GWFP/05

GORES FARM, PETERBOROUGH
ERECTION OF 8 WIND TURBINES AND ASSOCIATED WORKS

Archaeological Trial Trenching

commissioned by Peterborough Wind Energy Limited

13/00431/FUL

December 2013

HEADLAND ARCHAEOLOGY

REGISTERED ORGANISATION IfA

GORES FARM, PETERBOROUGH
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Parish: Thorney
Local authority: Peterborough City Council
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Project Manager	Joe Abrams
Author	Jake Streatfeild-James
Fieldwork	Rob Blackburn, Julian Newman
Graphics	Ross Murray, Caroline Norrman
Specialists	Laura Bailey & Tim Holden – Environmental Julie Lochrie – Finds
Approved by	Joe Abrams – Project Manager

Headland Archaeology
South & East

Building 68A, Wrest Park, Silsoe
Bedfordshire MK45 4HS

01525 850 878
southandeast@headlandarchaeology.com

www.headlandarchaeology.com

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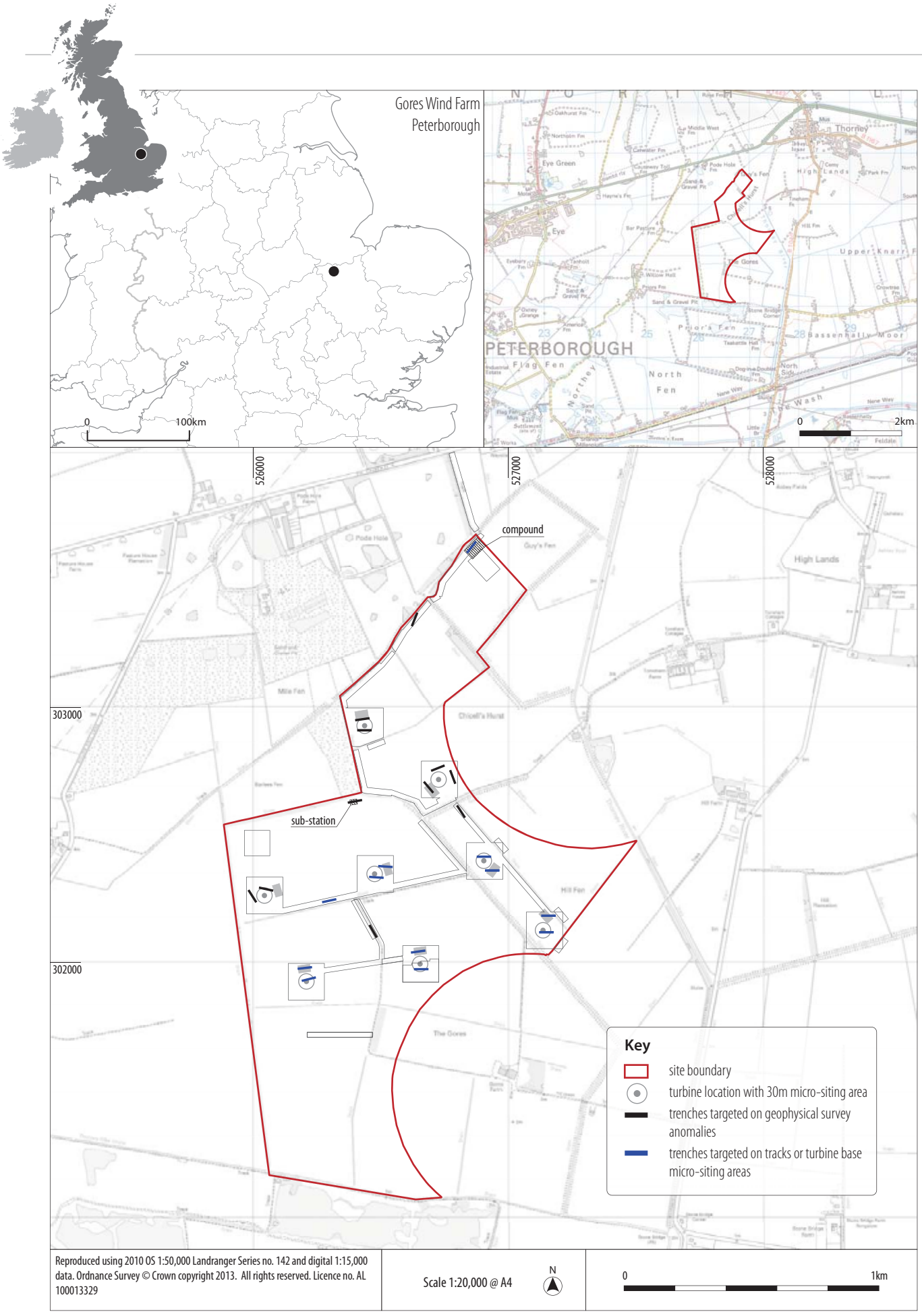


Illus 1

Site location

GORES FARM, PETERBOROUGH
ERECTION OF 8 WIND TURBINES AND ASSOCIATED WORKS

Archaeological Trial Trenching

Headland Archaeology Ltd conducted an intrusive evaluation on land at Gores Farm, located to the east of Peterborough, on the edge of the Fens. The evaluation was undertaken in order to provide further information on the sub-surface archaeological potential of the proposed Development Area. The work was commissioned by Peterborough Wind Energy Ltd. A total of 23 trenches were excavated within the DA. This resulted in the investigation of a Neolithic-early Bronze Age Barrow ring ditch with multiple fills. Other remains included post-medieval drainage and land boundary features. The Neolithic-early Bronze Age remains are considered to be of significance locally/regionally and are likely to require mitigation measures as part of any construction programme.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Planning background

1.1.1 An application for development (by Peterborough Wind Energy Ltd), for construction of eight wind turbines with access tracks and associated works to be built on land at Gores Farm, Peterborough (**Illus 1**) is being prepared by Peterborough Wind Energy Limited (the client) for Peterborough City Council.

1.1.2 Because the Development Area (DA) lies within an area of archaeological significance English Heritage, supported by the Peterborough City Council Archaeologist (PCCAS), have advised that the forthcoming Environmental Statement (Headland, 2013a) should include the results of a trial trenching evaluation, which has been undertaken by Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd. Before undertaking trial trenching, Headland Archaeology undertook a geophysical survey of the haul roads and 1 hectare squares surrounding each turbine base (Headland, 2013b). Geophysical survey anomalies were then targeted with trial trenches (where direct impacts upon them were possible – hence SM1021309 was not trenched as it will not be impacted, **Illus 2**).

1.1.3 Targeted trenches numbered 13, while the remaining ten trenches were placed to give a representative sample of apparently 'blank' areas which were potentially impacted by the proposed development. Headland Archaeology also undertook a geoarchaeological auger survey in order to analyse the depth and archaeological potential of local peat deposits (Headland, 2013c). The potential for finding deeply stratified peat deposits and associated archaeological activity within the PDA was found to be low. A watching brief on the construction of a temporary meteorological mast (Headland, 2013d) revealed a 0.20–0.40m of plough truncation in the area of the mast, and no significant archaeological material.

