University of Leicester

Archaeological Services

An archaeological field evaluation on land at Fellow Lands Way, Boulton Moor, Chellaston, Derby (SK 382 313)

Leon Hunt

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for

Bellway Homes East Midlands

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An archaeological field evaluation on land at Fellow Lands Way, Boulton Moor, Chellaston, Derby (SK 382 313)

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Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) on land at Fellow Lands Way, Boulton Moor, Chellaston, Derby (SK 382 313) in advance of the proposed development of the site for new housing.

The area around the southern part of Derby is rich in archaeological remains with two scheduled sites close to the proposed development area. Recent work on the eastern edge of Boulton Moor has revealed Iron Age archaeological remains. However, an evaluation to the direct east of the current site revealed only small undated features.

The site consisted of five pasture fields and one of rough ground. Forty trenches were excavated across the six fields. All were negative except for the shallow remains of medieval furrows and a narrow modern gully. The trenches on the rough ground revealed some modern disturbance.

The geology was generally clay with gravel in places and much of the subsoil appeared alluvial in nature. The land was also very damp and trenches became waterlogged very quickly after excavation.

It is likely that the land here at the western end of Boulton Moor has been very damp in the past and this has precluded any human settlement in the area.

The archive for the project will be retained by ULAS with site code ULAS_15-644.

Introduction

University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) were commissioned by Bellway Homes East Midlands to carry out an archaeological field evaluation on land at Fellow Lands Way, Boulton Moor, Chellaston, Derby (NGR: SK 382 313). Outline planning consent has been granted for the development of the site for new housing.

This archaeological work is in accordance with NPPF Section 12: Enhancing and Conserving the Historic Environment.

The Derbyshire HER indicates that the area around the southern part of Derby is rich in prehistoric archaeology, with two scheduled sites close to the assessment area, including the Swarkestone Lows barrow cemetery, which lies around 2.5km south-west of Boulton Moor.

Recent archaeological work on new development on the eastern edge of Boulton Moor (within the parish of Elvaston) has located Iron Age features including a pit alignment. However, an evaluation to the immediate east of the current site merely revealed a pit and two gullies that could not be closely dated.

Location and Geology

Boulton Moor lies to the south-east of Derby and lies in Chellaston, within the City of Derby (at its western end), and within the parish of Elvaston, Derbyshire (at its eastern end) (Figure 1). The development area lies within Chellaston at the southern edge to the north of Fellow Lands Way and north of Boulton Edge Farm and Back Lane (Figure 2).

The land comprises five pasture fields separated by fences and hedges, accessed from Back Lane, and a parcel of rough ground, accessed from Fellow Lands Way.

The total size of the study area covers around 12 ha and the land falls from south to the north from around 45m aOD to 42m aOD. From the site itself the land appears largely flat.

The British Geological Survey Website indicates that the underlying geology is likely to be Branscombe Formation Mudstone, overlain by Head (silt, sand and gravel) on the eastern part of the site.

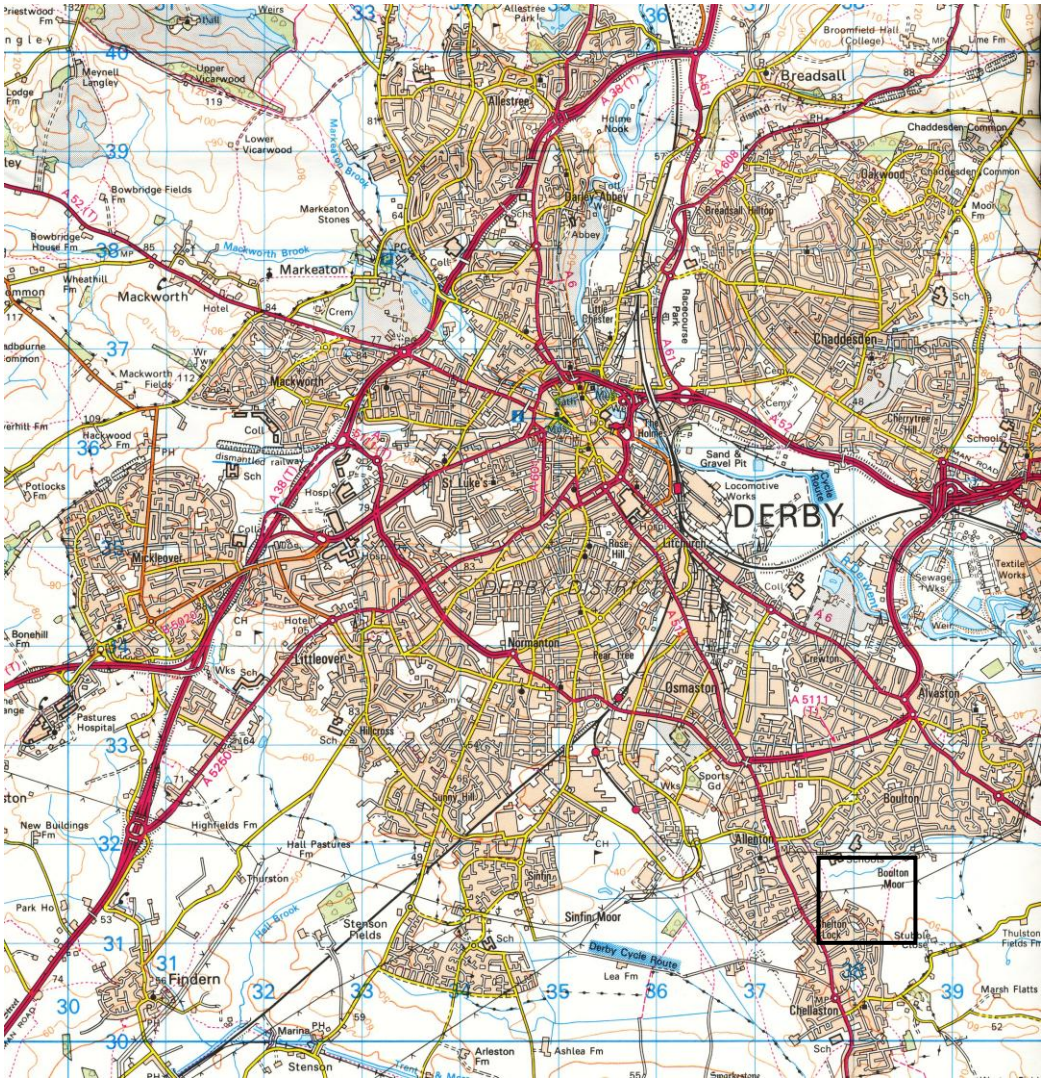

Figure 1: Site Location

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Historical and Archaeological Background

An archaeological desk-based assessment was prepared for the site and indicates that the area around the southern part of Derby is rich in prehistoric archaeology, with two scheduled sites close to the assessment area, including the Swarkestone Lows barrow cemetery, which lies around 2.5km south-west of Boulton Moor (Hunt 2013).

An archaeological evaluation carried out by ULAS in 2014 at the eastern end of Boulton Moor (Phase 1) revealed a pit alignment and other features dated to the Iron Age. A strip, plan and sample excavation carried out during building work on the site located further Iron Age ditches and gullies (Hunt, forthcoming). Another evaluation carried out prior to Phase 2 of the development at Boulton Moor located a few further features (Hunt 2014a).

However, an evaluation on land to the east of the current site along Snelsmoor Lane (Boulton Moor West) revealed only one pit and two small gullies, which could not be closely dated (Hunt 2014b)

To the north-west of the application area is a field that is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). This is due to a rare geological sequence, which has produced the remains of early mammalian fauna, including hippopotamus, from the last inter-glacial period.

