University of Leicester

Archaeological Services

An Archaeological Evaluation at land off School Street, Wolston SP 4128 7572

James Harvey

ULAS Report No 2010-189

An Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching at land off School Street, Wolston, Warwickshire

NGR: SP 4128 7572 centre

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For: Nexus Heritage

Checked by

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T/1145

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Summary

An archaeological field evaluation by trial trenching was undertaken on land north and south of School Street, Wolston, Warwickshire (SP 4128 7472, centre) by the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) between 4th-7th May 2010 and 20th-29th September 2010 for Nexus Heritage. The initial potential of the site was highlighted by information held in the Warwickshire Heritage Environment Record and subsequent geophysical survey conducted within one of the application areas. This highlighted the potential for archaeological features to be present within the proposed area for a new residential development. The evaluation forms part of an archaeological impact assessment of the proposed development. A total of twenty-nine trenches were excavated over two areas in order to target the possible features previously identified by the geophysical survey as well as to evaluate apparently 'archaeologically blank' areas of the application area.

Positive results were obtained from three of the four targeted trenches in Area 1 (north of School Street) confirming the presence of archaeological features suggested by the geophysical anomalies. The clearest anomaly consisted of a curvilinear ditch enclosing activity dating to the Mid-Late Iron Age against the north-western site boundary. It is possible that these features could be associated with known cropmarks to the north-west of the site. Elsewhere, several features were also identified that had been previously detected by the geophysical survey. These included further Mid-Late Iron Age activity towards the southern boundary and a possible Early Roman enclosure towards the centre of the site. Further undated features were also recorded. In the northern of the site later activity was recorded relating to a possible in-filled pond with associated ditches and later hollowed brick drains leading to it.

The trenches excavated in Area 2 (south of School Street) produced limited results with only one possible undated feature and a number of natural features were recorded.

The archive will be deposited with Warwickshire Museum and has been assigned a temporary accession number (T/1145)

1. Introduction

Planning permission is currently being sought a for a new residential development to the north of School Street and a newt reserve on land to the south of School Street, Wolston, Warwickshire (NGR SP 4128 7572; Fig.1).

This report presents the results of a programme of archaeological trial trenching that was undertaken over two phases between 4th-7th May 2010 and 20th-29th September 2010. The proposed development areas had been previously identified as an area of archaeological potential from information held in the Warwickshire Historic Environment Record (HER) and subsequent geophysical survey on the northern site by Stratascan (Haddrell 2010).

A strategy for the work was set out in the Design Specification for archaeological work (Trial Trench Evaluation), Land off School Street, Wolston, Warwickshire (Score. 2010, hereinafter 'Specification'; Appendix 4). The trial trenching was undertaken to target potential features identified within the geophysical survey as well as evaluate the 'archaeologically blank' areas of the proposed development. A further area of evaluation was also undertaken to the south of School Street, in addition to the work set out in the Specification. The fieldwork was carried out in accordance with Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (PPS5).

2. Site Description, Topography and Geology

The site lies on the eastern edge of Wolston village in the Rugby district of Warwickshire (Figs. 1 and 2). The site consists of Area 1 to the north of School Street and Area 2 to the south of School Street.

Area 1 comprises of an irregular shaped field covering an area of *c*.3.2 ha. It is bounded to the south by School Street and to the west and north by Priory Road. The general topography of the field slopes gently down from the south-east corner at a height of 75.87m OD down to 72.15m OD at the north-west corner. The area is currently under pasture.

Area 2 consists of the eastern half of a small paddock covering an area of *c*.0.5 ha. It is bounded to the north by School Street and the north-east by Coal Pit Lane. The general topography of the area slopes gently down from the south-east corner at a height of 76.68m OD down to 75.84m OD at the north-west corner. The land is currently under pasture.

The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 169 (Coventry) indicates that the underlying geology comprised Mercia Mudstone bedrock overlain by bands of sand and gravel.

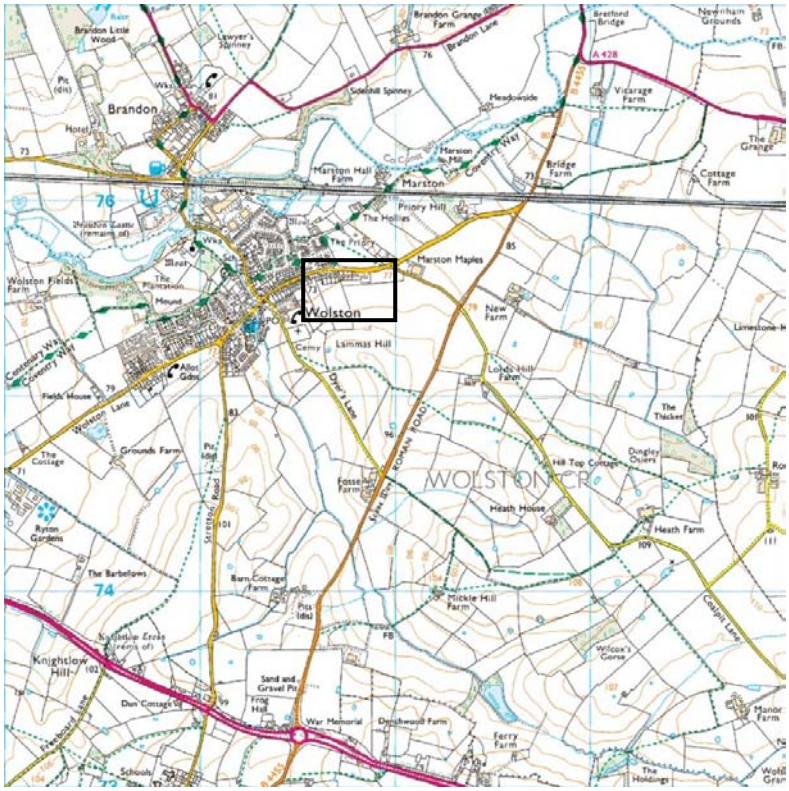

Figure 1: Site Location Plan (Scale: 1:50000)

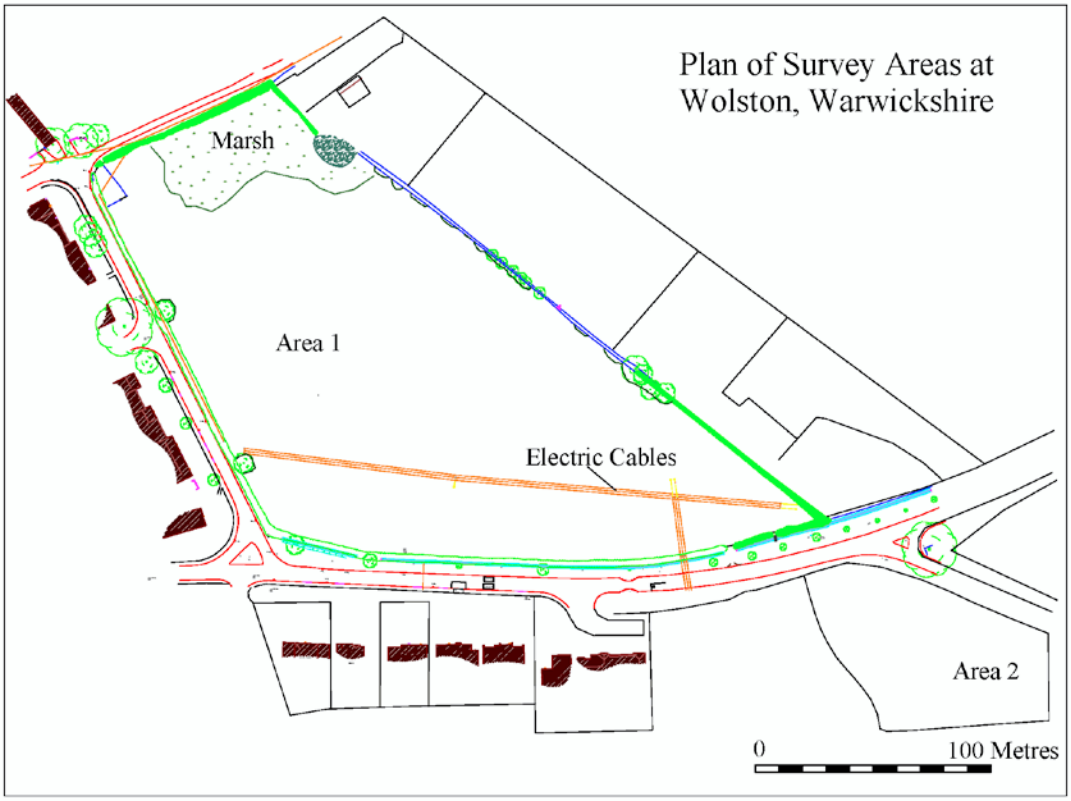

Figure 2: Site Location Plan marking the two application areas (close-up provided by client)

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

A 500m search of the Warwickshire Historic Environment Record (HER) was conducted (Appendix 3). In addition a visit was made to the Records office to obtain earlier maps of the area.

Historical Background

The name 'Wolston' is derived from the Old English for 'Farmstead or village of a man called *Wulfrc* (Mills 2003). The settlement of Wolston is referred to as *Ulvricetone* in the Domesday Book of 1086. Here there are two entries relating to Wolston indicating that in Marton Hundred Reginald held 5 hides in Wolston from the Earl (Roger), land for 12 ploughs, in lordship 4; 6 slaves, 18 villagers with a priest and 19 smallholders have 12 ploughs and a mill at 6s 4d; meadow 5 acres. The value was 60s; later 20s; now 100s. Almund held these two manors. Also in Stoneleigh Hundred Reginald held 1 virgate of land in Wolston from the Earl (Roger), land for 1/2 plough, 1 villager., Value 5s. Almund held it. The application area lies some 400m east of the historic medieval core of Wolston (**MWA9541**).

The site of Wolston Priory is situated 100m north-west of the application area. This was a small alien priory founded by Hubert Boldran between 1086 and 1194. The priory belonged to the Benedictine abbey of St Pierre-sur-Dive. In 1388 the hall, stable, grange and barn were dilapidated and in 1394 it was sold to Coventry Abbey. The current Wolston Priory is a partly 16th century house, but has some 15th century or earlier details. These include a late 15th century entrance arch in the porch, a stone piscina in the kitchen and a carved corbel in the adjoining pantry. These may have come from the priory. The current house probably stands on the previous site of the priory (**MWA 3143; DWA1381**).

A moat dating to the medieval period is located 200m northwest of the application area. It is still visible as earthwork, and is situated 500m northeast of St Margaret' Church, Wolston. The feature is roughly 80m by 60m, polygonal, without enclosure banks. The moat is about 10m wide and 2m deep. The moated site may actually be the original location of the small alien priory (**MWA3143**).

Currently both application areas are under pasture and cartographic research shows they have remained relatively unchanged from their present form throughout the late 19th and 20th centuries. The only noticeable difference within Area 1 is that the pond located in the northern corner of the site, which was present on the 1886 First Edition Ordnance Survey map and subsequent 1905 edition is absent on the 1938 edition. The other noticeable difference in Area 2 was that it was once part of a larger field until the mid-20th century.

Figure 3: 1886 First Edition Ordnance Survey map showing application area

Archaeological Background

Two aerial photography surveys conducted by James Pickering in 1962 and 1979 (and later survey in 2004 by Ed Wilson) have shown cropmarks relating to archaeological features within a large rectangular arable field located 150m north-east of the application area. The features comprised of two ring ditches and a cluster of pits and although undated are likely to be features associated with prehistoric burial mounds and prehistoric or Romano-British settlement or farming practices (**MWA3417**, **MWA5407** and **MWA9886**).

The only record of archaeological fieldwork undertaken within the vicinity of the site recorded in the HER records involved archaeological observation during the excavation of foundation trenches for a new building at Wolston Priory. No archaeological features were found although a single sherd of 14th century pottery was recorded along with post medieval material (**EWA6778**).

Although no known archaeological deposits are recorded within the application area, given the known potential of the site, the Planning Control Archaeologist, Warwickshire County Council, recommended the need for an initial phase of archaeological investigation involving detailed magnetometer geophysical survey within Area 1 in order to ascertain a better understanding of the archaeological potential of the site (Haddrell. 2010, Fig. 4).

The geophysical survey found a small amount of possibly significant archaeology in the form of a curvilinear cut feature containing two associated pits close to the north-eastern boundary of the site. Ridge and furrow was also evident in the east of the site, probably of a later date than the curvilinear feature. A weak positive area anomaly was apparent in the south-east of the field which may be a headland associated with the ridge and furrow. Modern agricultural marks were present across the majority of

the field. Two weak cut linear features, providing limited evidence for archaeology, were apparent in the north west of the site and areas of magnetic debris, associated with the marshy area can be seen in the north (Haddrell. 2010: 7).

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 development

- 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 development.

5. Methodology

The Specification stated that a 4% sample of the site was to be excavated, equating to 640m x 2m of trenching on Area 1 and 100m x 2m of trenching on Area 2. The trenches were to be positioned as set out in the plans provided by Nexus Heritage (Figs. 4 and 5). A total of 22 trenches, varying in length between 10-50m were to be excavated in Area 1. This included four trenches to target the anomalies highlighted by the geophysical survey as well evaluating the 'archaeologically blank' areas in order to test their potential. A total of seven trenches, all measuring 15m in length were to be excavated in Area 2 within the area of possible development impact.

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 maximum safe depth given the specific site conditions.

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. Bulk soil samples were taken as appropriate in order to evaluate the environmental potential of the site.

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

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

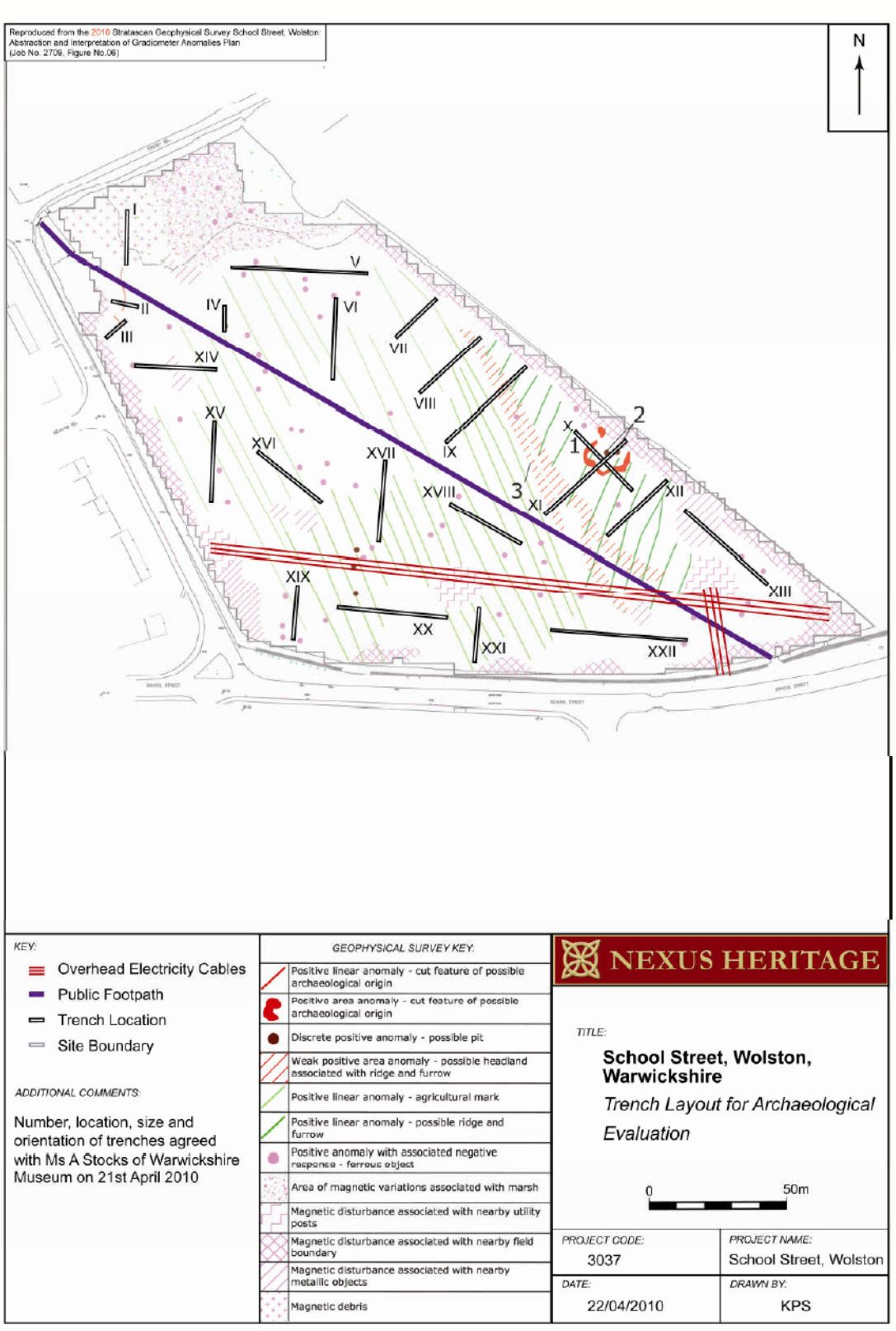

Figure 4: Plan of proposed Trench locations within Area 1 incorporating the geophysical survey (provided by Nexus Heritage)

