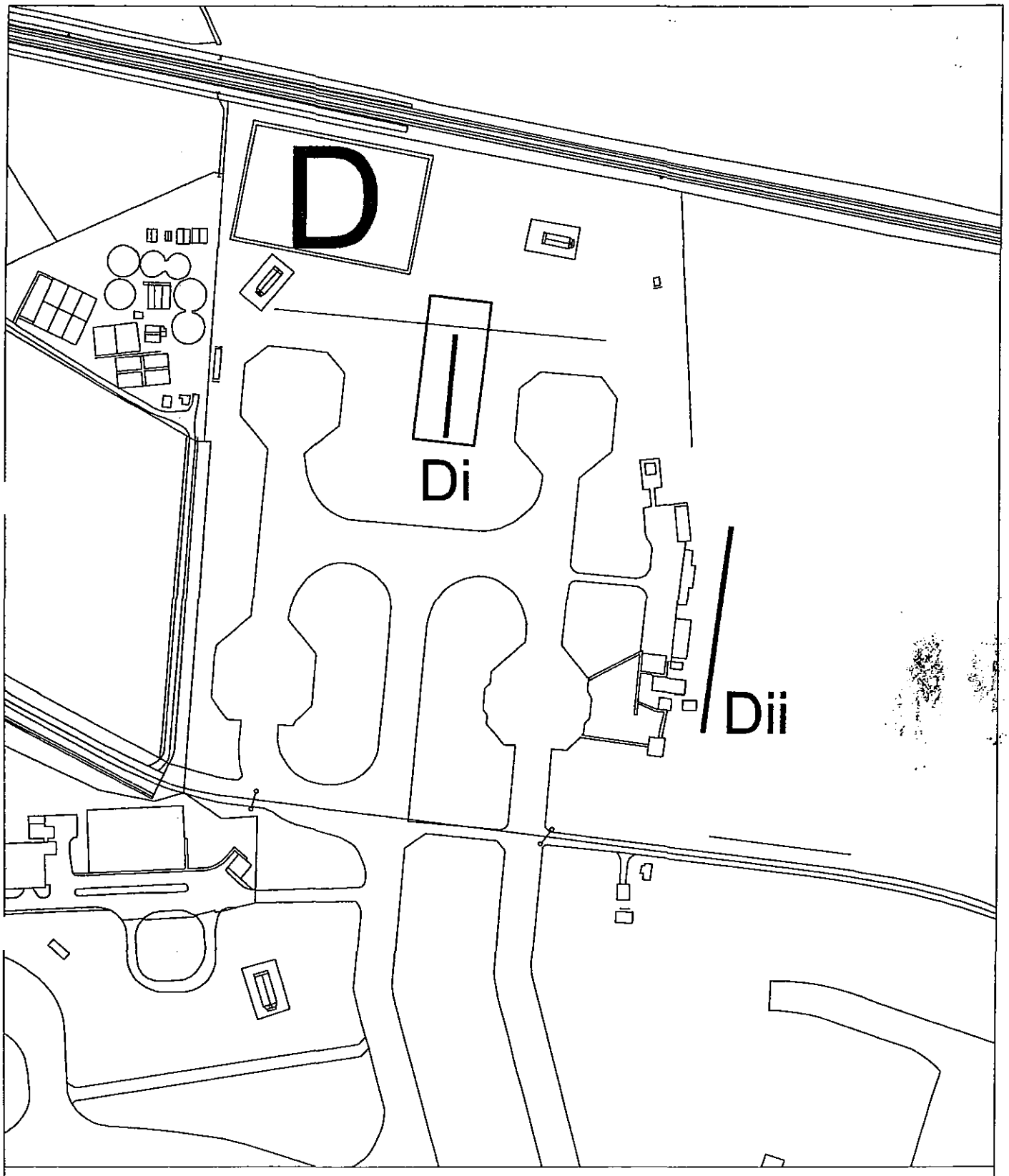

B Evaluation Areas

Geophysical Survey Areas

Geophysical Anomalies

Proposed Trenches

Drawing Title
FIGURE 5 - LOCATION OF EVALUATION TRENCHES Di and Dii

Project Title
DONCASTER FINNINGLEY AIRPORT

Drawing Number
DDKBDCL/DFA/spec/05

SCALE AT A4	1:2500		
Drn AR	Appd SM	Revised	
Chk AB	Date Nov 03	Date	

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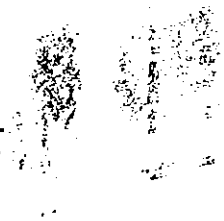
Scott Wilson

