Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation on land at Stoke Doyle Road, Oundle Northamptonshire April 2021

Report No. 21/037

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Site Code: ENN110104
NGR: TL 03230 88077

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OASIS REPORT FORM

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ACTIVITY TYPE			
Project/ Activity type	Evaluation		
Reason for investigation	Planning requirement		
Development type	Residential development		
Planning reference ID	N/A		
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Site name	Oundle, Stoke Doyle Road		
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National organisation	N/A		
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Methodological summary	MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology) was commissioned by RPS on behalf of David Wilson Homes (South Midlands) to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Stoke Doyle Road, Oundle, Northamptonshire. Fourteen trenches were excavated.		
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Monuments found/ date	Sunken Featured Building, Furrows		
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Description of outcomes/ summary of research framework contribution	MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology) was commissioned by RPS on behalf of David Wilson Homes (South Midlands) to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Stoke Doyle Road, Oundle, Northamptonshire. Fourteen trenches were excavated. The remains of two possible early medieval sunken featured buildings were identified as well as evidence for later post-medieval boundaries and ridge and furrow cultivation.		
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Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation on land at Stoke Doyle Road, Oundle Northamptonshire April 2021

ABSTRACT

MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology) was commissioned by RPS, on behalf of David Wilson Homes (South Midlands), to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Stoke Doyle Road, Oundle, Northamptonshire. Fourteen trenches were excavated. The remains of two possible early medieval sunken featured buildings were identified as well as evidence for later post-medieval boundaries and ridge and furrow cultivation.

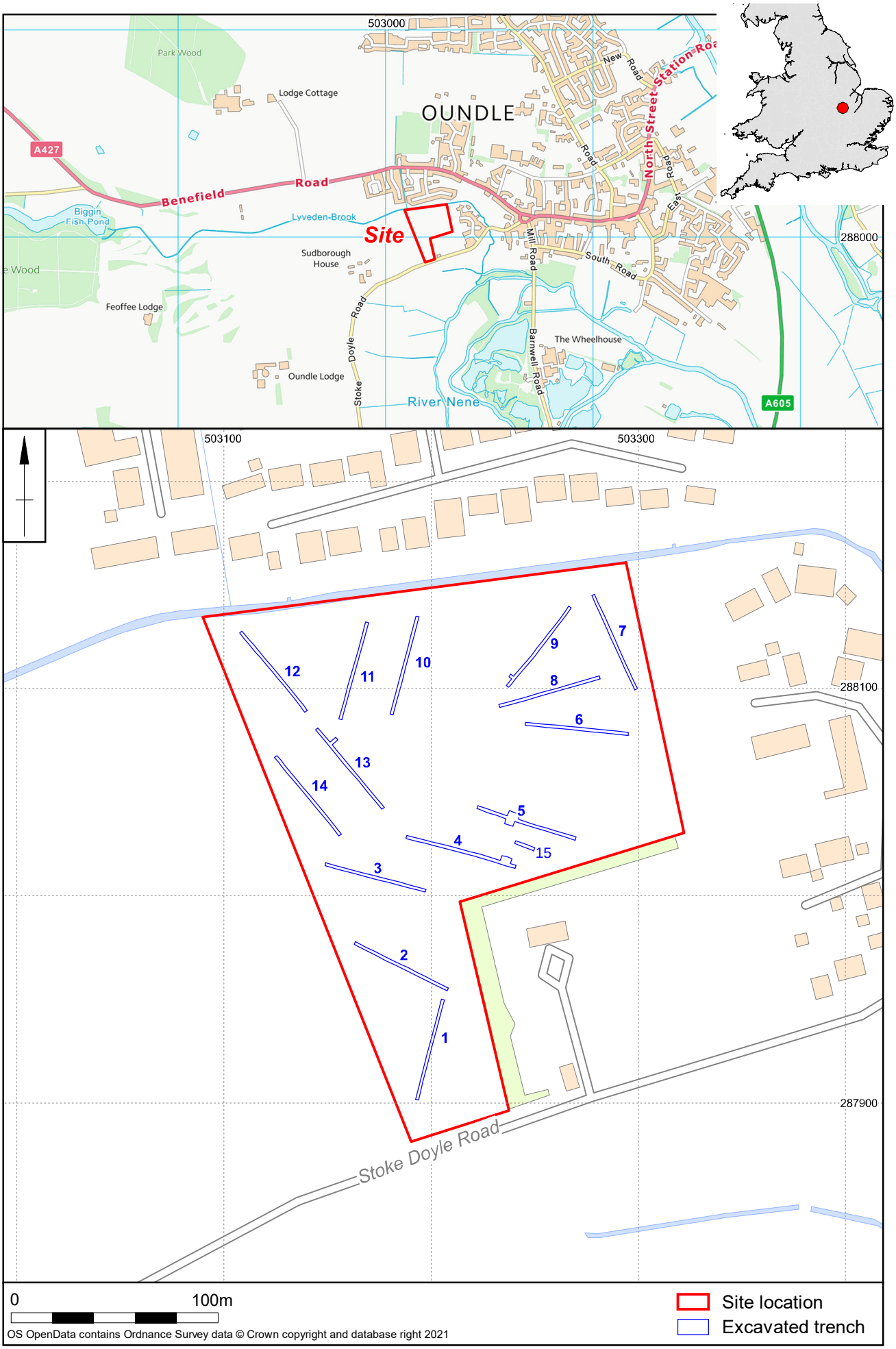
1 INTRODUCTION

MOLA Northampton was commissioned by RPS, on behalf of David Wilson Homes (South Midlands), to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation at Stoke Doyle Road, Oundle (NGR TL 03230 88077; Fig. 1) prior to the submission of a planning application for residential development and cemetery extension. The location of the proposed development is within a potentially archaeologically sensitive area. As such, the Northamptonshire County Council Assistant Archaeological Advisor (NCCAAA) required a programme of archaeological evaluation to inform an appropriate mitigation strategy ahead of intrusive development works.

The archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019). The methodology for trial trench evaluation complied with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (MOLA 2021), which was approved by the Northamptonshire County Council County Archaeological Advisor (NCCCAA). MOLA is a Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) registered organisation, and all works were undertaken according to the CIfA *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2019).

The Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record (NHER) event number for the site is **ENN110104**.

ENN110104



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Site location and excavated trenches Fig 1

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Location, geology and topography

The proposed development area is an L-shaped plot of land centred on NGR TL 03230 88077 (Fig. 1). It comprises two former arable fields, totalling approximately 3.5ha. It is located on the western edge of Oundle, north of Stoke Doyle Road. The Lyveden Brook defines the northern edge of the site, with the main course of the River Nene being located *c.* 500m to the south. The area is largely enclosed by mature hedgerows but borders a cemetery to the south-east and the Clifton Drive housing estate is located to the north. Agricultural fields are found to the south, west and north-east.

The land slopes towards the flood plain of the Nene to the south, with a less pronounced fall to the Lyveden Brook to the north of the site. The highest point of the site is situated at *c.* 34m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) towards the middle of the development area, and the lowest lies at *c.* 29m aOD adjacent to Stoke Doyle Road.

The British Geological Survey records the solid geology of the site as Blisworth Limestone Formation limestone across the higher ground, overlying Rutland Formation argillaceous rocks with subordinate Sandstone and Limestone to the north and south of the site (BGS 2021). No superficial deposits are recorded as being present within the proposed development area. The soils are characterised as a freely draining lime-rich loamy soils by the Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute (CSAI 2021).

