



ASHFIELDS (LAND NORTH OF KIRTON ROAD) STAINFORTH

Archaeological Evaluation Report





**ASHFIELDS, KIRTON ROAD,
STAINFORTH, SOUTH YORKSHIRE**

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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**ASHFIELDS, KIRTON ROAD,
STAINFORTH, SOUTH YORKSHIRE****Archaeological Evaluation Report****Summary**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, on behalf of Hargreaves Services, to undertake archaeological evaluation of a site proposed for colliery waste storage on land north of Kirton Lane, Stainforth, South Yorkshire (SE 6650 2750). The evaluation work follows on from geophysical survey of the Site which identified an extensive area of buried archaeological remains extending over 12 hectares in the northwest part of the Site. The features are located on a known low sand ridge in this area, and were interpreted as evidence for Iron Age and Romano-British period field systems and settlement sites.

Twenty-five evaluation trenches were excavated, primarily targeting features identified by geophysical survey and cropmark evidence, but also areas which appeared devoid of features. The results correlated well with the geophysical survey although a small number of additional features were identified, generally small post-holes and pits which are difficult to identify through geophysics alone. The majority of archaeological features of antiquity had been sealed beneath subsoil 0.1-0.15m thick which in turn was overlain by topsoil 0.27m to 0.6m thick. The subsoil had been disturbed heavily, particularly in the western third of the Site by deep plough aeration of the soil. The deposits filling the archaeological features were generally compact, however in some cases, for example Trenches 6, 9, 19 and 24 archaeological deposits were described as friable and loose.

The evaluation trenching revealed a high density of archaeological features. The ditches form small enclosures or are part of a much wider network of field systems. Through a combination of dating evidence from the feature fills, stratigraphic relationships between features and historic map regression, it has been possible to determine the date range of most of the ditches. These predominantly fall into the Romano-British period (from the 2nd to 3rd/4th-centuries), or are much later post-medieval field boundaries. The evidence for Romano-British activity appears to cluster into two main areas; to the western fringe of the Site, and to the central western portion of the Site which lies on a slightly higher ridge of sand. Post and stake holes uncovered throughout the excavations hint at wider structural alignments outside the limit of the trenches.

The artefactual evidence is indicative of settlement activity with primarily pottery recovered, but also a small number of tile/ brick fragments, a flagstone and a coin. The majority of pottery appears to be locally produced with limited indicators of a wider network of exchange. Evidence of metalworking activity was also found in the form of smithing slags and possible furnace lining. The complete absence of animal bone is due to the acidic nature of the surrounding sandy soils. Preservation of palaeoenvironmental evidence is good in the Romano-British features with little modern contamination. The charred plant remain assemblages recovered from the Romano-British features are typical of those of settlement waste and activities.

The results of the trial trenching presented in this report contributes to the characterisation of the archaeological remains present on the Site and will help assess the effects of the proposed development scheme, informing design and modelling work. The archive resulting from the fieldwork will be deposited with Doncaster Museum in due course.

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The report was compiled by Neil Dransfield, Linzi Harvey and Richard O'Neill. Finds were assessed by Lorraine Mephram; samples were processed by Nicki Mulhall and assessed by Sarah. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Richard O'Neill. The fieldwork was directed by Neil Dransfield who was assisted by Kirsty Squires, Dane Wright, Di Swales, Chris Hirst and Chris Breeden. The illustrations were produced by Chris Swales.

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Archaeological Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting (hereafter 'the Client'), on behalf of Hargreaves Services, to undertake archaeological evaluation of a site proposed for colliery waste storage on land north of Kirton Lane, Stainforth, South Yorkshire (hereafter 'the Site', centred on NGR SE 6650 2750).

1.1.2 The evaluation work follows on from an extensive geophysical survey of the Site (ArchaeoPhysica 2011) which identified an extensive area of buried archaeological remains extending over 12 hectares in the northwest part of the Site. The features are located on a known low sand ridge in this area, and are interpreted as evidence for Iron Age and Romano-British period field systems and settlement sites.

1.1.3 A phased programme of archaeological field evaluation (CgMs 2012) was designed in discussion with South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS) in order to assess the implications of the proposed development on surviving archaeology.

1.2 Site location and geology

1.2.1 The Site lies to the east of Stainforth, and is bounded by Kirton Lane to the south and the Stainforth and Keadby Canal to the north (**Figure 1**).

1.2.2 Mapping of the surface geology and superficial deposits (from British Geological Survey 1:10,560 mapping) indicate that the northern part of the Site lies on an east-west ridge sand ridge, with areas of alluvial clay further south. Geotechnical boreholes by WYG (2011, 2012), indicate that the southern half of the Site contains increasing depths of alluvial clay and silt deposits beneath the modern ploughsoil. These alluvial deposits overlie the sands of the earlier landform as it falls away from the ridge located in the north part of the Site. The depth of alluvium is predicted to be greatest towards the southern end of the Site, where 1.2m of alluvium or more is present.

1.2.3 Current regional models would suggest that alluvium started to be deposited in this part of the Don Valley in the late prehistoric period, with the majority of alluviation occurring in the later Romano-British and Saxon periods. Overbank flooding from the river and deposition of alluvium within the general area may have continued to some extent until the 17th century.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Archaeological Background

- 2.1.1 The field system and settlement remains within the Site lie on the northern-eastern margins of an extensive archaeological landscape of Iron Age and Romano-British enclosures field systems and trackways identified by aerial photography. More extensive complexes are recorded on the sands southwest of Stainforth and across the river gravels south of Hatfield and the Rossington ridge (CgMs 2012).
- 2.1.2 Two archaeological heritage assets are recorded in the north part of the Site immediately adjacent area: an area of probable Romano-British settlement and field system within the Site itself, and an 17th century flood defence bank immediately north of the Site. Finds of Romano-British pottery (SMR ref 03443/01, 01070/01) are recorded from this area; evidence of contemporary field systems (SMR ref 04018/01) are also recorded in the area from aerial photographs (**Figure 2**).
- 2.1.3 A geophysical survey undertaken in 2011 (ArchaeoPhysica 2011) (**Figure 2**) has provided additional detail on the location, extent and nature of buried remains in this part of the Site. The survey identified an extensive set of features interpreted as enclosures occupying an area measuring approximately 330m x 400m in the northwest part of the Site. Within this large group of enclosures, the survey recorded a series of ten strongly magnetic foci likely to represent areas of settlement or industrial activity. The area of Romano-British enclosures and settlement foci are located on the identified sand ridge in the north part of the Site, and are anticipated to survive as shallow features directly beneath the current plough soil and subsoil. The date of these features could not be directly determined from the geophysical survey, although their morphology is fully consistent with the Romano-British finds previously recovered from this area (SYSMR Monument ref 03443/01 and 01070/01).

3 AIMS AND SCOPE OF WORK

3.1 General

- 3.1.1 The objectives of the trial trenching were as follows:
- To establish the depth of burial and complexity of archaeological stratigraphy; the date range of activity; the degree of preservation of remains and conditions of survival;
 - To confirm the reliability of the previous geophysical survey as a predictor of the extent and character of archaeological remains;
 - To assess the artefactual and environmental potential of the archaeological deposits encountered;
 - To assess the impact of previous land use on the Site;
 - To inform appropriate assessment of the effects of the proposed tip on the significance of surviving archaeological heritage assets;

- To inform formulation of a further measures as necessary to mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains;
- To produce a Site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the South Yorkshire SMR.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 General

4.1.1 Twenty five evaluation trenches were excavated in total. The trenches varied in dimension from 10x4m, 30x2m, 20x2m to 50x2m (**Figures 1 and 2**). Where possible trenches were laid out in accordance with the agreed WSI. However, in a number of cases, changes to the location of trenches were made in liaison with, and with the agreement of, CgMs Consulting and SYAS.

4.1.2 Machining was undertaken using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, working under the continuous direct supervision of an experienced archaeologist. Topsoil/overburden was removed in a series of level spits down to the level of the natural geology or the first archaeological horizon, whichever was reached first.

4.1.3 Any revealed deposits were hand cleaned, excavated and recorded in accordance with Wessex Archaeology's standard guidelines. The excavation of archaeological features in some of the trenches was hampered by the high water table. Backfilling of the trenches was not undertaken until SYAS were satisfied that the aims of the project had been met.

4.1.4 All aspects of the programme were carried out in accordance with the relevant Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Code of Conduct (IfA 2008a) and Standard and Guidance (IfA 2008b), and best industry practice.

5 EVALUATION RESULTS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 The majority of trenches were targeted on a series of strong enhanced magnetic responses (**Figure 2**) interpreted as evidence of industrial and/or settlement activity within weaker linear magnetic anomalies interpreted as enclosure ditches and fills (ArchaeoPhysica 2011). Other trenches were placed to examine cropmark evidence, in areas of negative geophysical responses or over wide, possibly natural, geophysical anomalies.

5.2 General soil sequence

5.2.1 The natural geology of the Site comprised clean sand with iron pan mottling, indicating periodic flooding and ground saturation. Patches of greyish white sand were revealed in places and these were determined to be natural in formation. The sand was overlain by subsoil ranging between 0.1m and 0.15m thick which had been subject to deep agricultural aeration ploughing

(**Plate 1**) which in turn was overlain by the modern topsoil plough zone which varied from 0.27m to 0.6m in thickness.

5.3 Negative Trenches

5.3.1 No archaeological features or finds were revealed within **Trenches 11, 17, 20, 21 and 25 (Figures 1 and 2)**. **Trench 12** contained only one small 0.4m wide gully **1204** which was only 0.1m deep and contained no datable artefacts (**Figure 6**). Several modern land drains were also revealed in this trench. The cropmark at the S end of **Trench 17 (Figure 2)** was examined and found to be a geological feature with irregular form. The wide light band on the geophysical data in **Trench 25** was likely to have been produced by the high density of iron panning and soft sand in that location. No archaeological features or deposits were observed.

5.3.2 The remaining trenches revealed varying densities of archaeological remains. Summaries of the excavated features are found below, with full context descriptions found in **Appendix 1**.

5.4 Trenches 1-3

5.4.1 Three trenches were located to examine anomalies at the northern edge of the Site.

5.4.2 **Trench 1** was located to examine a circular anomaly and the apparent SW corner of an enclosure (**Figures 2 and 3**). At the western end of the trench was an NW-SE aligned, flat bottomed ditch **104** which extended across the width of the trench, measuring 1.54m wide by 0.5m deep (**Plate 1**). It is likely that this ditch correlates with the eastern part of the sub-circular/D-shaped geophysical anomaly. A 0.58m deep southern ditch terminus **106** at the eastern end of the trench may correlate with the location of a faint geophysical anomaly (ArchaeoPhysica 2011) but no features could definitively be associated with the SW enclosure corner or the potential double ditch running into it.

5.4.3 **Trench 2** revealed a 2.2m long by 1.6m wide by 0.34m deep NNW-SSE aligned ditch **204** correlating with the location of a linear geophysical anomaly (**Figures 2 and 3**). The CBM recovered from fill **205** was undated.

5.4.4 **Trench 3** contained a 2.3m long by 1.35m wide by 0.25m deep linear E-W aligned ditch **306** with an uneven base and iron panning, roughly correlating with the location of a linear geophysical anomaly (**Figures 2 and 3**).

5.5 Trenches 4-8, 18 and 19.

5.5.1 **Trenches 4-8, 18 and 19** were focussed on an area of intense geophysical activity on the highest part of the Site, with linear anomalies interpreted as enclosure ditches and areas of higher magnetic responses interpreted as industrial and/or settlement activity. The trenches revealed numerous archaeological features.

5.5.2 **Trench 4** was located to examine a cluster of features with a high magnetic response to the NW of this central area (**Figures 2 and 3**). Three of the features are likely to be relatively modern in date. At the eastern end of the trench, a 2.5m wide, steep-sided, WSW-ENE aligned ditch **420** contained post-medieval pottery within its fill **421** (see **Section 6** below). To the

western end of the trench, a much narrower (0.8m wide) ditch **404** was revealed which truncated the top of an earlier flat-bottomed ditch **406**, measuring 2.3m long by 2.75m wide by 0.75m deep (**Figure 8**). A further NW-SE aligned ditch **409** (**Plate 2**) was also recovered which contained fragments of wooden planks at the base and post-medieval material (see **Section 6** below) in its upper fill **414**. Features **404**, **409** and **420** appear to align with field boundaries on 19th century historic maps.

- 5.5.3 In addition to the undated (albeit earlier) ditch **406**, two other features were uncovered of Romano-British date; ditches **415** and **418**. Both aligned NW-SE and extended across the trench. The ditches were of similar width (c. 1.4m) and depth (0.55m), and contained Romano-British pottery in their upper fills, **417** (**415**) and **419** (**418**). Burnt stone was observed in fill **419**.
- 5.5.4 **Trench 5** contained a number of linear ditch features, some of which correlated with the location of geophysical anomalies, and three post-holes **505**, **509** and **510** (**Figures 2** and **4**). Three ditch termini **508**, **511** and **513**, and two ditches **506/507** (Group 508) and **512** were identified, some of which lay on different alignments. The geophysical data was interpreted as a likely industrial/settlement area (ArchaeoPhysica 2011) and the presence of pottery, slag, a possible flagstone and roof tile from deposit **519** (**511**) would seem to confirm this interpretation. Ditch **504**, at the SW end of the trench, 2m long by 1.2m wide by 0.4m, was not picked up by the geophysical survey. The fill **505** was fairly indistinguishable from the surrounding natural and contained one fragment of Romano-British pottery (see **Section 6** below).
- 5.5.5 **Trench 6** was located within a further concentration of strong magnetic responses and again revealed a palimpsest of archaeological features (**Figures 2** and **4**). The earliest feature was a 7m long by 0.8m wide by 0.36m deep linear ditch **609** aligned WSW-ENE. The feature contained no dateable artefacts but was clearly truncated by a NNW-SSE aligned ditch **613** which bisected its visible length. Ditch **613** extended across the trench and measured 2m wide by 0.58m deep. The upper fill **614** contained Romano-British pottery. Ditch **613** was in turn truncated by a large 2.05m by 1m oval pit **611**, along its western edge, and by a third linear **606** aligned NW-SE (**Figure 8**). Both of these later features **611** and **606** contained Romano-British pottery in their respective fills **612** and **607**. Ditch **606** extended across the trench, measuring 2.7m wide by 1.36m deep. Ditch **606** appeared to have re-cut the line of an earlier ditch **604** (**Figure 8**) which contained Romano-British pottery in its primary fill **605**.
- 5.5.6 **Trench 7** was located within a third concentration of strong magnetic responses and revealed three fairly parallel ditches **703**, **705** and **707** (**Figures 2** and **4**), only one of which (**707**) corresponded to a geophysical anomaly. The ditches were all aligned NW to SE and extended across the 2m width of the trench, varying in width and depth. No datable material was recovered from the fills of the ditches and the features were sealed by the 0.1m thick deep ploughed aerated subsoil **709** (**Plate 4**).
- 5.5.7 **Trench 8** was located within a fourth concentration of strong magnetic responses and revealed four features along its length (**Figures 2** and **4**). Towards the NW end of the trench was a series of three re-cut ditches which appeared to correlate with a linear geophysical anomalies. The earliest of

these ditches **806** was aligned E-W and measured 1.6m wide by 0.8m deep (**Figure 8**). A re-cut **804** was aligned NE-SW and measured 1.95m wide by 1.3m deep. A final re-cut was a much narrower (0.8m), almost vertical sided ditch **805** (**Figure 8**). Both later ditches contained Romano-British pottery in their respective fills **813** (**804**) and **814** (**805**). A possible hearth/ oven **807** was identified in a central area of the trench (**Plate 5**). The feature consisted of a 0.34m deep bowl with a 0.1m thick clay lining **816**. The bowl graded shallowly to a terminus at the NE end, possibly forming a tuyere. The clay lining **816** was heat affected and a large quantity of charcoal was present in the fill **817**, which also contained burnt clay. Additional features in this trench included a post hole **808** and the western terminus of a flat-bottomed ditch **809** (**Figure 4**), both of which contained Romano-British pottery.

