

**LAND AT
FIELD LANE,
SCALBY,
SCARBOROUGH,
NORTH YORKSHIRE**



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
INTERIM REPORT
CP. No: 962/09**

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Quality Assurance

This report covers works as outlined in the brief for the above-named project as issued by the relevant authority, and as outlined in the agreed programme of works. Any deviation to the programme of works has been agreed by all parties. The works have been carried out according to the guidelines set out in the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Standards, Policy Statements and Codes of Conduct. The report has been prepared in keeping with the guidance set out by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd on the preparation of reports.

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SUMMARY

In June 2009 North Pennines Archaeology Ltd undertook an archaeological evaluation of 1ha of land at Field Lane, Scalby, near Scarborough (centred on Ordnance Survey grid reference TA 5022 4908) on behalf of Wardell Armstrong LLP, prior to the proposed redevelopment of the 22ha site.

A number of cropmarks had previously been noted on air photographs of the study area, including the remains of ridge and furrow cultivation and former field boundaries of probable medieval or post-medieval date. The remains of Scalby High Mill (HER MNY23823) were located on the southern side of the study area. A mill race associated with Scalby High Mill or Scalby Bridge Mill was known to have crossed the south and west parts of the site. There was also good evidence for Bronze Age activity in the Scalby area, although no known archaeological remains of this date were present within the proposed development area.

A geophysical survey of the proposed development area was undertaken by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd in March 2009. Evidence for former ridge and furrow cultivation of possible medieval or post-medieval date was detected over the majority of the study area. A number of post-medieval water-management features were also detected which are marked on historic Ordnance Survey maps of the site. These include a former mill race for Scalby High Mill, located on the south side of the study area, and a possible holding pond or reservoir, on the west side of the site.

Potentially the earliest feature identified during the geophysical survey was a square ditched enclosure, which could be typologically dated to the Iron Age period. The size and shape of this feature was typical of an Arras type Iron Age burial, which is a distinctive Yorkshire burial style. A number of other possible soil-filled ditches were identified nearby.

Based on the results of the geophysical survey, a trial trench evaluation of 1ha of land was undertaken, focusing on the square ditched enclosure and other features identified on the previous geophysical survey. The evaluation comprised the excavation of eleven trenches constituting a 5% sample of the area. The evaluation confirmed the former existence of a late prehistoric square enclosure and adjacent linear boundary at the site, as well as a number of later plough furrows, a possible field boundary, and other agricultural features.

The enclosure was plough-reduced and contained no evidence for a burial within the extent of the evaluation trenches. No trace of an original mound survived, and it is likely that this now forms part of a plough soil covering the ditched enclosure. However, the ditches survive to a substantial depth, and it is possible that significant parts of the original ground surface are preserved, particularly on the northeast side of the monument where the evaluation indicated modern truncation was less severe. A

linear ditch was also identified running parallel with the enclosure, which appeared to terminate close to the enclosure.

Sherds of later prehistoric pottery and a number flint tools and flakes were recovered from the enclosure ditches, a possible original land surface within the interior, and from the plough soil above the enclosure. A number of soil samples were also taken which could potentially provide further information regarding the nature of deposition at the site, and provide material for AMS dating. This interim report sets out the initial results of the evaluation based on an assessment of the excavated data. It is anticipated that the final report will include the results of the specialist assessment of the artefactual and environmental data from the evaluation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Wardell Armstrong LLP for commissioning the project, and for all their assistance throughout the project.

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would also like to extend their thanks to Jane Moment of High Mill Farm, for her assistance during the fieldwork.

The archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Tony Liddell, Angus Clark, Mike McElligott and Sean Johnson. The report was written and illustrated by Martin Railton and Tony Liddell. The project was managed by Martin Railton, Project Manager for NPA Ltd. The report was edited by Matthew Town, Project Manager for NPA Ltd.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 In June 2009, North Pennines Archaeology Ltd undertook an archaeological evaluation of land at Field Lane, Scalby, Scarborough, North Yorkshire (centred on Ordnance Survey grid reference TA 5022 4908), on behalf of Wardell Armstrong LLP. This work was undertaken in support of an application for a mixed use (employment and residential) development, on land east of Scalby. The proposed development area comprised three fields of pasture and arable land on the east side of Scalby and north of Scalby Mills, measuring 22ha in total. It was bounded by Field Lane the north, Cow Wath Beck to the northwest, and Scalby Beck to the south (Figure 1).
- 1.1.2 The archaeological work was undertaken as part of a planning application, and was in line with government advice as set out in the DoE Planning Policy Guidance on Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16). This report outlines the results of an archaeological evaluation focusing on 1ha of the proposed development area to the north east of High Mill Farm.
- 1.1.3 There is evidence for Bronze Age activity in the Scalby area. A number of cropmarks have been noted on air photographs of the study area, including the remains of ridge and furrow cultivation and former field boundaries of probable medieval or post-medieval date. The remains of Scalby High Mill (HER entry MNY23823) are located on the southern side of the study area. A mill race associated with Scalby High Mill or Scalby Bridge Mill is known to have crossed the south and west parts of the site. A previous geophysical survey of the site has identified evidence for former ridge and furrow cultivation, of possible medieval or post-medieval date, which was detected over the majority of the study area (Railton 2009). A number of post-medieval water-management features have also been detected which are marked on historic Ordnance Survey maps of the site. These include a former mill race for Scalby High Mill, located on the south side of the study area, and a possible holding pond or reservoir, on the west side of the site.
- 1.1.4 Potentially the earliest feature identified during the geophysical survey was a square ditched enclosure, which may be typologically dated to the Iron Age period. The size and shape of this feature is typical of an Arras type Iron Age burial, which is a distinctive Yorkshire burial style. A number of other possible soil-filled features including potential linear ditches were identified nearby.
- 1.1.5 As a result of the geophysical survey, an evaluation targeting a 1ha area in and around the square enclosure was undertaken. The evaluation was subject to a Written Scheme of Investigation submitted to Scarborough Borough Council.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

- 2.1.1 It was believed that subsurface archaeological remains survived within the site boundary, including possible prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval remains. Potentially the earliest and most significant feature detected during the geophysical survey (Railton 2009) was a 12m-square ditched enclosure, interpreted as a possible Iron Age Arras burial.
- 2.1.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the evaluation was submitted to Scarborough Borough Council by Wardell Armstrong LLP prior to the commencement of the project. All archaeological work was carried out according to the relevant national English Heritage and IfA guidelines (IfA 2008).

2.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

- 2.2.1 Eleven trial trenches were excavated during the evaluation (Trenches 1-11), with ten trenches measuring 30m by c2m, and one measuring 13m by c.2m (Trench 2), in order to provide the required coverage of trenching for a 5% sample of the 1ha area (Figure 2).
- 2.2.2 Trench 1 and Trench 2 were located to investigate the possible square enclosure, and adjacent soil-filled ditch to the east. Trench 3 was located to sample a linear feature to the north, which may have defined a larger enclosure. Trench 4 was located to sample an area within this, and test the results of the geophysical survey (ie sampling an area that appeared devoid of features). Trench 5 was located to sample possible soil-filled features to the west. Trench 6 was located to examine a large geophysical anomaly and possible soil-filled feature, in an area crossed by previous ridge and furrow cultivation. Trench 7 and Trench 8 were located to examine further linear features and small geophysical anomalies to the south of the enclosure. Trench 9 was located to examine a large possible soil-filled feature to the north. Trenches 10 and 11 were located to sample possible linear features to the east of the enclosure in an adjacent field.
- 2.2.3 All trenches were excavated by a tracked mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket to either the top of archaeological deposits, or the natural substrate, whichever was observed first under continuous archaeological supervision. Spoil was placed at a distance of 1.2m from all trench edges and topsoil and subsoil kept separate.
- 2.2.4 The trenches were subsequently cleaned by hand and all features investigated and recorded according to the North Pennines Archaeology Ltd

standard procedure as set out in the Excavation Manual (Giecco 2003). All archaeological features exposed were sample excavated, typically involving the 50% sampling of discrete features, 25% of linear features with a non uniform fill and 10% of linear features with a uniform fill.

- 2.2.5 Environmental samples will be processed under the direction of Patricia Shaw, BSc Hons, NPA Environmental Supervisor. Any environmental evidence found during the work following English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 2002), will be processed with the guidance of the English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science, and undertaken according to the North Pennines Archaeology Ltd. standard environmental sampling procedure. Whole earth bulk soil samples comprised 40 litres, or 100% of excavated material from smaller features.
- 2.2.6 All fieldwork was carried out in accordance with codes and practices outlined by the Institute of Field Archaeologists regarding archaeological evaluations (IFA 2008 *Standards and Guidance: Archaeological Evaluation*). Following completion of the on-site works the trenches were back-filled but not otherwise reinstated; no liability can be accepted for trenches which settle following backfilling.
- 2.2.7 All written records utilised NPA pro-forma record sheets. Plans and sections were drawn on water resistant draughting film. Plans were drawn to a scale of 1:20 and sections at 1:10 or 1:20 appropriately. A full photographic record in monochrome, colour slide and digital formats was maintained.
- 2.2.8 Finds assessment will be undertaken in consultation with appropriate specialists.
- 2.2.9 In summary, the main objectives of the evaluation were:
- to establish the presence/absence, nature, extent and state of preservation of archaeological remains and to record these where they are observed;
 - to establish the character of those features in terms of cuts, soil matrices and interfaces;
 - to recover artefactual material, especially that useful for dating purposes;
 - to recover palaeoenvironmental material where it survives in order to understand site and landscape formation processes.

