



**An Archaeological Evaluation at land west of
Foston Hall, Uttoxeter Road, Scropton,
Derbyshire**

NGR: (SK 183 315)

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For: J T Leavesley and Co.

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ULAS Report Number 2009-028

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DBYMU: 2008-355

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Summary

An archaeological field evaluation by trial trenching was undertaken at land west of Foston Hall, Uttoxeter Road, Scropton, Derbyshire (SK 183 315) by University of Leicester Archaeological Services between the 16th and 24th February 2008.

Four trenches were located in order to confirm known cropmarks within the application area as well as to investigate anomalies highlighted by previous geophysical survey. The evaluation confirmed the location of two single and one double ring ditch. A probable cremation burial was found centrally placed within one of the single ring ditches. These features probably all relate to Bronze Age mortuary activities situated on the edge of the flood plain of the River Dove. Also a number of other linear features, possibly relating to later settlement boundaries were also recorded.

The site archive will be held by Derby City Museum and Art Gallery under the accession number DBYMU 2008-355.

1. Introduction

A pre-planning enquiry into the archaeological potential of land west of Foston Hall, Uttoxeter Road, Scropton, Derbyshire has been initiated by J. T. Leavesley and Co., in advance of an application for a proposed pig farm and biogas unit.

This report presents the results of a programme of trial trenching, which took place between the 16th and 24th February 2009. It follows an Archaeological Desk-based Assessment compiled by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (Hunt 2008) and a geophysical survey (Butler 2008) that both concluded that the site had significant archaeological potential.

A strategy for the work was set out in the *Design Specification for archaeological evaluation Uttoxeter Road, Scropton, South Derbyshire (NGR SK 183 315)* (ULAS 2009, hereinafter '*Specification*'; Appendix II). The trial trenching was undertaken to target potential features identified within aerial photography and the geophysical survey.

2. Site Description, Topography and Geology

Foston and Scropton is a joint parish in south-west Derbyshire. The villages lie approximately 12 miles to the south-west of Derby and around 7 miles north-west of Burton-Upon-Trent, close to the border with Staffordshire (Figures 1 and 2). The

assessment area lies on the northern periphery of the parish, close to Foston village, just to the south of the A50 and adjacent to the 18th century Foston Hall prison.

The assessment area comprises of a roughly rectangular parcel of land set in the northern end of a larger field currently under cultivation, with an area of rough ground at the northern edge. It is surrounded by hedges and fencing. Two areas of woodland border it to the south. The assessment area measures approximately 20ha. The land slopes gently from 66m OD at the northern end to 64m OD halfway down the application area on the southeast side and virtually all the way down to the boundary in the southwest corner (a 2m variation over 300-400m). From this point the gradient becomes steeper towards the Foston and Dale Brooks, falling from 64m to 61m OD over a distance of c.150m. Also some more discrete changes are evident including small ridges of higher ground close to the change of gradient.

The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 140 shows that the underlying geology is likely to be River Terrace Deposit overlying Mercia Mudstone Group clay.

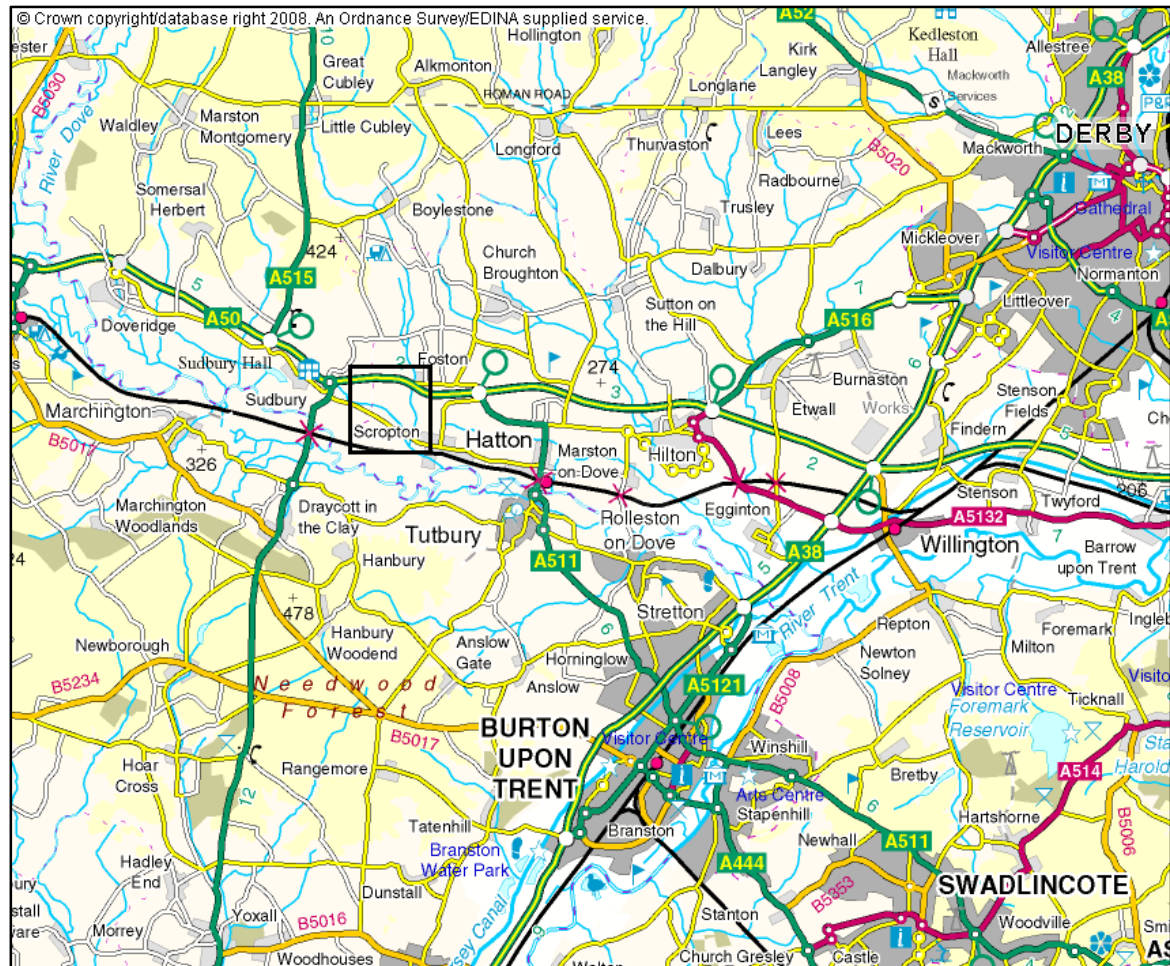


Figure 1: Location of site in relation to Derby, Burton Upon Trent and the River Dove

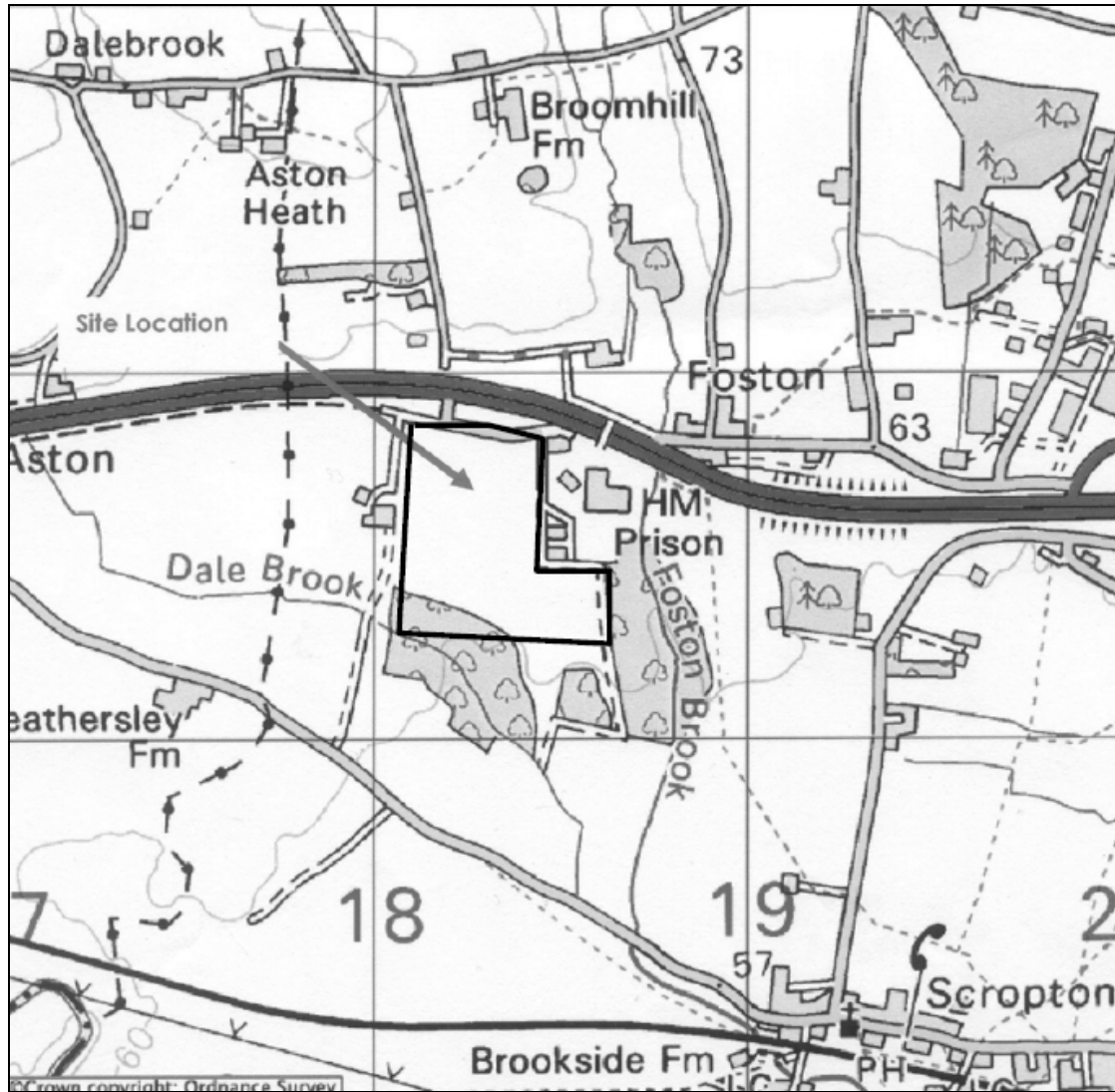


Figure 2: Location of assessment area. 1: 10 000
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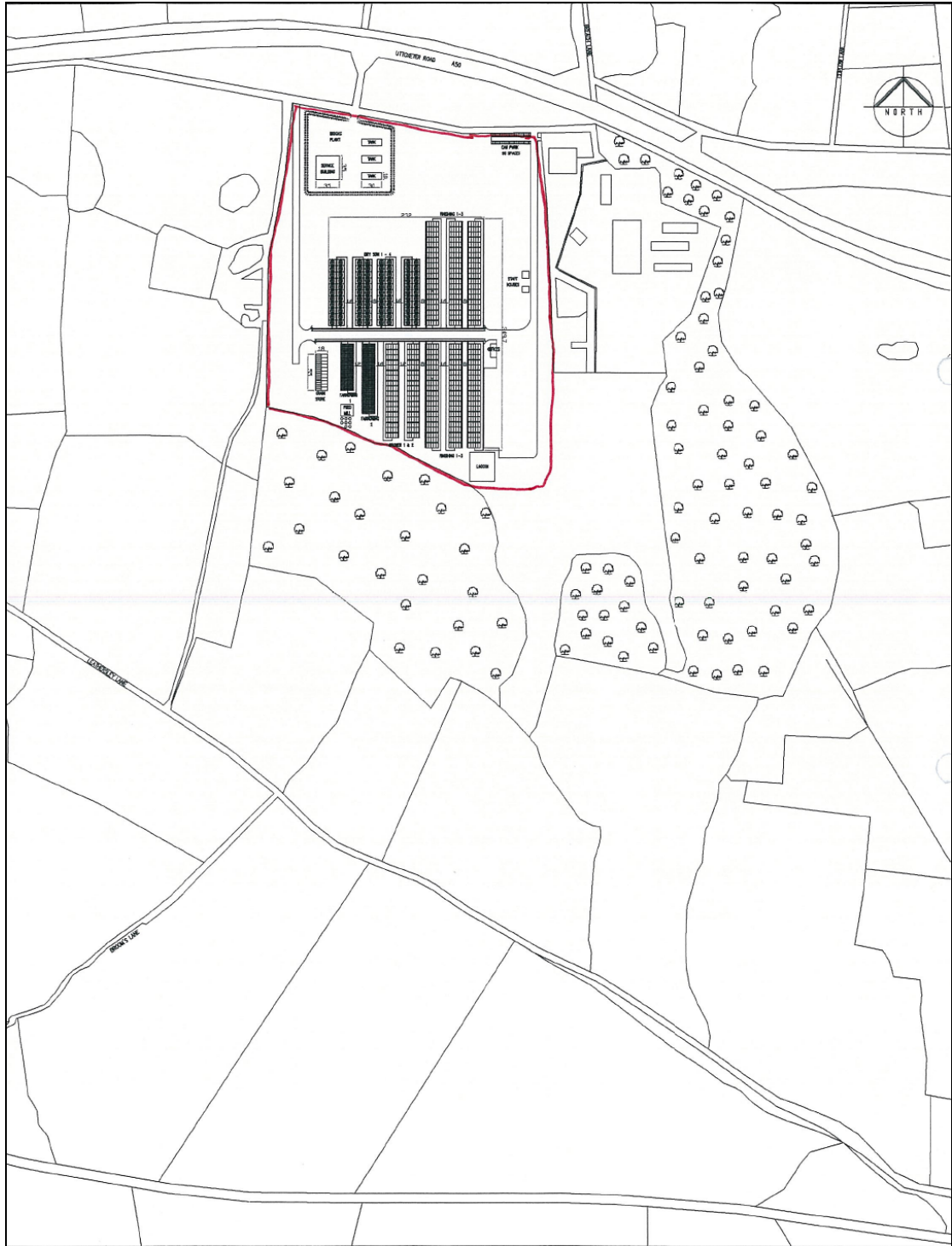


