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Archaeological Services

An Archaeological Evaluation at land south of Borderville Farm, Stamford, Lincolnshire NGR: TF 033 085

James Harvey

ULAS Report No 2009-088.

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For: Burghley House Preservation Trust

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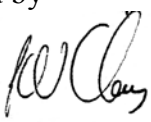
Signed:  **Date**: …09-07-2009

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ULAS Report Number 2009-088

BFST09

CONTENTS

FIGURES

PLATES

An Archaeological Evaluation at land south of Borderville Farm, Stamford (TF 033 085)

James Harvey

Summary

An archaeological field evaluation by trial trenching was undertaken at land south of Borderville Farm, Stamford, Lincolnshire (TF 033 085) by the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) between the 1st and 15th June 2009 for Burghley House Preservation Trust. This work followed on from previous desk-based assessment and geophysical survey that had highlighted the potential for archaeological features to be present within the proposed application area for the relocation of Stamford AFC. The evaluation forms part of an archaeological impact assessment of the proposed development. Fourteen trenches were positioned to target possible features previously identified by the geophysical survey and three trenches were located within apparently blank areas.

Positive results were obtained from thirteen of the targeted trenches mostly confirming the presence of archaeological features previously suggested by the geophysical anomalies. Several features were also identified which had not been detected by the geophysical survey including two of the trenches in the blank areas. Primarily features identified comprised pits and ditches, some of which contained pottery dating to the Late Iron Age and early Roman periods. An articulated human burial was also encountered in the south-east corner of the site that may be earlier in date and may possibly be associated with a pit alignment.

The results suggest an elongated enclosure settlement with the main focus of activity extending westwards beyond the extent of the application area. The excavated sections, especially in the western part of the site have yielded domestic rubbish indicative of activities relating to a farmstead settlement. The site is clearly multi-phased, dating from the Late Iron Age but it remains unclear in what form the settlement continues into the early Roman period.

The records with be deposited with The Collection: Arts and Archaeology in Lincolnshire under the site code BFST09 and museum accession number LCNCC : 2009.85.

1. Introduction

A pre-planning enquiry into the archaeological potential of land south of Borderville Farm, Stamford, Lincolnshire has been initiated by Burghley House Preservation Trust in advance of an application for the proposed relocation of Stamford AFC.

This report presents the results of a programme of archaeological trial trenching, which took place between the 1st and 15th June 2009. It follows an Archaeological Desk-based Assessment compiled by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (Hunt 2008) and a geophysical survey by Northampton Archaeology (Walford 2009) 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 Stamford AFC, Stamford, Lincolnshire (NGR TF 033 085) (Score 2009, hereinafter 'Specification'; Appendix 3). The trial trenching was undertaken to target potential features identified within aerial photography and the geophysical survey.

2. Site Description, Topography and Geology

The site lies on the north-eastern edge of Stamford in the South Kesteven district of Lincolnshire and is located along the eastern side of Ryhall Road, close to the border with Rutland (Figure 1; Figure 2). It comprises a rectangular area, within a larger field and is aligned west-south-west to east-north-east and comprises 4.5ha. The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 157 (Stamford) showed that the underlying geology was likely to be Upper Lincolnshire Limestone, possibly with Rutland Formation mudstone and Blisworth Limestone in the south-western part of the site. The site lies at a height of *c*.40m OD at the western side of the site, falling to 30m in the east and is currently in use as an arable field.

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

Historical Background

The name 'Stamford' is derived from the early names for the town *Steanford* (10th century) or *Stanford* (Williams and Martin 1992). The name is from the Old English for 'stone ford' or 'stony ford' (Mills 2003).

Documentary evidence suggests that there has been a settlement in Stamford since at least the end of the 9th century A.D. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle states that in 918 Edward the Elder commanded a new borough to be built on the south side of the river and mentions a Danish burh north of the river (Smith 1992).

In the late 10th century Stamford became one of the five boroughs of the Danelaw and was one of the first towns to produce glazed wheel-thrown pottery after in the medieval period. In the early 11th century the Danelaw collapsed and Stamford lost its territory to Lincoln under the new shire system. The Domesday Book records Stamford as a royal borough, most of which was north of the river.

The town's excellent communication routes via the Great North Road and via the River Welland to the North Sea ensured its success in trade and by the 13th century Stamford

was one of the ten largest towns in England (Smith 1992). It had a castle, 14 churches, two monasteries and four friaries. Many of the fine stone buildings survive from this period.

The site itself lies well beyond the fringes of the town's core in an area known as the North Fields. The farm to the north-west of the site has retained this name and the modern estate to the south of the site is also named after this area.

The parish was enclosed in 1875; much later than most midland towns. The reason for this is attributed to the influence of the Cecil family and the fact that of 1,700 acres, some 1,300 were arable. The open fields lay to the north of the town in a broad semicircle encompassing four large areas.

Cartographic research has shown that the assessment area has changed little throughout the 20th century. However, the surrounding area has changed significantly due to gradual urbanisation, spreading north from the central core of Stamford.

Archaeological Background

The Historic Environment Record (HER) for Lincolnshire and Leicestershire and Rutland records that there is one site of archaeological interest within the assessment area itself. This is an area of undated crop-marks comprising enclosures, a track-way and a boundary (Lincs HER Number: **MLI88501**, Figure 2).

There are also a number of sites of interest in the vicinity of the site. Around 500m to the north-west of the site, within the parish of Ryhall, Rutland is a pit alignment identified by aerial photographs of cropmarks. This has been tentatively dated to the Iron Age period (Leics HER No. **MLE5672**; Figure 2). Just to the north-west of these features is a series of cropmarks, which have been identified as belonging to a Roman villa (**MLE5670**, Figure 2). The features include building foundations and an enclosure. Roman pottery has been found during ploughing.

Around 500m to the south-west of the assessment area is the site of an undated pit alignment, now occupied by the Northfields housing estate (**MLI34256**). On the eastern side of the River Gwash, *c.*1km to the south-east of the site a number of ditches containing Romano-British material (MLI90238) were uncovered during trial trenching by Archaeological Project Services in 2007.

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 (Walford 2009, Figure 3).

The survey revealed a complex of archaeological remains. Several ditches radiate out from the western edge of the survey area and it is suggested that these ditches are likely to represent land divisions associated with an enclosure visible as a cropmark to the west. The right-angled feature to the west of the surveyed area may well represent the eastern side of the cropmark enclosure. It is suggested that these features are likely to be Iron Age or Romano-British in origin.

There were also some weaker linear anomalies in the data that possibly represent further ditches but are too discontinuous or indistinct to interpret with confidence (Walford 2009, 3). At the eastern end of the survey area a pit alignment, orientated north-east to south-west was recorded that is likely to date to the late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age.

In the southern survey area a series of weak parallel linear anomalies were recorded that are likely to be the remains of agricultural furrows relating to the medieval or early post medieval cultivation. A strong positive linear anomaly with a wide negative halo was recorded along the southern boundary of the field maps a water main known to run along this line.

4. Aims and Objectives

The main aims of the evaluation were:

- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits. In particular these would target the anomalies highlighted by the geophysical survey.
- To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed relocation of Stamford AFC.
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

Within the stated project objectives, the principal aim of the evaluation was 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 football stadium complex.

5. Methodology

The *Specification* stated that a 2% sample of the site was to be excavated, the equivalent of approximately sixteen 25m x 2m trenches. The majority of the trenches were located to test some of the anomalies highlighted by the geophysical survey although a number of trenches were located in 'archaeologically blank' areas as well in order to test their potential.

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. Archaeological remains were recorded and sample excavation was 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.

Due to health and safety considerations several archaeological features were not fully excavated. In a few instances a machine slot was later excavated through the features to determine their depth.

All the work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct* (2006) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* (2001).

6. Results *(See Appendix 2 for trench summaries)*

Note: Archaeological contexts as a cut are indicated by: [x], those that are fills are indicated by: (x)

A total of seventeen trenches was excavated within the application area. These trenches were generally located according to the *Specification* although their lengths varied slightly. An additional trench was excavated in order to help clarify results relating to the possible pit alignment suggested in the geophysical survey (Figure 4).

The overlying topsoil (01) consisted of a dark greyish-brown clayey loam that contained between 10-30% inclusions of limestone fragments across the site. This varied in depth between 0.16 - 0.33m. In some places (generally to the north and west) this overlay a light to mid brown silty clay subsoil (02) that contained between 5-50% limestone fragments. This varied in thickness up to 0.8m and overlaid the natural substratum that generally comprised solid Lincolnshire Limestone although there were some variations across the site, especially to the south (see Appendix 2 for trench descriptions).

Trench 1 Figure 5 and Figure 6; Plate 2

Trench 1 was located in an area where no geophysical survey anomalies were identified. However a narrow linear feature [06] was located and excavated towards the centre of the trench (Figure 1, Plate 1). The feature was aligned north-west to south-east and spanned the width of the trench, measuring 0.48m wide and 0.17m deep. Its sides and base were concave and it was filled with a mid orangey-brown silty sand deposit (05) containing occasional fragments of limestone.

Trench 2 Figure 5 and Figure 7; Plate 1 and Plate 24

Trench 2 was positioned to locate a pit alignment identified from the geophysical survey crossing the south-east corner of the site on a north-east to south-west alignment. The trench was widened on both sides at the suggested location of the pit alignment in order to clearly identify the feature. However the trench produced different results to what had been anticipated (Figure 7). Feature [04] was an elongated pit located and excavated close to the suggested pit alignment (Plate 1). It measured 2.87m in length, 1.3m in width and had a depth of 0.45m. The south-eastern side of the feature was fairly straight with an incline of *c*.40º. The north-west side broke steeply from the top with an incline of *c*.70º breaking again mid-way down to 45º. The base of the feature was irregular and undulating, becoming deeper to the north-west, perhaps suggesting two separate features. It was filled with a mid-reddish-brown silty sand (03) containing sub-rounded stones and limestone fragments. The south-eastern end was truncated by a linear cut measuring 0.7m wide, aligned on a north-east to south-west orientation that matched the suggested alignment of the geophysical anomaly. The ditch had vertical sides, backfilled with limestone rubble and clearly represents a modern service trench or drain. Despite widening the trench no further pits were observed on the alignment suggested by the geophysical survey. However two further pits were partially exposed in the sides of the trench to the north-west and the south-west. Pit [65] measured 1.5m in length, over 0.6m in width

and was at least 0.35m deep. However the feature was only partially excavated as a human burial (SK 66) was encountered (Plate 24). The cut seemed to be partially lined with flat limestone fragments around the top of the pit. Fragments of skull and jaw were uncovered during excavation and further investigation revealed articulated bone extending underneath the side of the trench (see Appendix 5 for full skeletal details). The feature had been backfilled with a mid orangey-brown sandy silt deposit (64) containing limestone fragments and occasional charcoal flecks. The other partially exposed feature was not excavated. The alignment of these two features together does closely parallel the interpreted pit alignment from the geophysical survey but are located some 5m west of its suggested location.

Trench 3 Figure 9 and Figure 10; Plate 3, Plate 4 and Plate 26

Trench 3 was positioned to locate a strong positive linear feature identified by the geophysical survey on the edge of the higher ground immediately before a sharp drop northwards down the slope of the dry valley that runs east to west across the field. A ditch [07] was recorded at the southern end of the trench aligned north-east to south-west (Figure 10), measuring 4m in width and excavated to a depth of 1.3m. The north side of the feature had a steep incline of *c*.50º breaking to *c*.20º and then broke again to a steep *c*.60º incline (Plate 3). The southern side was straighter with an incline of *c*.50º. The base was not reached during hand excavation due to health and safety considerations. Two fills were observed within the ditch. The lower fill (08) comprised a deposit made up largely of limestone fragments (*c*.70%) within a matrix of mid greyish-brown clayey silt. This measured 3.4m wide and at least 0.7m thick. This deposit was overlain by a mid-greyish-brown clayey silt with fragments of limestone up to 0.7m deep. At the request of the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist a machine slot was excavated to reach the base of the ditch that was recorded at 1.62m deep (Plate 26). The section could not be cleaned but the base was observed to be slightly concave.

The trench also targeted an area of pits north of the linear feature (Figure 10). A large feature [10] corresponding with this anomaly was recorded at the northern end of the trench. It measured 7m wide, over 1m deep and spanned the width of the trench. Given the size of the feature its shape was hard to identify, however an ovoid rather than a linear feature seems most likely. A small slot was excavated on the southern side of the feature (Plate 4). Here the sides of the feature were almost vertical and it was excavated to 1m depth. It was filled by a single deposit (11) consisting mainly of limestone fragments (*c*.80%) in a matrix of light greyish-brown silty clay. The deposit became noticeably looser away from the side of the excavated slot. The fragments of stone were generally quite small and may be indicative of backfill material from a large quarry pit.

Trench 4 Figure 5 and Figure 8; Plate 7 and Plate 8

Trench 4 was located in an area where no geophysical survey anomalies were identified. However three features were located within this trench. A small sub-circular feature [19] was recorded towards the centre of the trench (Figure 8). It measured 0.5m x 0.75m and was 0.08m deep. It had no clearly discernable sides but its base was reasonably flat. The fill comprised a mid orangey-brown silty clay

deposit (18). A number of similar, although less regular features were observed within the trench and these probably represent natural silting of undulations on the surface of the limestone substrata.

Feature [21] was a ditch terminal recorded towards the south-west of the trench (Figure 8). The exposed length measured 3.5m, between 0.75-1.0m in width and was 0.42m deep. It was orientated north-east to south-west, terminating at the north-east end. The feature was slightly curvilinear and its sides were generally steep and straight with an incline of *c*.50º although slightly irregular in places and a fairly flat base sloping down from the terminal (Plate 7). It was filled with a mid-greyish-brown clayey silt deposit (20) that contained occasional large stones. A small quantity of Late Iron Age pottery was recovered from this deposit. Feature [23] represented a second possible ditch terminal, partially exposed at the south-west end of the trench (Figure 8). The exposed length measured 1.8m, its width was over 1.3m and it was a maximum of 0.55m deep. Excavation of the terminal revealed steep sloping sides with an incline of *c*.45-60º, filled with a mid-greyish-brown clayey silt (22) that contained occasional sub-angular stones and fragments of limestone (Plate 8).

Trench 5 Figure 14 and Figure 15; Plate 15

Trench 5 was positioned in order to locate the continuation of the strong linear feature [07] recorded in Trench 3 as well as a weaker linear feature recorded by the geophysical survey. The large ditch was located at its anticipated point towards the centre of the trench (Figure 15). It was orientated north-east – south-west and was *c*.3m wide. This section of the ditch was not excavated. A further linear feature [44] was recorded towards the southern end of the trench on a north-west – south-east orientation, corresponding with the weak linear features highlighted by the geophysical survey. This ditch measured 2.2m wide and 0.13m deep with shallow, undulating sides and a slightly concave base (Plate 15). It was filled with a mid greyish-brown clayey silt deposit with sub-angular stones and limestone fragments. Feature [44] cut an irregular feature on its northern side that is likely to represent animal burrowing or a tree root complex.

Trench 6 Figure 14

Trench 6 was located in an area where the geophysical survey identified possible agricultural furrows. These were not clearly observed but a small stone-lined drain was recorded at the eastern end of the trench on a north-west to south-east alignment. The natural substratum had noticeably more clay within the limestone than the majority of the trenches to the north and east, perhaps suggesting the need for additional drainage within this area.

Trench 7 Figure 14 and Figure 16; Plate 21, Plate 22, Plate 23 and Plate 25

Trench 7 was positioned to locate the strong linear feature [07] already recorded in Trench 3 and 5 to the east, as well as the intersection between two linear features recorded by the geophysical survey. The weaker anomaly has tentatively been interpreted as the continuation of linear feature [44] in Trench 5. The continuation of

ditch [56] was recorded and excavated towards the southern end of the trench. Here the ditch was orientated north-east to south-west and measured 3.1m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.75m (the base was not reached). Its southern side was steep and straight with an incline of *c*.50º, the northern side had a shallower incline of *c*.40º (Plate 21). It was filled with predominantly limestone fragments (75%) in a matrix of mid-greyish-brown silty clay. A large rim sherd from a Late Iron Age scored ware jar was recovered from towards the top of the fill. This feature truncated an unmapped linear gully [58] on its northern side that terminated 2m to the north (Figure 16, Plate 22). This relationship was observed in plan rather than in the excavated section. The gully was orientated north - south and did not continue on the southern side of ditch [56] suggesting either that it was only a short feature (no longer than 5m) or that it was curvilinear, continuing beyond the trench before the southern extent of [57]. The gully measured a maximum of 0.8m wide and was 0.06m deep, deepening to 0.22m at the terminal. The western side was steep with an incline of *c.* 45º; the eastern side was shallower with an incline of *c*.30º. The base was reasonably flat although it deepened at the terminal, perhaps suggesting a post-setting at this end. It was filled with a light greyish-brown silty clay (59).

Immediately north of the terminus an intersection of two linear features, [60] and [62] was recorded correlating with anomalies indicated by the geophysical survey. Ditch [62] was orientated east to west and was 3.3m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.9m against its northern side (Figure 16). This side of the feature was steep with an incline of *c*.60º; the base was not reached within the excavated slot (Plate 25). The fill comprised a mid-orangey-brown clayey silt (63) with fragments of limestone (*c*.25%). Not enough of the intersection with linear feature [60] was exposed within the trench to examine the relationship between the two features but it was reasonably clear in plan that ditch [62] truncated [60]. Feature [60] measured 1.8m in length, and was over 1.2m wide and a maximum of 0.3m deep (Plate 23). Its exposed sides were shallow with an incline of *c*.35º with an irregular base. It was filled with a dark reddish brown clayey silt (61).

Trench 8 Figure 14 and Figure 17; Plate 16, Plate 17 and Plate 18

Trench 8 was positioned to locate the continuation of ditch [07]/[56] recorded in Trenches 3 5 and 7 as well as to locate a weak linear anomaly that had tentatively been interpreted as the continuation of linear feature [44] in Trench 5 and [60] in Trench 7 (Figure 14). The continuation of the ditch was recorded towards the southern end of the trench as anticipated. It was orientated east – west and measured 4.5m in width (Figure 17). No further investigation of this feature was undertaken. Immediately south of this ditch three previously unmapped features were also recorded. Feature [48] a possible gully terminus or elongated pit was partially exposed in the western side of the trench. It was orientated east – west, was 1.2m long, 0.9m wide and 0.19m deep (Plate 17). Its sides and base were concave and it was filled with a mid orangey-brown silt deposit (47). Immediately east of this feature a further possible pit was partially exposed in the eastern side of the trench. This feature was not excavated. Feature [50] was sub-circular in plan becoming linear towards the south where it continued beyond the trench. The exposed length measured 2.5m, it was 0.5m wide, expanding to 1.3m towards the terminus and 0.38m deep. The sides of the feature were steep and straight with an incline of *c*. 45º and it had a

concave base (Plate 18). The fill was a mid-greyish-brown clayey silt deposit (49) with small angular stones.

Feature [46] to the north of the trench corresponded with the weak anomaly identified on the geophysical survey. This ditch was oriented east - west and was 3.14m wide and 0.45m deep with a mid grey-brown clayey silt fill (45). This ditch truncated a large feature that had filled up with a waterborne silty clay deposit (Plate 16). The feature has been interpreted as natural and could possible represent the remains of an ancient spring. Spring lines occur along the top and base of the Lincolnshire Limestone (Griffiths *et al.* 2006)

Trench 9 Figure 14 and Figure 18; Plate 14

Trench 9 was positioned to locate a strong linear anomaly possibly part of an enclosure and also a weaker linear anomaly further east. The strong feature was recorded towards the south-west end of the trench (Figure 18). This ditch [39] was orientated north-west to south-east, had concave sides and was 3.6m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.8m (Plate 14). A lower fill (38) of mid-grey silty clay containing limestone fragments was recorded on the south-west side of the feature and contained a small quantity of Romano-British pottery dating between the mid to late 1st century AD. This deposit was overlain by a mid-greyish-brown silty clay (37) with limestone fragments (*c*.40%). This was 3.6m wide, at least 0.8m deep and contained a small quantity of slightly later pottery, dating between the late 1st to early 2nd century AD. The ditch truncated a buried soil (40) located below the colluvium at the south-west end of the trench. This was *c.*7m long and up to 0.3m wide and comprised a light brown silty clay with limestone inclusions. A sherd of pottery dating to the mid to late 1st century AD was recovered from this layer. The geophysical survey suggested that this extended and apparently widened beyond the end of the trench.

