Report 1904

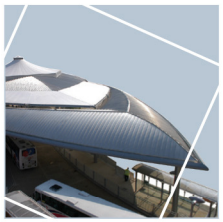
nps group

nau archaeology

An Archaeological Fieldwalking Survey and Evaluation of land east of St Peter's Field, Bottisham, Cambridgeshire

Amended

ECB 3000



Produced for

Hastoe Housing Association Limited

Peter Crawley

February 2009

REGISTERED IfA ORGANISATION

www.nps.co.uk

NAU ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT CHECKLIST		
Project overseen by	David Whitmore	
Draft completed	Peter Crawley	17/10/2008
Graphics completed	David Dobson	17/10/2008
Edit completed	Richard Hoggett	22/10/2008
Signed off	Andrew Hutcheson	28/10/2008
Amendments made	Peter Crawley	11/02/2009
Edit completed	Richard Hoggett	24/02/2009
Signed off	Jayne Bown	25/02/2009

NAU Archaeology
Scandic House
85 Mountergate
Norwich
NR1 1PY

T 01603 756150 F 01603 756190 E jayne.bown@nps.co.uk www.nau.org.uk

Contents

Figures

Plates

Location:	Land east of St Peter's Field, Bottisham
District:	East Cambridgeshire
Grid Ref.:	TL 5415 6035
HER No.:	ECB 3000
Dates of Fieldwork:	28 August, 8–12 September 2008

Summary

In 2008, NAU Archaeology undertook an evaluation on land to the east of St Peter's Field, Bottisham, East Cambridgeshire. The work was conducted in advance of continuing residential development. The evaluation began with a small fieldwalking survey in the southern half of the development area. Two test pits were also excavated within the wooded northern half of the site. No large concentrations of finds resulted from this survey.

Six evaluation trenches were then excavated across the site. Three shallow ditches and two short segments of gully were observed within the trenches. Although undated the features were sealed by a layer of subsoil, perhaps indicating a pre-medieval date. They may represent elements of a field-system. The ditch in Trench 5 produced environmental evidence which indicated that it had existed within a managed environment. Trench 6 contained an irregular pattern of natural hollows which held small amounts of Neolithic pot. Prehistoric people often utilised naturally occurring features, although the amounts of ceramic in this case are small and could have been deposited from the overlying subsoil.

1.0 Introduction

The site was situated adjacent to a recent housing development at St Peter's Field at the southern end of the historic village of Bottisham (Fig. 1). The development plot covered 0.13 hectares. The proposed development was an extension of the existing St Peter's Field housing estate, involving the construction of 14 new dwellings with associated services. A previous evaluation had been undertaken in 2001 prior to the construction of the existing housing estate at St Peter's Field.

This archaeological programme was undertaken to fulfil a planning condition set by East Cambridgeshire District Council (Planning Application E/08/00149/FUM) and a brief issued by Cambridgeshire Archaeology (Gdaniec 2008). The work was conducted in accordance with a Project Design and Method Statement prepared by NAU Archaeology (Ref: BAU1904/DW). The report and fieldwork were commissioned by Davis Langdon LLP on behalf of Hastoe Housing Association.

The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, following the guidelines set out in *Planning and Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and Planning* (Department of the Environment 1990). The results will enable decisions to be made by the Local Planning Authority with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

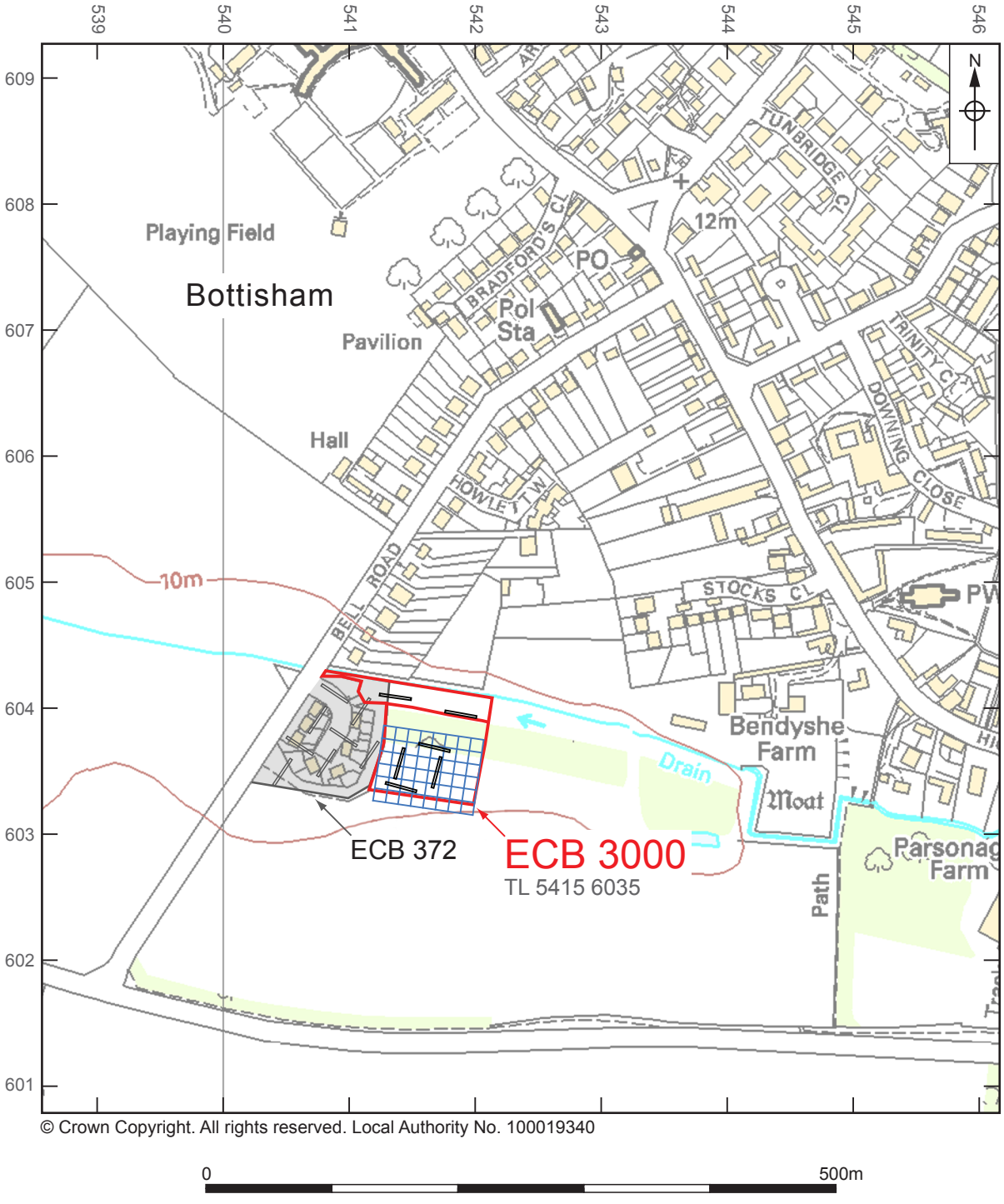


Figure 1. Site location. Scale 1:5000

The site archive is currently held by NAU Archaeology and on completion of the project will be deposited with the Cambridgeshire County Store following the relevant policy on archiving standards.

2.0 Geology and Topography

The deposits on site consisted of a topsoil and subsoil. The topsoil was a consistent light grey-brown clayey silt which had an average depth of 0.30m. The subsoil was a mottled light brown and cream chalky silt which varied in depth between 0.10m and 0.20m.

The solid geology of the site is Cretaceous Lower Chalk. In particular the chalk natural was part of the West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation substrate. The area was probably subjected to scouring and disruption during the various glaciations of the more recent geological periods (Kirby and Oosthuizen 2000).

The site lies just above the 10m OD contour and is generally flat. The underlying geology and the lack of a slope on the site led to there being only moderate drainage on the site. The deposits quickly became sticky when wet.

3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

The findspot of a prehistoric hammerstone is recorded 100m to the north of the present site (CHER 6585). A number of Mesolithic blades and flakes and two tranchet axes are recorded from the vicinity of the site, although their mapping is not very precise (CHER 6583 and 6595).

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Heritage Network to the west of the present site prior to the construction of the St Peter's Field housing estate in 2001 (ECB 372). The evaluation consisted of eight machine-excavated trenches and revealed a series of shallow linear features sealed by the subsoil. All of these features were undated, but may be prehistoric (CHER 15535).