2.2 Historical and archaeological background

The archaeological background to the proposed development area was presented in detail by a Desk Based Assessment (DBA) undertaken immediately before the start of the fieldwork (RPS 2021). The DBA included a search of the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record (NHER) for designated and non-designated heritage assets within a 1km radius of the proposed development site boundary. A summary of the previously compiled archaeological and historical background is presented in summary below:

Prehistoric

Evidence of nearby early prehistoric activity is limited to a single entry referring to possible unstratified Palaeolithic finds to the south-west of Oundle (NHER 2346/0/0). Similarly, there is little evidence for Neolithic activity, except for a questionable Neolithic hearth located *c.* 80m to the east of the study site (NHER 4602/0/1).

The DBA noted that Bronze Age activity has been recorded within close proximity to the study site. This comprised a pit that was identified *c.* 50m east of the site and a cremation cemetery located *c.* 50m south of the site (NHER 2418/1). A bowl barrow (Scheduled Monument 1012145) burial monument is located *c.* 370m to the south, east of Oundle Lodge.

Evidence for prehistoric settlement in the wider area includes a possible Bronze Age settlement site (NHER2380/0/0), located by fieldwalking *c.* 360m west of the study site. late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pits, and a late Iron Age/Roman roundhouse ring ditch were recorded as part of an excavation *c.* 750m north of the study site at land to the rear of George Inn, Glapthorn Road, Oundle (NHER7072). Evidence for likely Iron Age settlement (NHER7668/0/1) has also been identified during archaeological investigations within Oundle (ENN105457, ENN106169, and ENN108098), *c* 700m east of the study site.

Roman

Roman evidence from the vicinity of the study site is limited to a number of unstratified finds, however, small amounts of unstratified Roman pottery and tile have been found *c.* 50m east of the study site (NHER5366/0/0).

The DBA suggests that during the Roman period, settlement activity was focused at Ashton, *c.* 2km east of the study site, however, it also notes that a Roman settlement was identified *c.* 750m to the north of the study site (NHER 7072) where archaeological excavations identified a late Iron Age/Roman ring ditch, and a 2nd to 4th century series of ditched enclosures, a walled enclosure, and a well.

Early Medieval

The settlement of Oundle is likely to have been of early medieval date, with a scheduled settlement enclosure (NHER1006619) located within the centre of the town. The Church of St. Peter (NHER2416/1) and Burystede Manor (NHER2416/6) are both early medieval in origin. Oundle is recorded as having been a prominent administrative centre through the period and was a monastic centre for much of this time.

A sunken featured building, hearth, and unstratified finds including early Saxon pottery (NHER 5366) were discovered during residential development *c* 50m to the east of the study site at Warren Bridge. Further afield, a mid-6th- and 7th-century Anglo-Saxon cemetery site was excavated *c.* 750m to the north of the study site, situated within part of the earlier Roman enclosure (NHER 7072).

Medieval, post-medieval and modern

The DBA highlighted the fact that NHER contains a large number of entries of medieval, post-medieval and modern date but that these are largely located within the historic core of Oundle (NHER2416), *c.* 140m to the east of the proposed development area.

Map regression indicates that the site has been depicted as undeveloped fields from the early 19th century onwards with some usage as allotments in the early 20th century.

The presence of ridge and furrow within the study site (detectable by LIDAR and geophysical survey) suggests that the proposed development area was also under arable cultivation during the medieval period.

Recent Archaeological Works

A geophysical survey of the site was undertaken in 2018 in support of the planning application (SUMO 2018). The results have been used to inform in to inform the programme of archaeological evaluation proposed in this document (Fig. 2). The survey results are dominated by traces of ridge and furrow across the site, along with former modern allotment divisions and an associated trackway. Whilst there were no anomalies of definite archaeological origin, the report highlights a small number of discrete responses which could be associated with early medieval sunken-featured buildings.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Project aims

The purpose of the work was to examine and understand the nature, function and character of the archaeological site in its cultural and environmental setting and to preserve by record, that which will be negatively impacted or destroyed by the development.

The trial trench evaluation aimed to determine the presence/absence of archaeological remains and the significance of any remains that are encountered. It proposed to achieve this by attempting to:

- Establish the date, nature and extent of the activity or occupation identified;
- to test the geophysical anomalies identified as potential sunken featured buildings;
- recover artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region;
- recover palaeo-environmental remains to determine past local environmental conditions; and
- produce a report which will present the results of the evaluation in sufficient detail to inform a decision to be made concerning the site's archaeological potential.

The overall objectives for the site can be summarised as:

- To elucidate our understanding of the archaeological remains present at the site; and
- To assist in the characterisation of the site's evidence in order to inform future mitigation strategies.

3.2 Research framework

The results of the archaeological evaluation were considered in light of the archaeological research framework for the region (EMHERF 2021).

It is possible that this evaluation may contribute to the knowledge of settlement distribution during the early Anglo-Saxon period with the identification of sunken featured buildings (SFBs), especially as SFBs were found nearby during previous excavations.

4 METHODOLOGY

The works were carried out in accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (MOLA 2021), and they also compplied with the national standards set by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2019) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (CIfA 2020a), as well as the Historic England guidance document *MoRPHE* (HE 2015).

All works followed the recording procedures detailed in MOLA's Archaeological Fieldwork Manual (MOLA 2014), which is issued to all staff.

The proposed archaeological evaluation comprised the excavation of 14 trenches dispersed across the site (Fig. 2). The 14 trenches (50m by 1.8m) amount to 3.5% of the overall site area. The rationale behind the placement of the trenches was to rapidly assess the archaeological potential of a wide sample of the site whilst targeting anomalies of archaeological interest identified by the geophysical survey. Their positions were subject to on-site constraints.

The NCCAAA and consultant were informed of any necessary changes to the agreed trench layout. Later modifications to the trench plan included a minor repositioning of Trench 5 (to respect a safety stand-off zone), Trenches 4, 5, 9, 13 and 14 were extended and Trench 15 was added to test for the continuation of a ditch identified in Trench 4 (Fig. 2).

Trenches were located using a Leica Survey Grade RTK GPS operating to an accuracy of +/-0.05m to Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum. Trenches were machine-excavated using a flat toothless bucket 1.8m wide under continuous archaeological supervision. The depth of excavation was sufficient to reach the first horizon of archaeological remains or, where these were absent, the upper interface of geological deposits. Topsoil and subsoil were stored separately on either side of the trench, at least 1m from the trench edges. Excavation did not proceed beyond safe working depths.

Unstratified artefacts were sought and recovered from trench spoil heaps. Metal detectors were used to aid in the recovery of unstratified artefacts from trench spoil heaps and stratified artefacts from archaeological features (not discriminating against iron).

The trenches were cleaned sufficiently to enhance the definition of features, unless it was certain that there were no archaeological remains present. All features were planned at a suitable scale (1:100, 1:50 or 1:20) and excavated to determine their date and character. Investigation slots through linear features were minimum 1m in width. All excavated features were given a separate context number and their character and composition were recorded on MOLA pro-forma record sheets. Finds were collected from the individual deposits and packed and stored in a stable condition by context (CIfA 2020b; Watkinson and Neal 2001).

A photographic record was maintained by high resolution digital photography that exceeded 12 megapixels. Overall images of the site were taken prior to excavation. Detail images of features were taken as appropriate. All photos except general site images included a north arrow and suitable photographic scale.

The field data was compiled into a site archive with appropriate cross-referencing in accordance with relevant guidelines (HE 2015). Following completion of the fieldwork and reporting, born-digital data, such as reports, digital photographs, database and GIS data, with appropriate metadata, will be deposited with a CoreTrustSeal Repository, currently the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), making the archive publicly accessible. MOLA's procedures and policy for born-digital data is outlined in MOLA's Digital Management documents (MOLA forthcoming) and summarized for this particular project in the Data Management Plan (MOLA 2021).

