

**Land west of Longstanton:
Residential Development,
Phase 2, and Bypass Route
(southern extent), 2003**

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**Land west of Longstanton: Residential Development,
Phase 2, and Bypass Route (southern extent).
Archaeological Evaluation, 2003**

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For Cofton Ltd

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Fig. 1 Site location plan

Fig. 2 Site Plan

Fig. 3 Aerial Photographic and geophysical survey results

Fig. 4 Trench Plan with dated deposits

Fig 5 Medieval Furrow, Ditch and gully location plan

Fig 6 Saxon and Medieval Ditch, Pit and Gully sections

Plate 1 F163 prior to excavation

Summary

A total of 15 archaeological trial trenches were excavated in August and September 2003, within two areas of land in arable fields to the west of Longstanton, Cambridgeshire. Twelve trenches were excavated within an area of approximately 4.5ha prior to the construction of a proposed residential development (centred on NGR TL 3931 6705). A further three trenches were excavated in an area of approximately 0.6ha, at the southern extent of a proposed bypass (centred on NGR TL 3915 3590). The evaluation was undertaken as a condition of planning consent by Birmingham Archaeology and commissioned by Cofton Ltd. The purpose of the trial trenches was to test for the survival of significant archaeological remains, and to provide an indication of the importance, date, character and extent of such remains.

Archaeological investigations to the south of the site in 1997 excavated features of Late Saxon and medieval date associated with house plots and occupation, located approximately 100m to the south of the site. The route of a haul road was also included in an aerial photographic assessment which indicated the presence of ridge and furrow. Further geophysical survey and evaluation recorded Iron Age activity at the southern extent of the haul road, close to Hattons Road, and medieval settlement activity, including rubbish pits dating from the 13th to 15th centuries AD, at the northern extent of the haul road, close to Over Road.

The results of a desk-based assessment, aerial photographic survey, geophysical and trial trenching indicated the remains of former medieval settlement to the east of the Phase 2 Residential Development area close to the heart of Longstanton. The Saxon and medieval features encountered towards the middle of the proposed development area mainly comprised of field boundaries and possible remains of ridge and furrow. Archaeological features relating to Late Saxon and early medieval settlement in the form of boundary ditches and pits were recorded close to Over road, and it may be possible that these features relate to the former medieval settlement at Green End. It is apparent that there was continuous occupation represented in some zones up to the first half of the 15th century, when the area may have become largely depopulated.

**LAND WEST OF LONGSTANTON: RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT,
PHASE 2, AND BYPASS ROUTE (SOUTHERN EXTENT).**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION 2003

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 This report describes the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out within two areas of land at Home Farm, High Street, Longstanton, Cambridgeshire (Figs. 1 and 2). The evaluation was commissioned by Cofton Ltd and undertaken by Birmingham Archaeology.
- 1.1.2 The work was commissioned in advance of a proposed residential development within the northern part of a field defined as 'Field 7' (Fig. 2, Phase 2, centred on NGR TL 3931 6705) and work on the southern extent of a bypass route (Area A1, centred on NGR TL 3915 3590).
- 1.1.3 The fieldwork was conducted in accordance with a Specification prepared by Birmingham Archaeology (2003) and approved by the County Archaeology Office of Cambridgeshire County Council, in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists 'Standard and Guidance for Field Evaluations' (Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994).
- 1.1.4 Earlier evaluations within Field 7 were undertaken to the south, within Phase 1 (Mould 1997), and within the evaluation area (Cutler 2000). This report will assimilate the results of earlier evaluation work.
- 1.1.5 Since very little archaeological activity was recorded at the southern extent of the bypass route (Area A1) any references to the evaluation area refer to the Field 7, Phase 2 evaluation area unless otherwise stated.

1.2 Location and Geology

- 1.2.1 The Phase 2 evaluation area is located on the west side of the historic village of Longstanton (Fig 2). This occupies a parcel of land approximately 46,200m² within the northern half of an open field to the west of Home Farm, and to the north and east of the Over Road (Field 7). Area A1 is located to the west of Longstanton and to the north of Hattons Road.
- 1.2.2 The geology comprises slowly permeable calcareous soils, derived from the underlying Jurassic and Cretaceous clay with 3rd Terrace River Gravels to the east.

- 1.2.3 The land currently comprises flat arable farm land. Within Field 7 the ground had been left fallow, with a variety of domestic crops and weeds present. In Area A1 the crop had been harvested immediately prior to the excavation of the trial trenches.

2 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOURCES

2.1 Deskbased and Aerial Photographic Assessments

- 2.1.1 The documentary study (Jones 1995) noted that the Phase 2 area was located within an area of known archaeological significance. To the north and east, there was evidence of prehistoric and Roman settlement, concentrated on river gravels. In the Saxon and medieval periods, the village of Longstanton developed along High Street, and had three surrounding open fields. To the west, a small medieval hamlet was centred at Green End. The settlement at Green End was probably extant by the 13th century, and is distinguished by the field names 'Atte Green' and 'Atte Bridge' recorded in a 15th century documentary source. The Enclosure Map of 1816 showed that Field 7 was formerly divided into fields called Spiggins, King's Close and Butcher's Close, with buildings located on the High Street frontage.
- 2.1.2 Field 7 is an area of known archaeological potential. This has been subject to a desk-based assessment (Jones 1995), an aerial photographic assessment (Cox 1995, Fig. 3), geophysical works (Barker 1996) and evaluation works (Mould 1997 and Cuttler 2000). An adjacent area to the south (Phase 1), was also the subject of an open area excavation which identified the presence of medieval settlement.
- 2.1.3 The air photograph assessment (Air Photo Services 1995) identified a number of crop-marked features of possible archaeological interest. Evidence for extensive ridge and furrow field systems and their associated headlands was mapped, along with some eroded earthworks. Much of this medieval landscape has now been eroded. Several degraded ditches, which may be indicative of medieval settlement or post-medieval land use, were also recorded. A number of badly eroded ditches, not related to the ridge and furrow may date to the post-medieval period.
- 2.1.4 The main results of the aerial photographic assessment suggested the presence of ridge and furrow aligned southwest-northeast for most of Field 7. The assessment also identified several faint possible ditches across the area (Fig. 3, A). At the western extent of the evaluation was an area of very uneven ground which was identified as the possible remains of degraded earthworks (Fig. 3, B).
- 2.1.5 The magnetometer survey undertaken by Stratascan (Barker 1996) confirmed some of the findings from the aerial photographic survey. Areas of magnetic disturbance were identified as possible slag scatters while three poorly defined linear features were thought to be archaeological in origin. The geophysical survey suggested these anomalies were possibly associated with industrial

processes, although there was no direct correlation with the plotted crop marks. An interpreted plot of the magnetometer results are shown on Fig 3.

2.2 Archaeological Background

- 2.2.1 Archaeological works in 1997 excavated pits and ditches in two areas, one immediately to the south of the evaluation area and another at the southern extent of Field 7 (Cuttler and Rátkai 1998). This identified the remains of medieval housing plots fronting Over Road. The extent of areas excavated in 1997, was defined by the extent of the first phase of work within Field 7. These areas have direct relevance to the current proposals for trial trenching, and have been plotted onto Figs. 4 and 5. Later post-excavation work has been undertaken on this area (Ellis & Rátkai 2001).
- 2.2.2 The present study area has been the subject of an earlier evaluation (Cuttler 2000), the results of which have been incorporated into this report. The evaluation identified remains relating to Late Saxon and medieval settlement.

3 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 Health and Safety

- 3.1.1 All work was undertaken in accordance with the Health and Safety at work Act (1974) and the Management of Health and Safety regulations (1992).
- 3.1.2 A risk assessment was prepared by Birmingham Archaeology prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

3.2 Aims and objectives

- 3.2.1 The principle aims of the evaluation was to determine the extent, nature and date of any sub-surface remains within the proposed development area.
- 3.2.2 The main research aims of the evaluation work can be summarised as follows:
- (a) To examine site formation processes and depositional history of any archaeological deposits
 - (b) To establish the extent of features associated with medieval occupation at Longstanton or Green End, particularly in the form of occupation deposits.
 - (c) To obtain dating evidence to establish a chronology of the site.
 - (d) To establish the extent of later post-medieval disturbance.
 - (e) To assess the overall presence and survival of ecofactual and environmental evidence (including mollusca, soils etc) in order to provide information relating to the economy, diet etc of the former inhabitants of the area.
 - (f) To provide sufficient information to develop a strategy for the recording, preservation or management of the resource.

- (g) To provide sufficient and clearly presented information to enable an appropriate mitigation response.
- (h) To provide information which would enable any subsequent archaeological work to be conducted within clearly defined research aims.
- (i) To establish the presence or absence of any palaeochannels which might provide information relating locally to former palaeoenvironments.

3.3 Methodology

- 3.3.1 The development area covers approximately 4.6 hectares. Twelve trenches were excavated within the development area totalling 1200m² (12 x 2m x 50m). Combined with the results of the earlier evaluation this provides for a 5% sample of the study area.
- 3.3.2 Development proposals within the southern extent of the proposed Longstanton bypass currently involve an area of approximately 0.6 hectares. Three trenches were excavated within this area providing for a 5% sample (3 x 2m x 50m), and totalling 300m².
- 3.3.3 Trenches 29, 30 and 31 were located over possible anomalies identified in the geophysical survey. Trenches 20 to 23 were designed to investigate the extent of known archaeological activity along the western side of the development area around Green End. The remainder of the trenches were regularly spaced to provide a targeted sample of 5%.
- 3.3.4 The overburden was removed using a 360 degree mechanical excavator fitted with a 2m toothless ditching bucket down to the subsoil level or to the top of the uppermost archaeological horizon. A subsoil above the natural ground surface was stored separately from the topsoil. Subsequent excavation of archaeological features and deposits was by hand.
- 3.3.5 Pre-printed pro-forma record cards were used for the recording of contexts and features, supplemented by plans (at 1:20 and 1:50), sections (at 1:10 and 1:20), and monochrome print and colour slide photography. These records, together with recovered artefacts, form the site archive. All stratigraphic sequences were recorded, even where no archaeology was present.
- 3.3.6 A representative sample of datable archaeological features was selected for the collection of twenty litre soil samples for the recovery of charred plant remains. The environmental sampling policy followed the broad guidelines contained in the Birmingham Archaeology Guide to On-Site Environmental Sampling. Recovered finds were cleaned, marked and remedial conservation work was undertaken as necessary. Treatment of all finds conformed to guidance contained within 'A strategy for the care and investigation of finds' published by English Heritage, and the document 'Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage' published by UKIC.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Detailed summaries of the individual trenches are presented in Appendix 1 and full details are available in the project archive. In Sections 4 to 7 feature numbers are three figure numbers prefixed with an F. Both feature and context numbers are highlighted in bold.

4.2 Subsoil and Topsoil

4.2.1 Alluvial subsoil was present in all of the excavated evaluation trial trenches. This generally consisted of a compact homogenous brown sand clay and silt with gravel and small stones throughout, especially towards the base of the deposit. The depth of this varied over the evaluation area and even within individual trenches. Generally it measured approximately 0.3m in depth. The shallowest depth of subsoil, (0.1m), was in trenches 32, 33 and 34 at the southern extent of the bypass route. The subsoil became noticeably deeper to the north of the evaluation area, reaching a depth of 0.85m within Trench 9.

4.2.2 The ploughsoil over both areas was between 0.2 and 0.3m in depth. This consisted of very compact brown humic silt and clay with gravel and pebbles throughout.

4.3 Summary of Archaeological Features and Deposits.

4.3.1 Archaeological features were found in 21 of the trenches (Fig 4 and Appendix 1). The principle dated features and deposits were:

- Possible Saxon settlement at the northern extent of the Field 7 development area.
- Medieval field boundary ditches and ridge and furrow within the central part of the Field 7 development area.
- Medieval settlement features and possible surface along the east side of Over Road.
- Large medieval boundary ditches and settlement features along the extreme eastern edge of the evaluation area.