2.3 ARCHIVE

- 2.3.1 A full professional archive will be compiled in accordance with the specification, and in line with current UKIC (1990) and English Heritage

Guidelines (1991) and according to the Archaeological Archives Forum recommendations (Brown 2007). The archive will be deposited within an appropriate museum, with the paper archive and copies of the report sent to the appropriate County Historic Environment Record, where viewing will be made available upon request. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier NPA09, FLS-A, CP 962/09.

- 2.3.2 One copy of the final report will be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record, where viewing will be available on request. The project is also registered with the Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigationS (OASIS), where a digital copy of the report will be made available.
- 2.3.3 The OASIS reference for this project is **northpen3-61786**.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCATION AND GEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

- 3.1.1 Scalby lies within the undulating farmland of the North Yorkshire Coast, situated approximately 2km inland, and located 3km northwest of Scarborough. The site lies at a height of approximately 35m AOD and is situated east of the confluence of the Cow Wath Beck and Scalby Beck, immediately to the east of Scalby Village. Land on the south side of the proposed development area has previously been developed as a caravan park, next to High Mill Farm, and is bisected by an associated access road.
- 3.1.2 The solid geology of the area comprises Great and Inferior Oolite sedimentary rocks, overlain by glacial till deposits (BGS 2001). Soils in the vicinity comprise seasonally waterlogged reddish fine loam over fine loamy and clayey soils, known as Salop soils (SSEW 1980). These soils have been exploited for agriculture, and the area is subdivided into large fields, primarily devoted to arable and root crops (Countryside Commission 1998).
- 3.1.3 The topography of the study area is of undulating character, with rounded hills occupying the southwest and northeast parts of the site. The study area occupies a natural headland, with a steep cutting for Scalby Beck on the south side. Cow Wath Beck runs along the northwest and west sides of the site.

3.2 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

- 3.2.1 *Introduction:* Wardell Armstrong LLP have produced an archaeological and historical background of the site which is set out in the Archaeology and Cultural Heritage chapter of the Environmental Statement for the proposed development. A summary of this is provided below, which is intended only as a brief outline of historical developments specific to the study area. This included a search of the North Yorkshire County Council Historic Environment Record (HER), and references to these sites are included where known.
- 3.2.2 *Prehistoric:* there is evidence for Bronze Age activity in the Scalby area, although there is no direct evidence for prehistoric remains within the site boundary. A Bronze Age palstave axe, was recovered from a location 1km to the southeast (HER MNY12686), and an early Bronze Age flanged axe was found in Scalby Beck. Other Bronze Age finds from within 1km of the proposed development area include: a collared urn, which was recovered from a burial mound (location unknown), half an early Bronze Age axe, a Bronze Age stone, and axe hammer. It is possible that one or more of these

finds were recovered from within the proposed development area, as the exact find locations are not recorded.

- 3.2.3 *Roman*: a number of 4th century Roman signal stations are known along the North Yorkshire coast, including sites at Ravenscar to the north of Scalby, and at Scarborough to the south. However there are no known Roman remains in the vicinity of the proposed development area. The only Roman find from within 1km of the site is a Roman terracotta lamp, which was recovered from a location c.820 to the southeast (HER MNY9591).
- 3.2.4 *Medieval*: Scalby was included in the Domesday Survey of 1086, and was recorded as being part of the royal manor of Falsgrave. The Grade II* Listed Church of St Laurence (HER MNY326903), dating from the 12th or 13th centuries, is situated c.920m to the west of the study area. From the 12th century the area was within a royal forest, known at various times as Falsgrave, Scalby, and the East Ward of Pickering.
- 3.2.5 During the medieval period Scalby had an open field system, with a predominantly agricultural character, which supplied the developing town of Scarborough. The proposed development area lay within Scalby South Field, which extended from the village to the coast, defined to the north by Cow Wath Beck, and to the south by Scalby Beck. Air photographs of the area, dating to the 1940's, show evidence for ridge and furrow cultivation in the west and eastern parts of the site.
- 3.2.6 *Post-medieval and Modern*: a number of post-medieval Grade II Listed farm houses, barns and other agricultural buildings are situated within 1km of the proposed development area, dating from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. These buildings attest to the agricultural nature of Scalby Village (HER MNY15905) during the post-medieval period, which is also designated as a Conservation Area.
- 3.2.7 The 18th century Scalby High Mill (HER MNY23823) is present on the south side of the proposed development area. It is possible that this stands on the site of an earlier mill, recorded as belonging to the Crown in 1164. The possible site of Newby Mill (HER MNY24950) is c.230m east of the proposed development area. These may be two water mills recorded as being alienated by the Crown in 1609. These mills were taken into the possession of Edmond Ferrers and Francis Philips in 1610 (Harrison 2001). The site of another mill, Scalby Low Mill (HER MNY24951), is c.1km to the east of the study area.
- 3.2.8 The open fields of Scalby were enclosed under an Act of 1771. The associated enclosure map, dated 1777, depicts Scalby High Mill within the southern part of the study area, and an associated mill race, which crossed

the southwest side of the proposed development area, with a similar alignment to the present day access road to High Mill Farm.

- 3.2.9 The First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1854 depicts the proposed development area, subdivided into at least seven separate rectilinear fields. Scalby High Mill (Corn) is set within an enclosure on the south side of the site, with the mill race depicted to the northwest, connecting to Cow Wath Beck. A second mill race is shown running along the south side of the proposed development area, parallel with Scalby Beck. A weir and aqueduct are also depicted on historic Ordnance Survey maps, at the western corner of the site, adjacent to Scalby Beck.
- 3.2.10 *Modern:* a number of World War II (WWII) defensive features are recorded to the east of the proposed development area, including the site of a WWII rifle range, located 700m east of the site, and a WWII roadblock on Burniston Road Ridge, situated 300m east of the proposed development area. A number of 20th century military buildings and track ways are also recorded 700m east of the site.
- 3.2.11 The majority of the proposed development area has remained agricultural land into the modern period, with the gradual removal of some post-medieval field boundaries, to form three larger fields.
- 3.2.12 In the late 20th century a caravan park was established on the south side of the proposed development area, to the north of High Mill Farm.
- 3.2.13 Planning permission was granted in 1998 for the deposition of clay and subsoil, in order to level land to the southwest of the caravan park for agricultural purposes. Further permission was granted in 1999.

3.3 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK

- 3.3.1 A geophysical survey (Railton 2009) was undertaken within the development area in March 2009 by North Pennines Archaeology Limited. Potentially the earliest and most significant feature detected during the geophysical survey was a 12m-square ditched enclosure, interpreted as a possible Iron Age Arras burial. The geophysical survey did not identify internal features within the enclosure. Medieval and post-medieval activity at the site was characterized by the remains of former ridge and furrow cultivation, which was detected over a large part of the study area and appeared to cut through the square ditched enclosure. A number of possible field boundaries and track ways were also detected, which may date from these periods. Post-medieval water-management features associated with Scalby High Mill were also detected. These included the in-filled remains of

a mill race which was depicted on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1854.

- 3.3.2 Excavations were undertaken by Scarborough Archaeological and Historical Society at Newby Farm in 1989, which revealed possible evidence for a medieval open field extending to the east of Newby (SAHS 1989).
- 3.3.3 A desk-based assessment (HER MNY3437) and geophysical survey (HER MNY3538) were undertaken in 2006 to the northwest of the proposed development area between Scalby and Burniston, at the site of a proposed new rugby club. The survey revealed no archaeological features, and the geophysical anomalies detected were attributed to geological changes in the underlying till.

4 EVALUATION RESULTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

- 4.1.1 All trenches were excavated by a tracked mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket to the top of archaeological deposits or the natural substrate, whichever was observed first under, continuous archaeological supervision. Spoil was placed at a distance of 1.2m from all trench edges and topsoil and subsoil kept separate. It was noted that the topsoil and subsoil varied across the site, with the greatest thickness of deposits over the north-eastern end of Trench 1 (associated with the square enclosure)
- 4.1.2 The trench location plan can be seen on Figure 3, with the geophysical anomalies identified in the earlier survey highlighted in Figure 2. Trenches 1 and 2 are illustrated in more detail in Figures 4 and 5. Figure 6 shows section drawings through cut features within the other evaluation trenches.