1.1.4 The results of the trial trenching evaluation are presented in this document.

1.2 Site location and geology

1.2.1 The site is located in a group of fields to the south of Pode Hole Farm near Thorney. Underlying geology comprises Oxford Clay Formation – Mudstone - overlain by river terrace deposits comprising sands and gravels. It is located at NGR 526150, 302690.

1.2.2 Information taken from BGS boreholes located on and outside of the PDA shows the presence of peats in the southern end of the site, which may relate to a fen peat. The boreholes indicate a depth of up to 0.7m of peat may be present in the south, which thins out to the north, until it is absent in the borehole records.

1.3 Archaeological background

1.3.1 The WF takes in an extensive area of arable land that has been subject to intensive drainage and cultivation since at least the 17th century. This land contains two bowl barrows indicative of a Neolithic or Bronze Age date (Scheduled Monument 1021307 and 1021309). None of these known heritage assets would be directly impacted by the current turbine layout and may be readily avoided by tracks and other infrastructure.

1.3.2 Bronze Age and Neolithic artefacts (HER 03005 and 51915) have been found within the propsed development area (PDA) and a Bronze Age wooden track way (HER 08785) has been excavated in the north of it. It was considered that across the PDA there was a moderate potential for archaeological assets of Bronze Age date.. If present, these remains could be well preserved and may include further waterlogged organic artefacts or timber structures such as the track way. There is also potential for remains of Roman date, as a field system of this date is present at Pode Hole and these earthworks are part of a larger area of field systems known from crop marks (SM 1015503).

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Objectives

2.1.1 In general, the purpose of the investigation was to identify and assess the significance of any element of the historic environment that may be affected by the relevant proposal (NPFF). This was to be achieved by determining and understanding the nature, function and character of any remains on the site, in their cultural and environmental setting.

2.1.2 More specific aims of the evaluation include:

- Establishing the location, extent, nature and date of archaeological features or deposits that may be present within the areas proposed to be disturbed during the development.
- Establishing the integrity and state of preservation of archaeological features or deposits that may be present within the areas proposed to be disturbed during the development.
- Testing the date, character and significance of recorded cropmark features, and determining how complete a picture of the archaeological remains they represent, i.e. whether additional features are present which do not show as a cropmark.

2.1.3 The local and regional research contexts are provided by Glazebrook (1997), Brown & Glazebrook (2000) and Medlycott & Brown (2008). Any evidence retrieved during the works will be analysed in light of the objectives contained in these frameworks. In particular, the site has a high potential to contain remains of Neolithic activity. Specifically, we would be considering any connections with the remains already recorded at Pode Hole (to the immediate north-west of the site – Daniel, P. 2009).

2.1.4 The results from the evaluation will be used to inform a micro-siting strategy that will seek to mitigate the impact of the scheme by maximising the preservation in situ of archaeological remains. It will include an assessment of significance so that areas of more significant remains (such as settlements) are avoided where possible.

2.1.5 The results of the evaluation will be used to inform a strategy for further archaeological work where remains cannot be preserved in situ by micro-siting.

2.1.6 The resulting archive (finds and records) will be organised and deposited in Peterborough Museum to facilitate access for future research and interpretation for public benefit. An Accession Number has been applied for.

2.1.7 Peterborough City Council's Archaeologist will also be responsible for considering any changes to the specification of works; any such alterations should be agreed in writing with the relevant parties prior to commencement of on site works, or at the earliest available opportunity.

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The trial trenching took place between 30th September and 10th October 2013. A total of 23 trenches were excavated amounting to 1150 linear meters at 1.8m wide. The trenches were laid out in order to test geophysical survey anomalies and blank areas within the PDA.

2.2.2 A 360 degree tracked mechanical excavator equipped with a flat-bladed bucket was used to remove topsoil under direct archaeological control. Excavation continued until clean geological sediments or significant archaeological deposits were encountered.

2.2.3 Further investigation, required to satisfy the objectives of the evaluation, was continued by hand. A representative sample, sufficient to meet the objectives of the evaluation, of identified features was investigated by hand and all features were recorded. The stratigraphy of each trench was recorded in full.

2.3 Recording

2.3.1 All recording was in accordance with the code of practice of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA). All trenches and contexts were given unique numbers. All recording was undertaken on pro forma record cards that conform to accepted archaeological standards. All stratigraphic relationships were recorded.

2.3.2 An overall site plan at an appropriate scale and relative to the National Grid was recorded by digital survey using a differential GPS.

526000

527000

303000

302000

Key

- site boundary
- turbine location with 30m micro-siting area
- trenches targeted on geophysical survey anomalies
- trenches targeted on tracks or turbine base micro-siting areas

Geophysics key

- magnetic anomalies (archaeological?)
- magnetic anomalies (natural/non-archaeological?)
- magnetic anomalies (recent?)
- probable drains
- cultivation?
- pipes?
- strong magnetic disturbances (mainly ferrous)