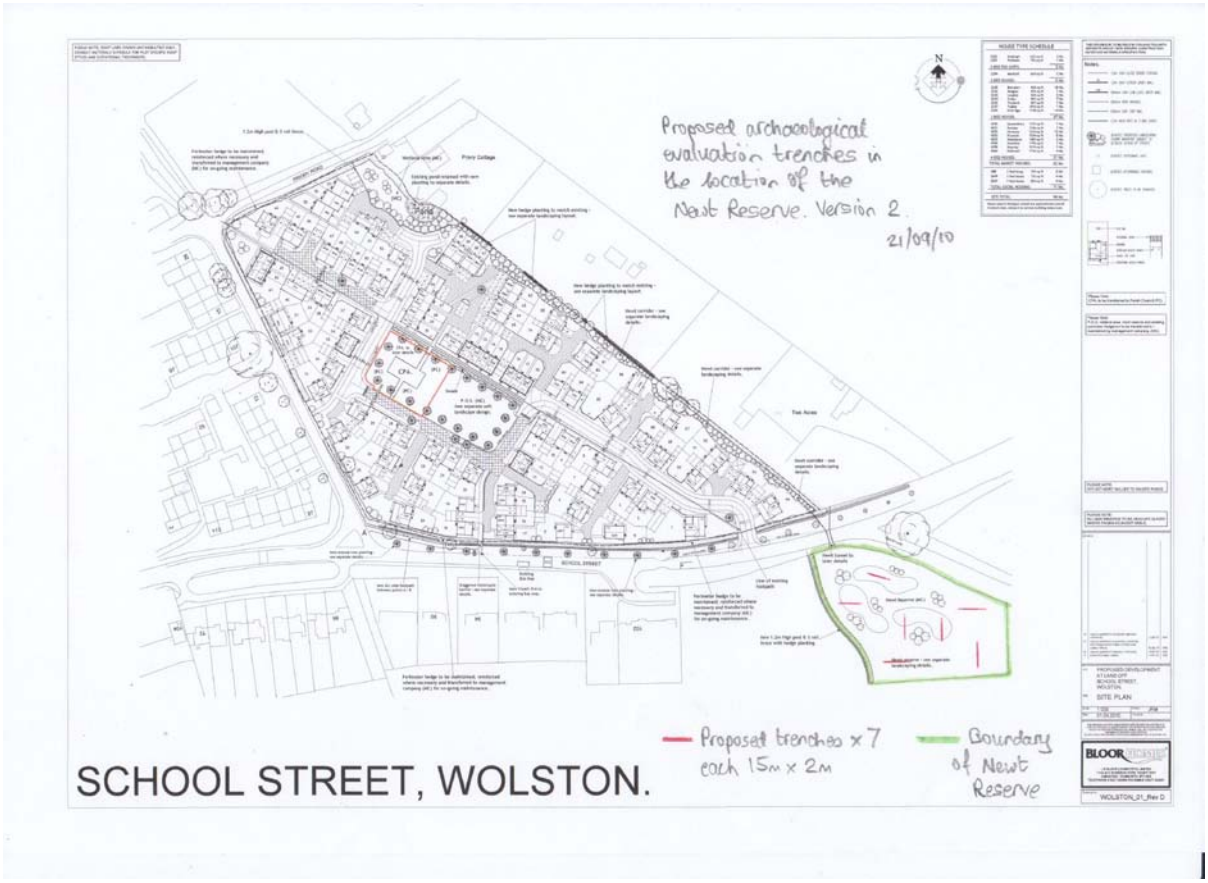

Figure 5: Proposed development plan including proposed trenches within Area 2 (Provided by Nexus Heritage)

6. Results

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

A total of 29 trenches were excavated during the course of the evaluation (Fig.6). The trenches in Area 1 closely matched their proposed locations although a small extension was excavated at the southern end of Trench 17. The trenches in Area 2 varied in location from the suggested plan. The western part of Trench 23 is located outside the proposed development area.

The composition of the overlying deposits showed little variation across both sites. The topsoil consisted of a dark greyish brown sandy loam deposit containing *c.* 5 % gravel inclusions. The underlying subsoil (where present) consisted of a dark greyish/orangey brown sandy silt with gravel inclusions increasing to 20%. The natural substratum did show variation across the site (see Tables 1 and 2) although sand and gravel of differing formations were observed throughout. The main area of variation existed in the south-eastern corner of Area 1 where the upper sub-stratum was noticeably sandier than elsewhere on the site.

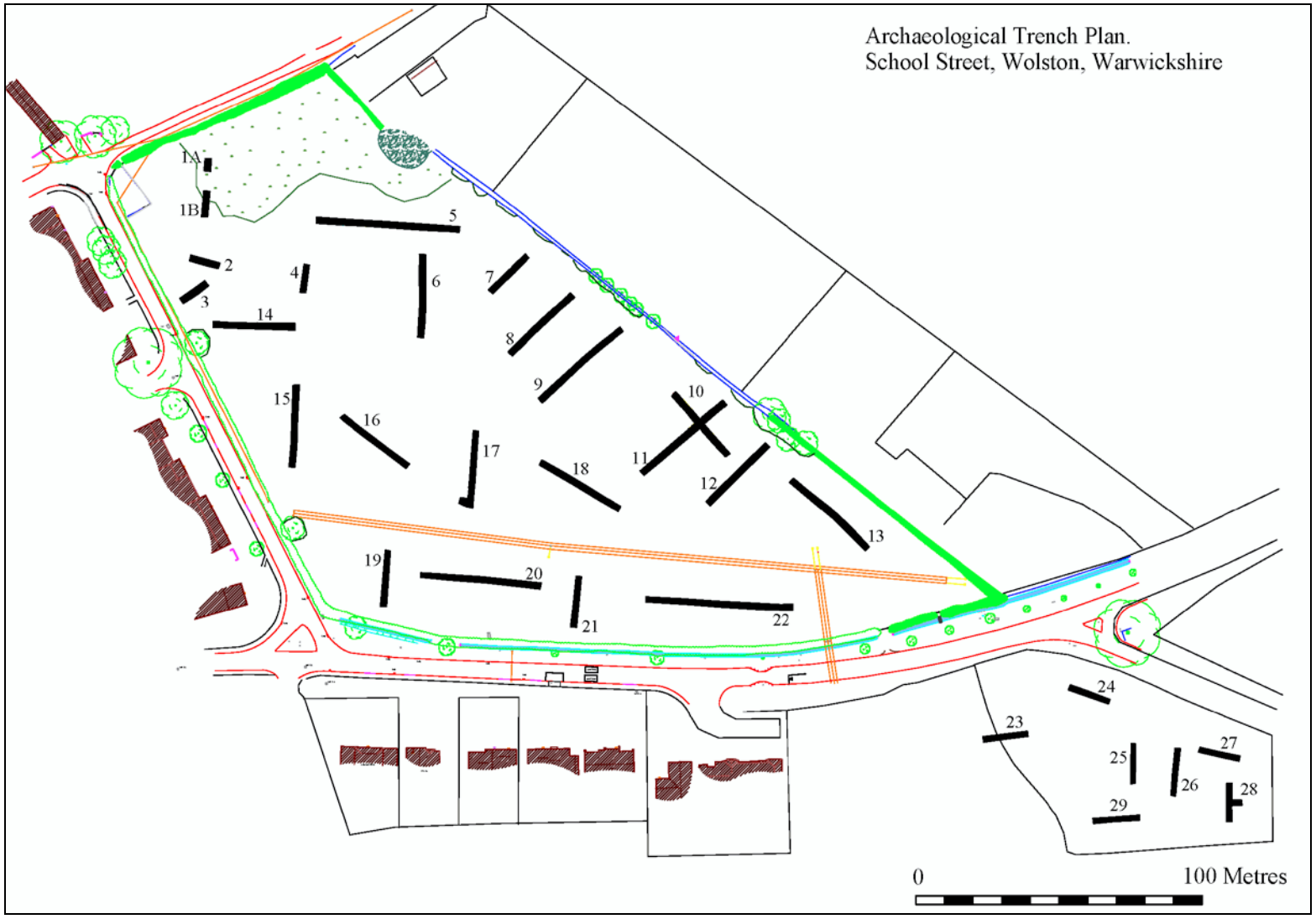

Figure 6: Trench Location Plan

Area 1

Each trench is summarised in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Area 1 Trench Summaries

Trench	Length (m)	Depth to base of Trench (m OD)	Natural	Notes	Min. depth to archaeology (m)
1	5+9	c. 71.60-72.18	Reddish/greyish brown sand and gravel	Possible backfilled pond	0.14
2	10	72.28-72.40	Greyish brown/orangey brown sand and gravel	Linear feature	0.21
3	10	72.30-72.41	Greyish brown/orangey brown sand and gravel	Negative	N/A
4	10	72.48-72.57	Greyish brown silty sands and gravels	Negative	N/A
5	50	72.59-72.92	Orangey brown silty sands and gravels	Ditch and linear feature	0.36
6	29	72.85-73.01	Orangey brown/greyish brown silty sand/sand and gravel	Negative	N/A
7	18	73.28-73.44	Orangey brown silty sands and gravels/ yellowish brown coarse sand	Ditch feature	0.40
8	30	73.08-73.34	Orangey brown silty sands and gravels	Negative	N/A
9	38	73.27-73.61	Orangey brown silty sands and gravels	Negative	N/A
10	29	73.74-73.99	Orangey brown silty sand and gravel	Curvi-linear ditch and gully	0.53
11	38	73.84-74.11	Orangey brown silty sand and gravel	Curvi-linear ditch, two pits and a possible posthole	0.56
12	29	73.89-74.16	Orangey brown silty sand and gravel	Negative	N/A
13	35	74.29-74.56	Orangey brown silty sand and gravel	Negative	N/A
14	29	72.37-72.61	Orangey brown silty sands and gravels	Possible feature	0.44
15	29	72.62-72.94	Greyish brown/orangey brown sand and gravel	Negative	N/A
16	29	72.90-73.14	Reddish/greyish brown sand and gravel	Linear feature and a key-hole shaped feature	0.52
17	27+3	73.07-73.35	Orangey brown sand and gravel	Ditch corner, a linear and possible postholes	0.45
18	32	73.35-73.78	Greyish brown/orangey brown sand and gravel	Negative	N/A
19	20	73.15-73.20	Reddish brown sand and gravel	Negative	N/A
20	42	73.06-73.55	Orangey brown sand and gravel	Two probable gullies and a linear feature	0.50
21	18	73.60-73.66	Orangey brown sand and gravel	Negative	N/A
22	51	73.89-74.24	Reddish brown sand and gravel	Possible linear and modern linear feature	0.63

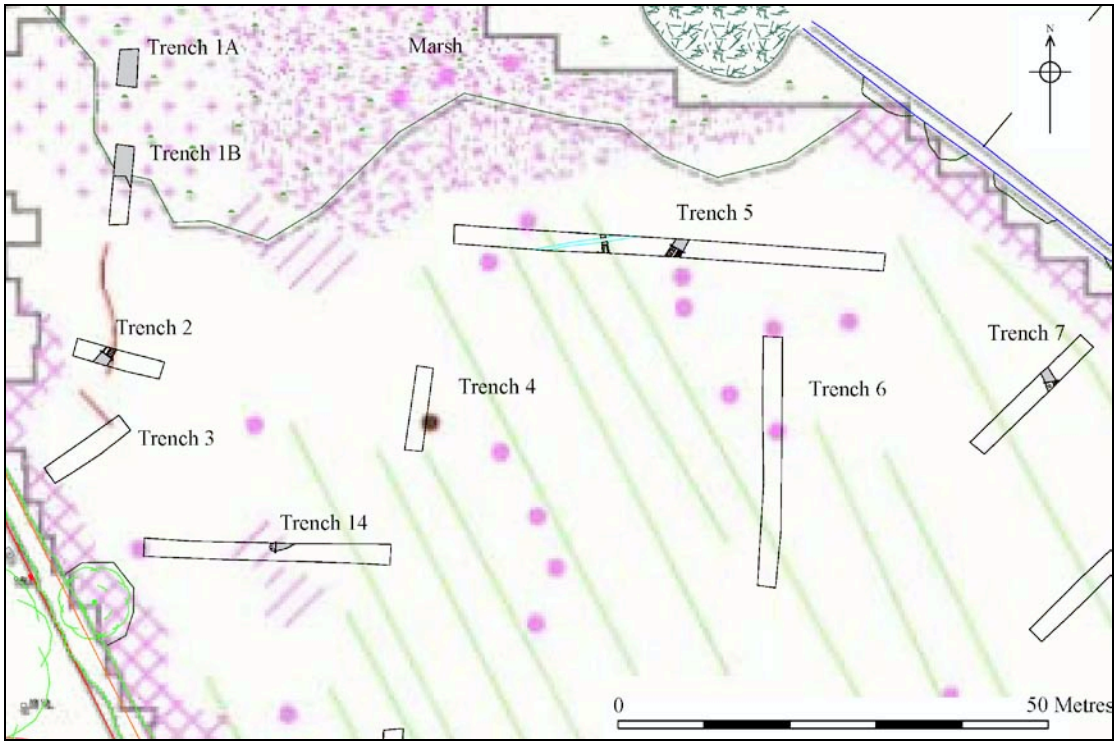

Figure 7: Plan of Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 14

Trench 1: Figs 7-8

Trench 1 was located in order to partially cross the marshy area at the northern end of the site. Excavation commenced at the northern end of the trench (1A) where a thin layer of topsoil was removed to expose modern rubble debris including brick and tarmac. The depth of the rubble overburden measured *c*.0.4m and overlaid a smooth dark grey water borne silt deposit. Once the deposit had been exposed water began to seep from ground. The trench was excavated for a further 0.2m whereupon water began to flow rapidly out of ground and it was decided to immediately backfill the trench. The southern end of the trench (1B) recorded natural substratum was revealed at a depth of 0.15m. At 5.7m from the southern end of the trench an edge was observed that contained similar rubble backfill as that recorded at the northern end. No further excavation was undertaken within this trench.

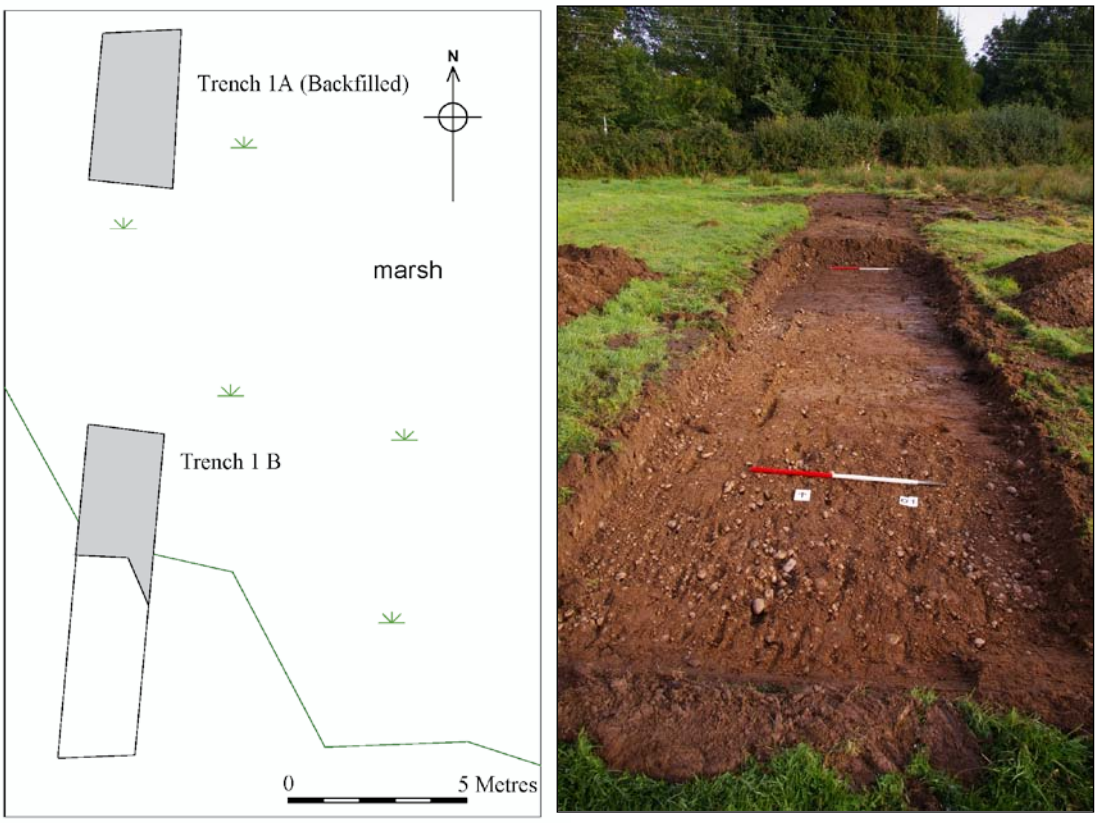

Figure 8: Plan of Trench 1A and 1B showing the edge of backfill at the north and of 1A

Trench 2 Figs 7 and 9

Trench 2 was positioned to locate a weak positive linear anomaly identified by the geophysical survey. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth of 021m - 0.30m. A very shallow linear feature [28] was recorded in the centre of the trench. It was orientated north-east to south-west and measured 1.5m wide and 0.6m deep. The sides of the feature were shallow with an incline of *c*.20º and it had a flat base. It was filled by a dark orangey brown sandy silt deposit (29) that contained occasional small-medium sub-rounded pebbles and rare charcoal inclusions.