Scale 1:2500

Geophysical survey greyscale and excavated trenches

Fig 2

ENN110104

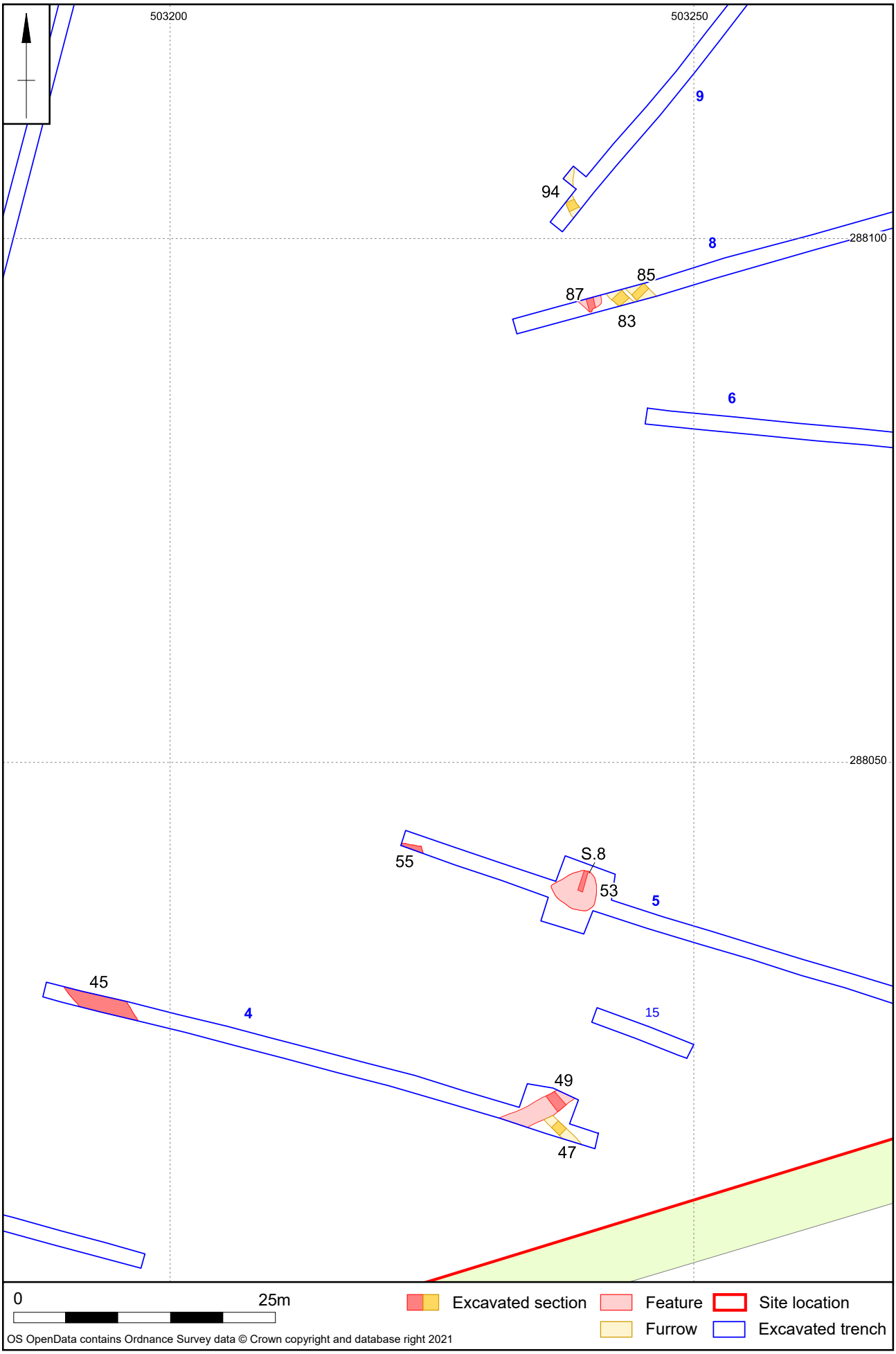
5 EVALUATION RESULTS

5.1 General stratigraphy

At the southern edge of the site the natural substrate comprised red-brown silty clay. Across the remainder of the evaluated area, the substrate was characterised as loose light-yellow sand with frequent flat angular limestone. Sporadic patches of the red-brown silty clay were encountered throughout.

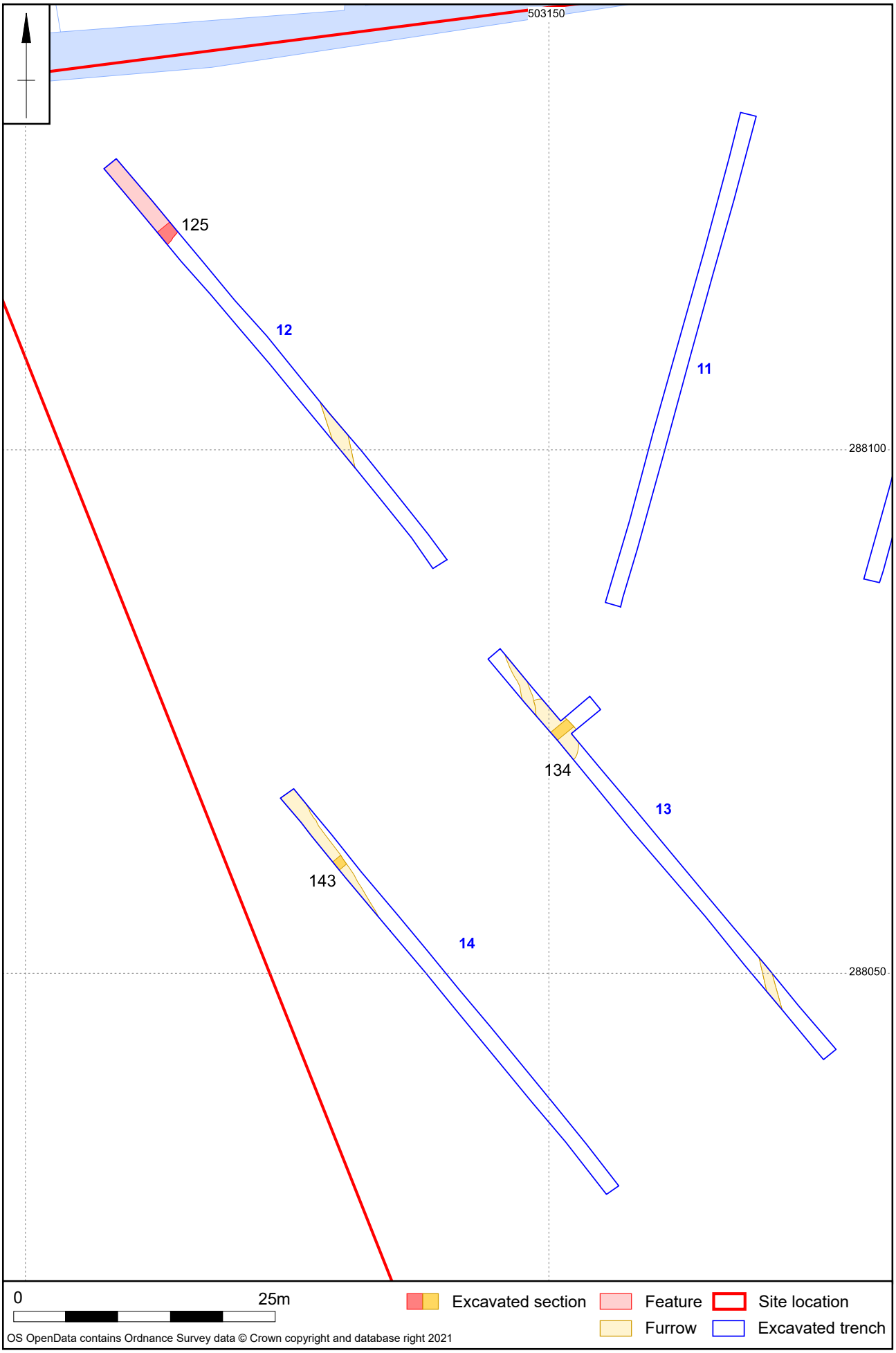
Subsoil was recorded sporadically in Trenches 3, 7, 9 – 11, and 13 and was characterised by thin layers of mid grey-brown sandy loam, 0.06m to 0.20m deep. The subsoil was slightly thicker in Trench 9 where it was 0.21m to 0.45m deep. Colluvium was present in the north-western corner of the site (Trenches 10 – 12). The colluvium was between 0.35m and 0.99m deep and comprised red-brown silty clay. The topsoil was dark grey-black sand or sandy-silt (Fig. 3).