- 5.5.8 **Trench 18** was located within a fifth concentration of strong magnetic responses, including several linear anomalies which corresponded with archaeological features (**Figures 2** and **7**). The trench had to be split into two separate sections (N and S) to preserve the farmer's machine track. The northern segment of the trench contained three E-W aligned ditches which extended across the width of the trench. The more northerly of these was a gully **1804**, 0.8m wide by 0.2m deep, containing Romano-British pottery. To the south were two separate ditches **1806** and **1821** which could not be separated chronologically (**Figure 9**; **Plate 9**). Both ditch fills **1807** (**1806**) and **1822** (**1821**) contained Romano-British pottery; the former included a sherd of probable Nene Valley ware pottery (see **Section 6** below).
- 5.5.9 The southern segment of the trench contained an E-W aligned gully **1808** which spanned the width of the trench. The gully was shallow, 0.15m in depth, and contained a 0.25m diameter stake-hole **1810** in its exposed base.
- 5.5.10 The southern part of the trench also contained four closely spaced E-W linear features **1811**, **1813**, **1815** and **1817**, which extended across the trench where two curvilinear geophysical anomalies converged (**Figure 7**). The features were fairly evenly spaced, at 0.2m apart, with two **1815** and **1817** being slightly closer together. The function of the features remains unclear; they may be beam slots or gullies. The four features were subsequently truncated by a N-S aligned linear feature **1819** (**Figures 7** and **9**), also corresponding to a geophysical anomaly, which may have been a double ditch or re-cut ditch. The linear feature appeared to have several stake holes cut into it along its exposed length. Romano-British pottery was recovered from the fills of the features.
- 5.5.11 **Trench 19** was located to the east of the main cluster of settlement activity suggested by the geophysical results, to examine the SE corner of a possible enclosure and other magnetic responses and cropmark features (**Figure 7**). The trench contained three linear features **1904**, **1907** and **1911**, aligned N-S, extending across the width of the trench. Ditch **1904** measured 1.26m wide by 0.60m deep and had a roughly V-shaped profile (**Figure 9**; **Plate 10**). The ditch appeared to align with the possible eastern edge of a SE corner of an enclosure feature (**Figure 2**) and the upper fill **1905** contained Romano-British pottery (**Section 6** below). The feature was clearly truncated by a later land drain. Ditch **1907** measured 2.4m wide by 0.8m deep (**Figure 9**) and appears to correspond with a 19th-century field boundary. The ditch was truncated by a large 1.9m V-shaped cut **1910** which contained a modern field drain at the base (**Figure 9**), probably a re-

cut of the earlier boundary. Ditch **1907** truncated an earlier, partially revealed shallow linear feature **1914** which was aligned E-W and may correspond with a curvilinear cropmark (**Figure 9**). Towards the eastern end of the trench was a 0.7m wide by 0.15m deep gully **1911** (**Figure 7**).

5.6 Trenches 9, 10 and 24.

5.6.1 Trenches 9, 10 **and** 24 were located to the western edge of the Site. **Trenches 9** and **10** were to examine two separate areas of magnetic activity and **Trench 24** was located to test an area of negative geophysical results.

5.6.2 **Trench 9** revealed five linears **904**, **907**, **910**, **913** and **917** that were all aligned WSW-ENE and extended across the 2m width of the trench (**Figure 5**). Ditches **904** and **917** (**Plate 6**), at either ends of the trench, were of similar width (c. 3m), with similar profiles, and at least 0.6m deep. The bases were not clearly identified due to the infilling water table. From the geophysical results (**Figures 2** and **5**) it may be possible to suggest that these ditches represent the external ditches to two separate enclosures. Pottery recovered from the fill **916** of ditch **917** suggests a Romano-British date for that feature. The three ditches **907**, **910** and **913**, between **904** and **917**, appear to be external to the enclosures and were much narrower and shallower. The precise function of these features is unclear; however both **910** and **913** appear to align with geophysical anomalies (**Figures 2** and **5**).

5.6.3 **Trench 10** revealed a palimpsest of features some of which corresponded with geophysical anomalies (**Figure 5**, **Plate 7**). The eastern edge of a partially revealed N-S aligned feature **1004** was uncovered along the central western edge of the trench. The feature was possibly curvilinear and was shallow, measuring only 0.1m deep. The southern end of the trench was densely packed with archaeological features; the earliest of the features was a N-S aligned ditch **1015**. The ditch was possibly curving to the east and possibly continued as ditch **1012** further north. The two ditches were of similar depth (0.7 and 0.6 respectively), with concave stepped profiles. Romano-British pottery was recovered from the fill (**1007**) of ditch **1006** (see **Section 6** below).

5.6.4 Ditch **1015** measured at least 4.5m long and was truncated at its S extent by a 0.45m deep, ENE-WSW aligned ditch **1020** (**Figure 8**). The N extent of ditch **1015** was also truncated by a 0.75m deep, steep-sided ditch **1017** which was aligned NW-SE (**Figure 8**). The geophysical results (**Figure 5**) would appear to suggest that ditch **1015** may in fact turn to the west as **1017**; however the excavated evidence indicates more complex archaeology than indicated by the geophysics alone.

5.6.5 A partially revealed ditch **1012** was truncated at its S extent by a 6.4m long by 0.5m wide by 0.1m deep shallow gully **1010** (**Figure 8**) which was in turn bisected by a 1m wide linear **1006**, 0.55-0.65m in depth. The latter feature may have been a double ditch **1006/1008** (**Figure 8**), but it was difficult to ascertain the exact nature and sequence of features in this area. Romano-British pottery was recovered from the fill (**1007**) of ditch **1006**.

5.6.6 **Trench 24** was located at the NW corner of the Site and revealed a substantial NW-SE aligned ditch **2404** not visible on the geophysical survey (**Figures 2** and **5**). The ditch measured over 20m long by 1.8m wide by

0.86m deep. A terminus of a NE-SW aligned ditch **2410** was identified at the southern extent of the trench.

5.7 Trenches 13-16

5.7.1 Two separate ditches with re-cuts uncovered in **Trenches 13** and **14** appear to align well with the same cropmark feature (**Figures 2** and **6**). In **Trench 13** the feature appears to comprise a 1.4m wide ditch **1308**. The ditch was initially re-cut to the east by a 1m wide by 0.6m deep cut **1304**, and then in the centre with a further 0.5m wide by 0.3m deep re-cut **1306**. **Trench 14** contained a 1.1m wide by 0.36m deep ditch **1404** with a smaller 0.6m wide by 0.26m deep re-cut **1406** in the centre. No datable artefacts were recovered from the features.

5.7.2 **Trench 15** was located to examine a curvilinear feature identified by the geophysical survey (ArchaeoPhysica 2011) and a previously identified cropmark **Figures 2** and **6**). The trench contained a NW-SE aligned sequence of ditch re-cuts which spanned the width of the trench and corresponded with the linear cropmark (**Figure 6; Plate 8**). The initial ditch **1504** measured 1.7m wide by 0.64m deep (**Figure 9**). The eastern edge was truncated by a narrower ditch **1509** measuring 1.2m wide by 0.4m deep. A modern linear **1511** then truncated **1509**, cutting through the overlying subsoil **1502** (**Figure 9a**). No datable artefacts were recovered from the features but a fragment of worked flint (see **Section 6** below) was recovered from the subsoil in the trench.

5.7.3 **Trench 16** was split into two segments to preserve the farmer's machine track. The northern section of the trench was extended along its western edge to examine a possible small square enclosure identified by geophysical survey (**Figures 2** and **6**). The extension revealed a heavily truncated terminus **1604** which appeared to partially correspond with the geophysical anomaly. The feature had a very irregular base and measured 0.5m wide and only 0.1m deep. No material was recovered to date the feature.

5.8 Trenches 22 and 23

5.8.1 **Trench 22** was initially targeted on a cropmark feature. The trench was rotated from its initial alignment to comply with the farmer's crop programme but still targeted the cropmark (**Figures 2** and **7**). A linear N-S aligned ditch **2204**, which spanned the width of the trench, corresponded with the location of the cropmark. The ditch was 1.8m wide by 0.86m deep with moderate concave sides and a flat base. No datable artefacts were recovered from the fill; however, the feature appeared to be partially sealed by the subsoil **2202** over the majority of the W side of the feature.

5.8.2 **Trench 23** was initially targeted on a cropmark feature. The trench was moved to the south of its initial location to comply with the farmer's crop programme but still targeted the cropmark (**Figures 2** and **7**). A N-S aligned ditch **2309**, extending across the width of the trench, corresponded with the location of the cropmark. The ditch was 1.44m wide 0.48m deep and appeared to truncate the subsoil. The feature also correlates with a field boundary shown on historic mapping, indicating it was of likely post-medieval date. A 14m long ditch **2304**, aligned E-W, and curving to the north and narrowing at its eastern end, was also identified in the western half of the trench. The ditch was not apparent on the geophysical survey or on

aerial photographs. The feature was just over 2m wide at its widest extent, and 0.5m deep with steep convex side leading to a flattish base. No datable material was recovered from the ditch fills. A small 0.3m diameter post-hole 2308, measuring only 0.1m deep (Figure 7), was also identified between the two ditches.

6 FINDS

6.1 Summary

6.1.1 The finds assemblage recovered is dominated by pottery, with other material types restricted in both range and size. With the exception of a few post-medieval items, the assemblage dates to the Romano-British period.

6.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are summarised in **Appendix 2**.

6.2 Pottery

Romano-British

6.2.1 Predominant amongst the Romano-British assemblage are greywares (157 sherds), found in three main forms: neckless, everted rim jars, flanged bowls and dropped flange bowls. There are also one large convex bowl, a straight-sided 'dog dish', a cheese press, and a possible platter. Overall the forms indicate a date range from 2nd century into the late Romano-British period (later 3rd/4th century AD), and all are paralleled within the range produced by the south Yorkshire potteries such as Rossington and Cantley (Buckland *et al.* 1980, figs. 3-4). The greywares themselves are visually quite homogeneous – relatively fine-grained and in a mid-grey colouring.

6.2.2 The second largest group is made up of coarse shelly wares (30 sherds); in all cases the inclusions have leached out, leaving voids. The only diagnostic sherds belong to an everted rim jar and a flared bowl with out-turned, internally bevelled rim. They occur alongside the greywares, but quantities and diagnostic pieces are insufficient to narrow down the date range.

6.2.3 Sherds of other types are very scarce. There are two sherds of Derbyshire ware from the Hazelwood/Holbrook area around Belper (contexts **1007**, **1011**), including one from a jar with a slightly cupped rim, typical of the industry (Kay 1962). One sherd of south-east Dorset Black Burnished ware (BB1) from context **528** is from an uncertain vessel form. The only fineware ware is a colour coated body sherd (context **1807**), possibly from the Nene Valley production centre.

Post-medieval

6.2.4 Three sherds are post-medieval - these comprise two glazed redwares (context **421**), not closely datable within the post-medieval period; and one sherd of early 18th century white saltglaze (context **414**).

6.3 Ceramic Building Material

- 6.3.1 Of the six pieces of CBM recovered, two are Romano-British tile fragments, but cannot be assigned to specific tile types. The remaining four fragments are post-medieval, and include flat roof tile, pantile and field drain.

6.4 Fired Clay

- 6.4.1 The fired clay consists of small, abraded and featureless fragments of uncertain origin, possibly structural (upstanding structures or pit/hearth lining). Their date is assumed to be Romano-British on the basis of associated pottery.

6.5 Slag

- 6.5.1 Just over 1.5kg of slag was recovered; this represents iron-smithing, and includes some possible vitrified ceramic hearth lining.

6.6 Metalwork

- 6.6.1 Metalwork comprises an illegible Roman coin and an iron object, possibly a nail shank.

6.7 Other Finds

- 6.7.1 Other finds comprise very small quantities of animal bone (two horse teeth from a post-medieval context); glass (two fragments of a small post-medieval phial); worked flint (one prehistoric waste flake); stone (burnt, unworked, from post-medieval context **1818**; probable flagstone from Romano-British context **528**); and wood (short length of possible plank or lath from an undated context).

7 PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Summary

- 7.1.1 A total of 10 bulk samples were taken to evaluate the presence and preservation of palaeo-environmental remains. These were taken from eight different trenches, with the majority coming from features of Romano-British date. This information can provide an indication of the significance of the archaeological Site as a whole. The bulk samples are broken down into phase groups in **Table 1, Appendix 3**.

7.2 Charred Plant Remains

- 7.2.1 Bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6 mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. Flots were scanned under a x10 – x40 stereobinocular microscope and the preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains recorded in **Table 2, Appendix 3**. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary and Hopf (2000, Tables 3, page 28 and 5, page 65), for cereals.