Feature [42], a small pit/post-hole was sealed beneath (40), was partially exposed in the north-west side of the trench (Figure 18). This feature had been severely truncated during machining and was mainly recorded in section. It measured 0.32m long, over 0.12m wide and 0.18m deep and contained a light greyish-brown silty clay (41) that contained a large number of pottery sherds, again dating to the mid 1st century AD.

The weak linear feature highlighted by the geophysical survey was not located at the north-east end of the trench.

Trench 10 Figure 19 and Figure 20; Plate 20

Trench 10 was located over a weak linear anomaly that appeared to mirror the strong linear feature in the southern part of the site. This ditch [55] was recorded at the south-west end of the trench orientated north-east to south-west and was *c*.4.2m in width and excavated to a depth of 0.65m (Figure 20). Only the south-east side was excavated revealing a *c*.45º slope changing to an almost vertical incline. The base of the ditch was not reached (Plate 20). Two fills were observed within the ditch. The lower fill comprised a mid-orange-brown silty clay (54) with abundant (*c*.40%) limestone fragments and was *c.* 0.25m thick. This was overlain by deposit (53)

consisting largely of limestone fragments within a matrix of dark greyish brown silty clay, measuring more than 1.4m in width and over 0.5m thick. A small quantity of Romano-British pottery dating between the late 1st to early 2nd century AD was recovered from this deposit. A possible elongated pit or gully feature was partially exposed at the north-east end of the trench. This feature was 1.8m in length and 0.9m in width and was not excavated.

Trench 11 Figure 19 and Figure 21; Plate 11, Plate 12 and Plate 13

Trench 11 was located over a strong linear anomaly, possibly indicating an enclosure sub-division. Ditch [28] recorded towards the centre of the trench was orientated north-west to south-east (Figure 21), measured 1.7m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.8m (the base was not reached). The excavated sides were steep with an incline of *c*.65-80º (Plate 11). The lower fill (29) consisted of loose limestone fragments (*c*.75%) as well as a large heat-affected cobble (250x12x100mm) in a matrix of mid-greyish-brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks. This fill was 1.3m wide and over 0.25m thick and contained a small quantity of Late Iron Age pottery as well as a sherd of Romano-British pottery dating between the late 1st to early 2nd century AD. It was overlain by a dark greyish-brown clayey silt (30) with limestone fragments (*c*.10%) and charcoal fragments and flecks. This fill was 3.2m wide and 0.45m thick and contained sherds of Late Iron Age scored ware pottery.

Three previously unidentified features were also observed within this trench. Ditch [28] was truncated on its south-western side by gully feature [31]. This was 0.5m wide, 0.28m deep with concave sides and base (Plate 11). It was filled with a mid-brown silty clay (32) with limestone fragments (*c*.15%) and contained a small quantity of Romano-British pottery dating to the late 2nd century AD. It is perhaps possible that the sherd of Roman pottery recovered in (30) may have actually been attributable to this feature.

An intersection between two gully features, [33] and [35], was recorded to the south-west (Figure 21). Gully [33] was orientated north-south and terminated at its northern end. It measured 1.7m long, 1.0m wide and 0.19m deep. Its western side was steep and sloping with an incline of *c*.50º; the eastern side was shallower with an incline of *c*.30º and it had a reasonably flat base (Plate 12). It was filled with a mid-orange-brown silty clay (34) and contained a small quantity of Romano-British pottery dated to the late first century AD. This gully appeared to truncate an earlier gully [35] at its terminus. The gully was partially exposed in the north-west side of the trench and was also orientated north-south (Plate 13). It measured 0.8m long, 0.4m wide and 0.09m deep with shallow sides and a flat base. The fill comprised a dark greyish-brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks. This feature contained a high density of Late Iron Age scored ware pottery considering the small area that was excavated.

Trench 12 Figure 19

Trench 12 was located in an area where no geophysical survey anomalies were identified. No archaeological finds or features were recorded in this trench.

Trench 13 Figure 19 and Figure 22; Plate 19 and Plate 27

Trench 13 was located over the possible continuation of ditch [55] located in Trench 10. No clear edges for this feature could be identified although an area 9m wide containing re-deposited soil was recorded towards the centre of the trench (Figure 22). This area was sample excavated and although no cut edges were observed a deposit (51) mainly consisting of limestone fragments (60%) within dark yellowish-brown silty clay was recorded overlying a light-brown silty clay buried soil (52) (Plate 19). Deposit (51) may represent the erosion of bank material spreading across the ditch and preserving an area of earlier soil. This deposit contained a small quantity of Romano-British pottery dating between the late 1st and early 2nd century AD. It was decided to machine excavate a slot through deposit (51) in order to locate the sides of the feature. This was successfully undertaken and the ditch [67] was found to be 3.9m wide and approximately 1m deep (Plate 27). Its southern side was steep with an incline of *c*. 50º, while the eastern side was shallower with an incline of *c.*40º and the base appeared relatively flat. It was predominantly filled with deposit (51) becoming slightly more silty against the edges of the feature.

Trench 14 Figure 9 and Figure 11; Plate 6

Trench 14 was located over a weak linear feature. The feature [17] was orientated north - south towards the centre of the trench (Figure 11). It measured 4.7m wide, 0.3m deep with a fill (16) comprising predominantly limestone (*c.*80%) in a matrix of light-brown silty clay, similar to the matrix between the natural limestone (Polate 6). This feature appeared more like disturbance or quarrying than a backfilled ditch. Further disturbed ground was observed at the eastern end of the trench and could also indicate small scale quarrying also visible on the geophysical survey.

Trench 15 Figure 9 and Figure 12; Plate 5

Trench 15 was located across a weak linear feature, thought to be part of the northern ditch seen in Trenches 10 and 13. No trace of the continuation of this ditch was observed within the trench but a separate previously unidentified feature was recorded towards the centre of the trench (Figure 12). Feature [12] was 2.5m wide with a maximum depth of 0.5m on an east-west alignment. The northern side of the feature was steep and straight with an incline of *c.*75º, while its southern side was less well defined with an even base that sloped northwards (Plate 5). It was filled with a mid-orangey-brown silty clay (13) with limestone fragments and charcoal flecks. This feature possibly truncated an earlier linear or curvilinear feature [14] on its southern side. This was 1.7m wide and up to 0.2m deep and orientated east - west. The surviving southern side was shallow with a reasonably flat base. The fill comprised a mid-orangey-brown silty clay deposit (15) with occasional limestone fragments.

Trench 16 Figure 9 and Figure 13; Plate 9 and Plate 10

Trench 16 was also positioned over the weak linear anomaly, suggested to be part of the northern ditch seen in Trenches 10 and 13 as well as a second feature that ran parallel with the field boundary. Neither of these features was clearly observed within

the trench although two possible features were recorded that matched the suggested location of the anomaly running parallel to the field boundary (Figure 13). Feature [24] was irregular in plan and orientated north-east to south-west. It measured 0.4-1.5m in width and 0.3m deep with concave sides and an undulating base (Plate 9). The fill comprised a light orangey-brown silty clay (25). A second irregular feature [26] was located 2m to the north-east. The exposed segment measured 1.2m in length, 1.7m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.3m. Its sides were concave and the base was not fully excavated (Plate 10. It was filled with a light orangey-brown silty clay (27), similar to (24). It is suggested that both excavated features might be part of the same feature that could be natural in origin, perhaps part of a fluvial channel running down the side of the hill slope.

Trench 17 Figure 5

Trench 17 was an additional trench that was located in order to help confirm the location of the pit alignment as the results from Trench 2 proved inconclusive. However no archaeological finds or features were recorded in this trench. The service/drain seen in Trench 2 did not continue into this trench. It is possible that the trench may have been positioned between two pits that unfortunately leaves the issue of the exact location of the pit alignment unresolved.

7. Discussion

The results of the geophysical survey were mostly confirmed by the results of the trial trenching. It can thus be presumed that the geophysical survey is an accurate representation of the features buried below the plough soil. The interpretations offered for many of these features (Walford 2009) also correspond well with the results of the trial trenching. The site appears to represent a possible Late Iron Age – Early Roman settlement, although the main settlement focus appears to lie to the west of the proposed development area (perhaps with the enclosure shown on the cropmark plot). Most of the excavated features appear to be consistent with field system ditches.

Of the 17 trenches excavated 14 provided positive results. Trenches 3, 5, 7 and 8 targeted the linear ditch observed clearly both as a cropmark and the geophysical survey. This feature was clearly visible in all four trenches and represented a substantial ditch producing a single large un-abraded sherd of Late Iron Age pottery (*c*. 100 BC-AD 43). The geophysical survey suggested that a weaker anomaly mirroring this ditch was present along the northern part of the site. Trenches 10, 13, 15 and 16 were located to investigate this feature. The feature was clearly visible in Trenches 10 and 13 as a large ditch but apparently absent in Trenches 15 and 16. Romano-British material dating between the late 1st to early 2nd century AD was recovered from both excavated sections through the ditch. The presence of the ditch only in western trenches is broadly consistent with the geophysical survey which shows the feature becoming discontinuous in the north-east part of the site. Reinterpretation of the geophysical survey on the basis of the results from the trenches might suggest that the northern ditch turns southwards 30m northeast of

Trench 13 becoming the ditch identified in Trench. Both ditches appear to be aligned following the natural contours of the land.

Trench 9 targeted a strong linear anomaly that seemed to be the eastern side of an enclosure within the wider field system identified on the cropmark plot. A large ditch was recorded here containing Romano-British pottery dating between the late 1st and early 2nd century AD. The ditch cut a buried soil that also contained 1st century pottery. This is likely to be a colluvially derived soil perhaps created by more intensive land use in the early Roman period. This buried soil sealed a small post-hole also dating to the 1st century AD.

Trench 2 and 17 were located over a pit alignment highlighted by the geophysical survey, which may relate to activity pre-dating the enclosure settlement. However the results from the trenches were inconclusive. Trench 2 located an elongated pit close to the anticipated location of the pit alignment but widening of the trench revealed no continuation of further pits. Instead a probable modern feature was observed on the alignment cutting the earlier pit. Two further features were identified to the northwest of the suggested pit alignment. One of these features was partially excavated and revealed articulated human remains. Trench 17 was excavated to clarify the results of Trench 2 but no features were recorded here. However, re-plotting of the geophysical plan at the post-excavation stage and in the light of the excavations may indicate that the trench lay between two pits. A shallow ditch recorded in Trench 7 mirrors the suggested pit alignment and may be part of the same earlier land division if such division exists.

The discovery of buried human remains is significant. Although only partially exposed it did seem as though the burial was articulated and possibly crouched within the pit. Pit alignments are well represented in the Welland valley and the limestone uplands and are likely to act as boundary markers in the landscape. However, inhumation burials dating to the Iron Age are rare in the East Midlands (Willis 2006: 117). Burials practices are often interlinked with land division such as at Earl Shilton, Leicestershire (Jarvis forthcoming) where Bronze Age round barrows were found to have been incorporated into a later pit alignment. However only further analysis will enable greater understanding of the human remains recovered from Stamford and their relationships within wider landscape of the site.

There was a significant variation in the depths of subsoil/colluvium overlying the archaeological features throughout the site. The depth of the archaeological features ranged from 0.25 below ground level on the higher areas in the south-east of the site to over a metre on the low ground to the north. The minimum depths to the top of archaeology is illustrated in Appendix 2.

The settlement activity recorded at Borderville Farm can be summarised as an elongated enclosure with internal divisions, perhaps relating to stock management systems. The increased density of finds towards the west of the site may indicate the settlement *foci* in this area. The geophysical survey has tentatively located traces of a curvilinear gully within the enclosure investigated by Trench 9 on the very edge of its survey, possibly a roundhouse structure and the activity clearly continues westwards beyond the boundary of the application area as shown on the cropmark plot. The scarcity of environmental remains makes any contribution towards the interpretation of human activities (such as crop processing or disposal of food waste) difficult although analysis of the faunal remains has shown that at least some of the animal bones recovered are the waste products of processing and consumption on the site.

The pottery, as well as the features recorded, clearly shows that the activity on the site was multi-phased with the main southern ditch producing Late Iron Age pottery and the northern ditch mirroring it producing early Roman pottery. It is possible that the features recorded may be predominantly Late Iron Age with silting up of the ditches taking place during the early Roman period giving rise to Roman material becoming deposited in the ditches. The Iron Age pottery is very broadly dated however and it is possible that the site dates to the 1st century AD (See Appendix 4). There is little evidence to suggest any activity on the site beyond the early 2nd century AD with the exception of a single sherd of late 2nd century pottery.

8. Archive

The archive will be deposited with The Collection: Arts and Archaeology in Lincolnshire under the site code BFST09 and museum accession number LCNCC : 2009.85.

The content of the archive consists of:

1 A4 unbound copy of this report
3 A4 Context summary sheets
67 A5 Context sheets
2 A4 Drawing records
3 A4 Sample records
2 A4 Photo Records
1 CD containing 157 digital site photographs
3 Black and white contact prints
109 Black and white picture negatives

A record of the project will be submitted to the Oasis project under the code universi1-61702. Oasis is an online index to archaeological grey literature reports.

9. Publication

A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in the *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology* journal in due course.

10. Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was carried out by the author, assisted by Stephen Baker, Keith Johnson and Gerwyn Richards. Vicki Score managed the project, The pottery was identified by Elizabeth Johnson, the human bone by Harriet Jacklin, the animal bone by Jennifer Browning, the miscellaneous finds by Nicholas Cooper and the environmental samples were examined by Angela Monckton, all of ULAS. I would like to thank the client, Burghley House Preservation Trust for their cooperation and organising the site plant.

11. Sources

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HER Historic Environment Record for Leicestershire and Rutland, County Hall, Glenfield

Lincolnshire Archives, St Rumbold Street, Lincoln

Early maps, plans and archaeological reports from Heritage Lincolnshire, the Old School, Heckington

Geological Survey Sheet 157

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07.07.2009

Figure 1: General Site Location Plan

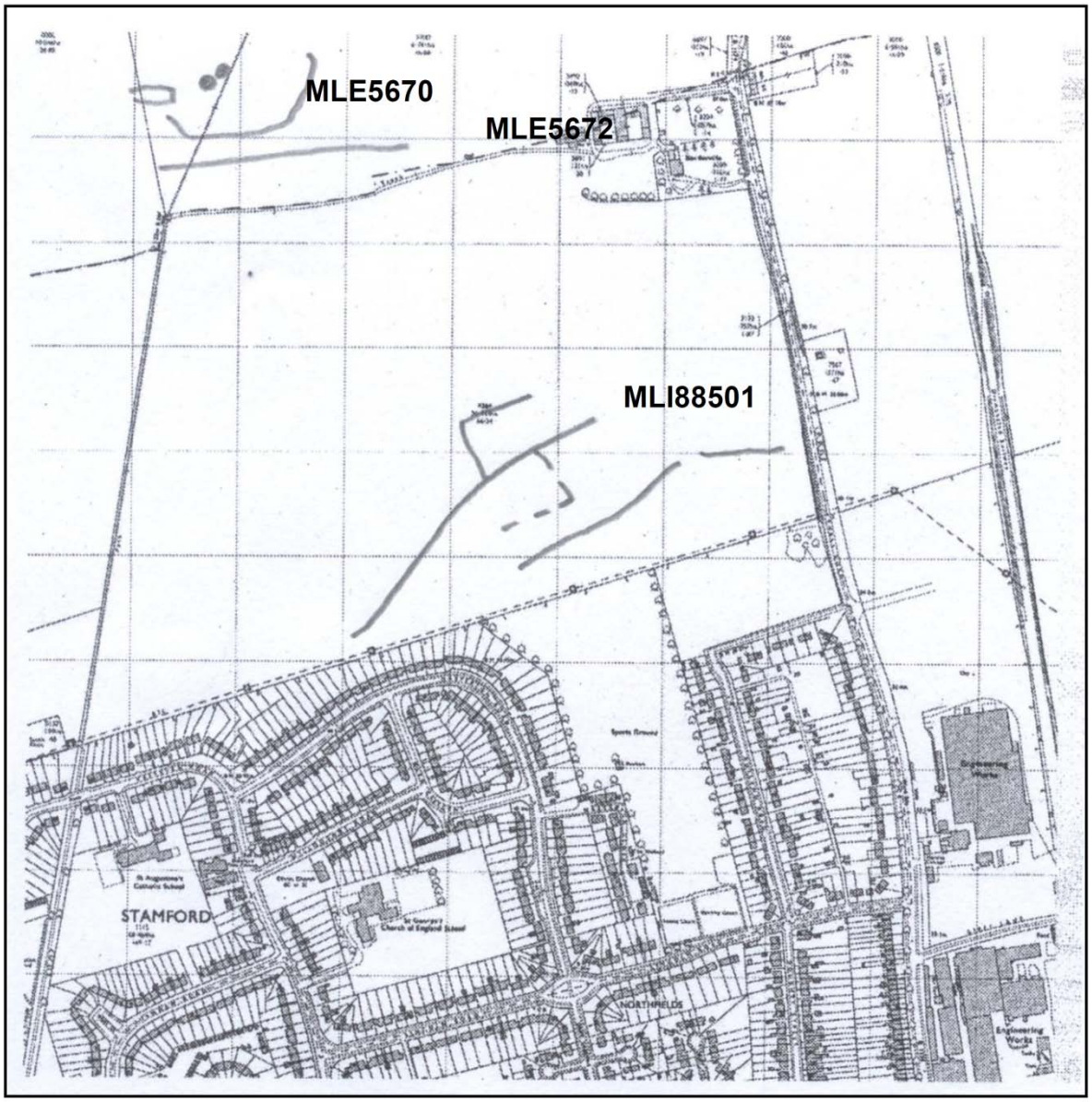

Figure 2 Site Location Map showing cropmarks plotted onto 1971 OS map. Derived from map supplied by Heritage Lincolnshire. Scale 1:2500

Figure 3: Plan of Geophysical survey (Walford 2009)

Figure 4: Trench Location Plan (incorporating geophysical survey)