Figure 3: Site Location Plan including proposed development (provided by client)

3. Historical and Archaeological Background (taken from Hunt 2008)

Historical Background

The parish of Foston and Scropton lies in the ancient hundred of Appletree in an area that before the Conquest belonged to the Kings of Mercia and then the Earls of Mercia (Thornhill 2000). Foston was called Farulveston and Scropton, Scrotun at the time of the Domesday survey. The names are both derived from Old English and mean 'Farulf's Farm' and Skropi's Farm' respectively (Mills 2003). At the time of the survey Scropton belonged to Torchi and was valued at £8, later increased to £10. It had 31 small holders and 26 villagers and there was a church and a priest. Foston was held by Levenot, Ulmer, Baldric and Ulvric and was valued at £2. There were 12 small holders and 8 villagers (Williams & Martin 1992).

Due to his support during the Battle of Hastings, William I gave the land at Foston and Scropton to Henry de Ferrers and the joint manors stayed in the family, later the Earls of Derby, until 1310. The de Ferrers lands were later divided and the joint manor passed to the Agard family whose possession it stayed in until 1673. The first Foston Hall was built in 1310. In 1636 it was demolished and rebuilt by the Agard family, who sold it in 1673 to the Bate family (Glover and Riden 1981).

The Bate family had supported Charles I during the civil war and after his defeat moved to Barbados where they started a sugar plantation. In 1673 they bought Foston Hall and this was given as a wedding gift to Richard Bate and his wife Sarah Newton, a descendant of the Agard family. Their descendants lived at Foston Hall until 1784 when the hall was sold to John Broadhurst, a footman at Kedleston Hall (Thornhill 2000). The land at Foston and Scropton was enclosed in 1765 and it is Broadhurst's name that appears on the enclosure award at this time.

In 1836 the hall was almost totally destroyed by fire and lay derelict for 27 years. John Broadhurst's son John had the hall rebuilt by Thomas Chambers Hine in 1863 and was described by Pevsner as 'a very red brick Jacobethan house' (Pevsner 1978).

On John Broadhurst's death it passed to his wife and then to her brother Admiral Sir John Cummings in 1878.

It later passed to the Hardy family who sold it to Derbyshire County Council in 1947. Since then it has been an orphanage, a school, a detention centre, an open prison and in 1996 it became a women's prison. It is listed on the Sites and Monuments Record for Derbyshire (**20121**) along with the associated stable block (**20122**).

The land that makes up the site would appear to have been part of the Foston Hall estate throughout the manor's history; it certainly appears to have been linked with the hall on both the tithe and enclosure maps. Presumably it was sold at the time the hall was sold to the council in 1947, although this is not clear.

Archaeological Background

There are several areas of archaeological interest in the vicinity of the application area listed on the Historic Environment Record (HER) for Derbyshire.

An aerial photography survey conducted by James Pickering in 1979 has shown that the application area has cropmarks relating to archaeological features (**20106**). These include ring ditches and enclosures and although undated are likely to be features associated with prehistoric burial mounds and prehistoric or Romano-British

settlement or farming practices (Figure 4). At nearby Maidensley Farm, a handaxe, dated to the Lower Palaeolithic Period has been recovered (20102). It is the only identifiable find from the Beeston terrace in Derbyshire. Following Brandon (1996) the Beeston terrace gravels are post-Ipswichian. However, the lack of any more detailed contextual information regarding this find must leave certain doubts concerning the actual age of the artefact.

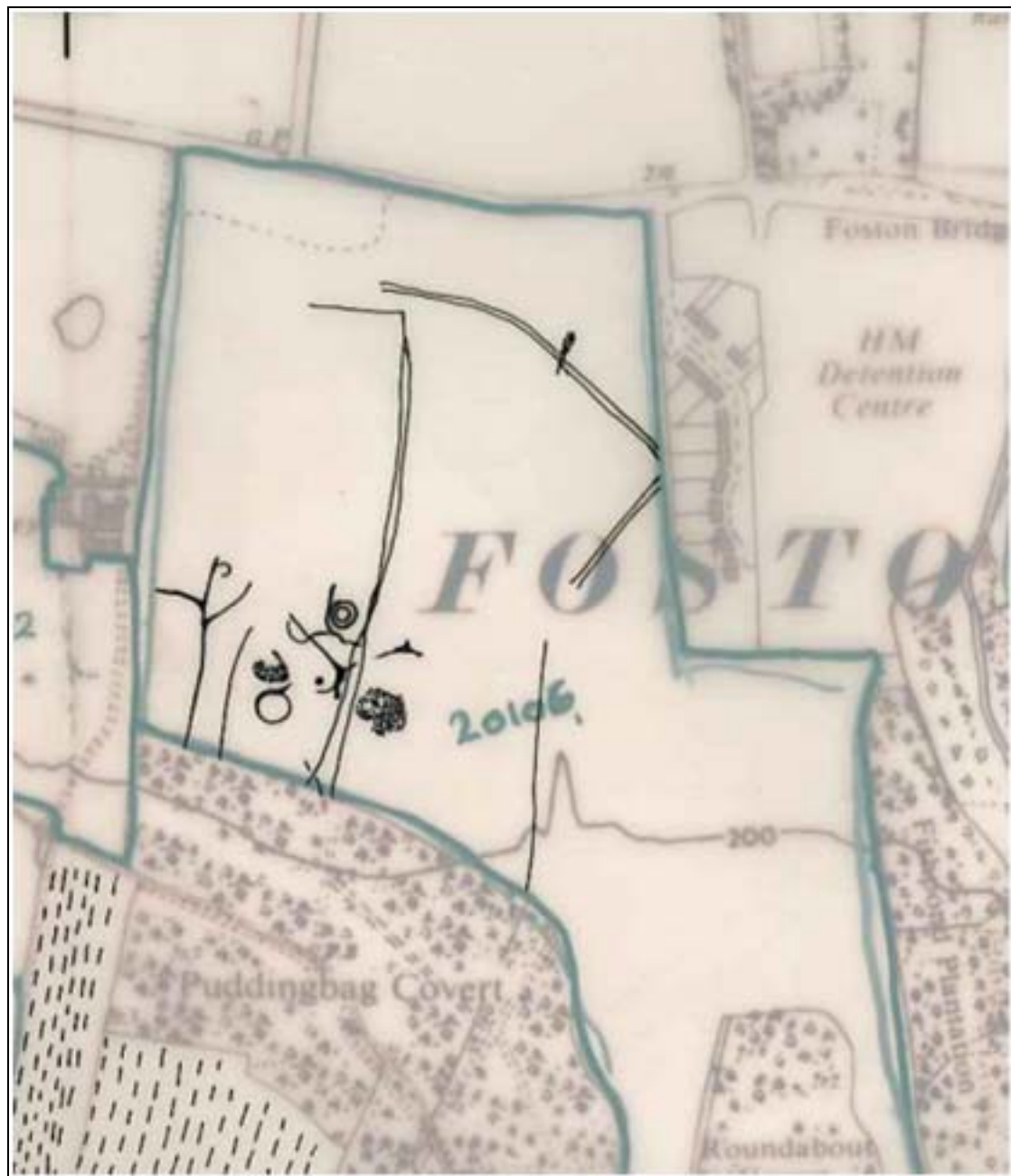


Figure 4: Sketch plan of cropmarks in application area, derived from aerial photographs.

Plan provided by Derbyshire County Council (20106). Scale 1:2500

Within a 1 km radius of the site are several more areas of cropmarks also associated with ring ditches and enclosures. These are located to the south of Maidensley Farm (26607, 20107) and to the east of Foston Hall (20104).

A detailed magnetometer survey was undertaken across the application area in order to gain a clearer understanding of the cropmarks observed in the aerial photographs as well as to help locate them geographically (Butler 2008). Discontinuous linear anomalies possibly reflect a single ditch identified as a cropmark (Figure 6, A-C; Hunt 2008, 5). These were detected orientated south-east from the former 'old' pond (recorded on the first edition Ordnance Survey (1891)), then putatively turning south where they continue, interrupted, towards the edge of the field, finishing as a pair of features, as on the cropmark. To the west of the linear ditch, a possible prehistoric ring ditch was identified with an adjacent linear ditch and curvilinear ditch to the south (Figure 6, D). To the east of the ditches at the southern end, survey confirmed a large sub-circular feature (adjacent to C) which appears to reflect a geological anomaly, possibly a patch of sand and gravel in the clay. This was apparent as a negative earthwork and may well be an infilled sand and gravel quarry. A gravel pit is indicated 200m to the west on the first edition OS map.

The remaining possible archaeological features were identified as north-east to south-west aligned ditch and nearby curving ditch to the east close by the prison. However the survey failed to confirm the vast majority of the crop mark including the clear concentric ring ditches and the fainter ring ditch to the south.

Aerial photographic plot

Matthew Beamish

Prints (244x158mm) of four photographs recorded by J.A.Pickering in July 1979 were acquired from the National Monuments Record, Swindon.

One of the prints (JAP 1782/05) was selected for rectification, scanned at 600dpi and saved in tiff format. Rectification of the selected photograph was made difficult due to clear identifiable points being only present on one side of an oblique frame. The remaining prints although containing useful cropmark information, individually contained too few identifiable points to warrant any attempt at rectification.

The scanned file was imported into ArcGIS 9.2, and rectification was attempted using the Georeferencing tool, by matching visible features such as field corners and the intersections of tracks, to known coordinate points. The number of visible points on the photographs was found to be insufficient to allow rectification of any accuracy, and further data was sought.

Further layers were added to the GIS project including the results of the magnetometer survey (Figure 6) and historic map data. The addition of these layers allowed further features visible in the oblique photo such as isolated trees, the probable quarry hollows and linear feature intersections to be incorporated, and accurate rectification was achieved (Figure 5). The incorporation of historic map information (Ordnance Survey first edition) indicated that the more western linear feature was probably of relatively recent origin (Figure 17, inset, B).

Post-rectification enhancement of the photograph has been achieved by selectively applying the Histogram Equalise function within Paint Shop Pro software to increase the visibility of anomalies.

