
LAND TO THE REAR OF HOWE ROAD, NORTON-ON-DERWENT.

REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION.
OSA REPORT No: OSA10EV18.

September 2010.



OSA

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Report Summary.

REPORT NO: OSA10EV18

SITE NAME: Land to the west of Howe Road, Norton-on-Derwent

COUNTY: North Yorkshire

PARISH: Norton

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: SE 7975 7090

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PERIODS REPRESENTED: Romano-British

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1.0 Abstract.

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by On-Site Archaeology Ltd on the site of a proposed residential development at Howe Road, Norton-on-Derwent, North Yorkshire during September 2009. The evaluation comprised of four trenches. This evaluation followed on from a previous archaeological desk-based assessment by On-Site Archaeology Ltd, which highlighted the possible presence of Romano-British features within the proposed area of development.

Three of the four trenches encountered boundary ditches, cut into the natural, which was recorded at a depth of approximately 1m – 1.2m below the modern ground surface. The ditches contained pottery dated to the 2nd to 4th centuries. All of the trenches also contained a Roman soil horizon, overlying the ditches and the natural. A concentration of rough masonry suggests that some structural archaeology may have been present on the site, but that this has been disturbed by subsequent ploughing.

Although archaeological remains have been shown to be present on the site they are not considered, by the authors, to be of sufficient significance to prevent planning permission being granted for the proposed development. However, a programme of archaeological mitigation will be required to ensure that any archaeological features that are to be disturbed by the development can be recorded.

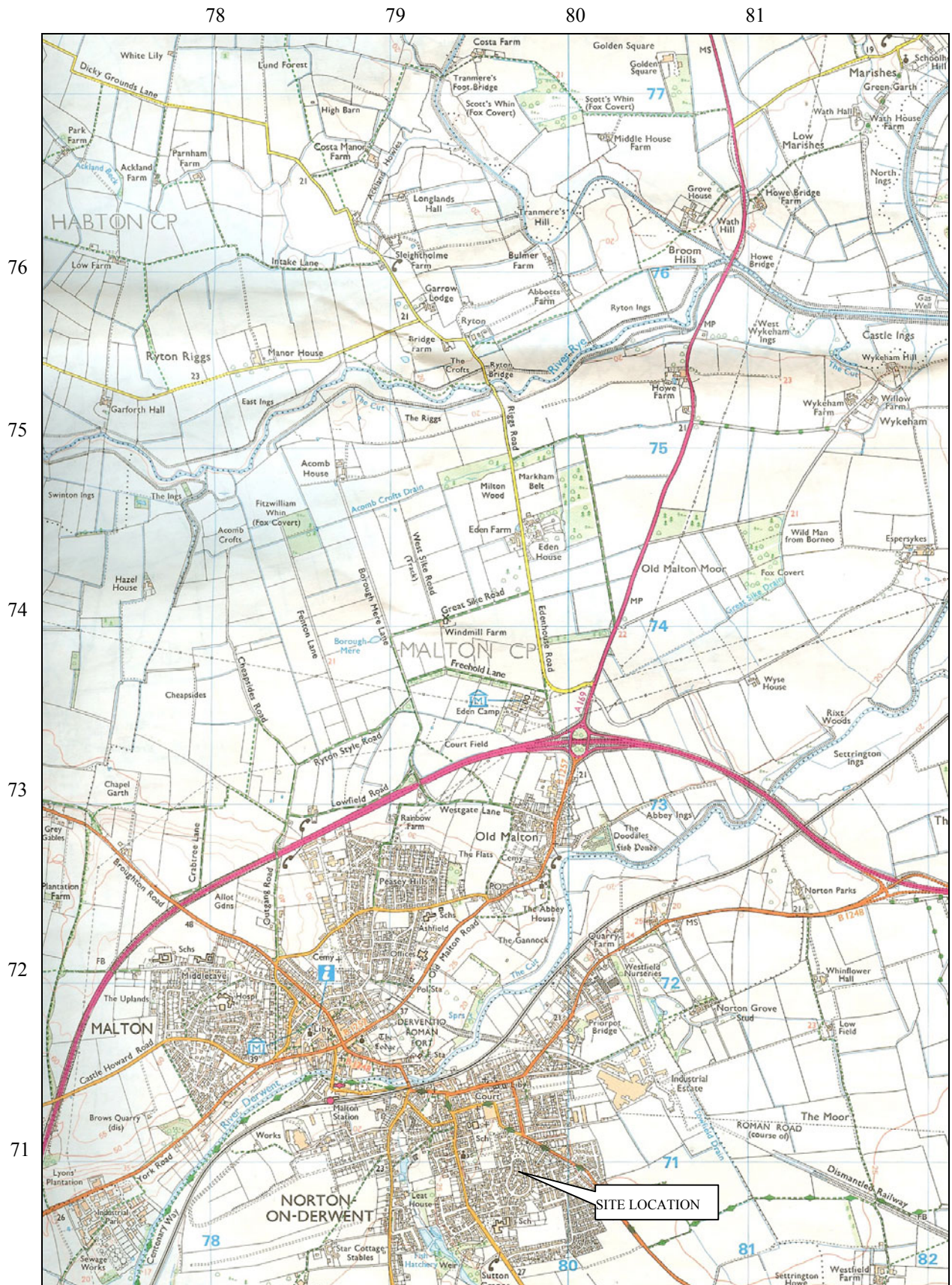


Figure 1. Site Location (NGR SE 7975 7090)

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2.0 Site Location, Geology, Topography and Land Use.

The application area considered by this report lies approximately 1.2km southeast of the town centre of Malton and 400m southeast of the town centre of Norton-On-Derwent, and centred at NGR SE 7975 7090 (Figure 1). The site is bounded on all sides by the rear gardens of houses fronting onto Howe Road. The site area is approximately 0.2ha.

The site currently consists of rows of domestic garages, which are predominantly located around the periphery of the site. The open areas of the centre of the site are covered with concrete, with a rough tarmac access road entering the site from the east (Plate 1).

The overlying drift geology comprises warp and lacustrine clay. The solid geology is Oolitic limestone forming the eastern edge of the Howardian Hills, which has been utilised as an important local building material for the last two thousand years (Robinson 1978).

3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background.

3.1 The Prehistoric Period (to the 1st century AD).

Evidence for the Prehistoric period within the area close to the proposed development site takes two forms; stray finds and cropmarks recorded by aerial photography.

Occasional objects of Bronze Age date have been found within the area. However, it is uncertain what level of activity these may represent. Given the relative rarity of evidence for this period this may have been occasional visits rather than prolonged periods of activity.

Iron Age activity has been identified to the south and east of Norton in the form of cropmarks. These indicated the presence of enclosures and square barrow cemeteries that have been assigned an Iron Age date on typological grounds. A single cropmark further to the west suggests that this occupation may have been even more widespread. The site of a small agricultural Iron Age settlement has been identified on the north side of the River Derwent, close to the southeast side of the Roman fort (Robinson, 1978, 4).

3.2 The Roman Period (1st to the 5th centuries AD).

The archaeological development of Malton and Norton as substantial settlements begins with the foundation of a military presence early in the Roman period (for a detailed discussion of the chronology see Wilson 2006). The Roman fort was located to the north of the River Derwent, on the southeast side of modern day Malton. The first evidence for Roman activity takes the form of a shallow military style ditch, which appears to represent an otherwise unknown camp. The dating of this camp is uncertain, it may be as early as the campaigns of Cerialis as Governor (between 71 and 74 AD), or alternatively be dated more generally to the last quarter of the 1st century.

The first phase of permanent military occupation was a fort constructed of turf and timber erected under Agricola's governorship (78 to 85 AD). During the first two decades of the 2nd

century AD the fort defences were rebuilt in stone, and the ditches were recut. An annexe may also have been constructed at this time. Although there are some suggestions that the fort was abandoned during the first half of the 2nd century it was re-occupied in the late 150s. The fort underwent several phases of rebuilding during the 2nd to 4th centuries and, at various times during this period contained buildings of both timber and stone construction. Occupation of the fort is likely to have continued into the 5th century.

