nps archaeology

Land east of Artiss Close and Rotheram Road, Bildeston Suffolk

Report on Informative Trial Trenching

Report 2019/101055

Prepared for: Fleur Developments Ltd

OASIS Ref: norfolka1-351989

Grid Ref: TL 995 493

Planning Ref: B/15/01433/OUT

HER: BIL 046

July 2019

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Draft	Joshua White	12/07/2019
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Joshua C White, BA, MSc and **Lilly Hodges,** BA, MA	Authors
David Dobson, HND	Graphics
Rebecca Sillwood, BA, ACifA	Metal Finds
Sue Anderson, BA, MPhil, MCIfA, FSA Scot, FSA	Post-Roman Pottery, CBM, Fired Clay, Cremated Bone
Andrew Peachy, BA, MCIfA	Prehistoric and Roman Pottery, flint
Julie Curl, HND, ACIfA	Faunal Remains
Val Fryer BA, MCIfA	Plant Macrofossils

nps archaeology
Townsend House
30 Crown Road
Norwich
NR1 3DT
T 01603 227193
E nau.mail@nps.co.uk
W nau.nps.co.uk

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Client:	Fleur Developments Ltd
Location:	Land east of Artiss Close and Rotheram Road Bildeston, Suffolk
District:	Mid Suffolk District Council
Planning Reference:	B/15/01433/OUT
Grid Reference:	TL 995 493
HER No.:	BIL 046
OASIS ID:	norfolka1-351989
Dates of Fieldwork:	29.05.2019 – 11.06.2019

Summary

In 2019 NPS Archaeology carried out informative archaeological trial trenching at Land east of Artiss Close and Rotheram Road, Bildeston in advance of a proposed residential development. This work was in response to a brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service. The fieldwork and reporting was funded by Fleur Developments Ltd.

The evaluation comprised twenty-two trenches measuring 30.00m x 1.80m, amounting to 4% of the 3ha proposed development area. Archaeological features were identified in sixteen trenches, with six trenches containing no archaeological remains.

The earliest archaeological features recorded by the evaluation consisted of postholes and a pit in the south-east of the site of Middle to Late Iron Age date. The exact nature of this activity is not clear, but may relate to an agrarian or domestic function. A single, heavily truncated cremation of possible later prehistoric date was also recorded.

A series of ditches dating to the Romano-British period might indicate some agricultural use of the site around the second century AD. Large quantities of ceramic building materials recovered from these ditches indicate it is likely a significant building of period was present in the vicinity, but perhaps unlikely to be located on the site itself.

Despite its proximity to the medieval core of Bildeston no archaeological features of confirmed medieval date were identified by the trial trenching; though some finds of this period such as a lead spindle whorl were recovered. Evidence suggests that the site was used intensively for arable agriculture in this period with nightsoiling activities possibly carried out. Post-medieval remains were identified across the site in the form of drainage/boundary ditches.

INTRODUCTION

Project Background

1 NPS Archaeology was commissioned and funded by Fleur Developments Ltd to undertake informative archaeological trial trenching on Land east of Artiss Close and Rotheram Road, Bildeston, Suffolk (TL 995 493).

2 The site has been identified in the area as being both topographically favourable for early settlement, as well as being situated just outside the core of medieval Bildeston (Abraham 2019). Geophysical survey (Attwood 2014) of the site identified no archaeological features aside from some ditches of probable 19th century date, which formed a pre-existing arrangement of fields.

3 The evaluated site covered an area of *c.* 3 hectares, with 4% of the site (22 trial trenches) excavated to investigate its archaeological potential. This report details the results of this investigation.

Planning Background

4 This program of work was conducted to fulfil a brief issued by Rachael Abraham of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS), on behalf of the planning authority, Mid Suffolk District Council (Abraham 2019).

5 Planning permission has been granted for planning application B/15/01433/OUT based on fulfilling conditions relating to archaeological investigation (Abraham 2019).

6 The investigative work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (White 2019), prepared by NPS Archaeology in response to the aforementioned brief.

7 The programme of work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the area of the proposed development, following guidelines set out in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government 2019).

8 The programme of work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the area of proposed development.

9 The recipients of this report will be the Fleur Developments Ltd, Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, and Mid Suffolk District Council.

GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

Geology

10 The bedrock geology underlying the site is the Newhaven Chalk Formation. This chalk deposit would have formed in warm seas during the Cretaceous period (British Geological Survey 2019). Overlying this are superficial deposits belonging to the Lowestoft Formation Diamicton, a chalky clay which formed during the Quaternary through glaciers scouring the landscape and depositing moraines of till (Geological Survey 2019).

11 Above the diamicton, subsoil was present across most but not all of the site. Where it occurred it consisted of a mid-dark greyish brown clay-rich silt between 0.04m – 0.68m thick. The topsoil was of a greyish brown clay-rich silt composition, measuring between 0.17m – 0.36m thick. The soil sequences were notably deeper towards the far south-east and north-west of the site.

Topography

12 The site is located in the village of Bildeston, Suffolk, situated 8km north of Hadleigh and 10.8km south-west of Needham Market. The site is located on an ancient terrace at the base of a spur of higher ground which rises to the east. The site itself gently slopes from the south to the north, with the elevation varying from 45.48m OD to 55.60m OD.

13 The nearest extant watercourses are a minor tributary of the River Brett c.140m north from the centre of the current site, which has a confluence with a larger tributary of the Brett c.400m west of the site. The River Gipping is 12km to the east.

14 The site lies to the north of Ipswich Road, with residential properties adjacent to the north and west. To the east of the site lay arable agricultural land. At the time of evaluation the site had been uncultivated for some time, and covered in a dense complex of grasses and young trees.

15 The development area is roughly rectangular in plan, and measures approximately 3ha in size.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Sources

16 The primary source for archaeological information in the county is the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER), which details sites of historical interest including finds, archaeological excavations, and remote sensing data. In order to characterise the archaeological potential of the proposed development site, a 1km radius search of Historic Environment Records (HER) centred on TL 995 493 was purchased. The information presented, which has been sourced from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record, remains the copyright of SCCAS.

17 A total of 53 separate records were recovered by this search, including 32 HER monument records and 21 event records (archaeological works). Those most relevant are discussed below in chronological order. Records located in close proximity to the site are shown in Figure 1.

18 An additional source consulted was the online *Open Domesday* database (Powell-Smith and Palmer 2019).

19 Cartographic and photographic evidence was not consulted as part of this informative phase of evaluation work. However, good potential exists for investigating such information in relation to the archaeological remains identified during the excavation. No enclosure map exists for the area covering Bildeston, however the Bury Record Office does hold the 1841 Tithe Map, along with census maps and late 20th century aerial photographs (K1115; K1152).

Prehistoric

20 Activity of a prehistoric date is sparsely recorded in the vicinity of the site, with the Mesolithic period best represented. A Mesolithic artefact scatter consisting of a tranchet adze, microlith, and numerous flakes and blades was found 500m south-west of the site (BIL 002), possibly representing the remains of a base camp. A further tranchet adze also of this period was found 300m north-west of the site (BIL 012).

21 A single sherd of Belgic ceramic dating to the later Iron Age was recovered from a garden 450m to the north-west (BIL 033). Little information can be gained from the recovery of this single small sherd.

Romano-British

22 Romano-British activity is suggested to be fairly abundant in the surrounding locality. The presence of a building, potentially of some status, is suggested by the recovery of distinctive roof and box tile fragments, plaster, and fine wares from an artefact scatter located 500m to the south-west (BIL 004). Two coins of Roman date have also been recovered 250m to the north-west of the site (BIL 003).

23 The suspected line of a Roman road (Margary 34a) runs north-east – south-west approximately 800m north of the site (BIL 008; BIL 009; HTC 019). The route of a further Roman road (Margary 330) is located just over a kilometre to the north of the site (HTC 015).

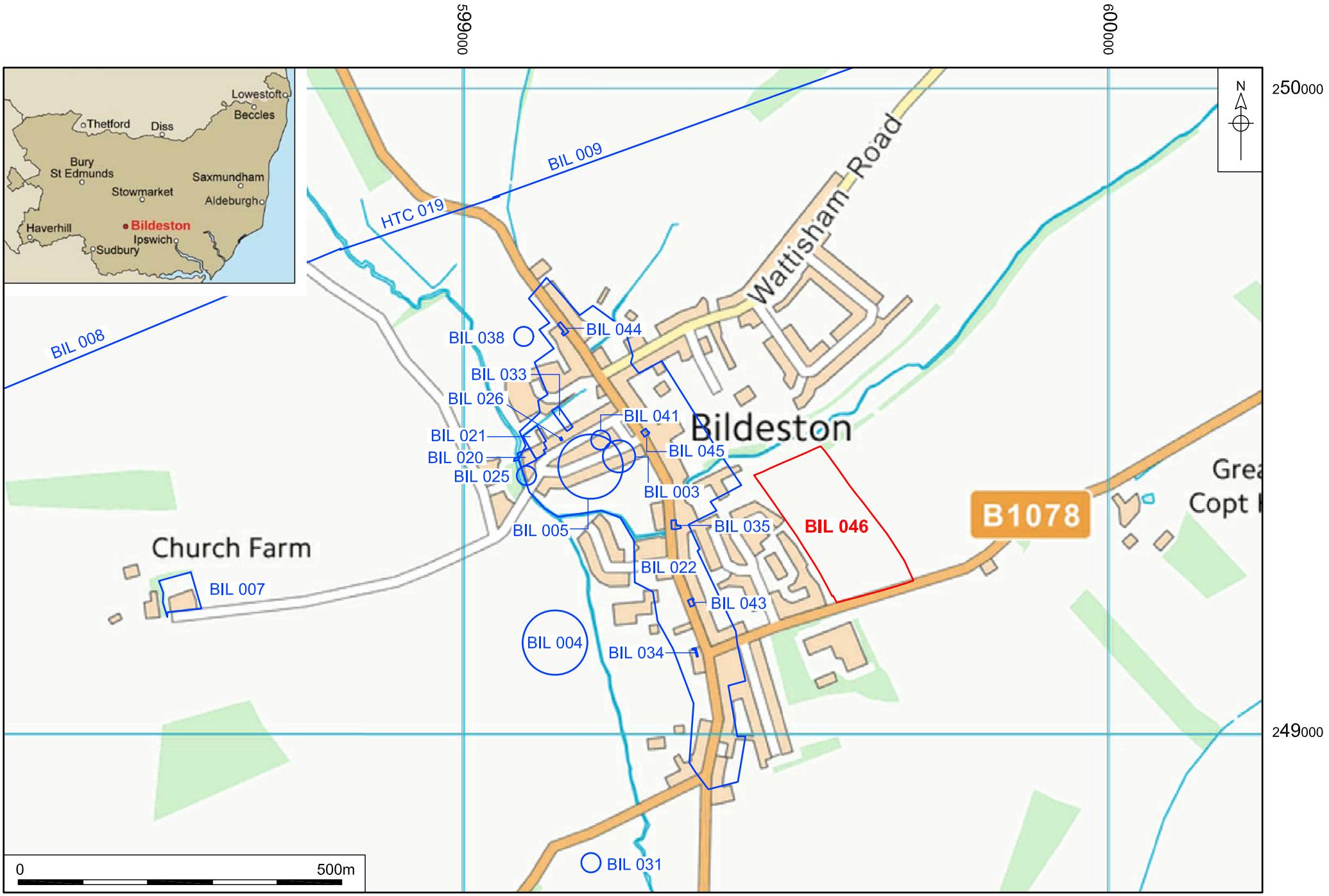

Figure 1. Site location with selected HER data. Scale 1:7500

Medieval

24 Remains of the medieval period are the most frequently recorded type in the vicinity on the Historic Environment Register. Such a pattern might be expected because of the site's situation just outside the core of medieval Bildeston. While little is known of Saxon Bildeston; the settlement of 1066 is recorded in the Domesday Book as being of moderate size, with quite a large population of '28 households' and a total property tax assessed at '6.3 geld units' (Powell-Smith and Palmer 2019).

25 The medieval parish church of St Mary, which underwent considerable Victorian renovation is located 1km to the west (BIL 007). Much closer to the site, the approximate location of St Leonard's Chapel, dating to the 14th or 15th centuries is known, and is situated roughly 300m to the north-west; this building however has not been tangibly identified (BIL 005).

26 The recorded centre of the medieval town is located some 250m west of the site (BIL 022). Evidence of medieval occupation has been found immediately surrounding this area, including medieval pits and deposits identified during excavations (BIL 026; BIL; 34, BIL 41), extant buildings (BIL 043; BIL 044), and medieval artefact scatters (BIL 025; BIL 031).

Post-medieval

27 A Baptist cemetery marked on the 1880 OS map is located 300m to the north-west, and likely dates to the late post-medieval and Victorian period (BIL 021).

28 Post-medieval buildings (BIL 035; BIL 045), including Bildeston Hall which dates to the 16th – 17th century (BIL 020) are present to the west of the site.

29 Artefact finds of this date are only sparsely recorded in the near the vicinity. An animal headed ewer spout was however recovered during metal detecting 500m to the north-west of the site (BIL 038).

Previous archaeological investigations

30 A geophysical survey conducted by GBS Prospection Limited was undertaken on the site in May 2014. The report details that no anomalies of archaeological origin were detected (Attwood 2014). Three 19th century ditches however were identified which are known from historical maps, but the precise details of these features is not discussed in the report (Attwood 2014).

31 Numerous archaeological watching briefs have been undertaken in the vicinity of the site. Where results of significance were identified, these have been discussed in the above section.

METHODOLOGY

General

32 The methodology for the archaeological trial trenching followed the agreed Written Scheme of Investigation (White 2019), where the mitigation strategy for the works is presented in full (Appendix 15).

33 Archaeological procedures followed *Requirements for a Trenched Evaluation* set out by SCCAS (2019) and the guidelines issued by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a). The trial trenching was conducted within the context of the current regional archaeological framework (Medlycott 2011).

Objectives

34 The objective of the trial trenching 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 area of development.

35 The archaeological project aimed to provide appropriate and adequate data to permit informed decisions regarding any requirement for future archaeological mitigation work at land east of Artiss Close and Rotheram Road, Bildeston, and to make the results of the work accessible.

Methods

36 The brief (Abraham 2019) required that an approximate 4% sample of the proposed development area should be evaluated by trial trenching, with provisions in place to extend the excavated area by a further 1% at the request of SCCAS. In accordance with this brief, 22 trenches measuring 30.00m x 1.80m were excavated, arrayed in an approximate H pattern running either north-west – south-east or north-east – south-west over the *c.* 3ha area.

37 A site survey was carried out by NPS Land Survey using a GS16 GPS. Trenches were situated according to the agreed WSI plan and located in relation to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

38 Prior to mechanical excavation, each trench location was scanned with a CAT scan to check for buried services. The areas to be stripped of topsoil were examined and metal detected for surface features and for archaeological artefacts prior to any excavation.

39 Machine excavation was carried out by a 7 tonne hydraulic 360˚ excavator equipped with a 1.80m wide toothless ditching bucket. All mechanical excavation was constantly and directly monitored by a suitably experienced archaeologist. Machining was halted at the first identifiable archaeological deposits or natural geology.

40 All trench surfaces revealed by machine were hand-cleaned and any archaeological deposits were excavated by hand. On completion of the work all trenches were backfilled by machine.

41 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal-detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds, other than those that were evidently

modern, were retained for examination, with their location being recorded via GPS. All retained finds were identified by context number to a specific deposit and were processed and recorded in line with relevant guidelines for archaeological finds (CIfA 2014b).

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

43 Temporary benchmarks used during the course of this work were located at the ends of each of the trenches with spot heights recorded by the GS16 GPS.

44 Site conditions were mixed, with initially no rain; however this changed towards the end of the excavation. Due to the clay geology, many feature became waterlogged. Despite this, the conditions on site did not hinder the excavation or recording of the archaeological deposits or features.

45 All site work was undertaken with respect to Health and Safety provisions. Hard hats, high-visibility vests and steel toe-capped boots were worn by all staff at all times.

Archive

46 The site archive is currently held at the offices of NPS Archaeology. Upon completion of the project, the documentary archive will be prepared and indexed following guidelines obtained from the relevant museum and relevant national guidelines (CIfA 2014c). The archive, consisting of all paper elements created during recording of the archaeological site, including digital material, will be deposited with SCCAT.

47 Subject to written consent and donation by the landowner, all archaeological finds recovered by the current work will be deposited with SCCAT.

48 A summary form of the results of this project has been completed for Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigationS (OASIS) under the reference norfolka1-351989, and this report will be uploaded to the OASIS database (OASIS summary sheet appendix 14).

49 The contents of the site archive is summarised in Table 1.

Item	No.
Contexts	114
Files/paper record sheets	102
Plan and section sheets	14
Photographs	133
Finds	559 (9.4kg)

Table 1. Site archive quantification

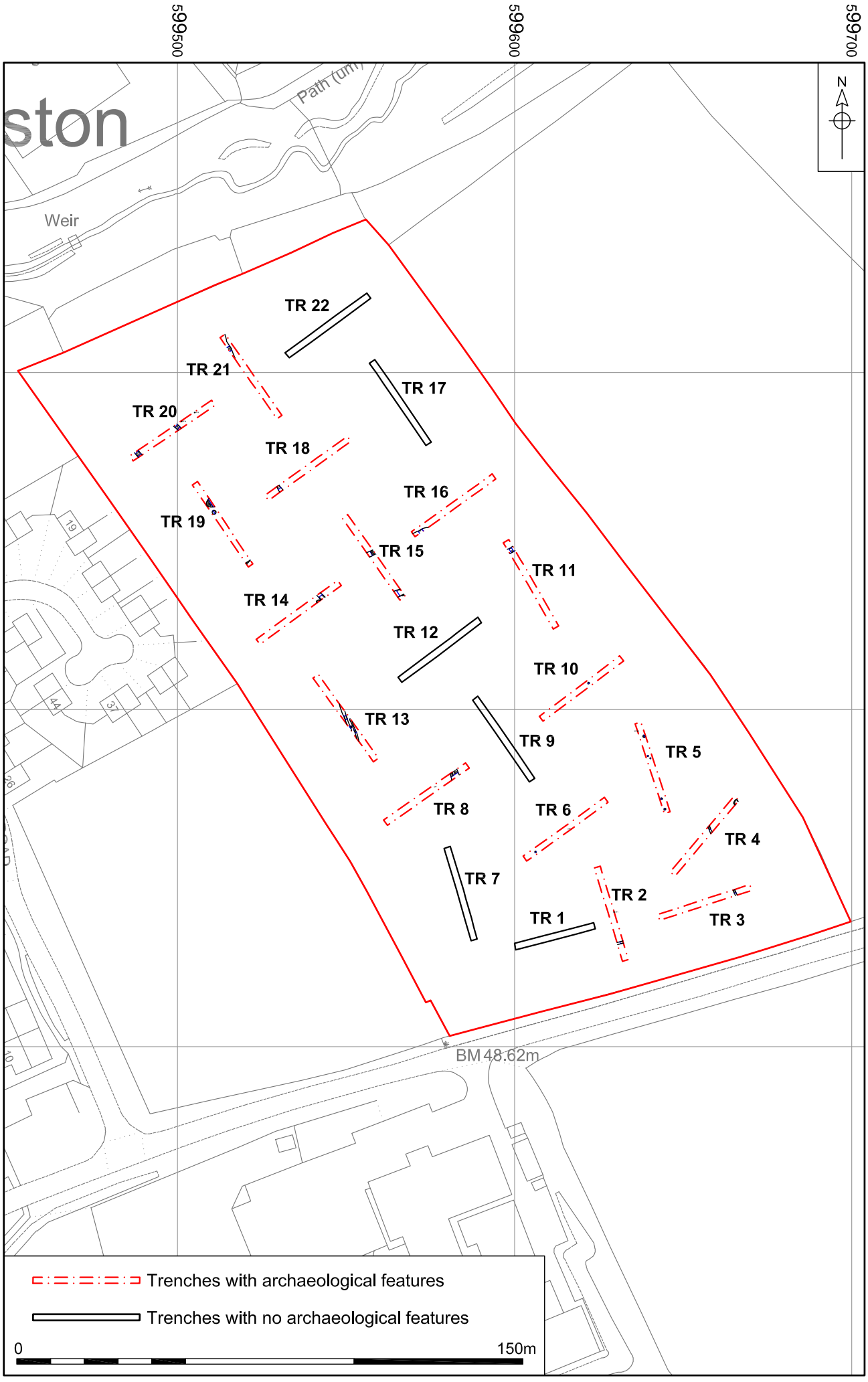

Figure 2. Trench location. Scale 1:1500

RESULTS

Trench 1

Figure 2

Location	
Orientation	NE – SW
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.62m
Levels	
NE top	51.87m OD
SW top	50.99m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
100	Deposit	Topsoil	0.36m
101	Deposit	Subsoil	0.26m

Discussion

No archaeological features were present in Trench 1. Two illegible post-medieval coins were recovered near to this trench from the topsoil.

Trench 2

Figures 2, 3; Plate 1	
Location	
Orientation	NW – SE
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	1.03m
Levels	
NW top	52.00m OD
SE top	53.10m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
102	Deposit	Topsoil	0.35m
103	Deposit	Subsoil	0.68m
144	Cut	Ditch	0.48m
145	Deposit	Primary fill of ditch **144**	0.24m
146	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch **144**	0.24m

Discussion

North-east – south-west aligned ditch **144** in the south-east end of this trench was 0.48m deep and 0.70m wide and contained two fills. Primary fill **145** consisted of pale greyish-brown silty clay, which probably accumulated as the initial silting-in of this ditch. Above this lay deposit **146**, pale orangey brown silty clay which may represent either a further phase of silting or the deliberate backfilling of the ditch. Post-medieval ceramics, (1/1g) CBM (3/42g) and metalwork (nail) were recovered from the lower fill of this feature.

A significant find of a lead spindle whorl dating to the 13th – 15th centuries was recovered from subsoil **103** towards the centre of this trench.

Plate 1. Trench 2, Ditch 144 – 0.5m scale, looking south-west.

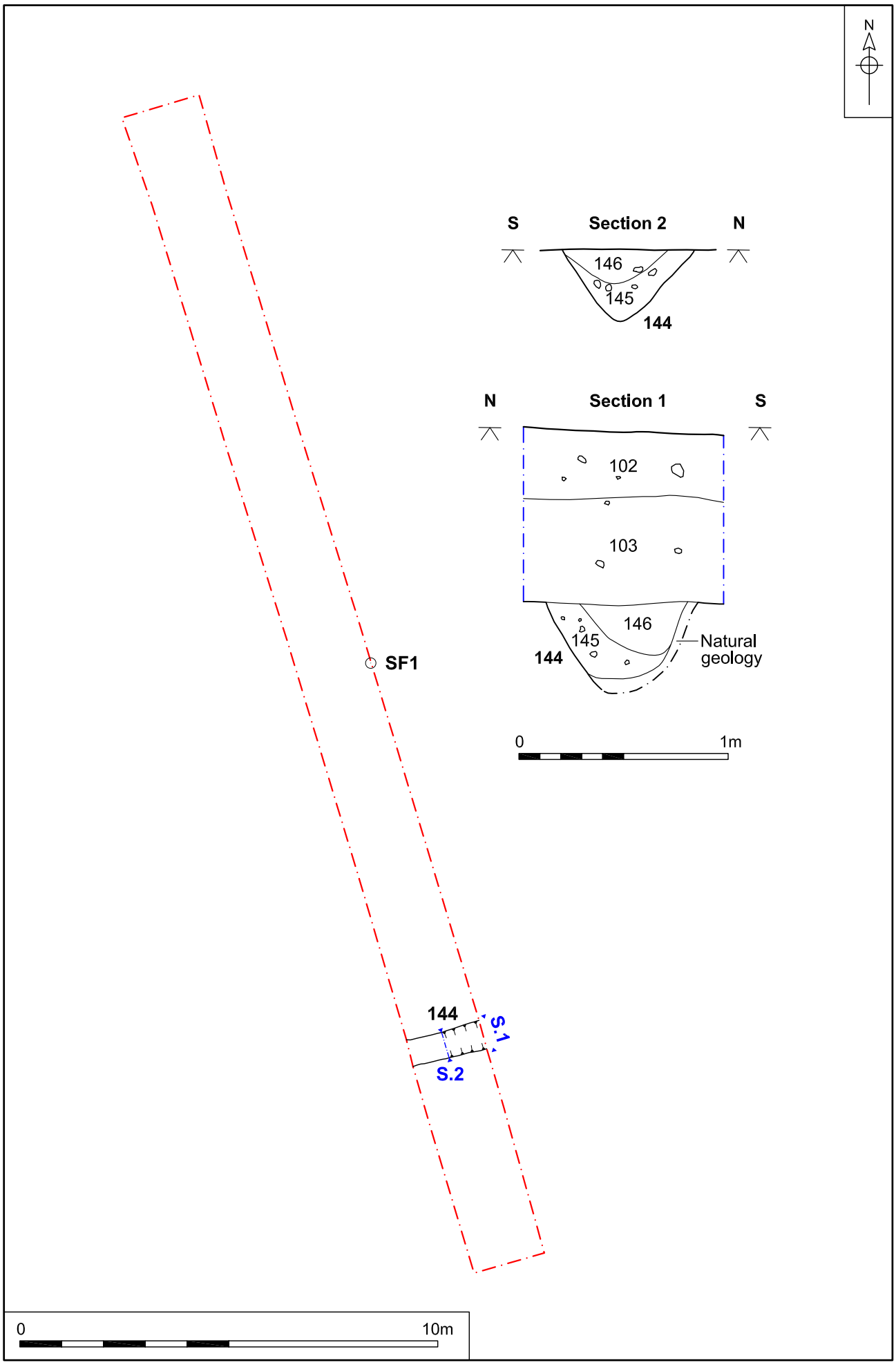

Figure 3. Trench 2, plan and sections. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 3

Figures 2, 4; Plate 2		
Location		
Orientation	NE - SW	
Dimensions		
Length	30.00m	
Width	1.80m	
Depth	0.68m	
Levels		
NE top		54.51m OD
SW top		52.75m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
104	Deposit	Topsoil	0.34m
105	Deposit	Subsoil	0.34m
147	Cut	Ditch	0.13m
148	Deposit	Fill of ditch **147**	0.13m

Discussion

A single ditch, **147**, orientated north-south was present in the north-west end of this trench. This feature was small at 0.55m wide and 0.13m deep and filled with a single mid-yellowish brown clay, **148**. This feature could represent a small gully, but it is probable that it was initially larger when originally cast, with its top later becoming truncated away. Though no finds were recovered from this features fill, based on the finds from the apparent continuation of this ditch present in Trench 4 (**149**), it is considered to probably be of Romano-British in date.