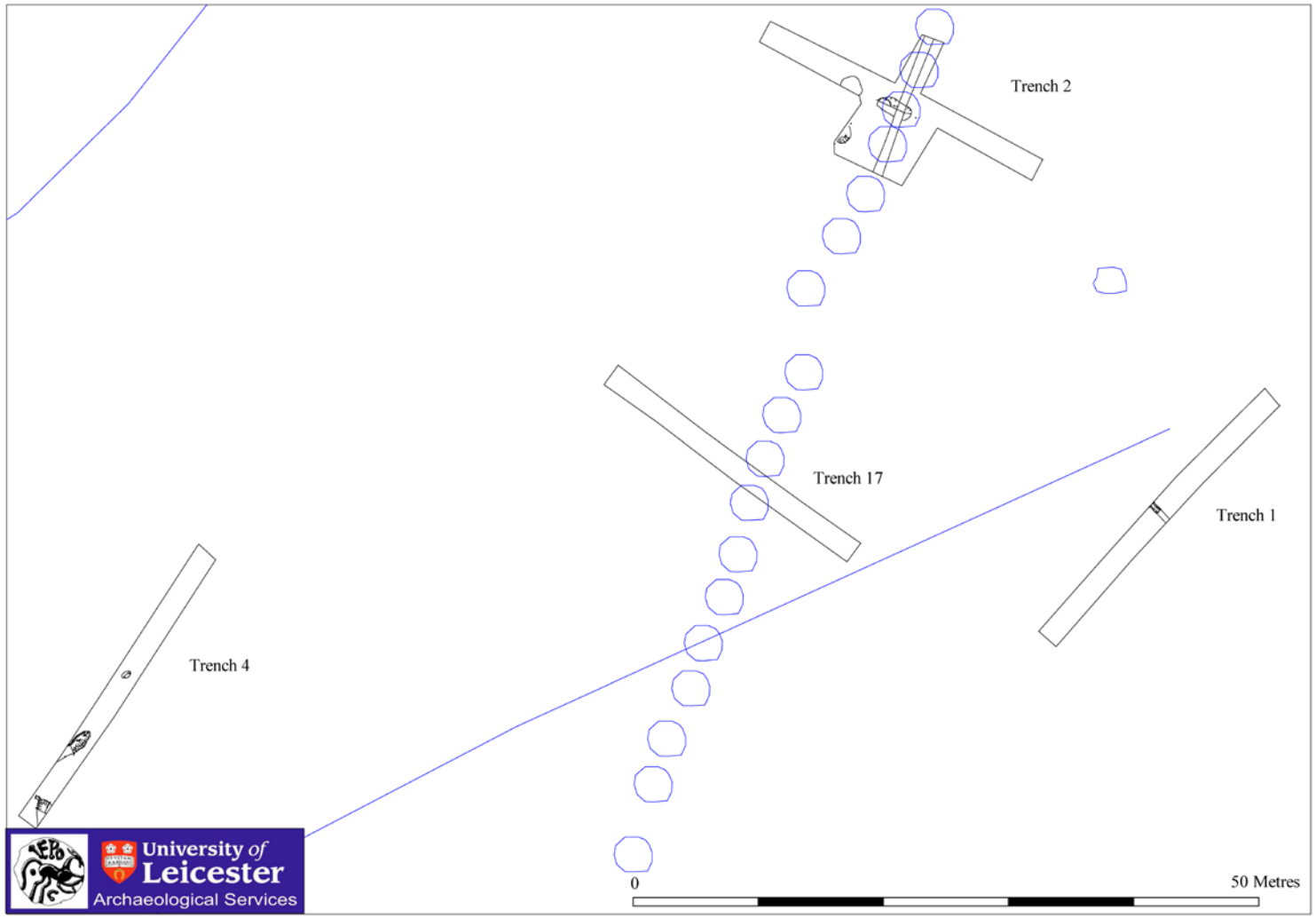

Figure 5: Plan of Trenches 1, 2, 4 and 17 (incorporating interpreted geophysical survey in blue)

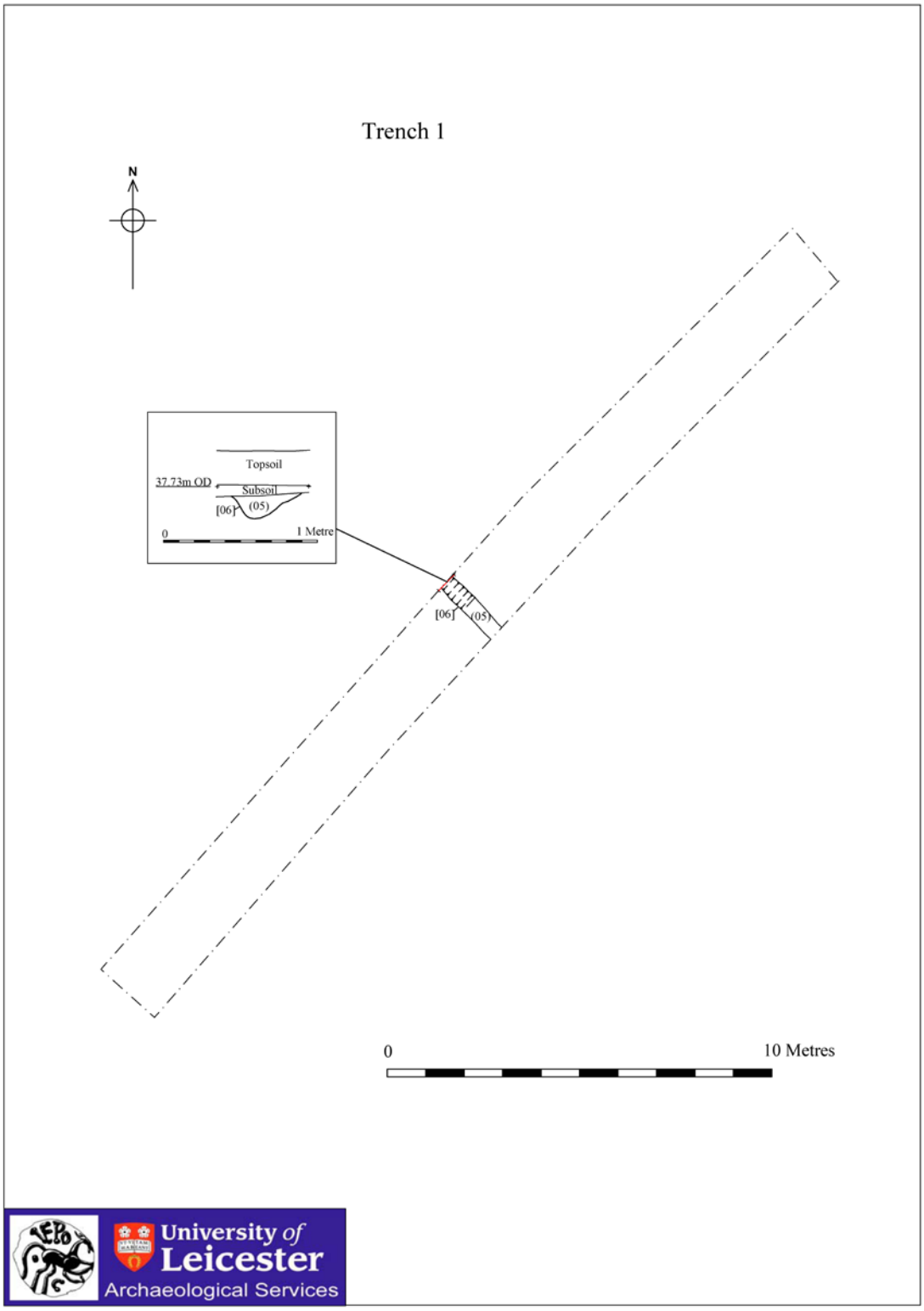

Figure 6: Plan of Trench 1

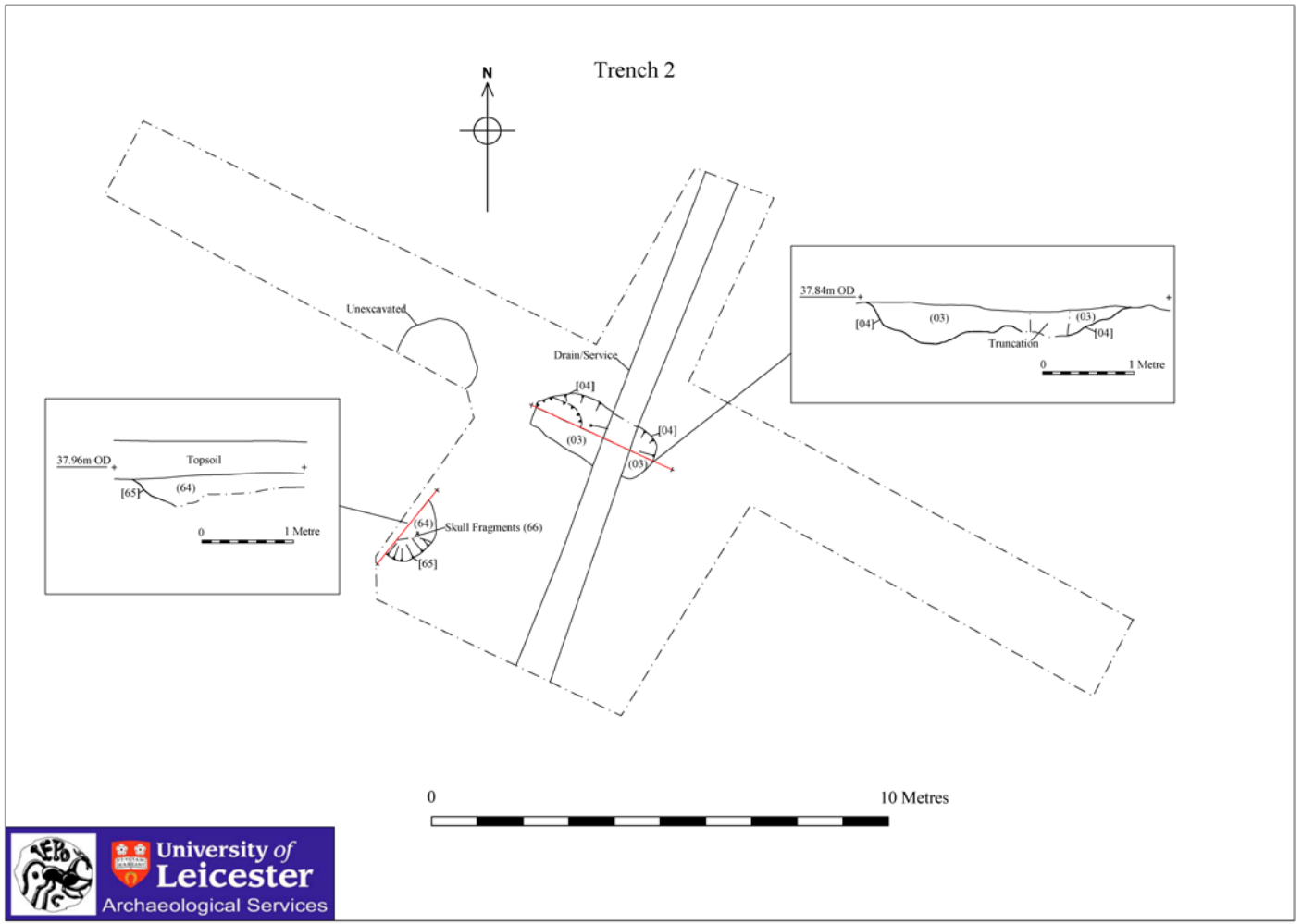

Figure 7: Plan of Trench 2

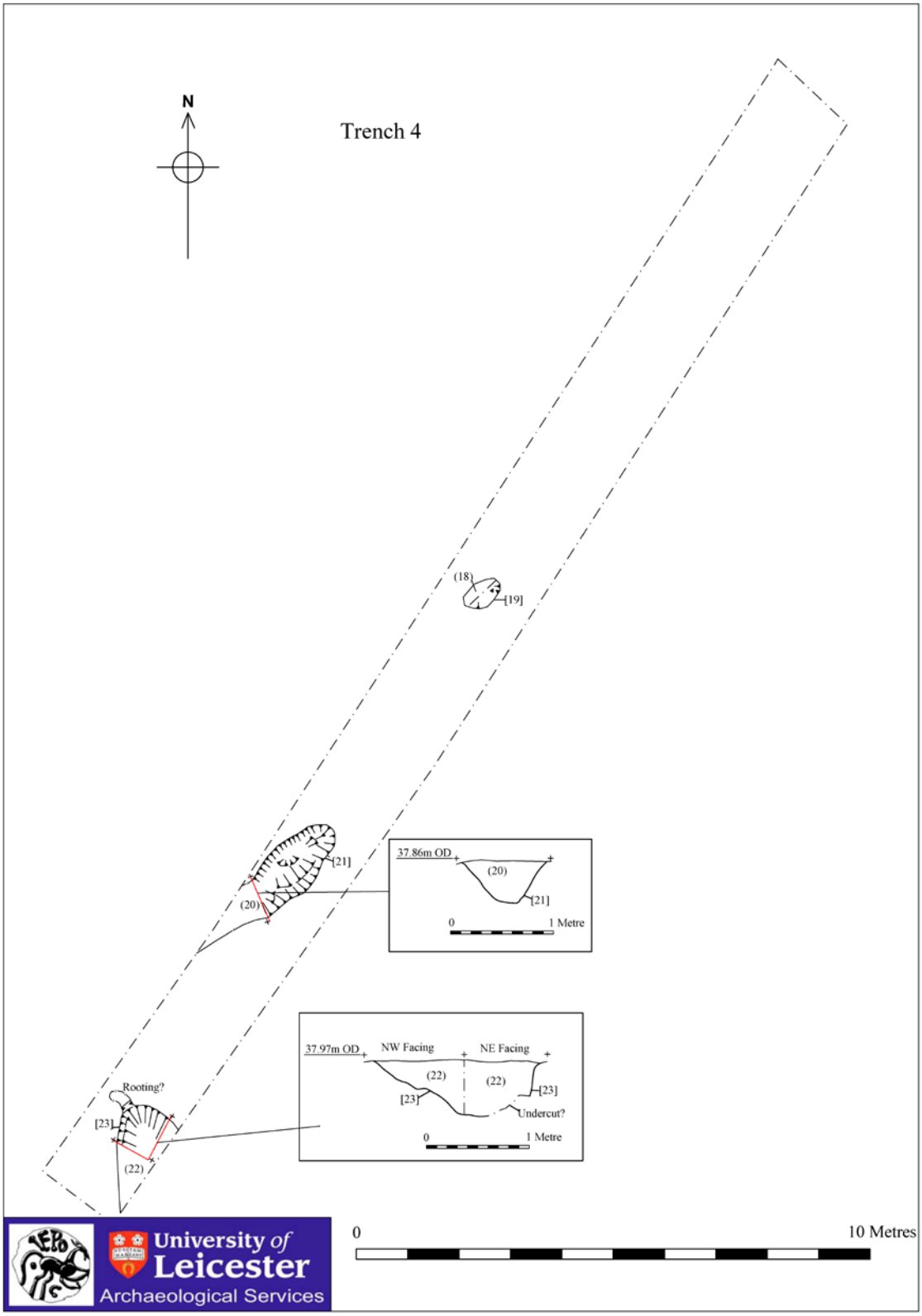

Figure 8: Plan of Trench 4

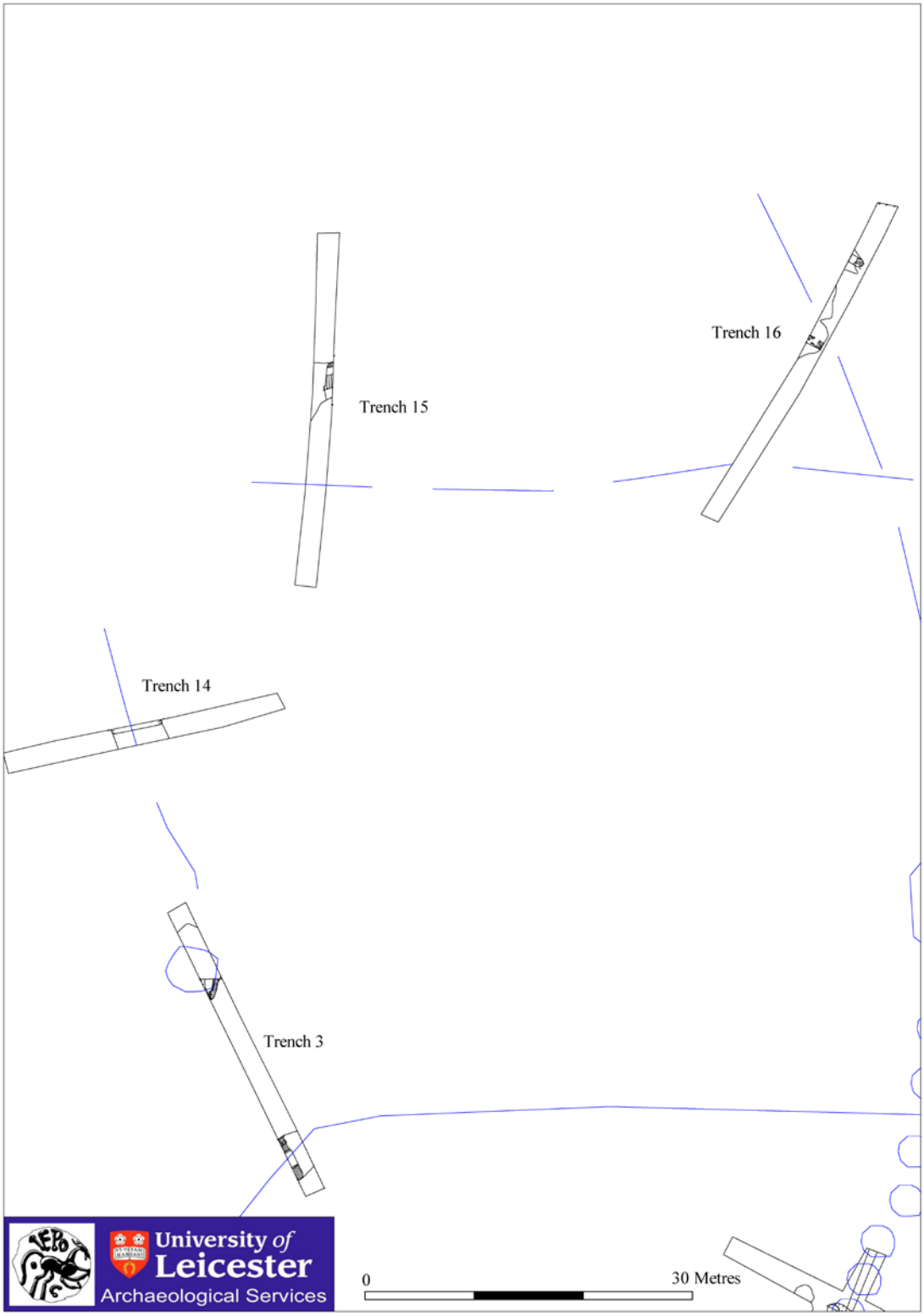

Figure 9: Plan of Trenches 3, 14, 15 and 16
(Incorporating interpreted geophysical survey in blue)