compound

Tr01

Tr02
see Illus 3

T8

Tr03

Tr04

T7
see Illus 3

Tr05

Tr06

Tr07

sub-station

Tr13

Tr08

SM1021309

T6

Tr09

Tr10

T3

Tr14

Tr15

T4
see Illus 4

Tr17

Tr18

Tr16

Tr21

T5

Tr11

Tr12

T2

Tr22

Tr23

T1

Tr19

Tr20

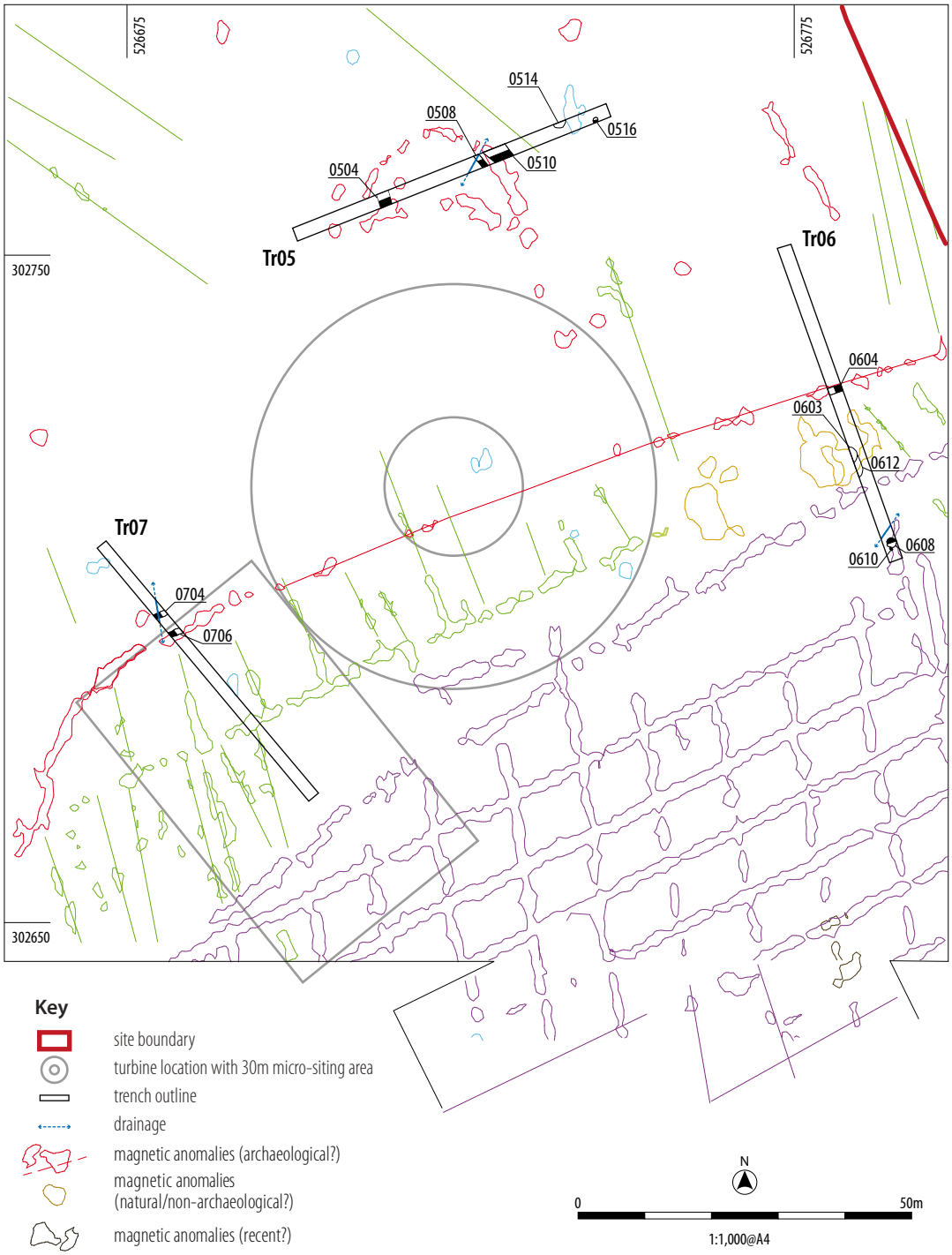
N

0 200m

scale 1:6,250 @ A3

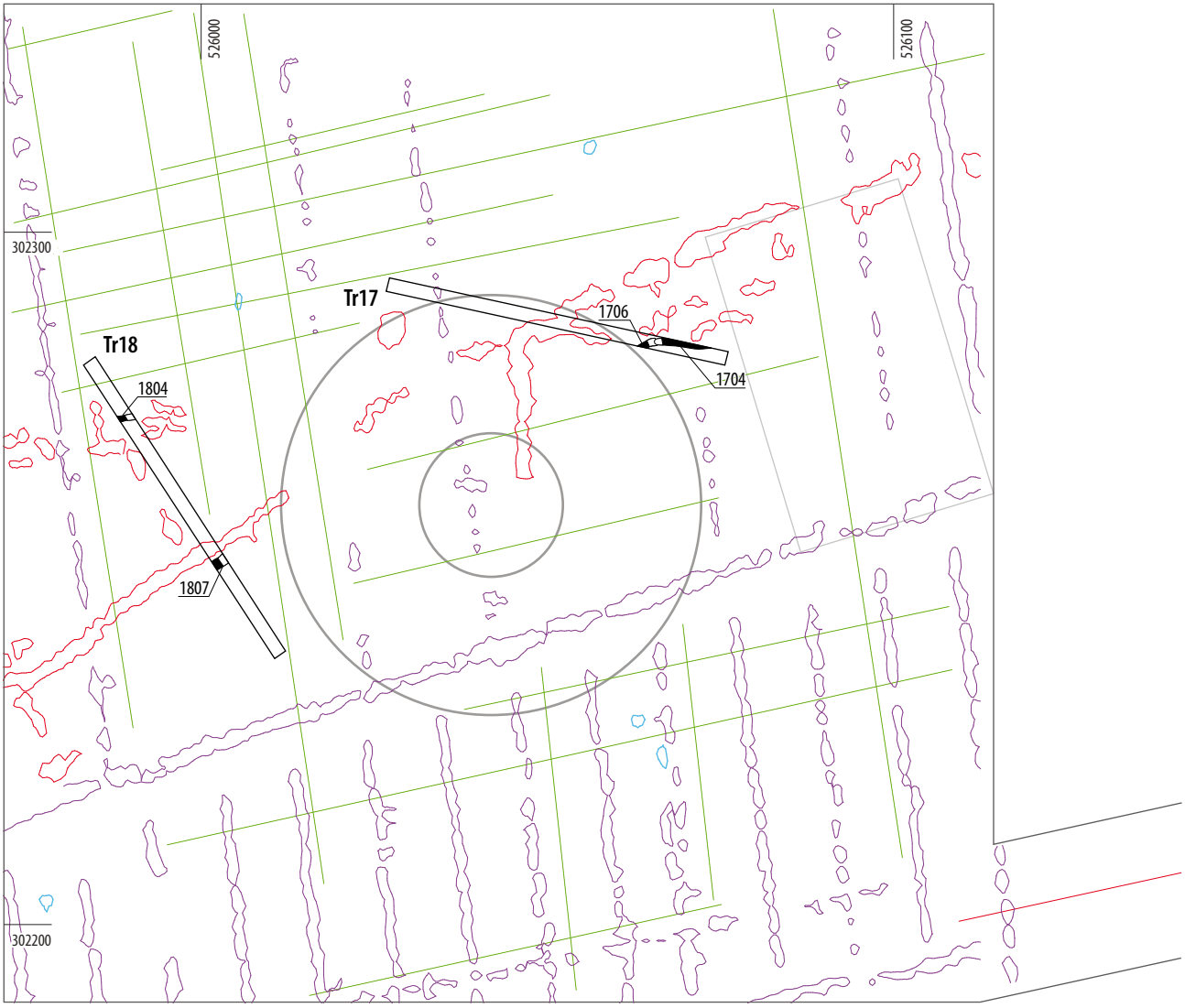
Illus 2

Trenches overlaid on geophysical survey



Illus 3

Close up of turbine base 7 – excavated features and geophyisics



Key

- turbine location with 30m micro-siting area
- trench outline
- magnetic anomalies (archaeological?)
- magnetic anomalies (natural/non-archaeological?)
- magnetic anomalies (recent?)
- probable drains
- cultivation?
- pipes?
- strong magnetic disturbances (mainly ferrous)

