

Report 2013/1277



nps archaeology

Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation of land off Devon Way Trowse, Norfolk

ENF130461



Prepared for
The Trustees of the Arminghall Settlement
c/o La Ronde Wright Ltd
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<i>Issue 1</i>		

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Location:	Devon Way, Trowse, Norfolk
District:	South Norfolk
Grid Ref.:	TG 2488 0642
Planning Ref.:	Pre-application
HER No.:	ENF130461
OASIS Ref.:	143468
Client:	The Trustees of the Arminghall Settlement
Dates of Fieldwork:	07-11 January 2013

Summary

Archaeological trial trench evaluation was conducted for The Trustees of the Arminghall Settlement ahead of proposed residential development at Devon Way in Trowse, Norfolk.

Following geophysical survey of the proposed development site in 2012 which produced evidence of 'prior human activity', excavation of sixteen trenches was planned to target some of the features recorded. Two of the trenches (5 and 6 at the south-western corner of the site) were not excavated as used needles had been found previously in this area and (in consultation with James Albone of Norfolk Historic Environment Service) it was decided not to excavate there.

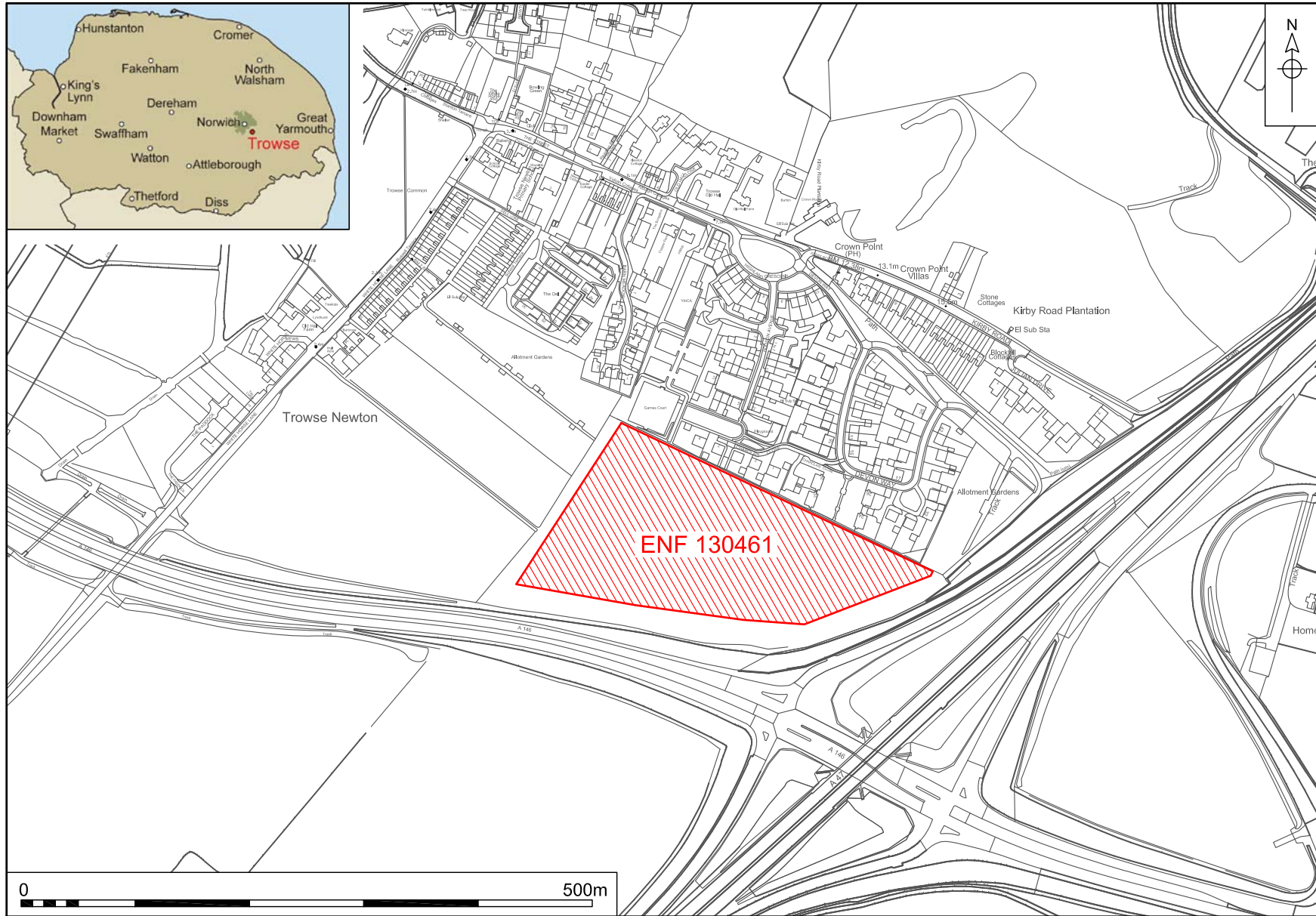
Of the fourteen trenches opened, nine contained archaeological features. Three of the trenches on the eastern side of the site (Trenches 13, 15 and 16) contained post-medieval ditches. Three trenches in the centre and south of the site contained very large pit-like features (Trenches 8, 11 and 12) and Trench 7 contained several pit and ditch features of indeterminate date. At the north of the proposed development area, Trench 2 contained a large pit and small ditch. On the west side of the site Trench 4 contained a possible trackway (and tree-hole).

At the start of work - during setting out the trenches - several of the canes used for marking each end of the trench were removed and scattered (presumably by children – the area has been accessible to the general public for some time prior to works starting).

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This archaeological trial trench evaluation of land at Devon Way, Trowse (Fig. 1) was undertaken to fulfil pre-planning application requirements and a Generic Evaluation Brief issued by Norfolk Historic Environment Service (Ref. Ken Hamilton 24/09/12). The work was conducted in accordance with a Project Design and Method Statement prepared by NPS Archaeology (Ref. 01-04-13-2-1277). This work was funded by The Trustees of the Arminghall Settlement and commissioned by La Ronde Wright Ltd.

This programme of work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, following the guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework*.



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Figure 1. Site location. Scale 1:5000

(Department for Communities and Local Government 2012). The results will enable decisions to be made by the Local Planning Authority about the treatment of any archaeological remains found

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

2.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The solid geology at the site is listed as Crag Group (sand and gravel sedimentary bedrock) formed in the Quaternary and Neogene Periods. Sedimentary deposits (or drift geology) are Lowestoft Formation – diamicton which forms an extensive sheet of chalky till, together with outwash sands and gravels, silts and clays also formed in the Quaternary Period in an environment previously dominated by ice age conditions (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>)

The proposed development site is located on the south-eastern outskirts of Norwich to the south of Devon Way in the village of Trowse (Fig. 1). It is bounded along its northern edge by housing on Devon Way and the YMCA and along its eastern edge by the A47 (and slip road). To the south of the site is the A146; a tree belt separates both roads from the development site. To the west of the development site are arable fields and allotments.

A footpath around the perimeter of the field is frequently used by the public. The river Yare is located some c.315m to the north-west of the site.

The evaluated area slopes slightly from north to south and varies in height between 21.75m OD at its northern end and 24.37m OD at the south. There also appears to be a gradual slope from the centre of the site to the west – from 22.06m OD to 16.58m OD in the south-west corner.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Data obtained from a 1km radius search of the Norfolk Historic Environment Record has been used alongside information in a desk-based assessment of nearby land at White Horse lane in Trowse (Sillwood 2012) to produce the following section. Information is presented in broadly chronological order.

The majority of the area of the development site is encompassed by NHER 25709. Metal detecting from the 1980s to the present day has recovered a number of objects from the Prehistoric to post-medieval periods.

Prehistoric

Site NHER 25709 has produced large numbers of Neolithic and Bronze Age worked flints as well as pottery sherds of Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age date and an Iron Age coin.

To the south-west of the study area are significant prehistoric heritage assets including a henge monument and multiple barrows, making up part of a highly important funerary landscape. At the centre of this landscape lies Arminghall Henge (NHER 6100) comprising two circular ditches surrounding a horseshoe-shaped formation of post-holes, recognised in 1929 and partially

excavated in 1935. In the vicinity of the henge lie a quantity of other prehistoric features, including ring ditches seen as cropmarks, which form coherent groups and other enclosures, flintworking sites and many other finds spots. Closest to the henge is a barrow, recognised from cropmarks (NHER 9587) which is more oval in shape, implying a Neolithic rather than Bronze Age date for the feature.

To the south-west of the site is NHER 9605 where hundreds of Prehistoric, Neolithic and Early Bronze Age worked flints were discovered. Ring ditch NHER 52334 is recorded in this same area.

Roman

A total of sixteen sites of Roman date were returned within the study area, although only one of these (NHER 9589) has been subject to archaeological investigation; the majority of records relate to finds spots.

Excavated evidence was recorded at site NHER 9589, just to the south of the development area, during works associated with construction of the Norwich Southern Bypass. Numerous cropmarks have been identified here and many have been examined (by excavation) and established to be of Late Iron Age to Early Roman date. A Roman iron smelting furnace is also recorded in this area.

The remainder of the Roman records refer to multi period finds spots where material from several periods has been found. Site NHER 28011 to the north-east of the development site records a Roman coin found during topsoil stripping for the Norwich southern bypass.

Saxon

Evidence of Saxon activity within the study area is all artefact-based, with finds of Early, Middle and Late Saxon date represented.

An iron spearhead of probable 10th-century date (NHER 9590) was found to the north-west of the development site close to Trowse parish church and a possible burial nearby may be indicated by a deposit of vivianite (an accretion sometimes found on archaeological sites on bone and other materials that have been in waterlogged conditions).

Other finds include pottery (NHER 15553, NHER 25709, NHER 30073 and NHER 35343), a Middle Saxon pin, an unusual 9th-century strap end (NHER 25709), Early Saxon wrist clasp (NHER 15607) and prolific site (NHER 25710) that produced a Middle Saxon strap end and brooch and Late Saxon brooches and a buckle.

Site NHER 35343 to the south-west of the proposed development site records a Late Saxon Thetford ware jar.

Multi period sites

There are several multi period sites that are locations of artefact evidence only; those in close proximity to the site are given below.

In the field directly to the west of the site a medieval seal matrix and medieval finger ring (NHER 29100) were recovered. A Roman coin and a medieval penny were recovered (NHER 28598) and a Romano-British brooch and two

medieval buckle parts, along with pottery of Roman to post-medieval date (NHER 30073) were found later also to the west of the site.

Artefacts including metal work and flint ranging in date from the Mesolithic to the post-medieval period have been recovered to the south-west (NHER 40903). Other artefacts from this area include a medieval horse-harness pendant (NHER 18456) and a medieval groat (NHER 22041)

North of the site is the site of a post mill of post-medieval date. Fieldwalking undertaken ahead of construction of the Norwich Southern Bypass recovered a number of prehistoric, Mesolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age flints as well as Roman - post-medieval pottery (NHER 15553).

25709 Previous fieldwork here has recorded a ditch and post-hole, though the exact date of these features was uncertain, as well as a medieval pit

Geophysical survey undertaken by Archaeological Project Services ahead of trial trench evaluation produced evidence of linear anomalies and some discrete positive anomalies which may indicate 'some prior human activity here' (Malone 2012).

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.

The Brief required that three percent of the proposed development area be sampled which equated to an array of sixteen 50m x 1.8m trenches (Fig. 2). Fourteen of the proposed sixteen trenches were actually opened (see Summary above). The area had previously been subject to geophysical survey (Malone 2012) the results of which are summarised overleaf on Figure 3.

Machine excavation was carried out with a hydraulic 360° excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket and operated under constant archaeological supervision.

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 not taken.

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using NPS 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 temporary benchmarks used during the course of this work were transferred from the ends of each trench having been located by NPS Land Survey using GPS equipment.