In addition to the military fort, the sites of Malton and Norton both contained evidence for civilian activity. Immediately to the southeast of the fort there appears to have been a defended civilian settlement (*vicus*). Development of the *vicus* was well underway before the end of the 1st century AD and there is again evidence that this continued through to the 5th century. A variety of buildings have been recorded within this settlement, ranging from those of timber, or wattle and daub on stone sill walls, to more substantial masonry structures with mosaic floors and painted plaster walls. Although civilian occupation on the north side of the River Derwent is concentrated within this defended *vicus* evidence from the surrounding area suggests that other settlement was also present. This may have taken the form of ribbon development along the main roads leaving the fort.

One substantial area of civilian settlement outside the fort-side *vicus* lay to the south of the river, in Norton. No evidence has been found to date to suggest that the occupation at Norton was defended. Whilst a number of buildings have been found much of the Roman archaeology of Norton takes the form of burials or industrial activity. Industrial activity predominantly takes the form of pottery production, although metalworking was also practiced. The excavated evidence indicates that domestic and industrial activities were intermixed, with houses, workshops and kilns all being found in close proximity. Burials in the Norton area include both inhumations and cremations and appear to be concentrated in two main areas; one centred on the junction of the Roman roads to Settrington and North Grimston (around the modern Wold Street, Beverley Road and Commercial Road) and the other along Langton Road, which is also likely to follow the line of a Roman road.

3.3 *Early Medieval periods (5th to 11th centuries AD)*

Anglian artefacts have been discovered within the area of the Roman fort (Robinson, 1978, 12) although the nature of any activity of this date is uncertain. A local tradition identifies the “Old Roman Ford” at Malton as the site of early 7th century baptisms, by Paulinus as part of the conversion of the English (Huddleston, 1962, 31). Malton and Norton are both recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086. At Norton both a church and a mill are mentioned (Robinson, 1978,12).

3.4 *The Medieval Period (11th to the mid 16th centuries AD)*

Although almost certainly of pre-Conquest origins the town of Malton grew in importance from the 12th century following the establishment of the castle. The stone castle was constructed in the early 12th century by Eustace fitz John. It is possible that this replaced an earlier Norman motte and bailey castle, although this is based principally upon the assumption that such a strategically important river crossing is likely to have been defended at

an early date. During the 12th century civil wars a strong Scottish garrison was stationed at Malton castle, which led to it being besieged by Thurston, the Archbishop of York, in 1138, at which time the town was burnt.

The settlement was re-established by Eustace fitz John as New Malton in the mid-12th century, possibly with Borough status from the beginning, and certainly by 1163. Eustace also founded the Gilbertine Priory, in approximately 1150 (VCH, 1974, 253), together with three hospitals. One of these, St. Nicholas, was located on an island in the Derwent, on the Norton side of the river (VCH, 1974, 315).

A market is first mentioned in Malton in 1283 and a fair in 1295. Weavers, goldsmiths, masons and mercers are all referred to in medieval documents and it is clear that Malton grew to become the local market during this period. The town and castle were of sufficient importance that in 1322 the castle was seized by Robert de Brus during an incursion into Yorkshire. It was held for several weeks and used as a base for raids into the surrounding countryside (VCH, 1914, 529). Although the layout of the medieval town is not fully understood it appears to have been at least partially enclosed by a wall.

To the south of the river Norton did not enjoy a similar degree of importance. The settlement is likely to have taken the form of a village, dependant upon Malton for much of its economic livelihood, containing a church, the hospital mentioned above, and a manor. A rectangular earthwork identified on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map as a Roman camp may in fact be the remains of a moat, housing the manor house. Archaeological investigations on Wood Street and Commercial Street have encountered pits of medieval date (cut into earlier, Roman, deposits). These would have been typical features of the settlement area of medieval Norton.

The site considered in this report would have been located on the fringes of the medieval village, although the road to Beverley may have attracted some suburban ribbon settlement.

3.5 The Post-Medieval to Modern Periods (mid 16th to 21st centuries)

During the post-medieval period Malton suffered a degree of economic decline, so that by the end of the 17th century Celia Fiennes referred to it as “a pretty large town built of stone, but poor” (Robinson, 1978, p.17). The economic fortunes of the town improved in the 18th century. Much of this improvement was due to the Derwent Navigation Act of 1702. This meant that Malton was situated at the head of a navigable river by 1724, with links to Leeds and Hull. Malton retained its status as the local market centre for a large rural hinterland and industries related to the processing of agricultural produce, such as brewing and milling developed through the post-medieval and early medieval periods. Although the coming of the railway in the mid 19th century affected river trade it did not halt the development of the town.

The agricultural character of the site suggested for the medieval period, as part of fields on the edge of the village, appears to have continued broadly unchanged through the post-medieval period. The earliest available map examined is that produced by Thomas Jeffries in 1772. This clearly shows the Beverley Road heading southeast from the village, towards North Grimston. To the west of the properties fronting this road the land is shown as open and

undeveloped. Examination of the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map indicates that although the core of Norton village is developed, along Church Street, Commercial Street and Wood Street the surrounding area is almost all laid out as fields. By the early 20th century suburban development of Norton had begun to encroach upon these earlier fields, although the site itself remained undeveloped until after the Second World War.

4.0 Methodology.

A total of four trenches were excavated (Trenches 1 – 4; Figure 2). In all trenches the concrete surface and modern horizons were removed by a 360° tracked excavator fitted with a toothless bucket down to the level of the first visible archaeological horizon or natural geological horizon, whichever came first.

The exposed surfaces were then cleaned by hand in order to detect any archaeological features revealed through textural or colour changes in the deposits. Once this had been completed, sections were hand excavated through the archaeological features that had been identified. In each trench a sample section of the trench edge was cleaned and recorded in order to document the layers above the natural undisturbed geology.

Standard *On-Site Archaeology* techniques were followed throughout the evaluation. This involved the completion of a context sheet for each deposit or cut encountered, along with plans and/or sections drawn to scale. In trenches lacking archaeological features, 1:50 scale plans were drawn showing the location of the sample section. In trenches containing archaeological features, 1:50 scale plans and, where necessary, 1:20 detail plans were drawn. Sections were drawn at 1:10 scale, although long sections were drawn at 1:20 scale when appropriate. Plans were tied in to the National Grid. A photographic record of the deposits and features was also maintained. A full list of detailed context description of all deposits recorded is provided within Appendix 1 and details of the archive are listed in Appendix 2.

All archaeological works were carried out in accordance with the methodologies set out in the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*, and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* prepared by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), the *IFA Code of Conduct*, as well as with additional methodologies agreed with the county archaeologist.

5.0 Results.

5.1 *Overview*

The four trenches were located within the concreted area of the car park (Figure 2). Trenches 1 – 4 were machine excavated down to the natural deposits that consisted of dark to light brownish-orange sand with pockets of chalk gravel lenses. Archaeological features comprising of ditches [105], [308] and [407] were identified truncated into the natural within Trenches 1, 3 and 4 respectively. These ditches were later sealed by a plough-soil (106), (304) and (404). Trench 2 was void of cut archaeological features but the plough-soil (204) was present. The pattern of stratigraphic sequence of layers present in all the trenches above the plough-soil comprised of a levelling, buried topsoil and the hardcore base for the extant concrete surface.

