Archaeological trial trench evaluation at Jack's Green, Kings Cliffe Northamptonshire

August 2018

Report No: 18/135

Authors: Alex Shipley and Chloe Cronogue-Freeman

Illustrators: Olly Dindol and James Ladocha

Project Manager: Liz Muldowney
Site Code: ENN109101
NGR: TL 0381 9747

MOLA
Kent House
30 Billing Road
Northampton
NN1 5DQ
01604 809 800
www.mola.org.uk
sparry@mola.org.uk

Archaeological trial trench evaluation at Jack's Green, Kings Cliffe Northamptonshire August 2018

Site code: ENN109101

Report No. 18/135

Quality control and sign off**:**

Issue No.	Date approved:	Checked by:	Verified by:	Approved by:	Reason for Issue:
1	12/10/18	M. Holmes	M. Muldowney		Final Issue

Authors: Alex Shipley and Chloe Cronogue-Freeman

Illustrators: Olly Dindol and James Ladocha

MOLA
Kent House
30 Billing Road
Northampton
NN1 5DQ
01604 809800

www.mola.org.uk
sparry@mola.org.uk

STAFF

Project Manager:	Liz Muldowney
Text:	Alex Shipley BSc
	Chloe Cronogue-Freeman BA
Fieldwork	Rob Pearce MA
	Nathan Sleaford MA
	Olwyn Moyne MSc
Worked flint:	Yvonne Wolframm-Murray BSc PhD
Iron Age and Roman pottery:	Adam Sutton BA MA PhD
Ceramic building material:	Rob Atkins BSocSc DipArch MCIfA
Animal bone:	Sander Aerts BA MSc
Plant macrofossils:	Sander Aerts

OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS	OASIS molanort1-330831	
Project title	Archaeological trial trench evaluation at Jack's Green, Kings Cliffe, Northamptonshire	
Short description	MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology) was commissioned by CgMs Heritage to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation at Jack's Green, Kings Cliffe, Northamptonshire in August and September 2018. This work followed an earlier geophysical survey of the proposed development area. A low density of archaeological remains was encountered including a probable Iron Age pit alignment on the line of the proposed access track and part of an Iron Age enclosure. A n extensive irregular boundary ditch of uncertain date and two undated parallel boundary ditches or possible trackway drainage ditches were also recorded. A low number of pits and postholes were also present that were likely to be of Iron Age date although direct dating evidence was limited..	
Project type	Trial trench evaluation	
Previous work	Geophysical survey (MOLA 2018)	
Current land use	Pasture	
Future work	Unknown	
Monument type and period	Iron Age pit alignment, enclosure ditches, pits and postholes Undated boundaries	
Significant finds	None	
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Northamptonshire	
Site address	Jack's Green, Kings Cliffe, Northamptonshire	
Easting Northing	503857 297490	
Area (sq m/ha)	6ha	
Height aOD	65m to 71m aOD	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	MOLA	
Project brief originator	CgMs Heritage	
Project Design originator	MOLA	
Project Supervisor	Alex Shipley, MOLA	
Director/Manager	Liz Muldowney, MOLA	
Sponsor or funding body	CgMs Heritage	
PROJECT DATE		
Start date	20.08.2018	
End date	17.09.2018	
ARCHIVES	**Location (Accession no.)**	**Contents**
Physical	ENN109101	Pottery, flint, animal bone, cbm, flots
Paper		Site archive, context sheets and permatrace
Digital		Client report PDF, Survey Data, Photographs
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Title	Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation at Jack's Green, Kings Cliffe, Northamptonshire	
Serial title & volume	MOLA Northampton Report 18/135	
Author(s)	Alex Shipley and Chloe Cronogue-Freeman	
Page numbers	37	
Date	17 October 2018	

Contents

Figures

Tables

Archaeological trial trench evaluation at Jack's Green, Kings Cliffe, Northamptonshire August 2018

Abstract

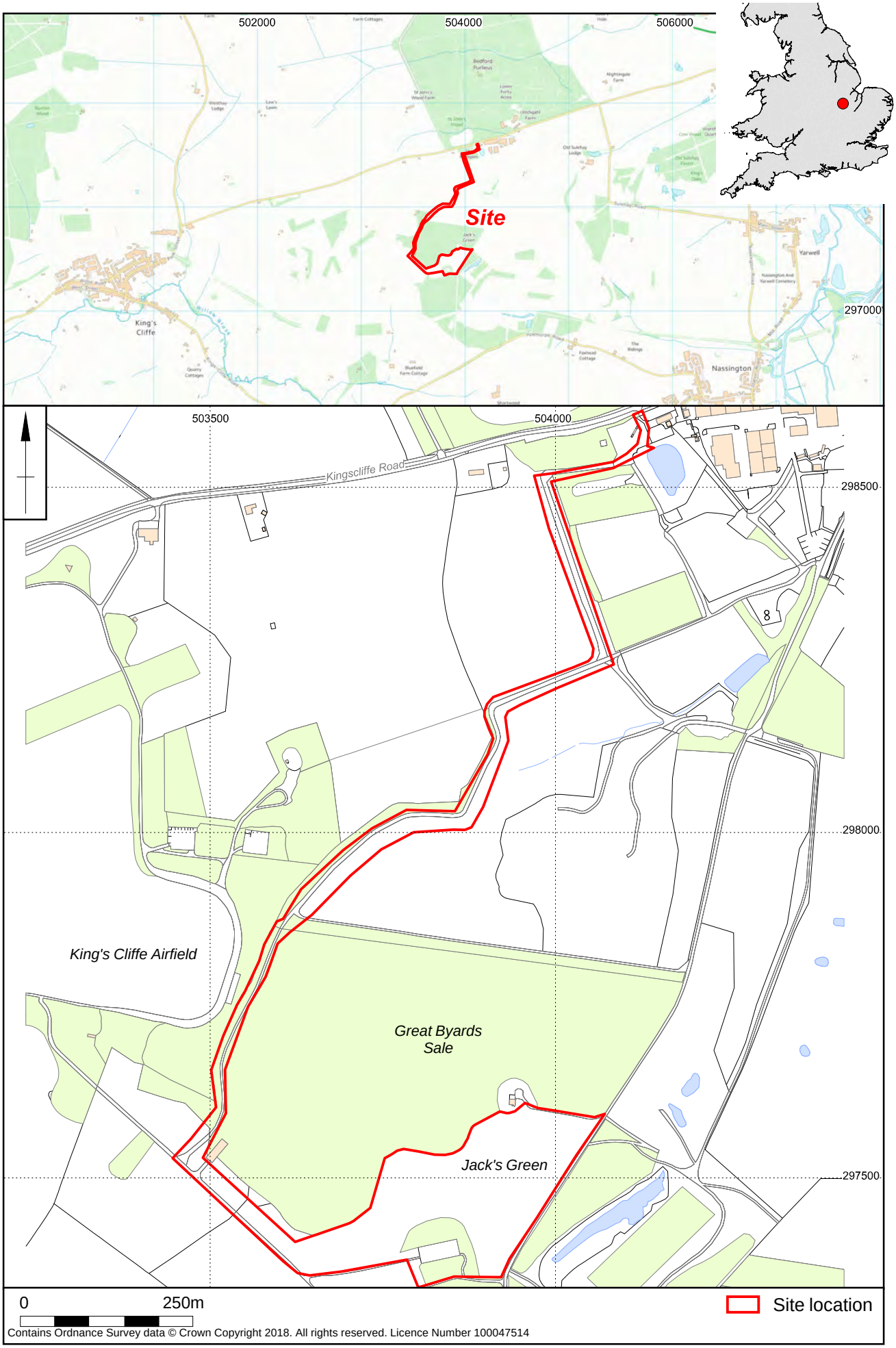
MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology) was commissioned by CgMs Heritage to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation at Jack's Green, Kings Cliffe, Northamptonshire in August and September 2018. This work followed an earlier geophysical survey of the proposed development area. A low density of archaeological remains were encountered including a probable Iron Age pit alignment on the line of the proposed access track and part of an Iron Age enclosure. An extensive irregular boundary ditch of uncertain date and two undated parallel boundary ditches or possible trackway drainage ditches were also recorded. A low number of pits and postholes were also recorded that were likely to be of Iron Age date were also present although direct dating evidence was limited.

1 INTRODUCTION

MOLA was commissioned by CgMs Heritage, on behalf of GP Planning and clients Rockingham Forest Park Ltd, to undertake archaeological trial trench evaluation at Jack's Green, Kings Cliffe, Northamptonshire (Fig 1; NGR TL 0381 9747). The archaeological evaluation is part of a suite of conditioned works for a proposed holiday lodge park development (planning reference 14/02225/FUL).The work was carried out in August and September 2018.

The Archaeological evaluation was required in accordance with paragraph 128 and 132 of the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012). It was conducted in accordance with an approved Written Scheme of Investigation (MOLA 2018).

MOLA is a Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) registered organisation, and all works were undertaken according to the CIfA *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a) and in accordance with current best archaeological practice as defined in the CIfA's *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2014b), the EAA document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003), and the procedural document *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (HE 2015a).



Scale 1:7500

Site location Fig 1

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Location, geology and topography

The development site is located to the south of the Roman road between Wansford and Kings Cliffe, Northamptonshire (TL 03831 97470 Fig 1) and covers an area of *c*6ha. It lies on a gentle south to south-east facing slope between the 65m and 70m contours. The access track to the north lies at a similar elevation on a north-easterly slope, at one point running across the head of a small dry valley. The British Geological Survey records the bedrock of the survey area to be Blisworth Limestone (formerly referred to as Great Oolite), capped in places by Blisworth Clay. On the highest part of the survey area these strata are concealed beneath glacial till (BGS 2018).