4.2 TRENCH 1 AND TRENCH 2

- 4.2.1 Trenches 1 and 2 were aligned to join into a 'T' shape to assess the nature of the square ditched enclosure identified on the geophysical survey. Trench 1 measured 26m in length by 2.10m in width, and was aligned northeast-southwest. Trench 2 measured 12m in length by 2.20m in width, and was aligned northwest-southeast, with its southern extent cutting and aligning with the southeast-facing section of Trench 1.
- 4.2.2 Natural sandy clay substrate (102) was located at the northeastern end of Trench 1 at c.0.70m below the current ground surface. Natural clay (114) was present at the southwestern extent of the trench c.0.31m below the surface. In Trench 2, natural clay (128), likely to be the same context as (114), was identified 0.31m below the present surface. The ditches associated with the enclosure identified on the geophysical survey were found to be cutting the natural substrate, as was an outer ditch to the east of the enclosure (Plate 1).
- 4.2.3 A ditch cut [111] representing the southern extent of the enclosure was found 3.3m from the southwestern end of Trench 1 (Plate 2). The cut was c.2.40m in width and 0.52m deep with gradual sides and a sub-rounded base. The fill was context (112), a compact reddish mid-brown sandy clay with occasional inclusions of flint and small stones. Environmental Sample <8> was taken from the fill of the ditch at this location. The northernmost extent of the enclosure was identified 8.5m from the northeastern end of the trench, aligned northwest-southeast and 1.8m in width (Plate 3). The cut [121] measured a depth of 0.55m, and was filled by context (122), a reddish mid-brown sandy clay likely to be the same as (112). Some flint flakes and

burnt cobbles were recovered from this fill, which was more stony at the base. Environmental Sample <9> was taken from the ditch at this point. This gives the enclosure an internal area of c.10.06m².

- 4.2.4 In Trench 2, the presence of the northwestern extent of the enclosure ditch [125] was established 4.85m from the western end of the trench, measuring 1.75m in width. Due to time constraints the fill of this cut, context (126), was not sampled but it can be assumed to be part of the same feature as [111]/(112) and [121]/(122). Within the northeast extent of the internal area of the enclosure, a 0.14m thick deposit of light brown/grey moderately compact sandy clay (120) was found overlying the natural and cut by ditch [121]. This deposit may be re-deposited natural or an original land surface as it appeared identical to the underlying natural (102), apart from the difference in colour. Environmental Sample <11> was taken from this deposit to confirm this.
- 4.2.5 At a distance of 4.80m from the northern end of Trench 1 a further ditch was uncovered. The cut [123] measured 1.16m in width and survived to a maximum depth of 0.53m (Plate 4). The irregular nature of the cut, which narrowed at the northwest end, suggested that this feature was a ditch terminus, supported by the geophysical survey, suggesting a possible entranceway through a boundary ditch to the north and east of the enclosure itself. The ditch was filled by context (124), a moderately compact sandy clay which contained a number of burnt stones and some larger boulders (up to 0.38m in diameter). Environmental Sample <10> was taken from the fill.
- 4.2.6 A c.0.44m thick deposit of compact mid-brown sandy clay (113) was observed sealing the archaeological contexts in Trenches 1 and 2, and may be the remains of the ploughed-out mound associated with the barrow. This deposit appeared to have been plough-reduced to the south and west. A c.10m thick deposit of sandy clay subsoil (101) lay above this strata, above which was the sandy clay topsoil (100).
- 4.2.7 The majority of finds from Trenches 1 and 2 were late prehistoric in date, supporting the suggestion of the enclosure being the remains of a late prehistoric burial enclosure. The ditch fill (112)/(122) produced six lithics and one sherd of pottery of a late prehistoric date, whilst deposit (113) produced twenty-five potential lithic pieces, fifteen fragmentary sherds of pottery, the remains of two animal teeth and one lump of burnt clay of the same date. Deposit (120) also provided four lithic flakes, two lumps of burnt clay and three fragmentary late prehistoric pottery sherds.
- 4.2.7 Two sherds of medieval pottery were also recovered from the interface between subsoil (101) and deposit (113), and the topsoil (100) produced one

post-medieval clay tobacco pipe stem fragment, one shard of glass and seven pottery sherds of post-medieval date. Subsoil (101) also produced one post-medieval clay pipe stem fragment and one pottery sherd of the same date.

- 4.2.8 There was evidence for the topsoil/subsoils being truncated in the southwest extent of the trench, with the thickness of soils being much less than at the northeastern end. This truncation of the development site is further supported in other trenches where features are shallow enough to suggest truncation having taken place in the past.



Plate 1. Trench 1 looking southwest.

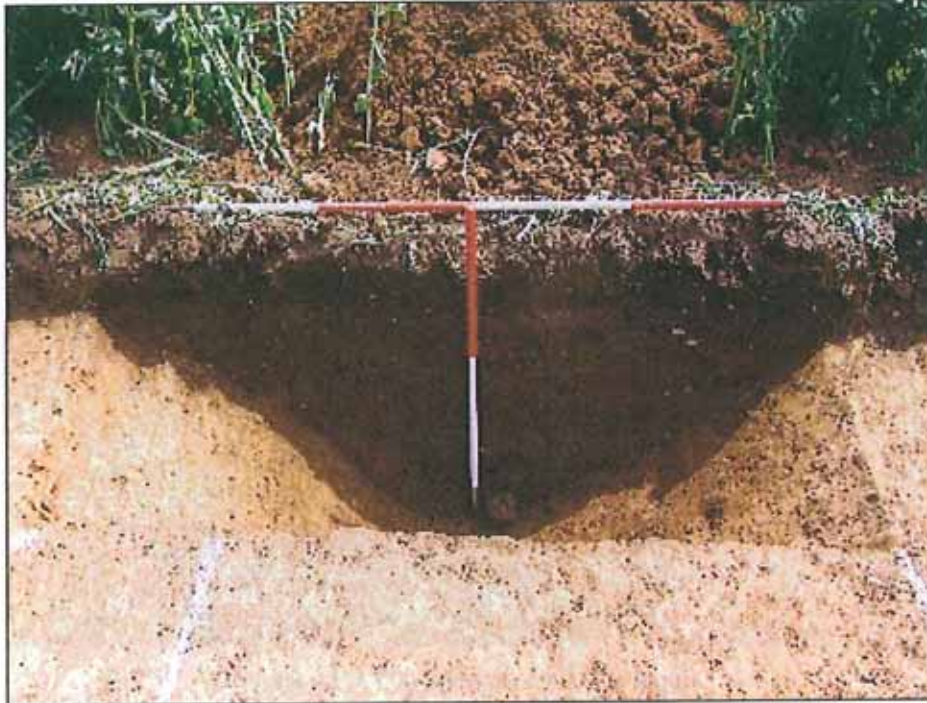


Plate 2. Ditch [111] looking east.

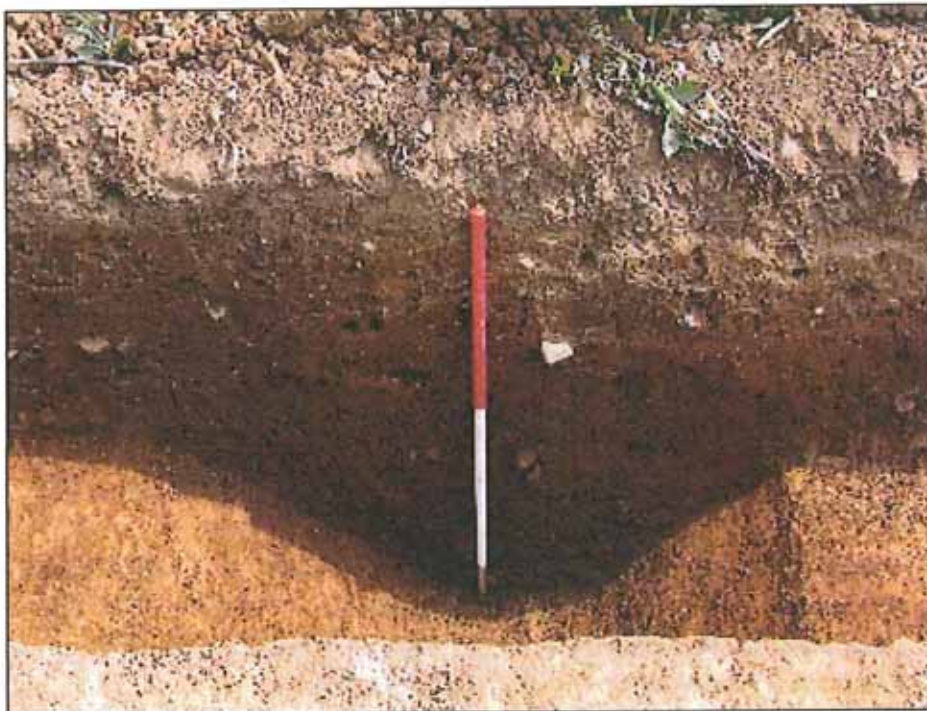


Plate 3. Ditch [121] looking east.

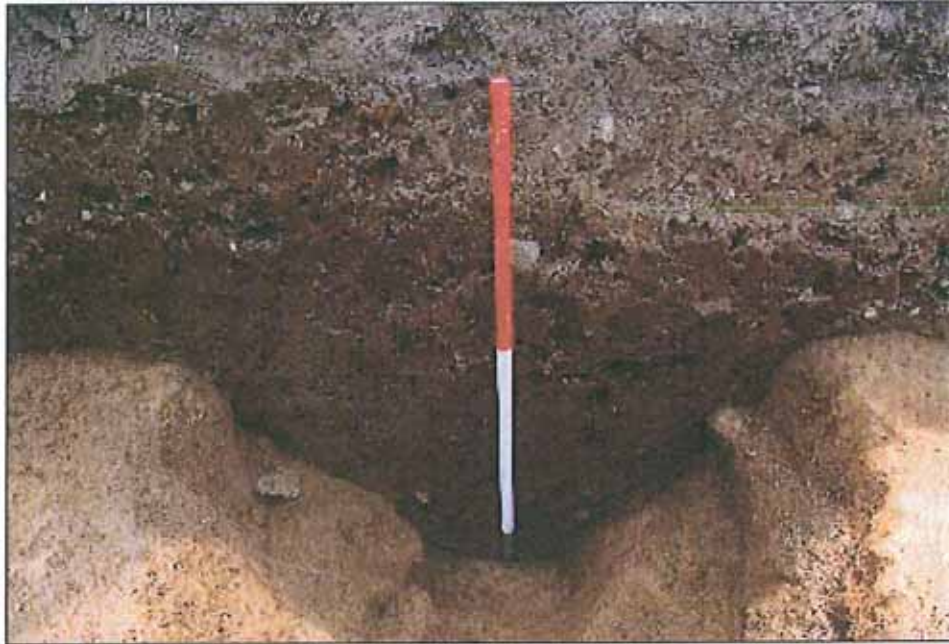


Plate 4. Ditch terminus [123] looking east.