The most significant record in the vicinity pertains to the medieval moated manor (SM 33269 / CHER 1120) and associated fishpond situated *c.*160m to the east of the present site and 90m south of the 19th-century buildings of Bendyshe Farm (CHER 6587). The manor sat on an island and elements of the infilled moat now survive as buried features. Immediately to the west of the southern arm of the moat is a linear pond 80m long by at least 10m wide, which is thought to be a fishpond contemporary with the moated site. The moated site associated with Thomas de Bendish, who held an estate in the parish in 1288. A large red-brick house with a chapel at one end formerly stood on the island and was demolished in the early 19th century. This post-medieval building is thought to have replaced an earlier manor house and archaeological remains survive on the island.

To the east of the moated manor stands Holy Trinity church, the earliest fabric of which dates from the 13th century, but the foundation of which is certainly earlier (CHER 6730). An archaeological evaluation conducted to the north of the church at Beechwood Avenue in 2003 (ECB 1436) revealed a Saxo-Norman well and a pit (CHER 15746), but monitoring of the adjacent site in 2007 did not reveal any archaeological features (ECB 2134).

Other medieval features in the vicinity include a medieval milestone which stands on the roadside 500m to the south-west of the site (CHER 6550). To the south of

this milestone, record CHER 6697 documents the site of medieval ridge and furrow. An 11th-century disc brooch was discovered by a metal-detectorist 500m to the east of the present site (CHER 6599).

A number of post-medieval buildings line the High Street, to the north-east of the present site. Among them are two 16th-century houses (CHER 6590 and 6594), a late 17th-century/early 18th-century cottage (CHER 6584) and an 18th-century house (CHER 6596).

Some 500m to the south of the present site lie the remains of Second World War airfield and associated gun emplacements (CHER 15127).

4.0 Methodology

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

The development area was subject to fieldwalking and a metal-detector survey. Only the southern half of the plot was suitable for this type of survey, as the northern half was covered by turf and/or newly planted trees and scrub. To evaluate this area, two 1m by 1m test pits were excavated down to the natural chalk (see Fig. 2). Where possible, the fieldwalking survey was undertaken in transects spaced at 10m intervals. Finds were collected and located using handheld GPS and allocated context numbers (1–48) based on a 10m grid (see Fig. 2). Any material which was obviously modern was not retained. The survey was undertaken in order to gain extra information prior to the placement of the evaluation trenches.

The brief required that 5% of the area be sampled by machine-excavated evaluation trenches. Six trenches were positioned across the site. Due to the limits of the site the trenches were as widely spaced as possible and often placed at right angles to each other (Figs 2 and 3). Each trench was 25m long and 1.80m wide.

Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision by the Project Officer using a hydraulic 360˚ excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket. Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal-detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds, other than those which were obviously modern, were retained for inspection.

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using NAU Archaeology pro forma. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits. A single soil sample was taken.

Temporary benchmarks used during the course of this work were transferred from an Ordnance Survey spot height with a value of 12m OD, located on the road opposite Bottisham post office. A temporary benchmark with a value of 10.34m OD was located on a metal surveyor's stud implanted in the pavement at the entrance to the St Peter's Field housing estate. A further benchmark with a value of 10.51m OD was placed at the centre of the current site.

Site conditions were good, the work taking place in cloudy yet dry weather.

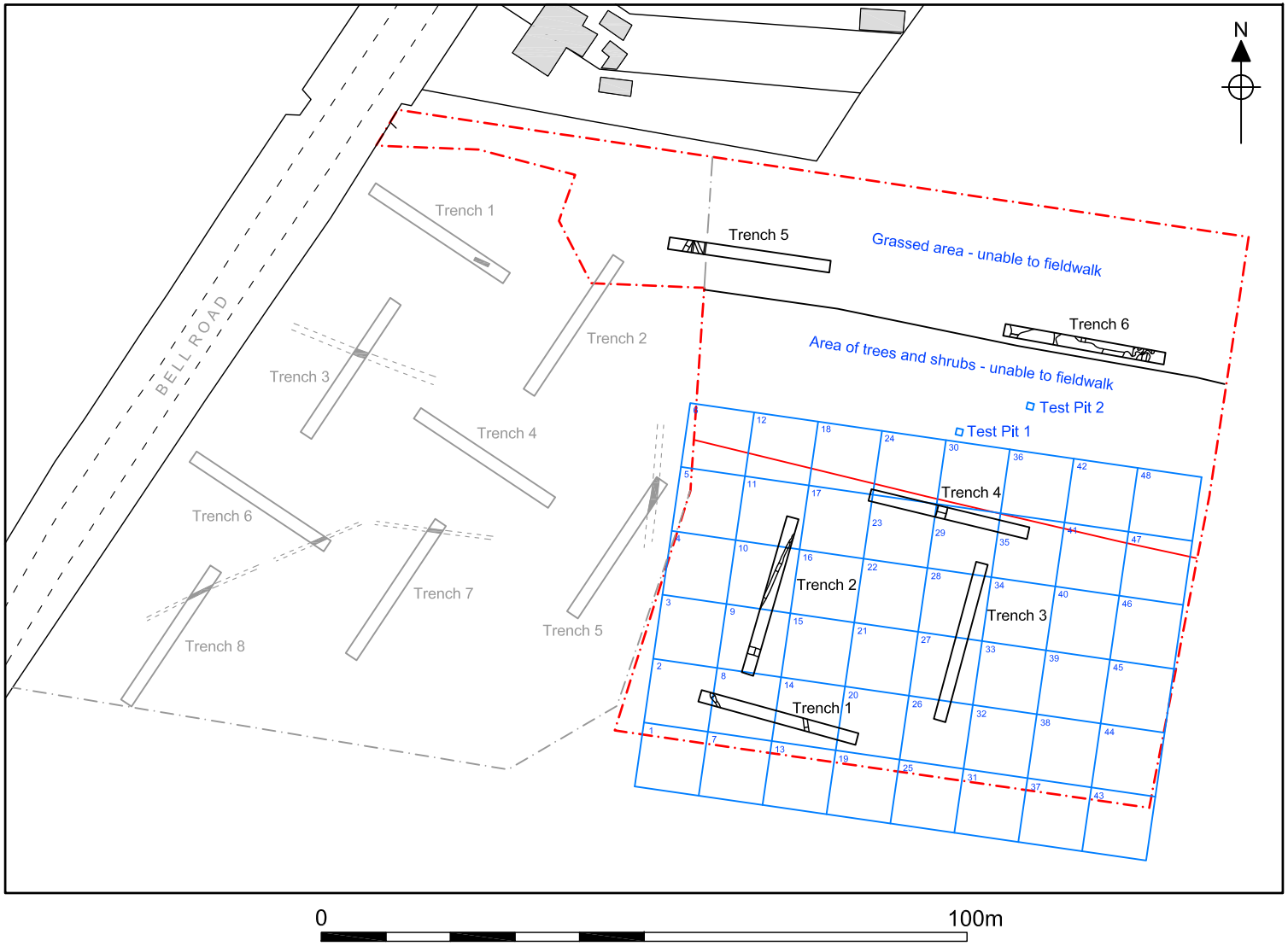


Figure 2. The site, showing location of trenches, the fieldwalking grid and the location of previous evaluation trenches. Scale 1:1000