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

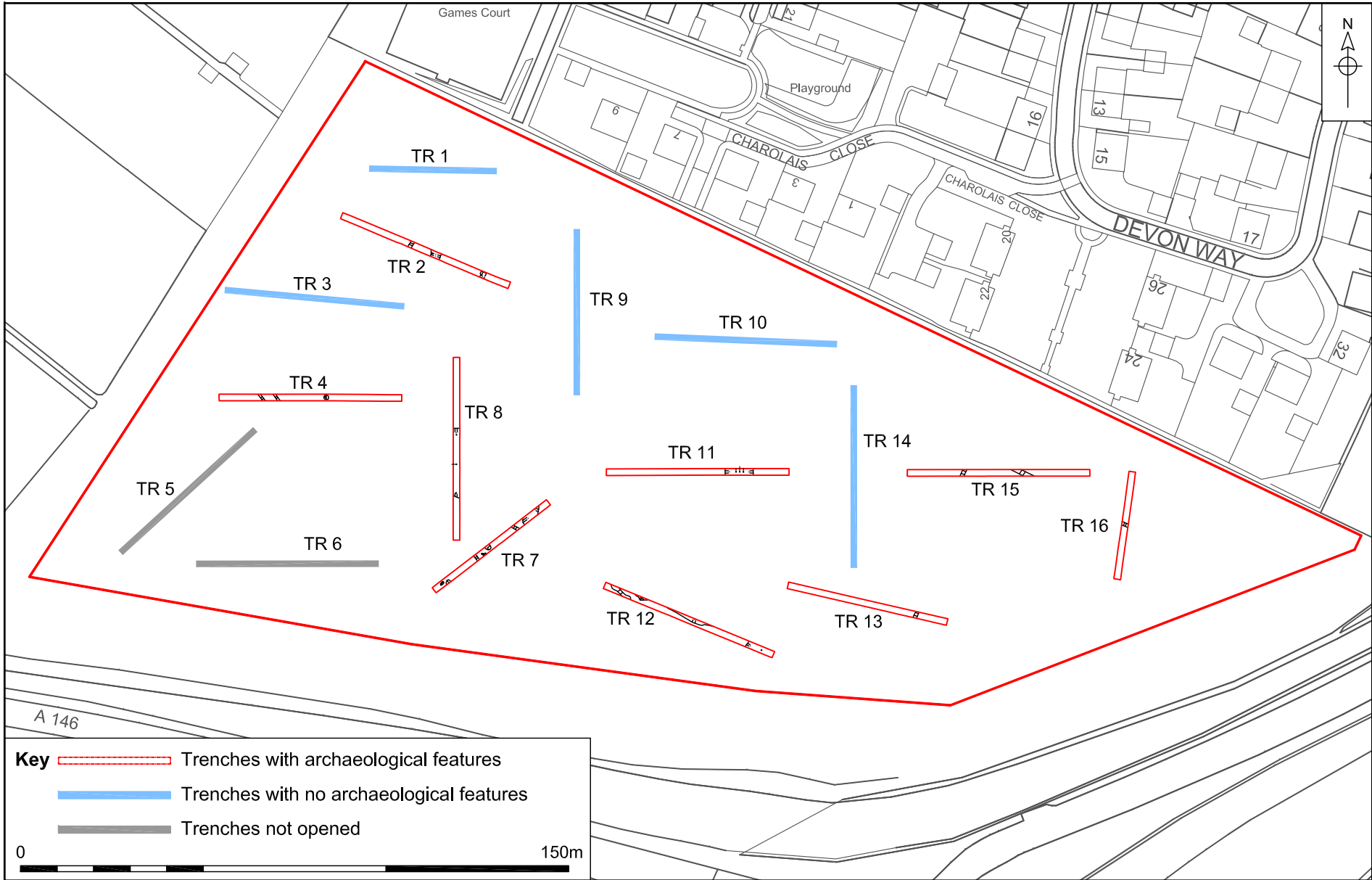


Figure 2. Location of trenches. Scale 1:1500

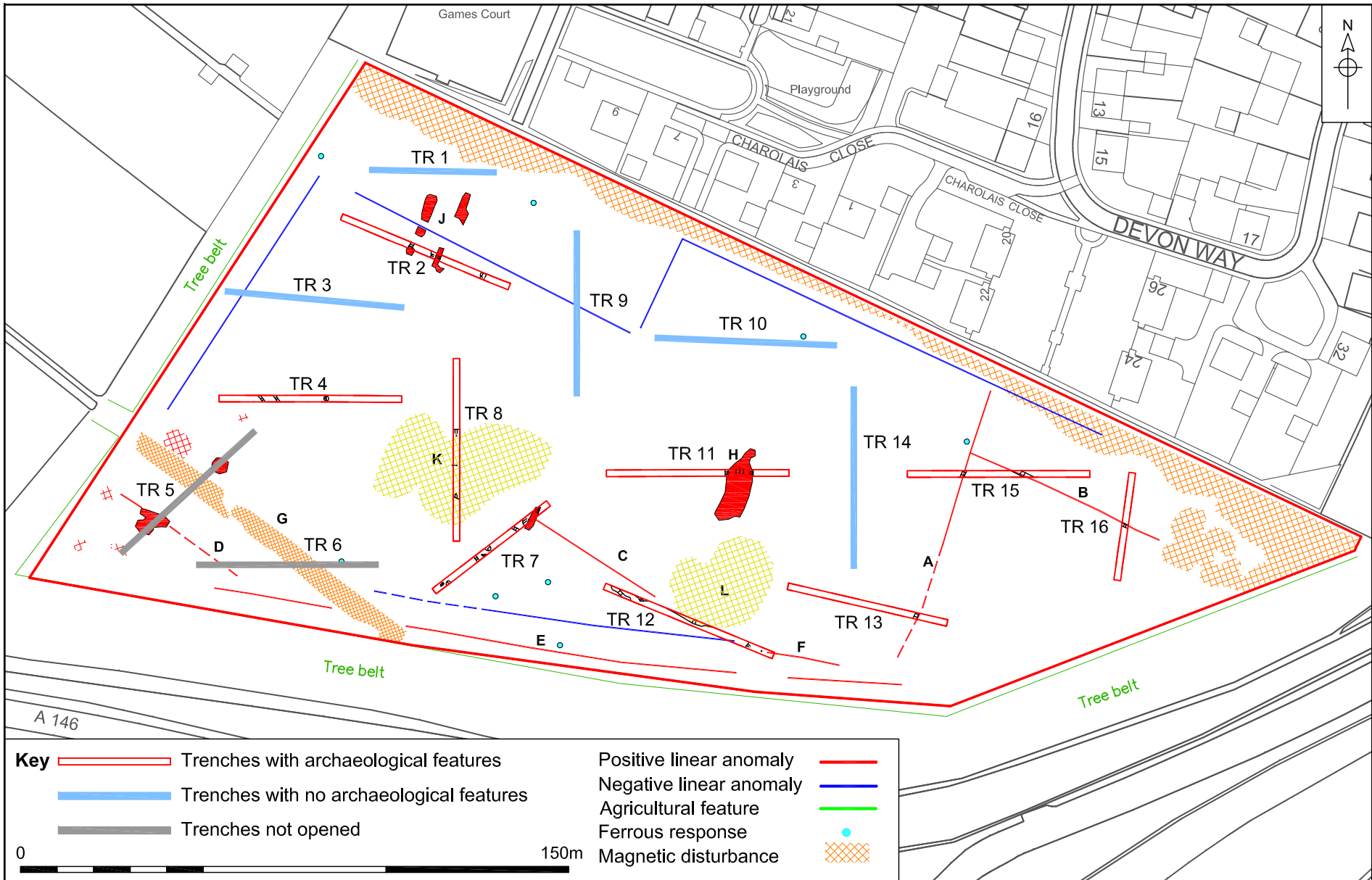




Figure 3. Geophysics results interpretive plan. Scale 1:1500

5.0 RESULTS

Trench 1				
		Figs 2 and 3		
		Location		
		Orientation	East to west	
		East end	624855.628 306498.814	
		West end	624822.616 306499.424	
		Dimensions		
		Length	35.00m	
		Width	1.80m	
		Depth	0.40-0.60m	
		Levels		
East top	18.561m OD			
West top	16.955mOD			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL
01	Deposit	Topsoil. Plough soil; moderately compact, friable mid grey brown clayey sandy silt with moderate-frequent small and large flint.	0.30m	0.00-0.30m
02	Deposit	Subsoil. Dark grey brown silt frequent small-large stones and flint.	0.10-0.30m	0.00-0.00m
-	Natural	Very bright orange sand up to 21m from the west end then becomes a mix of very stony sandy clay with patches of cream clay with frequent chalk flecks. Some glacial scarring was evident mostly on a N-S orientation.	-	0.60m+
Discussion				
<p>Trench 1 was shortened to 35.00m in length due to the close proximity of footpaths at either end.</p> <p>This trench was devoid of any archaeological features or artefacts.</p> <p>A hedge line runs N-S c.21.00m from the west end of the trench.</p>				

Trench 2				
		Figs 2, 3 and 4		
		Location		
		Orientation	North-west to south-east	
		North-west end	624815.0810 306485.6380	
		South-east end	624859.9330 306465.8790	
		Dimensions		
		Length	49.40m	
		Width	1.80m	
		Depth	0.44-0.56m	
		Levels		
North-west top	17.16m OD			
South-east top	19.84mOD			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL
01	Deposit	Topsoil. Plough soil; moderately compact, friable mid grey brown clayey sandy silt with moderate-frequent small and large flint.	0.22-0.36m	0.00-0.00m
02	Deposit	Subsoil. Grey beige brown sandy clay with occasional flint.	0.10-0.22m	0.00-0.00m
-	Natural	From the west end for c.18.5m the natural is an orange yellow sand after this point it becomes a yellowy beige orange sandy clay with occasional flint.	-	0.56m+
49	Cut	Small ditch/gully. Linear in plan orientated N-S with gently sloping sides, subtle/gentle break of slope at top with subtle break of slope at base and a rounded base. It was c.0.20m deep, 1.00m wide and >1.80m long.	0.20m	0.56-0.76m
50	Deposit	Fill of ditch [49]. Grey pale orange mid brown sandy silt with some clay, occasional small flints moderate compaction and a slightly sticky cohesive consistency.	0.20m	0.56-0.76m
51	Cut	Large quarry pit. unclear shape in plan as it extends beyond the trench. N-S orientated with near vertical (yet undercut) sides sharp	1.00m	0.56-1.56m

Trench 2				
		break of slope east side and a sharp-gentle sloping west side. The base was not reached; however, investigation with a hand auger determined the depth as c.1.00m deep, The feature was c.2.60 wide and >1.80m long.		
52	Deposit	Fill of quarry pit [51]. Grey mid brown sandy silt with clay, moderate flint inclusions and patches of sandy clay with a moderate-firm compaction and slightly sticky and cohesive consistency.	1.00m	0.56-1.56m
Discussion				
<p>The trench was positioned on a north-west to south-east alignment to avoid a survey post in the centre of the original alignment.</p> <p>Large pit [51] and ditch [49] match geophysics results of discrete positive anomalies in this area of the site. Pit [51] corresponds with an anomaly which resembles an L-shape in plan, and ditch [49] corresponds with an anomaly which appears pit shaped however this aligns with two other anomalies which could form a potential linear feature.</p> <p>The purpose of the potential pit [51] could be for quarrying.</p> <p>Two features which appear to be tree holes or the remains of a hedge appear towards the eastern end of the trench.</p>				

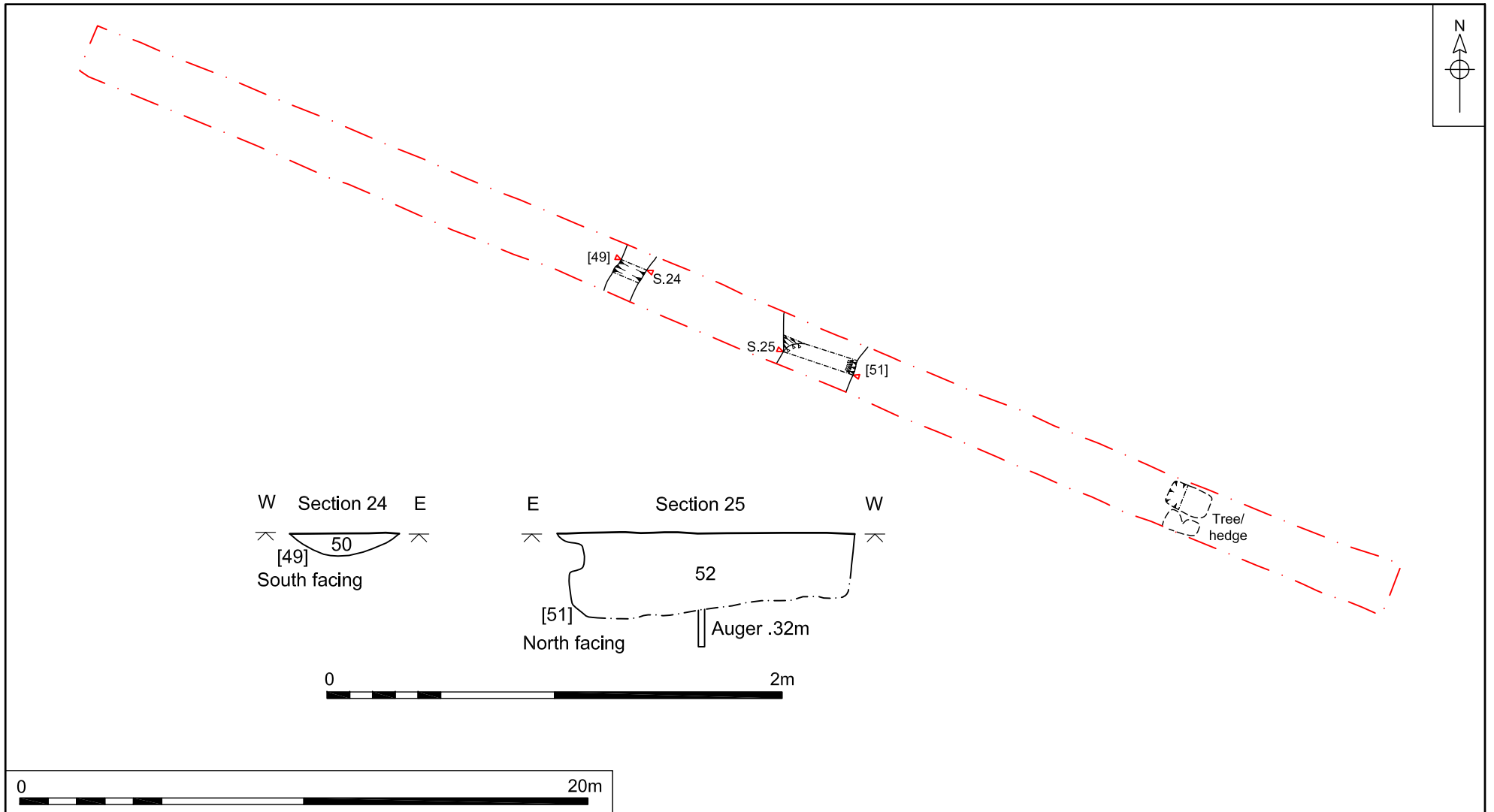



Figure 4. Trench 2, plan and sections. Scale 1:200 and 1:25

Trench 3


	Figs 2 and 3	
	Location	
	Orientation	East to west
	East end	624832.2660 306460.8220
	West end	624797.7800 306463.1800
	Dimensions	
	Length	35.00m
	Width	1.80m
	Depth	0.50-0.55m
	Levels	
East top	19.02m OD	
West top	16.76mOD	

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL
01	Deposit	Topsoil. Plough soil; moderately compact, friable mid grey brown clayey sandy silt with moderate-frequent small and large flint.	0.25-0.30m	0.00-0.30m
02	Deposit	Subsoil. Mid grey sandy clay some patches of cream coloured clay with frequent chalk flecks.	0.25m	0.30-0.55m
-	Natural	Patchy mix of clay and sandy patches with frequent glacial scaring mostly in a N-S direction.	-	0.55m+

Discussion

Trench 3 was shortened to 35.00m as its west end was in close proximity to the footpath. This trench was devoid of any archaeological features or artefacts.