4.3 TRENCH 3

4.3.1 Trench 3 measured 30m in length by 2m in width, and was excavated to depth of c.0.25m. The trench was orientated northwest-southeast, and was located c.21m northwest of Trench 2. The trench was positioned to sample a soil-filled linear anomaly identified on the geophysical survey.

4.3.2 Natural substrate (102) was located at 0.23m below the current ground surface. Above this was a 0.12m depth of sandy clay subsoil (101), over which was clay topsoil (100).

4.3.3 No features, artefacts or deposits of archaeological interest were observed in Trench 3. The anomalies detected by the geophysical survey appear to have been caused by three east-west aligned bands of gravel within the natural substrate (128), as well as a higher density of clay within the natural.

4.4 TRENCH 4

4.4.1 Trench 4 measured 30m in length by 2m in width, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.48m and a minimum of 0.23m. The trench was orientated northeast-southwest, 7m west of Trench 3. Trench 4 was located to test an area devoid of any geophysical anomalies.

4.4.2 Natural clay substrate (102) was located at 0.23m below the current ground surface. Above the natural was c.0.10m depth of sandy clay subsoil (101), above with was the topsoil strata (100).

4.4.3 No features, artefacts or deposits of archaeological interest were observed in Trench 4.

4.5 TRENCH 5

4.5.1 Trench 5 measured 30m in length by 2.10m in width, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.40m and a minimum of 0.26m. The trench was orientated northwest-southeast, and situated 8m west of Trench 4. Trench 5 was located to examine a possible soil-filled feature identified on the geophysical survey.

4.5.2 Natural sandy clay (102) was located 0.26m from the top of the current modern ground surface. One potential archaeological feature, comprising a narrow cut running northwest-southeast was observed in the trench.

4.5.3 The cut [116] was 0.13m in width with an observed length within the trench of c.11m. The cut was very shallow, at its deepest point being only 0.03m deep, running to nothing mid way down the trench indicating that the area had suffered massive truncation. The cut was filled by context (117), a compact mid-brown silty sand with gravel inclusions. This feature was interpreted as a modern cultivation mark.

4.5.4 Over the natural and the cut was c.0.11m of sandy clay subsoil (101), and sealing that sandy clay topsoil (100).

4.5.5 The topsoil produced one potential late prehistoric lithic, two medieval pottery sherds, two fragments of post-medieval clay pipe and two sherds of post-medieval pottery.

4.5.6 The anomaly detected in the geophysical survey was not visible within the trench, indicating that it was potentially caused by variants in the natural substrates beneath clay (102), or that they were subsoil/topsoil deposits removed during excavating the trench.

4.6 TRENCH 6

4.6.1 Trench 6 measured 30m in length by 2.10m in width, and was excavated to a minimum depth of 0.29m and a maximum of 0.40m. The trench was orientated northeast-southwest, and situated 21m southeast of Trench 5. The location of this trench was designed to examine two large areas of potential disturbance identified on the geophysical survey.

- 4.6.2 Natural sandy clay substrate (102) was located 0.29m below the current ground surface. Above the natural was sandy clay subsoil (101) to a depth of 0.10m, with topsoil (100) sealing the lower strata.
- 4.6.3 The topsoil (100) produced seven potential late prehistoric lithic fragments, with subsoil (101) producing one sherd of medieval pottery, three fragments of post-medieval tobacco clay pipe and four sherds of post-medieval pottery.
- 4.6.4 The geophysical anomalies were identified as naturally occurring deposits of ironstone (115), and variations in the subsoil, with no archaeological deposits visible in the trench.

4.7 TRENCH 7

- 4.7.1 Trench 7 measured 30m in length and 2.20m in width, to a maximum depth of 0.38m and a minimum depth of 0.20m. The trench was orientated roughly north-south, 12m east of Trench 6. This trench was located to test three possible soil-filled linear anomalies detected on the geophysical survey, running east-west.
- 4.7.2 Natural sandy clay subsoil (102) was located at 0.20m below the current ground surface into which was cut one archaeological feature.
- 4.7.3 A linear cut [109] was identified, measuring 0.70m in length and 0.06m in depth aligned northwest-southeast. This feature is likely to represent a plough furrow, and was filled with a compact light brown silty sand (110), which was sampled as Environmental Sample <3>. Over the natural and the plough furrow lay orange-brown sandy clay subsoil (101) to a depth of c.0.15m, above which lay the sandy clay topsoil (100).
- 4.7.4 The topsoil (100) produced two sherds of medieval pottery, and subsoil (101) produced one sherd.
- 4.7.5 The anomalies detected with the geophysical survey were not revealed during the excavation of the trench leading to the conclusion that the features were extremely shallow due to the truncating of the site in antiquity and were subsequently removed during the initial machining of the trench, or that the anomalies represent banding, such as gravel deposits, in the natural substrate beneath clay (102).

4.8 TRENCH 8

- 4.8.1 Trench 8 measured 30m in length and 2.20m in width, to a minimum depth of 0.38m and a maximum of 0.42m. The trench was orientated northeast-southwest, and situated 18.5m west of Trench 7. The trench was located in

order to test a linear soil-filled feature and two areas of disturbance shown on the geophysical survey.

- 4.8.2 Natural clay substrate (102) was located at c.0.40m below the current ground surface, and it was noted that a linear feature cut into the natural 9m from the northern end.
- 4.8.3 A linear cut [118] was identified, measuring c.0.90m in width aligned northeast-southwest. The cut was c.0.30m in depth, and filled by context (119), a friable light brown silty sand with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks. The feature was interpreted as a possible former field boundary ditch. Sample <6> was taken from the fill in an attempt to ascertain the use of this ditch.
- 4.8.4 The natural substrate and ditch was overlain by 0.23m thick deposit of light orange-brown sandy clay subsoil (101), above which lay the sandy clay topsoil (100).
- 4.8.5 The topsoil (100) produced finds including three pieces of potentially late prehistoric worked flint and five sherds of medieval pottery.
- 4.8.6 The areas of disturbance detected on the geophysics were interpreted as an outcrop of differential natural deposits, including a high concentration of clay and gravel.

4.9 TRENCH 9

- 4.9.1 Trench 9 measured 30m in length by 2m in width, to a maximum depth of 0.30m and a minimum of 0.20m. The trench was orientated northeast-southwest c.49m north of Trench 8. This trench was located in this position to test an area of potentially modern made-ground located by the geophysical survey.
- 4.9.2 Natural clay substrate (102) was located at c.0.25m below the modern ground surface, overlain by light orange-brown sandy clay subsoil (101) to a depth of c.0.10m which in turn was overlain by sandy clay topsoil (100).
- 4.9.3 No archaeological features or deposits of note were uncovered in this trench, indicating that the geophysical anomaly may represent a geological feature or an area of modern re-deposited topsoil/subsoil.

4.10 TRENCH 10

- 4.10.1 Trench 10 measured 30m in length by 2.1m in width, with a maximum depth of 0.38m below the modern ground surface and a minimum of 0.26m. The trench was orientated roughly north-south, situated 3m northeast of

Trench 1. The trench was located in this position to test potential soil-filled linear features identified on the geophysical survey.

- 4.10.2 The natural clay substrate (102) was located 0.26m below the current ground surface. One archaeological feature was observed cut into the natural in the form of a shallow cut.
- 4.10.3 The cut [107] measured 1.20m in width and a shallow depth of 0.10m, and was filled with a friable mid-brown silty-sand (108) with occasional irregular small stone inclusions. Environmental Sample <2> was taken from the fill of the feature. No artefacts were observed in the fill during excavation. Subsoil (101), light orange-brown sandy clay, lay above the natural and the cut feature to a depth of c.0.13m, with topsoil (100) above that for a further c.0.13m.
- 4.10.4 The nature of the cut suggests that context [107] represents the remains of a plough furrow, which continued in Trench 11 as context [103].