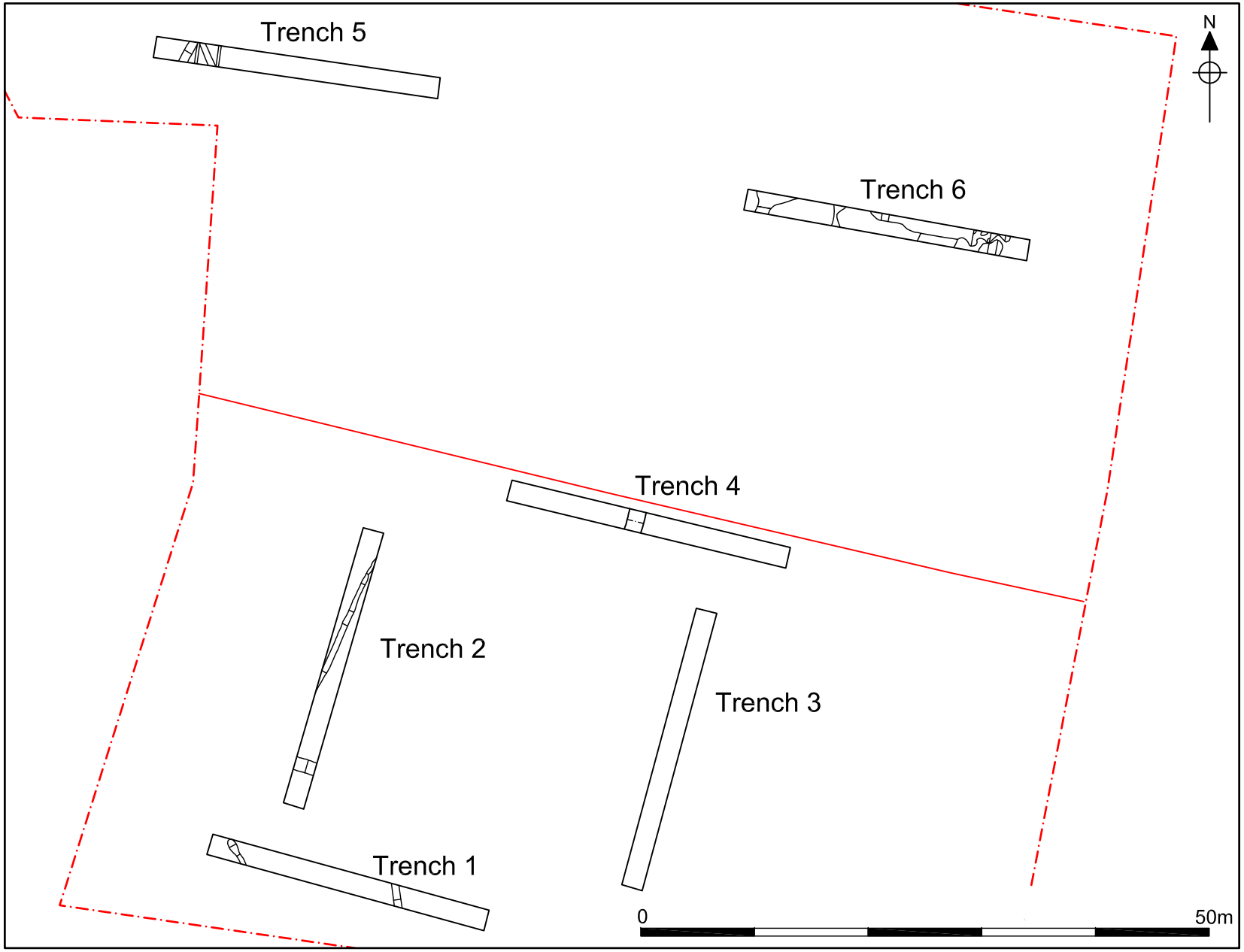


Figure 3. Trench locations. scale 1:500

Plate 1. Fieldwalking, looking South

Plate 2. Test Pit 2, showing location within scrub at the northern end of the site, looking East

Plate 3. Trench 1, showing postion of site in relation to St Peter's Field housing estate, looking west

Plate 5. Trench 2, gully [68], looking North-west

Plate 4. Trench 1, gully [63], looking North

5.0 Results

5.1 Fieldwalking

Where possible, the fieldwalking survey was undertaken in transects spaced at 10m intervals (Fig. 2; Plate 1). Finds were collected and located using handheld GPS and allocated context numbers (1–48) based on a 10m grid. Any material which was obviously modern was not retained.

An even spread of medieval to modern CBM was revealed, although one piece, from context (09), was of possible Roman origin (see below and Appendix 4). Similarly, seven sherds of post-medieval and modern pottery were discovered (see below and Appendix 3). Two pieces of burnt flint were recovered from contexts (13) and (26), perhaps indicating a degree of prehistoric activity in the area (see below and Appendix 6).

The metal-detector survey was conducted alongside the fieldwalking and recovered a number of iron nails, strips and plates, all of them modern or undiagnostic (see Appendix 2b).

5.2 Test Pits

5.2.1 Test Pit 1

Test Pit 1 revealed a light grey-brown clayey silt topsoil c.0.30m deep (49) overlying a mottled light brown and cream chalky silt subsoil *c*.0.15m deep (50). This in turn overlay the mottled chalky natural (51). One piece of possibly medieval CBM was recovered from the topsoil (49) of Test Pit 1, as were an two pieces of iron and a nail and a folded copper-alloy sheet. The metalwork was all undiagnostic.

5.2.2 Test Pit 2

Test Pit 2 revealed the same stratigraphic deposit sequence as that seen in Test Pit 1: topsoil (52), subsoil and natural (54). No artefacts were recovered from Test Pit 2.

5.3 Evaluation Trenches

Six evaluation trenches were excavated across the site (Figs 2 and 3). They were numbered in the order in which they were machined and the results are presented here in the same fashion.

All of the trenches contained topsoil and subsoil overlying a mottled chalky natural. The topsoil was a consistent light grey-brown clayey silt which had an average depth of 0.30m. The subsoil was a mottled light brown and cream chalky silt which varied in depth between 0.10m and 0.20m. Only the features and significant deposits excavated in each trench are presented below.

5.3.1 Trench 1

At the western end of Trench 1, a short section of probable terminating gully (63) was observed (Figs 3 and 4; Plate 3). It was slightly irregular in shape, yet the sides were steep and regular and it had a roughly flat base (Plate 4). The gully

was at least 2.50m long and extended beyond the southern limit of the trench. It was 0.12m deep and varied in width between 0.40–0.60m (Fig. 4). The feature was sealed by a 0.20m thick layer of subsoil. The gully's fill (64) was a light brown silty clay which contained occasional small sub-angular flints. The deposit was also flecked with naturally occurring manganese. The feature had probably silted up naturally and contained no dating evidence. The fact that the feature lay below the subsoil indicated that it was probably pre-medieval in date.

At the eastern end of the trench a vertical-sided deep cut was partially excavated. It contained a large clay land drain designed to take excess water away from the field towards the ditch on the northern side of the field. This cut was also seen in Trench 5. Due to its relatively recent date the feature was not recorded.

5.3.2 Trench 2

At the northern end of the trench, a gully (68) was observed (Figs 3 and 5; Plate 5). It could be seen to run north–south and appeared to terminate at the northern end of the trench, although animal disturbance made it difficult to confirm this. The gully was at least 11m long, though it could be seen to extend beyond the southern limit of the trench. It was 0.50m wide on average and 0.26m deep (Fig. 5). The edges tapered at an angle of 30º from the vertical to a pointed base. The feature was sealed by a 0.20m-thick layer of subsoil, which again suggests a pre-medieval date for the feature. Its fill (69) was a light brown silty clay which contained occasional small sub-angular flints. The fill was probably deposited naturally.

At the southern end of the trench a probable shallow ditch (70) was observed to cross the trench at right angles in an east–west direction (Plate 6). It was at least 1.80m long, 1.20m wide and 0.10m deep. The sides sloped at an angle of 30º with a gradual break of slope at the base and a flat base. This feature, like gully (68), was sealed by the subsoil, suggesting an early date. Its fill (71) was probably natural and consisted of a mottled light greyish-brown clayey silt with occasional small sub-angular flints. There was no dating evidence within the fill.

A sherd of Late pre-Roman Iron Age pottery was recovered from the topsoil (66).

5.3.3 Trench 3

This trench contained no archaeological features (Fig. 3). In places darker and sandier patches were observed, yet on examination they proved to be patches within the underlying natural.

5.3.4 Trench 4

(Fig.6 and Plate 7)

A single archaeological feature was observed in this trench (Figs 3 and 4). Across the centre of the trench there was a shallow ditch (78) running north–south. It was at least 1.80m long, 1.40m wide and 0.28m deep. The sides of the ditch were well defined and regular, although the eastern side had a steeper slope (Plate 7). The base was concave. The fill of the ditch (79) was a light slightly olive-brown clayey silt which contained occasional small flints. The deposit also contained moderate flecks of naturally occurring manganese. Like the other features on the site this fill was probably natural. The ditch was sealed by the subsoil.