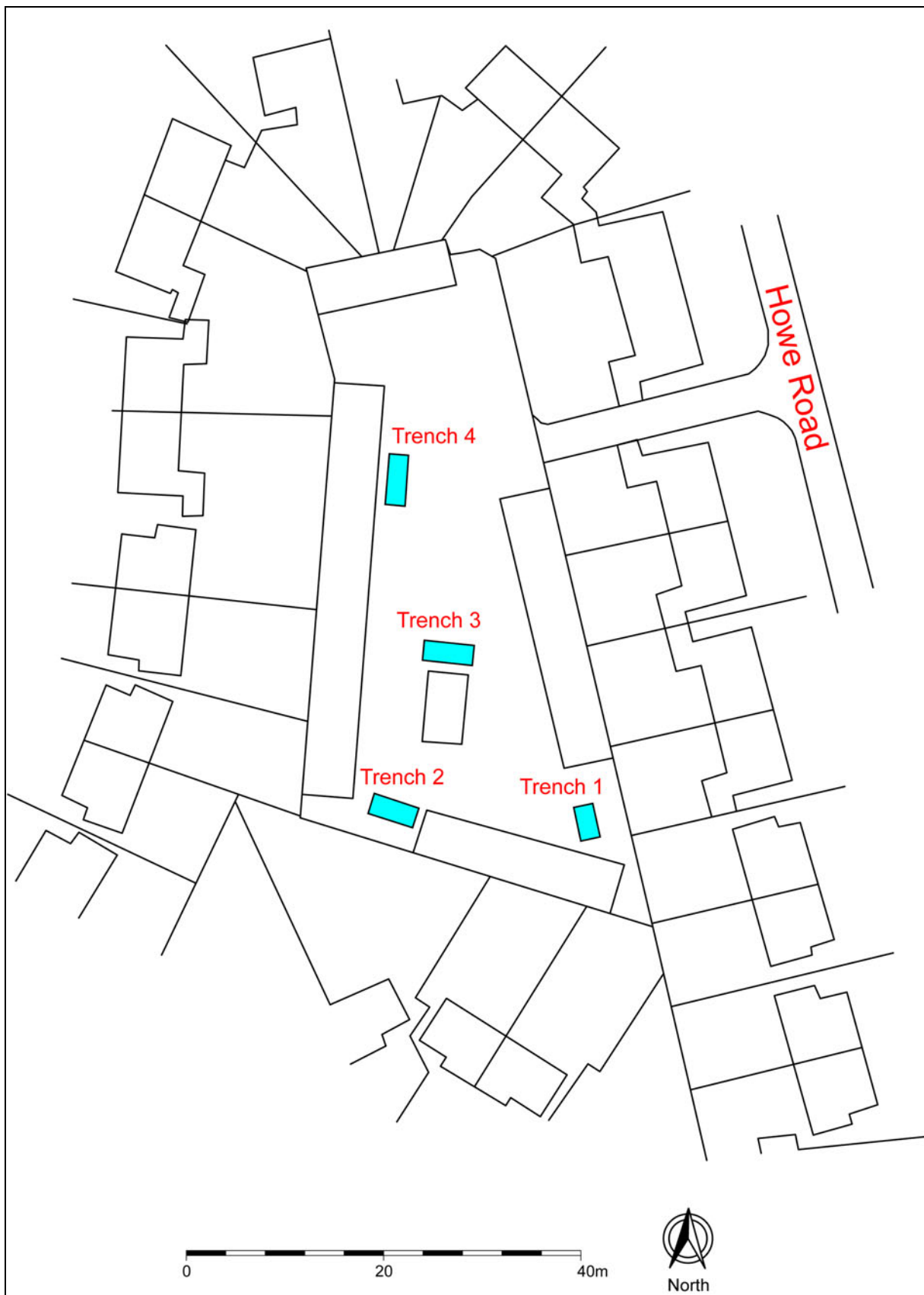


Figure 2. Trench location plan

5.2 Trench 1

Trench 1 was located within the southeastern corner of the proposed development area on a north to south alignment and measured 3.5m by 2m (Figure 2). This trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.2m below ground level (BGL) at which depth the natural deposits (107) were encountered. The earliest feature identified truncated into the natural (107) was a north to south aligned ditch [105] (Figure 3; Plate 2). This ditch had a moderate sloped eastern side with a concave base and, was exposed for a length of 3.5m, a width of 1.55m and was 0.4m in depth (Figure 4). Ditch [105] had a single silting fill (104) consisting of a brownish-grey sandy-silt that contained occasional chalk gravel and charcoal fleck inclusions. Roman pottery sherds and fragments of animal bone were recovered from fill (104). Ditch [105] either represented a drainage or boundary ditch and may attentively intersect an east to west feature only partly exposed to the northern extent of the trench.

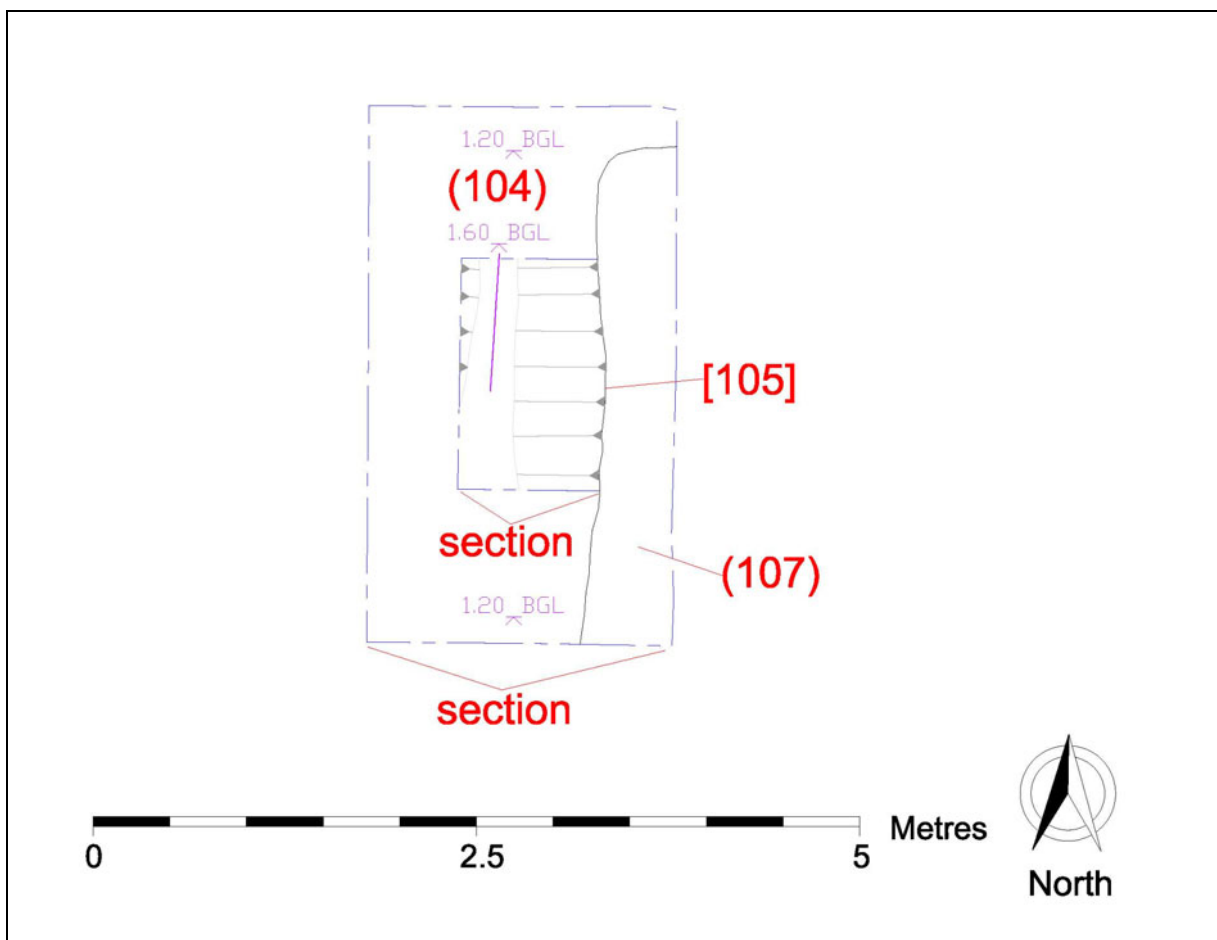


Figure 3. Plan of trench 1

Sealed over ditch fill (104) was a layer (106) that consisted of a dark brown sandy-silt with occasional chalk gravel and charcoal fleck inclusions (Figure 4). Layer (106) was detected throughout all the trench sections with a maximum depth of 0.4m. This layer appeared to be indicative of a plough-soil. No datable finds were recovered from (106), however a similar plough-soil within Trenches 2 (204), 3 (304) and 4 (404) Roman pottery was recovered. Above layer (106) was a reddish-brown sandy-silt layer (103) that measured 0.3m in depth and contained occasional charcoal and chalk stone inclusions (Figure 4). No finds were

recovered from layer (103) that possibly represented a levelling deposit. Sealing layer (103) was a dark greyish-black sandy-clayey silt layer (102) that measured 0.34m in depth and contained occasional charcoal, coal, ceramic building material (CBM) and stone inclusions. This layer represented a former topsoil of 19th to 20th century date (Figure 4). The remaining layers above (102) comprised of a 20th century hardcore base layer (101) and overlying concrete surface (100) (Figure 4).