Sample section with general stratigraphy, Trench 12 looking north-east Fig. 3



Scale 1: 500

Plan of Trenches 4-6, 8 and 9 Fig 4



Scale 1: 500

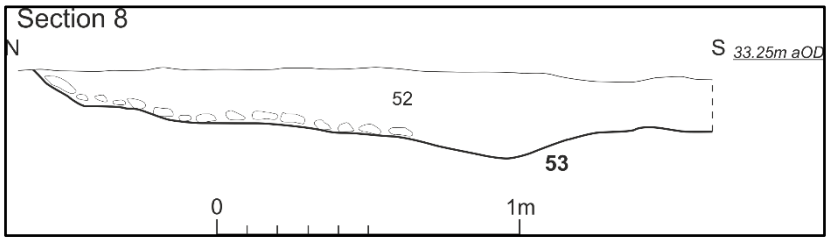
Plan of trenches of 12-14 Fig 5

5.2 The archaeological remains

Archaeological remains were recorded in Trenches 4, 5, 8, 9, and 12 – 14 (Fig.s 4 and 5). These included two possible SFBs, a boundary ditch, furrows and pits (Fig.s 2, 4 and 5). The significant remains were confined to Trench 5, which contained both potential SFBs, whilst the other trenches contained the traces of medieval furrows and Post-medieval or later extraction and boundary features.

Sunken Featured Building (SFB)

In the north-western third of Trench 5, a large irregular feature [53] was investigated and determined to be the remains of a sunken featured building. The feature was approximately tear drop in shape with an initially steep sloping profile side that shallowed out with an uneven base (Fig. 6). The SFB had a diameter of *c.* 4m and was 0.12m deep. It was filled (52) by mid brown clay with small to medium fragments of angular limestone, interspersed throughout (Fig.s 6 and 7). No postholes or other structural evidence was identified within the excavated part of the feature. A moderate pottery assemblage (66 sherds) recovered from the fill of the pit has been dated to the early Anglo-Saxon period. Other finds included animal bone and fragments of slag. A cattle mandible fragment recovered from the fill displayed butchery marks. An unidentified mammal bone fragment showed traces of burning. Analysis of an environmental sample taken from the fill of the feature identified a single charred hazelnut shell and small quantities of charcoal.



Section excavated through SFB [53] Fig. 6

Section excavated through SFB [53], looking east Fig. 7

At the north-western end of Trench 5, a feature was partially exposed within the evaluation trench (Fig. 4). Approximately 2.55m of the feature was visible within the trench. Extension of the trench was not possible due to the proximity of the overhead power cable exclusion zone. Comparison with the geophysical data suggests the feature may relate to a second SFB [55]. The fill (54) comprised mid grey-brown sandy silt with occasional small to medium flecks of charcoal throughout (Fig. 8). A small assemblage of pottery (27 sherds) comprised material dated to the early Anglo-Saxon period. Other finds included animal bone and fragments of slag. Analysis of an environmental sample taken from the fill identified small quantities of carbonised wheat as well fragments of charcoal.

Edge of possible SFB [55], looking south Fig. 8

Furrows

Furrows, associated with medieval open field strip cultivation, were recorded in in Trenches 4, 8, 9, 13 and 14. The furrows were generally aligned north-west to south-east, and their profiles were shallow with gently sloping sides and irregular but mostly flat bases. The alignment of the furrows accords well with the anomalies identified in the geophysical data. The features were between 0.50m and 1.75m wide and 0.06m and 0.21m deep. The fill generally comprised mid grey-brown silty sand with occasional limestone inclusions. Finds recovered from the fills included pottery, animal bone, clay tobacco pipe, coal, ceramic building material, and glass as well as iron and copper alloy objects. Furrows were excavated in Trench 4 [47], Trench 8 [83] and [85], Trench 9 [94], and Trench 14 [143] (Fig.s 2, 4, 5 and 9).

Example of furrow [94], facing north Fig. 9

Other features

At the south-eastern end of Trench 4 were two linear features (Figs 2 and 4). The feature [47] that was aligned north-west to south-east was a furrow that contained pottery dated to between 1600-1800, animal bone, and clay tobacco pipe. The furrow was cut by ditch [49], which was aligned north-east to south-west. It was filled (48) by dark grey-brown sand with frequent limestone inclusions (Fig 10). Fragments of clay tobacco pipe, glass and slag were recovered from the fill. The glass has been dated to the 18th to 19th centuries. Trench 15 was opened to test whether ditch [49] continued further to the east, but no surviving evidence of the feature was identified within this trench.

A linear boundary ditch [45], aligned north-west to south-east, was present at the north-western end of Trench 4 (Fig. 4). The feature correlated well with a linear anomaly identified in the geophysical data. The lower fill (44) comprised light grey-brown silty sand, overlain by fill (43) characterised by grey-brown sandy silt. Pottery sherds and fragments of glass were recovered from the fill. Glass recovered from the lower fill of the ditch has been dated to between 1825 and 1875. Pottery recovered from the upper fill has been dated to between 1860 and 1950. The ditch was partly excavated by machine, however due to its depth not bottomed.

Ditch [49], looking north-west Fig. 10

To the south-west of the excavated furrows in Trench 8 a single pit [87] was recorded. The pit was irregular in plan and was *c.* 2.30m in diameter with a steep-sided profile and irregular base (Fig.s 4 and 11). The fill (86) comprised mid yellow-grey sand with occasional small stones throughout, and contained sherds of pottery, CBM, slate and clay tobacco pipe. In addition, an undiagnostic piece of iron sheet was recovered from the fill. Glass fragments recovered from the fill have been dated to the 18th/19th centuries. The pottery assemblage from this fill has been dated to between 1700 and 1900.

Pit [87], looking east Fig. 11

A large feature [125] encompassed much of the north-western end of Trench 12 (Fig. 5). The nature of the feature remains unclear and could not be defined within the extent of the evaluation trench. However, the feature was observed to have cut through the subsoil and colluvial layers suggesting a relatively modern date, possibly the product of quarrying. The fill (124) comprised mid to dark grey silty sand with occasional limestone and pockets of red sandy silt. Pottery sherds were recovered from the fill and have been dated to between 1700 and 1900.

In the north-western end of Trench 13, a large irregular feature [134] was recorded (Fig. 5). The trench was extended in order to define the north-eastern extent of the feature. The fill (133) comprised gey-brown silty sand with occasional limestone. Pottery sherds, fragments of animal bone and glass were recovered from the fill (Fig. 12). Pottery recovered from the fill of the feature dates to between 1450 and 1600 although fragments of glass recovered from the fill have been dated to the late 19th century. It appeared to be cut on its northern side by a furrow but this relationship is deemed to be questionable. It is likely that feature [134] is the product of localised post-medieval quarrying.