4.3.2 In addition to these features a number of undated features were also identified.

4.4 Early Medieval/Anglo Saxon (410-1066AD) (Fig. 4, Appendices 1 and 2)

4.4.1 Archaeological deposits dated to the Late Saxon to early medieval period include several pits and linear features aligned northeast-southwest and northwest-southeast. Almost all of these are located in the middle and northern half of the Phase 2 evaluation area, with the exception of a pit (**5212**) identified in Trench 15 (Appendix 1).

- 4.4.2 The linear features were generally shallow u-shaped gullies about 0.8m wide and 0.3m deep (**F128, F141, F182, F158**) or larger ditches, 1-2m wide and 0.5m deep (**F142, F183, F543, F544**). Two gullies contained very burnt fills (Trench 9 **F545** and Trench 25 **F141**).
- 4.4.3 There are also two north-south aligned ditches (Trench 26 **F137** and Trench 24 **F139**) and two east-west aligned ditches (Trench 16 **F587** and Trench 29 **F153**). These were all wide (approximately 1m) shallow (0.1m) U-shaped features, possibly furrows.
- 4.4.4 Several wide shallow pits were also identified. A single posthole **F592** in Trench 16 also produced a sherd of Saxon pottery.

4.5 Medieval (1066-1499AD) (Fig. 4, Appendices 1 and 2)

- 4.5.1 Most of the archaeological deposits appear to be dated to the medieval period, and comprise mostly ditches, pits and postholes. Medieval settlement activity appears to be localised at the eastern extent of Field 7, (close to a large north-south ditch) and to the western extent of the study area, bordering Over Road.
- 4.5.2 The linear features are mostly on a northeast-southwest or a northwest-southeast alignment. Although the alignment in the northern extent of the Phase 2 Area appeared to be generally north-south. The shape of these ditches can generally be divided into three types:
- 4.5.3
- wide and shallow features, possibly furrows.
 - gullies with a u-shaped profile up to 1m wide and 0.3m deep.
 - substantial enclosure or boundary ditches around 1-2m wide and 0.5m deep (Figs. 5 and 6).
- 4.5.4 These larger ditches were mainly located within the northern half of Field 7 whereas the smaller gullies appeared to be concentrated within the western side of the field, with some recorded within Trench 26. The wide, shallow furrows were present across the entire area.
- 4.5.5 A large enclosure ditch aligned northwest-southeast was identified towards the eastern extent of the evaluation area in Trenches 17 (**F575**) and 31 (**F157**). This appears to be very similar to a ditch excavated to the south (Area 1, 1997). This ditch may be associated with a series shallow pits in Trenches 17, 29 and 31, however, most of these produced very little dating evidence.
- 4.5.6 Features relating to medieval settlement are also apparent along the east side of Over road in Trenches 12, 15, 22, and 26. These comprise a series of shallow linear gullies aligned northeast-southwest, which in some cases have been cut by gullies aligned northwest-southeast. These were present in the northwest end of Trench 21 and the middle of Trench 12. Associated with these gullies were

several pits and a possible road or yard surface (**F553**) identified at the western end of Trench 15

- 4.5.7 Several of the pits are fairly substantial, for example in Trench 15 a pit, **F564** (Fig. 6) 1m in diameter was excavated to a depth of 1.1m, other relatively deep pits were recorded in Trenches 26 (**F125**) and 10 (**F428**, **F527** and **F548**). In Trenches 13 (**F549**), 15 (**F590**) and 21 (**F101** and **F104**) distinctively shaped oval pits usually 1m wide 2-3m long and 0.2m deep were recorded.
- 4.5.8 The majority of medieval pits relatively shallow and occasionally quite wide (for example **F553** and **F129**) ranging between 1-2.5m in diameter and 0.1-0.3m in depth and generally had gently curving u-shaped profiles (Fig 6). One of these in Trench 20 (**F163**) had an interesting bone assemblage of partially articulated sheep/goat (see below in 5.4 and Plate 1) and another in Trench 26 (**F132**) that had a very burnt fill rich in cultivated cereal and seed remains (see below in 5.5).

4.6 Post Medieval (1500 AD-Present)

- 4.6.1 While post-medieval deposits were identified, these were mainly observed within the southern corner of the Phase 2 evaluation area, in Trenches 15, 20 and 21.

4.7 Undated deposits

- 4.7.1 Some of the archaeological did not produce any dating evidence, however the presence of areas sealed by a 'b horizon' suggests that the majority of the activity is likely to predate the post-medieval period. Several ditches aligned east-west within Trench 10 and Trench 26, and Trench 11 (to the east of the study area, not illustrated) remain, as yet, undated. Isolated linear features aligned east-west were also identified in Trenches 14, (**5148**), 16 (**5225**) and 21 (**F100**). In Trench 14 the ditch (**5148**) was cut by a deposit which produced late Saxon pottery, suggesting that this may be an early feature.
- 4.7.2 The linear features identified in Trench 33 although not directly dated, are most probably post-medieval in date as they seem to conform with a large modern land drain ditch identified at the southeastern extent of this trench.

5 THE FINDS

5.1 The Flint

- 5.1.1 No flints were recovered from any of the trenches within the evaluation area, although a flint flake was recovered from Trench 11 (**F514**), and a small assemblage, including a side scraper from trenching to the north. No chronologically diagnostic pieces were recovered although the collection was tentatively dated to the late prehistoric period.

5.2 Saxon and medieval pottery (Trenches 9-17) by *Stephanie Rátkai* (Appendix 2)

- 5.2.1 A total of 1,455 sherds were recovered from 22 trenches and nine test pits. The pottery was matched where possible to the Longstanton type series (Rátkai 2001) and recorded by absence/presence only. The sherds were generally in good condition and generally large and unabraded and clearly derived from occupation rather than manuring scatters.
- 5.2.2 The pottery dated from the Early-Middle Saxon period to the early post-medieval period. The range of Late Saxon and medieval pottery was very similar to that recovered from the 1997 excavation, although there seemed to be a greater proportion of 11th-13th century pottery, although the proportion of Late Saxon pottery seemed to be broadly similar. Likewise, the vessel forms from this evaluation consisted for the most part of cooking pots and wide-mouthed bowls with few jug sherds or glazed sherds. There was a higher proportion of bowls in the evaluation groups, but it is outside the scope of this report to investigate the possible reasons for this.
- 5.2.3 The earliest evidence for post-Roman occupation dates to the Early-Middle Saxon period. There were a small number of possible Middle Saxon sherds from Trenches 10, 11 and 15 (Field 7). Late Saxon pottery consisting of St Neots ware, Thetford ware and Stamford ware was found in Trenches 9-12 and 14-17 (Field 7). There was some overlap between the distribution of the possible Middle Saxon sherds and the later Saxon pottery, but the Early-Middle Saxon pottery (to the north of the evaluation area) formed a discrete group. This suggests that the settlement focus moved south in the Middle or Late Saxon period. This is borne out by the evidence from the 1997 excavation which produced no pottery earlier than the Late Saxon period.
- 5.2.4 It was suggested (Rátkai 2001) that there had been a hiatus in occupation to the south of the site in the later 11th century. The information gathered from the present evaluation seems to indicate a continuous occupation, with abundant quantities of shelly wares, albeit in rather greater proportions than those found in the 1997 excavation.
- 5.2.5 The latest medieval pottery was represented by Bourne B-type sherds. Bourne B is dated to the 14th century, although there is some possibility that it may have been made from the late 13th century (Rátkai 2001) to the ?mid 15th century. However, just as in the 1997 excavation, there was no pottery which could be dated later than the mid 15th century and it therefore seems likely that this whole area went out of use in (or indeed had gone out of use by) the first half of the 15th century.
- 5.2.6 Sixteenth-eighteenth century glazed red earthenware was found in Trench 15 in quantities so small as to suggest manuring scatters rather than occupation.

5.3 The Pottery (Trenches 20-31) by Stephanie Rátkai (Appendix 3)

- 5.3.1 The pottery was in rather poor condition with the majority of sherds weighing under 5g. In some cases sherds only weighed 1-2g. The generally small sherd size is indicative of quite major disturbance and the likelihood of a great deal of residuality. In these conditions all dating should be treated with caution.
- 5.3.2 There were few form sherds but in the midst of so many small sherds three groups stood out, from (1039) **F128**, (1128) and (1008) **F106**. Pit **F128** contained large portions of two vessels, a St Neots ware in-turned rim bowl and a Thetford ware jar; (1128) contained a substantial section of a Medieval Ely type ware carinated bowl. Pit **F106** contained a large but undiagnostic Medieval Ely type ware and shelly ware sherds. All the preceding are likely to represent primary deposition. Several heavily abraded sherds from a large Thetford ware storage jar, decorated with applied thumbed strips, were found residually in the lower fill of **F123**.
- 5.3.3 The range of fabrics was much the same as that encountered previously at Longstanton (Rátkai 2001). As noted then, there was little material which could be definitely ascribed to the 15th century. Occupation seems to have begun in the late Saxon period, as evidenced by the Stamford, Thetford and St Neots wares and continued through the medieval period. Material from the 15th-19th centuries was very poorly represented.
- 5.3.4 Most Saxo-Norman pottery seemed to occur in Trenches 24, 25 and 26 but overall there may have been two *foci* of pre-Conquest activity, one more or less centred on Trench 24 extending north and northeastwards towards Trenches 25 and 26 and a second centred on Trench 29 extending east and west to Trenches 28 and 31. It would be interesting to relate the distribution pattern to possible Anglo-Saxon plots or land divisions.
- 5.3.5 The paucity of Saxo-Norman material in Trenches 20-23 is noteworthy. However there was one very small sherd from (1085) the fill of **F163** which could have been early-middle Saxon, although since Iron Age pottery was recorded associated with a ring ditch in previous excavations (Ellis *et al* 2001), the sherd could also have been prehistoric. In fact, in the light of Iron Age occupation discovered during archaeological evaluation in Trench 4 in Field 14, this seems the more probable.
- 5.3.6 Although much of the pottery was evidently disturbed, the presence of a few feature fills with substantial portions of vessels suggests that there is nevertheless potential for finding undisturbed primary deposits.

5.3.7 Field 7, spot-dating

Layer	Feature	Date
TRENCH 9		
5102	F536	12-14 th c
TRENCH 10		
5089	F526	13-14 th c
5118	F532	Late 13 th c
5093	F527	12-13 th c
5060	F516	12 th c
TRENCH 12		
5064	F517	Late 13-14 th
5065	F518	13 th c?
5066	F519	12-?13 th c
5073	F521	12-13 th c
TRENCH 13		
None		
TRENCH 14		
5144	L	1200-1400
5145	L	16-18 th c
5146	L	Late Saxon
5113	F544	Late Saxon
5128	F552	Late 13 th c
5112	F543	Late Saxon
TRENCH 15		
5156	F561	14 th c
5158	F563	13-14 th c
5159	F564	13-14 th c
5190	F564	12-13 th c
5160	F565	Late 13-14 th
5199	F590	12-13 th c
5218	F593	Late 13-14 th c
5070	L	16-18 th c
5196	L	16-18 th c
5204	L	11-13 th c
5212	L	Late Saxon
5214	L	Late 13-14 th c
5216	L	?12 th c
5238	F593	Late 13-14 th c
TRENCH 16		
5189	F587	Late Saxon
5191	F588	1100-1400
5200	F591	? Late Saxon
5201	F592	Late Saxon
TRENCH 17		
5157	F562	13 th c
5161	F566	Late Saxon
TRENCH 20		
1085	F163	13 th -14 th c
1088	F169	15 th -18 th c
1089	F170	15 th -18 th c
1090	F171	13 th -14 th c
1091	L	15 th -18 th c

1092	L	12 th -13 th c?
1093	L	14 th -?15 th c
1094	L	12 th c?
1095	L	15 th -18 th c
1096	F171	13 th -14 th c
TRENCH 21		
1000	F100	13 th -14 th c
1001	F101	14 th -15 th c
1002	F102	14 th (15 th)c
1004	F123	14 th c
1005	F104	13 th -14 th c?
1006	F104	13 th -14 th c
1008	F106	13 th c
1013	F111	13 th -15 th c
1014	F112	15 th c
1017	F115	13 th -14 th c
1018	F116	Saxo-Norman
1019	F117	13 th -14 th c
1023	F121	19 th c
1024	F122	19 th c
TRENCH 22		
1087	F168	13 th -14 th c
1104	F179	14 th -15 th c
1105	F180	13 th -14 th c
1106	L	13 th -14 th c
1107	L	13 th c
1108	L	Saxo-Norman
1109	L	Saxo-Norman
1171	191	13 th c
1172	192	13 th -14 th c
1173	193	13 th c
1174	193	13 th c?
1087	168	13 th c
1109	181	Saxo-Norman
1113	184	13 th -14 th c
TRENCH 23		
1083	166	13 th c
1084	167	13 th -14 th c
1086	164	13 th -14 th c
TRENCH 24		
1049	138	13 th -14 th c
1050	139	Saxo-Norman
1051	140	Saxo-Norman
1060	L	Saxo-Norman
1110	182	Saxo-Norman?
1111	183	Saxo-Norman
1112	183	Saxo-Norman?
1116	187	14 th c?
1119	L	13 th -15 th c
1120	L	13 th -15 th c
1121	L	14 th c?
1176	196	13 th c?
1178	198	14 th c?