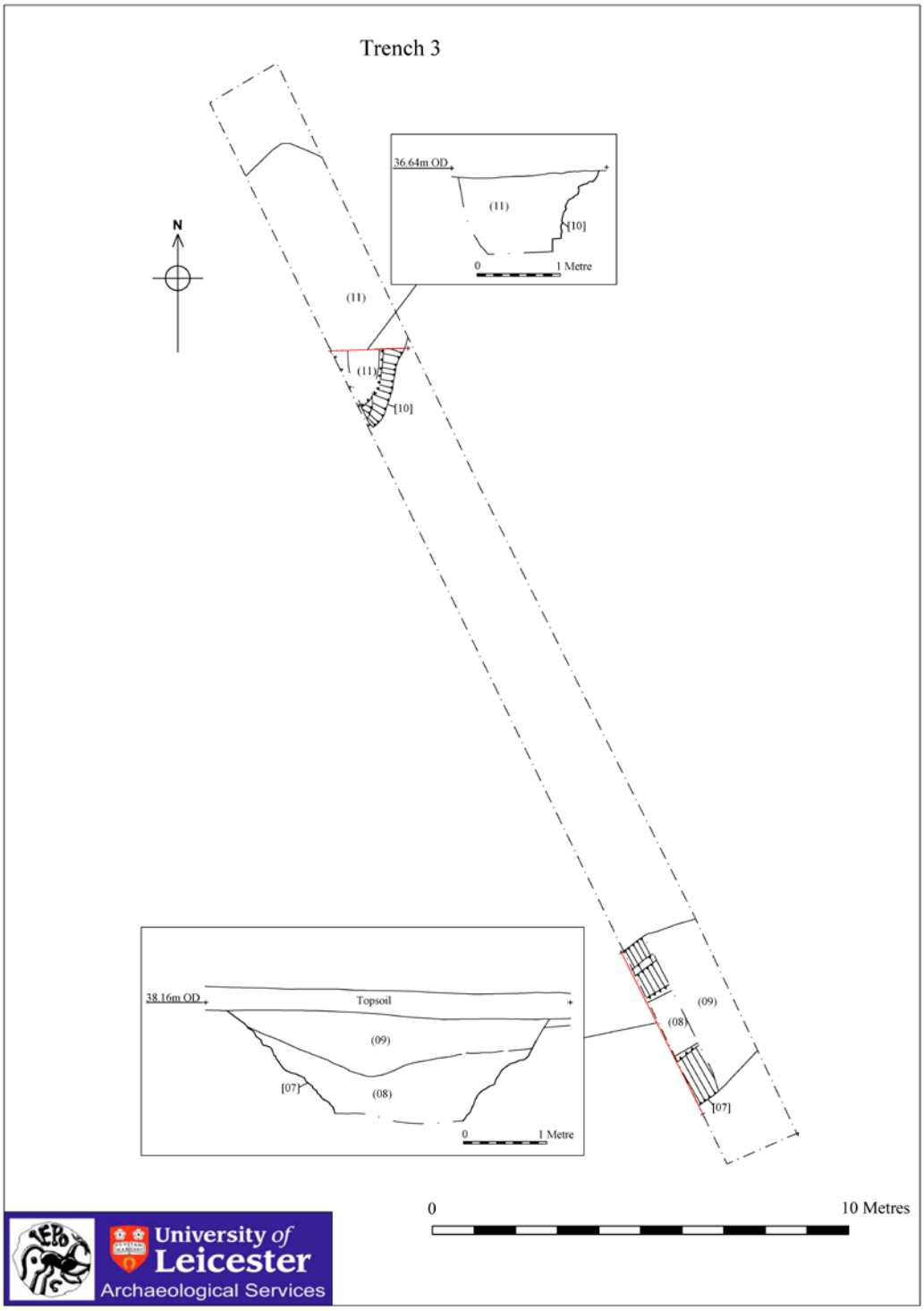

Figure 10: Plan of Trench 3

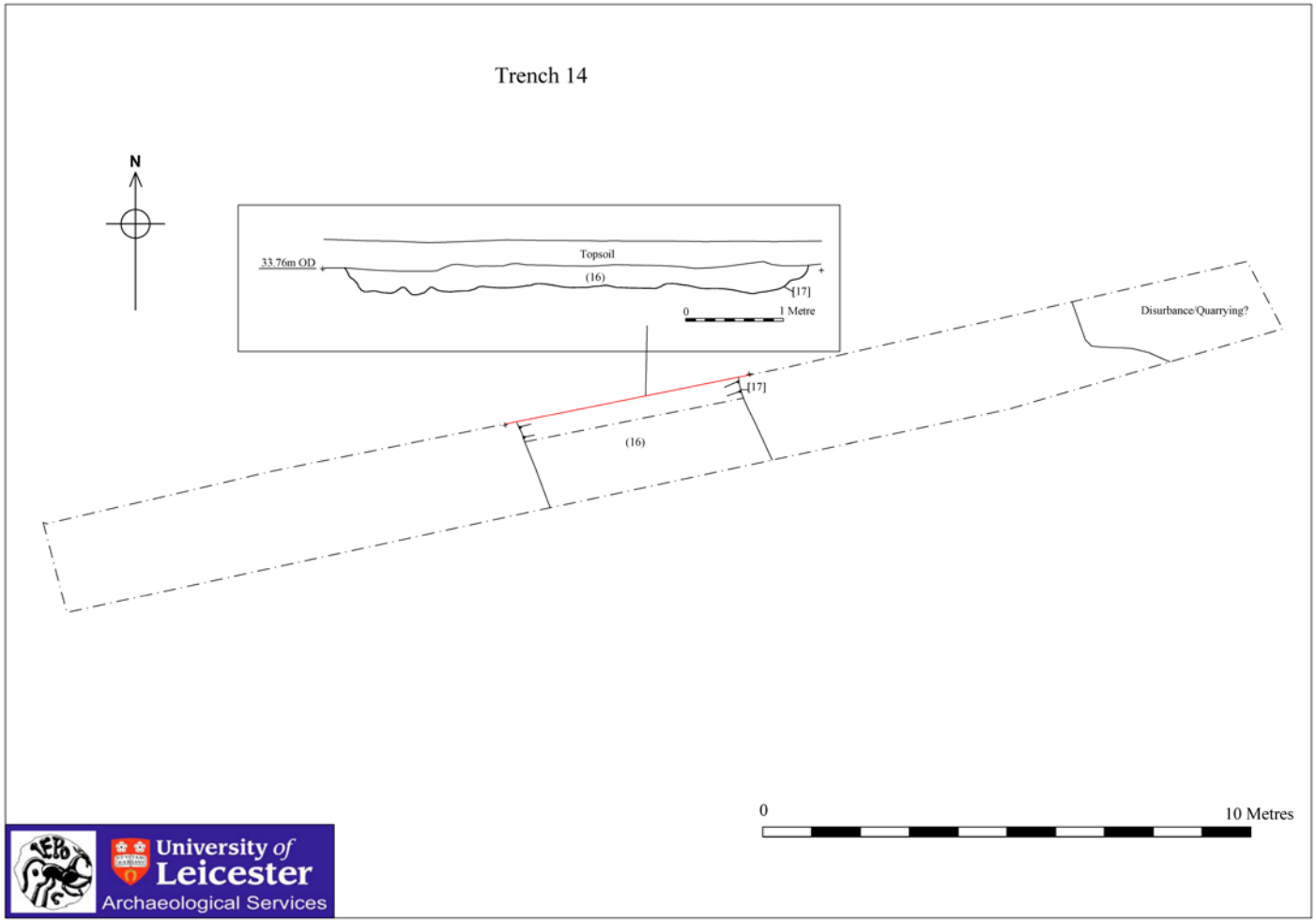

Figure 11: Plan of Trench 14

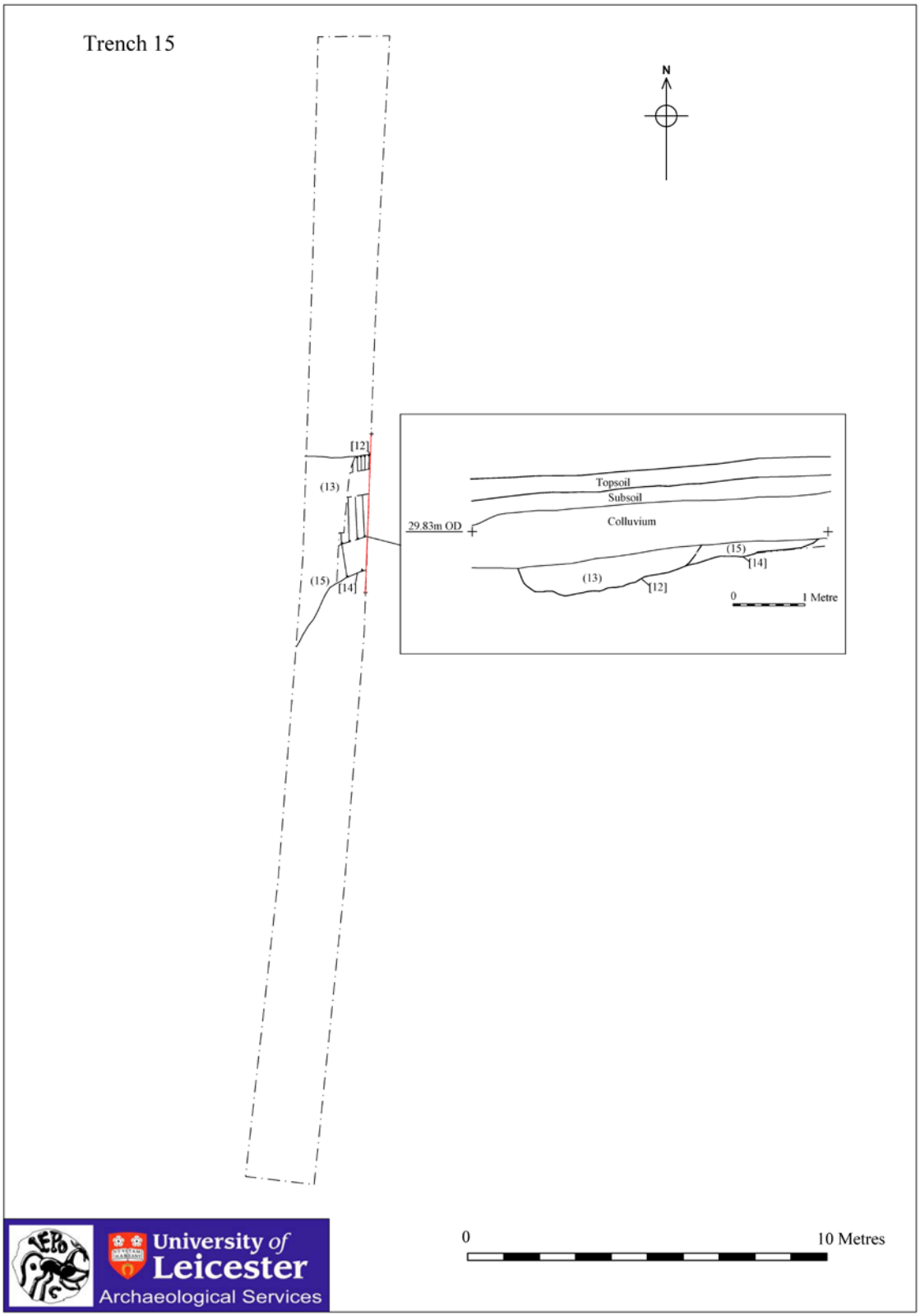

Figure 12: Plan of Trench 15

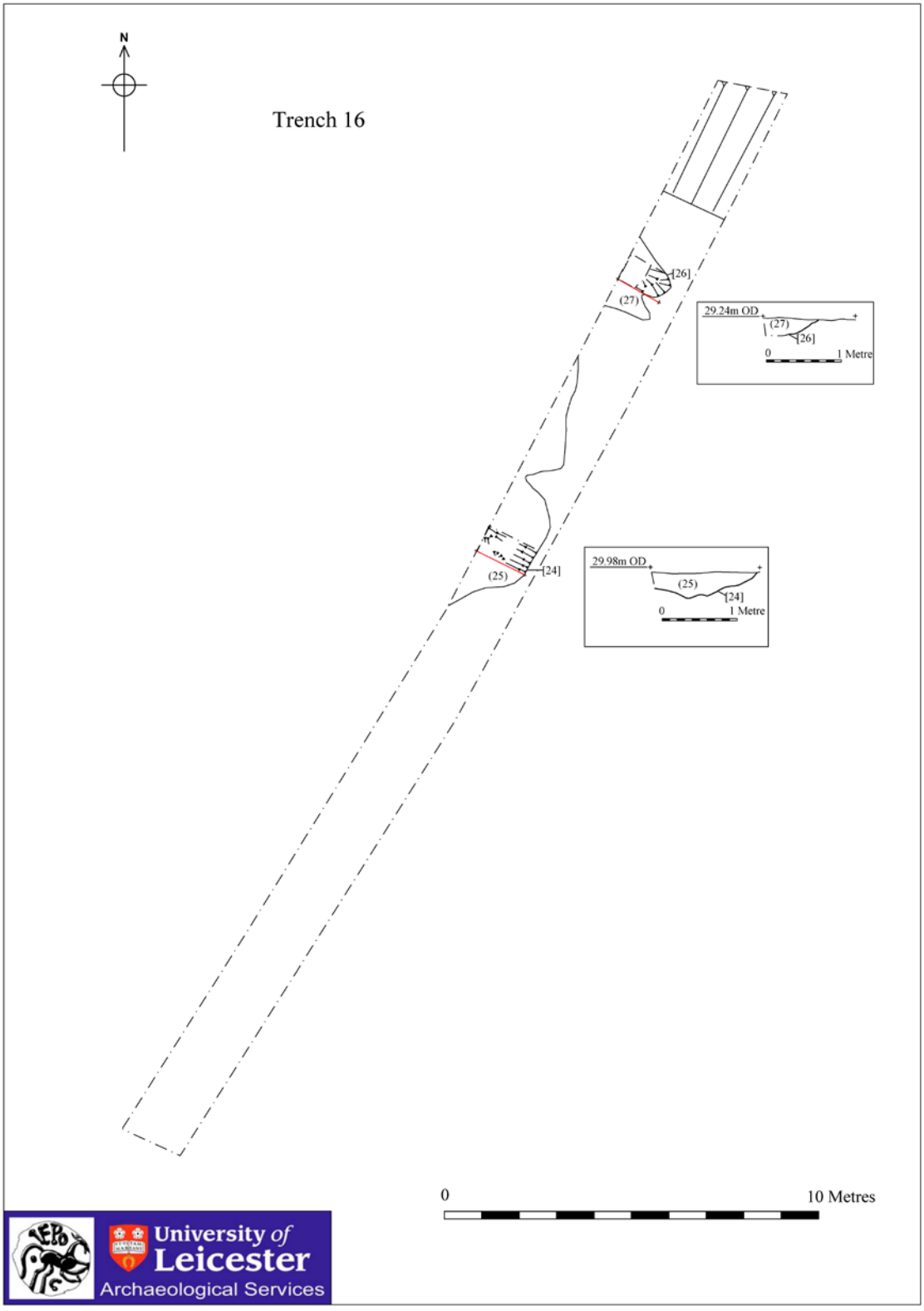

Figure 13: Plan of Trench 16

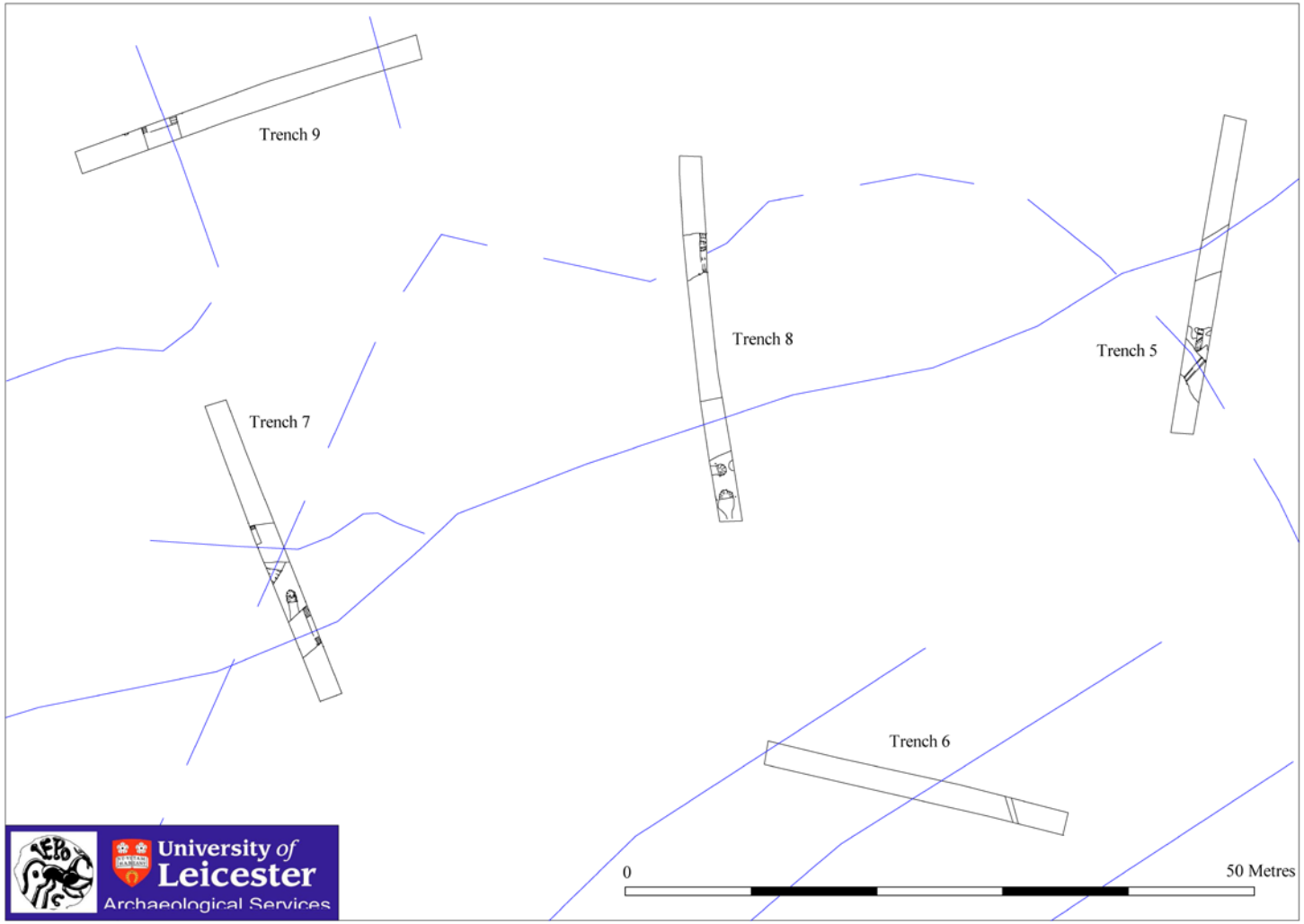

Figure 14: Plan of Trenches 5-9 (incorporating interpreted geophysical survey)