- 7.2.2 The flots were generally large and there were low numbers of roots and modern seeds that may be indicative of stratigraphic movement and therefore indicate that the contexts are well sealed with a low possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material comprised varying degrees of preservation.
- 7.2.3 Five of the samples from Romano-British features were rich in charred plant remains, in particular those from ditch 613 and pit 611 in Trench 6 and hearth/oven 807 in Trench 8. The high numbers of cereal remains included grains of hulled wheat, emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*), and barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), glume bases and spikelet forks of spelt (*Triticum spelta*) and probably emmer (*Triticum dicoccum*), along with culm nodes. The weed seed assemblages included awns of oats (*Avena* p.), and seeds of oat/brome grass (*Avena/Bromus* sp.), bedstraw (*Galium* sp.), goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.), sedge (*Carex* sp.), spike-rush (*Eleocharis* sp.), runch (*Raphanus rapistrum*), speedwell (*Veronica* sp.), docks (*Rumex* sp.) and black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvus*). There was also a seed from hearth/oven 807 in Trench 8 that showed a resemblance to that of juniper (*Juniperus communis*), although it was too poorly preserved for a positive identification. These samples also included stems and rootlet fragments, including those of monocots (sedges or grasses).
- 7.2.4 Small charred plant assemblages were recorded in the two samples from undated features. There is no indication of the date of these features from these assemblages.
- 7.2.5 The charred plant remain assemblages recovered from the Romano-British features are typical of those of settlement waste and activities. The weed seeds are generally those of species which can be found in arable environments and field margins. The presence of species typical of sandier soils, such as runch and those more indicative of wetter soils such as sedge and spike-rush make suggest the exploitation of a variety of local environments.
- 7.2.6 Although spelt is the more common hulled wheat by the Romano-British period, emmer has been recorded from other Romano-British sites in the area, such as Billingley Drive 99, Thurnscoe (Giorgi 2004, Hall and Huntley 2007).

7.3 Wood Charcoal

- 7.3.1 Wood charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in **Table 2, Appendix 3**. Charcoal fragments of greater than 4 mm were retrieved in large quantities from six of the eight features of Romano-British date. The wood charcoal assemblages included fragments of round wood and twig wood.

7.4 Potential

Charred plant remains

- 7.4.1 There is the potential for detailed analysis of the plant remains from these samples to provide information to assist in determining the nature of the settlement and the local landscape, together with trying to ascertain local

crop husbandry and agricultural techniques during the Romano-British period.

Wood charcoal

- 7.4.2 There is the potential for detailed analysis of the wood charcoal from these samples to provide information on the species composition and the management and exploitation of the woodland resource during the Romano-British period.

7.5 Proposals

Charred plant remains

- 7.5.1 No further work is proposed on these samples at this stage but they should be considered for analysis should any further work be carried out on the Site.

Wood charcoal

- 7.5.2 No further work is proposed on these samples at this stage but they should be considered for analysis should any further work be carried out on the Site.

8 DISCUSSION

8.1 Summary

- 8.1.1 Twenty-five evaluation trenches were excavated, primarily targeting features identified by geophysical survey and cropmark evidence, but also areas which appeared devoid of features. The results correlated well with the geophysical survey although a small number of additional features were identified, generally small post-holes and pits which are difficult to identify through geophysics alone.
- 8.1.2 The majority of archaeological features of antiquity had been sealed beneath subsoil 0.1-0.15m thick which in turn was overlain by topsoil 0.27m to 0.6m thick. The subsoil had been disturbed heavily, particularly in the western third of the Site by deep plough aeration of the soil. The deposits filling the archaeological features were generally compact, however in some cases, for example Trenches 6, 9, 19 and 24 archaeological deposits were described as friable and loose.
- 8.1.3 The evaluation trenching revealed a high density of archaeological features. Through a combination of dating evidence from the feature fills, stratigraphic relationships between features and historic map regression, it has been possible to determine the date range of most of the ditches. These predominantly fall into the Romano-British period (from the 2nd to 3rd/4th-centuries), or are much later post-medieval field boundaries.
- 8.1.4 The Romano-British ditches form small enclosures or are part of a much wider network of field systems. The evidence for Romano-British activity appears to cluster into two main areas; to the western fringe of the Site, and to the central western portion of the Site which lies on a slightly higher ridge of sand. Post and stake holes uncovered throughout the excavations hint at wider structural alignments outside the limit of the trenches.

- 8.1.5 The artefactual evidence is indicative of Romano-British settlement activity with primarily pottery recovered, but also a small number of tile/ brick fragments, a flagstone and a coin. The majority of pottery appears to be locally produced with limited indicators of a wider network of exchange. Evidence of metalworking activity was also found in the form of smithing slags and possible furnace lining. The complete absence of animal bone is due to the acidic nature of the surrounding sandy soils. Preservation of palaeoenvironmental evidence is good in the Romano-British features with little modern contamination. The charred plant remain assemblages recovered from the Romano-British features are typical of those of settlement waste and activities.
- 8.1.6 The results of the trial trenching presented in this report contributes to the characterisation of the archaeological remains present on the Site and will help assess the effects of the proposed development scheme, informing design and modelling work.

9 ARCHIVE AND COPYRIGHT

9.1 Archive

- 9.1.1 The archive will be deposited in due course with Doncaster Museum. The site archive will be prepared in line with relevant national guidelines (Walker 1990) and the guidelines and requirements of the Doncaster Museum.

9.2 Copyright

- 9.2.1 This report, and the archive generally, may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g. Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which we are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferrable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

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APPENDIX 1: TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No. 1	466207.91, 412864.18 (centred); 3.70m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: 1.16m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
101	Top soil - Dark brownish grey, loamy sand.	0 - 0.48
101	Sub-soil - Dark greyish brown, loamy sand.	0.48 - 0.58
102	Natural - Mid brownish orange sand with common iron pan inclusions.	>0.58
103	Cut of E-W linear ditch.	0.58 - 1.08
104	Fill of ditch [104]	0.58 - 1.08
105	Cut of ditch terminus.	0.58 - 1.16
106	Fill of ditch terminus [106]	0.58 - 1.16
107	Dark brownish grey, loamy sand.	0 - 0.48

Trench No. 2	466259.14, 412931.81 (centred); 3.60m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: 0.88m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
201	Top soil - Dark brownish grey, loamy sand.	0 - 0.40
202	Sub soil - Dark greyish brown, loamy sand.	0.40 - 0.54
203	Natural - Mid brownish orange sand.	>0.54
204	Cut of NW-SE linear ditch.	0.54 - 0.88
205	Fill of ditch [204]	0.54 - 0.88

Trench No. 3	466316.31, 412887.92 (centred); 4.32m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: 0.74m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
301	Top soil - Dark greyish brown, loamy sand.	0 - 0.34
302	Sub soil - Dark greyish brown, loamy sand.	0.43 - 0.53
303	Natural - Mid brownish orange sand, common iron pan inclusions.	>0.53
304	Cut of modern ceramic land drain.	0.48 - 0.74
305	Fill of land drain [304]	0.48 - 0.74
306	Cut of truncated ditch or land boundary.	0.43 - 0.68
307	Fill of possible ditch [306]	0.43 - 0.68

Trench No. 4	466244.01, 412793.40 (centred); 4.24m AOD	Dimensions: 50 x 2m Max depth: 1.26m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
401	Top soil - Dark brownish grey, loamy sand.	0 - 0.30
402	Sub soil - Dark greyish brown, loamy sand.	0.30 - 0.50
403	Natural - Mid brownish orange sand, common iron pan inclusions.	>0.50
404	Cut of shallow NE-SW ditch.	0.50 - 0.90
405	Fill of ditch [404], mid-grey sand.	0.50 - 0.90
406	Wide ditch, cut by [404].	0.50 - 1.26
407	Primary fill of [406], grey orange sandy silt.	1.06 - 1.26
408	Upper fill of ditch [406], dark grey sand.	0.50 - 1.06
409	Cut of wide NW-SE linear ditch.	0.50 - 1.20
410	Unstructured timber planks at base of ditch [409]	1.10 - 1.20

411	Primary fill of ditch [409], greyish orange sandy silt.	0.70 - 1.20
412	Secondary fill of ditch [409], dark grey loam.	1.0 - 1.20
413	Weathering of SW edge of ditch [409]	0.50 - 1.00
414	Upper fill of ditch [409], mottled grey/orange sandy silt.	0.50 - 1.05
415	Cut of NW-SE linear ditch.	0.50 - 1.10
416	Primary weathered fill of ditch [415], orange grey sand.	0.50 - 1.10
417	Secondary fill of ditch [415], mid grey sand.	0.50 - 0.95
418	Cut of NW-SE linear ditch.	0.50 - 1.00
419	Fill of ditch [419], dark grey sandy silt with burnt stone inclusions.	0.50 - 1.00
420	Cut of ENE-WSW linear ditch. Fairly modern enclosure ditch.	0.50 - 0.96
421	Fill of ditch [420]	0.50 - 0.96

Trench No. 5	466334.47, 412796.75 (centred); 4.33m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: 0.85m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
501	Top-soil - Dark brownish grey, loamy sand.	0 - 0.35
502	Sub-soil - Dark greyish brown, loamy sand.	0.35 - 0.45
503	Natural - Mid brownish orange sand with common iron pan inclusions.	0.45 - 0.85
504	Cut of NW-SE linear ditch.	0.45 - 0.85
505	Posthole next to ditch [508 group] near its SW terminus.	0.45 - 0.77
506	Cut of small NE-SW linear ditch.	0.45 - 0.69
507	Cut of NE-SW linear ditch. Group [508].	0.45 - 0.85
508	Roman ditch in Trench 5, with slots [506] & [507]	0.45 - 0.57
509	Possible posthole.	0.45 - 0.57
510	Posthole.	0.45 - 0.65
511	Cut of ditch terminus, N-S linear.	0.45 - 0.85
512	Cut of N-S linear ditch.	0.45 - 0.85
513	Cut of N-S linear ditch terminus (north end).	0.45 - 0.80
514	Primary fill of ditch terminus [513], grey silty sand.	0.75 - 0.85
515	Secondary fill of ditch terminus [513], dark grey brown loam.	0.59 - 0.75
516	Upper fill of ditch [513], dark grey brown silty clay.	0.80 - 0.85
517	Upper fill of ditch [512], dark grey brown loam.	0.45 - 0.80
518	Primary fill of ditch [511], mid-grey yellow silty sand.	0.60 - 0.65
519	Upper fill of ditch [511], mid-greyish brown.	0.45 - 0.60
520	Fill of posthole [510], mid-grey brown silty sand.	0.45 - 0.57
521	Fill of possible posthole [509], mixed yellow-grey sand.	0.45 - 0.57
522	Primary (weathered) fill of ditch [507], light grey sand.	0.59 - 0.69
523	Upper fill of ditch [507], dark grey brown loam.	0.45 - 0.59
524	Post pipe fill of posthole [505], mid-grey brown sand.	0.45 - 0.71
525	Upper fill of posthole [505], possible after removal of post. Mid-grey brown silty sand.	0.45 - 0.65
526	Packing fill of posthole [505], light grey sand.	0.45 - 0.70
527	Primary fill of ditch [506], light grey sand.	0.67 - 0.77
528	Upper fill of ditch [506], mid brownish grey silty sand.	0.45 - 0.67
529	Fill of ditch [504], bright yellow grey sand.	0.45 - 0.85

Trench No. 6	466345.11, 412747.76 (centred); 4.55m AOD	Dimensions: 10 x 4m Max depth: 1.3m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
601	Top soil - Dark greyish brown sandy silt.	0 - 0.40
602	Sub soil - Sandy silt.	0.40 - 0.57
603	Natural - Dark yellowish orange sand with common iron pan inclusions.	>0.57
604	NW-SE linear ditch, truncated and water damaged.	0.60 - 1.30
605	Fill of ditch [604], dark greyish brown silty sand.	0.60 - 1.30
606	NW-SE linear v-shaped ditch.	0.60 - 1.30
607	Secondary fill of ditch [606], dark greyish brown silty sand.	0.60 - 1.00
608	Primary fill of ditch [606], mixed silty sand with clay.	1.00 - 1.30
609	E-W linear boundary ditch.	0.40 - 0.75
610	Secondary fill of ditch [609], light brownish grey silty sand.	0.40 - 0.75
611	Oval pit, possible industrial dump.	0.40 - 0.66
612	Fill of pit [611], deliberate industrial backfill, dark brown sandy silt with 10% slag and burnt clay.	0.40 - 0.66
613	Cut of N-S linear ditch, possible boundary ditch.	0.60 - 1.00
614	Secondary fill of ditch [613], dark greyish brown silty sandy loam.	0.60 - 0.84
615	Secondary fill of ditch [613], light brownish grey silty sandy loam.	0.84 - 1.00
616	Possibly primary fill ditch [613], light yellowish orange sand.	1.00 - 1.10
617	Burnt fill within secondary fill (614), dark brown, loose material.	0.62 - 0.64
618	Deliberate deposit of metal working slag.	0.80 - 1.00

Trench No. 7	466300.57, 412725.89 (centred); 4.70m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: 1.24m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
701	Top soil - Dark brownish grey, loamy sand.	0 - 0.56
702	Natural - Mid-brownish orange sand, common iron pan inclusions	>0.66
703	Cut of E-W linear ditch.	0.66 - 0.87
704	Fill of ditch [703], dark orangey brown loamy sand.	0.66 - 0.87
705	Cut of E-W linear ditch.	0.60 - 0.85
706	Fill of ditch [705].	0.60 - 0.85
707	Cut of SE-NW ditch.	0.66 - 1.24
708	Fill of ditch [707], dark greyish brown loamy sand.	0.66 - 1.24
709	Subsoil - Dark greyish brown loamy sand.	0.56 - 0.66

Trench No. 8	466346.94, 412685.19 (centred); 4.40m AOD	Dimensions: 50 x 2m Max depth: 1.3+m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
801	Top soil - Dark brownish grey loamy sand.	0 - 0.40
802	Subsoil - Dark greyish brown, loamy sand.	0.40 - 0.50
803	Natural - Mid-brownish orange sand with common iron pan inclusions.	>0.50
804	Cut of NE-SW linear ditch.	0.50 - >1.30+
805	Re-cut of NE-SW linear ditch 804.	0.50 - >1.10