Trench 4

	Figs 2, 3 and 5	
	Location	
	Orientation	East to west
	East end	624831.5480 306435.7580
	West end	624781.3470 306435.7260
	Dimensions	
	Length	50.00m
	Width	1.80m
	Depth	0.60-0.80m
	Levels	
East top	19.45m OD	
West top	16.19mOD	

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL
01	Deposit	Topsoil. Plough soil; moderately compact, friable mid grey brown clayey sandy silt with moderate-frequent small and large flint.	0.30m	0.00-0.30m
02	Deposit	Subsoil. Mid grey brown with patches of mid orange brown very sandy clay.	0.30-0.50m	0.30-0.80m
-	Natural	Mix of bright orange brown sands and mixed clays with the clays containing abundant small-large flints.	-	0.80m+
26	Cut	Track/gully. Linear in plan orientated NW-SE with a rounded base, gently sloping sides and a gradual break of slope at top and base. It measured c.0.10m deep, c.0.60m wide and >1.80m long. Part of same feature as [28].	0.10m	0.60-0.70m
27	Deposit	Fill of track/gully [26]. A friable homogeneous mid brown sandy silt with occasional small stones/flint.	0.10m	0.60-0.70m

Trench 4				
28	Cut	Track/gully. Linear in plan orientated NW-SE with a U-shaped base and gently sloping sides. It measured c.0.10m deep, c.0.60m wide and >1.80m long. Part of same feature as [26].	0.10m	0.60-0.70m
29	Deposit	Fill of track/gully [28]. A friable homogeneous mid brown sandy silt with occasional small stones/flint.	0.10m	0.60-0.70m
30	Cut	Pit. Sub-circular in plan with an uneven base, near vertical very uneven sides and a gradual break of slope at top and base. It measured c.0.55m deep, c.1.2m wide and c.1.35m long.	0.55m	0.60-1.15m
31	Deposit	Fill of pit [30]. Mixed friable homogeneous mid grey brown sandy silt with dark orange patches and some clay, with occasional small stones and flints.	0.55m	0.60-1.15m
Discussion				
<p>Trench 4 contained two parallel gullies ([26] and [28]) aligned NW-SE approximately 3.80m apart that appear to represent a track-way. They are probably of modern date and may relate to farm machinery using the field.</p> <p>Pit [30] is a natural tree-hole.</p>				

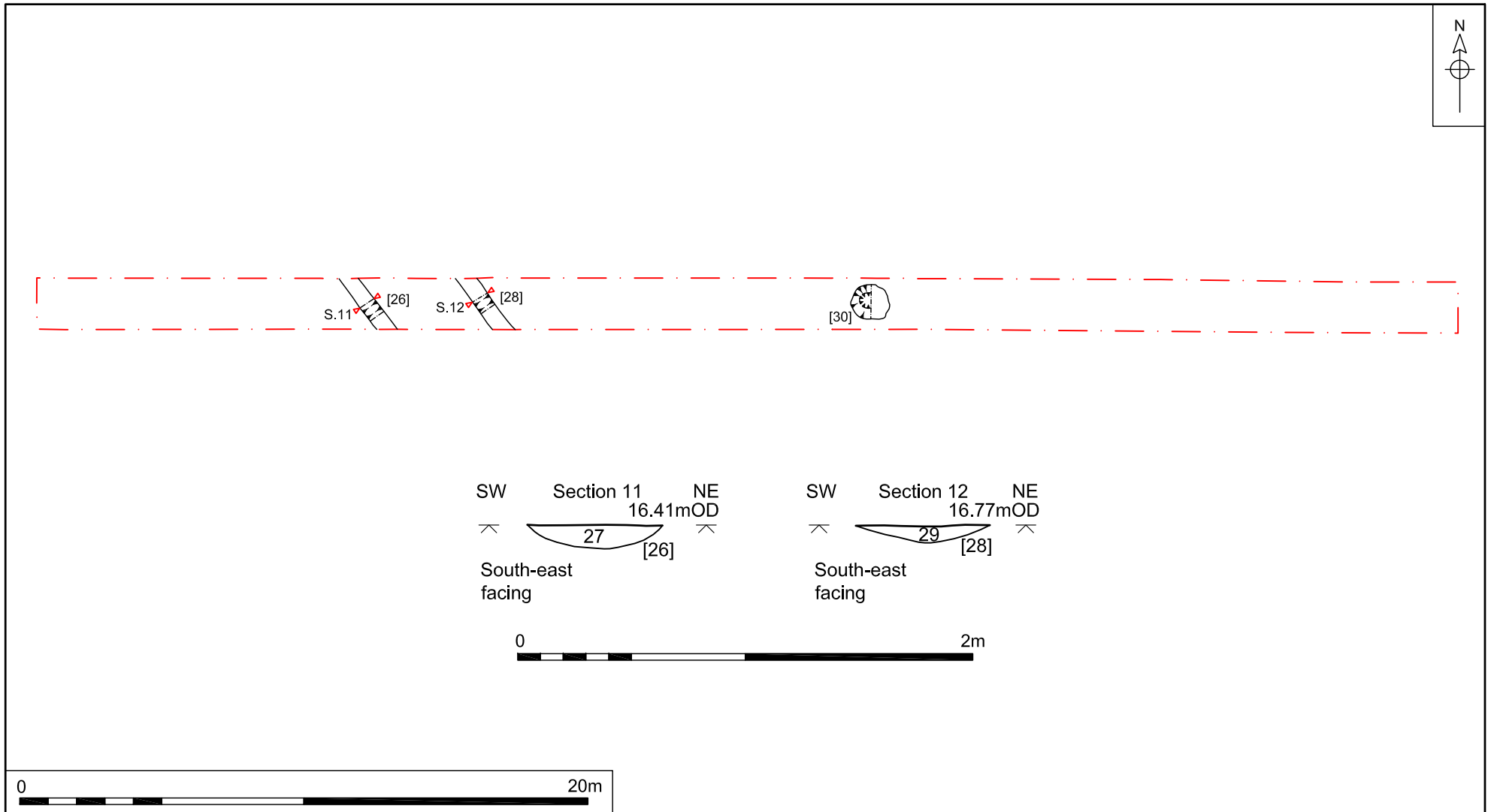


Figure 5. Trench 4, plan and sections. Scale 1:200 and 1:25

Trench 5		
No image available	Figs 2 and 3 (for location)	
	Location	
	Orientation	North-east to south-west
	North-east end	624791.5000 306427.1850
	South-west end	624754.3000 306393.4700
	Dimensions	
	Length	50.00m
	Width	1.80m
	Levels	
	North-east top	17.03m OD
South-west top	16.58mOD	
Discussion		
Trench 5 was unexcavated due to the previously reported presence of needles in the south-western part of the field.		

Trench 6		
No image available	Figs 2 and 3 (for location)	
	Location	
	Orientation	East to west
	East end	624825.2440 306390.4270
	West end	624775.0870 306390.3880
	Dimensions	
	Length	50.00m
	Width	1.80m
	Levels	
	East top	20.05m OD
West top	17.40mOD	
Discussion		
Trench 6 was unexcavated due to the previously reported presence of needles in the south-western part of the field.		

Trench 7



Figs 2, 3 and 6

Location

Orientation	North-east to south-west
North-east end	624871.7330 306407.1760
South-west end	624841.0390 306382.4210

Dimensions

Length	39.50m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.38-0.56m

Levels

North-east top	21.77m OD
South-west top	21.20mOD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL
01	Deposit	Topsoil. Plough soil; moderately compact, friable mid grey brown clayey sandy silt with moderate-frequent small and large flint.	0.26-28m	0.00-0.28m
02	Deposit	Subsoil. Orange brown silty sand.	0.10-0.30m	0.28-0.56m
-	Natural	Orange yellow silty sand with frequent flint nodules and fragments.	-	0.56m+
37	Cut	Ditch terminus. Linear in plan orientated NW-SE with a V-shaped profile, flat base, fairly steep sides, abrupt break of slope at top and gradual break of slope at base. c.0.72m deep, c.5.20m wide, >1.80m long.	0.72m	0.56-1.28m
38	Deposit	Fill of ditch terminus [37]. Orange grey brown fairly loose, soft, silty sand with frequent flecks of charcoal, flint and pebbles.	0.72m	0.00-0.00m

Trench 7				
39	Cut	Ditch. Linear in plan orientated NE-SW with a V-shaped profile, rounded base and fairly steep sides with a gradual break of slope at top and a fairly abrupt break of slope at base. It measured c.0.22m deep, c.0.72m wide and >1.80m long.	0.22m	0.56-0.78m
40	Deposit	Fill of ditch [39]. Pale grey orange brown, loose, soft, silty sand with occasional flints and flecks of charcoal.	0.22m	0.56-0.78m
41	Cut	Pit. Oval in plan orientated E-W with a gradual V-shaped profile, flat base, gradually sloping north side, steep sloping east side, gradual break of slope at top on north side and sharp break of slope on east side with gradual break of slope at base. It measured c.0.28m deep, 1.05m wide and >1.50m long.	0.28m	0.56-0.0.74m
42	Deposit	Fill of pit [41]. Mid grey orange brown loose, soft silty sand with frequent charcoal and heated flints with flint fragments towards the base.	0.28m	0.56-0.0.74m
43	Cut	Ditch. Linear in plan orientated E-W with a V-shaped profile, rounded base, fairly steep sides and a gradual break of slope at the base. It measured c.0.25m deep, c.0.86m wide and >1.80m long.	0.25m	0.56-0.81m
44	Deposit	Fill of ditch [43]. Dark brown orange silty sand with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional flint fairly loose compaction with a sticky consistency.	0.25m	0.56-0.81m
45	Cut	Pit. Circular in plan orientated E-W with an irregular base, gradually sloping sides, sharp break of slope at top and gradual break of slope at base. It measured c.0.19m deep, c.0.67m wide and >0.90m long.	0.19m	0.56-0.75m
46	Deposit	Fill of pit [45]. Orange dark brown loose, soft, silty sand with frequent flecks of charcoal and flint.	0.19m	0.56-0.75m

Trench 7				
47	Cut	Small pit. Oval in plan orientated NW-SE with a fairly flat, slightly irregular base, steep sides, sharp break of slope at top and abrupt break of slope at base. It measured c.0.10m deep, 0.10m wide and c.1.10m long.	0.10m	0.56-0.66m
48	Deposit	Fill of pit [47]. Mid grey brown loose, soft, silty sand with frequent chalk and occasional charcoal.	0.10m	0.56-0.66m

Discussion

Trench 7 was shortened to 39.50m as the south-west end was close to the footpath at the site.

Ditch terminus [37] corresponds with a discrete positive anomaly shown on the geophysics results which appears as a short linear feature. This feature contained pottery of possible Roman date. The geophysics survey also recorded a linear 'feature' appearing to enter the trench at this point however it was not observed during excavation.

Other ditches seen in this trench ([39] and [43]) are interpreted as possible boundary ditches. They were not represented in the geophysics results.

Pit [41] contained heated/burnt flint and charcoal which suggests this pit may have been used to dispose of fire waste.

Pits [43] and [47] are potential waste pits despite pit [47] being the only one to produce finds of animal bone.

These pits and ditches could suggest some form of settlement was present in the vicinity, and with ditch [37] containing pottery of a potentially Roman date it is feasible that they may be of this date. It is tentatively suggested that the features may also be associated with the quarry pits seen in Trench 12.