4.11 TRENCH 11

- 4.11.1 Trench 11 measured 30m in length by 2.20m in width, with a maximum depth of 0.32m below the modern ground surface and a minimum of 0.24m. The trench was orientated roughly north-south, situated c.18m east of Trench 10. The trench was located to test potential soil-filled linear features identified on the geophysical survey.
- 4.11.2 The natural clay substrate (102) was located at c.0.24m below the current ground surface. Into the natural clay were cut three archaeological features: two linear cuts and one small pit.
- 4.11.3 The northernmost cut [103], running southeast-northwest across the trench, measured 0.80m in width and only c.0.04m in depth, indicating that the likely explanation for this feature is a continuation of plough furrow [117] seen in Trench 10. The fill of [103] was light brown silty sand (104), with occasional stones. Environmental Sample <3> was taken from this context.
- 4.11.4 At a distance of c.9m south of furrow [103] was an almost identical feature, cut [129], running on the same alignment and roughly the same width, allowing the interpretation of this feature as a further plough furrow. The depth of this cut was c.0.06m, and contained a similar fill to that of its northern counterpart (130), a light brown silty sand with occasional sub-rounded stones.
- 4.11.5 A small circular pit [105], measuring 0.56m in diameter and 0.21m in depth was found at the eastern extent of the trench, 8.9m from the southern end. Half of the pit was exposed in the trench, with the rest protected by the west-facing section. The fill of this pit, (106), was a loose grey-brown gritty

sand with shallow root activity and occasional charcoal flecks. The nature of the pit was uncertain. This context was sampled as Environmental Sample <1>.

- 4.11.6 The shallow nature of the plough furrows suggests that the natural substrate in this area has been heavily truncated, presumably due to extensive ploughing over several centuries. This accepted, it suggests that pit [105] may originally have been much larger in size, with all that now remains being the lower base level, and also suggests that any originally shallow features cut into the natural may have been removed entirely in antiquity.

5 ARTEFACTS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

5.1.1 Artefacts from the Late Prehistoric, Medieval and Post-Medieval/Modern periods were all retained from the excavation and cleaning of the evaluation trenches. All finds were cleaned appropriately, and where necessary will be sent to a relevant specialist for assessment. The artefacts from the evaluation are summarized below and in Table 1.

5.1.2 *Late Prehistoric:* 48 lithics fragments were found in six contexts, 21 sherds of pottery in four contexts, 3 fragments of burnt clay in two contexts and 2 animal teeth making 21 fragments in one context (*dating will be based on the specialist findings*).

5.1.3 *Medieval:* 13 pottery sherds were found in three contexts, dated to c.13th-14th century based on morphology and glaze type.

5.1.4 *Post-Medieval:* 7 fragments of tobacco clay pipe stems, unstamped and undecorated and dated to the late 18th century were found in two contexts, 14 sherds of pottery dating late 18th century to modern were found in two contexts and 1 shard of vessel glass, dated late 18th century to modern was found in one context.

Table 1. Artefacts retained from the evaluation.

Trench	Context	Number	Weight (g)
Late Prehistoric Lithics			
Unstratified		1	1
1	112	5	15
1	113	25	178
1	120	4	28
1	122	1	<1
2	101	1	4
5	100	1	<1
6	101	7	14
8	100	3	9
Total:		48	250g
Late Prehistoric Pottery Sherds			
1	112	1	1
1	113	15	80

Trench	Context	Number	Weight (g)
1	120	3	12
1	124	2	2
Total:		21	95g
Late Prehistoric Burnt Clay			
1	113	1	2
1	120	2	76
Total:		3	78g
Late Prehistoric Animal Teeth Fragments (2 teeth)			
1	113	21	27
Total:		21	27g
Medieval Pottery Sherds			
1	101	1	8
1	113	1	3
5	100	2	7
6	101	1	1
7	100	2	13
7	101	1	10
8	100	5	47
Total:		13	89g
Post-Medieval Clay Pipe Stem Fragments			
1	100	1	1
1	101	1	2
5	100	2	3
6	101	3	8
Total:		7	14g
Post-Medieval/Modern Glass Shards			
1	100	1	19
Totals:		1	19g
Post-Medieval Pottery Sherds			
1	100	7	28
1	101	1	6
5	100	2	8
6	101	4	4
Totals:		14	46g
Iron (Fe) Undated Items			
1	113	1	57
Total:		1	57g

Trench	Context	Number	Weight (g)
Ceramic Tile Sherd (undated)			
	Unstratified	1	104
	Total:	1	104g

5.2 LITHICS

- *This section is awaiting the specialist report -*

5.3 POTTERY

- *This section is awaiting the specialist report -*

6 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- *This section is awaiting the specialist report -*

7 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1.1 The evaluation has confirmed the former existence of a late prehistoric square barrow to the northeast of High Mill Farm, as well as an associated boundary ditch, a number of medieval plough furrows, a possible former field boundary, and other agricultural features. Overall the results of the evaluation have proved the effectiveness of the previous geophysical in detecting archaeological features at the site due to the high magnetic susceptibility of the soils. Even very slight archaeological features were detected by the surveys, some of which were due to variations in the natural subsoil. The nature of the subsoil was found to be very variable across the site, due to modern agricultural practices. This has resulted in the plough-reduction of some areas with truncation of archaeological features. Other areas have been in-filled with imported subsoil, in order to create a level surface for agriculture.
- 7.1.2 Since the 'Arras Culture' square-ditched barrow was recognized as unique to Yorkshire in the 1960s, large numbers have been identified through aerial photography, both in isolation, in small groups, and in large cemeteries (Mackey 2003, 118). The High Mill Farm enclosure was not recognized on air photographs of the area, almost certainly because of the substantial depth of plough soil which covered the majority of the area. However, the distinctive square-ditched enclosure was very clear in the geophysical survey, and was subsequently confirmed by the evaluation trenches. The site at lies on the northern limit of the known distribution of Yorkshire Iron Age square barrows, and shares characteristics with early examples of this distinctive monument type. Square enclosures containing burials are considered to be of National Significance.
- 7.1.3 The dating of square barrows has traditionally been reliant on finds of metalwork, as the plain jars which are often found in the graves do not provide a satisfactory chronology. The earliest square barrows are those associated with metalwork of the La Tene I period, broadly dated to the 6th century BC (English Heritage 1989). A number of sherds of pottery and worked flint were recovered during the evaluation, which require specialist assessment. It is possible that the soil samples collected will provide material suitable for AMS dating. It has been suggested from work at Wetwang Slack that there was a chronological change between shallow graves on large barrow platforms to deeper graves on smaller platforms (Dent 1982, 446). The evidence from air photographs and some excavated sites indicate that isolated barrows and small groups frequently comprise a large platform

with no central grave, which may be the case with the High Mill Farm enclosure. An early excavation at Cowlam, for example, revealed Early La Tene grave goods with burials on the old land surface (Greenwell 1877, 208). Nucleated cemeteries with Arras-style inhumations appear to develop later, in tandem with intensified land-use patterns in the Later Iron Age. This may be confirmed once the results of the specialist work on the artefactual evidence and environmental samples has been completed.

- 7.1.4 Although many hundreds of barrows have been identified in the Yorkshire Wolds, little is known of the settlements which these cemeteries served, although they do appear to be associated with contemporary landscape features. At Wetwang Slack for example more than two hundred graves were enclosed by square barrow ditches (out of a total of 446 burials), aligned on existing track ways (Dent 1982, 437). The High Mill Farm enclosure is also aligned on a linear boundary ditch, and appears to be positioned adjacent to a ditch terminus, although the nature of this boundary is unclear. Further excavation may provide information of the function of this feature, and clarify its relationship to the enclosure. The role of landscape boundaries, droveways, and settlements has been highlighted as a research priority for the Iron Age period in the proposed Yorkshire Archaeological Research Agenda (Roskams and Whyman, in preparation).
- 7.1.5 The High Mill Farm enclosure was plough-reduced and contained no evidence for a burial within the extent of the evaluation trenches. No trace of the original mound survived, and it is likely that this now forms part of the plough soil covering the ditched enclosure. However the ditches do survive intact to a substantial depth, and it is possible that significant parts of the original ground surface are preserved, particularly on the northeast side of the monument where the evaluation indicated modern truncation was less severe.
- 7.1.6 The results of the geophysical survey and evaluation suggest that other features similar to the boundary ditch survive at the site (as indicated on the geophysical survey diagrams).