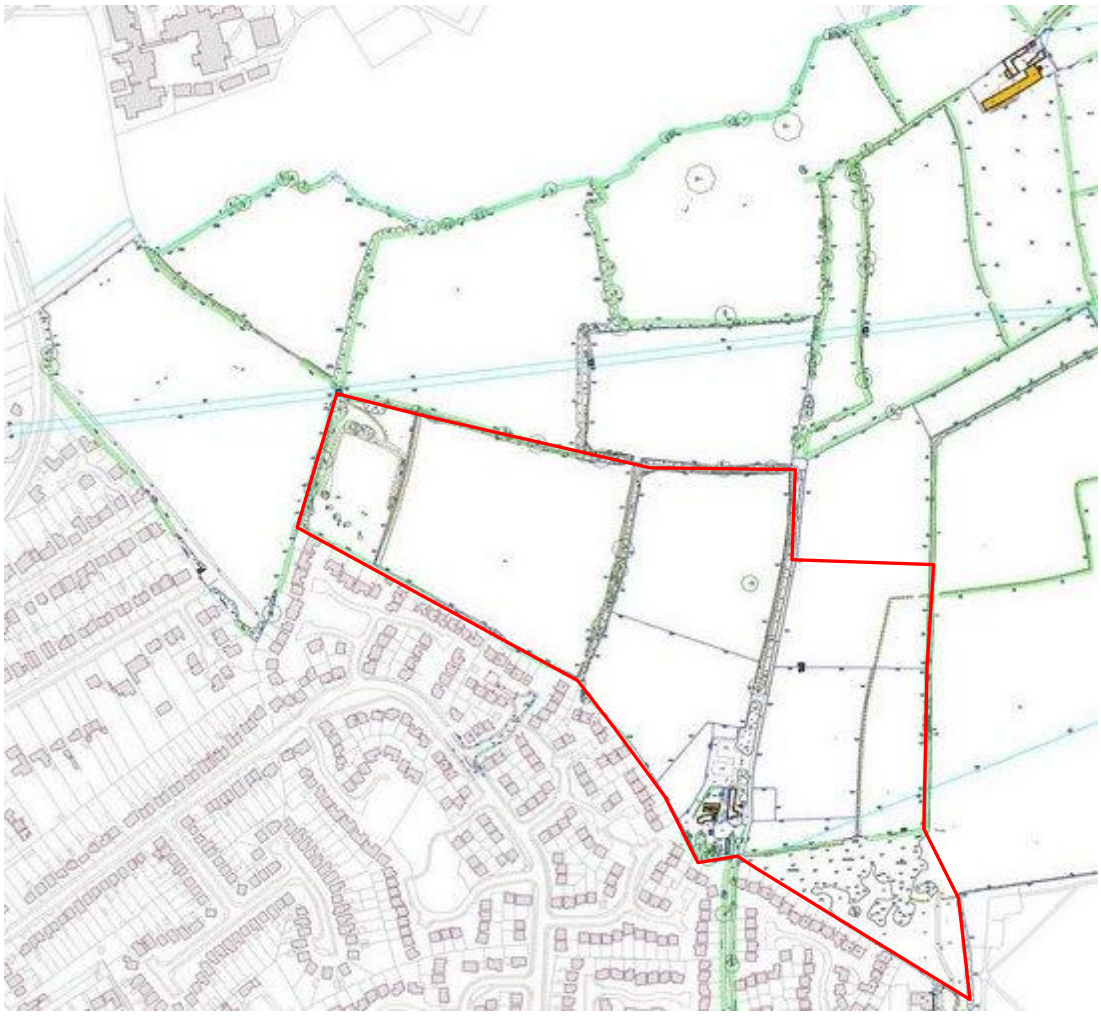

Figure 2: Location of development area within Boulton Moor. Provided by developer. Scale 1: 5000

The area had been subject to geophysical survey but with inconclusive results other than some anomalies indicating ploughed out ridge and furrow aligned north to south to the east of the area (Smalley 2012).

Archaeological Objectives

The main objectives of the evaluation were:

- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.
- To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

Within the stated project objectives, the principal aim of the evaluation is to establish the nature, extent, date, depth, significance and state of preservation of archaeological deposits on the site in order to determine the potential impact upon them from the proposed development.

Trial trenching is an intrusive form of evaluation that will demonstrate the existence of earth-fast archaeological features that may exist within the area.

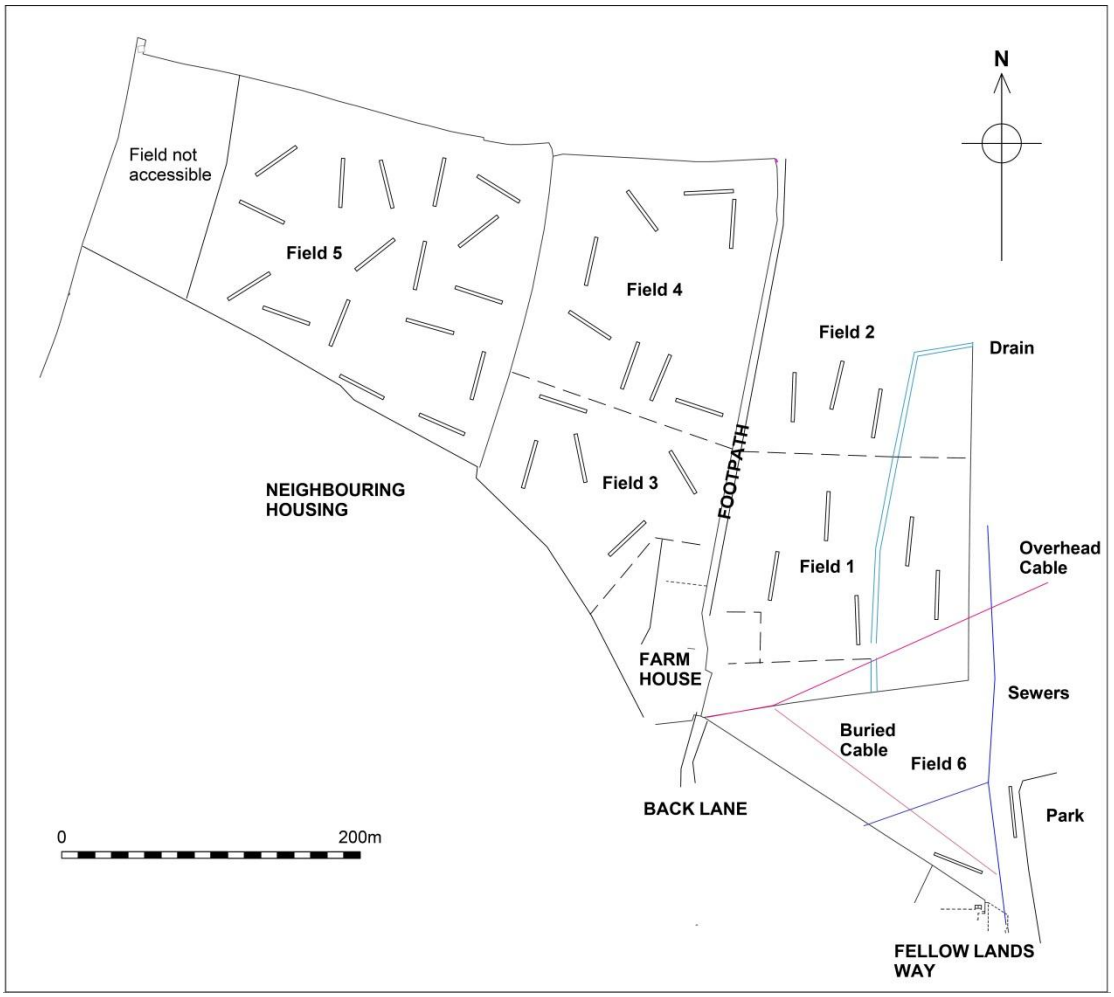

Figure 3: Plan of evaluated fields with trench locations.
See individual fields for trench numbers

Methodology

All work followed the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct* (2014) and was in accordance with their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014). The archaeological work followed the *Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological work* (WSI) prepared by ULAS.

A 2% sample targeting the 12ha area of impact was proposed for trenching (*c.* 2400m²), the equivalent of 44, 30m x 1.8m trenches.

The field at the very western edge of the site proved to be inaccessible and as the evaluation had been negative up to this stage the field was not evaluated. The small parcel of rough ground (Field 6) was largely covered in dense vegetation and woodland, and there were a number of services crossing the site. Consequently only two out of three proposed trenches were excavated here. Therefore, in total, 40 trenches were excavated.