Plate 2. Trench 3, Ditch 147 – 1m scale, looking north.

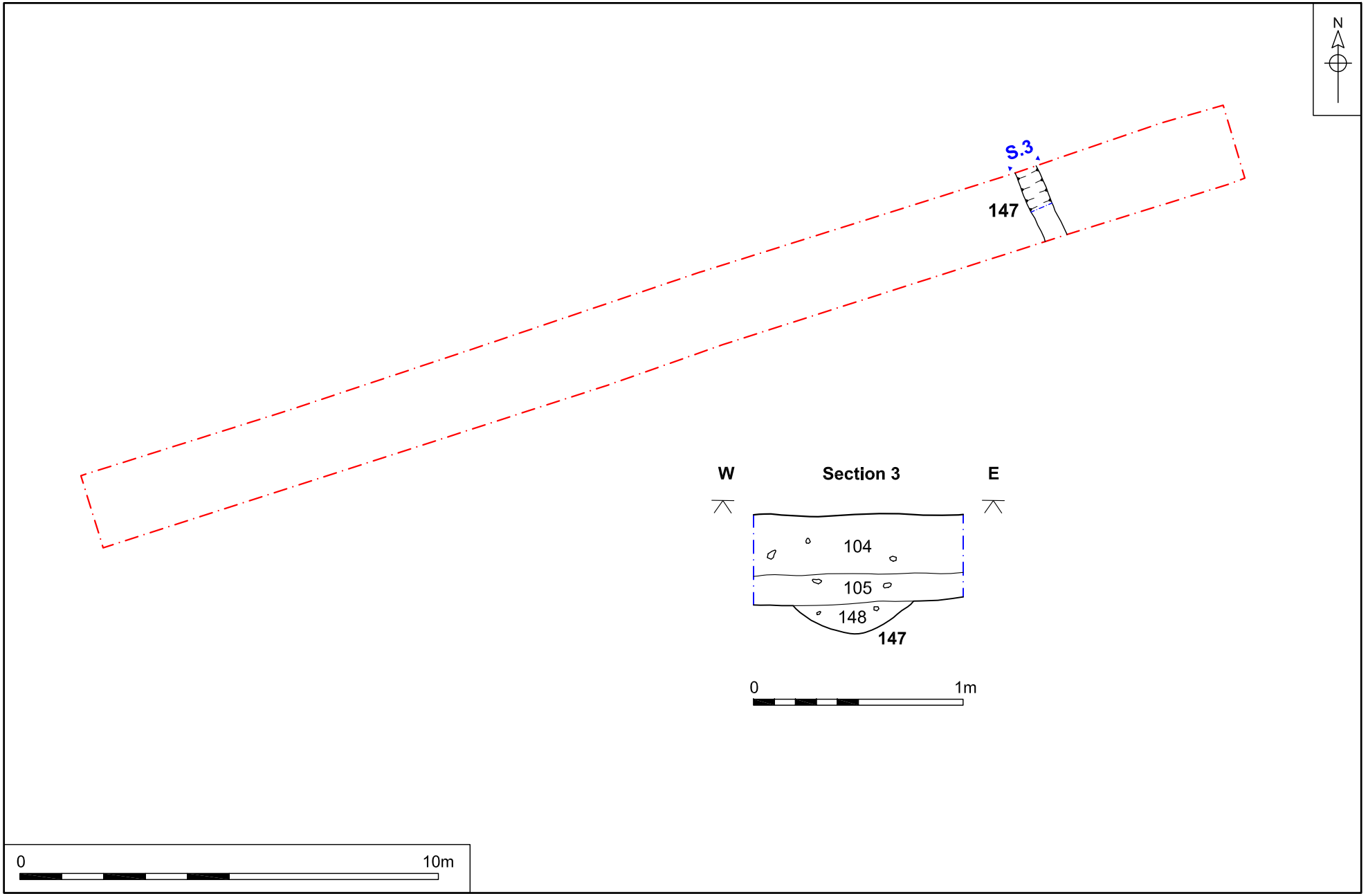

Figure 4. Trench 3, plan and section. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 4

Figures 2, 5; Plate 3	
Location	
Orientation	NE - SW
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.8m
Depth	0.34m
Levels	
NE top	55.64m OD
SW top	53.72m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
106	Deposit	Topsoil	0.34m
149	Cut	North – south orientated ditch	0.14m
150	Deposit	Fill of ditch **149**	0.14m
211	Cut	Pit	0.25m
212	Deposit	Fill of pit **211**	0.25m

Discussion

Towards the centre of Trench 4, north-south aligned ditch **149** was present. This feature was also recorded in Trench 3 as **147**. This small, gradual-sided ditch was 0.14m deep and 0.60m wide and filled with a single mid-yellowish brown clay, deposit **150** (equating to **148**). Two sherds of Roman (2g) pottery were recovered from the fill of this feature.

Pit **211** was also identified in the north-east end of this trench. It was sub-square in plan with a diameter of 1.5m, and was filled with deposit **212**, a mid-greyish brown slightly silty clay. Three fragments of post-medieval ceramic building material were recovered from its fill.

Plate 3. Trench 4, Ditch 149 – 1m scale, looking north.

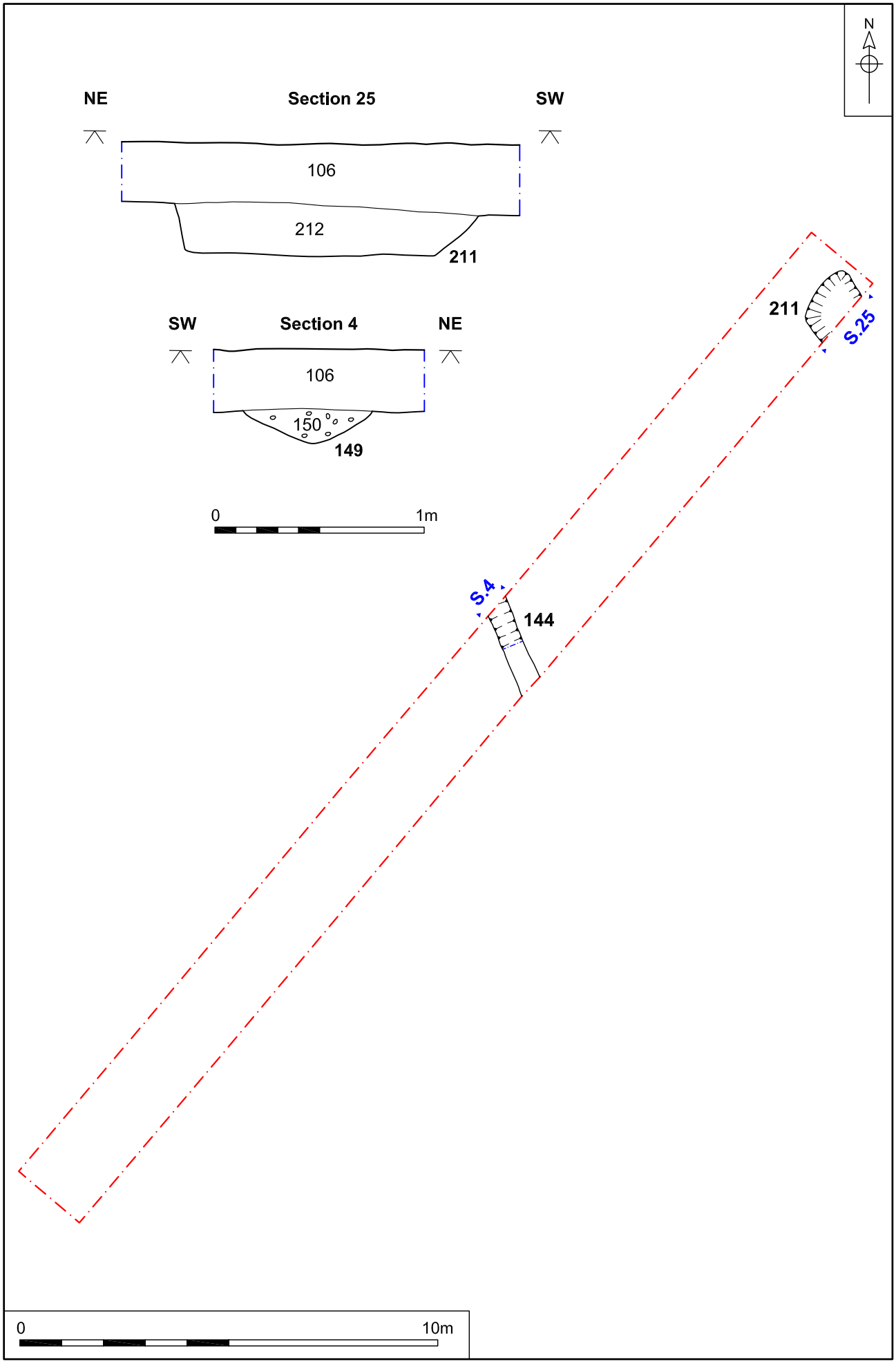

Figure 5. Trench 4, plan and sections. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 5

Figures 2, 6; Plate 4, 5, 6	
Location	
Orientation	NW–SE
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.63m
Levels	
NW top	55.16m OD
SE top	54.70m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
108	Deposit	Topsoil	0.29m
109	Deposit	Subsoil	0.07m
151	Cut	Posthole	0.30m
152	Deposit	Post-pipe in posthole **151**	0.30m
153	Deposit	Post-packing in **151**	0.15m
154	Deposit	Post-packing in **151**	0.20m
155	Cut	Posthole	0.15m
156	Deposit	Post-pipe in **155**	0.15m
157	Deposit	Post-packing in **155**	0.15m
158	Cut	Posthole	0.15m
159	Deposit	Fill of posthole **158**	0.15m
160	Cut	Posthole	0.21m
161	Deposit	Fill of posthole **160**	0.21m
162	Cut	Pit	0.16m
163	Deposit	Fill of pit **162**	0.16m

Discussion

In Trench 5, two distinct pairs of postholes and a shallow pit were identified. Posthole **151** was situated to the south-west end of the trench; it measured 0.30m deep and 0.60m in diameter. Post-pipe **152** was centrally located within this feature, and was likely created through either the in-situ decaying of a post or through the subsequent filling of a void left over after a post was removed. This deposit consisted of a dark blackish-brown silty clay, from which a single sherd (1g) of Middle – Late Iron Age pottery was recovered alongside a fragment of burnt flint. Post-packing deposits **153** and **154** surrounded post-pipe deposit **152**. These consisted of a pale yellowish-brown clay, very similar to the natural geology and perhaps were sourced from the up-cast created in the initial digging of the posthole.

Trench 5

Posthole **155** was located 3.2m north-east of posthole **151**. Although much shallower (with its top clearly having been truncated), it had numerous similarities to posthole **151**, including its diameter in plan. A post-pipe was also present in the centre of this feature; this deposit, **156**, consisted of a dark greyish-brown silty clay. Pale yellowish-brown clay post-packing **157** was present only to the south of post-pipe **156**. A single sherd of Middle – Late Iron Age pottery was also recovered from fill **156** in this feature. It is highly likely that these are two postholes belonging to the same structure/fence line.

Two further postholes, **158** and **160** were present towards the north-west end of the trench. Posthole **158** was 0.15m deep, with a diameter of 0.30m, and was filled with a mid-greyish brown silty clay **159**. A single piece of burnt flint was recovered from its fill. Posthole **160** was situated just 0.60m to the north-west of posthole **158**. It was slightly larger, with a diameter of 0.36m and a depth of 0.21m. It was filled with **161**, a similar deposit of a mid greyish-brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from its fill. These postholes are probably associated with a structure or fence line Their different alignment and character from postholes **152** and **155** suggests that they probably belong to a different structure, and with a lack of dating perhaps a different period.

A single pit, **162**, was also present towards the north-west end of the trench. This feature measuring 0.16m deep and 0.80m in diameter, was filled with dark brown silty clay **163**, from which two sherds (12g) of Middle – Late Iron Age pottery were retrieved.

A probable medieval buckle was recovered during the metal detecting of the subsoil in the north-west end of this trench.

Plate 4. Trench 5, Posthole 151 – 0.5m scale, looking south-west.

Trench 5

Plate 5. Trench 5, Posthole 158 – 0.5m scale, looking south-west.

Plate 6. Trench 5, Pit 162 – 0.5m scale, looking south-west.

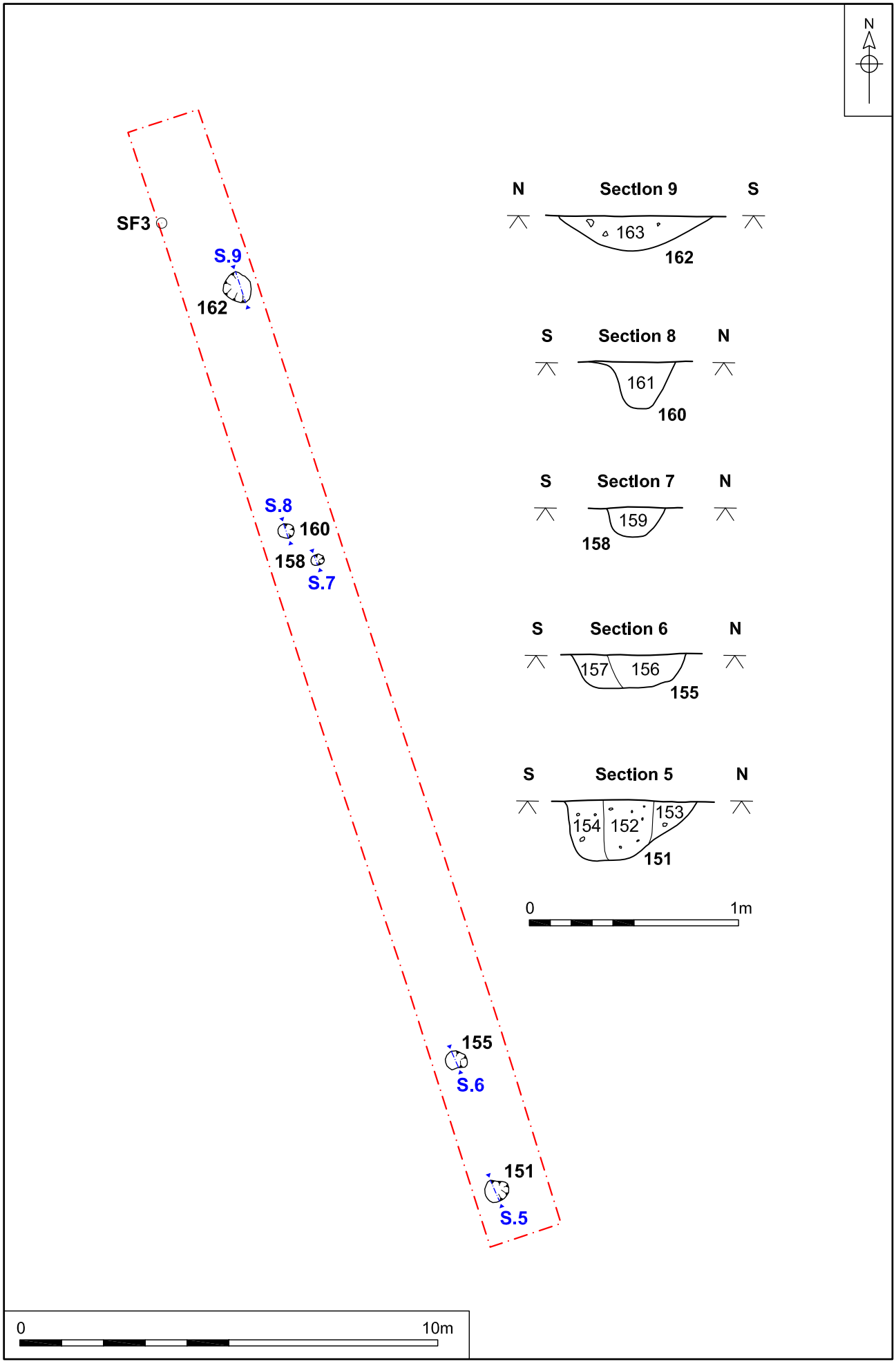

Figure 6. Trench 5, plan and sections. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 6

Figures 2, 7; Plate 7		
Location		
Orientation	NE – SW	
Dimensions		
Length	30.00m	
Width	1.80m	
Depth	0.36m	
Levels		
NE top		54.22m OD
SW top		52.53m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
110	Deposit	Topsoil	0.25m
111	Deposit	Subsoil	0.12m
173	Cut	Posthole	0.23m
174	Deposit	Fill of posthole **173**	0.23m

Discussion

A single posthole was located to the centre of Trench 6. Posthole **173** had a depth of 0.23m, diameter of 0.35m and was filled with a mid-greyish brown silty clay from which two sherds (74g) of Late Iron Age pottery and a prehistoric flint flake flint was recovered. It is possible that this feature originates from a structure; however, it is equally possible that it is part of a fence line or stand-alone post.

Plate 7. Trench 6, Posthole 173 – 0.5m scale, looking south-east.

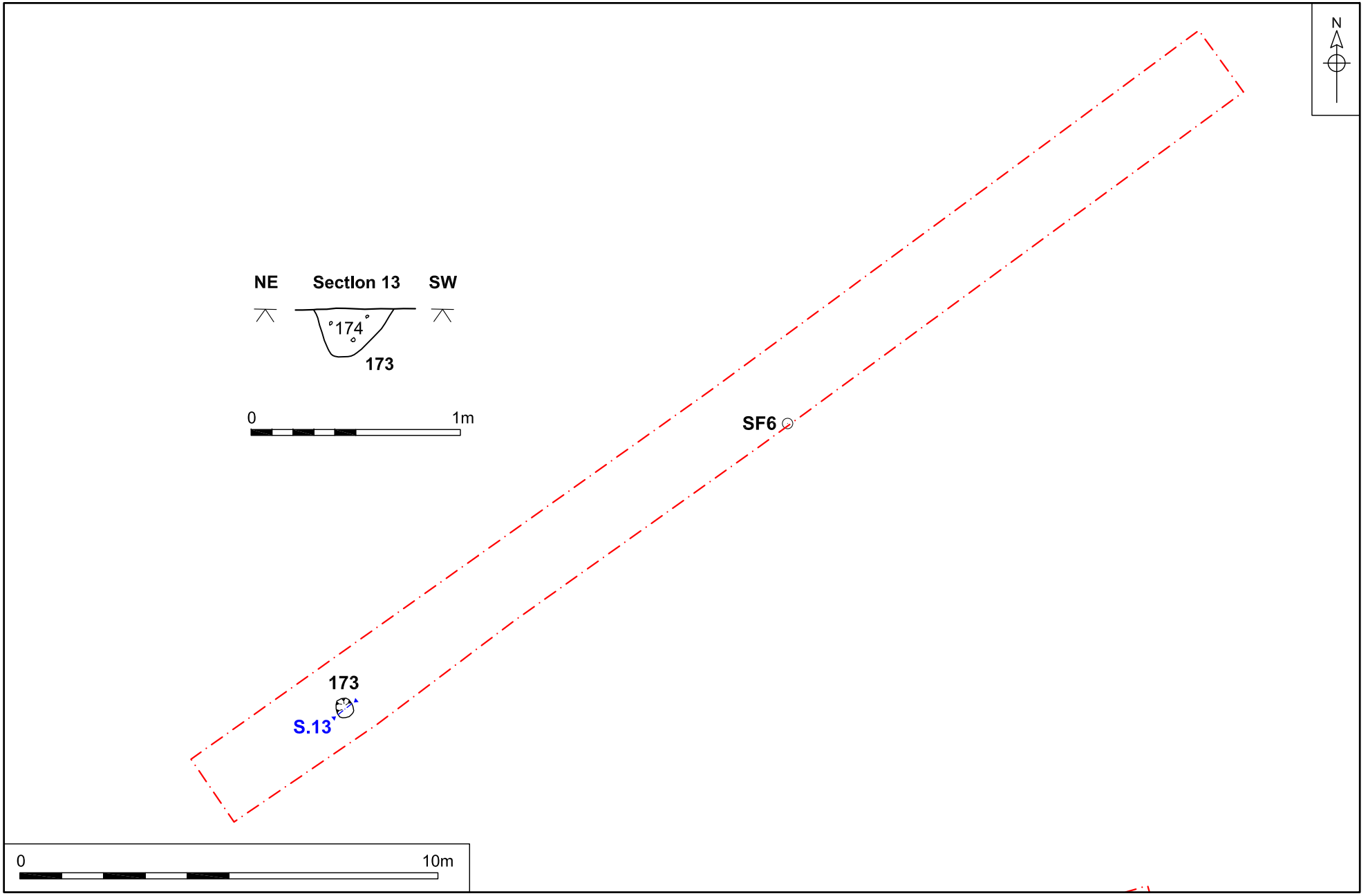

Figure 7. Trench 6, plan and section. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 7

Figure 2	
Location	
Orientation	NW-SE
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.58m
Levels	
NW top	51.97m OD
SE top	50.55m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
112	Deposit	Topsoil	0.30m
113	Deposit	Subsoil	0.28m

Discussion

No archaeological features were present in Trench 7. Metal detecting of subsoil **113** in this trench recovered a medieval strap-end and a post-medieval cap.

Trench 8

Figures 2, 8	
Location	
Orientation	NE - SW
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.36m
Levels	
NE top	52.89m OD
SW top	51.42m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
114	Deposit	Topsoil	0.36m
209	Cut	Ditch	0.54m
210	Deposit	Fill of ditch **209**	0.54m

Discussion

Ditch **209** was the only archaeological feature identified in this trench. This moderately large ditch was 0.54m deep and 2.10m wide with an approximate north-south alignment, and was filled with a mid-greyish brown silty clay from which three fragments of animal bone were recovered. It is likely that this feature terminates just to the north of Trench 8, as there is no evidence of it continuing into Trench 12.

A post-medieval trade token was recovered from the topsoil in this trench.