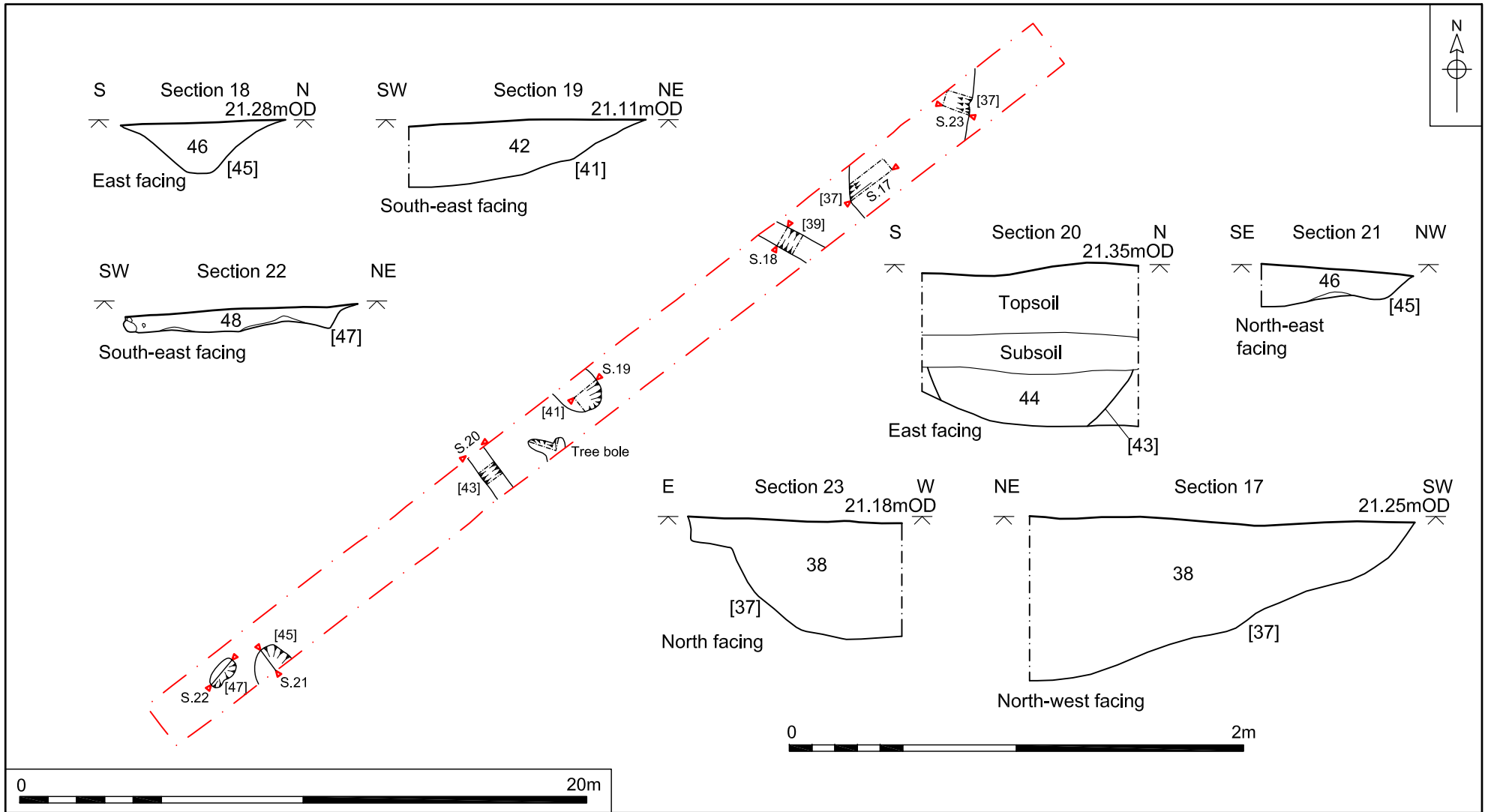



Figure 6. Trench 7, plan and sections. Scale 1:200 and 1:25

Trench 8				
		Figs 2, 3 and 8		
		Location		
		Orientation	North to south	
		North-east end	624846.5450 306446.8620	
		South-west end	624846.5180 306396.6860	
		Dimensions		
		Length	50.00m	
		Width	1.80m	
		Depth	0.35-0.45m	
		Levels		
North-east top	19.96m OD			
South-west top	21.07mOD			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL
01	Deposit	Topsoil. Plough soil; moderately compact, friable mid grey brown clayey sandy silt with moderate-frequent small and large flint.	0.20-0.30m	0.00-0.30m
02	Deposit	Subsoil. Mid orange brown sandy clay with frequent small and large flints and stones.	0.15-0.70m	0.30-1.00m
-	Natural	Mix of cream orange brown and yellow brown clays with frequent small-large flints and chalk flecks (chalk appears especially with the cream clays). Some glacial scarring mostly N-S orientated.	-	0.45m+
33	Cut	Very large pit/pond. Amorphous in plan with the full extent not indicated within the trench. It has a sloping north edge and a very steep sloping south edge - both with a gradual break of slope at top. It measured c.0.80m deep. >1.80m wide and c.20m long.	0.80m	1.00-1.80m
34	Deposit	Fill of large pit/pond [33]. Mid yellow brown sandy clay with occasional small-large stones and flints firm compaction, homogeneous fill.	0.80m	1.00-1.80m
Discussion				
Trench 8 contained a single large feature –pit/pond [33].				

Trench 8

Pit [33] matches the geophysics anomaly which was suggested as possibly representing 'a slightly greater depth of deposit within natural hollows' (Malone 2012). Given the nature of this feature and its fill this description seems highly appropriate and it is possible that this feature was originally a pond.

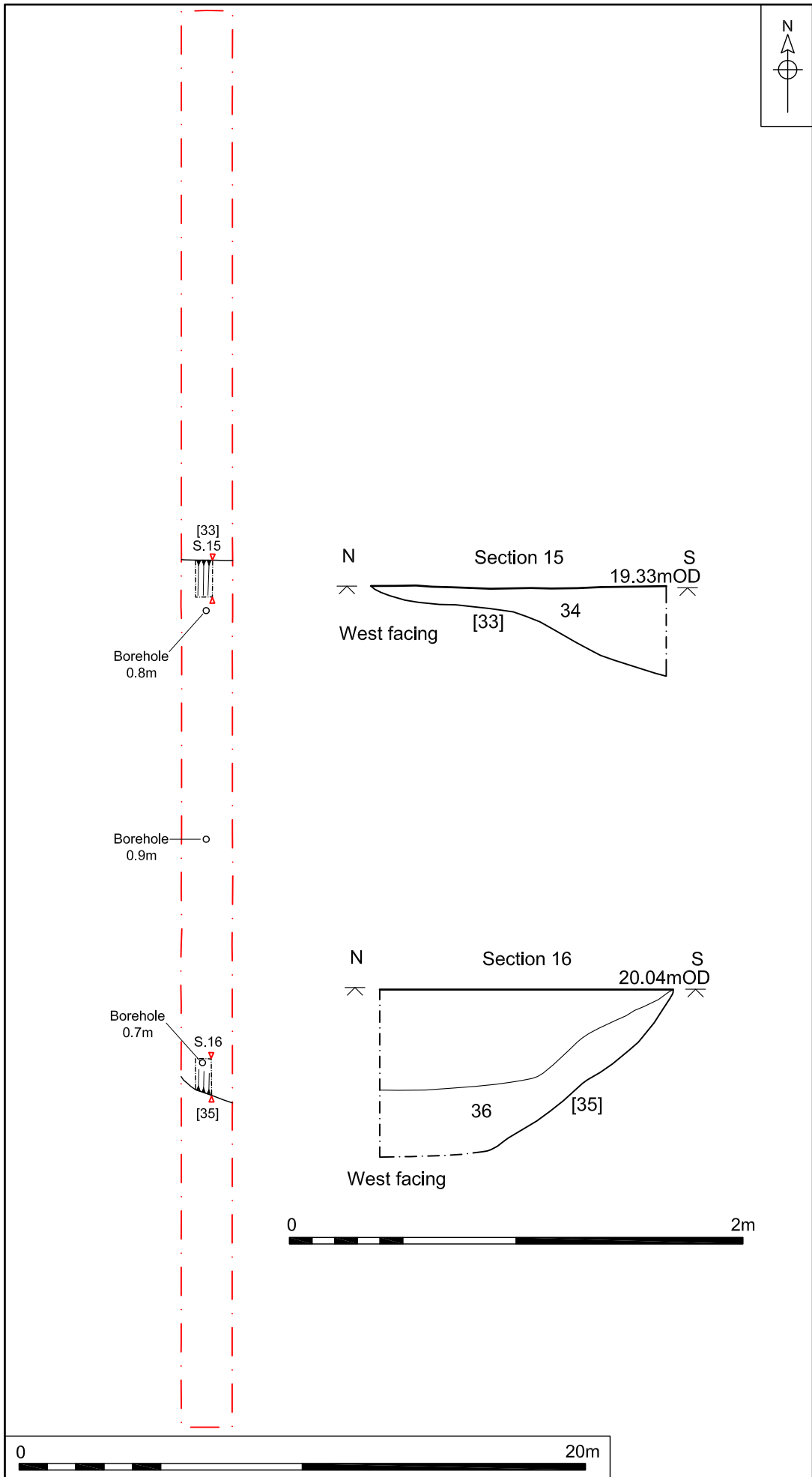


Figure 7. Trench 8, plan and sections. Scale 1:200 and 1:25

Trench 9



Figs 2 and 3

Location

Orientation	North to south
North end	624879.9820 306478.6670
South end	624879.4840 306436.5000

Dimensions

Length	45.50m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.65-0.90m

Levels

North top	19.86m OD
South top	21.18mOD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL
01	Deposit	Topsoil. Plough soil; moderately compact, friable mid grey brown clayey sandy silt with moderate-frequent small and large flint.	0.40-0.48m	0.00-0.48m
02	Deposit	Subsoil. Grey orange silty sand.	0.17-0.50m	0.00-0.98m
-	Natural	Orange brown slightly silty sand. Mottled.	-	0.90m+

Discussion

Trench 9 was shortened to 45.50m as its northern end was close to the footpath.
This trench was devoid of any archaeological features or artefacts.

Trench 10



Figs 2 and ?

Location

Orientation	East to west
East end	624951.2530 306451.3580
West end	624900.7710 306452.5500

Dimensions

Length	50.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.50-0.63m


Levels

East top	21.77m OD
West top	21.11mOD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL
01	Deposit	Topsoil. Plough soil; moderately compact, friable mid grey brown clayey sandy silt with moderate-frequent small and large flint.	0.32m	0.00-0.32m
02	Deposit	Subsoil. Pale grey pale beige brown slightly silty clayey sand with occasional flint, moderately compact with a slightly cohesive consistency.	0.18m	0.32-0.63m
-	Natural	Yellow orange clayey sand with flint.	-	0.63m+

Discussion

Trench 10 was devoid of any archaeological features or artefacts.

Trench 11				
		Figs 2, 3 and 8		
		Location		
		Orientation	East to west	
		East end	624937.5740 306415.5200	
		West end	624887.3820 306415.5440	
		Dimensions		
		Length	50.00m	
		Width	1.80m	
		Depth	0.40-0.50m	
		Levels		
East top	22.67m OD			
West top	22.06mOD			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL
01	Deposit	Topsoil. Plough soil; moderately compact, friable mid grey brown clayey sandy silt with moderate-frequent small and large flint.	0.25m	0.00-0.25m
02	Deposit	Subsoil. Mid grey brown very sandy clay.	0.15-0.25m	0.25-0.50m
-	Natural	Mid orange brown sandy clay with abundant small-large flints with some glacial scaring.	-	0.50m+
14	Cut	Large pit. This feature has parallel sides however its full extent is not visible in the trench. The base was not reached by excavation but it was augered to determine the depth. The sides sloped and were stepped with an abrupt break of slope at the top. It was c.2.10m deep, 7.20m wide and >1.8m long.	2.10m	0.50-2.60m
15	Deposit	Fill of large pit [14]. Firm, homogeneous mid grey brown sandy clay with frequent small-large stones and flints.	2.10m	0.50-2.60m
Discussion				
Trench 11 contained a single large feature – pit [14].				
Large undated pit [14] matches the geophysics plot. It is potentially a quarry pit.				

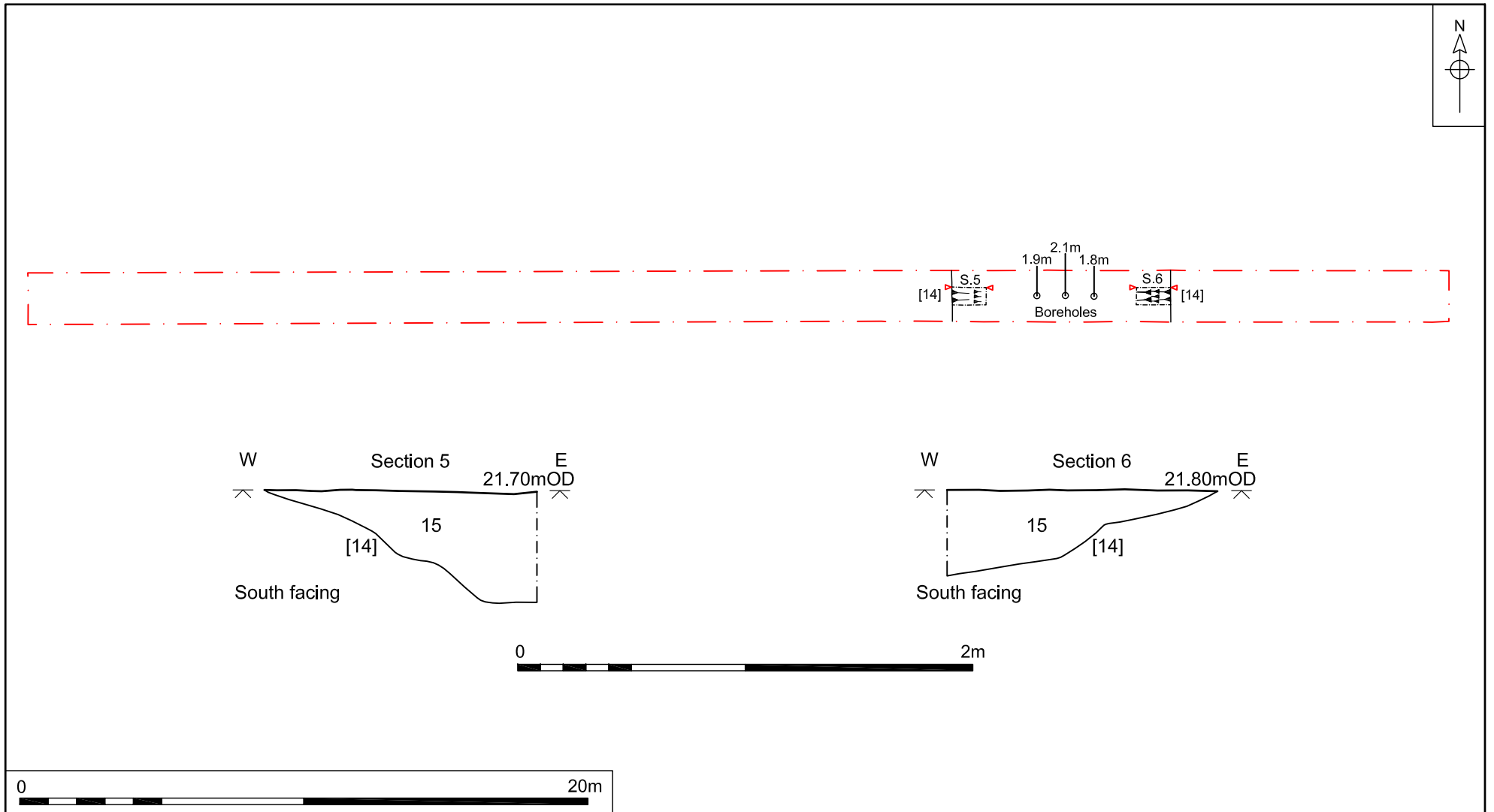


Figure 8. Trench 11, plan and sections. Scale 1:200 and 1:25

Trench 12



Figs 2, 3 and 9

Location

Orientation	North-west to south-east
North-west end	624887.0830 306384.4950
South-east end	624935.3720 306366.0120

Dimensions

Length	50.0m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.45-1.10m

Levels

North-west top	23.06m OD
South-east top	24.27mOD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL
01	Deposit	Topsoil. Plough soil; moderately compact, friable mid grey brown clayey sandy silt with moderate-frequent small and large flint.	0.20-0.35m	0.00-0.35m
02	Deposit	Subsoil. Brown orange sandy clay flecked with white chalk.	0.20-0.35m	0.35-0.70m
-	Natural	Subsoil dirty orange sandy clay.	-	0.70m+
18	Cut	Large quarry pit. The full extent of this feature could not be determined as it extended well beyond the limits of the trench. The base was not excavated but augering determined this to be at a depth of 1.10m. It had a moderate break of slope at top and gently sloping sides. It was >1.80m wide and >8.00m long.	1.10m	1.10-2.20m
19	Deposit	Fill of large quarry pit [18]. Firm, sticky, mid brown sandy clay with occasional small, medium and large flints firm compaction.	1.10m	1.10-2.20m
20	Cut	Large quarry pit. Only one end of this feature was seen in plan. Its shape may be irregular (based on the geophysics results). The base was not seen, but it had a sharp break of slope at the top with steeply sloping sides. It	0.50m	0.45-0.95m

Trench 12				
		measured >0.50m deep, >1.00m wide and c.14m long.		
21	Deposit	Fill of large quarry pit [20]. Firm, sticky, mid brown sandy clay with occasional small-medium flints.	0.50m	0.45-0.95m
22	Cut	Possible post-hole. Sub-oval in plan, orientated E-W with an irregular U-shaped profile, flat base and steep, near vertical sides. It had a sharp break of slope at top and gradual break of slope at base. It measured c.0.28m deep, c.0.50m wide and c.1.00m long.	0.28m	0.45-0.73m
23	Deposit	Secondary fill of possible post-hole [22]. Loose, friable/slightly sticky mid grey brown silty sand with charcoal flecks and several medium flints along its south edge (possible post packing).	0.28m	0.45-0.73m
24	Cut	Small ditch. Linear feature, orientated NW-SE, with a flat base, moderately sloping sides and a gradual break of slope at top and base. It measured c.0.27m deep, c.1.00m wide and >4.00m long.	0.27m	0.45-0.72m
25	Deposit	Fill of ditch [24]. Firm, sticky, mid brown clayey silty sand with occasional small and medium flints and sparse large flints.	0.27m	0.45-0.72m
32	Deposit	Primary fill of possible post-hole [22]. Loose, friable. pale yellow brown sand.	0.28m	0.45-0.73m

Discussion

Trench 12 contained four features – two possible quarry pits, a ditch and a possible post-hole.