The present day topography is generally a low undulating landscape of shallow dry valleys and broad ridges. The area is bounded to the east by an area of uneven ground where low ridges reflect the extent of the ironstone quarrying in the area. Deeper adits have been left where ironstone and clays have been removed from seams at over 9m deep. To the south is farmland of Apethorpe parish and to the west farmland in the area of what was the former RAF Kings Cliffe Airfield.

2.2 Historical and archaeological background

The following historic background contains selected summarised data extracted from the Heritage Assessment compiled in 2015 by CgMs (Dawson 2015).

Prehistoric

There are undated crop marks, including probable prehistoric field boundaries and droveways parallel to Apethorpe road (NHER 2872, 2873). These do not fall into the development area and are possibly part of a prehistoric landscape south of Apethorpe Road. More prehistoric activity is likely north of Kings Cliffe Road recorded in crop marks as ditches and a possible enclosure to the west (NHER2827/HNER 2831)

Along the access road possible prehistoric enclosures as well as iron working evidence were identified from aerial photographs and investigated in a geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation (NHER2826/0/1, 2826/0/4, 2826/0/6; ENN 12971, 14640). Iron Age settlement activity was recorded at Shortwood Farm (NHER 8266).

Roman

The Wansford to Kings Cliffe Road originates in the Roman period (NHER2870). Settlement, funerary monuments and ironworking have all been recorded in the vicinity from this period.

Saxon, medieval and early post-medieval

In the Saxon and early medieval period the proposed development area lay on the boundary between the townships of Yarwell, Nassignton and Sulehay. Within the development area are traces of surviving ridge and furrow (NHER6111). Outside the proposed development area is the remains of the Parochial Forest (NHER 2253). Parallel ditches related to the forest may extend into the Eastern margin of the proposed development area (NHER2253)

Late post medieval and modern

Historical Ordinance Survey maps suggest that the development area comprised open farmland within retained forested areas in the late post medieval period.

In 1942 the Ministry of Defence constructed RAF Kings Cliffe airfield. The proposed development site occupies part of the eastern periphery of the airfield, which was in use till 1959 when it reverted to agricultural land. Within the development area a

Callender Hamilton T2 hangar was formerly situated. The technical sites and hangars have been r azed, though some structure bases, perimeter track and ancillary structures are still present. The airfield is famous for its association with Glenn Miller who played his last hangar concert here on 3rd October 1944. A rebuilt memorial to him was erected on the site of the former T2 Hangar within the proposed development area (Dawson, 2015).

Previous work

A magnetometer survey was carried out in 2018 (Walford 2018) and identified anomalies indicative of enclosures and boundaries in the southern open area and anomalies indicative of palaeochannels and hi ghly magnetically enhanced activity adjacent to the northern access track.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the trial trench evaluation was to record the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance, and quality of any surviving archaeological remains. The evaluation specifically aimed to characterise:

- the date, nature, significance and ex tent of activity or occupation in the development site;
- the potential relationship of any remains found to the surrounding contemporary landscapes;
- the potential for the recovery of finds to assist in the development of artefact studies within the region;
- the potential for palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions, including the presence/absence of palaeosoils, palaeochannels, and buried land surfaces;
- to understand the character of deposits, their formation within cut features, and the site formation processes generally;
- the impact of the proposed works upon any surviving archaeological remains;
- to inform any future decisions by the planning authority regarding approaches to archaeological preservation, conservation and mitigation.

Specific regional research frameworks were also assessed (Knight et al 2012, Cooper 2006).

4. EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

The proposed development site was subject to trial trench evaluation comprising 15 trenches of varying length and width (Table 1) targeting both geophysical anomalies and potential 'blank' areas (Fig 2). A brief summary of the results is included in Table 1 and discussed in detail in Section 5.

Table 1: Trench disposition and results

Trench	Length (m)	Width (m)	Area	Target	Results	Match to survey
1	20	3.6	Access Track	Possible pits	3 pits	Good
2	40	1.8	Access Track	Possible industrial archaeological remains	No archaeology	Poor
3	45	1.8	Access Track	Possible palaeochannel	Paleaochannel	Good
4	50	1.8	Southern site	Possible boundaries/enclosures	3 parallel ditches	Generally good
5	15	1.8		Possible boundary ditch	1 ditch	Good
6	50	1.8		Possible enclosure	Enclosure ditches	Good
7	50	1.8		Possible ditches	Geological variation	Good
8	50	1.8		Possible enclosures	Geological variation	Good
9	35	1.8		Possible enclosures	Geological variation	Good
10	50	1.8		Possible boundary ditch	Boundary ditch	Good
11	50	1.8		Possible ditches	Geological variation	Good
12	50	1.8		Possible boundaries	Boundary ditches, geological variation	Good
13	25	1.8		Possible trackway	Possible trackway	Good
14	50	1.8		Possible trackway	Possible trackway	Good
15	50/25	1.8		Possible boundaries/enclosures	Possible trackway	Good

All trench locations were positioned using Leica Viva Global Positioning System (GPS) survey equipment using SMARTNET real-time corrections, operating to a 3D tolerance of ± 0.05m and were scanned with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) prior to excavation.

Machine excavation was undertaken under the direction of an experienced archaeologist. Trenches were excavated by machine using a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket to reveal archaeological remains or, where these were absent, the undisturbed geological horizon. The spoil generated during the trial trenching was mounded away from the edges of each trench and scanned by eye and by metal detector for finds recovery.

Each trench was cleaned sufficiently to enhance the definition of features, unless it was certain that there are no archaeological remains present. All archaeological features were investigated.

All archaeological deposits encountered during the course of evaluation were fully recorded, following standard fieldwork procedures (MOLA 2014). All archaeological deposits were given a separate context number. Deposits were described on MOLA standard Trial Trench Logs to include details of the context, its relationships and interpretation. The record was compiled under NHER and Site Code: ENN109101.

Archaeological features were plotted on trench plans at a scale of 1:50. Sections or profiles through features were drawn at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate. All levels were related to Ordnance Datum.

503500

504000

298000

297500

King's Cliffe Airfield

Great Byards Sale

Jack's Green

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

#

0 100m

Archaeology
Geology
Geological test pit
Geology (evaluation)
Excavated trench
Site location
Underground service
Pipeline / cable

Scale 1:2500 (A3)

Trial trench locations, showing magnetometer survey results Fig 2

The photographic archive comprised high resolution (12 megapixels or greater) digital photography. Overall shots of the site were taken after backfilling. Overall shots of each trench were taken together with detailed shots of individual features. All photographs, where appropriate, included a suitable photographic scale.

Samples were taken for environmental analysis after identifying suitable contexts for sampling as outlined by Historic England (Campbell et al 2011), and subsequently processed at MOLA.

5 THE EXCAVATED EVIDENCE

5.1 General stratigraphy

The sequence of soils varied little across the site, comprising subsoil and topsoil above the weathered geological horizon. The natural substrate comprised frost fractured limestone with silt, gravel and clay pockets noted.

A thin subsoil was recorded in all of the excavated trenches with the exception of Trench 1. It comprised mid orange-brown, hard clay silt with frequent small, sub-angular limestone fragments. It was between 0.05m and 0.28m deep.

Topsoil in the western part of the site was loose dark brown clay silt with moderate limestone fragments measuring between 0.26m and 0.35m deep on average.

All features were cut into the natural substrate and were overlain by the subsoil, unless otherwise stated. Full context and deposit descriptions and depths are recorded in Appendix 1, a representative section is shown at figure 3.

General site stratigraphy looking south-east Fig 3

5.2 The archaeological remains

Archaeological features were encountered in 10 of the 15 excavated trenches (Trenches 1,4 to 7, 10 and 12 to 15); the anomalies encountered in the magnetometer survey in Trench 2 turned out to be geological anomalies and solution hollows and Trench 3 contained a palaeochannel that corresponded with the geophysical anomaly indicating a previous meander of a stream channel and the remaining three trenches were blank (Fig 2; Table 1). The features comprised mainly ditches and pits. Density levels were low in most trenches and corresponded well with

the geophysical survey results. Where dated, the features belong to the Iron Age, although the undated possible trackway or parallel boundary ditches may be medieval or later in date. A number of features were isolated and undated but were likely to be Iron Age in origin. The remains are described below by likely period.

Palaeochannel (Trench 3)

Trench 3 was positioned to investigate a possible palaeochannel representing a meander in a stream course (Fig 2) identified in the geophysical survey (Walford 2018). A darker band in the substrate was identified in the centre of the trench that corresponded well with the projected line of the channel (Fig 4). It was not clearly defined and was likely to be of some antiquity. The available mapping dating from the late 19th century shows no stream course in the vicinity.