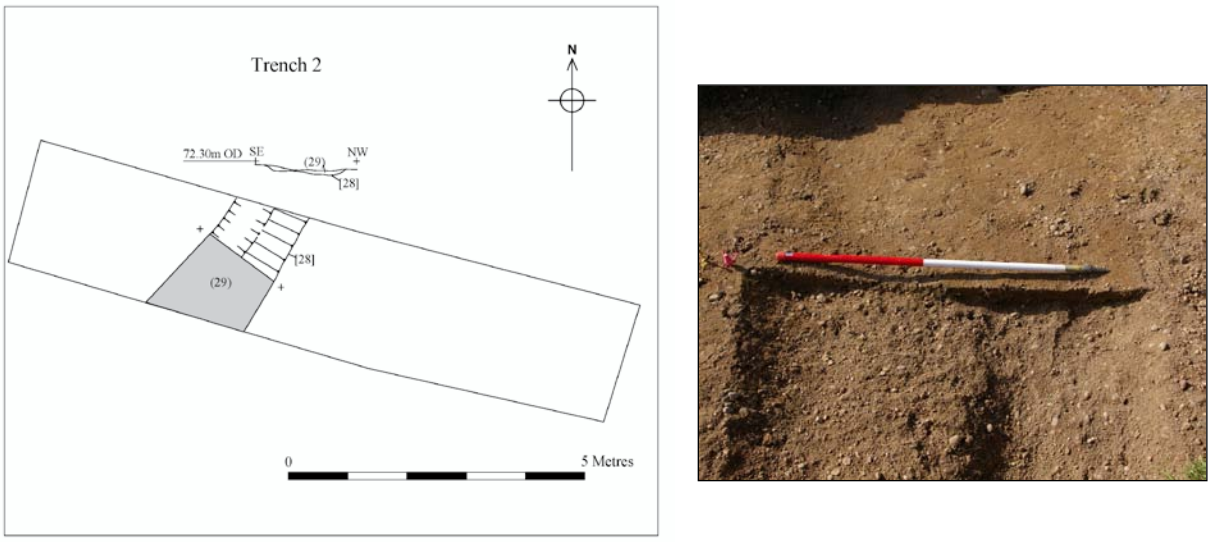

Figure 9: Plan of Trench 2 showing Linear feature [28]

Trench 3 Fig 7

Trench 3 was positioned to locate a weak positive linear anomaly identified by the geophysical survey. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.28m – 0.4m; however no archaeological features were observed within the trench.

Trench 4 Fig 7

Trench 4 was positioned in a 'blank area' of the site. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth of 0.4m. The ground towards the centre of the trench was disturbed, including some clay up cast that is likely to be attributed to a natural 'tree throw' feature. No archaeological finds or features were recorded in this trench.

Trench 5 Figs 7 and 10

Trench 5 was positioned crossing a number of agricultural furrows at its western end that were highlighted by the geophysical survey. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth of between 0.3m - 043m. Two linear features, [52] and [55] were recorded towards the centre of the trench. Linear [52] was orientated north-west to south-east, measured between 0.66m – 0.80m in width and was 0.14m deep. Its sides were shallow with an incline of *c.*40º and its base was relatively flat. It was filled with a mid-greyish brown silty-sand deposit with small sub-rounded stones. Its alignment possibly suggests the feature represents the base of one of the agricultural furrows highlighted by the geophysical survey. The feature was also truncated by a modern trench carrying a plastic drainage pipe that crossed the trench on a north-east to south-west alignment. Ditch [55] was orientated north-east to south-west and measured 1.5m in width and 0.5m in depth. Its north-west side had a shallow step at the top with an incline of *c.*30º, breaking steeply to a 70º incline. The south-east side was steep and sloping with an incline of 50-70º and the base was relatively flat. It was filled by a mid-greyish brown sandy-silt deposit (54) with small stones. The bottom of the feature on the south-east side was vertically truncated by a narrow cut [48] containing a rectangular hollowed brick drain. The drain clearly respected the

alignment of the ditch suggesting the feature was partially open when the drain was constructed. No finds were recorded from either trench.

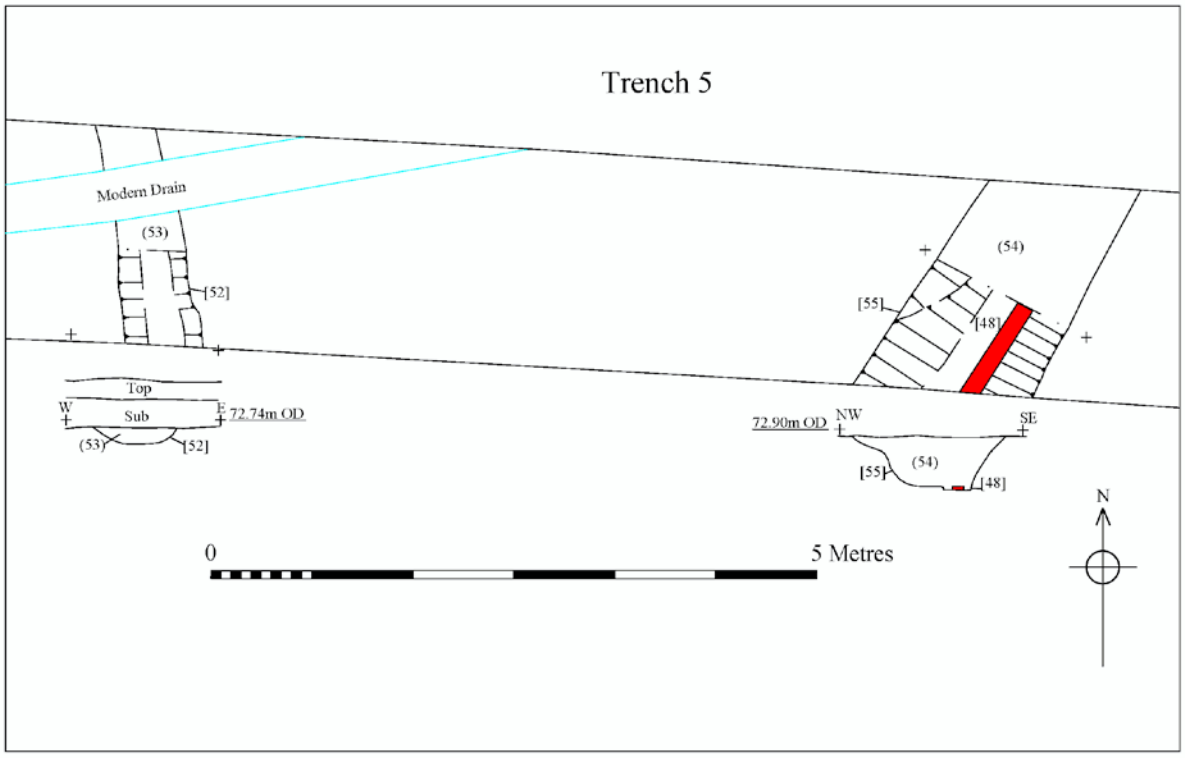

Figure 10: Partial Plan of Trench 5 showing Linear feature [52] and Ditch [48]/[55]

Trench 6 Fig. 7

Trench 6 was positioned across a single agricultural furrow at its southern end highlighted by the geophysical survey. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a

depth between 0.35m – 0.58m. No archaeological finds or features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 7 Figs 7 and 11

Trench 7 was positioned crossing two agricultural furrows at either end identified by the geophysical survey. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.31m – 0.92m. A single ditch feature [45] was recorded at the north-east end of the trench on a north-west to south-east orientation. This measured 1.31m wide and was 0.5m deep. The sides were of the feature shallow and concave and the base was reasonably flat. It was filled by a dark grey silty clay deposit with orange-brown mottles (46) containing small-medium rounded stones. A fragment of fired clay was recovered from the fill. Similar to ditch [55] in Trench 5, the north-east side of the feature was truncated by a drain cut [47] containing the same type of ceramic drain seen in drain cut [48]. Again the drain respected the line of the ditch but here the drain clearly cut through the remaining ditch fill suggesting the ditch had partially filled up at the very least, prior to the construction of the drain.

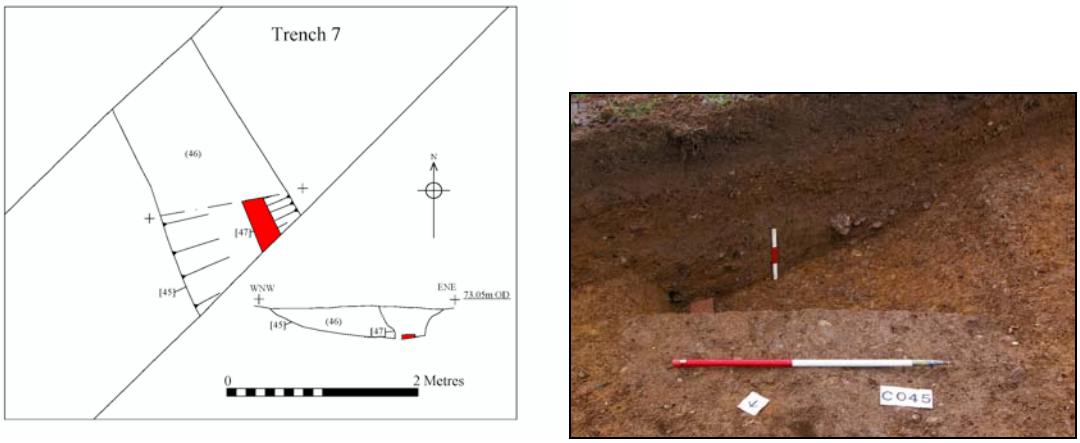

Figure 11: Partial plan of Trench 7 showing Ditch [45]

Trench 8 Fig. 6

Trench 8 was located across a number of agricultural furrows as well as the interpreted plough headland highlighted by the geophysical survey. The trench only partially cut the headland at its north-east end. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.49m -1.33m. Little variation was recorded between the subsoil observed elsewhere and the clear build-up within this trench associated with the earthwork although the lower deposits were drier and more compacted. No archaeological finds or features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 9 Fig. 6

Trench 9 was also located across a number of agricultural furrows as well as the interpreted plough headland highlighted by the geophysical survey. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.49m – 1.04m. As with Trench 8, little variation was recorded between the subsoil observed elsewhere and the build-up

within this trench associated with the earthwork. No archaeological finds or features were recorded within this trench.

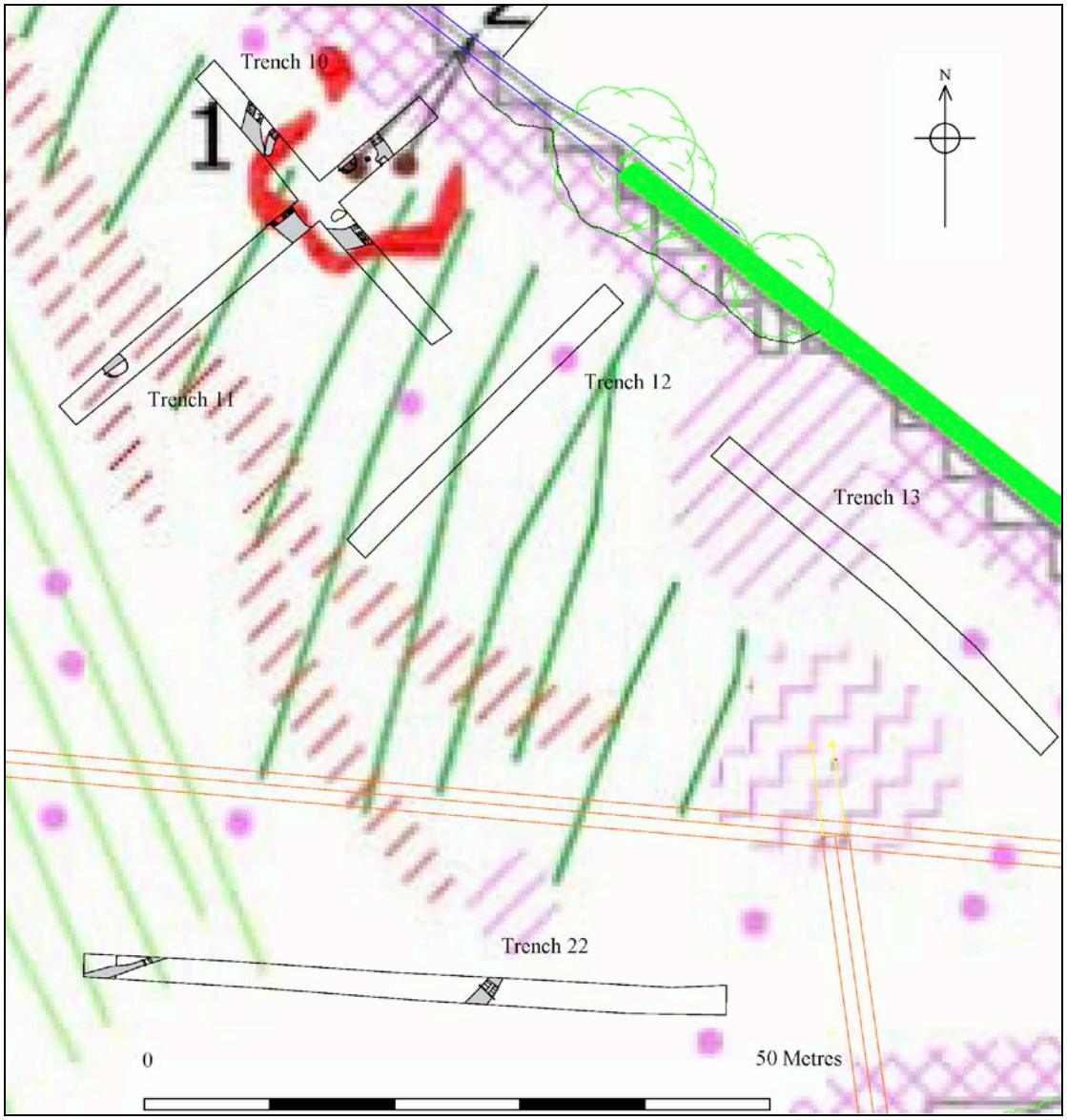

Figure 12: Plan of Trenches 10, 11, 12, 13 and 22

Trench 10 and 11 Figs 12-14

Trench 10 and 11 formed a cruciform plan in order to evaluate a strong positive curvilinear feature and two discrete positive anomalies (possible pits features) highlighted by the geophysical survey. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.56m – 0.79m and a number of features were recorded within the base of the trench. A curvilinear ditch [33], [40] and [42] was recorded close to the intersection of the two trenches in three separate locations, closely matching the geophysical anomaly. The feature varied in width between 1.48 - 2.23m and in depth between 0.28m – 0.6m. Sample excavation was undertaken at each of the three intersections where the ditch was located. The sides of the feature were shallow and concave and the base was slightly concave. There was a separate break of slope

within the base of each of excavated sections that was steep and narrow. These breaks of slope were all located on the inner side of the ditch and indicate the feature had at least one later re-cut although no clear differentiation was observed within the fill of the feature. The fill of the ditch was made up of a homogenous mid-greyish brown sandy silt deposit (26), (39) and (41) that contained occasional small pebbles and inclusions of charcoal and fire-cracked pebbles. Small quantities of Mid-Late Iron Age pottery were recovered from deposits (26) and (39).

A further ditch [38] was recorded at the north-east end of Trench 11. This feature measured between 0.86m – 1.29m in width, 0.34m deep and was orientated north-west to south-east. The sides and base of the feature were concave and it was filled by a dark orangey grey sandy-silt deposit (27) containing small-medium stones, fire-cracked pebbles and charcoal flecks. Reasonably large quantities of Mid-Late Iron Age pottery were recovered from this deposit. A curvilinear gully terminus [44] was also recorded immediately inside the larger curvilinear ditch on its northwest side, aligned on the same orientation. It measured >2.17m in length, 0.89m wide and was 0.27m deep. The north-west side of the feature was shallow and straight with a *c*.20º incline becoming concave. The south-east side and base were also concave. It was filled with a mid-greyish brown silty sand deposit (43) containing occasional small stones. A small quantity of Mid-Late Iron Age pottery was recovered from this deposit.