Trench No. 8	466346.94, 412685.19 (centred); 4.40m AOD	Dimensions: 50 x 2m Max depth: 1.3+m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
806	Cut for E-W linear ditch, truncated by [804].	0.50 - >0.94
807	Appears as NE-SW ditch terminus, but is a possible oven feature.	0.48 - 0.78
808	Posthole.	0.50 - 0.72
809	Cut of SW-NE linear ditch terminus.	0.50 - 0.82
810	Upper fill of [806] at SE edge, light grey yellow sand.	0.50 - 0.94
811	Fill of ditch [804] at SE edge, light yellow grey sand.	0.50 - >0.90
812	Lowest observable fill of ditch [804], mottled grey/orange sand.	0.50 - >0.90
813	Upper fill of ditch [804], mid-orange brown silty sand.	0.50 - 0.88
814	Lowest observable fill of ditch [805].	0.50 - >0.90
815	Upper fill of ditch [805], dark grey brown silty sand.	0.50 - 0.72
816	Thick light-medium yellow clay lining in lower part of possible oven feature.	0.50 - 0.80
817	Dark grey brown sandy silt, above clay lining (816).	0.48 - 0.80
818	Packing of posthole [808], greyish orange sand.	0.50 - 0.72
819	Probable post pipe in posthole [808], mid-grey brown silty sand.	0.50 - 0.67
820	Upper fill of posthole [808], light grey sand.	0.50 - 0.58
821	Primary weathered fill of ditch terminus [809], light yellow grey sand.	0.51 - 0.82
822	Upper fill of terminus [809], mid grey brown silty sand.	0.50 - >0.67

Trench No. 9	466198.98, 412652.51 (centred); 4.52m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: ...m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
901	Top soil - Dark brownish grey, loamy sand.	0 - 0.1
902	Sub soil - Dark greyish brown, loamy sand.	0.1 - 0.2
903	Natural - Mid-brownish orange sand, common iron pan inclusions.	>0.2
904	Cut of E-W linear enclosure ditch.	0.2 - >0.8
905	Secondary fill of ditch [904], dark greyish brown silty sand.	0.2 - >0.8
906	Secondary fill of ditch [904], light yellowish grey silty loamy sand.	0.2 - >0.8
907	Cut of E-W linear v-shaped ditch.	0.2 - 0.84
908	Secondary fill of ditch [907], dark brownish grey silty sandy loam.	0.2 - 0.52
909	Secondary fill of ditch [907], light greyish yellow silty sand.	0.4 - 0.84
910	Cut of E-W linear ditch, shallow v-shaped.	0.2 - 0.7
911	Secondary fill of ditch [910], dark brownish grey silty sandy loam.	0.2 - 0.5
912	Primary fill of ditch [910], light greyish yellow silty sandy loam.	0.44 - 0.7
913	Cut of E-W linear ditch, u-shaped.	0.2 - 0.6
914	Secondary fill of [913], dark greyish brown silty sand.	0.2 - 0.5
915	Possible flood event dumping deposit in ditch [913], light grey loamy sand.	0.2 - 0.52
916	Possible primary fill of [913], sealed by (915). Dark yellowish brown sandy silt loam.	0.2 - 0.6

Trench No. 9	466198.98, 412652.51 (centred); 4.52m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: ...m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
917	Cut of E-W linear boundary ditch.	0.2 – 0.8
918	Fill of ditch [917], dark greyish brown silty sandy loam.	0.2 – 0.8
919	Upper fill of [921], dark grey brown sandy silt.	0.2 – 0.28
920	Fill of [921], light yellowish grey silty sandy loam.	0.2 – 0.62
921	Cut of E-W linear ditch, possible re-cut of [917].	0.2 – 0.62

Trench No. 10	466231.03, 412559.98 (centred); 4.25m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: 1.36m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
1001	Topsoil - Dark brownish grey, loamy sand.	0 - 0.35
1002	Subsoil - Dark greyish brown, loamy sand.	0.35 - 0.45
1003	Natural - Mid-brownish orange sand, with common iron pan inclusions.	>0.45
1004	Cut of N-S curvilinear ditch.	0.45 - 0.55
1005	Fill of ditch [1004], light grey silty sand.	0.45 - 0.55
1006	Cut of WNW-ESE linear ditch terminus.	0.45 - 0.80
1007	Fill of ditch [1006], mid-grey sand.	0.45 - 0.80
1008	Cut of WNW-ESE linear ditch terminus.	0.45 - 0.75
1009	Fill of ditch [1008], dark grey sand.	0.45 - 0.75
1010	Cut of NNE-SSW linear ditch/gully.	0.45 - 0.53
1011	Fill of ditch/gully [1010], light yellow grey sand.	0.45 - 0.53
1012	Cut of NNE-SSW linear ditch.	0.45 - 1.05
1013	Lowest discernible fill of ditch [1012], light grey sand.	0.65 - 1.05
1014	Upper fill of ditch [1012], mid-grey sand.	0.45 - 0.65
1015	Cut of NNW-SSE linear ditch.	0.45 - 1.02
1016	Upper fill of ditch [1015], mid-grey silty sand.	0.45 - 1.02
1017	Cut of NW-SE linear ditch.	0.45 - 1.36
1018	Fill of ditch [1017], mid-orange grey silty sand.	0.45 - 1.36
1019	Lowest discernible fill of ditch [1015], dark grey brown humic sandy silt.	0.45 - 1.15
1020	Cut of SW-NE linear ditch.	0.45 - 0.81
1021	Fill of ditch [1020], light grey sand.	0.45 - 0.82

Trench No. 11	466363.88, 412593.57 (centred); 3.90m AOD	Dimensions: 50 x 2m Max depth: 0.39m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
1101	Topsoil - Dark brownish grey, loamy sand.	0 - 0.27
1102	Subsoil - Dark greyish brown loamy sand.	0.27 - 0.39
1103	Natural - Mid-brownish orange with light orangey yellow areas, common iron pan inclusions.	>0.39

Trench No. 12	466518.62, 412652.15 (centred); 3.85m AOD	Dimensions: 50 x 2m Max depth: 0.52m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
1201	Topsoil - Dark brownish grey, loamy sand.	0 - 0.31
1202	Subsoil - Dark greyish brown, loamy sand.	0.31 - 0.43
1203	Natural - Mid brownish orange sand with common iron pan inclusions.	>0.43

Trench No. 12	466518.62, 412652.15 (centred); 3.85m AOD	Dimensions: 50 x 2m Max depth: 0.52m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
1204	Cut of NE-SW gully terminus.	0.43 - 0.52
1205	Fill of gully terminus [1204], very dark brownish grey loamy sand.	0.43 - 0.52

Trench No. 13	466395.29, 412977.44 (centred); 4.05m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: 1.4m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
1301	Topsoil - Dark brownish grey, loamy sand.	0 - 0.60
1302	Subsoil - Dark greyish brown, loamy sand.	0.60 - 0.75
1303	Natural - Mid-brownish orange sand with common iron pan inclusions.	>0.75
1304	Cut of N-S linear ditch, truncated. Possibly same as [1404].	0.70 - 1.25
1305	Fill of ditch [1304], dark grey sandy silt.	0.70 - 1.25
1306	Cut of N-S linear ditch, re-cut of pre-existing ditch. Possibly same as [1406].	0.70 - 0.90
1307	Fill of Ditch [1306], mottled clayey sand.	0.70 - 0.90
1308	Cut of N-S linear ditch, truncated.	0.85 - 0.95
1309	Fill of ditch [1308], dark grey/black silty sand.	0.85 - 0.95
1310	Secondary deposit within ditch [1310], mottled silty sand.	0.70 - 0.85
1311	Cut of N-S linear gully.	1.10 - 1.40
1312	Waterlogged fill of gully [1311], dark grey/black silty clay.	1.10 - 1.40

Trench No. 14	466414.31, 412942.38 (centred); 4.30m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: 0.96m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
1401	Topsoil - Dark greyish brown, sandy silt.	0 - 0.40
1402	Subsoil - Sandy silt.	0.40 - 0.54
1403	Natural - Orange sand, iron pan mottled.	>0.54
1404	Cut of N-S linear ditch, possibly same as [1304].	0.60 - 0.96
1405	Fill of ditch [1404], mixed orange/grey silty sand.	0.60 - 0.96
1406	Cut of N-S linear ditch, re-cut. Possibly same as [1306].	0.60 - 0.88
1407	Fill of ditch [1404], mid-brownish orange clayey sand.	0.60 - 0.88

Trench No. 15	466523.81, 412978.14 (centred); 4.15m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: 1.05m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
1501	Topsoil - Dark greyish brown, sandy silt.	0 - 0.28
1502	Subsoil - Sandy silt.	0.28 - 0.41
1503	Natural Orange sand, iron pan mottled.	>0.41
1504	Cut of NNW-SSE linear ditch.	0.41 - 1.05
1505	Primary weathered fill of ditch [1504], mottled grey/orange sand.	0.56 - 0.98
1506	Second primary fill of ditch [1504], slumping of W edge, mid-grey sand.	0.70 - 1.05
1507	Middle ditch fill of [1504], light yellow grey sand.	0.58 - 0.94

Trench No. 15	466523.81, 412978.14 (centred); 4.15m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: 1.05m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
1508	Upper fill of ditch [1504], mid-brownish orange sand.	0.41 - 0.58
1509	Cut of NNW-SSE linear ditch.	0.40 - 0.80
1510	Fill of ditch [1509], mid grey sand.	0.40 - 0.80
1511	Modern NW-SE linear ditch.	0.27 - 0.70
1512	Fill of ditch [1511], dark grey-black humic silt.	0.27 - 0.44
1513	Cut and fill together, modern ceramic land drain.	0.41 - 0.50

Trench No. 16	466562.32, 412971.93 (centred); 3.85m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: 0.69m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
1601	Topsoil - Dark greyish brown sandy silt.	0 - 0.35
1602	Subsoil - Sandy silt.	0.35 - 0.55
1603	Natural - Orange sand, iron pan mottled.	>0.55
1604	Cut of N-S ditch terminus.	0.55 - 0.69
1605	Fill of ditch terminus [1604], dark brownish grey loamy sand.	0.55 - 0.69

Trench No. 17	466469.28, 412872.91 (centred); 4.30m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: 0.45m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
1701	Topsoil - Dark greyish brown sandy silt.	0 - 0.30
1702	Subsoil - Mixed sandy silt.	0.30 - 0.45
1703	Natural - Orange sand, iron pan mottled.	>0.45

Trench No. 18	466407.37, 412815.97 (centred); 4.32m AOD	Dimensions: 50 x 2m Max depth: 0.91m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
1801	Topsoil - Dark greyish brown sandy silt.	0 - 0.32
1802	Subsoil - Mixed silty sand.	0.32 - 0.38
1803	Natural - Orange sand with iron pan inclusions.	>0.38
1804	Cut of N-S linear ditch.	0.36 - 0.56
1805	Fill of ditch [1804], dark brownish grey loamy sand.	0.36 - 0.56
1806	Cut of N-S linear ditch.	0.38 - 0.84
1807	Fill of ditch [1806], mid-orangey brown.	0.38 - 0.84
1808	Cut of shallow N-S linear ditch.	0.38 - 0.53
1809	Fill of ditch [1808], dark brownish grey loamy sand.	0.38 - 0.53
1810	[1810] is a posthole cut, filled by deposit (1809), same as ditch [1810].	0.53 - 0.63
1811	Cut of narrow N-S linear ditch.	0.38 - 0.78
1812	Fill of ditch [1811], dark brownish grey loamy sand.	0.38 - 0.78
1813	Cut of N-S linear ditch.	0.38 - 0.76
1814	Fill of ditch [1813], dark brownish grey loamy sand.	0.38 - 0.76
1815	Cut of N-S linear ditch.	0.38 - 0.62
1816	Fill of ditch [1815], dark brownish grey loamy sand.	0.38 - 0.62
1817	Cut of N-S linear, V-shaped ditch.	0.38 - 0.70
1818	Fill of ditch [1817], dark brownish grey loamy sand.	0.38 - 0.70
1819	Cut of E-W linear ditch.	0.38 - 0.69

1820	Fill of ditch [1819], very dark brownish grey loamy sand.	0.38 - 0.69
1821	Cut of N-S linear ditch.	0.38 - 0.91
1822	Fill of ditch [1821], light mid-brownish grey.	0.38 - 0.91

Trench No. 19	466479.35, 412783.98 (centred); 4.38m AOD	Dimensions: 50 x 2m Max depth: 1.16m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
1901	Dark greyish brown sandy silt.	0 - 0.30
1902	Mixed silty sand.	0.30 - 0.40
1903	Orange sand with iron pan inclusions.	>0.40
1904	Cut of large U-shaped N-S linear ditch.	0.40 - 1.06
1905	Fill of ditch [1904], light grey mottled silty sandy loam.	0.40 - 0.86
1906	Possible primary fill of ditch [1904], dark grey brown silty sand.	0.84 - 1.06
1907	Cut of N-S U-shaped linear ditch.	0.40 - 1.16
1908	Fill of ditch [1907], dark orangey brown silty sand.	0.40 - 1.16
1909	Fill of ditch [1910], dark brownish grey sandy silt.	0.40 - 1.14
1910	Cut of N-S linear ditch/field drain.	0.40 - 1.14
1911	Cut of N-S curvilinear gully.	0.40 - 0.60
1912	Fill of gully [1911], dark greyish brown silty sand.	0.40 - 0.60
1913	Primary fill of gully, bank slump from western edge of gully, light yellowish grey silty sand.	0.40 - 0.60
1914	Cut of E-W linear ditch.	0.40 - 0.64
1915	Fill of ditch [1914], light brownish grey silty sand.	0.40 - 0.64

Trench No. 20	466668.15, 412903.15 (centred); 3.75m AOD	Dimensions: 50 x 2m Max depth: 0.41m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
2001	Topsoil - Dark greyish brown sandy silt.	0 - 0.26
2002	Subsoil - Mixed silty sand.	0.26 - 0.41
2003	Natural - Orange sand with iron pan inclusion.	>0.41

Trench No. 21	466656.96, 412815.59 (centred), 3.98m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: 0.45m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
2101	Topsoil - Dark greyish brown humic sandy silt.	0 - 0.35
2102	Subsoil - Mixed silty sand.	0.35 - 0.45
2103	Natural - Orange sand with iron pan inclusion.	>0.45

Trench No. 22	466578.08, 412756.30 (centred); 4.40m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: 1.29m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
2201	Topsoil - Dark greyish brown sandy silt.	0 - 0.60
2202	Subsoil - Mixed silty sand.	0.60 - 0.79
2203	Natural - Orange sand with iron pan inclusions.	>0.79
2204	Cut of N-S linear boundary ditch.	0.79 - 1.29
2205	Secondary fill of ditch [2204], mid-grey brown with orange mottles, sand.	0.79 - 1.05
2206	Possible primary fill of [2204], blue grey sand.	1.05 - 1.29