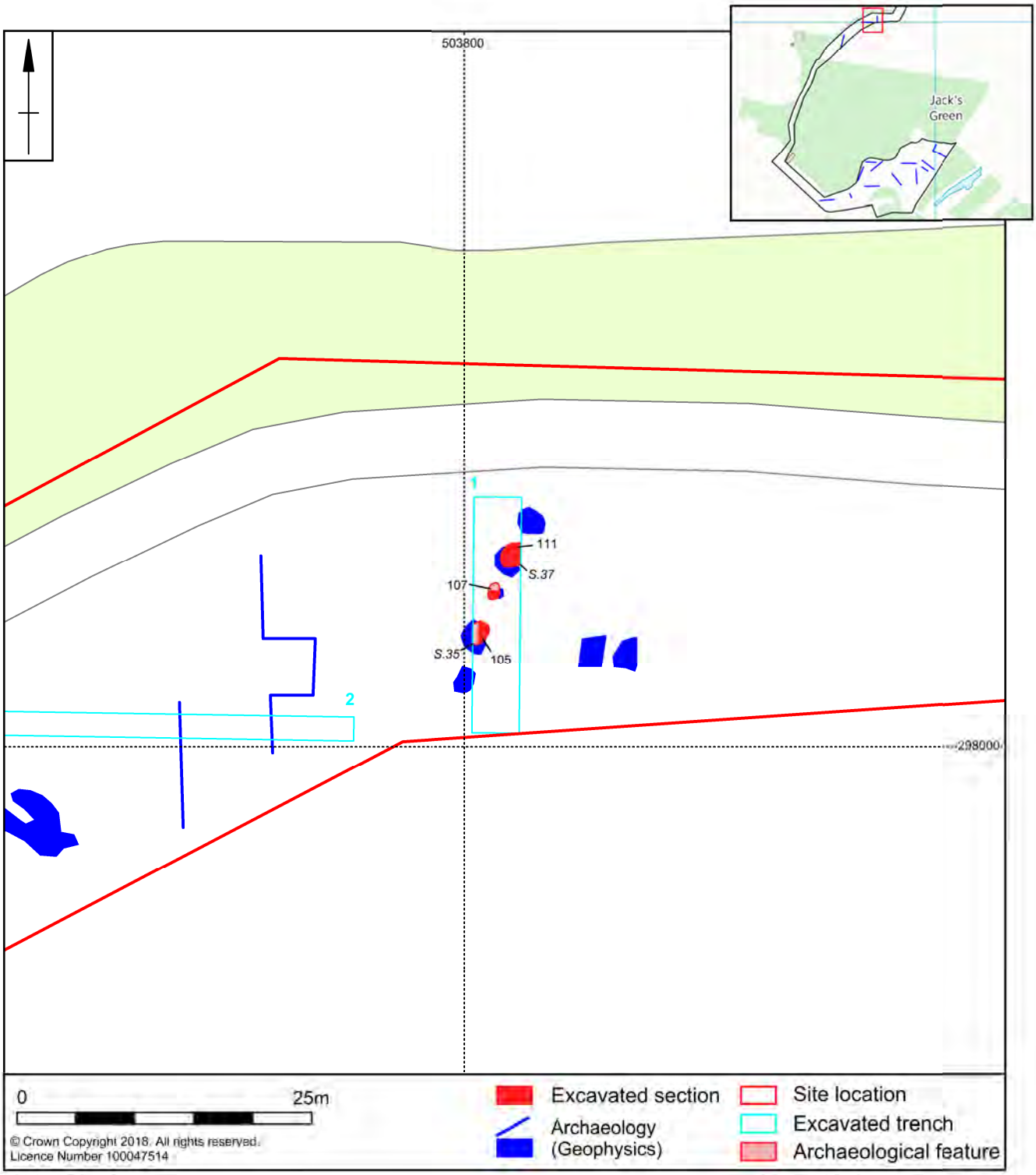
Palaeochannel in central portion of Trench 3, looking north-east, Fig 4

Probable pit alignment (Trench 1)

Double width Trench 1 targeted a suspected pit alignment identified by the magnetometer survey (Walford 2018). The trench fully uncovered one small pit and partially two much larger ones (Figs 5, 6 and 7). The pits were aligned north-east to south-west and similar anomalies were recorded in the survey both to the north and south within the proposed access corridor.

The partially exposed southern-most pit [105] was subcircular in plan, and was truncated almost to its flat base. It measured 2.59m wide and 0.25m deep. The lower fill represented a gradual accumulation of relatively unmodified substrate and contained two fragments of non-diagnostic animal bone. The upper fill had a higher humic content and contained six sherds of pottery likely to date from later middle Iron Age (3rd to 2nd centuries BC) in association with a small amount of non-diagnostic fired clay and ten fragments of non-diagnostic animal bone.

Pit [107] was fully exposed in the trench and located between the two other pits. It was elliptical in plan, with gradually sloping sides and an uneven base measuring 0.89m wide and 0.16m deep. It contained two sherds of Iron Age pottery.



Scale 1:500

Plan of Trench 1 Fig 5

Probable pit alignment in Trench 1, looking north, Fig 6

Pit [111] was partially obscured by the baulk. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base and measured 2.13m wide and 0.36m deep. The two lower fills were relatively unmodified, but the upper fill contained a higher humic content and frequent limestone pieces. Three sherds of non-diagnostic Iron Age pottery were recovered from the pit as well as a small amount of animal bone including some sheep/goat bones.

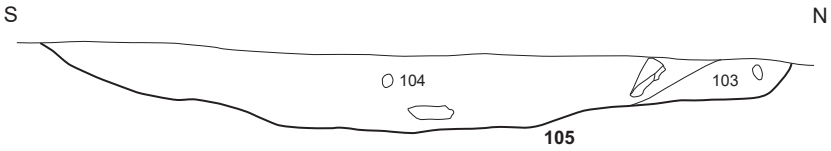
Sub-rectangular enclosure (Trench 6)

Trench 6 was positioned to investigate geophysical anomalies indicative of a sub-rectangular enclosure. Two ditches, one with evidence for modification and maintenance were recorded in the trench (Figs 8 and 9).

Shallow, irregular ditch [610] aligned north-west to south-east formed the northern arm of the enclosure, and had steep sloping sides and a flattish base, measuring 0.48m wide and 0.19m deep. It contained two sherds of non-diagnostic Iron Age pottery and thirty-four fragments of animal bone weighing 210g, mostly non-diagnostic but with elements from cattle, horse and sheep or goat present. Although the numbers were low, this feature produced the largest assemblage by weight and count of bone.

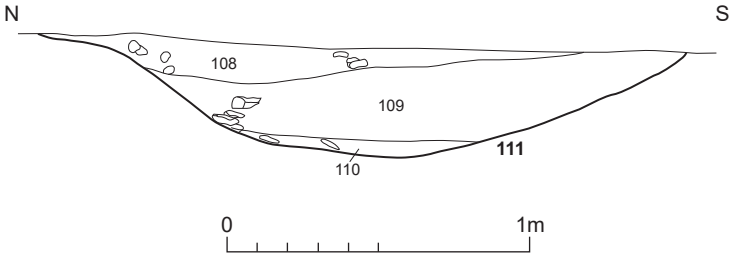
At the southern end of the trench a recut ditch, likely to represent an internal subdivision within the overall enclosure was recorded. Ditch [614] terminated to the north-west within the trench and had steep sides and a concave base measuring greater than1.12m wide by 0.48m deep. It contained three fragments of animal bone including cattle bone. Similar sized later ditch [607] and its recut [605]/[611] cut across it on the same alignment without terminating and were likely to be direct replacements (Fig 9). Eight sherds of middle to late Iron Age pottery, including some scored wares were recovered from the latest ditch in the sequence as well as eight fragments of animal bone non-identifiable to species.