Feature [134], looking north-west Fig. 12

6 THE FINDS

6.1 **The pottery** by Jennifer R McNulty

The pottery assemblage consists of 125 sherds weighing 1058g (an average sherd weight of 8.4g) recovered from 13 fills. The assemblage was examined using a x10 binocular microscope and recorded according the Northamptonshire Anglo-Saxon and Medieval county type-series and current guidelines (MPRG 1998, MPRG 2016). The material ranges in date from the early Saxon period to 20th century (Table 1). The Saxon pottery came from fills (52) and (54) within Trench 5, and the majority of the remainder of the assemblage dates from the 17th century. One likely residual sherd dating from the 11th to the 14th century was recovered from fill (84), a furrow within Trench 8.

Table 1: Summary of pottery assemblage

Context	Feature/ Type	Fabrics present	Count	Weight (g)	Date
20	20/ topsoil	415; 416; 417	3	11	1780-1820
43	45/ ditch	416; 430; 436; N/A	4	89	1860-1950
46	47/ furrow	428	1	1	1600-1800
48	49/ ditch	426	1	21	1700-1900
52	53/ SFB	415; 427; E-M Saxon	66	497	early-middle Saxon
54	55/ SFB	96; E-M Saxon	27	168	early-middle Saxon
82	83/ furrow	409; 426	3	40	1700-1750
84	85/ furrow	308; 403; 409	3	25	1450-1750
86	87/ pit	416; 417; 418; 426; 430; 432	7	58	1700-1900
93	94/ furrow	409; 428	2	10	1680-1750
124	125/ pit	426	2	102	1700-1900
133	134/ pit	403; 430	2	12	1450-1600
142	143/ furrow	413; 415; 428; 429	4	24	1740-1820
TOTAL			**125**	**1058**	

The Saxon pottery assemblage accounts for nearly 70% of the sherds recovered by count. The fabrics are all reduced, mostly black but some grey and a few reddish-brown surfaces, and handmade. Burnishing was common and the only form of decoration recorded amongst the Saxon assemblage. As there is no type-series for Saxon pottery due to local nature of their production, the fabrics have been divided here according to their main inclusion type (Table 2). Five plain, upright rims were recovered and were likely from cooking pots or bowls, although unfortunately most rim sherds were too fragmented to identify to vessel form. One sherd had impressions on the interior surface possibly indicating the presence of a handle. Both fills containing the Saxon pottery related to possible SFBs (features [53] and [55] within Trench 5).

Table 2: Summary of Anglo-Saxon pottery assemblage

Fabric code	Fabric name/description	Count	Weight (g)
96	Raunds Maxey-type ware	2	20
N/A	Common-moderate angular quartz; common-sparse shell; sparse organic voids/impressions; sparse ironstone	22	210
N/A	Common-moderate ironstone; sparse-common shell and limestone; sparse grog, mica and quartz	35	171
N/A	Common-moderate granitic; sparse-common shell; sparse ironstone and quartz	30	226
N/A	Sparse shell, quartz, grog and ironstone	2	33
TOTAL		**91**	**660**

The post-medieval assemblage consists of wares that are commonly found throughout Northamptonshire during this period. Iron-glazed wares and iron-glazed coarsewares likely produced in the Midlands region along with local coarsewares were common in the assemblage and made up the majority (51%) of the post-medieval assemblage by weight (Table 3). The remainder of the post-medieval assemblage consists of wares commonly found across the county during this period, including Staffordshire slipware, creamware, pearlware and English stoneware.

Table 3: Summary of post-medieval pottery

Fabric Code	Fabric Name	Count	Weight (g)	Date
308	Sandy glazed ware	1	5	1100-1400
403	Midland purple	2	28	1450-1600
409	Staffordshire slipware	3	16	1680-1750
413	Manganese glazed ware	1	7	1680-1760
415	Creamware	3	12	1740-1820
416	Underglaze transfer printed	4	11	1780-1900
417	Nottingham salt-glazed stoneware	2	11	1700-1800
418	Pearlware	1	6	1750-1820
426	Iron-glazed coarsewares	6	184	1700-1900
427	Local coarsewares	1	4	1700-1900
428	Iron-glazed wares	3	15	1600-1800
429	Salt-glazed stoneware - white	1	1	1720-1780
430	China	3	26	1860-1950
432	Mocha ware	1	11	1820-1840
436	Porcelain	1	26	1700-1800
N/A	English stoneware	1	35	1700-1800
TOTAL		**34**	**398**	

As a whole, this group suggests there was small-scale domestic activity at the site during the early to middle Saxon period. There is currently no evidence to suggest occupation or activity at the site during the late Saxon through to late medieval period. Activity appears to resume at the site during the late 17th century, although on a smaller scale.

No further work is required at this stage, but that the Saxon material should be considered in association with any further findings from the mitigation work.

6.2 **The ceramic building materials** by Jennifer R McNulty

Eight fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 295g, were recovered during the excavation. All fragments were oxidised and two were amphorous with another fragment displaying a sanded side but too small to identify its use (Table 4). The modern fragment from fill (43), the upper fill of ditch [45] within Trench 4, is possibly part of a pipe.

Table 4: Catalogue of ceramic building material

Context	Feature/ Type	Count	Weight (g)	Description	Date?
20	20/ topsoil	1	4	Flat and sanded on one side, sandy and slightly micaceous	N/A
43	45/ ditch	1	67	Curved, well-sorted with common calcareous inclusions	Modern
52	53/ SFB	1	5	Amphorous fragment, sandy with calcareous inclusions	N/A
86	87/ pit	4	211	Sandy with ironstone and calcareous inclusions	N/A
133	134/ pit	1	8	Amphorous fragment, fine and slightly micaceous	N/A
TOTAL		**8**	**295**	**-**	-

The four fragments recovered from fill (86), part of pit [87] within Trench 8, are the most substantial. The four fragments represent two separate objects; one has larger ironstone inclusions and has not been very well-sorted while the other has a finer fabric and smaller inclusions. Although a surface for each has survived, they have fragmented in such a way that it is not possible to determine their intended use. The largest measurements taken for each are 45mm and 60mm, respectively.

No further work is required. Discard is recommended for all fragments.

6.3 **The clay tobacco pipe** by Jennifer R McNulty

Nine fragments of clay tobacco pipe stem were recovered from five fills during the excavation (Table 5). No decoration was recorded on any of the fragments. Bore hole size was measured using graded drill bits and ranged between 5/64” and 7/64”. Due to the lack of surviving bowl fragments, no dating can be determined as dating based on bore hole size alone is not recommended. However, each of the contexts that clay tobacco pipe was recovered from also contained post-medieval pottery suggesting that the fills date to the post-medieval period.

Table 5: Catalogue of clay tobacco pipe fragments

Context	Feature/ Type	Count	Weight (g)	Length (mm)	Borehole size
46	47/ furrow	1	2	28	7/64"
48	49/ ditch	1	2	43	5/64"
48	49/ ditch	1	3	41	6/64"
48	49/ ditch	1	4	36	7/64"
82	83/ furrow	1	2	29	5/64"
82	83/ furrow	1	2	31	7/64"
86	87/ pit	1	3	37	5/64"
142	143/ furrow	1	1	14	6/64"
142	143/ furrow	1	4	29	7/64"
TOTAL		**9**	**23**	**-**	-

6.4 **Miscellaneous material** by Sander Aerts

Slag

A small number of fragments of undiagnostic ferrous and possible fuel ash slag were found. The quantities and weights per context are given in Table 6.

Table 6: Catalogue of ferrous/fuel ash slag

Context No.	Feature/ Type	No. of fragments	Weight (g)
48	49/ ditch	2	<1
52	53/ SFB	4	119
54	55/ SFB	1	8
86	87/ pit	1	3

Coal

Coal fragments were hand collected from four fills. The quantities and weights per context are given in Table 7.

Table 7: Catalogue of coal fragments

Context No.	Feature/ Type	No. of fragments	Weight (g)
46	47/ furrow	2	9
52	53/ SFB	1	<1
82	83/ furrow	3	10
84	85/ furrow	1	16

6.5 **Glass** by Claire Finn

A small assemblage of six pieces of glass were recovered. The glass all came from post-medieval bottles and totalled 428g (Table 8).