TRENCH 25		
1052	141	Saxo-Norman
1057	142	Saxo-Norman
1058	143	12 th c
TRENCH 26		
1031	123	14 th c
1033	124	13 th c?
1035	125	13 th c
1036	126	12 th -14 th c
1038	127	13 th -14 th c
1039	128	Saxo-Norman
1040	129	13 th -14 th c
1041	130	12 th -14 th c
1012	131	13 th c?
1043	132	12 th c?
1046	135	Saxo-Norman?
1128	L	13 th c
Surface	133	13 th c
Surface	135	13 th -14 th c
Surface	137	Saxo-Norman
TRENCH 27		
Machining	L	14 th -15 th c
TRENCH 28		
Machining	L	Saxo-Norman
1061	145	Saxo-Norman
1124	L	13 th -14 th c
TRENCH 29		
1062	146	13 th -14 th c
1070	153	Saxo-Norman
1076	L	Saxo-Norman
1127	L	13 th -14 th c
TRENCH 30		
1077	158	Saxo-Norman
1078	159	13 th -14 th c?
1079	160	13 th c?
1080	161	13 th c?
1125	L	13 th -15 th c
1126	L	Saxo-Norman?

5.4 The Animal Bones by Matilda Holmes (Plate 1, Appendix 4)

5.4.1 All bones were retrieved by hand, from 36 contexts - the majority coming from pits, ditches and gullies. The conditions on site are not favourable for sieving, so there may be some loss in the retrieval of small bones (this problem particularly affects the abundance of bird and small mammals in the assemblage).

Taphonomy

5.4.2 The bones recovered were in very good condition, and a high proportion were over 50% complete. There was some evidence for pre depositional factors affecting the assemblage; a number of bones had been gnawed by dogs, 3 were burnt, and a cattle humerus showed evidence of butchery.

Species Represented

- 5.4.3 As Appendix 4 shows, domestic species dominated the assemblage (sheep / goat, cattle and pig), of which sheep/goat were the most common in all phases, followed by cattle and pig, with the exception of the 15-18th centuries, where no cattle were found. Horse, dog/fox, bird (including corvid), rodent bones and shell (marine and freshwater) were also found.
- 5.4.4 Despite the abundance of sheep bones in the assemblage, it may be suggested that cattle would have contributed significantly more to the diet than either sheep or pigs. Other Saxon and medieval rural sites reflect the presence of species such as those found at Longstanton (Crabtree 1989, Grant 1975, Jones and Reuben 1987, Levitan 1984, Noddle 1976, 1980, Pernetta 1973 and Sadler (unpublished).
- 5.4.5 With the exception of the group of sheep skeletons, nearly all bones recovered were fused, only a distal sheep metacarpal was unfused. Mandibles were present, which are also useful for ageing data.
- 5.4.6 The sheep skeletons from **F163** (Trench 20) came from a minimum number of 9 individuals, although not all skeletons were complete – there was a significant lack of head and foot fragments, although some mandibles and horn cores were present. Bones came from mature, juvenile and foetal animals.

Conclusions

- 5.4.7 The small sample size means that any conclusions from further analyses may not be reflected by this material, although the material is representative of previous faunal assemblages retrieved from the site (Hammon 2001, Murray 2001). The data so far points to a subsistence economy, where animals are kept into old age so they could be exploited for secondary products (milk, wool, traction), before being killed for their meat and hides (Grant 1988, Noddle 1990).
- 5.4.8 If bone continues to be found on the site in such good condition, there is potential for a full faunal analysis to be a necessary part of any large scale excavation. It may be expected that this would then help in the interpretation of features associated with the occupation of the site (e.g. domestic refuse, primary or secondary butchery, or industrial deposits), as well as giving an insight to the diet, economy and animal husbandry of the area.
- 5.4.9 There is a widely accepted lack of faunal data from Saxon and medieval rural sites in Britain (Alberella 1996, Bell 1989, Grant 1988), and the continuity of this site into the medieval period will be of great value when considering changes in economy and husbandry on a national scale.

5.5 Charred Plant Remains by Wendy Smith (Appendix 5)

- 5.5.1 A total of six samples were provisionally selected for archaeobotanical assessment. At this stage none of the samples were dated, although several features in Trenches 20, 25, 26 and 29 have been dated to the medieval period (1066–1499 AD). The samples were from a variety of contexts including pits (**1036** and two samples from **1085**), a linear gully (**1052**), a linear ditch (**1068**) and an area of burning (**1043**).
- 5.5.2 Ten litre sub-samples were processed for assessment by the Birmingham Archaeology environmental officer using water flotation. The flots (the material which floats) were sieved to 0.5 mm and were air-dried. The heavy residues (the material which does not float) were not available for assessment and, therefore, the results presented here are based entirely on the flots.
- 5.5.3 This assessment is designed to determine if charred plant remains are present and of interpretable value. In addition, this assessment aims to determine the potential for the charred plant remains to answer the following questions:
- Do any of the plant remains recovered provide information about agricultural practices?
 - Do the assemblages recovered provide information about rubbish disposal patterns on site?
 - Do any of the plant remains recovered provide information about the wider environment of the site?

Laboratory Method

- 5.5.4 The author assessed charred plant remains from the flots using a low-power binocular microscope at magnifications between x12 and x40. The flots were rapidly scanned and, as a result, smaller seeds may have been overlooked. In all cases the entire flot was scanned for charred plant remains. Comparative material was not consulted during this assessment. As a result, all of the identifications presented here should all be seen as highly provisional.

Results

- 5.5.5 The assessment results for charred plant remains from Phase 2 of archaeological evaluation of land west of Longstanton are presented in Appendix 1, which also includes a semi-quantitative record of any other environmental remains (bones, molluscs or charcoal) observed during the assessment of this material. Nomenclature for economic plants follows Zohary and Hopf (2000) and nomenclature for indigenous taxa follows Stace (1997).

Discussion

- 5.5.6 The samples from the linear gully (T25 **F141** [**1052**]) and the irregular area of burning (T26 **F132** [**1043**]) were sufficiently rich to merit further analysis. Sample **1052** was dominated by free-threshing wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grain and

bedstraw (*Galium* sp.) seeds. Sample **1043** contained large quantities of free-threshing wheat grain, and also included small quantities of cereal culm nodes, free-threshing wheat rachis and possible rye (*Secale cereale* L.) rachis. Small quantities of weed/ wild plant seeds, including dock (*Rumex* sp.) and orache (*Atriplex* sp.), were also present in this sample. Although sample **1043** was rich, preservation was fairly poor. As a result, it is recommended that in any further excavation of this site samples should be at least 30 L in volume.

Potential

- 5.5.7 The samples recommended for further analysis of charred plant remains (excluding charcoal) do have clear potential to provide information about agricultural practice. In addition, the weed/wild flora may provide information about the cultivation conditions and/or crop processing. The rubbish disposal patterns at the site may also be elucidated if further deposits of a similar nature are sampled in any future excavation of the site. Unfortunately it is unlikely that information about the wider environmental setting is available from this assemblage.
- 5.5.8 Archaeobotanical results will build on those already obtained from 1997 excavations in the area (Smith 2001). At present the *Environmental Archaeology Bibliography* (<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/EAB>), does not list any other archaeobotanical results from other medieval sites in Cambridgeshire and, therefore, any archaeobotanical results generated from future excavations at Longstanton are of both regional and national importance.

Recommendations

- 5.5.9 On the basis of the archaeobotanical assessment results of these evaluation excavation samples, the following is recommended:
- potential areas for rubbish disposal (i.e. pits, gullies, ditches, ash layers, etc) should be a high priority for archaeobotanical sampling.
 - archaeobotanical samples should be at least 30 L in volume.
 - patterns of rubbish disposal on site should be a key research objective.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 Prehistoric

- 6.1.1 No features thought to be of prehistoric origin were identified although a single sherd of possible prehistoric pottery was recovered. This was a residual sherd recovered from a later context, and since prehistoric activity has been identified to the north-east (Field 14, Trench 4, Cuttler 2000) it seems likely that this sherd is associated with activity beyond the evaluation area.

6.2 Roman

- 6.2.1 No features or artifacts of Roman date were recorded. A similarly very low-level of Roman activity was indicated by fieldwalking (Jones 1995). Roman activity may have been concentrated on slightly raised areas of sand and gravel subsoil to the east and north of the site.

6.3 Saxon

- 6.3.1 No evidence of Early Saxon activity was found. The earliest post-Roman pottery was residual Mid-Saxon pottery recovered from later features. This suggests the presence of Mid-Saxon settlement or use of the land within the vicinity of Field 7, possibly the north of the study area.
- 6.3.2 It seems likely that some of the Late Saxon pottery could be residual, particularly in the area of Trench 15, which saw an increase in activity during the medieval period. Late Saxon activity appears to be focused in the area of Trench 24 with reduced activity in Trenches 14, 16, 22, 25, 26, 28, 29 and 31. These features comprised pits/post-holes as well as ditches and gullies aligned northeast-southwest, and northwest-southeast and shallow furrows aligned north-south, and east-west. While no structural elements could be identified it seems possible that ephemeral Saxo-Norman properties may have existed within this area. The paucity of Saxo-Norman sherds towards the southern extent of the evaluation area (particularly within Trenches 20 to 23) suggests there was little or no activity to the south. This was also implied by earlier trial trenching (Mould 1997).
- 6.3.3 The Late Saxon features identified in the 1997 excavation area fronting Over Road (at the southern extent of Field 7) were interpreted to be the remains of house sites and/or ditched enclosures associated with animal husbandry (Ellis and Ratkai 2001, 101), however the distribution of features and artifacts would suggest that these relate to two distinct areas of activity.

6.4 Medieval

- 6.4.1 The majority of archaeological activity identified in the course of this evaluation consisted deposits dating to the medieval period. The medieval activity seems focused along Over Road to the west of the site and at the extreme eastern extent of the site, possibly associated with the large boundary ditch, previously identified in earlier archaeological evaluations. These deposits consist of a network of pits and gullies dispersed across this side of the main area of the site. The deposits close to Over Road are presumably associated with the former medieval hamlet at Green End, to the west of the medieval settlement of Longstanton to the east.
- 6.4.2 The majority of medieval activity over much of the central part of the main evaluation area comprises of the remains of field systems, presumably ridge and furrow, associated with the nearby settlement.