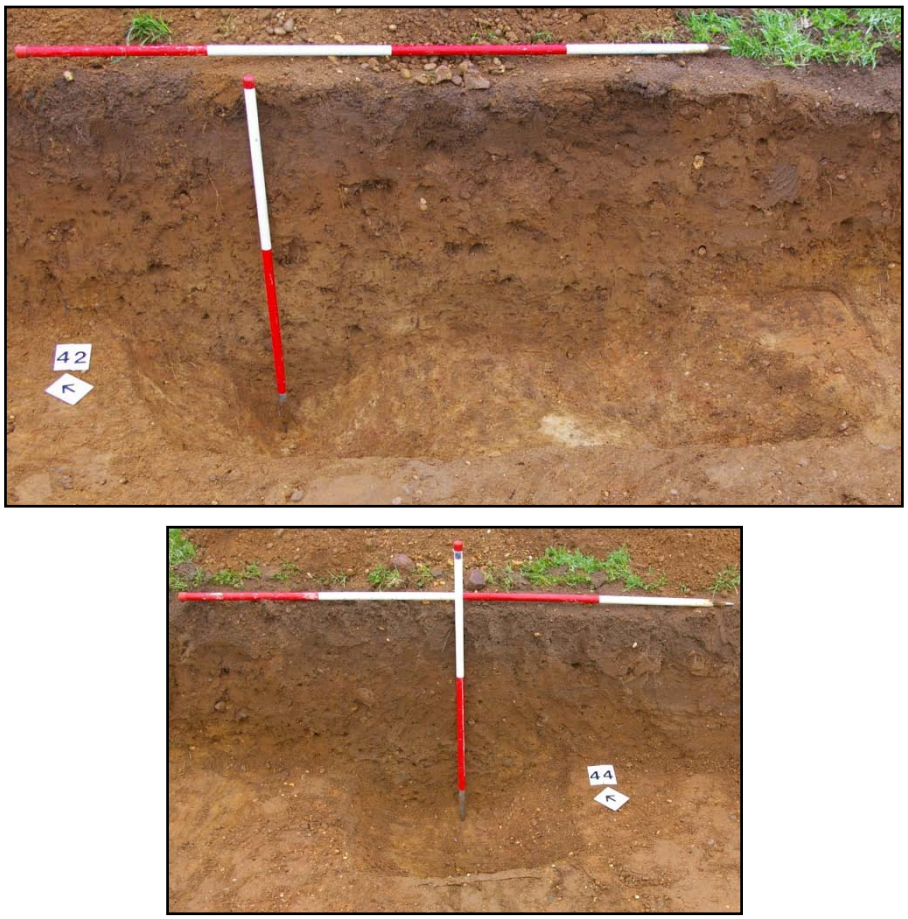

Figure 13: Photographs showing large Curvi-linear Ditch [42] (above) and inner Gully [44]

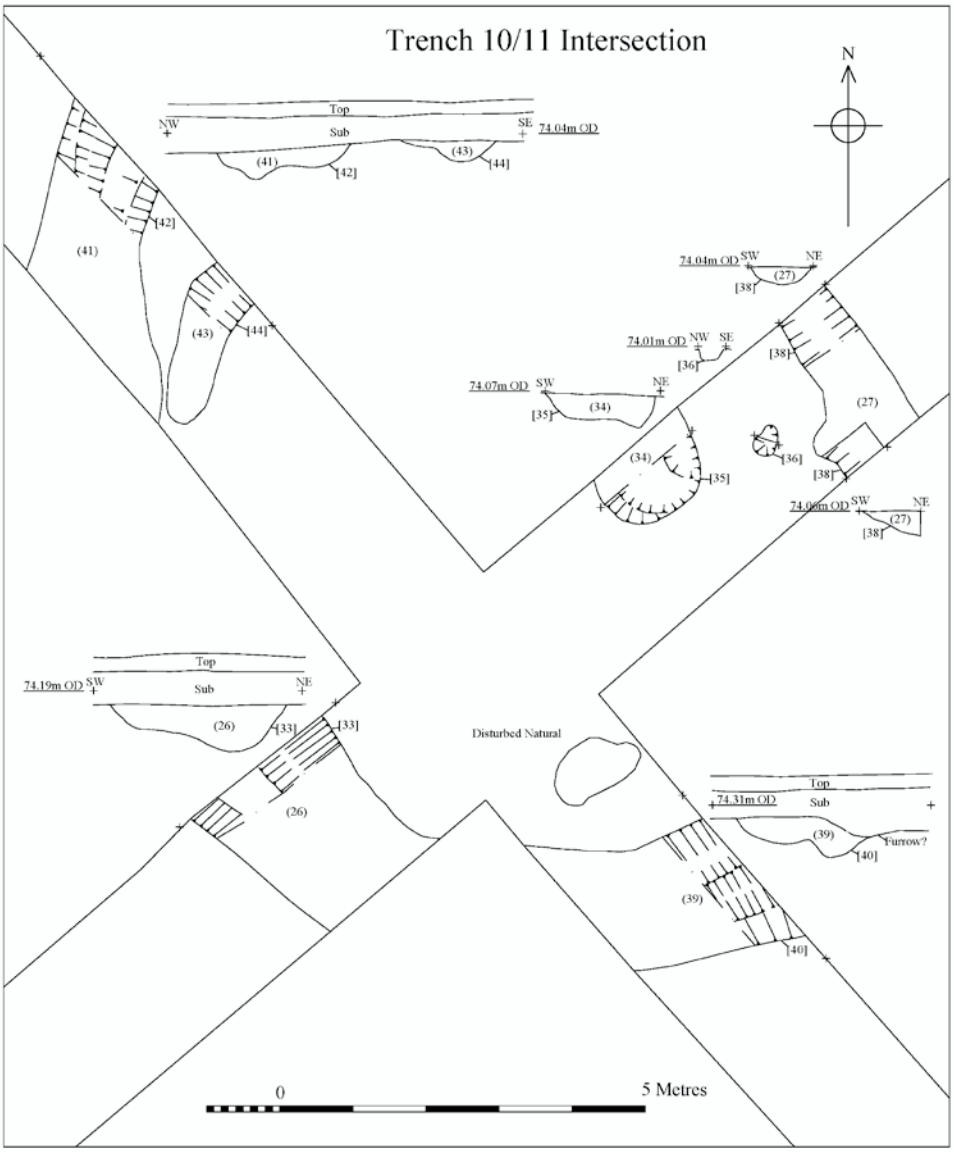

Figure 14: Plan of the intersection between Trenches 10 and 11

Within the enclosed area created by the curvilinear ditch and the straight ditch (although no stratigraphic evidence was recorded to suggest the two features are contemporary), a large pit [35] and small posthole type feature [36] were recorded. Pit [35] was partially exposed within the north-west side of Trench 11 and its location matches reasonably closely with the discrete anomaly recorded in the geophysical survey. The feature was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.53m in diameter and 0.46m deep. The south-west side of the feature was shallow and straight with an incline of *c.*45º, becoming steeper towards the north-east side where the incline became *c.*70º. The base of the feature was relatively flat with a noticeable dip towards the north-east side. It was filled by a mid-greyish brown sandy-silt deposit (34) containing occasional small-medium sub-rounded pebbles, larger fire-cracked pebbles and charcoal flecks. A broken base fragment from a Beehive rotary quern was recovered from this deposit. Beehive querns were first used in the Mid-Late Iron Age although they continued to be used into the Roman period. A number of fragments of hearth slag, iron off-cuts, daub and fuel ash was also recorded within this deposit. Immediately east a small posthole [36] was recorded. This was sub-circular in plan,

measuring *c*.0.3m in diameter and was 0.22m deep. Its sides and base were concave and it was filled by a dark blackish-brown sandy-silt deposit (37) containing occasional small rounded pebbles and charcoal flecks.

Figure 15: Photographs showing Ditch [38] (left), posthole [36] (top right) and Pit [35] (bottom right)

A large pit [32] was partially exposed at the south-west end of Trench 11 in the north-west section of the trench, 17m south-west from the edge of the curvilinear ditch. It measured 1.85m in diameter and 0.6m deep. The south-west side was sloping with a *c*.50º angle, breaking almost vertically. Elsewhere the sides were steep, almost vertical. The pit contained two separate identifiable fills. The primary fill comprised a mid-brownish grey sandy-silt deposit (56) containing small sub-rounded stones. This deposit measured 1.5m wide and 0.25m thick and was overlain by a dark orangey brown silty-sand deposit (25) 0.35m thick with gravel inclusions containing a small quantity of Mid-Late Iron Age pottery.

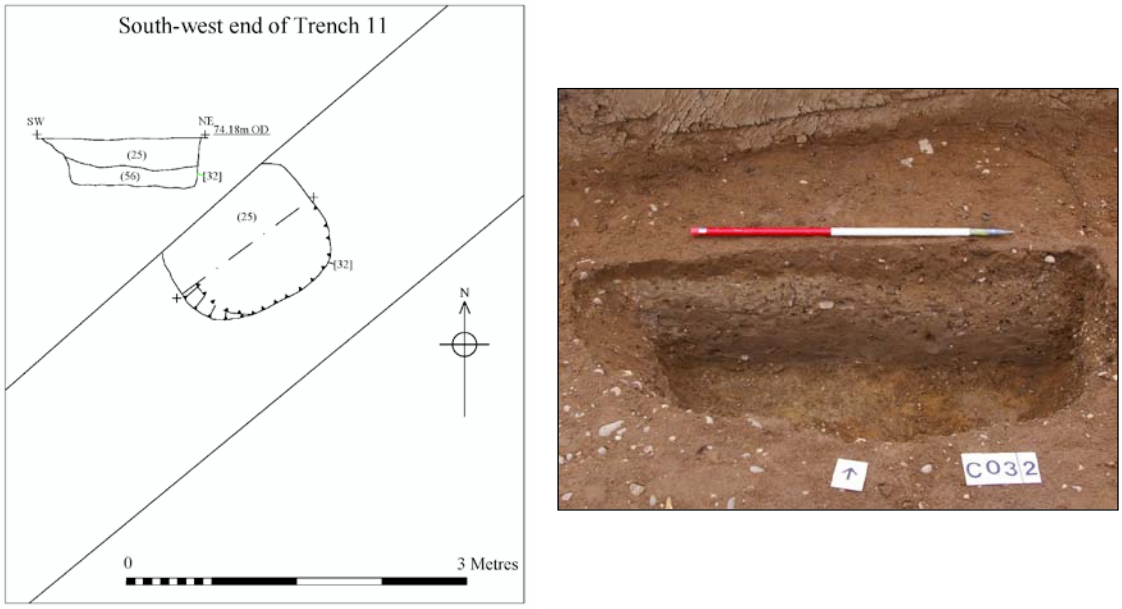

Figure 16: Plan showing Pit [32] at the southwest end of Trench 11

Given the wealth of archaeological activity recorded within Trenches 10 and 11 it was decided to samples some of deposits in order to ascertain their environmental potential (Appendix 2). Four deposits ((27), (35), (39) and (56)) were sampled and all contained charred plant remain and charcoal. Fragments of wheat chaff, glume bases of either emmer or spelt were found in all the samples. Cereal grains were present in the samples mainly of glume wheat, probably of spelt but all were abraded. Barley grains were also present together with a fragment of barley chaff. Spelt and barley are common cereals in the Iron Age and Roman periods (Greig 1991). A few weed seeds were also present including brome grass, a common crop weed in Iron Age and Roman samples. Wetches, chickweed type seeds and persicaria suggest fields weeds or other disturbed ground. Small numbers of uncharred seeds were found in some of the samples including elder, blackberry and goosefoots and probably represent modern contamination.

Trench 12 Fig. 12

Trench 12 was located across a number of agricultural furrows identified by the geophysical survey. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.62-0.76m. No archaeological finds or features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 13 Fig. 12

Trench 13 was located across an area of magnetic disturbance identified by the geophysical survey. No archaeological finds or features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 14 Figs 7 and 17

Trench 14 was located across a single agricultural furrow and an area of magnetic disturbance highlighted by the geophysical survey. A possible linear feature [30] was recorded towards the centre of the trench, terminating within the trench. The feature measured *c.* 2.4m in length, *c.* 1m wide, 0.1m deep and was orientated north-east to south-west. The terminus was "U" shaped and its sides were very shallow and concave with a flat base. It was filled with a light grey brown sandy silt with orangey brown mottles (31) with small-medium sub-rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.

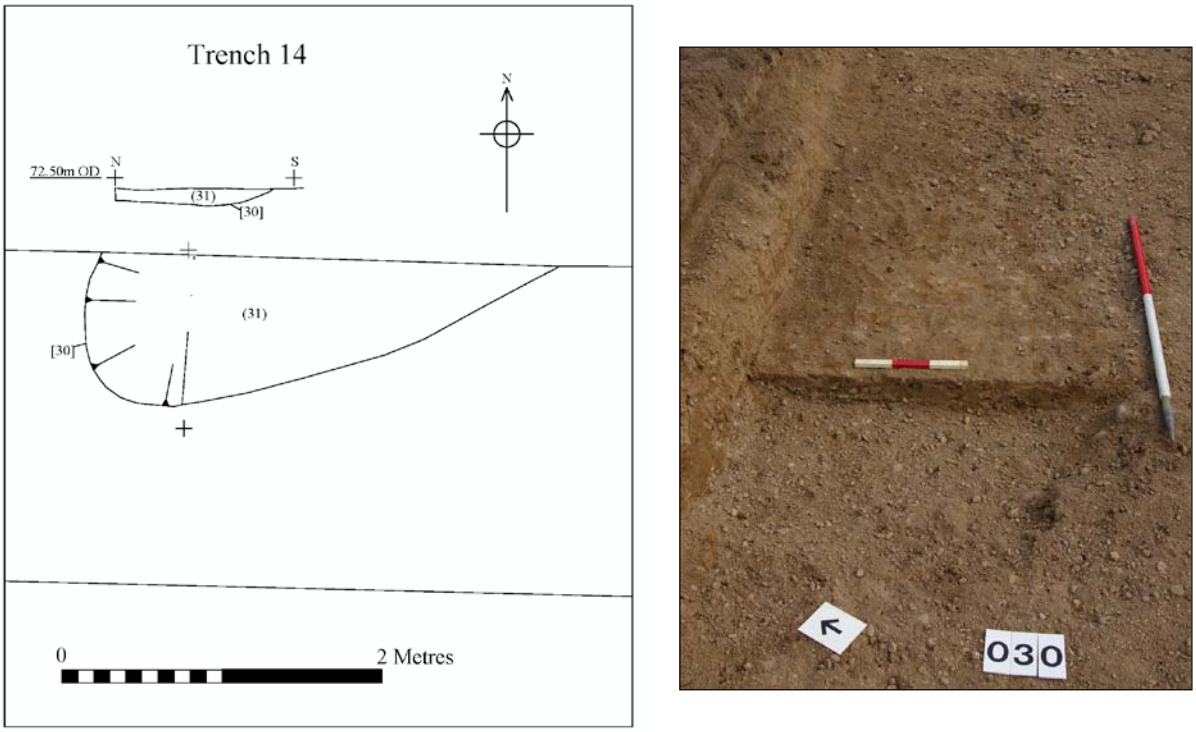

Figure 17: Partial plan of Trench 14 showing Linear feature [30]

Trench 15

Trench 15 was located across a number of agricultural furrows identified by the geophysical survey. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.3m – 0.5m. No archaeological finds or features were recorded within this trench.

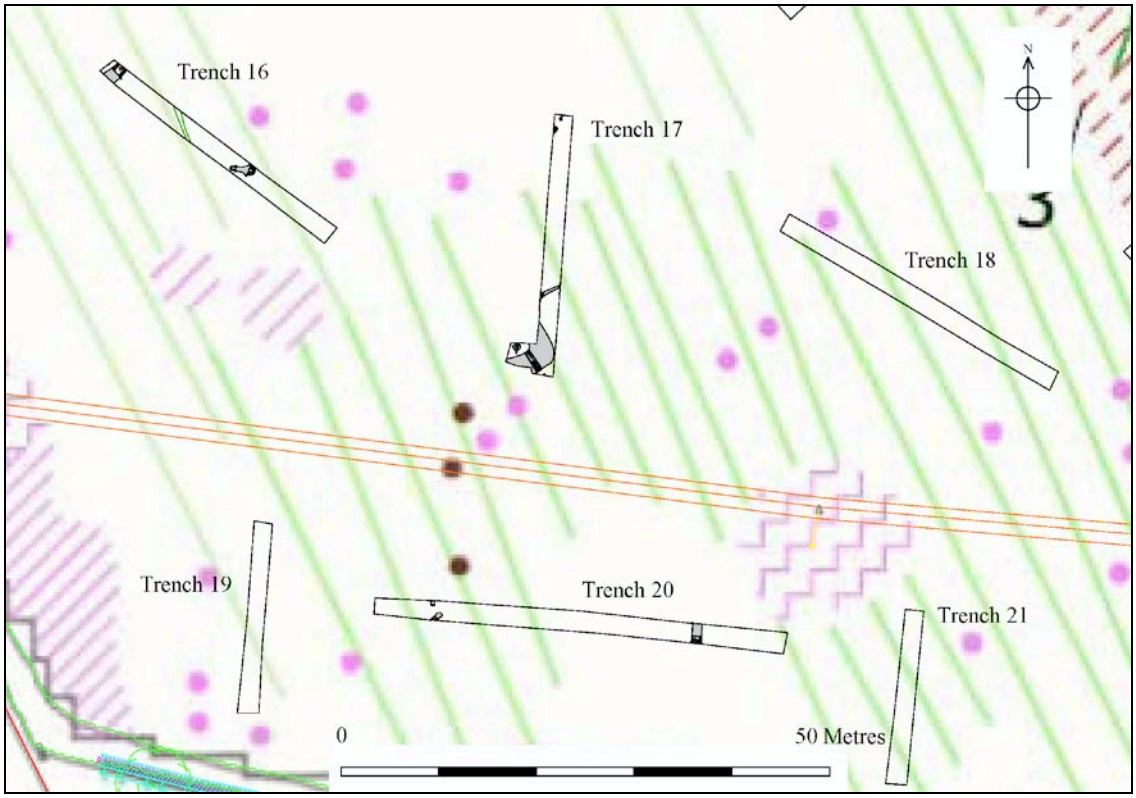

Figure 18: Plan of Trenches 16-21

Trench 16 Fig. 18 and 20

Trench 16 was located crossing a number of agricultural furrows highlighted by the geophysical survey. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.43m – 0.58m. A linear feature [13] was recorded at the north-west end of the trench and a keyhole shaped feature [15]/[18] towards the centre of the trench. Ditch [13] was 1.35m wide and 0.31m deep and was orientated north-east to south-west. Its sides were reasonably straight and smooth with an incline of *c*.45º and the base was uneven. It was filled with a dark greyish brown silty-clay deposit (14) with frequent gravel inclusions.

The keyhole shaped feature [15]/[18] measured 2.6m in length and varied in width between 0.44m (the linear component) and 1.19m (the bowl component) and was orientated south-east to north-west. The two components were excavated separately although it seems likely they belong to the same feature. The bowl end [15] of the feature was sub-oval, measured 1.1m in length and 0.5m deep. The south side of the feature was shallow and sloping with a incline of *c*.30º breaking to a straight 50º incline. The northern side of the feature was steep and sloping with an incline of 80º breaking to 50º and the base was concave. It was filled by two deposits. The primary fill consisted of a dark brownish grey silty clayey-sand deposit (16) containing gravel.