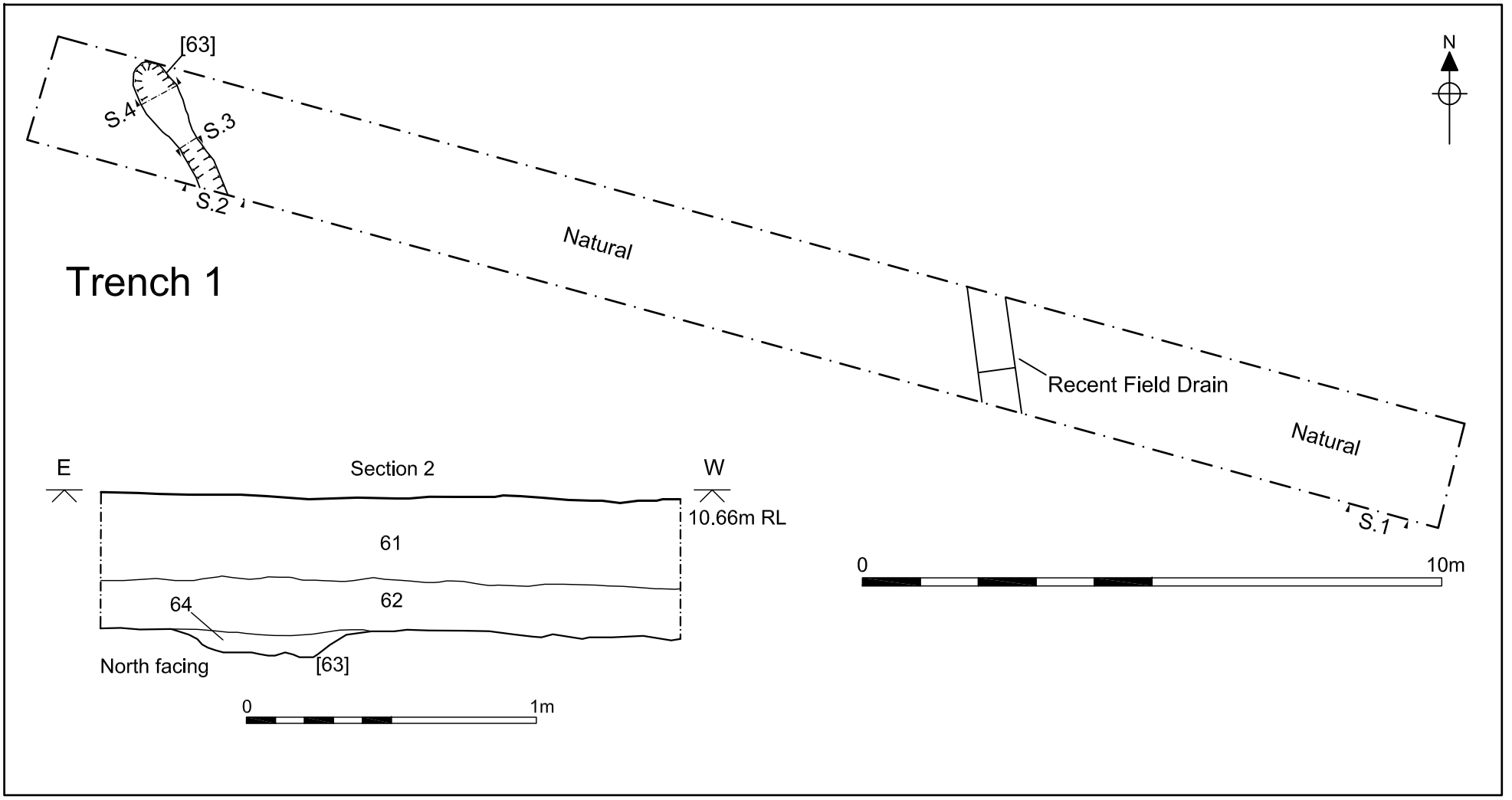


Figure 4. Plan of Trench 1; scale 1:100. Section of Gully [63]; 1:20

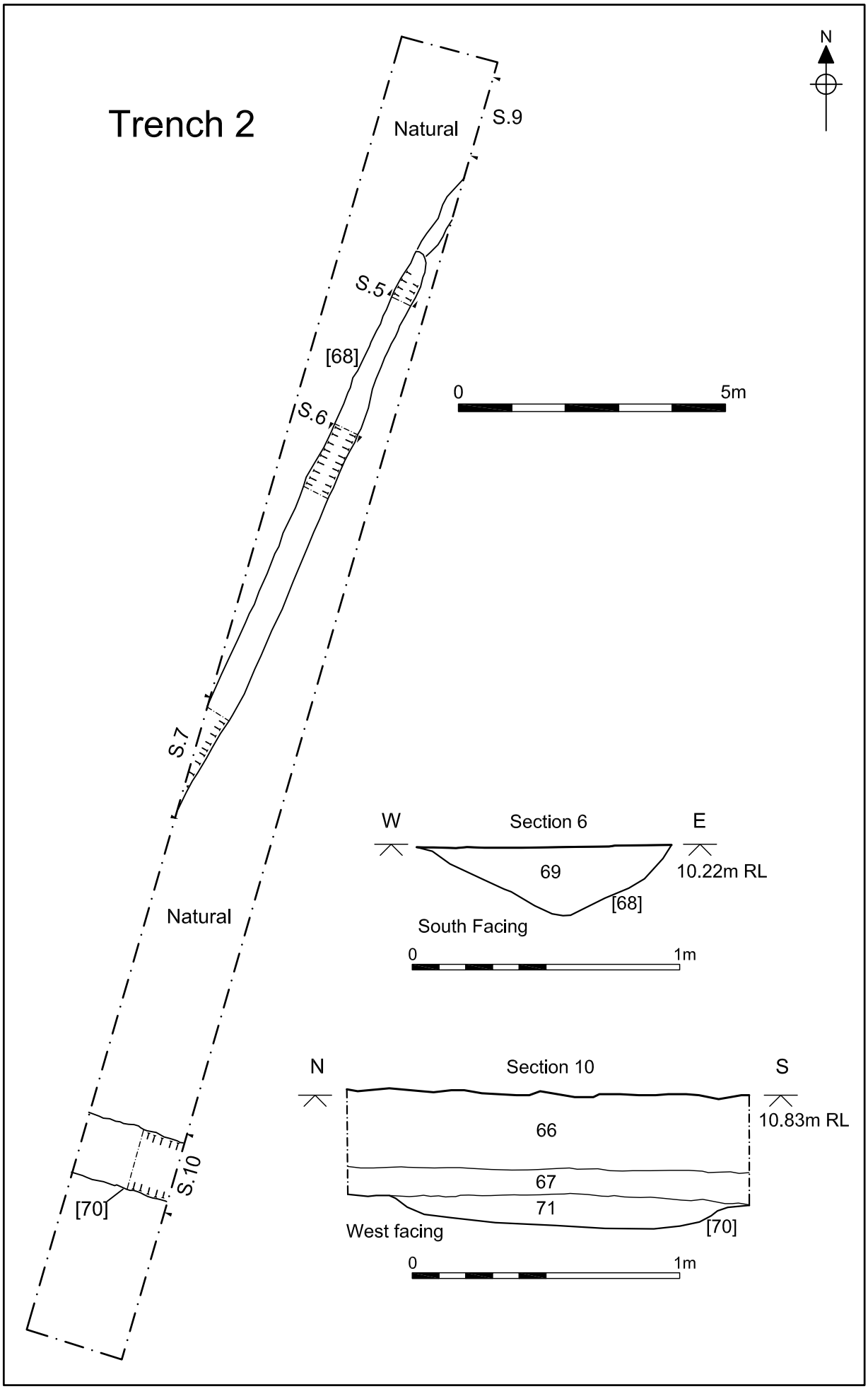


Figure 5. Plan of Trench 2; scale 1:100. Section of Gully [68] and Ditch [70]; scale 1:20