Trenches were to be excavated using a large tracked excavator, under the supervision of an archaeologist at all times. Due to access problems the trenches on the rough ground at Fellow Lands Way were excavated by a JCB 3CX back-actor.

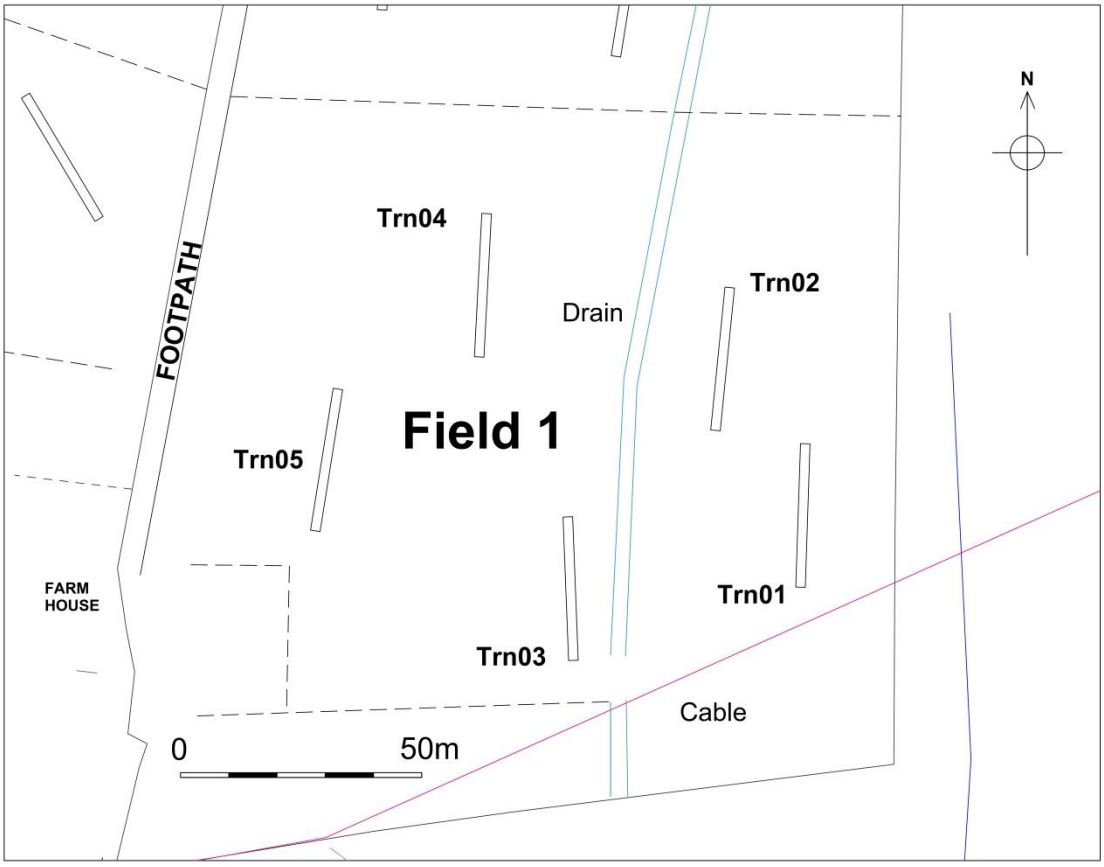

Figure 4: Field 1 Trench plan

Results

Field 1

Field 1 lies to the east of the site and is separated from Field 2 to the north by a wire fence. An open watercourse/ drain runs through the fields close to the eastern boundary (Figure 4).

The topsoil observed in the trenches in Field 1 consisted of mid to dark yellow brown clayey-silt with very sparse pebbles. The subsoil was mid yellow brown or orange brown silty-clay with sparse or rare small pebbles.

Trench 01

Orientation: North-South

Length: 29.5m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown silty-clay.

Interval	**S 0m**	**5m**	**10m**	**15m**	**20m**	**25m**	**29.5m N**
Topsoil Depth	0.32m	0.30m	0.33m	0.30m	0.30m	0.32m	0.36m
Subsoil Depth	-	0.19m	0.12m	-	0.07m	0.12m	0.15m
Top of natural substratum	0.32m	0.49m	0.45m	0.30m	0.37m	0.44m	0.51m
Base of trench	0.32m	0.49m	0.45m	0.40m	0.37m	0.45m	0.51m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench.

Plate 1: Trench 02, post excavation, looking north

Trench 02

Orientation: North - South

Length: 29.3m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light yellow brown silty-clay with frequent gravel patches. The subsoil was quite thick and appeared alluvial in nature.

Interval	**S 0m**	**5m**	**10m**	**15m**	**20m**	**25m**	**29.3m N**
Topsoil Depth	0.20m	0.26m	0.26m	0.30m	0.25m	0.30m	0.30m
Subsoil Depth	0.57m	0.54m	0.60m	0.55m	0.60m	0.55m	0.50m
Top of natural substratum	0.77m	0.80m	0.86m	0.85m	0.85m	0.85m	0.80m
Base of trench	0.77m	0.80m	0.86m	0.85m	0.85m	0.85m	0.80m

Plate 2: Trench 03, post excavation, with faint furrow running through trench, looking north

Trench 03

Orientation: North - South

Length: 29m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was gravel with patches of clayey silt

Interval	S 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29m N
Topsoil Depth	0.36m	0.39m	0.36m	0.39m	0.30m	0.34m	0.34m
Subsoil Depth	0.20m	-	0.14m	0.10m	0.08m	-	-
Top of natural substratum	0.56m	0.39m	0.50m	0.49m	0.38m	0.34m	0.34m
Base of trench	0.56m	0.49m	0.50m	0.50m	0.46m	0.34m	0.34m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench. A furrow could be seen crossing the trench broadly north to south (Plate 2).

Trench 04

Orientation: North - South

Length: 29.3m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was gravel with patches of light orange brown silty-clay.

Interval	S 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29.3m N
Topsoil Depth	0.25m	0.20m	0.22m	0.20m	0.20m	0.23m	0.30m
Subsoil Depth	0.20m	0.26m	0.25m	0.18m	0.25m	0.20m	0.15m
Top of natural substratum	0.45m	0.46m	0.47m	0.38m	0.45m	0.43m	0.45m
Base of trench	0.45m	0.46m	0.47m	0.38m	0.45m	0.43m	0.45m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench.

Trench 05

Orientation: North - South

Length: 29.7m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was gravel with patches of light orange brown silty-clay.

Interval	N 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29.7m S
Topsoil Depth	0.30m	0.33m	0.36m	0.34m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m
Subsoil Depth	0.15m	0.10m	0.12m	0.08m	0.19m	0.08m	-
Top of natural substratum	0.45m	0.43m	0.48m	0.42m	0.49m	0.38m	0.30m
Base of trench	0.60m	0.50m	0.56m	0.42m	0.49m	0.38m	0.30m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench.

Field 2

The topsoil in Field 2 consisted of mid yellow grey clayey-silt with 3% sub-rounded pebbles, overlying a subsoil of mid orange brown silty-clay with 3% small rounded pebbles. The field was quite damp and the trenches flooded within a few hours.