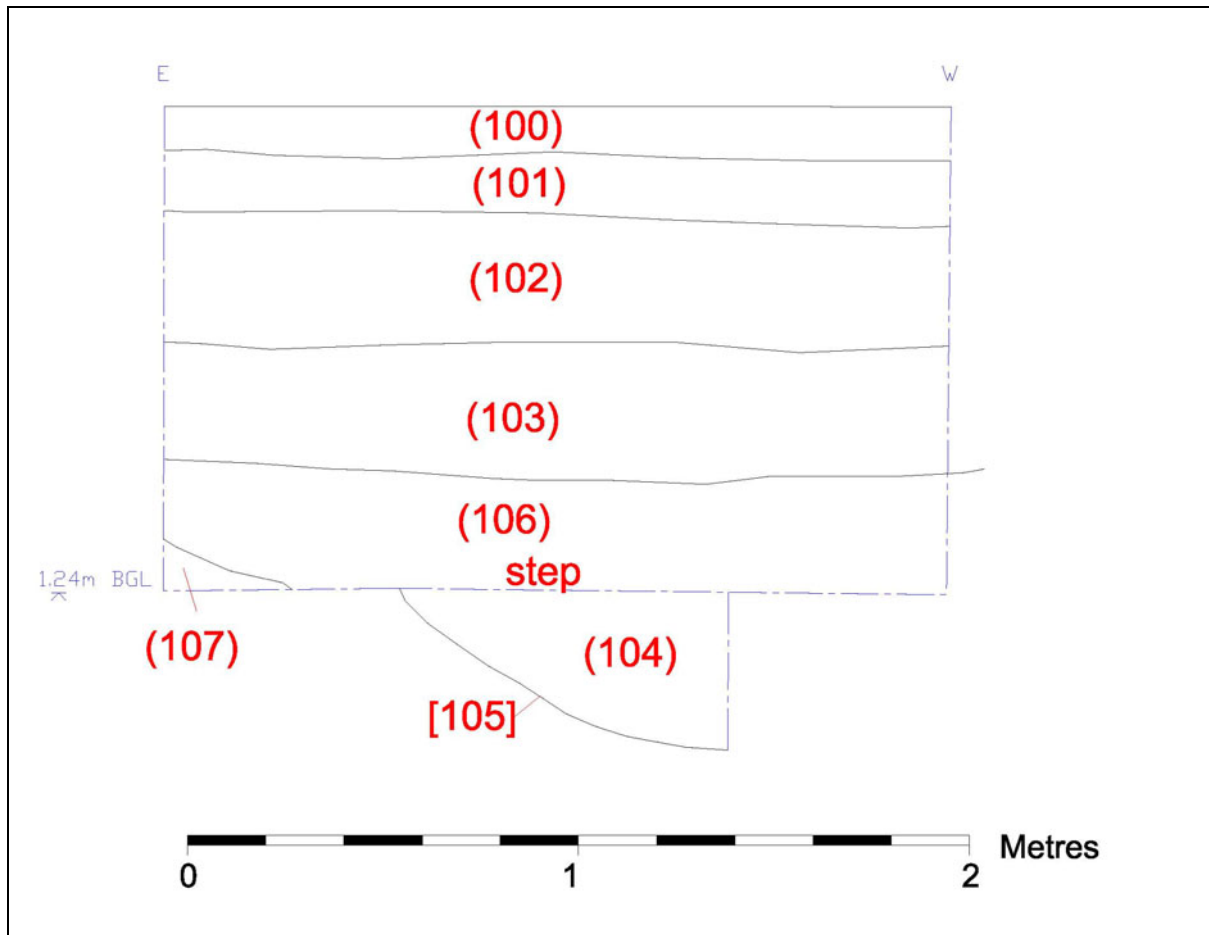


Figure 4. Section of trench 1

5.3 Trench 2

This trench was situated within the southwestern corner of the area on an east to west alignment and measured 5m by 2m (Figure 2). The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.96m BGL to where the natural deposits (205) were encountered (Plate 3). The earliest deposit detected within this trench was a dark brown sandy-silt layer (204) that contained occasional chalk gravel and charcoal fleck inclusions (Figure 5). Layer (204) was visible throughout the trench sections with a maximum depth of 0.3m. Pottery dated to the mid-2nd to 4th century was recovered from layer (204) and probably represents a plough-soil. Sealing (204) was layer (203) comprised of a reddish-brown sandy-silt that measured 0.3m in depth and contained occasional charcoal and chalk stone inclusions (Figure 5). Roman pottery sherds dated to the mid 2nd to 4th century were recovered from layer (203), which probably represented a levelling deposit. Above layer (203) was a dark greyish-black sandy-clayey silt layer (202) that measured 0.18m in depth (Figure 5). This layer contained

occasional charcoal, coal, CBM and stone inclusions, and probably represented a former topsoil of 19th to 20th century date. Sealing layer (202) was a hardcore base layer (201) and overlying concrete surface (200) of 20th century date (Figure 5).

