Report 2434

nps archaeology

Archaeological Evaluation on Land North of Norwich Common, Wymondham, Norfolk

ENF126385

Prepared for
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BAU 2434

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Location:	Land North of Norwich Common, Wymondham
District:	South Norfolk
Grid Ref.:	TG 12500325
HER No.:	ENF 126385
OASIS Ref.:	103287
Client:	Persimmon Homes (Anglia Region)
Dates of Fieldwork:	25 March and 11-21 April 2011

Summary

An Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared by NPS Archaeology for Persimmon Homes outlining elements of fieldwalking and trenched evaluation to be undertaken in order to support the proposed development through to planning submission.

The results of the fieldwalking and metal detector survey were inconclusive.

The evaluation trial trenching uncovered several archaeological features including three pits and a ditch of Roman date which were located in the north-east corner (Trenches 44 and 47) of the site close to the suspected line of a Roman road which ran from Wymondham to Hethersett. A small undated pit was observed in Trench 10. Six of the trenches contained boundary ditches and drainage gullies, which formed part of the post-medieval field systems that were merged together into the large modern field that is seen today. These divisions were recorded relatively recently on the 1957 Ordnance Survey Map.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The development site covers *c*.12.5 hectares and is located to the north-east of Wymondham town centre on the north side of Norwich Common (Fig. 1). Persimmon Homes are proposing to develop the site to create over 300 new homes and recreational space in a major new development on the edge of the town.

This work was undertaken as part of pre-planning to support the proposals by Persimmon Homes through to submission of the planning application. South Norfolk District Council will consider the application, though no formal application has yet been made. The project was overseen and monitored by Norfolk Historic Environment Service. The work was conducted in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by NPS Archaeology (Ref. NAU/NP/BAU2434). This work was commissioned and funded by Persimmon Homes (Anglia Region)

This programme of work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, area, following the guidelines set out in *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning For The Historic Environment (2010)*. The results will enable decisions to be made by the Local Planning Authority about the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

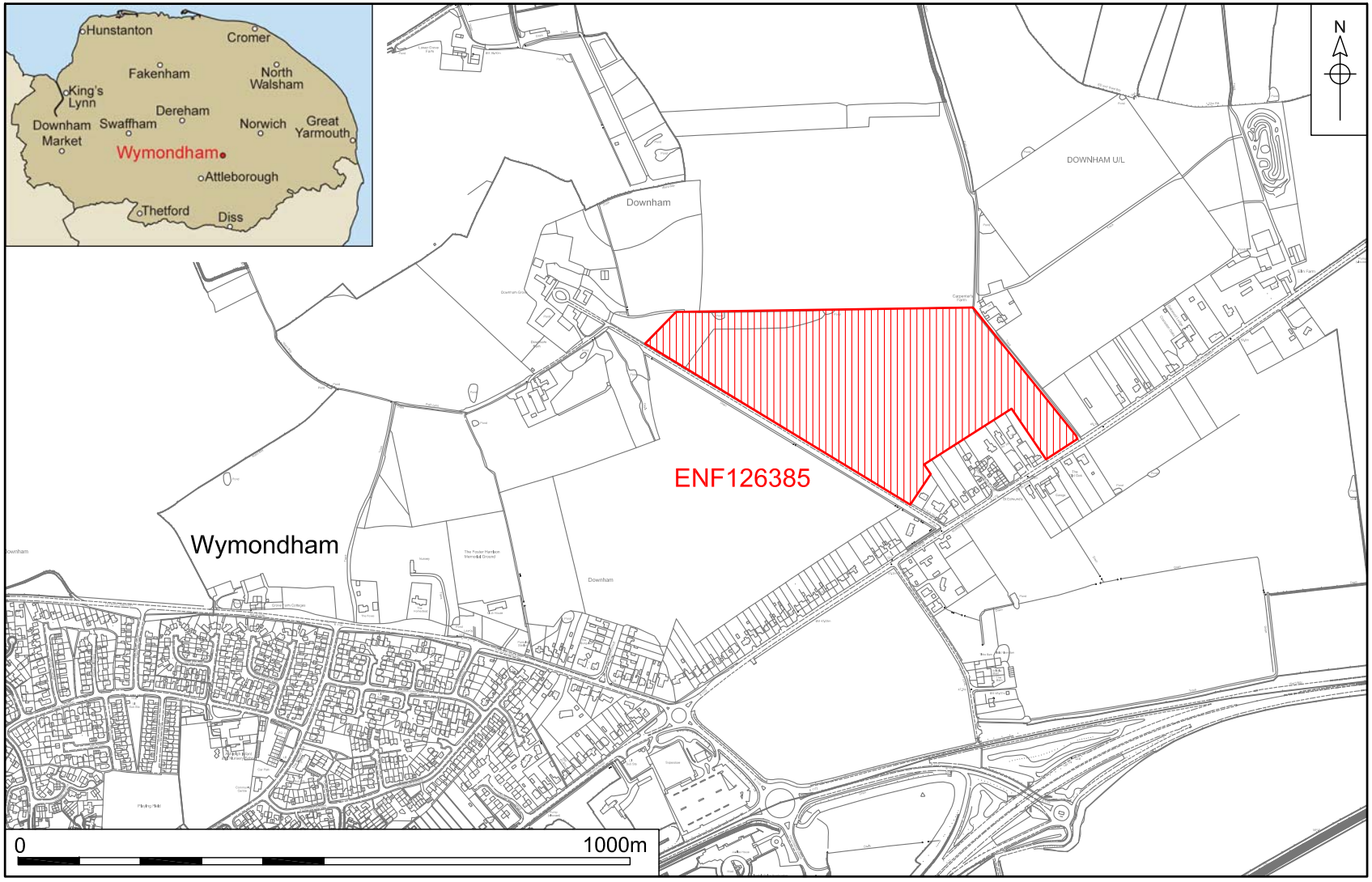

Figure 1. Site location. Scale 1:10,000

The site archive is currently held by NPS Archaeology and on completion of the project will be deposited with the Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service (NMAS), following the relevant policies on archiving standards.

2.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The underlying geology is one of boulder clay (Geological Survey of Great Britain (England and Wales), Sheet 161, 1:50,000 series, Norwich). The site's specific natural substratum was observed to be generally a firm orange clayey sand with gravelly and chalk flecked patches (Gailey 2007). The topsoil was a mid greyish brown sandy and clayey silt which had an average depth of 0.40m. There was an intermittent subsoil which consisted of a light brown subsoil present on the site which had probably been formed by agricultural activity (plough action). Where this deposit existed it was on average 0.10m deep.

The site was on a gentle rising slope from north-west to south-east from roughly 42m OD to 48m OD. It had been used for arable farming until relatively recently.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

A search of the Norfolk Historic Environment records (NHER) was undertaken and the most relevant entries are reproduced below. Additional information was obtained from an Archaeological Desk Based Assessment by CgMs Consulting (Gailey 2007).

Prehistoric to Roman

Numerous prehistoric worked flints have been found around the area of the development which appear to be dominated by flints of Neolithic and Bronze Age date. To the north-west of the site, a number of Neolithic and Bronze Age flint scrapers and flakes were found in 1979 (NHER 18264). Also to the north of the site a Neolithic flint axehead and core were found during fieldwalking in 1986 (NHER 22754). In the same general area fieldwalking in 1985 recovered other worked flints (NHERs 21587 and 21587). NHER 21589 also to the north of the site, records the position of a Neolithic scraper. Further fieldwalking in 1986 recovered worked flints of a general prehistoric date (NHER 22870). Just to the west of the site evidence of a Neolithic or Bronze Age flint working site (NHER 33779) and other multi-period finds was found where the Police headquarters has been constructed. Metal detecting to the east of the proposed development site in 2005 found a Late Bronze Age tanged punch. A flint hammer stone was found whilst field-walking and recorded as NHER 22752 and what has been described as a Bronze Age chisel has been recorded as NHER 29286. Fieldwalking in advance of the development of this area recovered a concentration of prehistoric pot boilers and worked flints. An evaluation which followed in 1995 located a small pit (NHER 30872) containing burnt flint, charcoal and sherds of Middle Bronze Age pottery. In the same general area field walking and metal detecting in 1993 and 1996 also recovered prehistoric pot boilers (NHER 30068).

Arguably the most relevant record to the current project was NHER 19725 which consists of a linear cropmark observed on aerial photographs, thought to represent a Roman Road interpreted as running between the Roman settlements of Venta Icenorum (at Caistor St Edmund) and Watton where the feature joins a second Roman road. The road has been traced along field and parish boundaries and

Roman pottery has been found along its route. To the east of the site metal detecting in 1993 recovered a 2nd-century Roman coin (NHER 30070) and in 2005 to the east another coin was unearthed (NHER 43109). To the south of the site two Roman pottery sherds were also found (NHER 28410)

Several other Roman finds have been found around the area including Roman brooches at NHERs 15765, 31300, and 31270; Roman coins at NHERs 30069 and 33080; Roman greyware sherds and a Roman pestle fragment at NHER 36988.

Saxon to Medieval

For the immediate vicinity of the site there seems to be less activity in the Saxon to medieval periods. To the north of the current site a sherd of unglazed 13th century pot was found whilst fieldwalking in1985 (NHER 21588). Other medieval sherds (including one sherd Westerwald stoneware) were found at NHER 18264 in 1982.

In the same general area NHER 31269 records metal detector finds in 1993. They included a late medieval circular buckle, medieval bronze strap-end buckle, lead disc incised with radiating lines and with one pierced hole near the edge and one in the centre, a cut farthing of Henry III and a penny of Edward I/II. Five brooches were also present. Medieval pot sherds (NHER 22827) were found to the south of the site closer to the A11 bypass. Around the same general area four medieval coins, a Nuremburg jetton, a medieval lead pot mend, a medieval box, an annular brooch, a medieval ring, a vessel and two strap fittings were recorded as NHER 31270 (along with finds of other periods). The adjacent field to the south-west of the site was fieldwalked in 1986 and metal detected in 2006, where a medieval potsherd, thimble and a strap end were found (NHER 22752). To the east of the site also situated along Norwich Common Road, NHER 29286 records the finding of a medieval spur fragment. Medieval coins and metal objects (NHER 33081) were unearthed to the west of the site along with other post-medieval finds. Also to the west, medieval coins and metal objects were found (NHER 33080). To the north-west of the site metal detecting in 1996 revealed a Late Saxon cheek piece, four sherds of medieval pottery, two early post-medieval buckles and medieval coins including one of Henry I along with 15th and 16th Century belt mounts (NHER 36988).

Post-medieval to Modern

There have been many post-medieval finds found in the vicinity of the site, though few have little bearing on the interpretation of the area. To the south, metal detecting in 1992 recovered a post-medieval lead cloth seal (NHER 29287). To the east NHER 9451 records the tree known as Kett's Oak reputed to be the tree where Robert Kett addressed rebels in 1549. Ordnance Survey maps suggest that the tree was in fact where rebels had been hanged. The original 'Kett's Oak of Reformation' was shown to be near the site of St Leonards Priory on Gas Hill in Norwich. Legend states that it was so large that its roots reach to Norwich in one direction and Wymondham on the other.