Trench No. 23	466614.50, 412589.13 (centred); 3.57m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: 1.2m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
2301	Topsoil - Dark greyish brown, sandy silt.	0 - 0.56
2302	Subsoil - Mixed silty sand.	0.56 - 0.68
2303	Natural - Orange sand with iron pan inclusions.	>0.68
2304	Cut of E-W linear ditch, turns to ENE at its E end.	0.68 - 1.20
2305	Lower fill of ditch [2304], light grey sand.	0.68 - 1.20
2306	Upper fill of ditch [2304], orangey grey sand.	0.68 - 0.86
2307	Posthole, heavily truncated.	0.68 - 0.78
2308	Fill of posthole, mixed orange/grey sand.	0.68 - 0.78
2309	Cut of N-S linear ditch, possibly modern?	0.58 - 1.06
2310	Lower fill of ditch [2309], grey sand.	0.70 - 1.06
2311	Upper fill of ditch [2309], orangey grey sand.	0.58 - 0.72
2301	Dark greyish brown, sandy silt.	0 - 0.56
2302	Mixed silty sand.	0.56 - 0.68
2303	Orange sand with iron pan inclusions.	>0.68

Trench No. 24	466157.70, 412770.31; 4.20m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 2m Max depth: 1.3m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
2401	Topsoil - Dark greyish brown, sandy silt.	0 - 0.40
2402	Subsoil - Mixed silty sand.	0.40 - 0.50
2403	Natural - Orange sand with iron pan inclusions.	>0.50
2404	Cut of wide N-S linear ditch.	0.40 - 1.30
2405	Secondary fill of ditch [2404], dark greyish brown silty sand.	0.40 - 0.60
2406	Secondary fill of ditch [2404], light bluish grey sand.	0.60 - 0.68
2407	Secondary fill of ditch [2404], dark brownish grey silty sand.	0.68 - 0.84
2408	Secondary fill of ditch [2404], light yellowish orange sand. Possibly bank slump.	0.84 - 0.94
2409	Primary fill of ditch [2404], bluish grey sand.	0.94 - 1.30
2410	Cut of E-W linear ditch terminus.	0.48 - 1.10
2411	Secondary fill of ditch [2404], dark greyish brown sandy silt.	0.48 - 0.60
2412	Secondary fill of ditch [2404], light greyish brown sandy silt.	0.60 - 0.90
2413	Primary fill of ditch terminus [2410], light yellowish blue silty sand.	0.90 - 1.10

Trench No. 25	466860.01, 412711.71 (centred); 3.25m AOD	Dimensions: 30 x 1.9m Max depth: 0.4m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
2501	Dark brownish grey, loamy sand.	0 - 0.30
2502	Dark greyish brown, loamy sand.	0.30 - 0.40
2503	Mid-brownish orange to light orangey yellow sand with common iron pan inclusions.	>0.40

APPENDIX 2: FINDS

Context	CBM	Fired Clay	Metal	Pottery	Slag	Other finds
0205	1/100					
0410						1 wood
0414				1/2		2 animal bone; 2 glass
0417				3/50		
0419				3/162		
0421	2/320			2/44		
0515				1/2		
0517				13/468		
0519	1/30			3/50	1/12	
0522				2/126		
0523				29/198	1/10	
0524				2/16		
0528				8/322	2/256	1 stone
0529				1/22		
0602				1/16	1/44	
0605				10/152		
0607		1/4	1 Cu	3/304	4/174	
0612		1/4		1/2	2/176	
0614				5/118		
0616				1/12	6/848	
0704					1/6	
0813				1/4		
0814				4/518		
0815				9/570		
0816				1/1		
0819				3/12		
0822	1/224	6/108		17/1448		
0916				4/20		
1005				1/12		
1007				1/30		
1011				1/4		
1018				3/106	1/40	
1021				1/20		
1502						1 worked flint
1805				4/28	1/8	
1807				32/358		
1812				2/72		
1818	1/16	4/170		1/22		1 stone
1820		2/16	1 Fe	8/178		
1822				7/126		
1905				4/18		
2408				2/24		
TOTALS	6/690	14/302	1 Cu; 1 Fe	195/5637	20/1574	

All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)

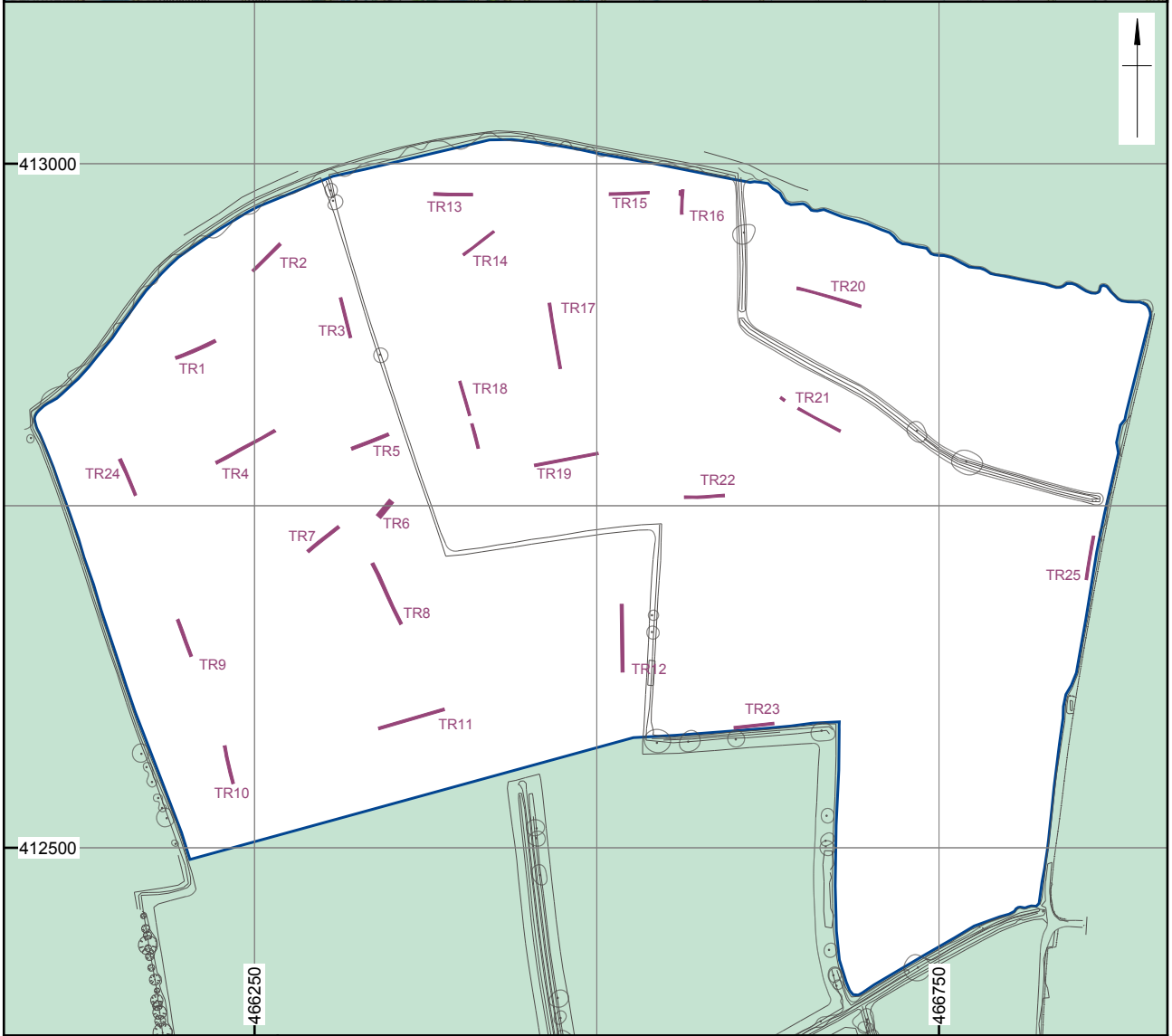
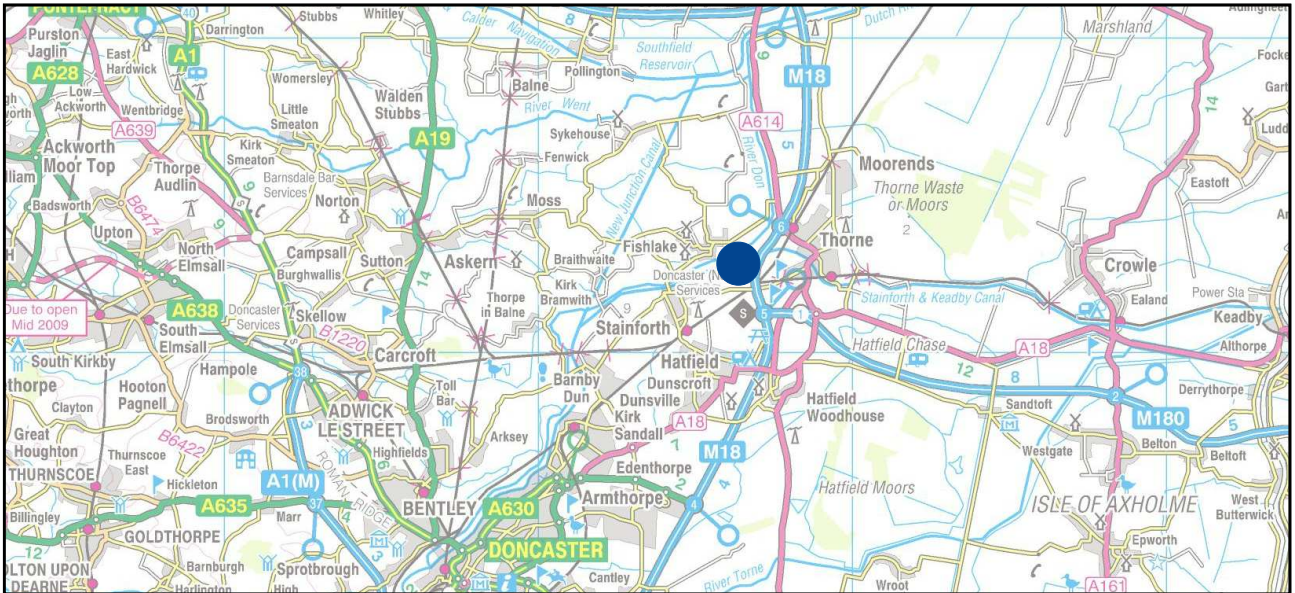
APPENDIX 3: PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE
Table 1: Sample Provenance Summary

<i>Phase</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>No of samples</i>	<i>Volume (litres)</i>	<i>Feature types</i>
RB	5	1	9	Ditch
RB	6	3	23	Ditches, pit
RB	8	1	9	Hearth/oven
RB	9	1	8	Ditch
RB	10	1	8	Ditch
RB	18	1	8	Ditch
Undated	7	1	9	Ditch
Undated	16	1	9	Ditch terminus
Totals		10	83	

Table 2: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
Romano-British												
Trench 5 - Ditch												
512	517	501	9	570	2	A	A	Hulled wheat grains, glume bases of spelt and cf. emmer	A	<i>Avena/Bromus, Galium, Chenopodium, Vicia/Lathyrus, Carex, Eleocharis</i> , bud, lots of stem/rootlet frags including those of monocots (sedge or grass)	200/130 ml	-
Trench 6 - Ditches												
606	618	601	9	250	3	C	B	Barley grain frags, glume base frags including those of spelt	B	<i>Chenopodium, Raphanus rapistrum</i> , lots of stem/rootlet frags including those of monocots (sedge or grass)	90/30 ml	coal
613	617	602	5	350	2	A*	A*	Hulled wheat (some germinated) and barley grain frags, glume base and spikelet frags including those of spelt, awn frags	A	<i>Avena/Bromus, Veronica, Chenopodium</i> , some stem/rootlet frags including those of monocots (sedge or grass)	100/50 ml	coal
Trench 6 - Pit												
611	612	603	9	375	3	A	A*	Hulled wheat grains, glume bases of spelt and cf. emmer, awns	B	<i>Carex, Rumex, Chenopodium</i> , lots of stem/rootlet frags including those of monocots (sedge or grass)	100/80 ml	coal
Trench 8 - Hearth/Oven												
807	817	801	9	400	2	A	A*	Hulled wheat grains, glume bases of spelt and cf. emmer, awns, culm nodes	A	<i>Avena/Bromus, ?Juniperus communis, Chenopodium</i> , some stem/rootlet frags including those of monocots (sedge or grass)	120/90 ml	coal
Trench 9 - Ditch												
913	916	901	8	40	10	-	-	-	C	<i>Chenopodium</i> , few stem/rootlet frags	1/1 ml	coal
Trench 10 - Ditch												
1015	1019	1001	8	250	2	A	B	Hulled wheat and barley grains, glume bases and spikelet forks including those of spelt	B	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus, Fallopia, Carex</i> , lots of stem/rootlet frags including those of monocots (sedge or grass)	80/30 ml	coal
Trench 18 - Ditch												
1804	1805	1801	8	250	7	-	C	Glume base including spelt	C	<i>Chenopodium, Fallopia</i> , lots of stem/rootlet frags including those of monocots (sedge or grass)	15/25 ml	coal
Undated												
Trench 7 - Ditch												
707	708	708	9	50	7	C	-	Indet. grain frags	C	<i>Chenopodium</i>	2/2 ml	coal
Trench 16 - Ditch Terminal												
1604	1605	1601	9	100	2	C	-	Indet. grain frags	C	<i>Polygonum, Carex</i> , lots of stem/rootlet frags including those of monocots (sedge or grass)	20/15 ml	coal

Key: A*** = exceptional, A** = 100+, A* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5;