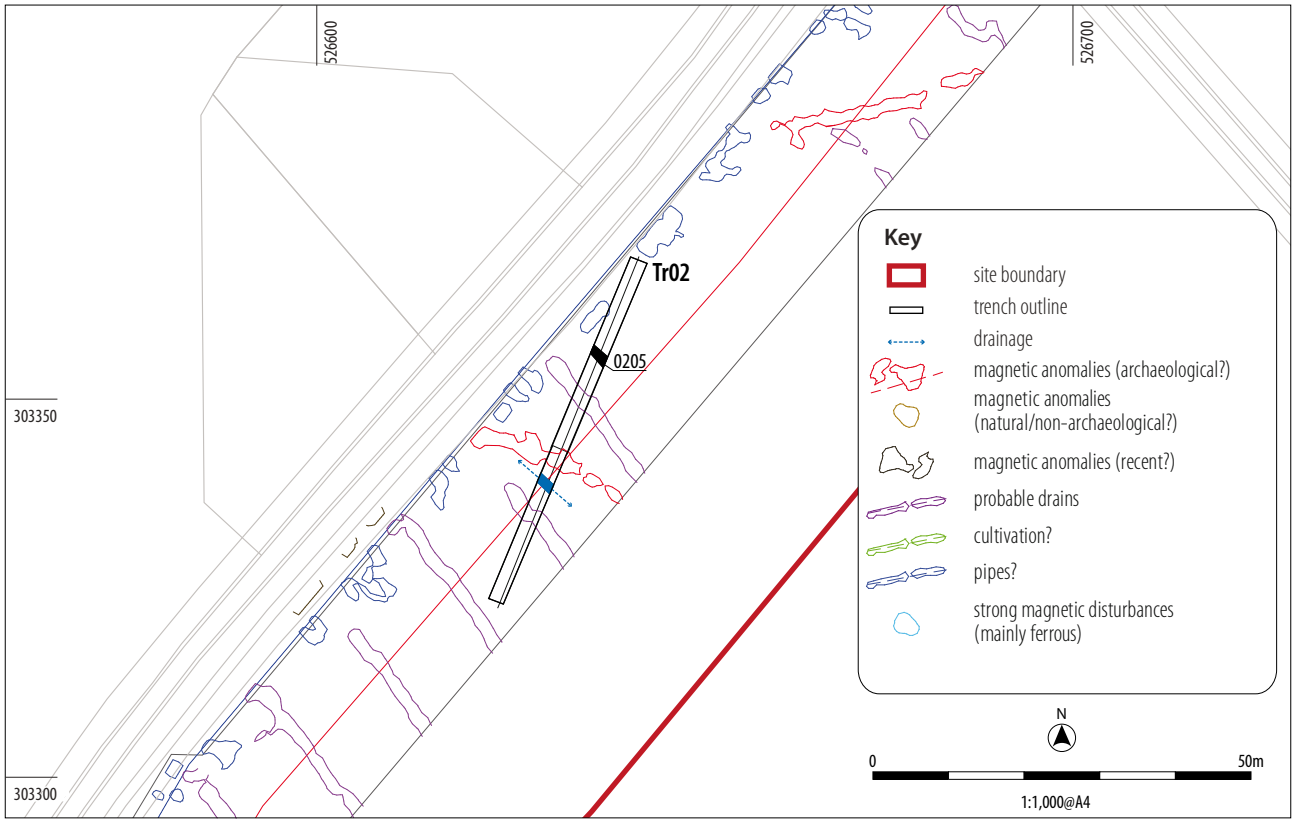
N

0 50m

1:1,000@A4

Illus 4

Close up of turbine base 4 – excavated features and geophysiscs



Illus 5

Close up of haul road area – excavated features and geophysics

2.3.3 A full photographic record comprising colour slide and black and white print photographs was taken, supplemented with digital photography. A metric scale was clearly visible in record photographs.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 Full trench descriptions, including orientation, length and depth are presented in Appendix 1.1. Technical details of individual contexts are presented in Appendix 1.2. Contexts are numbered by trench number: *ie* Trench 1 [101], Trench 2 [201]. Cut features are shown as [101] whilst their fills are expressed as (102) for example. The results are described in chronological order.

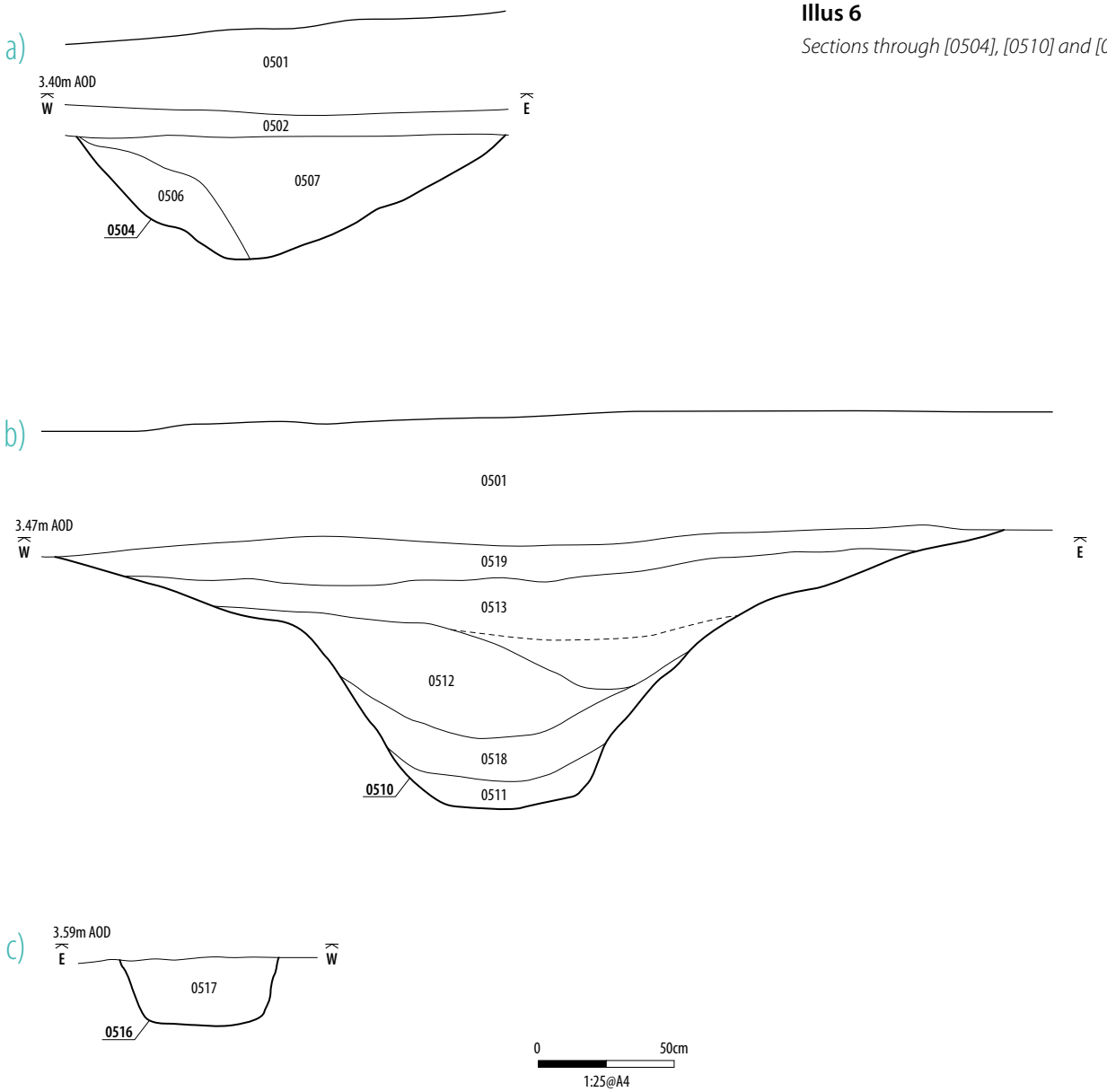
3.1.2 Overburden generally comprised topsoil to a depth of 0.25–0.38m below ground level (bgl). Subsoil was identified across the site as a dark brown and crumbly, clayey soil, interpreted as a modified 'b' horizon of the topsoil. Natural background geology was identified in most areas as mid grey clay with traces of podzolisation. In other areas the subsoil was sitting immediately over quaternary peat deposits. Topsoil, subsoil and natural were recorded as follows: (-01), (-02) and (-03), with the first number as a trench prefix.