Cartographic work has also suggested that a post-medieval windmill was located on the south side of the Norwich Common Road. A map of 1797 shows a windmill standing in the middle of Wymondham Common. A sherd of post-medieval glazed red earthenware was recovered from the stripped surface of the by-pass (the new A11) (NHERs 22826 and 22825).

Several historic buildings lay along the line of Norwich Common road, though only a few lay close to the site and are relevant. Along the road to the east, a 19th-century brick farmhouse was recorded as NHER 40319 and a detailed building survey was carried out during demolition in 2004. The farmhouse is thought to have dated from 1806 and during demolition no evidence was observed to suggest that it had encased an earlier structure. In the same general area, NHER 9455 records the position of Downham Grove House. The house dates to the 17th or 18th century and had an 18th-century south-east façade. There is a Gothic extension of 1840 and the house sits near a rectangular water-filled feature. The house is thought to have originally been a late medieval moated farmstead or manorial complex. To the west of the site, post-medieval coins and metal objects (NHER 33080) were found.

A World War Two aircraft crash site is recorded as NHER 33779 on the site of the new police headquarters to the west of the development. NHER 30872 to the south of the site also records the position of the crash site of a German aircraft during World War Two.

4.0 METHODOLOGY

The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence or absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

It was agreed with Norfolk Historic Environment Service (NHES) that a 5% sample of the site would be necessary to judge the impact of any future development. The trench plan was agreed with the monitor from NHES prior to the start of the project (Fig. 2).

Plate 1.Machining the site

The field-walking trial and trenching followed from an archaeological Desk Based Assessment by CgMs Consulting (Gailey 2007) and a geophysical investigation undertaken by Archaeological Services University of Durham on behalf of CgMs Consulting (University of Durham) (Fig. 2).

The conditions for fieldwalking were poor with stubble and weed growth masking the surface. The 20m transects were widened where site conditions allowed, in order to compensate for the lack of surface visibility and penetration elsewhere.

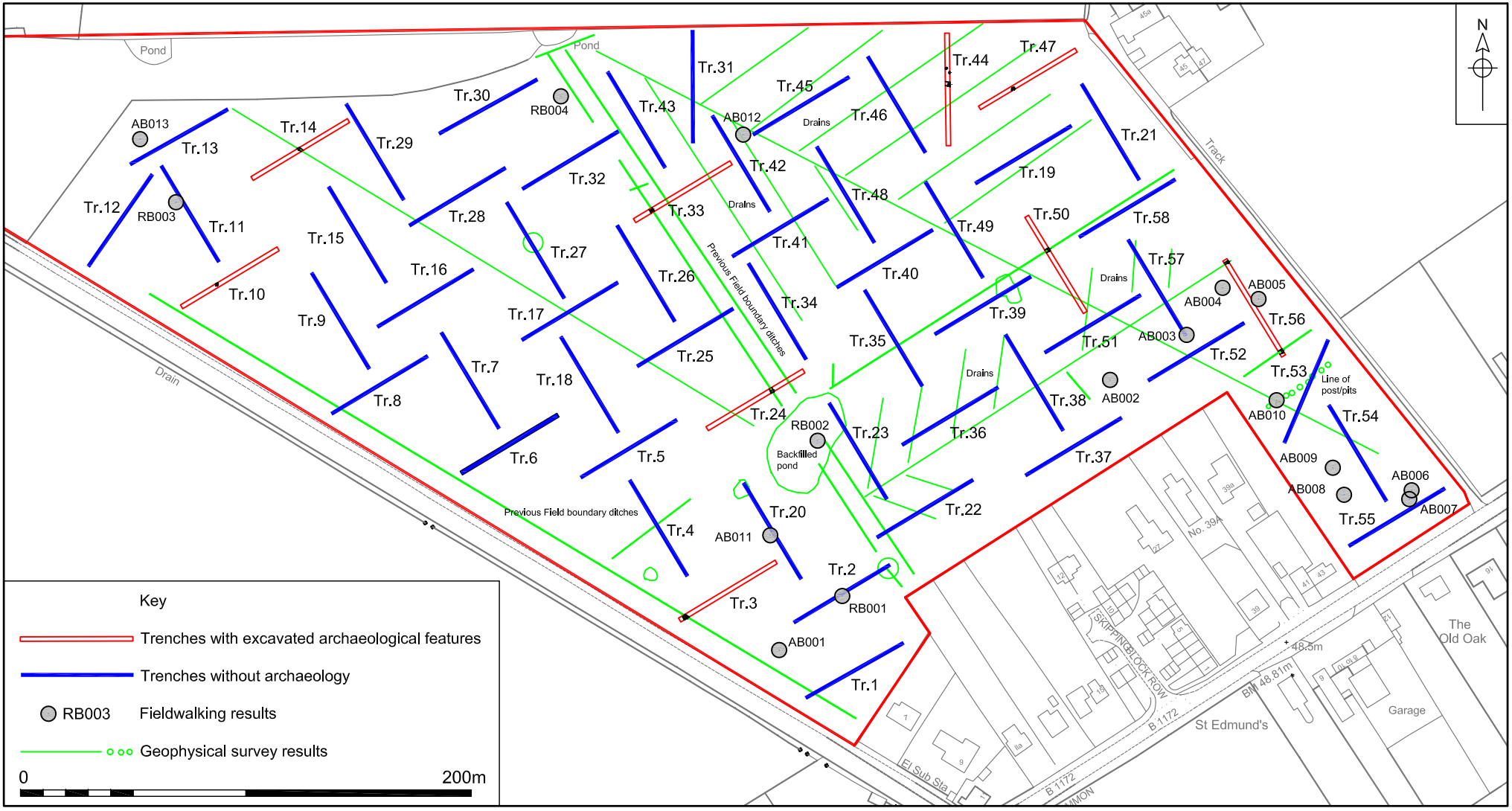

Figure 2. Trench locations, geophysics results and fieldwalking results. Scale 1:2500

Machine excavation was carried out with an 18 tonne hydraulic 360˚ excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket and operated under constant archaeological supervision (Plate 1).Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal-detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds, other than those which were obviously modern were retained for inspection.

Environmental samples were taken from three features. They included fills [3], [6] and [8] respectively from pits [1], [5] and [7].

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using NAU Archaeology pro forma. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales. Monochrome and digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits where appropriate.

The trenches were laid out using a GPS Rover device. Known heights were supplied by the device for either end of the Trenches.

Site conditions were good, with the work taking place in fine unseasonably warm weather.

5.0 FIELD-WALKING RESULTS

by Andrew Barnett

The fieldwalking and metal detector survey was carried out on 25 March 2011. The survey was hampered by over-weathered topsoil and a covering of stubble, weeds and self seeding crop which had grown to an average height of 10cm-15cm.

The field was to be set out in 20m transects but due to the level of foliage growth and stubble distribution this was not practical as large areas of the site were practically impenetrable by eye or metal detector. It was therefore decided to sample as big an area as possible in as close to 20m transects as practicable and as a consequence the finds recovery was more haphazard than normal.

There were 17 individual findspots recorded of which one was prehistoric (flint flake AB 008) from the eastern corner of the site. The remaining 16 finds from fieldwalking and metal detecting were post-medieval, modern or of uncertain date.

The finds are described in Section 7.0 The Finds below and listed in Appendix 2a: Finds by Context.

The results of the survey were of little help in defining the site and this was due, in the main, to conditions which were out of the survey team's control.

6.0 TRIAL TRENCHING RESULTS

Fifty-eight trenches were excavated (Fig. 2) of which ten (Trenches 1, 3, 10, 14, 24, 33, 44, 47, 50, 56) contained archaeological features. The trench numbering follows a broadly numerical sequence up and down the field apart from Trenches 19 and 21 which are located out of sequence on the eastern side of the proposed development area.

Each trench is described below in numerical order; only those which contained excavated features are illustrated.

Trench 1

Trench 1 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.50m and contained no excavated features. A large boundary ditch ([11]) was observed at the south-west end of the trench although it was left unexcavated as the same feature had already been examined in Trench 3

Trench 2

Trench 2 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 3

(Fig. 3; Plates 2 and 3)

Trench 3 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine excavated to a depth of 0.30m.

Plate 2. Trench 3, pre-excavation, looking north-east

Large boundary ditch [11] was located at the south-west end of the trench. The ditch was observed to be at least 4.20m wide and 2.0m long (this feature was recorded during the geophysical survey which suggested that it ran for the full length of the field).

The ditch was hand-excavated to a depth of 0.90m and an auger was used to find the base which was a further 1.20m below the level it was excavated to. The side was slightly convex at the top becoming steeper towards the base. There were three observed fills ([12], [13] and [14]) and a further deposit observed during the augering which was not allocated a context number. The lowest excavated fill ([12]) was 0.56m thick and was composed of a light greyish brown clayey and silty sand. The fill above this ([13]) was a dark grey slightly sandy silt with a depth of 0.46m and which contained some fragments of barbed wire. The uppermost fill