Pit [20] corresponds with geophysics results showing a large 'positive anomaly' and appears to be a quarry pit. Large pit [18] did not appear on the geophysics results. Both of these pits contained Roman pottery and are probably quarry pits of this period. It is tentatively suggested that the quarry pits may be associated with the features seen in Trench 7.

The geophysical survey indicated that a positive linear anomaly was present in the area however this was not apparent on site during evaluation of Trench 12.

Ditch [24] is fairly shallow and aligned NW-SE, virtually parallel to a positive linear anomaly recorded in the geophysical survey of this area as a possible boundary ditch. Given the shallow nature and flat base of this feature it could be part of a track-way around a former boundary.

Possible post-hole [22] could relate to the linear feature represented in the geophysics results and could therefore potentially be associated with this boundary.

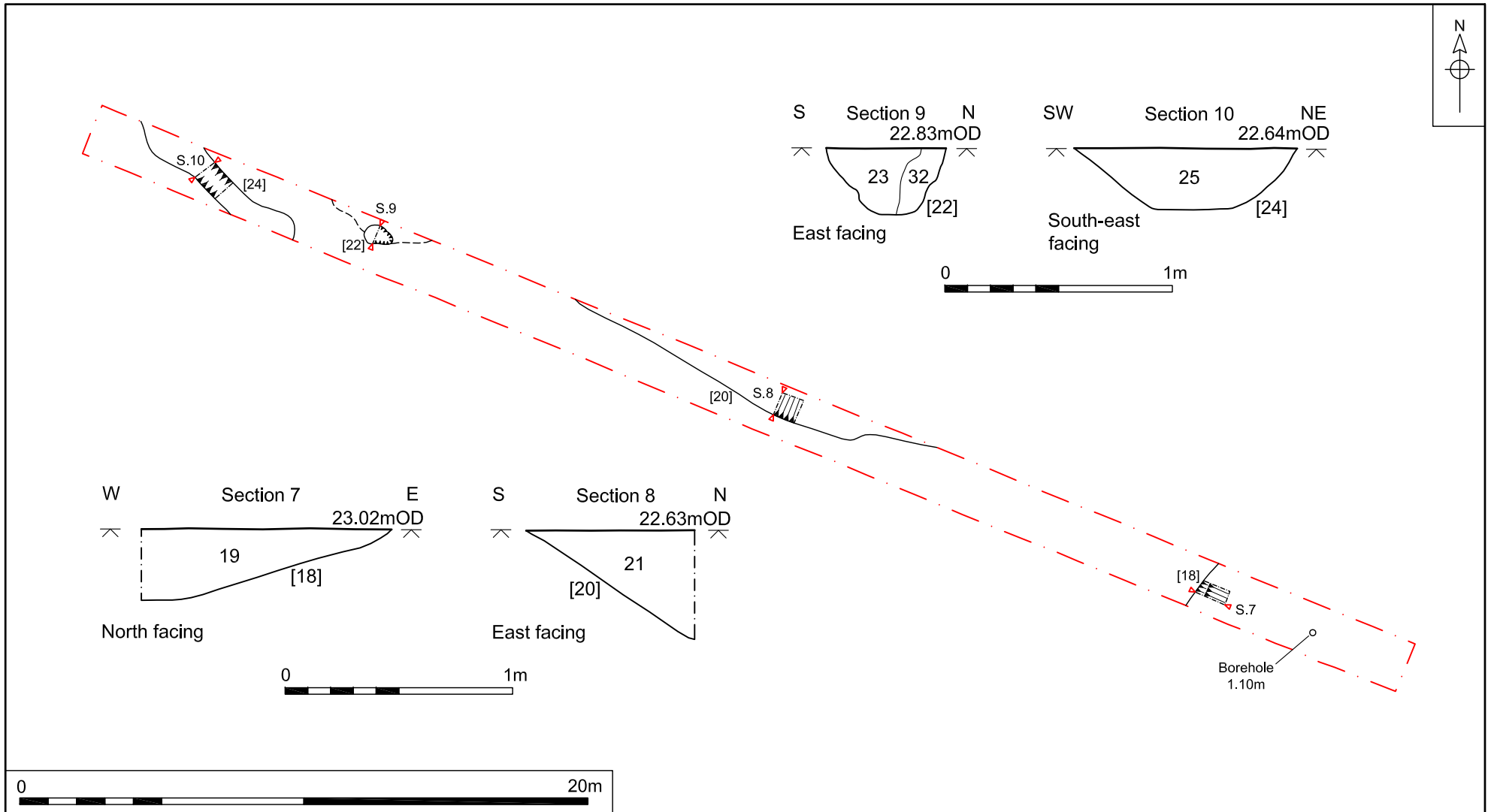



Figure 9. Trench 12, plan and sections. Scale 1:200 and 1:25

Trench 13				
		Figs 2, 3 and 10		
		Location		
		Orientation	North-west to south-east	
		North-west end	624937.2720 306384.4940	
		South-east end	624981.5430 306374.2060	
		Dimensions		
		Length	44.75m	
		Width	1.80m	
		Depth	0.50-0.60m	
		Levels		
North-west top	23.62m OD			
South-east top	24.90mOD			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL
01	Deposit	Topsoil. Plough soil; moderately compact, friable mid grey brown clayey sandy silt with moderate-frequent small and large flint.	0.25-0.30m	0.00-0.30m
02	Deposit	Mid yellow brown sandy clay with frequent small-large flints and stones.	0.25-0.30m	0.30-0.60m
-	Natural	Mid orange brown sandy clay with abundant small-large flints and stones.	-	0.60m+
08	Cut	Ditch. Linear in plan, orientated N-S with a flat base and steep and even sides and an abrupt break of slope at top and base. It measures c.0.40m deep, c.1.10m wide and >1.80m long.	0.40m	0.60-1.00m
09	Deposit	Fill of ditch [08]. Firm, homogeneous, mid grey brown sandy clay with occasional small-large stones and flints.	0.40m	0.60-1.00m
Discussion				
Trench 13 contained a single feature – ditch [08].				
Ditch [08] corresponds with a positive linear anomaly from the geophysics results and is the same ditch as ditch [03] in Trench 15. These ditches appear to be part of a post-medieval field boundary which could be that seen on the 1946 aerial photograph of the area, represented by a change in crop at this point.				

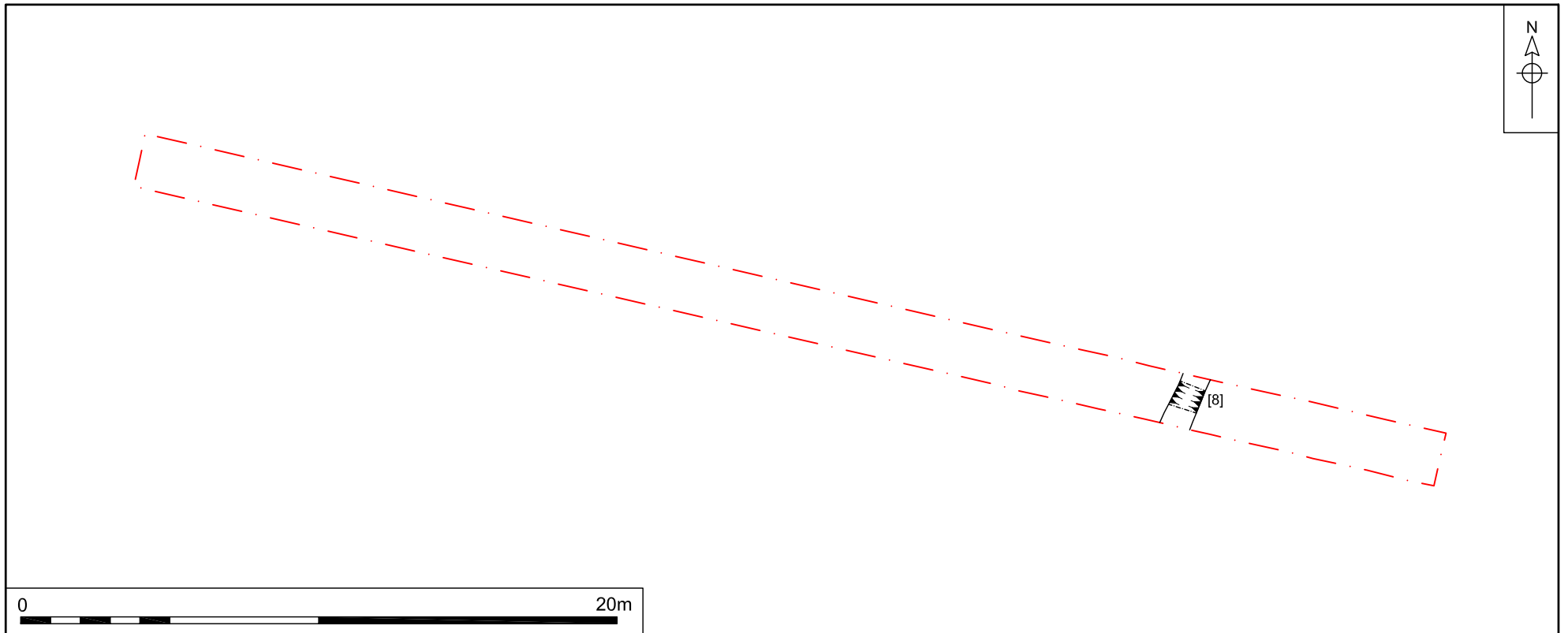




Figure 10. Trench 13, plan. Scale 1:200

Trench 14				
		Figs 2 and 3		
		Location		
		Orientation	North to south	
		North end	624955.301 306439.242	
		South end	624955.3160 306389.0200	
		Dimensions		
		Length	50.00m	
		Width	1.80m	
		Depth	0.45m	
		Levels		
North top	22.185m OD			
South top	24.04mOD			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL
01	Deposit	Topsoil. Plough soil; moderately compact, friable mid grey brown clayey sandy silt with moderate-frequent small and large flint.	0.25m	0.00-0.25m
02	Deposit	Subsoil. Mid yellow brown sandy clay with frequent small stones and flints.	0.20m	0.25-0.45m
-	Natural	Bright yellow brown sandy clay with frequent small-large stones and flints.	-	0.45m+
Discussion				
Trench 14 was devoid of any archaeological features or artefacts.				

Trench 15

	Figs 2, 3 and 11	
	Location	
	Orientation	East to west
	East end	625020.1570 306415.2300
	West end	624969.9690 306415.2540
	Dimensions	
	Length	50.00m
	Width	1.80m
	Depth	0.50m
	Levels	
East top	23.95m OD	
West top	23.34mOD	

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL
01	Deposit	Topsoil. Plough soil; moderately compact, friable mid grey brown clayey sandy silt with moderate-frequent small and large flint.	0.30m	0.00-0.30m
02	Deposit	Subsoil. Mid grey brown sandy clay with lighter cream patches with chalk flecks in.	0.20m	0.30-0.50m
-	Natural	Mid orange brown sandy clay with abundant small-large stones and flints.	-	0.50m+
03	Cut	Ditch. Linear in plan, orientated NE-SW with a flat base and steep and even sides with abrupt break of slope at top and base. It measured c.0.54m deep, c.1.00m wide and >1.8m long.	0.54m	0.50-1.04m
04	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch [03]. Friable, homogeneous dark grey brown sandy clay with occasional small-medium stones and flints	0.42m	0.54-0.96m
05	Deposit	Primary fill of ditch [03]. Firm, homogeneous, mid yellow brown sandy clay with frequent small stones and flints. The deposit was wet and water logged.	0.12m	0.96-1.04m

Trench 15				
06	Cut	Ditch. Linear in plan, orientated NW-SE with a flat base and steep and even sides. It measured c.0.47m deep, c.1.00m wide and >1.8m long.	0.47m	0.54-1.01m
07	Deposit	Fill of ditch [06]. Firm, homogeneous, dark grey brown sandy clay with occasional small and large flints and stones.	0.47m	0.54-1.01m
Discussion				
<p>Trench 15 contained two ditches, [03] and [06] both of which correspond with positive linear anomalies seen in the geophysics results.</p> <p>Ditch [06] is orientated NW-SE and joins NE-SW ditch [03] just to the north of the trench, forming a right angle. These perpendicular ditches are post-medieval in date and appear to form part of a field boundary. By using the geophysics results combined with an overlay of the site plan it can be seen that ditch [06] equates to ditch [12] in Trench 16 and ditch [03] is the same as ditch [08] in Trench 13.</p> <p>By examining aerial photographs of this site taken in 1946 and 1988 (http://nmb.norfolk.gov.uk/homepage/) it can be seen that ditches [06] and [12] match marks in the crop (on an aerial photo from 1988) suggesting the edge of the field.</p>				