Appendix II

Specification for Watching Brief

DONCASTER FINNINGLEY AIRPORT
Archaeological Mitigation – Phase 3
Specification for Watching Brief

Prepared for
Peel Airports (Finningley) Ltd



February 2004
(revised April 2004)

DONCASTER FINNINGLEY AIRPORT
Archaeological Mitigation – Phase 3
Specification for Watching Brief

Prepared for
Peel Airports (Finningley) Ltd

Job No	Date	Status	Version	Prepared by	Approved for Issue
DKBDCL	30/04/04	Final	1	Andrea Burgess	Simon McCudden

Peel Airports (Finningley) Ltd
Doncaster Finningley Airport
Hayfield Lane
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CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

This specification has been prepared by Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick and Co Ltd in connection with the proposal by Peel Airports (Finningley) Ltd for the redevelopment of the existing airport for use as a commercial airport with related facilities.

Planning permission for the commercial airport was granted by the Secretary of State in April 2003 following Public Inquiry.

An initial archaeological desk-based assessment has revealed the presence of archaeological remains which may extend into the development area.

A staged programme of archaeological investigations was devised in consultation with the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS). The evalution stage of investigation, comprising geophysical survey and trial trenching, has been completed. There is a possibility that additional archaeological remains will be disturbed and destroyed by groundworks associated with the development of the site. This specification relates to the mitigation measures which will involve a targeted watching brief during construction.

This specification details the method which will be used for the watching brief, and has been approved by SYAS.

The aim of this fieldwork is to mitigate the impact of the development upon buried archaeological remains through 'preservation by record'.

2. SITE LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

The site of the proposed Doncaster Finningley Airport is the former RAF base at Finningley, which encompasses an area of *c.*3.35km^2 to the southeast of Doncaster (NGR SK 660 986 site centred). The area is southwest of the village of Finningley between the A614 and the A638.

A number of ex-RAF buildings occupy the north-western part of the site and the runway and taxi-ways are orientated north-south to the east of these. Between the runways the site is predominantly under coarse grassland although there are several isolated structures and several areas known to have been previously disturbed.

The underlying geological conditions are complex Superficial deposits above Permo-Triassic and Carboniferous deposits. The Superficial deposits comprise Older River Gravels, Glacial Sands and Gravels and Glacial Boulder Clay. Borehole data from the site indicate that the overburden comprises *c.*0.3m-0.6m of subsoil/topsoil directly overlying natural deposits – typically clays in the western part of the site and sands in the east.

3. PLANNING BACKGROUND

An Environmental Assessment was prepared to support the application for planning permission (LPA Ref. 99/46/4333) submitted by Peel Airports (Finningley) Ltd for redevelopment of the site as a commercial airport, and now subsequently approved.

Planning permission is subject to a number of conditions which include archaeology (condition no 73). This condition requires the implementation of a programme of archaeological work, in accordance with a specification approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

This specification has been prepared by Scott Wilson as the final element of the staged programme of archaeological works to fulfil the archaeological condition.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Arcus undertook a desk-based survey in May 1999, which did not identify direct evidence for archaeological remains within the proposed development area. There is, however, an indication that features relating to Iron Age or Romano-British field systems are present on the site, since a number of cropmarks have been identified in the adjacent fields. In addition there is some potential for the presence of features relating to a medieval parkland and post-medieval estate which previously occupied the site.