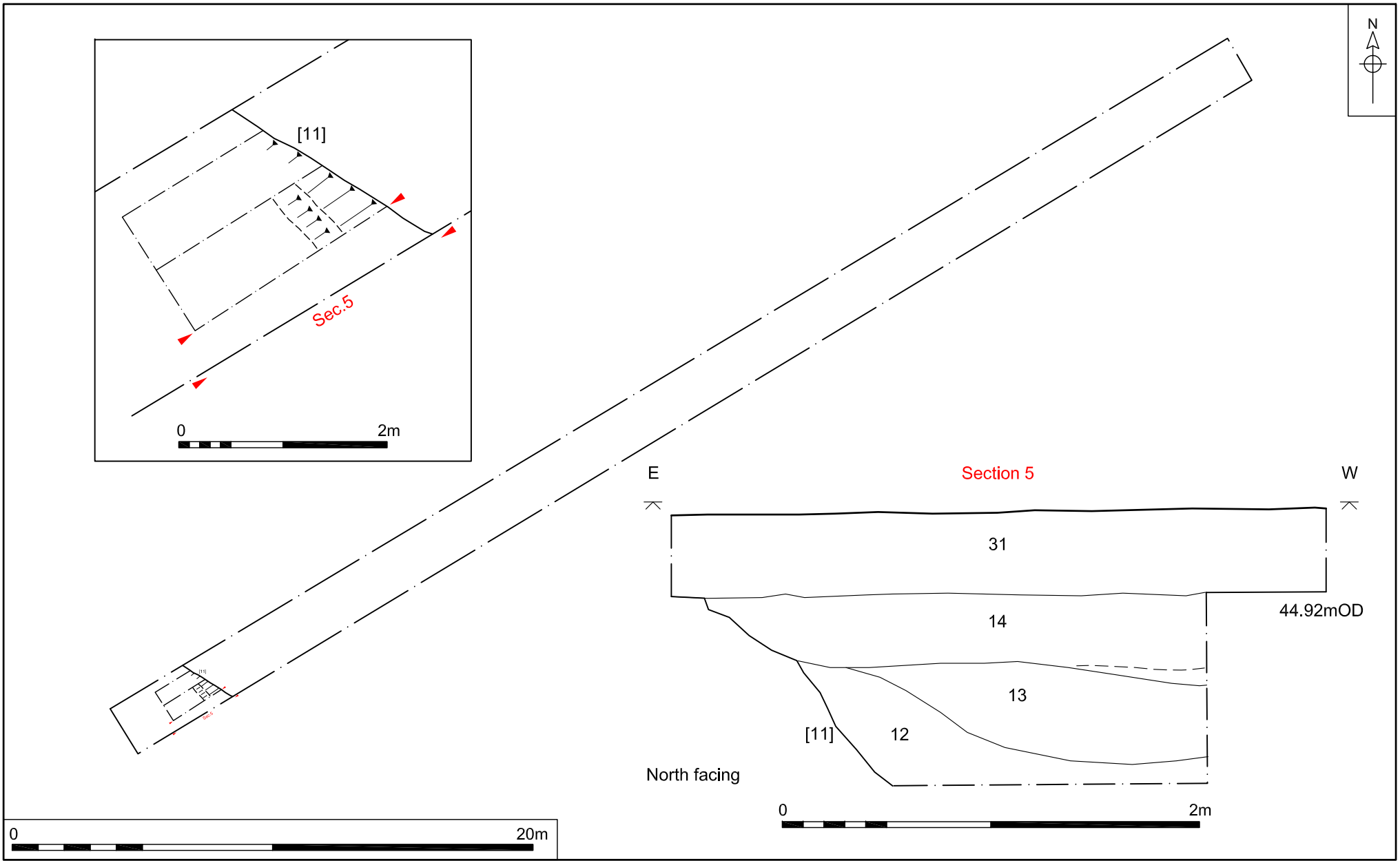

Figure 3. Trench 3, plan and section. Scale 1:200, detail at 1:50 and section at 1:25

([14]) was formed of a 0.36m thick light brown clayey silt which contained occasional charcoal flecks. All three fills were probably of relatively recent date and had been deliberately deposited.

Plate 3 Trench 3, ditch [11], looking south-east

Trench 4

Trench 4 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained no archaeological features. There was a land drain at the centre of the trench which was also recorded during the geophysical survey.

Trench 5

Trench 5 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.50m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 6

Trench 6 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 7

Trench 7 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine excavated to a depth of 0.30m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 8

Trench 8 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine excavated to a depth of 0.50m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 9

Trench 9 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 10

(Fig. 4; Plates 4 and 5)

Trench 10 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained a single archaeological feature (shallow pit [17]).

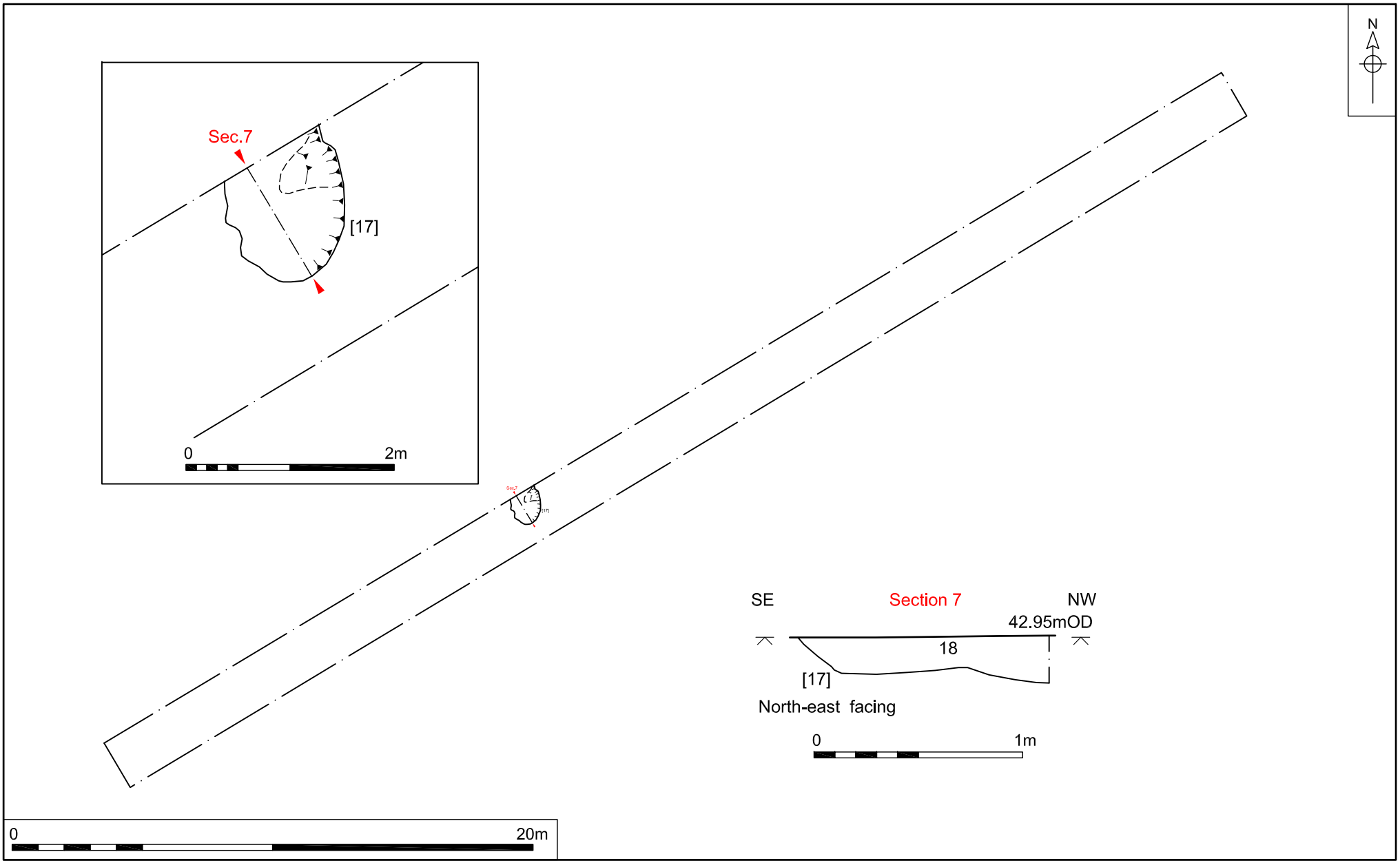

Figure 4. Trench 10, plan and section. Scale 1:200, plan at 1:50 and section at 1:25

Irregular pit [17] measured 1.22m by 1.20m and was 0.22m deep. It had concave sides and an uneven base. The single fill ([18]) was composed of a firm dark to mid grey clayey fine sand which had probably accumulated naturally.

Plate 4. Trench 10, pre-excavation, looking north-east

Plate 5. Trench 10, pit [17], looking south west

Trench 11

Trench 11 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.30m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 12

Trench 12 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.45m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 13

Trench 13 was orientated north-east to south west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 14

(Fig. 5 and Plates 6 and 7)

Trench 14 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a maximum depth of 0.40m and contained a single feature (ditch or gully [15]).

Plate 6. Trench 14, pre-excavation, looking south-west

Plate 7. Trench 14, ditch or gully 15, looking north-west

Ditch [15] was orientated north-west to south-east. The ditch was 1.0m wide and 0.42m deep. The sides were steep and regular and the base was concave. Its single fill [16] was formed from a mid brown clayey fine sand and silt which may have been the result of the deliberate backfilling of the ditches when the large modern field was created. The ditch is almost certainly the same field boundary ditch observed on the 1946 aerial photos and was recorded during the geophysical survey. The ditch however was not observed in Trenches 17, 24, 28, and 25, the trenches through which it's course was plotted.

Trench 15

Trench 15 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 16

Trench 16 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.30m and contained no archaeological features.

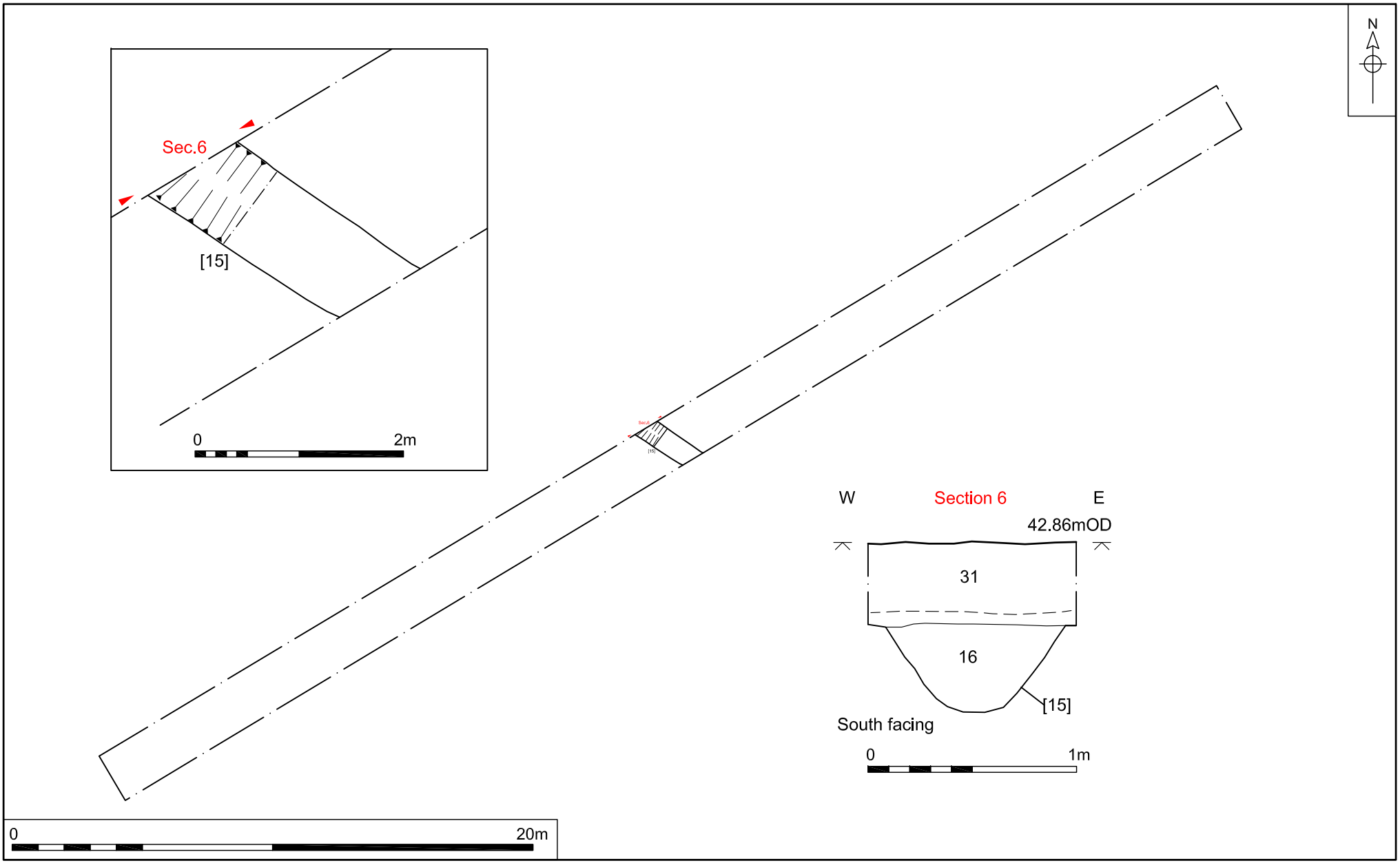

Figure 5. Trench 14, plan and section. Scale 1:200, plan at 1:50 and section at 1:25

Trench 17

Trench 17 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.30m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 18

Trench 18 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.35m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 19

Trench 19 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 20

Trench 20 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained no archaeological features. An area of resistance had been picked up at the northern end of the trench during the geophysical survey which was observed to be irregular disturbance of relatively modern date and it was not archaeologically recorded.