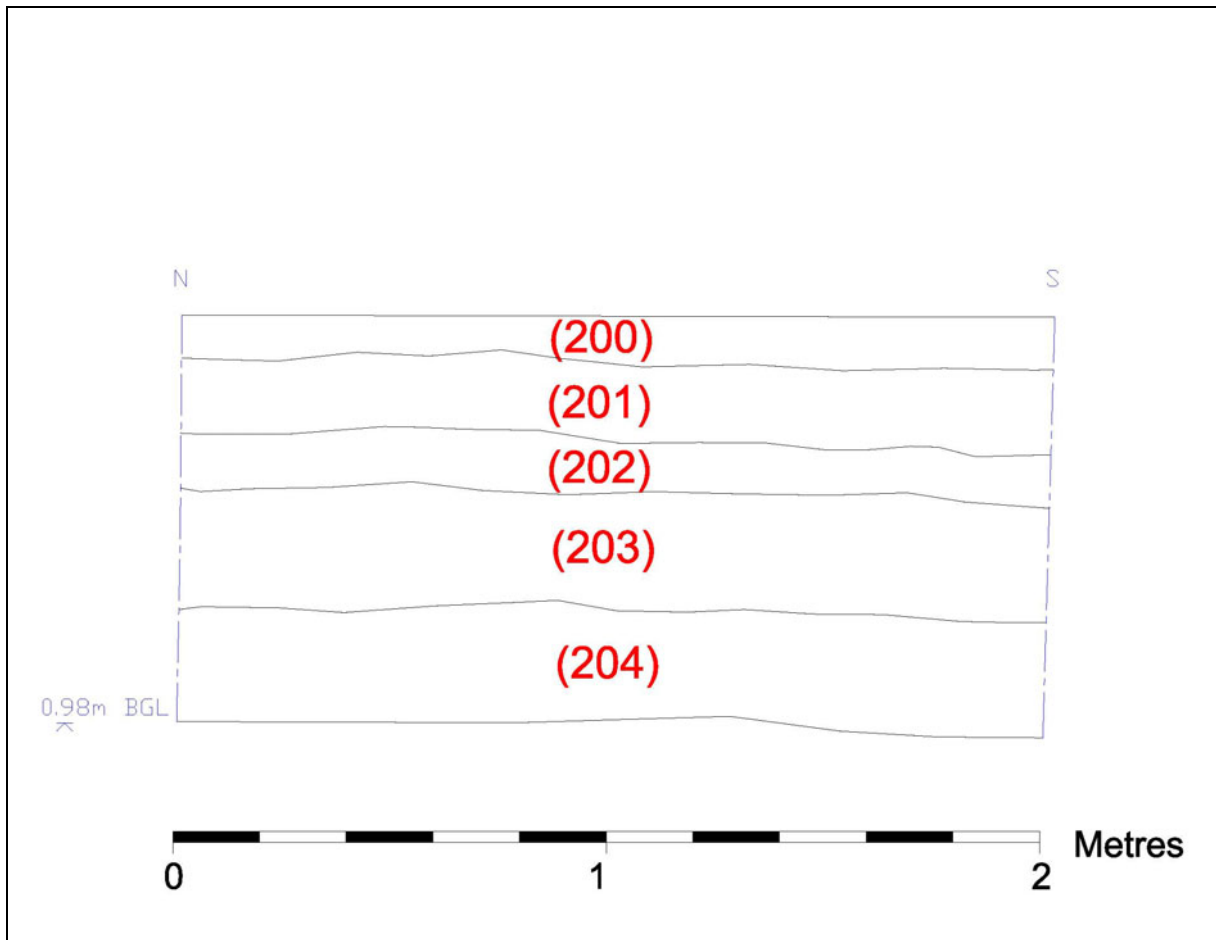


Figure 5. Sample section of trench 2

5.4 Trench 3

Trench 3 was situated near central to the area north of Trenches 1 and 2 (Figure 2). This trench measured 5m by 2 and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.06m BGL where the natural deposits (309) were identified. The earliest feature identified truncated into the natural (309) was a northwest to southeast aligned ditch [308] (Figure 6; Plate 4). Ditch [308] had a steep concaved sloped sides with a stepped vertical sided and flat base (Plate 5). The ditch was exposed for a 2m in length, 1.5m in width and 0.7m in depth and contained three fills (307), (306) and (305) (Figure 7). Primary fill (307) was a mid-greyish-brown sandy-silt 0.2m in depth, sealed by a secondary fill (306) comprised of a mid-brown sandy-silt 0.24m in depth, which contained rare charcoal fleck inclusions. Above fill (306) was an upper fill (305) that was 0.3m in depth, this was a dark brown sandy-silt with rare rounded stone and charcoal fleck inclusions. Roman pottery dated to the mid-2nd to 4th century were recovered from each ditch fill and fragments of animal bone from (306) and (305). A copper alloy stud or rivet and a heavily corroded nail were also retrieved from fill (306). Ditch [308] probably represented a boundary. The nature of the stepped base within the ditch may be indicative of a palisade ditch.

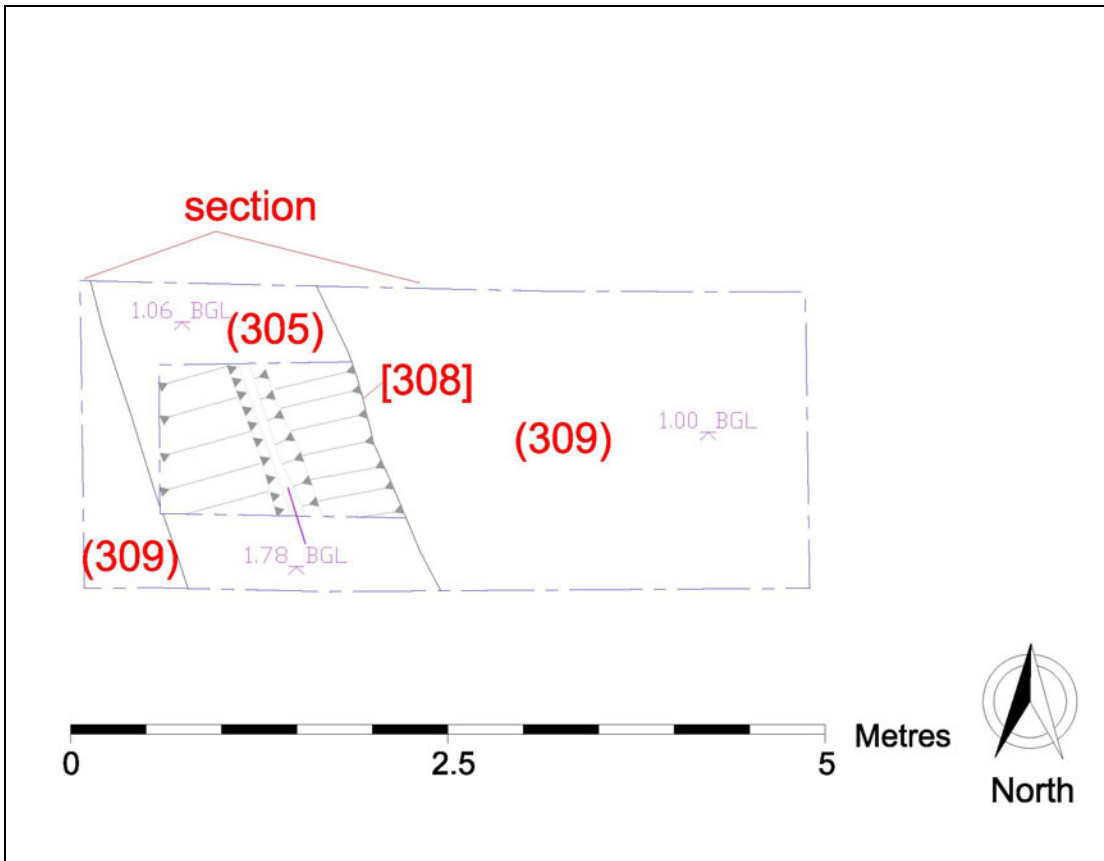


Figure 6. Plan of trench 3

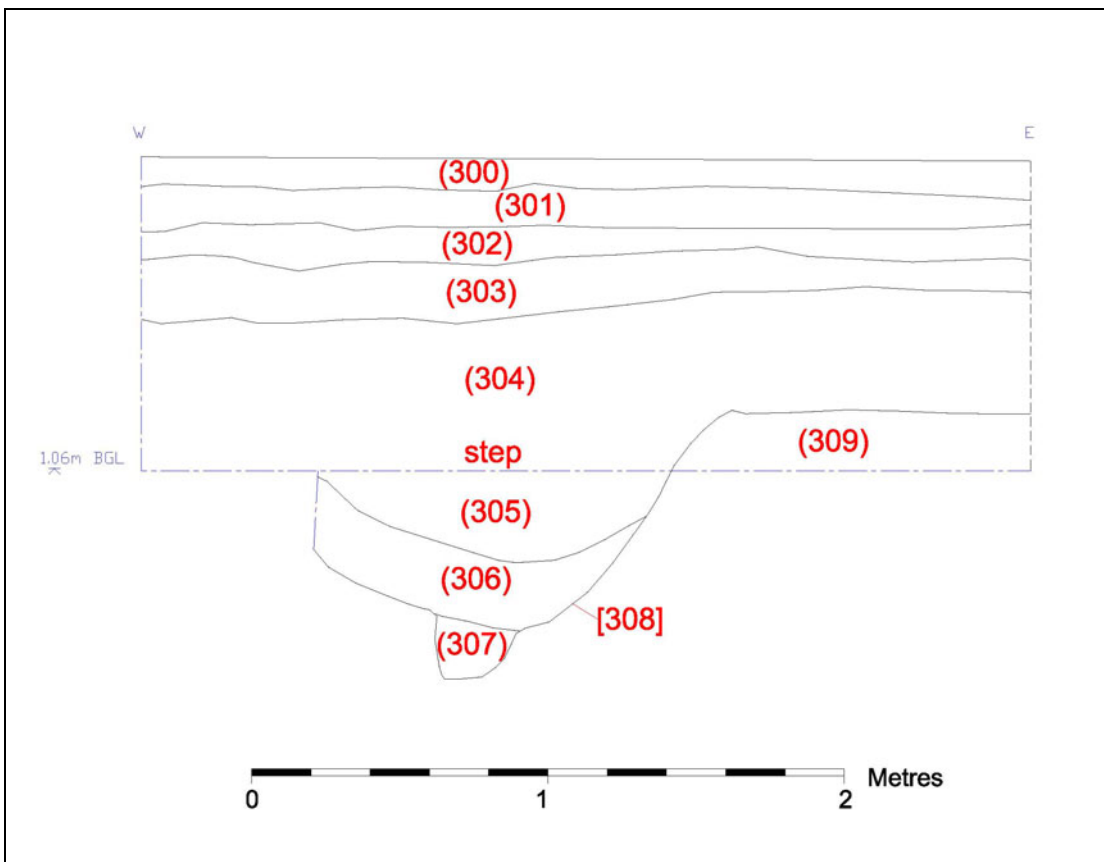


Figure 7. Section of features in trench 3

Sealing upper ditch fill (305) was layer (304) that consisted of a dark brown sandy-silt with occasional chalk gravel and charcoal fleck inclusions (Figure 7). Layer (304) represented a plough-soil with a maximum depth of 0.3m. Contained within (304) was a limestone rubble deposit (311) that was located within southeastern corner of the trench (Plate 6). Pottery sherds dated to the mid-2nd to 4th century were recovered from (311). The nature of the rubble is uncertain but may hint at some form of nearby structure probably of a Roman date, which was disturbed and integrated into the plough-soil. Above layer (304) was a sequence of layers identified within Trenches 1 and 2 these are represented by; (303) levelling 0.2m in depth, former 19th to 20th century topsoil (302=310) that was 0.2m in depth, hardcore base (301) and concrete surface (300) with a combined depth of 0.25m (Figure 7).