Section 35



Looking west

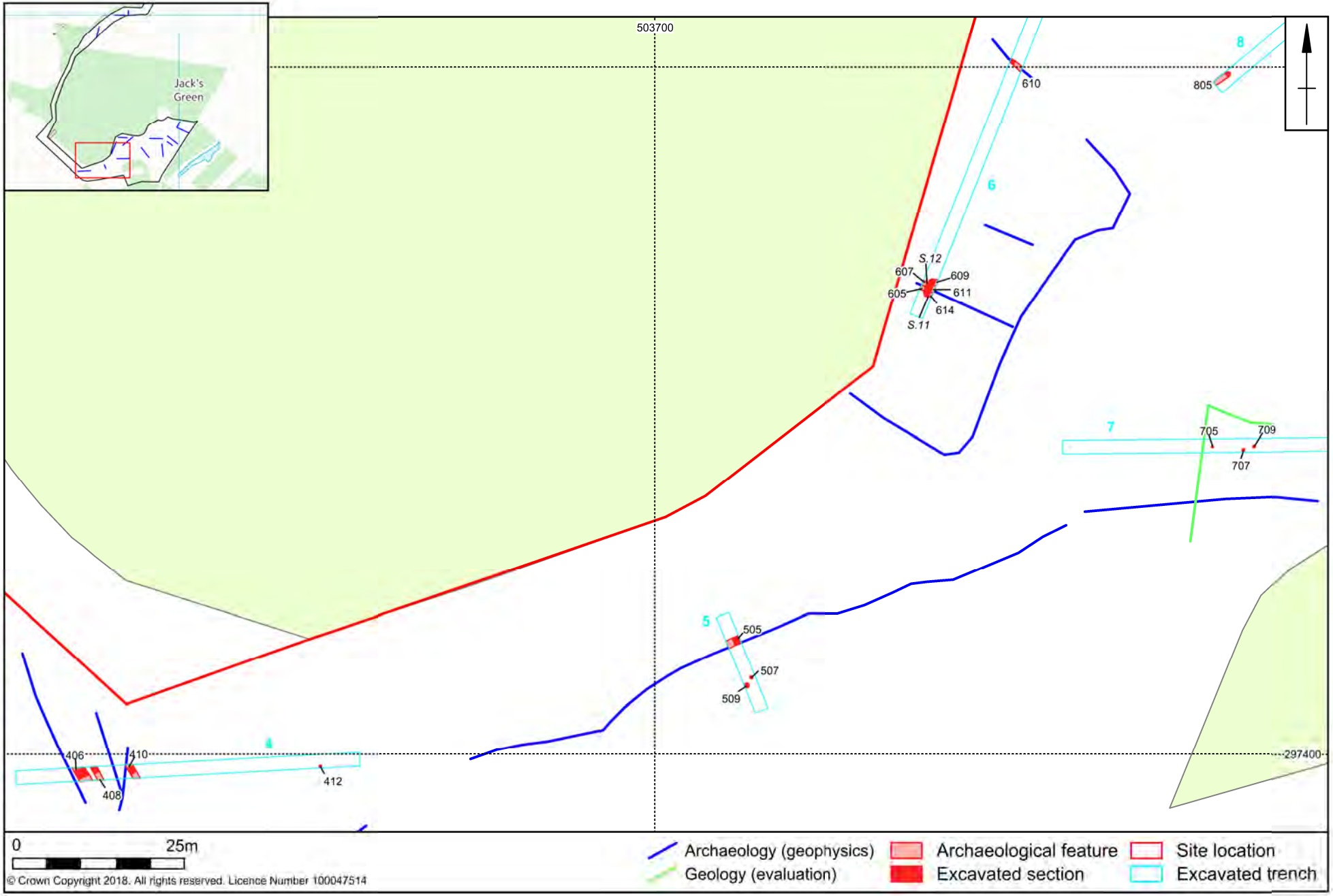
Section 37



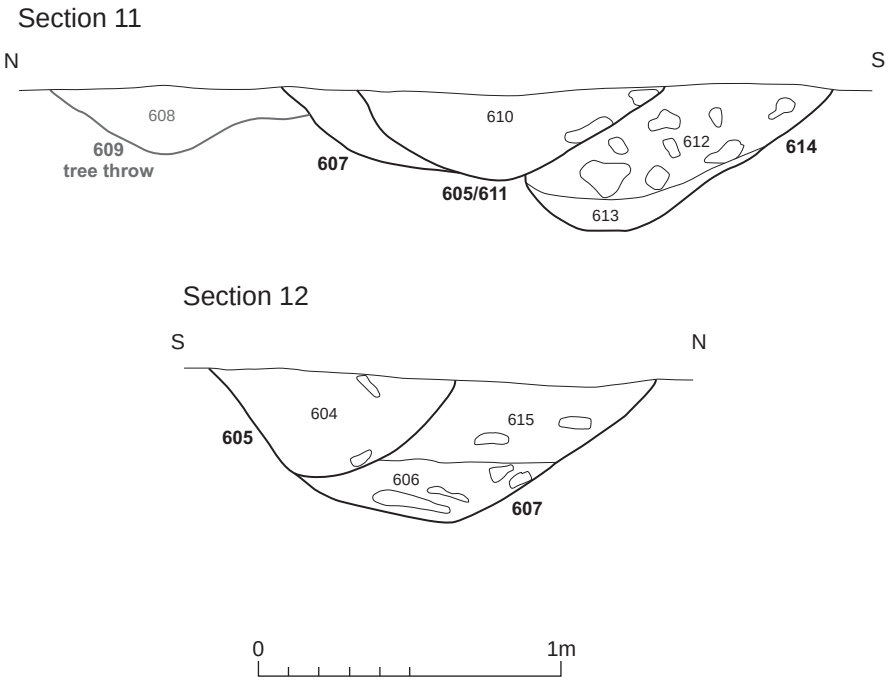
Looking east

Scale 1:25 Sections through probable pit alignment in Trench 1 Fig 7

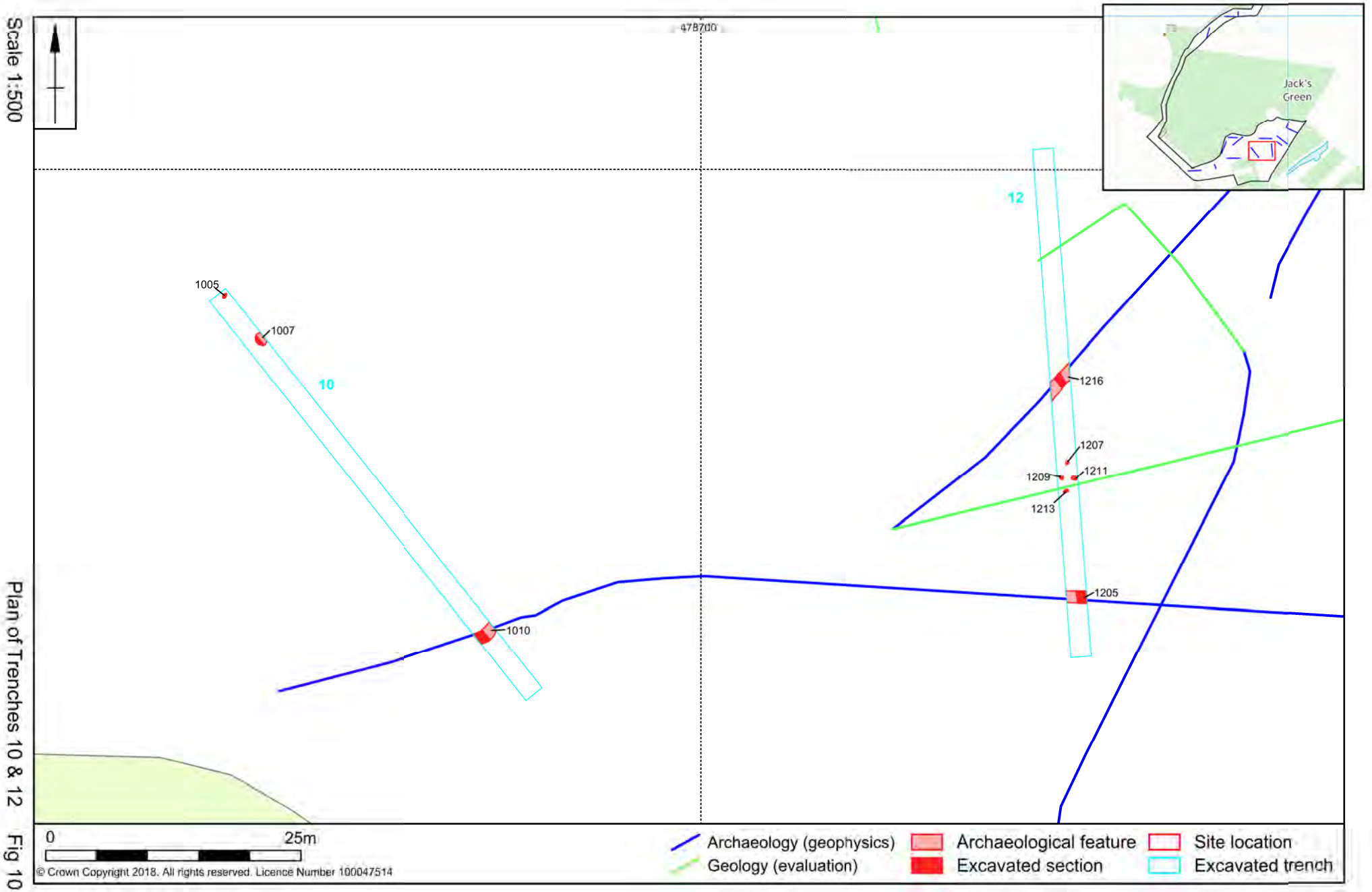
Scale 1:750



Plan of Trenches 4-8 Fig 8



Scale 1:25 Internal ditches within rectilinear enclosure in Trench 6 Fig 9



Plan of Trenches 10 & 12 Fig 10

Southern boundary (Trenches 4, 5, 10 and 12)

A slightly irregular, and possibly segmented, east to west aligned linear anomaly turning to the north at its west end was recorded in the geophysical survey and investigated in four of the trenches. It was identified in all four trenches in the expected position (Figs 2, 8 and 10). A single sherd of abraded Romano-British grey ware pottery was recovered from the ditch in Trench 10.

Adjacent boundary ditches [408] and [406], looking south, Fig 11

The main east to west section of the boundary ditch was recorded in Trenches 5, 10 and 12 (Figs 8 and 10 and 12), cutting through the shallow subsoil. The ditch measured between 1.1m and 2.05m in width and between 0.34 and 0.52m deep, with a broadly consistent eroded v-shaped profile. The soil sample (S1) recovered from the ditch in Trench 10 contained generally low volumes of cereal remains with a number of weed seeds indicative of cultivated land. The presence of relatively high numbers of snail shells from species keen on grassland and hedgerows might indicate a long lived, grassed over boundary ditch associated with a non-extant hedgeline providing a suitably shady environment.

At the western end of Trench 4, the north-north-west to south-south-east aligned ditch [406] was V-shaped with slightly eroded upper edges and a concave base, measuring 1.69m wide and 0.48m deep (Figs 8 and 11). This ditch was likely to form part of the north-north-west aligned return of the southern boundary. Two similar U-shaped ditches were recorded to its east [408] and [410], one of which was not identified in the geophysical survey. Both may be associated with the main boundary (Fig 8). Sixteen fragments of unidentified animal bone were recovered from the fill of the central ditch [408].

