Trial trench evaluation on land at Gipsy Lane Kettering, Northamptonshire May 2015

Report No. 15/101

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OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS	**OASIS No: molarnort1 - 212925**	
Project name	Trial trench evaluation on land at Gipsy Lane, Kettering, Northamptonshire	
Short description (250 words maximum)	MOLA Northampton was commissioned by CgMS Consulting to carry out an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Gipsy Lane, Kettering, Northamptonshire prior to the proposed development of the site. Twenty five trenches were excavated. No archaeological activity was identified in the northern two fields. In the southernmost field two phases of activity were recorded including an undated ring ditch associated with two internal pits and post-medieval/modern boundaries and trackways.	
Project type (eg DBA, evaluation etc)	Evaluation	
Site status (none, NT, SAM etc)	None	
Previous work (SMR numbers etc)	Geophysical survey (Attwood 2014)	
Current Land use	Arable	
Future work (yes, no, unknown)	Unknown	
Monument type/ period	Undated ring ditch, medieval/post-medieval trackway and boundaries	
Significant finds (artefact type and period)	-	
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Northamptonshire	
Site address (including postcode)	Land at Gipsy Lane, Kettering	
Study area (sq.m or ha)	16.86ha	
OS Easting & Northing (use grid sq. letter code)	485250 278830	
Height OD	90m above Ordnance Datum	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	MOLA Northampton	
Project brief originator	Archaeological Advisor Northamptonshire County Council	
Project Design originator	MOLA Northampton	
Director/Supervisor	Chris Chinnock	
Project Manager	Elizabeth Muldowney	
Sponsor or funding body	CgMs Consulting	
PROJECT DATE		
Start date/End date	27/04/2015 - 05/05/2015	
ARCHIVES	**Location (Accession no.)**	**Content (eg pottery, animal bone etc)**
Physical	MOLA Northampton: ENN107953	Pottery animal bone and other finds
Paper	MOLA Northampton: ENN107953	Site file
Digital	MOLA Northampton: ENN107953	Mapinfo plans, Word report
BIBLIOGRAPHY	Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report (MOLA report)	
Title	Trial trench evaluation on land at Gypsy Lane, Kettering, Northamptonshire May 2015	
Serial title & volume	15/101	
Author(s)	Chris Chinnock	
Page numbers	48	
Date	04/06/2015	

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May 2015

Abstract

MOLA Northampton was commissioned by CgMS Consulting to carry out an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Gipsy Lane, Kettering, Northamptonshire prior to the proposed development of the site. Twenty five trenches were excavated. No archaeological activity was identified in the northern two fields. In the southernmost field two phases of activity were recorded including an undated ring ditch associated with two internal pits and post-medieval/modern boundaries and trackways.

1 INTRODUCTION

MOLA was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake archaeological trial trenching on land at Gipsy Lane, Kettering, Northamptonshire (NGR 485250 278830, Fig 1). The works were required in response to a forthcoming planning application for residential development and associated infrastructure, in line with *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

The Archaeological Advisor for Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) had advised that a programme of archaeological evaluation should be undertaken to determine the nature and extent of any archaeological remains within the Development Area. The requirements were outlined in a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by MOLA (Chinnock 2014).

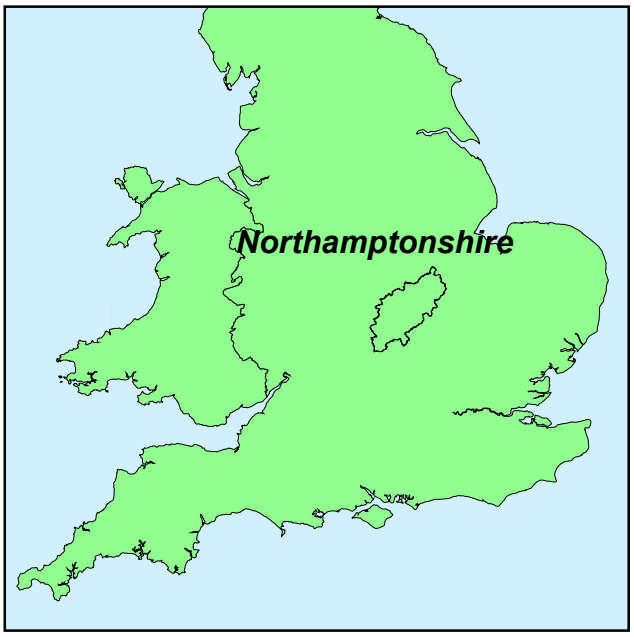
The evaluation conformed to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (2014a). All stages of the project were undertaken in accordance with Heritage England, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) (HE 2015).

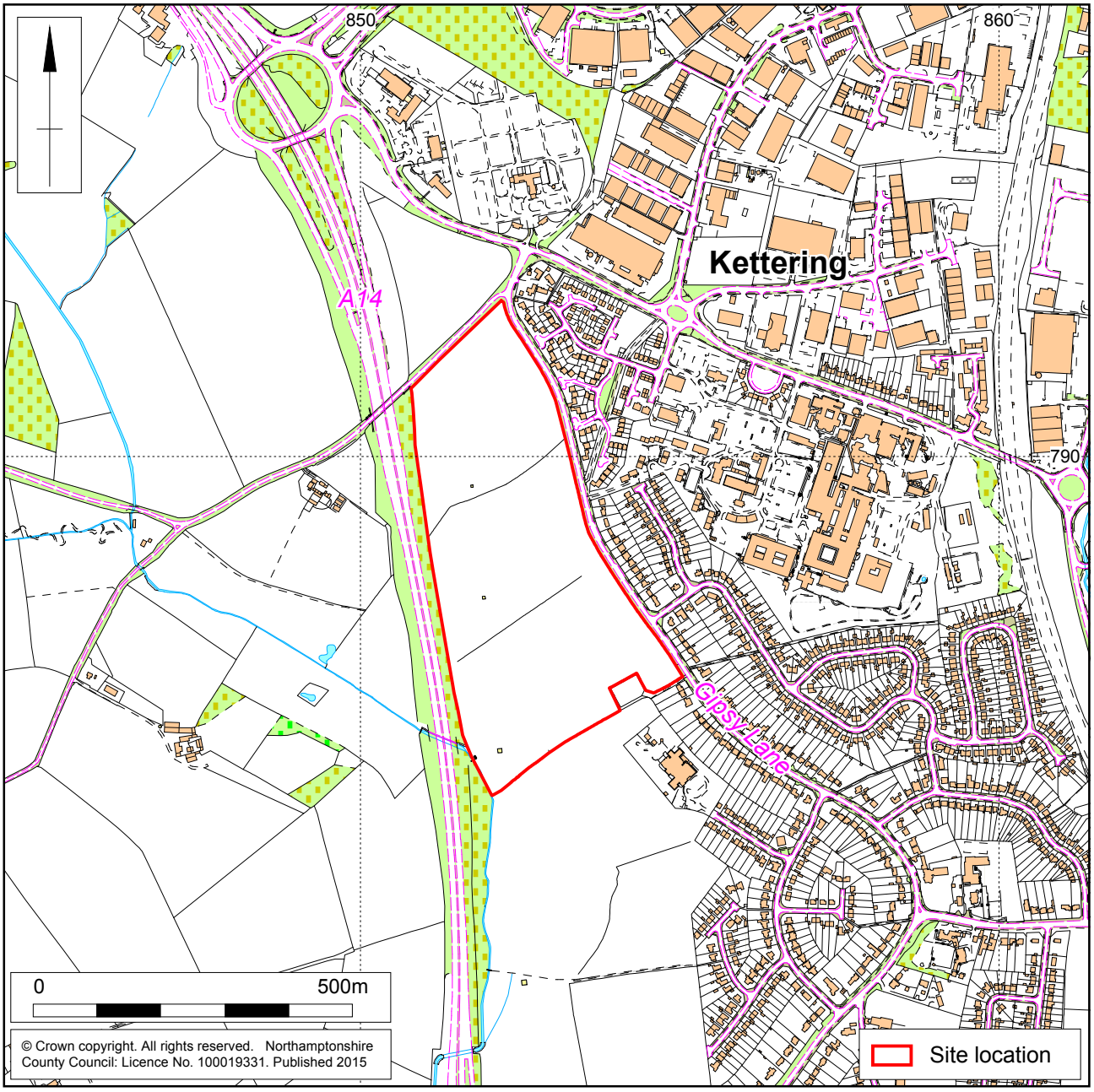
2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The principal aim of the archaeological evaluation work was to determine and understand the nature, function and character of the archaeological site in its cultural and environmental setting.