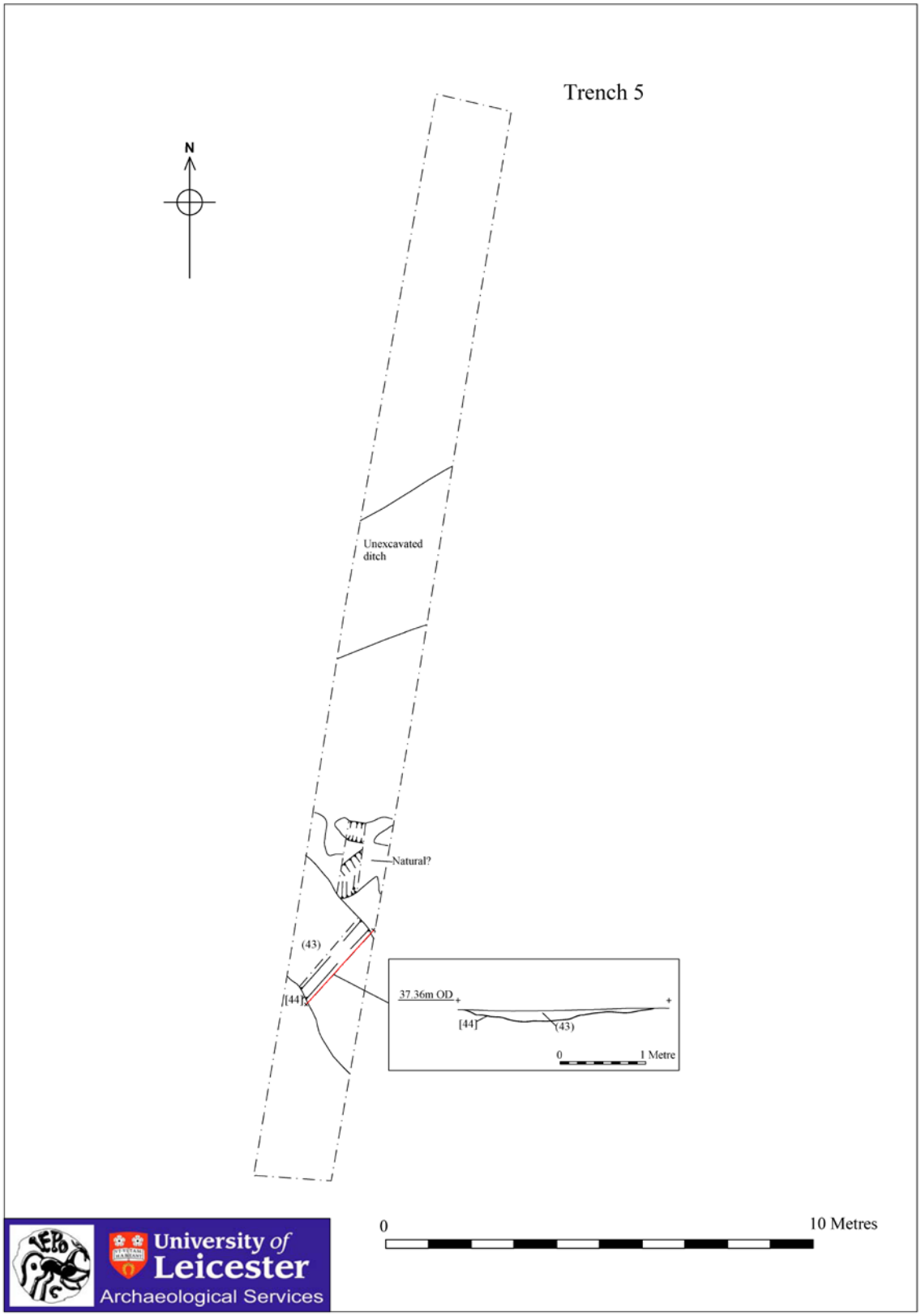

Figure 15: Plan of Trench 5

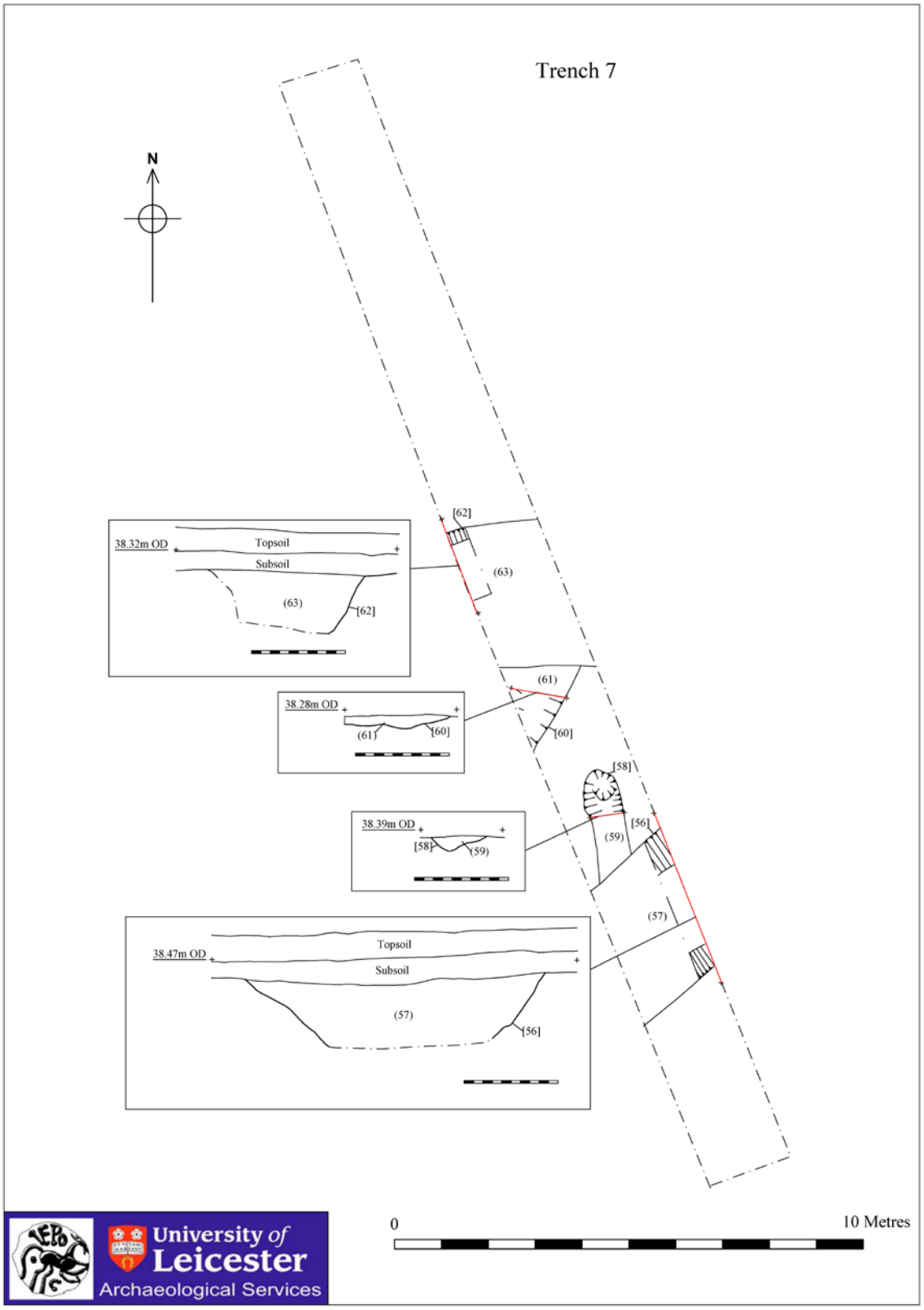

Figure 16: Plan of Trench 7

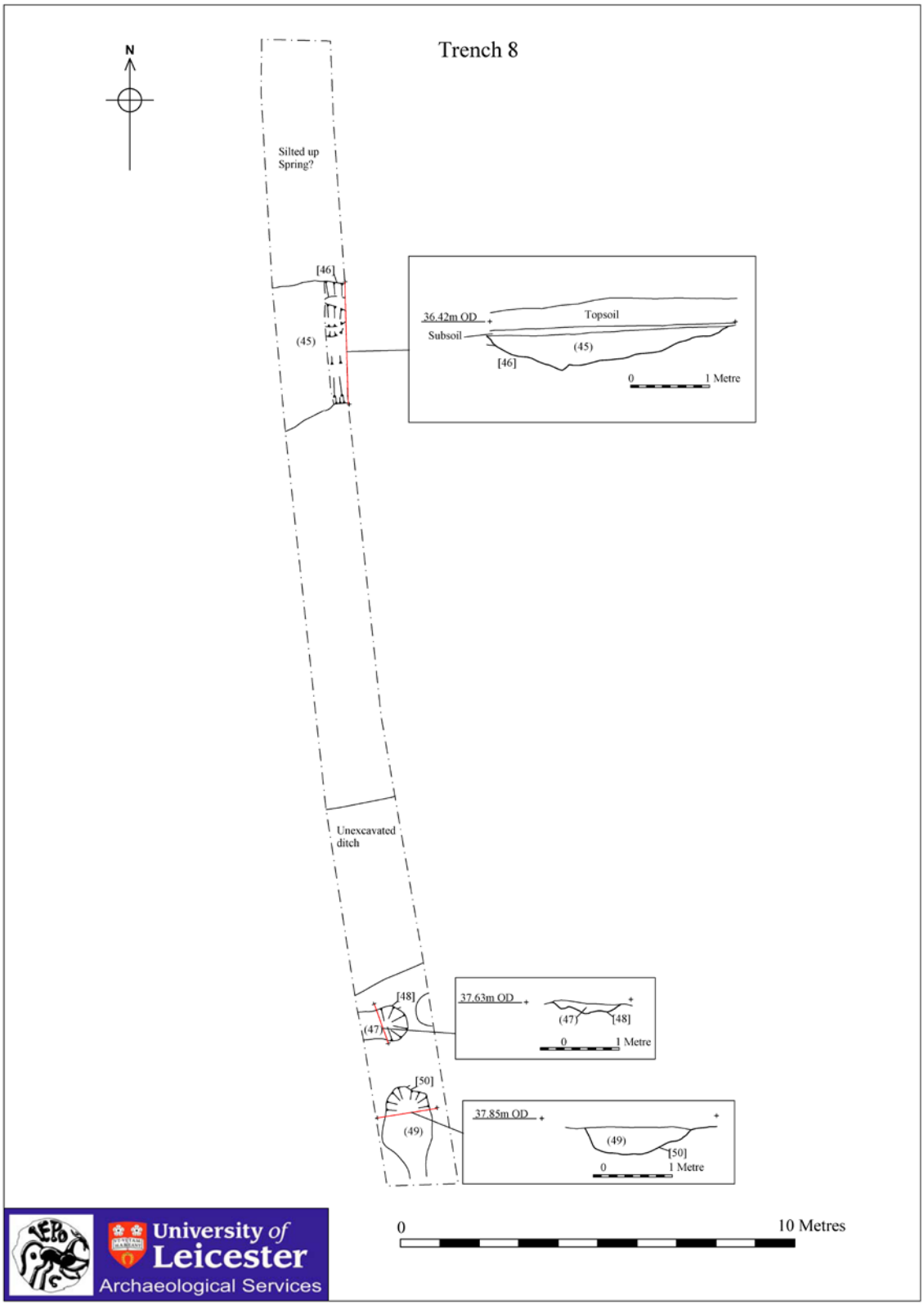

Figure 17: Plan of Trench 8

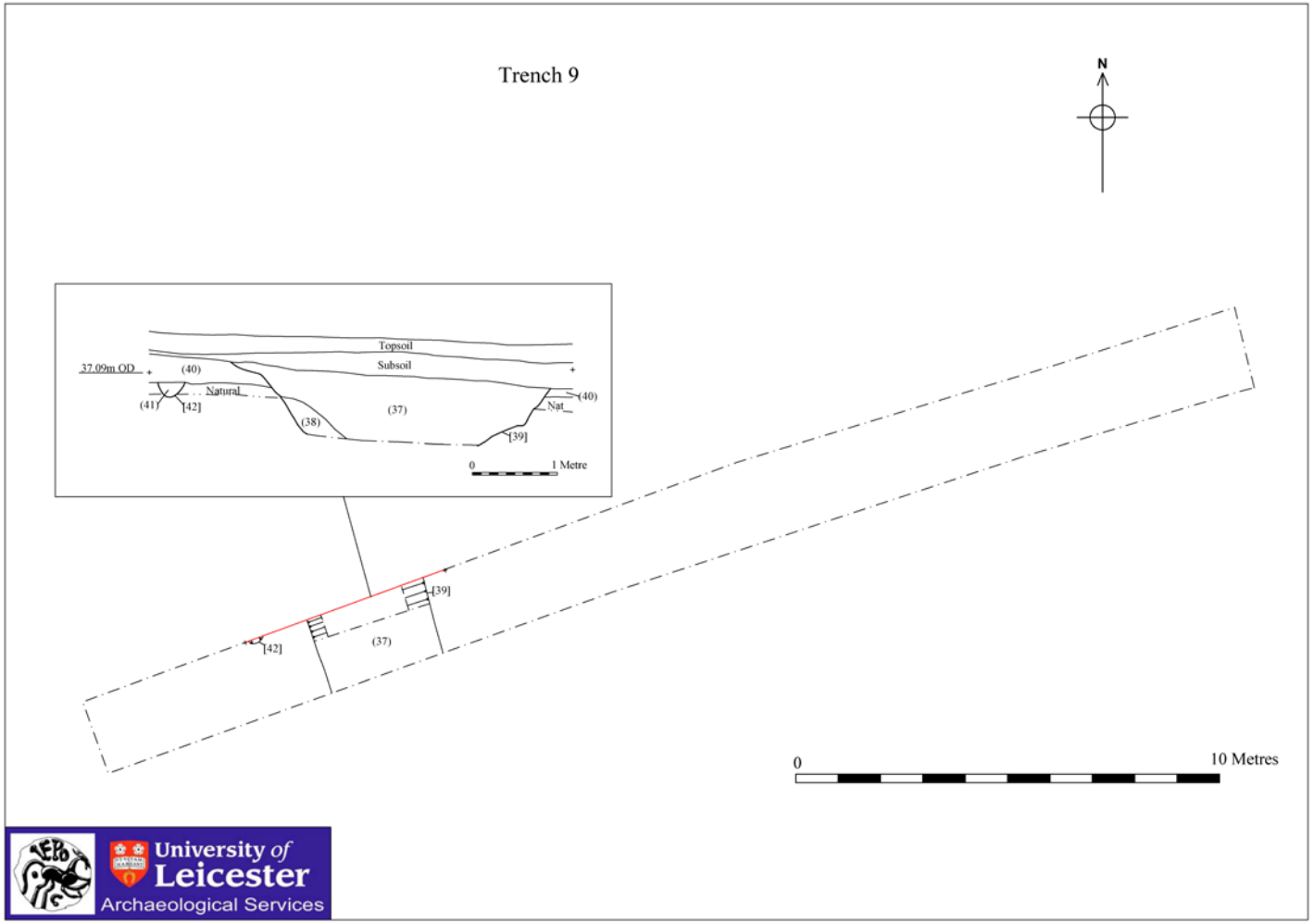

Figure 18: Plan of Trench 9

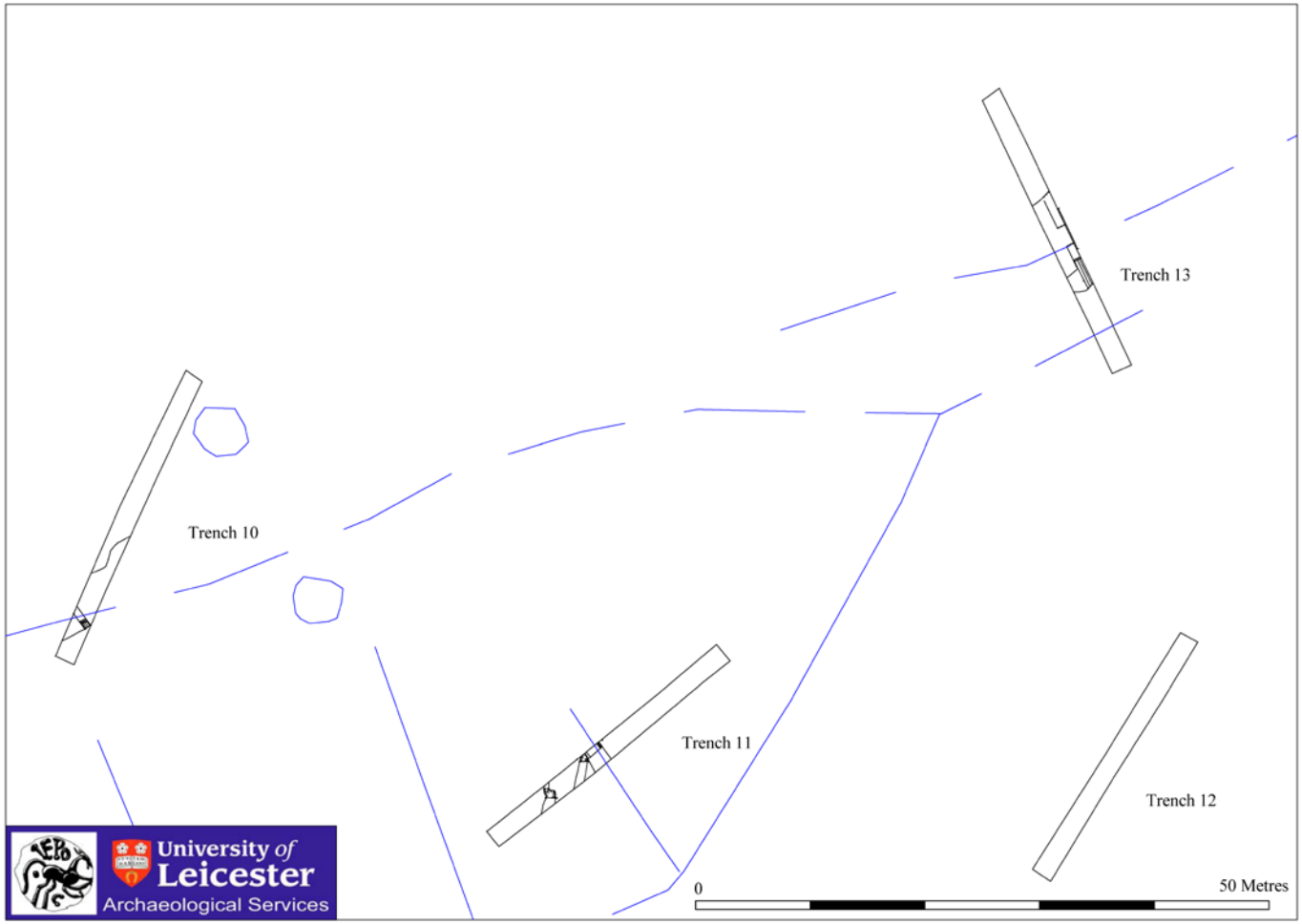

Figure 19 Plan of Trenches 10-13 (incorporating interpreted geophysical survey)