Trench 21

Trench 21 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.50m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 22

Trench 22 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.30m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 23

Trench 23 was orientated north-west to southeast. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.30m and contained no archaeological features. The north end of the trench clipped part of a large ‘anomaly’ recorded during the geophysical survey and which anecdotally was known to be a large in-filled pond of relatively modern date (Fig. 2).

Trench 24

(Fig. 6 and Plates 8 and 9)

Trench 24 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.45m and contained a single feature (ditch [21]).

Ditch ([21]) was orientated north-west to south-east and was almost certainly the same field boundary ditch that had been observed on 1946 aerial photos. It was also recorded during the geophysical survey (Fig. 2). The ditch was 1.65m wide and 0.74m deep. The sides were more shallowly sloping towards the top becoming steeper and more regular towards the base which was rounded. There were two fills present ([22] and [23]). The earliest fill ([22]) was a dark grey sandy clay which contained occasional chalk flecks and was 0.40m thick at its deepest point. The secondary fill ([23]) was composed of a dark grey sandy clay which also included small chalk flecks. Both of the fills had probably been deposited when the current large modern field was created. This feature is also recorded in Trench 33 where it is given the same context numbers.

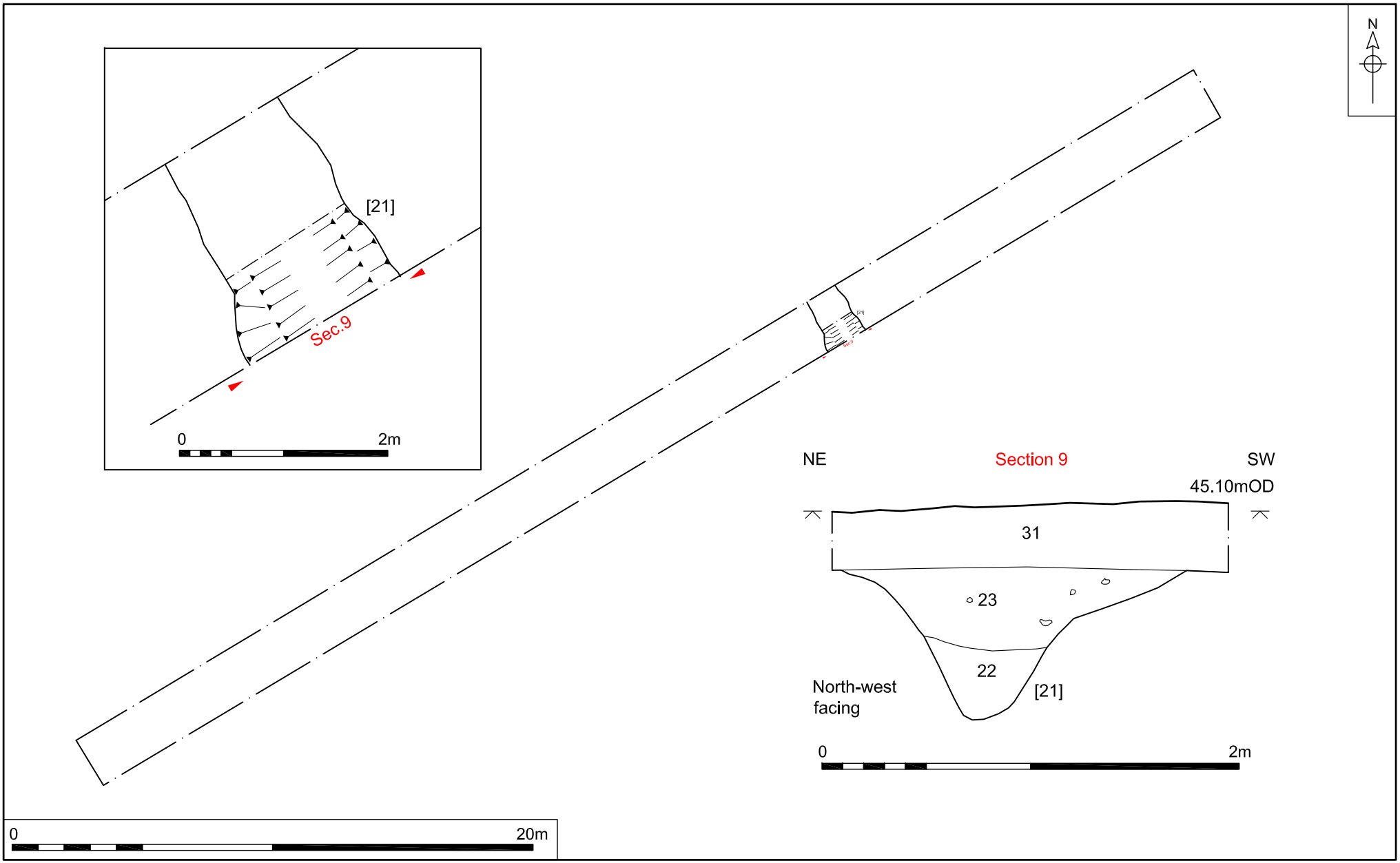

Figure 6. Trench 24, plan and section. Scale 1:200, plan at 1:50 and section at 1:25

Plate 8. Trench 24, pre-excavation, looking north-east

Plate 9. Trench 24, ditch [21], looking south east

Trench 25

Trench 25 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.35m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 26

Trench 26 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.30m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 27

Trench 27 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 28

Trench 28 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 29

Trench 29 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.30m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 30

Trench 30 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.30m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 31

Trench 31 was orientated north to south. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.45m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 32

Trench 32 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine excavated to a depth of 0.30m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 33

(Fig. 7; Plates 10 and 11)

Trench 33 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained a single ditch. The same context numbers were allocated to the ditch in Trench 24 due to the certainty that they both represent parts of the same feature.

Plate 10. Trench 33, pre-excavation, looking south-west

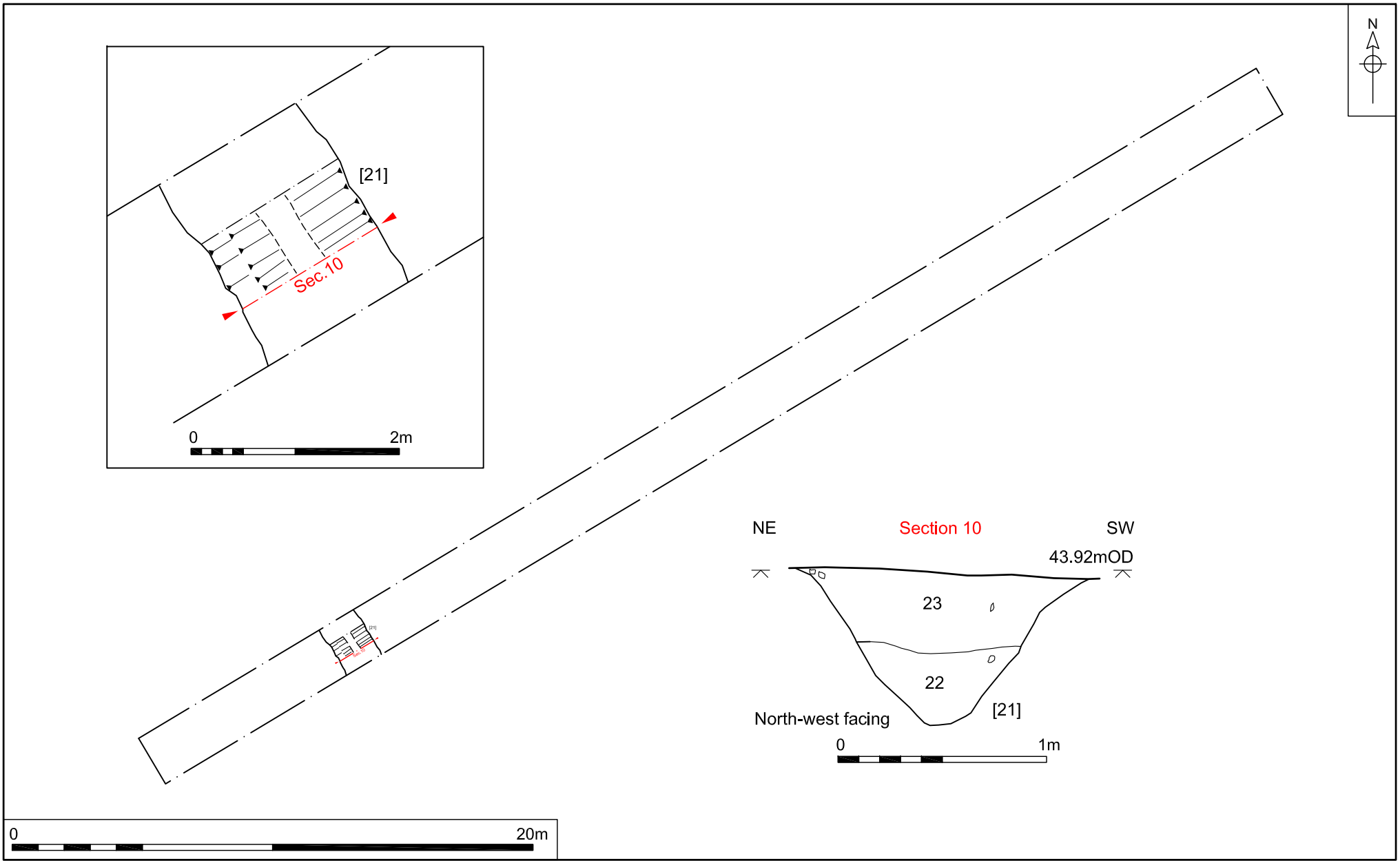

Figure 7. Trench 33, plan and section. Scale 1:200, plan at 1:50 and section at 1:25

Ditch ([21]) was orientated north-west to south-east and was almost certainly a field boundary ditch which had been observed on the 1946 aerial photos and recorded during the geophysical survey. The ditch was 1.55m wide and 0.78m deep. The sides were steep and reasonably regular and the base was concave. The earliest fill ([22]) was formed from a dark grey sandy clay which contained occasional chalk flecks. It was 0.40m thick at its deepest point. The secondary fill ([23]) was composed of a dark grey sandy clay which also included small chalk flecks. Both of the fills had probably been the result of deliberate backfilling of the ditches when the large modern field was created.