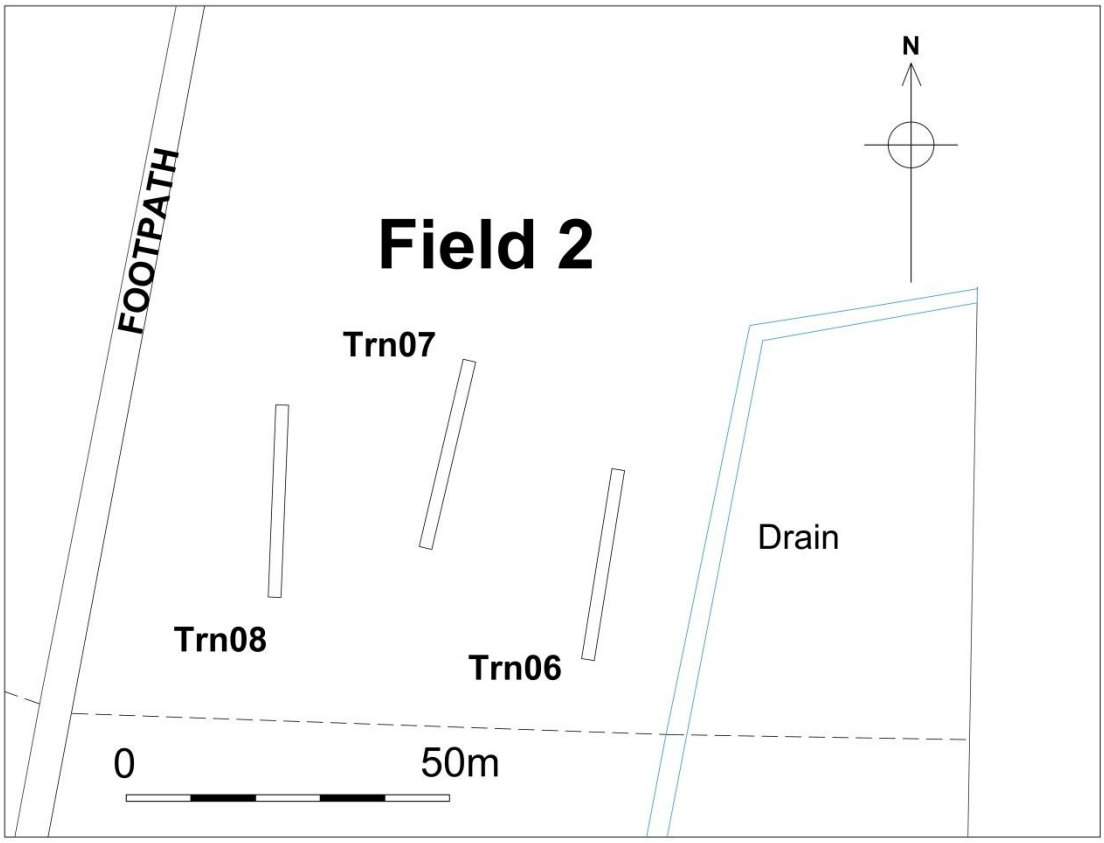

Figure 5: Field 2 Trench plan

Trench 06

Orientation: North - South

Length: 29m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was greyish brown silty-gravel.

Interval	S 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29m N
Topsoil Depth	0.30m	0.30m	0.27m	0.25m	0.26m	0.30m	0.26m
Subsoil Depth	-	0.10m	0.10m	0.12m	0.08m	0.10m	0.20m
Top of natural substratum	0.30m	0.40m	0.37m	0.37m	0.34m	0.40m	0.46m
Base of trench	0.30m	0.40m	0.37m	0.37m	0.38m	0.40m	0.46m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench (Plates 3 & 4).

Plate 3: Trench 06 under excavation, looking south-west

Plate 4: Trench 06, post excavation, looking north

Trench 07

Orientation: North - South

Length: 30m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was greyish brown silty-gravel.

Interval	S 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m N
Topsoil Depth	0.30m	0.27m	0.30m	0.30m	0.27m	0.40m	0.40m
Subsoil Depth	0.12m	0.12m	0.20m	0.20m	0.15m	-	-
Top of natural substratum	0.42m	0.39m	0.50m	0.50m	0.42m	0.40m	0.40m
Base of trench	0.42m	0.39m	0.50m	0.50m	0.42m	0.52m	0.55m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench. A furrow was identified running north to south across the trench.

Trench 08

Orientation: North - South

Length: 30m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was greyish brown silty-gravel.

Interval	S 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m N
Topsoil Depth	0.30m	0.40m	0.35m	0.35m	0.30m	0.38m	0.35m
Subsoil Depth	0.10m	0.20m	0.25m	0.30m	0.30m	0.20m	0.20m
Top of natural substratum	0.40m	0.60m	0.60m	0.65m	0.60m	0.58m	0.55m
Base of trench	0.40m	0.60m	0.75m	0.70m	0.70m	0.58m	0.62m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench (Plate 5)

Plate 5: Trench 08, post excavation, looking north

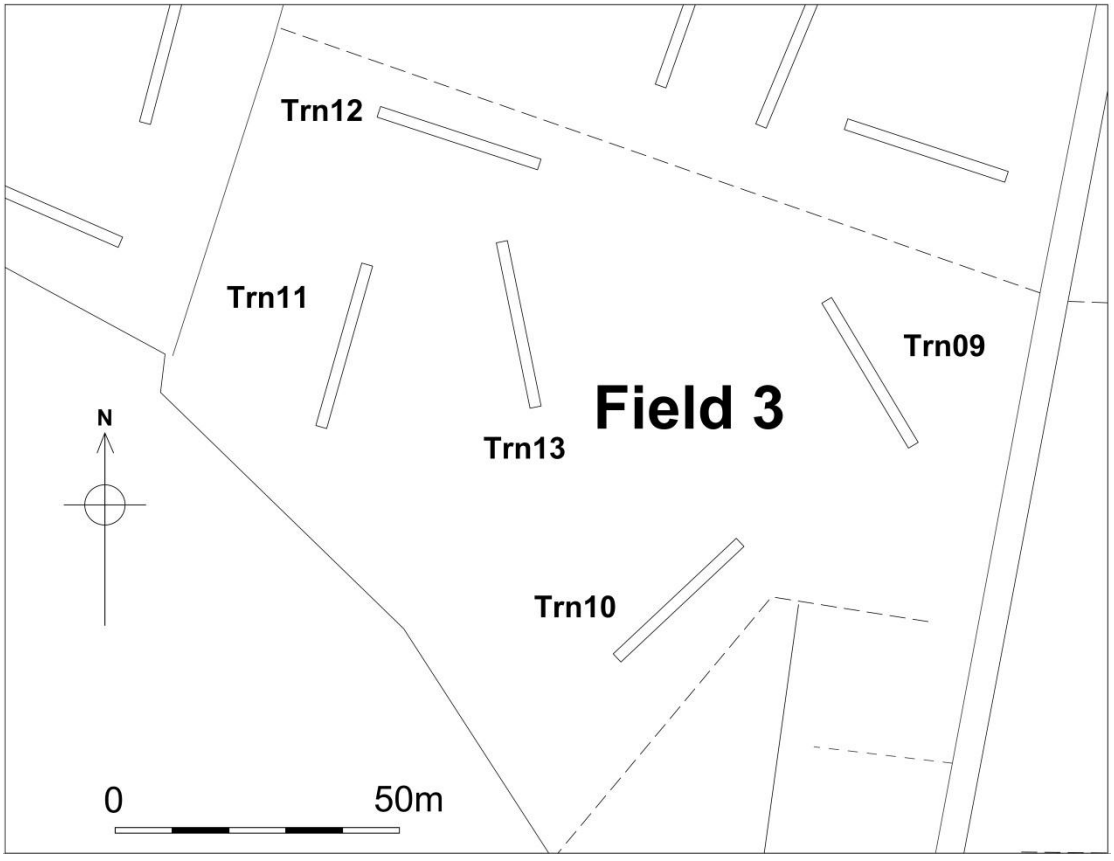

Figure 6: Field 3 Trench plan

Field 3

Field 3 lies to the west of the public footpath and to the north of the farmhouse. It is sub-divided from Field 4 to the north by a wire fence (Figure 6).

The topsoil in Field 3 was a mid yellow brown loam with 1% pebbles over a subsoil of mid orange brown clayey silt with 5% stones, which was quite deep in places and possibly alluvial.

Trench 09

Orientation: North-west – South-east

Length: 29m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown clayey silt or sand and gravel with patches of clayey silt.