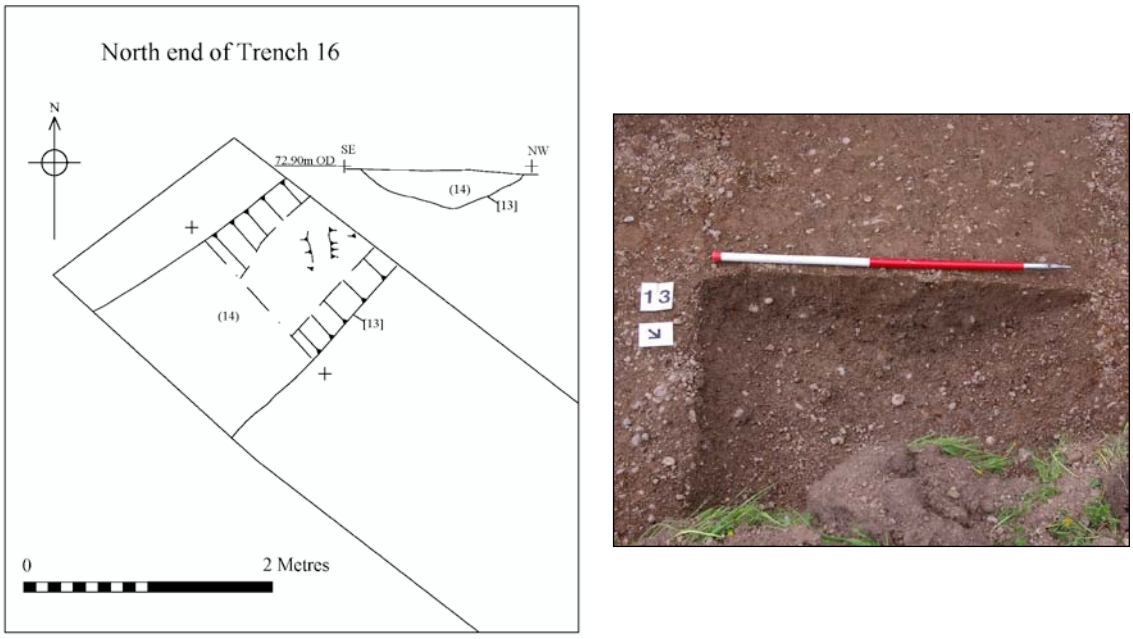

Figure 19: Plan of north end of Trench 16 showing Linear feature [13]

This fill 0.35m thick was overlain by a dark greyish brown silty-sand with orange brown mottles (17) containing a few rounded pebbles and charcoal flecks approximately 0.15m in depth. The linear end of the feature [18] measured 1.42m in length and 0.1m deep. Its sides were shallow and straight with an incline of *c*.40º and its base was relatively flat. The fill consisted of a dark greyish brown silty-sand with orangey brown mottles (19) which seemed to be the continuation of deposit (17).

An agricultural furrow was also recorded crossing the centre of the trench on a north north-west to south south-east alignment.

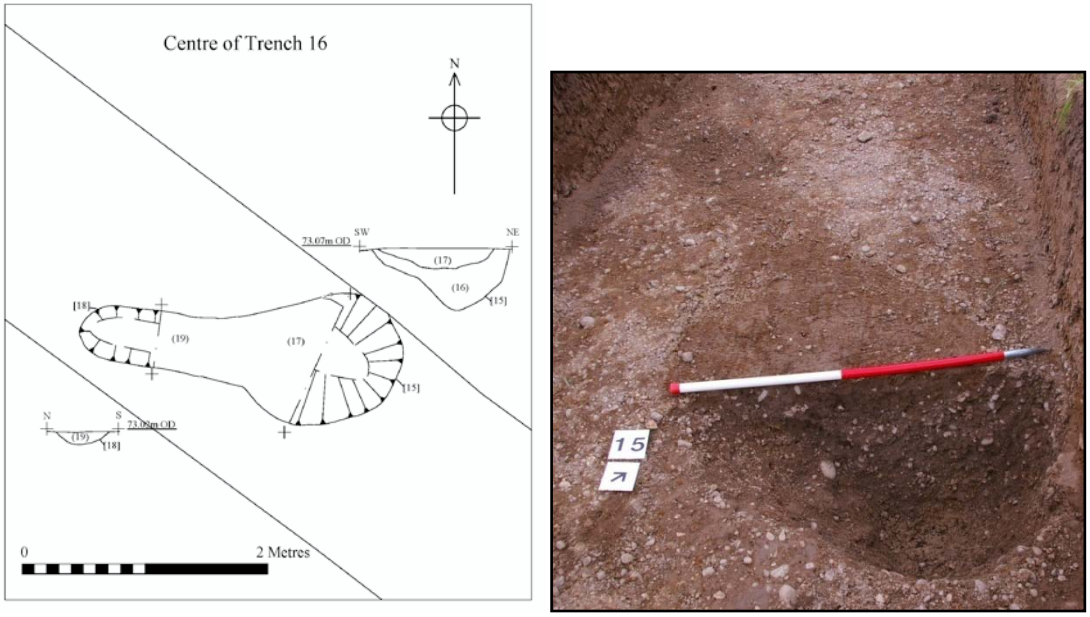

Figure 20: Partial plan of Trench 16 showing Keyhole feature [15]/[18]

Trench 17 Figs 18, 21 and 22

Trench 17 was located across several agricultural furrows identified by the geophysical survey. The trench was extended eastwards at its southern end in order to clarify a feature. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.4m – 0.6m and several features were recorded within this trench. At the southern end a large curvilinear ditch [04] was identified, approximately 2.4m wide and 0.6m deep. The ditch exhibited a 90º turn within the trench, changing from a north-east to south-west orientation, to a north-west south-east alignment. The sides of the feature were shallow and straight with an incline of *c*.35º incline breaking to 60º towards the base which was narrow and concave. It was filled by a two deposits. The primary fill consisted of a light grey silty-sand deposit (20), approximately 0.28m thick. This was overlain by an upper fill comprising a dark greyish brown clayey sandy-silt deposit (03). Two sherds of Early Roman pottery dating to the mid 1st century AD were recovered from this deposit.

Immediately inside the corner turn of ditch [04] a possible posthole [06] was recorded. It was sub-circular, measuring 0.75m in diameter and 0.07m deep. Its sides were shallow poorly defined and it had a relatively flat base. It was filled by a mid greyish brown silty sand deposit (05) containing common gravel inclusions. Given the ephemeral and poorly defined nature it is uncertain whether this feature was archaeological in origin.

A narrow linear feature [08] was recorded *c*.3.5m north of ditch [04] on a perpendicular north-east to south-west alignment. It measured 0.21m – 0.38m in width and was 0.1m deep. Its sides and base were shallow and concave and it was filled by a mid greyish brown silty-sand deposit (07).

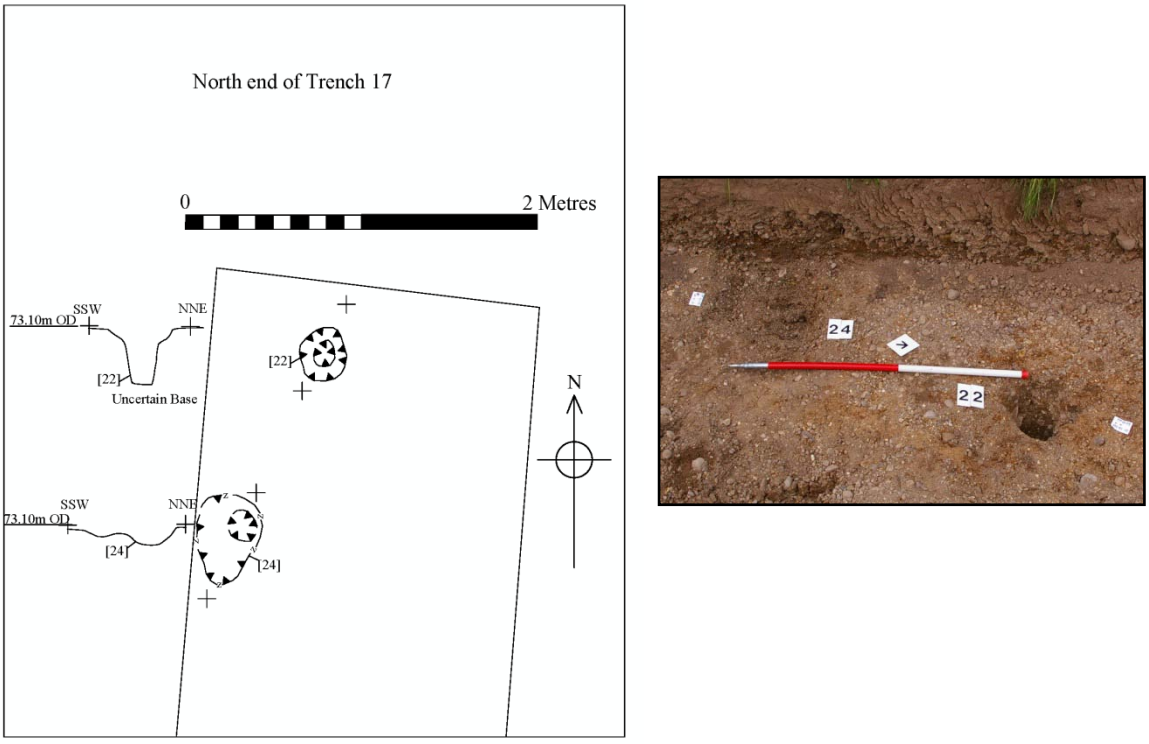

Figure 21: Plan Possible Postholes [22] and [24] at the northern end of Trench 17

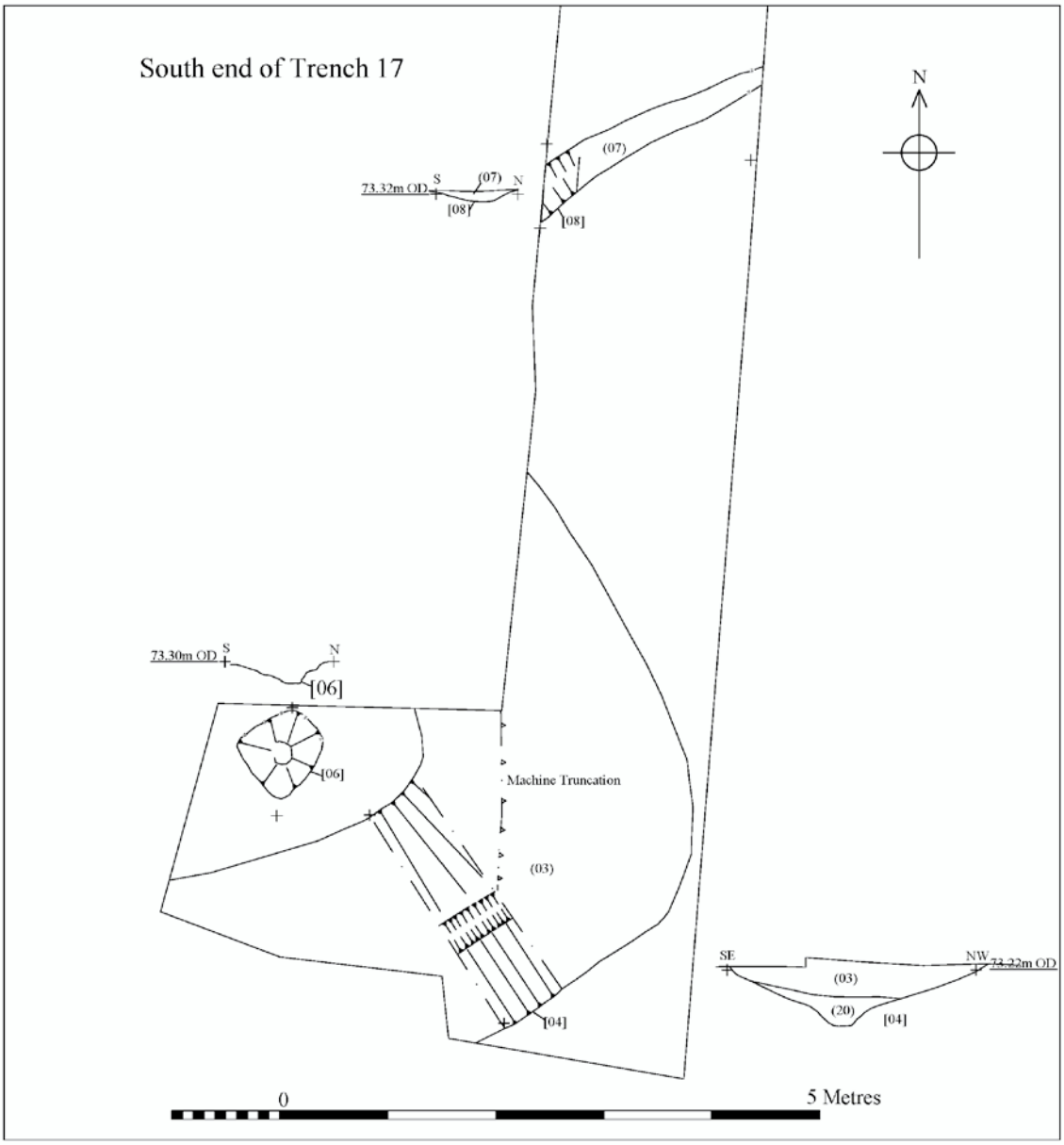

Figure 22: Plan of the southern end of Trench 17 showing Ditch corner [04], possible Posthole [06] and Linear feature [08]

Figure 23: Photographs showing ditch corner [04] (top), possible posthole [06] (bottom left) and linear feature [08] (bottom right)

At the northern end of the trench two sub-circular features [22] and [24] were recorded. Feature [22] was *c*.0.3m in diameter and 0.3m deep. Its sides were straight with a 45º incline breaking to vertical although it was uncertain whether the base was fully excavated. It was filled by a yellowish grey sand and gravel deposit (21). Immediately adjacent was a less well defined sub-circular feature [25]. It measured 0.37m x 0.5m and was a maximum of 0.1m deep. Its sides and base were irregular and it was filled by a similar yellowish grey sand and gravel deposit (23). NO finds were recovered and it is uncertain whether these features are archaeological in origin.

Trench 18 Fig. 18

Trench 18 was located crossing a number of agricultural furrows identified by the geophysical survey. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.4 – 0.63m. No archaeological finds or features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 19 Fig. 18

Trench 19 was located across a single agricultural furrow identified by the geophysical survey. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.5m - 0.6m. No archaeological finds or features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 20 Figs 18 and 20

Trench 20 was located across a number of agricultural furrows identified by the geophysical survey. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.4m - 0.69m. Two possible gully termini [02] and [10] were recorded at the western end of the trench. Gully [01] was partially exposed within the northern trench section. This had a "U" shaped terminus, measuring 0.41m wide, 0.2m deep and was orientated north to south. Its sides and base were concave and it was filled by a dark greyish brown sandy-silt deposit (01) that contained sub-rounded pebbles and occasional fire-cracked pebbles. Two sherds of Mid-Late Iron Age pottery were recovered from this deposit. Gully [10] was located directly opposite, partially exposed within the southern trench section on north-east to south-west orientation. It was linear with a globular terminus, varying in width between 0.47m – 0.59m and was 0.25m deep. Its sides and base were concave and it was filled by a dark greyish brown sandy-silt deposit (09) that contained pebbles and occasional fire-cracked pebbles, charcoal flecks and fragments. The gap created between the two gully termini was 0.84m and given the similar nature of the fills of each gully it would suggest that the features were related.

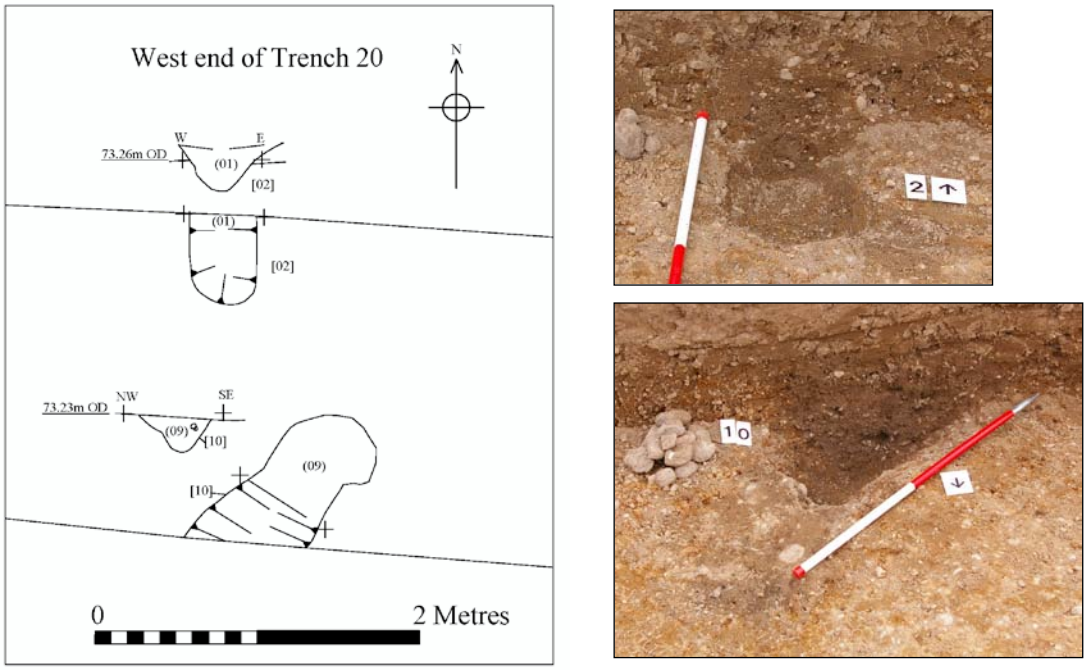

Figure 24: Partial plan at the east end of Trench 20 showing probable gullies [02] and [10].