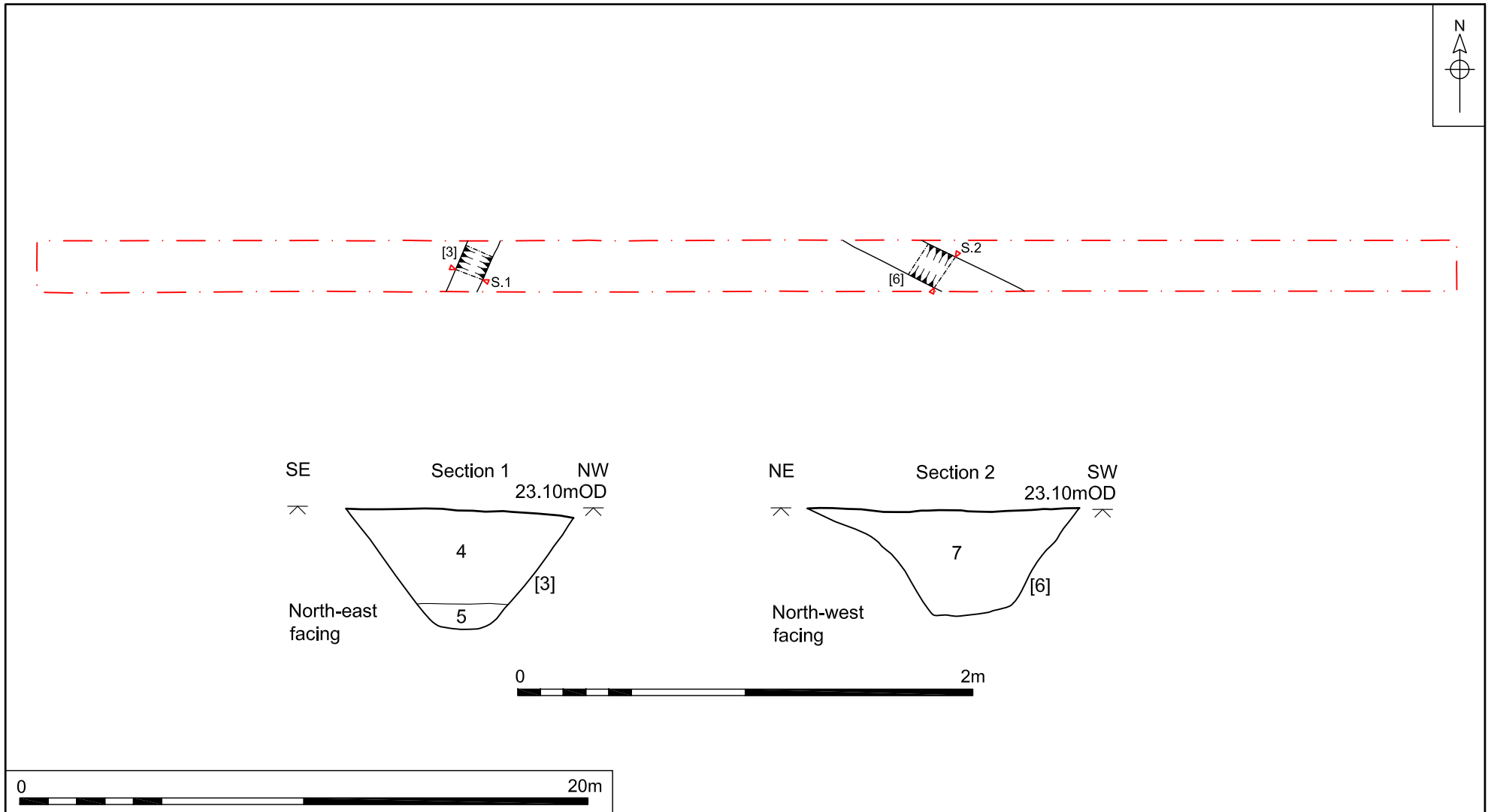



Figure 11. Trench 15, plan and sections. Scale 1:200 and 1:25

Trench 16				
		Figs 2, 3 and 12		
		Location		
		Orientation	North to south	
		North end	625030.71 306416.006	
		South end	625025.646 306378.294	
		Dimensions		
		Length	30.0m	
		Width	1.80m	
		Depth	0.50-0.69m	
		Levels		
North top	24.017m OD			
South top	25.306mOD			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL
01	Deposit	Topsoil. Plough soil; moderately compact, friable mid grey brown clayey sandy silt with moderate-frequent small and large flint.	0.30-0.32m	0.00-0.32m
02	Deposit	Subsoil. Pale grey beige brown slightly silty clayey sand with occasional flint.	0.18-0.20m	0.32-0.69m
-	Natural	Orangey clayey sand with occasional flint.	-	0.69m+
12	Cut	Ditch. Linear in plan orientated E-W with a V-shaped profile and steep sloping sides, abrupt break of slope at top and base and a V-shaped base. It measured c.0.35m deep, c.0.86m wide and 1.80m long.	0.35m	0.69-1.04m
13	Deposit	Fill of ditch [12]. Fairly compact, stiff, orange dark brown silty sand with occasional flint and occasional flecks of charcoal.	0.35m	0.69-1.04m
Discussion				
<p>Trench 16 was shortened to 30m in length due to the proximity of footpaths at either end.</p> <p>One feature, ditch [12] was the only feature present in the trench.</p> <p>Ditch [12] corresponds with a positive linear anomaly visible on the geophysical survey and can be identified as the same feature as ditch [06] in Trench 15, a possible post-medieval field boundary.</p>				

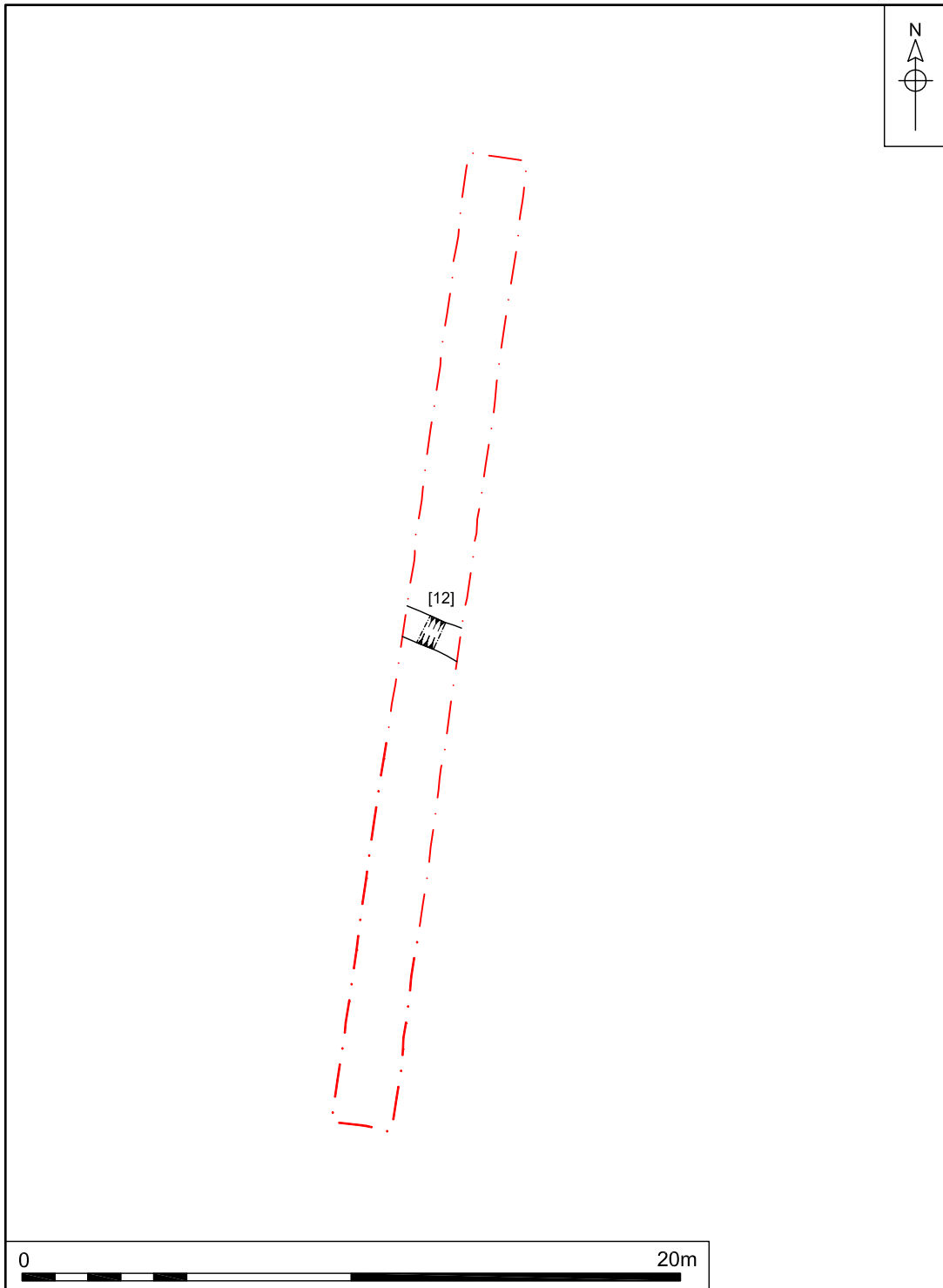


Figure 12. Trench 16, plan. Scale 1:200

6.0 THE FINDS

The artefacts were processed and recorded by count and weight, and an Excel spreadsheet was produced outlining broad dating. Each material type has been considered separately and is presented below organised by material.

A list of finds ordered by context can be found in Appendix 2a.

6.1 Roman Pottery

by Andrew Peachey

6.1.1 Introduction and Methodology

Trial-trench evaluation excavations recovered a total of 11 sherds (186g) of Roman pottery, limited to a range of locally-produced, utilitarian coarse wares (Table 1), including a possible flagon, and jars or bowls with everted bead rims.

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

6.1.2 Fabric Codes and Descriptions

- GRS1 Sandy Grey Ware 1. Pale-Mid-grey throughout. Inclusions comprise common-abundant, well-sorted, sub-angular quartz (generally <0.2mm, occasionally to 0.5mm), sparse black iron ore (<0.5mm) and sparse fine silver mica. A hard, well-fired fabric.
- GRS2 Sandy Grey Ware 2. Mid-dark grey surfaces, mid-grey core, occasionally with oxidised margins. Inclusions comprise common, moderately sorted quartz (0.1–0.5mm), sparse fine mica and occasional flint (<3mm).
- WAT RE1 Wattisfield/Waveney Valley reduced ware (Tomber and Dore 1998, 184). A mid-to pale grey fabric, often with slightly contrasting margins and core. Inclusions comprise common, well-sorted quartz (generally <0.1mm), sparse iron rich grains (<0.5mm) and abundant mica, especially visible on the surface. The fabric has a slightly abrasive to powdery feel.
- BSW1 Black-surfaced/Romanizing grey wares. Inclusions comprise common moderately-sorted quartz (0.1–0.5mm), sparse iron rich grains (0.25–0.5mm) and occasional flint (<2.5mm).
- OXS1 Oxidised Sandy Ware 1, as GRS2 but oxidised pale to mid-orange.
- OXF1 Fine oxidised ware. Mid-orange surfaces fading to a mid-grey core. Inclusions comprise common fine quartz (<0.1mm, occasionally to 0.25mm), common very fine mica and sparse angular iron rich clay pellets (<0.2mm). Very hard with a slightly laminate fracture.

Fabric Type	Sherd Count	Weight (g)
GRS1	1	7
GRS2	5	77
WAT RE1	1	8
BSW1	1	51
OXS1	2	9
OXF1	1	34

Fabric Type	Sherd Count	Weight (g)
Total	11	186

Table 1. Quantification of Roman pottery by fabric

6.1.3 Discussion

Low quantities of Roman pottery were contained in quarry pits [18] (19), [20] (21), ditch terminus [37] (38), and also recovered as metal-detected finds. Of the six coarse ware fabrics on the assemblage, only a WAT RE1 plain everted jar rim in ditch terminus [37] was produced beyond the immediate local area, in north Suffolk or south Norfolk and commonly distributed in the area. The remaining fabrics were probably produced at kilns at Postwick (Bates and Lyons 2003, 99) or others associated with the urban centre of Caistor St Edmund.

Sherds of GRS2 contained in quarry pit [18] and ditch terminus [37], and BSW1 contained in [20] include everted bead rims, probably derived from utilitarian jars or bowls. The only sherd not associated with such vessel types is the OXF1 contained in quarry pit [18], which is relatively thin-walled with a burnished exterior and probably derived from a flagon with a globular body. The chronology of this limited group within the Roman period is unclear, but based on the fabric types may tentatively be placed within the late 1st–2nd centuries AD.

6.2 The Medieval and Post-medieval Pottery

by Sue Anderson

A single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from quarry pit fill (52). The piece is a body sherd of coarseware, and is likely to be of 12th- to 14th-century date.

Four post-medieval pottery sherds (64g) were recovered from three contexts, two ditch fills and unstratified.

The pottery quantification is shown in Table 2.

Context	Fabric	No.	Wt/g	Description	Spotdate
9	SWSW	1	1	body	M-L 18th c
9	ESW	1	4	body, abraded, brown glazed	18th/19th c
10	GRE	1	58	thickened everted rim of large bowl, orange glazed, 460mm diameter (5%)	16th-18th c.
13	SWSW	1	1		M-L 18th c
52	MCW	1	5	body, oxidised	12th-14th c.
Totals		5	69		

Table 2. Post-Roman pottery catalogue

Key: GRE – glazed red earthenware; ESW – English stoneware; SWSW – Staffordshire-type white salt-glazed stoneware

Two sherds of white salt-glazed stoneware were recovered. This is an early type of white tableware and suggests a relatively affluent household in the mid-to late 18th century. One piece was found in association with a fragment of brown-glazed

stoneware which may be of similar date or later. A rimsherd from a large glazed redware bowl was also collected. This pottery is broadly post-medieval in date but may be as late as the other sherds.