Only two pieces were large enough to be sufficiently diagnostic to make additional comments. From fill (44) came the base and heel of a mouth-blown amber cylindrical wine bottle. The bottle has a thick uneven kick up with a distinctive mould ridge and a sharp heel, suggesting a date from the second quarter of the 19th century onwards (Jones 1986). From (133) came a piece from the body/shoulder of an aqua glass

rectangular bottle with bevelled corners of the type commonly used as a prescription/chemist's bottle in the late 19th century.

Table 8: Glass catalogue

Trench	Fill/ cut/ type	Count	Weight (g)	Colour	Form	Type	Date
Tr. 4	48/ 49/ ditch	1	52.0	Green	Base	Wine/beer Bottle	18th-19th C
Tr. 4	44/ 45/ ditch	1	345.9	Amber/ brown	Base and heel	Wine bottle	1825-1875
Tr. 4	43/ 45/ ditch	1	2.75	Aqua (self-coloured)	Base	Bottle?	19th C
Tr. 8	86/ 87/ pit	1	8.09	Olive	Body	Wine/beer Bottle Bottle	18th-19th C
Tr. 13	133/ 134/ feature	1	2.65	Aqua (self-coloured)	Body, shoulder	Chemist's bottle	Late 19th C
Tr. 9	93/ 94/ furrow	1	16.28	Amber/ brown	Heel	Wine bottle	19th C

6.6 **Registered small finds** by Claire Finn

Trenching at Stoke Doyle Road, Oundle, produced a registered finds assemblage of six iron small finds and one copper-alloy find from five contexts, mainly furrows (Table 9). The iron artefacts comprise three nails, a strap, possible strap and a large corroded sheet. A complete copper-alloy tack was also found. The dating of the assemblage is post-medieval.

Table 9: Registered finds catalogue

Trench	Fill/ cut/ type	Material	Object
Tr. 9	93/ 94/ furrow	Iron	Nail <SF7>
Tr. 8	82/ 83/ furrow	Iron	Nail <SF3>
Tr. 8	84/ 85/ furrow	Iron	Nail <SF4>
Tr. 8	84/ 85/ furrow	Iron	Strap <SF5>
Tr. 4	46/ 47/ furrow	Iron	?Strap <SF2>
Tr. 8	86/ 87/ pit	Iron	Sheet <SF6>
Tr. 8	93/ 94/ furrow	Copper alloy	Tack <SF8>

Iron artefacts

The nails <SF3, 4 and 7> are hand forged with square/rectangular shanks. None of the nails were complete, and all were too degraded for the head shape to be identified. Surviving lengths were between 29mm and 41mm.

An iron strap was recovered from fill (84) <SF5> of furrow [85]. The strap has slight lateral curvature and narrows towards the one end. Although obscured by corrosion deposits, the strap may terminate at this end with a rounded or slightly flared finish. The broader end curves before being broken off. The strap has a narrow rectangular cross-section which tapers towards the terminal. It measures 54mm in length and 13mm wide.

A second possible strap came from fill (46) <SF2> from furrow [47]. The surviving object is a rectangular sheet, with one end terminating in a rolled curve. Corrosion deposits indicate a possible pin head at this end of the sheet, but nothing is visible on the reverse. It measured 24mm long by 21mm wide.

Small find <SF6> came from fill (86) from pit [87]. The object is very corroded and therefore could not clearly be identified beyond a description of a piece of curved iron sheet. A second curved element of sheet is adhering to the upper surface, leaving a linear void where corrosion products formed around now decayed organic material. It may be part of a plough.

Copper-alloy tack

A decorative copper-alloy tack came from fill (93) from furrow [94]. The artefact has a complete circular domed head, 12mm in diameter, with a cast square-sectioned shaft, 9mm long, tapering to a narrow end 1.5mm across. It is broadly post-medieval in date and was probably used as an attachment for leather or upholstery.

6.7 **Animal bone** by Sander Aerts

A total of 79 fragments of animal bone were hand-collected from six different fills. The remains were quantified using the NISP method (number of identified specimens per taxon), where identification was attempted on each bone fragment with diagnostic characteristics. Due to the similarities in skeletal morphologies of sheep and goat, the two species are grouped together as ovicaprids. Unidentifiable remains were categorised by size where possible: large mammal (cattle-sized), medium mammal (sheep-sized). Other remains were classed as unidentified mammal or unidentified bird. All examples of burning, gnawing and butchering were recorded.

An overview of the identifications per fill is given in Table 10. The assemblage was poorly to moderately well preserved, and comprised predominately cattle and ovicaprid remains, with singular elements of pig and chicken from fill (52) from SFB [53].

One cattle mandible fragment from fill (52) of SFB [53] displayed cut marks. An unidentified mammal bone fragment from the same fill showed traces of burning. No gnawing marks were observed on any of the remains.

No further work is required on this assemblage at this stage, but that the Saxon material should be considered in association with any further findings from the mitigation work.

Table 10: Animal bone

Fill	Feature/ Type	Taxon	Element	N
46	47/ furrow	Cattle	Phalanx	1
46	47/ furrow	Ovicaprid	Astragalus	1
46	47/ furrow	Bird	Indet	1
52	53/ SFB	Cattle	Mandible	1
52	53/ SFB	Cattle	Ulna	1
52	53/ SFB	Cattle	Femur	1
52	53/ SFB	Cattle	Phalanx	1
52	53/ SFB	Ovicaprid	Tooth	2
52	53/ SFB	Ovicaprid	Maxilla	1

52	53/ SFB	Ovicaprid	Metacarpus	1
52	53/ SFB	Ovicaprid	Metatarsus	1
52	53/ SFB	Pig	Tooth	1
52	53/ SFB	Chicken	Humerus	1
52	53/ SFB	LM	Indet	12
52	53/ SFB	MM	Indet	6
52	53/ SFB	UM	Indet	18
54	55/ SFB	Ovicaprid	Astragalus	1
54	55/ SFB	Ovicaprid	Calcaneus	1
54	55/ SFB	Cattle	Tooth	1
54	55/ SFB	Cattle	Calcaneus	1
54	55/ SFB	LM	Indet	6
54	55/ SFB	MM	Indet	2
54	55/ SFB	UM	Indet	10
82	83/ furrow	Ovicaprid	Phalanx	1
93	94/ furrow	LM	Indet	1
133	134/ pit	Ovicaprid	Mandible	1
142	143/ furrow	Cattle	Tooth	1
142	143/ furrow	MM	Indet	3

6.8 **Marine Shell** by Sander Aerts

One fragment of oyster weighing <1 gram, most likely *Ostrea edulis* (European flat oyster), was retrieved from fill (142) of furrow [143]. The fragment is too small and abraded for precise identification or recognising parasite infestations and/or chuck marks.

Discard is recommended.

6.9 **Assessment of environmental material** by Sander Aerts

Two environmental samples were submitted for analysis. The samples were processed at MOLA Northampton using manual flotation using siraf tanks fitted with a 1mm nylon mesh and a 300 micron test sieve to retrieve the flots. The flots and residues were sorted using a desk magnifier, identifications were carried out using a low-power binocular microscope with a maximum magnification of 40x.

Sample 1 from fill (52) of SFB [53] produced a single fragment of charred hazelnut shell. Sample 2 from fill (54) of possible SFB [55] produced few grains of carbonized wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and various fragments of distorted grains that were not suitable for identification. Both samples produced charcoal fragments and shells of (intrusive) terrestrial gastropods. Both fills also produced fragments of large vertebrate bones. These were unsuitable for identification and have not been retained.

No further work is required on this assemblage at this stage, but that the Saxon material should be considered in association with any further findings from the mitigation work.