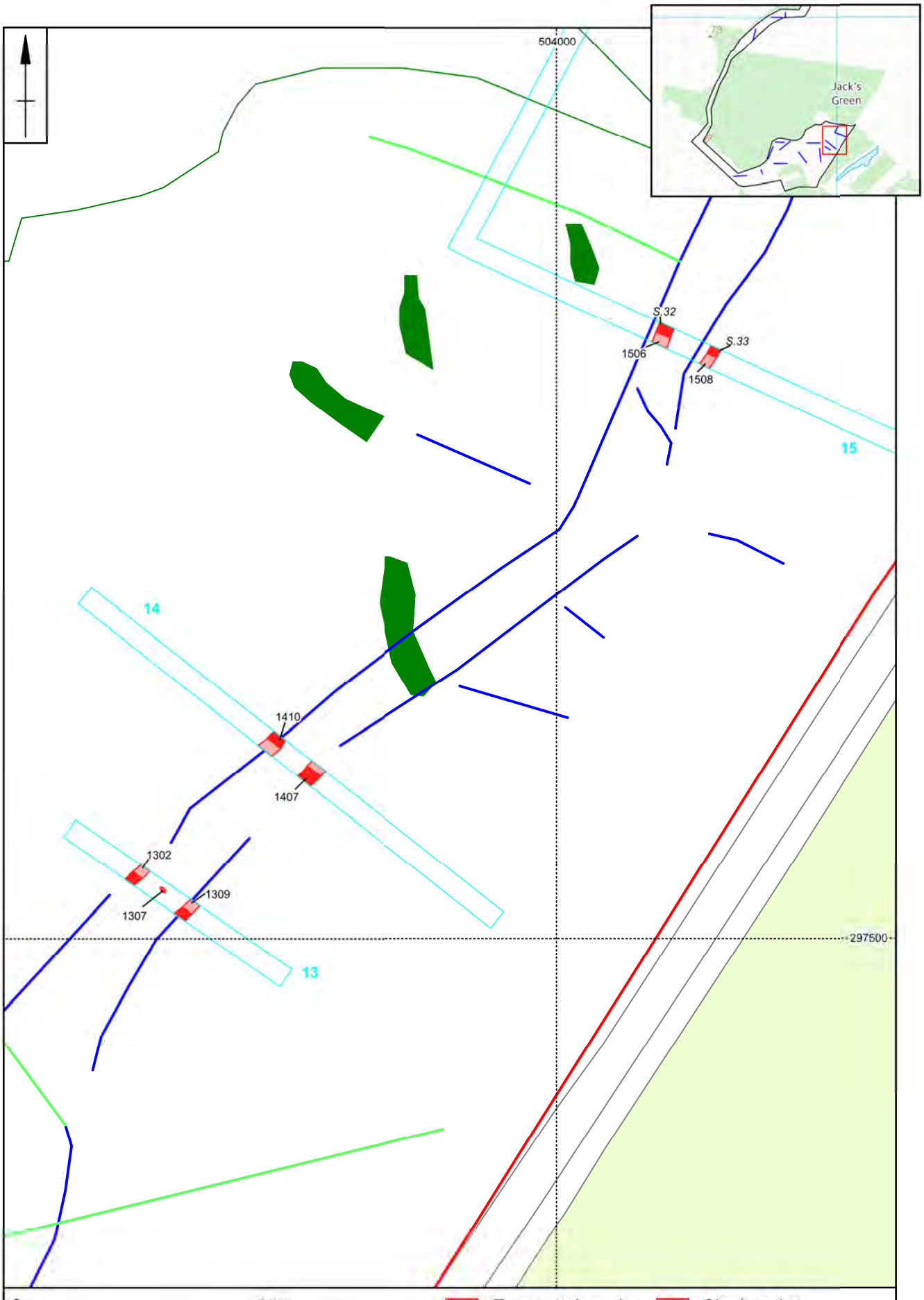
Boundary ditch [1205] in Trench 12, looking east, Fig 12

Possible trackway/parallel ditches (Trenches 12-15)

Two parallel linear anomalies aligned north-east to south-west were recorded in the survey over a maximum distance of 210m spaced approximately 3 to 5m apart at the north-east end and splaying wider to the south-west (Figs 2, 10, 13 and 14). These anomalies were investigated in four of the trenches where ditches were identified in the expected positions; no datable material was recovered from the ditches, however these ditches were also recorded cutting the remnant subsoil. Although identified as a possible trackway there was no evidence for erosion or rutting between the ditches and they may represent parallel boundary ditches.

The north-western ditch [1216], [1305], [1410] and [1506] was generally steep sided with evidence for erosion to its upper sides and a concave base and measured between 1.22 and 1.44m wide and between 0.32 and 0.5m deep. The soil sample (S2) recovered from ditch [1506] contained low numbers of both cereal and weed seeds, however moderately high numbers of grassland and hedge snails were present.

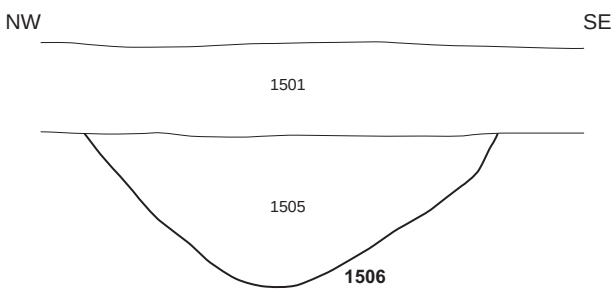
The south-eastern ditch [1309], [1407] and [1508] had a similar slightly eroded U-shaped profile and measured between 1.15 and 1.45m wide and between 0.28 and 0.30m deep. A single flint scraper was recovered from ditch [1407].



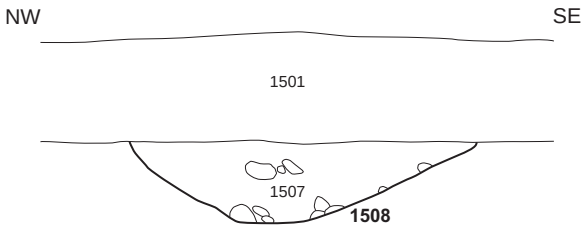
Scale 1:500

Plan of Trenches 13-15 Fig 13

Section 32



Section 33



Looking north-east

Scale 1:25 Parallel boundaries/possible trackway ditches in Trench 15 Fig 14

Other features

Pits

Undated hearth pit [509] (Figs 8 and 15) was located towards the southern end of Trench 5 close to posthole [507]. It was steep sided with a flat base and measured 0.65m wide and 0.18m deep, and a layer of large flattish cobbles showing signs of heat affection had been laid in the pit within a charcoal rich fill. One fragment of animal bone was recovered from the fill.

Hearth pit [509] showing heat affected stones, looking east, Fig 15

Circular pit [1007] was located towards the north-western end of Trench 10 (Fig 10), and had a broad shallow, flat based profile. It measured 1.38m wide by 0.18m deep and contained five sherds of non-diagnostic Iron Age pottery and six fragments of animal bone including cattle bone.

Postholes

A single undated posthole [412] was recorded in the eastern end of Trench 4 (Fig 8). It was U-shaped, measuring 0.35m wide by 0.14m deep.

Undated circular posthole [507] was recorded to the north of pit [509] in Trench 5 (Fig 8). It had near vertical sides and a flat base and measured 0.44m wide by 0.20m deep. Seven non-diagnostic animal bone fragments were recovered from the fill.

Three postholes [705], [707] and [709] were recorded in Trench 7 in the centre of the trench on an east to west alignment (Fig 8). They were all shallow with varying U-shaped profiles, measuring between 0.22 and 0.43m wide and 0.08 and 0.15m deep. None were dated, however, posthole [709] contained three fragments of animal bone.

Undated oval posthole [1005] was located 5m to the north-west of pit [1007] in Trench 10 (Fig 10). It had an eroded U-shaped profile and measured 0.45m wide by 0.12m deep.

A cluster of four undated sub-oval postholes [1207], [1209], [1211] and [1213] were recorded in Trench 12 (Figs 10 and 16). They were shallow and irregular measuring approximately 0.4m at their widest and between 0.02m and 0.13m deep.

Posthole cluster in Trench 12, looking north, Fig 16

A single undated sub-oval posthole [1307] was recorded between the parallel ditches [1305] and [1309] in Trench 13. It was truncated almost to its flat base, measuring 0.55m wide by 0.11m deep.

6 THE FINDS

6.1 Flint by Yvonne Wolframm-Murray

One end scraper was recovered as a residual find from undated ditch [1407], it measures 25mm long and 23mm wide. The flake was abruptly retouched on the proximal end and both lateral edges, giving the scraper a square outline with its straight edges. The distal end has some post-depositional edge damage. The raw material is a dark grey-brown vitreous flint with a thick mid grey cortex. The flint probably came from a local gravel depopsit.

The scraper is not directly dateable but the technological characteristics suggest a broadly Neolithic to early Bronze Age date.

6.2 Iron Age and Romano-British pottery by Adam Sutton

Twenty-seven sherds of pottery, weighing 240g, were recovered. The vast majority of this pottery is likely to be Iron Age with a single sherd of abraded Romano-British pottery also present.

Scored ware was identified in fill (604) within enclosure ditch [605] and fill (610) in ditch terminal [611], which suggests a middle-to-late Iron Age date. In the two examples from fill (610), scoring was of a type more akin to combing than to scoring with a single-pronged implement, and this is generally seen as a late trait dating to Chapman's 'Late Iron Age' phase (first century BC: Chapman forthcoming). However, the scored sherd from fill (604) has the oblique lattice scoring typical of Chapman's 'Later Middle Iron Age' phase (250/200-100 BC); a lack of grog-tempered fabrics in the assemblage as a whole (including the scored sherds from fill (610)) indicates an earlier date than the first century BC/AD.

Aside from the single Roman sherd from fill (1008) in boundary ditch [1010], all other pottery finds were featureless body sherds in shelly fabrics of varying coarseness. The finer shelly wares from fill (604) all appeared to have been burnished. While this

means that (apart from contexts (604), (610), and (1008)) none of the contexts yielding pottery could be dated with any precision, the uniformity of the fabrics between those contexts producing scored wares and those producing only shelly body sherds may suggest that all of the non-Roman pottery was roughly contemporary, probably dating to the later part of the middle Iron Age; third-to-second centuries BC.

Fill (1008) in ditch [1010] produced one abraded rim sherd from a Roman greyware vessel. The rim appears to be everted, but cannot be assigned to a type for the purpose of precise dating. Greywares are common throughout the Roman period from the first to fourth centuries AD.

Table 2. Iron Age & Roman pottery. = fabric code derived from Northamptonshire Roman fabric series.*

Fill	Cut	Feature	Trench	Fabric	Sherd count	Weight (g)
(104)	[105]	Pit	1	Fine shell	1	2
				Medium shell	5	24
(106)	[105]	Pit	1	Fine shell	2	4
(109)	[111]	Pit	1	Fine shell	1	2
				Medium shell	2	6
(604)	[605]	Ditch	6	Fine shell	4	12
				Medium shell	2	14
(610)	[611]	Ditch terminal	6	Medium shell	2	147
(616)	[617]	Ditch	6	Medium shell	2	10
(1006)	[1007]	Pit	10	Fine shell	1	2
				Medium shell	4	14
(1008)	[1010]	Ditch	10	C*	1	3
Totals					**27**	**240**

6.3 Fired clay by Rob Atkins

Three undiagnostic small fragments of fired clay weighing 15g were recovered from fill (104) in pit [105]. They are all in a mixed buff to orange sandy fabric with a grey core.