A geophysical survey undertaken by ARCUS in October 2003 identified linear anomalies of potential archaeological interest in Areas B and C (Fig. 1).

Archaeological Services WYAS carried out a trial trenching evaluation in January 2004. The trenches were positioned to test geophysical anomalies, test areas where ferrous interference could have masked the presence of archaeological features, and to evaluate areas where geophysical survey could not be carried out (Fig. 1).

The trial trenching demonstrated that the site has been heavily truncated by both past agricultural practices and the former use of the site as an RAF base. Only one trench (C2) produced any material culture, and suggested the presence of medieval activity within the eastern side of the development site.

A watching brief is now required to mitigate the impact of the development upon potential archaeological remains.

5. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The objective of the watching brief is, where possible, to identify and record the presence/absence, nature, extent, and date of any archaeological deposits or features which are disturbed as a result of demolition, remediation or construction works within the area of interest.

6. THE WATCHING BRIEF AREAS

The area of interest defined by the trial trenching lies on the eastern edge of the development site between trial trenches C2 and C3. A further area of interest lies at the site of the proposed fire station, also within Area C (Fig. 2).

Should the results of this work reveal little of archaeological interest or significance a decision may be taken between Scott Wilson and SYAS to curtail the watching brief.

If, however, finds and/or features of archaeological significance are identified a decision may be taken to extend the area requiring monitoring.

7. METHODOLOGY

The mitigation strategy has been developed in consultation with the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service Assistant Archaeologist, Roy Sykes. All work will be carried out in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (1999) and with the IFA *Code of Conduct.*

An archaeologist should be present on site as necessary and appropriate to monitor all excavation and/or soil disturbance in the areas of interest defined on Figure 2. The archaeologist will monitor the area as it is being stripped and will, where possible and practicable, view any available trench sections after excavation is completed.

The sub-contractor will record the date, time and duration of all visits and the nature and extent of the works being monitored.

If archaeological features or deposits are identified the area should be rapidly cleaned.

If extensive or significant archaeology is identified the archaeologist will notify Scott Wilson immediately. Additional archaeologists may be deployed, but only with the prior written consent of Scott Wilson.

Any archaeological deposits/features identified will be hand excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner sufficient to meet the aims and objectives of the investigation.

The areas of excavation/ground disturbance (even if they reveal no archaeological features) will be recorded on a suitable base map/development plan and the stratigraphy and depth of the excavation will be recorded.

A full written, drawn and photographic record will be made of all archaeological features. Hand drawn plans and sections of features will be produced at an appropriate scale (normally 1:20 for plans and 1:10 for sections). Drawings will include spot heights relative to Ordnance Datum in metres, correct to two decimal places.

Colour transparency and monochrome negative photographs will be taken at a minimum format of 35mm. In addition to records of archaeological features, a number of general site photographs will also be taken to give an overview of the site and the scope of the works taking place.

All non-modern artefacts will be retained. If appropriate all 'small' finds will be recorded three dimensionally. Bulk finds will be collected by context. Finds will be treated in accordance with the English heritage guidance document 'A strategy for the care and investigation of finds' (1995) and stored in controlled conditions where appropriate. All artefacts will be retained, cleaned, labelled and stored as detailed in the guidelines of the UKIC. All ferrous objects and a selection of non-ferous objects (including all coins) will be x-rayed.

It is not anticipated that a soil sampling programme will be required. However, should significant archaeological deposits be encountered an appropriate soil sampling strategy will be implemented.

Should human remains be discovered during the course of the excavations the remains will be covered and protected and left *in situ* in the first instance. The removal of human remains will only take place in accordance with the appropriate Home office and Environmental Health regulations and the Burial Act 1857. In such an event the contractor will notify Scott Wilson notified immediately.

Any artefacts which are recovered that fall within the scope of the Treasure Act 1996 will be reported to Scott Wilson and to H. M. Coroner.

The intention of the watching brief is not to unduly delay the work of other contractors on site. The archaeological contractor will make every reasonable effort to complete archaeological excavation and recording works without impacting upon the programme of other site contractors.