6.3 Ceramic Building Material

by Sue Anderson

Fourteen fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) (2,882g) and a fragment of fire-reddened stone (24g) were collected from five contexts - the fills of four ditches.

Table 2 shows the quantification by context.

Context	Fabric	Form	No.	Wt/g	Description	Spotdate
4	fscp	RBT?	1	53	abraded frag, no surfaces	Rom?
4	fs	RTP	2	33		pmed
4	msfe	RTP	2	83		pmed
5	wfg	QFT	1	1270	large frag of yellow tile 236mm wide, 20mm+ thick (v worn), coarse white grog inclusions	pmed
7	ms	LB	1	723	abraded, 55mm thick	16-18
7	ms	LB	1	478	header end reduced, 53mm thick	16?
7	fs	RTP	2	36	soft, abraded	pmed
9	msfe	RTP	1	35		pmed
9	fs	RTP	2	37		pmed
13	mscq	LB	1	134	abraded, 49mm thick	15-16?
Totals			15	2906		

Table 2. CBM catalogue

Key: RBT – Roman tile; RTP – post-medieval roof tile; LB – late brick; QFT – quarry floor tile

The CBM was in six main fabric types, fine or medium sandy fabrics with few other inclusions (fs/ms), a fine sandy fabric with red clay pellets (fscp), a medium sandy fabric with sparse ferrous inclusions (msfe), a medium sandy fabric with coarse rounded white quartz (mscq), and a white-firing grog-tempered fabric (wfg).

One abraded fragment from ditch fill (4) may be a piece of Roman tile. It is in a soft fine fabric typical of Roman assemblages in the region, but no surfaces survive.

Nine fragments of plain roof tile were recovered, all in fully oxidised fine and medium sandy fabrics of probable post-medieval date.

Three fragments of handmade late brick were collected. All were complete in one dimension and measured between 49–55mm thick. This is thinner than expected of 19th-century or later bricks in Norwich, and suggests an early post-medieval date for at least two of the fragments. The presence of a reduced header on one

fragment from (7) may suggest a Tudor date, and the fragment from (13) was poorly fired and may belong to the same period.

One large piece of a much worn white quarry floor tile was recovered from (5) and is likely to be of 18th/19th-century date.

6.4 Clay Tobacco Pipe

by Rebecca Sillwood

Four fragments of clay tobacco pipe stem (13g) were recovered from three contexts; two from ditch fill (4) in Trench 15, one from ditch fill (9) in Trench 13, and one unstratified from Trench 13 (11).

The pieces are all undecorated, and cannot be more closely dated than generally post-medieval.

6.5 Glass

by Rebecca Sillwood

A single fragment of bottle glass (345g) was recovered from ditch fill (7) in Trench 15. The piece consists of the base of a bottle, which is clearly a blown, rather than moulded, vessel. The glass is a dark olive green, but is blacker towards the base. This is likely to be of early 19th-century date (Michael Boyle *pers. comm.*).

6.6 Metal Finds

by Rebecca Sillwood

6.6.1 Copper Alloy

A total of twenty-five copper alloy finds (103g) were recovered from the site, all of which are unstratified and from the spoil of various trenches.

By far the most prolific copper alloy objects are coins; there are fifteen in total, all of which are of post-medieval date. The coins came from Trenches 1, 7, 8, 13 and 15; many of them are illegible, but clearly of post-medieval date due to their size and weight.

A much-worn probable penny of Queen Victoria was recovered from Trench 15 (10), a probable George II penny from Trench 8 (54) and a farthing of 1869 (also Queen Victoria) from Trench 1 (55). The most interesting of the coinage is a trade token, recovered from the spoil of Trench 8 (54). Trade tokens were produced by shopkeepers in the 17th century at a time of shortage of coins of small denominations. The Trowse example was by one Richard Morant of Norwich, as signified by the initials 'RM' on the reverse, with the legend 'In Norwich', and the name 'Richard Morant' on the obverse, surrounding a depiction of neckwear and two shuttles. Morant was apparently a worsted-weaver, based in St Peter Mancroft parish in Norwich (<http://www.britishfarthings.com/Tokens/17th-Century/Norfolk/Norwich-04.html>), and was made a freeman in 1653. Examples of this token have been recovered, there is one listed in the British Museum database (http://www.britishmuseum.org/research/search_the_collection_database/search_object_details.aspx?; ref. T4460) and one on the UK Detector Finds Database (<http://www.ukdfd.co.uk/ukdfddata/showrecords.php?product=17177andcat=85; ref. 17177>); the date range for this token is 1649–1672.

The remaining finds comprise several post-medieval buttons and fragments of buttons, part of a spoon bowl, an incomplete thimble and the upper part of a small modern bell. This little bell came from the spoil of Trench 8 (54), and is a very neat and attractive example, with a hinged loop for attachment and a threaded interior into which the lower hemisphere (missing) would have screwed. The piece is very decorative and is gilt. This is clearly a modern piece, and may have come from horse harness or possibly clothing.

6.6.2 Iron

Twelve items of iron were recovered from the site, weighing 427g in total. Many of the pieces are undiagnostic or fragmentary, and cannot be assigned a form, function or date. Almost all of the iron is unstratified, coming from the spoil of various trenches.

One possible nail was recovered from ditch fill (4) in Trench 15.

In the rest of the ironwork assemblage there are at least four more nails (10) and two other pieces that can be assigned a function. A possible Roman T-clamp was recovered from Trench 1 (55). The piece is, as the name suggests, T-shaped, and is a reasonably common piece of structural ironwork. Manning (1981, 132) states that these objects occur in a wide variety of sizes, and could have fulfilled a wide variety of functions; one function that Manning mentions is to attach wall tiles to walls. A sub-square object, with a split attachment end and two rivets in the opposite end came from Trench 13 (11). The piece may be a vessel escutcheon, and could feasibly be of medieval or later date.

6.6.3 Lead

Four items of lead were recovered from the site (52g), all of which were unstratified and came from the spoil of three trenches.

Only one find was identifiable, and is likely to be a pot repair - the result of molten lead being poured into a ceramic pot to plug a hole. This results in an uneven blob of lead with a lipped edge. When found as an archaeological artefact the piece sometimes contains remnants of the pottery it was attached to, which can aid dating of the piece. This example, without any remnant pottery present, is not datable and could come from anytime from the Roman period onwards. The piece comes from the spoil (11) of Trench 13.

Other lead from the site consists of small waste fragments and an undiagnostic rod, from Trench 1 (55), Trench 13 (11) and Trench 15 (10).

6.6.4 Metal Artefact Conclusions

The metalwork recovered from this evaluation is mainly post-medieval or undatable, mainly from unstratified deposits; only one possible nail (iron) was recovered from a stratified context, but is still undatable.

There is a hint of Roman activity on the site, as is already evidenced by the pottery, although the metalwork does not show any concentration. The other specific periods represented here are post-medieval or modern, with post-medieval coins making up a large part of the assemblage. This collection of finds is not an unusual one from a rural field in Norfolk, and most of the finds can be assigned to casual loss, as opposed to deliberate deposition.

6.7 Flint

by Andrew Peachey

Trial trench evaluation excavations recovered two pieces (24g) of struck flint, comprising scrapers contained in ditches [8] (9) and [24] (25). The flint is dark grey with, where extant a white chalky cortex, and in an un-patinated condition.

Both scrapers were formed on broad, squat flakes with pronounced bulbs of percussion and ventral ripples that are the result of direct, hard-hammer percussion. Limited abrupt retouch has been applied around the slightly irregular edges of the flakes to form simple implements. These technological traits are characteristic of later Neolithic to early Bronze Age flint technology, and may have continued to be utilised later in the Bronze Age.

6.8 Stone

by Rebecca Sillwood

An almost perfectly spherical pebble was found in ditch fill (40) in Trench 7. This is likely to be a naturally occurring stone, but may have been utilised for cultural purposes.

The collection of spherical stones, either for play purposes or merely for ornamental reasons is a distinct possibility. The object was not found in association with any other finds, and so it is not possible to date this activity.

6.9 Animal Bone

by Julie Curl

6.9.1 Methodology

The bone in this assemblage consisted of hand-collected remains. All of the bone was identified to species wherever possible using a variety of comparative reference material. Where a complete identification to species was not possible, bone was assigned to a group, such as 'sheep/goat' or 'mammal' whenever possible. The bones were recorded using a modified version of guidelines described in Davis (1992).

Any butchering was recorded, noting the type of butchering, such as cut, chopped or sawn and location of butchering. A note was also made of any burnt bone. Pathologies were also recorded with the type of injury or disease, the element affected and the location on the bone. Other modifications were also recorded, such as any possible working, working waste or animal gnawing.

Weights and total number of pieces counts were also taken for each context, along with the number of pieces for each individual species present (NISP) and these appear in the appendix. As this is a small assemblage, the information was recorded directly into a table in this report, with the catalogue provided in the appendix giving a summary of all of the faunal remains by context.

6.9.2 The faunal assemblage

6.9.2.1 Quantification, provenance and preservation

A total of 317g of faunal remains, consisting of fifty fragments, was produced from the evaluation excavations at Devon Way, Trowse (Appendix 3). Bone was

recovered from three fills, consisting of two ditch deposits and one pit fill. The bone in the ditch [12] (Trench 16) was found in association with post-medieval ceramics, those in the ditch [37] (Trench 7) were recovered with Roman ceramic material and the faunal material from the pit [48] (Trench 7) was recovered in isolation and not dated at the time of this report.

The preservation of the bone is very good; fragmentation had occurred, although this was not from butchering as little evidence of chops or cuts were seen. The fragmentation may have occurred from pressure within the deposit, crushing prior to burial or disturbance. No burning or animal gnawing was evident.

6.9.2.2 *Species range, modifications and discussion*

Two species were identified in this assemblage - cattle and pig/boar. The latter is likely to be of domestic origin, but given its association with the Roman ceramics, the possibility of boar has to be considered. The bulk of the bone in this assemblage (in terms of fragment number) showed no diagnostic features that allowed full species identification and this bone could only be identified as 'mammal'. Quantification of the bone by species and feature number is presented in Table 3.

Species	Feature number/Species NISP			Species Total
	Ditch [12]	Ditch [37]	Pit [48]	
Cattle		1	6	7
Mammal	2	15	25	42
Pig/boar		1		1
Feature Total	2	17	31	50

Table 3. Quantification of the faunal assemblage by feature number, species and species NISP (element count)

Little butchering was evident on any of the bone in this assemblage. One chop was noted on the sagittal plane of a cattle vertebra in pit [48], which would have occurred when the carcass was split in two for preparation of cuts of meat.

6.9.3 **Animal Bone Conclusions**

This is a small assemblage that consists of the remains two of the main food mammals and may be of mixed date. The small amount of butchering seen attests to these animals being used for meat. The bones present would suggest lesser quality cuts of meat.

7.0 FINDS CONCLUSIONS

The finds from the evaluation trenches off Devon Way in Trowse show some evidence of multiple period activity of mainly prehistoric, Roman and medieval date.

Evidence of prehistoric activity is sparse and takes the form of worked flints. These appear to be residual within later contexts.

Roman activity is limited, but does appear to include discrete features which contained exclusively Roman material, specifically two of the quarry pits. There is

an element of residuality with some of the Roman objects from the site, most especially the ceramic building material, which can be found in association with post-medieval finds.

Definitive medieval artefactual evidence is confined to just one piece of pottery.

During the post-medieval period there appears to have been more activity in the area, and it seems likely that several features on the site date from this period. It is feasible that much of the post-medieval finds assemblage is the result of spreading manure, midden deposits and night soil

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

Nine of the fourteen excavated trenches contained archaeological features and in the main, evidence was to be found in the southern half of the site. A number of ditches, large pit-like features and a 'track way' were recorded. However artefactual evidence to assist with dating the features was relatively sparse and it has not been possible to assign most of the features to specific periods.

Those features that it has been possible to date are summarised below in period order.

Prehistoric

Only one feature contained material datable to the Prehistoric period. Ditch [24] in Trench 12 located at the south of the development site contained one fragment of struck flint datable to the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age. However care should be taken in attributing an early date to this feature as this object is likely to be residual - this feature appears to coincide with potential field boundaries which seem to be visible on the 1946 aerial photograph of the site. The shallow, flat-bottomed form of this ditch also suggests it potentially forms part of a trackway.

Roman

Three features of Roman date were revealed at the site, two quarry pits and one ditch, located in Trenches 7 and 12 in the south of the development site. Quarry pits [18] and [20] in Trench 12 both contained fragments of Roman pottery. Ditch [37] in Trench 7 contained five fragments of Roman pottery and seventeen fragments of animal bone. The pottery dates place these features at around AD 100-200.

Medieval

One feature at this site has been assigned a medieval date. Pit [51] in Trench 2 contained one fragment of medieval pottery suggesting perhaps that this feature was a quarry pit dug during the medieval period.

Post-medieval

Two ditches recorded at the eastern end of the site by the geophysical survey, one on a north-east to south-west alignment and the other perpendicular to it on a north-west to south-east alignment are datable to the post-medieval period. These features were recorded in Trenches 13, 15 and 16.

Ditch [12] in Trench 16 contained one fragment of post-medieval ceramic building material and two fragments of animal bone. Ditch [06] in Trench 15 contained four fragments of ceramic building material and one bottle base all datable to the post-medieval period. These two recorded segments are part of the same north-west to south-east ditch.

South-west to north-east aligned ditch [08] in Trench 13 contained four fragments of ceramic building material, one fragment of clay pipe and two fragments of pottery, all datable to the post-medieval period along with a residual struck flint of Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age date. Ditch [03] contained one fragment of post-medieval ceramic building material in its primary fill and five fragments of post-medieval ceramic building material, two fragments of clay pipe and an iron

nail in its secondary fill. These two ditch segments form part of the same north-east to south-west ditch which is perpendicular to ditch [06]/[12].

The ditches are visible on aerial photographs and appear to represent field boundaries. Ditch [03]/[08], orientated north-east to south-west corresponds with a change in crop in the field on an aerial photograph of 1946. Ditch [06]/[12], orientated north-west to south-east correlates with the edge of a crop in the field seen on an aerial photo of 1988.