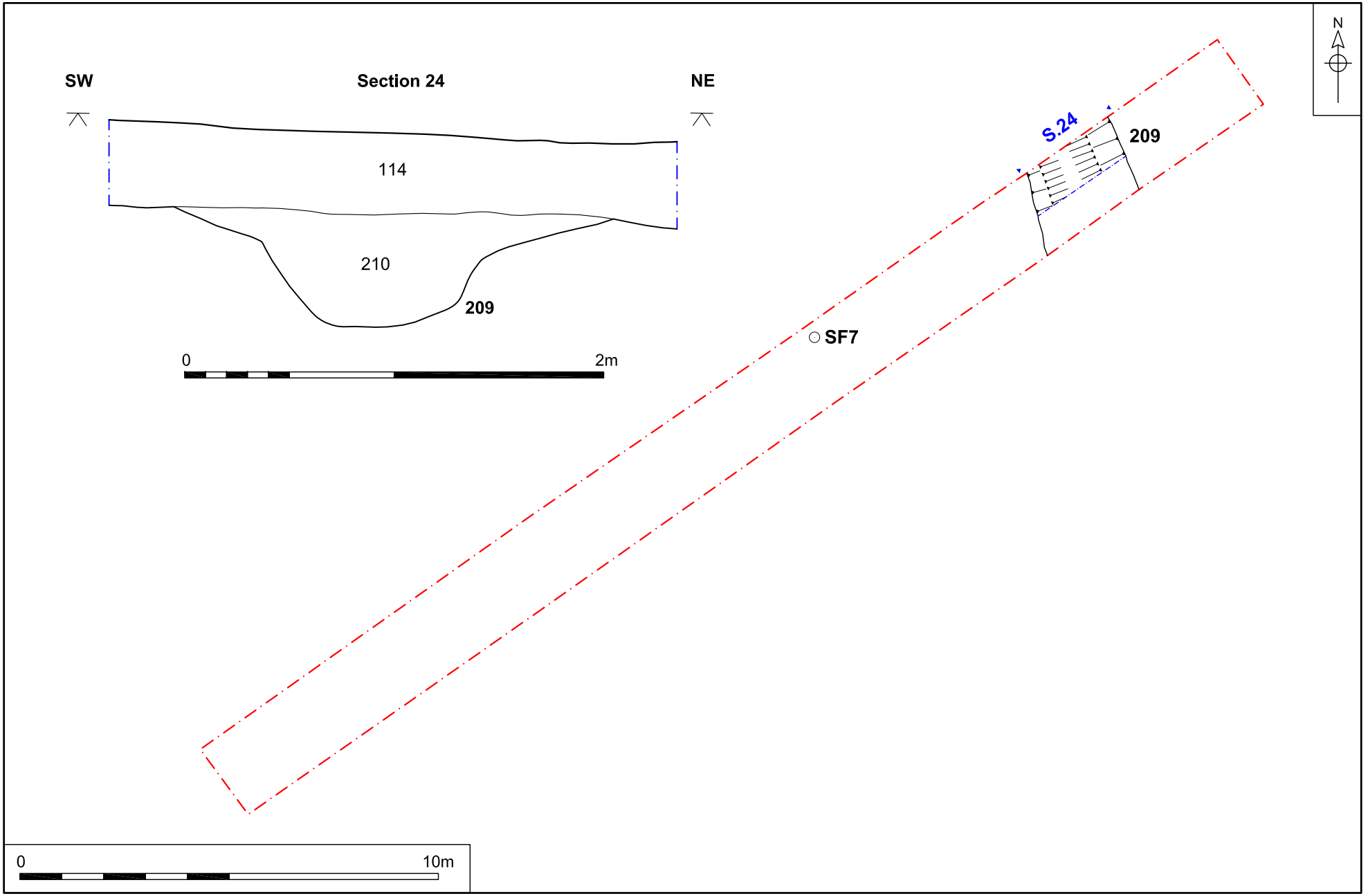

Figure 8. Trench 8, plan and section. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 9

Figure 2	
Location	
Orientation	NW - SE
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.36m
Levels	
NW top	53.22m OD
SE top	53.63m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
116	Deposit	Topsoil	0.27m
117	Deposit	Subsoil	0.09m

Discussion

No archaeological features were present in Trench 9.

Trench 10

Figures 2, 9	
Location	
Orientation	NE - SW
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.38m
Levels	
NE top	54.86m OD
SW top	53.97m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
118	Deposit	Topsoil	0.28m
119	Deposit	Subsoil	0.10m
204	Cut	Posthole	0.12m
205	Deposit	Fill of posthole **204**	0.12m

Discussion

A single archaeological feature was identified in Trench 10. Posthole **204** was located towards the centre of the trench, measuring 0.12m deep and had a diameter of 0.50m. It was filled with a mid-greyish brown silty clay from which no finds were retrieved. It is possible that this posthole may relate to those identified in Trench 5.

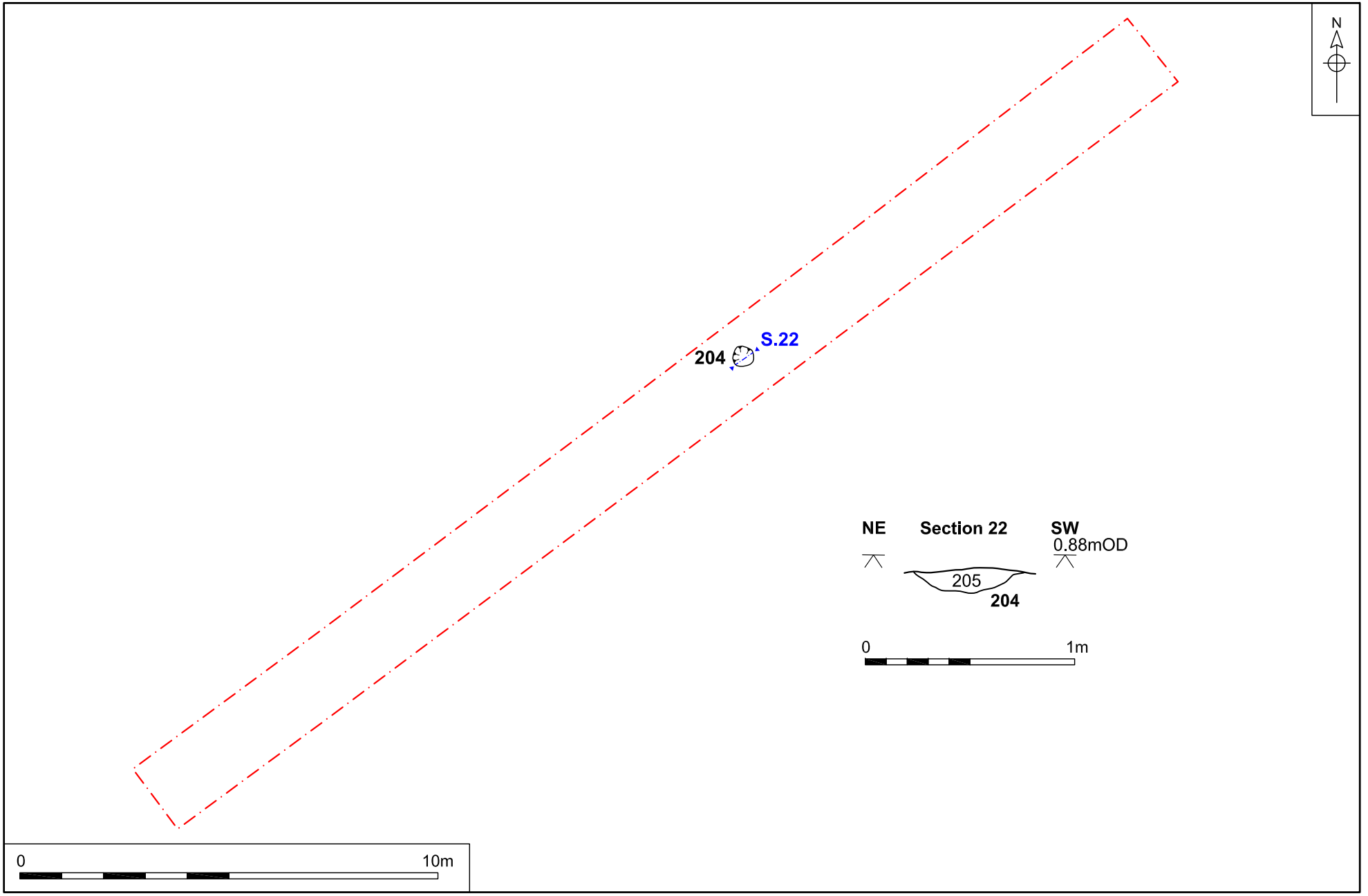

Figure 9. Trench 10, plan and section. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 11

Figures 2, 10; Plate 8		
Location		
Orientation	NW - SE	
Dimensions		
Length	30.00m	
Width	1.80m	
Depth	0.36m	
Levels		
NW top		52.72m OD
SE top		54.00m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
120	Deposit	Topsoil	0.32m
121	Deposit	Subsoil	0.04m
164	Cut	Feature	0.14m
165	Deposit	Fill of feature **164**	0.14m

Discussion

A single archaeological feature was identified in Trench 11. Feature **164** was a shallow north-east – south-west linear, with a width of 1.30m and a depth of 0.14m. It had asymmetrical gently sloping sides, a relatively flat base, and was filled with a mid-yellowish brown silty clay from which a small assemblage of medieval and post-medieval ceramic building material was recovered. The dimensions and general form of this feature indicate that it is unlikely to be a ditch, with an alternative suggestion being that this may represent the bedding trench of a hedge used as a boundary marker. This feature is also picked up in Trench 15 (**181**) and appears to line-up with the current southern boundary of the Rotherham Road housing estate, further emphasising its post-medieval date.

Plate 8. Trench 11, Feature 164 – 1m scale, looking north-west.

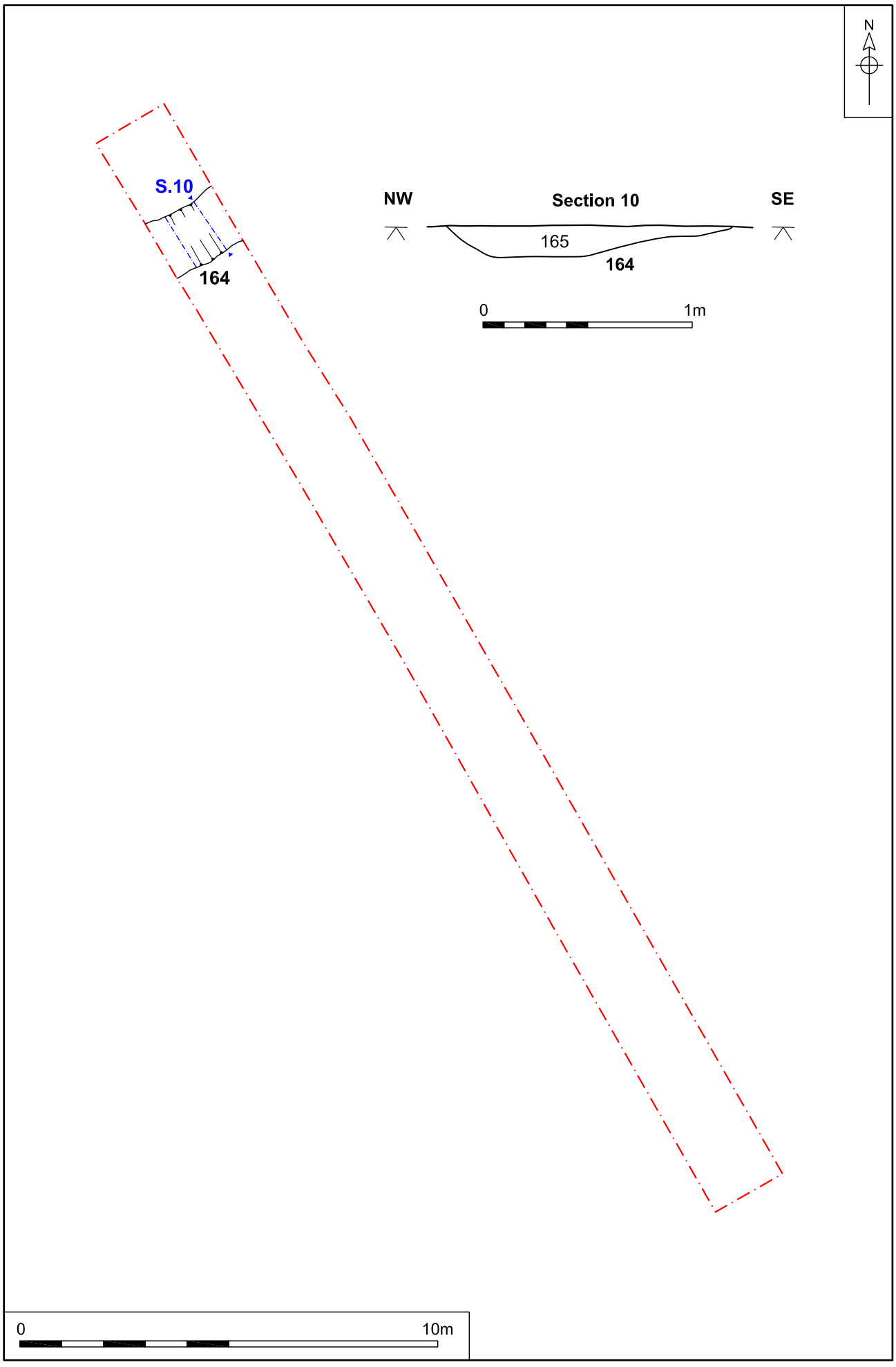

Figure 10. Trench 11, plan and section. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 12

Figure 2	
Location	
Orientation	NE - SW
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.38m
Levels	
NE top	52.97m OD
SW top	52.17m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
122	Deposit	Topsoil	0.33m
123	Deposit	Subsoil	0.05m

Discussion

No archaeological features were present in Trench 12. A 13th century silver penny was recovered during metal detecting of subsoil **123** in this trench.

Trench 13

Figures 2, 11; Plate 9, 10	
Location	
Orientation	NW - SE
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.33m
Levels	
NW top	50.92m OD
SW top	51.73m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
124	Deposit	Topsoil	0.30m
125	Deposit	Subsoil	0.03m
194	Cut	Cremation	0.06m
195	Deposit	Fill of cremation **194**	0.12m
196	Cut	Ditch	0.12m
197	Deposit	Fill of ditch **196**	0.12m
198	Cut	Ditch	0.14m
199	Deposit	Fill of ditch **198**	0.14m

Discussion

Two small ditches of a north-north-west – south-south-east orientation were present in this trench. Ditch **198** measured only 0.14m deep, 0.50m wide, and was filled with pale brown silty clay **199**; Romano-British ceramic building material was recovered from this ditch. Ditch **196**, which appeared to pair with **198** was very similar in form, with a depth of 0.12m and a wider width of 0.75m. It was also filled with a pale brown silty clay; one fragment of post-medieval ceramic building material was retrieved from it, which considering the way this feature pairs with **198**, is likely to be intrusive.

These ditches do not appear in Trench 14, suggesting they terminate just to the north of Trench 13. It is possible that they respect/terminate at post-medieval hedge-line **164**=**181**, however, based on this investigation, a Romano-British date for this pair of ditches does seem more favourable. Additionally, in both their form, fill, finds, and orientation, these ditches are very similar to the one observed in Trench 3 and 4 **144**=**147**. Their alignment may suggests they played a role in the drainage of the site.

A further feature recorded in this trench was that of cremation **194**, which was cut by ditch **196**. This feature was sub-circular in plan with a diameter of 0.50m and only c. 0.05m thick.. It had a concave profile with gentle sloping sides and base. It contained a mid-greyish brown silty clay with occasional small fragments of charcoal and calcinated bone. A total quantity of 6.6g of cremated human bone were recovered from this feature. The remains primarily consisted of fragments of skull which likely derive from a juvenile. No additional finds were recovered, but a later prehistoric date for this cremation seems most likely.

Trench 13

Plate 9. Trench 13, Features 194, 196, and 198 – 1m and 0.5m scale, looking south-west.

Plate 10. Trench 13, Cremation 194 – 0.5m scale, looking south-west.

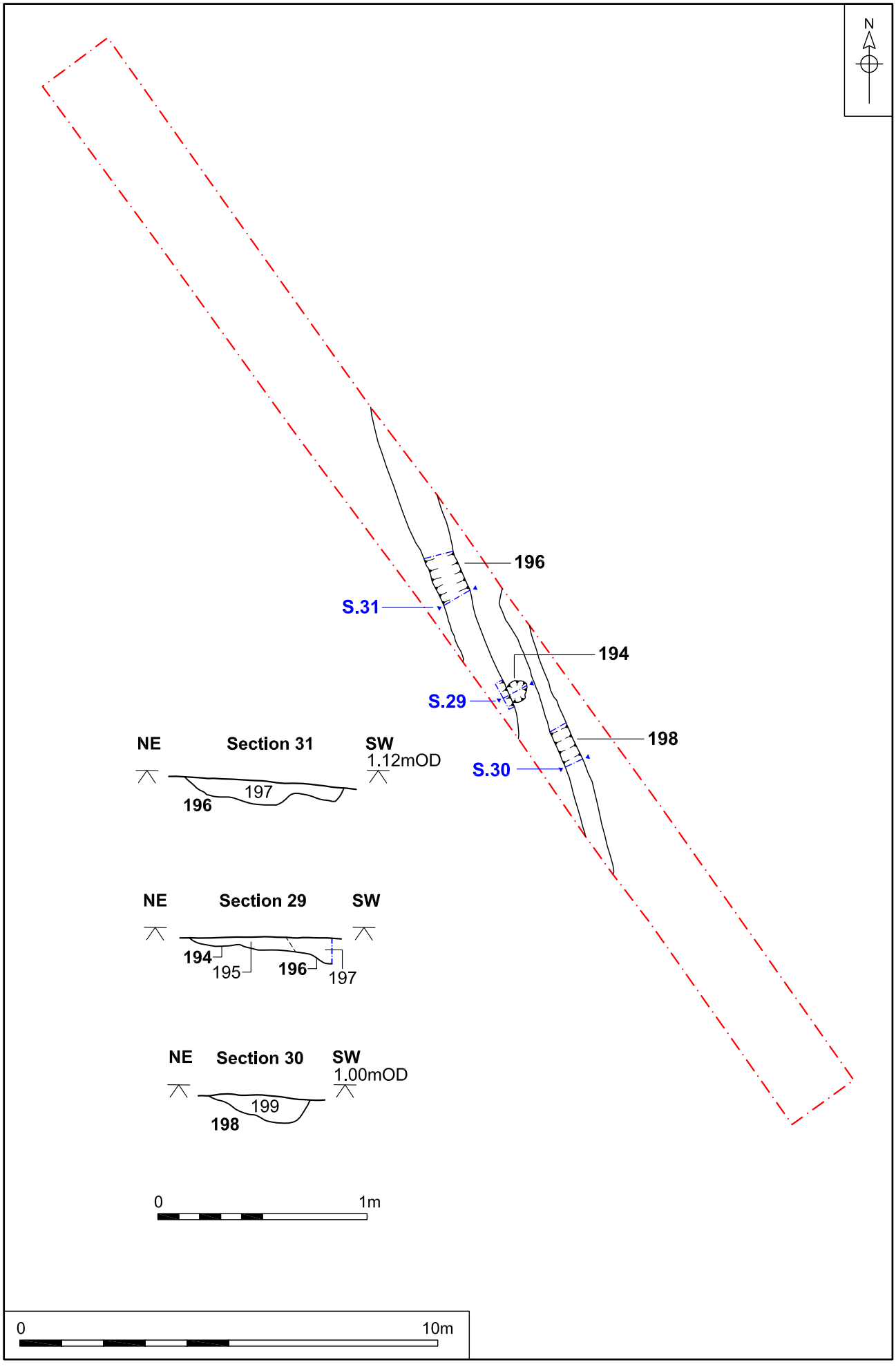

Figure 11. Trench 13, plan and sections. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 14

Figures 2, 12; Plate 11	
Location	
Orientation	NE - SW
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.38m
Levels	
NE top	50.64m OD
SW top	49.82m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
126	Deposit	Topsoil	0.30m
127	Deposit	Subsoil	0.08m
175	Cut	Ditch	0.24m
176	Deposit	Fill of ditch **175**	0.24m
177	Cut	Pit	0.16m
178	Deposit	Fill of pit **177**	0.16m

Discussion

Two archaeological features were identified in this trench, both located towards its north-east end. Ditch **175** had a depth of 0.24m and a width of 1.70m, with moderate sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled with **176**, a dark orangey brown silty clay from which Romano-British ceramic building material and pottery was recovered alongside post-medieval ceramic building material. It is likely that the Romano-British finds are residual in nature and that this feature does in fact date to the post-medieval period. It is possible based on its form and alignment that ditch **213** in Trench 20 may be the same as **175**.

Pit **177** was only partially uncovered, with half of it still underneath the north-west facing baulk of Trench 14. Its projection was circular in-plan, with its profile having gently sloping sides and a flat base. It measured 0.16m deep, 1m wide, and was filled with mid-orangey brown silty clay **178**. A small assemblage of fired clay, animal bone, and post-medieval ceramic building material was recovered from this deposit. The function of this pit is not known, but its situation close to ditch **175** may indicate that they are related.

Trench 14

Plate 11. Trench 14, Ditch 175 and Pit 177 – 1m scale, looking south-east.

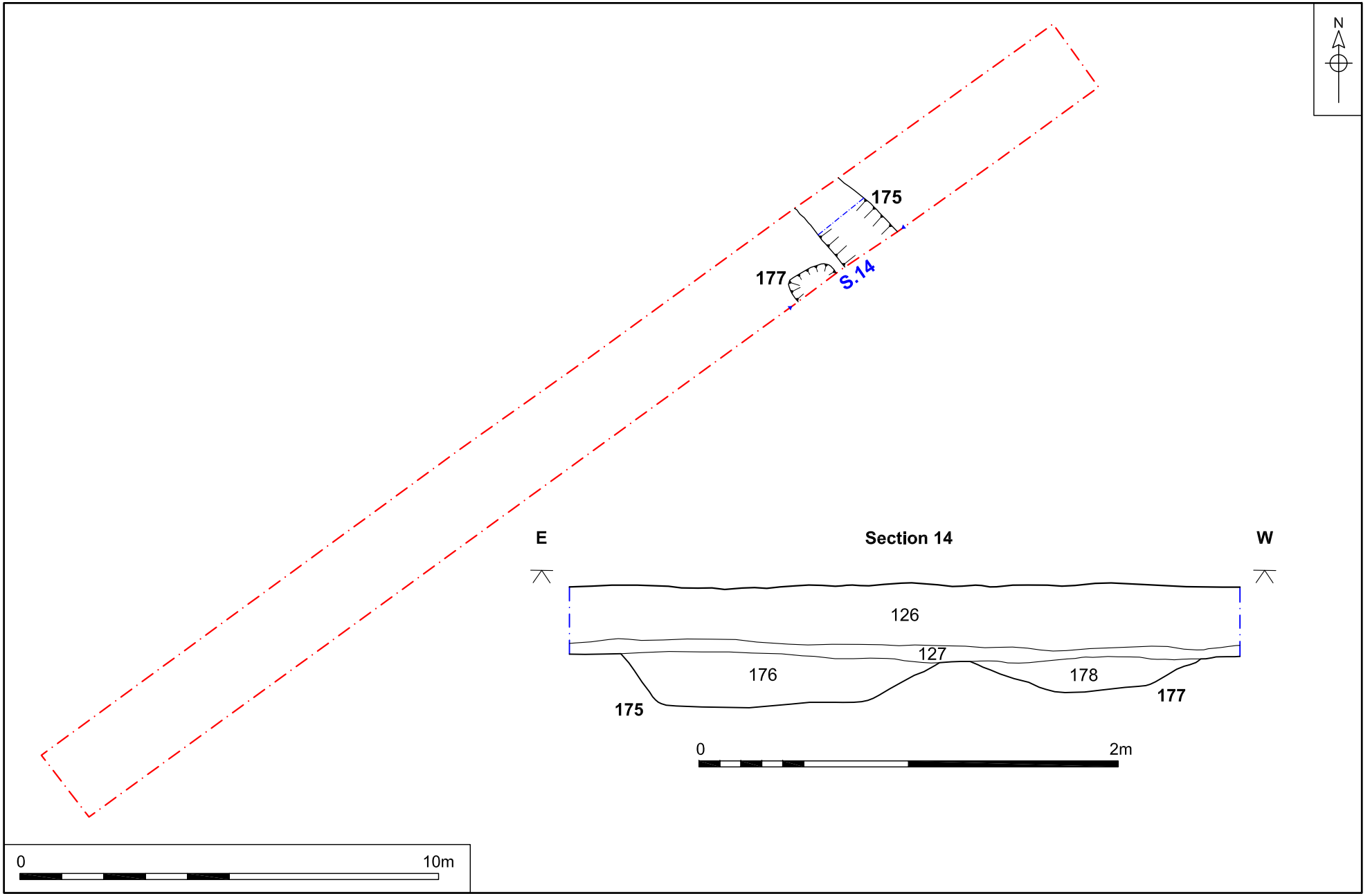

Figure 12. Trench 14, plan and section. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 15

Figures 2, 13; Plate 12, 13

Location	
Orientation	NW – SE
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.38m
Levels	
NW top	49.94m OD
SE top	51.79m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
128	Deposit	Topsoil	0.30m
129	Deposit	Subsoil	0.08m
179	Cut	Pit	0.16m
180	Deposit	Fill of pit **179**	0.16m
181	Cut	Feature	0.20m
182	Deposit	Fill of feature **181**	0.20m
183	Cut	Ditch	0.64m
184	Deposit	Primary fill of ditch **183**	0.20m
185	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch **183**	0.44m

Discussion

Three archaeological features were identified in Trench 15. North-east – south-west orientated linear feature **181** was located in the far south-east end of the trench. It had a depth of 0.20m and a width of 2.0m, with its fill **182** consisting of dark greyish brown silty clay. Four small fragments of possible Roman and post-medieval ceramic building material were recovered from this deposit along with 7 fragments of animal bone. This feature was also identified in Trench 11 (**164**); it has been stated previously how the form of this feature suggests it is not a ditch but possibly a bedding trench of a hedge used as a boundary marker.

Feature **181** cut **179**, a small pit 0.20m in diameter and only 0.16m deep and filled with a dark orangey brown silty clay **180**. No finds were recovered from this feature and thus its date could not be established.