Plate 11. Trench 33, ditch [21], looking south east

Trench 34

Trench 34 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 35

Trench 35 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.30m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 36

Trench 36 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.35m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 37

Trench 37 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.30m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 38

Trench 38 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 39

Trench 39 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained no archaeological features.

An ‘anomaly’ had been observed during the geophysical survey through which this trench passed but nothing was observed in the trench suggesting perhaps that the reading had come from the plough soil.

Trench 40

Trench 40 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.30m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 41

Trench 41 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 42

Trench 42 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.30m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 43

Trench 43 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 44

(Fig. 8; Plates 12, 13, 14 and 15)

Trench 44 was orientated north to south. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.45m and contained three archaeological features which consisted of two small pits and a probable ditch (pits [5], [7] and [9] respectively).

Plate 12. Trench 44, pre-excavation, looking north

Pit [5] measured 0.71m by 0.35m and had a depth of 0.12m. The sides were steep and regular and the base roughly flat. The single fill ([6]) within the pit consisted of

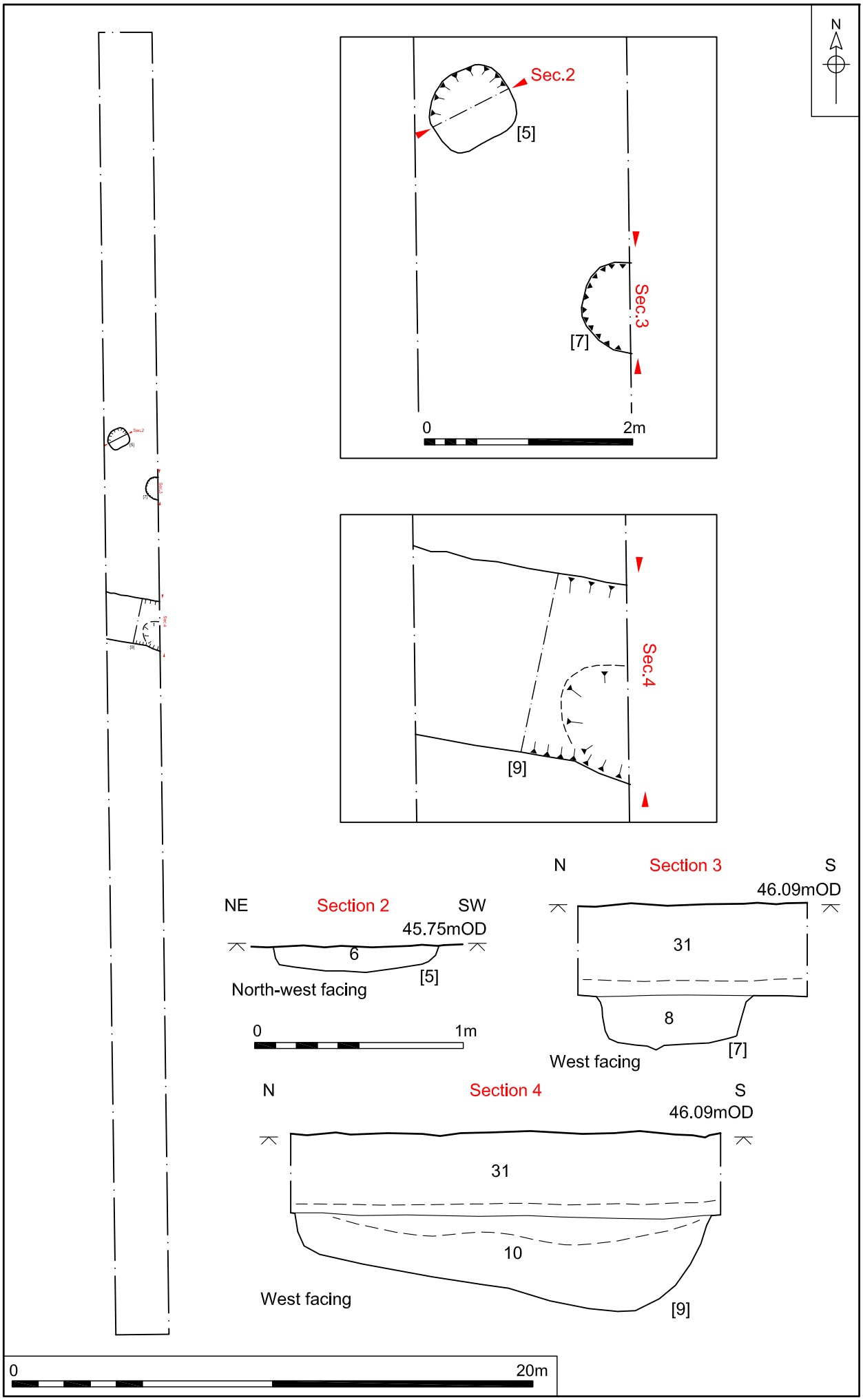

Figure 8. Trench 44, plan and sections. Scale 1:200, plans at 1:50 and sections at 1:25

a light brown slightly clayey and silty sand which is likely to have been deliberately dumped into the pit on account of the presence of pot sherds and inclusions of burnt bone. A sample of the fill was taken (Sample <2>) and the results are presented in the environmental section (8.0 below). The analysis of the sample appeared to confirm the presence of burnt animal bone, probably waste products from cooking.

Plate 13. Trench 44, pits [5], looking east

Pit [7] was located a short distance to the south-east from pit [5]. It measured 0.90m by 0.48m with a maximum depth of 0.25m. The sides were almost vertical and regular and the base was roughly flat except for one small 'dip' towards the centre. There was a single fill ([8]) which consisted of a firm mid grey slightly clayey silt with charcoal and small fragments of burnt animal bone. The fill was sampled for environmental evidence (Sample <3>) and the results presented below in section 8.0.

Plate 14. Trench 44, pit [7] looking east

A possible ditch ([9]) was located a short distance to the south. It was 1.75m wide and at least 2.0m long. The ditch was 0.46m at its deepest point, though the average depth was 0.30m. The sides were reasonably steep and concave and the base irregular (deeper at its south-eastern part). The fill ([10]) was composed of a

light grey slightly sandy silt which may have built up naturally within the ditch. Unlike within the nearby pits there was no evidence of charcoal or burnt bone within the fill. A single sherd of Roman pottery was found at the base of the ditch.

Plate 15. Trench 44, ditch [9], looking east

Trench 45

Trench 45 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 46

Trench 45 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.45m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 47

(Fig. 9 and Plates 16 and 17)

Trench 47 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained one large pit.

Pit [1] was located towards the centre of the trench. Its extent within the trench measured 1.80m by 1.32m and was excavated to a depth of 0.80m at which point the water table was encountered. Excavation ceased at this point and the base of the feature was augered to determine its full depth which was a further 0.40m below the excavated level.

There were three fills within the pit ([2], [3] and [4]) all of which had a diffuse boundaries and all three were probably represent deliberate infilling. The lowest fill ([2]) was a soft light grey silty sand with a maximum observed depth of 0.80m. It was shown to continue to the base of the pit during augering. The second fill ([3]) was a 0.35m deep very dark grey silty sand with charcoal flecks and some burnt animal bone. This deposit was sampled (Sample <1>) and the results are presented below in Section 8.0. The uppermost fill was a light greyish brown silty sand which had few inclusions.

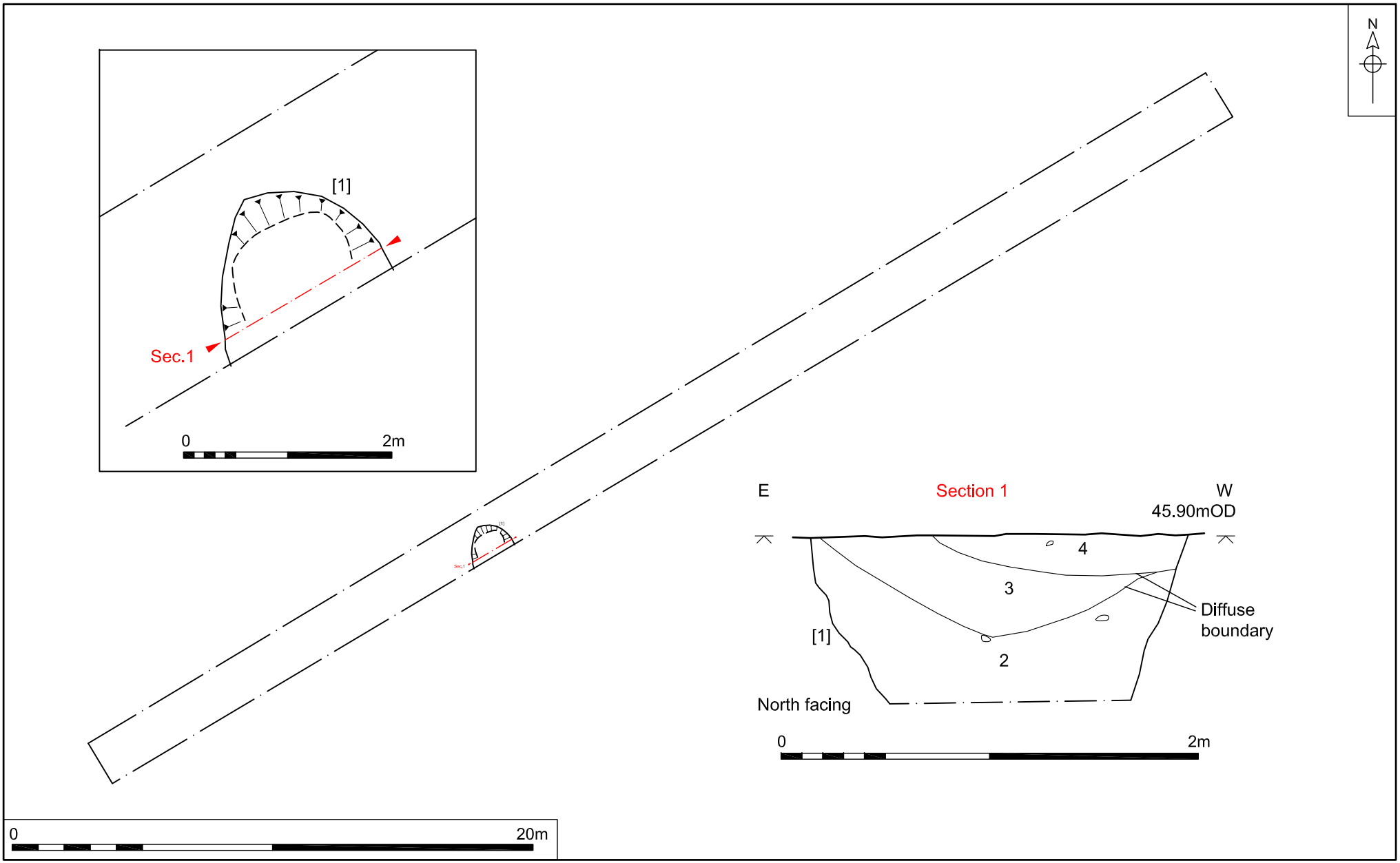

Figure 9. Trench 47, plan and section. Scale 1:200, plan at 1:50 and section at 1:25

Plate 16. Trench 47, pre-excavation, looking north-east

Plate 17. Trench 47, Pit [1], looking south-east

Trench 48

Trench 48 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.30m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 49

Trench 49 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.35m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 50

(Fig. 10; Plates 18 and 19)

Trench 50 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained a single feature (ditch [28]).