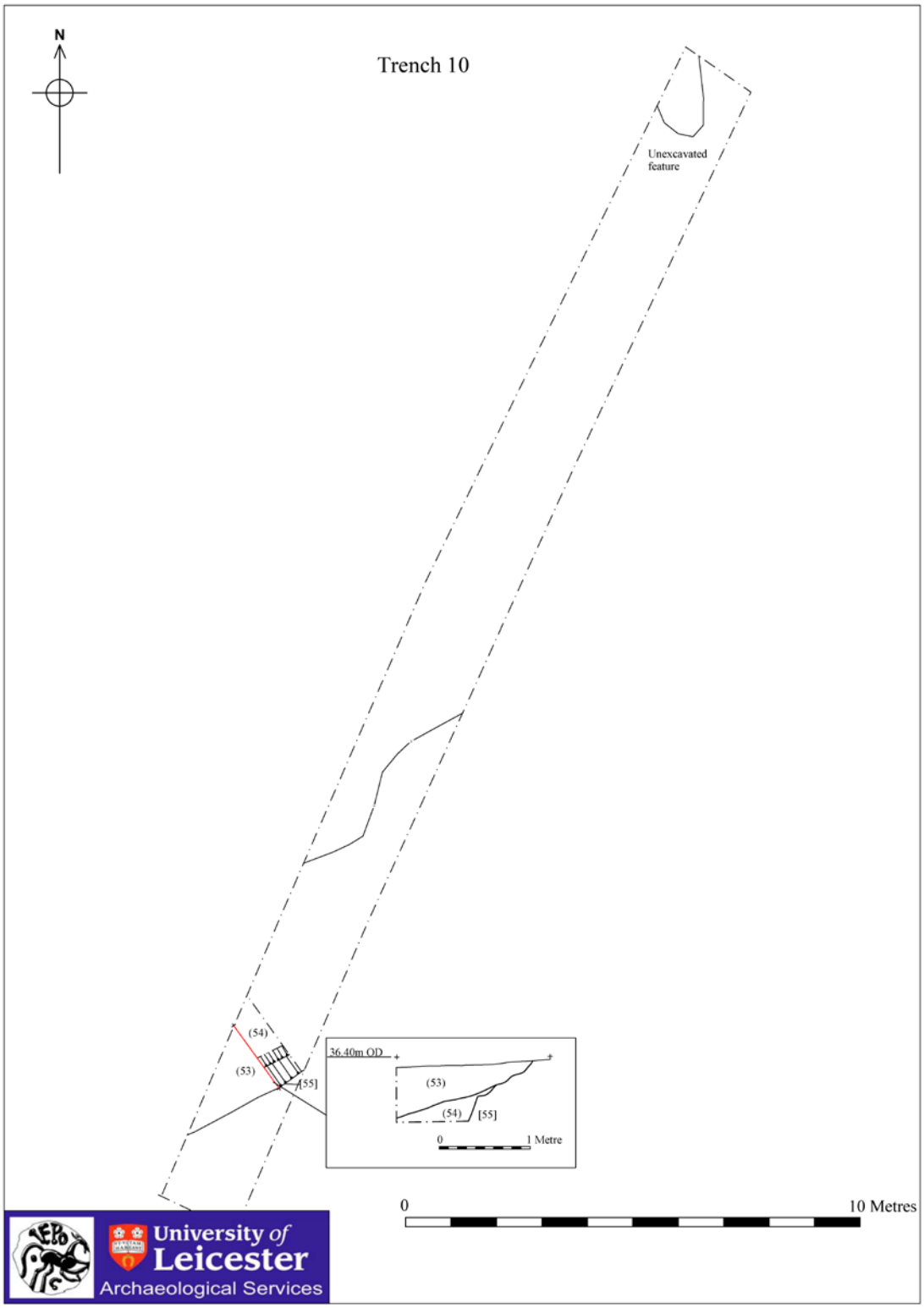

Figure 20 Plan of Trench 10

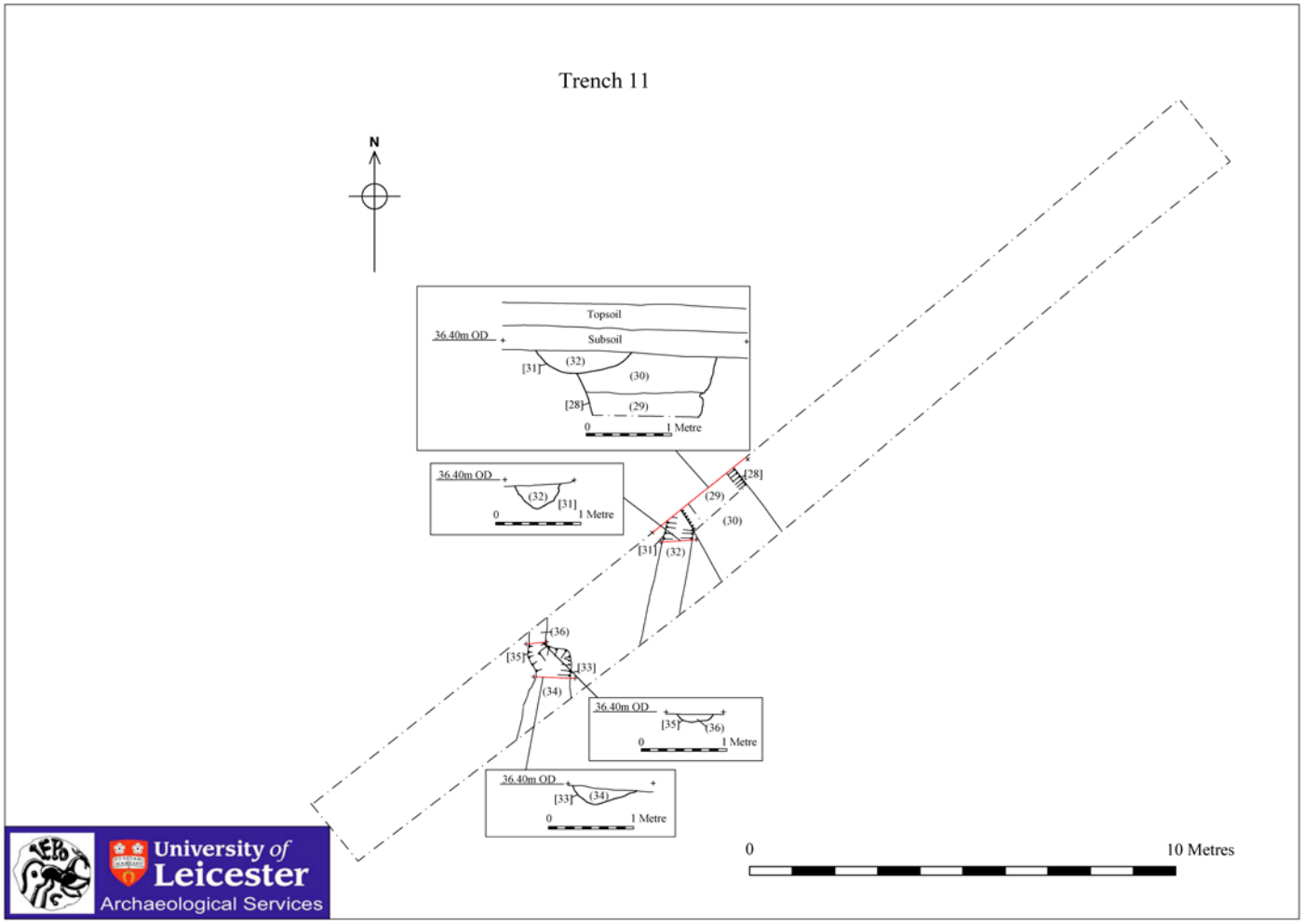

Figure 21: Plan of Trench 11

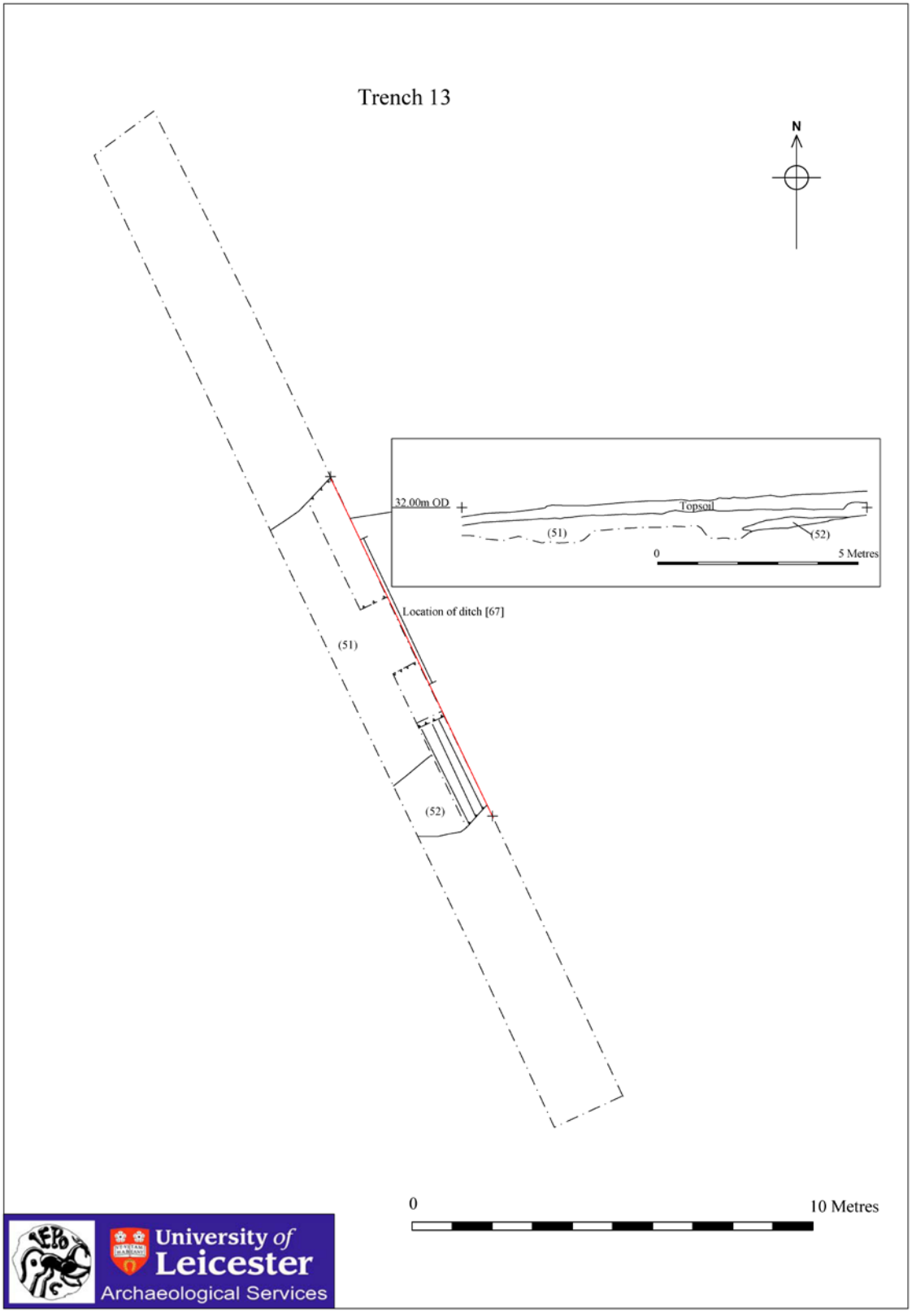

Figure 22: Plan of Trench 13

Plate 1: Trench 02, Pit [04] looking south

Plate 2: Trench 01, Gully [06] looking west

Plate 3: Trench 03, Ditch [07] looking southwest

Plate 4: Trench 03, Pit [10] looking northeast

Plate 5: Trench 15, Linear features [12] and [14] looking east

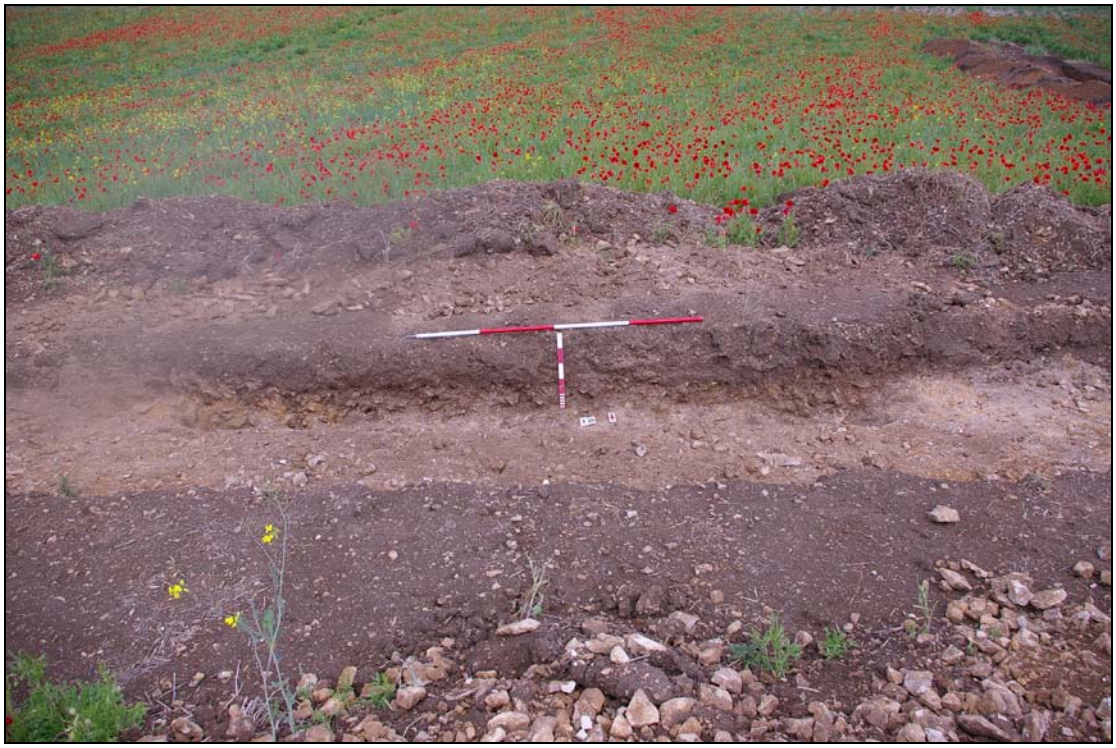

Plate 6: Trench 14, Linear feature [17] looking north

Plate 7: Trench 04, Gully terminus [21] looking south-west

Plate 8: Trench 04, Gully/Ditch terminus [23] looking south

Plate 9: Trench 16, Linear feature [24] looking southwest

Plate 10: Trench 16, Linear feature [26] looking southwest

Plate 11: Trench 11, Ditch [28] and gully [31] looking north

Plate 12: Trench 11, Gully [33] looking south

Plate 13: Trench 11, Gully [35] looking north

Plate 14: Trench 09, Ditch [39] looking north

Plate 15: Trench 05, Linear feature [44] looking west

Plate 16: Trench 08, Ditch [46] looking southeast

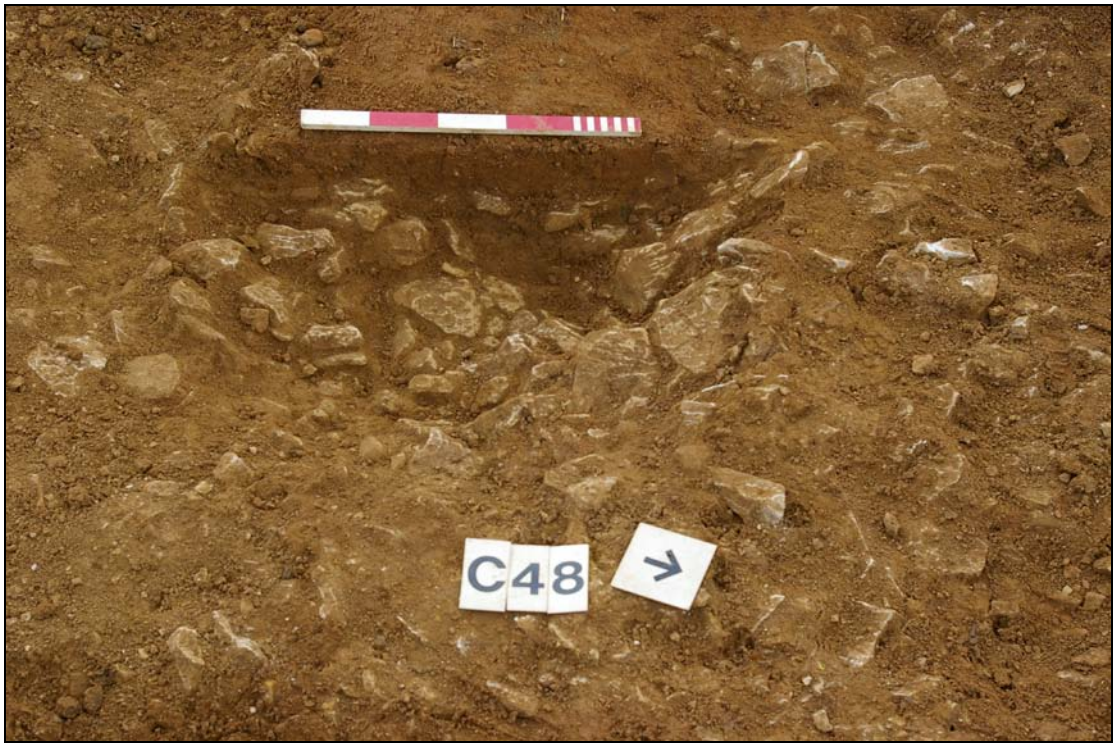

Plate 17: Trench 08, Pit [48] looking west

Plate 18: Trench 08, Pit/Gull [50] looking south

Plate 19: Trench 13, Deposits (51) and (52) in Trench 13 looking east

Plate 20: Trench 10, Ditch [55] looking southwest

Plate 21: Trench 07, Ditch [56] looking north

Plate 22: Trench 07, Gully [58] looking south

Plate 23: Trench 07, Gully/Ditch [60] looking north

Plate 24: Trench 02. Grave pit [66] looking north-west

Plate 25: Trench 07, Ditch [63] looking west

Plate 26: Trench 03, machine slot through Ditch [07] looking south-west

Plate 27: Trench 13, Machine slot through Ditch [67] located below (51) in Trench 13 looking west

Appendix 1 Context summaries

Borderville Farm Evaluation. BFST09				
Context	**Cut**	**Below**	**Area**	**Description**
01				Topsoil
02				Subsoil
03	04		T2	Pit Fill
04		03	T2	Pit Cut
05	06		T1	Gully Cut
06		05	T1	Gully Fill
07		08	T3	Ditch Cut
08	07	09	T3	Ditch Fill
09	07		T3	Ditch Fill
10		11	T3	Linear/Quarry Pit? Cut
11	10		T3	Linear/Quarry Pit? Fill
12		13	T15	Ditch Cut
13			T15	Ditch Fill
14		15	T15	Ditch Cut
15	14	12?	T15	Ditch Fill
16	17		T14	Linear Fill
17		16	T15	Linear Cut
18	19		T4	Feature Fill
19		18	T4	Feature Cut
20	21		T4	Gully Terminus Fill
21		20	T4	Gully Terminus Cut
22	23		T4	Gully Terminus Fill
23		22	T4	Gully Terminus Cut
24	25		T16	Fill of ?Natural Fluvial Feature
25		24	T16	Cut of ?Natural Fluvial Feature
26		27	T16	Cut of ?Natural Fluvial Feature
27	26		T16	Fill of ?Natural Fluvial Feature
28		29	T11	Ditch Cut
29	28	30	T11	Ditch Fill
30	28	31	T11	Ditch Fill
31		32	T11	Gully Cut
32	31		T11	Gully Fill
33		34	T11	Gully Cut
34	33		T11	Gully Fill
35		36	T11	Gully Cut
36	35	33	T11	Gully Fill
37	39		T9	Ditch Fill
38	39	37	T9	Ditch Fill
39		38	T9	Ditch Cut
40		39	T9	Buried Soil
41		42	T9	Cut of Posthole
42	41	40	T9	Fill of Posthole
43	44		T5	Ditch Fill
44		43	T5	Ditch Cut
45	46		T8	Ditch Fill
46		45	T8	Ditch Cut
47	48		T8	Pit Fill
48		47	T8	Pit Cut
49	50		T8	Pit/Gully Terminus? Fill
50		49	T8	Pit/Gully Terminus? Cut
51	67?		T13	Ditch Fill
52	67?	51	T13	Ditch Fill

53	55		T10	Ditch Fill
54	55	53	T10	Ditch Fill
55		54	T10	Ditch Cut
56		57	T7	Ditch Cut
57	56		T7	Ditch Fill
58		59	T7	Gully Cut
59	58	56	T7	Gully Fill
60		61	T7	Gully Cut
61	60	62	T7	Gully Fill
62		63	T7	Ditch Cut
63	62		T7	Ditch Fill
64	65		T2	Grave Fill
65		66	T2	Grave Cut
66	65	64	T2	Skeleton in Grave/Pit
67	52?		T13	Ditch Cut

Appendix 2 Trench Summaries

Trench	Length (m)	Depth to base of Trench (m OD)*	Natural	Notes	Min. depth to archaeology (m)
1	26	37.45 - 37.97	Lincolnshire limestone in a mid orangey brown clay sandy clay matrix/ orangey purple brown clay	gully	0.3
2	25	37.73 - 37.97	Lincolnshire limestone in a mid orangey brown clay sandy clay matrix	Grave, two pits, modern service/drain	0.25
3	28.5	36.05 - 38.24	Lincolnshire limestone in a mid orangey brown clay sandy clay matrix	Ditch and ?quarry pit	0.2
4	25	37.82 - 38.12	Lincolnshire limestone in a mid orangey brown clay sandy clay matrix	Two gully termini	0.34
5	25	36.43 - 37.55	Lincolnshire limestone in a mid orangey brown clay sandy clay matrix	Two ditches	0.32m
6	25	38.40 - 38.56	Lincolnshire limestone in a mid orangey brown clay sandy clay matrix/ light grey clay	Negative stone drain	N\A
7	25	37.73 - 38.69	Lincolnshire limestone in a mid orangey brown clay sandy clay matrix	Intercutting ditches and gullies	0.44
8	25	35.52 - 37.95	Lincolnshire limestone in a mid orangey brown clay sandy clay matrix	Ditches, pits and possible silted up spring?	0.32
9	28	35.95 - 37.12	Lincolnshire limestone in a mid orangey brown clay sandy clay matrix/ reddish brown clay	Ditch	0.58
10	28	35.21 - 39.91	Lincolnshire limestone in a mid orangey brown clay sandy clay matrix	Ditch and possible pit	0.31
11	26.5	33.87 - 33.00	Lincolnshire limestone in a mid orangey brown clay sandy clay matrix	Intercutting ditch and gullies	0.37
12	25	35.19 - 35.59	Lincolnshire limestone in a mid orangey brown clay sandy clay matrix/ yellowish grey brown clay	Negative	N/A
13	27	30.93 - 33.41	Lincolnshire limestone in a mid orangey brown clay sandy clay matrix	Ditch below ?bank spread	0.27
14	25	33.62 - 34.11	Lincolnshire limestone in a mid orangey brown clay sandy clay matrix	Possible ditch and ?quarrying	0.30
15	31.5	28.84 - 32.30	Lincolnshire limestone in a mid orangey brown clay sandy clay matrix	Possible ditch/ natural fluvial feature	1.34
16	30	29.12 - 32.05	Lincolnshire limestone in a mid orangey brown clay sandy clay matrix	Possible ditch/ natural fluvial feature	0.8
17	24	37.90 - 38.19	Mid orange sandy clay/light grey clay	Negative	N/A

*denotes heights based on GPS+ post-processed results taken in the field which are recorded approximately 1.5m higher than levels taken in the contour survey provided by the client

Appendix 3 The Ceramic Finds

Elizabeth Johnson

Assemblage Size and Condition

A stratified assemblage comprising 26 sherds (160g) of Romano-British pottery and 22 sherds (383g) of Late Iron Age pottery was retrieved from excavations carried out as part of an archaeological evaluation. Levels of preservation are variable with some large sherds but also abraded and fragmentary material. The Romano-British pottery is in poor condition overall, reflected by the low average sherd weight of 6.2g, whilst the Late Iron Age material is generally in better condition. Pottery was recovered from six trenches across the site. In addition, one sherd of Medieval or post-medieval (*c.*AD1350-1650) Bourne D ware was recovered from the subsoil (D. Sawday pers. comm.).