The aims of the investigation were to:

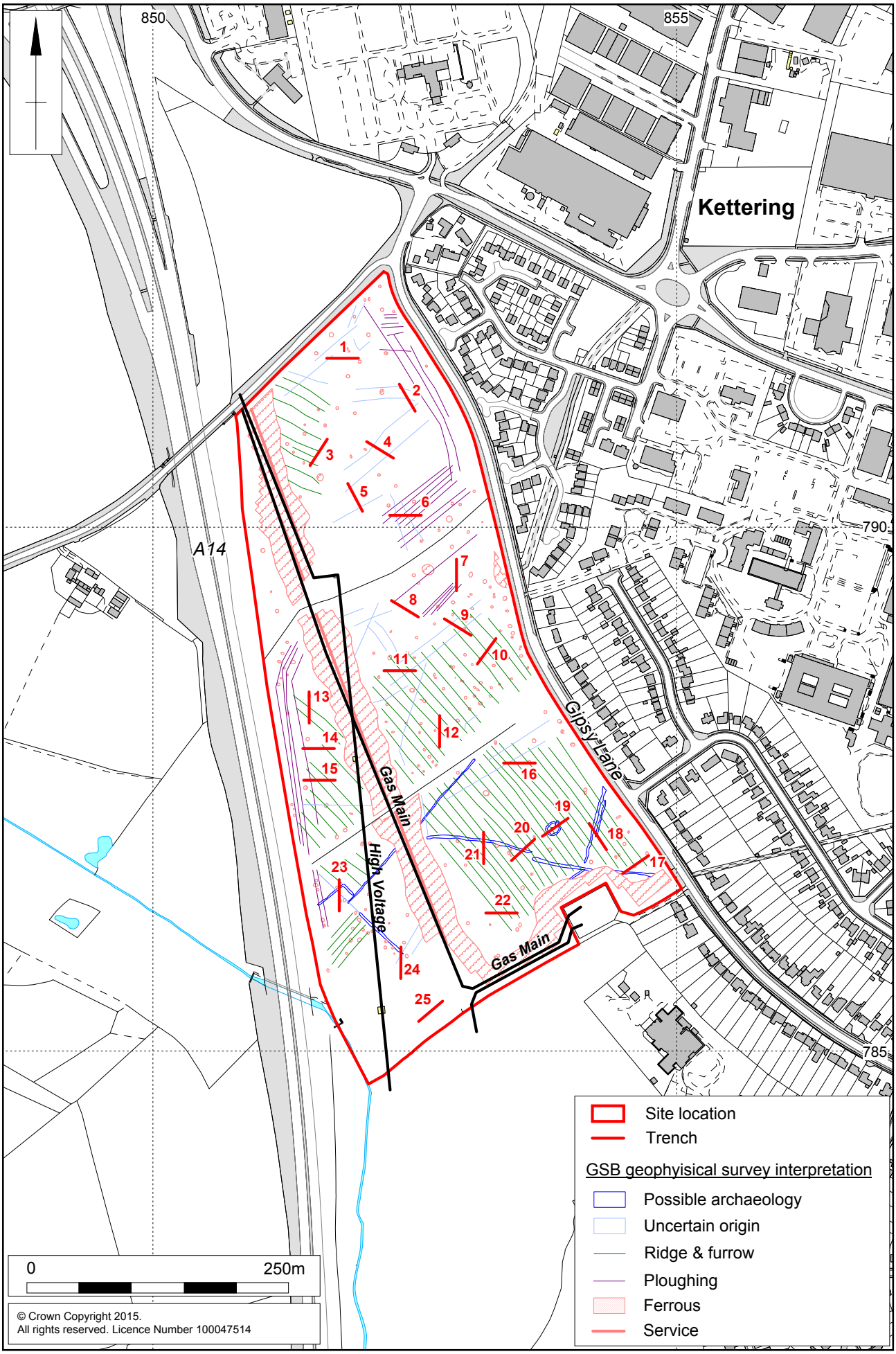
- Establish the date, nature and extent of the activity or occupation on the development site.
- Recover artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region.
- Recover palaeo-environmental remains to determine environmental conditions.





Scale 1:10,000

Site location Fig 1



Scale 1:5000 The excavated trenches, showing geophysical survey interpretation Fig 2

Specific research objectives were drawn from national and regional research frameworks documents (Cooper 2006, Knight, Vyner and Allen 2012).

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 Topography and geology

The site covers 16.86ha and lies on land to the west of Gipsy Lane. The current land use is arable. The site is bounded to the north by Thorpe Road, to the east by Gipsy Lane, to the west by the A14 and to the south by further arable fields and residential housing (Fig 1).

Topographically the site is reasonably flat on the east side falling steeply to the south-west towards the A14. The site is situated at a height of *c* 90m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The underlying geology has been mapped by the British Geological Survey as comprising Whitby Mudstone Formation and Northampton Sand Formation (www.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex).

3.2 Historical and archaeological background

The site lies in an area of known archaeological interest and contains, or is located near to, a moderate number of assets from the prehistoric to modern periods.

Prehistoric evidence consists of Late Neolithic flints (HER 7753) recovered from a spot close to the area's southern boundary as well as two areas of undated cropmark evidence for enclosures (HER 9749) to the south-west, and settlement (HER 3783) to the north. The enclosure evidence lies close to Iron Age to Romano-British linear features and sub-square enclosures (HER 3665) and may be of a similar date, and also close to a possible prehistoric funerary site. Within the site, a geophysical survey identified a barrow-like with central pit near the south-east corner (Attwood 2014) that is likely to be Bronze Age in origin.

Romano-British activity has been identified to the east and south of the site and comprises spot finds of coins and some localised uncharacterised activity (HER 3807).

Near the south end of the site, sherds of medieval pottery have been found (HER 9816/0/0) that lie close the remains of the Thorpe Malsor to Kettering road, the course of which is aligned approximately east to west across the south end of the site. The route was identified in the geophysical survey (Attwood 2014) and can be traced on the 1887 Ordnance Survey historic map. Closely aligned parallel linear anomalies were also identified during the geophysical survey that indicate the extent and alignment of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation strips. Examination of the historic mapping also reveals the location and alignment of former field boundaries which marry with the changes in alignment of the ridge and furrow. These elements indicate the pre-Enclosure layout of the medieval field-system. The north-west to south-east aligned ridge and furrow system identified in the north-west corner of the site might correspond with a similarly aligned system to the west (Partida, Hall and Foard 2013).