Interval	**SE 0m**	**5m**	**10m**	**15m**	**20m**	**25m**	**29m NW**
Topsoil Depth	0.30m	0.35m	0.30m	0.35m	0.35m	0.34m	0.30m
Subsoil Depth	0.50m	0.15m	0.20m	-	-	0.12m	0.12m
Top of natural substratum	0.80m	0.50m	0.50m	0.35m	0.35m	0.46m	0.42m
Base of trench	0.80m	0.68m	0.64m	0.46m	0.45m	0.56m	0.54m

Plate 6: Trench 10 post excavation, looking south-west

Trench 10

Orientation: North-East –South-West

Length: 29m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange sand and gravel and light reddish brown silty-clay

Interval	SW 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29m NE
Topsoil Depth	0.25m	0.36m	0.25m	0.30m	0.35m	0.32m	0.30m
Subsoil Depth	0.18m	0.10m	0.20m	0.13m	-	0.18m	0.08m
Top of natural substratum	0.43m	0.46m	0.45m	0.43m	0.35m	0.50m	0.38m
Base of trench	0.50m	0.62m	0.52m	0.43m	0.35m	0.55m	0.42m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench (Plate 6).

Trench 11

Orientation: North - South

Length: 29.6m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light yellow clayey silt with darker silt patches

Interval	S 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29.6m N
Topsoil Depth	0.30m	0.30m	0.40m	0.30m	0.35m	0.30m	0.35m
Subsoil Depth	0.07m	-	-	0.12m	0.22m	0.25m	0.18m
Top of natural substratum	0.37m	0.30m	0.40m	0.42m	0.57m	0.55m	0.53m
Base of trench	0.40m	0.35m	0.40m	0.48m	0.57m	0.55m	0.60m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench.

Trench 12

Orientation: East-west

Length: 29m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light yellow clayey silt with darker silt patches

Interval	W 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29m E
Topsoil Depth	0.33m	0.30m	0.30m	0.26m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m
Subsoil Depth	-	0.09m	0.10m	0.23m	0.14m	0.26m	0.22m
Top of natural substratum	0.33m	0.39m	0.40m	0.49m	0.44m	0.56m	0.52m
Base of trench	0.37m	0.45m	0.42m	0.49m	0.48m	0.56m	0.58m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench.

Plate 7: Trench 12 post excavation, looking east

Plate 8: Trench 13, post excavation, looking north

Trench 13

Orientation: North - South

Length: 29m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was gravel with silt patches

Interval	S 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29m N
Topsoil Depth	0.35m	0.40m	0.28m	0.28m	0.30m	0.32m	0.32m
Subsoil Depth	0.07m	-	0.12m	0.15m	0.17m	0.20m	0.20m
Top of natural substratum	0.42m	0.40m	0.40m	0.43m	0.47m	0.52m	0.52m
Base of trench	0.49m	0.40m	0.40m	0.43m	0.50m	0.52m	0.65m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench. A field drain was identified close to the south-east corner running north-east to south-west (Plate 8).

Field 4

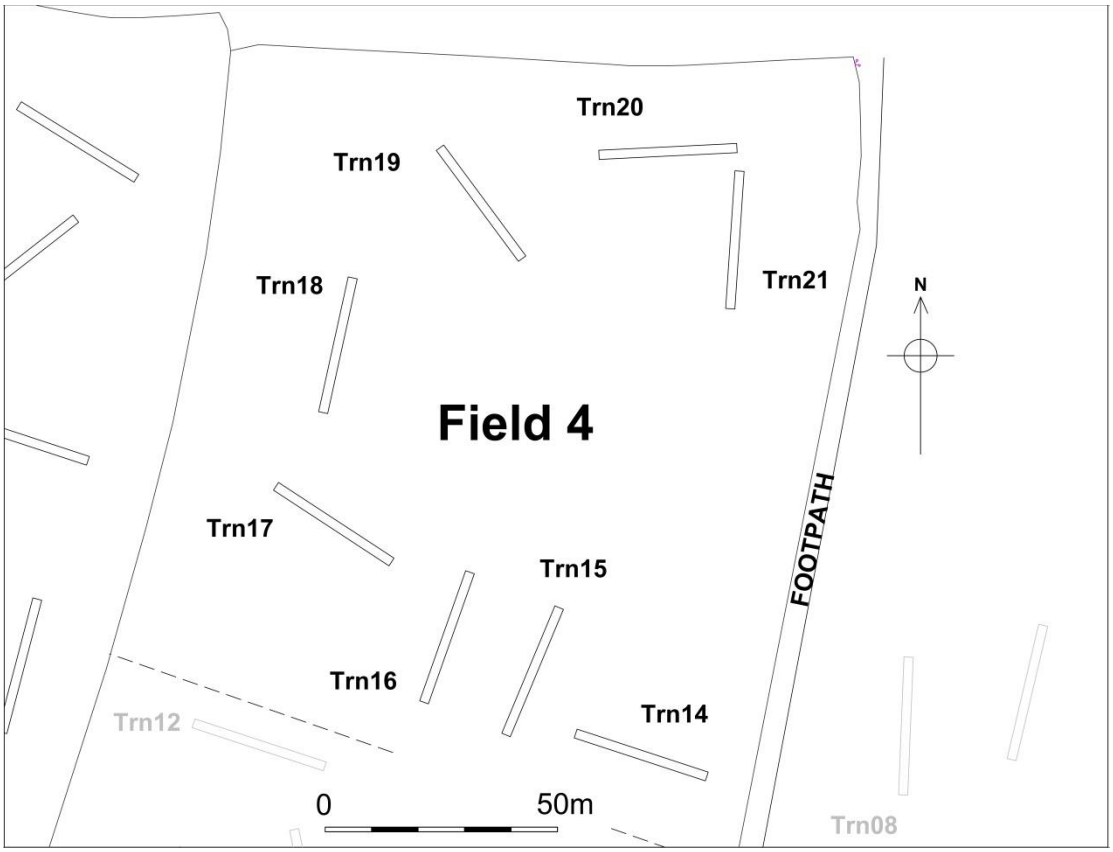

Figure 7: Field 4 Trench plan

Field 4 lies north of Field 3 and is separated from it by a wire fence (Figure 7). The topsoil in Field 4 was dark yellow brown clayey-silt with 1% pebbles. The subsoil was mid orange brown clayey-silt with 1% pebbles, and was often quite thick.

Plate 9: Trench 14, with Trench 15 under excavation, looking north-west

Trench 14

Orientation: East - West

Length: 29.5m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown silty-clay and gravel with patches of clayey silt

Interval	E 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29.5m W
Topsoil Depth	0.33m	0.30m	0.37m	0.30m	0.30m	0.36m	0.30m
Subsoil Depth	0.27m	0.30m	0.27m	0.36m	0.30m	0.32m	0.22m
Top of natural substratum	0.60m	0.60m	0.64m	0.66m	0.60m	0.68m	0.52m
Base of trench	0.60m	0.60m	0.64m	0.70m	0.70m	0.68m	0.57m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench (Plate 9). Two field drains were identified crossing the trench from north to south. The subsoil was alluvial and the trench was very damp and soon filled with water.

Trench 15

Orientation: North-east – South-west

Length: 30m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown silty-clay and gravel with patches of clayey-silt

Interval	SW 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m NE
Topsoil Depth	0.28m	0.30m	0.30m	0.35m	0.30m	0.33m	0.36m
Subsoil Depth	0.15m	0.27m	0.26m	0.25m	0.29m	0.20m	0.20m
Top of natural	0.43m	0.57m	0.56m	0.60m	0.59m	0.53m	0.56m
Base of trench	0.43m	0.57m	0.56m	0.60m	0.59m	0.53m	0.56m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench.

Trench 16

Orientation: North-east – South-west

Length: 30m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown silty-clay and gravel with patches of clayey silt

Interval	SW 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m NE
Topsoil Depth	0.37m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m
Subsoil Depth	0.24m	0.34m	0.33m	0.25m	0.25m	0.25m	0.18m
Top of natural substratum	0.61m	0.64m	0.63m	0.55m	0.55m	0.55m	0.48m
Base of trench	0.61m	0.64m	0.63m	0.66m	0.65m	0.57m	0.56m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench.