Methodology

The material was examined in hand specimen using a binocular microscope at x20 magnification and classified using the Leicestershire/East Midlands Fabric Series as detailed below (Pollard 1994; Marsden 2000). Quantification was by sherd count and weight (grams), with vessel forms assigned where diagnostic sherds allowed. Fabric types are outlined below.

Iron Age Pottery

S1 Fossil shell-tempered. Moderate-very common platey fossil marine shell (well-poorly sorted, up 8mm).

(Marsden 2000, 171).

Roman Pottery

CG1 Fossil marine shell, low quartz content.
CG3B Bourne-Greetham shelly ware.
GW3 Fine sandy reduced wares.
GW5 Medium sandy reduced wares.
OW2 Fine sandy oxidised wares.

(Pollard 1994, 112-114).

Pottery Catalogue

Tr	Cut	Cont	Fabric	Form	Sherds	Weight (g)	Dating
4	21	20	S1	Jar	1	32	c.200BC-AD50
4	21	20	S1	Jar or bowl	6	6	c.200BC-AD50
11	28	29	S1	Bowl	1	57	c.200BC-AD50
11	28	29	GW5	Jar or bowl	1	7	Late1st-early2ndC
11	28	30	S1	Jar	2	17	c.200BC-AD50
11	31	32	CG1	Jar or bowl	1	1	Late1stC+
11	31	32	CG3B	Jar	1	11	Late2ndC+
11	33	34	CG1	Jar or bowl	2	1	Late1stC+
11	35	36	S1	Jar	5	83	c.200BC-AD50
9	39	37	OW2	Jar or bowl	1	4	Late1st-early2ndC
9	39	38	CG1	Jar	1	15	Mid-late1stC
9		40	CG1	Jar or bowl	3	5	Mid-late1stC
9	42	41	CG1	Jar or bowl	8	19	Mid 1stC
13		51	GW5	Jar or bowl	2	30	Late1st-early2ndC
13		51	CG1	Jar	1	6	Late1stC+
10	55	53	S1/CG1	Jar	1	17	Mid1stC
10	55	53	GW5	Jar or bowl	1	14	Late1st-early2ndC
10	55	53	GW3	Jar or bowl	1	7	Late1st-early2ndC
10	55	53	GW3	Jar or bowl	1	4	Late1st-early2ndC
10	55	53	GW5	Bowl	1	19	Late1st-early2ndC
7	56	57	S1	Jar	7	188	c.200BC-AD50

Discussion

Trench 4, Ditch [21] (20)

Seven sherds (38g) of Late Iron Age shell-tempered pottery were recovered from [21] (20), a ditch terminus in Trench 4. The largest body sherd has scored decoration of the Ancaster-Breedon tradition, commonly known as East Midlands scored ware. Scored wares generally date from the middle to late Iron Age, and in parts of the East Midlands are believed to continue into the first century AD. Sources of shell-tempered fabrics include east Leicestershire, Rutland, south Lincolnshire and north Northamptonshire. (Elsdon 1992, 83-86; Marsden 2000, 173). The material here is comparable to that found at Empingham in Rutland, located in the Gwash Valley (Cooper 2000, 67-71) which, given the proximity of the site to the Rutland border and the Gwash Valley, is perhaps to be expected.

Trench 7 Ditch [56] (57)

Seven sherds (188g) of Late Iron Age shell-tempered pottery were recovered from (57) within ditch [56], representing a single vessel. The jar is scored ware as described above, including a flattened rim with finger impressions comparable to vessels found at Empingham in Rutland (Ibid, 68, fig.32, 2).

Trench 9, Ditch [39] (37), (38); Buried soil (40); Pit/posthole [42] (41)

Thirteen sherds (43g) of Roman pottery were recovered from Trench 9. The lower fill of ditch [39] revealed one sherd of early Roman shelly ware with combed decoration dating to the mid-1st century, whilst one sherd of oxidised ware was recovered from the upper fill (38). The oxidised ware is sandy and not as hard fired as developed Roman pottery, suggesting a date within the second half of the 1st century or perhaps into the early 2nd century at the latest. A further three sherds of early Roman shelly ware were found in the buried soil (40), truncated by ditch [39]. The pottery from the pit or posthole [42] was in very poor condition, comprising eight sherds of early Roman shelly ware dating to the mid-1st century.

Trench 10, Ditch [55] (53)

Five sherds (61g) of pottery were recovered from ditch [55]. One sherd of shell-tempered ware could be Late Iron Age or very early Roman and a date around the middle of the 1st century is most likely. The remaining sherds are Roman reduced wares including a bowl with a flattened plain rim and scored lines on the inner surface. The fabrics are a mixture of medium and fine sandy reduced wares, including a medium sandy fabric with a black core, grey margins and black surfaces. A date range from the late 1st century to the early 2nd century is most likely as, although the fabrics are Roman, they are not fully developed Roman grey wares as found from the 2nd century onwards. Nothing dates beyond *c.*AD120 and a date within the 1st century is possible.

Trench 11, Ditch [28] (29), (30); Gully [31] (32); Gully [33] (34); Gully [35] (36)

Thirteen sherds (177g) were recovered from Trench 11. A Late Iron Age shell-tempered ovoid bowl with a plain rim was recovered from the lower ditch fill (29), along with a small sherd of Roman reduced ware. The Roman fabric is the same medium sandy ware with black core and grey margins as found in Trench 10 above, dating to the late 1st or possibly early 2nd century. A further sherd of Late Iron Age shell-tempered ware was found in the upper fill (30). Two sherds of Roman pottery were found in the fill of gully [31], truncating ditch [28]. A tiny sherd of early Roman shelly ware was found alongside a Bourne-Greetham shelly ware rim. This latter fabric is the latest datable stratified sherd, as Bourne-Greetham wares date from the later 2nd century (Pollard 1994, 114). Two very small sherds of early Roman shelly ware were found in gully [33], dating to the second half of the 1st century. This gully truncated an earlier gully [35], from which five sherds of a Late Iron Age scored ware jar were recovered.

Trench 13, Context (51)

Three sherds (36g) of Roman pottery were found within a deposit of silty clay with limestone fragments (51). Two joining sherds of a jar or bowl in the medium sandy reduced ware with black core and grey margins were recovered along with one sherd of shelly ware. All three were abraded with the black surfaces of the reduced ware almost gone.

Conclusions

There is evidence for activity during the Late Iron Age and Roman periods. Unfortunately the dating of scored wares is so broad it is not possible to say for sure how much earlier the Iron Age material is from the early Roman pottery and it is possible that all of it dates within the 1st century AD. It is also not possible to state with certainty that the site was in continuous use, however if there was a hiatus, the presence of early Roman shelly wares clearly derived from Late Iron Age traditions suggests the absence could have been relatively brief, with a Roman presence from the mid-1st century onwards. The majority of the Roman pottery falls within the 1st century or the very early 2nd century at the latest, the one exception being the single sherd of Bourne-Greetham shelly ware dating to the later 2nd century. This sherd does seem a little out of place in comparison with the other Roman pottery and it may have found its way into the fill of gully [32] from the subsoil above. Its presence does indicate some slightly later Roman activity though, even if it is intrusive within the features exposed in Trench 11.

The spread of Iron Age and Roman pottery is generally divided between the trenches. Trenches 4 and 7 revealed only Iron Age pottery, whilst Trenches 9 and 13 revealed only Roman. Most of the pottery in Trench 10 is Roman, however, as mentioned previously, one shell-tempered sherd is certainly transitional and could be Late Iron Age or early Roman. In Trench 11 a mixture of Iron Age and Roman pottery was found. This may be a due to the number of different features located in this trench, with more ground disturbance resulting in material from different phases of activity being found together.

The assemblage is small and the Roman pottery in particular is in poor condition, however, it is always of interest to find Late Iron Age pottery associated with or close to early Roman material, as this provides an opportunity to consider the changes that took place during the 1st century as Roman pottery styles developed. In addition, as more assemblages comprising both types of material are discovered, it raises the possibility of establishing how long the Late Iron Age traditions survived into the 1st century AD.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Deborah Sawday (Medieval and Post-medieval pottery specialist) for identifying the Bourne D ware.

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Appendix 4 The Human Remains

Harriet Jacklin

Introduction

The following report details the results of the skeletal analysis of one fragmentary inhumation recovered during archaeological excavations Borderville Farm, Stamford. The inhumation was found in section, and was partially excavated. The rest of the inhumation remains *in situ.*

Methodology

The analysis of the inhumation included the assessment of age, sex, dentition, dental health and pathological analysis was also undertaken. The results were recorded using a standardised recording form created by Jacklin 2005, in line with Brickley and McKinley 2004. References used during analysis includes: Bass 1995, Buikstra *&* Ubelaker 1994, Brothwell 1981, McKinley & Roberts 1993 and Roberts 2009.

Results

SK66 (64) [65] (*fig 1*), was found in a very fragmentary and poor state of preservation with less than <25% of the skeleton present for analysis. The remains consisted of a partial cranium and partial mandible, three fragmentary cervical vertebrae, a right medial hand phalanx and a bone from the right foot (metatarsal 5). The individual was unable to be identified as either male or female due to the absence of sexual indicators. The fragmentary nature of the skeletal material meant very few age indicators survived, and as such only a broad estimate could be given. The individual was aged between 15 and 50 years old. The age of the individual was based on dental eruption and dental attrition. Stature was unable to be established due to the lack of complete long bones. No pathological or metabolic evidence of ill health or disease was found.

Figure 1: SK1

The completed recording form for SK66, including the skeletal inventory can be found in the archive.

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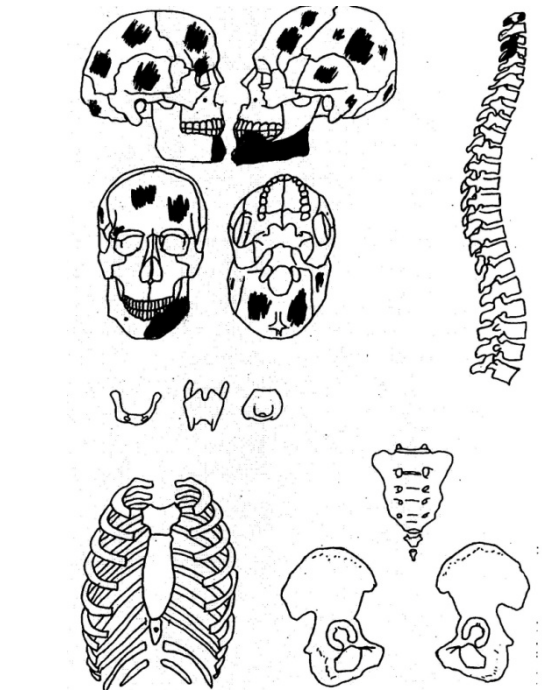
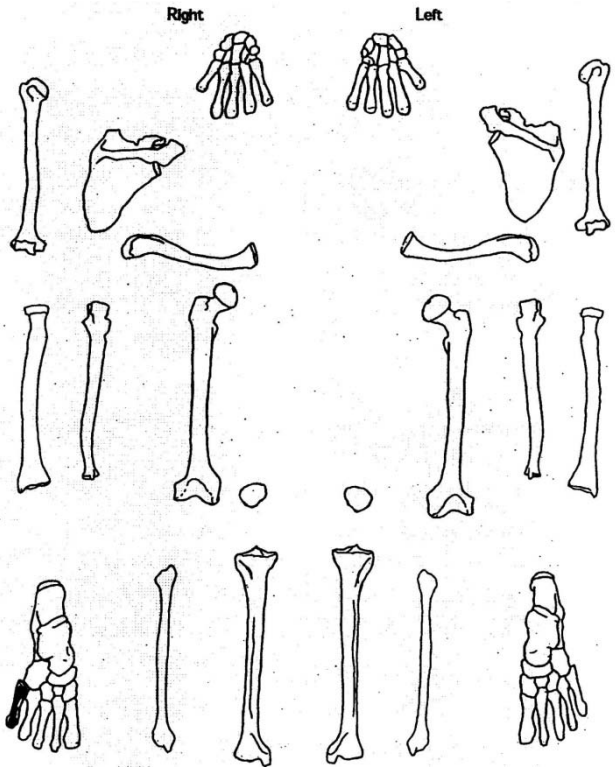
Pictorial Recording Sheets

SK 66





Appendix 5 The Animal Bone

Jennifer Browning

A very small animal bone assemblage, numbering 34 fragments, was recovered from Iron Age and Roman features at Borderville Farm, Stamford. Preservation was assessed on a scale of 1-5, with 1 being in excellent condition and 5 very poorly preserved. The condition of the bone was variable; some surfaces were well-preserved while, even within the same context, other bones were extremely badly eroded. This may mean that some bones were exposed to weathering before burial but more probably suggests localised acidic conditions within the substrate. The pitted appearance can be caused by enlargement of naturally present spaces as the bone dissolves (Lyman 1994, 422). The largest proportions of bone were assigned to the indeterminate large and medium mammal categories but cattle and sheep/goat were identified. Fine cut marks on a scapula fragment, typical of Iron Age butchery, indicate that the at least some bones are the waste products of processing and consumption. There was no evidence for wild animals, juveniles, birds, fish or small mammals; probably a consequence of the small size and mixed preservation. A larger sample would be required to better assess the significance of the faunal remains.

Context	N	Bone	Species	Fusion	Condition	Notes
29	1	scapula	large mammal		2	Probable cattle. 4x parallel cut marks
43	2	shaft fragment	large mammal		5	very badly eroded surface
32	1	metapodial	medium mammal		5	shaft fragment. Very badly eroded surface
9	1	premolar	cattle		3	Pathology: unusual pit between occlusal surface and extra lobe of enamel on lingual side of tooth.
9	1	tooth	cattle		3	molar or dp4
9	3	shaft fragment	large mammal		4	
9	3	shaft fragment	medium mammal		2	
9	1	tibia	medium mammal		4	
11	1	humerus	sheep/goat	df	4	Right. poor surface condition
11	1	humerus	sheep/goat	df	2	Left.
11	1	rib fragment	medium mammal		2	
11	1	scapula	sheep/goat	df	3	Right.
11	1	C vertebra	large mammal		2	double transverse foramen, on 1 side only. Epiphyses unfused, indicating
63	1	shaft fragment	large mammal		5	3 fragments. Severely eroded
36	1	horncore	sheep/goat		3	fragment
30	1	rib fragment	large mammal		3	
30	1	u molar	sheep/goat		2	
30	1	skull fragment	large mammal		3	fragment of squamous part of temporal
30	4	shaft fragment	large mammal		3	
30	3	shaft fragment	medium mammal		3	
30	1	metatarsal	sheep/goat		2	shaft fragment
55	3	shaft fragment	large mammal		4	possible rib, badly eroded

Table 1: Animal bone catalogue

Bibliography

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Appendix 6 Miscellaneous Finds

Flint, Lynden Cooper

Context (37) contained a retouched flake, whilst context (41) contained a crude core with two flake removals, a flake and three chips. A broad Neolithic to Bronze Age date is applicable.

Natural stone as possible industrial evidence, *Nick Cooper with identifications by Graham Morgan*

Context (30) contained a single fragment of natural iron pyrites (26g). Context (52) contained four fragments of natural ironstone (59g). Context (53) contained a lump of natural ironstone (259g). Given the local geology it is likely that the natural material was deposited by accident rather than deliberate collection of material for smelting. The material will be discarded prior to archiving.

Appendix 7 Environmental samples

Angela Monckton

Introduction

Excavations were carried out by ULAS directed by James Harvey and samples were taken from features including a grave, ditches, gullies and a buried soil for the recovery of charred plant remains which may give evidence of diet, agriculture or activities on sites in the past. The features were of Iron Age / Early Roman date. Snail shells were also recovered from the ditches. Hence this site was investigated for the presence of cereals and other remains to compare with results from these and other sites in the region. Very little was found in the samples.

Methods

Bulk samples were taken from datable features and processed to recover plant and animal remains. One part of each sample was processed and the rest reserved to process if any had the potential to produce sufficient remains for analysis, i.e. 50 items of plant remains.

Samples were wet sieved in a York tank using a 0.5mm mesh with flotation into a 0.3mm mesh sieve. The residues were air dried and then separated on a 4mm riddle and the fractions over 4mm (coarse fractions), were sorted for all finds. The fractions below 4mm were examined for the presence of remains and reserved for sorting during the analysis stage if required. The flotation fractions (flots) were transferred to plastic boxes and air dried and then packed carefully in self-seal polythene bags and submitted for this assessment for charred plants and other remains. This work was carried out by Anita Radini the University of Leicester Archaeological Services.

All the flots were examined and sorted using a low power stereo microscope and any plant remains were removed to glass specimen tubes. The plant remains were identified by comparison with modern reference material. Charred remains including charcoal was poorly represented in most of the samples, and the fine fraction residues (below 4mm) contained only occasional charcoal flecks, so further sorting was not necessary. Snail shells were also recovered. The remains were noted with an estimate of quantity and tabulated below (Table 1).

Results

Charred plant remains excluding charcoal were found in only four of the 8 samples in single numbers.

Sample 6 from ditch context 53 contained a single wheat chaff (glume base) fragment, probably of spelt. This sample alco contained one spelt wheat grain and a large grass seed. Sample 5 from ditch context 38 contained one spelt grain, while gully sample 7 from context 36 contained two seeds of leguminous weeds. Sample 8 from ditch context 98 contained more abundant charcoal with a few fragments of charred hazel nutshell probably are waste removed from a domestic hearth and dumped in the ditch.

These charred cereal remains and arable weeds are at a very low density in the samples and compare with some Iron Age sites where cereals are present but in small numbers. These together with the nutshell probably represent domestic waste from hearths. Spelt is the main cereal in the Region in both Iron Age and Roman times so could be from either period (Greig 1991). No other samples contained any charred plant remains other than small fragments or flecks of charcoal.