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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXTS

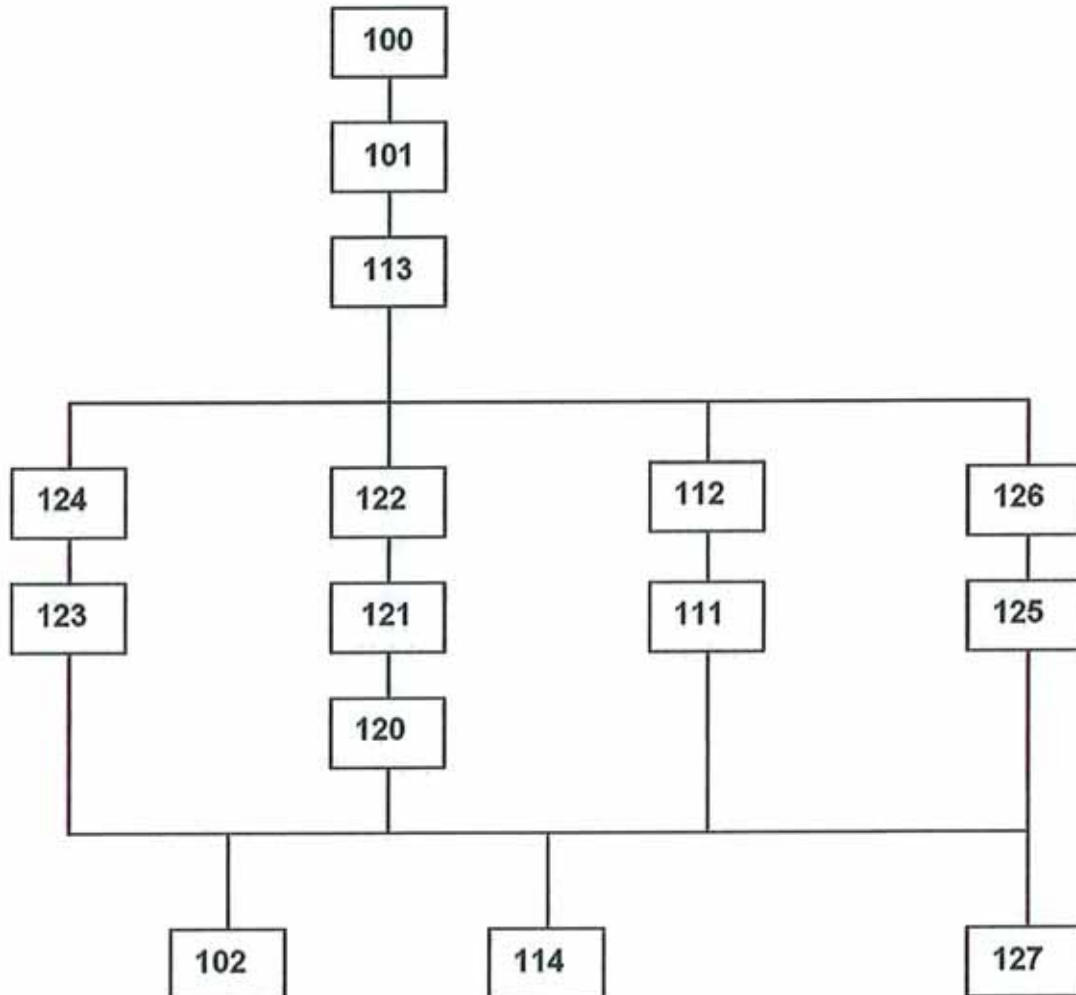
Context	Type	Trenches	Sample	Description
(100)	Deposit	1-11	-	Generic topsoil: mid-brown sandy clay.
(101)	Deposit		-	Generic subsoil: light orange-brown sandy clay.
(102)	Natural		-	Generic natural substrate: light yellow-brown sandy clay.
[103]	Cut	11	-	Cut of plough furrow.
(104)	Fill	11	-	Fill of plough furrow [103]: loose light brown silty sand with occasional stones.
[105]	Cut	11	-	Cut of small pit.
(106)	Fill	11	<1>	Fill of pit [105]: loose grey-brown gritty sand with occasional charcoal flecking.
[107]	Cut	10	-	Cut of plough furrow.
(108)	Fill	10	<2>	Fill of furrow [107]: loose mid-brown silty sand with occasional stones.
[109]	Cut	7	-	Cut of plough furrow.
(110)	Fill	7	<3>	Fill of furrow [109]: compact light brown silty sand.
[111]	Cut	1	-	Cut of southern extent of enclosure ditch, aligned roughly NW-SE.
(112)	Fill	1	<8>	Fill of cut [111]: compact orange/mid-brown sandy clay with occasional stones, flint flakes and charcoal speckling.
(113)	Deposit	1	<7>	Deposit of compact mid-brown sandy clay overlying the prehistoric enclosure containing frequent small stones, late prehistoric pottery and lithics. Potentially the remains of a ploughed-out burial mound.
(114)	Natural	1	-	Compact yellow-brown sandy clay.
(115)	Natural	6	<4>	Ironstone band in natural substrate. Sampled to check substrate nature.
[116]	Cut	5	-	Cut of truncated plough furrow.
(117)	Fill	5	<5>	Fill of cut [116]: compact mid-brown silty

Context	Type	Trenches	Sample	Description
				sand with inclusions of gravel.
[118]	Cut	8	-	Cut of potential field boundary ditch.
(119)	Fill	8	<6>	Fill of cut [118]: loose light brown silty sand with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks.
(120)	Deposit	1	<11>	Spread of potentially redeposited and heat-affected natural substrate, moderately compact in nature and a mixed grey and light brown in colour; inclusions of charcoal flecking and small stones.
[121]	Cut	1	-	This cut is for the northern ditch of the prehistoric enclosure.
(122)	Fill	1	<9>	Fill of ditch [121]: friable dark orange-brown sandy clay with inclusions of frequent small stones, occasional rounded cobbles and burnt stones.
[123]	Cut	1	-	Cut for boundary ditch north of prehistoric enclosure.
(124)	Fill	1	<10>	Fill of ditch cut [123]: moderately compact orange-brown sandy clay with inclusions of frequent small stones and burnt stones with occasional stones >0.38m in diameter.
[125]	Cut	2	-	Cut of western return of prehistoric enclosure.
(126)	Fill	2	-	Fill of ditch cut [125].
(127)	Natural	2	-	Compact orange-brown clay natural substrate.
(128)	Natural	3	-	Loose mixed gravel banding in natural substrate.
[129]	Cut	11	-	Cut of southern plough furrow in Trench 11
(130)	Fill	11	-	Fill of cut [129]

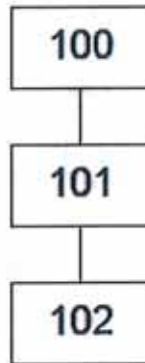
Table 2. Context List

APPENDIX 2: STRATIGRAPHICAL MATRICES

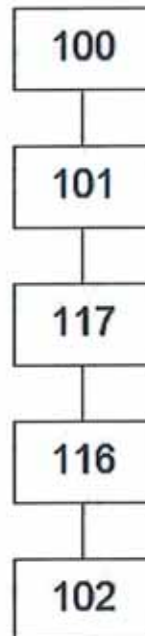
TRENCHES 1 AND 2



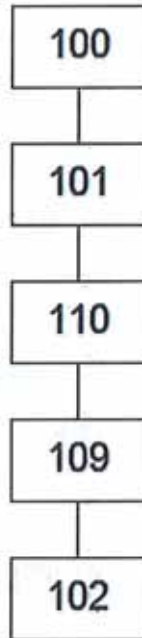
TRENCHES 3,4,6 AND 9



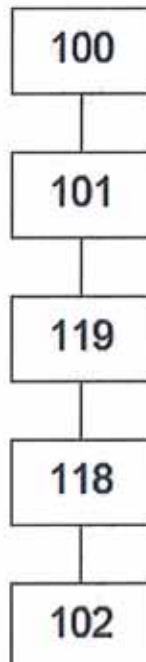
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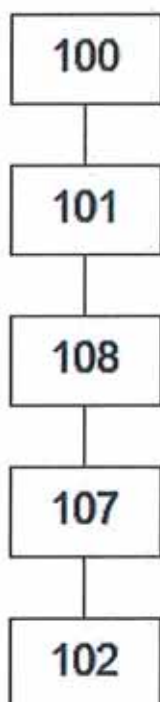
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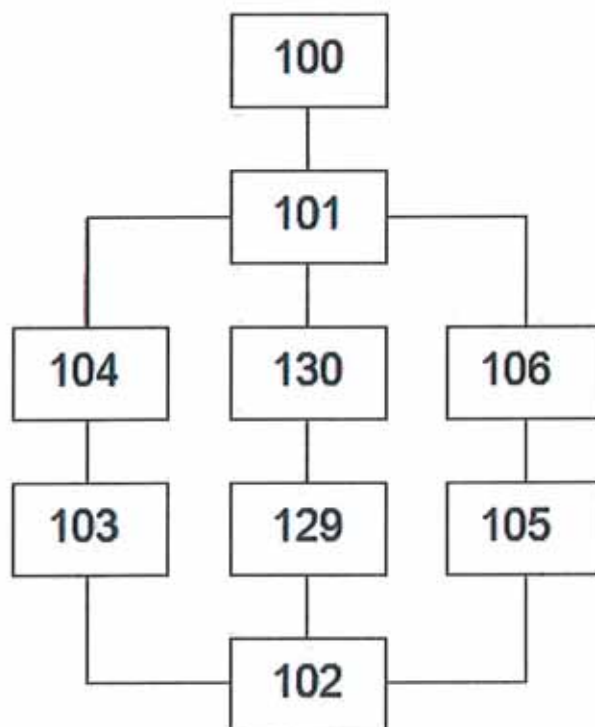
TRENCH 8