Trench 17

Orientation: North-west – South-east

Length: 30m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light reddish brown silty-clay

Interval	SE 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m NW
Topsoil Depth	0.30m	0.33m	0.30m	0.33m	0.30m	0.38m	0.30m
Subsoil Depth	0.12m	0.12m	0.19m	0.06m	0.15m	-	-
Top of natural substratum	0.42m	-	0.49m	0.39m	0.45m	0.38m	0.30m
Base of trench	0.50m	0.45m	0.49m	0.39m	0.45m	0.38m	0.30m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench.

Plate 10: Trench 17, post excavation, looking north-west

Trench 18

Orientation: North - South

Length: 30m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light reddish brown silty-clay

Interval	S 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m N
Topsoil Depth	0.30m	0.30m	0.40m	0.30m	0.40m	0.28m	0.35m
Subsoil Depth	0.08m*	0.15m*	0.10m*	0.10m*	0.10m*	0.08m*	0.07m*
Top of natural substratum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Base of trench	0.38m	0.45m	0.50m	0.40m	0.50m	0.36m	0.40m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench.

* A furrow ran the whole length of the trench from south to north consequently the natural substratum was not reached.

Trench 19

Orientation: North-west – South-east

Length: 31m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light yellow brown clayey silt with patches of gravel

Interval	SE 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	31m NW
Topsoil Depth	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.35m
Subsoil Depth	-	0.10m	-	0.08m	0.10m	0.10m	-
Top of natural substratum	0.30m	0.40m	0.30m	-	0.40m	0.40m	0.35m
Base of trench	0.30m	0.40m	0.34m	0.38m	0.40m	0.40m	0.38m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench. Two furrows were identified in this trench running north to south plus two field drains on a similar alignment. The trench soon filled with water after excavation.

Trench 20

Orientation: East - West

Length: 30m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light yellow brown clayey silt with patches of gravel

Interval	S 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m N
Topsoil Depth	0.35m	0.34m	0.34m	0.35m	0.35m	0.30m	0.40m
Subsoil Depth	0.07m	0.12m	0.10m	0.08m	0.08m	0.13m	0.07m
Top of natural substratum	0.42m	0.46m	0.44m	0.43m	0.43m	0.43m	0.47m
Base of trench	0.42m	0.46m	0.44m	0.43m	0.43m	0.47m	0.47m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench (Plate 11). Three field rains were identified crossing the trench from north to south.

Plate 11: Trench 20, post excavation, looking east

Trench 21

Orientation: North - South

Length: 31m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light yellow brown clayey silt with patches of gravel

Interval	S 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	31m N
Topsoil Depth	0.30m	0.42m	0.28m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m
Subsoil Depth	-	0.10m	0.08m	0.12m	0.06m	0.12m	-
Top of natural substratum	0.30m	0.52m	0.36m	0.42m	0.36m	0.42m	0.30m
Base of trench	0.30m	0.52m	0.36m	0.42m	0.41m	0.42m	0.30m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench.

Field 5

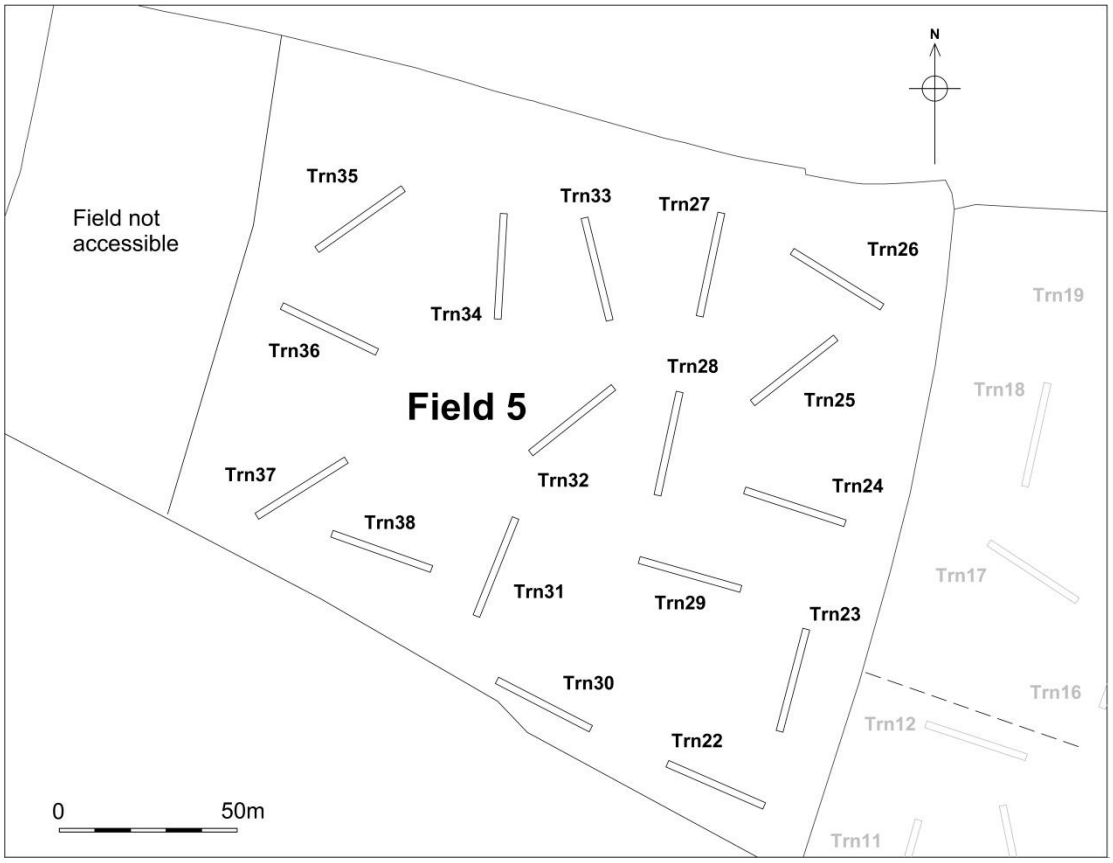

Figure 8: Trench 5 Trench plan

Field 5 lies at the western edge of the site and is accessed via Trench 3, through a gap in the large hedge that separates the two fields.

The topsoil within the field was mid yellow grey clayey-silt with 5% small rounded pebbles, over subsoil of mid yellow brown silty-clay.

Most of the trenches in Field 5 flooded soon after excavation.

Plate 12: Trench 22, post excavation, looking west

Trench 22

Orientation: East - West

Length: 30m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown silty-clay with patches of gravel

Interval	E 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m W
Topsoil Depth	0.40m	0.30m	0.49m	0.40m	0.40m	0.45m	0.30m
Subsoil Depth	-	0.10m	0.08m	0.12m	0.12m	0.15m	0.20m
Top of natural substratum	0.40m	0.40m	0.57m	0.52m	0.52m	0.60m	0.50m
Base of trench	0.43m	0.43m	0.57m	0.52m	0.56m	0.70m	0.53m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench. Two furrows were identified crossing the trench from north to south (Plate 12).

Trench 23

Orientation: North - South

Length: 29m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown silty-clay with patches of gravel. No subsoil was identified in this trench.

Interval	S 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29m N
Topsoil Depth	0.34m	0.37m	0.34m	0.30m	0.25m	0.30m	0.33m
Subsoil Depth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Top of natural substratum	0.39m	0.37m	0.34m	0.30m	0.25m	0.30m	0.33m
Base of trench	0.38m	0.46m	0.37m	0.30m	0.30m	0.39m	0.33m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench.

Trench 24

Orientation: West - East

Length: 29m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown silty-clay with patches of gravel.

Interval	S 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29m N
Topsoil Depth	0.30m	0.30m	0.28m	0.34m	0.30m	0.30m	0.34m
Subsoil Depth	0.29m	0.30m	0.28m	0.30m	0.30m	0.18m	0.12m
Top of natural substratum	0.59m	0.60m	0.56m	0.64m	Furrow	0.43m	0.46m
Base of trench	0.59m	0.60m	0.56m	0.64m	0.60m	0.53m	0.50m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench (Plate 13). Three furrows were identified crossing the trench from east to west.