- Site location
- Evaluation area
- Evaluation Trench

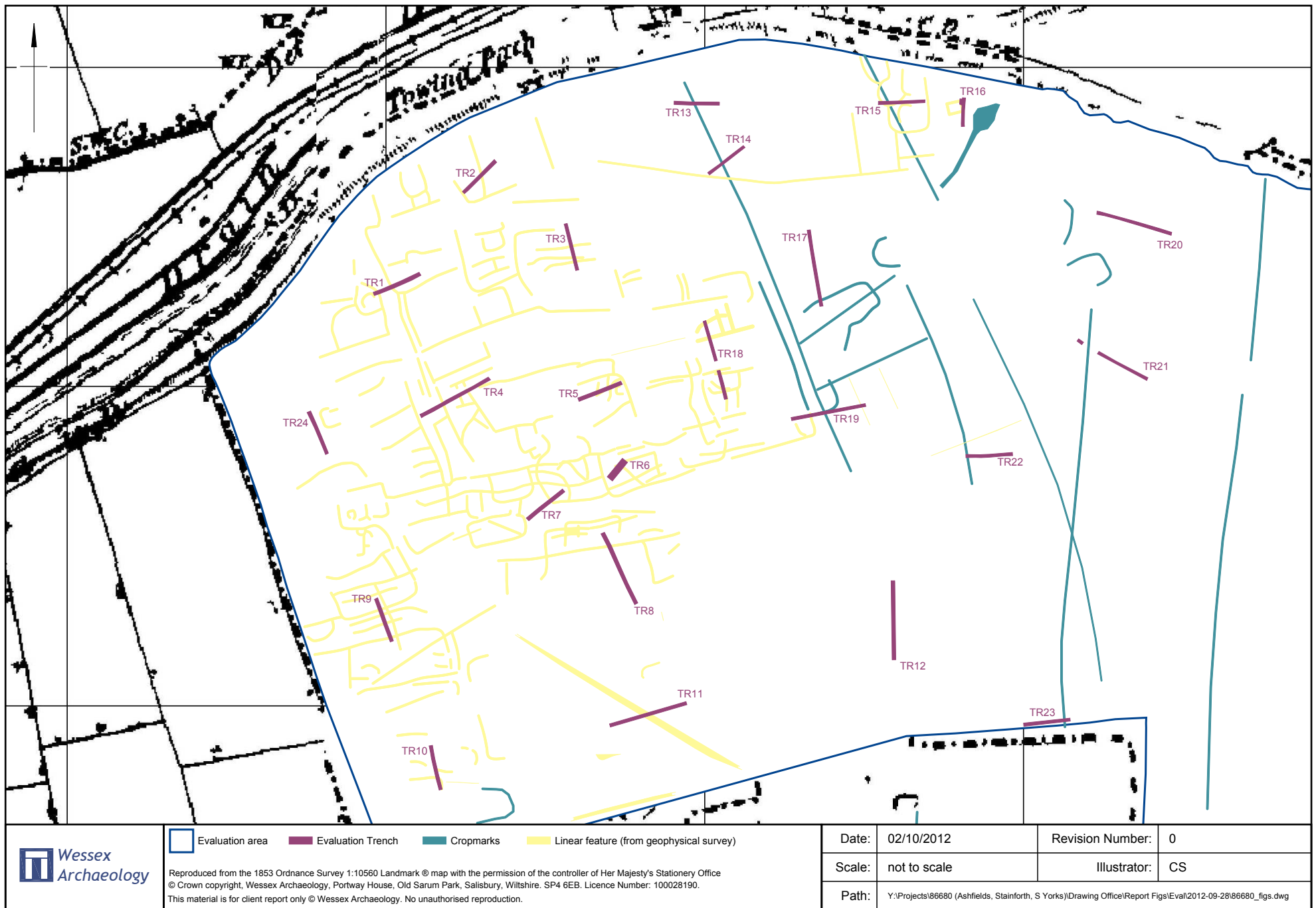


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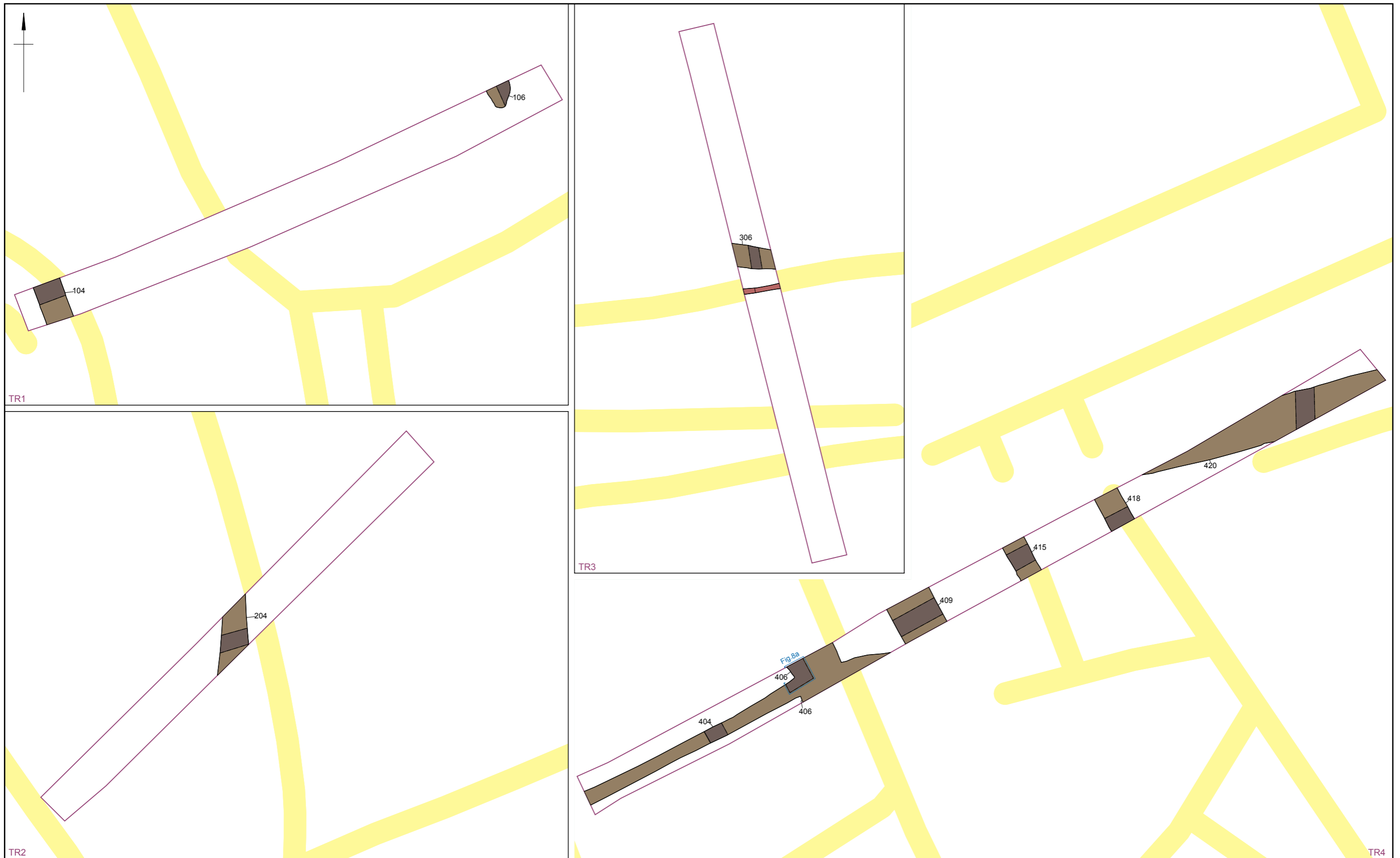
Site location

Figure 1



Historic Mapping: 1853 Ordnance Survey Map overlain with modern geophysical survey

Figure 2



Wessex Archaeology

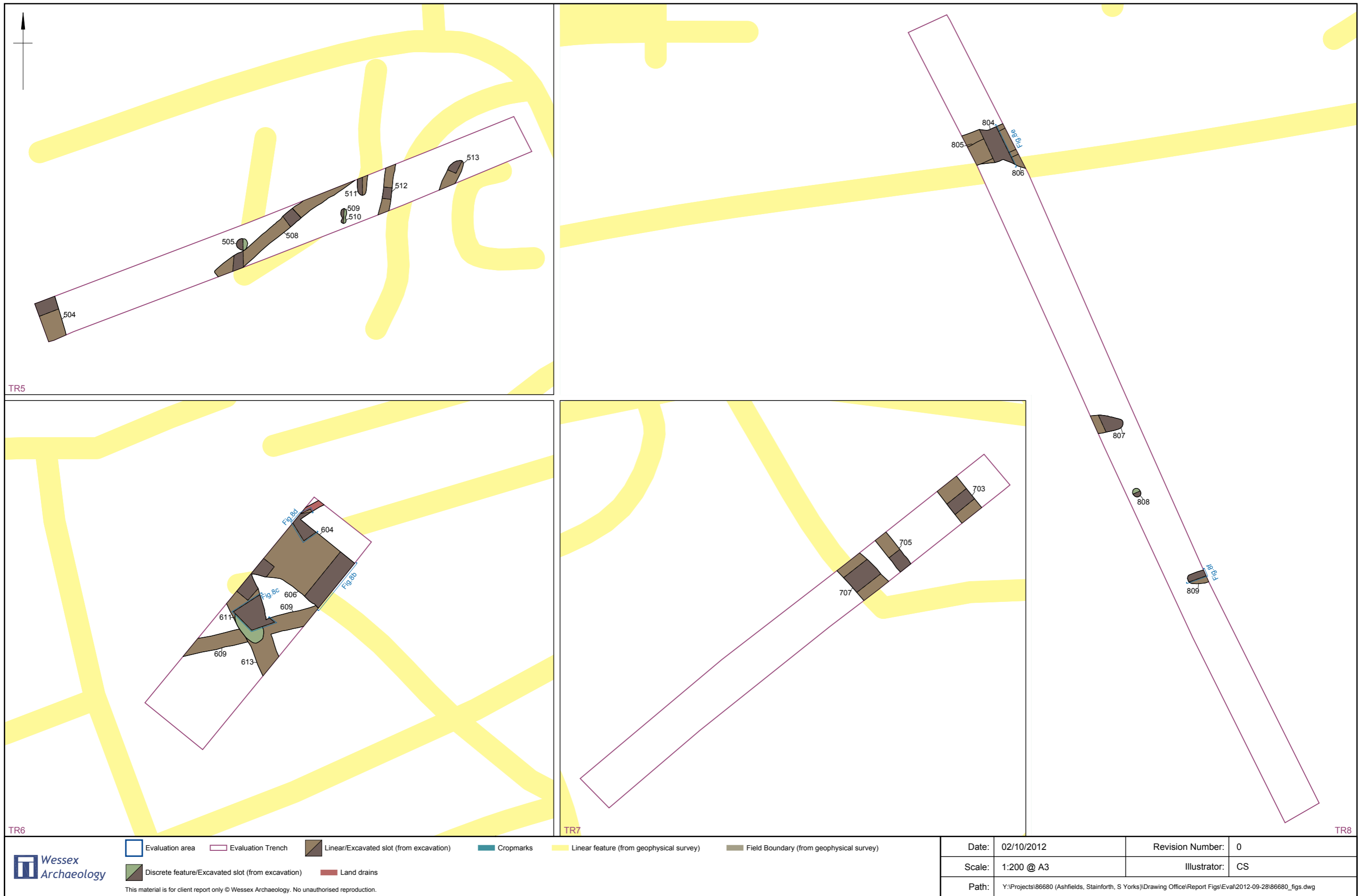
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Evaluation area	Evaluation Trench	Linear/Excavated slot (from excavation)	Cropmarks	Linear feature (from geophysical survey)	Field Boundary (from geophysical survey)
Land drains					

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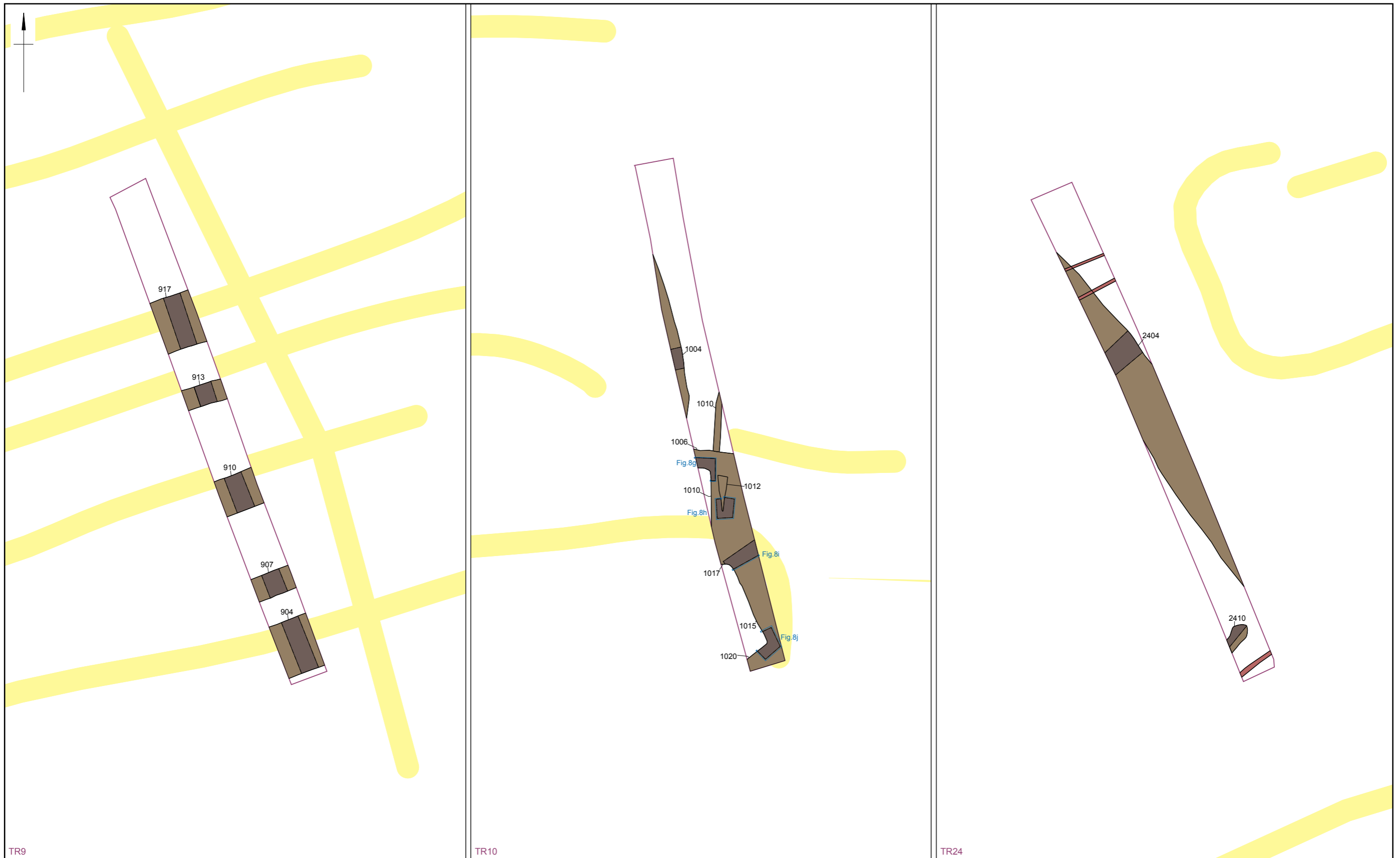
Plans: Trenches 1-4