7 FAUNAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Faunal remains by Sander Aerts

A total of 551 grams of animal bone were recovered by hand from eleven features from six of the fifteen trenches during the evaluation. No animal remains were retrieved from the environmental samples. The animal bone was analysed to assess the species assemblage, preservation and taphonomy.

The remains were quantified using the NISP method (number of identified fragments), implying that identification was attempted on all fragments with diagnostic features. Mammal remains smaller than 1 cm were not quantified. Identifications took place using the MOLA Northampton reference collection. Due to the similarities in sheep and goat skeletal morphologies, they are grouped together as ovicaprids. Unidentifiable remains were attributed to size categories Large Mammal (LM), i.e. horse and cattle, and Medium Mammal (MM), i.e. ovicaprids, pig, large dog, where possible.

The animal bone was found to be poorly preserved; only 12 out of 106 fragments were identifiable. The results are summarised in Table 3. The assemblage is low in diversity. The only identified taxa include common domesticates cattle, ovicaprids and a single horse pelvic fragment from (616), fill of ditch [617]. The majority of the cattle and ovicaprid remains comprise long bone fragments and loose teeth. One unfused phalanx fragment from (508), fill of pit [509] resembles that of an ovicaprid, and forms the only evidence for juvenile animals on the site.

Due to the high level of fragmentation and brittle/flaky state of the surface of the bones, it was not possible to establish the presence of butchering and/or gnawing marks.

The poor preservation and small amount of identifiable material limit the research value of this assemblage. No further work is required.

Table 3: NISP quantification of the hand collected animal remains

Fill	Cut	Feature	Trench	Cattle	Horse	Ovicaprid	LM	MM	Indet	Count	Wt. (g)
104	[105]	Pit	1				3	3	4	10	33
106	[105]	Pit					2			2	13
109	[111]	Pit	1			4			7	11	26
407	[408]	Ditch	4				5		11	16	75
506	[507]	Posthole	5					2	5	7	5
508	[509]	Pit	5			1?				1	2
608	[609]	Tree throw	6					5		5	10
610	[611]	Ditch Terminal	6				3	1	4	8	49
612	[614]	Ditch Terminal	6	2			1			3	97
616	[617]	Ditch	6	1	1	1	7		24	34	210
708	[709]	Posthole	7						3	3	5
1006	[1007]	Pit	10	2			4			6	26
Totals										**106**	**551**

7.2 Environmental remains by Sander Aerts

Two environmental soil samples of 10 litres each were taken to assess the macrofossil assemblages. Both samples were processed using the siraf flotation method. The residue was collected in a 1 millimetre mesh, the flots were retrieved in a 500 micron mesh. All remains were analysed using a low-power binocular microscope (10x-40x magnification).

The results are summarised in Table 4. A small assemblage of cultivated charred cereal grains was observed. The grains were in a poor state of preservation, allowing only for one individual from (1008), fill of ditch [1010] to be narrowed down to being wheat or barley (*Triticum/Hordeum* sp.). Wild plants included goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.) in both samples, and a few seeds of field pennycress (*Thlaspi arvense*) from (1008). This annual weed species is commonly found on cultivated land.

Both samples were rich in shell fragments from terrestrial snails. These genera include garden snails *Cepaea*, door snail *Clausilia*, and minute *Vertigo* snails, amongst other common taxa. These snails are typical for damp, vegetated habitats, and can often be found in grasslands, hedgerows and in leaf litter.

Table 4: Summary of the environmental remains from fills (1008) and (1305)

Sample	1	2
Context	1008	1505
Cut	1010	1506
Type	Ditch	Ditch
Crop plants		
Triticum/Hordeum sp.	A	-
Cereal grains indet.	B	A
Wild plants		
Chenopodium sp.	B	A
Thlaspi arvense	A	-
Indet.	B	B
Snails		
Cepaea sp.	C	B
Clausilia sp.	-	A
Cochlicopa sp.	**B**	
Helicidae sp.	B	B
Vertigo sp.	A	-
Zonitidae sp.	B	B
Snails indet.	C	C

Key: *A = 1-3, B = 4-19, C=20-50 individuals.*

8 DISCUSSION

The results of the evaluation at Jack's Green, Kings Cliffe have broadly corroborated the results of the previous geophysical survey with a high incidence of matching archaeological features to geophysical anomalies. Some linear and curvilinear anomalies were positively identified as geological variations in the limestone substrate and some glacial till cover as seen in Trench 2 (Fig 2) and a number of small discrete features were identified that would have produced an insufficient variation in the magnetic signature to be discerned in the survey. Overburden depths were generally shallow with little or no genuine subsoil present, presumably due to limited historic agricultural exploitation of the area within the forested landscape.

8.1 Iron Age pit alignment and enclosure

Five probable large pits were identified in the geophysical survey in the northern part of the site and the presence of two of these plus a smaller, shallower pit were confirmed during the evaluation. Although shallow and badly eroded these pits contained 40% of the very small pottery assemblage for the whole site and 22% of the faunal remains, therefore they are genuine features and likely to be the basal remains of pits forming part of a north-north-east to south-south-west pit alignment. It was likely to have been constructed in the earlier Iron Age, by analogy to better dated examples in the region, with the pits becoming infilled in the middle to later Iron Age.

The rectilinear enclosure in the southern area, investigated in Trench 6 was the primary focus for Iron Age activity within the area. Of the remaining pottery recovered, 37% came from these enclosure ditches in association with just over 40% of the poorly preserved animal bone assemblage. The pottery recovered from these ditches was slightly better dated than the remainder of the assemblage and has been assigned to

the later middle Iron Age. The majority of this enclosure lies beyond the development area to the north-west within the woodland.

The small number of mostly undated pits and postholes recorded to the south of the enclosure are likely to be of a similar date and may be indicative of unenclosed exploitation of the area, indicative of the early to middle Iron Age period.

8.2 Southern boundary and parallel boundaries/trackway

Neither the southern boundary nor the parallel boundaries/trackway were convincingly dated. The southern boundary contained one sherd of abraded Romano-British pottery and the parallel ditches contained one residual flint scraper. Both features were recorded as cutting the subsoil, which might indicate a later medieval or post-medieval date, however, the subsoil as recorded is extremely thin and appears to be the upper eroded geological horizon rather than the remnant of a post-Romano-British agricultural soil, therefore it is not good evidence for a late origin. Extant drainage ditches were observed in the woodland to the north of the parallel boundaries/trackway on a broadly similar alignment (Fig 17) that might represent a continuation of these ditches but a link between the two could not be confirmed.

Ditch within woodland to north of parallel boundaries, looking south-west, Fig 17

10 BIBLIOGRAPHY

BGS 2018 *British Geological Survey GeoIndex,* available online at http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html, accessed 19th July 2018

Campbell, G, Moffett, L, and Straker, V, 2011 *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (2nd edition), Historic England

Chapman, A, forthcoming, 'An Iron Age pottery typology and chronology for the south Midlands', in *Unpublished report for Coton Park, Rugby*.

CIfA 2014a *Code of Conduct,* Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

CIfA 2014g *Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Field Evaluation,* Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

Cooper, N J, (ed) 2006 *The Archaeology of the East Midlands: an archaeological resource assessment and research agenda*, University of Leicester/ English Heritage

Dawson, M, 2015 *Heritage Assessment Jack's Green, Kings Cliffe, Northamptonshire*, CgMs Heritage Ltd

DCLG 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework*, Department of Community and Local Government

HE, 2015 *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE),* Historic England

Knight, D, Vyner, B, and Allen, C, 2012 *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands*, Nottingham Archaeology Monographs **6**

MOLA 2014 *Archaeological Fieldwork Manual*, MOLA Northampton

MOLA 2018 *Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological trial trench evaluation at Kings Cliffe, Jack's Green, Northamptonshire* MOLA Northampton

Walford, J, 2018 *Archaeological geophysical survey at Jack's Green, Kings Cliffe Northamptonshire, April 2018* MOLA Report **18/59**

MOLA

17 October 2018

11 APPENDIX: CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	Height of ground surface	Height of natural
1	**20m x 3.6m N-S**	68.21m aOD	67.94m aOD

Context	*Context type Feature & type*	*Description*	*Dimensions*	*Artefacts/ Samples*
101	Topsoil	Loose, dark brown loamy silt, some small stones and stale white and yellow shale	0.28m deep	-
102	Natural	White and yellow shale	0.5m deep	-
103	Fill	Fill of [105]. Compact, mid-brown silty clay with chalk, likely erosion	0.47m wide 0.14m deep	-
104	Fill	Fill of [105]. Compact, dark greyish-brown silty clay with large quantities of black charcoal and shale. Mixed nature implies backfill.	2.12m wide 0.25m deep	Pottery, bone
105	Cut	Fairly gently sloping sides, flat base, sub circular	2.59m wide 0.25m deep	-
106	Fill	Friable to firm mid-dark brown silty sandy clay, pot, bone, occasional small to mid-size limestone pieces, occasional charcoal flecks. Clear boundary with natural.	0.89m wide 0.16m deep	Pottery, bone
107	Cut	Elliptical, N-S, sloping sides to base, 25-35 degree angle, uneven base. Pit possibly round quarry pit.	0.89m wide 0.16m deep	-
108	Fill	Fill of [111]. Compact, mid-grey brown, frequent small to medium angular stones. Erosion from North.	0.90m wide 0.09m deep	-
109	Fill	Fill of [111]. Natural siltation. Silt, clay, pottery, bone, occasional stone	1.86m wide 0.30m deep	Pottery, bone
110	Fill	Fill of [111]. Erosional deposit of pit.	0.90m wide 0.06m deep	-
111	Cut	Cut of large pit. Romano-British. Possibly storage pit? Moderate sides and rounded base.	2.13m wide 0.36m deep	-