Unknown date

Post-hole [22] was seen in Trench 12 at the south of the site. This appeared to be on the same line as a linear feature seen on the geophysical plot of the site, indicated as a potential boundary feature. It is therefore feasible to suggest that this post-hole may represent a boundary marker of unknown date.

A feature of unknown date was seen in Trench 2 in the northern part of the site. This north-south aligned shallow ditch ([49]) could represent a field boundary and is in close proximity to modern field boundaries of a similar form that are aligned east-west just a few metres to the north of this trench.

Two linear features ([26] and [28]) recorded in Trench 4 on the western side of the development site share the same north-west to south-east alignment. These parallel features are only c.3m apart and are likely to represent a fairly modern trackway possibly caused by wheels of farm machinery in the field.

Large feature [33] seen in Trench 8 in the centre of the development site has been interpreted as potentially a pond which could have occurred as the result of a natural hollow being present in this area.

Large pit [14] in Trench 11 in the centre of the site has been interpreted as a quarry pit. Quarry pit [51] in Trench 2 has been attributed a medieval date and it is possible that pit [14] may also be of this date.

Trench 7 at the south of the site contained two ditches ([39] and [43]) and three pits ([41], [45] and [47]) along with ditch terminus [37] that has been interpreted as Roman.

General Observations

It is clear from the results obtained during the trial trench evaluation that sub surface deposits and features survive below the plough zone. Archaeological features were generally located in the southern half of the site; features were also present in Trench 2 towards the northern end of the site.

The artefactual evidence indicates that there is a limited activity in some periods and that a Roman presence is likely. Inevitably the majority of finds are of post-medieval date (as a result of the introduction of organic matter into the soil during the last 200 years. Unfortunately it has not been possible to assign dates to the majority of the features and so it is difficult to say more about individual phases of activity that are hinted at by the presence of archaeological remains at the site.

Recommendations for further mitigation work (if required based on the evidence presented in this report) will be made by Norfolk Historic Environment Service.

Acknowledgements

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The finds were processed, recorded and reported on by Rebecca Sillwood. The animal bone was assessed and reported on by Julie Curl. The flint was assessed and reported on by Andrew Peachey. Bottle glass was examined by Mick Boyle.

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Accessed 08.02.13

Appendix 1a: Context Summary

Context	Category	Cut Type	Fill Of	Description	Period	TRENCH
1	Deposit			Topsoil	Modern	15
2	Deposit			Subsoil	Uncertain	15
3	Cut	Ditch		Medium sized ditch	Post-medieval	15
4	Deposit		3	Secondary fill of ditch [3]	Post-medieval	15
5	Deposit		3	Primary fill of ditch [3]	Post-medieval	15
6	Cut	Ditch		Medium sized ditch	Post-medieval	15
7	Deposit		6	Fill of ditch [6]	Post-medieval	15
8	Cut	Ditch		Medium sized ditch	Post-medieval	13
9	Deposit		8	Fill of ditch [8]	Post-medieval	13
10	U/S Finds			Metal detected finds Trench 15	-	15
11	U/S Finds			Metal detected finds Trench 13	-	13
12	Cut	Ditch		Medium sized ditch	Post-medieval	16
13	Deposit		12	Fill of ditch [12]	Post-medieval	16
14	Cut	Pit		Large pit	Uncertain	11
15	Deposit		14	Fill of large pit [14]	Uncertain	11
16	Cut			VOID	-	
17	Deposit			VOID	-	
18	Cut	Pit		Large quarry pit	Roman	12
19	Deposit		18	Fill of quarry pit [18]	Roman	12
20	Cut	Pit		Large quarry pit	Roman	12
21	Deposit		20	Fill of quarry pit [20]	Roman	12
22	Cut	Pit		Large post-hole/medium pit	Uncertain	12
23	Deposit		22	Secondary fill of large post-hole/medium pit [22]	Uncertain	12
24	Cut	Ditch		Small ditch	Prehistoric	12
25	Deposit		24	Fill of small ditch [24]	Prehistoric	12
26	Cut	Track/gully		Track way or gully	Uncertain	4
27	Deposit		26	Fill of track/gully [26]	Uncertain	4
28	Cut	Track/gully		Track way or gully	Uncertain	4
29	Deposit		28	Fill of track/gully [28]	Uncertain	4
30	Cut	Pit		Uneven pit/tree hole	Uncertain	4
31	Deposit		31	Fill of pit/tree hole [30]	Uncertain	4
32	Deposit		22	Primary fill of large post-hole/medium pit [22]	Uncertain	12
33	Cut	Pit		Very large pit/pond	Uncertain	8
34	Deposit		33	Fill of large pit/pond [33]	Uncertain	8
35	Cut	VOID		VOID	-	8
36	Deposit	VOID		VOID	-	8
37	Cut	Ditch		Terminus of ditch	Roman	7
38	Deposit		37	Fill of ditch terminus [37]	Roman	7
39	Cut	Ditch		Shallow ditch	Uncertain	7

Context	Category	Cut Type	Fill Of	Description	Period	TRENCH
40	Deposit		39	Fill of shallow ditch [39]	Uncertain	7
41	Cut	Pit		Medium sized shallow pit	Uncertain	7
42	Deposit		41	Fill of pit [41]	Uncertain	7
43	Cut	Ditch		E-W ditch	Uncertain	7
44	Deposit		43	Fill of ditch [43]	Uncertain	7
45	Cut	Pit		Small pit	Uncertain	7
46	Deposit		46	Fill of pit [45]	Uncertain	7
47	Cut	Pit		Shallow pit	Uncertain	7
48	Deposit		48	Fill of pit [47]	Uncertain	7
49	Cut	Ditch		Small N-S ditch	Uncertain	2
50	Deposit		49	Fill of small ditch [49]	Uncertain	2
51	Cut	Pit		Possible large quarry pit	Medieval	2
52	Deposit		51	Fill of quarry pit [51]	Medieval	2
53	U/S Finds			metal detected finds Trench 7	-	7
54	U/S Finds			metal detected finds Trench 8	-	8
55	U/S Finds			metal detected finds Trench 1	-	1

Appendix 1b: OASIS Feature Summary

Period	Category	Total
Prehistoric	Ditch	1
Roman	Ditch terminus	1
	Pit	2
Medieval	Pit	1
Post-medieval	Ditch	5
Uncertain	Ditch	2
	Pit	7
	Track/gully	2

Appendix 2a: Finds by Context

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes
4	Ceramic Building Material	1	53g	Roman	
4	Ceramic Building Material	4	116g	Post-medieval	
4	Clay Pipe	2	7g	Post-medieval	Stems only
4	Iron	1	18g	Unknown	?Nail
5	Ceramic Building Material	1	1,270g	Post-medieval	Floor tile
7	Ceramic Building Material	4	1,237g	Post-medieval	
7	Glass	1	345g	Post-medieval	Bottle base

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes
9	Ceramic Building Material	3	72g	Post-medieval	
9	Clay Pipe	1	2g	Post-medieval	Stem only
9	Flint – Struck	1	13g	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age	
9	Pottery	2	5g	Post-medieval	18th-19th century
10	Copper-Alloy	1	8g	Post-medieval	Coin; illegible
10	Copper-Alloy	1	8g	Post-medieval	Coin; ?Georgian
10	Copper-Alloy	1	5g	Post-medieval	Coin; Victorian
10	Copper-Alloy	1	2g	Unknown	Decorated fragment
10	Copper-Alloy	1	1g	Post-medieval	Thimble top fragment
10	Copper-Alloy	1	3g	Post-medieval	Thimble
10	Copper-Alloy	1	2g	Post-medieval	Button
10	Copper-Alloy	1	2g	Post-medieval	Button cap
10	Copper-Alloy	1	5g	Unknown	Waste
10	Iron	1	91g	Unknown	Object
10	Iron	3	124g	Unknown	Cast fragments
10	Iron	4	87g	Unknown	Nails
10	Lead	1	10g	Unknown	Rod fragment
10	Lead	1	2g	Unknown	Waste
10	Pottery	1	58g	Post-medieval	16th-18th century
11	Clay Pipe	1	4g	Post-medieval	Stem only
11	Copper-Alloy	1	9g	Post-medieval	Coin; illegible
11	Copper-Alloy	1	7g	Post-medieval	Coin; illegible
11	Copper-Alloy	1	4g	Post-medieval	Coin; illegible
11	Copper-Alloy	1	1g	Unknown	Disc; ?Coin
11	Copper-Alloy	1	2g	Post-medieval	Button
11	Copper-Alloy	1	1g	Post-medieval	Button cap
11	Iron	1	60g	Unknown	?Escutcheon
11	Iron	1	35g	Unknown	?Strip
11	Lead	1	5g	Unknown	?Pot repair
13	Animal Bone	2	3g	Unknown	
13	Ceramic Building Material	1	134g	Med./Post-Med.	
13	Pottery	1	1g	Post-medieval	Mid-Late 18th century
19	Pottery	4	80g	Roman	
21	Pottery	1	51g	Roman	
25	Flint – Struck	1	11g	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age	
38	Animal Bone	17	69g	Unknown	
38	Pottery	5	48g	Roman	

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes
40	Stone	1	10g	Unknown	Spherical ball
48	Animal Bone	31	245g	Unknown	
52	Pottery	1	5g	Medieval	
53	Copper-Alloy	1	8g	Post-medieval	Coin; ?Georgian
53	Copper-Alloy	1	7g	Post-medieval	Coin; illegible
53	Copper-Alloy	1	5g	Post-medieval	Coin; illegible
54	Copper-Alloy	1	2g	Modern	Bell; upper hemisphere only; gilt
54	Copper-Alloy	1	7g	Post-medieval	Coin; Georgian
54	Copper-Alloy	1	3g	Post-medieval	Coin; illegible
54	Copper-Alloy	1	1g	Post-medieval	Token; Richard Morant, worsted-weaver; Norwich; 1649-72; D15
54	Copper-Alloy	1	2g	Post-medieval	Coin
54	Copper-Alloy	1	5g	Post-medieval	Spoon bowl
54	Pottery	1	7g	Roman	
55	Copper-Alloy	1	3g	Post-medieval	Coin; Victorian; 1869 farthing
55	Iron	1	12g	Roman	T-clamp; L51 W33
55	Lead	1	35g	Unknown	Waste

Appendix 2b: OASIS Finds Summary

Period	Material	Total
Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age	Flint – Struck	2
Roman	Ceramic Building Material	1
	Iron	1
	Pottery	11
Medieval	Pottery	1
Med./Post-Med.	Ceramic Building Material	1
Post-medieval	Ceramic Building Material	12
	Clay Pipe	4
	Copper-Alloy	21
	Glass	1
	Pottery	4
Modern	Copper-Alloy	1
Uncertain	Animal Bone	50
	Copper-Alloy	3
	Iron	11
	Lead	4
	Stone	1

Appendix 3: Animal Bone Catalogue

Ctxt	Feature Type	Feature No	Date range	Ctxt Qty	Wt (g)	Species	NISP	Ad	Juv	Element range	Ch	C	Gnaw	R/C/F	Comments
13	Ditch	12	Post-Med	2	3	Mammal	2	2		r					Rib fragments
38	Ditch	37	Roman	17	69	Cattle	1	1		mand					Mandible condyle
						Pig	1		1	mand					Juv mandible fragment with tooth socket (tooth missing)
						Mammal	15			r, v					Rib and vertebrae fragments
48	Pit	48	Undated	31	245	Cattle	6	6		r, v	1				5 rib fragments, one thoracic vertebrae fragment. Vertebrae chopped on the sagittal plane.
						Mammal	25								Rib fragments

Appendix 4: OASIS Report Summary

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: norfolka1-143468

Project details

Project name	Devon Way, Trowse
Short description of the project	Archaeological trial trench evaluation was conducted for Crown Point Estates ahead of proposed residential development at Devon Way in Trowse, Norfolk. Following geophysical survey of the proposed development site in 2012 which produced evidence of 'prior human activity', excavation of sixteen trenches was planned to target some of the features recorded. Two of the trenches (5 and 6 at the south-western corner of the site) were not excavated as used needles had been found previously in this area and (in consultation with James Albone of Norfolk Historic Environment Service) it was decided not to excavate there. Of the fourteen trenches opened, nine contained archaeological features. Three of the trenches on the eastern side of the site (Trenches 13, 15 and 16) contained post-medieval ditches. Three trenches in the centre and south of the site contained very large pit-like features (Trenches 8, 11 and 12) and Trench 7 contained several pit and ditch features of indeterminate date. At the north of the proposed development area, Trench 2 contained a large pit and small ditch. On the west side of the site Trench 4 contained a possible trackway (and tree-hole). At the start of work - during setting out the trenches - several of the canes used for marking each end of the trench were removed and scattered (presumably by children - the area has been accessible to the general public for some time prior to works starting).
Project dates	Start: 07-01-2013 End: 11-01-2013
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ENF130461 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Late Prehistoric
Monument type	DITCH TERMINUS Roman
Monument type	PIT Roman
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCHES Uncertain
Monument type	PITS Uncertain

Significant Finds	FLINT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	TILE Roman
Significant Finds	POT Roman
Significant Finds	TILE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	IRON FITTING Roman
Significant Finds	COPPER ALLY TOKEN Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches","Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORFOLK SOUTH NORFOLK TROWSE WITH NEWTON Devon Way
Study area	7.70 Hectares
Site coordinates	TG 2488 0642 52 1 52 36 30 N 001 19 18 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	NPS Archaeology
Project brief originator	Norfolk Historic Environment Service
Project design originator	NPS Archaeology
Project director/manager	Nigel Page
Project supervisor	Lilly Hodges
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner
Name of sponsor/funding body	Crown Point Estates

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	NPS Archaeology
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Metal","Worked stone/lithics","other"
Digital Media available	"Geophysics","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"

Paper Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Metal","Worked stone/lithics","other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation of land off Devon Way Trowse, Norfolk
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hodges, L.
Other bibliographic details	Report 2013/1277
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	NPS Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Norwich
Description	A4 paper, colour-printed, double-sided, spiral-bound; PDF
Entered by	Jayne Bown (jayne.bown@nps.co.uk)
Entered on	14 February 2013

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