Plate 13: Trench 24 post excavation, looking west

Trench 25

Orientation: South-west – North-east

Length: 30m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown silty-clay with patches of gravel.

Interval	SW 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m NE
Topsoil Depth	0.30m	0.30m	0.28m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m
Subsoil Depth	0.18m	0.10m	0.16m	0.10m	0.22m	0.30m	0.30m
Top of natural substratum	0.48m	0.40m	0.44m	0.40m	0.52m	0.60m	0.60m
Base of trench	0.48m	0.42m	0.44m	0.44m	0.55m	0.64m	0.60m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench.

Trench 26

Orientation: North-west – South-east

Length: 30m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown silty-clay with patches of gravel.

Interval	NW 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m SE
Topsoil Depth	0.38m	0.30m	0.30m	0.28m	0.34m	0.30m	0.28m
Subsoil Depth	-	0.20m	0.14m	0.08m	0.08m	0.19m	0.10m
Top of natural substratum	0.38m	0.50m	0.44m	0.36m	0.42m	0.49m	0.38m
Base of trench	0.38m	0.50m	0.44m	0.36m	0.42m	0.49m	0.38m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench (Plate 14).

Plate 14: Trench 26, post excavation, looking north-west

Trench 27

Orientation: North - South

Length: 30m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown silty-clay with patches of gravel.

Interval	S 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m N
Topsoil Depth	0.30m	0.25m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.35m
Subsoil Depth	0.12m	0.20m	0.12m	0.07m	0.11m	0.14m	0.14m
Top of natural substratum	0.42m	0.45m	0.42m	0.37m	0.41m	0.44m	0.49m
Base of trench	0.50m	0.52m	0.49m	0.46m	0.43m	0.44m	0.49m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench. A stone drain was identified within the trench running east to west.

Plate 15: Trench 28, post excavation, looking north

Trench 28

Orientation: North - South

Length: 30m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown silty-clay with patches of gravel.

Interval	S 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m N
Topsoil Depth	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.24m	0.30m

Subsoil Depth	0.25m	0.12m	0.22m	0.30m	0.20m	0.12m	0.16m
Top of natural substratum	0.55m	0.42m	0.52m	0.60m	0.50m	0.36m	0.46m
Base of trench	0.55m	0.50m	0.52m	0.60m	0.53m	0.39m	0.46m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench (Plate 15).

Trench 29

Orientation: East - West

Length: 30m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was very light yellow brown silty-clay

Interval	**S 0m**	**5m**	**10m**	**15m**	**20m**	**25m**	**30m N**
Topsoil Depth	0.28m	0.30m	0.30m	Flooded	0.32m	Flooded	0.40m
Subsoil Depth	0.10m	0.10m	0.20m	Flooded	-	Flooded	0.10m
Top of natural substratum	0.38m	0.40m	0.50m	Flooded	0.32m	Flooded	-
Base of trench	0.38m	0.44m	0.50m	Flooded	0.40m	Flooded	0.50m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench. The trench flooded very quickly and it was not possible to record these areas.

Trench 30

Orientation: East-West

Length: 29m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown silty-clay with patches of gravel.

Interval	**W 0m**	**5m**	**10m**	**15m**	**20m**	**25m**	**29m E**
Topsoil Depth	0.28m	0.40m	0.36m	0.30m	0.32m	0.30m	0.40m
Subsoil Depth	0.12m	-	0.20m	0.16m	0.12m	0.12m	0.25m
Top of natural substratum	0.40m	0.40m	Furrow	0.46m	0.44m	0.42m	0.65m
Base of trench	0.40m	0.45m	0.56m	0.46m	0.44m	0.42m	0.65m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench. Three furrows were identified running north to south across the trench (Plate 16).

Plate 16: Trench 30 post excavation, looking west

Trench 31

Orientation: North - South

Length: 29m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown silty-clay with patches of gravel.

Interval	S 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29m N
Topsoil Depth	0.34m	0.40m	0.34m	0.44m	0.36m	0.33m	0.50m
Subsoil Depth	0.15m	-	0.12m	-	0.15m	0.24m	0.12m
Top of natural	0.49m	0.40m	0.46m	0.44m	0.51m	0.57m	0.62m
Base of trench	0.49m	0.40m	0.46m	0.44m	0.51m	0.57m	0.62m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench.

Plate 17: Trench 32, post excavation, looking north-east

Trench 32

Orientation: North-east – South-west

Length: 30m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown silty-clay with patches of gravel.

Interval	SW 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m NE
Topsoil Depth	0.26m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.40m	0.32m	0.30m
Subsoil Depth	0.24m	0.34m	0.30m	0.28m	0.16m	0.18m	-
Top of natural substratum	0.50m	0.64m	0.60m	0.58m	0.56m	0.50m	0.30m
Base of trench	0.50m	0.64m	0.60m	0.58m	0.56m	0.50m	0.30m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench (Plate 17).

Trench 33

Orientation: North - South

Length: 29m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was very light orange brown silty-clay

Interval	N 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29m S
Topsoil Depth	0.39m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m
Subsoil Depth	0.13m	0.08m	0.12m	0.30m	0.30m	0.25m	0.24m
Top of natural substratum	0.47m	0.38m	0.42m	0.60m	0.60m	0.55m	0.54m
Base of trench	0.47m	0.40m	0.42m	0.60m	0.60m	0.55m	0.56m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench

Plate 18: Trench 34, post excavation, looking south

Trench 34

Orientation: North- South

Length: 29m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown silty-clay

Interval	N 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29m S
Topsoil Depth	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m	0.35m
Subsoil Depth	-	0.10m	0.20m	0.17m	0.14m	0.14m	0.43m
Top of natural substratum	0.30m	0.40m	0.50m	0.47m	0.44m	0.44m	0.43m
Base of trench	0.30m	0.40m	0.50m	0.47m	0.44m	0.48m	0.48m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench. Two ceramic field drains were identified within the trench, along with a shallow modern gully running east to west (Plate 18).

Trench 35

Orientation: North-east – South-west

Length: 29m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown silty-clay

Interval	NE 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29m SW
Topsoil Depth	0.40m	0.40m	0.20m	0.26m	0.30m	0.30m	0.35m
Subsoil Depth	0.10m	0.25m	0.18m	0.15m	0.14m	0.10m	-
Top of natural substratum	0.50m	0.65m	0.38m	0.51m	0.34m	0.40m	0.35m
Base of trench	0.50m	0.70m	0.40m	0.51m	0.39m	0.40m	0.35m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench. Two ceramic field drains were identified within the trench.

Trench 36

Orientation: East - west

Length: 29.5m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light orange brown silty-clay with patches of gravel.

Interval	E 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29.5m W
Topsoil Depth	0.40m	0.30m	0.30m	0.40m	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m
Subsoil Depth	0.18m	0.12m	0.12m	0.20m	0.20m	0.30m	0.15m
Top of natural substratum	0.58m	0.42m	0.42m	0.60m	0.50m	Furrow	0.45m
Base of trench	0.60m	0.50m	0.42m	0.65m	0.55m	0.60m	0.50m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench. Three furrows were identified running north to south, along with a field drain (Plate 19).

Plate 19: Trench 36, post excavation, looking east

Trench 37

Orientation: North-east – South-west

Length: 29m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light yellow brown silty-clay

Interval	NE 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29m SW
Topsoil Depth	0.27m	0.30m	0.30m	0.40m	0.40m	0.40m	0.30m
Subsoil Depth	0.40m	0.30m	0.20m	0.22m	0.20m	0.30m	0.30m
Top of natural substratum	0.67m	0.60m	0.50m	0.62m	0.60m	0.70m	0.60m
Base of trench	0.82m	0.70m	0.60m	0.67m	0.60m	0.70m	0.60m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench. Two ceramic drains were identified running north to south across the trench.