- 6.4.3 The economic indicators from the charred plant, and particularly the bone assemblage suggest a range of activities. A good preservation of organic remains provides the potential for a systematic study of Saxon and medieval rural settlement activity.
- 6.4.4 While the information from the site provides potential for our understanding of Late Saxon and medieval settlement, the greater value lies in the contribution of the data to a larger view of the shifting nature of Saxon and medieval settlements within the wider landscape, particularly in reference to topographic and geological features.
- 6.4.5 This evaluation found no evidence of archaeological activity within Area A1 at the southern extent of the bypass route.

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Appendix 1: Trench Summary

Trench 9, 50m x 2m, aligned east-west			
Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
536	5102	1m wide 0.23m deep	Curvi-linear gully, east-west aligned 12 th -14 th c
537	5106	2m wide 0.24m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear gully, no finds
538	5107	1m wide	Grey gravel, possible pit
539	5108	0.55m diameter	Grey gravel, possible pit
540	5109	1.35m diameter	Grey gravel, possible pit
541	5110	0.35m wide	Gully, northeast-southwest
542	5111	2.5m wide	Northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch
545	5114	1m wide	Northwest-southeast aligned linear deposit
546	5116	0.55m wide	Northwest-southeast aligned linear deposit
	5103	1.07m below surface	Gravel and clay, natural
	5104	0.85m in depth	Alluvial subsoil very deep at east end of trench
	5105	0.25m deep	Topsoil
	5115	0.30m deep	Buried ploughsoil 0.4m deep

Trench 10, 50m x 2m, aligned north-south			
Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
526	5089	2.4m wide and 0.55m deep	Northwest-southeast ditch 13th-14th c?
527	5093	2.35m diameter 0.30m deep	Single, gravel fill of Pit? 12th-13th c, cut by F528
528	5094	1m diameter 0.30m deep	Single, gravel fill of Pit?
529	5095	2m wide	Northwest-southeast linear, similar to F526
530	5096	1.15m wide	East-west aligned deposit
531	5097	1.3m wide	East-west aligned deposit, possible natural
532	5098/ 5117/ 5118/ 5119	2m wide 0.58m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch late 13th century?
533	5099	4.5m wide	East-west aligned deposit, possible natural
534	5100	1.55m wide	East-west aligned deposit
535	5101	2.7m wide	East-west aligned deposit
547	5120	0.3m wide 0.22m deep	North-south aligned linear gully
548	5121	2m diameter 0.38m deep	Pit
551	5127	0.6m wide 0.2m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear gully
	5090	0.55m below surface	Mixed blue clay with orange gravel, natural
	5091	0.25m in depth	Alluvial subsoil
	5092	0.3 to 0.5m in depth	Topsoil

Trench 12 50m x 2m, aligned east-west			
Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
513	5057	1.1m in diameter	Possible pit cut by 517
516	5060	1.25m wide 0.22m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch 12th c?
517	5064	1.6m wide 0.2m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch late 13th-14th c
518	5065	0.88 diameter 0.22m deep	Pit, 13th c?
519	5066	1.2m diameter, 0.26m deep	Pit, 12th c-?13th c
521	5073	1.5m wide 0.22m deep	North-south aligned linear ditch, 12th-13th c?
523	5085	0.3m wide 0.1m deep	Ditch aligned northeast-southwest
524	5087	1.1m wide	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch 13th-14th c
525	5088		Dark-brown silt clay, possible headland

526	5089	0.90m in width	Deposit aligned north-south.
	5061	0.24m	Topsoil
	5062	0.72 below modern surface	Orange gravel and grey clay, natural.
	5063	0.48m in depth	Brown silt-clay, alluvium

Trench 13 50m x 2m, aligned east-west (no dateable finds)			
Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
549	5125	0.8m wide 0.14m deep	Oval pit long axis aligned northeast-southwest
550	5126	1.5m wide 0.28m deep	Ditch aligned northeast-southwest
553	5129	2.5m diameter 0.24m deep	Pit
554	5149	1.2m wide	Possible ditch,
555	5150	0.2m wide	Northwest-southeast aligned deposit
556	5151	0.2m wide	Northwest-southeast aligned deposit
557	5152	2.5m diameter	Pit
558	5153	2.5m diameter	Pit
559	5154	0.9m diameter	Pit
560	5155	1m diameter	Pit
	5130	0.6 to 0.7 below surface	Orange gravel, natural
	5131	0.35m deep	Light brown silt-clay, alluvium
	5132	0.3m deep	Topsoil

Trench 14 50m x 2m, aligned north-south			
Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
543	5112	0.7m wide 0.3m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear gully late saxon
544	5113	1.8m wide 0.4m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch late saxon
552	5128	1.4m wide 0.14m deep	Pit late 13 th c.
	5122	0.3m deep	Topsoil
	5123	0.3m deep	Alluvial subsoil
	5124		Gravel with lenses of clay throughout
	5144	0.9m wide	Northeast-southwest aligned linear gully 1200-1400
	5145	3.5m wide	Irregular pit 16 th -17 th c.
	5146	2m diameter	Pit late saxon
	5147	1.4m wide	Irregular pit
	5148	1.3m wide	East-west aligned linear gully

Trench 15 50m x 2m, aligned east-west			
Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
561	5156	1m wide 0.2 m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully 14 th c
563	5158	1.1m wide 0.3m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear gully 13 th -14 th c
564	5159/ 5190/ 5211	1.1m diameter 1.12m deep	Pit 12 th -13 th c
565	5160	0.8m wide 0.2m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear gully 12 th -14 th c
589	5198	1m diameter 0.2m deep	Pit
590	5199	1.4m long 0.45m wide 0.18m deep	Oval pit long axis on northwest-southeast alignment 12 th -13 th c
593	5218/ 5238	0.2m deep 7m wide	Northwest-southeast aligned metal surface late 13 th -14 th c
	5195	0.42m deep	Topsoil
	5196		16 th -18 th c
	5197		Natural gravel with clay lenses

	5202	1.3m wide	Area of burnt clay below topsoil
	5203	0.75m wide	Northeast-southwest aligned deposit
	5204	1.5m diameter	Pit 11 th - 13 th c
	5205	1m long 0.5m wide	Possible oval pit
	5206	0.8m long 0.5m wide	Possible ova pit
	5207	0.25m wide	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully
	5208	1.5m wide	Northeast-southwest aligned linear gully
	5209	1.5m wide	Possible pit
	5210	0.7m wide	Brick and mortar wall aligned northeast-southwest
	5212	0.7m long 0.4m wide	Small pit or posthole late saxon
	5213	0.5m wide	Small pit or posthole
	5214	0.35m wide	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully late 13 th - 14 th c
	5215	0.45m diameter	Posthole
	5216	2m diameter	Possible pit 12 th c
	5217	0.6m diameter	Possible posthole
	5234	1.3m diameter	Possible pit
	5235	2.1m wide	Northeast southwest aligned linear ditch deposit
	5236	1.5m wide	Possible pit pottery and bone recovered
	5237	1.5m diameter	Possible pit

Trench 16 50m x 2m, aligned northwest-southeast			
Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
587	5189	1.5m wide	East-west aligned linear ditch Late Saxon
588	5191	3m in diameter 0.2m deep	Pit 1100-1400 AD
591	5200	1.2m wide	Northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch possibly Late Saxon in date
592	5201	0.45m diameter	Posthole Late Saxon in date
	5192		Natural sand and gravel with clay lenses throughout
	5193	0.3m deep	Alluvial subsoil
	5194	0.2m deep	Topsoil
	5219	1.4m diameter	Possible pit
	5220	0.2m wide	East-west aligned gully deposit
	5221	1m wide	Possible east-west aligned ditch
	5222	2m diameter	Possible pit
	5223	0.45m wide	Possible post-hole
	5224	2m wide	Probable northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch
	5225	0.9m wide	Possible east-west aligned gully
	5226	1.4m	Possible northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch
	5227	0.3m wide	Possible curvi-linear gully
	5228	1.3m diameter	Possible pit
	5229	1.5m diameter	Possible pit
	5230	0.5m wide	Possible northeast-southwest aligned linear gully
	5231	2m wide	Possible northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch
	5232	1m wide	Possible northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch
	5233	0.65m diameter	Possible pit

Trench 17 50m x 2m, aligned northeast-southwest			
Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
562	5157	3.8m wide 0.26m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch dating to the 13 th century
566	5161	1.7m diameter 0.2m deep	Pit dating to the late saxon period, quite a large

			pottery assemblage
567	5162/ 5163	1.2m wide 0.32m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch, pottery recovered but not dated.
568	5164	0.72m wide 0.12m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear gully, no finds retrieved
569	5168	1m wide	Possible natural silting
570	5169	1.5m wide	Possible natural silting
571	5170	0.2m diameter	Possible pit
572	5171	0.3m wide	Possible gully
573	5172	2m diameter	Possible pit similar to 566
574	5173	0.3m wide	Possible pit or linear
575	5174	5.3m wide	Possible linear ditch same as 157
576	5175	1m diameter	Possible pit
577	5176	1.5m deep	Possible north-south aligned linear ditch
	5165		Mixed gravel and clay natural subsoil
	5166	0.3m deep	Alluvial subsoil
	5167	0.3m deep	Topsoil

Trench 20 50m x 2m, aligned north-south

Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
163	1085	1m wide 0.1m deep	Shallow pit with 5-6 articulated lambs 13 th -14 th c
169	1088	0.5m wide 0.1m deep	Pit 15 th -18 th c
170	1089	0.35m wide 0.12m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully 15 th -18 th c
171	1090/ 1096	0.9m wide 0.3m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch 13 th -14 th c
	1091	3m width exposed	Brick rubble aligned northeast-southwest 15 th -18 th c
	1092	1.3m long 0.9m wide	Possible pit 12 th -13 th c
	1093	0.8m wide	Linear deposit aligned northeast-southwest 14 th -15 th c
	1094	0.8m wide	Possible linear aligned northeast-southwest
	1095	19m width exposed	Probable pond not fully exposed 15 th -18 th c
	1135		Topsoil
	1136		Alluvial subsoil
	1137		Natural gravel with clay lenses

Trench 21 50m x 2m, aligned northwest-southeast

Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
100	1000	0.8m wide 0.15m deep	East-west aligned linear gully 13 th -14 th c
101	1001	1m wide 0.3m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned, on long axis oval pit 14 th -15 th c
102	1002	1.1m wide 0.06m deep	Irregular pit 14 th (15 th)
103	1003/ 1004	0.6m wide 0.15m deep	Pit 14 th or 15 th c
104	1005/ 1006	2.25m long 0.8m wide and 0.2m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned on long axis oval pit possible 13 th -14 th c
105	1007	0.8m wide 0.25m deep	Pit, no datable evidence retrieved. 13 th -14 th c
106	1008	0.7m wide 0.15m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear gully 13 th c
107	1009	0.6m wide 0.25m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully
108	1010	0.5m wide 0.2m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear gully no dateable evidence retrieved.
109	1011	0.2m wide 0.15m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully no dateable evidence retrieved

110	1012	0.4m wide 0.27m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully
111	1013	0.5m wide 0.2m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch 13 th -15 th c
112	1014	0.85m wide 0.25m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch
113	1015	0.4m wide 0.1m deep	Pit
114	1016	0.2m wide 0.1m deep	Pit
115	1017	0.4m wide 0.1m deep	Pit
116	1018	0.5m wide 0.15m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear gully Saxo-Norman
117	1019	0.4m wide 0.17m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully 13 th -14 th c
118	1020	0.2m wide 0.15m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully no dateable evidence retrieved
119	1021	1.7m long 1m wide 0.1m deep	Rectangular area of pebbles within clay and silt
120	1022	0.8m long 0.45m wide	Irregular pit
121	1023		Gravel patch 19 th c
122	1024	0.25m long	Northeast-southwest linear, drain 19 th c
	1025	0.25m deep	Topsoil
	1026		Alluvial subsoil
	1027		Natural sand and gravel with clay lenses