Plate 18 Trench 50, pre-excavation, looking north

Ditch [28] was orientated north-east to south-west and was 1.42m wide and 0.74m deep. The sides were steep and reasonably regular, though lumpy in places, and the base was roughly concave. The single fill ([29]) was a dark greyish brown clayey silt which contained occasional charcoal flecks and which may have been the result of deliberate backfilling of the ditches when the large modern field was created.

Plate 19 Trench 50, ditch [28], looking north-east

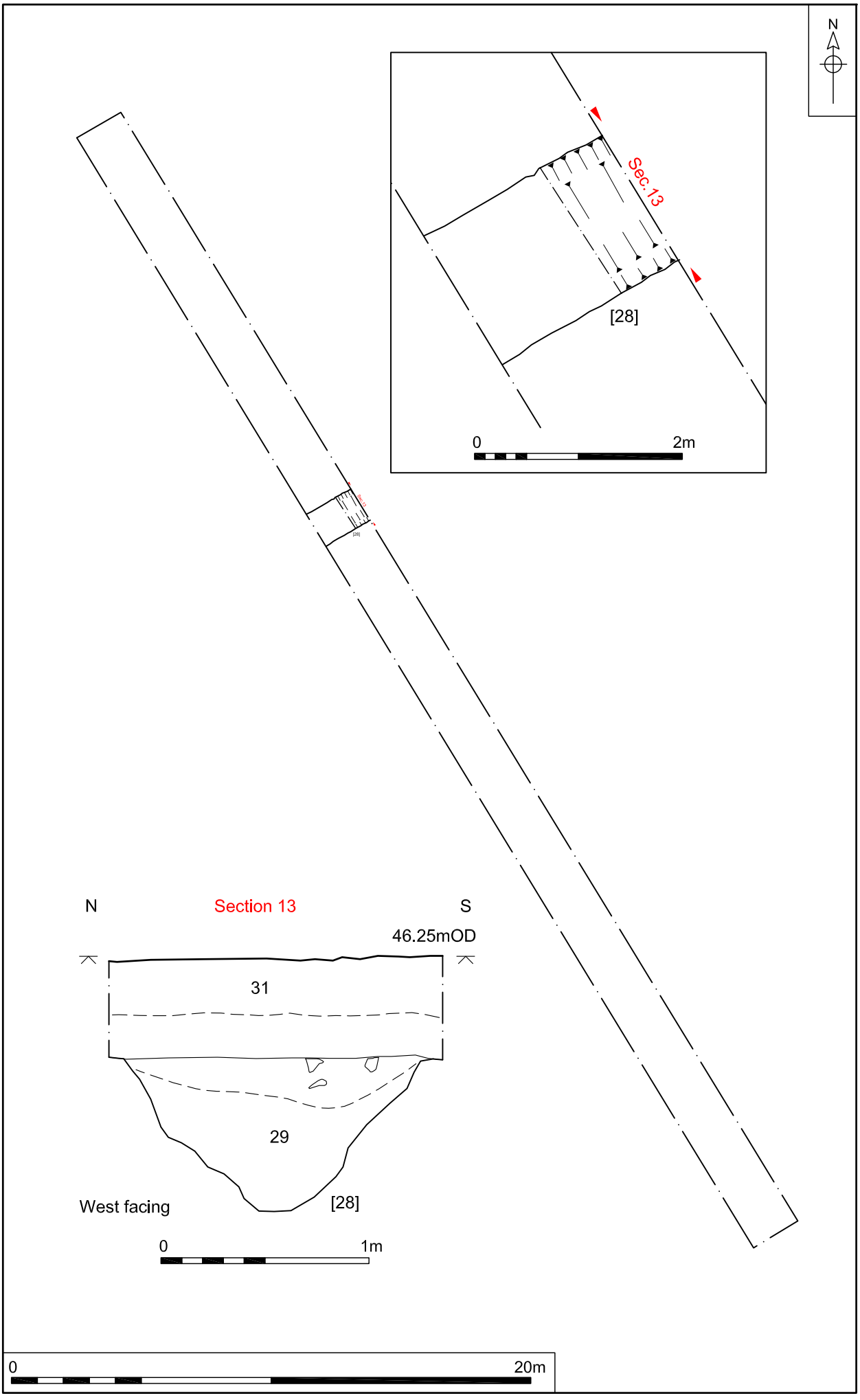

Figure 10. Trench 50, plan and section. Scale 1:200, plan at 1:50 and section at 1:25

The ditch was almost certainly a field boundary which had been observed on 1946 aerial photos. It was also recorded during the geophysical survey and although it was plotted across the eastern half of the field it did not appear in Trench 35 some 75m to the south-west where it should have crossed the trench (Fig. 2).

Trench 51

Trench 51 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.30m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 52

Trench 52 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.40m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 53

Trench 53 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.45m and contained no archaeological features.

A series of roughly circular anomalies which appeared to be a line of pits had been plotted during the geophysical survey phase of the project however when the trench to sample them was opened there no evidence of these features could be defined. This probably suggests that the anomalies were formed by the presence of material in the topsoil that produced these readings.

Trench 54

Trench 54 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.45m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 55

Trench 55 was orientated north-east to south-west. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.30m and contained no archaeological features.

Trench 56

(Fig. 11; Plates 20, 21 and 22)

Trench 56 was orientated north-west to south-east. It was machine-excavated to a depth of 0.45m and contained two south-west to north-east orientated features (ditches [24] and [26]) at opposing ends of the trench.

The more northerly of the two ditches ([26]) measured at least 2.0m long with a width of 0.80m and a maximum depth was 0.45m. The sides were regular and steep and the base uneven. The single fill ([27]) consisted of slightly clayey fine sand and silt which contained no major inclusions.

At the southern end of the trench was larger ditch [24]. It was also at least 2.0m in length, had a width of 1.52m and was 0.65m deep. Ditch [24] contained two fills ([25] and [30]). Primary fill [25] was a mid grey clayey and sandy silt which contained occasional fragments of charcoal and was 1.52m thick at its maximum extent. Uppermost fill [30] was 0.22m deep and was composed of a light brown sandy and silty clay.

Both of the ditches were probably deliberately backfilled when the large modern field was created.

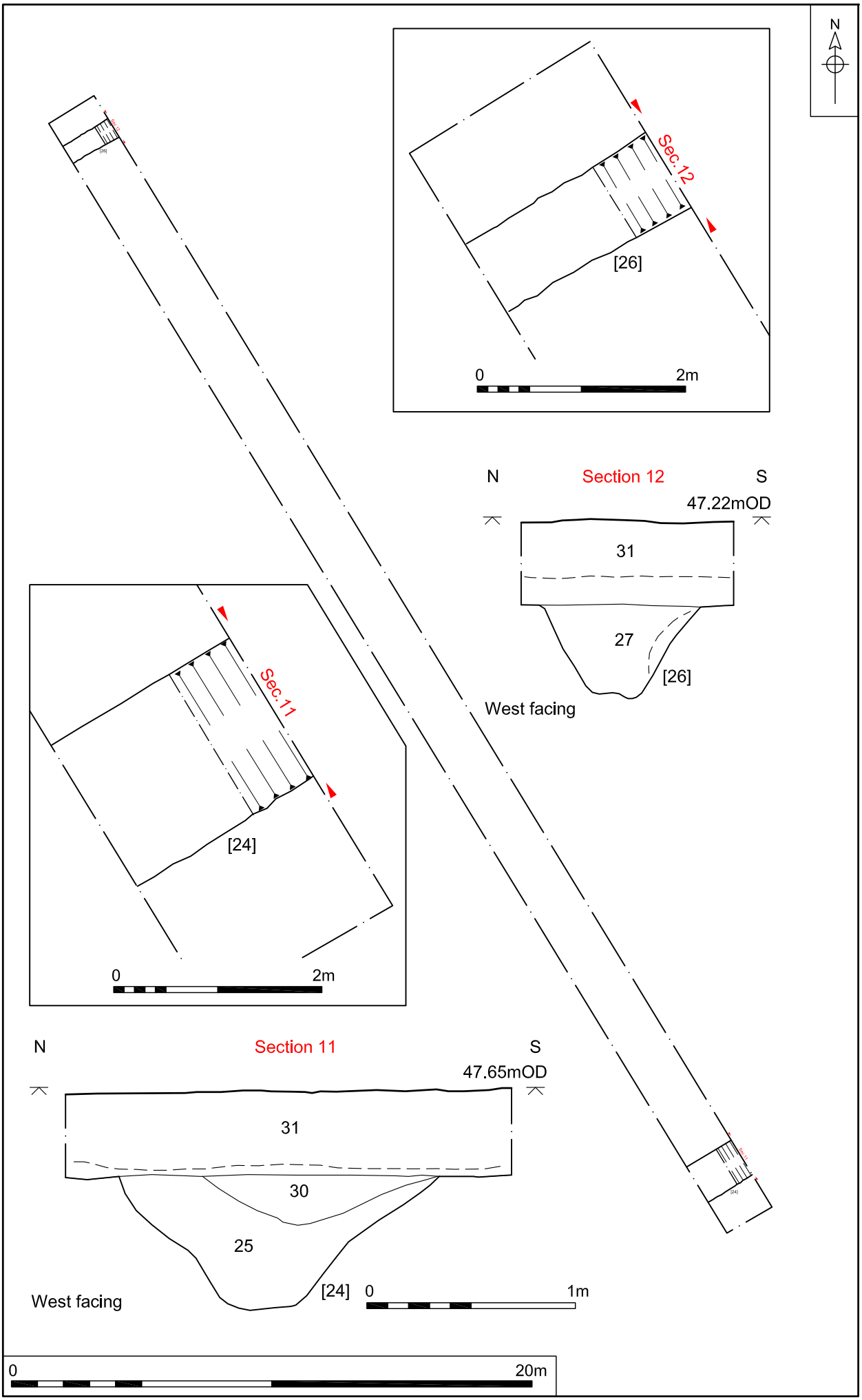

Figure 11. Trench 56, plan and sections. Scale 1:200, plans at 1:50 and sections at 1:25

Plate 20 Trench 56, pre-excavation, looking north

Plate 21 Trench 56, ditch [24], looking north-east

Plate 22 Trench 56, ditch [26], looking north-east

Trench 57

Trench 57 was orientated north west to south east. It was machine excavated to a depth of 0.45m and contained two ditches.