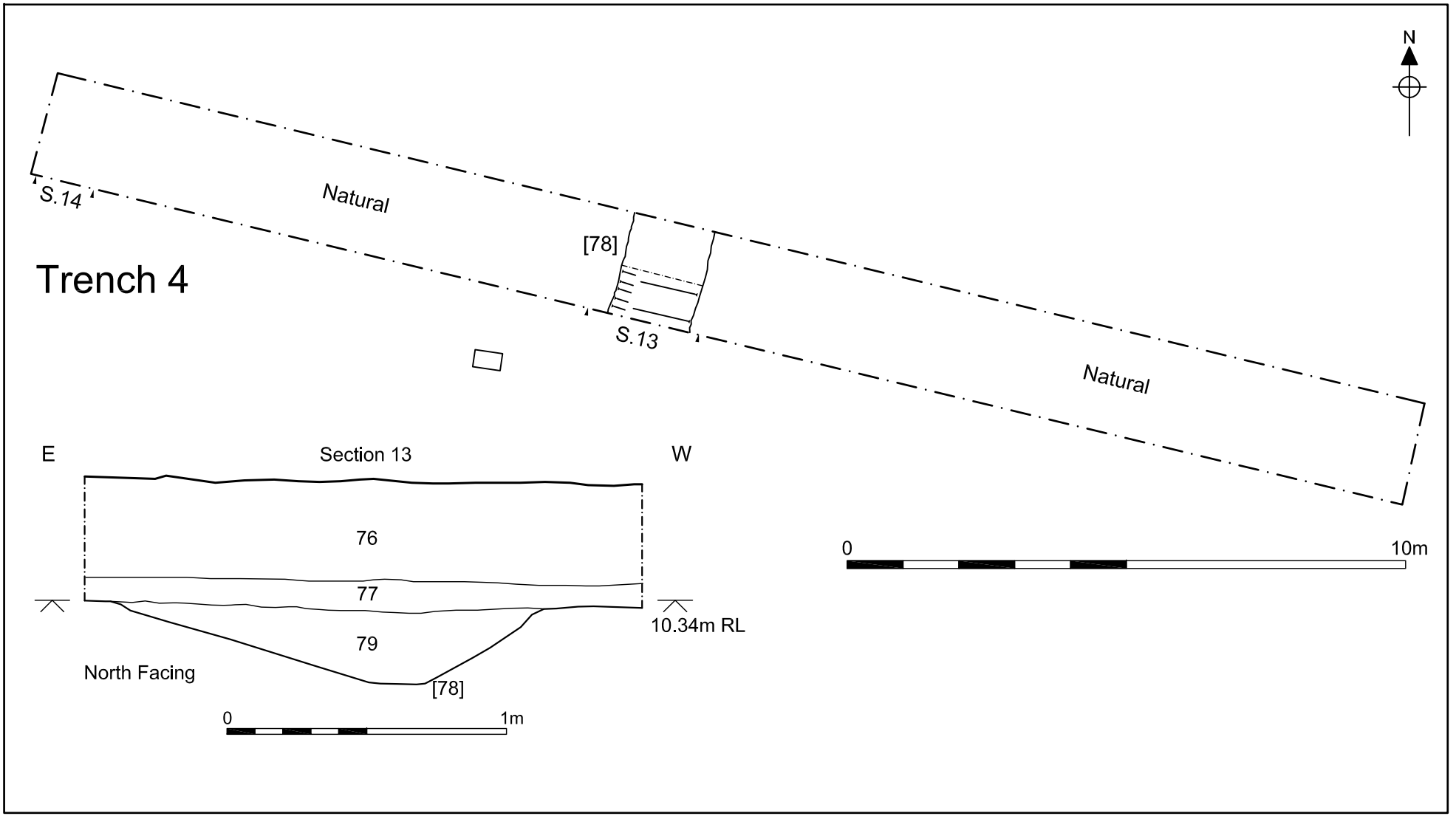


Figure 6. Plan of Trench 4; scale 1:100, section of Ditch [78]; 1:20

5.3.5 Trench 5

A single archaeological feature was observed at the western end of the trench (Figs 3 and 7). A probable shallow ditch (83), oriented north–south was recorded. It was at least 2.30m long, 1.26m width and 0.20m deep (Plate 8). The feature had a slightly irregular profile. The base was roughly flat, but lumpy, and the sides were convex. The break of slope at the base varied between gradual and sharp. The ditch was also sealed by the subsoil. The single naturally occurring fill (84) consisted of a light grey slightly clayey silt which contained occasional small flints and shells. A darker and siltier patch within the fill was sampled and the results are presented later in this report (Section 7). This ditch was probably part of an agricultural field system.

Trench 5 also contained a length of the same field drain noted in Trench 1.

5.3.6 Trench 6

After machining Trench 6 appeared to contain the most potential archaeology, however after excavation and recording all of the 'features' were found to be naturally occurring hollows (Figs 3 and 8). The eastern end of the trench contained a widening linear natural hollow (87), whereas at the western end of the trench there were a series of intercutting oval and irregular features (95), (97), (99) and (101). All of the fills were composed of a mid-grey slightly silty clay, which was very firm and formed through natural processes.

Two of the fills – fill (96) of (95) and fill (98) of (97) – produced Neolithic pottery, although as the sherds were found in the upper parts of the fills they could be intrusive and possibly derived from the subsoil.