3.1.3 Plough truncation was recorded across the PDA, with around 0.45m of plough soil overlying natural clay beds and peat. Ploughing scars were recorded in Trench 3, where they severely truncated features down to a depth of 0.10m.

3.1.4 The majority of trenches encountered some form of negative archaeological feature, although the significance of these features varied greatly. Trenches 5, 6 and 7 located a concentration of activity within proposed area for Turbine 7; magnetic anomalies noted on the geophysics survey were confirmed as archaeological features. Other areas showed that excavation had been a common theme in the historic management and exploitation of the PDA. Large numbers of field drains and negative features interpreted as clay extraction pits, were recoded across the site.

3.2 Neolithic – Bronze Age

3.2.1 Trench 5 revealed two reciprocal ditches [504] and [510] which corresponded with a circular anomaly from the geophysical survey (Illus. 3). Investigation demonstrated that both ditches had relatively complex, structured fills. Ditch [504] comprised two fills. The primary fill (506) was interpreted as the result of a slighted or partially slumped bank partially infilling the western side of the ditch, with a larger deposit with more frequent inclusion of small rounded stones (507) making up the main fill. The maximum depth of the ditch was 0.48m (**Illus 6a**).



Illus 6

Sections through [0504], [0510] and [0516]

3.2.2 Ditch [510] did not mirror the shape of [504], being deeper and narrower, with a noticeable change in break of slope, from shallow sides to a steep, narrowing base. Ditch [510] contained a structured sequence of five fills, starting with (511) primary silting, suggesting the ditch had been open long enough for material from the sides to accumulate naturally before it was intentionally (or more rapidly via natural processes) infilled with deposits (518), (512), (513) and (519) (**Illus 6b**). Deposit (512) contained an assemblage of faunal remains, including rib and long-bone fragments from a large vertebrate (Section 5.6). Charcoal was also present in this context, suggesting an episode of burning associated with the infilling of the feature.

3.2.3 A small pit [516] was fully excavated and targeted for environmental samples, due to the charcoal rich fill (517). The assemblage within [516] was found to contain a variety of material, including daub, lithic debitage and ceramic fragments, the decorations on which appear to date to the late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age (EBA). The presence of daub could suggest the presence of some structural element to the site, although no actual structural evidence was visible elsewhere inside the trench. The deposition of material culture within pit assemblages is well attested in the British Neolithic and has been discussed at length (Anderson-Whymark, H and Thomas, J (eds) 2012). The combination of ceramics, lithics and seeds of the genus Malus in Neolithic pits is one which is recorded with more frequency, across the British Isles (Chaffey & Brook, 2012; Streatfeild-James in-preparation).

3.3 Post medieval

3.3.1 The entire PDA appeared to be crossed by a number of phases of negative linear features. These will be summarised according to morphology.

3.3.2 Features with a flat base and steep sides were recorded in Trenches 2, 3, 4, 19, 20, 22 and 23 – these were associated with geophysical anomalies which were traced in a

diamond lattice pattern across some areas of the site. They were interpreted as drainage features which may have had a secondary function in clay extraction.

3.3.3 Features [706] [1804] and [1808] shared a morphology which consisted of a steep-sloping 'V' shaped profile, with a pronounced cleaning slot or 'ankle breaker' at the base, and multiple fills. The maximum depth of the features averaged around 0.55m, with [1808], the largest of the three measuring 0.75m. Due to the intensity of local post-medieval drainage schemes, aimed at turning 'fens' into improved and productive farmland, the balance of probability suggests that these ditches date somewhere between the 16th and 19th centuries.

3.4 Description of the significance of the heritage assets

3.4.1 The local and regional research contexts for Neolithic are provided by Glazebrook (1997) and Medlycott and Brown (2008) the aims of which are to survey and evaluate our current understanding of the region's historic environment. The potential for the remains uncovered at Gores Farm to contribute to the regional understanding of activity during the Neolithic is thought to be significant. The 2008 revision of the regional research framework for the Eastern Region (Medlycott and Brown, 2008: 21) identifies pond barrows as a poorly understood monument type within the pantheon of Neolithic Heritage assets. There are also pertinent research themes aimed at better understanding of the effects of modern ploughing, and the need to focus on sites outside of aggregate extraction zones, where understanding of the landscape has been lead by sites situated solely on sands and gravels (ibid).


7

Illus 7
N facing section through ring ditch [504]


8

Illus 8
N facing section through ring ditch [510]


9

Illus 9
Pit [516] N facing section

Illus 9

SW facing section through clay extraction ditch [0404]

Illus 10

E facing section through ditch [1804]

Description	Trench	Feature nos	Significance of HA *(Low, Medium, High) and of local, regional, national, international interest*
HA1 – Neolithic –Bronze Age Monument	05	[0504] [0510] – [0516]	Moderate Significance of Regional Interest
HA2 – 'V' Profile Ditches	07, 18	[0706] [1804] [1808]	Low Significance of Local Interest
HA3 – Clay Extraction Features	02, 03, 04, 19, 20, 22	–	Low Significance of Local Interest

Table 1

Heritage Assets recorded during intrusive evaluation

3.4.2 The linear features, excavated in patterns across the PDA, have the potential to help develop specific avenues for research regarding the landscape and environment of the Eastern Region (Medlycott and Brown, 2008: 116). These avenues include the impact of agricultural developments during the first millennium BC, and the developments of the Medieval and post-Medieval landscape around the Fens, specifically the post-medieval drainage of the wetlands.