Trench 22 50m x 2m, aligned northeast-southwest

Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
168	1087	1.6m wide 0.2m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch 13 th -14 th c
172	1097	0.03m wide 0.2m deep	Posthole 13 th -14 th c
173	1098	1m wide 0.15m deep	Pit no dateable evidence retrieved
179	1104	1m wide 0.05m deep	Pit 13 th -15 th c
180	1105	1.2m wide 0.25m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch 13 th -14 th c
181	1109	1.5m wide 0.2m deep	Sub rectangular pit Saxo-Norman
184	1113	1.5m wide 0.2m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch 13 th -14 th c
191	1171	0.55m wide 0.1m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully 13 th c
192	1172	1.3m wide 0.23m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch
193	1173	0.6m diameter 0.12m deep	Shallow pit 13 th c
194	1174	1m wide 0.35m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch
199	1179	0.8m wide 0.15m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully
	1106	2m wide	Probable northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch 13 th -14 th c
	1107	2m wide	Remnants of alluvial subsoil 13 th c
	1108	0.4m wide	Remnants of alluvial subsoil Saxo-Norman
	1138	0.25m deep	Topsoil
	1139	0.2m deep	Alluvial subsoil
	1140		Natural sand and gravel with clay lenses

Trench 23 50m x 2m, aligned northeast-southwest

Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
164	1086	0.3m wide 0.25m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully 13 th -14 th c
165	1082	1.15m wide 0.35m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch
166	1083	0.6m wide 0.1m deep	Shallow pit 13 th c
167	1084	2m wide 0.15m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch 13 th -14 th c
	1141	0.3m deep	Topsoil
	1142		Alluvial subsoil
	1143		Natural sand and gravel with clay lenses throughout

Trench 24 50m x 2m, aligned east-west			
Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
138	1049	0.9m wide 0.12m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch 13 th -14 th c
139	1050	1.35m wide 0.2m deep	North-south aligned linear ditch Saxo-Norman
140	1051	1.2m wide 0.17m deep	North-south aligned pit or butt end of ditch Saxo-Norman
144	1059	3.5m long 1m wide 0.35m deep	Oval pit aligned east-west on the long axis
182.	1110	0.7m wide 0.2m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear gully Saxo-Norman?
183	1060/ 1111/ 1112	1.6m wide 0.4m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch Saxo-Norman
185	1114	1.1m wide 0.1m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch
186	1115	0.3m wide 0.08m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully
187	1116	0.4m wide 0.1m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully 14 th c?
188	1117	1.9m wide	Northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch
189	1118	1.9m wide	Northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch
195	1121/ 1175	1m wide 0.15m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully 14 th c?
196	1120/ 1176	0.55m wide-0.27m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear gully 13 th -15 th c
197	1177	0.7m wide 0.2m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear gully
198	1119/ 1178	0.8m wide 0.3m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear gully 13 th -15 th c
	1132		Topsoil
	1133		Alluvial subsoil
	1134		Natural sand and gravel with clay lenses

Trench 25 50m x 2m, aligned north-south			
Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
141	1052/ 1053	0.65m wide 0.25m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully Saxo-Norman
142	1057	2.1m wide 0.6m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch Saxo-Norman
143	1058	1.2m wide 0.6m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch 12 th c
147	1063	0.6m wide 0.2m deep	Circular pit, no datable evidence retrieved
148	1064	0.25m wide 0.1m deep	Posthole, no datable evidence retrieved
149	1065	0.3m wide 0.1m deep	Posthole, no datable evidence retrieved
150	1066	0.2m wide 0.08m deep	Posthole, no datable evidence retrieved
	1144	0.3m deep	Topsoil
	1145		Alluvial subsoil
	1146		Natural sand and gravel with clay lenses

Trench 26 50m x 2m, aligned northwest-southeast			
Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
123	1031	1.3m wide 0.45m deep	East-west aligned linear ditch 14 th c
124	1032/ 1033	0.6m width remaining 0.3m deep	East-west aligned linear ditch 13 th c
125	1034/ 1035	3m diameter 0.4m deep	Pit 13 th c

126	1036/ 1037	0.6m diameter 0.3m deep	Pit with burnt fill 12 th -14 th c
127	1038	0.6m diameter 0.1m deep	Shallow pit 13 th -14 th c
128	1039	0.4m wide 0.1m deep	East-west aligned linear gully Saxo-Norman
129	1040	2.4m wide 0.05m deep	Shallow sub-circular scoop 13 th -14 th c
130	1041	0.2m wide 0.04m deep	Shallow posthole 12 th -14 th
131	1042	0.45m wide 0.1m deep	North-south aligned linear gully 13 th c
132	1043	7m wide 0.1m deep	Irregular area of burning 12 th c
133	1044	0.9m wide 0.25m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch possibly 13 th c
134	1045	Full width no known 0.2m deep	Very truncated by later features possible northwest-southeast aligned ditch
135	1046	0.6m wide 0.15m deep	Northeast-southwest linear gully turns 90° L shaped probably 13 th -14 th c
136	1047	0.2m diameter 0.04m deep	Posthole
137	1048	1.5m wide excavated to a depth of 0.3m	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch Saxo-Norman
	1128		Linear ditch 13 th c
	1129	0.25m deep	Topsoil
	1130	0.25m deep	Alluvial subsoil
	1131		Natural sand and gravel with clay lenses

Trench 27 50m x 2m, aligned northwest-southeast

Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
155	1072	0.7m wide 0.16m deep	North-south aligned linear gully no datable items found
156	1073	0.9m wide 0.24m deep	North-south aligned linear gully no datable items recovered
174	1099	1m wide	Probable subsoil smear
175	1100	1.6m wide	Probable linear on north-south alignment
	1074	4m wide	Natural clay lens
	1147	0.3m deep	Topsoil
	1148		Alluvial subsoil 14 th -15c pottery from machining
	1149		Natural sand and gravel with clay lenses

Trench 28 50m x 2m, aligned east-west

Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
145	1061	0.4m wide 0.1m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear gully
200	1180	1m wide 0.2m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully
201	1124/ 1181	1.2m wide 0.5m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch 13 th -14 th c ?
	1123	1.5m wide	Probable northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch
	1150	0.3m deep	Topsoil
	1151		Alluvial subsoil Saxo-Norman pottery from machining
	1152		Natural sand and gravel with clay lenses

Trench 29 50m x 2m, aligned northwest-southeast

Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
146	1062	1.05m wide 0.15m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch 13 th -14 th c
151	1067	0.11m diameter 0.04m deep	Posthole no datable evidence recovered

152	1068/ 1069	1.5m wide 0.2m deep	North-south aligned linear ditch very burnt fill, no direct dating evidence from the fill
153	1070	1.5m wide 0.2m deep	East-west aligned linear ditch Saxo-norman
154	1071	0.5m diameter 0.2m deep	Sub-circular pit no dating evidence retrieved
190	1122	0.85m diameter 0.12m deep	Sub-circular pit no dating evidence retrieved
202	1182	1.95m wide 0.55m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch
203	1127	1.3m wide 0.3m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch 13 th -14 th c?
	1076	2m wide	Probable northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch Saxo-norman
	1153		Topsoil
	1154		Alluvial subsoil
	1155		Natural sand and gravel with clay lenses

Trench 30 50m x 2m, aligned northeast-southwest

Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
	1156	0.3m deep	Topsoil
	1157		Alluvial subsoil
	1158		Natural sand and gravel with grey clay and brown silt and clay lenses, quite mixed

Trench 31 50m x 2m, aligned northeast-southwest

Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
157	1075	6m wide 0.3m depth excavated	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch, probably the same as
158	1077	1m wide 0.2m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch Saxo-Norman
159	1078	1.5m diameter 0.4m deep	Sub-circular pit 13 th -14 th c
160	1079	0.9m wide 0.2m wide	Northwest-southeast aligned linear gully 13 th c?
161	1080	1.5m wide 0.14m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch 13 th c?
162	1081	0.8m wide 0.3m deep	Northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch
	1125		13 th -15 th c
	1126		Saxo-Norman?
	1159		Topsoil
	1160		Alluvial subsoil
	1161		Natural sand and gravel with clay lenses

Trench 32 50m x 2m, aligned northeast-southwest

Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
	1162	0.25m deep	Topsoil
	1163	0.15m deep	Alluvial subsoil
	1164		Natural sand and gravel with clay lenses

Trench 33 50m x 2m, aligned northwest-southeast

Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
177	1102	0.65m wide 0.05m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear gully
178	1103	1.2m wide 0.27m deep	Northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch
	1165	0.25m deep	Topsoil
	1166	0.2m deep	Alluvial subsoil
	1167		Natural sand and gravel with clay lenses

Trench 34 50m x 2m, aligned northeast-southwest			
Construct	Deposit	Dimensions	Description comment and date range
	1168	0.2m deep	Topsoil
	1169	0.2m deep	Alluvial subsoil
	1170		Natural sand and gravel with clay lenses

Appendix 2: Details of the Saxon-post medieval pottery

Context	Feature	Trench	Context type	Roman	ems	ms	thet	stneo	stam	shw	lyst	micsw	mel	bona	bonb	ssw	sibhed	grim	Brill	misc	miscg	gre	Date range Or pottery types	Context date		
5102	536	9	ditch									x											late 11th-14th c	12th-14th c		
5112	543	9	ditch				x																850-1100	late Saxon		
5089	526	10	ditch			?	x			x					x								?	?13th-14th c?		
5093	527	10	pit										?										12th-14th c	12th-13th c		
5118	532	10	ditch							x		x		x	?	?						x		1100-1400	late 13th c?	
5128	552	10	pit				x																850-1100	late Saxon		
5053	512	11	pit		?	?	x			?													6th-14th c	12th c?		
5058	514	11	ditch							x					x								x	1100-?1450	late 13th-14th c	
5060	516	12	ditch	x			x	x	x			?												850-?1400	12th c?	
5064	517	12	ditch				?	?		x		x	x		x			x	?		x			L Saxon-14th c	late 13th-14th c	
5065	518	12	pit				?	x		x				x			x							L Saxon-14th c	13th c?	
5066	519	12	pit				?	x	x					x								x		L Saxon-?13th c	12th c-?13th c	
5073	521	12	ditch											x									x	?	12th-13th c?	
5087	524	12	ditch											x		x							x	x	?	13th-14th c
5113	544	14	ditch?					x																850-1100	late Saxon	
5144		14	ditch?					x								x								L Saxon-14th c	13th-14th c	
5145		14	ditch?				x	x															x	L Saxon-18th c	16th-18th c	
5146		14	ditch					x																850-1100	late Saxon	
5070		15	layer																				x	16th-18th c	16th-18th c	
5156	561	15	ditch							x		x	x											1100-1400	14th c	
5158	563	15	ditch				x	x			x	x	x?										?	L Saxon-14th c	13th-14th c	
5159	564	15	pit							x												?	x	1100-1400	13th-14th c	
5160	565	15	gully				x			x		x	x	?	x	x							x	12th-14th	late 13th-14th c?	
5190	564	15	pit			(?)				x						?								?m Saxon-1400	12th-13th c?	
5196		15	layer				x	x		x		?	x	x	x	x	?						x	x	L Saxon -18th c	16th-18th c
5199	590	15	pit				x					x	x			x								x	L Saxon-1400	12th-13th c
5204		15	pit							x															1100-1400	11th-13th c
5212		15	pit				x	x																	850-1100	late Saxon
5214		15	ditch											x		x								x	12th-14th c	late 13th-14th c
5216		15	pit				x	x				x													L Saxon-1400	?12th c
5218	593	15	yard surface							x		x	x	x	x									x	1100-1400	late 13th-14th c
5238		15	layer				x	?		x				x		x								x	L Saxon-14th c	late 13th-14th c
5189	587	16	ditch				x	x																	850-1100	late Saxon
5191	588	16	pit							x															1100-1400	11th-13th c
5200	591	16	ditch											x											?	?late Saxon
5201	592	16	ditch				x	x																	850-1100	late Saxon
5157	562	17	ditch					x		x			x												1200-1400	13th c?
5161	566	17	pit				x	x																	850-1100	late Saxon