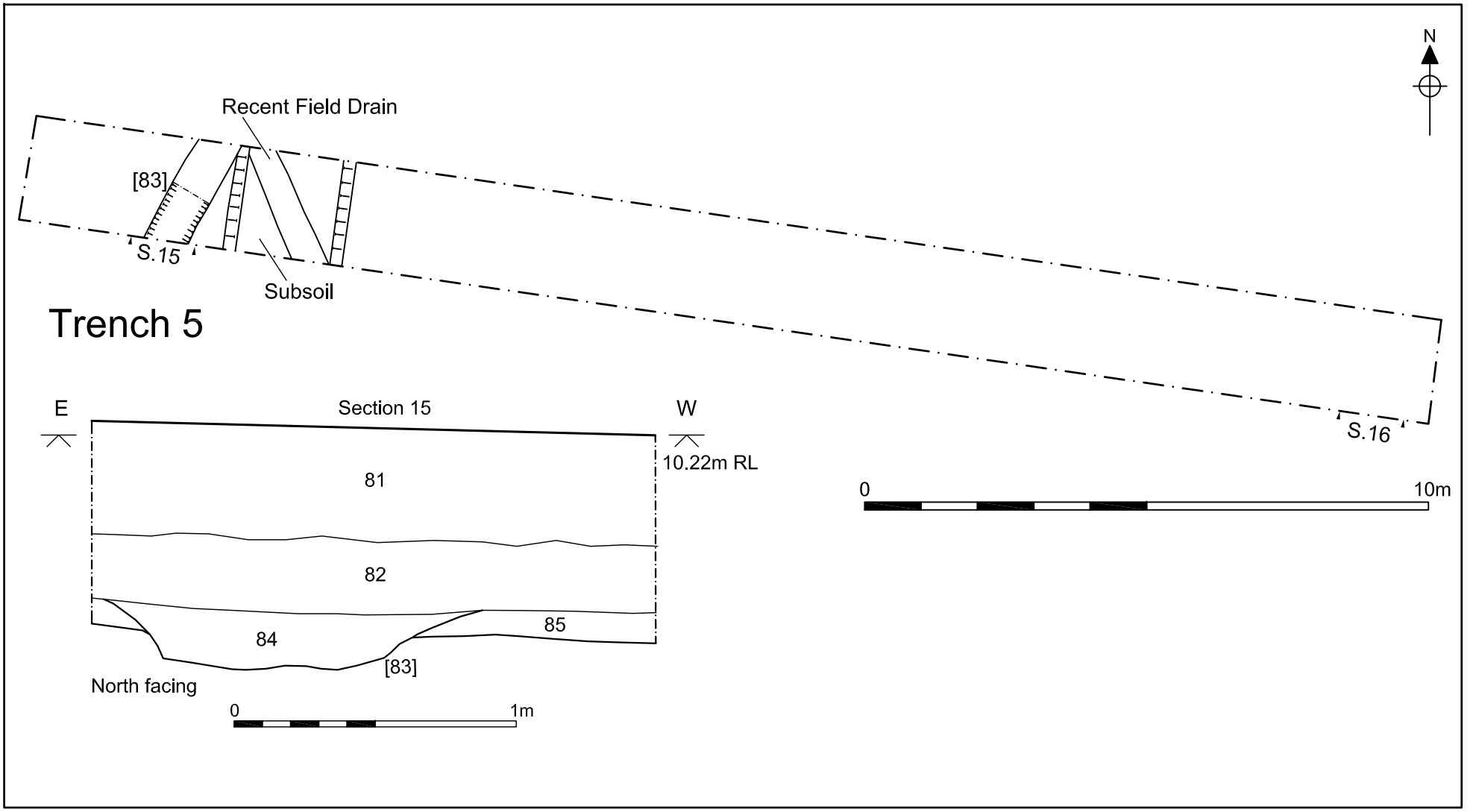


Figure 7. Plan of Trench 5; scale 1:100. Section of Ditch [83]; 1:20

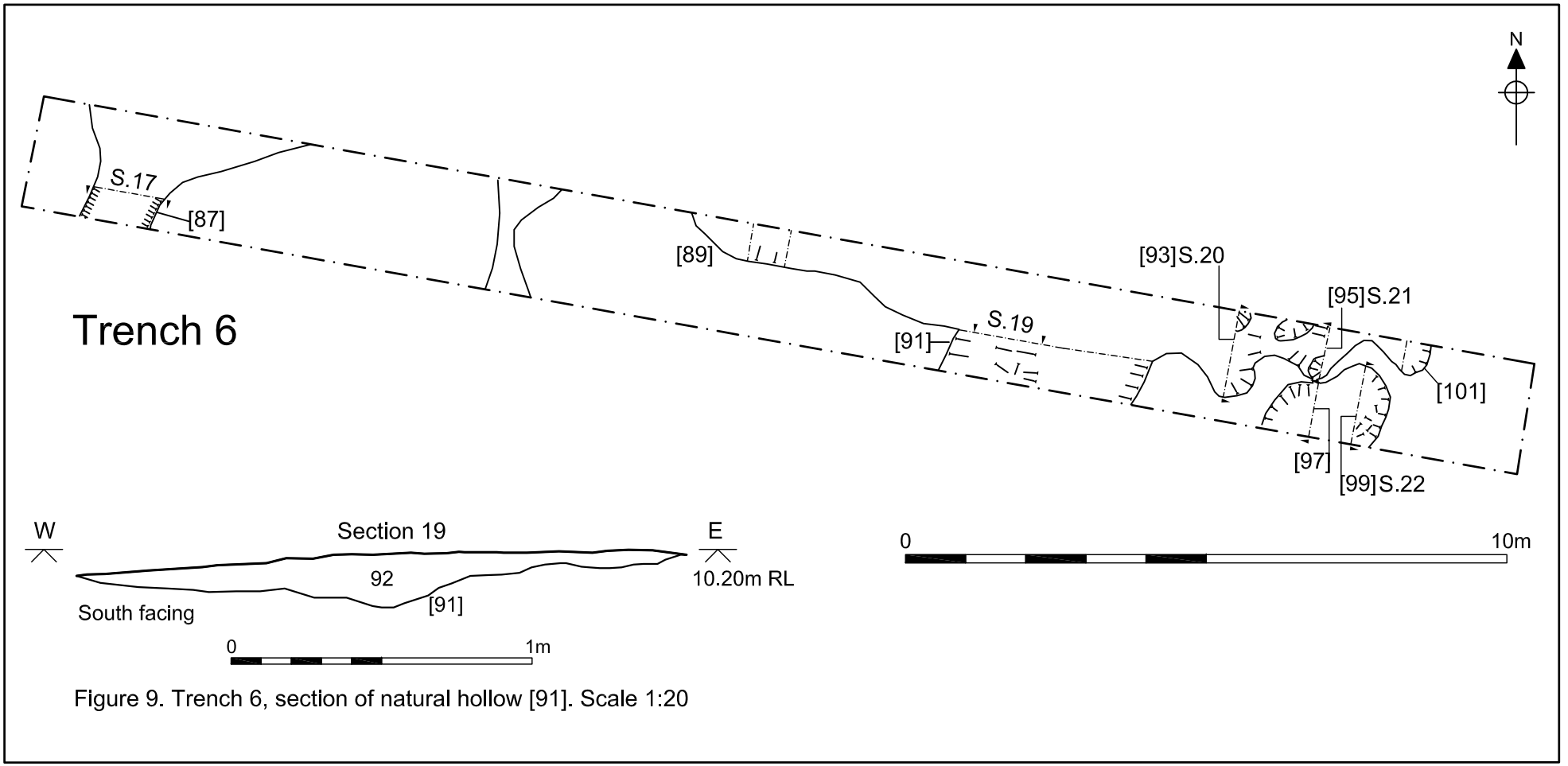


Figure 9. Trench 6, section of natural hollow [91]. Scale 1:20

Figure 8. Plan of Trench 6; scale 1:100. Section of natural hollow [91]; scale 1:20

Plate 6. Trench 2, ditch [70], looking East

Plate 7. Trench 4, ditch [78], looking South

Plate 8. Trench 5, Ditch [83], looking South

6.0 The Finds

6.1 Non-prehistoric Pottery

By Sue Anderson

Seven sherds of pottery weighing 76g were collected from six contexts. Table 1 shows the quantification by context. They were all found during the fieldwalking.

Context	Fabric	No.	Wt/g	Description	Spotdate
10	GRE	1	3	Abraded	16th–18th c.
25	LPME	1	3	Plant pot	Modern
26	REFW	1	8	Base of plate	19th/20th c.
27	GRE	1	4	Abraded	16th–18th c.
27	REFW	1	6		19th/20th c.
29	ESW	1	33	Bottle?	19th c.
32	LPME	1	19	Plant pot base	Modern

Table 1. Pottery catalogue.

Key: GRE – glazed red earthenware; REFW – refined factory-made whitewares; LPME – late Post-medieval unglazed earthenwares; ESW – English stonewares.

This small group includes abraded sherds of glazed redwares, fragments of whiteware plates, plant pots and a stoneware bottle. The assemblage ranges in date between the 16th–20th centuries, although most is likely to be of 18th/19th-century date. The group is too small to provide further interpretations.

6.2 The Prehistoric Pottery

By Sarah Percival

A small assemblage of prehistoric pottery was recovered from three contexts during the trenching of the site. Four small flint-tempered sherds weighing 4g came from the fills of two natural hollows [95] and [97]. The small undecorated body sherds may be earlier Neolithic. A third, undecorated body sherd in shell-tempered fabric with sparse grog inclusions was recovered from the topsoil (66). An early Roman date is suggested for this sherd.

6.3 Ceramic Building Material

By Sue Anderson

Fourteen fragments of CBM weighing 209g were collected from thirteen contexts during the fieldwalking and the excavation of Test Pit 1 (Table 2). A quantification by fabric and form is included as Appendix 4.

One fragment of abraded tile from (09) was possibly Roman (RBT). It was in a dense pinkish-purple fabric with occasional calcareous inclusions.

The majority of fragments comprised pieces of plain roof tile (RT) in a calcareous fabric. Several fragments appeared similar in form to estuarine clay tiles of 13th–15th-century date and others had reduced cores. It is possible that these pieces were medieval roof tiles. One fragment from (24) was certainly machine-made, however, and therefore of 19th-century or later date.

Context	Fabric	Type	No	Wt/g	Notes	Date
02	fsc	RT	1	9	Coarsely made, similar to estuarine tile	Medieval?
03	fscx	LB?	1	26	Poss. FT	Post-medieval
04	fsfe	FT	1	4	Small	medieval?
09	fs	RBT?	1	34	Dense, abraded	Post-medieval
10	fsm	UN	1	1	Abraded	
10	fsc	UN	1	2	Abraded, pale buff, poss pot or FC?	
11	fsc	RT	1	20	Could be IMB	Medieval?
12	fs	UN	1	4	Abraded, no surfaces, poss FT	
13	fsc	RT	1	10		Medieval?
16	fsc	RT	1	20	Reduced core	Medieval?
17	fsc	RT	1	15	Reduced core	Medieval?
24	fsc	RT	1	45	Machine-made	Post-medieval
35	fsc	RT	1	13	Reduced core	Medieval?
49	fsc	RT	1	6	Reduced core	Medieval?

Table 2. CBM by context.

A small fragment of floor tile (FT) from (04) was identified from the base treatment and is likely to be post-medieval. At least one of the unidentified fragments may also be floor tile.

A piece of late brick (LB) from (03) was in a poorly mixed orange fabric with streaks of white clay and moderate coarse calcareous inclusions.

Unidentified fragments were all heavily abraded with no surface features surviving. The pale buff fabric of one suggested that it may be Roman pottery or possibly fired clay. The other two pieces were in dense fabrics and may be floor tiles.

This small assemblage includes a high proportion of calcareous-tempered fragments. This is typical of the Fenland area, with both pottery and ceramic building material of most periods containing at least some chalk or limestone. Unfortunately this makes it very difficult to date small fragments based on the fabric alone. While a medieval date for many of the roof tile fragments is possible, the methods of manufacture of these tiles changed little from the 13th–18th centuries and the date of some of these pieces remains in doubt. The other fragments were likewise too small or abraded for positive identification and/or dating.

6.4 Flint

By Lucy Talbot

The fieldwalking produces two fragments (33g) of unworked fire-affected flint from contexts (13) and (26) (Appendix 5).

7.0 The Environmental Evidence

7.1 Introduction and Method Statement

The evaluation recorded a shallow ditch sealed beneath the current topsoil layer. The feature was possibly of prehistoric date, although corroborative dating evidence was not recorded. A single small sample for the evaluation of the preservation and content of the mollusc assemblage was taken. The rationale for selection and methodology employed for study are based on *Environmental Archaeology* (EH 2002).

The sample was processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flot was collected in a 300-micron mesh sieve. The dried flot was scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x16 and the mollusc shells and other remains noted are listed in Appendix 7. Nomenclature within the appendix follows Kerney and Cameron (1979) and Macan (1977). The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm-mesh sieve and dried before sorting. Further mollusc shell fragments were recorded, but artefacts/ecofacts were absent.

7.2 Results

With the exception of a single small fragment of charcoal/charred wood and occasional intrusive modern roots, the assemblage was entirely composed of shells of both terrestrial and freshwater obligate molluscs. Preservation was very variable, with some specimens retaining coloration and surface texturing, while others were opaque and abraded. All four of Evans' (1972) ecological groups of terrestrial molluscs were represented. Woodland/shade-loving species occurred most frequently with taxa noted including *Carychium* sp., *Discus rotundatus*, *Pomatius elegans* and *Vitrea* sp. Shells of open-country species (predominantly *Vallonia costata*) were also recorded along with specimens of marsh/freshwater species, most notably those common within wet features subject to intermittent periods of drying, the latter including *Anisus leucostoma*, *Lymnaea palustris* and *L. truncatula*.

7.3 Conclusions and Recommendations

The composition of the assemblage appears to indicate that the ditch was probably set within an area of short-turfed grassland, although the feature itself was well shaded and semi-permanently water-filled at its base. Of particular note within the assemblage were a number of burnt shells of both terrestrial and freshwater molluscs. As these were most likely to have been burned during some form of vegetation clearance, this does suggest that the ditch was situated within a managed landscape.