Some of the samples contained snail shells (Table 1). These were of the same species as found in many Iron Age and other ditches such as those found at Grove Farm Enderby Leicestershire (Monckton 1992). A few of the ditch samples contained sufficient for further analysis but the snails are of very common species and may not provide much detail of the environment, some indications of conditions were noted. The ditch samples 3, 5 and 6 contained a few shells of *Vallonia* sp. which also lives in ditches but suggests open conditions. The other snails found include *Trichia* sp., *Discus rotundata*, and *Oxychilus* sp. which live in moist conditions such as amongst vegetation in ditches. In addition a few shells of *Carychium* sp., a marsh snail, and *Pupilla muscorum* a snail of disturbed ground, suggesting a ditch with disturbed ground at the sides. Similar snails were found in the grave sample 1 context 64 probably from the surrounding features rather than associated with the grave cut or burial because many modern burrowing snail shells of *Cecilioides acicula* were also present.

Discussion and conclusions

The samples have no potential to produce sufficient remains for analysis of charred plant remains or to provide much information about the site. The very low density of remains, a single chaff fragment in only one sample, cereal grains or seeds in two more samples, six nutshell fragments in a fourth, and lack of charred plant remains in the rest of the samples examined, suggest that the site is away from the area of occupation or other cereal related activities. Remains are often at a low density in Iron Age samples and a scatter of charred cereal grains, spelt wheat chaff and weed seeds is usually found as domestic waste from food preparation (Monckton 2004). Roman sites tend to produce concentrations of remains where cereals are processed, although a scatter of domestic waste is usually present on occupation sites. Hence it is suggested from the sparse plant remains that this area is some distance from occupation.

The snails from the ditches suggest ditches in an open landscape such as suggested by the more abundant evidence from Grove Farm Enderby (Monckton 1992). Other snails of disturbed ground suggest the digging activities on the site as would be expected.

Recommendations

No analysis is suggested on the samples from this evaluation although charred plant remains were found to be present and land snails quite numerous in a few samples. If further excavations are carried out features with the potential to produce evidence from charred plant remains or molluscs may be found and so should be sampled accordingly to recover evidence of agriculture or environment.

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to James Harvey for taking the samples and providing information about the site, and to Anita Radini for processing the samples.

Table 1: Remains from flots (xA6.2006)

Samp No.	Cont No.	Cut No.	Samp Vol. Litres	Flot Vol. mls	Gr Ch	Cf ch	Se ch	Se un	Chc	Comments. Plant remains.
1	64 Grave	65	6	20	-	-	-	+	fl	Snails x 30, open and disturbed ground, many modern burrowing snails.
3	57 Ditch	57	6	35	-	-	-	-	fl	Snails x 10, modern snails more numerous.
5	38 Ditch	39	7	70	1	-	-	-	+	Snails x 50, moist conditions, open and disturbed. Spelt grain x1.
6	53 Ditch	55	8	60	1	1	1	-	+	Snails x 50, similar to 3. A wheat chaff fragment, a spelt grain, a grass seed.
8	98 Ditch	98	6	50	-	-	6n	-	++	Hazel nutshell fragments and charcoal.
2	20 Gully	21	8	30	-	-	-	-	fl	Snails x10, burrowing snails present.
7	36 Gully	36	6	36	-	-	2	-	+	Two weed seeds of small legumes, vetch type.
4	40 Soil	-	5	20	-	-	-	+	fl	Many burrowing snails, a disturbed ground snail.

Key: Gr = cereal grain, Cf = chaff, Se = seed, ch = charred, un = uncharred, Chc = charcoal, N = nutshell, fl = flecks, frags = fragments, + = present, ++ = moderate amount, +++ = abundant.

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Appendix 8 Design Specification

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching.

Stamford AFC, Stamford, Lincolnshire

NGR: TF033085

Planning Authority: South Kesteven

For: Burghley House Preservation Trust

1 Introduction

Definition and scope of the specification

1.1 In accordance with Planning Policy Guidelines 16 (PPG16, Archaeology and Planning), para.30, this specification provides a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for a phase of intrusive archaeological field evaluation. The fieldwork specified below is intended to provide preliminary indications of character and extent of any buried archaeological remains in order that the potential impact of the development on such remains may be assessed by the Planning Authority.

1.2 The archaeological investigation is required pre-determination and a brief for the work has been issued by the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist on behalf of the planning authority (Brief 2009). Unless otherwise detailed within this Design Specification, the evaluation will be undertaken in accordance with, and fulfil the requirements of, the South Kesteven Brief.

1.3 All archaeological work will adhere to the Institute for Archaeologist's (IfA) *Code of Conduct* (2006) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2001).

1.4 The document provides details of the work proposed by ULAS on behalf of the client, and should be submitted to the Archaeological Advisor to the Planning Authority for approval before archaeological investigation by ULAS is implemented. The scheme includes the following:

- Evaluation by intrusive trial trenching

2 Background

Context of the Project

2.1 This document deals with a new development (Figs 1-2), at the north-east edge of the town of Stamford, South Kesteven, Lincolnshire along the eastern side of Ryhall Road (TF033085; Fig.1). The development is located in the south-east corner of a field and covers approximately 4.5 ha.

2.2 An archaeological evaluation by trial trenching of the site has therefore been requested by South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist, as advisor to the planning authority, as outlined in their *Brief for Archaeological Scheme of Evaluation and Recording (Trial Trenching)*. University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) has been commissioned to undertake the work. The results will inform the need and nature for any subsequent archaeological works required in advance of construction.

Geological and Topographical Background

2.3 The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 157 (Stamford) shows that the underlying geology is likely to be Upper Lincolnshire Limestone, possibly with Rutland

Formation mudstone and Blisworth Limestone to the south-west. The proposed development area lies within a larger arable field at a height of c.60m OD at the western end sloping to the east.

Archaeological Background (taken from the Brief)

2.4 An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment for the area has already been prepared (Hunt 2008). The Historic Environment Record (HER) for Lincolnshire records one site of archaeological interest which lies within the assessment area (MLI88501). This is an area of undated crop marks comprising enclosures, a trackway and a boundary.

2.5 Geophysical survey undertaken in 2009 confirmed the cropmark evidence but also identified further archaeological features. These include ditched encloses and pit alignments probably dating from the prehistoric period through to the Roman period.

Requirement for archaeological work

2.6 The archaeological adviser to the planning authority has recommended a programme of trial trenching (approximately 2% of the site), to be undertaken using a machine equipped with a toothless ditching bucket, and archaeological excavation of any archaeological deposits. A trial trenching plan has been provided with the brief (Fig. 2).

3 Aims and objectives

3.1 The main objective of the evaluation is through archaeological trial trenching:

- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits in areas to be affected by the development.
- To provide information on the extent, character and date range of archaeological deposits within the application area.
- To assess the potential impact of the proposed development on any archaeological remains.
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

4 Methodology

General Methodology and Standards

4.1 All work will follow the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct* (2006) and adhere to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2001).

4.2 Staffing, recording systems, health and safety provisions and insurance details are included below.

4. 3 Internal monitoring procedures will be undertaken including visits to the site by the project manager. These will ensure that project targets are met and professional standards are maintained. Provision will be made for external monitoring meetings with the Planning Authority and the Client, if required.

Evaluation methodology

4.1 Prior to any machining of trial trenches general photographs of the site areas may be taken.

4.2 The Planning Archaeologist for South Kesteven has suggested a *c.* 2% sample of the proposed development area would need to be trial trenched. This equates to approximately 16 trenches (each 25m long).

4.3 The provisional trench plan attached (Fig. 2) shows the proposed locations of the trenches. The size and position of the trenches indicated on the provisional trench plan may vary due to unforeseen site constraints or archaeology.

4.4 Topsoil and overburden will be removed carefully in level spits, under continuous archaeological supervision using a mechanical excavator with a toothless bucket. Trenches will be excavated down to the top of archaeological deposits or natural undisturbed ground, whichever is reached first.

4.5 Trenches will be examined by hand cleaning and any archaeological deposits located will be planned at an appropriate scale. Archaeological deposits will be sample-excavated by hand as appropriate to establish the stratigraphic and chronological sequence, recognising and excavating structural evidence and recovering economic, artefactual and environmental evidence. Particular attention will be paid to the potential for buried palaeosols and waterlogged deposits in consultation with ULAS's environmental officer.

4.6 Measured drawings of all archaeological features will be prepared at a scale of 1:20 and tied into an overall site plan. All plans will be tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid. Relative spot heights will be taken as appropriate.

4.7 Sections of any excavated archaeological features will be drawn at an appropriate scale. At least one longitudinal face of each trench will be recorded. All sections will be levelled and tied to the Ordnance Survey Datum, or a permanent fixed benchmark.

4.8 Trench locations will be recorded using an electronic distance measurer (EDM) or Differential GPS. These will then be tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

4.9 A contingency may be required to clarify the character or extent of additional features. The contingency will only be initiated after consultation with the Planning Archaeologist.

Recording Systems

4.10 Any archaeological deposits encountered will be recorded and excavated using standard ULAS procedures. Sufficient of any archaeological features or deposits will be hand excavated in order to provide the information required.

- 50% of each pit and other discrete archaeological features will be excavated.
- 20% of the exposed lengths of linear features will normally be excavated. Excavation sections will be placed to provide adequate coverage of the features and will include excavation of terminals and intersections. A flexible approach will be adopted to the location of excavation samples such that areas of exposed ditch fill with higher artefact or ecofact content may be targeted.
- 25% of ring gullies will normally be excavated to include excavation of the terminals. Special regard will be given to significant stratigraphic relationships and concentrations of artefactual material.
- Structures and complex or deeply stratified archaeology will be cleaned and initially left *in situ*. A method of excavation for these will be agreed with the Planning Archaeologist.
- Any change in sample ratio will be agreed with the Planning Archaeologist.

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

4.12 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 a scale of 1:10 or 1:20. 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.

4.13 An adequate photographic record of the investigations will be prepared. This will include photographs 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 mounted.

4.14 This record will be compiled and fully checked during the course of the project.

5. Finds

5.1 The IfA *Guidelines for Finds Work* will be adhered to.

5.2 All antiquities, valuables, objects or remains of archaeological interest, other than articles declared by Coroner's Inquest to be subject to the Treasure Act, discovered in or under the Site during the carrying out of the project by ULAS or during works carried out on the Site by the Client shall be deemed to be the property of ULAS provided that ULAS after due examination of the said Archaeological Discoveries shall transfer ownership of all Archaeological Discoveries unconditionally to the relevant museum for storage in perpetuity.

5.3 An Accession number will be obtained from the relevant museum prior to work commencing. This will be used to identify all records and finds from the site.

5.4 All identified finds and artefacts are to be retained, although certain classes of building material will, in some circumstances, be discarded after recording with the approval of the Planning Archaeologist.

5.5 All finds and samples will be treated in a proper manner. Where appropriate they will be cleaned, marked and receive remedial conservation in accordance with recognised best-practice. This will include the site code number, finds number and context number. Bulk finds will be bagged in clear self sealing plastic bags, again marked with site code, finds and context numbers and boxed by material in standard storage boxes (340mm x 270mm x 195mm). All materials will be fully labelled, catalogued and stored in appropriate containers.

5.6 Any human remains encountered will initially be left in situ and will only be removed under a Ministry of Justice Licence and in compliance with relevant environmental health regulations. The clients, planning Authority and the coroner will be informed immediately on their discovery.

6. Environmental Sampling

6.1. If features are appropriate for environmental sampling a strategy and methodology will be developed on site following advice from ULAS's Environmental Specialist. Preparation, taking, processing and assessment of environmental samples will be in accordance with current best practice. The sampling strategy is likely to include the following:

- A range of features to represent all feature types, areas and phases will be selected on a judgmental basis. The criteria for selection will be that deposits are datable, well sealed and with little intrusive or residual material.
- Any buried soils or well-sealed deposits with concentrations of carbonised material present will be intensively sampled taking a known proportion of the deposit.
- Spot samples will be taken where concentrations of environmental remains are located.
- Waterlogged remains, if present, will be sampled for pollen, plant macrofossils, insect remains and radiocarbon dating provided that they are uncontaminated.

6.2 All collected samples will be labelled with context and sequential sample numbers.

6.3 Appropriate contexts will be bulk sampled (15 litre or the whole context depending on size) for the recovery of carbonised plant remains and insects.

6.4 Recovery of small animal bones, bird bone and large molluscs will normally be achieved through processing other bulk samples or 30 litre samples may be taken specifically to sample particularly rich deposits.

6.6 Wet sieving with flotation will be carried out using a York Archaeological Trust sieving tank with a 0.5mm mesh and a 0.3mm flotation sieve. The small size mesh will be used initially as flotation of plant remains may be incomplete and some may remain in the residue. The residue > 0.5mm from the tank will be separated into coarse fractions of over 4mm and fine

fractions of > 0.5-4mm. The coarse fractions will be sorted for finds. The fine fractions and flots will be evaluated and prioritised; only those with remains apparent will be sorted. The prioritised flots will not be sorted until the analysis stage when phasing information is available. Flots will be scanned and plant remains from selected contexts will be identified and further sampling, sieving and sorting targeted towards higher potential deposits.

7. Report and Archive

7.1 The full report in A4 format will usually follow within eight weeks of the completion of the fieldwork. Copies will be provided for the client and the Local Planning Authority. Copies of the report will also be deposited with the Historic Environment Record. 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.

7.2 The report will include consideration of:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the evaluation.
- The nature, location and extent of any structural, artefactual and environmental material uncovered.
- The anticipated degree of survival of archaeological deposits.
- The anticipated archaeological impact of the current proposals.
- Appropriate illustrative material including maps, plans, sections, drawings and photographs.
- Specialist reports on artefacts and sampling.
- Summary.
- The location and size of the archive.
- A quantitative and qualitative assessment of the potential of the archive for further analysis leading to full publication, following guidelines laid down in *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage).

7.3 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) (Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700 1993) will usually be presented to within six months of the completion of fieldwork. This archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken.

8. Publication

8.1 A summary report will be submitted to a suitable regional or national archaeological journal within one year of completion of fieldwork. A full report will be submitted if the results are of significance.

8.2 University of Leicester Archaeological Services supports the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. The online OASIS form at http://ads.ac.uk/project/oasis will be completed detailing the results of the project. ULAS will contact the HER prior to completion of the form. Once a report has become a public document following its incorporation into the HER it may be placed on the web-site.

9. Acknowledgement and Publicity

9.1 ULAS shall acknowledge the contribution of the Client in any displays, broadcasts or publications relating to the site or in which the report may be included.

9.2 ULAS and the Client shall each ensure that a senior employee shall be responsible for dealing with any enquiries received from press, television and any other broadcasting media and members of the public. All enquiries made to ULAS shall be directed to the Client for comment.

10 Timetable and Staffing

10.1 No start date has yet been fixed. The investigation is scheduled to take up to 2 to 2.5 weeks to complete. A team of two to three experienced field archaeologists will be present during this work.

11. Health and Safety

11.1 ULAS is covered by and adheres to the University of Leicester Statement of Safety Policy and uses the ULAS Health and Safety Manual (revised 2005) with appropriate risks assessments for all archaeological work. A draft Health and Safety statement for this project is in the Appendix. The relevant Health and Safety Executive guidelines will be adhered to as appropriate.

12. Insurance

12.1 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.

13. Bibliography

Hunt, L. 2008 *An archaeological desk-based assessment for the new Stamford AFC site, Ryhall Road, Stamford, Lincolnshire (TF 034 085). ULAS Report 2008-182*

IfA, 2001 *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*

IfA 2001 *Guidelines for Finds Work*

IfA, 2006 *Codes of Conduct*

MAP 2 *The management of archaeological projects* 2nd edition English Heritage 1991

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)

South Kesteven 2009 *Brief for Archaeological Scheme of Evaluation and Recording (Trial Trenching)*

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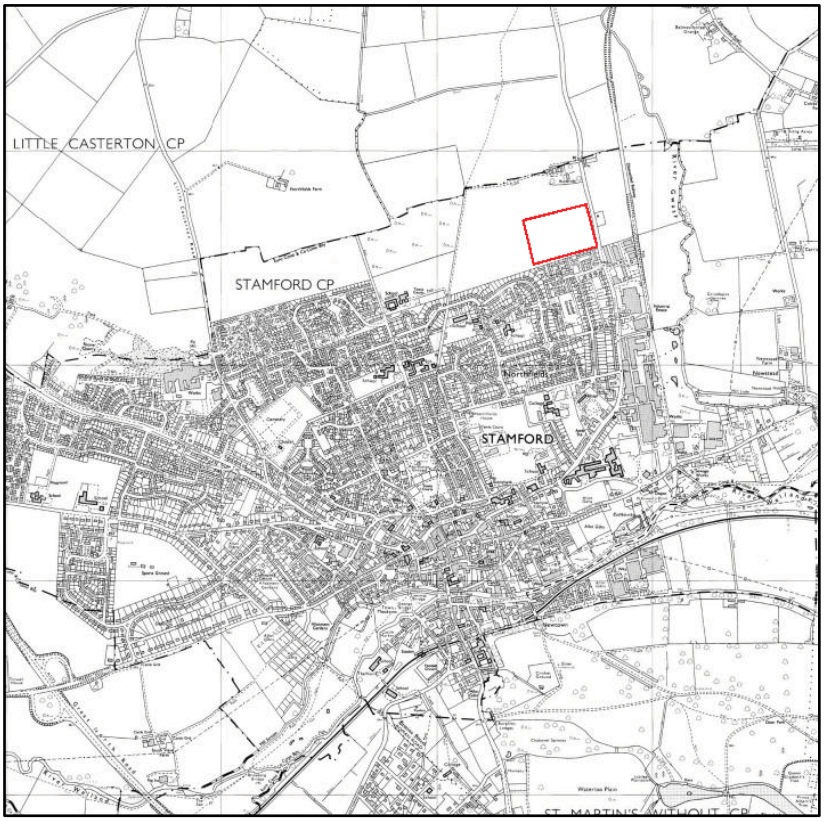

Figure 1 Site Location
Reproduced from Landranger® 1:50 000 scale by permission of Ordnance Survey® on behalf of The Controller
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Figure 2 Trial trench locations (Plan supplied by South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist)

Appendix 1: Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement

A risks assessment will be produced by on-site staff, which will be updated and amended during the course of the evaluation.

1. Nature of the work

1.1 The work will involve trial trenching during daylight hours to reveal underlying archaeological deposits. The work will involve excavation using machining of trial trenches under the control and supervision of archaeologists.

2 Risks Assessment

2.1 ***Trial Trenching***

The work will involve machine excavation by mechanical excavator during daylight hours to reveal underlying archaeological deposits. Overall depth is likely to be *c.* 0.5 -1m. Trenches will not be excavated to a depth exceeding 1.2m without consideration being given to shoring or stepping of the sides. Spoil will be stockpiled no less than 1.5 m from the edge of the excavation; the topsoil and subsoil being kept separate. Remaining works will involve the examination of the exposed surface with hand tools (shovels, trowels etc) and excavation of archaeological features. Loose spoil heaps will not be walked on. Protective footwear will be worn at all times. Hard hats will be worn when working in deeper sections or with plant. First aid kit to be kept in site accommodation/vehicle. Vehicle and mobile phone to be kept on site in case of emergency.

2.2 ***Working with plant***.

Precautions. Archaeologists experienced in working with machines will supervise Trial Trenching at all times. Hard hats, protective footwear and hazard jackets will be worn at all times. Machine driver to be suitably qualified and insured. If services or wells are encountered machining will be halted until extent has been established by hand excavation or areas where it is safe to machine have been established. It is assumed that there is safe and permitted access to the site area.

2.3 ***Working in vicinity of services***

All services will be identified and marked on the ground prior to excavation. A CAT scanner will be used on the location of all trenches prior to excavation.

2.4 ***Working within areas prone to waterlogging***.

In the event of waterlogging preventing work continuing, it is proposed to excavate a sump, suitably fenced and clearly marked to enable the water to drain away from the trenches to facilitate recording. Protective clothing will be worn at all times and precautions taken to prevent contact with stagnant water which may carry Vialls 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.

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

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22-05-2009

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