As well as a series of field boundaries which will have remained extant into the early 19th-century, the site contains evidence for early 20th-century ironstone quarrying. The

location of this is described as 'west of Gipsy Lane' (Tonks 1991), and may be in the north-east corner of the site. In 1910 the course of Gipsy Lane was altered to join Northfield Road at the north end of the site. Disturbance associated with this activity may be identified.

The site has been subject to geophysical survey which identified a possible prehistoric barrow, ridge and furrow and small discrete isolated anomalies and trends that may have an archaeological origin (Attwood 2014).

4 METHODOLOGY

In total, 25 trenches, measuring 30m long, were excavated using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m-wide toothless ditching bucket (Fig 2). Trenches were positioned in order to target features identified in the geophysical survey and to avoid a high pressure gas main and high voltage overhead lines present on site. The topsoil and subsoil were removed under archaeological direction to reveal natural substrate and were stacked separately at the side of the trench. All procedures complied with MOLA Health and Safety provisions and MOLA Health and Safety at Work Guidelines (MOLA 2015).

All archaeological deposits encountered during the course of the excavation were fully recorded, following standard MOLA procedures (MOLA 2014). All deposits were given a separate context number in a sequence assigned to each trench. They were described on *pro-forma* context sheets to include details of the context, its relationships and interpretation.

All trench locations were recorded using Leica Viva Global Positioning System (GPS) survey equipment using SMARTNET real-time corrections, operating to a 3D tolerance of ± 0.05m. A full digital photographic record was maintained. The field data from the evaluation has been compiled into a site archive with appropriate cross-referencing.

The evaluation conformed to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (2014a). All stages of the project were undertaken in accordance with Heritage England, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) (HE 2015). The evaluation was carried out in accordance with Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by MOLA (Chinnock 2015).

All trenches were backfilled with their up-cast material and compacted by the mechanical excavator.

5 THE EXCAVATED EVIDENCE

5.1 General stratigraphy

The stratigraphic sequence remained consistent throughout the majority of the excavated trenches (Fig 3). The natural generally comprised light-mid orange-brown silty clay with occasional small sub-angular ironstone fragments throughout. Occasional patches of light yellow silty sand were observed in some of the trenches and mottled blue-yellow-orange clay was present in the southern corner of the development area. Subsoil existed in only one trench (Trench 5) in the northern part of the site where the ground level sloped slightly toward the west and comprised

friable mid yellow-grey-brown silty clay with occasional ironstone fragments throughout. The topsoil comprised friable mid grey-brown silty loam with occasional small sub-angular fragments of ironstone throughout. The archaeological horizon existed between 0.25 and 0.35m below the present ground surface.

Trench 18, representative section, looking north-west Fig 3

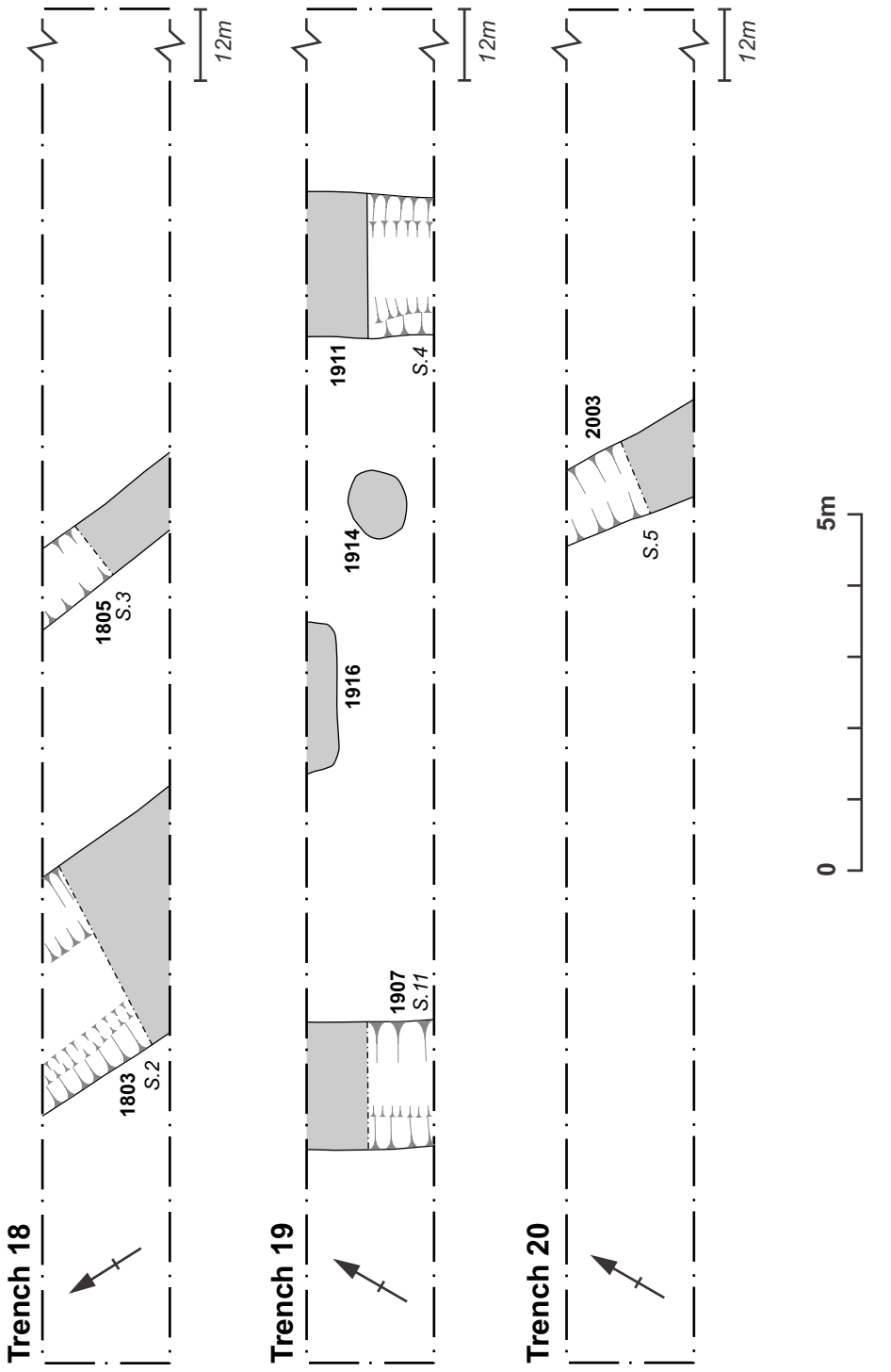
5.2 The archaeological features

Whilst a number of features of interest were found in the southern part of the evaluation area, the majority of the excavated trenches were archaeologically blank. These trenches (1-17, 22 and 25) were distributed mainly across the northern and central part of the site (Fig 2). Although the geophysical survey (Attwood 2014) identified anomalies indicative of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation, this was not observed in the excavated trenches, with the exception of Trench 16 where a hint of two furrows were recorded aligned north-west to south-east.

Trench 18

Trench 18 was aligned north-west to south-east and located in the south-eastern corner of the development area (Fig 2). It targeted linear anomalies identified in the geophysical data, aligned north-east to south-west and perpendicular to the purported medieval road (Attwood 2014).