Although mollusc assemblages from this site could be of potential importance for the interpretation of the past environment, their use is strictly limited without any corroborative dating. Therefore, if further archaeological work is to be undertaken within this area of Bottisham, additional samples should only be taken from well-sealed and dated contexts.

8.0 Conclusions

It is noteworthy that such unexceptional finds were collected during the fieldwalking, especially given the proximity of the medieval moated manor to the east. Such an institution would have created a large amount of waste material, yet there is a relative scarcity of pottery and CBM from the medieval period. The lack of finds may indicate that the site was not being farmed at that time, possibly it was too wet or it may have been used as pasture.

A number of conclusions can be drawn from the findings of the evaluation trenches. The similar, shallow morphology and the position below the subsoil seem to suggest that the three possible ditches and two gullies revealed were probably contemporary. The subsoil was highly likely to have formed through medieval ridge and furrow ploughing so it can be suggested with confidence that the features are pre-medieval in date, though they could be earlier. They are likely to be a continuation of the field-system noted in the previous evaluation conducted prior to the construction of St Peter's housing estate immediately to the west.

When the two adjacent evaluation sites (ECB 372 in 2001 and ECB3000 in 2008) are examined together (Fig.2) there are a few possible correlations between the features observed on each occasion. The east-to-west orientated linear feature within Trench 7 of the 2001 work could be the same linear feature ([70]) found at the south end of Trench 2 in this investigation. However, if this were the case it would have been expected to also be present in Trench 5 of the 2001 work, though its survival could have been intermittent. Both features had a similar form, a flat base and were sealed by the subsoil. In addition, the north-to-south orientated linear feature observed in Trench 5 of the 2001 work could be the same as that which was found at the west end of Trench 5 of this work ([83]). Both sites also produced shallow undated features which were sealed by the subsoil.

The soil sample taken from a ditch fill in Trench 5, while not confirming any date, does support the idea that the ditch existed within a managed landscape, and that the landscape was possibly semi-waterlogged.

The probable natural hollows in Trench 6 may have been due to floral or faunal disturbance and at present add little to what is known of the site. However, the presence of Neolithic pottery in the fills of two of the hollows, if it is not intrusive, indicates Neolithic activity somewhere in the vicinity and may be proved to have greater significance if further work is conducted in the future.

This evaluation seems to confirm that the majority of the important historical remains in Bottisham lie along the High Street to the north of the present site. It is likely that the area south of the village was generally wetter and therefore less utilised throughout much of history. The higher land to the north was more intensively occupied.

Recommendations for future work based upon this report will be made by Cambridgeshire Archaeology part of Cambridgeshire County Council Planning and Countryside Advice Department.

Acknowledgements

Thanks are extended to Hastoe Housing Association for funding the fieldwork and this report. Thanks are also due to Richard Bramley of land agents Carter Jonas and tenant farmer David Rayner for arranging access to the site.

The fieldwork was undertaken by the author and Juha Matti-Vuorinen. The 360º hydraulic excavator was supplied and operated by L.O.C Plant Hire.

The site was monitored by Kasia Gdaniec of Cambridgeshire Archaeology.

The finds were processed by Lucy Talbot, who also reported on the flint. The CBM and non-prehistoric pottery were examined by Sue Anderson of CFA Archaeology Ltd. The prehistoric pottery was examined by Sarah Percival. HER data was provided by Sally Thompson of Cambridgeshire Archaeology.

This report was illustrated by David Dobson and edited by Richard Hoggett.

Bibliography

Department of the Environment	1990	*Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning*. London: HMSO.
Evans, J.	1972	*Land Snails in Archaeology*. London
Kerney, M.P. and Cameron, R.A.D.	1979	*A Field Guide to the Land Snails of Britain and North-west Europe.* Collins
Kirby, T. and Oosthuizen, S.	2000	*An Atlas of Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire History.* Centre For Regional Studies Anglia Polytechnic University.
Macan, T.T.	1977	*British Fresh- and Brackish-Water Gastropods*. Freshwater Biological Association Scientific Publication 13.

Appendix 1a: Context Summary

Context	Category	Description	Period
1	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
2	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
3	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
4	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
5	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
6	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
7	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
8	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
9	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
10	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
11	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
12	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
13	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
14	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
15	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
16	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
17	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
18	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
19	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
20	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
21	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
22	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
23	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
24	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
25	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
26	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
27	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
28	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
29	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
30	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
31	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
32	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
33	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
34	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
35	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
36	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
37	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
38	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
39	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
40	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
41	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
42	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
43	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-

Context	Category	Description	Period
44	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
45	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
46	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
47	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
48	Fieldwalking	Find Collection Unit	-
49	Test Pit 1 – Deposit	Topsoil	-
50	Test Pit 1 – Deposit	Subsoil	-
51	Test Pit 1 – Deposit	Natural	-
52	Test Pit 2 – Deposit	Topsoil	-
53	Test Pit 2 – Deposit	Subsoil	-
54	Test Pit 2 – Deposit	Natural	-
55	*Not Used*		
56	*Not Used*		
57	*Not Used*		
58	*Not Used*		
59	*Not Used*		
60	*Not Used*		
61	Trench 1 – Deposit	Topsoil	-
62	Trench 1 – Deposit	Subsoil	-
63	Trench 1 – Cut	Gully	Undated
64	Trench 1 – Deposit	Fill of [3]	Undated
65	Trench 1 – Deposit	Natural	-
66	Trench 2 – Deposit	Topsoil	-
67	Trench 2 – Deposit	Subsoil	-
68	Trench 2 – Cut	Gully	Undated
69	Trench 2 – Deposit	Fill of [68]	Undated
70	Trench 2 – Cut	Ditch	Undated
71	Trench 2 – Deposit	Fill of [70]	Undated
72	Trench 2 – Deposit	Natural	-
73	Trench 3 – Deposit	Topsoil	-
74	Trench 3 – Deposit	Subsoil	-
75	Trench 3 – Deposit	Natural	-
76	Trench 4 – Deposit	Topsoil	-
77	Trench 4 – Deposit	Subsoil	-
78	Trench 4 – Cut	Ditch	Undated
79	Trench 4 – Deposit	Fill of [78]	Undated
80	Trench 4 – Deposit	Natural	-
81	Trench 5 – Deposit	Topsoil	-
82	Trench 5 – Deposit	Subsoil	-
83	Trench 5 – Cut	Ditch	Undated
84	Trench 5 – Deposit	Fill of [83]	Undated
85	Trench 5 – Deposit	‘Weathered’ Natural	-
86	Trench 5 – Deposit	Natural	-
87	Trench 6 – Cut	Natural Hollow	Undated
88	Trench 6 – Deposit	Fill of [87]	Undated

Context	Category	Description	Period
89	Trench 6 – Cut	Natural Hollow	Undated
90	Trench 6 – Deposit	Fill of [89]	Undated
91	Trench 6 – Cut	Natural Hollow	Undated
92	Trench 6 – Deposit	Fill of [90]	Undated
93	Trench 6 – Cut	Natural Hollow	Undated
94	Trench 6 – Deposit	Fill of [93]	Undated
95	Trench 6 – Cut	Natural Hollow	?Neolithic
96	Trench 6 – Deposit	Fill of [95]	?Neolithic
97	Trench 6 – Cut	Natural Hollow	?Neolithic
98	Trench 6 – Deposit	Fill of [97]	?Neolithic
99	Trench 6 – Cut	Natural Hollow	Undated
100	Trench 6 – Deposit	Fill of [99]	Undated
101	Trench 6 – Cut	Natural Hollow	Undated
102	Trench 6 – Deposit	Fill of [101]	Undated

Appendix 1b: OASIS feature summary table

Period	Feature type	Quantity
Undated/Pre-medieval	Ditches Gullies ?Natural Hollows	3 2 8