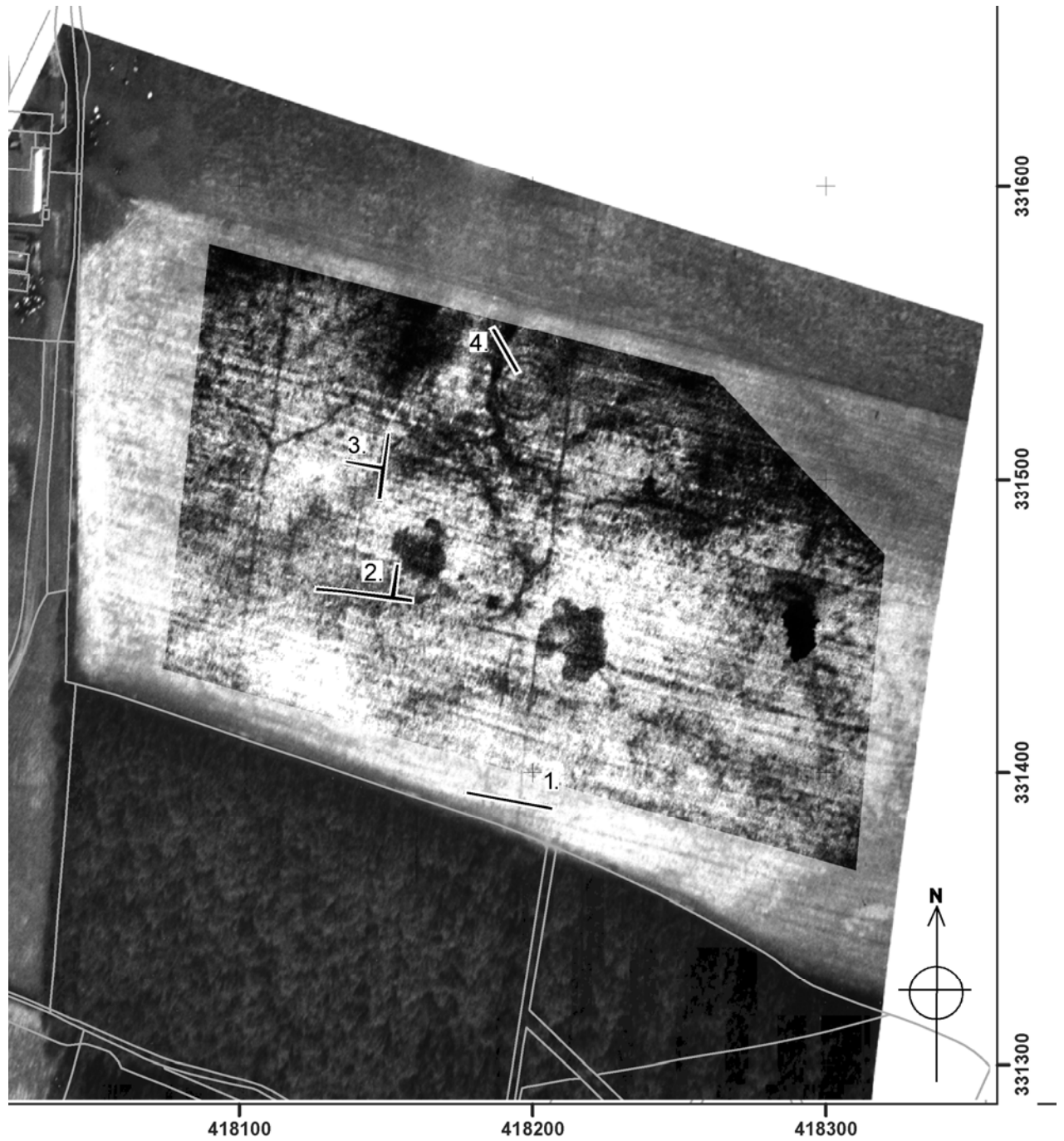


Figure 5: Rectified and enhanced photo JAP 1782/05 showing locations of trenches 1-4 in relation to principle cropmarks.

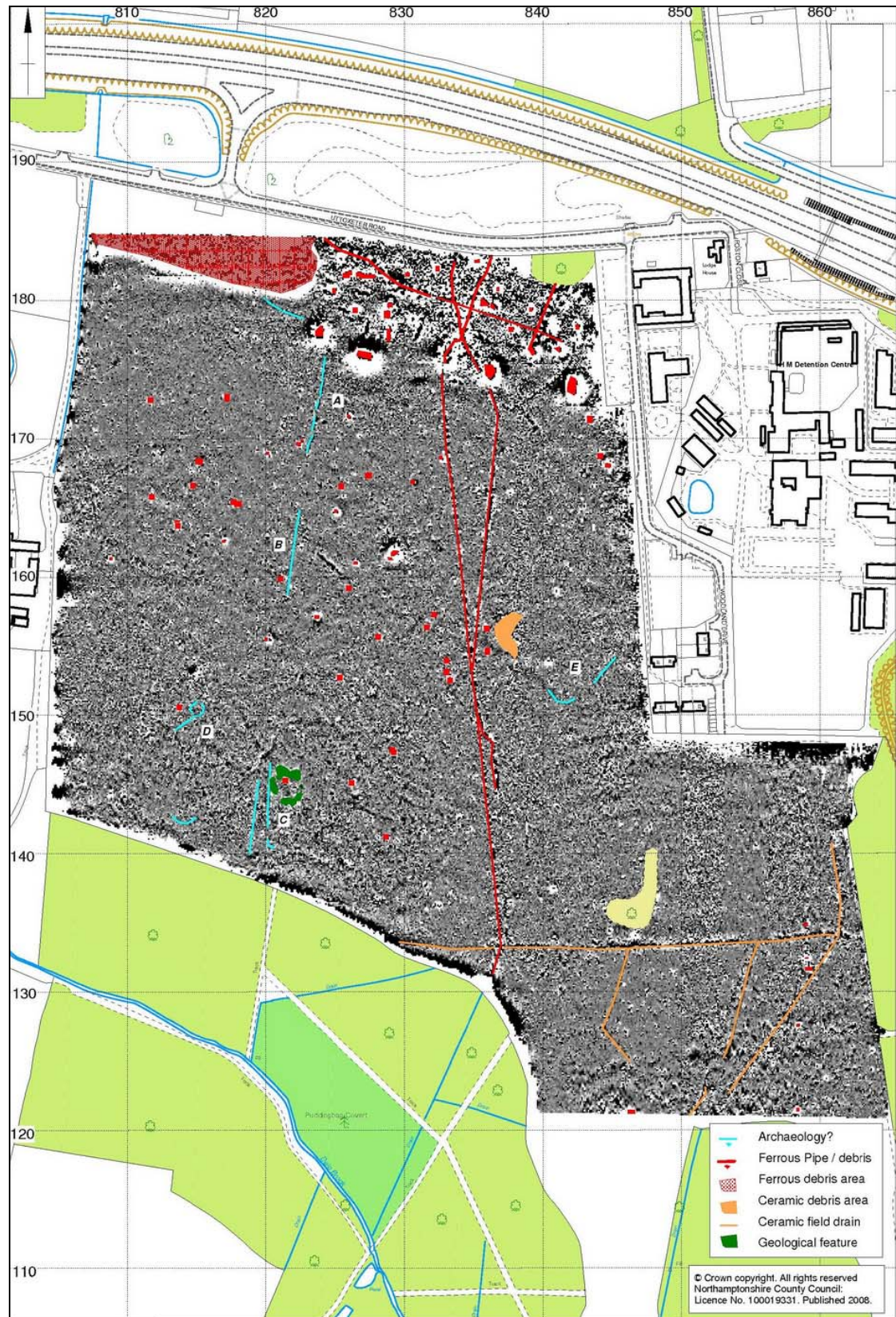


Figure 6: Results of Geophysical Survey (Butler 2008)

4. Aims and Objectives

The main aims of the evaluation were:

- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits. In particular these will target cropmark evidence which was not clearly located in the geophysical survey
- To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed pig farm.
- 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 pig farm.

5. Methodology

The *Specification* stated that an initial sample of *c.* 240 sq metres was to be undertaken, the equivalent of five 30m by 1.6m trenches. Three of the trenches were targeted in order to test some of the cropmarks. These included the potential double and single ring ditches as well as the pair of parallel cropmarks that run north-south across the application area. The remaining trenching was to remain contingent on the results on these initial trenches.

The topsoil and overlying layers were removed under full archaeological supervision until either the top of archaeology or natural undisturbed ground was reached, or to a depth of 1.2m.

The bases of the trenches were cleaned in areas where potential archaeology was observed. If archaeological remains were identified, they were planned to scale and recorded. Limited excavation was also undertaken in order to determine the character and date of any remains.

The trenches were located using a Topcon Hiper Pro GPS+ RTK System attached to a Topcon FC-100 controller. The data was processed using Topcon Tools GPS+ Post Processing Software and the final plans completed with the aid of TurboCad v.15 design software.

All the work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*.

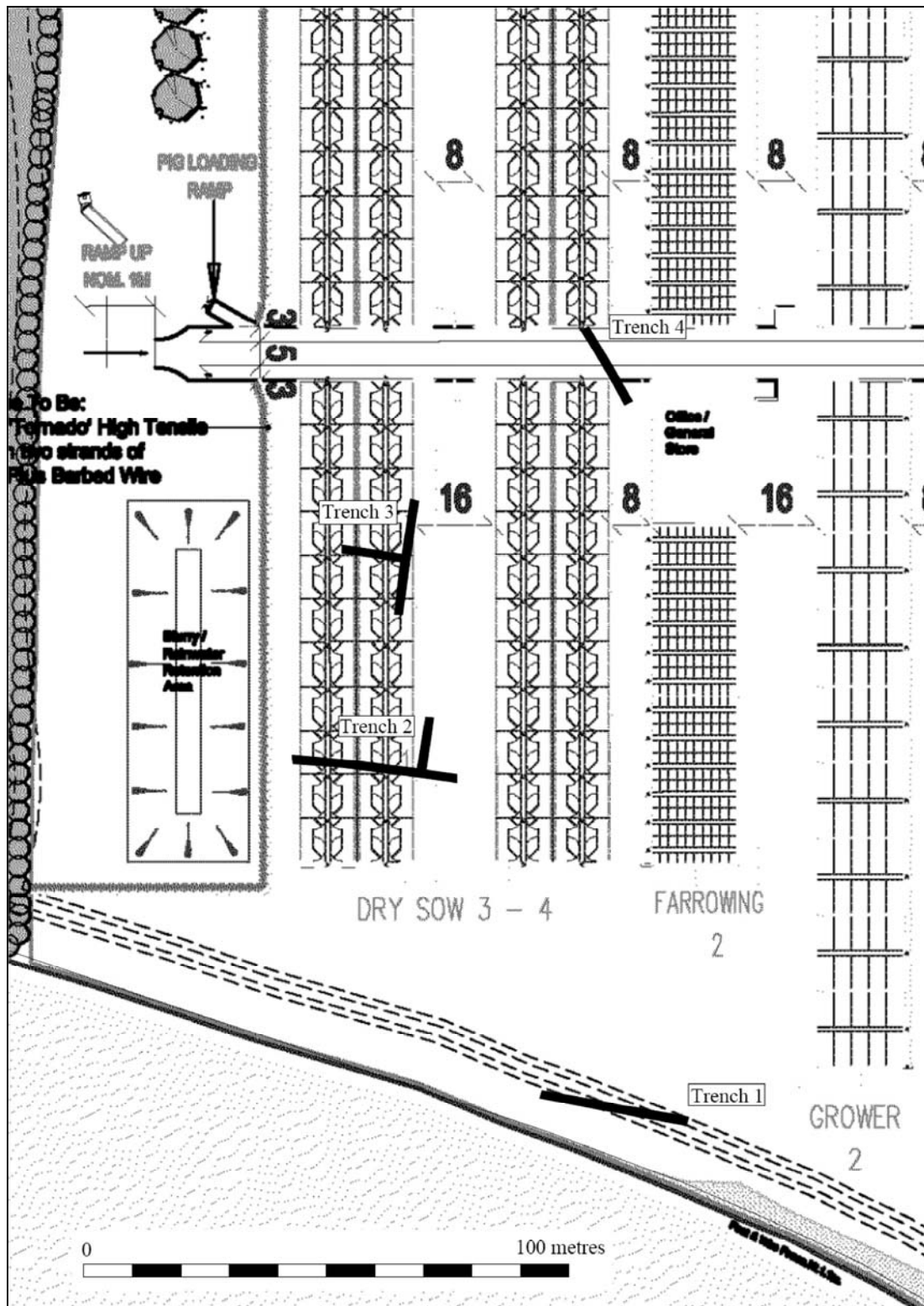


Figure 7: Trench location plan incorporating proposed development plan (provided by the client)

6. Results

The three targeted trenches (Trenches 1, 2 and 4) were excavated in accordance with the *Specification* although a slightly larger ditching bucket of 1.8m was used. Trench 2 was extended northwards in order to clarify results within the trench. An additional trench (Trench 3) was also excavated north of Trench 2 in to test a possible ring ditch highlighted by the geophysical survey. A total of 234 sq. metres of trial trenching was undertaken during the course of the evaluation (Figure 5 and Figure 7).

During movement between the trenches, two flint scrapers with straight retouch, probably dating to the Middle-Late Bronze Age and a pink quartzite core were recovered from the topsoil (L. Cooper pers.comm).