5.5 Trench 4

Trench 4 was located to the northwest of Trench 4 measuring 5m by 2m and orientated north to south (Figure 2). The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.16m BGL where the natural deposits (408) were identified. The earliest feature identified truncated into the natural (408) was a northwest to southeast aligned ditch [407], which terminated at the northern extent of the trench as a butt-end (Figure 8; Plate 7). This ditch was exposed for a length of 4.4m, a width of 1.6m and had a depth of 0.42m. Ditch [407] had steep concaved sloped sides with a stepped flat base and contained two fills (406) and (405) (Figure 9; Plate 9). Primary fill (406) was a mid-greyish-brown sandy-silt that measured 0.12m in depth. This was sealed by an upper fill (405) consisted of a dark brown sandy-silt that contained rare rounded stone and charcoal fleck inclusions, which was 0.29m in depth. The only finds recovered from this ditch were from fill (405), which included pottery dated to the 3rd to 4th century and animal bone. Ditch [407] is most likely the same as ditch [308] detected within Trench 3.

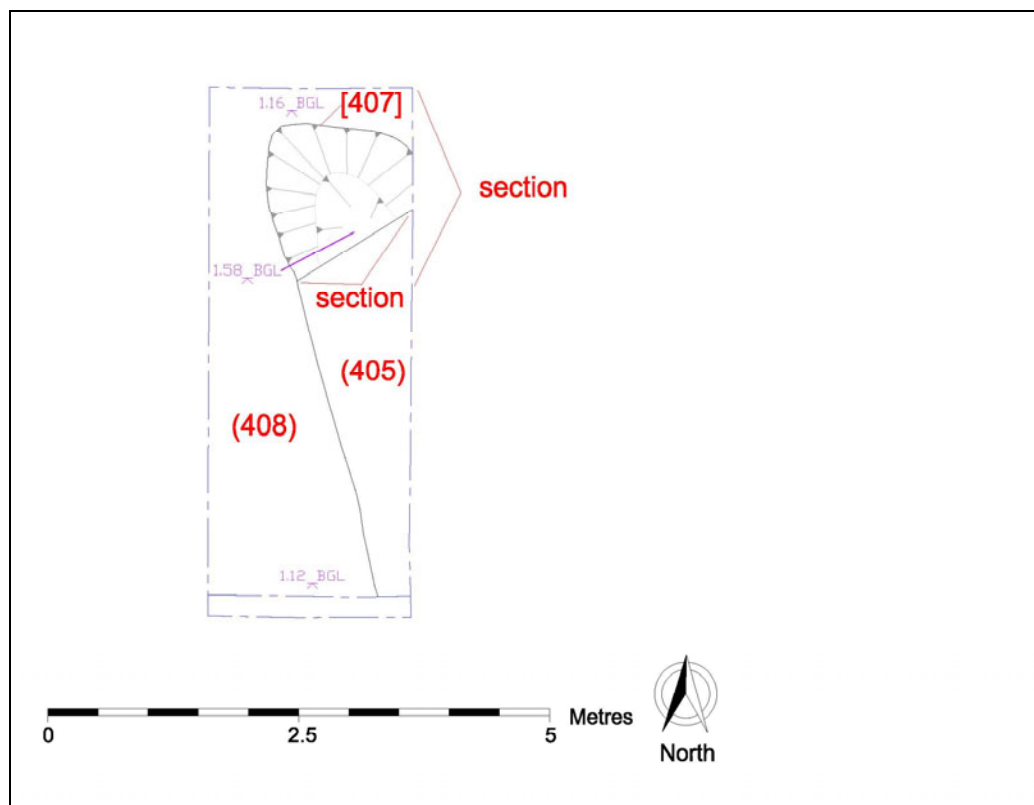


Figure 8. Plan of trench 4

Above ditch fill (405) and identified through out the trench sections was a plough-soil (404) (Figure 10). This measured 0.3m in depth and was similar to plough-soils detected within Trenches 1, 2 and 3. Pottery dated to the mid-2nd to 4th century was recovered from (404). Sealing (404) was a sequence of layers, which were also identified within Trenches 1, 2 and 3, and represented here as; (403) levelling 0.28m in depth, former 19th to 20th century topsoil (402) that was 0.15m in depth, hardcore base (401) and concrete surface (400) with a combined depth of 0.25m (Figure 10).