A linear feature [12] was recorded *c*.9m from the eastern end of the trench. This measured 0.95m in width, 0.46m deep and was orientated north to south. Its sides were steep and irregular and the base seemed narrow and "V" shaped but was poorly

defined. It was filled by a dark greyish brown silty-sand deposit (11) with small-medium pebbles.

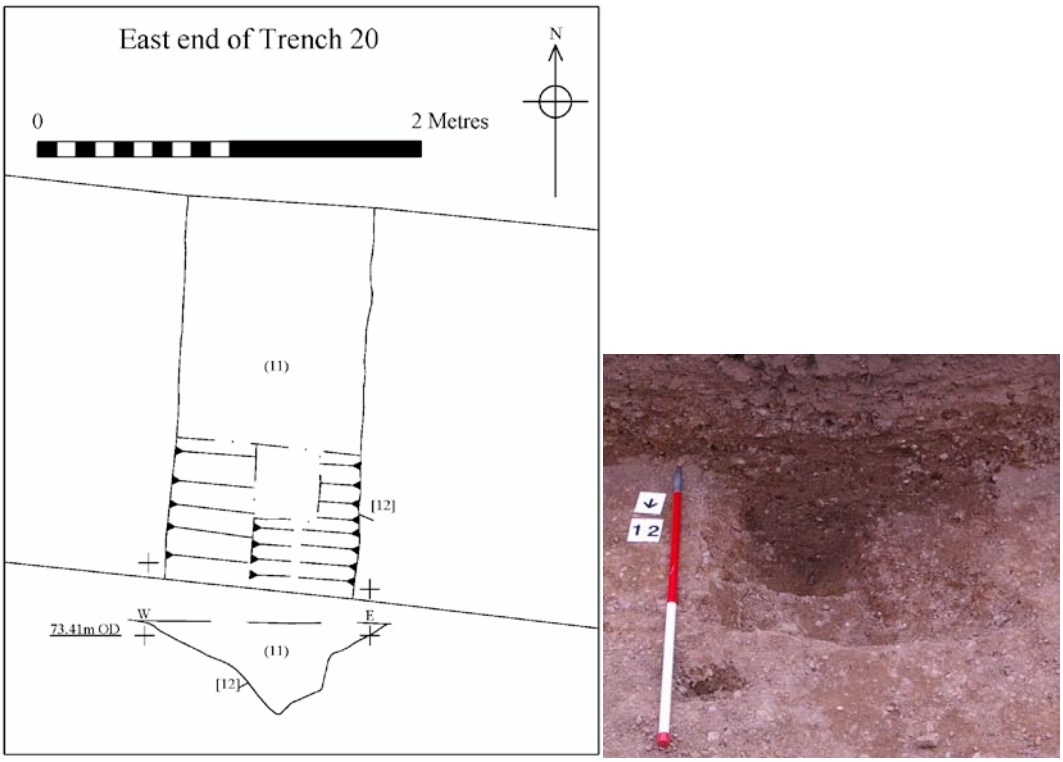

Figure 25: Partial plan at the eastern end of Trench 20 showing Linear feature [12]

Trench 21 Fig. 18

Trench 21 was located across two agricultural furrows identified by the geophysical survey. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.4m – 0.5m. No archaeological finds or features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 22 Figs 12 and 26

Trench 22 was located across a number of agricultural furrows identified by the geophysical survey. The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.4m – 0.62m. A shallow linear feature [57] was recorded at the western end of the trench on a north-east to south-west orientation. The width of the feature varied between 0.4m – 0.91m as it was partially truncated during machining. It was 0.05m deep at the point of excavation (within the shallow area) although its true depth was likely to be *c*.0.15m given the level of truncation. It was filled by a mid greyish brown silty-sand deposit (58) containing occasional small sub-rounded pebbles.

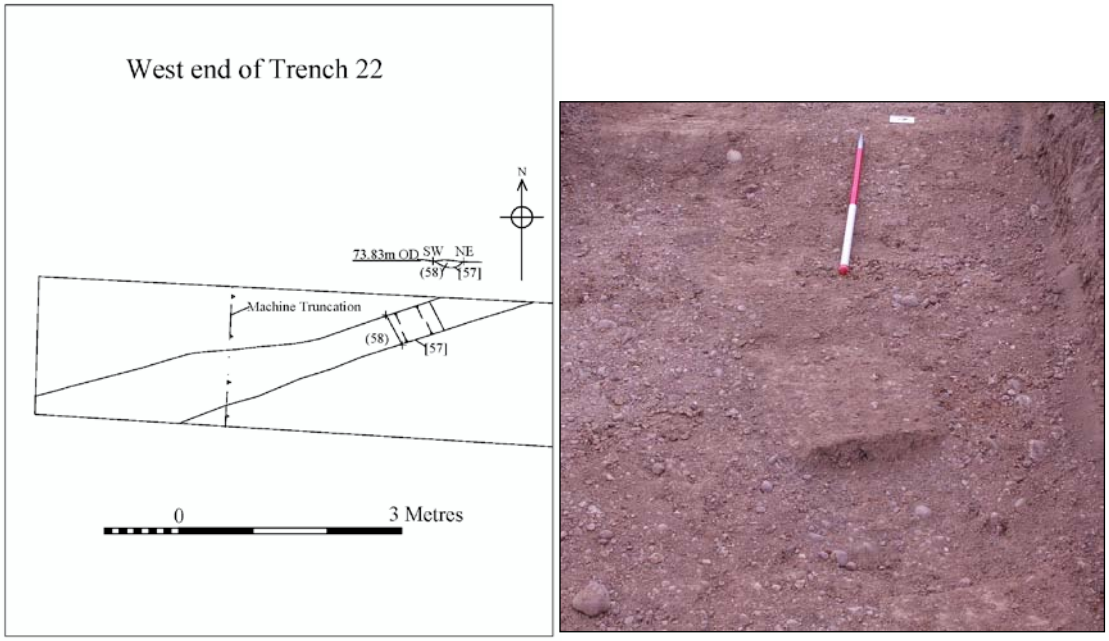

Figure 26: The western end of Trench 22 showing Linear feature [57]

A second linear feature was recorded towards the centre of the trench on a north-east to south-west orientation. It measured 1.29m wide and was 0.1m deep and contained modern brick within its backfill.

Area 2

Each trench is summarised in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Area 2 Trench Summaries

Trench	Length (m)	Depth to base of Trench (m OD)	Natural	Notes	Min. depth to archaeology (m)
23	15	75.12-75.20	Reddish/greyish brown sand and gravel	Negative	N/A
24	15	75.18-75.33	Reddish/greyish brown sand and gravel	Possible gully	0.80
25	14	75.24-75.54	Reddish/greyish brown sand and gravel	Negative	N/A
26	17	75.65-75.72	Reddish/greyish brown sand and gravel	Negative	N/A
27	15	75.79-76.01	Reddish/greyish brown sand and gravel	Negative	N/A
28	13+4	75.77-76.02	Reddish/greyish brown silty sand and gravel	Probably 'tree bowl'	N/A
29	16	75.51-75.64	Reddish/greyish brown silty sand and gravel	Two probable glacial linear features	N/A

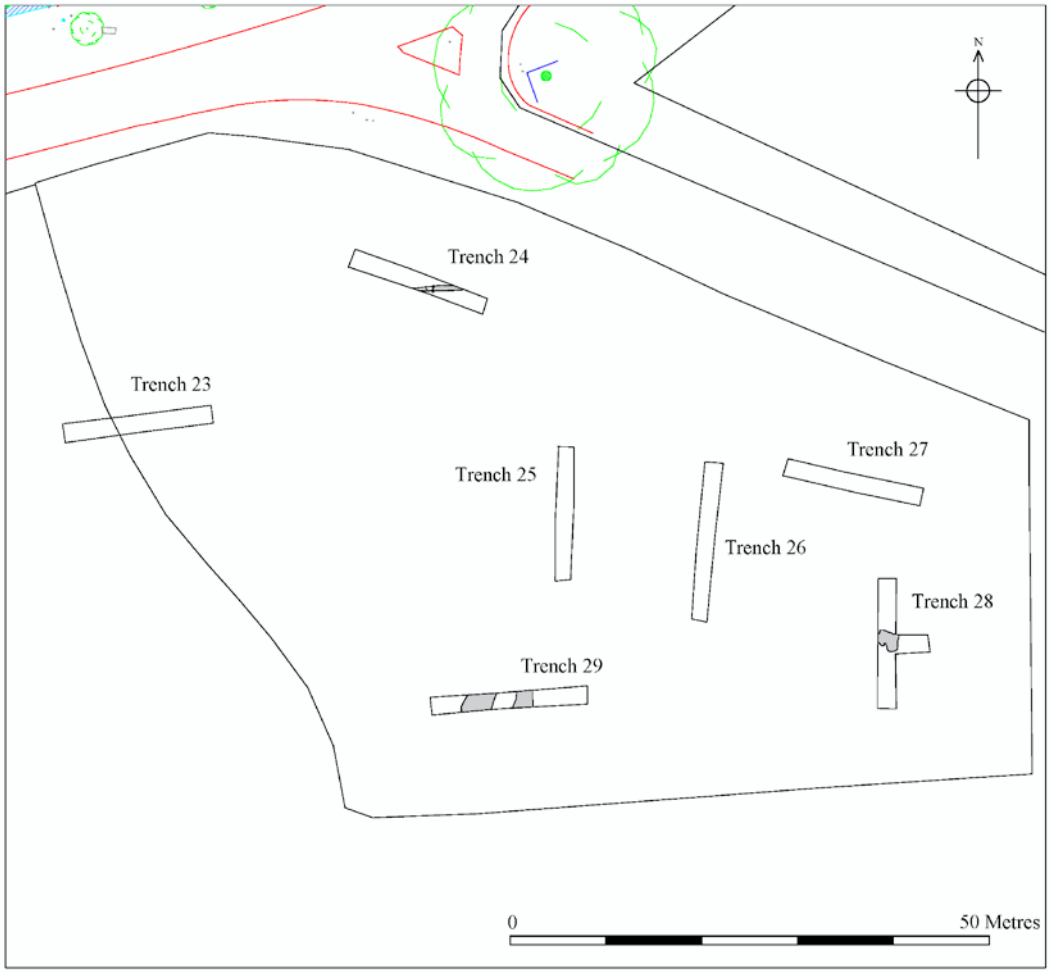

Figure 27: Plan of Trenches 23-29 in Area 2

Trench 23 Fig. 27

The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.64m – 0.68m. No archaeological finds or features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 24 Figs 27 and 28

The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.67m – 0.82m. A shallow linear feature [50] was recorded across the centre of the trench on an east to west orientation. Its width varied between 0.41m – 0.53m and it was a maximum of 0.12m deep. Its sides and base were shallow and concave and it was filled by a mid-greyish brown sandy clayey silt deposit (51) containing occasional small sub-rounded stones.

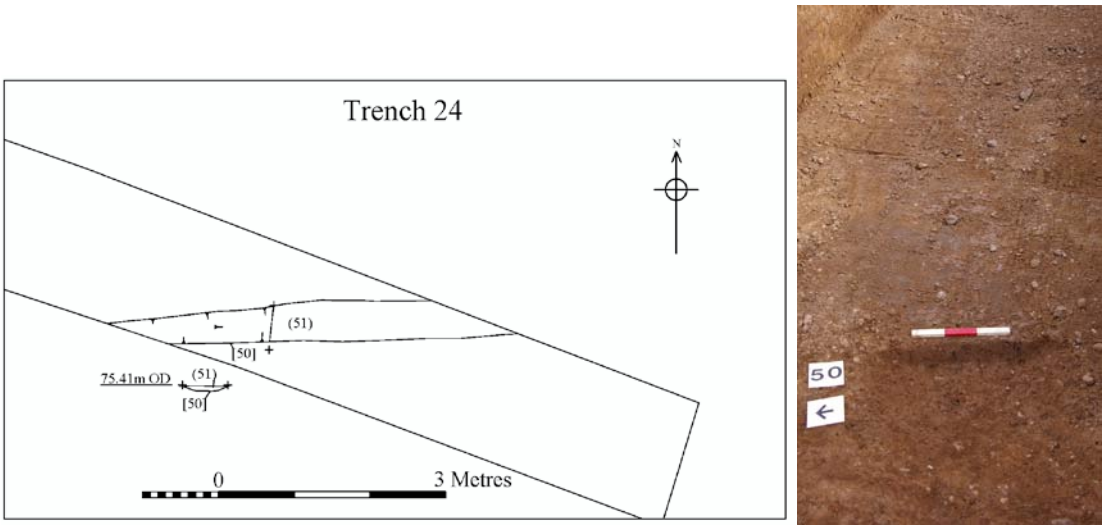

Figure 28: Plan of the southeast end of Trench 24 showing linear feature [50]

Trench 25 Fig. 27

The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.77m – 1.03m. No archaeological finds or features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 26 Fig. 27

The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.55m – 0.69m. No archaeological finds or features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 27 Fig. 27

The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.44m – 0.72m. No archaeological finds or features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 28 Fig. 27

The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.60m – 0.66m. A large feature was partially exposed within the centre of the trench which was extended to

reveal its full extent. However the shape of the feature became irregular and sample excavation suggested the feature was likely to be a large natural 'tree bowl' type feature. No archaeological finds or features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 29 Fig. 27

The natural sub-stratum was reached at a depth between 0.66m -0.78m. Two large parallel linear features were observed within this trench on a north to south orientation. Sample excavation of both these features suggested that they were glacial in origin. The sides of the features were near vertical and no obvious base was reached within either feature. They both contained a silty sand upper fill overlaying re-deposited natural clays and gravels. No archaeological finds or features were recorded within this trench.

7. Discussion

The results of the geophysical survey within Area 1 were mostly confirmed by the results of the trial trenching. However a number of other features were also recorded during the evaluation that had not been previously identified suggesting the geophysical survey does not provide a full representation of the features buried below the plough soil.

Ten of the twenty-two excavated trenches within Area 1 provided positive results of varying quality. The large curvilinear feature targeted from the geophysical survey in Trenches 10 and 11 was confirmed. This ditch is probably more regular shaped that the interpreted geophysics suggests; this may have been caused by subsoil on the agricultural ridges partially masking the ditch fill. Finds from the ditch indicates the activity is likely to date to the Mid-Late Iron Age (*c*.200BC-AD50). Further features located within the enclosed space created by the ditch including a ditch, a pit and postholes produced similar dating evidence and are likely to be contemporary. A large pit recorded outside the enclosed space to the south-west is also likely to relate to this phase of activity. The quality of survival of these features appears good possibly due to the thicker layer of overlying subsoil recorded within this area of the site. The artefactual evidence recovered from the features suggests that the activity was domestic in nature possibly including metal-working. This is supported by the environmental evidence which indicates the consumption of cereals close by. Chaff fragments appear to be fairly common on this site indicating the presence of cereal cleaning waste from glume wheat, probably mainly spelt (Monckton 2010; Appendix 2). This ties in well with the fragment of bee-hive quern found within one of the pits which might suggest that specific grain processing activities were being undertaken within this area of the site. This group of features is located 150m south-west of known cropmarks, comprising two ring ditches and a cluster of pits (**MWA3417**, **MWA5407** and **MWA9886**). It is possible that the features recorded here are relate to activities spreading eastwards beyond the site boundary.

Further discrete Mid-Late Iron Age activity was located in the south-west corner of the site within Trench 20 where two possible gully termini were recorded. Re-examination of the processed gradiometer data does actually indicate some possible linear anomalies within this area (Haddrell 2010, Fig.5).

A possible enclosure corner was recorded at the southern end of Trench 17. Pottery recovered from this feature dates to the Early Roman period. It is possible the undated linear feature recorded within Trench 16 could represent the north-west side of the enclosure, providing an enclosure length of *c.*50m. However the geophysical survey offers no evidence to support the extent of this feature. A clear but undated keyhole shaped feature was recorded within the enclosed area in Trench 16 and a possible posthole immediately within the enclosure corner in Trench 17. The shallow depths of the ditches recorded would indicate this part of the site has been subject to considerable horizontal truncation probably resulting from ploughing.

The geophysical survey recorded an area of magnetic variation associated with a marsh at the northern end of the site. Trench 1 was partially excavated within this area and recorded modern rubble backfill overlying smooth waterborne silts that could indicate the presence of an in-filled pond like feature. The edge of this feature corresponded well with the area of disturbance highlighted by the geophysical survey and suggests a total area in excess of >70m x >35m. The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey (1886) only records the current pond location suggesting the feature pre-dates the map. This is supported by two ditches recorded within Trenches 5 and 7 that were aligned to run into the pond area. These features both contained a hollowed out brick drain that may date as early as the mid-18th century.

Further undated features were recorded in Trenches 2, 5, 14, 20 and 22. These were generally shallow linear features including the feature targeted in Trench 2 that may be archaeological in origin.

Area 2 provided little evidence of archaeological activity. The only feature recorded was a shallow linear within Trench 24 that could be agricultural in origin, although oriented in a different direction than the earlier ridge and furrow recorded for this area. Probable natural features were recorded within Trenches 28 and 29.

In summary, the evaluation has located archaeological deposits within the application area. This includes an area of concentrated late prehistoric activity against the north-east boundary of the site within Trenches 10 and 11 and further discrete late prehistoric activity close to the southern boundary within Trench 20. Early Roman activity has been recorded within Trench 17 and possibly Trench 16, perhaps suggesting a poorly preserved enclosure. Post-medieval/Modern activity has been recorded to the north of the site that may be associated with a backfilled pond of unknown date. Further undated features were also recorded across the application areas that could be archaeological in origin.