At the north-western end of the trench, aligned north-north-east to south-south-west, was a trackway, [1803], measuring 2.80m wide and 0.35m deep with an irregular profile and base (Figs 4; 5, Section 2 and Fig 6). In the base of the feature small linear grooves can be seen and likely reflect wheel rutting from cart traffic. The fill, (1804), comprised firm-friable mid brown silty clay with rare small ironstone inclusions throughout. Pottery recovered from the fill has been dated to the 19th or 20th centuries.



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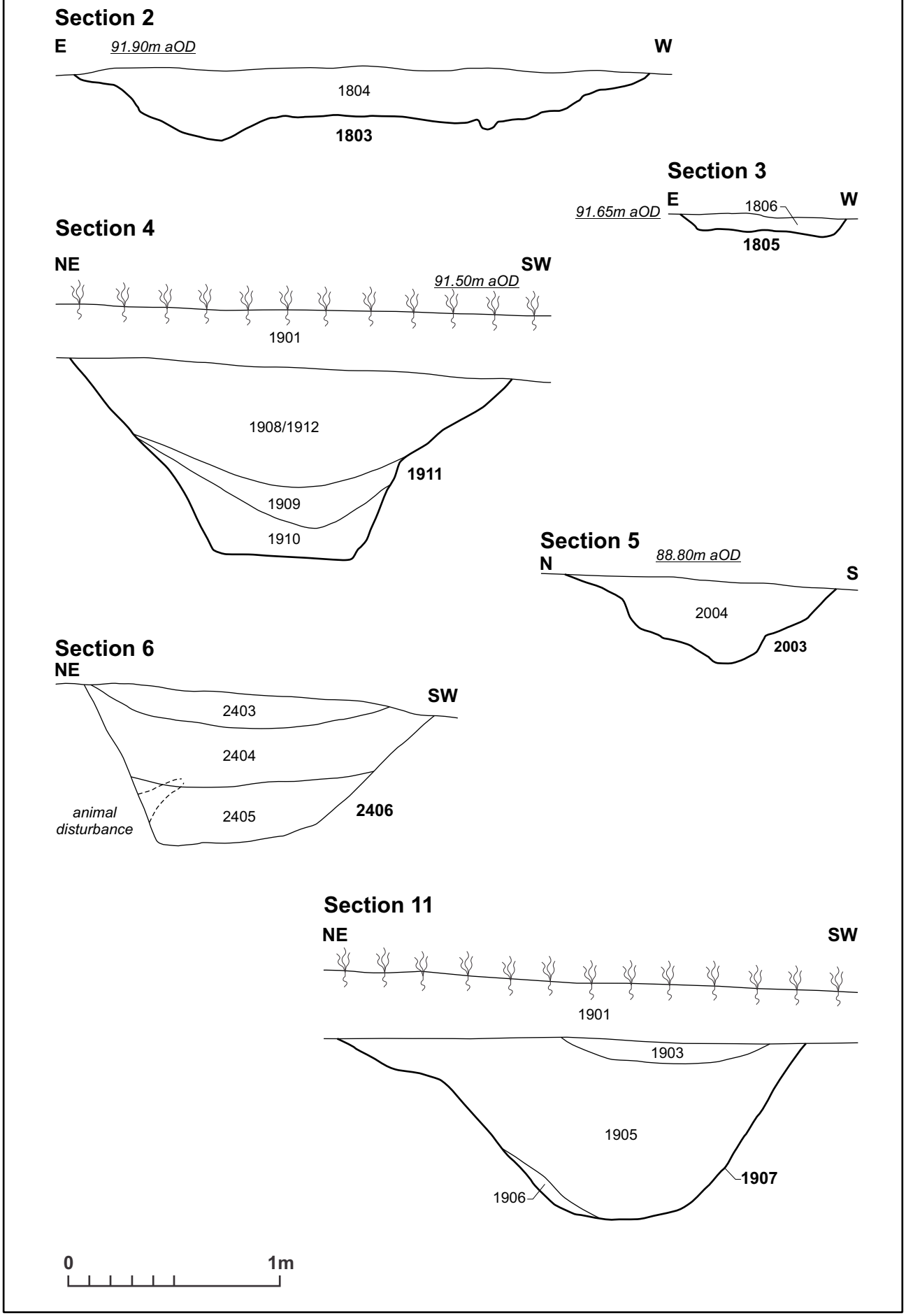
Plans of trenches 18, 19 and 20 Fig 4



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Sections 2-6 and 11 Fig 5

Immediately to the south-east of the trackway, aligned north-north-east to south-south-west, was a linear ditch, [1805], 0.80m wide and 0.10m deep with an irregular U-shaped profile and flattish base (Figs 4 and 5, Section 3). The fill, (1806), comprised firm mid brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular ironstone throughout. No dateable evidence was recovered from the feature, though its close relationship to the trackway would suggest a contemporary or near contemporary date.

Trench 18, trackway [1803], looking north-east Fig 6

Trench 19

Trench 19 was aligned north-east to south-west in the south-eastern corner of the development area (Fig 2). It targeted a circular anomaly identified in the geophysical data and interpreted as a ring ditch (Attwood 2014). Two ditches, [1907] and [1911], were excavated and correspond well with the geophysical results (Figs 4; 5, Sections 11 and 4, and Fig 7).

Trench 19, ditch [1911] (top left) and ditch [1907] (bottom right), looking east Fig 7

The south-westernmost ditch, [1907], was 2.00m wide and 0.85m deep with a steep-sided U-shaped profile and flat base (Fig 8 and Fig 5, Section 1). The lower fill, (1906), comprised firm light grey-brown clayey sand. The upper fill, (1904), was firm mid orange-brown clayey sand with frequent small to medium sub-angular ironstone throughout. A further fill was present at the very top of the feature, (1903), it comprised firm mid brown-grey clayey sand and may reflect a sag fill in the top of the ditch or the base of a furrow cutting across the top of the feature, quite which is unclear within the limits of the trial trench. No finds were recovered from the ditch.

Trench 19, ditch [1907] looking south-east Fig 8

The north-eastern of the two ditches, [1911], was 2.10m wide and 0.90m deep with a wide U-shaped profile with eroded upper edges and a flat base (Fig 5, Section 4). The lower fill, (1910), comprised friable mid yellow-brown clayey sand with occasional large sub-angular fragments of ironstone throughout. The upper fills, (1909) and (1908), comprised mid grey-yellow to dark brown-grey silty sand with occasional small fragments of ironstone throughout. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Two features were recorded in the interior of the ring ditch, pits [1914] and [1916]. Neither feature was excavated, pit [1914] measured 1m in diameter, the fill was light brownish-yellow silty sand with a notable absence of ironstone fragments.

Pit [1916] lay mostly beyond the trench limits; it appeared to be sub-rectangular in plan measuring 2.1m long and more than 0.4m wide. It appeared to correspond with a pit-like anomaly seen on the geophysical survey.

Trench 20

Trench 20 was aligned north-east to south-west and located in the south-eastern corner of the development area (Fig 2). It targeted the linear anomaly interpreted from the geophysical data and Historic Environment Records to be the line of a medieval road between Kettering and Thorpe Malsor. The purported road was not identified in the excavated trial trench and may have survived only within the subsoil horizon.

A linear ditch, [2003], aligned east-north-east to west-south-west, was 1.30m wide and 0.42m deep with a wide irregular U-shaped profile and concave base (Figs 4 and 5, Section 5). The fill comprised firm mid brown silty clay with frequent small to medium fragments of sub-angular ironstone throughout. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Trench 21

Trench 21 was aligned north to south and located in the southern part of the development area (Fig 2). The trackway and associated ditch were identified.