Towards the centre of Trench 15, north-east – south-west aligned ditch **183** was located which had a depth of 0.64m and a width of 1.50m. It contained two fills; primary fill **184** which consisted of a mid-yellowish grey chalky clay which likely represents bank slump, and **185**, a dark greyish brown silty clay, likely the natural infilling of topsoil into the ditch, or an episode of backfilling. Post-medieval ceramic building material and animal bone was recovered from the upper fill. The bank of this feature appears to have been situated on its north-west side, with this feature probably functioned as a boundary/drainage ditch. This feature is also picked up in Trench 16.

Trench 15

Plate 12. Trench 15, Pit 179 and Feature 181 – 1m scale, looking north-east.

Plate 13. Trench 15, Ditch 183 – 1m scale, looking south-east.

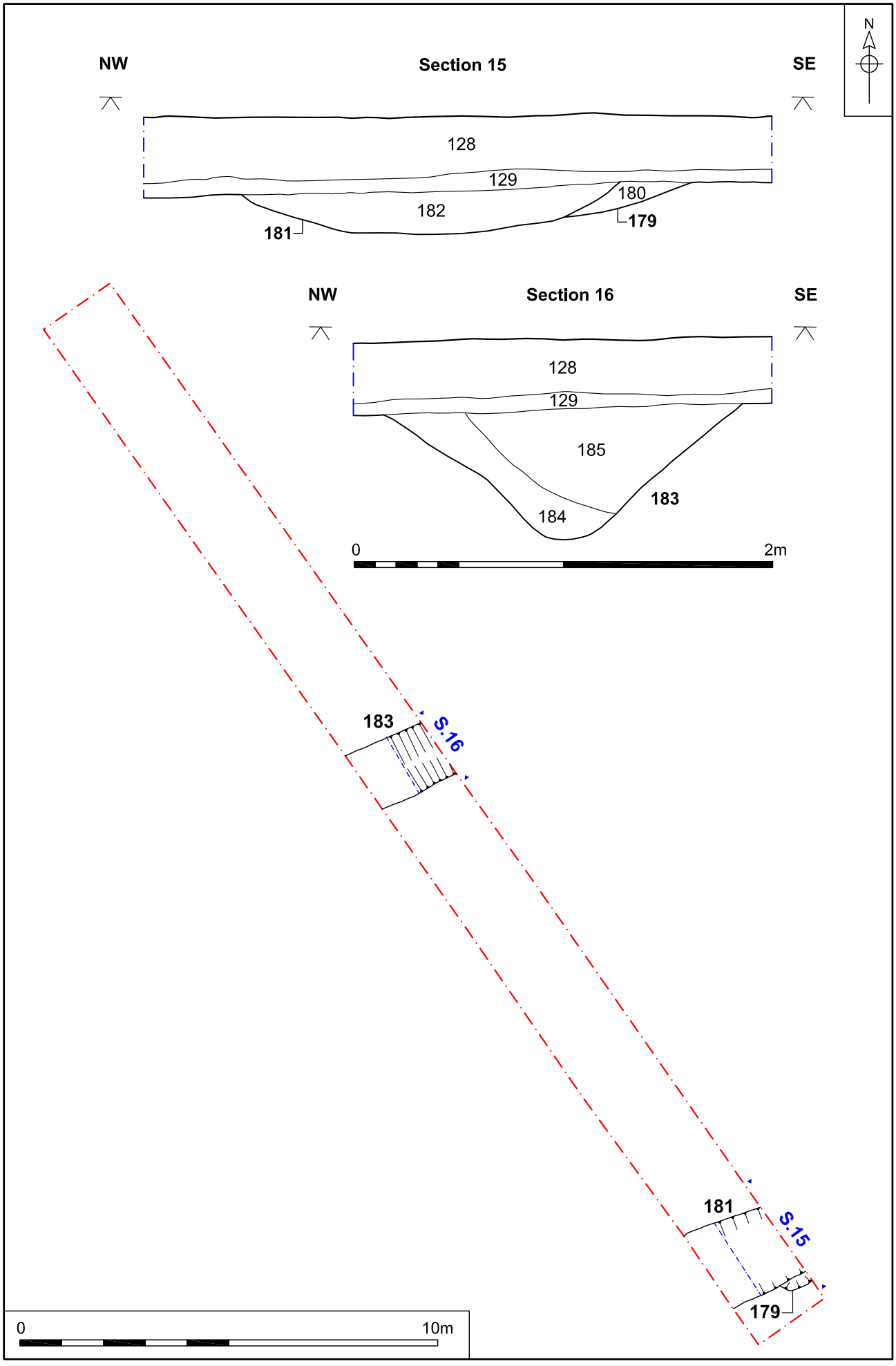

Figure 13. Trench 15, plan and sections. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 16

Figures 2, 14; Plate 14	
Location	
Orientation	NE - SW
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.38m
Levels	
NE top	51.59m OD
SW top	51.34m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
130	Deposit	Topsoil	0.38m
166	Cut	Ditch	0.45m
167	Deposit	Fill of ditch **166**	0.45m
168	Deposit	Fill of ditch **166**	0.45m

Discussion

A single feature, ditch **166** was identified in this trench. The dimensions of this feature could not be established because it was only partially exposed, with much of it under the north-west facing trench baulk; however, this feature was also picked up in Trench 15 and its approximate dimensions can be established with reference to **183**. The fills of ditch **166** however differed markedly from those in **183**. No primary bank slump was identified, and instead **167**, a pale yellowish brown silty clay deposit represented the primary fill. Above this deposit was a mid-brownish grey silty clay **168** with frequent charcoal flecks from which Middle-Late Iron Age pottery (1/1g), animal bone, undated ceramic building material, and struck flint was recovered. This feature however is most likely post-medieval in date.

Fill **168** appears to be fairly midden-like in character, with evidence of burning and domestic waste throughout. This deposit may possibly represent the deliberate backfilling of this feature with domestic material/night soil.

Trench 16

Plate 14. Trench 16, Ditch 166 – 1m scale, looking south-east.

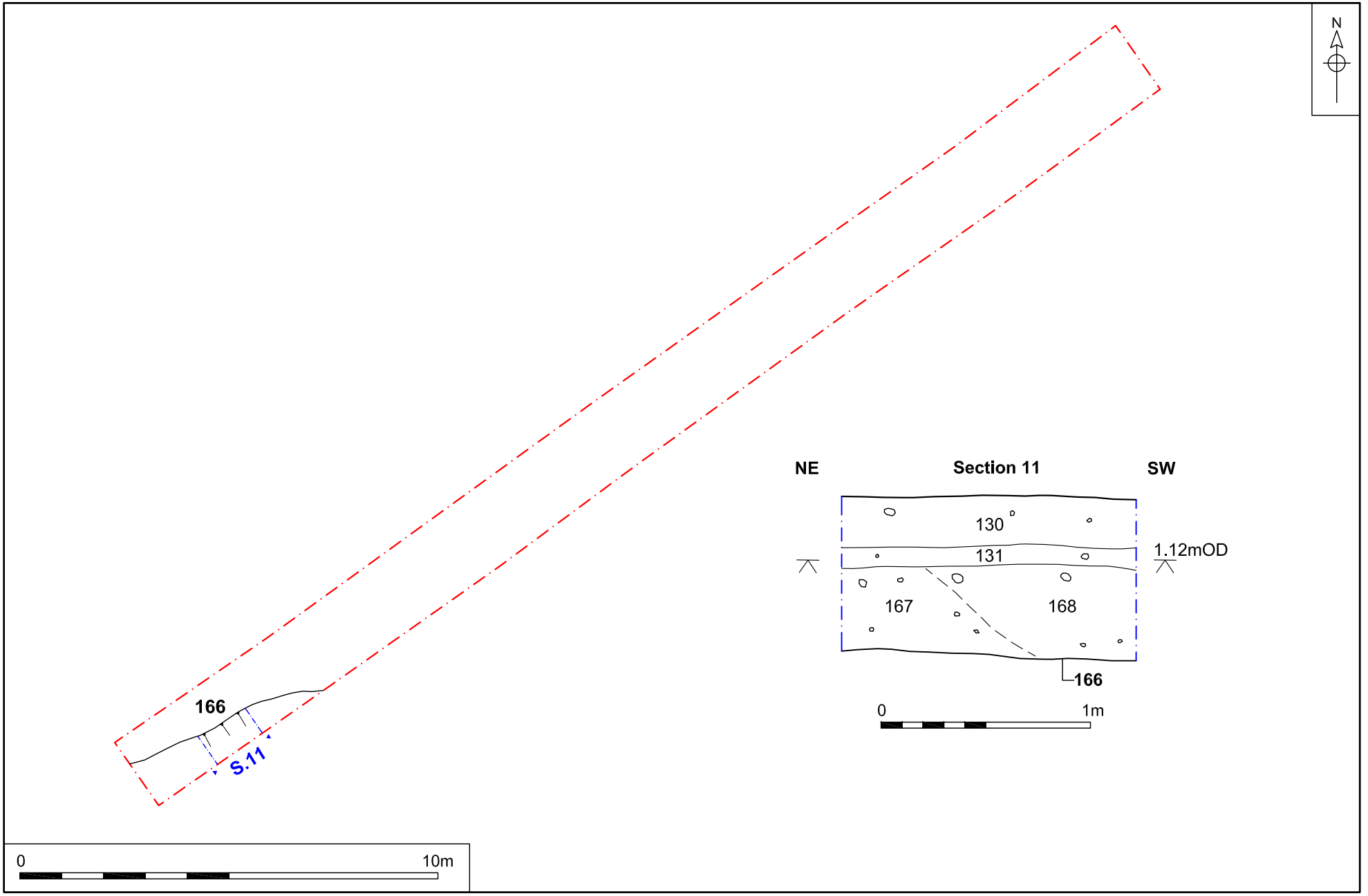

Figure 14. Trench 16, plan and section. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 17

Figure 2	
Location	
Orientation	NW–SE
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.34m
Levels	
NW top	47.48m OD
SE top	50.05m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
132	Deposit	Topsoil	0.34m

Discussion

No archaeological features were present in Trench 17. A post-medieval button was recovered from topsoil **132** in this trench.

Trench 18

Figures 2, 15; Plate 15	
Location	
Orientation	NE–SW
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.38m
Levels	
NE top	48.54m OD
SW top	48.38m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
134	Deposit	Topsoil	0.38m
169	Deposit	Tertiary fill of ditch **170**	0.10m
170	Cut	Ditch	0.34m
171	Deposit	Primary fill of ditch **170**	0.20m
172	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch **170**	0.10m

Discussion

Ditch **170** was identified towards the south-west end of Trench 18. This linear feature had a north-west – south-east orientation with a depth of 0.34m and width of 1.05m. It contained three fills; primary fill **171**, a mid-yellowish silty clay, secondary fill **172**, a deposit of concentrated small sub-angular gravels in a sparse yellow clay matrix, and tertiary fill **169**, a mid-yellowish brown silty clay. A finds assemblage which included Romano-British pottery (2/10g), struck flint, animal bone, and shell was recovered from primary deposit **171**. Based on its alignment and finds assemblage, it is highly likely that this ditch is the same one observed Trench 21 (**186**).

Plate 15. Trench 18, Ditch 170 – 1m scale, looking north-west.

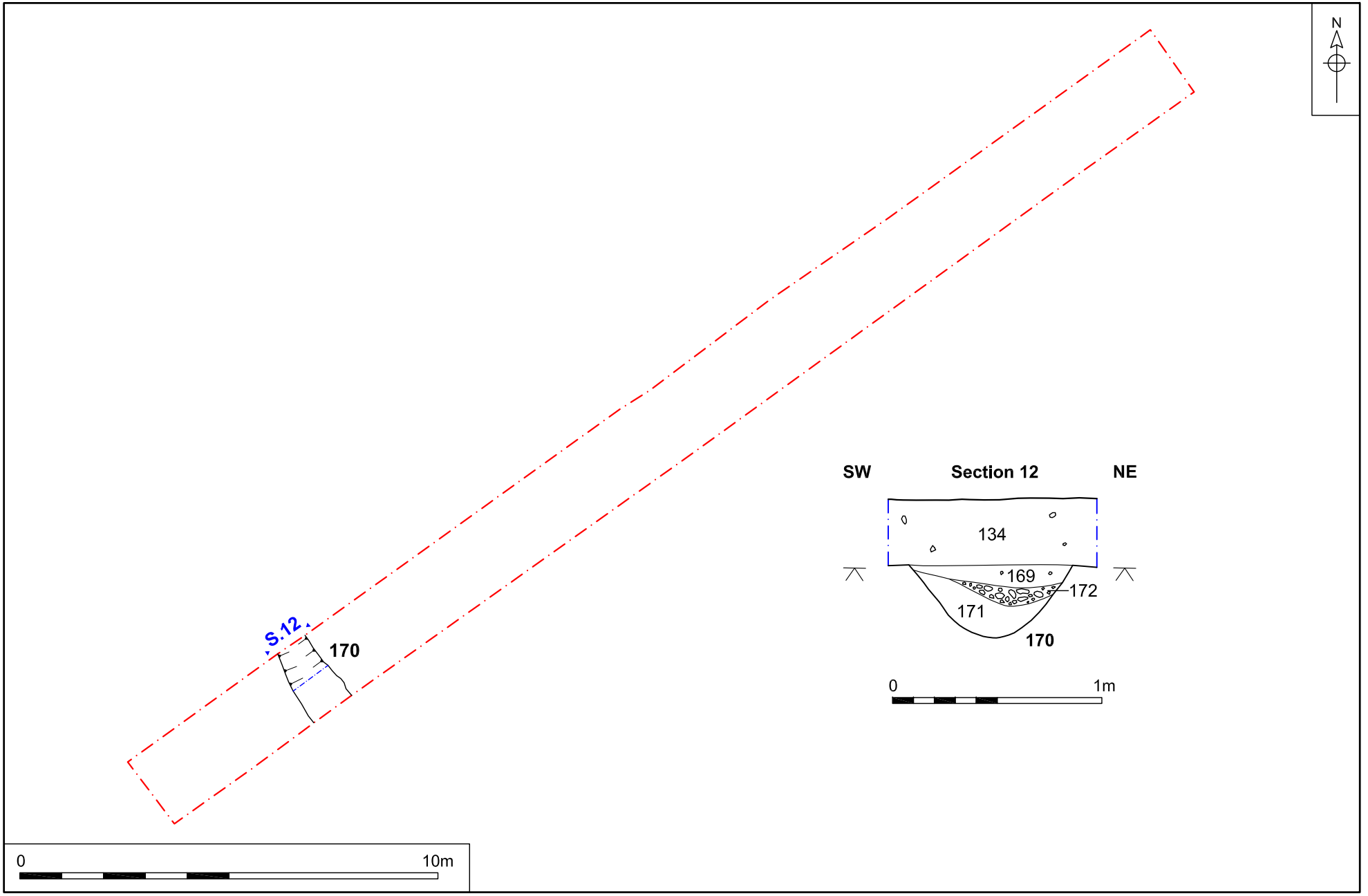

Figure 15. Trench 18, plan and section. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 19

Figures 2, 16; Plate 16	
Location	
Orientation	NW–SE
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.3m
Levels	
NW top	46.90m OD
SE top	48.89m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
136	Deposit	Topsoil	0.15m
137	Deposit	Subsoil	0.15m
189	Cut	Pit	0.20m
190	Deposit	Fill of pit 189	0.20m
191	Cut	Pit	0.60m
192	Deposit	Primary fill of pit 191	0.40m
193	Deposit	Secondary fill of pit 191	0.20m
200	Cut	Pit	1.00m +
201	Deposit	Primary fill of pit **200**	0.05m
202	Deposit	Secondary fill of pit **200**	0.25m
203	Deposit	Tertiary fill of pit **200**	0.25m

Discussion

Three archaeological features were identified in Trench 19. Circular pit **189** had a diameter of 1.10m, a depth of 0.20m, and was filled with a mid-greyish brown chalky clay. No finds were recovered from its fill and thus its date could not be ascertained. To the south of pit **189** was a much larger pit, **191**, which was only partially uncovered with much of it still underneath the south-west facing baulk. This feature had a width of 2.20m, a depth of 0.60m, and was filled with two deposits; primary fill **192** which consisted of a mid-brownish grey chalky clay, and secondary deposit **193**, a dark brownish grey chalky clay. Romano-British pottery (25/192g) and ceramic building material (2/238g), along with animal bone was recovered from the fills of pit **191**. The exact function of this pit in antiquity is not clear, but it may have been used in storage or created through marl extraction.

A further pit was present in the far south-east end of this trench. The dimensions of pit **200** could not be established as the majority of this feature was not exposed and was underneath the edge of excavation. Additionally the bottom of this feature was not reached as the excavation exceeded a total depth of 1.20m. Three fills were identified in this feature; lower fill **201**, a dark brownish grey silty clay, fill **202**, a mid-brownish grey silty clay, and final fill **203**, a dark greyish brown silty clay. Animal bone and late medieval/post-

Trench 19

medieval ceramic building material was recovered from these fills. It is possible that this could represent a large post-medieval extraction pit.

Plate 16. Trench 19, Pit 191 – 1m scale, looking north-east.

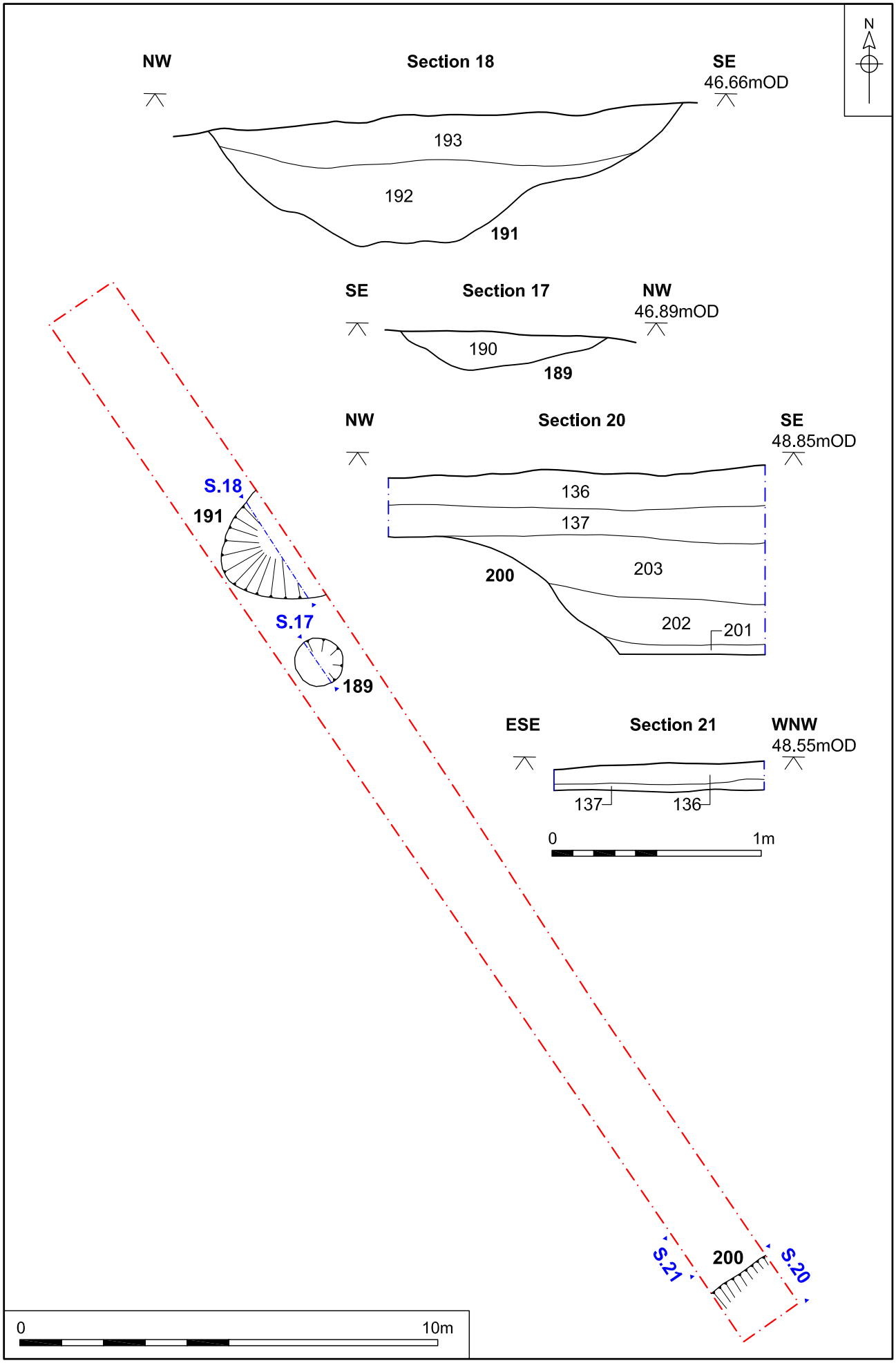

Figure 16. Trench 19, plan and sections. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 20

Figures 2, 17; Plate 17	
Location	
Orientation	NE–SW
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.26m
Levels	
NE top	45.82m OD
SW top	45.48m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
138	Deposit	Topsoil	0.17m
139	Deposit	Subsoil	0.09m
206	Cut	Ditch	0.40m
207	Deposit	Primary fill of ditch **206**	0.20m
208	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch **206**	0.20m
213	Cut	Ditch	0.15m
214	Deposit	Fill of ditch **213**	0.15m

Discussion

Two ditches both with a north-west – south-east orientation were present in this trench. Ditch **206** had a depth of 0.40m, a width of 1.40m, and was filled with two deposits; primary fill **207** consisted of a mid-brownish grey silty clay, and secondary fill **208** consisted of a dark brownish grey silty clay. Five sherds (88g) of Romano-British pottery were recovered from this feature. Although no post-medieval finds were retrieved, this feature is possibly the same as **175** in Trench 14, from which post-medieval ceramic building material was recovered along with residual Romano-British finds; consequently, its date is uncertain.

Ditch **213** was fairly shallow with a depth of only 0.15m and was 1.00m wide. It was filled with a mid-greyish brown sandy clay which contained no finds. The similarity of its orientation to **206** may suggest it is of the same date.

A number of medieval and post-medieval copper-alloy finds (including a buckle and vessel repair) were recovered through metal detecting of subsoil **139** in this trench.

Trench 20

Plate 17. Trench 20, Ditch 213 – 1m scale, looking north-west.

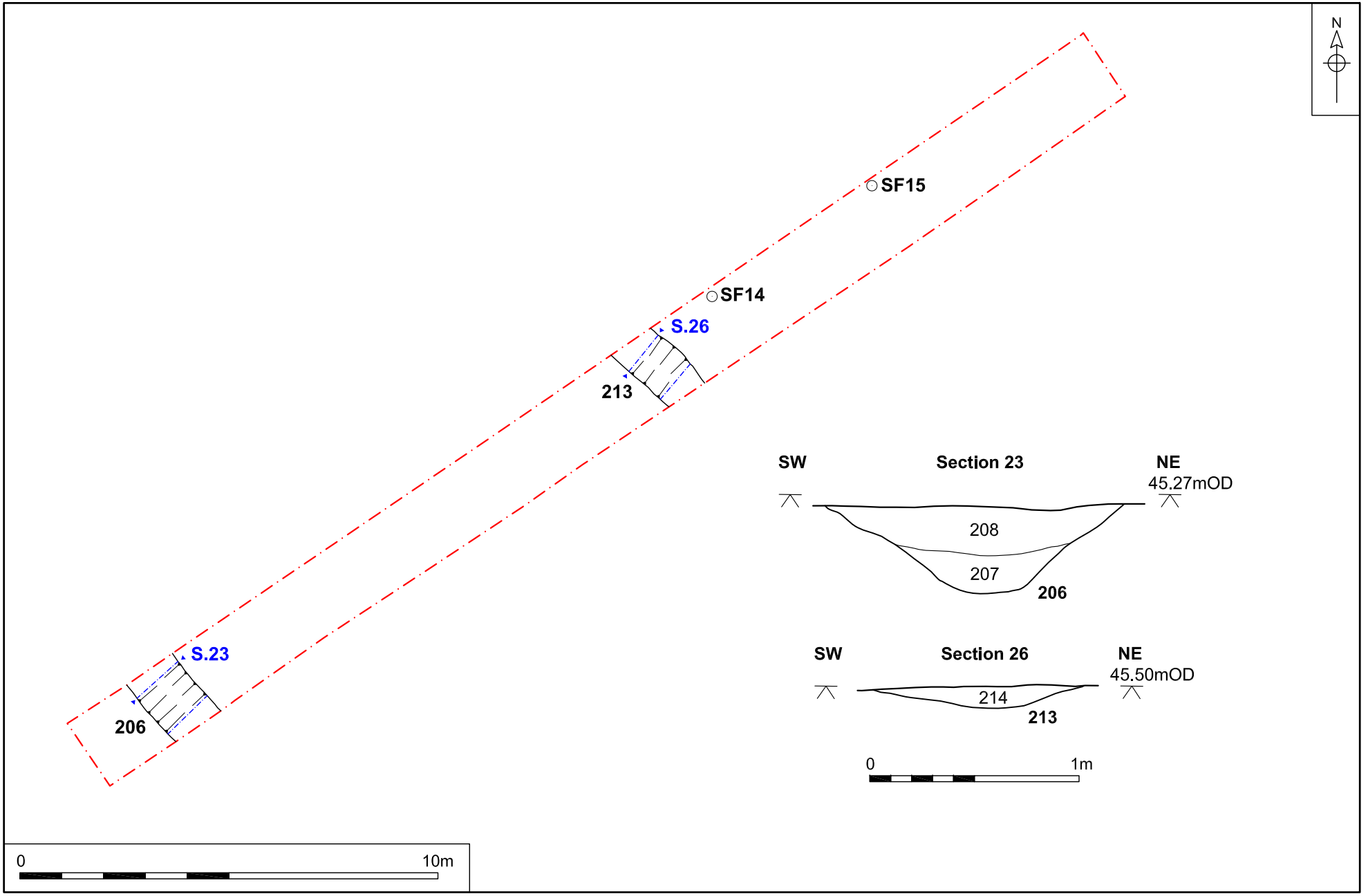

Figure 17. Trench 20, plan and sections. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 21

Figures 2, 18; Plate 18		
Location		
Orientation	NW–SE	
Dimensions		
Length	30.00m	
Width	1.80m	
Depth	0.70m	
Levels		
NW top		47.10m OD
SE top		45.13m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
140	Deposit	Topsoil	0.28m
141	Deposit	Subsoil	0.42m
186	Cut	Ditch	0.86m
187	Deposit	Fill of ditch **186**	0.86m

Discussion

A single feature was present in this trench. Ditch **186** had a north-west – south-east orientation, with moderately sloping sides and a gently sloping base. The depth of this feature was established as 0.86m, however its width could not be ascertained as the western side of the ditch remained unexposed underneath the north-west facing baulk. It was filled with a single fill, **187**, a mid-brown silty clay with occasional small – medium sized flint inclusions. From this fill a large finds assemblage was recovered which included 315 sherds of Early 2nd century Romano-British pottery (1720g), 35 fragments of ceramic building material (2708g), as well as animal bone, stone, and struck flint. Such a concentration of finds points towards the active disposal of occupational waste material into this ditch, likely from an area of habitation in the near vicinity. The ditch itself most likely had an agrarian function, used in drainage, as a field boundary, or a stock enclosure. The deposition of concentrations of domestic material into the ditch may however suggest that it could potentially represent an enclosure ditch of a settlement. It is highly likely that this is the same as ditch **170** observed in Trench 17.