The archaeologist shall not excavate any area beyond those scheduled for destruction by the proposed development.

8. REPORTING

Verbal progress reports will be provided to Scott Wilson on request.

Immediately after completion of fieldwork any finds and samples will be processed. Each category of find or environmental material will be examined by a suitably qualified archaeologist or specialist.

A detailed report will be submitted within 2 weeks of the completion of fieldwork. The report will take account of the results of previous research and investigations at the site and will include the following:

- a non-technical summary
- site location
- archaeological and historical background
- aims and objectives
- methodology
- results
- discussion
- general location and detailed plans showing the areas of excavation/ground disturbance (to a known scale)
- detailed plans and sections as appropriate (to a known scale)
- a cross-referenced index of the project archive
- general and detailed photographs as appropriate

One copy of the complete report will be submitted to Scott Wilson as a draft. In finalising the report the comments of Scott Wilson will be taken into account.

Ten bound copies, one unbound copy and a digital version of the report will be required within one week of the receipt of Scott Wilson's comments on the draft report.

Electronic files will be provided in Word for Windows and pdf format.

9. DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS

The results of the watching brief will either be incorporated with the trial trenching results and disseminated as detailed in the Specification for Trial Trenching, or will be reported in full in a stand-alone report – depending upon the timing of the works.

10. ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

The archive of finds and records generated during the fieldwork will be kept secure at all stages of the project. All records and materials produced will be archived to the standards outlined in Appendix 3 of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects* (1991).

Archaeological Services WYAS shall, prior to the start of fieldwork, liase with the appropriate museum to obtain agreement in principle of Doncaster museum to accept the archive for long term storage and curation. Archaeological Services WYAS shall be responsible for identifying any specific requirements or policies of the museum in respect of the archive, and for adhering to those requirements.

The deposition of the archive forms the final stage of the project. The archaeological sub-contractor shall provide copies of communication with the recipient museum and written confirmation of the deposition of the archive.

11. MONITORING

The contractor may be subject to monitoring by Scott Wilson who will be given full access to site records or any other information.

Scott Wilson will liase with the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service to inform them of the commencement of site works.

12. COPYRIGHT

Archaeological Services WYAS shall assign copyright in all reports and documentation/images produced as part of this project to Scott Wilson. Archaeological Services WYAS retains the right to be identified as the author/originator of the material. This applies to all aspects of the project. It is the responsibility of Archaeological Services WYAS to obtain such rights from sub-contracted specialists.

Archaeological Services WYAS may apply in writing to use/disseminate any of the project archive or documentation (including images). Such permission will not be unreasonably withheld.

The results of the archaeological work will be submitted to the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service by Scott Wilson and will ultimately be made available for public access.

13. RESOURCES AND TIMETABLE

All archaeological personnel involved in the project should be suitably qualified and experienced professionals.

The timetable for the work will be dependant upon the groundwork contractors programme.

14. ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS

Access to the site is restricted to authorised personnel. Scott Wilson will require the names of all individuals involved with the fieldwork at least one week in advance of the commencement of work in order to obtain permits.

15. INSURANCES

The archaeological sub-contractor will be covered by public and professional indemnity insurance.

16. HEALTH AND SAFETY

Archaeological Services WYAS will have their own Health and Safety policies compiled using national guidelines and which conform to all relevant Health and Safety legislation.