Appendix 3 Details of Saxon and Medieval Pottery

Trench	Feature	Context	Date	early-middle Saxon	Thetford ware	Stamford ware	St Neots ware	Shelly ware	Sandy micaceous ware	Sible-Hedingham ware	Med Ely type ware	Smooth sandy ware	Grimston ware	Bourne A type	Bourne B type	Bourne D type	Reduced ware	Miscellaneous	Glazed red earthenware	Blackware	modern glazed ware
20	163		1085	13th-14th c	?			x	x			x						x			
20	169		1088	15th-18th c					x										x		
20	170		1089	15th-18th c					x		x				x			x		x	
20	171		1090	13th-14th c		x	x	x			x							x			
20			1091	15th-18th c															x		
20			1092	12th-13th c?					x									x			
20			1093	14th-?15th c				?	x						x						
20			1094	12th c?		x						?									
20			1095	15th-18th c															x		
20	171		1096	13th-14th c				x	x		x										
21	100		1000	13th-14th c		?				x		x		x							
21	101		1001	14th-15th c				x		x	x				x		?				
21	102		1002	14th c (15th c)					x		x				x						
21	103		1004	14th c				x			x				x						
21	104		1005	?				x			x								x		x
21	104		1006	13th-14th c							x							x			
21	106		1008	13th c				x			x										
21	111		1013	13th-15th c						x											
21	112		1014	15th c				x			x				x	x		x			
21	115		1017	13th-14th c							x										
21	116		1018	Saxo-Norman		x	x														
21	117		1019	13th-14th c				x			x										
21	121		1023	19th c															x		x
21	122		1024	19th c																	x
22	168		1087	13th-14th c							x										
22	179		1104	14th-15th c											x						
22	180		1105	13th-14th c				x			x										
22			1106	13th-14th c				x			x										
22			1107	13th c				x			x										
22			1108	Saxo-Norman					x												
22			1109	Saxo-Norman				x													
22	191		1171	13th c										?							
22	192		1172	13th-14th c				x	x		x				?						
22	193		1173	13th c			x				?										
22	194		1174	13th c?				x					?								
22	168		1087	13th c				x			x										

22	181	1109	Saxo-Norman				x												
22	184	1113	13th-14th c				x			x	x								
23	166	1083	13th c			x	x			x									
23	167	1084	13th-14th c			x	x	x		x									
23	164	1086	13th-14th c							x									
24	138	1049	13th-14th c							x									
24	139	1050	Saxo-Norman			x	x												
24	140	1051	Saxo-Norman					x											
24		1060	Saxo-Norman					x											
24	182	1110	Saxo-Norman?			?	x												
24	183	1111	Saxo-Norman					x											
24	183	1112	Saxo-Norman?					x			?								
24	187	1116	14th c?											?	x				
24		1119	13th-15th c											?					
24		1120	13th-15th c						x										
24		1121	14th c?						x										x
24	196	1176	13th c?						x			?							
24	198	1178	14th c?																?
25	141	1052	Saxo-Norman					x											
25	142	1057	Saxo-Norman					x											
25	143	1058	12th c			x	x	x											
26	123	1031 u	14th c			x			x	x				?	x				
26	123	1031 l	14th c			x			x	x					x				
26	124	1033	13th c?						x			x							
26	125	1035	13th c				x				x								
26	126	1036	12th-14th c							?									
26	127	1038	13th-14th c						x		x								
26	128	1039	Saxo-Norman			x	x												
26	129	1040	13th-14th c								x								
26	130	1041	12th-14th c							x									
26	131	1042	13th c?						x		x	x							
26	132	1043	12th c?				x		x										x
26	135	1046	Saxo-Norman?			x		x											x
26		1128	13th c						x		x								
26	133	surface	13th c						x	x		x							
26	135	surface	13th-14th c									?							
26	137	surface	Saxo-Norman						x										
27		machining	14th-15th c																x
28		machining	Saxo-Norman						x										
28	145	1061	Saxo-Norman						x										
28		1124	13th-14th c?									?							
29	146	1062	13th-14th c								x								
29	153	1070	Saxo-Norman						x										
29		1076	Saxo-Norman						x										
29		1127	13th-14th c?									?							

31	158	1077	Saxo-Norman				x												
31	159	1078	13th-14th c?				x				x								
31	160	1079	13th c?				x	x			?								
31	161	1080	13th c?		?						x							x	
31		1125	13th-15th c									?							
31		1126	Saxo-Norman?		x													x	

Key to codes used in Appendix 2 and 3

<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Common Name</i>	<i>Date</i>
BONA	Bourne A type ware	13 th c
BONB	Bourne B type ware	?late 13 th /14 th -?mid 15 th c
BRILL	Boarstall-Brill ware	13 th -15 th c
EMS	Early-Middle Saxon	6-7 th c
GRE	Glazed red earthenware	16 th -18 th c
GRIM	Grimston ware	13 th -15 th c
LYST	Lyveden-Stannion type ware	13 th -14 th c
MEL	Medieval Ely ware	12 th -14 th c
MICSW	Micaceous sandy ware	12 th -14 th c
MS	Midle Saxon/?Ipswich ware	c 650-850
SHW	Shelly ware	11 th -13 th c
SIBLEHED	Sible-Hedingham ware	Late 12 th -13 th c
SSW	Smooth sandy ware	c 1200-1400
STAM	Stamford ware	c 850-1100
STNEO	St Neots ware	c 850-1100
THET	Thetford ware	c 850-1100

Fabric codes MISC and MISC G have been used for miscellaneous unglazed or glazed wares of unknown source.

Appendix 4: NISP (fragment count – associated fragments were counted as one bone)

	Saxo-Norman	12-14 C	15th-18th C	Unstratified
Cattle	2	18		6
Sheep/goat	5	381*	7	1
Pig	1	2	1	3
Horse		1	1	
Dog/fox	3			
Bird	3	1		

* 366 bones are from a group of articulated skeleton from F163

Appendix 5: Assessment results for charred plant remains

Trench	Feature	Context	Sample Vol. (L)	Flot Vol. (ml)	Context Type	Provisional Date	Bone	Charcoal	Mollusc Or Marine Shell	Plant Remains (Flot only)	Further analysis	Comments on Flot (Unless otherwise stated, 100% of flot was scanned. Charred plant remains = seeds/ fruits/ nuts and other plant parts but does not include charcoal.)
										Grain Chaff Weed/ Wild		
T26	F126	1036	10 L	25 ml	Pit with burnt fill	undated	+	+	+		no	Small quantities of animal bone (including fish vertebra), molluscs and charcoal observed. Sample contained barley (<i>Hordeum</i> sp.), free-threshing wheat (<i>Triticum</i> sp.) and indeterminate cereal grain. Seeds of great fen sedge (<i>Cladium mariscus</i> (L.) Pohl) also present. Sample assessed as POOR. N.B. <i>Small quantities of what may be dried out waterlogged plant remains, including bread wheat (Triticum aestivum L.) rachis nodes and glumes and sedge (Carex sp.) seeds were also observed. If this is securely ancient material, it is advised that a sub-sample of approximately 1 L of sediment is reserved for processing solely for waterlogged plant remains.</i>
T26	F132	1043	10 L	120 ml	Irregular area of burning	undated	-	+	-	+++ + ++	Yes	Small quantities of charcoal present. Free-threshing wheat (<i>Triticum</i> sp.) abundant. Free-threshing wheat (<i>Triticum</i> sp.) rachis and possible rye (<i>Secale cereale</i> L.) rachis observed. Weed/wild seeds observed include dock (<i>Rumex</i> sp.), orache (<i>Atriplex</i> sp.) and indeterminate large grass (POACEAE) caryopses. Preservation of charred plant remains is fairly poor. Sample assessed as RICH. <i>Because most of the material is not identifiable to species level due to poor preservation, it is recommended a further 10 L of sediment is processed for full analysis.</i>

Trench	Feature	Context	Sample Vol. (L)	Flot Vol. (ml)	Context Type	Provisional Date	Bone	Charcoal	Mollusc Or Marine Shell	Plant Remains (Flot only)	Further analysis	Comments on Flot (Unless otherwise stated, 100% of flot was scanned. Charred plant remains = seeds/ fruits/ nuts and other plant parts but does not include charcoal.)
										Grain Chaff Weed/ Wild		
T25	F141	1052	10 L	15 ml	Linear gully	undated	-	++	-	++	Yes	Hulled barley (<i>Hordeum</i> sp.) grain, free-threshing wheat (<i>Triticum</i> sp.) grain and indeterminate cereal grain present. Weed/ wild seeds present include bedstraw (<i>Galium</i> sp.) and oat/ brome grass type (<i>Avena</i> sp./ <i>Bromus</i> sp.) caryopses. Assessed as GOOD .
T29	F152	1068	10 L	15 ml	Linear ditch	undated	-	-	-	+	No	It is recommended that a further 20 L of sediment is processed for full analysis. Modern root present. Free-threshing wheat (<i>Triticum</i> sp.) grain and indeterminate cereal grain observed. Assessed as POOR .
T20	F163	1085	10 L	25 ml	Shallow pit	Undated	++	+	-	+	No	Modern root present. Free-threshing wheat (<i>Triticum</i> sp.) grain and hulled barley (<i>Hordeum</i> sp.) grain present. A small vetch (<i>Vicia</i> sp./ <i>Lathyrus</i> sp.) seed also observed. Assessed as POOR . N.B. A small quantity of foot bones (most likely from the lambs buried in this pit) was present. It is recommended that any other unprocessed sediment from the sample is processed to ensure good recovery of animal bone from this context. I.1.1 A single indeterminate cereal grain was observed. Assessed as POOR .
T20	F163	1085	10 L	40 ml	Shallow pit	Undated	++	+	-	+	No	N.B. A small quantity of foot bones (most likely from the lambs buried in this pit) was present. It is recommended that any other unprocessed sediment from the sample is processed to ensure good recovery of animal bone from this context.