The trackway [2103] was 2.5m wide and extremely shallow, at less than 0.05m deep. The fill was mid orangey-brown silty clay with frequent ironstone fragments.

A linear ditch, [2104], aligned east to west, measuring approximately 0.65m wide was identified 1m to the south of the trackway (Fig 9). It was the continuation of ditch [2003] and the unexcavated fill was comparable to fill (2004). No finds were recovered from this feature.

Trench 23

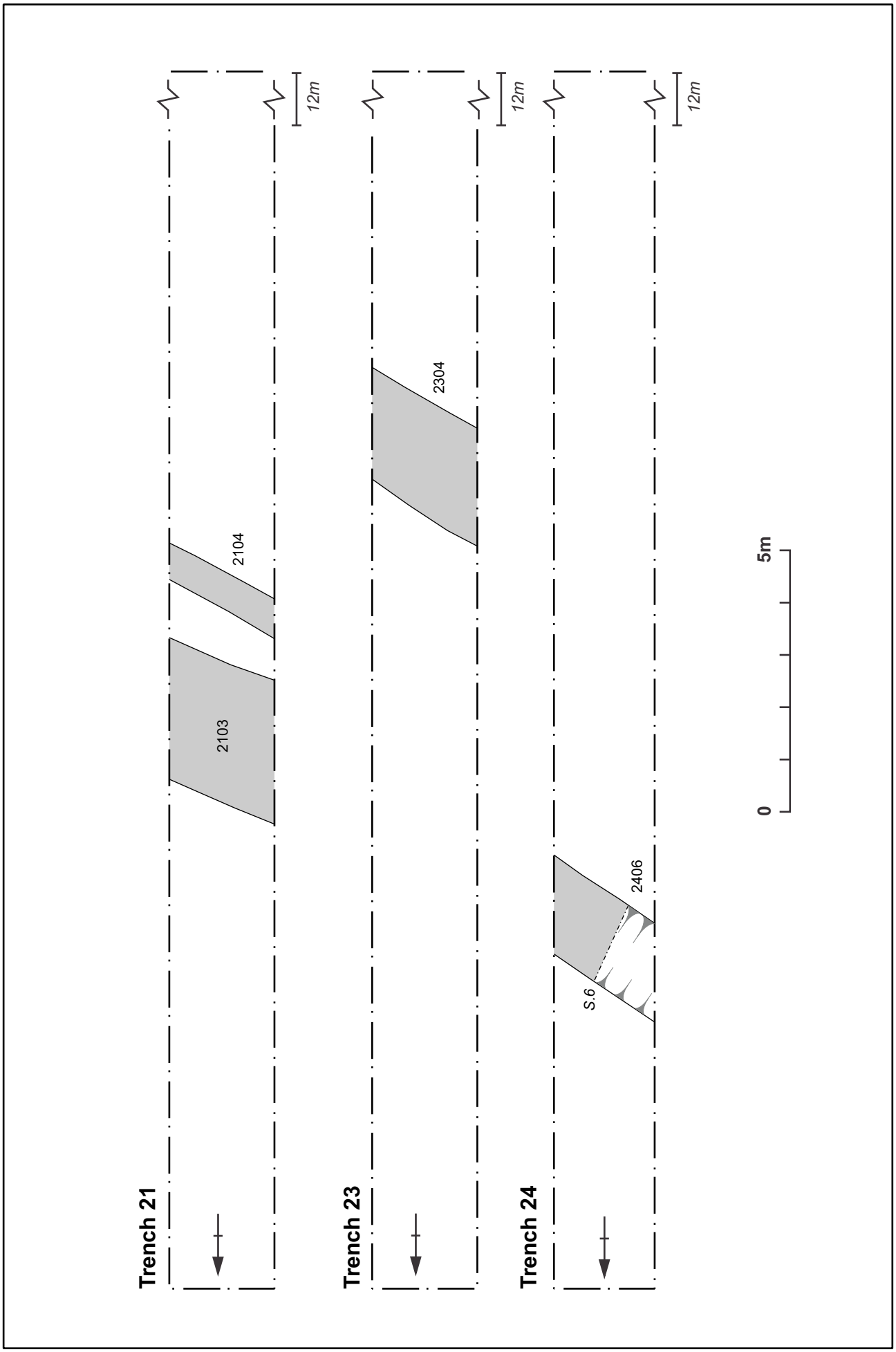
Trench 23 was aligned north to south and located close to the western boundary in the southern part of the development area (Fig 2). A single ditch was identified that was not clearly seen in the geophysical survey, the L-shaped anomaly that was seen in the survey is likely to have been contained in the subsoil only and probably related to compression of soil along an access route through the boundary.

Ditch, [2304], aligned south-east to north-west, measuring 1.8m wide, was identified (Fig 9). It was the continuation of ditch [2406] in Trench 24 and the unexcavated fill was comparable to fill (2403). No finds were recovered from this feature.

Trench 24

Trench 24 was aligned north to south in the southern part of the development area (Fig 2). A single ditch was identified that matched the geophysical anomaly recorded in the survey.

Ditch [2406], aligned south-east to north-west, measuring 1.67m wide and 0.75m deep was identified towards the northern end of the trench (Fig 5, Section 6; Fig 9). It continued to the north-west as ditch [2304] in Trench 23. It contained a basal fill of eroded natural material (2405) sealed by two backfill deposits (2404 and 2403) deliberately deposited to infill the feature prior to its removal as a boundary. A sherd of 19th or 20th-century pottery and two fragments of 18th or 19th-century wine bottle glass were recovered from the ditch.



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Plans of trenches 21, 23 and 29 Fig 9

6 THE FINDS by Tora Hylton

6.1 Pottery

Two sherds of post-medieval pottery with a combined weight of 21.4g were recovered from Trenches 18 and 24. A flatware base sherd in Iron glazed earthenware was recovered from a medieval/post-medieval trackway [1803] and an undiagnostic sherd in a utilitarian whiteware fabric was located within the fill of a linear boundary ditch [2406]. Both sherds date to the 19th or 20th centuries. The pottery will not be retained.

6.2 Other finds

Other finds recovered included two pieces of bottle glass from Trench 24, ditch [2406] and an amorphous fragment of iron, possibly a clenched nail shank from Trench 18, trackway [1803]. The bottle glass is represented by a base sherd from a wine bottle and a complete neck from a bottle; the style of both pieces and particularly the neck of the bottle suggest a late 18th or early 19th century date. These finds will not be retained.

7 DISCUSSION

The evaluation in general supported the results of the previous geophysical survey with no archaeological activity identified in the northern two fields. The furrows forming part of the ridge and furrow cultivation system, likely to date from the medieval to post-medieval period, did not intrude into the natural substrate except in Trench 16. Faint traces of two furrows, aligned with the survey anomalies, were observed in this trench, elsewhere the furrows are likely to have been entirely contained within the subsoil. In the southernmost field two phases of activity were recorded; the undated ring ditch and the post-medieval and modern boundaries and trackways.

7.1 Ring ditch

The undated ring ditch in Trench 19 was a substantial feature, with an internal diameter of 9.5m, positioned on a false crest on the rising land if viewed from the south-west of the site. There was no evidence for mound material within the overlying sequence nor were indicative slipped deposits identified within the ditches. The two possible pits in the interior are likely to relate to its use as there were no other similar features encountered within the trenches. It is possible that this ring ditch was a prehistoric monument otherwise isolated within this area. However, the possibility that it was a later feature, possibly a windmill ditch cannot be ruled out.