Trench 1 *Figure 5, Figure 8*

Length: 30.71m
 Width: 1.8m
 Depth: 63.37-63.49m OD
 Orientation: WNW-ESE

Interval from WNW end	0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	31
Topsoil (1) depth	0.40m	0.14m	0.16m	0.18m	0.20m	0.20m	0.20m
Topsoil (2) depth		0.40m	0.36m	0.46m	0.43m	0.40m	0.42m
Top of Natural	0.40m	0.40m	0.36m	0.46m	0.43m	0.40m	0.42m
Base of trench	0.40m	0.40m	0.44m	0.46m	0.50m	0.50m	0.42m
Contexts	[004] (005) [006] (007) (008) [009] (010) (011)						

Trench 1 was located at the southern end of the application area. It was orientated east-south-east to west-north-west in order to target a pair of parallel linear cropmarks that ran north-south across the field. The topsoil (001) consisted of a dark greyish brown sandy loam that contained abundant inclusions of small-large rounded stones. This varied in depth between 180-400mm and overlay a similar mid-greyish brown silty loam subsoil (002) that also contained abundant inclusions of small-large rounded stones. The deposit varied in thickness between 200-280mm, was reasonably organic and probably represented a recent episode of deeper topsoil ploughing rather than a true buried subsoil layer. This deposit directly overlay the natural substratum that consisted of mid-orangey brown sand and gravel (003) on the surface of which plough scars were visible.

Two linear features, [004] and [009], 11m apart, were observed on the projected line of the geophysical/cropmark data. Also a sub-circular feature was observed equidistant between the two linear features. Feature [004] was orientated north-north-east to south-south-west. It measured 900mm in width, spanned the width of the trench and had a depth of 360mm. Its sides were steep and straight, with an incline of *c.*60°, and the base was relatively flat. It was filled by two clearly discernable deposits, (005) and (011). The primary fill consisted of a light orangey brown silty sand deposit (011). It measured 600mm wide and 200mm thick and contained abundant inclusions of small-medium sub-rounded stones. This was overlain by a mid orangey brown sandy clayey silt deposit (005) that measured 870mm wide and 180mm deep, containing several small to large sub-rounded stones. The second linear

feature [009] also spanned the width of the trench, measuring 1.2m in width and 380mm deep. The eastern side was steep and straight, with an incline of *c.*50°, the western side was shallower with an incline of *c.*30° and the base was slightly concave. It was filled by a single mid-orangey brown sandy silt deposit that contained abundant inclusions of small sub-rounded stones and occasional medium to large sub-rounded stones. The sub-circular feature [006] measured 1.5m x 1.33m and was 330mm deep. Its sides were steep and regular with an incline of 60-70°. It was filled by two clearly discernable deposits, (007) and (008). The primary fill consisted of a light orangey brown silty sand and gravel deposit (008) located against the eastern side of the feature that measured 350mm wide and 250mm deep. This was overlain by a mid-orangey brown sandy silt deposit (007) that measured 800mm wide and 330mm deep. This contained abundant small-medium sub-rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.

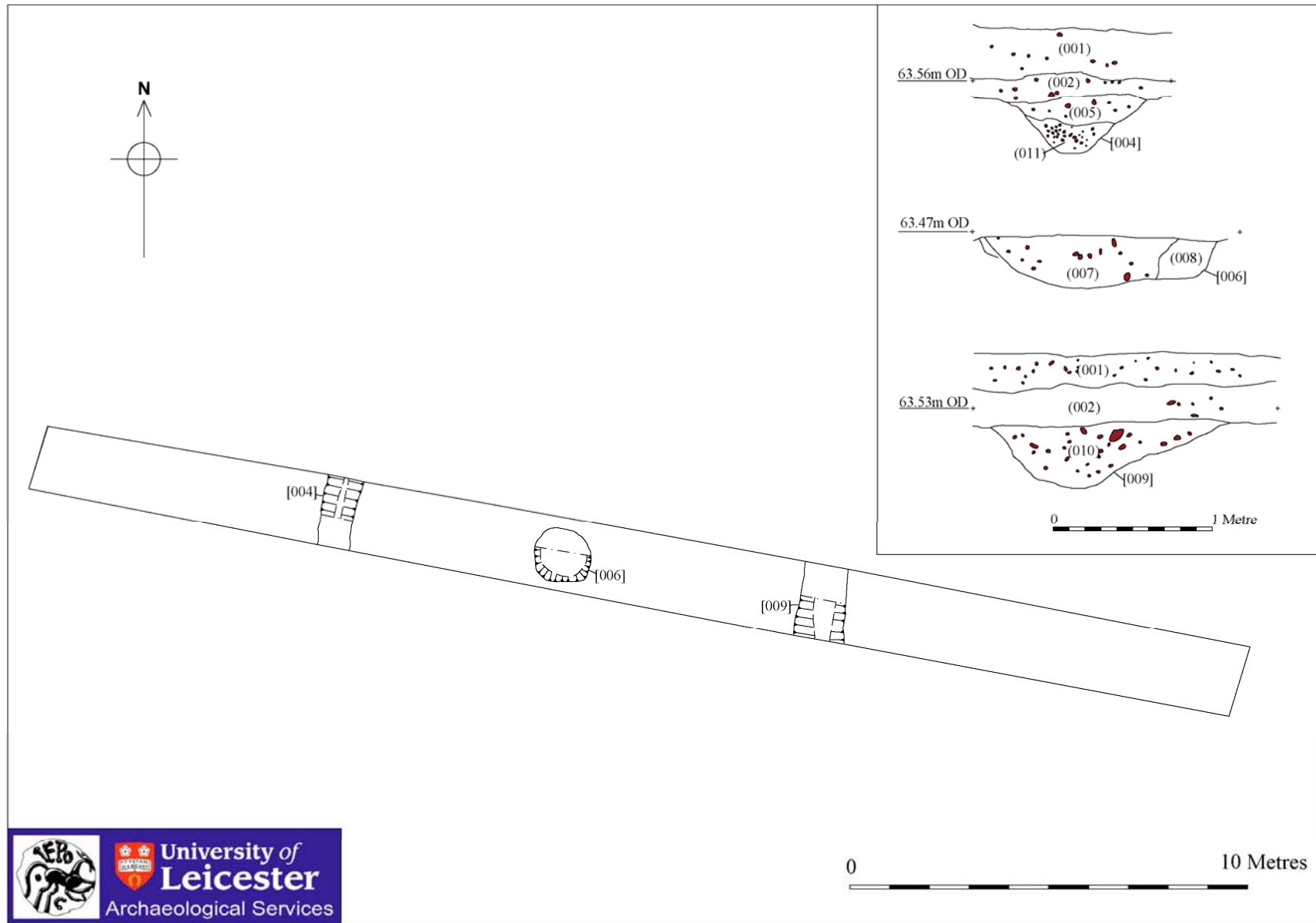


Figure 8: Plan of Trench 1

Trench 2 *Figure 5, Figure 9*
 Length: 45m (34m + 11m extension)
 Width: 1.8m
 Depth: 63.87-64.12m OD
 Orientation: E-W/N-S

Interval from Wend	0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m	34m
Topsoil (1) depth	0.18m	0.22m	0.13m	0.13m	0.20m	0.22m	0.22m	0.23m
Topsoil (2) depth	0.48m	0.42m	0.42m	0.36m	0.43m	0.55m	0.47m	0.48m
Top of Natural	0.48m	0.42m	0.42m	0.36m	0.43m	0.55m	0.47m	0.48m
Base of trench	0.50m	0.46m	0.46m	0.40m	0.46m	0.55m	0.47m	0.48m
Contexts	[012] (013) [014] (015) [016] (017)							

Interval from S extension	0m	5m	11m
Topsoil (1) depth	0.18m	0.19m	0.20m
Topsoil (2) depth	0.48m	0.52m	0.55m
Top of Natural	0.48m	0.52m	0.55m
Base of trench	0.50m	0.52m	0.55m
Contexts	[018] (019)		

Trench 2 was located *c.*70m north-west of Trench 1. It was orientated east-west, targeting a possible ring ditch cropmark and also a north-south linear cropmark, neither of which were confirmed by the geophysical survey. The trench was extended northwards in order to clarify the possible ring ditch. The topsoil consisted of a dark greyish brown sandy loam that contained abundant inclusions of small-large rounded stones. This varied in depth between 130-230mm and overlay a similar mid- greyish brown silty loam subsoil that also contained abundant inclusions of small to large rounded stones. The deposit varied in thickness between 200-330mm, contained organic material and probably represents a recent episode of deeper topsoil ploughing rather than a true buried subsoil layer. This deposit directly overlay the natural substratum that consisted of mid-orangey brown sand and gravel on the surface of which plough scars were visible.

A curvilinear feature [014] that matched the projected location of the ring ditch cropmark was observed within the trench and trench extension, whilst a linear feature [016] toward the western end of the trench probably also matches the cropmark data. Two sub-circular discrete features, [012] and [018], were recorded.

Curvilinear feature [014] measured 950mm in width, 320mm deep, spanning the width of the trench and its extension. On the basis of the two exposed sections of this feature, a projected diameter of *c.*1.5m can be inferred for the ring ditch. The inner (eastern) side of the feature was steep and straight, with an incline of *c.*70°; the outer edge was shallower and slightly curved with an incline of *c.*50° while the base was slightly concave. It was filled by a single dark greyish brown sandy silt deposit (015) that contained abundant small-medium sub-rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks. The linear feature [016] was located 9m west of the curvilinear ditch. This feature was also slightly curving and measured between 1.1-1.3m wide and was 300mm deep. Its western side was straight and regular with an incline of *c.*45°; the eastern side was slightly shallower with an incline of 30° and it had a relatively flat

base. It was filled by a single dark greyish brown silty sand and gravel deposit (017). A sub-circular feature [012] was located within the curvilinear feature. It measured 1.3m x 1.1m and was 600mm deep. Its sides were steep with an incline of *c.*70°, breaking to 45° on the western and southern side. The western side was steep and sloping with an incline of 75° breaking to 50°, exhibiting some degree of slippage that continued during excavation. The eastern side was poorly defined at the top becoming clearer with an almost vertical incline. The base of the feature was uneven. It was filled by a dark greyish brown silty sand and gravel deposit (013) that contained occasional charcoal flecks and a minute fragment of cremated bone. A smaller sub-circular feature [018] was located 3.5m north of the curvilinear feature. This measured 0.7m x 0.66m and 250mm deep. Its sides were almost vertical and its base was relatively flat. It was filled by a single dark greyish brown sandy silt deposit that contained an abundant quantity of fire cracked pebbles, with an average size of 100x70x50mm and also occasional charcoal flecks. A small quantity of Bronze Age pottery, including the body sherd from the lower part of the wall of a jar which has broken along a ring coil join, displaying a characteristic ‘false rim’, was recovered from this deposit.

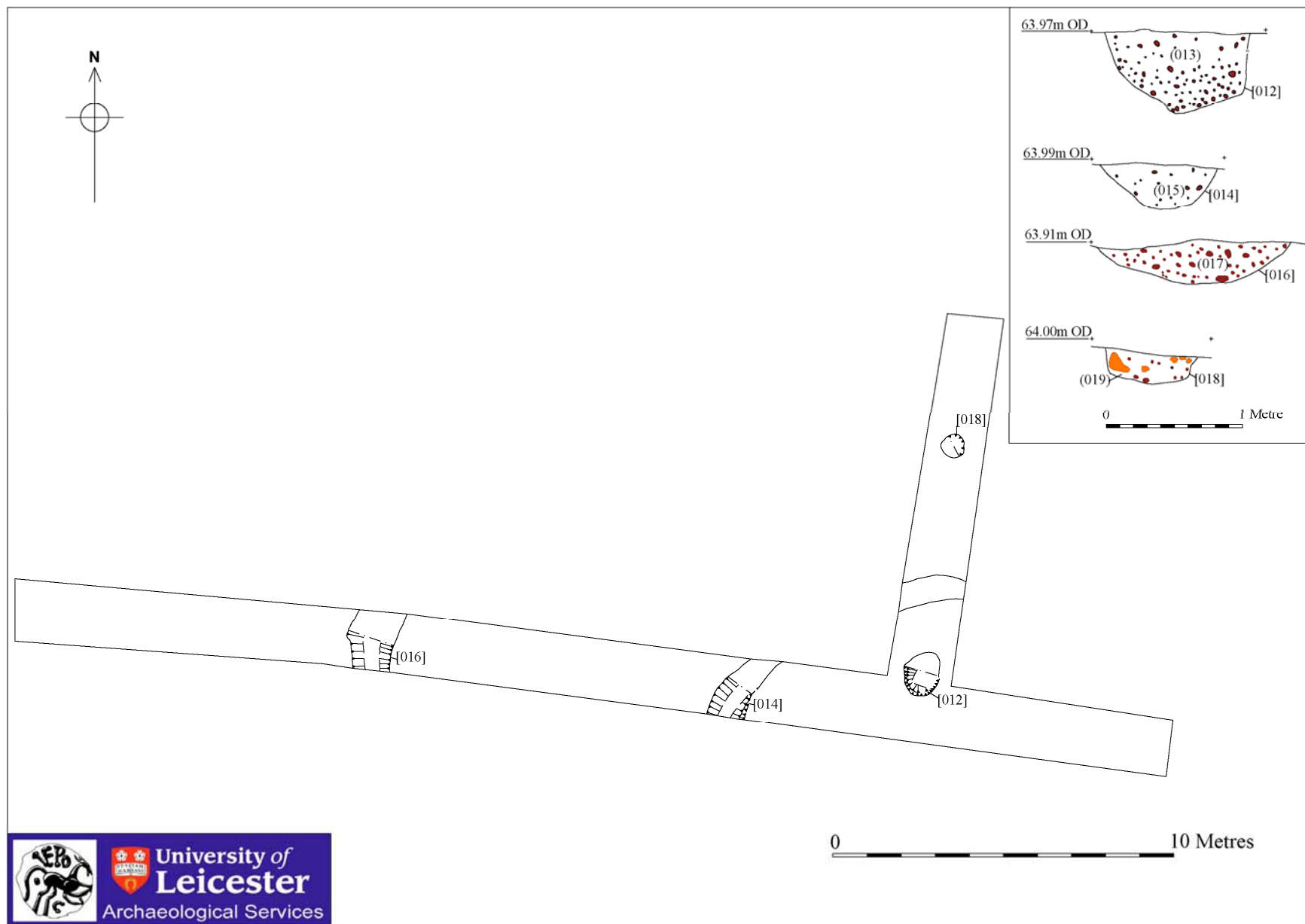


Figure 9: Plan of Trench 2

Trench 3 *Figure 5, Figure 10*

Length: 36m (24m + 12m extension)