8. Archive and Publication

The archive will be deposited with Warwickshire Museum and has been assigned a temporary accession number (T/1145)

The site archive consists of:

1 A4 unbound copy of this report
1 A2 permagraph sheets contain plans, sections & context descriptions
7 A3 permagraph sheet of contain plans, sections & context descriptions
CD containing 163 digital images
5 A4 contact sheet

118 Black & White negatives and contact prints
3 A4 photo index sheet
29 A4 trench recording sheets
2 A4 context summary sheets
1 A4 sample record
48 A5 double sided context sheets

A record of the project will be submitted to the Oasis project under the code universi1-84626. Oasis is an online index to archaeological grey literature reports

A version of the summary (above) will be published in *West Midlands Archaeology* in due course.

9. Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was carried out by the author, assisted by Jon Coward, Gerwyn Richards and David Parker. Vicki Score managed the project. The pottery and miscellaneous finds were identified by Elizabeth Johnson, John Thomas recorded the quern stone, all of ULAS. B.Line of Southam provided the Plant.

I would like to thank Anthony Martin of Nexus Heritage for his support throughout the duration of this project.

10. Sources

HER Historic Environment Record for Warwickshire (Museum Field Services, The Butts, Warwick)

Historic Maps from Warwickshire County Record Office (Priory Park Cape Road Warwick)

Geological Survey Sheet 169

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Appendix 1 The Pottery and Miscellaneous Finds

Elizabeth Johnson

Assemblage Size and Condition

An assemblage comprising 34 sherds (259g) of Prehistoric pottery and 2 sherds (27g) of Roman period pottery was retrieved from the excavations along with some fragments of fired clay, slag a quern and a possible brick. The pottery is in variable condition, with some sherds showing abraded surfaces and worn edges.

Methodology

The pottery was classified using the Leicestershire Fabric Series (Pollard 1994; Marsden 1998; 2000) and quantified by sherd count, weight and estimated vessel equivalents (EVEs using rims) as shown in the catalogue below. Vessel forms were also assigned where diagnostic sherds allowed.

Catalogue

Cont	Fabric	Form	Sherds	Weight (g)	Diam (cm)	EVEs	Dating
1	Q1 sandy	Jar	2	29	12	0.15	Mid-late IA
3	Mixed gritted	Jar	2	27	18	0.125	Mid1stC Early Roman
25	Q1 sandy	Jar	3	70	13	0.225	Mid-late IA
25	S1 shelly	Misc	1	2			Mid-late IA
26	V organic temp	Jar	1	5	15	0.06	Mid-late IA
26	Q1 sandy	Misc	1	5			Mid-late IA
26	R1 granitic	Misc	2	20			Mid-late IA
27	Q1 sandy	Misc	2	83			Mid-late IA
27	S1 shelly	Jar	10	49	12	0.3	Mid-late IA
27	Q1 sandy	Misc	1	5			Mid-late IA
39	Q1 sandy	Jar	2	6			Mid-late IA
39	Q1 sandy	Misc	3	48			Mid-late IA
43	Q1 sandy	Jar	1	9			Mid-late IA
43	Q1 sandy	Jar	4	21			Mid-late IA
43	S1 shelly	Misc	1	2			Mid-late IA

Stratified Features

Trenches 10 and 11

Most of the Iron Age pottery was recovered from Trenches 10 and 11 which intersect one another. The features revealing pottery comprise a ditch, pit and curvilinear feature.

Ditch
Context [28] (27)

Thirteen sherds (137g) of Iron Age pottery were recovered from a ditch (27) in Trench 10. The shelly ware jar has an upright rim which could date from the mid-late Iron Age. The remaining body sherds are sandy ware jars or bowls.

Pit
Context [32] (25)
Four sherds (72g) representing two vessels were recovered from a pit (25) in Trench 11. A sandy ware jar with an upright flattened rim dates to the mid-late Iron Age, whilst the shelly ware jar or bowl is undiagnostic (Marsden 2000, 180-181).

Curvilinear Feature
Contexts [33] (26); [40] (39); [44] (43)

Fifteen sherds (116g) of mid-late Iron Age pottery were recovered from sections of a curvilinear feature found within Trenches 10 and 11. At least eight vessels are represented including two upright rimmed jars and one sherd of scored ware, which generally dates from the middle to the late Iron Age (Elsdon 1992, 83-86; Marsden 2000, 173).

Trench 17
Context [4] (3)

Two sherds (27g) from a mixed-gritted ware jar were recovered from a possible enclosure in Trench 17. The Belgic style and mixed-gritted fabric suggest an early Roman date around the middle of the 1st century AD (Pollard 1994, 74).

Trench 20
Context: [9] (1)

Two sherds (29g) from a sandy ware jar were recovered from a gully in Trench 20. The slightly everted rim is comparable to vessels found at Humberstone in Leicestershire dating to the mid-late Iron Age (Marsden 2000, 180-182).

Miscellaneous Finds

A number of fragments of hearth slag, iron off-cuts, daub, fuel ash and fired clay were found within Trenches 10 and 11 as detailed in the table below. Most of the material was recovered from a pit [35] (34) in Trench 10, from which a beehive type quern was also recovered indicating a date from the mid-late Iron Age to the Roman period. The iron off-cuts are possibly associated with iron working (H. Addison *pers. comm.*).

Cont	Find Type	Frags	Weight (g)
34	Hearth slag	1	27
34	Iron off-cuts	2	27
34	Daub	2	15
34	Fuel ash	7	24
46	Fired clay	1	9

41	Fired clay/daub	1	1
27	Fired clay/daub	1	1

A fragment of ceramic building material (391g) was recovered from a ditch and drain feature (49) in Trench 5. The fragment is 127mm long, 46mm wide and 43mm deep (measurements taken at the widest available points). The surfaces are all sandy and one appears to have a groove cut into it.

Beehive Quern – John Thomas

A broken bowl-shaped base fragment from a Beehive type rotary quern made on fine grained Millstone Grit with a pinkish hue was recovered from a pit (34) in Trench 10. The outer surface has been prepared and shaped by pecking to produce a flat base and c.60-65 degree angle for the sides. Similar preparation techniques are also likely to have been used to create the grinding surface but this has been well-used and is worn smooth, and is slightly concave. The overall thickness is approximately 105mm. Evidence for a narrow (c.12mm diameter) spindle-hole survives (c.22mm deep). If this is taken to be centrally placed an overall diameter of c.26cm/260mm can be estimated for the original piece.

Conclusion

Apart from the single Roman vessel found in Trench 17, the pottery indicates activity during the Iron Age; most of which appears to centre round the curvilinear feature in Trenches 10 and 11.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank John Thomas (ULAS) for examining the quern and Heidi Addison (ULAS) for identifying the fragments of hearth slag, fuel ash, iron and daub.

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Appendix 2 Assessment of Environmental Samples

Angela Monckton

Introduction

Samples were taken from features including ditches and pits for the recovery of charred plant remains which may give evidence of diet, agriculture or activities on sites in the past. The features were dated by pottery to the Iron Age. Past excavations in the Midlands have recovered charred cereals by sampling at a variety of Iron Age sites as evidence of food and agriculture (e.g. Monckton 2004). The samples were also examined for other remains such as snail shells (Monckton 1992) but none were found here. The site was therefore investigated for the presence of cereals and other remains to compare with other sites in the region.

Methods

Bulk samples were taken from four features and processed to recover plant and animal remains. Two parts of each sample were processed for this assessment.

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, the coarse fractions, were sorted for all finds. The fractions below 4mm were 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 to this assessment for charred plant remains. This work was carried out by Anita Radini at 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. The remains were noted with an estimate of quantity and tabulated below (Table E1). The plant names follow Stace (1991).

Results

Charred plant remains and charcoal were found in all of the four contexts sampled.

Fragments of wheat chaff, glume bases of either emmer or spelt, mainly spelt (*Triticum spelta*) were found in all the samples. Cereal grains were present in the samples mainly of glume wheat, probably of spelt but all were abraded. A couple of grains of barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) were also present together with a fragment of barley chaff (rachis). Spelt and barley are common cereals in the Iron Age and Roman periods (Greig 1991).

Weed seeds were few in number consisting of a couple of seeds of brome grass (*Bromus* sp.) (a common crop weed in Iron Age and Roman samples) with seeds of the large grasses, and a couple of seeds of other grasses. Other seeds were of vetches

(*Vicia* sp.), chickweed type (*Stellaria* sp.), goosefoots (*Chenopodium* sp.), persicaria (*Persicaria* sp.); all these plants occur as weeds of fields or other disturbed ground.

Uncharred seeds were present in small numbers in some of the samples and included elder (*Sambucua nigra),* blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) and goosefoots (*Chenopodium* sp.). These are common in many soils as they are robust seeds but are probably modern contamination.

Discussion and conclusions

Charred cereal remains have been found to be present on the site in all the samples. Chaff fragments appear to be fairly common on this site showing the presence of cereal cleaning waste from glume wheat, probably mainly spelt. The glume wheat grains are held in the chaff after first threshing and require additional processing to remove the chaff (glumes) which can be done by parching and pounding followed by fine sieving with the waste chaff discarded and sometimes burnt. In the ear of spelt there is one glume to each grain so where there are more chaff fragments, cereal cleaning waste is indicated as found from samples 1 and 2 from pits. Sample 4 from the ditch is similar but poorer. This activity is likely to have been on a domestic scale as seen elsewhere on Iron Age sites. Sample 3 differs in having glumes and grains in equal numbers perhaps from spelt spikelet's, with more weed seeds which also indicate cereal cleaning waste. The sample has a moderate number of remains showing some potential for further analysis. The remains in the better samples are at a density of about 2 to 4 items per litre of soil sampled which indicates that further sampling could produce 50 items from 30 litre samples, the minimum number required for analysis. The presence of the remains does indicate cereal cultivation and consumption nearby.

In the neighboring county of Leicestershire remains are often at a low density on Iron Age sites but a scatter of charred cereal grains, spelt wheat chaff and weed seeds is usually found as domestic waste from food preparation (Monckton 2004, 2006). Other features lacking charred cereal remains, or with sparse plant remains may suggest that they are some distance from occupation. However, some sites have a low density of remains perhaps because lowland areas were more suitable for pasture rather than arable agriculture also suggested by evidence from snail shells (Monckton 2004). Results from other sites show different evidence from storage of cereals to domestic and craft activity on sites (Thomas forthcoming). There are too few samples to draw conclusions here; more investigation and sampling might provide further support to provide evidence about life in this area during this period. Warwickshire has a wealth of published information from Roman and medieval plant remains and although less are known from the Iron Age there are a number of sites for comparison (e.g. Moffett 1999).

Potential

Charred cereal remains have been found on the site with some potential for analysis. Samples from any further excavations on this or nearby sites could recover more such remains to help to interpret the activities and economy of any sites investigated. The distribution of remains on sites can also show differences between areas of domestic occupation and other activities. Sites and samples are not uniform so sufficient

samples are needed to maximize the possibility of recovering sufficient remains to interpret activities and to provide evidence about the distribution of remains. In addition this site could contribute to the local and Regional picture. A wider range of samples from more extensive investigations are required to contribute to these objectives.

Recommendations

If further excavations are carried out in the area it is recommended that sampling is part of the excavation strategy to recover charred plant remains or other remains from the sites following ULAS sampling Guidelines and taking account of English Heritage Guidelines (2002).

Bulk samples should be taken for wet-sieving with flotation to recover charred cereal remains, seeds, small bones or other small remains. Samples should be of around 30 litres in size because remains on Prehistoric sites are likely to be at a low density. A range of samples should be taken from contexts with the potential to be datable and to contain remains to represent all feature types, areas and phases of the site. Target contexts should include Iron Age pits, ditch or gully terminals, rubbish deposits in ditches, domestic contexts, and burnt features. Features of other periods should be sampled as appropriate if encountered according to ULAS Guidelines and as noted in the West Midlands Archaeological Research Frameworks.

Other samples: Spot samples should be taken where small concentrations of remains such as small bones or seeds are found. If extensive contexts such as middens require investigation sampling on a grid pattern may be necessary to recover remains and possibly for finds including lithics.

Animal bones should be hand-collected as well as recovered from samples. If very rich bone deposits are found sampling may be necessary to ensure complete recovery.

Other remains: if snail shells are numerous in deposits a series of samples should be taken because land snails can indicate environmental conditions and changes in land use.

Waterlogged: deeper features should be investigated for the preservation of organic remains including plant macrofossils, pollen and possibly insect remains, which may provide evidence of the environment or land use.

Buried Soils: if buried soils are encountered sampling for micromophological analysis by taking monoliths with sub-samples for soil chemistry should be considered. Micro morphology can reveal land use and investigate deposit formation, and phosphate analysis can be used to infer enclosures used for animals. Floors or other surfaces may also be investigated if found.

All sampling should be in consultation with the environmental archaeologists and relevant specialists.

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 E1: Remains from flots Wolston, Warks. 2010

Samp No.	Cont No.	Cut No.	Samp Vol. Litres	Flot Vol. Mls	Gr Ch	Cf ch	Se ch	Oth Ch	Se un	Chc	Comments. Plant remains.
1.1	56	32 Pit	7	15	3	5	5	1 s	1	+	Wheat and barley grains, chaff of spelt and a rachis of barley, seeds of large grasses. UN elder seed.
1.2	56	32 Pit	6.5	20	3	5	4	-	-	+	Wheat and barley grains, wheat glumes, seeds of large grass and chickweed.
											TOT 26= 1.9 items/litre
2.1	35	34 Pit	6	15	1	4	3	1	4	+	A cereal grain, wheat chaff, a seed of fat-hen, a thorn ?backthorn.
2.2	35	34 Pit	7	20	4	8	14	-	+	+	Wheat grains and chaff, seeds of brome grass, persicaria, chickweed and vetch.
											TOT 35= 2.7 items/litre
3.2	27	38 D	6.5	12	9	9	11	1tu	3	+	Wheat, barley grains, spelt chaff. Grass seeds and vetch. A tuber ?grass.
3.1	27	38 D	6.5	+	+	+	+			+	Similar #
											TOT 30= 4.6 items/litre
4.1	39	40 E-D	8	30	3	5	1	-	-	-	Wheat grains and spelt chaff, a grass seed.
4.2	39	40 E-D	7								Similar
											TOT 9= 1.1 items/litre

Key: Gr = cereal grain, Cf = chaff, Se = seed, ch = charred, un = uncharred, Chc = charcoal, fl = flecks, frags = fragments, D = ditch, E-D = possible enclosure ditch. # potential for analysis. + = present, ++ = moderate amount, +++ = abundant.

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Appendix 3 Historic Environment Record (HER)

Events

EWA6778 (41566 75884) Archaeological Observation at 'The Priory', Wolston

Archaeological observation was undertaken during excavation of foundation trenches for a new building at The Priory. No archaeological features were found although a single sherd of 14th century pottery was recorded along with post medieval material.

Monuments

MWA3142 (SP 4142 7587) Moat 200m West of Wolston Priory

A moat dating to the medieval period, and was possibly associated with Wolston Priory. It is still visible as earthwork, and is situated 500m northeast of St Margaret' Church, Wolston. The feature is roughly 80m by 60m, polygonal, without enclosure banks. The moat is about 10m wide and 2m deep. The moated site may actually be the location of the original small alien priory.

MWA3143 (SP 4160 7590) Wolston Priory

The site of Wolston Priory which was founded during the medieval period. It is situated 600m north east of St Margaret's Church, Wolston. A small alien priory founded by Hubert Boldran between 1086 and 1194. This priory belonged to the Benedictine abbey of St Pierre-sur-Dive. In 1388 the hall, stable, grange and barn were dilapidated. In 1394 it was sold to Coventry Abbey. Wolston Priory is a partly 16th century house, but has some 15th century or earlier details. These include a late 15th century entrance arch in the porch, a stone piscina in the kitchen and a carved corbel in the adjoining pantry. These may have come from the priory. The house probably stands on the site of the priory.

MWA3148 (SP 4150 7532) Chapel at Wolston Cemetery

A small Victorian mortuary chapel in within Wolston cemetery. Of red brick, about 7m long, with an apsidal eastern end. The building has a steeply-pitched tiled roof. The building is now used as a gardener's store.

MWA3401 (SP 4132 7551) Baptist Church, Main Street, Wolston

The Baptist church was erected in 1818. It is a plain brick building, rendered and painted on the entrance front. The windows and doors are round-arched. The interior was vastly altered in the mid 19th century

MWA3403 (SP 4142 7556) Site of Pound on School Street

Site of a pound which would have been used for penning animals. It is marked on the Ordnance Survey map of 1905. The pound was located on School Street, Wolston.

MWA3404 (SP 4136 7553) Site of Forge on School street

Smithy marked on the 1905 Ordnance Survey. The building is still extant but no longer used as a smithy.

MWA3417 (SP 4195 7583) Possible Ring Ditches 300m East of Wolston Priory

Two probable Neolithic/Bronze Age ring ditches show as cropmarks on aerial photographs from 1962 and 1975 taken by James Pickering. The two circular cropmarks were mapped as part of the English Heritage National Mapping Project

MWA5407 (SP 4194 7583) Undated pit cluster 500m East of Wolston

A pit cluster of unknown date is visible as a cropmark on aerial photographs.

MWA9541 (SP 41209 75555) Wolston Medieval Settlement

The possible extent of the medieval settlement based on the OS 2nd edition map of 1887 and the ridge and furrow plotting of the parish.

MWA9886 (SP 42015 75774) Possible Ring Ditch 300m East of Wolston Priory

A further record of one of the ring ditches recorded in record **MWA3417** from a recent aerial photograph taken by Ed Wilson in 2004.