7.2 Field systems and trackways

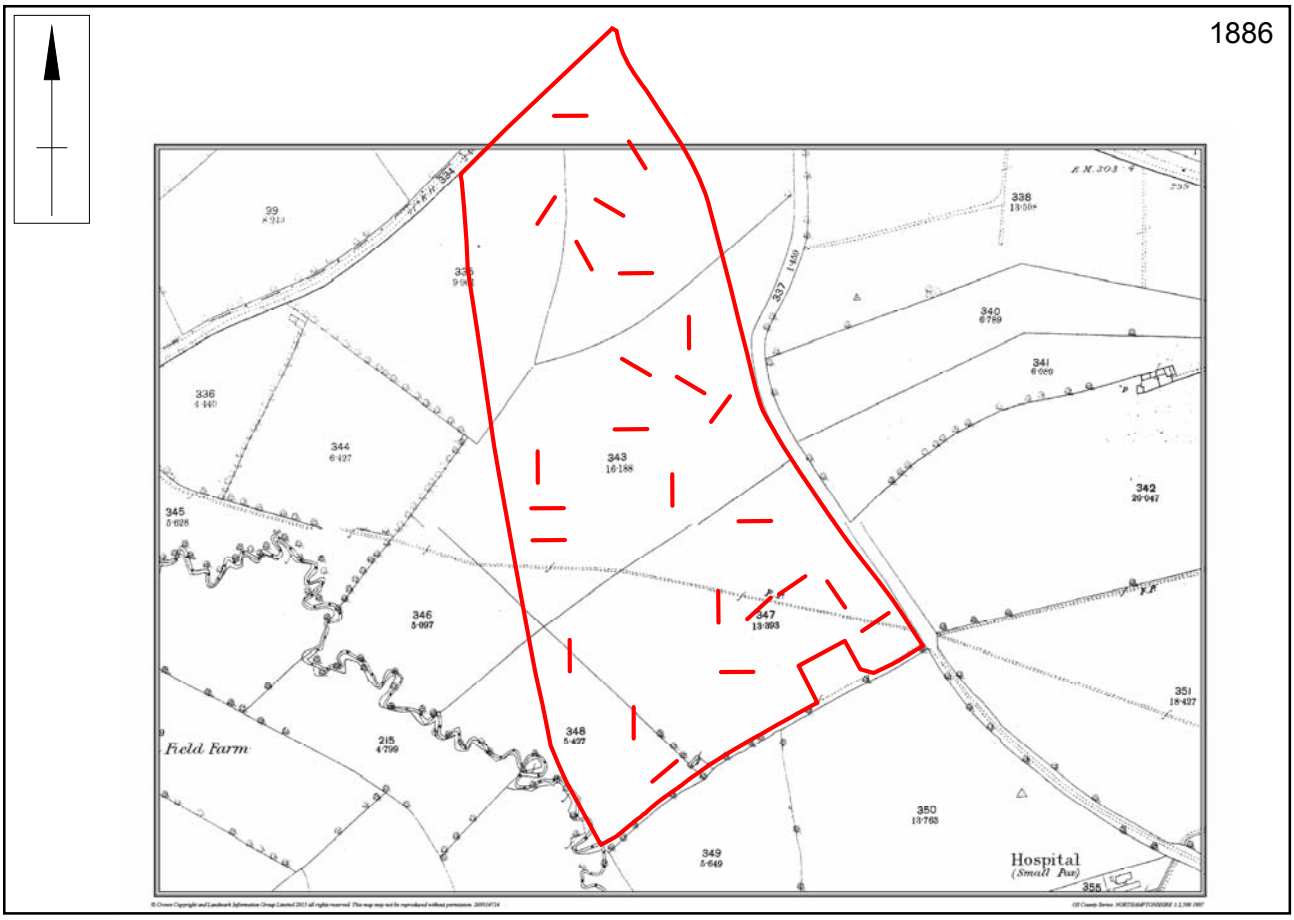
The southernmost field also contained evidence for medieval to post-medieval trackways and a series of post-medieval field boundaries that remained in use till the later 20th century.

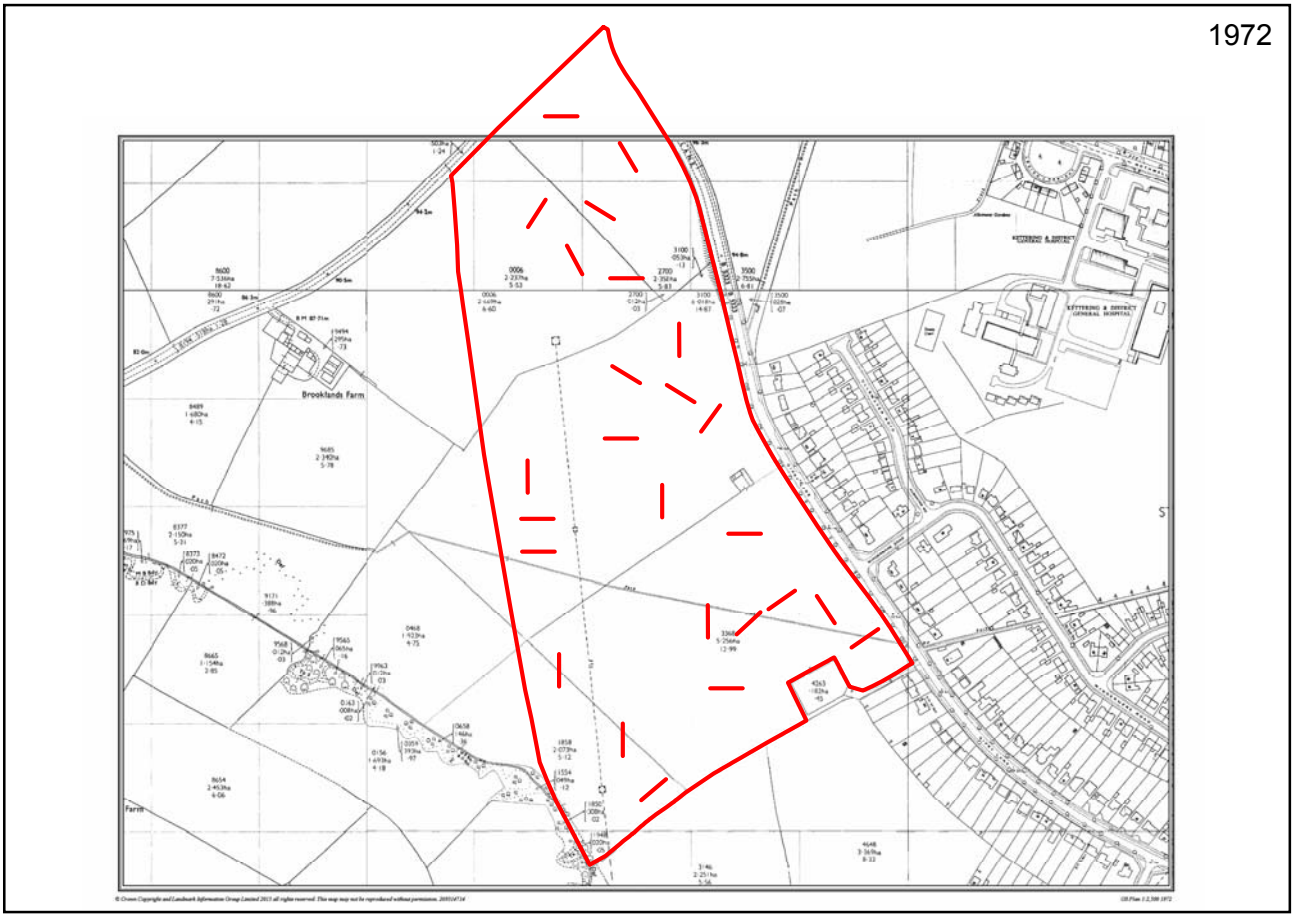
The trackway, aligned east to west, recorded in the geophysical survey was only clearly identified in Trenches 20 and 21 where it was associated with a parallel drainage ditch. Both the trackway and drainage ditches were extremely shallow. The geophysical anomaly is likely to have been formed by compression of the overlying

subsoil during its use. The trackway is recorded as a footpath on the 1st Edtion Ordnance Survey map dated 1886 (Fig 10). The Historic Environment Record lists this as the likely position of the medieval Thorpe Malsor to Kettering road, however, the surviving remains are not indicative of a heavily travelled road but are indicative of an occasionally used path.