Trench 58

Trench 57 was orientated north east to south west. It was machine excavated to a depth of 0.45m and contained two ditches.

7.0 THE FINDS

7.1 The Roman Pottery

by Andrew Peachey

Evaluation excavations recovered a total of 54 sherds (366g) of early Roman pottery in a fragmentary, slightly abraded condition. Despite the relatively low quantity of Roman pottery, diagnostic sherds contained in the three recorded pit features indicate probable domestic activity, possibly with the presence of a kiln in the mid/late 1st to early 2nd century AD. The bulk of the pottery is comprised of locally-produced coarse wares, but fragments from a single south Gaulish samian platter are also present.

7.1.1 Methodology

The pottery was quantified by sherd count, weight and R.EVE. Fabrics were examined at x20 magnification and where possible assigned a code from the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber & Dore 1998), or assigned an alpha-numeric code based on this system. Samian forms reference Webster (1996). All data was entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that will be deposited as part of the archive.

7.1.2 Fabric Descriptions

Fabric Type	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	R.EVE
MON SA	2	7	0.10
BSW1	23	155	0.00
GRS1	4	23	0.15
GRS2	11	149	0.12
MOXS1	8	23	0.00
UNS CR1	6	9	0.00
Total	*54*	*366*	*0.37*

Table 1: Quantification of Roman fabric types

MON SA Montans samian ware (Tomber & Dore 1998, 29)

BSW1 Black-surfaced/Romanising grey ware. Black surfaces, thick red-brown margins and a dark grey or dark red core. Inclusions comprise common quartz (<0.5mm) with sparse coarse quartz (0.5-1mm), reduced iron rich grains/grog (0.5-2mm) and sparse fine silver mica. Slightly gritty, abrasive surfaces.

GRS1 Sandy grey ware. Pale grey surfaces fading to a mid grey core. Inclusions comprise common to abundant fine quartz (<0.1mm) with occasional dark grey grog/clay pellets (0.5-3mm). A moderately hard fabric with a finely abrasive feel.

GRS2 Sandy grey ware. Mid grey throughout. Inclusions comprise common, well-sorted, sub rounded quartz (0.1-0.25mm, occasionally larger) with sparse fine silver mica. A hard, smooth fabric.

MOXS1 Micaceous, oxidised sandy ware. Orange-red surfaces, a shade darker than the core. Inclusions comprise common sub-rounded quartz (0.1-0.5mm), common fine mica (especially visible on the surfaces) and occasional red grog/clay pellets (0.25-2mm). A moderately hard fabric with a finely abrasive feel.

UNS CR1 Cream ware. Off-white to pale yellow-brown throughout. Inclusions comprise, well-sorted, sub rounded quartz (0.1-0.5mm) with occasional red iron rich grains (0.25-1mm). A hard fabric with a slightly abrasive feel.

7.1.3 Commentary

The bulk of the assemblage (96.30% by sherd count, 98.09% by weight) was accounted for by locally-produced coarse wares (Table 1: BSW1, GRS1-2, MOXS1 and UNS CR1) that were almost certainly produced in or around Wymondham. Early Roman kilns are known at Morley St. Peter *c*.6km to the south-west of Wymondham (NHER 9116) and in and around the *civitas capital* of *Venta Icenorum* (Caistor St. Edmund) situated *c*.12km to the north-west (Atkinson 1937). However, a GRS1 waster vessel contained in pit [5] suggests comparable kilns may be located in the immediate vicinity of the evaluation site, while other production centres in the region such as those at Spong Hill, Brampton and Two Mile Bottom cannot be discounted.

With the exception of a single body sherd of GRS2 contained in ditch [9], the assemblage was comprised of three small groups contained in pits [1], [5] and [7] that have a homogeneous early Roman character. Pit [7] (8) contained the only

imported pottery in the form of cross-joining sherds from a south Gaulish samian (MON SA) Form 15/17 platter with a moulded wall that dates to the mid to late 1st century AD. Diagnostic sherds in the locally-produced coarse wares are limited to a single beaker contained in pit [5] and a single jar in pit [1]. The beaker contained in pit [5] (6) comprises a GRS1 globular type with an everted rim (Symonds and Wade 1999, 472: Cam.108) and crescent-shaped, neat rusticated decoration on the body (*ibid*, 402: fig.6.67: 408 and 408) that was produced from the mid 1st to early 2nd centuries. Furthermore the rim and neck of the beaker had buckled or collapsed during manufacture or firing, suggesting that this may have been a waster vessel from a nearby kiln that would not have been commercially sold. The jar contained in pit [1] (3) comprised a tall GRS2 type with an everted bead rim, plain neck cordon and shallow body carination comparable to types produced at Brampton (Green 1977, 62: fig.26.6) in the late 1st to early 2nd centuries AD. The remaining coarse wares are limited to body and basal sherds, although it appears that the multiple sherds of UNS CR1 contained in pit [1], BSW1 and MOXS1 contained in pit [5] are each from single vessels in their respective fabrics.

7.2 Ceramic building material

by Sue Anderson and Lucy Talbot

Two pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered weighing 41g in total (Appendix 3); both fragments are considered to be of post-medieval date.

One fragment of CBM (39g) was recovered during fieldwalking (AB 010). It is in a pale buff medium sandy fabric with occasional coarse quartz inclusions and an orange core. The fragment appears to represent the edge of a brick or tile and measures 32mm thick. The upper surface shows signs of wear and this is unlikely to be the full thickness originally. A broad semi-circular concavity is present on the inner surface of the object, also with buff surfaces, and measuring *c*.15mm in diameter. It runs across the fragment at a slight angle. If the object was deliberately pierced, the diagonal nature of the hole suggests that it would have exited the piece on both the upper and lower surfaces not far beyond the broken edges.

The fabric is similar to that used for post-medieval quarry tiles and floor bricks, rather than local Roman types. However its function, and therefore date, is uncertain. There is a possibility that it may be a fragment of a handmade air-brick, although holes in air-bricks would normally run parallel to the surfaces of the brick. Another possibility is that the 'hole' is an impression caused by a withy fragment which was accidentally incorporated into the brick/tile, burnt out during firing, and remained unnoticed until the brick/tile was worn to such a degree that it caused it to split.

A fragment of orange, medium sandy post-medieval roof tile weighing 2g was recovered from the fill of ditch [24].

7.3 Flint

by Lucy Talbot

Six pieces of flint (two from fieldwalking and four from trial trenching) and weighing a total of 54g were collected from the site.

The fieldwalking survey produced two struck flints (both flakes) from AB 008 and AB 011 in the southern half of the survey area.

Four pieces of prehistoric burnt flint were recovered from the fills of pit [1] and pit [17]. There were two pieces from each weighing a combined total of 50g.

7.4 Metal Finds

by Lucy Talbot

The fieldwalking survey and trial trenching produced a total of seventeen metal finds weighing 299g.

7.4.1 Post medieval

Six metal objects of post-medieval date were recovered during the evaluation (four of copper alloy and one of lead).

Five copper alloy objects of post-medieval date were recovered during the field walking survey which include a ?late 17th-century farthing, and two Victorian coins - a farthing dated 1891 (AB 005) and an illegible penny dating between 1837–1901 (AB 009). The remainder of this group consists of a double looped oval buckle frame with floral decoration and black lacquer coating, dating to 1550–1650 (AB 005) and a discoidal button (RB 003).

A single lead bale seal (AB007) was also collected.

7.4.2 Modern

Three artefacts of modern date were recovered from the fieldwalking and trial trenching.

A fragment of thin copper alloy strip (AB 006) and a zinc alloy semi-circular disc or tag (RB 002) was collected during the fieldwalking survey.

A short section of steel barbed wire was recovered from the fill of ditch [11].

7.4.3 Undated

Eight objects of unknown date were recovered from field walking and trial trenching.

This assemblage collected during the fieldwalking survey consists of six objects (two of copper alloy and four of iron)

The two copper alloy artefacts comprise a thin sheet with two rivets (AB 001) and a fragment of vessel rim (AB 012). The remainder of this group consists of four lead objects - two pieces of flattened tubing (RB 001 and RB 004), an undiagnostic cast fragment (AB 003) and a waste droplet (AB 002).

Two iron objects recovered from topsoil [31] during the evaluation phase are unidentified.

7.5 Animal Bone

by Lucy Talbot)

Twenty two pieces of mammal bone, weighing 25g were hand-collected during the trial trench stage.

The bones are from the fill of pit [1] layer [3] and include some burnt fragments. A further 148g was recovered from Sample <1> (context [3]) along with 1g from Sample <3> (context [8]). Because of the condition of the remains it is likely that they represent waste results from butchering and cooking.

8.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

8.1 Charred Plant Macrofossils and Other Remains

by Val Fryer

8.1.1 Introduction and method statement

Evaluation excavations at Wymondham recorded a limited number of features of probable Roman and later date. Samples for the evaluation of the content and preservation of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken, and three were submitted for assessment (Samples <1>, <2> and <3> from features [1], [5] and [7]).

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed below in Appendix 4 Nomenclature follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Modern contaminants including fibrous roots and seeds were present throughout.

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and will be sorted when dry. All artefacts/ecofacts will be retained for further specialist analysis.

8.1.2 Results

With the exception of charcoal/charred wood fragments, which were common or abundant throughout, plant macrofossils were exceedingly scarce. A single poorly preserved wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grain was noted within the assemblage from Sample <1> along with an indeterminate grain fragment. A further possible fragmentary grain was recorded in Sample <3>. Other remains were also scarce, although all three assemblages did contain pieces of burnt or calcined bone.

8.1.3 Conclusions

In summary, all three samples are from features of possible Roman date. At the time of excavation, it was thought that these contexts may have included materials derived from one or more dispersed cremation deposits, however later examination of the bone indicated that it was animal bone. Sample <1> (from pit [1]) contained particularly abundant animal bone fragments. It would appear that wood/charcoal also surviving within the sample were the fuels used to cook the animals with other remains, including the cereal grains, representing materials which were either accidentally included or were constituents of possible kindling used to ignite the fire.

Although the current assemblages are somewhat limited, they clearly illustrate that reasonably well-preserved plant remains are present with the archaeological horizon at Wymondham.

If further interventions are planned, it is strongly recommended that additional plant macrofossil samples of approximately 20–30 litres in volume are taken from all dated and well-sealed features which are recorded during excavation.

9.0 CONCLUSIONS

Prehistoric

The Norfolk Historical Atlas (Ashwin 2005a and b) indicates that the area around Wymondham was more densely settled in the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods, though it seems that much of the settlement was within or close to river valleys. Other monuments often exploited upland and prominent ridges. The limited evidence of Bronze Age activity suggests that that there was a focus close to the rivers at sites such as the new police headquarters (NHERs 33779 and 30068). The present site was reasonably low lying, poorly drained and not sufficiently close to a water source to provide ideal conditions.