Trench 21

Plate 18. Trench 21, Ditch 186 – 0.5m scale, looking south-east.

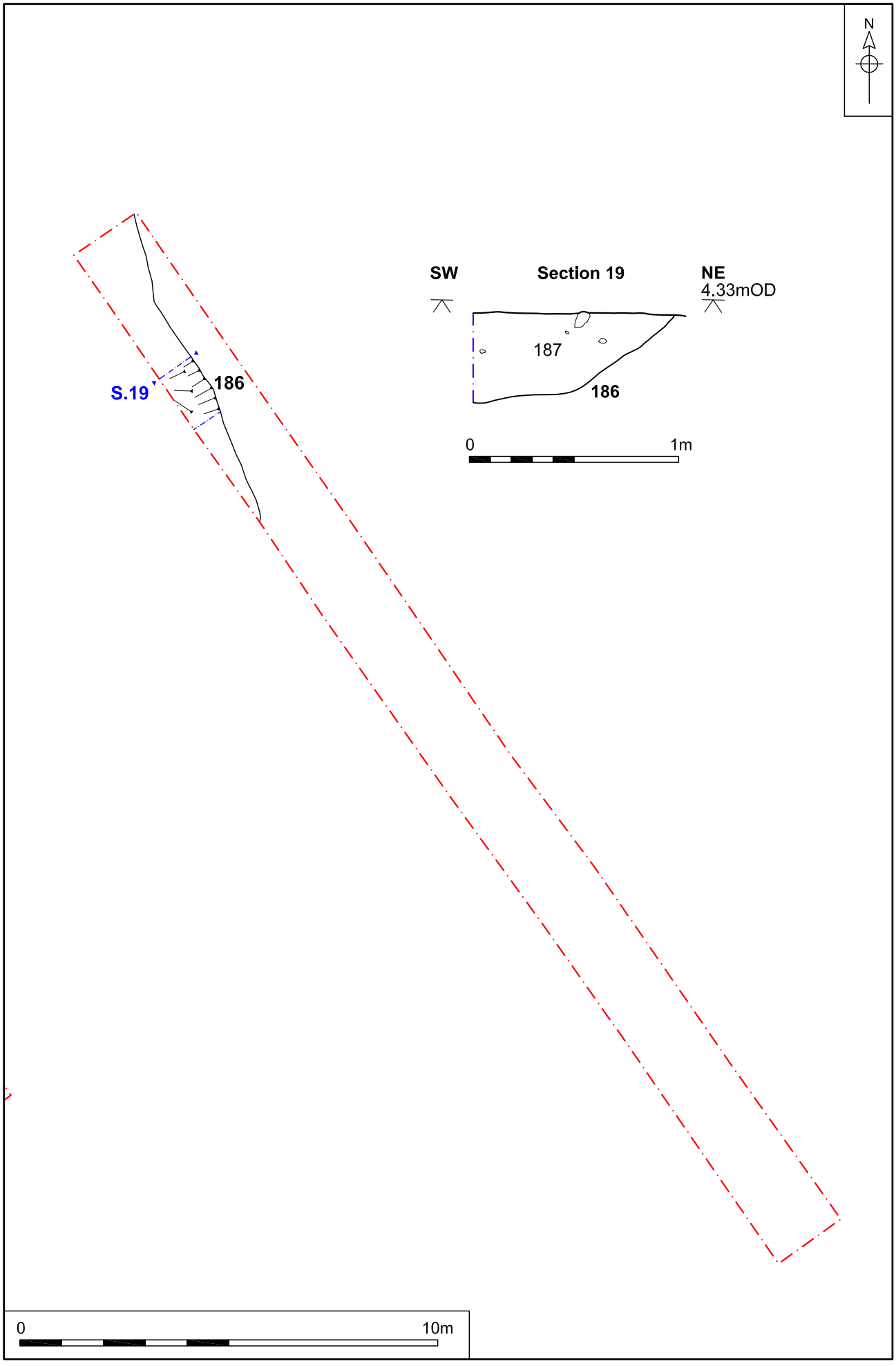

Figure 18. Trench 21, plan and section. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 22

Figure 2	
Location	
Orientation	NE–SW
Dimensions	
Length	30.00m
Width	1.80m
Depth	0.55m
Levels	
NE top	46.33m OD
SW top	46.18m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness
142	Deposit	Topsoil	0.28m
143	Deposit	Subsoil	0.27m

Discussion

No archaeological features were present in Trench 22.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS

Prehistoric and Roman Pottery

Andrew Peachy

50 Evaluation excavations recovered a total of 380 sherds (2398g) of prehistoric and Roman pottery (Table 2), including a small component of Middle to Late Iron Age date, and a group of very highly fragmented Roman pottery, predominantly contained in a single ditch, likely dating to the early 2nd century AD. The Roman pottery is almost entirely comprised of locally-produced coarse wares, with a single sherd of samian ware and storage jar fragments potentially from slightly further south in Essex.

Period	Sherd Count	Weight (g)
Middle-Late Iron Age	7	46
Roman	373	2352
Total	*380*	*2398*

Table 2: Quantification of pottery by period

Methodology

51 The pottery was quantified by sherd count, weight (g) and R.EVE with fabrics examined at x20 magnification in accordance with 'A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology' (Barclay *et al* 2016), developed from the guidelines of the Study Group for Roman Pottery. Fabric codes and descriptions were cross-referenced, where possible, to the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber & Dore 1998) or regional kiln/type series, while local or indistinguishable coarse wares were assigned an alpha-numeric code and are fully described in the report. All data has been entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that forms part of the site archive.

Fabric Descriptions

Middle-Late Iron Age

Q1	Handmade sand-tempered ware. Dark red-black surfaces over a thick dark grey core. Inclusions comprise common-abundant sub-angular quartz (0.25-0.5mm), sparse flint (<5mm) and mica.

Roman

LMV SA	Les Martres-de-Veyre samian ware (Tomber & Dore 1998, 30)
BSW1	Black-surfaced/Romanizing reduced ware 1. Black/dark grey surfaces, thin red margins and a dark grey-brown core. Inclusions comprise common quartz and sparse iron ore (0.1-0.25mm) sparse fine mica and sparse grog (0.25-1.5mm). A hard fabric with a slightly abrasive to soapy feel.
GRS1	Sandy grey ware 1. Mid grey surfaces over a lighter/pale grey core. Inclusions comprise common quartz (0.1-0.25mm), sparse fine mica and sparse black iron rich grains (0.25-1.5mm). A hard fabric with a slightly abrasive to smooth feel.
WAT RE	Wattisfield/Waveney Valley reduced ware (Tomber & 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.
STOR1	Storage Jar fabric 1. Mid orange to black surfaces fading to a thick dark grey core. Inclusions comprise common angular grog (0.25-2.5mm), quartz (0.1-0.25mm) and sparse-occasional chalk (0.5-4mm). A hard fabric with a slightly soapy feel.

Fabric	Sherd Count	Weight (g)
Q1	7	46
LMV SA	1	8
BSW1	157	551
GRS1	142	702
WAT RE	59	401
STOR1	14	690
Total	*380*	*2398*

Table 3: Quantification of fabric types

Discussion

52 Fabric Q1 is characteristic of the relatively crude ovoid and weak-shouldered jars that typify ceramics in the Middle to Late Iron Age in Suffolk. The only diagnostic sherd was contained in posthole **173**, which comprised the rounded shoulder of a jar or bowl decorated with a narrow, combed zig-zag pottery; potentially favouring a date in the Late Iron age but far from conclusive. The remaining Fabric Q1 sherds were limited to a sparse distribution of very small plain body sherds contained in postholes **151**, **155**, pit **162** and ditch **166**.

53 The Roman pottery was principally comprised of a group of 337 very small sherds (1743g) with limited diagnostic value contained in ditch **181**. A very sparse distribution of further Roman sherds appears to conform to the same pattern of supply and consumption, and is likely contemporary, with sherds contained in ditches **149**, **170**, **175**, **206**, and pit **191**. The ditch **181** group was dominated by locally-produced reduced wares (GRS1 and BSW1), including small rim sherds of everted bead rim jars and the foot-ring base of a platter; supplemented by the micaceous WAT RE produced by the major industry in north-central Suffolk, whose wares included a narrow neck jar and the rim of a poppyhead beaker, suggesting a date in the mid 1st to 2nd centuries AD.

54 An early Roman chronology is supported by a single sherd of samian ware imported from central Gaul (LMV SA), represented by a quarter-moulded basal junction characteristic of Dr.15/17 platters that were likely imported in the early 2nd century AD. The group also included sparse thick body sherds of the very hard-fired, heavily grog-tempered storage jar fabric STOR1, typically associated with kilns in Essex in the area of Colchester and Chelmsford. The type of storage represented may be indicated by a rim sherd contained in subsoil **141**, which lay above Trench 21, in which ditch **181** was recorded. This vessel comprised a storage jar with an upright ‘golf club’ robust rounded rim, with a short neck and line of stabbed decoration on the shoulder; a relatively ling-lived form type with a currency spanning the mid 1st to 3rd centuries AD.

Post-Roman Pottery

Sue Anderson

55 Two sherds of post-Roman pottery were recovered. From pit fill **193** there was a tiny sherd of an intrusive unprovenanced medieval glazed ware, found in sample <1>. A small flake of transfer-printed pearlware was collected from context **145**.

Ceramic Building Material

56 *Sue Anderson*

Introduction and methodology

57 Sixty-eight fragments (4175g) of CBM were collected from fourteen contexts (Appendix 8). Table 4 shows the types present.

The CBM was quantified by context, fabric and type, using fragment count and weight in grams. Fabrics are based on coarseness of sand within the matrix and major inclusions, but for smaller fragments this may mean classification simply on the basis of the sand content. Roman forms were identified with the aid of Brodribb (1987). The presence of burning, combing, finger marks, mortar and other surface treatments was recorded. Tile thicknesses were measured and for flanged tegulae, the form of flange was noted and its width and external height were measured. Data was input into an MS Access database, and a full catalogue forms part of the archive.

Type	Form	Code	No	Wt/g	Min No
Roman	Flanged *tegula*	FLT	2	1241	2
	Imbrex	IMB	14	589	4
	Roman tile	RBT	9	1491	3
		RBT?	7	50	7
Roofing	Plain roof tile: medieval	RTM	1	13	1
	Plain roof tile: late/post-med	RTP	18	386	18
	Plain roof tile: uncertain date	RT	4	47	4
	Pantile	PAN	1	50	1
Walling	Post-medieval brick	LB	2	274	2
Unknown	Unidentified	UN	10	34	10
Totals			*68*	*4175*	*52*

Table 4. CBM quantities by form.

Roman tile

58 Thirty-two fragments (3371g) represented a minimum of 16 Roman tiles. Table 5 shows the distribution of fabrics and forms.

59 Two pieces of flanged *tegula* were recovered from subsoil **141** and ditch fill **187**. The former had a broken flange and partial upper cutway, and the body was 24mm thick. The latter had a complete rectangular-section flange (30-35mm wide, 44-52mm high), and was 30mm thick. Both were in a fairly coarse, soft fabric with flint and ferrous inclusions.

60 Fourteen fragments of four *imbrices* were recovered from ditch fill **187**, all in a soft fine sandy fabric with clay pellets. They measured between 12–16mm thick.

Fabric	code	FLT	IMB	RBT	RBT?
silty clay	s			1	
fine sandy	fs				4
fs with clay pellets	fscp		14	7	
medium sandy	ms				3
ms with flint and ferrous inclusions	msffe	2		1	

Table 5. Roman CBM fabrics and forms (fragment count)

61 Sixteen fragments of at least ten other Roman tiles were found. Seven fragments were small and heavily abraded, and their identification was less certain. Further similar pieces were recorded as unidentified due to the similarity between some Roman and post-medieval fabrics in the assemblage (see below). Three tiles were present amongst the remaining fragments. A fragment in linear fill **199** was 23mm thick and may be a piece of a flanged tegula. Fragments of a single tile, joining fragments of which were found in ditch fill **187** and linear fill **199**, was 32mm thick, which is towards the thicker end of the range for a flanged tegula, or the lower end of the wall brick or floor tile range. A fragment measuring 44mm thick in pit fill **193** was probably a wall/floor tile.

Post-Roman and undated tile

62 Table 6 shows the distribution of post-Roman tile by fabric and form.

Fabric	Code	RTM	RTP	RT	PAN	LB	UN
fine sandy	fs		4		1		4
fs with clay pellets	fscp		2				3
fs with flint	fsf		1				
fs with ferrous inclusions	fsfe					1	1
fsf with ferrous inclusions	fsffe					1	
fs poorly mixed	fsx						2
medium sandy	ms	1		4			
ms with flint	msf		10				
msf with ferrous inclusions	msffe		1				

Table 6. Post-Roman CBM fabrics and forms (fragment count)

63 One fragment of a medieval roof tile with a reduced core was recovered from ditch fill **165**. The majority of roof tile fragments were fully oxidised and probably of late medieval or post-medieval date. A few pieces, incuding one with a circular peg hole, may be either medieval or post-medieval. A nib fragment of a post-medieval pantile was found in **203**. All pieces were abraded, some heavily so.

64 A fragment of post-medieval brick in a hard, dark red, 'fsffe' fabric came from pit fill **202**. It was worn on the surface, suggesting use as a paviour, and was 43+mm thick. Another fragment of post-medieval brick from pit fill **203** was in a softer 'fsfe' fabric and was abraded. There were two scored lines on a small remaining area of original surface.

65 Several fragments in this assemblage were heavily abraded and had little original surface remaining. This meant that they could not be identified with any certainty, and some could be either Roman or post-medieval. These are noted in the appendix.

Discussion

66 Roman tiles were found in a number of contexts, sometimes in association with later ceramics. The largest group was recovered from ditch fill **187**, which also contained wheelmade greyware pottery of Roman date. The presence of these tiles, which include both roofing and potentially wall/floor tiles, suggests the presence of a substantial Roman structure somewhere in the vicinity. Roman tiles and other debris have previously been found in fields to the east of the village (SHER BIL 004), and a Roman road ran to the north of the village.

67 The post-Roman CBM included a fragment of medieval tile, but the majority was of later medieval or post-medieval date, and was dominated by roof tile.

Fired Clay

Sue Anderson

68 Twenty-two fragments (49g) of fired clay were collected from four contexts (Appendix 7). A rounded fragment in a silty fabric was found in **178**. Twelve pieces in a fine sandy calcareous fabric with red clay pellets were from **187**, all abraded, and this context also produced four tiny fragments in a fine sandy poorly mixed fabric. Hard, orange fragments in a fine sandy chalk-tempered fabric were recovered from **193** and **207**, all irregular lumps. None of these fragments is diagnostic for function, but chalk-tempered fired clay is often found on medieval sites and may represent pieces of oven dome.

Struck Flint

Andrew Peachy

69 Excavations recovered a total of five pieces (27g) of struck flint and four pieces of burnt flint (33g), including a single notched flake of probable Neolithic date, but generally in a patinated and weathered condition that suggests it may have been re-deposited.

70 The implements and flakes recorded were manufactured utilising high quality mid to dark grey flint with a thin white off-white to white chalky cortex; however exposed surfaces varied between slight to heavy white patination.

Methodology

71 The flint was quantified by fragment count and weight (g), with all data entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that will be deposited as part of the archive. Flake type (see 'Dorsal cortex,' below) or implement type, patination, colour and

condition were also recorded as part of this data set, along with free-text comments.

72 The term 'cortex' refers to the natural weathered exterior surface of a piece of flint, and the term 'patination' to the colouration of a flaked surface exposed by human or natural agency. Dorsal cortex is categorised after Andrefsky (2005, 104 & 115) with 'primary flake' referring to those with cortex covering 100% of the dorsal face; 'secondary flake' with 50-99%; 'tertiary' with 1-49% and 'un-corticated' to those with no dorsal cortex. A 'blade' is defined as an elongated flake whose length is at least twice as great as it's breadth, often exhibiting parallel dorsal flake scars (a feature that can assist in the identification of broken blades that, by definition, have an indeterminate length/breadth ratio). Terms used to describe implement and core types follow the system adopted by Healy (1988, 48-9).

Commentary on implements and technology

73 The notched flake was contained in ditch **186** and was manufactured on a blade like tertiary flake with parallel dorsal scars, characteristic of the systematic core technology employed in the Neolithic period, potentially more common in the Early Neolithic and declining thereafter. A 15mm wide notch was worked by abrupt retouch into the centre of one lateral edge, and likely functioned as a scraping tool, potentially for use on wooden rods or bone. The notched flake was associated with two slightly irregular debitage flakes, and it remains inconclusive if these were the product of human agency. However, isolated small blade-like debitage flakes were contained in a heavily patinated condition in ditches **170** and **206**.

74 Burnt flint was only present in very low quantity, but in posthole **151** a small debitage flake was recovered that had been burnt after it was removed from a core; while the burnt flint in posthole **158** and pit **162** was simply heat-shattered, crackled small fragments.

Cremated Remains

Sue Anderson

Introduction

75 This report examines the cremated bone collected from a possible cremation burial of unknown date. Bone was recovered in a bulk sample <5> from pit **194** (fill **195**), and from sample <6> in linear **196** (fill **197**) which cut the pit. The latter is considered to be possibly Romano-British in date, but no finds were associated with the former. In addition, a small quantity of burnt bone was recovered from pit 162 (fill 163).

Methodology

76 Bone was collected as bulk samples and sieved using flotation. The bone was separated into three fractions (>5.6mm, >2.8mm, >0.5mm) and sorted into five categories: skull, axial, upper limb, lower limb, and unidentified. All fragment groups were weighed to the nearest nearest tenth of a gram. Measurements of maximum skull and long bone fragment sizes were also recorded. Observations were made, where possible, concerning bone colour, age, sex, dental remains and pathology. Identifiable fragments were noted. Methods used follow the

Workshop of European Anthropologists (WEA 1980) and McKinley (1994 and 2004).

The cremated bone from 194/196

77 Table 7 shows the bone weights and percentages of identified bone from the burial, and the proportions of bone identified from the four areas of the skeleton (skull, axial, upper limb, lower limb). Expected proportions are provided based on McKinley (1994, 6). A full quantification is included in Appendix 10.

Area	Total wt/g	% identified	% expected
Skull	4.2	63.6	*18.2*
Axial	0.3	4.5	*20.6*
Upper limb	0.2	3.0	*23.1*
Lower limb	1.9	28.8	*38.1*
Unidentified	40.6	-	-
Total	**47.2**	-	-

Table 7. Percentages of identified fragments out of total identified to area of skeleton.

78 This shows that skull fragments were significantly over-represented amongst the identifiable material, and that all other areas were under-represented. Much of the unidentified material comprised small fragments of long bone. It has been suggested that 'it should be possible to recognise any bias in the collection of certain areas of the body after cremation' (McKinley 1994, 6). However, there is also some bias inherent in the identification of elements, the skull being particularly easy to identify even in highly fragmented bone groups. These figures therefore provide only a rough guide to what was originally collected.

79 The majority of bone in this group was fully oxidised and white in colour, although a few fragments of long bones were grey or black. The presence of a high proportion of white bone indicates firing temperatures in excess of c.600°C (McKinley 2004, 11). Mays (1999, 159) noted that the uniformity of colour in the surviving bone at Ardleigh in Essex may be due to poor survival of less well cremated bone.

80 The degree of fragmentation was quite high and the identification rate, only 6.6%, reflects the fact that most pieces were unidentifiable long bone. The largest fragment of skull was 13mm long and the largest piece of long bone 32mm long. The majority of the bone was in the >5.6mm fraction (24.5g), with a smaller proportion >2.8mm (19.4g), and only 3.3g in the >0.5mm fraction.

81 The total weight of the burial is very low. Mays (1998, Table 11.2) notes that the combusted weight of an adult skeleton has a mean of around 1500g for females and 2300g for males. The quantity of bone in this assemblage therefore represents only a small proportion of the combusted weight of an average adult skeleton.

82 Identifiable pieces in this group included cranial vault, fragments of the left supra-orbital part of the frontal bone, part of the parietal at the squamous suture, and fragments of the main leg bones. No teeth were present. A few of

the fragments may be pieces of burnt animal bone, and one sheep tooth was present in **195**.

83 There was no evidence to suggest that the bone from this burial represented more than one individual. The size of the bones are suggestive of an older juvenile or small adult, whilst the very thin skull fragments (including the piece of the supra-orbital part of the frontal bone) are more indicative of a juvenile.

84 No evidence of pathology was found.

Cremated/calcined bone from pit 162

85 Sample <4> of pit fill **163** contained a total of 0.4g of burnt bone, all very small pieces which were not identifiable to species.

Summary and discussion

86 The burial contained the fragmented remains of a single individual, a possible juvenile of unknown sex. The total weight of bone indicates that the burial was very incomplete. This may be due to poor collection following the cremation ritual, poor preservation of incompletely cremated material following burial, the token collection of remains for burial, or most likely severe truncation. A small quantity of unurned bone, if not truncated, is typical of later prehistoric cremation deposits in Suffolk, suggesting that **195** may be of later Bronze Age or Iron Age date.

87 There is potential for radiocarbon dating if required – a fragment of long bone from the >5.6mm fraction in **195** could be selected.

Metalwork

Rebecca Sillwood

Introduction

88 Twenty-four objects of metal were recovered from the site, all were unstratified from the topsoil and subsoil of different trenches, except in one case where a nail was recovered from a ditch.

89 The material recovered included seventeen finds of copper alloy, two of lead, two of iron and one of silver. All finds were recorded and catalogued in an Excel spreadsheet which forms part of the archive. No cleaning or x-radiography had been carried out on the finds at the time of this report.

90 The finds originated from the medieval, post-medieval and modern eras.

Copper alloy

91 The two earliest finds of copper alloy were a strap end and a probable sheet vessel repair. The strap end (SF12) was recovered from Trench 7 and was a simple sheet example folded in half widthways and secured with a rivet at the attachment end. There were traces of gilding on this piece, though it was much pitted and worn. A similar example was recovered from London and was dated to the 14th century (Egan & Pritchard, 2013, 128, fig. 84, no. 594). The repair (SF14) was recovered from Trench 20 and comprised an incomplete rectangular sheet, with irregular rivets and rivet holes around the edge. It is possible that this piece was a patch or repair, used in an *ad hoc* manner to seal

a vessel, and was of similar date to the above strap end (Egan, 2012, 176, fig. 144, no. 494).

92 The slightly later or more ambiguously dated copper alloy pieces included two buckles, both of similar type. One (SF3) was recovered from trench 5, and the second (SF19), came from Trench 20. Both examples were incomplete double-loop types, or 'spectacle' buckles. Similar examples to these were illustrated by Whitehead (1996, pp.61-63) and dated broadly to between the 15th and 17th centuries.

93 Another possible late medieval to early post-medieval piece was a cast solid worn fragment, which may have been a cast bronze vessel foot from a ewer or cauldron, in the same style as those illustrated by Margeson (1993, 92, fig. 59).