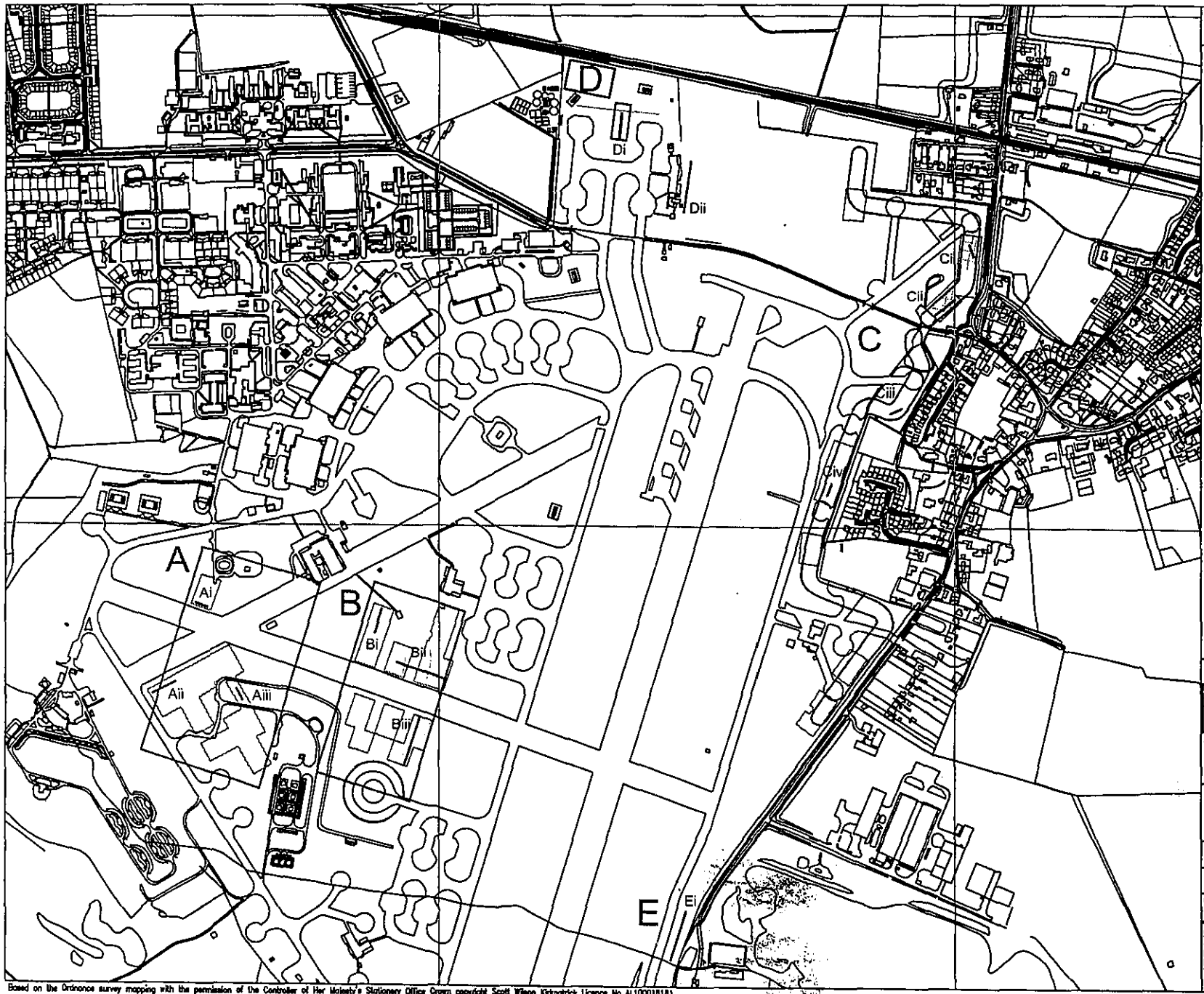
Archaeological Services WYAS will undertake a risk assessment detailing project specific Health and Safety requirements. The risk assessment shall be submitted to Scott Wilson in advance of commencement of site work. Health and Safety will take priority over archaeological issues.

Bovis Lend Lease and their sub-contractors are currently on site and will be undertaking the groundworks. Archaeological Services WYAS are in receipt of details of the principal contractor's Health and Safety plan. Archaeological Services WYAS will familiarise themselves with, and comply with, the H & S requirements of Bovis Lend Lease.

17. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Archaeological Services WYAS will undertake the works to the specification/project design as issued by Scott Wilson and in any subsequent written variations. No variation from, or changes to, the specification will occur except by prior agreement with Scott Wilson in consultation with SYAS.