Width: 1.8m

Depth: 64.00-64.09m OD

Orientation: NNE-SSW/WNW-ESE

Interval from SSW end	0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	24m
Topsoil (1) depth	0.38m	0.20m	0.50m	0.24m	0.24m	0.30m
Topsoil (2) depth		0.46m		0.42m	0.40m	0.55m
Top of Natural	0.38m	0.46m	0.50m	0.42m	0.40m	0.55m
Base of trench	0.38m	0.46m	0.50m	0.42m	0.40m	0.55m
Contexts	[026] (027) (028) [031] (032) [033] (034) [035] (036)					

Interval from WNW extension	0m	5m	10m	12
Topsoil (1) depth	0.36m	0.40m	0.16m	0.25m
Topsoil (2) depth			0.40m	0.40m
Top of Natural	0.36m	0.40m	N/A	0.40m
Base of trench	0.36m	0.40m	0.40m	0.48m
Contexts	[037] (038)			

Trench 3 was located *c.*20m north of Trench 2. It was orientated north-south in order to target a curvilinear geophysical anomaly that had been interpreted as a potential roundhouse gully with a northern entrance (a break in the gully at the northern end). A trench was extended westwards to clarify the remains.

The topsoil consisted of a dark greyish brown sandy loam that contained abundant inclusions of small-large rounded stones. This varied in depth between 160-500mm and overlay a similar dark greyish brown silty loam subsoil that also contained abundant inclusions of small to large rounded stones. The deposit varied in thickness between 150mm-250mm, contained organic material and probably represents a recent episode of deeper topsoil ploughing rather than a true buried subsoil layer. This deposit directly overlay the natural substratum that consisted of mid-orangey brown sand and gravel.

A considerable number of potential archaeological features were observed within the trench. Segments of ditch [026] that matched the projected line of the geophysical anomaly were located towards the centre of the trenches, and probably represent a small ring ditch. Within the ring ditch, eight possible discrete features were also identified. Three of these features, [031], [033] and [035] were sample excavated. A linear feature [037] was also recorded to the west of the ring ditch.

The ring ditch [026] measured 1m in width and 320mm deep. The northern and southern sides of the feature were observed in the main trench with the western side located in the trench extension. Based on the exposed sections of the ditch a full diameter of *c.*1.1m can be inferred (Figure 15). The ditch was continuous, with no clear break at the northern end as suggested by the geophysical survey. The northern section of the ring ditch was excavated and its northern side was steep and straight with an incline of *c.*50°; the southern side was shallower with an incline of *c.*40 that broke to a reasonably flat base. It was filled by two clearly discernible deposits, (027) and (028). The lower fill consisted of a light greyish brown silty sand and gravel

deposit (27), measuring 800mm in width and a maximum of 100mm thick. This was overlain by a dark greyish brown silty sand deposit (28) containing abundant small-large sub-rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks. This measured 900mm in width and 250mm deep. Within the ring ditch a section was excavated across what turned out to be two centrally placed intercutting features, [31] and [33] (Figure 11). Feature [31] was sub-circular, with a diameter of 900mm and was 210mm deep. Its sides were steep and straight with an incline of 70° and it had a flat base although there was some disturbance at the northern end that was probably due to bioturbation. It was filled by a dark greyish brown silty sand and gravel deposit (32) that contained occasional charcoal flecks and fragments. A small quantity of cremated human bone was recovered and a large area of charcoal was observed in the eastern (unexcavated) area of the feature that could indicate further cremated remains. Feature [31] truncated an oval feature [033] on its northern side that had only been partially exposed within the trench edge. Although not fully excavated it measured a minimum 700mm in length, 500mm in width and 200mm deep. Its sides were steep where exposed and it was filled by a dark greyish brown silty sand and gravel deposit (034) that contained abundant charcoal flecks and fragments as well as large fragments of cremated human bone that were left in-situ. A smaller sub-circular feature [035] was also excavated 1.3m north-west of these features. Measuring 380mm in diameter and 200mm deep, it had steep concave sides and a base that tapered to a point. It was filled by a dark greyish brown silty sand deposit (036) that contained abundant small-medium sub-rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks. A single sherd of Bronze Age pottery was also recovered from this feature. Several other features were observed within the bounds of the curvilinear feature that were left un-excavated (lettered (a) to (f)). Feature (a) was located *c.*1m north of the central features and was similar to [035]. Another small sub-circular feature (b) was observed to have a relationship with the northern edge of the curvilinear feature, although without excavation this relationship could not be clarified. A larger feature (c) was partially exposed in the trench *c.*1m south of the central features and directly south of this was a group including another small sub-circular feature (d) and a larger, partially exposed feature (e) that both seemed to cut a layer of dark greyish brown silty sand and gravel (f) close to the southern side of the ring ditch.

The only feature observed outside the confines of the ring ditch consisted of a north-south orientated linear feature [037], located *c.*1.5m to the west, within the western trench extension. This approximately lines up with the linear feature located in the western end of Trench 2 and is faintly visible in the cropmark data. It measured 1m in width, spanned the width of the trench and was 180mm deep. Its sides were very shallow and concave as was the base. It was filled by a single mid greyish brown sandy silt deposit (38) that contained abundant small-medium sub-rounded stones.

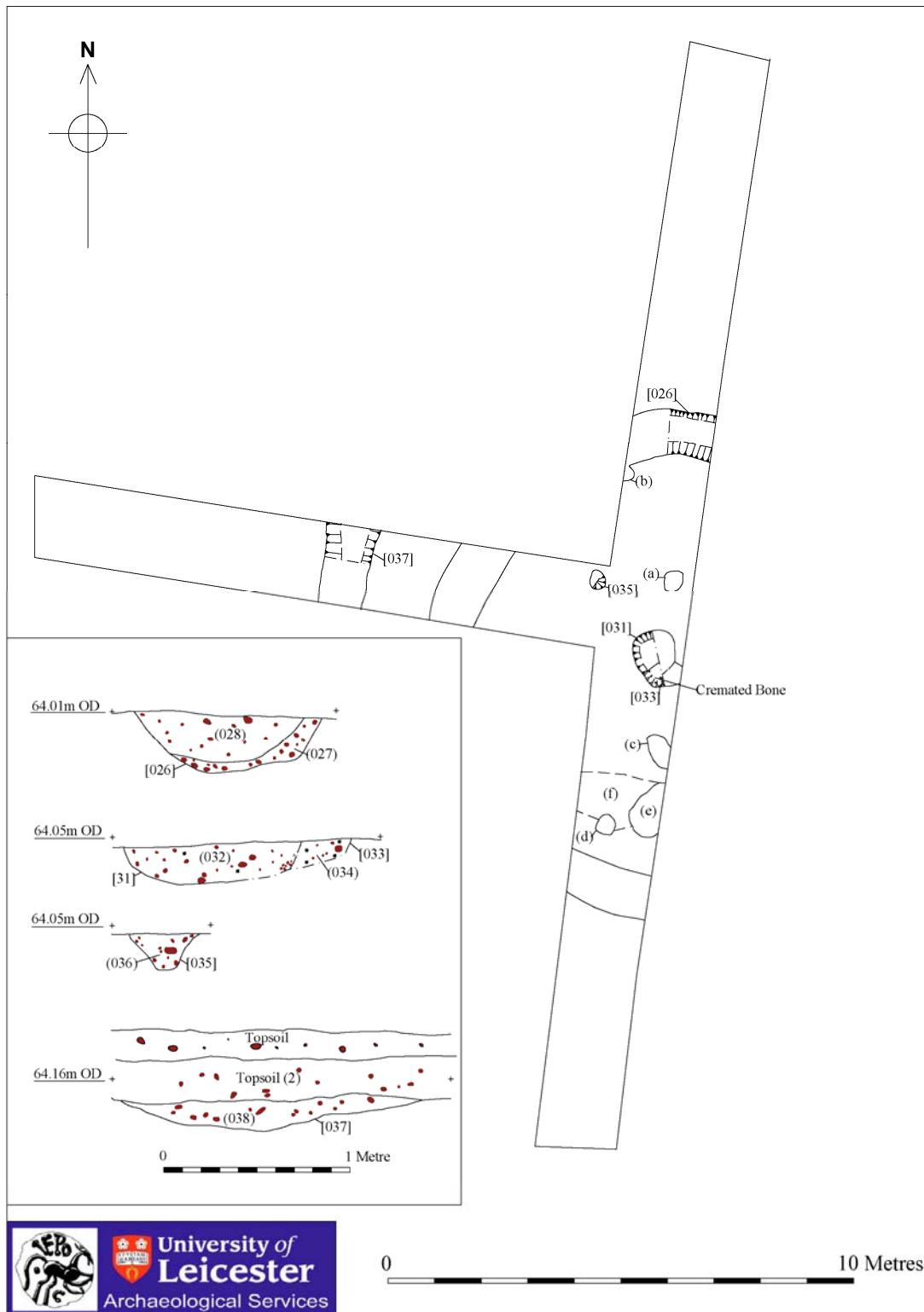


Figure 10: Plan of Trench 3



Figure 11: Intercutting pit [031] and cremation [033] looking east (1m scale)



Figure 12: Ring ditch [026] and associated internal features looking southwest. (1x1m, 1x2m scale)

Trench 4 *Figure 5, Figure 13*

Length: 18m
 Width: 1.8m
 Depth: 63.78-64.10m OD
 Orientation: NW-SE

Interval from WNW end	0m	5m	10m	15m	18m
Topsoil (1) depth	0.20m	0.25m	0.40m	0.20m	0.18m
Topsoil (2) depth	0.40m	0.40m		0.49m	0.38m
Top of Natural	0.40m	N/A	0.40m	0.49m	0.38m
Base of trench	0.40m	0.50m	0.46m	0.49m	0.48m
Contexts	[020] (021) [022] (023) (029) (030)				

Trench 4 was orientated north-west to south-east in order to target the clear double ring cropmark that failed to be identified by the geophysical survey. Prior to the evaluation a rise in the topography had been identified along a natural ridge that hinted that possibly some 'mound' material associated with the double ring may have been surviving as an earthwork and a rapid micro contour survey at 0.5m intervals was undertaken.

The topsoil consisted of a dark greyish brown sandy loam that contained abundant inclusions of small-large rounded stones. This varied in depth between 180-400mm and overlay a similar dark greyish brown silty loam subsoil that also contained abundant inclusions of small-large rounded stones. The deposit varied in thickness between 200mm-290mm, contained organic material and probably represents a recent episode of deeper topsoil ploughing rather than a true buried subsoil layer. This deposit directly overlay the natural substratum that consisted of mid-orangey brown sand and gravel.

Two curvilinear features [020] and [022] were observed close to the projected lines of the cropmarks at the south-east end of the trench (Figure 14) and the presence of concentric ring ditches is confirmed. A larger linear feature [024] was also located at the north-west end of the trench that also matched a cropmark visible from the aerial photographs.