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Fig. 1

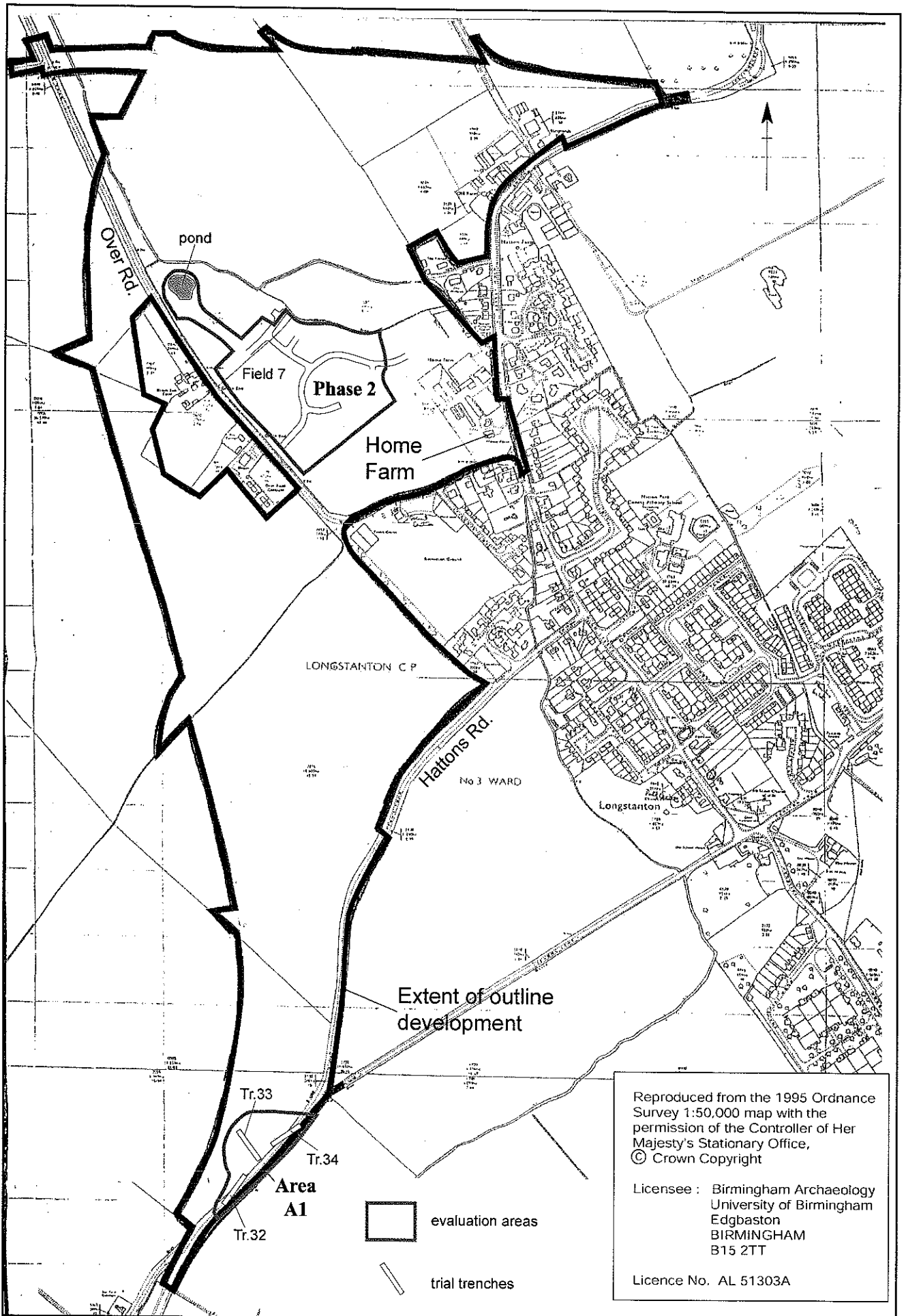


Fig.2

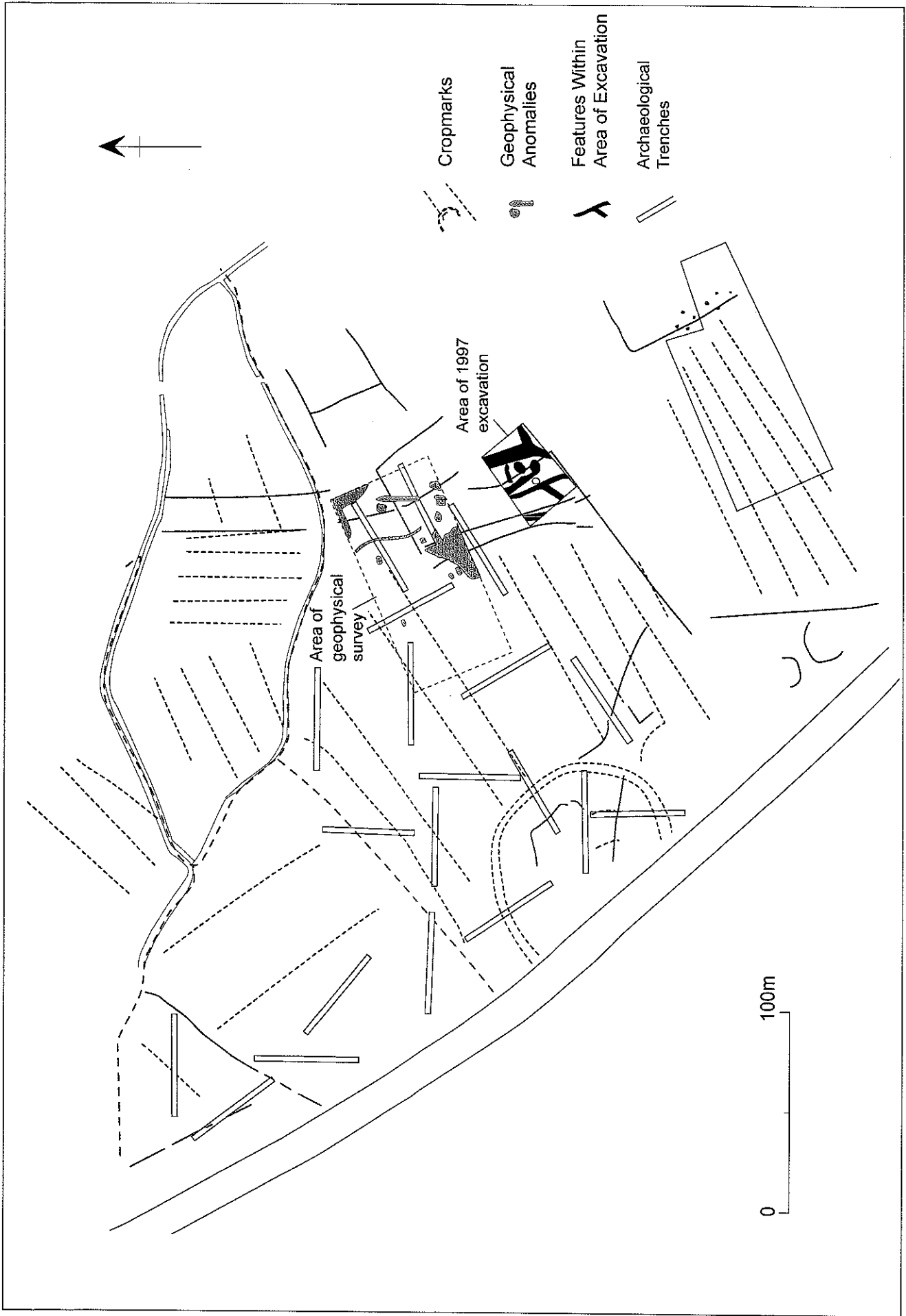


Fig.3

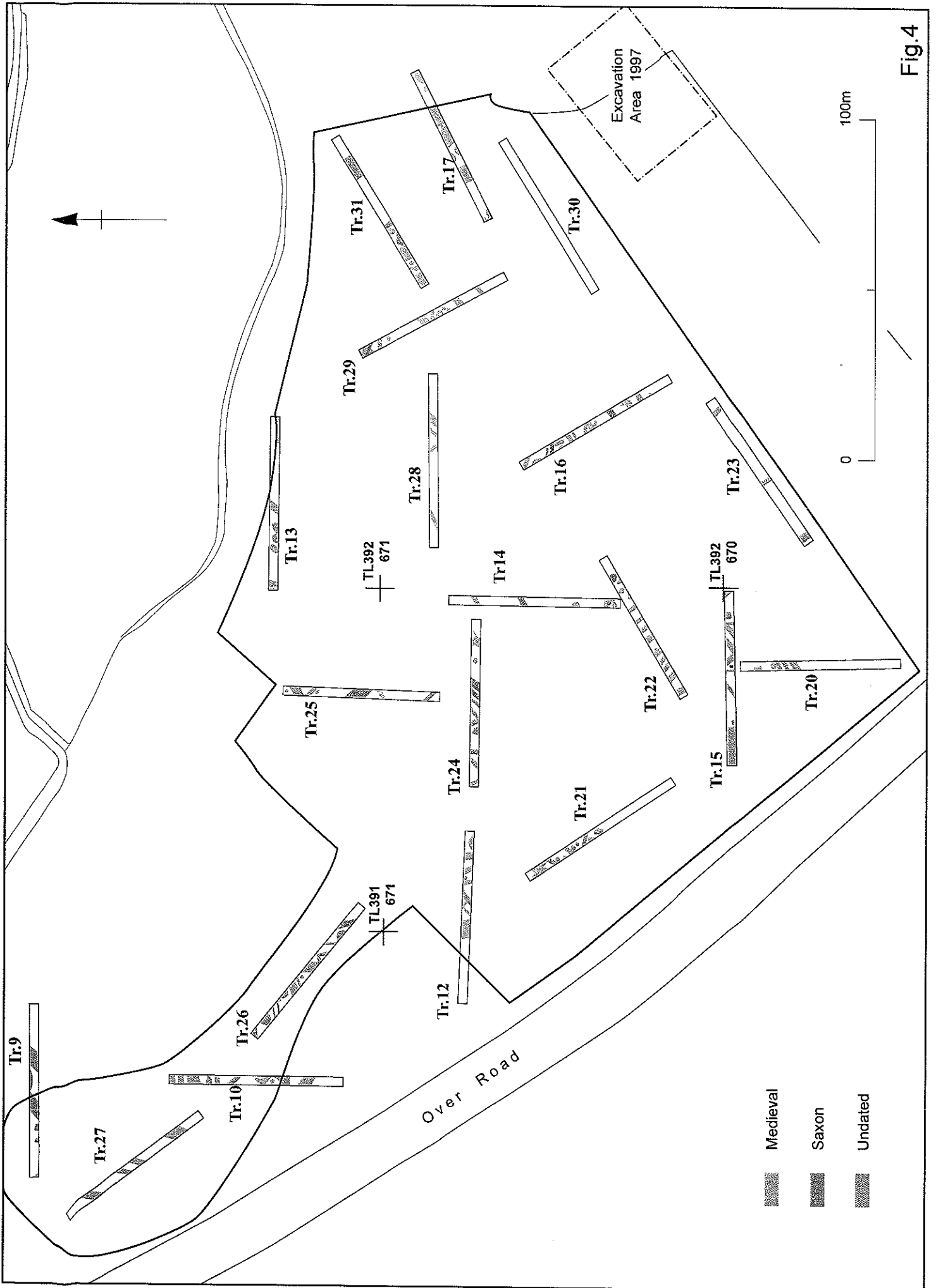


Fig.4