7 DISCUSSION

Two of the discrete anomalies identified in the geophysical survey (SUMO 2019), which were targeted by Trench 5, have been confirmed to be probable sunken featured buildings potentially associated with those found to the east of the site (NHER 5366). Probable SFB [53] was fully exposed in plan following an extension of the trench. No visible postholes or other structural features were identified within the excavated section but the size and shape are comparable to other examples in the area. The second possible SFB was only partially exposed; however, the similar quantities of early-middle Saxon pottery and animal bone recovered from the fills of each feature suggest that both relate to sunken featured buildings. This correlates well with evidence for further SFB's and associated features dated to the early Saxon period, identified to the east of the evaluation area during earlier housing developments at Stoke Doyle Road and Warren Bridge (Johnson 1994) although there is a marked absence of residual Roman material within the features identified within this site.

Remnants of the ridge and furrow agricultural system were noted in a few trenches and sampled in Trenches 4, 8, 9 and 14. The furrows were only identified intermittently. Where they were excavated, they were shallow and it is likely that they had been impacted by modern agricultural activity. The furrows were orientated north-west to south-east and appear to reflect a single field. Post-medieval finds were recovered from several of the furrows. In Trench 4, a furrow was observed to have been cut by a later linear ditch. The stratigraphical relationship between the two and the artefacts recovered from their fills suggests that the furrows had fallen out of use between 1600-1800 and the later ditch contained material dated to the 18th and 19th centuries

Linear ditches recorded within the evaluation trenches accord well with the geophysical data. All of the excavated examples contained material dated to the 18th-19th centuries. The excavated ditches are not easily resolved into recognisable enclosures or extensive boundaries. The 1886 OS map for the site shows no boundaries that might relate to the excavated features and so they are likely to predate this date (Old Maps 2021). Most of the artefacts recovered from these features are relatively late in date so it is suggested that they need not have predated this date by much. However, the 1900-1901 OS map indicates that the field was in use as allotments. It is possible that some of the cut features may relate to this activity.

Research objectives

The results of the evaluation have identified limited evidence for early medieval settlement. In isolation they hold little potential to address objectives specified in the regional research agenda. However, viewed in conjunction with the evidence identified in the field to the east, a broader pattern of dispersed settlement activity emerges. Should further related activity be identified within the development area then it may be possible to address more specific objectives centred around early medieval settlement development and agricultural change in the immediate area.

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APPENDIX 1: TRENCH INVENTORY

Trench No	**Length, width & alignment**	**NGR**	**Surface height (aOD)**	**Depth of natural**
1	**50m x 1.6m N-S**	**503199, 287926**	**N28.35/ S25.12**	**0.28 to 0.39m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
(1)	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black sand/sandy silt, frequent roots.	0.28 to 0.39m	-
(2)	Natural	Firm red brown silty clay/clay sterile and homogeneous throughout	Met at 0.28m to 0.39m	-

Trench No	**Length, width & alignment**	**NGR**	**Surface height (aOD)**	**Depth of natural**
2	**50m x 1.6m NW-SE**	**503184, 287966**	**NW32.03/ SE28.68**	**0.28 to 0.33m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
(20)	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black sand/sandy silt, frequent roots	0.27m deep	-
(21)	Natural	Loose coarse light-yellow sand with abundance of flat angular limestone of all size; Firm red brown sterile and homogeneous silty clay/clay, present in *c*5m to southeast	0.06m	-

Trench No	**Length, width & alignment**	**NGR**	**Surface height (aOD)**	**Depth of natural**
3	**50m x 1.6m NW-SE**	**503172, 288008**	**NW33.32/ SE32.87**	**0.31 to 0.40m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
(30)	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black sand/sandy silt, frequent roots	0.25m to 0.39 deep	-
(31)	Subsoil	Friable to firm mid grey brown sandy loam present in the centre of trench	0.15m	-
(32)	Natural	Loose coarse light-yellow sand with abundance of flat angular limestone of all size with occasional irregular pockets of firm red brown sterile and homogeneous silty clay/clay	Met at 0.31 to 0.40m depth	-

Trench No	**Length, width & alignment**	**NGR**	**Surface height (aOD)**	**Depth of natural**
4	**50m x 1.6m NW-SE**	**503212, 288022**	**NW33.52/ SE32.70**	**0.27 to 0.31m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
(40)	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black sand/sandy silt, frequent roots	0.20 to 0.31m deep	-
(41)	Natural	Loose coarse light-yellow sand with abundance of flat angular limestone of all size with occasional irregular pockets of firm red brown sterile and homogeneous silty clay/clay	Met at 0.27 to 0.31m depth	-
(42)	-	-	-	-
(43)	Upper fill of [45]	Mid grey brown friable sandy silt with frequent angular small to medium limestone fragments	0.24m deep	Pot
(44)	Lower fill of [45]	Light grey brown friable silty sand with occasional limestone	0.38m deep	Glass, SF1
[45]	Cut of boundary ditch	Linear north to south boundary ditch of former modern allotment identified on geophysical plan and on OS County Series map for Northamptonshire,1901	Over 0.70m deep. Unexcavated	
(46)	Fill of [47]	Light brown friable sand with abundance of flat angular limestone of different size	0.80m wide by 0.05m deep	Pot, AB, Tobacco Clay Pipe, SF2
[47]	Furrow	Linearfeature in northwest by south east alignment cut by [49]	*c.* 4.5m long	
(48)	Fill of [49]	Mid dark grey brown friable sand with abundant flat angular medium to large limestone	0.35m deep by 1.91m wide	Clay pipe, Slag
[49]	Cut of ditch	Linear ditch in northeast by southwest alignment	Min 7.5m long	

Note: The boundary ditch [45] was deepened with the machine but not bottomed. An extension was also added to expose relationship of ditch [47] and [49].

Trench No	**Length, width & alignment**	**NGR**	**Surface height (aOD)**	**Depth of natural**
5	**50m x 1.6m NW-SE**	**503245, 288034**	**NW33.55/ SE32.55**	**0.23 to 0.31m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
(50)	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black sand/sandy silt, frequent roots	0.23 to 0.31m deep	-
(51)	Natural	Loose coarse light-yellow sand with abundance of flat angular limestone of all size	Met at 0.23 to 0.31m depth	-
(52)	Fill of [53]	Mid brown friable to hard silty clay with small to medium fragments of angular limestone interspersed throughout	0.27m deep by *c.* 2.24m wide	Pot, AB, Slag, <1>
[53]	Cut of SFB	Ovular cut of probable SFB identified as 'anomaly' on geophysical plan	Diameter *c.* 4.0m	
(54)	Fill of [55]	Mid grey brown friable sandy silt similar to (52), frequent pot and AB along with occasional small to medium flecks of charcoal	*c.* 0.55m wide by 0.12m deep	Pot, AB, Slag, <2>
[55]	Cut of feature	Small and shallow fragment of feature, interpreted on geophysics plan as 'anomaly' of possible Anglo-Saxon origin, probable SFB	*c.* 2.55m long	

Note: Trench 5 was repositioned c. *4m southeast due to safety stand-off zone. This, unfortunately, prevented a full investigation of potential anomaly located at northwest end of the trench, [55]. An extension was also added to expose SFB [53].*

Trench No	**Length, width & alignment**	**NGR**	**Surface height (aOD)**	**Depth of natural**
6	**50m x 1.6m W-E**	**503270, 288080**	**W32.08/ E32.06**	**0.23 to 0.28m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
(60)	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black sand/sandy silt, frequent roots	0.23 to 0.28m deep	-
(61)	Natural	Loose coarse light-yellow sand with abundance of flat angular limestone of all size and occasional pockets of natural grey and yellow clay	Met at 0.23 to 0.28m depth	-