Trench 38

Orientation: East - West

Length: 29m

Width: 1.9m

The natural substratum was light yellow brown silty-clay

Interval	E 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29m W
Topsoil Depth	0.30m	0.40m	0.30m	0.30m	0.32m	0.30m	0.32m
Subsoil Depth	0.20m	0.15m	0.35m	0.20m	0.22m	0.20m	0.18m
Top of natural substratum	0.50m	0.55m	0.60m	0.50m	0.54m	0.50m	0.50m
Base of trench	0.50m	0.55m	0.60m	0.50m	0.54m	0.50m	0.50m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench (Plate 20).

Plate 20: Trench 38, post excavation, looking north-east

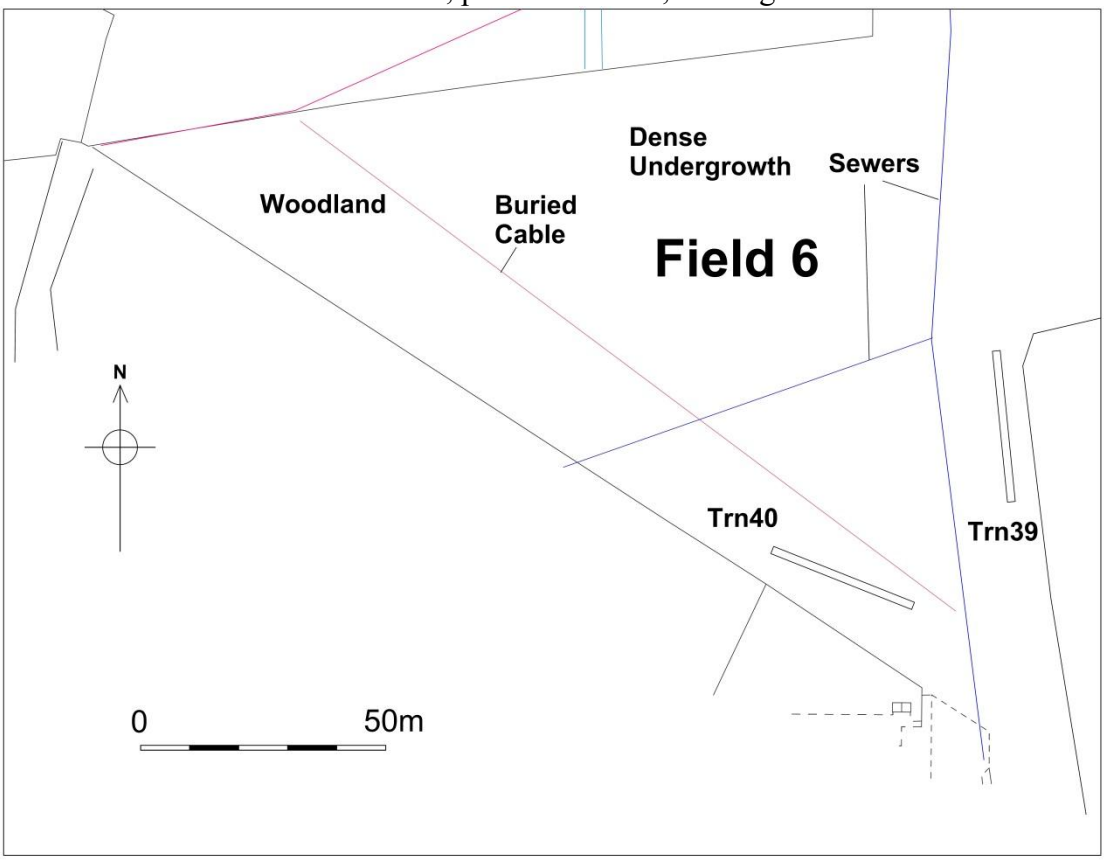

Figure 9: Field 6 Trench plan

Field 6

Field 6 consisted of a triangular section of rough ground and woodland at the southern edge of the site to the north of Fellow Lands Way. The northern part of the site was very overgrown with dense brambles and small trees and the western part of the site is partially wooded. There is no access from the field onto the other fields on the site.

A number of active and disused services run across the site, including ground water and foul sewers and electricity cables. Therefore, the working area for trenching was quite limited.

A certain amount of dumping had been undertaken on the site and therefore the upper soils were relatively deep and compacted.

The topsoil within the trenches consisted of dark yellow grey loam with 5% well-sorted pebbles, overlying light yellow brown clayey silt subsoil (at the northern end) with 3% pebbles. The southern end of the trench was very disturbed with modern intrusions and here the natural substratum was not reached at 0.57m below ground surface.

Plate 21: Work in progress in Field 6 on Trench 40, looking west

Trench 39

Orientation: North-South

Length: 29.5m

Width: 1.6m

The natural substratum was light orange brown clayey-silt with patches of gravel

Interval	S 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29.5m N
Topsoil Depth	0.57m	0.40m	0.36m	0.38m	0.30m	0.36m	0.28m
Subsoil Depth	disturbed	disturbed	-	-	0.15m	0.14m	0.16m
Top of natural substratum	-	0.40m	0.36m	0.38m	0.45m	0.60m	0.44m
Base of trench	0.57m	0.40m	0.36m	0.48m	0.45m	0.60m	0.50m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench (Plate 22). Two furrows were identified running east to west across the trench.

Plate 22: Trench 39, post excavation, looking south

Trench 40

Orientation: East-West

Length: 27.5m

Width: 1.6m

The natural substratum was light orange brown clayey silt with patches of gravel.

Interval	E 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	27.5m W
Topsoil Depth	0.60m	0.70m	0.70m	0.75m	1.00m	0.80m	0.80m
Subsoil Depth	-	-	0.20m	-	-	0.10m	-
Top of natural substratum	0.60m	0.70m	0.90m	0.75m	1.00m	-	-
Base of trench	0.60m	0.70m	0.90m	0.75m	1.00m	0.90m	0.80m

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified in this trench. The topsoil was very deep due to the dumping of materials here; possibly from the housing development to the south.

The trench was very disturbed with modern intrusions, including a metal service pipe, several ceramic field drains and a large cut for services, possibly sewers (Plate 23).

Plate 23: Trench 40, post excavation, looking west

Conclusion

The evaluation at Fellow Lands Way and Back Lane, Boulton Moor had had some potential for archaeology as it lies close to prehistoric remains of some significance and evaluations on the eastern edge of Boulton Moor have revealed Iron Age archaeological remains.

However, the evaluation was completely negative. This was not entirely unexpected as a recent evaluation carried out to the north of Snelsmoor Lane to the east of the current site was largely negative for archaeological remains.

The geology across this area of Boulton Moor appeared largely to consist of mudstone overlain by a mixture of sand, gravel and silt, which was overlain in places by a thick subsoil seemingly alluvial in nature. The trenches were also quick to become filled with water and the land was generally very damp and boggy in places. Therefore, it is likely that the land here was very wet in past before the advent of modern drainage systems. As well as a number of field drains, which soon flooded the trenches with water if they were disturbed, the fields were surrounded by deep gullies and ditches and a modern gully passing through Trenches 33 and 34 was mirrored by another shallow gully further to the north at the edge of Field 5.

It is likely that the boggy nature of the area in the past precluded human settlement in the area.

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The machines were supplied by Planters and driven by Scott Croot and Paul Harris.

Publication

Since 2004 ULAS has reported the results of all archaeological work through the *Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) database held by the Archaeological Data Service at the University of York.

A summary of the work will also be submitted for publication in a suitable regional archaeological journal in due course.

OASIS data entry

Project Name	Fellow Lands Way, Boulton Moor, Derby
Project Type	Evaluation
Project Manager	Patrick Clay
Project Supervisor	Leon Hunt
Previous/Future work	Geophysical Survey
Current Land Use	Pasture/ rough ground
Development Type	New Housing
Reason for Investigation	NPPF
Position in the Planning Process	Planning condition
Site Co ordinates	SK 382 313
Start/end dates of field work	10-03-2015 to 17-03-2015
Archive Recipient	Retained by ULAS
Study Area	12ha

Archive

The archive for this project will be retained by ULAS with site code ULAS_15-644.

The archive consists of the following:

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40 Trench recording sheets

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1 CD digital photographs

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