All communications on archaeological matters to the archaeological curators (SYAS) or other interested parties will be directed through Scott Wilson.



This drawing may be used for the Purpose intended and only written dimensions shall be used.

B — Evaluation Areas

Geophysical Survey Areas

Geophysical Anomalies

Trial Trenches

Revision Details	By / Chk	Date	Suffix

Drawing Number: DDKBDCL/ARCH/WB/01 — Revision

Project: Doncaster Finningley Airport

Drawing Title: Location of Evaluation Works

Scale at A4: 1:10,000

Drn	Det		Appd
AR			SM
Chk	**Tech Chk**	**Det Chk**	**Date**
AB			FEB 04

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KEY

- Evaluation Areas
- Geophysical Survey Areas
- Geophysical Anomalies
- Trial Trenches
- Watching Brief Area

Rev	Description	Drawn	Chkd	Auth	Date
1	Addition of site of fire station works	AB	AR	AB	30.04.04

Project Name

Doncaster FINNINGLEY AIRPORT
A Peel Airport Company

Client

Peel Airports (Finningley) Limited

Doncaster Finningley Airport, Hayfield Lane, Doncaster DN9 3RA
Tel: 01302 801010 Fax: 01302 801011

Contractor

Bovis Land Lease

14 St Mary's Street, Lincoln LN5 7EQ
Tel: 01522 535515 Fax: 01522 534824

Architect

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Manchester
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Fax: 0161-832 7757

Consulting Engineer

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Quantity Surveyor

gleeds

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Sheffield S25 4JJ
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Fax: 01909 550023

Consulting Engineer

R W Gregory LLP | Consulting Engineers

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Tel: 01924 442868
Fax: 01924 359371

Consulting Engineer

ROSCOE CAPITA

The Pentagon
257 Ecclesall Road
Sheffield S11 8NZ
Tel: 0114 275 7200
Fax: 0114 275 3700

Description

FIGURE 2
AREAS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST

Issue Status

Comments	Approval	Tender	Construction
	X		

Drawn By	Checked By	Approved By	Authorised By
AB	AR	AB	

Scale: 1:250@A3 Date: 30.04.04

Consultant	Level	Drawing No	Rev
SW	1	DDKBDCL/ARCH/W8/02	1

Appendix III

Inventory of primary archive

File no.	Description	Quantity
1	Context register	1
1	Context cards (500-507)	8
1	Sample register	1
1	Trench record sheets	1
1	Samples register	1
1	Photographic film record	1
1	Photograph record sheets (Film no. 7070)	1
1	Colour transparencies (Film no. 7070)	3
1	Drawing register	1
1	Small Permatrace sheets	5
1	Archaeological Evaluation Specification for watching brief	1
1	Archaeological Evaluation Specification for trial trenching	1

Appendix VI

Inventory of contexts

Context	Trench	Description
500	E1	Fill of 501
501	E1	Cut of drainage ditch
502	E1	Fill of 503
503	E1	Cut of drainage ditch
504	E1	Fill of 505
505	E1	Re-cut of drainage Ditch 507
506	E1	Fill of 507
507	E1	Cut of drainage ditch

Appendix V

Inventory of artefacts

Fabric	Trench	Context	Quantity	Details
Pottery	E1	Topsoil	4	Three 19th to 20th brown glazed stoneware pottery sherds and one rim sherd of possible Romano-British greyware.
	-	Topsoil	5	One sherd of grey stoneware, two sherds of brown glaze, Two sherds of blue and white glaze. Watching Brief.
Total			**9**	
Claypipe	-	Topsoil	1	Fragment of claypipe bowl base.
Total			**2**	

Appendix VI

Inventory of samples

Sample	Trench	Context	Type	Description
1	E1	500	GBA	Single fill of Ditch 501
2	E1	502	GBA	Single fill of Ditch 503
3	E1	504	GBA	Single fill of Ditch 505
4	E1	506	GBA	Single fill of Ditch 507