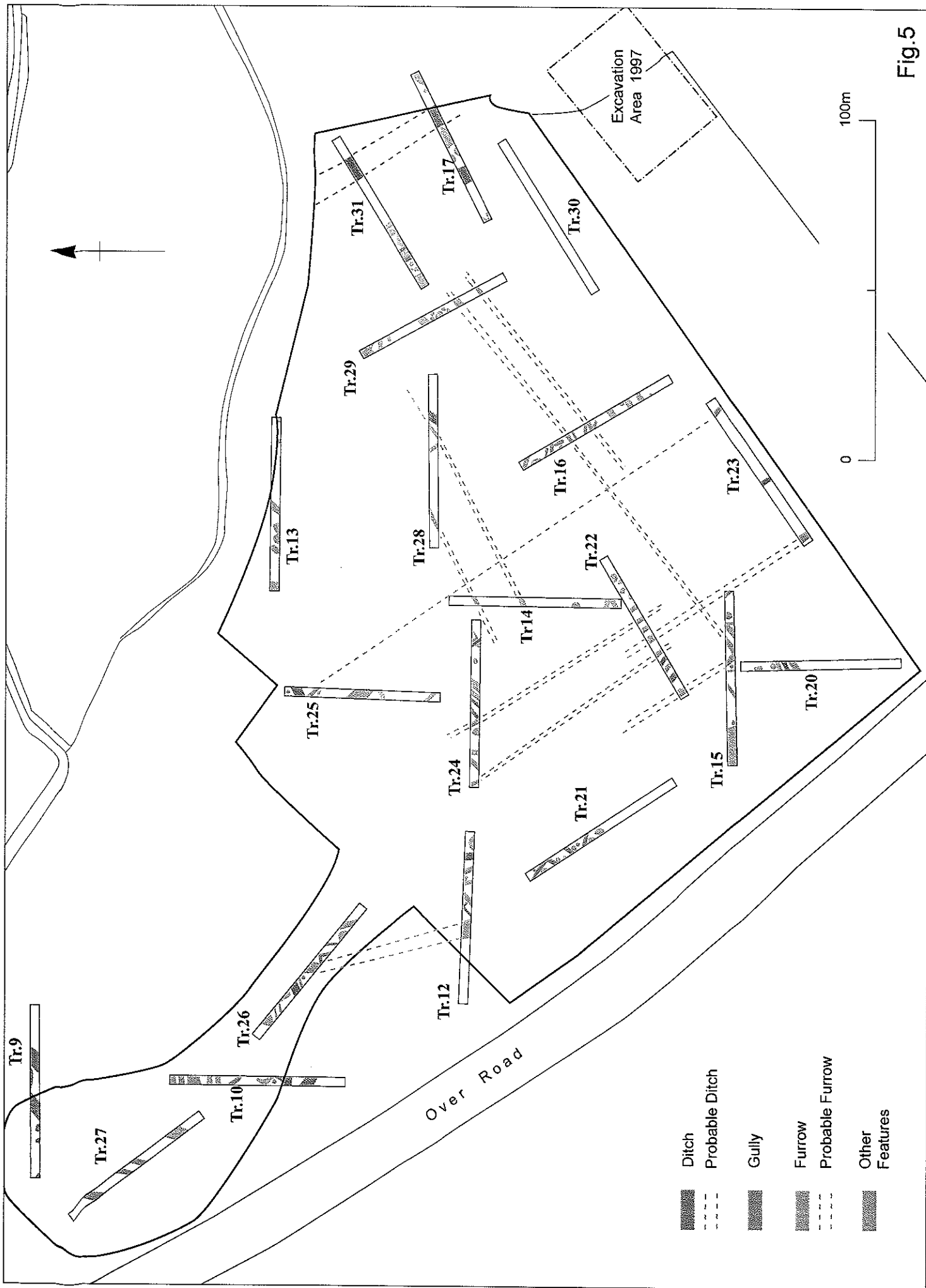
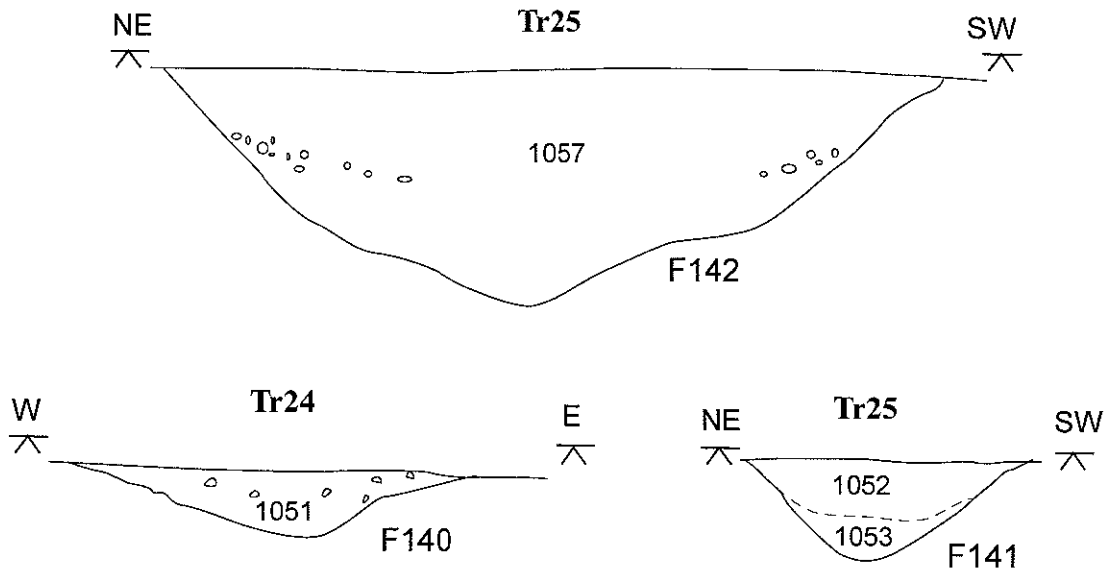


Fig.5

Saxon



Medieval

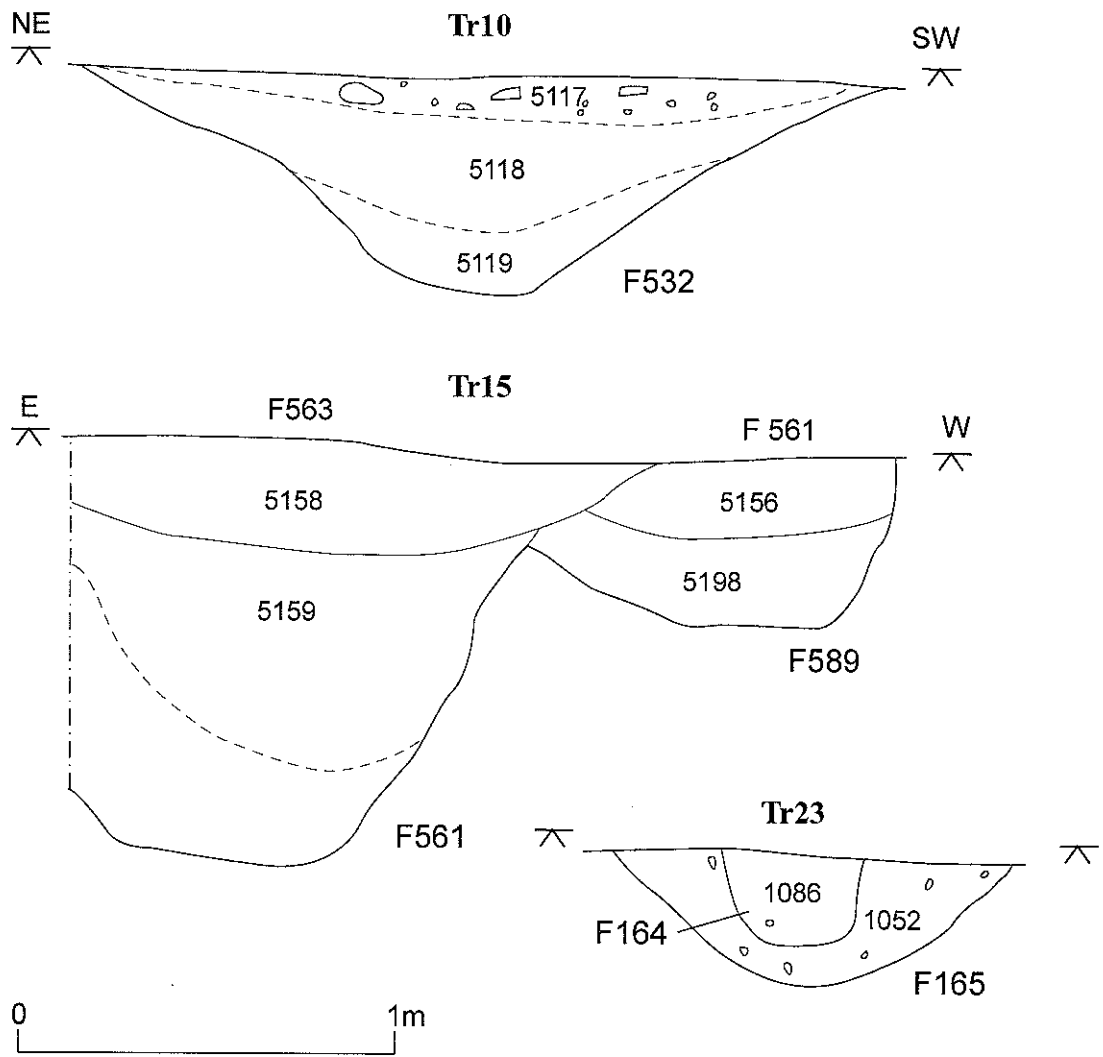


Fig.6

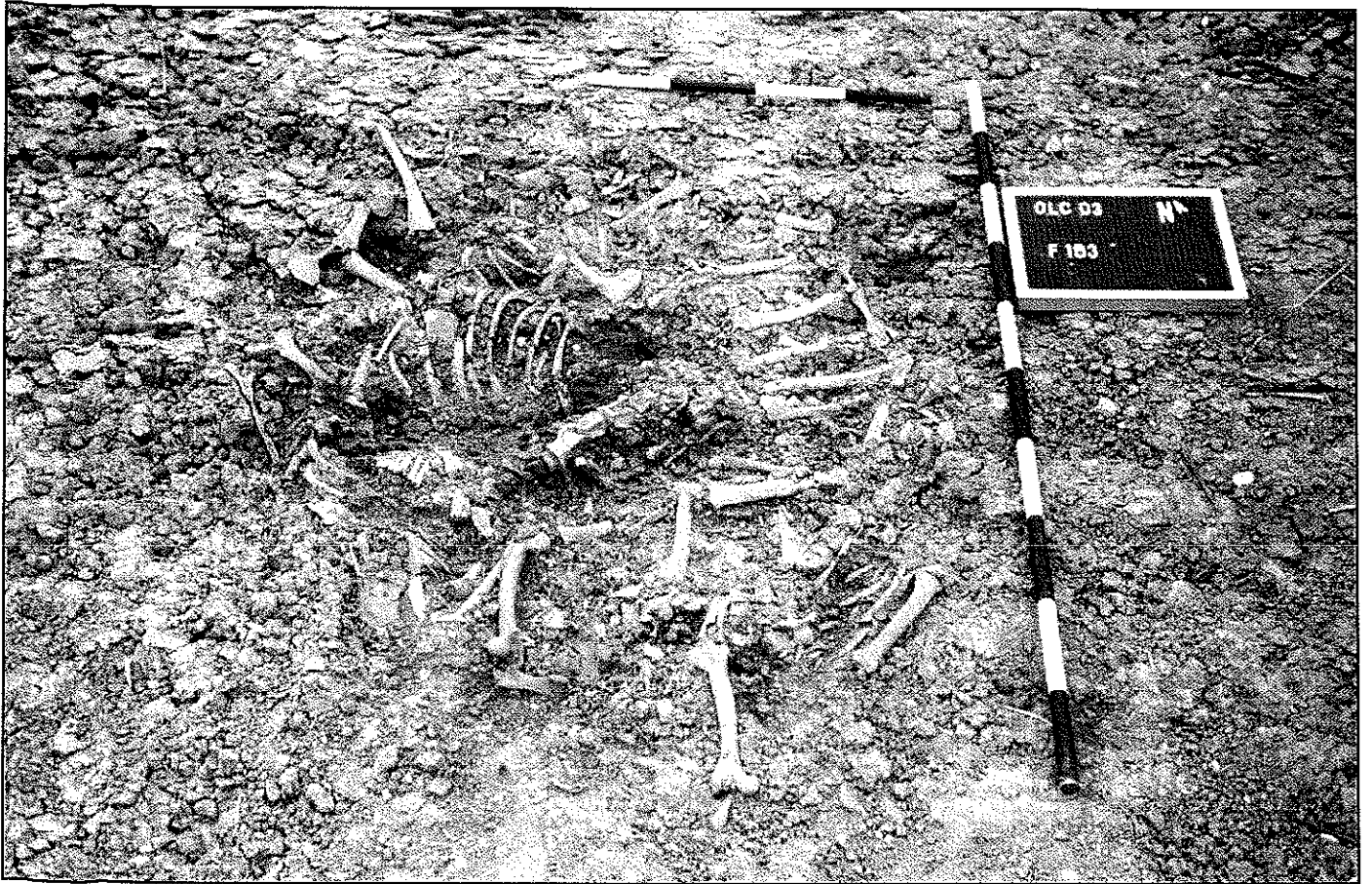


Plate 1