94 The remaining ambiguous find was of uncertain purpose - it consisted of a pointed oval flat sheet (SF19) with a rivet hole in one end, and the possible remnants of an iron rivet in the middle. This piece may have been part of a simple strap end or feasibly a pendant, but it is not possible to be sure.

95 The more certain post-medieval material included an illegible coin (SF17) and a possible coin (SF16), plus a token (SF18). The token had some details visible, but not enough to be certain of its origin. Usually the legend including 'IN ….' and a place name identifies a local trader's token, which might have been issued by a grocer or even a public house for use by their customers. The exact trader and town were not identifiable in this case.

96 Other post-medieval finds included a probable spoon (SF4), a washer or eyelet (SF2), a crotal bell fragment (SF6), a button (SF13), and other more uncertain pieces.

97 A single modern coin (SF9) was recovered from the site, dating to the 20th-century.

Lead

98 Two lead objects were recovered from this site. The first was an ornately moulded spindle whorl (SF1), which was recovered from trench 2. The spindle whorl was spherical with a central aperture, decorated with five raised lozenges around the outside interspersed with ribs (see cover photo). There was a pronounced moulding seam around the circumference of this piece. Standley (2016) has discussed this type of spindle whorl extensively, and an exact parallel is depicted by her (*ibid.* 286, Fig. 7a). This type of whorl is thought to have originated in France, and it is almost certain that the design was imported from there if not the objects themselves. A stone mould for the type was recovered in Lyons (*ibid.* 281) where eight lozenges were found around the edge, as opposed to the five found on this example. Standley states that this is a type only found in 'the southern counties and the Midlands' and they date to between the 13th to 15th centuries.

99 The second lead find was a simple flat washer (SF5), probably post-medieval in date and from Trench 6.

Iron

100 Two iron finds were recovered - one was possibly part of a knife (SF10) of unknown date and unstratified in origin (trench 15); the second was a nail which was recovered from ditch fill **145**.

Silver

101 A single medieval silver penny was recovered from the site (SF8) recovered from Trench 12. The piece was complete but bent and almost illegible. Only just visible were the pellets which would have formed part of a long-cross type penny, dating to the 13th-century.

Faunal Remains

Julie Curl

Methodology

102 The assessment was carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis, 1992) and Baker and Worley, 2014. All of the bone was examined to determine range of species and elements present. A record was also made of butchering and any indications of skinning, hornworking and other modifications. When possible ages were estimated along with any other relevant information, such as pathologies. Counts and weights were noted for each context and counts made for each species. Where bone could not be identified to species, they were grouped as, for example, 'large mammal', 'bird' or 'small mammal'. The assessment results were initially recorded on paper record sheets with notes and then input into an Excel database for quantification and assessment. A summary catalogue is included with this report and a full catalogue (with additional counts) of the faunal remains is available in the digital archive.

The bone assemblage

Quantification, provenance, and preservation

103 A total of 992g of bone, consisting of 62 pieces, was recovered from this site with the material quantified by feature, date, weights, and counts in Table 8. The assemblage of bone was hand-collected, with no bone recovered from sieved samples. Much of the bone was found in eight ditch fills, with faunal remains seen in two pit fills. Bone was only recovered from contexts of a Romano-British or post-medieval date in ditch **177**.

104 The condition of the bone is generally reasonable, with a good deal of fragmentation from butchering and wear. Three fragments of burnt mammal bone was found in the ditch **186**, fill **187**, these burnt remains were deposited with antler working and meat waste, suggesting with a domestic or industrial area fire debris. Some canid gnawing was noted on sheep/goat tibia fragments from pit **191**.

Feature	Context date, weights and counts			Totals
	Post-medieval	Roman-British	Undated	
166	89g/4			89g/4
170		11g/3		11g/3
177	55g/1			55g/1
181	235g/5			235g/5
183	11g/2			11g/2
186		384g/37		384g/37
191		22g/4		22g/4
200	130g/2			130g/2
206		37g/1		37g/1
209			18g/3	18g/3
Totals	520g/14	454g/45	18g/3	992g/62

Table 8. Quantification of the faunal remains by feature, date, weights and counts

Species range, modifications, and other observations

105 Four species were identified in this bone assemblage, which are quantified in Table 9. In addition to the bone identifications, the presence of canids (dog/wolf/fox) were noted with gnawing on bone from pit **191**.

Feature	Species and NISP					Totals
	Cattle	Deer - Red	Equid	Mammal	Sheep/goat	
166	4					4
170				2	1	3
177			1			1
181	2			2	1	5
183				1	1	2
186	3	6	1	25	2	37
191	1			1	2	4
200	2					2
206	1					1
209				3		3
Totals	13	6	2	34	7	62

Table 9. Quantification of the faunal remains by feature, species and NISP.

106 Cattle were produced from six features. Most remains were from adults, with juvenile remains in ditch **186** and pit **191**, the juveniles suggesting local breeding in the Romano-British period. Elements consisted of main meat-bearing limb bones (humeri and tibias) and teeth in both Romano-British and post-medieval deposits. Butchering was seen on the main limb bones, mostly from heavy dismemberment chops.

107 Sheep/goat were found in five features all with adult remains. A tooth was seen in ditch **170**, a molar and femur from ditch **186** and butchered tibia fragments from pit **191**, all with Romano-British finds. Post-medieval deposits produced

further teeth and a chopped humerus. The tibia fragments from pit **191** showed some canid gnawing.

108 Two deposits produced equid remains, with a worn molar in ditch **186**, fill **187** and a femur shaft from ditch **177**, fill **178**.

109 Cervids were represented by a Red Deer with a scapula, antler fragments and upper molars from ditch **186**, fill **187**, which were found with Romano-British pottery. One of the antler fragments consisted of part of a skull, with the pedicle and worn burr and part of the main shaft of antler, which was broken; the brow tine had been removed leaving several chops at the base of the brow tine. The other antler fragment is broken. The scapula shows some chops and cuts on the neck of the bone. The elements present and butchering strongly suggest hunting and use of a whole (or at least parts of) Red Deer stag. The antlers were unshed and probably fully grown, which suggests this animal was obtained between autumn and early spring, perhaps to supplement the diet during winter. The chops on the antler suggest parts were removed for working.

110 Six deposits produced bone only identifiable as 'mammal', with small fragments lacking diagnostic zones. Three of the fragments from ditch **186** showed burning to a fairly high temperature, leaving the bone a pale grey colour.

Pathologies

111 No pathologies were identified during the examination of the evaluation material. This assessment suggests that livestock at this site were in a reasonable health. None of the animals in this assemblage showed any great age, which would reduce the incidents of health problems.

Discussion and conclusions

112 The analysis of the evaluation assemblage suggests the bulk of this assemblage appears to be derived from the primary and secondary butchering and meat waste from the main stock animals, with a dominance of cattle and sheep/goat. The small number of equid remains confirms their presence at the site.

113 Some hunting is indicated by the presence of Red Deer, especially as the antler was chopped from the skull and the antler was found with teeth and a butchered scapula. The antlers were unshed and probably fully grown, which suggests this animal was obtained between early autumn and early spring, perhaps to supplement the diet during winter. The chops on the antler suggest parts were removed for working perhaps for tools, pegs, toggles, pottery stamps, or other items.

114 The presence of canid activity at the site was recorded with gnawed bone in a pit fill containing Romano-British pottery. Gnawing on bone in a pit fill might suggest a domestic animal rather than wolf or fox, but waste from general tidying of a site may also be disposed of in pit fills and this might included bones dropped by scavengers.

115 Overall, the assemblage is broadly similar to other small assemblages of a mixed date range. Some redepoisted material if possible in later periods. The bone from Romano-British deposits suggest cattle breeding on site, the keeping of equids, and hunting of deer, with some working of faunal material.

Mollusc Remains

Julie Curl

Methodology

116 The molluscs were identified to species using a variety of reference material. Shells were catalogued by species and where appropriate, counts were made of the number of individual species present (NISP), counts of top and base shells and an estimate of the minimum number of individuals (MNI). Bivalve shells are known to be used as painter's palettes and the remains are examined for any traces of pigments. Shells are also examined for any cut marks that would confirm their use for food from the prising apart of the shells or removal of meat with a knife.

Quantification, provenance, and preservation

117 A total of 9g of shell was recovered from two contexts on this site, consisting of 2 elements, which is quantified in Table 10. Both shells were found in ditch fills with Romano-British ceramic material.

Context	Trench	Type	Feature	Ctxt Qty	Weight	Species	NISP
171	18	Ditch	170	1	3	White-Lipped Snail	1
208	20	Ditch	206	1	6	Oyster	1

Table 10. Quantification of the mollusc assemblage.

The assemblage

118 Common Oyster was found in the ditch **206**, fill **208**. A single cut mark was observed on the inside of the ventral side of the top shell, attesting to it being prised open for the flesh. Some distortion and marine sponge was noted, showing its recovery from a marine environment rather than from farmed oysters.

119 The land based mollusc remains consist of a single shell of *Cepaeca hortensis*, also known as a Garden Snail, which were discovered from the ditch **170**, fill **171.** This species is found in woods, hedge and shrubs, generally it prefers wetter and cooler places than the related Brown-lipped Snail, so its presence in a ditch environment is expected. At just under 21mm, these shells are close to the maximum adult size, so probably died naturally at the end of its life.

Discussion and conclusion

120 The marine shell assemblage is small and contains the remains of the most frequent food species on archaeological sites. Common Oyster are found all around the British coast, even in quite shallow waters. Such molluscs could be collected by individuals, but are perhaps more likely to be sold or traded locally.

121 Land molluscs have greater potential for providing environmental information, but the single land snail is recovered is known from mixed habitats, although generally preferring damper areas.

ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Plant Macrofossils and Other Remains

Val Fryer

Introduction and method statement

122 Evaluation excavations at Bildeston recorded a limited number of archaeological features ranging from possible later Prehistoric to Roman in date. Samples for the evaluation of the content and preservation of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from fills within pits, ditches and a possible cremation, with six being submitted for assessment.

123 The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover, with the flots being collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in *Appendix 13*. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (2010). All plant remains were charred. Modern roots and seeds were also recorded.

124 The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and sorted when dry. Those from the possible cremation deposits were passed through a sieve stack to facilitate the removal of all bone fragments. Artefacts/ecofacts were also removed for further specialist analysis.

Results

125 All six assemblages are small (i.e. <0.1 litres in volume) and somewhat limited in composition. The few remains which are recorded are very poorly preserved, with the cereals in particular being severely puffed and distorted, probably as a result of combustion at very high temperatures.

126 Barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains are noted as single specimens within samples 2 (ditch **206**) and 3 (ditch fill **187**). Other cereals from samples 1; (pit **191**) and samples 2 and 3 are too poorly preserved for close identification. A spelt wheat (*T. spelta*) glume base recovered from sample 2 is the only chaff element noted. Individual seeds of indeterminate small legumes (Fabaceae) and a grass (Poaceae) fruit are also present within samples 1, 2 and 3 along with small fragments of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell. Charcoal/charred wood fragments are present at a moderate density within all six assemblages, but other plant macrofossils are exceedingly scarce.

127 Black porous and tarry residues are present throughout, but their origin is unclear. Some would appear to be a product of the high temperature combustion of organic remains (including cereals grains), whilst others may be bi-products of the combustion of coal, small pieces of which are also recorded. Those within samples 5 (possible cremation fill **195**) and **06** (fill of linear) may be derived from the burning of the body of the deceased, although this is currently impossible to prove. Bone fragments, some of which are burnt/calcined, are also present, but other remains are scarce.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

128 In summary, the assemblages from samples 1, 2, 3 and 4 would appear to be derived from a very low density of scattered refuse. However, it is currently

unclear whether this may be of domestic origin or whether it could be derived from elsewhere. The cremation deposits within samples 5 and 6 are very limited, and in the absence of cereals or seeds, it is assumed that the pyre did not include offerings to the deceased.

129 On the basis of this evaluation, it is difficult to suggest a future sampling strategy, should further interventions be planned. However, due to the potential ritual significance of the area, additional samples of *circa* 40 litres in volume should be taken at the discretion of the excavators, particularly from any features which are well-sealed and/or which appear to contain bone fragments.

DISCUSSION

130 The archaeological evaluation by trial trenching at Land east of Artiss Close and Rotheram Road, Bildeston recorded a total of twenty-three archaeological features in sixteen of the twenty-two trenches excavated. Six trenches contained no archaeology. Little evidence of modern disturbance was identified at the site, and the overall preservation of the archaeological remains was good.

131 Horizontal truncation of prehistoric or Romano-British archaeological features was apparent across the site, but appeared not to affect post-medieval remains to the same degree. This suggests a relatively intense level of ploughing and arable use of the site from perhaps the post-Roman period onwards. Considering this site is located close to the medieval centre of Bildeston, and that no archaeological remains of this period were identified during trial trenching, it seems likely that this site was instead intensively farmed during the medieval period. Such interpretation is supported by the recovery of medieval finds during metal detecting, which in conjunction with the lack of medieval archaeological remains might suggest that the spreading of nightsoil was carried out on site during this period. One of the more significant finds from the site, a medieval spindle whorl of probable French origin may have been deposited through such a process. As twisting textile fibres by hand-spindles of this type can be a mobile activity, another possibility is that it was lost during use.

132 The earliest archaeological features identified at the site consisted of a series of postholes and a single pit of Middle – Late Iron Age date, these features seemingly concentrated in the south-east of the site. The nature of this activity is hard to decipher, but it is likely that these features represent elements of fence-lines or structures. The dimensions and form of the postholes is in keeping with those identified at other sites in the region as deriving from roundhouses and four-post structures (see Gregory 1991; Ashwin and Bates 2000; Brown and Medlycott 2013; Hinman and Zant 2018).

133 Romano-British remains at the site were fairly abundant. Five ditches were identified across the site all possessing either a north – south or north-west – south-east orientation. It is likely that based on the topography, these ditches played a role in the drainage of the site, which was likely under cultivation or pasture during this period. It is possible that they also played an equal or secondary role as field/property boundaries or stock enclosures. Of particular significance was the recovery of a substantial quantity of pottery and ceramic building material (including *tegula* and *imbrices*) from one of the ditches located in the north of the site. The deposition of this material is highly suggestive of a significant building (possibly of some status) in the near vicinity of the site. It is possible that this material relates to the suspected location of a Romano-British building 500m to the south-west (BIL 004).

134 Running slightly counter to this interpretation is the paucity of metal finds recovered from the site. While there might be an expectation to find coins or other metal work in association with Roman sites of some status, the presence and survival of such artefacts is dependent on several factors, including the nature of activity and the influence of metal types and soil conditions on preservation.

135 Post-medieval activity at the site consisted of field boundary/drainage ditches and a possible quarry pit, all thought likely to be of 19th century date. The post-medieval ditches identified may also play a role in the dating of linears identified on aerial photographs from the vicinity.

136 The only significant undated feature at the site was that of a heavily truncated unurned cremation of a juvenile. It is cut by a Romano-British ditch, supporting the probable later prehistoric date suggested by its analysis.

CONCLUSION

137 Based on the archaeological record and evidence recovered by the trial trenching, the site at Bildeston appears to have undergone its earliest occupation or more intensive utilisation during the Middle to Late Iron Age. The nature of this activity is unclear, but it is possible that the structures present during this period had either a broadly agrarian or domestic function. Such remains have potential to explore questions of economy and settlement in the region during this period (Medlycott 2011). The Romano-British activity identified is more intense and characterised as agricultural land use starting in the second century AD. It is evident from the findings that a significant building of this period probably stood in the vicinity, but it is perhaps unlikely to be located on the site itself.

138 While the post-medieval remains appear to have limited potential to explore key research themes set out for this period (see Medlycott 2011): they may provide new information regarding the later landscape development of Bildeston and its environs.

139 The undated cremation is of interest, however there is currently no indication that it identifies a more extant cemetery, and is perhaps an isolated occurrence. The cremated material has been retained for potential radiocarbon dating.

140 Recommendations for further archaeological mitigation work (if required, based on the evidence presented in this report) will be made by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service.

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Appendix 1a: Context Summary

Context	Category	Description	Period	Trench
100	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 1	Modern	1
101	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 1	Post-medieval	1
102	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 2	Modern	2
103	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 2	Post-medieval	2
104	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 3	Modern	3
105	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 3	Post-medieval	3
106	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 4	Modern	4
107		VOID		
108	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 5	Modern	5
109	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 5	Post-medieval	5
110	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 6	Modern	6
111	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 6	Post-medieval	6
112	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 7	Modern	7
113	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 7	Post-medieval	7
114	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 8	Modern	8
115		VOID		
116	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 9	Modern	9
117	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 9	Post-medieval	9
118	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 10	Modern	10
119	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 10	Post-medieval	10
120	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 11	Modern	11
121	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 11	Post-medieval	11
122	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 12	Modern	12
123	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 12	Post-medieval	12
124	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 13	Modern	13
125	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 13	Post-medieval	13
126	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 14	Modern	14
127	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 14	Post-medieval	14
128	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 15	Modern	15
129	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 15	Post-medieval	15
130	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 16	Modern	16
131		VOID		
132	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 17	Modern	17
133		VOID		
134	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 18	Modern	18
135	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 18	Post-medieval	18
136	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 19	Modern	19
137	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 19	Post-medieval	19
138	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 20	Modern	20
139	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 20	Post-medieval	20

Context	Category	Description	Period	Trench
140	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 21	Modern	21
141	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 21	Post-medieval	21
142	Deposit	Topsoil Trench 22	Modern	22
143	Deposit	Subsoil Trench 22	Post-medieval	22
144	Cut	E-W Ditch	Post-medieval	2
145	Deposit	Primary fill of ditch 144	Post-medieval	2
146	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch 144	Post-medieval	2
147	Cut	N-S ditch	Romano-British	3
148	Deposit	Fill of ditch 147	Romano-British	3
149	Cut	N-S Ditch	Romano-British	4
150	Deposit	Fill of ditch 149	Romano-British	4
151	Cut	Post hole	Middle - Late Iron Age	5
152	Deposit	Post-pipe in 151	Middle - Late Iron Age	5
153	Deposit	Post-packing in 151 = to 154	Middle - Late Iron Age	5
154	Deposit	Post-packing in 151 = to 153	Middle - Late Iron Age	5
155	Cut	Post hole	Middle - Late Iron Age	5
156	Deposit	Post-pipe in 155	Middle - Late Iron Age	5
157	Deposit	Post-packing in 155	Middle - Late Iron Age	5
158	Cut	Post hole	Undated	5
159	Deposit	Fill of 158	Undated	5
160	Cut	Post hole	Undated	5
161	Deposit	Fill of 160	Undated	5
162	Cut	Pit	Middle - Late Iron Age	5
163	Deposit	Fill of pit 162	Middle - Late Iron Age	5
164	Cut	E-W hedge line/ditch	Post-medieval	11
165	Deposit	Fill of hedge line/ditch 164	Post-medieval	11
166	Cut	E-W Ditch	Post-medieval	16
167	Deposit	Fill of ditch 166	Post-medieval	16
168	Deposit	Fill of ditch 166	Post-medieval	16
169	Deposit	Tertiary fill of 170	Romano-British	18
170	Cut	N-S ditch	Romano-British	18
171	Deposit	Primary fill of ditch 170	Romano-British	18
172	Deposit	Secondary fill ditch 170	Romano-British	18
173	Cut	Post hole	Late Iron Age	6
174	Deposit	Fill of post hole 173	Late Iron Age	6
175	Cut	Ditch	Med/Post-medieval	14
176	Deposit	Fill of ditch 175	Med/Post-medieval	14
177	Cut	Pit	Med/Post-medieval	14
178	Deposit	Fill of pit 177	Med/Post-medieval	14
179	Cut	Pit	Undated	15
180	Deposit	Fill of pit 179	Undated	15
181	Cut	Ditch	Post-medieval	15

Context	Category	Description	Period	Trench
182	Deposit	Fill of ditch 181	Post-medieval	15
183	Cut	Ditch	Post-medieval	15
184	Deposit	Primary fill of ditch 183	Post-medieval	15
185	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch 183	Post-medieval	15
186	Cut	N-S ditch	Romano-British	21
187	Deposit	Fill of ditch 186	Romano-British	21
188		VOID		
189	Cut	Pit	Undated	19
190	Deposit	Fill of pit 189	Undated	19
191	Cut	Pit	Romano-British	19
192	Deposit	Primary fill of pit 191	Romano-British	19
193	Deposit	Secondary fill of pit 191	Romano-British	19
194	Cut	Cremation cut	Prehistoric	13
195	Deposit	Fill of cremation cut 194	Prehistoric	13
196	Cut	Shallow linear	Romano-British	13
197	Deposit	Fill of shallow linear 196	Romano-British	13
198	Cut	Shallow linear	Romano-British	13
199	Deposit	Fill of shallow linear 198	Romano-British	13
200	Cut	Pit	Post-medieval	19
201	Deposit	Primary fill of pit 200	Post-medieval	19
202	Deposit	Secondary fill of pit 200	Post-medieval	19
203	Deposit	Tertiary fill of pit 200	Post-medieval	19
204	Cut	Post hole	Undated	10
205	Deposit	Fill of post hole 204	Undated	10
206	Cut	Ditch	Romano-British	20
207	Deposit	Primary fill of ditch 206	Romano-British	20
208	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch 206	Romano-British	20
209	Cut	Ditch	Undated	8
210	Deposit	Fill of ditch 209	Undated	8
211	Cut	Ditch terminus	Post-medieval	4
212	Deposit	Fill of ditch terminus	Post-medieval	4
213	Cut	Ditch	Med/Post-medieval	20
214	Deposit	Fill of ditch	Med/Post-medieval	20

Appendix 1b: Feature Summary

Period	Category	Total
Middle – Late Iron Age	Pit	1
	Posthole	3
Romano-British	Ditch	5
	Pit	1
Post-medieval	Ditch	4
	Hedge	1
	Pit	2
Undated	Ditch	1
	Pit	1
	Post-hole	3
	Cremation	1

Appendix 2a: Finds by Context

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes	Context	Description	Context Period
100	Copper alloy	1	5g	Post-medieval	Coin; SF17	100	Topsoil Trench 1	Modern
101	Copper alloy	1	1g	Post-medieval	?Coin; SF16	101	Subsoil Trench 1	Post-medieval
103	Lead	1	41g	Medieval	Spindle whorl; SF1	103	Subsoil Trench 2	Post-medieval
106	Copper alloy	1	1g	Post-medieval	Eyelet/Washer; SF2	106	Topsoil Trench 4	Modern
109	Copper alloy	1	4g	?Medieval	Buckle; SF3	109	Subsoil Trench 5	Post-medieval
111	Copper alloy	2	5g	Post-medieval	?Spoon; SF4	111	Subsoil Trench 6	Post-medieval
111	Lead	1	6g	Post-medieval	Washer; SF5	111	Subsoil Trench 6	Post-medieval
113	Copper alloy	1	8g	Medieval	Strap end; SF12	113	Subsoil Trench 7	Post-medieval
113	Copper alloy	1	40g	Post-medieval	Cap; SF11	113	Subsoil Trench 7	Post-medieval
114	Copper alloy	1	1g	Post-medieval	Token; SF18	114	Topsoil Trench 8	Modern
114	Copper alloy	1	60g	Med./Post-Med.	?Vessel; SF7	114	Topsoil Trench 8	Modern
119	Copper alloy	1	2g	Post-medieval	Crotal bell; SF6	119	Subsoil Trench 10	Post-medieval
122	Copper alloy	1	5g	Modern	Coin; SF9	122	Topsoil Trench 12	Modern
122	Silver	1	1g	Medieval	Coin; SF8	122	Topsoil Trench 12	Modern
128	Iron	1	13g	Unknown	?Knife; SF10	128	Topsoil Trench 15	Modern

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes	Context	Description	Context Period
132	Copper alloy	1	2g	Post-medieval	Button; SF13	132	Topsoil Trench 17	Modern
139	Copper alloy	1	14g	Medieval	Vessel repair; SF14	139	Subsoil Trench 20	Post-medieval
139	Copper alloy	1	4g	Med./Post-Med.	Buckle; SF19	139	Subsoil Trench 20	Post-medieval
139	Copper alloy	1	1g	Med./Post-Med.	Object; SF19	139	Subsoil Trench 20	Post-medieval
139	Copper alloy	1	26g	Post-medieval	Object; SF15	139	Subsoil Trench 20	Post-medieval
141	Ceramic building material	1	542g	Roman		141	Subsoil Trench 21	Post-medieval
141	Pottery	1	309g	Roman		141	Subsoil Trench 21	Post-medieval
145	Ceramic building material	3	42g	Post-medieval		145	Primary fill of ditch 144	Post-medieval
145	Iron	1	12g	Unknown	Nail	145	Primary fill of ditch 144	Post-medieval
145	Pottery	1	1g	Post-medieval		145	Primary fill of ditch 144	Post-medieval
150	Pottery	2	2g	Roman		150	Fill of ditch 149	Romano-British
152	Burnt flint	1	5g	Unknown		152	Post-pipe in 151	Middle - Late Iron Age
152	Pottery	1	1g	Middle-Late Iron Age		152	Post-pipe in 151	Middle - Late Iron Age
156	Pottery	1	2g	Roman		156	Post-pipe in 155	Middle - Late Iron Age
159	Burnt flint	1	18g	Unknown		159	Fill of 158	Undated
163	Burnt flint	2	6g	Unknown		163	Fill of pit 162	Middle - Late Iron Age
163	Pottery	2	12g	Prehistoric		163	Fill of pit 162	Middle - Late Iron Age
165	Ceramic building material	1	13g	Medieval		165	Fill of hedge line/ditch 164	Post-medieval
165	Ceramic building material	3	10g	Post-medieval		165	Fill of hedge line/ditch 164	Post-medieval
168	Animal bone	4	89g	Unknown		168	Fill of ditch 166	Post-medieval