The two pieces of struck flint found in the southern part of the site during the fieldwalking stage of the project hint at a background presence in probably the later prehistoric period. The fact that there was no evidence of prehistoric activity in the development area seems to concur with the historical background of the site, with HER entries detailing prehistoric activity for periods such as the Neolithic and Bronze Age being more common to the north and south-west of the site. The current development site seems to have been under-used through most of prehistory - possibly due to the heavy nature of the clayey ground. It was probably not until the agricultural revolution of the 18th and 19th centuries that these fields were more intensively used.

Roman

It is suggested in The Norfolk Historical Atlas (Gurney 2005) that the Roman Road from Crownthorpe to Caister St Edmund runs through the area of the development. This view is supported by the presence of a linear cropmark NHER 19725 at the north end of the field. A small concentration of Roman features was found within Trenches 44 and 47 in the north-east corner of the site close to the line of this cropmark which add extra weight to the idea that the linear cropmark is of Roman date. The features consisted of three pits and a ditch, which contained a selection of locally-made Roman wares (with the exception of one sherd of a Gaulish import) of 1st- to 2nd-century AD date.

The assemblage of pottery suggests that elements of Roman settlement lay close by. The pits themselves are probably refuse pits likely to have been situated at the edge of an area of human habitation. The short segment of probable ditch was only observed within Trench 44, which could suggest that it is an elongated pit rather than a ditch. In either case its purpose remains unknown. The lack of evidence of Roman tile from the fieldwalking and trial trenching strongly indicates that any buildings were at a distance and/or probably constructed from timber and thatched. The local nature of the pottery also suggests that activity in the area was relatively low key and any settlement was probably a lower-order roadside farmstead or similar of 1st- to 2nd-century date.

During fieldwork it was thought that the burnt bone found within the pit fills might have been human cremated remains. If this were the case the remains could have represented disrupted cremation burials, however when the bone was examined it

proved to be crushed and burnt animal bone. This again indicates nearby domestic activity with the bone probably being the waste from domestic cooking. There is however a possibility that the burnt animal bone was part of some manufacturing process which involved firing to a high heat and extra breaking of the bones to small pieces, though no evidence was found to support this. Of most interest was the possible presence of a sherd of a waster vessel contained in pit [5] which suggested that kilns may be located in the vicinity of Trench 44 in the north-eastern corner of the development site.

Post-medieval

The geophysical phase of the work undertaken by the University of Durham's Archaeological Services suggested that there were several former field boundaries and an in-filled pond present within at the site, all of which were marked on Ordnance Survey maps up to 1957 and aerial photographs of 1946. The features were evident in Trenches 14, 24, 33, 50 and 56. They were examined and proved reasonably straightforward and easy to interpret.

The large ditch present within Trench 3 was interpreted in the geophysics report as a roadside ditch and this was confirmed on excavation. The field system that the ditches represent was most likely created in the 18th to 19th centuries though the exact date of its formation it is not known.

Recommendations for future work based upon this report will be made by Norfolk Historic Environment Service.

Acknowledgements

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The finds were washed and recorded by Lucy Talbot. The Roman pottery was reported by Andrew Peachey and the Ceramic Building Material by Sue Anderson.

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Appendix 1a: Context Summary

Context	Category	Type	Fill Of	Description	Period	Trench
1	Cut	Pit		Pit	Roman?	47
2	Deposit		1	Fill of [1]	Roman?	47
3	Deposit		1	Fill of [1]	Roman?	47
4	Deposit		1	Fill of [1]	Roman?	47
5	Cut	Pit		Pit	Roman?	44
6	Deposit		5	Fill of [5]	Roman?	44
7	Cut	Pit		Pit	Roman?	44
8	Deposit		7	Fill of [7]	Roman?	44
9	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Roman?	44
10	Deposit		9	Fill of [9]	Roman?	44
11	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Post-medieval	1, 3
12	Deposit		11	Fill of [11]	Post-medieval	3
13	Deposit		11	Fill of [11]	Post-medieval	3
14	Deposit		11	Fill of [11]	Post-medieval	3
15	Cut	Drainage Gully		Drainage Gully	Post-medieval	14
16	Deposit		15	Fill of [15]	Post-medieval	14
17	Cut	Pit		Pit	Post-medieval	10
18	Deposit		17	Fill of [17]	Post-medieval	10
19	Not used	-	-	-	-	-
20	Not used	-	-	-	-	-
21	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Post-medieval	24, 33
22	Deposit		21	Fill of [21]	Post-medieval	24, 33
23	Deposit		21	Fill of [21]	Post-medieval	24, 33
24	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Post-medieval	56
25	Deposit		24	Fill of [24]	Post-medieval	56
26	Cut	Drainage Gully		Drainage Gully	Post-medieval	56
27	Deposit		26	Fill of [26]	Post-medieval	56
28	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Post-medieval	50
29	Deposit		28	Fill of [28]	Post-medieval	50
30	Deposit		28	Fill of [24]	Post-medieval	56
31	Deposit			Topsoil	Post-medieval	1-58
32	Deposit			Subsoil	Unknown	1-58
33	Deposit			Natural	Unknown	1-58

Appendix 1b: OASIS Feature Summary

Period	Material	Total
Prehistoric	Flint – Burnt	5
	Flint – Struck	1
Roman	Ceramic Building Material	1
	Pottery	54
Post-medieval	Ceramic Building Material	1
	Copper-Alloy	5
	Lead	1
Modern	Copper-Alloy	1
	Steel	1
	Zinc alloy	1
Unknown	Animal Bone	22
	Copper-Alloy	2
	Iron	2
	Lead	4

Appendix 2a: Finds by Context

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes	GPS No.
3	Pottery	17	156g	Roman		
3	Flint – Burnt	2	23g	Prehistoric	Discarded	
3	Animal Bone	22	15g	Unknown		
6	Pottery	28	171g	Roman		
8	Pottery	8	32g	Roman		
10	Pottery	1	7g	Roman		
13	Steel	1	16g	Modern		
18	Flint – Burnt	2	27g	Prehistoric	Discarded	
25	Ceramic Building Material	1	2g	Post-medieval		
31	Iron	2	189g	Unknown		
31	Lead	1	16g	Unknown	Tube frag; Flattened	RB 001
31	Zinc alloy	1	2g	Modern	Disc; Semi-circular	RB 002
31	Copper-Alloy	1	1g	Post-medieval	Button; discoidal	RB 003
31	Lead	1	42g	Unknown	Tube frag; Flattened	RB 004
31	Copper-Alloy	1	1g	Unknown	Sheet frag; rivetted	AB 001
31	Lead	1	4g	Unknown	Waste	AB 002
31	Lead	1	1g	Unknown	Thin moulding	AB 003
31	Copper-Alloy	1	7g	Post-medieval	Buckle frame; Double looped, oval; moulded floral decoration; black lacquer coating; c 1550 -1650. L: 40 W: 28mm	AB 004
31	Copper-Alloy	1	2g	Post-medieval	Coin; Farthing; Victoria 1891	AB 005
31	Copper-Alloy	1	2g	Modern	Thin strip	AB 006
31	Lead	1	6g	Post-medieval	Bale seal	AB 007
31	Flint – Struck	1	2g	Prehistoric	Flake	AB 008
31	Copper-Alloy	1	7g	Post-medieval	Coin; Penny; Victoria 1837 - 1901	AB 009
31	Ceramic Building Material	1	40g	?Roman		AB 010
31	Flint – Burnt	1	2g	Prehistoric	Flake	AB 011
31	Copper-Alloy	1	3g	Unknown	Vessel frag; Rim;	AB 012
31	Copper-Alloy	1	3g	Post-medieval	Coin; ?Late 17th century farthing	AB 013

Appendix 2b: OASIS Finds Summary

Sum of Qty		
Period	Material	Total
Prehistoric	Flint – Burnt	5
	Flint – Struck	1
Roman	Ceramic Building Material	1
	Pottery	54
Post-medieval	Ceramic Building Material	1
	Copper-Alloy	5
	Lead	1
Modern	Copper-Alloy	1
	Steel	1
	Zinc alloy	1
Unknown	Animal Bone	22
	Copper-Alloy	2
	Iron	2
	Lead	4

Appendix 3: Roman Pottery

Feature	Context	Description	Date	*Total*		MON SA		BSW1		GRS1		GRS2		MOXS1		UNS CR1	
				f	*w*	f	w	f	w	f	w	f	w	f	w	f	w
1	3	Pit	Late 1st-Early 2nd C AD	*17*	*156*			1	5			10	142			6	9
5	6	Pit	Mid 1st-Early 2nd C AD	*28*	*171*			16	125	4	23			8	23		
7	8	Pit	Mid-Late 1st C AD	*8*	*32*	2	7	6	25								
9	10	Ditch	Roman	*1*	*7*							1	7				
				54	*366*	2	7	23	155	4	23	11	149	8	23	6	9

Key

MON SA	Montans samian ware (Tomber & Dore 1998, 29)
BSW1	Black-surfaced/Romanising grey ware. Black surfaces, thick red-brown margins and a dark grey or dark red core. Inclusions comprise common quartz (<0.5mm) with sparse coarse quartz (0.5-1mm), reduced iron rich grains/grog (0.5-2mm) and sparse fine silver mica. Slightly gritty, abrasive surfaces. Probably produced locally or in or around Caistor St. Edmund
GRS1	Sandy grey ware. Pale grey surfaces fading to a mid grey core. Inclusions comprise common to abundant fine quartz (<0.1mm) with occasional dark grey grog/clay pellets (0.5-3mm). A moderately hard fabric with a finely abrasive feel.
GRS2	Sandy grey ware. Mid grey throughout. Inclusions comprise common, well-sorted, sub rounded quartz (0.1-0.25mm, occasionally larger) with sparse fine silver mica. A hard, smooth fabric.
MOXS1	Micaceous, oxidised sandy ware. Orange-red surfaces, a shade darker than the core. Inclusions comprise common sub-rounded quartz (0.1-0.5mm), common fine mica (especially visible on the surfaces) and occasional red grog/clay pellets (0.25-2mm). A moderately hard fabric with a finely abrasive feel.
UNS CR	Cream ware. Off-white to pale yellow-brown throughout. Inclusions comprise, well-sorted, sub rounded quartz (0.1-0.5mm) with occasional red iron rich grains (0.25-1mm). A hard fabric with a slightly abrasive feel.

Appendix 4: Plant Macrofossils and Other Remains

Sample No.	**1**	**2**	**3**
Context No.	**3**	**6**	**8**
Feature No.	**1**	**5**	**7**
Feature type	**Pit**	**Pit**	**Pit**
Plant macrofossils			
Triticum sp. (grain)	xcf		
Cereal indet. (grains)	x	xcffg	
Charcoal <2mm	xxxx	xx	xx
Charcoal >2mm	xxxx	xx	xx
Charcoal >5mm	x	x	
Charred root/stem	x		
Other remains			
Black porous 'cokey' material	x	x	
Black tarry material		x	
Bone	x xxxb	x	xb
Small coal frags.		x	x
Sample volume (litres)	**42**	**40**	**42**
Volume of flot (litres)	**0.2**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**
% flot sorted	**50%**	**100%**	**100%**

Key to Table
x = 1–10 specimens xx = 11–50 specimens xxx = 51– 00 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens
cf = compare b = burnt