4 FINDS

by Julie Lochrie

4.4.1 The finds assemblage numbered 8 sherds of pottery, 233 chipped stone finds and 34g daub. These were found in a single trench, within four deposits. The finds are quantified by trench in the Table 2.

Trench	Context	Pottery (PH)	Daub (PH)	Lithics (PH)	Dating
5	502	–	–	40	Prehistoric
5	512	–	–	79	Prehistoric
5	513	–	–	3	Prehistoric
5	517	8	34g	111	Prehistoric
Total	–	8	34g	233	–

Table 2

Quantification of finds by trench, with spot dating

4.1 Prehistoric pottery & daub

4.1.1 Eight sherds of prehistoric pottery and 34g of daub were discovered within pit [516]. The daub contains sub-rounded, sparse pieces of flint and is represented by small homogenous lumps. They may indicate the presence of something structural within the vicinity.

4.1.2 Very few sherds of pottery were discovered and unfortunately all are very small and none are feature sherds, though two are decorated. There are a minimum of three vessels represented; two have a quartz sand fabric, one with the addition of grog, and the third is heavily shell tempered. All the sherds excepting the shell-tempered ware are much abraded.

4.1.3 The decoration on two of the sherds appears to be a zig-zag or herringbone motif which may point to a later Neolithic or Bronze Age date. The heavily shell-tempered ware is very different in fabric and condition and may be of a different date.

4.2 Lithics

4.2.1 The lithics comprise two cores, three broken retouched fragments and many broken flakes and chips. The fragmentation and burnt condition of the lithics reveals how they were treated prior to their inclusion in the ring ditch but very little about there original character. The lithics assemblage does not represent chance loss or deliberate deposition as the mixture of fragmentation and surface condition points towards domestic refuse. The small platform core, the multi platform core and the broken, probable, knives all point towards a Bronze Age or Neolithic date.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

Laura Bailey & Tim Holden

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 This report presents the results of an assessment of samples taken during the course of evaluation at Gores Wind Farm. Two samples of 40 & 50 litres were processed and two samples of hand collected bone washed for environmental assessment. The aim of the assessment was to assess the presence, preservation; abundance and potential of any palaeoenvironmental remains (Tables A3.1–A3.3 in Appendix 3).

5.2 Method

5.2.1 The samples were subjected to flotation and wet sieving in a Siraf-style flotation machine. The floating debris (the flot) was collected in a 250 µm sieve and, once dry, scanned using a binocular microscope. Any material remaining in the flotation tank (retent) was wet-sieved through a 1mm mesh and air-dried. This was then sorted and any material of archaeological significance removed. All plant macrofossil samples were analysed using a stereomicroscope at magnifications of x10 and up to x100 where necessary to aid identification.

5.3 Results

5.3.1 Results of the assessment are presented in Tables A3.1 (Retent samples) and A3.2 (Flot samples), and hand collected bone in Table A3.3. Material suitable for AMS (Accelerated Mass Spectrometry) radiocarbon dating is shown in the tables.

5.4 Wood charcoal

5.4.1 Although wood charcoal was present in both samples, that from [512] was extremely small and offers little scope for identification or radiocarbon dating. Context [517] on the other hand continued sufficient for both purposes.

5.5 Other plant remains

5.5.1 Two charred examples of what are thought to be the remains of apple/pear 'seeds' were identified from Context [517].

5.6 Bone

5.6.1 The retents from [512] produced two very small fragments of burnt bone and a single rodent bone thought to be modern. The hand collected bone from this sample comprised a poorly preserved fragment of rib and a single long bone from a large mammal.

5.6.2 Context [517] contained a quantity of burnt bone but whether this was human or animal would require a more detailed analysis. However, over 50 fragments of un-burnt animal bone (including a sheep's tooth) were also recovered together with a single fragment of the jaw of a pig with in situ teeth. The fragmentary nature of much of the un-burnt bone is suggestive of deliberate smashing of the bone.

5.7 Discussion

5.7.1 The environmental remain offer little scope for further analysis although several elements could provide sufficient material for radiocarbon analysis if required.

6 CONCLUSION

6.1.1 Trial trenching at Gores Farm has revealed a concentration of significant archaeological material in the vicinity of Turbine Base 7. Trench 5 revealed two linear negative features, which were interpreted as anthropogenic having multiple fills and a steep sloping profile, which also corresponded to a circular geophysical survey anomaly (**Illus 3**, Headland 2012b). Adjacent to, and inside the PDA there are two Scheduled Monuments, described as Neolithic Pond Barrows. It is, therefore, highly likely that the anomaly in Trench 5 represents another (un-designated) example.

6.1.2 The association between the features in Trench 5 and the other Neolithic monuments is further evidenced by the finds analysis, which suggests as late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age date for the lithic and ceramic assemblages (paragraphs 4.1.3 and 4.2.1). An adjacent feature [516] contains a combination of decorated ceramic, lithics and fruit seeds, which is analogous to Neolithic assemblages elsewhere in Britain.

6.1.3 Plough truncation is a significant factor across the PDA, with around 0.45m of plough soil overlying natural clay beds and peat. Ploughing scars were recorded in Trench 3, where they severely affected some of the clay extraction pits and drainage channels. Elsewhere on the site, the veracity of the geophysics survey has been confirmed by archaeological trial trenching. The diamond lattice pattern of anomalies has been identified as a system of post-medieval drainage features.

6.1.4 Another set of linear features, sharing a common morphology, have been identified in two areas of the site. These have characteristic 'V' shaped profiles with small vertical cleaning slots at the base. These types of ditches are post medieval field boundaries.

6.1.5 The results of the trial trenching have shown the existence of a Neolithic/EBA remains within the PDA. The most significant archaeological remains were situated in one area, within the potential footprint of Turbine 7. All features recorded had been plough truncated to some extent, however, all were cut to an average depth of around 0.5m, suggesting the potential for significant archaeological material to survive within the DA.