The inner ring ditch [022] measured 1m wide, 480mm deep and spanned the width of the trench. Its sides were steep and regular with an incline of *c.*60° and a concave base. It was filled by two clearly discernable deposits, (023) and (030). The primary fill consisted of a light orangey brown silty sand deposit (030) that contained abundant small-medium rounded stones and occasional large sub-rounded stones. It measured 900mm in width and a maximum of 100mm thick. This was overlain by a dark greyish brown clayey sandy silt deposit (23) that contained abundant small-large sub-rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks and fragments. It measured 1m in width and 350mm deep. A single sherd of pottery in a micaceous fabric was recovered from this deposit. The outer ring ditch [20] was located *c.*1m north of the inner ring ditch. It measured 1.5m in width and 550mm deep. Its sides were slightly less steep than those of the inner ditch, with an incline of *c.*50° and its base was slightly concave. It was filled by two clearly discernable deposits, (021) and (029). The primary fill consisted of a light orangey brown silty sand deposit (029) that contained abundant small rounded stones. It measured 1.5m wide and a maximum of 100mm thick. This was overlain by a mid-yellowish brown sandy silt deposit (21)

containing abundant small to large sub-rounded stones. A single sherd of Bronze Age pottery was recovered from the top this deposit. Despite the clear association of the two curvilinear features, their profiles and the nature in which they had become in-filled was clearly very different. The lack of eroded upper edges to both ditches but most especially to the inner ring ditch was noted. This suggests relatively rapid silting and erosion following first cutting (as represented by (22), and later heavy plough truncation.

A separate linear feature [024] was observed 9m north-west of the outer curvilinear feature, orientated north-east to south-west. Measuring 2.5m wide by 300mm deep, its sides were fairly regular with an incline of *c.*30° that broke to an uneven base. It was filled by a light yellowish brown sandy silt deposit with very little stone inclusion that was in stark contrast to all other deposits recorded during the evaluation. This is a large linear feature that can be clearly seen curving round the double ring cropmark of the aerial photographs and may well represent a natural glacial feature.

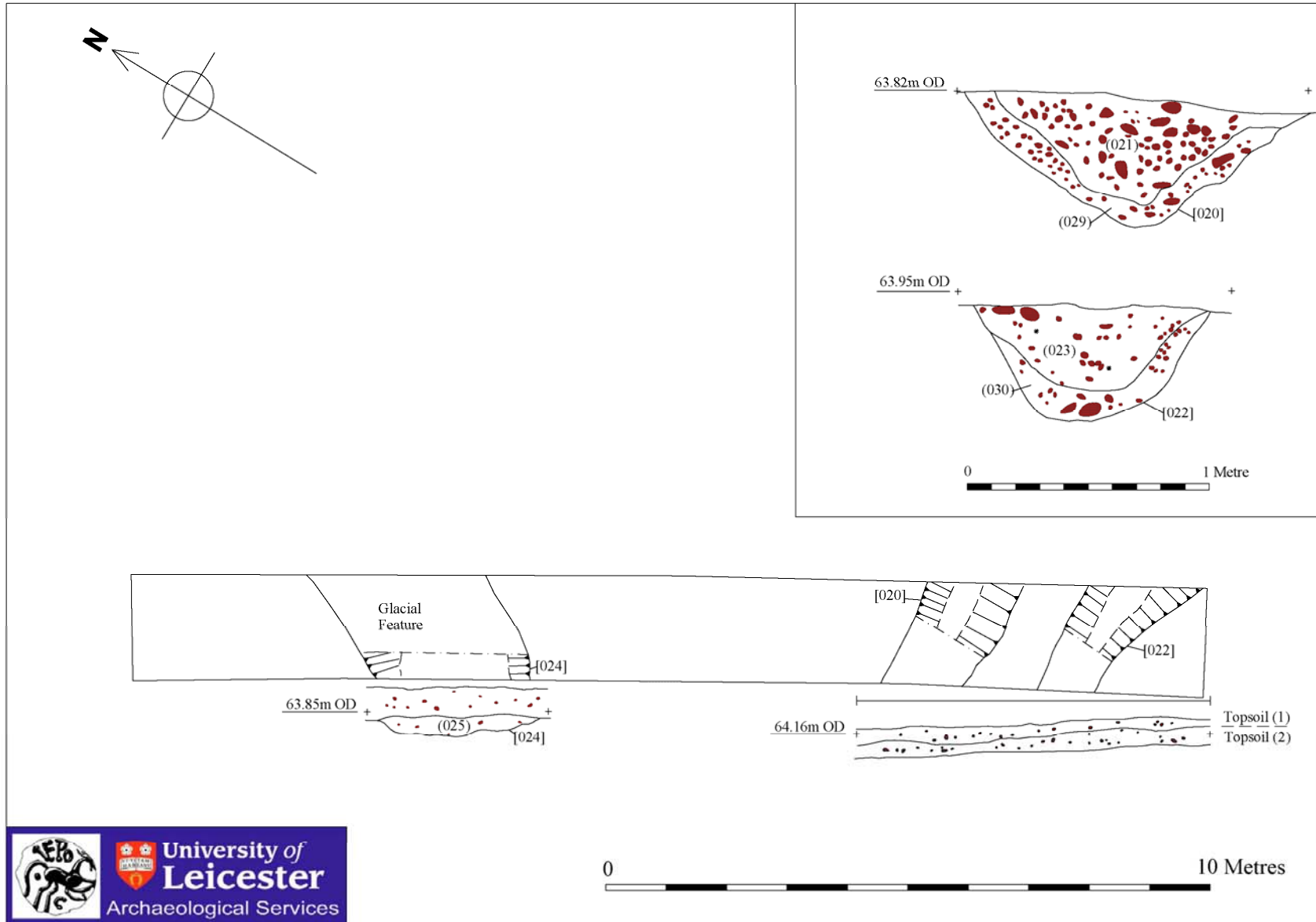


Figure 13: Plan of Trench 4



Figure 14: Concentric ring ditches [020] and [022] looking south-west (1m scale)

7. Discussion

The archaeological evaluation has revealed evidence of prehistoric activity within the targeted areas (Figure 15 and Figure 16).

Trench 1 located a pair of north-south aligned linear ditches that corresponded with the two features anticipated by the aerial photographs. In addition to this, the trench also located a large shallow pit located equidistantly between the two ditches. Trench 2 confirmed the location of a shallow ring ditch identified from the aerial photographs. Approximately 15% of the internal area of the ring ditch was exposed within its northern region, based on a projected diameter of *c.* 1.5m. A small but deep pit was excavated within the ring ditch that contained a small quantity of cremated bone at its base. The backfill of the pit was almost totally natural sand and gravel, perhaps suggesting the feature was only open a short period of time. A further pit was excavated directly north of the ring ditch. The fill of this feature was notably darker and contained a large concentration of fire-cracked pebbles. A ditch was also excavated to the west of the ring ditch that had also been identified in the aerial photographs. This feature was parallel with the ditches recorded in Trench 1 and was also recorded in the western extension of Trench 3. A smaller ring ditch, *c.* 1.1m in diameter was located within the centre of Trench 3 that closely matched the geophysical anomaly although no evidence for a break in the ditch at its northern end was recorded. Approximately 30% of the internal area of the ring ditch was exposed within the trench including its central area. Nine potential archaeological features were recorded within the internal area that included small pit/post-hole type features, a large gravel spread/unfilled feature and at least one, possibly two central cremation burials. Trench 4 confirmed the location of the clear concentric ring ditches identified on the aerial photography, and further demonstrated that the ditches were notably different with contrasting profiles and fills. It is tentatively suggested that the

differences in the ditches indicates that they were not immediately contemporary with one another. Despite the suggestion in the topography of a potential 'mound' earthwork relating to these ditches no buried layers were recorded. Only 1% of the internal area was exposed within the trench, based on the projected diameter of this feature at *c.*25m.

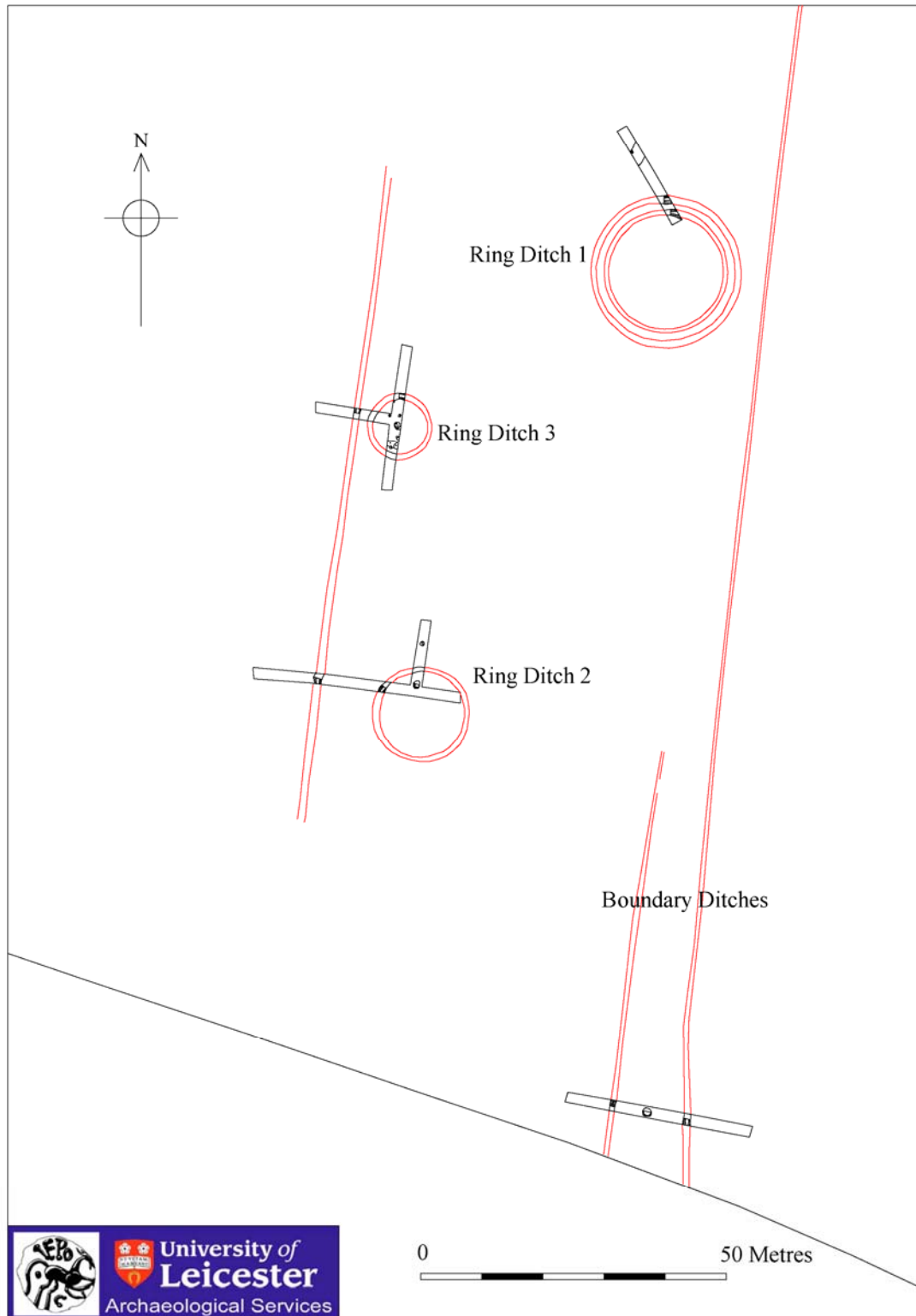


Figure 15: Projected plan of archaeological features encountered on the basis of aerial photography and geophysical survey

Ring ditches and round barrows are the most abundant form of later Neolithic-earlier Bronze Age monument, numbering over 800 in the East Midlands (Clay 2006, 80). Many of these features form parts of cemetery groups and monument complexes and the results from this evaluation would suggest that the archaeological deposits at Scropton fall into one of these categories. Unfortunately not enough dating evidence was obtained from the features to provide a clear chronology for the mortuary activity. However some association of the features can be suggested from their spatial arrangement. Ring Ditch 3 is offset from Ring Ditch 1 and 2 (Figure 15) but is located equidistantly between them, at a distance of *c.*33m and this could indicate that the feature is later in the sequence of mortuary activity. This theory is also supported in the fact that the ring ditch is also much smaller than the other two, perhaps suggesting it is a mortuary enclosure surrounding cremation burials which is consistent with the evidence recorded within the ring ditch. This burial practice is more indicative of Middle Bronze Age ceremonial activity.

The topographic setting of the ring ditches gives some explanation as to their locations on the site. It was clear that topographic changes existed on the site and it was recorded that Ring Ditches 1 and 3 were both located on the same, now slight, natural ridge. The contour survey (Figure 16) gives even clearer evidence for the location of the monuments. All three ring ditches sit within a spur of higher ground that drops to the south and east towards the Foston and Dale Brooks and into the Rive Dove floodplain. Within this, each ring ditch is located on a discrete area of slightly higher ground. This would have made an ideal location for the placing of ancestral markers, probably close to their territorial boundary before the land slopes into the floodplain.