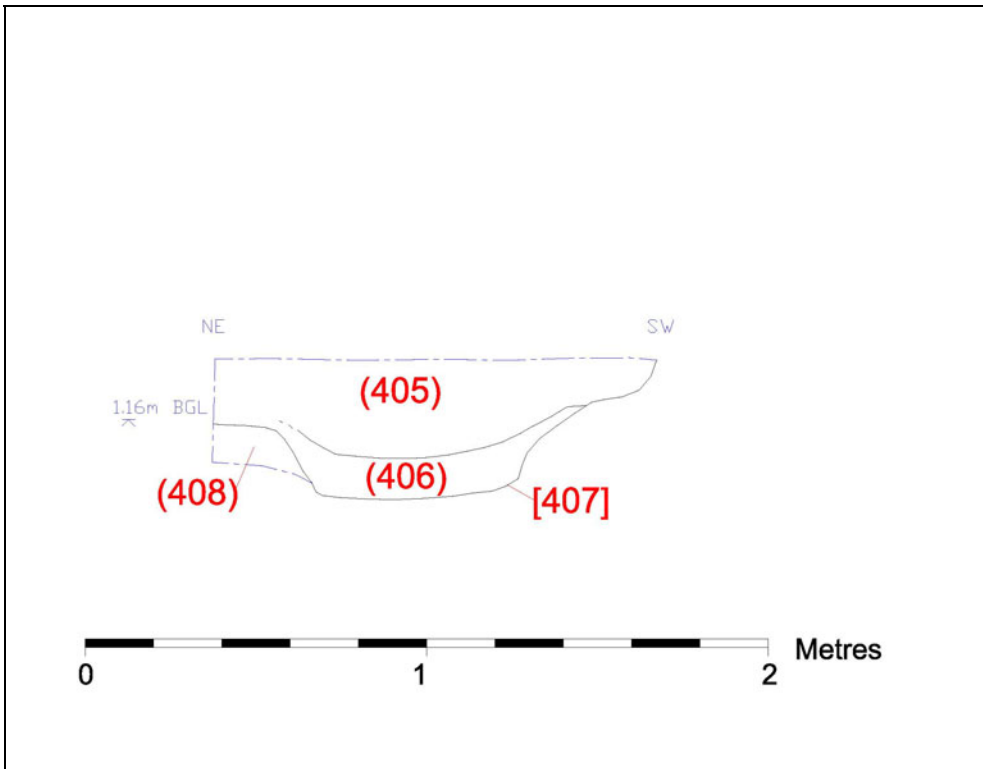


Figure 9. Section of trench 4

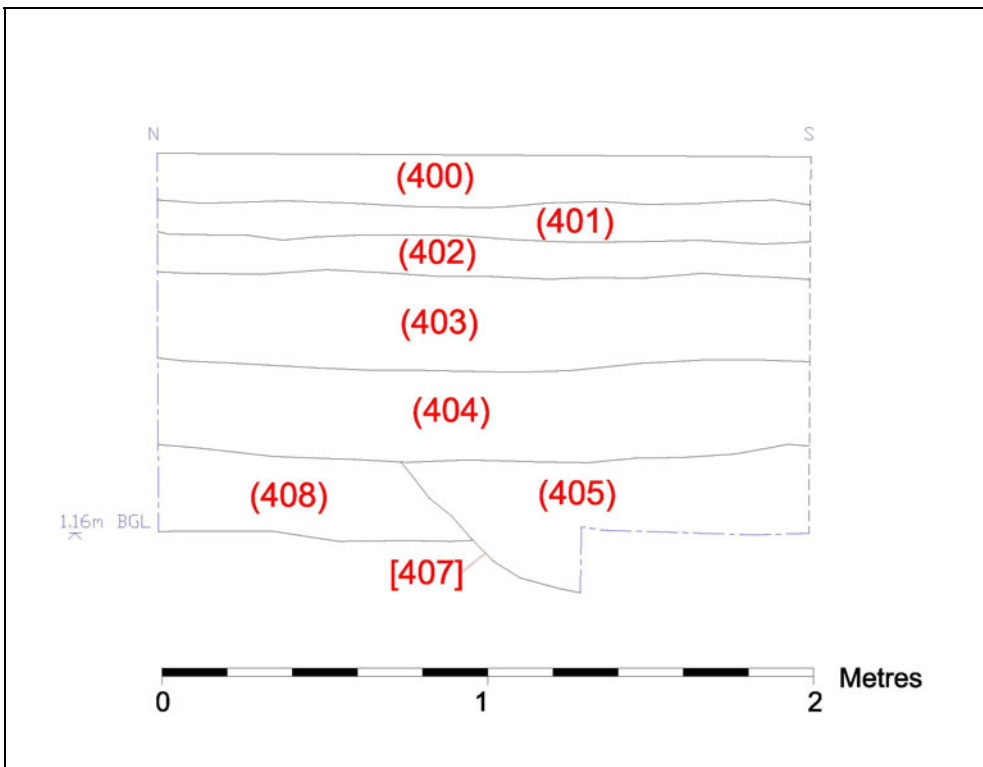


Figure 10. Section of trench 4

6.0 Discussion and Conclusions

The earliest features detected during the evaluation were ditches [105] Trench 1, [308] Trench 3 and [407] Trench 4. These ditches are probably boundary ditches; in particular ditch [308] that displayed a stepped base that may tentatively suggest that it was palisaded ditch. Ditch [308] probably continues northwest and reappears within Trench 4 as ditch [407]. At this point it terminates and may form an entrance with a possible mirrored termination beyond Trench 4 limits to the northwest. Ditch [105] and ditch [308]=[407] appear to be broadly contemporary constructed some time during the mid-2nd to 4th centuries.

The ditches are later sealed by the formation of a plough-soil represented by (106) Trench 1, (204) Trench 2, (304) Trench 3 and Trench 4 (404). This plough-soil also appears to Roman in date suggesting the area was abandoned for whatever activity the ditches served and the land used for agricultural purposes. Interestingly a limestone rubble deposit (311) detected within the plough-soil in Trench 3 hints at possible structure within the area probably during the time the ditches were in use.

The final stratigraphic sequence of layers detected within all the trenches above the plough-soil comprised of a levelling, buried topsoil and the hardcore base for the extant concrete surface. The levelling deposit represented by (103), (203), (303) and (403) directly over the Roman plough-soil is most likely of post-Roman date containing residual shreds of Roman pottery. The buried topsoil above the levelling is of a 19th to 20th century date build upon by the bedding for the concrete surface during the mid-20th century.

The archaeological horizon appears at approximately 0.9m below ground level (BGL) within Trench 1, 0.7m BGL within Trench 2 and 0.6m BGL within Trenches 3 and 4 at which depths the Roman plough-soil was encountered. The horizon at which cut archaeological features appear as ditches are at 1.2m m BGL within Trench 1, 1m BGL Trench 3 and 0.9m Trench 4.

Although three of the four trenches encountered archaeological cut features of Roman date these appear to represent boundaries, probably located towards the periphery of settlement during this period. Although of interest to the understanding of the layout of Norton in the Roman period they are not of sufficient importance to prevent redevelopment of the site. Any ground disturbances by the proposed development below the recorded depths would have an impact upon the archaeology and a mitigation strategy would need to be put in place. This could be achieved through the attachment of an appropriate condition, for archaeological recording to the planning permission.

7.0 Bibliography

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8.0 Appendix 1 ~ List of Contexts.

Context no.	Description	Thickness	Extent
<i>Trench 1</i>			
100	Layer of concrete. 20 th century surface.	0.1m	3.5m x 2m
101	Layer of pale yellowish-white sandy silt. Hardcore bed for (100).	0.2m	3.5m x 2m
102	Layer of dark greyish-black sandy-clayey silt containing occasional charcoal, coal ceramic building material (CBM) and stone inclusions. Former topsoil.	0.34	3.5m x 2m
103	Layer of reddish-brown sandy-silt containing occasional charcoal and chalk stone <0.03m inclusions. Levelling.	0.3m	3.5m x 2m
104	Fill. Brownish-grey sandy-silt containing occasional chalk gravel <0.03m and charcoal fleck inclusions. Single fill of ditch [105].	0.4m	3.5m x 2m
105	Cut forming north to south-aligned ditch. Filled by (104).	0.4m	3.5m x 2m
106	Dark brown sandy-silt containing occasional chalk gravel, charcoal fleck inclusions. Plough-soil.	0.4m	3.5m x 2m
107	Natural. Dark brownish-orange with pockets of chalk gravel.	-	3.5m x 2m
<i>Trench 2</i>			
200	Layer of concrete. 20 th century surface.	0.1m	4.5m x 2m
201	Layer of pale yellowish-white sandy silt. Hardcore bed for (200).	0.2m	4.5m x 2m
202	Layer of dark greyish-black sandy-clayey silt containing occasional charcoal, coal ceramic building material (CBM) and stone inclusions. Former topsoil.	0.18m	4.5m x 2m
203	Layer of reddish-brown sandy-silt containing occasional charcoal and chalk stone <0.03m inclusions. Levelling.	0.3m	4.5m x 2m
204	Dark brown sandy-silt containing occasional chalk gravel, charcoal fleck inclusions. Plough-soil.	0.3m	4.5m x 2m
205	Natural. Dark brownish-orange with pockets of chalk gravel.	-	4.5m x 2m
<i>Trench 3</i>			
300	Layer of concrete. 20 th century surface.	0.1m	5m x 2m
301	Layer of pale yellowish-white sandy silt. Hardcore bed for (300).	0.15m	5m x 2m
302	Layer of dark greyish-black sandy-clayey silt containing occasional charcoal, coal ceramic building material (CBM) and stone inclusions. Former topsoil. Same as (310).	0.11m	5m x 2m
303	Layer of reddish-brown sandy-silt containing occasional charcoal and chalk stone <0.03m inclusions. Levelling.	0.2m	5m x 2m
304	Dark brown sandy-silt containing occasional chalk gravel, charcoal fleck inclusions. Plough-soil.	0.35m	5m x 2m
305	Fill. Dark brown sandy-silt containing rare rounded stone and charcoal fleck inclusions. Upper fill of ditch [308].	0.3m	1.5m x 2m
306	Fill. Mid-brown sandy-silt containing rare charcoal fleck inclusions. Secondary fill of ditch [308].	0.24m	1.5m x 2m
307	Fill. Mid-greyish-brown sandy-silt. Primary fill of ditch [308].	0.2m	1.5m x 2m
308	Cut of northwest to southeast ditch. Filled by (305 – 7).	0.76m	1.5m x 2m
309	Natural. Dark brownish-orange with pockets of chalk gravel.	-	5m x 2m
310	Layer of dark greyish-black sandy-clayey silt containing occasional charcoal, coal ceramic building material (CBM) and stone inclusions. Former topsoil. Same as (302).	0.1m	-
311	Masonry. Limestone/chalk rubble within (304).	-	-
<i>Trench 4</i>			
400	Layer of concrete. 20 th century surface.	0.1m	5.2m x 2m
401	Layer of pale yellowish-white sandy silt. Hardcore bed for (300).	0.15m	5.2m x 2m
402	Layer of dark greyish-black sandy-clayey silt containing occasional charcoal, coal ceramic building material (CBM) and stone inclusions. Former topsoil.	0.15m	5.2m x 2m

403	Layer of reddish-brown sandy-silt containing occasional charcoal and chalk stone <0.03m inclusions. Levelling.	0.28m	5.2m x 2m
404	Layer of dark brown sandy-silt containing occasional chalk gravel, charcoal fleck inclusions. Plough-soil.	0.3m	5.2m x 2m
405	Fill. Dark brown sandy-silt containing rare rounded stone and charcoal fleck inclusions. Upper fill of ditch [407].	0.6m	1.3m x 1.4m exc.
406	Fill. Mid-greyish-brown sandy-silt. Primary fill of ditch [407].	0.12m	0.9m x 1.4m exc.
407	Cut of northwest to southeast ditch. Filled by (405 – 6).	0.4m	4.7m x 1.5m
408	Natural. Dark brownish-orange with pockets of chalk gravel.	-	-

9.0 Appendix 2 ~ The Plates.



Plate 1. General view of the site before excavation commenced



Plate 2. Trench 1 looking south



Plate 3. Trench 2 looking east



Plate 4. Trench 3 looking west



Plate 5. Ditch [308] looking northwest



Plate 6. Deposit (311) looking southeast



Plate 7. Trench 4 looking north



Plate 8. Ditch [407] looking southeast

10.0 Appendix 3 ~ The Finds.

Berny McCluskey

A collection of finds was recovered by *On-Site Archaeology Ltd* during an archaeological evaluation on land to the west of Howe Road, Norton, North Yorkshire. This report details the identification and assessment of the finds from this evaluation. The finds range in date from the Roman to the medieval periods.