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	Height of ground surface	Height of natural
2	**40m x 1.8m E-W**	68.11m aOD	67.63m aOD

Context	*Context type Feature & type*	*Description*	*Dimensions*	*Artefacts/ Samples*
201	Topsoil	Loose, mid-brown silt, occasional stones	0.25m deep 0.36m deep 0.34m deep	-
202	Subsoil	Mid-orange brown sand, occasional stones	0.28m deep 0.08m deep 0.17m deep	-
203	Geo	Glacial, geological clay	0.18m deep 0.26m deep	-
204	Natural	Natural white and yellow shale	0.06m deep	-

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	Height of ground surface	Height of natural
3	**45m x 1.8m NE-SW**	70.56m aOD	70.08m aOD

Context	*Context type Feature & type*	*Description*	*Dimensions*	*Artefacts/ Samples*
301	Topsoil	Loose, mid-grey brown silt, occasional small stones	0.26m deep 0.28m deep 0.31m deep	-
302	Subsoil	Hard, mid-orange brown silty clay, occasional small stones	0.31m deep 0.09m deep 0.21m deep	-
303	Natural	Hard, light yellowish grey clay, occasional small stones	-	-

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	Height of ground surface	Height of natural
4	**50m x 1.8m E-W**	68.21m aOD	67.70m aOD

Context	*Context type Feature & type*	*Description*	*Dimensions*	*Artefacts/ Samples*
401	Topsoil	Loose, mid-grey brown silt, occasional small stones	0.38m deep 0.30m deep 0.30m deep	-
402	Subsoil	Hard, mid-yellow brown chalk	0.20m deep 0.18m deep 0.14m deep	-
403	Natural	Hard, light yellow brown chalk	-	-

404	Fill	Fill of [406]. Mid-grey brown clay/silty clay. Compact. Frequent chalk inclusions.	1.42m wide 0.32m deep	-
405	Fill	Fill of [413]. Compact, light yellow-brown chalk. Redeposited?	0.65m wide 0.12m deep	-
406	Cut	Cut of linear, steep, U-shaped base. N/NW-S/SE.	1.69m wide 0.48m deep	-
407	Fill	Fill of [408]. Compact, mid-grey brown clay, frequent chalky inclusions.	0.70m wide 0.31m deep	-
408	Cut	Cut of linear, concave base, steep sides, N/NW-S/SE	0.70m wide 0.31m deep	-
409	Fill	Fill of [410]. Fill of [410]. Compact, mid-grey brown clay. Frequent chalky inclusions	1.04m wide 0.39m deep	-
410	Cut	Cut of linear, blunt base, steep to moderate sides. N/NW-S/SE.	1.04m wide 0.39m deep	-
411	Fill	Fill of [412]. Friable, mid-grey brown silt. Some rooting or disturbance and chalky inclusions.	0.35m wide 0.14m deep	-
412	Cut	Cut of posthole. Shallow, steep sides. Some slumping on W.	0.35m wide 0.14m deep	-
413	Cut	Cut of linear/drain? Cuts (404). Shallow, concave, moderate sides.	0.65m wide 0.12m deep	-
414	Fill of 406	Natural silting layer, mid brown sandy clay.	1.50m wide 0.20m deep	-

Trench No	**Length, width & alignment**	**Height of ground surface**	**Height of natural**
5	**15m x 1.8m NW-SE**	68.55m aOD	68.17m aOD

Context	***Context type Feature & type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
501	Topsoil	Loose, mid to dark grey brown silt-loam, occasional small stones	0.21m deep 0.34m deep 0.28m deep	-
502	Subsoil	Hard, mid-brown orange silty chalk	0.09m deep 0.14m deep 0.10m deep	-
503	Natural	Hard, light yellowish-white chalk with frequent stones	-	-

504	Fill	Fill of [505]. Loose, mid-brown slightly clayey silt with frequent limestones	1.47m wide 0.49m deep	-
505	Cut	Linear, NE-SW, moderate to straight sides, U-shaped, concave	1.47m wide 0.49m deep	-
506	Fill	Fill of [507]. Dark greyish-brown silt, loose, occasional charcoal, frequent small to medium stones	0.45m wide 020m deep	Pottery, bone
507	Cut	Cut of posthole. Circular, steep, flattish base	0.45m wide 020m deep	-
508	Fill	Fill of [509]. Dark grey-brown silt, loose, frequent stones, small to very large, frequent charcoal	0.65m wide 0.18m deep	Bone
509	Cut	Cut of pit/posthole. Sub-circular, steep, flattish base	0.65m wide 0.18m deep	-

Trench No	**Length, width & alignment**	**Height of ground surface**	**Height of natural**
6	**50m x 1.8m NE-SW**	68.84m aOD	68.39m aOD

Context	***Context type*** ***Feature & type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
601	Topsoil	Loose, dark grey brown silty loam with occasional small to medium sized stones	0.39m deep 0.18m deep 0.25m deep	-
602	Subsoil	Hard, mid-orange brown silty chalk with occasional stones	0.13m deep 0.26m deep 0.08m deep	-
603	Natural	Hard, light yellow/white chalk with frequent small to large stones		-
604	Fill	Fill of [605]. Firm, light red-brown silty clay, moderate small stones. Fill of ditch.	0.35m wide 0.15m deep	-
605	Cut	Cut of gully. Cut by [611] and [614]. Shallow, gentle sides, U-shaped base	0.35m wide 0.15m deep	-
606	Fill	Fill of [607]. Natural, erosional deposit of ditch terminus. Mid-brown grey, frequent sub-angular stones.	0.50m wide 0.178m deep	Pottery, bone

607	Cut	Filled by (606) and (615). Terminates just W of [617] and [614]. Roman/Iron Age. Possible enclosure or boundary.	0.75m wide 0.24m deep	-
608	Fill	Natural silt of tree throw	0.50m wide 0.12m deep	Bone
609	Cut	Cut of tree throw	0.50m wide 0.12m deep	-
610	Fill	Fill of [611]. Dark grey-brown silt. Fill of ditch terminus. Contains frequent small to large angular to sub-angular stones.	0.49m wide 0.14m deep	-
611	Cut	Ditch terminus truncated by [614], [607] and [609]. Possible boundary or enclosure.	0.49m wide 0.14m deep	-
612	Fill	Fill of [614]. Firm, mid-blue grey sandy clay. Backfill of [614]. Frequent angular and sub-angular stones.	0.34m wide 0.16m deep	-
613	Fill	Fill of [614]. Basal fill of ditch. Moderate sub-angular/angular stones. Mid-grey-blue silty clay	0.30m wide 0.06m deep	-
614	Cut	Cut of ditch. Terminus cut by [611]. Possible boundary/enclosure. Moderate sloping sides with U-shaped base. Mod/sharp B.O.S.	0.34m wide 0.24m deep	-
615	Fill	Fill of [607]. Natural silt, silty clay fill. Dark blue grey.	0.25m wide 0.19m deep	Pottery
616	Fill	Fill of [617]. Mid-grey blue silty clay. Silt deposit of [617]. Moderate angular and s ub-angular stones.	0.48m wide 0.19m deep	-
617	Cut	Cut of shallow, irregular pit with irregular base.	0.48m wide 0.19m deep	-
618	Deposit	Clay geo band, most likely glaciation solution gully.	-	-

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	Height of ground surface	Height of natural
7	**50m x 1.8m E-W**	68.82m aOD	68.39m aOD

Context	*Context type Feature & type*	*Description*	*Dimensions*	*Artefacts/ Samples*
701	Topsoil	Loose, dark grey-brown silty loam with occasional small to medium stones	0.31m deep 0.30m deep 0.40m deep	-
702	Subsoil	Hard, mid-orange brown silty chalk with occasional small to medium stones	0.06m deep 0.10m deep 0.10m deep	-
703	Natural	Hard, light yellow/white chalk with frequent small to large stones	-	-
704	Fill	Fill of [705]. Loose, dark grey-brown silt with occasional charcoal, frequent small stones	0.24m wide 0.08m deep	-
705	Cut	Cut of posthole. Circular, moderate incline, flat base, very small	0.24m wide 0.08m deep	-
706	Fill	Fill of [707]. Loose, dark grey-brown silt with occasional charcoal, frequent small stones	0.07m wide 0.11m deep	-
707	Cut	Cut of posthole. Circular, steep sides, flat base	0.25m wide 0.15m deep	-
708	Fill	Fill of [709]. Loose, mid-brown silt with occasional small stones and bone	0.42m wide 0.12m deep	Bone
709	Cut	Cut of posthole. Circular, moderate incline, flattish base	0.42m wide 0.12m deep	-
710	Fill	Post-pipe of [709]. Fill slightly darker than (706).	0.18m wide 0.15m deep	-

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	Height of ground surface	Height of natural
8	**50m x 1.8m NE-SW**	69.53m aOD	69.04m aOD

Context	*Context type Feature & type*	*Description*	*Dimensions*	*Artefacts/ Samples*
801	Topsoil	Loose, dark brown loamy silt with occasional small to medium stones	0.29m deep 0.29m deep 0.27m deep	-
802	Subsoil	Hard, mid-yellow brown silty chalk with frequent limestones	0.00m deep 0.14m deep 0.29m deep	-
803	Natural	Hard, light yellow brown chalk with frequent large limestones	-	-
804	Fill	Fill of [805]. Moderately compact, mixed reddish-brown dark silty clay, frequent charcoal. Deliberate backfill	0.94m wide 0.15m deep	-
805	Cut	Cut of ditch terminus. Shallow, straight, moderate edges and flattish base	0.94m wide 0.15m deep	-