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes	Context	Description	Context Period
168	Ceramic building material	1	3g	Unknown	fragment	168	Fill of ditch 166	Post-medieval
168	Pottery	1	1g	Middle-Late Iron Age		168	Fill of ditch 166	Post-medieval
168	Worked flint	1	5g	Prehistoric		168	Fill of ditch 166	Post-medieval
171	Animal bone	3	11g	Unknown		171	Primary fill of ditch 170	Romano-British
171	Pottery	2	10g	Romano-British		171	Primary fill of ditch 170	Romano-British
171	Shell	1	3g	Unknown	Land snail	171	Primary fill of ditch 170	Romano-British
171	Worked flint	1	2g	Prehistoric		171	Primary fill of ditch 170	Romano-British
174	Pottery	2	24g	Late Iron Age		174	Fill of post hole 173	Late Iron Age
174	Worked flint	1	29g	Prehistoric		174	Fill of post hole 173	Late Iron Age
176	Ceramic building material	3	30g	Post-medieval		176	Fill of ditch 175	Med/Post-medieval
176	Ceramic building material	3	12g	Roman		176	Fill of ditch 175	Med/Post-medieval
176	Pottery	1	1g	Roman		176	Fill of ditch 175	Med/Post-medieval
178	Animal bone	1	55g	Unknown		178	Fill of pit 177	Med/Post-medieval
178	Ceramic building material	2	19g	Post-medieval		178	Fill of pit 177	Med/Post-medieval
178	Fired clay	1	6g	Unknown		178	Fill of pit 177	Med/Post-medieval
182	Animal bone	7	235g	Unknown		182	Fill of ditch 181	Post-medieval
182	Ceramic building material	4	38g	Post-medieval		182	Fill of ditch 181	Post-medieval
185	Animal bone	2	11g	Unknown		185	Secondary fill of ditch 183	Post-medieval
185	Ceramic building material	2	27g	Post-medieval		185	Secondary fill of ditch 183	Post-medieval
187	Animal bone	49	384g	Unknown		187	Fill of ditch 186	Romano-British

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes	Context	Description	Context Period
187	Ceramic building material	35	2708g	Roman		187	Fill of ditch 186	Romano-British
187	Pottery	315	1720g	Roman		187	Fill of ditch 186	Romano-British
187	Stone	2	1062g	Unknown	burnt fragments; unworked	187	Fill of ditch 186	Romano-British
187	Worked flint	3	24g	Prehistoric		187	Fill of ditch 186	Romano-British
192	Pottery	13	174g	Romano-Britiish		192	Primary fill of pit 191	Romano-British
193	Animal bone	4	22g	Unknown		193	Secondary fill of pit 191	Romano-British
193	Ceramic building material	2	238g	Roman		193	Secondary fill of pit 191	Romano-British
193	Pottery	12	18g	Romano-Britiish		193	Secondary fill of pit 191	Romano-British
197	Ceramic building material	2	25g	Post-medieval		197	Fill of shallow linear 196	Romano-British
199	Ceramic building material	1	323g	Roman		199	Fill of shallow linear 198	Romano-British
199	Ceramic building material	1	13g	Post-medieval		199	Fill of shallow linear 198	Romano-British
201	Animal bone	2	130g	Unknown		201	Primary fill of pit 200	Post-medieval
202	Ceramic building material	10	388g	Post-medieval		202	Secondary fill of pit 200	Post-medieval
203	Ceramic building material	2	101g	Roman		203	Tertiary fill of pit 200	Post-medieval
203	Ceramic building material	6	146g	Post-medieval		203	Tertiary fill of pit 200	Post-medieval
207	Animal bone	1	37g	Unknown		207	Primary fill of ditch 206	Romano-British
207	Pottery	2	10g	Roman		207	Primary fill of ditch 206	Romano-British
208	Pottery	3	71g	Roman		208	Secondary fill of ditch 206	Romano-British
208	Shell	1	6g	Unknown	Oyster	208	Secondary fill of ditch 206	Romano-British

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes	Context	Description	Context Period
208	Worked flint	1	1g	Prehistoric		208	Secondary fill of ditch 206	Romano-British
210	Animal bone	3	18g	Unknown		210	Fill of ditch 209	Undated
212	Ceramic building material	3	46g	Post-medieval		212	Fill of ditch terminus	Post-medieval

Appendix 2b: Finds Summary

Period	Material	Total
Middle - Late Iron Age	Pottery	7
	Flint	7
Romano-British	Pottery	373
	Animal Bone	57
	Ceramic Building Material	32
Medieval	Lead	1
	Silver	1
	Copper alloy	2
Post-medieval	Copper alloy	11
	Iron	1
	Lead	1
	Pottery	1
	Ceramic Building Material	36
	Animal Bone	16
Modern	Copper-alloy	1
Prehistoric	Struck flint	7
Unknown	Burnt flint	4
	Animal Bone	3
	Fired Clay	1
	Stone	2
	Iron	1

Appendix 3: Historical Periods

Period	Date From	Date To
Prehistoric	-500,000	42
Early Prehistoric	-500,000	-4,001
Palaeolithic	-500,000	-10,001
Lower Palaeolithic	-500,000	-150,001
Middle Palaeolithic	-150,001	-40,001
Upper Palaeolithic	-40,000	-10,001
Mesolithic	-10,000	-4,001
Early Mesolithic	-10,000	-7,001
Late Mesolithic	-7,000	-4,001
Late Prehistoric	-4,000	42
Neolithic	-4,000	-2,351
Early Neolithic	-4,000	-3,001
Middle Neolithic	-3,500	-2,701
Late Neolithic	-3,000	-2,351
Bronze Age	-2,350	-701
Early Bronze Age	-2,350	-1,501
Beaker	-2,300	-1,700
Middle Bronze Age	-1,600	-1,001
Late Bronze Age	-1,000	-701
Iron Age	-800	42
Early Iron Age	-800	-401
Middle Iron Age	-400	-101
Late Iron Age	-100	42
Roman	42	409
Post Roman	410	1900
Saxon	410	1065
Early Saxon	410	650
Middle Saxon	651	850
Late Saxon	851	1065
Medieval	1066	1539
Post-medieval	1540	1900
Modern	1900	2050
World War One	1914	1918
World War Two	1939	1945
Cold War	1945	1992
Unknown	--	--

After English Heritage Periods List, recommended by Forum on Information Standards in Heritage available at: http://www.fish-forum.info/inscript.htm

Appendix 4: Summary for the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History

Bildeston, Land east of Artiss Close and Rotheram Road (TL 995 493; BIL 046). Twenty-two informative trial trenches were excavated as part of archaeological migratory work to fulfil a planning requirement prior to residential development. Limited evidence of Middle to Late Iron Age activity at the site is suggested by a single pit and a small number postholes, these dated to this broad period by a small assemblage of pottery. These features might represent agricultural activity. A single truncated probably unurned cremation recorded by the trial trenching is suggested to be of late prehistoric date, the cremation possibly being of a juvenile individual. More intensive and widespread Romano-British evidence was identified in the form of ditches and post-holes, likely associated with agrarian activities that were carried out on site. A significant find of a medieval spindle whorl of probable French origin was recovered during metal detecting on the site. Field boundaries and possible quarrying activates dating to the post-medieval period were also recorded.

Joshua C White, NPS Archaeology,
for Fleur Developments Ltd

Appendix 5: Prehistoric and Roman Pottery

POT data																			
						Total		Q1		LMV SA		BSW1		GRS1		WAT RE		STOR1	
F	L	Seg	Tr	Description	Spot Date	F	W	F	W	F	W	F	W	F	W	F	W	F	W
141	141		21	Subsoil	Mid 1st-3rd C AD	1	311											1	311
149	150		4	Ditch	Roman	2	2					2	2						
151	152		5	Posthole	?Middle-Late Iron Age	1	1	1	1										
155	156		5	Posthole	Middle-Late Iron Age	1	4	1	4										
162	163		5	Pit	Middle-Late Iron Age	2	13	2	13										
166	168		16	Ditch	Middle-Late Iron Age	1	2	1	2										
170	171		18	Ditch	Roman	2	10							2	10				
173	174		6	Posthole	Late Iron Age	2	26	2	26										
175	176		14	Ditch	Roman	1	2							1	2				
181	182		21	Ditch	Early 2nd C AD	337	1743			1	8	143	486	124	530	57	387	12	332
191	192		19	Pit	Roman	13	177					2	32	9	131	2	14		
191	193		19	Pit	Roman	12	19					9	13	3	6				
206	207		20	Ditch	Roman	2	16							2	16				
206	208		20	Ditch	Roman	3	72					1	18	1	7			1	47
						380	2398	7	46	1	8	157	551	142	702	59	401	14	690

Appendix 6: Post Roman Pottery

Context	Fabric	Type	No	Wt/g	MNV	Decoration	Glaze ext	Abrasion	Notes
145	PEW	D	1	1	1	TP blue ext	C	+	inner surface glaze lost
193	UPG	D	1	1	1		SC	+	tiny, fs oxid with grey surfaces

Appendix 7: Fired Clay

Context	Sample	Fabric	Type	No	Wt/g	Colour	Abr	Notes
178		s		1	5	orange/grey	++	
187		fsccp		12	40	orange/red/buff	++	
187	<3>	fsx		4	1	orange	++	
193	<1>	fsc		4	2	orange		irreg, hard
207	<2>	fsc		1	1	orange		irreg, hard

Appendix 8: Ceramic Building Material

context	form	fabric	no	wt/g	minno	abr	height	peg	comments	date
141	FLT	msffe	1	236	1	+	24		FlW 25, flange broken off, partial upper cut-away	Rom
145	RTP	msf	2	40	2	+				pmed
145	RTP	fs	1	3	1	+				pmed
165	RTM	ms	1	13	1	+			reduced core	med
165	RTP	fs	1	4	1	+				pmed
165	UN	fs	2	7	2	++			RBT or LB?	?
168	UN	fsx	1	3	1	+			RBT or RTP??	?
176	RBT?	ms	2	16	2	++				Rom?
176	RBT?	fs	2	6	2	+				Rom?
176	RT	ms	2	20	2	+				med/pmed
178	RT	ms	1	17	1			1 x R		med/pmed
178	UN	fs	1	2	1	++				?
182	RBT?	fs	2	20	2	++				Rom?
182	RBT?	ms	1	8	1	+				Rom?
182	RT	ms	1	10	1	+				med/pmed
185	RTP	fscp	1	23	1					pmed
185	UN	fsfe	1	4	1	+				?
187	FLT	msffe	1	1005	1	+	30		FlW 30-35mm, FlH 44-52, rectangular section	Rom
187	IMB	fscp	3	211	1	+	16			Rom
187	IMB	fscp	7	120	1	+	16		buff fabric with orange core	Rom
187	IMB	fscp	1	197	1	+	15		buff fabric with orange core	Rom
187	IMB	fscp	3	61	1	+	12		dark red	Rom
187	RBT	fscp	6	1010	1	+	32		partly KT base. Same in 199	Rom
187	UN	fsx	1	3	1	++				?
193	RBT	s	1	148	1	+	44			Rom

context	form	fabric	no	wt/g	minno	abr	height	peg	comments	date
197	RTP	msffe	1	20	1	+				pmed
197	UN	fs	1	5	1	++				?
199	RBT	msffe	1	13	1	++	23			Rom
199	RBT	fscp	1	320		+	32		same in 187 (joining frag), partly KT base	Rom
202	LB	fsffe	1	187	1		43+		v hard, dark red, worn surface	pmed
202	RTP	msf	4	121	4	+			orange	lmed/pmed
202	RTP	fs	2	66	2	+				pmed
202	UN	fscp	3	10	3	+			RTP or RBT	?
203	LB	fsfe	1	87	1	+			2 scored lines on remaining area of surface	pmed
203	PAN	fs	1	50	1	+			nib	pmed
203	RTP	msf	4	82	4	+			orange	lmed/pmed
203	RTP	fscp	1	14	1	++			orange	lmed/pmed
203	RTP	fsf	1	13	1	+			red	pmed

Appendix 9: Struck Flint

			Struck Flint										Size (mm)		
F	**L**	**Descript.**	**F**	**W**	**Find/type**	**No.**	**Wgt (g)**	**Patinated**	**Retouch?**	**Colour**	**Cortex**	**L**	**W**	**Comments**
151	152	Posthole	1	6	Burnt Flint	1	6	\	\	\	\	\	\	small uncorticated after removal flake, burnt
158	159	Posthole	1	19	Burnt Flint	1	19	\	\	\	\	\	\	
162	163	Pit	2	8	Burnt Flint	2	8	\	\	\	\	\	\	
166	168	Ditch	\	\	*not struck*	\	\	\	\	\	\	\	\	
170	171	Ditch	1	2	Uncorticated flake (blade-like <50mm)	1	2	heavy white	\	dark grey	\	\	\	
173	174	Posthole	\	\	*not struck*	\	\	\	\	\	\	\	\	
186	187	Ditch	3	24	Notched Flake	1	14	slight white	yes	dark grey	thin white chalky	5 5	25	15mm wide by abrupt tertiary flake blade-like the centre edge of a of one lateral retouch into notch worked
					Tertiary flake (slightly irregular <50mm)	2	10	slight white	\	mid grey	thin white chalky	\	\	questionable if struck
206	208	Ditch	1	1	Uncorticated flake (blade-like <50mm)	1	1	heavy white	\	dark grey	\	\	\	\

Appendix 10: Cremated Remains

Burial	Fill	Sample	Frac	Skull			Axial			Upper limb			Lower limb			Unident	Totals	max skull (mm)	max l.b. (mm)	Colour	Notes	Age
				No.	Wt/g	Ave. wt	No.	Wt/g	Ave. wt	No.	Wt/g	Ave. wt	No.	Wt/g	Ave. wt	Wt/g	Wt/g					
162	163	<4>	>5.6													0	0					
			>2.8													0.2	0.2				species unidentified	
			>0.5													0.2	0.2					
Totals				0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0.4	0.4					
%																total ID	0.0					
194	195	<5>	>5.6													16.0	16.0		32	white. grey, black	Mostly l.b. shaft frags, 1 frag poss tibia. Included unburnt sheep tooth (not weighed)	
			>2.8	3	0.3	0.1	1	0.1	0.1							11.5	11.9	9	15			
			>0.5													1.9	1.9					
196	197	<6>	>5.6	10	3.3	0.3							3	1.9	0.6	3.3	8.5	12	14	white. grey, black, brown	cran vault frags incl frontal (L supra-orb), parietal (squamous suture); ?filb, ?tib, ?fem shaft frags	juv??
			>2.8	6	0.6	0.1	1	0.2	0.2	1	0.2	0.2				6.5	7.5	13			cran vault frags (v thin), ?rib, ?finger	

																					phal; some may be animal	
			>0.5													1.4	1.4					
Totals				19	4.2	0.2	2	0.3	0.2	1	0.2	0.2	3	1.9	0.6	40.6	47.2					
%					63.6			4.5			3.0			28.8		total ID	6.6						

Appendix 11: Faunal Remains

Ctxt	Feature	Feature Type	Context date	Ctxt Qty	Wt (g)	Species	NISP	Ad	Juv	Element range	Cou	Butchering	Burnt	Gnaw	Comments
168	166	Ditch	Post-medieval	4	89	Cattle	4	1		upper molars and premolar					premolar with greater wear
171	170	Ditch	Roman-British			Mammal	2			fragments					
171	170	Ditch	Roman-British	3	11	Sheep/goat	1	1		lower molar					
178	177	Ditch	Post-medieval	1	55	Equid	1	1		femur shaft					with fresh break
182	181	Ditch	Post-medieval	5	235	Cattle	2	1		distal humerus, dustal tibia	2	chopped			
182	181	Ditch	Post-medieval			Mammal	2			fragments					
182	181	Ditch	Post-medieval			Sheep/goat	1	1		distal humerus		chopped			
185	183	Ditch	Post-medieval			Mammal	1			rib fragment					
185	183	Ditch	Post-medieval	2	11	Sheep/goat	1	1		upper molar					
187	186	Ditch	Roman-British	37	384	Cattle	3		1	upper molars, distal tibia		chopped			
187	186	Ditch	Roman-British			Deer - Red	6	1		scapula, antler fragments, upper molars		cut, chopped			part of chopped skull with one antler fragment and chops to the

Ctxt	Feature	Feature Type	Context date	Ctxt Qty	Wt (g)	Species	NISP	Ad	Juv	Element range	Cou	Butchering	Burnt	Gnaw	Comments
															underside of the brow tine
187	186	Ditch	Roman-British			Equid	1	1		upper molar					
187	186	Ditch	Roman-British			Mammal	25			fragments			3		small fragments, 3 fragments burnt to a grey colour
187	186	Ditch	Roman-British			Sheep/goat	2	1		lower molar, femur shaft					
193	191	Pit	Roman-British	4	22	Cattle	1		1	upper premolar					
193	191	Pit	Roman-British			Mammal	1			fragment					
193	191	Pit	Roman-British			Sheep/goat	2	1		tibia fragments		chopped		2	with canid gnawing
201	200	Pit	Post-medieval	2	130	Cattle	2	1		distal humerus	1	chopped			
207	206	Ditch	Roman-British	1	37	Cattle	1	1		distal humerus	1	chopped			some erosion of surfaces
210	209	Ditch	Undated	3	18	Mammal	3			fragments					

Appendix 12: Mollusc Remains

Cntxt	Type	Feature	Date	Ctxt Qty	Wgt	M	L	Species	Top	MNI	Ap	Distort	Cuts	Condition	Comments
171	Ditch	170	Romano-British	1	3		1	White-Lipped Snail		1	1			good, some damage	Cepaeca hortensis, a Garden Snail. Found in woods, hedges, shrubs. Generally damper and cooler places than the Brown-lipped Snail.
208	Ditch	206	Romano-British	1	6	1		Oyster	1	1	1	1	1	good	cut close to ventral side

Appendix 13: Plant Macrofossils

Sample No.	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**
Context No.	**193**	**207**	**187**	**163**	**195**	**197**
Feature No.	**191**	**206**		**161**		
Feature type	**Pit**	**Ditch**	**Ditch**	**Pit**	**?Crem.**	**Linear**
Trench	**TR19**	**TR20**	**TR21**	**TR5**	**TR13**	**TR13**
Cereals						
Hordeum sp. (grains)		xcf				
Triticum sp. (grains)			x			
T. spelta L. (glume base)		x				
Cereal indet. (grains)	x	x	xcf			
Dry land herbs						
Small Fabaceae indet.		x	x			
Small Poaceae indet.	x					
Tree/shrub macrofossils						
Corylus avellana L.	xcf		x			
Other plant macrofossils						
Charcoal <2mm	xxx	xx	xx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Charcoal >2mm	xx	x		xx	xxx	xx
Charcoal >5mm	x		x	x	x	x
Charcoal >10mm	x					
Charred root/stem	x					
Indet. culm node		x				
Indet. seed		x				
Other remains						
Black porous material	x	x		x	x	x
Black tarry material			x	x	x	
Bone		x	xx	x	x xb	x xb
Burnt/fired clay			x			
Small coal frags.	x	x	x	x		x
Small mammal/amphibain bones		x	x			x
Sample volume (litres)	10	20	20	10	30	20
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
% flot sorted	100%	100%	100%	100%	10%	100%

Key to Table

x = 1 – 10 specimens xx = 11 – 50 specimens xxx = 51 – 100 specimens
cf = compare b = burnt Crem = cremation

Appendix 14 OASIS Summary Sheet

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

List of Projects | Manage Projects | Search Projects | New project | Change your details | HER coverage | Change country | Log out

Printable version

OASIS ID: norfolka1-351989

Project details

Project name	Land east of Artiss Close and Rotheram Road, Bildeston, Suffolk
Short description of the project	In 2019 NPS Archaeology carried out informative archaeological trial trenching at Land east of Artiss Close and Rotheram Road, Bildeston in advance of a proposed residential development. This work was in response to a brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service. The evaluation comprised twenty-two trenches measuring 30.00m x 1.80m, amounting to 4% of the 3ha proposed development area. Archaeological features were identified in sixteen trenches, with six trenches containing no archaeological remains. The earliest archaeological features recorded by the evaluation consisted of postholes and a pit in the south-east of the site of Middle to Late Iron Age date. The nature of this activity is unclear, but may relate to an agrarian or domestic function. A single, heavily truncated cremation of possible later prehistoric date was also recorded. Ditches dating to the Romano-British period might indicate some agricultural use of the site around the second century AD. Ceramic building materials recovered from these ditches indicate it is likely a significant building of period was present in the vicinity, but perhaps not located on the site itself. Despite its proximity to the medieval core of Bildeston no archaeological features of confirmed medieval date were identified; though some finds of this period such as a lead spindle whorl were recovered. Evidence suggests that the site was used intensively for arable agriculture in this period with nightsoiling activities possibly carried out. Post-medieval remains were identified across the site in the form of drainage/boundary ditches.
Project dates	Start: 29-05-2019 End: 05-06-2019
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	PIT Late Prehistoric
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	PIT Roman
Monument type	CREMATION Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman

Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Roman
Significant Finds	CBM Roman
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	'"Test Pits"'
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK MID SUFFOLK BEDFIELD Land east of Artiss Close and Rotheram Road,
Postcode	IP7 7BF
Study area	3 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 995 493 52.105493140399 0.913469344226 52 06 19 N 000 54 48 E Point
Lat/Long Datum	Position derived from charts
Height OD / Depth	Min: 45.22m Max: 55.3m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	NPS Archaeology
Project brief originator	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services
Project design originator	Josh White
Project director/manager	David Adams
Project supervisor	Lilly Hodges
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Fleur Developments ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Store
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Human Bones","Metal","Worked stone/lithics","other"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Store
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Human Bones","Metal","Survey","Worked stone/lithics","other"

Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Store
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Plan","Report","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land east of Artiss Close and Rotheram Road, Bildeston Suffolk
Author(s)/Editor (s)	White, J,C. and Hodges, L.
Other bibliographic details	Report 2019/10105
Date	2019
Issuer or publisher	NPS Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Norwich
Description	Bound A4 grey literature report with text and illustrations

Entered by	David Adams (david.adams@nps.co.uk)
Entered on	24 July 2019

Appendix 15 Written Scheme of Investigation

nps group

nps archaeology

Land east of Artiss Close and Rotheram Road, Bildeston, Suffolk

Written Scheme of Investigation Programme for Archaeological trial trenching

Prepared for: Fleur Developments Ltd.

May 2019

nps archaeology

QUALITY ASSURANCE		
Location	Land east of Artiss Close and Rotheram Road, Bildeston, Suffolk	
District	Mid Suffolk District Council	
Planning Reference	B/15/01433/OUT	
Grid Reference	TL 995 493	
Oasis Ref.	TBC	
HER	TBC	
Client	Fleur Development Ltd.	
Draft	Joshua C White	10-05-2019
Issue 1		

NPS Archaeology
Townshend House
30 Crown Road
Norwich
NR1 3DT

T 01603 227193
E nau.mail@nps.co.uk
W nau.nps.co.uk

Contents

Land east of Artiss Close and Rotheram Road, Bildeston, Suffolk

Written Scheme of Investigation

PART 1 INTRODUCTION

1 NPS Archaeology has been commissioned by Fleur Development Ltd ('the client') to provide a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the archaeological investigation of proposed residential development at Land east of Artiss Close and Rotheram Road, Bildeston, Suffolk ('the site'). The site is centred at National Grid Reference TL 995 493.

2 The proposed development is residential in nature and is set in a plot of *c*. 3 *ha*.

3 Construction works such as foundation trenching, service trenches and ground reduction associated with the proposed development may have a detrimental impact on any archaeological remains present. In light of this, Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service (SCCAS) has issued a *Brief for a for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation at Land east of Artiss Close and Rotheram Road, Bildeston* which sets out minimum standard requirements for archaeological work at the site in advance of construction (Abraham 2019). This WSI should be read in conjunction with the SCCAS brief.

4 Planning permission has been granted subject to a programme of Archaeological Mitigatory Work in line with paragraph 128 of National Planning Policy Framework (Department for Communities and Local Government 2019).

5 This WSI details a programme of archaeological mitigatory works to assess the potential archaeological resource of the site and the likely impacts of development on that resource. Any such mitigation works would be the subject of a future project design.

6 All works will be carried out in accordance with the relevant CIFA standards and guidance (CIFA 2014a). *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003). This WSI has been prepared in line with Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service's (SCCAS) Requirements for Archaeological Evaluation 2017.