The trackway recorded in Trench 18 was offset from its northern side and was also associated with a drainage ditch. It survived well, with evidence for cart ruts digging into the underlying natural substrate. It is likely to have continued in use till the 19th century but was not recorded on the 1886 Ordnance Survey map and is therefore likely to have fallen out of use before this date, perhaps when Gipsy Lane increased in prominence.

The ditch in Trenches 23 and 24 formed part of a rectilinear field system lying between the meandering stream to the south-west and Gipsy Lane to the north-east. It is uncertain when these fields were laid out but the boundary is present on the 1886 Ordnance Survey map and was still present till at least 1972 (Fig 10). It is likely that the ditch was backfilled and the present field boundaries constructed in the 1980's when the stream was diverted and the A14 road was constructed.





Ordnance Survey maps of 1886 and 1972, showing trench locations Fig 10

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MOLA

June 2015

APPENDIX: CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, W end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
1	**30m x 1.6m W-E**		**95.32m**	**0.26-0.28m 95.06-95.04m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
101	Topsoil	Friable mid grey-brown silty loam.	0.26 - 0.28m thick	-
102	Natural	Mid brown-orange clayey silt with frequent angular fragments of ironstone throughout.	0.05 - 0.11m visible	-

Trench 1, general view, looking east

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, NW end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
2	**30m x 1.6m NW-SE**		**96.60m**	**0.25-0.28m 96.35-96.32m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
201	Topsoil	Friable mid grey-brown silty loam with frequent angular ironstone fragments throughout.	0.25 - 0.28m thick	-
202	Natural	Mixed. Mid brown-orange clayey silt with ironstone. Patches of brown-orange and white-yellow silty sand. At north-west end it is brown-yellow clayey silt with compact ironstone throughout.	0.05 - 0.12m visible	-

Trench 2, general view, looking south-east

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, SW end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
3	**30m x 1.6m NE-SW**		**89.67m**	**0.25 - 0.27m 89.42-89.40m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
301	Topsoil	Friable mid grey-brown silty loam.	0.25 - 0.27m thick	-
302	Natural	Mid brown-orange clayey silt with occasional ironstone fragments throughout.	0.08 - 0.12m visible	-

Trench 3, general view, looking north-east

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, NW end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
4	**30m x 1.6m NW-SE**		**92.72m**	**0.26 - 0.28m 92.46-92.44m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
401	Topsoil	Friable mid grey-brown silty loam.	0.26 - 0.28m thick	-
402	Natural	Mid brown-orange clayey silt with frequent angular fragments of ironstone throughout.	0.05 - 0.11m thick	-

Trench 4, general view, looking north-west

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, SE end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
5	**30m x 1.6m NW-SE**		**87.97mm**	**0.40 - 0.57m 87.57-87.40m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
501	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown silty loam.	0.28 - 0.37m thick	-
502	Subsoil	Mid yellow-grey-brown silty clay.	0.12 - 0.20m thick	-
503	Natural	Mid brown-yellow with some blue silty clay mottling.	0.08 - 0.11m visible	-

Trench 5, general view, looking north-west

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, E end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
6	**30m x 1.6m E-W**		**91.88m**	**0.24 - 0.28m 91.64-91.60m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
601	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown silty loam with frequent ironstone fragments throughout.	0.24 - 0.28m thick	-
602	Natural	Mid brown-yellow silty clay.	0.11m visible	-

Trench 6, general view, looking east

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, N end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
7	**30m x 1.6m N-S**		**90.65m**	**0.26 - 0.32m 90.39-90.33m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
701	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown silty clay.	0.26 - 0.32m	-
702	Natural	Mid yellow-brown silty clay with occasional ironstone inclusions.	0.07 - 0.13m visible	-

Trench 7, general view, looking south

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, NW end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
8	**30m x 1.6m NW-SE**		**86.72m**	**0.27 - 0.29m 86.45-86.43m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
801	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown silty clay.	0.27 - 0.29m thick	-
802	Natural	Mid yellow-brown silty clay with occasional ironstone inclusions.	0.07 - 0.15m visible	-

Trench 8, general view, looking north-west

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, NW end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
9	**30m x 1.6m NW-SE**		**92.05m**	**0.28 - 0.29m 91.77-91.76m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
901	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown loose silty loam.	0.28 - 0.29m thick	-
902	Natural	Mid brown-orange clayey silt mixed with ironstone. Patches of yellow-blue clay and large stones at the north-west end.	0.09 - 0.12m visible	-

Trench 9, general view, looking south-east

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, NE end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
10	**30m x 1.6m NE-SW**		**95.50m**	**0.26-0.28m 95.24-95.22m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
1001	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown loose silty loam.	0.26 - 0.28m thick	-
1002	Natural	Mid brown-orange slightly clayey silt mixed with occasional ironstone inclusions.	0.06 - 0.11m visible	-

Trench 10, general view, looking north-east

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, E end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
11	**30m x 1.6m E-W**		**91.16m**	**0.26 - 0.28m 90.90-90.88m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
1101	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown loose silty loam.	0.26 - 0.28m thick	-
1102	Natural	Mid brown-orange slightly clayey silt mixed with occasional ironstone inclusions.	0.05 - 0.10m visible	-

Trench 11, general view, looking east

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, N end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
12	**30m x 1.6m N-S**		**91.06m**	**0.25 - 0.32m 90.81-90.74m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
1201	Topsoil	Mid brown-grey silty loam with frequent ironstone throughout.	0.25 - 0.32m thick	-
1202	Natural	Mid brown-orange clayey silt with occasional ironstone inclusions.	0.09 - 0.10m visible	-

Trench 12, general view, looking north

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, N end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
13	**30m x 1.6m N-S**		**82.64m**	**0.30m 82.34m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
1301	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown loose silty loam.	0.30m thick	-
1302	Natural	Light-mid brown-orange clayey silt with occasional patches of light yellow-blue clay.	0.09 - 0.12m visible	-

Trench 13, general view, looking south

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, E end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
14	**30m x 1.6m E-W**		**84.81m**	**0.28-0.32m 84.53-84.49m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
1401	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown loose silty loam.	0.28 - 0.32m thick	-
1402	Natural	Mid brown-orange slightly clayey silt mixed with occasional ironstone inclusions.	0.06 - 0.11m visible	-