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	Height of ground surface	Height of natural
9	**35m x 1.8m E-W**	70.16m aOD	69.56m aOD

Context	*Context type Feature & type*	*Description*	*Dimensions*	*Artefacts/ Samples*
901	Topsoil	Loose, dark grey-brown silt with frequent small to medium stones	0.35m deep 0.30m deep 0.30m deep	-
902	Subsoil	Hard, mid-yellow brown silty clay with occasional medium stones	0.36m deep 0.26m deep 0.20m deep	-
903	Natural	Hard, mid-yellow brown clay with frequent chalk flecks	-	-

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	Height of ground surface	Height of natural
10	**50m x 1.8m NW-SE**	68.43m aOD	68.06m aOD

Context	*Context type Feature & type*	*Description*	*Dimensions*	*Artefacts/ Samples*
1001	Topsoil	Loose, dark grey-brown silt with frequent small stones	0.28m deep 0.24m deep	-

			0.26m deep	
1002	Subsoil	Hard, mid-yellow brown silty chalk with frequent small to large stones	0.00m deep 0.11m deep 0.00m deep	-
1003	Natural	Hard, light yellow brown chalk with frequent small to large limestones	-	-
1004	Fill	Fill of [1005]. Loose, mid-brown silt with occasional small stones	0.45m wide 0.13m deep	Pottery
1005	Cut	Cut of posthole. Circular, moderate incline, concave, U-shaped	0.45m wide 0.13m deep	-
1006	Fill	Fill of [1007]. Loose, mid-brown silt with occasional small stones, chalk	1.38m wide 0.18m deep	Pottery, bone
1007	Cut	Cut of pit. Sub-circular, gradual incline, U-shaped, flattish base	1.38m wide 0.18m deep	-
1008	Fill	Fill of [1010]. Loose, mid-grey brown silt with occasional small to medium limestones (more towards bottom)	1.44m wide 0.23m deep	Pottery Small find 1
1009	Fill	Fill of [1010]. Friable, mid-grey brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium limestones	2m wide 0.29m deep	-
1010	Cut	Cut of ditch. Linear/curvilinear, E-W, U-shaped, moderate incline, concave	2m wide 0.52m deep	-

Trench No	**Length, width & alignment**	**Height of ground surface**	**Height of natural**
11	**50m x 1.8m E-W**	67.50m aOD	67.11m aOD

Context	***Context type*** ***Feature & type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
1101	Topsoil	Loose, dark grey brown silt with occasional small stones	0.30m deep 0.30m deep 0.27m deep	-
1102	Subsoil	Hard, mid-yellow brown silty chalk with frequent limestone	0.09m deep 0.13m deep 0.13m deep	-
1103	Natural	Hard, light yellow brown chalk with frequent large limestones	-	-

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	Height of ground surface	Height of natural
12	**50m x 1.8m N-S**	68.52m aOD	68.16m aOD

Context	*Context type Feature & type*	*Description*	*Dimensions*	*Artefacts/ Samples*
1201	Topsoil	Loose, dark grey-brown silt with frequent small stones	0.29m deep 0.28m deep 0.33m deep	-
1202	Subsoil	Hard, light yellow brown silty chalk with frequent medium to large limestone	0.03m deep 0.07m deep 0.09m deep	-
1203	Natural	Hard, light yellow brown chalk with frequent large limestones	-	-
1204	Fill	Fill of ditch. Loose, mid to light brown, stones and pe bbles (30-40%)	1.09m wide 0.35m deep	-
1205	Cut	Cut of ditch. E-W. Linear, symmetrical, concave base	1.09m wide 0.35m deep	-
1206	Fill	Natural silting of posthole [1207]. Firm, mid-grey brown silty clay	0.39m wide 0.09m deep	-
1207	Cut	Cut of posthole. Northern posthole of four. U-shaped base and concave sides	0.39m wide 0.09m deep	-
1208	Fill	Fill of posthole [1209]. Natural silting of western posthole. Firm, mid-grey brown sandy silts	0.52m wide 0.14m deep	-
1209	Cut	Cut of posthole. Moderate edges, U-shaped base	0.52m wide 0.14m deep	-
1210	Fill	Fill of [1211]. Natural silting. Firm, mid-reddish brown, occasional stones	0.45m wide 0.08m deep	-
1211	Cut	Cut of posthole. Eastern posthole of four. Irregular edges and shallow	0.45m wide 0.08m deep	-
1212	Fill	Fill of [1213]. Natural silting, firm, grey brown, occasional stones	0.42m wide 0.04m deep	-
1213	Cut	Cut of posthole. Shallow, moderately sloped, straight edges and irregular base	0.42m wide 0.04m deep	-
1214	Fill	Fill of [1216]. Natural silting, light yellow brown, moderate stones	1.40m wide 0.26m deep	-

1215	Fill	Fill of [1216]. Basal deposit. Primary deposition, light yellow brown	0.35m wide 0.05m deep	-
1216	Cut	Cut of trackway that is stepped on S-side	1.40m wide 0.31m deep	-

Trench No	**Length, width & alignment**	**Height of ground surface**	**Height of natural**
13	**25m x 1.8m NW-SE**	68.31m aOD	67.91m aOD

Context	***Context type*** ***Feature & type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts/ Samples***
1301	Topsoil	Loose, dark grey brown loamy silt, frequent small stones	0.32m deep 0.36m deep 0.30m deep	-
1302	Subsoil	Hard, mid-yellow brown silty chalk with frequent limestone	0.10m deep 0.12m deep 0.03m deep	-
1303	Natural	Hard, light yellow/white chalk with frequent large limestones	-	-
1304	Fill	Fill of [1305]. Friable, mid-grey brownish silt-clay, frequent chalk	1.15m wide 0.20m deep	-
1305	Cut	Cut of linear. Concave with moderate sloping sides, NE-SW	1.15m wide 0.45m deep	--
1306	Fill	Fill of [1307]. Loose, dark grey brown silt (loamy?)	0.53m wide 0.07m deep	-
1307	Cut	Cut of posthole. Shallow, almost flat base, angling up at edges	0.53m wide 0.07m deep	-
1308	Fill	Fill of [1309]. Loose, mid-grey brown silt-clay, occasional chalk	1.55m wide 0.15m deep	-
1309	Cut	Cut of linear. Shallow, concave base with moderate sides, NE-SW	1.55m wide 0.28m deep	-
1310	Fill	Lower fill of [1305]. 50/50 mid-grey brown silt and yellow-white chalk, compact, redeposited?	0.87m wide 0.25m deep	-
1311	Fill	Lower fill of [1309]. Loose, mid-grey brown silt-clay, frequent chalk and stones.	1.12m wide 0.13m deep	-

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	Height of ground surface	Height of natural
14	**50m x 1.8m NW-SE**	68.56m aOD	68.22m aOD

Context	*Context type Feature & type*	*Description*	*Dimensions*	*Artefacts/ Samples*
1401	Topsoil	Loose, dark grey brown loamy silt, frequent small stones	0.31m deep 0.30m deep 0.28m deep	-
1402	Subsoil	Hard, mid-orange brown silty chalk, frequent limestones	0.03m deep 0.06m deep 0.05m deep	-
1403	Natural	Hard, light yellow/white chalk with frequent large limestones	-	-
1404	Deposit	Natural deposit in depression in (1403). Mid-grey brown silt/ loamy silt, loose, some small stones and chalk	1.40m wide 0.12m deep	-
1405	Fill	Upper fill of [1407]. Friable clayey silt, mid-grey brown with occasional chalk flecks	1.42m wide 0.15m deep	-
1406	Fill	Lower fill of [1407]. 50/50 mid-grey brown silt and yellow/white chalk, compact	0.85m wide 0.17m deep	-
1407	Cut	Cut of ditch. NE-SW, slightly irregular, gradually sloping sides and concave base	1.42m wide 0.32m deep	-
1408	Fill	Upper fill of [1410]. Friable mid-grey brown clayey silt with frequent chalk flecks and chalk deposits	1.45m wide 0.30m deep	-
1409	Fill	Upper fill of [1410]. Friable, mid-grey brown clayey silt, occasional chalk, lighter than (1408)	0.95m wide 0.20m deep	-
1410	Cut	Cut of NE-SW aligned ditch. Irregular with steep, stepped sides and flat base	1.45m wide 0.50m deep	-

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	Height of ground surface	Height of natural
15	**50m x 1.8m NW-SE** **25m x 1.8m SW-NE**	68.22m aOD	67.78m aOD

Context	*Context type Feature & type*	*Description*	*Dimensions*	*Artefacts/ Samples*

1501	Topsoil	Loose, dark grey brown loamy silt, occasional small stones	0.32m deep 0.27m deep 0.30m deep	-
1502	Subsoil	Hard, mid-yellow brown silty chalk with frequent small to large stones	0.07m deep 0.12m deep 0.37m deep	-
1503	Natural	Hard, light white/yellow chalk with frequent large limestones	-	-
1504	Fill	Geological fill, compact, reddish brown, stone (20-30%)	-	-
1505	Fill	Friable, mid to light brown silty clay, chalk and stone (50-60%)	1.35m wide 0.50m deep	-
1506	Cut	Linear, NE-SW, asymmetrical, concave base	1.35m wide 0.50m deep	-
1507	Fill	Friable, mid-grey brown silty clay, chalk and stone (~40%)	1.14m wide 0.27m deep	-
1508	Cut	Linear, NE-SW, concave base, moderate sides	1.14m wide 0.27m deep	-

MOLA
Kent House
30 Billing Road
Northampton
NN1 5DQ
01604 809800
www.mola.org.uk
sparry@mola.org.uk