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8 APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Site registers

Appendix 1.1 Trench register

Trench.	Orientation	Length (m)	Description	Min Depth to archaeology (m)
1	NE- SW	50m	0.00–0.30 Topsoil; 0.30–0.45 Subsoil; 0.45 Natural	0.40
2	NE- SW	45m	0.00–0.21 Topsoil; 0.21–0.53 Subsoil; 0.53 Natural	0.53
3	E-W	50m	0.00–0.30 Topsoil; 0.30–0.55 Subsoil 0.55 Natural	0.55
4	E-W	49m	0.00–0.21 Topsoil; 0.21–0.42 Subsoil; 0.42 Natural	0.42
5	E-W	50m	0.00–0.45 Topsoil; 0.45–0.55 Subsoil; 0.55 Natural	0.55
6	N-S	50m	0.00–0.50 Topsoil; 0.50m Natural	0.50
7	N-S	50m	0.00–0.43 Topsoil; 0.43–0.55 Subsoil; 0.55 Natural	0.55
8	N-S	50m	0.00–0.21 Topsoil; 0.21–0.43 Subsoil; 0.43 Natural	0.43
9	E-W	50m	0.00–0.20 Topsoil; 0.20–0.35 Subsoil 0.35 Natural	0.35
10	E-W	50m	0.00–0.25 Topsoil; 0.25–0.40 Subsoil; 0.40 Natural	0.40
11	E-W	50m	0.00–0.20 Topsoil; 0.20–0.38 Subsoil; 0.38 Natural	0.38
12	E-W	50m	0.00–0.20 Topsoil; 0.20–0.35 Subsoil; 0.35 Natural	0.35
13	E-W	50m	0.00–0.20 Topsoil; 0.20–0.35 Subsoil 0.35 Natural	0.35
14	E-W	50m	0.00–0.20 Topsoil; 0.20–0.38 Subsoil; 0.38 Natural	0.38
15	E-W	50m	0.00–0.35 Topsoil; 0.35-0.45 Subcoil; 0.45 Natural	0.40
16	E-W	50m	0.00–0.45 Topsoil; 0.45 Natural	0.45
17	E-W	50m	0.00–0.45 Topsoil; 0.45 Natural	0.45
18	NW-SE	50m	0.0–0.45 Topsoil 0.45 Natural	0.45
19	E-W	50m	0.00–0.30 Topsoil; 0.30–0.45 Subsoil; 0.45 Natural	0.45
20	E-W	50m	0.00–0.40m Topsoil; 0.40m Natural	0.40
21	E-W	50m	0.00–0.45m Topsoil; 0.45 Natural	0.45
22	E-W	50m	0.00–0.25m Topsoil; 0.25–0.45 Subsoil; 0.45m Natural	0.45
23	E-W	50m	0.00–0.25m Topsoil; 0.25–0.45 Subsoil; 0.45m Natural	0.45

Appendix 1.2 Context register

Context	Area	Description
[204]	Trench 2	Linear cut, vertical sides, flat base, sharp break of slope. Width 2.70m depth 0.56m. Linear fueature running NNE/SSW, marked on Geophysics survey as being probable drain - AO says clay extraction ditch. Undated as no finds. Two fills - (205) (211)
(205)	Trench 2	Silty clay deposit, dark brown with orange flecks, clear interface, Firm. Fill of [204] Drainage ditch. Backfill of clay extraction pit. Max depth = 0.26m
[206]	Trench 2	Linear Cut, vertical sides, flat base, sharp break of slope. Width 2.16m depth 0.30m. Same as [204] but vut by a land drain in north corner. Two Fills (207) (210)
(207)	Trench 2	Silty clay deposit, dark brown with orange flecks, clear interface, firm. Fill of [206] Drainage ditch. Backfill of clay extraction pit. Max depth = 0.30m
[208]	Trench 2	Linear cut, steep sides, rounded base, sharp break of slope. Width 0.30m depth 0.18m. Cut for ceramic land drain
(209)	Trench 2	Clay deposit, mid grey brown, subtle interface, firm. Fill of ceramic land drain cut, [208] Max Depth = 0.17m
(210)	Trench 2	Silty clay deposit, mid grey brown, subtle interface, firm to friable. Fill of clay extraction ditch [206] secondary fill. Probably a mix of redeposited subsoil and topsoil with some patches of lighter natrual subsoil.
(211)	Trench 2	Silty clay deposit, mid grey brown, subtle interface, fim to friable. Same as context (210) mix of redeposited topsoil and subsoil. Secondary fill of [204]