Trench 14, general view, looking east

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, W end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
15	**30m x 1.6m E-W**		**82.06m**	**0.25-0.30m 81.81-81.76m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
1501	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown loose silty loam.	0.25 - 0.30m thick	-
1502	Natural	Mid brown-orange slightly clayey silt mixed with occasional ironstone inclusions.	0.06 - 0.11m thick	-

Trench 15, general view, looking east

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, E end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
16	**30m x 1.6m E-W**		**93.10m**	**0.27-0.29m 92.83-92.81m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
1601	Topsoil	Mid brown-grey silty loam with frequent ironstone frgaments throughout.	0.27 - 0.29m thick	-
1602	Natural	Mid brown-orange clayey silt with ironstone fragments throughout.	0.05 - 0.08m visible	-

Trench 16, general view, looking east

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, NE end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
17	**30m x 1.6m NE-SW**		**93.01m**	**0.32-0.33m 92.69-92.68m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
1701	Topsoil	Mid brown-grey silty loam with frequent ironstone frgaments throughout.	0.32 - 0.33m thick	-
1702	Natural	Mid brown-orange clayey silt with ironstone fragments throughout.	-	-

Trench 17, general view, looking north-east

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, NW end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
18	**30m x 1.6m NW-SE**		**92.42m**	**0.43m 109.31m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
1801	Topsoil	Mid brown-grey silty loam with frequent ironstone frgaments throughout.	0.30 - 0.34m thick	-
1802	Natural	Mid brown-orange clayey silt with ironstone fragments throughout.	-	-
1803	Trackway	Linear feature aligned north-south with wide irregular U-shaped profile and uneven base.	2.80m wide, 0.35m deep	-
1804	Fill of [1803]	Firm mid brown silty clay with rare charcoal flecks throughout.	2.80m wide, 0.35m thick	Pottery, iron nail
1805	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned north-southwith irregular U-shaped profile and uneven base.	0.80m wide, 0.10m deep	-
1806	Fill of [1805]	Firm mid brown silty clay with occasional small sub-angular ironstone inclusions.	0.80m wide, 0.10m thick	-

Trench 18, general view, looking south-east

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, NE end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
19	**30m x 1.6m NE-SW**		**92.07m**	**0.26-0.32m 91.81-91.75m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
1901	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown friable clayey silt.	0.26 - 0.32m thick	-
1902	Natural	Mid brown-orange clayey sand, predominantly sand containing frequent small-medium sub-angular fragments of ironstone.	0.14 - 0.20m visible	-
1903	Fill of [1907]	Firm mid brown-grey clayey sand.	0.95m wide, 0.11m thick	-
1904	Fill of [1907]	Firm mid orange-brown clayey sand with frequent small to medium sub-angular fragments of ironstone throughout.	2.22m wide, 0.75m thick	-
1905	VOID	VOID	VOID	- VOID
1906	Fill of [1907]	Firm light brown-grey clayey sand.	0.40m wide, 0.10m thick	-
1907	Ditch	Curvilinear ditch with steep-sided U-shaped profile and flat base.	2.22m wide, 0.85m deep	-
1908	Fill of [1911]	Friable mid grey-yellow silty sand with occasional ironstone fragments throughout.	2.10m wide, 0.56m thick	-
1909	Fill of [1911]	Friable dark brown-grey silty sand with occasional small ironstone fragments throughout.	1.20m wide, 0.20m thick	-
1910	Fill of [1911]	Friable mid yellow-brown clayey sand with occasional large angular ironstone fragments.	0.70m wide, 0.35m thick	-
1911	Ditch	Curvilinear ditch with steep-sided U-shaped profile and flat base.	2.10m wide, 0.90m deep	-
1912	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
1913	Fill of [1914]	Light brown-yellow sand, much less ironstone than surrounding natural. Not excavated.	0.95m diameter	-
1914	Pit?	Sub-circular feature, possible pit or natural feature. Not excavated.	0.95m diameter	-
1915	Fill of [1916]	Mid brown-yellow sand, noticeable absence of ironstone in the fill. Not excavated.	2.10m long, 0.10m wide	-
1916	Pit?	Possible sub-rectangular/sub-square pit within ring ditch. Not excavated.	2.10m long, 0.10m wide	-

Trench 19, general view, looking north-east

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, NE end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
20	**30m x 1.6m NE-SW**		**90.11m**	**0.30-0.33m 89.81-89.78m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
2001	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown friable clayey silt.	0.30 - 0.33m thick	-
2002	Natural	Mid brown-orange clayey sand, predominantly sand containing frequent small-medium sub-angular fragments of ironstone.	-	-
2003	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned east to west with U-shaped profile and concave base.	1.30m wide, 0.42m deep	-
2004	Fill of [2003]	Firm mid brown silty clay with frequent small to medium sub-angular ironstone fragments throughout.	1.30m wide, 0.42m thick	-

Trench 20, general view, looking north-east

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, N end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
21	**30m x 1.6m N-S**		**88.55m**	**0.27-0.34m 88.28-88.21m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
2101	Topsoil	Mid brown-grey silty loam.	0.27 - 0.34m thick	-
2102	Natural	Mid brown-orange clayey silt with occasional ironstone fragments throughout.	0.06 - 0.10m visible	-
2103	Trackway?	Possible continuation of trackway present in Trench 18. Not clear in plan. Not excavated.	-	-
2104	Ditch?	Possible line of ditch/hedgerow parallel with the possible trackway. Not clear in plan. Not excavated.	-	-

Trench 21, general view, looking north

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, E end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
22	**30m x 1.6m E-W**		**86.16m**	**0.27m 85.89m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
2201	Topsoil	Mid brown-grey silty loam.	0.27m thick	-
2202	Natural	Mid brown-orange clayey silt with occasional ironstone fragments throughout.	0.05 - 0.09m visible	-

Trench 22, general view, looking west

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, N end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
23	**30m x 1.6m N-S**		**78.63m**	**0.27-0.30m 78.36-78.33m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
2301	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown clayey silt.	0.27 - 0.30m thick	-
2302	Natural	Light-mid orange-brown clayey silt.	0.03 - 0.10m visible	-
2303	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned north-west to south-east. Not excavated.	-	-

Trench 23, general view, looking north

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, N end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
24	**30m x 1.6m N-S**		**77.95m**	**0.27-0.30m 77.68-77.65m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
2401	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown clayey silt.	0.27 - 0.30m thick	-
2402	Natural	Mid orange-brown clayey silt.	0.08 - 0.13m visible	-
2403	Fill of [2406]	Firm mid brown-grey silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks throughout and occasional ironstone fragments.	1.35m wide, 0.17m thick	-
2404	Fill of [2406]	Firm mid brown-orange silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and rare ironstone fragments throughout.	1.46m wide, 0.30m thick	Pottery, glass
2405	Fill of [2406]	Firm-friable mid brown-grey silty clay with occasional root disturbance throughout.	1.04m wide, 0.28m thick	-
2406	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned north-west to south-east with steep-sided U-shaped profile and concave base.	1.67m wide, 0.75m deep	-

Trench 24, general view, looking north

Trench No.	**Length, width & alignment**		**Surface height, NE end (aOD)**	**Depth & height of natural (aOD)**
25	**30m x 1.6m NE-SW**		**76.64m**	**0.20-0.28m 76.44-76.36m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
2501	Topsoil	Mid brown-grey silty clay.	0.20 - 0.28m thick	-
2502	Natural	Mottled yellow-orange and green-blue silty clay in south-western half of trench; becomes brown-orange clayey silt in the north-eastern half.	0.05 - 0.18m visible	-

Trench 25, general view, looking north-east

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