Figure 3



Plans: Trenches 5-8

Figure 4



TR9

TR10

TR24



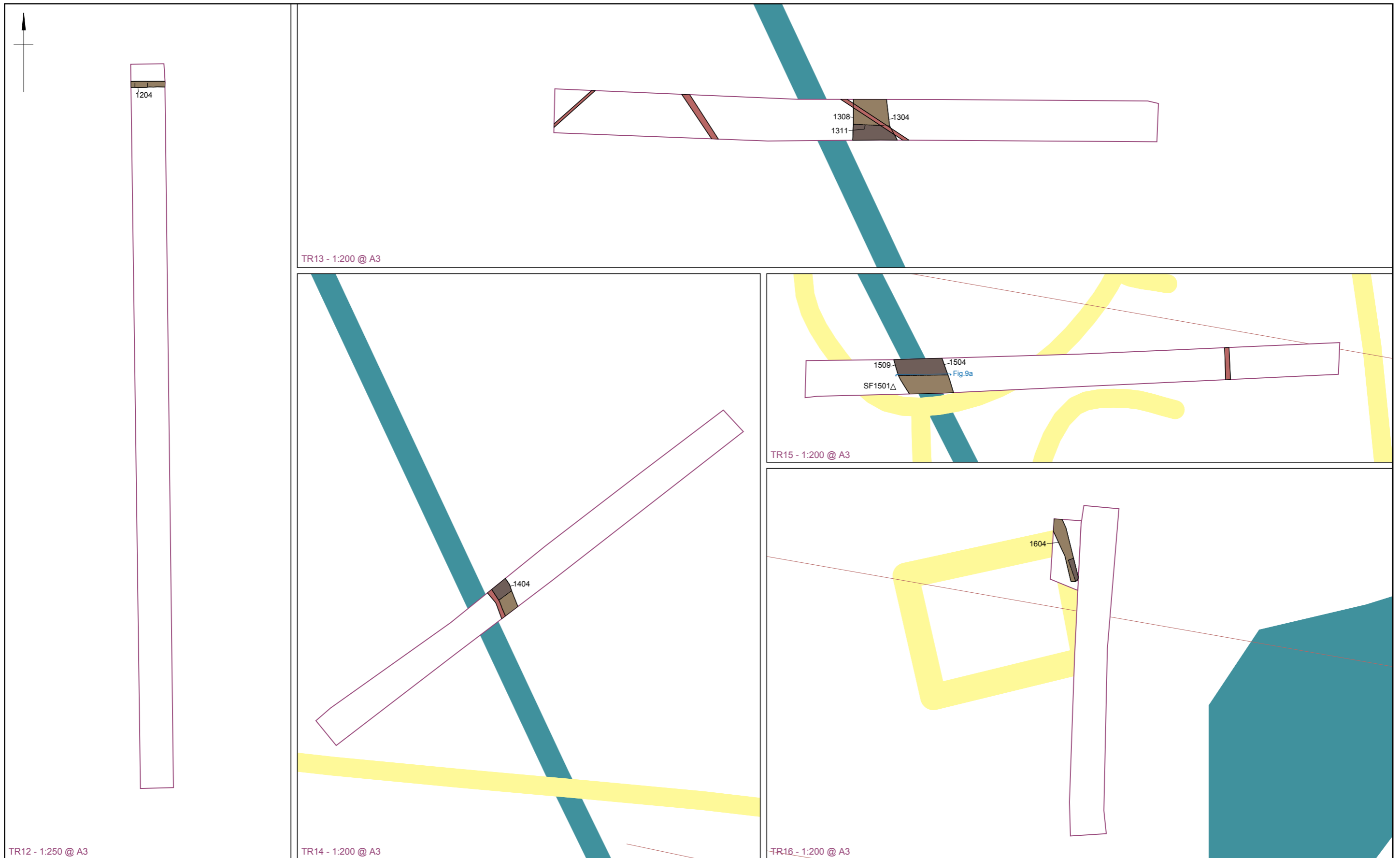
- Evaluation area
- Evaluation Trench
- Linear/Excavated slot (from excavation)
- Cropmarks
- Linear feature (from geophysical survey)
- Field Boundary (from geophysical survey)
- Discrete feature/Excavated slot (from excavation)
- Land drains

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Plans: Trenches 9, 10 and 24

Figure 5



TR12 - 1:250 @ A3

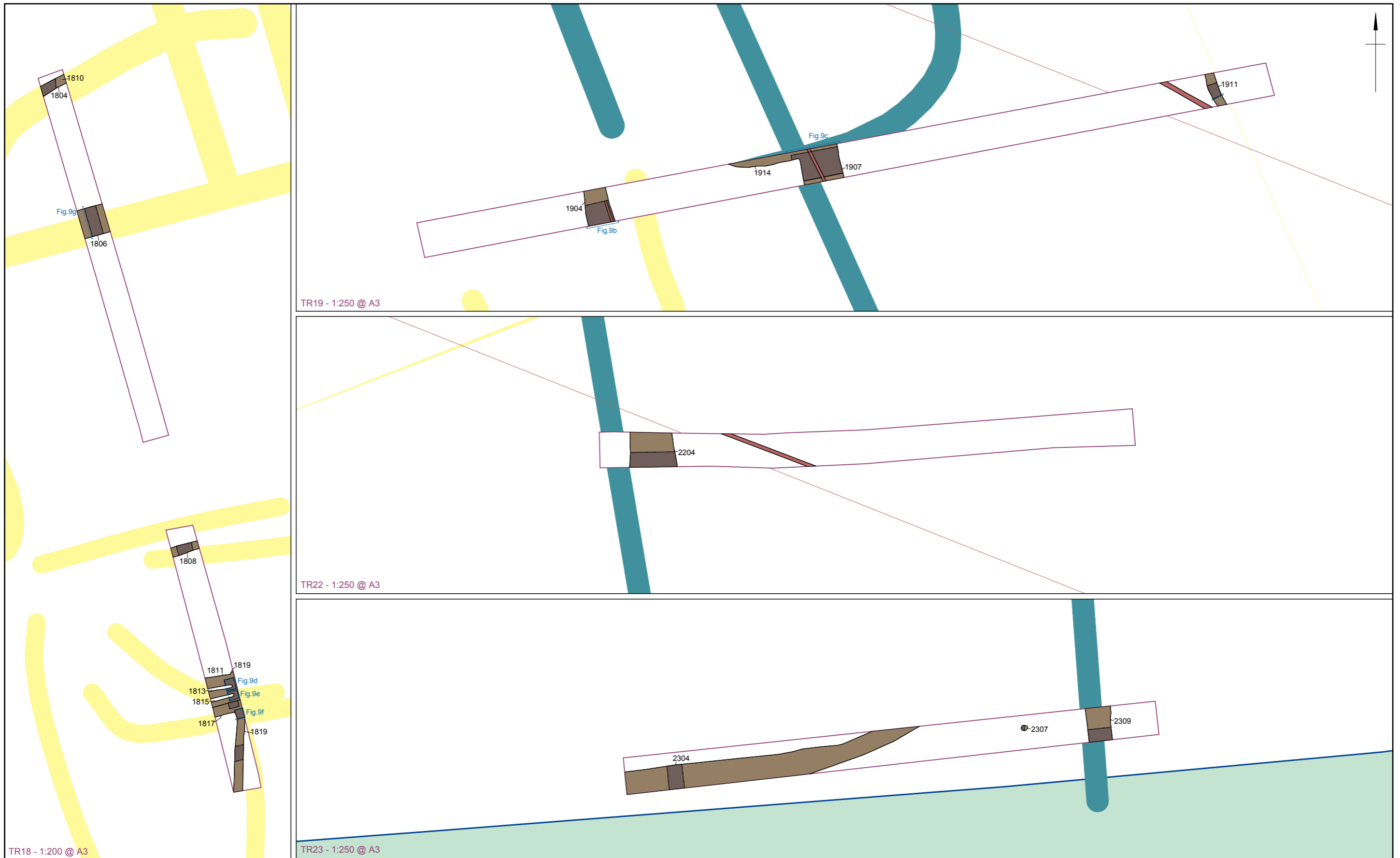
TR14 - 1:200 @ A3

TR16 - 1:200 @ A3

Evaluation area Evaluation Trench Linear/Excavated slot (from excavation) Cropmarks Linear feature (from geophysical survey) Field Boundary (from geophysical survey)
 Discrete feature/Excavated slot (from excavation) Land drains

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TR19 - 1:250 @ A3

TR22 - 1:250 @ A3

TR18 - 1:200 @ A3

TR23 - 1:250 @ A3

Evaluation area	Evaluation Trench	Linear/Excavated slot (from excavation)	Cropmarks	Linear feature (from geophysical survey)	Field Boundary (from geophysical survey)
Discrete feature/Excavated slot (from excavation)	Land drains				

Date:	02/10/2012	Revision Number:	0
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Plans: Trenches 18, 19, 22 and 23

Figure 7

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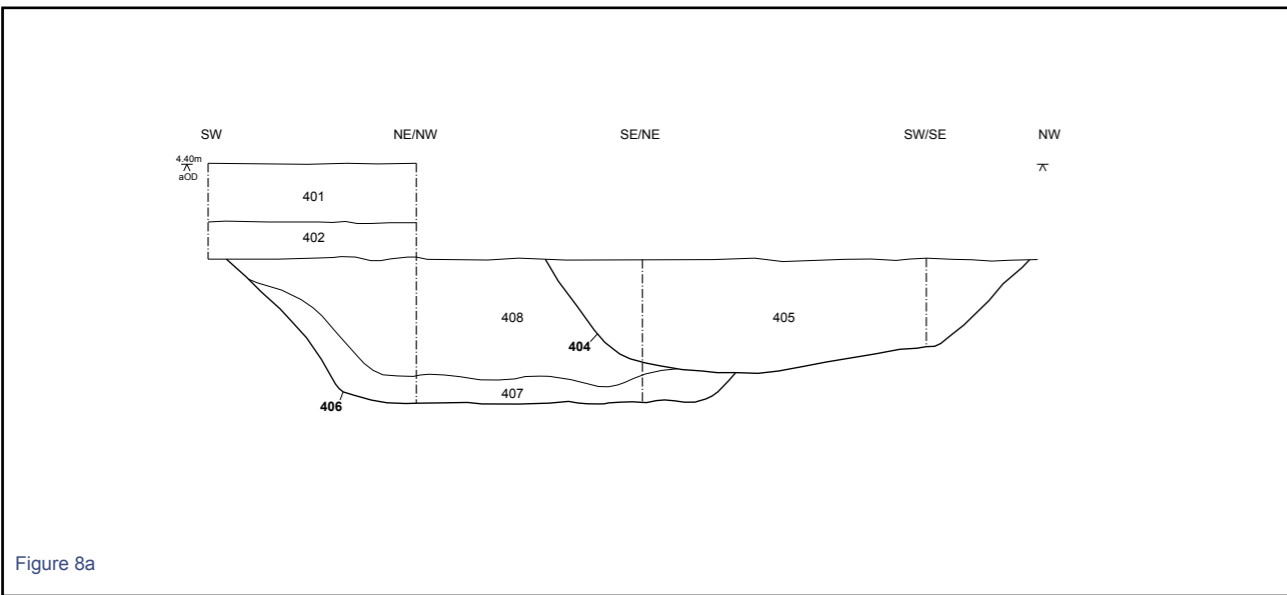