Appendix 2a: Finds by Context

Context	GPS No.	Material	Qty	Wt (g)	Period
2	12	Ceramic Building Material	1	8	?Medieval
2	17	Iron – Nut and Bolt	1	-	Modern
3	13	Flint – burnt	1	2	Prehistoric
3	18	Ceramic Building Material	1	25	Medieval
3	19	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
4	16	Ceramic Building Material	1	4	Post-medieval
7	40	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
9	20	Ceramic Building Material	1	34	Medieval
9	35	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
9	34	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
10	21	Pottery	1	3	Post-medieval
10	22	Ceramic Building Material	1	5	?Medieval
11	14	Ceramic Building Material	1	22	Medieval
12	15	Ceramic Building Material	1	5	Post-medieval
13	25	Ceramic Building Material	1	11	Medieval
14	39	Iron – Curved fragment/ ?Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
16	24	Ceramic Building Material	1	22	Medieval
16	38	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
17	23	Ceramic Building Material	1	16	Medieval
17	37	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
20	26	Flint – burnt	1	31	Prehistoric
20	33	Iron – Object/ ?Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
20	41	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
21	36	Iron – Strip fragment	1	-	Modern
23	32	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
24	27	Ceramic Building Material	1	46	Medieval
25	30	Pottery	1	3	Post-medieval
26	44	Pottery	1	7	Post-medieval
26	45	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
26	44	Iron – Strip	1	-	Undiagnostic
26	43	Iron – Plate fragment	1	-	Modern
27	29	Pottery	2	10	Post-medieval
28	42	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
28	58	Iron – Sheet fragment	1	-	Undiagnostic
28	57	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
28	56	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
28	55	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
29	28	Pottery	1	33	Post-medieval
31	46	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
32	59	Pottery	1	19	Post-medieval
32	48	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
32	47	Iron – Fitting	1	-	Modern
35	31	Ceramic Building Material	1	13	?Medieval

Context	GPS No.	Material	Qty	Wt (g)	Period
49	54	Ceramic Building Material	1	6	?Medieval
49	52	Copper Alloy – Folded sheet	1	-	Undiagnostic
49	54	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
49	51	Iron – Curved object	1	-	Undiagnostic
49	50	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
49	49	Iron – Strip	1	-	Undiagnostic
66	-	Pottery	1	14	LPRIA
96	-	Pottery	1	2	Earlier Neolithic
98	-	Pottery	3	2	Earlier Neolithic

Appendix 2b: Finds by Material

Context	GPS No.	Material	Qty	Wt (g)	Period
2	12	Ceramic Building Material	1	8	?Medieval
3	18	Ceramic Building Material	1	25	Medieval
4	16	Ceramic Building Material	1	4	Post-medieval
9	20	Ceramic Building Material	1	34	Medieval
10	22	Ceramic Building Material	1	5	?Medieval
11	14	Ceramic Building Material	1	22	Medieval
12	15	Ceramic Building Material	1	5	Post-medieval
13	25	Ceramic Building Material	1	11	Medieval
16	24	Ceramic Building Material	1	22	Medieval
17	23	Ceramic Building Material	1	16	Medieval
24	27	Ceramic Building Material	1	46	Medieval
35	31	Ceramic Building Material	1	13	?Medieval
49	54	Ceramic Building Material	1	6	?Medieval
Total			*13*	*217*	
3	13	Flint - burnt	1	2	Prehistoric
20	26	Flint - burnt	1	31	Prehistoric
Total			*2*	*33*	
10	21	Pottery	1	3	Post-medieval
25	30	Pottery	1	3	Post-medieval
26	44	Pottery	1	7	Post-medieval
27	29	Pottery	2	10	Post-medieval
29	28	Pottery	1	33	Post-medieval
32	59	Pottery	1	19	Post-medieval
66	-	Pottery	1	14	LPRIA
96	-	Pottery	1	2	Earlier Neolithic
98	-	Pottery	3	2	Earlier Neolithic
Total			*12*	*79*	
2	17	Iron – Nut and Bolt	1	-	Modern
3	19	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
7	40	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
9	35	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
9	34	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
14	39	Iron – Curved fragment/ ?Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic

Context	GPS No.	Material	Qty	Wt (g)	Period
16	38	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
17	37	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
20	33	Iron – Object/ ?Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
20	41	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
21	36	Iron – Strip fragment	1	-	Modern
23	32	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
26	45	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
26	44	Iron – Strip	1	-	Undiagnostic
26	43	Iron – Plate fragment	1	-	Modern
28	42	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
28	58	Iron – Sheet fragment	1	-	Undiagnostic
28	57	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
28	56	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
28	55	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
31	46	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
32	48	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
32	47	Iron – Fitting	1	-	Modern
49	54	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
49	51	Iron – Curved object	1	-	Undiagnostic
49	50	Iron – Nail	1	-	Undiagnostic
49	49	Iron – Strip	1	-	Undiagnostic
Total			*27*		
49	52	Copper Alloy – Folded sheet	1	-	Undiagnostic
Total			*1*	-	

Appendix 2c: CHER Finds Summary Table

Period	Material	Quantity
Unknown	Metal Objects	24
Prehistoric	Burnt Flint	2
Neolithic	Pottery	4
Roman	Pottery	1
Medieval	CBM	11
Post-medieval	Pottery CBM	7 3
Modern	Metal Objects	4

Appendix 3: Pottery

Context	Ctxt sherd count	Ctxt sherd wt (g)	Fabric	Form	Qty	Wt (g)	Date
10	1	3	GRE	Abraded	1	3	Post-medieval
25	1	3	LPME	Plant pot	1	3	Post-medieval
26	1	7	REFW	Base of plate	1	7	Post-medieval
27	2	10	GRE, REFW	Abraded	2	10	Post-medieval
29	1	33	ESW	Bottle?	1	33	Post-medieval
32	1	19	LPME	Plant pot base	1	19	Post-medieval
66	1	14	STW (G)	U	1	14	LPRIA
96	1	2	F1	U	1	2	Earlier Neolithic
98	3	2	F1	U	3	2	Earlier Neolithic

Appendix 4: Ceramic Building Material

Fabric	Code	RBT?	RT	FT	LB?	UN
Fine sandy	fs	1				1
Fs with fine calcareous inclusions	fsc		8			1
Fs, calcareous, poorly mixed clays	fscx				1	
Fs with ferrous inclusions	fsfe			1		
Fs with mica	fsm					1
	Total	*1*	*8*	*1*	*1*	*3*

Appendix 5: Metal Objects

Context	GPS No.	Material	Qty	Description	Period
2	17	Iron	1	Nut and Bolt	Modern
3	19	Iron	1	Nail	Undiagnostic
7	40	Iron	1	Nail	Undiagnostic
9	35	Iron	1	Nail	Undiagnostic
9	34	Iron	1	Nail	Undiagnostic
14	39	Iron	1	Curved fragment/ ?Nail	Undiagnostic
16	38	Iron	1	Nail	Undiagnostic
17	37	Iron	1	Nail	Undiagnostic
20	33	Iron	1	Object/ ?Nail	Undiagnostic
20	41	Iron	1	Nail	Undiagnostic
21	36	Iron	1	Strip fragment	Modern
23	32	Iron	1	Nail	Undiagnostic
26	45	Iron	1	Nail	Undiagnostic
26	44	Iron	1	Strip	Undiagnostic
26	43	Iron	1	Plate fragment	Modern
28	42	Iron	1	Nail	Undiagnostic
28	58	Iron	1	Sheet fragment	Undiagnostic

Context	GPS No.	Material	Qty	Description	Period
28	57	Iron	1	Nail	Undiagnostic
28	56	Iron	1	Nail	Undiagnostic
28	55	Iron	1	Nail	Undiagnostic
31	46	Iron	1	Nail	Undiagnostic
32	48	Iron	1	Nail	Undiagnostic
32	47	Iron	1	Fitting	Modern
49	52	Copper Alloy	1	Folded sheet fragment	Undiagnostic
49	54	Iron	1	Nail	Undiagnostic
49	51	Iron	1	Curved object	Undiagnostic
49	50	Iron	1	Nail	Undiagnostic
49	49	Iron	1	Strip	Undiagnostic

Appendix 6: Flint

Context	Description	Weight
13	Burnt Flint fragment	2
26	Burnt Flint fragment	31

Appendix 7: Environmental Evidence

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

Sample No.	**1**
Context No.	**84**
Molluscs	
Woodland/shade loving species	
Acanthinula aculeata	x xb
Acicula fusca	x
Aegopinella sp.	x
Carychium sp.	xxxx xxxb
Clausilia sp.	xcf
Discus rotundatus	xxx xb
Macrogastra rolphii	xcf
Oxychilus sp.	x
Pomatius elegans	xx xb
Punctum pygmaeum	xb
Trichia striolata	xcf
Vitrea sp.	xx
Zonitidae indet.	xx
Open country species	
Helicidae indet.	xx xb
Pupilla muscorum	x
Vallonia sp.	xx
V. costata	xx xb
Vertigo pymaea	x
Catholic species	
Cepaea sp.	x
Cochlicopa sp.	xx
Nesovitrea hammonis	xx
Trichia hispida group	xx xb
Marsh/freshwater obligate species	
Anisus leucostoma	xx xb
Aplexa hypnorum	x
Lymnaea sp.	xx xb
L. palustris	x
L. truncatula	xx
Pisidium sp.	x
Vertigo sp.	x
Other remains	
Charcoal <2mm	x
Ostracods	x xb
Sample volume (litres)	**4**
Volume of flot (litres)	**<0.1**
% flot sorted	**100%**