The linear ditches are likely to be evidence of later activity, perhaps relating to Iron Age land divisions. The pair of ditches found in Trench 2 are possibly continuous across the whole site. There is some converging/crossing of these features close to the eastern side of Ring Ditch 1 and it is probable that the monument had some influence over the positioning of these ditches. It is suggested that the ditches represent a territorial boundary that incorporates the earlier funerary monuments within the landscape.

The evidence from the evaluation would suggest the site has been subject to considerable horizontal truncation as a result of ploughing. The ditches were generally not more than 300mm deep with the exception of the inner and outer ditches of Ring Ditch 1 that survived to 500mm. However even these ditches, on the basis of their strong cropmark would have been expected to have been considerably deeper than this, suggesting the archaeological preservation has deteriorated considerably since their production. This is supported by the sharpness of the top break of slope of many of the features, the considerable gravel inclusions within the topsoil and the frequent plough scarring of the natural interface indicating annual truncation of the buried archaeology. However Trench 3 and 4 has shown that there is still some survival of smaller features, providing potential for clearer understanding of the archaeology present on the site.

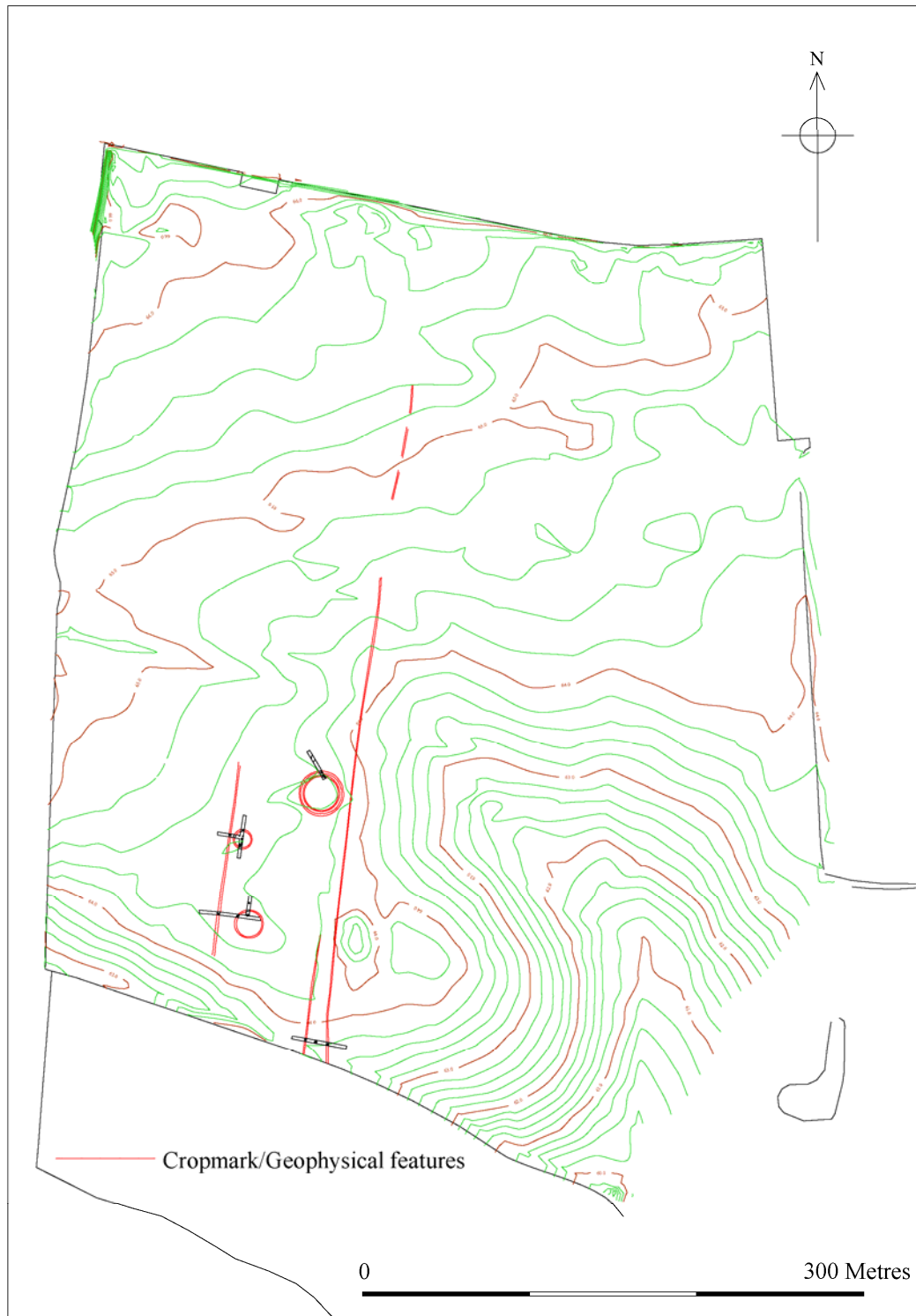


Figure 16: Plan of projected archaeology incorporated into the contour survey supplied by the client

The evaluation has clearly proved that the targeted cropmarks from the aerial photographs taken by James Pickering are archaeological in origin. However further cartographic analysis does indicate that some of the other cropmarks recorded in the Derbyshire HER may be the result of more recent activity on the site. It has been noted that there is inaccuracy in the sketching of these cropmarks, probably due to the

lack of fixed points in the original photographs. The First Edition Ordnance Survey map (1886) shows pathways associated with the ground of Foston Hall that match closely with cropmarks identified in the northwest corner of the site (Figure 17, A). Also the map shows the remnants of a small paddock directly adjacent to Maidensley Farm that is represented by a line of trees that could have given rise to the cropmarks identified in this area (Figure 17, B). A clearly negative earthwork was observed on site 100m east of Ring Ditch 2 that can be seen on the contour survey. This matches up with cropmark (C) and is consistent with small gravel extraction pits known to be located in the vicinity.



Figure 17 Detail of 1886 OS map of Foston & Scropton, incorporating the cropmark information from Derbyshire County Council. Scale 1:2500

8. Archive

The site archive will be held by Derby City Museum and Art Gallery under the accession number DBYMU 2008-355.. The content of the archive consists of:

- 1 Unbound A4 copy of this report
- 2 A4 Context summary sheets
- 38 A5 Context sheets
- 1 A4 Drawing record sheet
- 4 A4 Trench recording sheets
- 2 A4 Photo record sheets
- 3 Black and white contact print
- 82 Black and white picture negatives
- 3 A4 Colour digital contact prints
- 1 CD of 24 digital photos

A record of the project will be submitted to the Oasis project under the code universi1-56670. Oasis is an online index to archaeological grey literature reports.

A summary of the work will be published in the *Derbyshire Archaeological Journal* in due course.

9. Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was carried out by the author, assisted by Jamie Patrick. Dr. Patrick Clay and Matthew Beamish managed the project, all of ULAS. Lynden Cooper, also of ULAS identified the unstratified flint. I would like to thank the client, James Leavesley for organising the machinery for the evaluation.

10. Sources

A number of aerial photographs were used in the formulation of this evaluation. These were all taken by Mr Jim Pickering on 19/07/1979 and 25/05/1979 and their references are lodged on the National Monuments Record as follows:

Photo Ref JAP1782 SK1831/4	19/07/1979
Photo Ref JAP1782 SK1831/5	19/07/1979
Photo Ref JAP1782 SK1831/6	25/07/1979
Photo Ref JAP1782 SK1831/7	19/07/1979

11. Bibliography

Brandon, A., 1996. 'Geology of the Lower Derwent valley: 1:10000 sheets SK33SE, 43SW and 43SE', *British Geological Survey Technical Report WA/96/07*, 1-74.

Clay, P., 2006 'The Neolithic to Middle Bronze Age' In N.J. Cooper (ed.) *The Archaeology of the East Midlands: An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda*, 69-88.

Hunt, L., 2008. *An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment for land adjacent to Foston Hall, Foston and Scropton, Derbyshire (SK 183 315)*. ULAS Report No. 2008-089 (unpublished grey literature)

Myers, A.M, 2006. 'An Archaeological Resource Assessment of the Palaeolithic in Derbyshire' In *The East Midlands Archaeological Research Framework Project*. (online resource):

<http://www.le.ac.uk/ar/research/projects/eastmidsw/pdfs/02derpal.pdf>

Willis, S., 2006. 'The Later Bronze Age and Iron Age' In N.J. Cooper (ed.) *The Archaeology of the East Midlands: An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda*, 89-136.

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13.03.2008

Appendix 1 The Bronze Age Pottery

Nicholas J. Cooper

An assemblage of 14 sherds (111g) of hand made prehistoric pottery of Bronze Age date was retrieved from Trenches 2, 3 and 4 of the evaluation. Fabric analysis has been undertaken using low power microscopy (x20) with reference to the Prehistoric Pottery Fabric Series for Leicestershire and surrounding area and refined during work at nearby Willington, Derbyshire (Marsden *et al.* forthcoming 2009). The material has been quantified by sherd count and weight and is catalogued by context below.

Trench	Context	Cut	Fabric	Sherds	Weight	Comment
2	19	18	Qu	1	48	Flat base diameter 80mm
2	19	18	Qu	1	26	Lower body sherd with coil join
2	19	18	Qu	4	14	One with carination
4	21	20	Qu	6	17	
3	36	35	Qu	1	5	
4	23	22	FineQu	1	1	
Total				14	111	

With the exception of a single sherd from [22] in a fine sandy micaceous fabric, all of the material is made in one of the characteristic fabrics of the area during the Neolithic and Bronze Age containing large angular fragments, up to 7mm, of crushed white pebble quartz (Fabric Qu 1/2). None of the material is decorated and the only clue to vessel form is provided by the flat jar base, the body sherd from the lower part of the wall of a jar which has broken along a ring coil join, displaying the characteristic ‘false rim’, and a small carinated sherd.

The pottery from Trench 2 derives from a small sub-circular feature lying outside ring ditch 1 [18]. The sherds found in Trench 3 derive from the fill of [35], a feature within ring ditch 2. The single small sherd in the fine micaceous fabric derived from the fill of the inner ring [22] of the double ditch detected in Trench 4.

Marsden, P., Tinsley, A. and Woodward, A. (Forthcoming) (2009) ‘The Neolithic and Bronze Age Pottery’ in M. Beamish ‘Excavations at Willington, Derbyshire’ *Derbyshire Archaeological Journal*

Cremated Human Bone

Five fragments of calcined bone including two cranial fragments and a tooth came from fill (32) of cut (31), whilst a single fragment possibly from a long bone came from fill (34) of cut (33), both contexts forming the pit at the centre of Ring Ditch 2.

Charcoal *Graham Morgan*

Fragments of oak charcoal came from (32), the fill of the cremation pit at the centre of Ring Ditch 2 and from (23) the inner ditch of the double ring ditch 1. Both were measured 30mm in diameter with six rings present and were probably 12 yrs old.

Appendix 2 Design Specification

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Design Specification for archaeological evaluation

Uttoxeter Road, Scropton, South Derbyshire

(NGR SK 183 315)

for J T Leavesley and Co.

Summary

A programme of archaeological trial trenching has been requested by the Development Control Archaeologist for South Derbyshire District Council, as part of pre-planning investigations at Uttoxeter Road, Scropton, Derby. This specification provides details of the aims and methodologies for an initial phase of trial trenching aimed specifically to confirm the presence of archaeological deposits indicated by cropmark and geophysical survey evidence.

1. Definition and scope of the specification

1.1 This specification is for archaeological evaluation by trial trenching in advance of a proposed pig farm and biogas unit at Uttoxeter Road, Scropton, Derbyshire (NGR SK 183 315).

1.2 It addresses the recommendations of the Development Control Archaeologist for South Derbyshire District Council following Planning Policy Guidelines 16 (PPG16, Archaeology and Planning), para.30.

1.3 All archaeological work will adhere to the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations*.

2. Background

2.1 The proposed works involve the construction of new pig units and Biogas Plant on the site. The site lies at the northern periphery of the parish of Scropton, on the southern side of the A50 Uttoxeter Road, adjacent to the 18th century Foston Hall and within an area where aerial photographs have shown many undated archaeological features, including ring ditches and linear cropmarks (HER refs **20106, 20107, 26607**). A Palaeolithic handaxe has also been discovered at the adjacent Maidensley Farm (**20102**).

The site is currently a large arable field with an area of rough ground on the northern edge.