Figure 8a

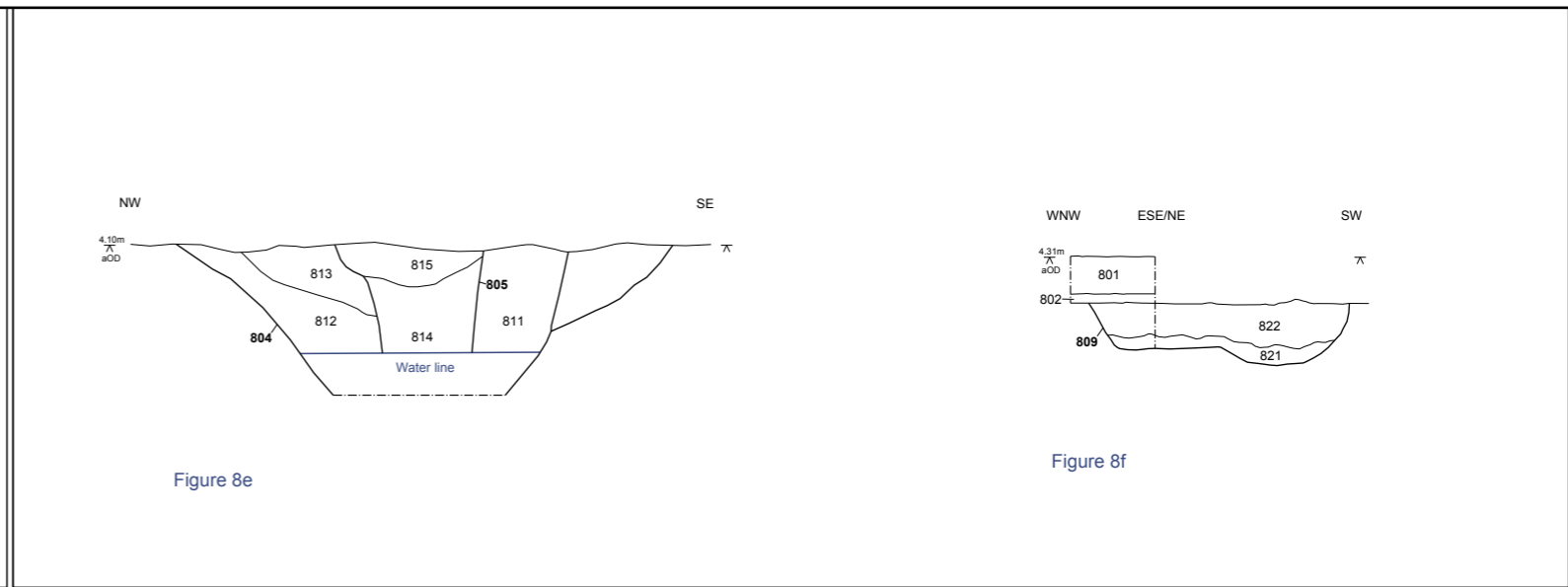


Figure 8e

Figure 8f

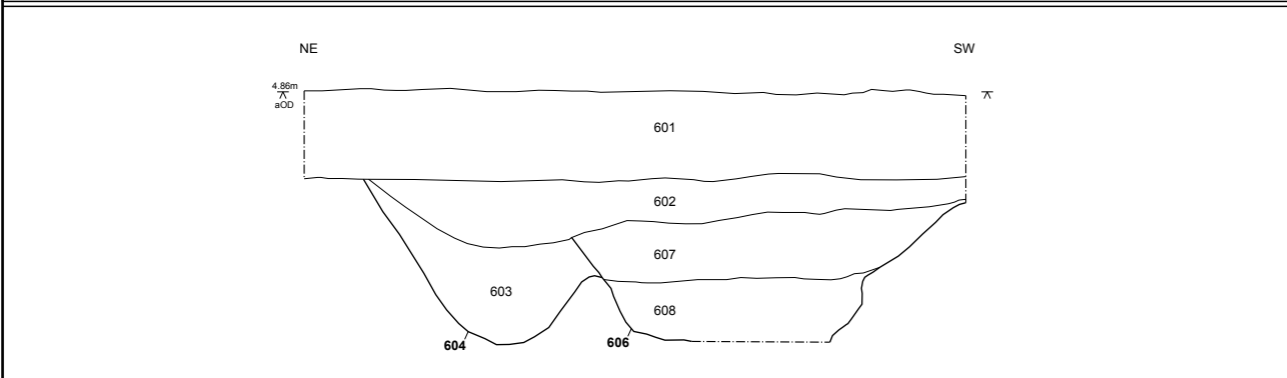


Figure 8b

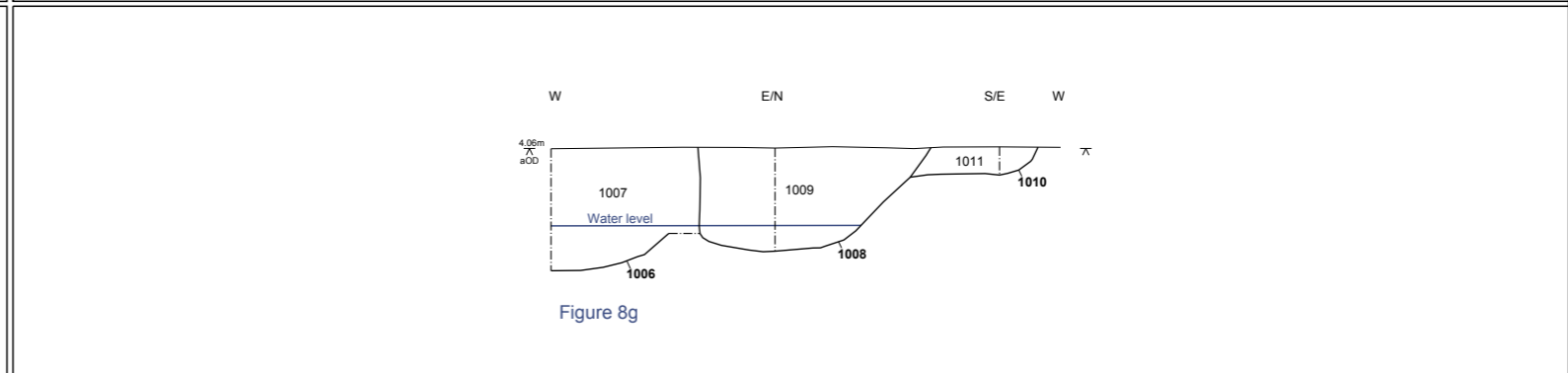


Figure 8g

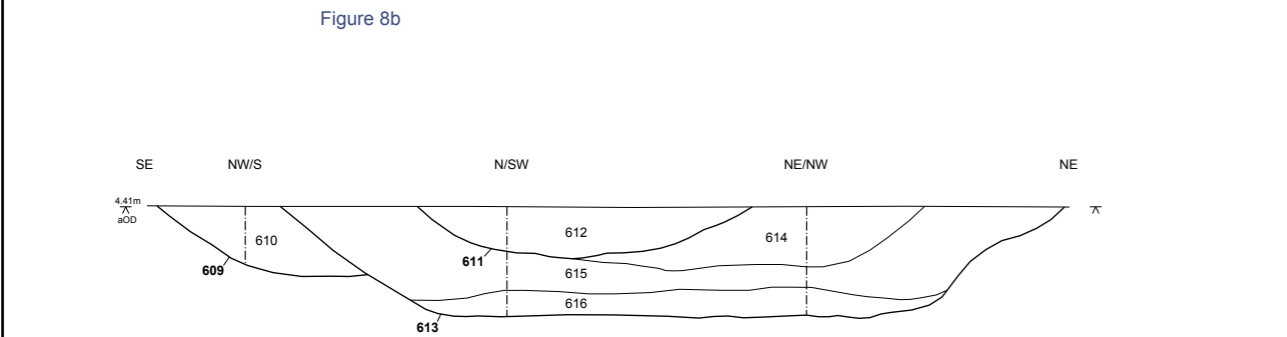


Figure 8c

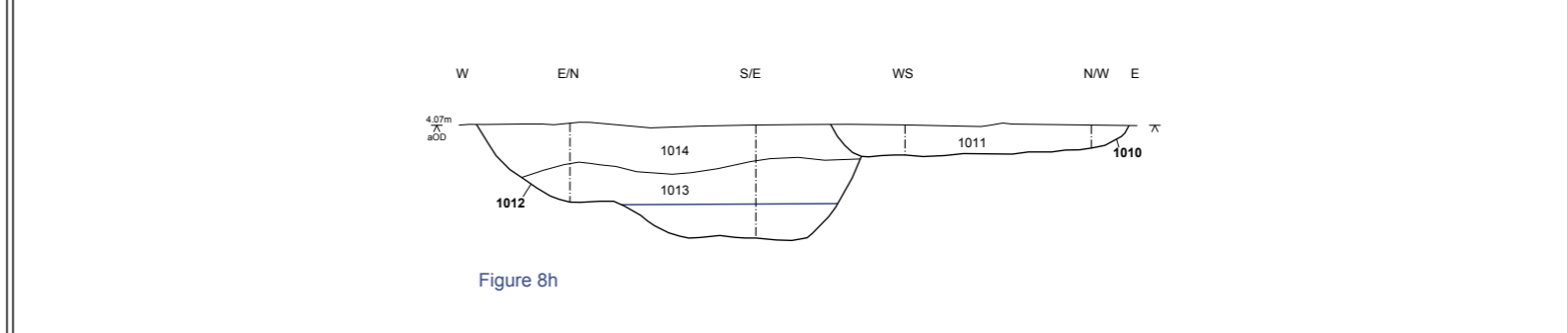


Figure 8h

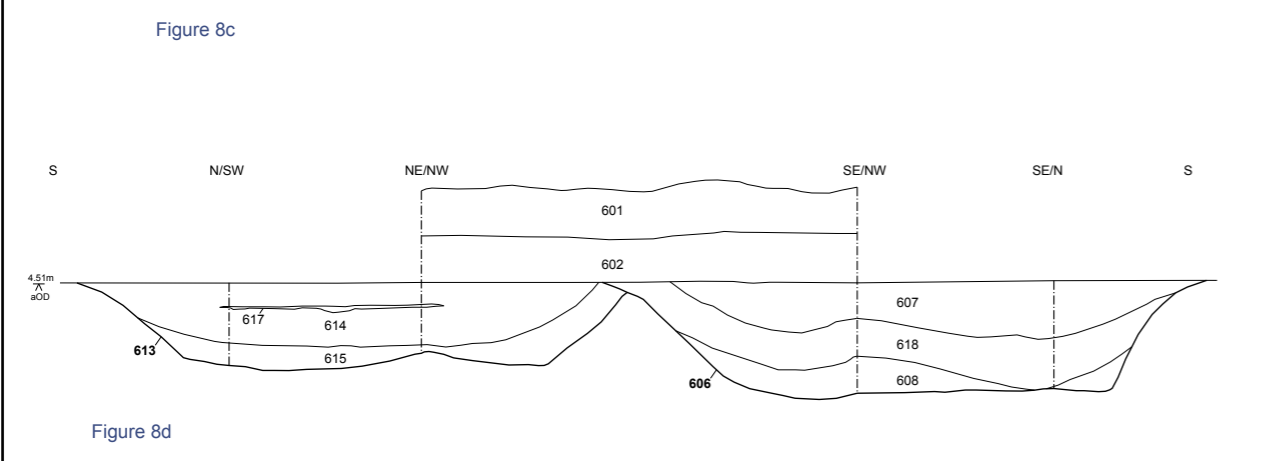


Figure 8d

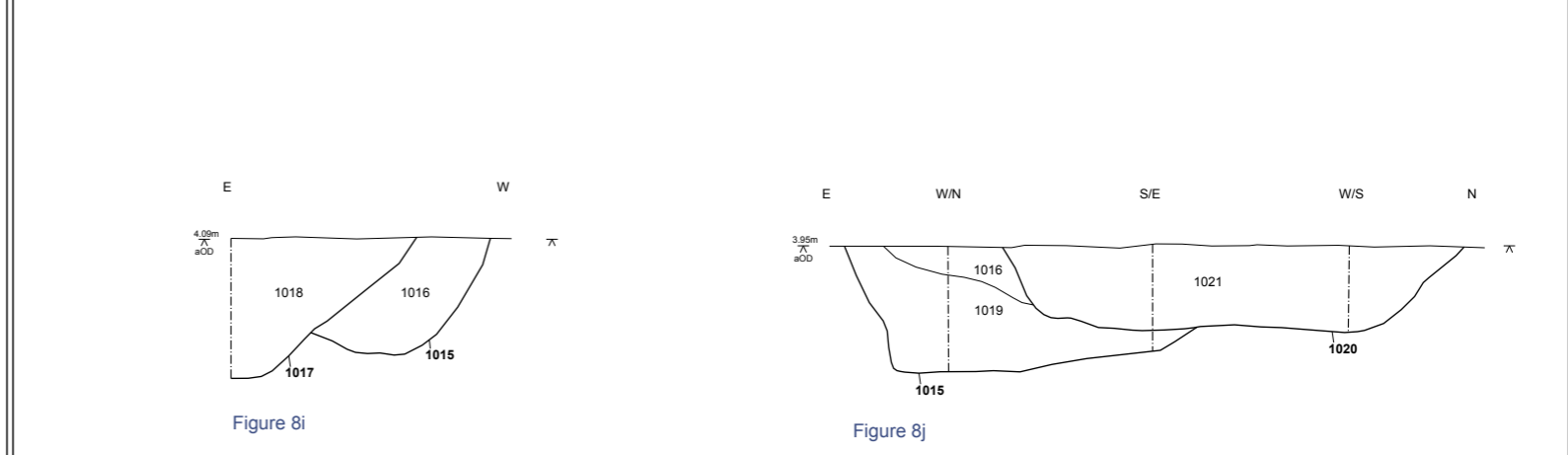


Figure 8i

Figure 8j

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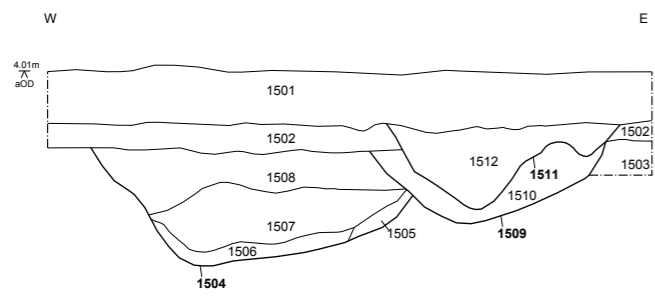


Figure 9a

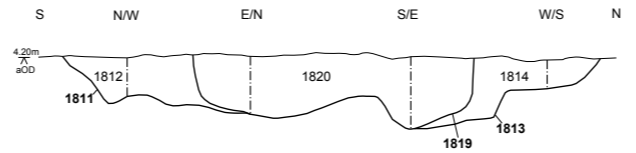


Figure 9d



Figure 9e

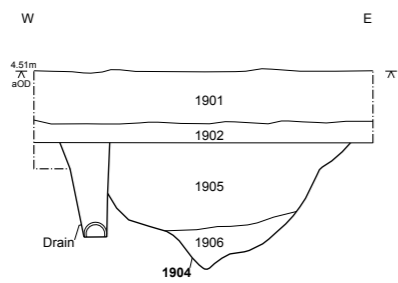


Figure 9b

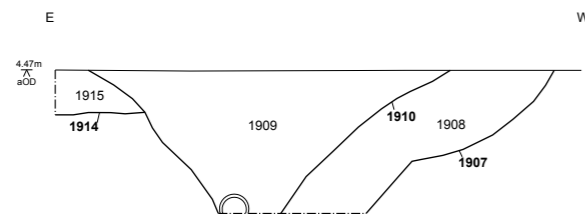


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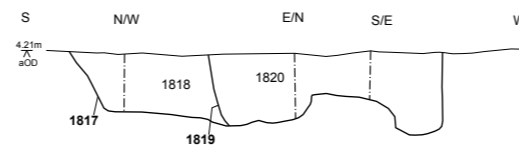


Figure 9f

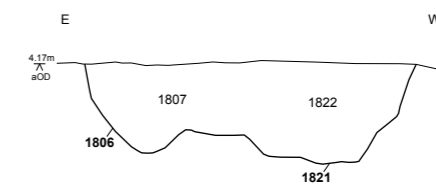


Figure 9g



Plate 1: Trench 1, Ditch **104** in foreground, looking northeast.



Plate 2: Ditch **409**, looking northeast.

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Plate 3: Trench 6, Ditch 604, looking southeast.



Plate 4: Trench 7, Deposit 709 sealing feature 705, looking southeast.

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Plate 5: Trench 8, Hearth / oven feature **807**, looking southeast.



Plate 6: Trench 9, Ditch **917**, looking southwest.

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Plate 7: Trench 10, looking north.



Plate 8: Trench 15, Ditches **1504** & **1509**, looking northeast.

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Plate 9: Trench 18, Ditches **1806** & **1821**, looking west.



Plate 10: Trench 19, Ditch **1904**, looking south.

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Plate 11: Trench 22, Ditch **2204**, looking west.



Plate 12: Trench 23, Ditch **2304**, looking west.

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