Trench No	**Length, width & alignment**	**NGR**	**Surface height (aOD)**	**Depth of natural**
7	**50m x 1.6m N-S**	**503288, 288121**	**N24.25/ S30.19**	**0.33 to 0.42m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
(71)	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black sand/sandy silt, frequent roots	0.12 to 0.23m deep	-
(72)	Subsoil	Friable to firm mid grey brown sandy loam present in the centre of trench	0.19 to 0.21m deep	-
(73)	Natural	Firm red brown sterile and homogeneous silty clay/clay with linear lens of probably natural clay across the trench	Met at 0.33m to 0.42m depth	-

Trench No	**Length, width & alignment**	**NGR**	**Surface height (aOD)**	**Depth of natural**
8	**50m x 1.6m W-E**	**503258, 288098**	**W31.14/ E29.70**	**0.23m to 0.38m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
(80)	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black sand/sandy silt, frequent roots	0.23 to 0.38m deep	-
(81)	Natural	Loose coarse light-yellow sand with abundance of flat angular limestone of all size and occasional pockets of natural grey and yellow clay	Met at 0.23 to 0.38m depth	-
(82)	Fill of [83]	Mid grey brown friable to firm silty sand with occasional fragments of angular small to medium limestone	1.25m wide by 0.09 deep	Pot, AB, Tobacco Clay Pipe, Coal, SF3
[83]	Cut of furrow	Linear, in northwest by southeast alignment, parallel to [85], continues in Trench 9 as [94]	Min 2.0m long	
(84)	Fill of [85]	Mid grey brown friable to firm silty sand with occasional fragments of angular small to medium limestone	1.75m wide by 0.21m deep	Pot, Coal, SF4,5
[85]	Cut of furrow	Linear, in northwest by southeast alignment, parallel to [85], irregular depth, base sloping to northeast	Min 2.0m long	
(86)	Fill of [87]	Mid yellow grey loose to friable sand with occasional small sub-rounded stone, possible backfill	1.30m wide by	Pot, CBM, Slate, Tobacco Clay Pipe, SF6
[87]	Cut of pit	Irregular in plan, waste/rubbish pit of post-med/early modern date	*c.* 2.30m diameter	

Trench No	**Length, width & alignment**	**NGR**	**Surface height (aOD)**	**Depth of natural**
9	**50m x 1.6m NE-SW**	**503254, 288122**	**NE25.44/ SW29.92**	**0.24m to 0.66m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
(90)	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black sand/sandy silt, frequent roots	00.21m to.27m deep	-
(91)	Subsoil	Firm light orange-grey sandy clay.	0.21 to 0.45m deep	-
(92	Natural	Loose coarse light-yellow sand with abundance of flat angular limestone of all size (SW), and firm red brown sterile and homogeneous silty clay/clay, present in northeast part	Met at 0.24m to 0.66m depth	-
(93)	Fill of [94]	Mid grey brown friable silty clay with large natural limestone fragments	1.30m wide by 0.06m deep	Pot, AB, Glass, SF7,8
[94]	Cut of furrow	Linear, in northwest by southeast alignment present in Trench 8 as [83]	Min 2.0m long	

Note: As per request of the archaeological consultant (RPS) an extension was added to the southwest end of Trench, near furrow [94], to test a remnant subsoil deposit. The subsoil did not mask any features but furrow [94] was found to extend in to the extension.

Trench No	**Length, width & alignment**	**NGR**	**Surface height (aOD)**	**Depth of natural**
10	**50m x 1.6m NE-SW**	**503187, 288111**	**NE25.59/ SW30.79**	**0.25m to 1.00m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
(100)	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black sand/sandy silt, frequent roots	0.25m to 0.30m deep	-
(101)	Natural	Loose coarse light-yellow sand with abundance of flat angular limestone of all size and occasional pockets of natural grey and yellow clay (SW); firm red brown sterile and homogeneous silty clay/clay, present in the northeast part (NE)	Met at 0.25m to 1.00m depth	-
(102)	Colluvium	Mid red brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular small to medium size limestone, well sorted (NE)	0.40m deep	-
(103)	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown silty sand with frequent angular limestone, moderately sorted	0.30m deep	

Trench No	**Length, width & alignment**	**NGR**	**Surface height (aOD)**	**Depth of natural**
11	**50m x 1.6m NE-SW**	**503164, 288112**	**NE25.27/ SW30.70**	**0.30m to 1.50m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
(110)	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black sand/sandy silt, frequent roots	0.23m to 0.41m deep	-
(111)	Colluvium	Mid red brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular small to medium size limestone, well sorted (NE)	0.99m deep	-
(112)	Natural	Loose coarse light-yellow sand with abundance of flat angular limestone of all size and occasional pockets of natural grey and yellow clay (SW); firm red brown sterile and homogeneous silty clay/clay, present in the northeast part (NE)	Met at 0.30m to 1.50m depth	-
(113)	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown silty sand with frequent angular limestone, moderately sorted	0.28m deep	

Trench No	**Length, width & alignment**	**NGR**	**Surface height (aOD)**	**Depth of natural**
12	**50m x 1.6m NW-SE**	**503123, 288108**	**NW24.81/ SE30.23**	**0.30m to 1.33m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
(120)	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black sand/sandy silt, frequent roots	0.25m to 0.30m deep	-
(121)	Natural	Loose coarse light-yellow sand with abundance of flat angular limestone of all size and occasional pockets of natural grey and yellow clay (SW); firm red brown sterile and homogeneous silty clay/clay, present in the northeast part (NE)	Met at 0.30m to 1.33m depth	-
(122)	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown silty sand with frequent angular limestone, moderately sorted	0.35m deep	-
(123)	Colluvium	Mid red brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular small to medium size limestone, well sorted (NE)	0.35m deep	
(124)	Fill of [125]	Mid to dark grey friable silty sand with occasional small to medium angular limestone and moderate pockets of red sandy silt	0.70m deep-	Pot
[125]	Cut of feature	Large cut into subsoil, probably waste pit for organic material indicated on geophysics plan	-	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth of natural
13	**50m x 1.6m NW-SE**	**503160, 288061**	**NW31.02/ SW33.34**	**0.25m to 0.34m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
(130)	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black sand/sandy silt, frequent roots	0.25m to 0.30m deep	-
(131)	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown silty sand with frequent angular limestone, moderately sorted	0.06m deep	-
(132)	Natural	Loose coarse light-yellow sand with abundance of flat angular limestone of all size	Met at 0.25m to 0.34m depth	-
(133)	Fill of [134]	Friable grey brown silty sand with occasional limestone	1.73m wide by 0.24m deep	Pot, AB, Glass
[134]	Cut of feature	Irregular in plan, probably post-med/early modern silt patch		

Note: An extension was added to further investigate feature [134].

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth of natural
14	**50m x 1.6m NW-SE**	**503140, 288048**	**NW31.85/ SE33.31**	**0.20m to 0.32m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
(140)	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black sand/sandy silt, frequent roots	0.20m to 0.32m deep	-
(141)	Natural	Loose coarse light-yellow sand with abundance of flat angular limestone of all size	Met at 0.20m to 0.32m depth	-
(142)	Fill of [143]	Friable grey brown silty sand with occasional limestone	0.50m wide by 0.09m deep	Pot, AB, Tobacco Clay Pipe
[143]	Cut of furrow	Linear in northwest by southeast alignment, confirming geophysical interpretation	*c.* 12.5m long	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth of natural
15	**10m x 1.6m NW-SE**	**503244, 288024**		**0.21 to 0.27m**
Context	***Context type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
(150)	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black sand/sandy silt, frequent roots	0.21m to 0.27m deep	-
(151)	Natural	Loose coarse light-yellow sand with abundance of flat angular limestone of all size	Met at 0.21m to 0.27m depth	-

Note: Trench 15 was added after the site meeting to further determiner the extent of ditch [49].