1.0 Historic Background

7 The site has been identified as harbouring archaeological potential through its juxtaposition to the known medieval 'core' of Bildeston, and its topographical situation which has characteristics favoured by early settlements (Abraham 2019).

8 These factors highlight some potential for archaeological remains of a range of periods to be present on the site, particularly those of medieval date.

9 On the basis of the available evidence, SCCAS has recommended archaeological trial trenching targeted on the development area.

10 Trial trenching of the development area will seek to identify any concentrations of historical artefacts, the character and depth of any archaeological deposits present, and the impacts of any later land uses. It will provide an indication whether remains are likely to be impacted on by groundworks associated with new construction.

11 The recommendation that a programme of archaeological trial trenching be carried out in advance of any new development is made in accordance with the principles set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government 2019), to record and advance understanding of any heritage assets that might be present before they are damaged or destroyed.

12 The SCCAS brief proposes that linear trial trenching is required of 4% of the development area to enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified.

13 In order to fulfil the requirements of the SCCAS brief, the client has requested NPS Archaeology prepare this WSI to detail an appropriate programme of archaeological works to fulfil the brief. Proposed locations of trial trenches are provided as Figure 1.

2.0 Informative Trial Trenching

3.0 Aims

14 The overall aims of the archaeological work, based on the requirements of the SCCAS brief are summarised as:

- Gain information about the heritage assets within the proposed development areas;
- Provide detailed information regarding the date, character, extent, integrity and degree of preservation of the identified heritage assets;
- Establish the impact of previous land use and identify the presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits
- Inform a strategy for the recording, preservation and/or management of the identified assets;
- Mitigate potential threats;
- Inform proposals for further archaeological investigations (namely, targeted area excavations) within the ongoing programme of research;
- Define the sequence and character of activity at the site, as reflected by the excavated remains;
- Interpret the archaeology of the site within its local, regional, and national, archaeological context.

15 The trial trenching should consider the general investigative themes outlined by: Medlycott, M. 2011 (ed.) *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a Revised Framework for the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24; *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties* (Glazebrook 1997; Brown & Glazebrook 2000); *Revised Research Strategies 2010-2015* (Historic England 2015d).

16 Supplementary and alternative research themes may be proposed within the submitted specification, or defined by agreement in consideration of on-going trial trenching results.

4.0 Method Statement

17 The programme of archaeological works presented in this document has been designed to meet the requirements of an archaeological brief issued by SCCAS (Abraham 2019) to evaluate the potential archaeological resource of the site and to assess the impacts of construction that will be necessary for any new development.

18 Guidelines set out in the documents *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014b) and *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) will be followed for all phases of archaeological works.

19 In advance of the trial trenching, the archaeological contractor will commission an HER search including aerial photographic data and obtain a unique event number from the Suffolk County Council Historic Environment Record (SCCHER). The event number will be clearly marked on all documentation relating to the work. An online OASIS data record will be initiated prior to the start of fieldwork.

20 A three-stage evaluation strategy will be undertaken to assess the archaeological potential of the proposed development site. The stages of this strategy may be summarised as follows.

- *Informative Trial Trenching*. Manual excavation will be employed to investigate the presence, condition, character and date of any subsurface archaeological deposits and features occurring within the site. Any archaeological features identified will be cleaned and sample excavated to determine function, form and relative date. Prior to any fieldwork commencing a Risk Assessment and Method Statement document will be produced.
- *Post-fieldwork Processes*. The drawn and written stratigraphic/structural record will be cross-referenced and analysed to provide a synthesis of the results of the work. The cleaning and cataloguing of any artefactual and ecofactual materials recovered will be carried out throughout the duration of the fieldwork. The finds will be cleaned, marked and packaged in accordance with the archive requirements of SCCAS.
- *Report and Archive.* The report will describe the results of the trial trenching with data presented in tabular, graphic and appendix form. The report will also incorporate and present the findings of the metal detecting survey. Copies of the reports will be submitted to the client and to SCCAS.

21 The procedures and methodology for each of the stages outlined above are described below.

5.0 Informative Trial Trenching

22 Archaeological trial trenching will be concerned with establishing the condition, character and date of any subsurface archaeological features and deposits present. The SCCAS *Brief* was consulted to provide a basis for the methods described in this WSI.

23 The SCCAS brief proposes that a linear trial trenching is required of 4% of the development area to enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified.

24 To comply with the brief, the length of linear trenching to examine the development area of *c.* 3 *ha*. corresponds to 670m linear metres at 1.80m wide, with the lengths of individual trenches proposed as follows:

- 22nos. 30m x 1.80m trenches

25 The proposed location of the trial trenches in Figure 1 is based upon available space (avoiding known obstructions), position of known below ground services, and available information on the historic environment.

26 The extent of archaeological trenching across the site is intended to provide an approximate 4% sample by area.

27 Provision has been made and agreed with the client for increasing archaeological trenching by 1% at the request of SCCAS if additional clarification is needed regarding the extent or nature of any identified archaeological remains.

28 The trenches will be set out by the archaeology contractor and CAT-scanned prior to excavation. The final trench locations may be amended on the basis of surface or below ground obstructions and any Health and Safety considerations identified at the time of the work, following consultation with SCCAS. Other considerations such as public access may also be a factor.

29 Initial excavation will be by mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.80m-wide toothless bucket in 100mm spits under the control of an experienced archaeologist. Topsoil and subsoil will be deposited separately on the trench sides, with a minimum 1m clear space between spoil and the trench edges.

30 Mechanical excavation will be undertaken to the top of any undisturbed archaeological deposits, or the surface of the underlying geological deposits, whichever is the highest. If neither is identified it may be necessary to excavate to a maximum depth of 1.20m below the present ground surface in line with Health and Safety guidance for trenches with unsupported sides. If further depth of excavation is required, the trench sides may need to be locally stepped. The requirement for and the scope of works below 1.20m will be determined in consultation with the client and SCCAS.

31 The trial trenches will characterise the full archaeological sequence down to undisturbed geological deposits. Where full depths of deep features cannot be safely or practically excavated, their full depths will be established if possible by hand-auger

32 Areas of deep excavation will be fenced using Netlon high-visibility fencing and appropriate warning signs will be displayed where these measures are appropriate. It is understood that the site perimeter will be secured by the client as appropriate.

33 Spoil from the trenches will not be removed from site. The trenches will not be backfilled until agreement to do so is given by SCCAS. Consolidation or compaction over and above that possible with a mechanical excavator will not be attempted. Full surface reinstatement will not be carried out, but all trenches will be left in safe condition.

34 Thorough metal detector sweeps of trench lines, exposed features, and excavation spoil will be carried out in advance of, and during hand excavation by an experienced metal detectorist. Deeply buried signals will be investigated

only if agreed as part of the hand excavation programme. All metal detected finds that are not obviously modern will have their location recorded using GPS.

35 If additional trial trenching is requested by SCCAS to better establish the extent, form or date of particular archaeological remains beyond the aforementioned 1% trenching contingency, this request will be provided in writing by SCCAS, with any additional costs incurred and changes to programme resulting from this agreed in advance with the client.

6.0 Recording

36 A numbered single context-based recording system, written on suitable forms and indexed appropriately, will be used for all elements of the archaeological recording programme

37 Measured plans will be produced that show all exposed features (including natural features, modern features, etc.) and excavated areas. Individual measured plans and sections will be produced for all excavated features and deposits. These will be accurately tied in to trench plans/trench location plans, and accurately related to the Ordnance Survey grid.

38 All sections and plans will be related accurately to Ordnance Datum.

39 Archaeological deposits, features and layers will be assigned individual context numbers and recorded on standardised forms. The records will include full written, graphic and photographic elements with site and context numbering compatible with SCCAS. Plans will be made at a scale of 1:50, with provision for 1:20 and 1:10 drawings. Sections will be recorded at scales of 1:10 and 1:20 depending on the detail considered necessary. A photographic record in digital format will be maintained of all archaeological deposits, layers and features to record their characteristics and relationships.

40 Photographs will be taken to record the progress of the trial trenching. Digital photographs may be used in the final report (maximum of two photographs per A4 sheet), in accordance with Historic England's *Digital Image Capture and File Storage: Guidelines for Best Practice* (2015c).

7.0 Hand Excavation

41 The trial trenching will provide a representative sample of the site's archaeology at no significant cost to the value or integrity of archaeological remains therein. Judgement regarding the removal of human remains, structural remains (*in situ* wood or masonry), or other special remains or deposits, will be led by this consideration, and will be made in consultation with SCCAS and relevant specialist.

42 If exceptional remains are unexpectedly encountered, SCCAS will be notified. A new brief may be issued to be read in conjunction with the current one.

43 The feature/deposit sampling strategy will be employed throughout the trial trenching in line with *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) and SCCAS *Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* (2017).

44 All anthropogenic features will be investigated. Apparently natural features (such as tree throws) will be sampled sufficiently to establish their origin and to characterise any related human activity. Hand excavation and feature sampling

will be sufficient to establish date and character, and to allow appropriate levels of recording.

45 Deposits and layers (including buried soils) will be sampled sufficiently to enable a confident interpretation of their character, date and relationships with other features. Thereafter, mechanical removal and visual scanning for artefacts may be discussed with SCCAS.

46 At least 10% (or a percentage sufficient to achieve information on the character, function and dating) of linear and/or very large and deep features not associated with structural remains will be hand excavated. Particular attention will be given to terminals and intersections to ascertain stratigraphic and physical relationships.

47 For linear features, 1.00m wide slots (min.) should be excavated across their width;

48 Discrete anthropogenic features, such as pits and post-holes (excavated in half sections or in quadrants where large) will be subject to 50% excavation. In some instances 100% may be requested.

49 If structural remains or layers associated to domestic or industrial activity (stake holes, post-holes and gullies, as well as floors, etc.) are identified during the excavations, SCCAS will be notified and a strategy for the excavation of these remains will be agreed with SCCAS. Unless such remains are at imminent risk it is likely that they will not be excavated until a later mitigation stage.

50 If masonry foundations or low masonry walls are identified during the excavations, SCCAS will be notified and a strategy for the excavation of these remains will be agreed with SCCAS. Unless such remains are at imminent risk it is likely that they will not be excavated until a later mitigation stage.

51 If discrete features relating to industrial activity (e.g. kilns, ovens, hearths, etc.) are identified during the excavations, SCCAS will be notified and a strategy for the excavation of these remains will be agreed with SCCAS. Unless such remains are at imminent risk it is likely that they will not be excavated until a later mitigation stage.

52 A minimum of 10% of the area of midden deposits and artefact scatters (e.g. flint, metal-working debris will be excavated to establish extent, integrity and date if possible.

53 All artefacts and ecofacts will be collected and, where possible, related to the context from which they derived. All artefacts will be retrieved unless volume and quantity of particular classes of items justify an on-site sampling policy. In all such eventualities relevant specialists (see *Project Staff*) and SCCAS will be consulted to agree a strategy. All retained materials will be stored in stable conditions until arrangements for their processing and analysis are made.

54 Any finds defined as treasure under the *Treasure Act* will be removed to safe storage and reported to the local Portable Antiquities Scheme Finds Liaison Officer, as soon as is reasonably practical, who will in turn inform the District Coroner's office according to the procedures set out in the 1996 *Treasure Act* (and subsequent amendments). Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft. The archaeological contractor will inform SCCAS of such discoveries immediately.

55 If human remains (inhumations and cremations) are identified during the excavation, SCCAS will be notified and a strategy for the excavation of these remains will be agreed with SCCAS. Unless such remains are at imminent risk, it is likely that they will not be excavated until a later mitigation stage.

56 Backfilling of open trenches or features containing human remains that are not to be removed will be carried out manually to ensure that the remains are appropriately protected from any damage or disturbance. If human remains or burials are identified, which because of their location, vulnerability or other reasons must be removed, an application for a Licence for the Removal of Human Remains will be made in compliance with Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857, if appropriate. Treatment of human remains will be in line with *Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England* (Historic England 2015b). Human remains will be screened from public view during the course of the excavation. No human remains will be removed from the site until permission has been granted in writing from all relevant parties.

57 Should preservation in situ strategy be applicable, following appropriate excavation and recording, all exposed surfaces will be cleaned and prepared for re-burial beneath construction materials. If necessary, the laying out of geotextile and buffering materials will be carried out under archaeological supervision.

8.0 Palaeo-Environmental Sampling

58 Viable baulk samples to characterise soil profiles, as well as plant remains/charred plant remains, molluscs, small faunal remains, and pollen sequences, will be taken from a representative selection of suitable deposits in accordance with the trial trenching aims. As applicable, attention should be paid to the retrieval of charred plant macrofossils and land molluscs from former dry-land palaeosols and cut features, and to soil pollen analysis, and to the retrieval of plant macrofossils, insect, molluscs and pollen from waterlogged deposits. When baulk sampling is carried out, 40L will be taken as a minimum (or 100% context if smaller).

59 The samples will be extracted and recorded in consultation with an appointed specialist and with the Historic England Regional Science Advisor, and in accordance with Historic England, 2011, *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (second edition).

9.0 Post-Fieldwork Processes

60 The drawn and written stratigraphic/structural record will be cross-referenced and analysed to provide a synthesis of the results of the work.

61 The cleaning and cataloguing of any artefacts recovered will be undertaken on completion of the trial trenching. All retained materials will be cleaned, marked and packaged in accordance with the requirements of SCCAS.

62 Post-fieldwork analyses will start upon completion of the finds processing and will involve the identification and description of the artefacts materials recovered by the relevant specialists. In general, the following strategies will be employed in the analysis of the artefactual materials recovered:

- *Pottery*. Analysed to determine date and tabulated by context unit.
- *Worked flint*. Sorted and tabulated by context unit.
- *Metal artefacts*. Assessed for dating and significance, catalogued by context unit and where necessary conserved within four weeks of completion of fieldwork, in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*.
- *Faunal Remains*. Sorted and tabulated by context unit. Assessed for the potential for further analysis and for sieving for the recovery of smaller bird and fish bones.
- Human skeletal material. Analysed by context unit and grave group identified where feasible. The use of C14 dating for the HSM will be implemented in consultation with SCCAS if artefactual dating is either absent, insufficiently reliable or does not provide satisfactory precision.
- *Environmental Samples*. Processed and assessed for content and significance.
- Other categories of artefactual materials will be analysed in a similar fashion.

63 All finds work will follow the procedures set out in *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014c). Finds data will be entered on a spreadsheet to aid analysis and report preparation.

64 All archaeological materials, excepting those covered by the Treasure Act 1996, will remain the property of the landowners. NPS Archaeology will seek to reach formal agreement with the landowners for donation of materials to SCCAS.

10.0 Report and Archive

65 A trial trenching report will be prepared that presents the stratigraphic, structural, artefact and environmental evidence and analyses, and a synthesis of the results of the trial trenching. The synthesis will be undertaken in reference to relevant research agendas identified by Medlycott (2011) and what is already know about the archaeology of the immediate area.

66 It is proposed that the trial trenching report will be prepared containing the following sections:

- Introduction
- Site location, geology and topography, archaeological and historical background
- Methodology
- Results of the archaeological fieldwork by trench
- Archaeological finds
- Environmental evidence
- Discussion
- Bibliography
- *Appendices*

It is proposed that the archive report will contain the following illustrations:

- Site location
- Trench plans and associated section drawings
- Plates of key features

67 The report will present data in tabular, graphic and appendix form. A list of archive components generated by the work will also be included in the report. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, NPS Archaeology will retain copyright in and ownership of all documentation and other materials prepared by the archaeological contractor. NPS Archaeology may publish or jointly publish any description or illustration of the works with the prior consent of the client.

68 A draft copy of the report (marked DRAFT) will be presented in digital format to the client and to SCCAS for approval within four weeks of the completion of the trial trenching. An advance (interim) report for the purpose of expediting planning applications may be supplied upon request by the client and by agreement with SCCAS. Multiple copies of the approved report will be produced as appropriate and presented to the client, with 1 hard copy and 1 digital copy submitted to SCCAS. One copy of the report may be sent to the Historic England Science Advisor for the East of England, if considered appropriate.

69 The online OASIS record initiated prior to the start of the trial trenching will be completed when the final report on the works is approved by SCCAS. This will include submission of a pdf version of the final report to the Archaeology Data Service via the OASIS form.

70 A single integrated archive for all elements of the work will be prepared according to the recommendations set out in *Environmental standards for the permanent storage of excavated material from archaeological sites* (UKIC *Conservation Guidelines* 3, 1984) and *Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown 2007), and in accordance with SCCAS requirements for archive preparation, storage and conservation (Minter and Kennard 2017).

71 The archive will be fully indexed and cross-referenced for retention at SCCAS facilities. Deposition of the archive and finds (by prior agreement with the landowner) will take place after completion of the final report and confirmed in writing to SCCAS. In this case, the archive will be prepared for long term storage to the requirements of SCCAS (Minter and Kennard 2017). A full list of archive contents and finds boxes will accompany the deposition of the archive and finds.

11.0 Timetable and Resources

72 The timetable for fieldwork assumes that there are no major delays to the work programme caused by factors outside of NPS Archaeology's reasonable control. Such circumstances include without limitation: long periods of adverse weather conditions, flooding, repeated vandalism, ground contamination, delays in the development programme, unsafe buildings, conflicts between the archaeological recording methods and the protection of flora and fauna on the site, disease restrictions, and unexploded ordnance.

73 The proposed earliest start date for the archaeological work is two working weeks upon notification from the client. The timetable for the trial trenching is dependent upon the needs and progress of the construction scheme. Currently, it is anticipated that archaeological works will commence in late May 2019 and SCCAS will be advised as far in advance of commencement as possible.

74 It is estimated that the fieldwork will take c. 2 weeks staffed by up to three archaeologists, dependent on and appropriate to the archaeological remains present.

75 The financial resources for this work are subject to separate agreement with the client and are not reproduced here.

12.0 Project Staff

76 A Project Manager will assume overall responsibility for the delivery of the project. The project will be co-ordinated on a day-to-day basis by a Project Officer who will be dedicated to the project throughout its duration. The Project Officer will act under the direction of the Project Manager in respect of logistics, standards, health and safety, and liaison with the client and curators. The Project Officer will have substantial experience in archaeological excavation and post-excavation analysis.

77 NPS Archaeology staff associated with the project will be:

Project Management	
Project Manager	David Adams, *MCIfA*
Senior Project Officer	Lilly Hodges BA, MA, *PCIfA*
Assistant Project Officer	Gary Collyer BA

Specialists used by NPS Archaeology

Specialist	***Research Field***
Adrian Marsden	Numismatic Items
Mick Boyle/Andy Barnett	Metal Detecting
Sarah Bates/ Barry Bishop	Struck Flint
Frances Green	Palaeo-environmental analysis and lithology
Julie Curl	Faunal Remains
Sue Anderson	Post-Roman Pottery, Ceramic Building Material, Human Skeletal Remains, Fired Clay
Debbie Harris	Artefact Conservation
Val Fryer	Macrofossil analysis
Sarah Percival	Prehistoric Pottery
Alice Lyons/ Andrew Peachey	Roman Pottery
Ian Riddler/ Rebecca Sillwood	Metal finds
Esther Cameron	Organics
Sue Harrington	Textiles
Tim Pestell	Metal finds
Andrea Kirkham	Plaster and paint analysis
Stephen Heywood	Worked stone

78 NPS Archaeology reserves the right to change its nominated personnel at any time should project programmes change.

PART 2 REQUIREMENTS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF FURTHER PHASES

13.0 Mitigatory Work

79 Based on the results of the trial trenching, the following mitigatory works may be required. Following discussion with SCCAS, separate project designs will be provided by the archaeological contractor for each part of the following mitigatory works: monitoring, excavation, post-excavation assessment publication and archive as necessary with these project designs provided as appendices to this WSI.

14.0 Timetable and Resources

80 The different stages of archaeological work have different time and staff requirements. The timetable for fieldwork assumes that there are no major delays to the work programme caused by factors outside of NPS Archaeology's reasonable control. Such circumstances would include without limitation: long periods of adverse weather conditions, flooding, repeated vandalism, ground contamination, delays in the development programme, unsafe buildings, conflicts between the archaeological recording methods and the protection of flora and fauna on the site, disease restrictions, and unexploded ordnance.

15.0 Quality Standards

81 All staff employed or sub-contracted by NPS Archaeology will be employed in line with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (2014a).

82 NPS Archaeology operates under a recognised Quality Management System and is accredited with BS EN ISO 9001:2008.

83 The guidelines set out in the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) will be followed. Provision will be made for monitoring the work by SCCAS in accordance with the procedures outlined in the document *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2015a). Monitoring opportunities for each phase of the project are suggested as follows:

i. during fieldwork
ii. during post-fieldwork processing
iii. upon receipt of the report

84 A further monitoring opportunity will be provided at the end of the work upon deposition of the integrated archive and finds.

85 Most aspects of this project will be co-ordinated by the Project Officer who has the day-to-day responsibility for the successful completion of the project. The Project Officer's performance is monitored by a Project Manager. Overall responsibility for the successful delivery of the project lies with the NPS Archaeology Manager, who has responsibility for all of NPS Archaeology's work and ensures the maintenance of quality standards within the organisation.

16.0 General Conditions

86 NPS Archaeology will not commence work until a written order, or signed agreement is received from the client. Where the commission is received through an agent, the agent is deemed to be authorised to act on behalf of the client. NPS Archaeology reserves the right to recover unpaid fees for the service provided from the agent where it is found that this authority is contested by said client.

87 A 7.4-hour working day is normally operated by NPS Archaeology, although their agents may work outside these hours.

88 NPS Archaeology shall not be held responsible for any delay or failure in meeting agreed deadlines resulting from circumstances beyond its reasonable control. Such circumstances would include all those listed in para. 93.

89 NPS Archaeology expects any information concerning the presence of TPOs and/or, protected flora and fauna on the site to be provided by the client prior to the commencement of works and accepts no liability if this information is not disclosed. No excavation will take place within 8.00m or canopy width (whichever is the greater) of any trees within or bordering the site.

90 NPS Archaeology will not accept responsibility for any tree surgery, removal of undergrowth, shrubbery or hedges or reinstatement of gardens. NPS Archaeology will endeavour to restrict the levels of disturbance of to a minimum, but wishes to bring to the attention of the client that the works will necessarily alter the appearance of a site.

17.0 Access, Health and Safety

91 NPS Archaeology expects the client to arrange suitable access to the site for its staff, plant and welfare facilities on the agreed start date.

92 Reasonable access to the site will be granted by NPS Archaeology to SCCAS and representatives of the client who wish to be satisfied, through site inspections, that the archaeological works are being conducted to appropriate professional standards and in accordance with the agreements made.

93 In advance of works commencing, NPS Archaeology will prepare and submit a Health and Safety Risk Assessment and Method Statement to the client. All NPS staff will be briefed on the contents of the Risk Assessment and required to read it. Personal protective clothing and equipment will be issued and used as required.

94 NPS Archaeology will ensure that all work is carried out in accordance with NPS Property Consultants Limited's Health and Safety Policy, to standards defined in *the Health and Safety at Work, etc. Act,* 1974 and *The Management of Health and Safety Regulations,* 1992, and in accordance with the health and safety manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (SCAUM 2007).

95 The client will provide NPS Archaeology with all information reasonably obtainable on the location of live services including overhead utilities before site works commence.

96 Whether or not CDM regulations apply to this work, NPS Archaeology expect the client to provide information on the nature, extent and level of any soil contamination present. Should unanticipated contaminated ground be encountered during the works, excavation will cease until an assessment of risks to health has been undertaken and on-site control measures implemented. NPS Archaeology will not be liable for any costs related to the collection and analysis of soils or other assessment methods, on-site control measures, and the removal of contaminated soil or other materials from site. In case of contaminated soil, it may be necessary for NPS Archaeology to produce a revised Risk Assessment and/or adapt the agreed Written Scheme of Investigation in consultation with the client and SCCAS.

97 Should any disease restrictions be implemented for the area during the excavation, fieldwork will cease and staff will be redeployed until they are lifted. NPS Archaeology will not be liable for any costs related to on-site disease control measures and for any additional costs incurred to complete the fieldwork after the restrictions have been removed.

98 NPS Archaeology will provide copies of NPS Property Consultants Limited's Health and Safety policy on request.

99 In an effort to improve its service, NPS Archaeology would welcome any comments on the content or presentation of this Written Scheme of Investigation.

18.0 Insurance

100 NPS Archaeology’s insurance cover is:

Employers Liability	£5,000,000
Public Liability	£50,000,000
Professional Indemnity	£5,000,000

101 Full details of NPS Archaeology's insurance cover will be supplied on request.

599400
599500
599600
599700
249400
249300
N
Weir
Path (um)
ROTHERAM ROAD
SMOCK MEADOW
El Sub Sta
BM
48.62m

Land east of Artiss Close and Rotheram Road, Bildeston, Suffolk.
Figure 1. Proposed evaluation trench location

22 no. 30m x 1.8m trenches

0 100m

nps group
nps archaeology

Drawn by: DD	Date: 10/05/2019
Version: 2. Amended trench layout	Scale: 1:1000 @ A3

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