2.2 An archaeological desk based assessment (Hunt 2008) and geophysical survey (Butler 2008) have been undertaken. These indicated that there is potential for archaeological deposits to be present within the proposed development area.

3. Archaeological Objectives

3.1 The main objective of the evaluation will be:

- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits. In particular these will target cropmark evidence which was not clearly located from the geophysical survey.
- To establish the nature, date, depth, significance and state of preservation of any archaeological deposits located.
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

4. General Methodology

4.1 All work will follow the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct* and adhere to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*.

4.2 Staffing, recording systems, Health and Safety provisions and insurance details are provided.

4.3 Internal monitoring procedures will be undertaken including visits to the sites from the project manager. These will ensure that project targets are being met and professional standards are being maintained. Provision will be made for external monitoring meetings with representatives of the Client, South Derbyshire District Council and the Development Control Archaeologist. The strategy will be reviewed in the light of the quality of the archaeological resource as revealed at different stages of the fieldwork.

4.4 Trial Trenching:

4.4.1 An initial sample of *c.* 240 sq metres is proposed, the equivalent of five 30m by 1.6m trenches. Three of the trenches are to be located to test cropmarks (Figure 18), and the remaining two to be located contingent to the results of the first three trenches.

4.4.2 The topsoil will be removed in spits by machine with a toothless ditching bucket (or similar) under full supervision, until archaeological deposits or undisturbed substrata are encountered. The location of the trenches will be surveyed using an Electronic Distance Measurer (EDM) linked to a Psion hand held computer.

4.4.3 Any archaeological deposits located will be hand cleaned and planned as appropriate to address the aims and objectives of the evaluation. Samples of any archaeological deposits located will be hand excavated. Measured drawings of all archaeological features will be prepared at a scale of 1:20 and tied into an overall site plan of 1:100. All plans will be tied into the National Grid using an Electronic Distance Measurer (EDM).

4.4.4 Particular attention will be paid to the potential for buried palaeosols in consultation with ULAS's environmental officer. Deposits which may provide radiocarbon dating evidence will be sampled.

4.4.5 All excavated sections will be recorded and drawn at an appropriate scale, levelled and tied into the Ordnance Survey datum. Spot heights will be taken as appropriate.

4.4.6 Any human remains encountered will only be removed under a Ministry of Justice Licence and in compliance with relevant environmental health regulations. The clients, Derbyshire County Council and the coroner will be informed immediately on their discovery.

4.4.7 All finds recovered from site will be described and quantified in the field. Retained finds will be cleaned, marked, catalogued and packed in materials, as appropriate for long term storage. Analysis of finds will be undertaken as necessary by suitably qualified specialists.

4.5 Mitigation Strategy:

4.5.1 Depending on the results of the trial trenching and following consultation with the Derby City Council Development Control Archaeologist and the Client, a mitigation strategy may need to be formulated.

5. Recording Systems

5.1 Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto prepared pro-forma recording sheets.

5.2 A site location plan based on a current Ordnance Survey map at an appropriate scale (reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO) will be prepared. This will be supplemented by detailed plans of the location of the areas investigated.

5.3 A record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits encountered will be made on drawing film, related to the OS grid and at an appropriate scale. Elevations and sections of individual layers of features should be drawn where possible. The OD height of all principal strata and features will be calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans.

5.4 An adequate photographic record of the investigations will be prepared. This will include black and white prints and colour digital images illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. The photographic record will also include 'working shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation undertaken.

5.5 This record will be compiled and fully checked during the course of the excavation.

5.6 All site records and finds will be kept securely.

6. Report and Archive

6.1 Upon completion of the fieldwork and analysis of the records and materials, a full report will be produced following IfA guidelines and submitted to the Local Planning Authority, DCC curatorial staff and the SMR.

6.2 The report should include as a minimum

- Non-technical summary
- Introductory statement
- Aims and purpose of the project
- Methodology
- An objective summary statement of the results
- Conclusion, including a confidence statement.
- Supporting illustrations at appropriate scales including photographs of general site shots and key features (the latter reproduced at a minimum size of 5" by 4")
- Supporting data – tabulated or in appendices including as a minimum a basic quantification of all artefacts, ecofacts and structural data.
- Index to archive and detail of archive location
- References
- A copy of the summary information form submitted to OASIS (Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigationS)

6.3 The copyright of all original finished documents shall remain vested in ULAS and ULAS will be entitled as of right to publish any material in any form produced as a result of its investigations.

6.4 Arrangements should be made from the outset of the project for a full copy of the archive as defined in the 'Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage' (UKIC 1990), and Standards in the Museum care of archaeological collections (MGC 1992) and 'Guidelines for the preparation of site archives and assessments for all finds (other than fired clay objects) (RFG/FRG 1993) to be deposited in the Derby City Museum. This archive will include all written, disk-based, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken.

7. Timetable and staffing

7.1 The trial trenching will be undertaken within a two week period, commencing at an agreed time.

8. Health and Safety

8.1 ULAS is covered by and adheres to the University of Leicester Statement of Safety Policy and ULAS Safety manual (2007), with appropriate risks assessments for all archaeological work. A draft Health and Safety statement for this project is in the Appendix II. The relevant Health and Safety Executive guidelines will be adhered to as appropriate. All ULAS staff will follow the site contractors' Health and Safety policy.

9. Insurance

9.1 All ULAS work is covered by the University of Leicester's Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance. The Public Liability Insurance is with St Pauls Travellers Policy No. UCPOP3651237 while the Professional Indemnity Insurance is with Lloyds Underwriters (50%) and Brit Insurances (50%) Policy No. FUNK3605.

10. Bibliography

Butler, A., 2008, *Archaeological Geophysical Survey on Land Adjacent to Foston Hall, Foston and Scropton, Derbyshire*. Northamptonshire Archaeology Report 08/191.

Hunt, L., 2008 *An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment for land at adjacent to Foston Hall, Foston and Scropton, Derbyshire (SK 183 315)* ULAS Report 2008-089

MAP 2, 1991, *The Management of Archaeological Projects* 2nd edition English Heritage

MGC 1992, *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission)

RFG/FRG 1993, *Guidelines for the preparation of site archives* (Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700)

SMA 1993, *Selection, retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland* (Society of Museum Archaeologists)

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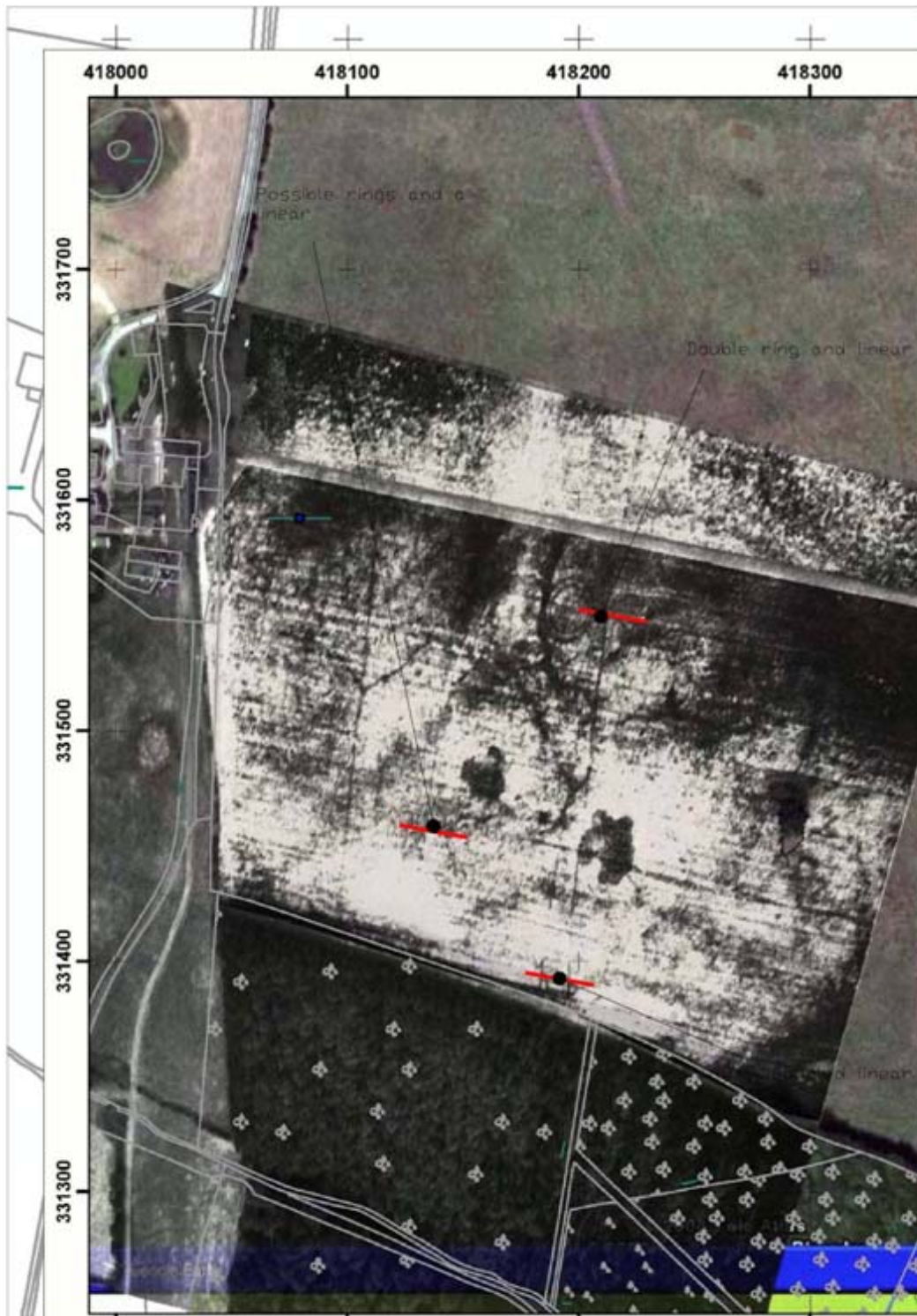


Figure 18 Part rectified oblique aerial photograph (JAP1782-05) with suggestions for the location of three of the five trenches to be excavated. The remaining two trenches to be located contingent to the results of the first three.

APPENDIX – Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement

1. Nature of the work

1.1 This statement is for trial trenching in advance of proposed development of land at Uttoxeter Road, Scropton, Derbyshire. It will be revised following the commencement of operations when the extent of risks can be assessed in full.

1.2 The work will involve machine dug trial trenching during daylight hours and recording of any underlying archaeological deposits revealed. Overall depth is likely to be c. 0.5m -1.2m This will involve the examination of the exposed surface with hand tools (shovels, trowels etc) and excavation of archaeological features. All work will adhere to the University of Leicester Health and Safety Policy and follow the ULAS Safety manual (2007), with appropriate risks assessments for all archaeological work, together with the following relevant Health and Safety guidelines, including the following.

HSE Construction Information Sheet CS8 Safety in excavations.

HSE Industry Advisory leaflet IND (G)143 (L): Getting to grips with manual handling.

HSE Industry Advisory leaflet IND (G)145 (L): Watch Your back.

CIRIA R97 Trenching practice.

CIRIA TN95 Proprietary Trench Support Systems.

HSE Guidance Note HS(G) 47 Avoiding danger to underground services. HSE Guidance Note GS7 Accidents to children on construction sites

1.3 The Health and Safety policy on site will be reassessed during the evaluation .All work will adhere to the company's health and safety policy.

2 Risks Assessment

2.1 Working within an excavation.

Precautions. No work will be undertaken beneath section faces deeper than 1.2m. Loose spoil heaps will not be walked on. Protective footwear will be worn at all times. A member of staff qualified in First Aid will be present at all times. First aid kit, vehicle and mobile phone to be kept on site in case of emergency.

2.2 Working with plant.

Precautions. Hard hats, protective footwear and hazard jackets will be worn at all times. No examination of the area of stripping will take place until machines have vacated area. Observation of machines will be maintained during hand excavation.

2.3 Working within areas close to services

Precautions.

No known services are in the areas of trenching. A CAT scan of areas to be investigated will be undertaken to locate any unmarked buried cables.

2.4 Working within areas prone to waterlogging.

Protective clothing will be worn at all times and precautions taken to prevent contact with stagnant water which may carry Weils disease or similar.

2.5 Working with chemicals.

If chemicals are used to conserve or help lift archaeological material these will only be used by qualified personnel with protective clothing (i.e a trained conservator) and will be removed from site immediately after use.

2.6 Other risks

Precautions. If there is any suspicion of unforeseen hazards being encountered e.g. chemical contaminants, unexploded bombs, hazardous gases work will cease immediately. The client and relevant public authorities will be informed immediately.

2.6 No other constraints are recognised over the nature of the soil, water, type of excavation, proximity of structures, sources of vibration and contamination.

05.12.2008