Description

Finds of bone; copper alloy (Table 1 COPP); iron; flint and pottery were identified and a catalogue prepared (Appendix 1).

Class	Sum of Nosh	Sum of NoV	Sum of Weight
BONE	21	-	-
COPP	1	-	-
IRON	1	-	-
FLINT	1	-	-
POTTERY	125	123	-
Grand Total	149	123	-

Table 1

Bone

A total of 21 fragments of animal bone were recovered. The majority of the bone were recovered from ditch fills (104), (305), (306) and (405), which also contained Roman pottery. A further 2 fragments of animal bone were recovered from a plough-soil (304) probably of a Roman date.

Copper Alloy

A copper alloy stud or rivet was recovered from the secondary fill (306) of ditch [308]. This object had a domed head approximately 8mm in diameter with a shaft 1.5mm in diameter and 6mm long. The stud or rivet was recovered from a Roman context and may have formed part of a decorative component of leatherwork, cloth or even wood. The object does not require an X-ray, but will need to be conserved.

Iron

A single iron nail was recovered from secondary fill (306) of ditch [308]. The nail was heavily corroded with a nail head approximately 7mm in diameter and a 4mm diameter shaft 36mm in length. The nail does not require an x-ray.

Flint

A residual flint flake was recovered from ditch fill (306). The flint represents a ‘tertiary’ flake and measured 24mm in width, 26mm in length and a thickness of 6mm and is most likely to be of a pre-Iron-Age date.

Pottery

The pottery assemblage recovered from stratified deposits was exclusively of a Roman date. The only other pottery recovered was a single unstratified pottery sherd of a late medieval date.

Roman

A total of 124 sherds of Roman pottery were identified representing 122 vessels.

Most of the assemblage consisted of 78 sherds of mid 2nd to 4th century Greyware recovered from ditch (305), (306), (405) and plough/soil deposits (203), (204), (304), (311) and (404). This was followed by 28 sherds of a coarseware possibly Norton ware dated to the late 3rd to 4th century recovered from ditch fills (104), (305), (306) and (405) and plough/soil deposits (304), (311), (404). The remainder of the Roman pottery assemblage consisted of 4 sherds of colour-coated ware, 4 sherds of mid-2nd to 4th century Samian ware and a single sherd of black-burnished ware II (BBII).

Medieval

A single sherd of un-stratified 14th to 16th century Humberware was recovered from Trench 3.

Stratigraphic and chronological discussion.

The pottery assemblage has indicated the ditches [105], [308] and [407] are all of a Roman date broadly between the 2nd to the 4th centuries. These ditches are sealed by a plough-soil represented by (304) and (404) from which similar dated pottery was recovered.

Further Work

A copper alloy stud or rivet may require specialist conservation.

Retention

The finds from stratified deposits should all be retained for potential future study.

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Context	Class	Description	Cname	Form	Part	Nosh	NoV	Condition	Date
104	Pottery	Thick grey bodied, calcite-grit inclusions	Coarseware (?Norton ware)	Jar	BS	4	3	-	Romano-British Late 3 rd – 4 th c.
104	Pottery	-	Colour-coated-ware	Bowl	BS	1	1	-	Roman
104	Bone	Animal bone x4	-	-	-	-	-	-	Roman
203	Pottery	Red fabric body	-	-	BS	1	1	-	Roman
203	Pottery	-	Greyware	Jar	BS, B	2	2	-	Mid 2 nd – 4 th
203	Pottery	Plain	Samian	Bowl	BS	1	1	-	Mid 2 nd – mid 3 rd
204	Pottery	External incised parallel lines	Greyware	Jar	BS	2	2	-	Mid 2 nd – 4 th
304	Pottery	-	Greyware	Jar	BS, B, R	6	6	-	Mid 2 nd – 4 th
304	Pottery	Plain	Samian	Bowl	R	1	1	-	Mid 2 nd – mid 3 rd
304	Pottery	Thin grey bodied, calcite-grit inclusions	Coarseware (?Norton ware)	Jar	BS	1	1	-	Romano-British Late 3 rd – 4 th c.
304	Bone	Animal bone x2	-	-	-	-	-	-	Roman
305	Pottery	-	Greyware	Jar	BS, B, R	18	18	-	Mid 2 nd – 4 th
305	Pottery	Thick & thin grey bodied, calcite-grit inclusions	Coarseware (?Norton ware)	Jar	BS, R	7	7	-	Romano-British Late 3 rd – 4 th c.
305	Pottery	Very small fragment	Samian	Bowl	R	1	1	-	Mid 2 nd – mid 3 rd
305	Pottery	-	Colour-coated-ware	Bowl	BS	1	1	-	Roman
305	Bone	Animal bone x7	-	-	-	-	-	-	Roman
306	Copper alloy	Copper alloy stud domed 8mm in diameter, shaft 1.5mm diameter & 6mm deep	-	-	-	-	-	-	Roman
306	Iron	Heavily corroded nail. Head approx. 7mm in diameter with a 4mm diameter shaft 36mm in	-	-	-	-	-	-	Roman

		length.							
306	Pottery	-	Greyware	Jar	BS, R,	18	18	-	Mid 2 nd – 4 th
306	Pottery	-	Colour-coated-ware	-	BS	2	2	-	Roman
306	Pottery	Thick & thin grey bodied, calcite-grit inclusions	Coarseware (?Norton ware)	Jar	BS, R	6	6	-	Romano-British Late 3 rd – 4 th c.
306	Flint	Tertiary flake x1	-	-	-	-	-	-	Pre-Iron-age
306	Bone	Animal bone x2	-	-	-	-	-	-	Roman
307	Pottery	-	Greyware	Jar	BS,	4	4	-	Mid 2 nd – 4 th
307	Pottery	-	Black burnish ware II	-	BS	1	1	-	2 nd - 4 th
311	Pottery	Thick & thin grey bodied, calcite-grit inclusions	Coarseware (?Norton ware)	Jar	BS	2	2	-	Romano-British Late 3 rd – 4 th c.
311	Pottery	-	Greyware	Jar	BS,	1	1	-	Mid 2 nd – 4 th
404	Pottery	-	Greyware	Jar	BS, R	4	4	-	Mid 2 nd – 4 th
404	Pottery	-	Samian	Bowl	R	2	1	-	Mid 2 nd – mid 3 rd
404	Pottery	Mis-shaped ?waster	-	-	BS	1	1	-	Roman
404	Pottery	Thin grey bodied, calcite-grit inclusions	Coarseware (?Norton ware)	Jar	BS	1	1	-	Romano-British Late 3 rd – 4 th c.
405	Pottery	Some with external incised lines	Greyware	Jar, bowl	BS, B, R	29	29	-	Mid 2 nd – 4 th
405	Pottery	Thick & thin grey bodied, calcite-grit inclusions	Coarseware (?Norton ware)	Jar	BS, R	6	6	-	Romano-British Late 3 rd – 4 th c.
405	Bone	Animal bone x6	-	-	-	-	-	-	Roman
Un-stratified	Pottery	Thick & thin grey bodied, calcite-grit inclusions	Coarseware (?Norton ware)	Jar	BS	1	1	-	Romano-British Late 3 rd – 4 th c.
Un-stratified	Pottery	-	Humberware	Jar	BS	1	1	-	14 th – 16 th century

Table 2