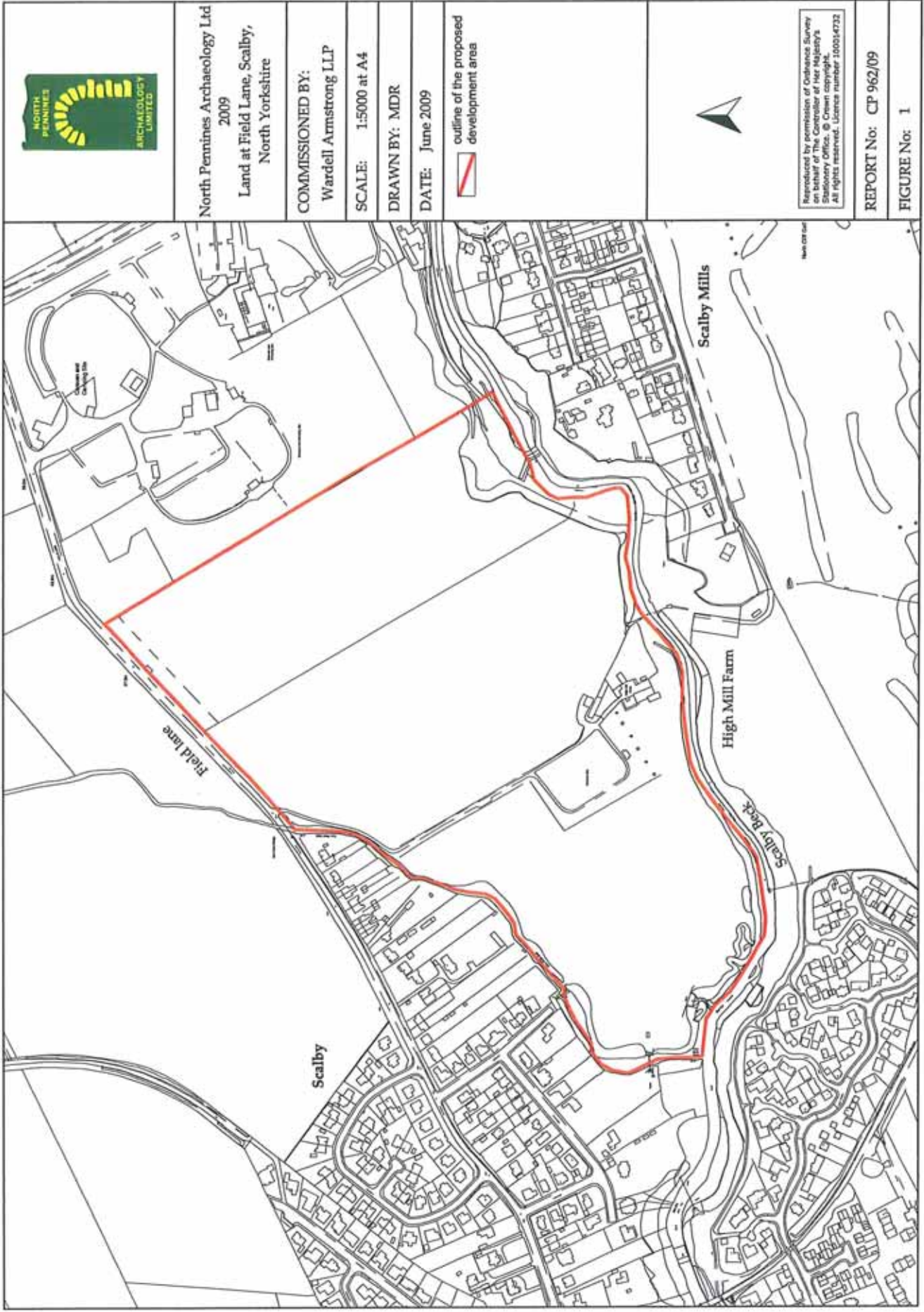
TRENCH 10



TRENCH 11



APPENDIX 3: FIGURES



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DRAWN BY: MDR

DATE: June 2009

outline of the proposed
development area



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REPORT No: CP 962/09

FIGURE No: 1

Figure 1 : Location map showing the proposed development area

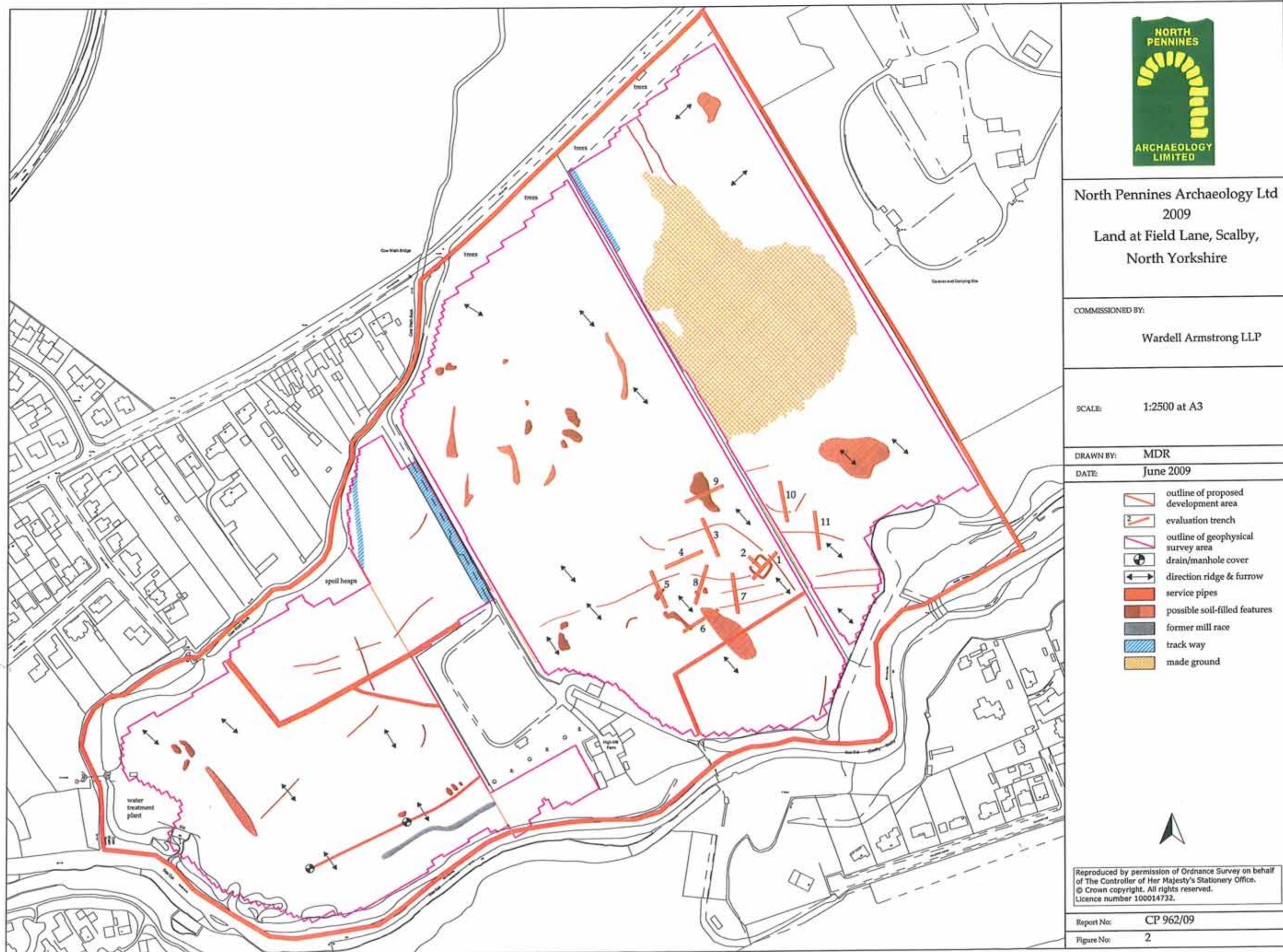


Figure 2 : Evaluation trench locations showing features identified in the previous geophysical surveys