Listed Buildings

DWA1381 (LBSUID 308862, SMR MWA3143) (SP 41598 75894) Wolston Priory

A house. Built in the mid 16th century, probably for William Wigston. 17th century additions, and 19th and mid 20th century alterations and additions. Front of red sandstone ashlar; left return side and rear of squared coursed lias with sandstone plinth, quoins, and dressings. Right return side of brick has timber framed gable with brick infill. Right range and rear have some timber framing with close studding and lath and plaster infill. Right range, probably remodelled in the 19th century, is largely of brick. Small mid 20th century single- storey addition to right of sham timber framing. Plain tile roof; main range has coped gable parapets with ball finials to gables and kneelers. Left return side has lateral stack with diagonally-set square shaft; similar stacks to rear. Complex through-passage plan. 2 storeys and attic; 5-window main range; 2-bay right range. Main range has plinth and string course. 3-storey porch on right. Moulded 4-centred arch, possibly reused late 15th century work; 16th century ribbed oak door in moulded 4-centred door- way inside. 2-light windows above. Ovolo-moulded mullioned windows with leaded or lead-latticed lights, and mostly with hood moulds throughout. Symmetrical centre has central 4-light window with transom, and flanking small 2-light windows, all abutting string course. 4-light and flanking 2-light windows above. Central gabled attic projection has 3-light window. Projecting cross-wing on left has 4-light windows, with transom to ground floor, and 3-light attic window. Irregular right range has small amount of close studding on left, with small windows. Gabled projection has lower part of stone and upper part of brick with stone dressings. Low 4-light mullioned window. Coped gable parapet. Mid 20th century range to right has leaded metal casement and shallow roof. Left return side, is a 3-window range. Third bay has 20th century glazed door in stone doorway with remains of cornice. 2 and 3- light windows. Gabled attic projection. Lateral stack has 2 diagonally-set square shafts. To rear cross wing has 1-light windows. Central wing of 2 storeys and high basement. Timber framed top floor has twin gables and stone stack with two diagonally-set square shafts between them. Basement has 2-light casement inserted in segmental-arched former doorway. 2 and 3-light stone mullioned windows. Gables have 3-light casements. Left return side has 4-light basement window, with two mullions removed. 5-light window above. Top light has 5-light wood-mullioned window. Left range has ribbed door in moulded Tudor arch and overlight with mullion removed. 2-light window to first floor and attic. Interior: screens passage has close studding. Former kitchen to right has large former open fireplace, now bay window. Hall to left has open fireplace, possibly altered, with fluted bressumer. Room in cross wing has stop-chamfered beam. 3 rooms have moulded and stop-chamfered stone fireplaces. Basement has a grotesque mask corbel in a corner, which, together with the porch arch, may have come from the original priory. Attic has remains of inscription dated 1646. Queen-strut roof. In 1589 John Penry, a Welsh protestant reformer, set up a printing press in the house, on which some of the 'Martin Marprelate' tracts were printed. William Wigston bought Wolston Priory at the Dissolution; materials from it may have been used in building the house. (VCH, Warwickshire, Vol VI, pp 374-375; Building of England: Warwickshire pp 478-479).

Appendix 4 Design Specification

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Design Specification for Archaeological Work (Trial Trench Evaluation)

Land off School Street, Wolston, Warwickshire

NGR: SP 4179 7574

Client: Nexus Heritage

Planning Authority: Rugby Borough Council

Warwickshire Museum Ref - AS/pre-app/R10_Land off School Street_Wolston, Brief B Archaeological Trial Trenching

1 Introduction

Definition and scope of the specification

1.1 This document is a design specification for archaeological work at the above site, in accordance with Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (PPS5). The fieldwork specified below is required in advance of groundworks on the site which may disturb areas of archaeological potential in connection with a planning application for a proposed residential development at School Street, Wolston, Warwickshire (Figs 1 & 2).

1.2 The document provides details of the work proposed by ULAS on behalf of the client and follows the 'Brief for Archaeological Work' (hereinafter 'the Brief') issued by the Warwickshire Planning Archaeologist on behalf of the planning authority.

1.3 Unless otherwise detailed within this Design Specification, the evaluation will be undertaken in accordance with, and fulfil the requirements of, the brief.

2. Background

Context of the Project

2.1 This document deals with the proposed residential development of land at School Street, Wolston, Warwickshire. An archaeological evaluation of the site has been requested by Warwickshire County Council Planning archaeologist, as advisor to the planning authority, by trial trenching the area as outlined in their Brief (Brief B). University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) has been commissioned to undertake the work.

Archaeological Potential (from the Brief)

2.2 The proposed development lies within an area of significant archaeological potential. Cropmarks including two ring ditches (MWA 3417) and a pit cluster (MWA 5407) are visible on aerial photographs to the east of the site. Although undated, the typology of the features suggests they could date from the prehistoric period. There is therefore the potential for groundworks associated with the development to impact upon previously unknown archaeological deposits.

2.3 Geophysical survey of the area identified possible archaeological features to the east and to the north-west of the site as well as a few potential pits and a number of agricultural marks (Fig. 3)

Geological and Topographical Background

2.4 The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain indicates the underlying geology is likely to be Mercia Mudstone bedrock overlain with bands of sand and gravel.

3. Archaeological Objectives

3.1 The purpose of the archaeological work is to:

- To identify the presence/absence of any earlier building phases or archaeological deposits.

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

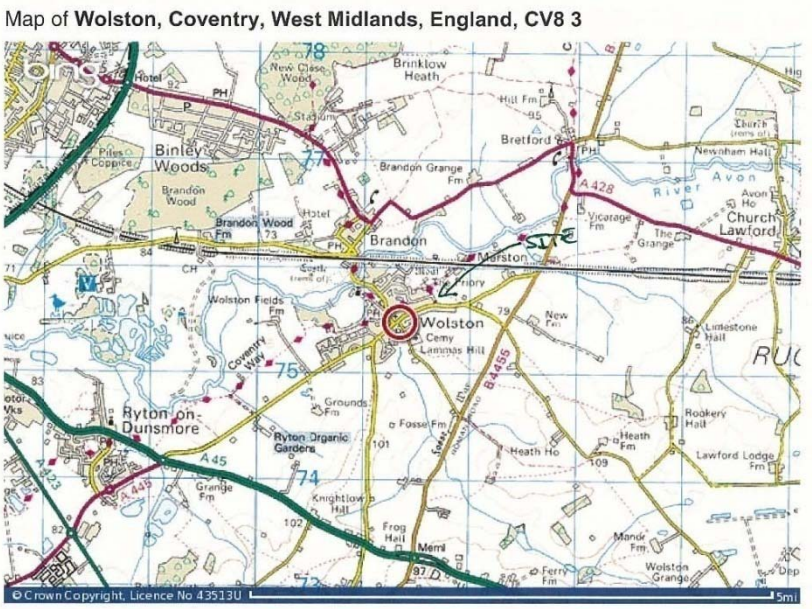

Figure 1: Location of the site
Plan provided by client

Figure 2: Detailed plan of the site location
Plan provided by client

4. Methodology

General methodology and standards

4.1 All work will follow the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct* (2008) and adhere to its *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* (2008).

4.2 An Accession Number has been requested from Warwickshire Museum. This will be used to identify all records and finds from the site.

4.3 Internal monitoring procedures will be undertaken including visits, where appropriate, to the site by the project manager. These will ensure that project targets are being met and professional standards are being maintained. Provision will be made for external monitoring meetings with the Planning authority and the client, if required.

4.4 All ground reduction and excavation is to be undertaken using a toothless ditching bucket unless otherwise agreed with the Planning Archaeologist.

Background

4.6 Available maps, aerial photographs and the Warwickshire County Historic Environment Record will be consulted to provide background information for the work.

Evaluation

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

4.8 The Planning Archaeologist for Warwickshire has suggested a 4% sample of the site (approximately 3.2 ha). This would equate to approximately 1280m^2 covering 22 trenches of varying lengths (minimum 1.6m width).

4.9 The trench plan attached (Fig. 3) shows the proposed locations of the trenches. These have been placed to target geophysical anomalies as well providing an adequate sample of the entire area and also take into account the presence of a public footpath and overhead electricity cables. The size and position of the trenches indicated on the trench plan may vary on site due to unforeseen site constraints or archaeology.

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

4.11 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 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.

4.12 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.
- Any increase in sample ratio will be agreed with the Planning Archaeologist.

4.13 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.

4.14 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.

4.15 Trench locations will be recorded and tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

4.16 A contingency of 20% may be required to clarify the character or extent of additional features. The contingency will only be initiated after consultation with the Planning Archaeologist and Nexus Heritage.

5. Recording Systems

5.1 The ULAS recording manual will be used as a guide for all recording. Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto *pro-forma* recording sheets.

5.2 Measured drawings of all archaeological features will be prepared at a scale of 1:20 and tied into an overall site plan of 1:100.

5.3 All excavated sections will be recorded and drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 scale, levelled and tied into the Ordnance Survey datum.

5.4 Any human remains encountered will be initially left *in situ* and only be removed in compliance with relevant Ministry of Justice and environmental health regulations. Nexus Heritage, the land owner, local authority and its archaeological advisers and the coroner will be informed immediately on their discovery.

5.5 A site location plan based on the current Ordnance Survey 1:1,250 map (reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO) will be prepared. This will be supplemented by a plan at appropriate scale, which will show the location of the areas investigated in relationship to the investigation area and OS grid.

5.6 The stratigraphy of all trenches shall be recorded even where no archaeological features are identified. The relative height of all principal strata and features will be recorded.

5.7 A photographic record of the investigations will be prepared illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. Conventional (silver halide) photography will be used for the recording, although digital photographs may be used to supplement the archive. The photographic record will also include 'working shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.

5.8 This record will be compiled and checked during the course of the excavations.

6. Finds

6.1 The IfA Guidelines for Finds Work will be adhered to.

6.2 All antiquities, valuables, objects or remains of archaeological interest, which may constitute treasure' as defined by the Treasure Act 1996 will be removed to safety and reported to the local Coroner. ULAS will liaise with the landowner in order to request that a transfer of title regarding the ownership of any other recovered artefacts is arranged between the landowner and Warwickshire Museum.

6.3 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.

6.4 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.

7. Environmental Sampling

7.1. 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.

7.2 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.

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

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

7.5 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.

7.6 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.

8. Report and Archive

8.1 A draft version of the report will be presented within two weeks of completion of the site works. Final copies will be provided for the client and the Local Planning Authority and deposited with the County Historic Environment Record (three copies). 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. ULAS allows the right to print material (once in the HER or Warwickshire County Record Office), with due acknowledgements.

8.2 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.
- Summary.
- The location and size of the archive.

8.3 A full copy of the archive as defined in Brown (2008) will be presented to Warwickshire County Council, normally within six months of the completion of analysis. This archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken.

9. Publication

9.1 A summary report will be submitted to a suitable regional archaeological journal following completion of the fieldwork. A full report will be submitted to a national or period journal if the results are of significance.

9.2 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.

10. Acknowledgement and Publicity

10.1 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.

10.2 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.

11. Timetable and Staffing

11.1 A small team of 2-3 archaeologists will be present during the work. The Site Director will be James Harvey (07892735455). Subject to the approval of this document by the Planning Archaeologist it is intended to commence the evaluation works on Tuesday 4th May 2010 and complete them no later than Monday 17th May 2010.

12. Health and Safety

12.1 A Risks Assessment form will be completed prior to work commencing on site, and updated as necessary during the site works.

12.2 ULAS is covered by and adheres to the University of Leicester Statement of Safety Policy and uses the FAME (Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers) Health and Safety in Field Archaeology Manual (updated 2006) 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.

13 Insurance

13.1 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.

14. Bibliography

Brown, D., 2008 *Standard and guidance for the preparation of Archaeological Archives* (Institute for Archaeologists)

FAME, 2006, *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology Manual.*

IfA, 2008 (rev) *Codes of Conduct*

IfA, 2008 (rev) *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*

Stratascan, 2010, *Geophysical Survey Report, School Street, Wolston, Warwickshire*. Unpublished Client Report, Job Ref. 2709.

Warwickshire Planning Archaeologist, 2009, '*Brief for Archaeological Work: Brief B Archaeological Trial Trenching, Land off School Street, Woldale'*.

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ULAS 21-04-2010

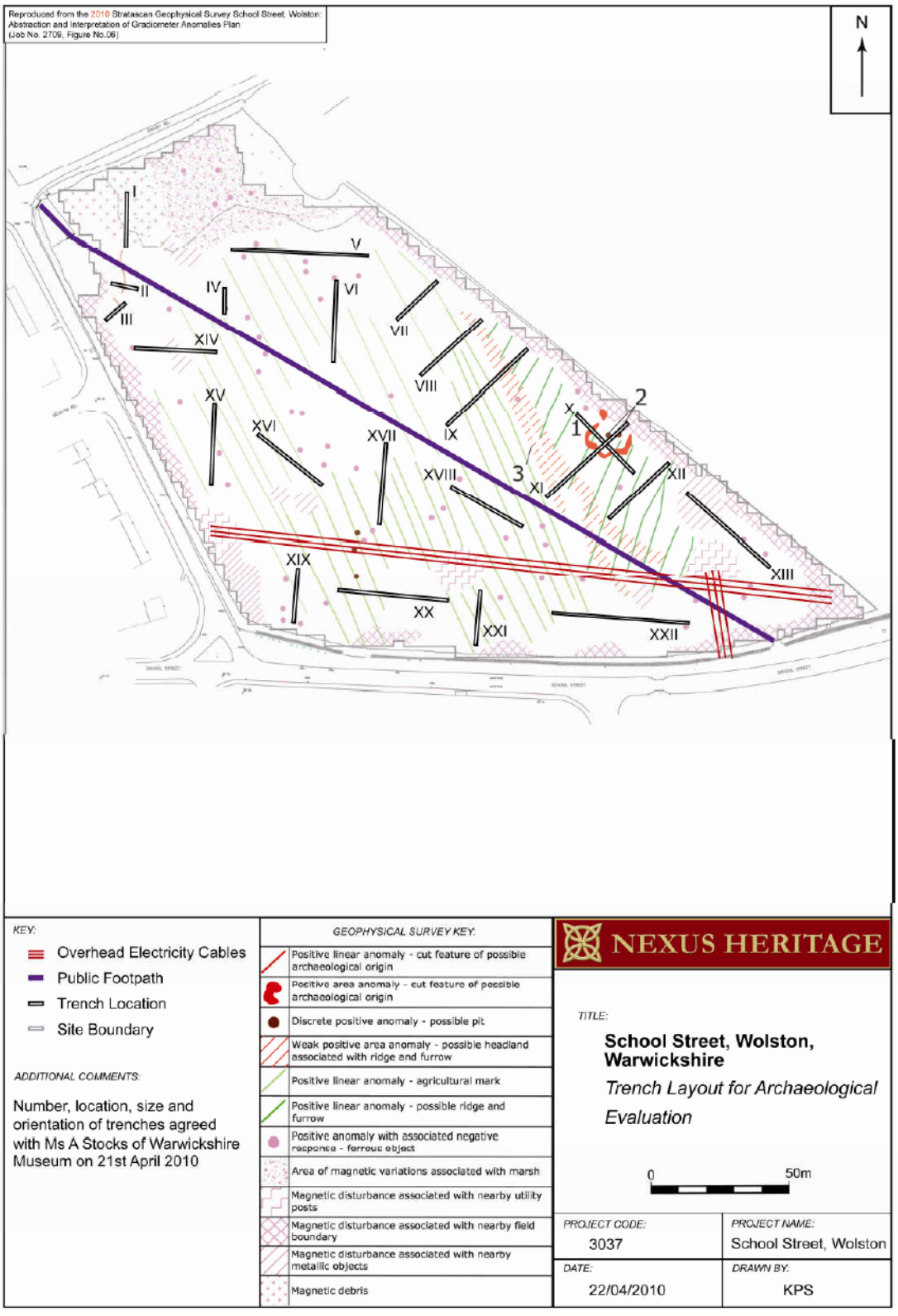

Figure 3: Plan showing proposed trench locations overlain on the geophysical survey.
Plan provided by client

APPENDIX

Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement:

Land off School Street, Wolston, Warwickshire

NGR: SP 4179 7574

1 Nature of the work

1.1 This statement is for archaeological trial trenching and watching brief.

1.2 The work will involve excavation during daylight hours and recording of any archaeological deposits revealed. Overall depth is likely to be *c.* 0.3 – 1m deep during trial trenching but may well exceed 1m during the watching brief Work will involve the examination of the exposed surface with hand tools (shovels, trowels etc) and excavation of archaeological features. All work will adhere to the University of Leicester Health and Safety Policy and follow the guidance in the ULAS Health and Safety Manual (2001) together with the following relevant Health and Safety guidelines.

- HSE Construction Information Sheet CS8 Safety in excavations.
- HSE Industry Advisory leaflet IND (G)143 (L): Getting to grips with manual handling.
- HSE Industry Advisory leaflet IND (G)145 (L): Watch Your back.
- CIRIA R97 Trenching practice.
- CIRIA TN95 Proprietary Trench Support Systems.
- HSE Guidance Note HS(G) 47 Avoiding danger to underground services. HSE Guidance Note GS7 Accidents to children on construction sites

1.4 A risk assessment will be undertaken prior to work taking place, and will be reassessed during the evaluation .

2 Risks Assessment

2.1 Working within a building site

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

2.2 Working with plant.

Hard hats, protective footwear and hazard jackets will be worn at all times. No examination of the area of stripping will take place until machines have vacated area. Observation of machines will be maintained during hand excavation. Liaison will be maintained with the contractors to ensure programme of machine movement is understood.

2.3 Working within areas prone to waterlogging.

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

2.4 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.

2.5 Other risks

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.

22-04-2010

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