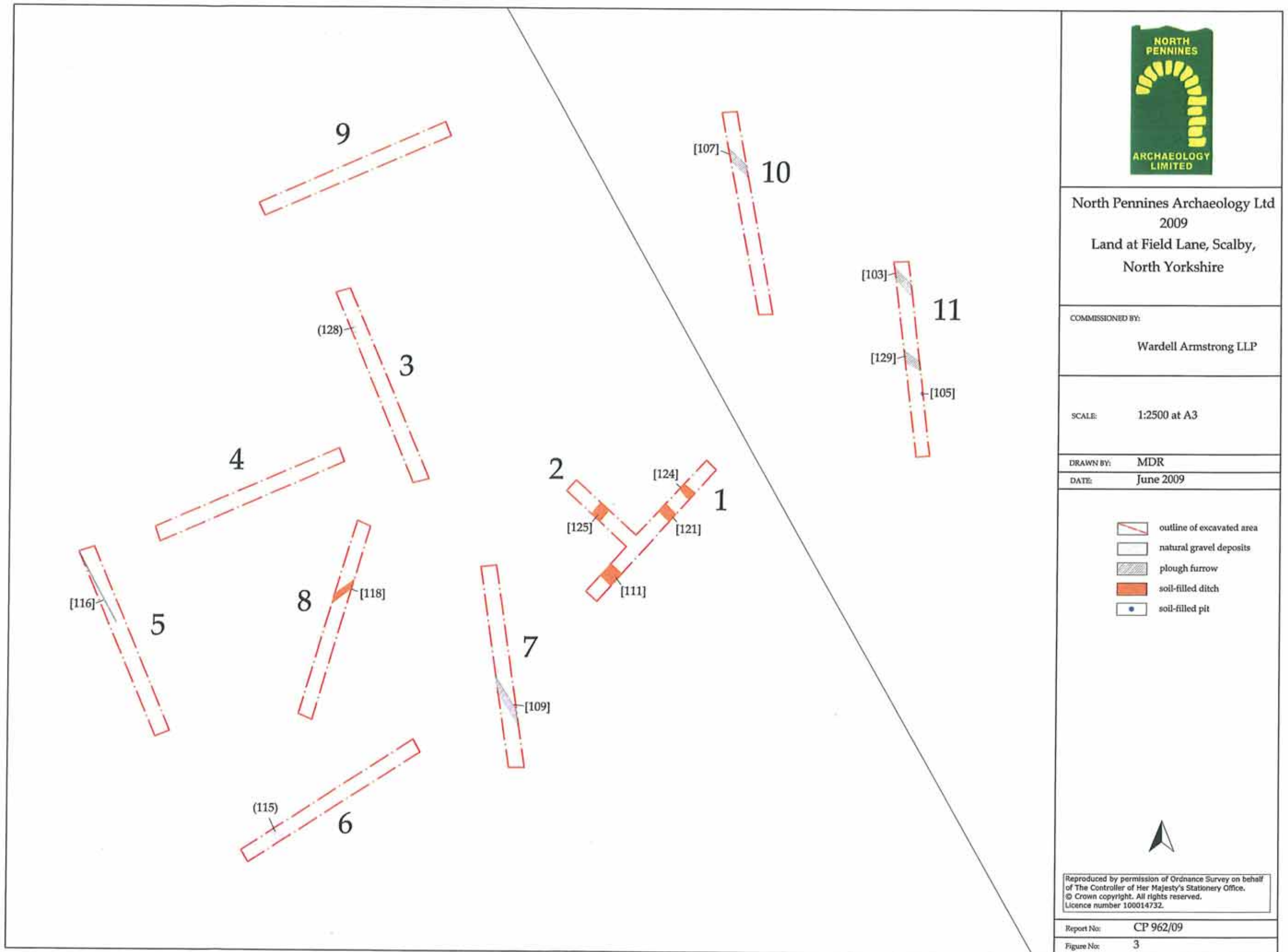


Figure 3 : Locations of features identified in the evaluation trenches (Trenches 1-11)






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 North Yorkshire

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DATE: June 2009

-  limit of excavated area
-  context number
-  location of soil-filled ditches from the geophysical survey



Report No: CP 962/09

Figure No: 4

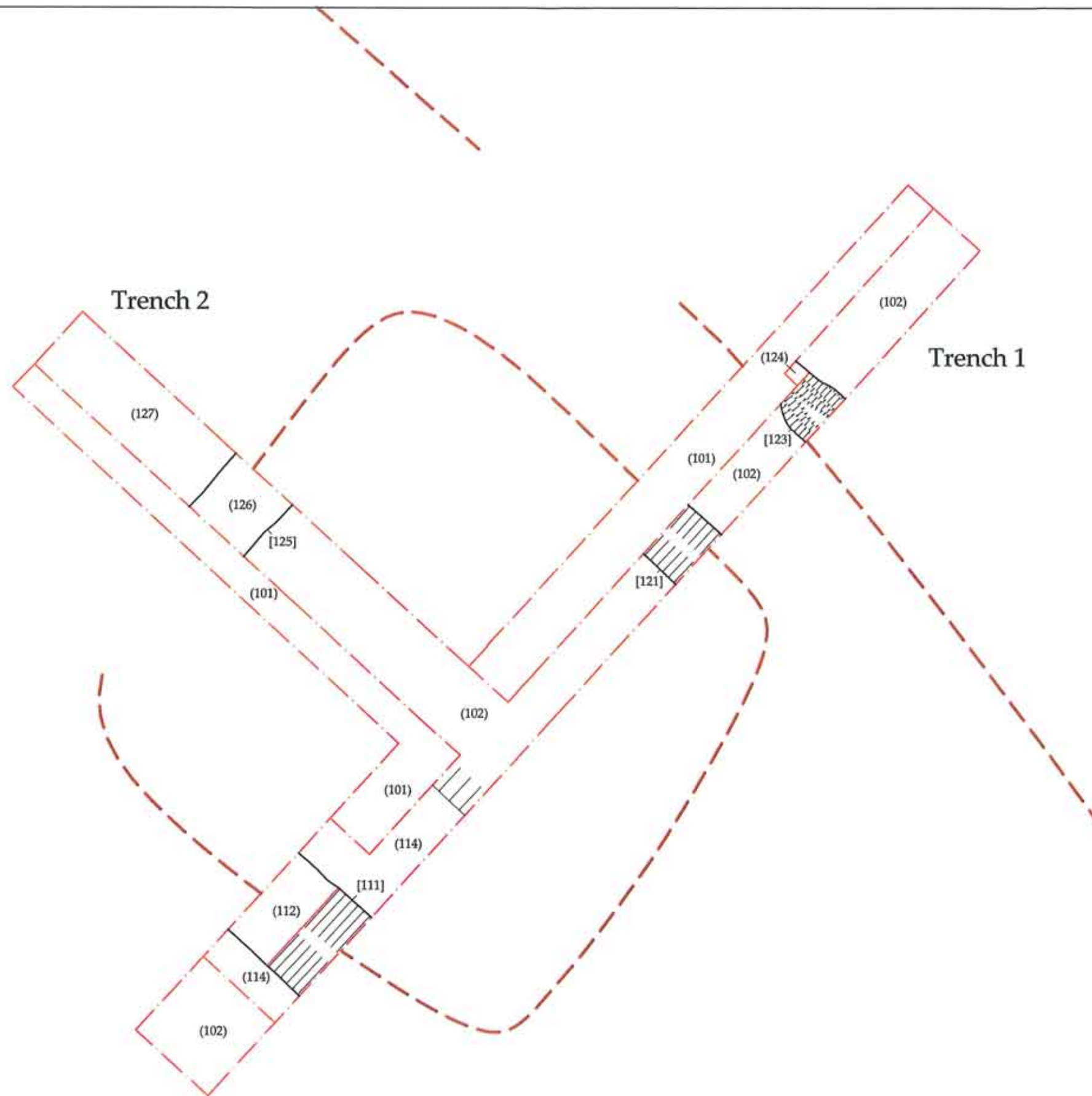


Figure 4 : Plan of excavated features in Trench 1 and Trench 2



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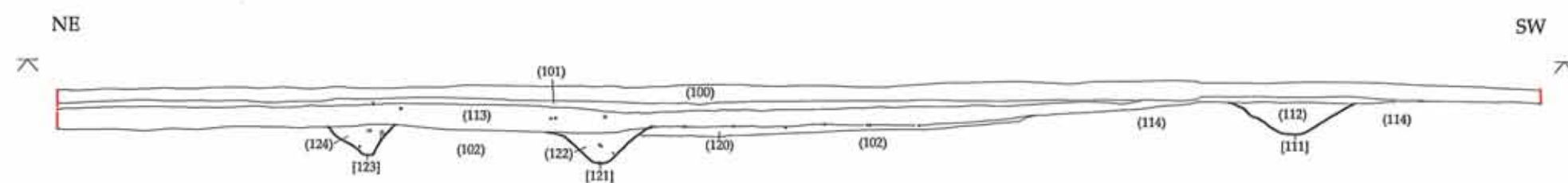
DATE: June 2009

-  limit of excavated area
-  context number

Report No: CP 962/09

Figure No: 5

Trench 1



Northwest-facing section

Figure 5 : Section through Trench 1



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
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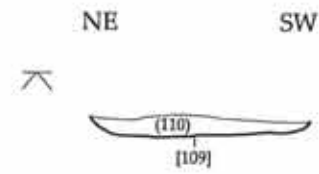
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DATE: June 2009

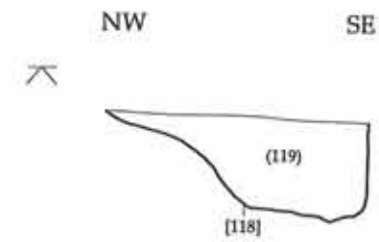
 limit of excavated area
 context number

Trench 7



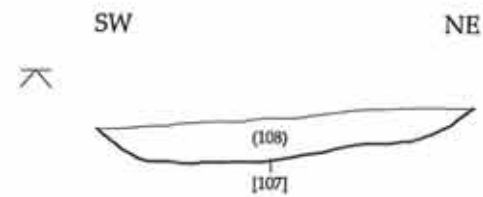
Northwest-facing section through
plough furrow [109]

Trench 8



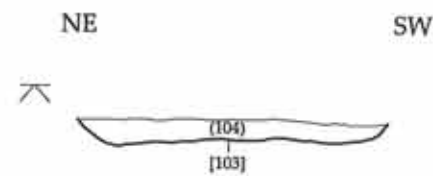
Southwest-facing section through
ditch [118]

Trench 10



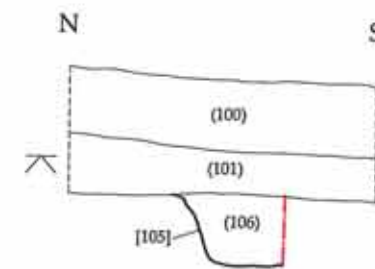
Southeast-facing section through
plough furrow [107]

Trench 11



Northwest-facing section through
plough furrow [103]

Trench 11



West-facing section
through pit [105]

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Figure No: 6

Figure 6 : Sections through excavated features in Trenches 7, 8, 10 and 11