Context	Area	Description
(304)	Trench 3	Humic clayey silt deposit, dark rusty brown, clear interface, soft, ocassional small stones. The unmoistened deposit is dry and friable, and appears as a brown almost peaty composition. Moistened it appears as dark brown soft. Fill of [305] post medieval drainage ditch. Mac depth = 0.25m
[305]	Trench 3	Linear cut, vertical sides, uneven base, sharp break of slope. 1.45m wide, 0.25m deep. A ditch which forms part of a very regualr pattern across this part of the site and which is almost certainly a system of drainage dating to the post medeival period. Note they may be clay extraction plots.
[404]	Trench 4	Linear cut, vertical sides, flat base, sharp break of slope, 1.42m wide, 0.67m deep. Clay extraction ditch running N/S across trench. One of three running N/S in this trench. Two fills (405) (406)
(405)	Trench 4	Silty clay deposit, Mid grey brown, subtle interface, firm to friable. Probably a mix of redeposited topsoil and subsoil. Same as (211) and (210) primary fill of ditch [404]
(406)	Trench 4	Silty clay deposit, mid grey brown, subtle interface, firm - friable, mix of topsoil and subsoil. Secondary fill of ditch [404]
[504]	Trench 5	linear cut, gradually sloping sides, rounded base, 1.75m wide, 0.48m deep. Cut of linear ditch thought to be a section of bronze age ring-ditch, second section found further east in trench 5 [510]. Aligned N/S
(506)	Trench 5	Sandy silt deposit, light orange brown, clear interface, firm, small gravel fragments. Fill of western end ring ditch section running N/S across trench. Possibly a slumping episode as only in W end of ditch. Primary fill of [504]. Max Depth = 0.20m
(507)	Trench 5	Sandy silt deposit, mid orange yellowm clear interface, very firm, ocassional small rounded stones. Deposit is very simialr to naturalm so may have been redeposited. Single fragment of worked flint recovered. Main fill of ditch [504]. Max depth = 0.48m
[508]	Trench 5	Linear cut, steep sides, concave base, 0.75m wide, 0.20m deep, cut of linear near ring ditch section [510] this linear runs NW SE across trench 5 but is cut at its northern end a land drain running NE SW. #
(509)	Trench 5	Sandy silt deposit, light orange brown, clear interface, firm, small rounded stones and gravel, fill of linear running NW SE across Trench 5. Single fill of [508] cut by land drain. Max Depth = 0.20m
[510]	Trench 5	Linear cut, stepped steep sides, flat base, gradual break of slope. 3.50m wide, 1.00m deep. The ditch sides are shallow at the top of the cut, but then are cut steeper lower down. Ditch shows eveidence of successive stages of silting during use. Flints recovered from top-later fill. faunal remains recovered from (512) which was charcoal rich. Probable Bronze Age ring-ditch. Five Fills (511) (518) (512) (513) (519).
(511)	Trench 5	Silty sand deposit, mid brown yellow, clear interface, loose, frequent small rounded stones and gravel. Max Depth = 0.20m A very regular pattern of silting on both sides of the cut. Primary fill of [510]
(512)	Trench 5	Sandy Silt Deposit, mid brown grey, clear interface, soft-friable, frequent medium stones, common fragments of charcoal. 1.50m wide, 0.45m deep. Includes a large, robust leg bone from large vertibrate. Tip lines clearly indicate this deposit weathered or was backfilled from the W side of the cut. tertiary fill of [510]
(513)	Trench 5	Sandy silt deposit, mottled orange brown, clear interface, soft, frequent medium stones. 2.90m wide, 0.50m deep. The sorting of the inclusions suggests a single episiode of backfilling which appears even on both sides of the cut. Quaternary fill of [510]
[514]	Trench 5	Circular cut, gently sloping sides, concave base, imperceptible break of slope. 1.70m long, 0.70m wide, 0.28m deep. Located approx 5m from ring ditch, it may suggest an association howverm lack of finds, burning, charcoal, etc may indicate a post med feature. Single fill: (515)
(515)	Trench 5	Sandy silt deposit, mid grey brown, clear interface, loose, frequent small/medium rounded stones. Deposit of charcoal, burning evidence or diagnostic features, making interpretation uncertain. Max depth = 0.28m
(516)	Trench 5	Sub circular cut, steep/vertical sides, flat base, gradual break of slope. 0.60m long, 0.58m wide, 0.26m deep. Small pit ocated approx 10m east of ring ditch. Small possible prehistoric pit.
(517)	Trench 5	Sandy silt deposit, dark red brown, clear interface, loose, frequent small - medium stones. Deposit was dark with evidence of charcoal. Deposit contained animal jaw bone, with articualted teeth, sheep/pig. Small fragments of burnt bone. 1 fragment of prehistoric ceramic and flint.
(518)	Trench 5	Silty sand deposit, orange brown, clear interface, loose, frequent medium stones. 1.30m wide, 0.18m deep. Formation of natural lenses suggest silting and weathering over an extended period of time, while the ditch has been in use, and is regular and even on both sides, of the cut. Secondary deposit of [510]
(519)	Trench 5	Clayey sandy silt deposit, mid grey brown, clear interface, soft, occasional small rounded stones. Max depth = 0.20m. Worked fint recovered, final fill of [510]
[604]	Trench 6	Linear cut, steep-vertical sides, flat base, varied break of slope. 0.73m wide, 0.57m deep. Linear ditch running east-west also appearing in trench 7 to the west of trench 6. No finds,
[605]	Trench 6	Silty clay deposit, mid orange brown, subtle interface, firm, occasional charcoal fragments and small sub rounded stones. 0.57m deep. Redeposited natural.
[606]	Trench 6	Sub circular cut, gradual sides, slightly rounded flat, unclear break of slope. 1.90m wide, 0.20m deep. Cut of sub-rounded pit, no finds, cuts earlier pit [612] (613).
(607)	Trench 6	Silty clay deposit,, orange grey-brown, clear interface, friable to soft, small wood fragments, possible rooting. 1.50m wide, 0.20m deep.
[608]	Trench 6	Circular cut, gently sloping sides, concave base, 1.05m wide, 0.30m deep. Round pit cut into natural at southernmost end of trench 6. No finds
(609)	Trench 6	Sandy silty deposit, light orange yellow, clear interface, firm, no inclusions, 0.30m max depth. Fill of pit [608] very firm sandy silt wthat looks very much like the softer, more yellow sandy natrual in this area of the trench. Unknown date.
[610]	Trench 6	Sub-circular cut, steep sides, concave base, 0.45m long, 0.30m wide, 0.20m deep. This is the cut of a possible post hole.
(611)	Trench 6	Silty clay deposit, mif greyish brown, clear interface, firm, no inclusions. Fill of possible post hole undated. No finds. Max depth = 0.20m
[612]	Trench 6	Sub-circular cut, gradually sloping sides, concave base, 2.18m wide, 0.35m deep. Probable round pit with two (613) (614) undated as no finds, but but by later pit [606]
(613)	Trench 6	Silty clay deposit, mid orange brown, clear interface, firm, occasional small sub-angular gravel. Max depth = 0.35m. This fill is very firm orange brown silt, clay it is a similar, colour to natural appearing in other trenches but is much more stoney.

Context	Area	Description
(614)	Trench 6	Silty clay deposit, dark grey with orange streaks, clear interface, firm, minor instances of podzolisation. 0.08m deep. Secondary fill of [612]
(615)	Trench 6	Silty Clay deposit, dark grey black, clear, firm - friable, lots of charcoal and burnt stones. Secondary fill of [608] this deposit looks like the remains fo a fire, although the only evidence is charcoal and burnt stones mostly flint, some small pebbles and some broken stones.
(616)	Trench 6	Clay deposit, mid grey brown, clear interface, firm, charcoal flecks. Upper fill of [608] obove possible fire debris, possibel silting up after secondary fill. Max depth 0.11m
[704]	Trench 7	Linear cut, gentle sloping sides, flat base, gradual break of slope. 1.05m wide, 0.10m deep. The shallow natrual of this feature is in contrast to the deeper, more defined ditch [706], to the south. Proximity to known prehistoric ring ditch feature to the north, this may represent Bronze Age activity.
(705)	Trench 7	Clayey silt deposit, dark grey brown, clear interface, soft, ocassional small stones, 0.10m max depth. Fill of possible prehistoric ditch.
[706]	Trench 7	Linear cut, steep sides, flat base, sharp break of slope. 0.90m wide, 0.48m deep. Similar profiled features seen in trench 18 only - possible post-med drainage ditch. Three fills (707) (708) (709)
(707)	Trench 7	Silty clay deposit, dark grey brown, clear interface, firm, no inclusions, 0.90m wide, 0.10m deep. Relatively thin depth of silty clay at the base of a 'V' shaped ditch. May represent primary silting and weathering.
(708)	Trench 7	Clayey silt deposit, dark grey brown, clear interface, soft, occasional small rounded stones, 0.50m wide, 0.25m deep. Deposit has clearly silted up or weathered in from the southern edge of the feature.
(709)	Trench 7	Clayey silt deposit, dark grey brown, clear interface, soft, occasional small rounded stones, 0.90m wide, 0.30m deep. Final deposit within [706]
(1304)	Trench 13	Linear cut, gently sloping sides, rounded base, subtle break of slope, 2.80m wide, 0.75m deep. The only feature/ditch of these proportions within the PDA, there is no silting evidence, only a single fill suggesting rapid/single event, backfill. It is aligned with knwon drainage ditches which are almost certainly post medieval. probable field boundary. Single fill (1305)
(1305)	Trench 13	Silty clay deposit, dark grey brown, clear interface, soft, occasional medium rounded stones, 0.75m deep. Single fill of ditch (1304) No eveidence of silting, 1 backfill event, several post med ditches visible in this trench, wghich are marked on the trench plan, one of which appears to cut the larger ditch [1304]. fill of probable post-med field boundary.
[1306]	Trench 13	Linear cut, gently sloping sides, concave base, imperceptible break of slope. 0.66m wide, 0.18m deep. A feature which is cut into the top of a pre-exisiting larger ditch [1304]. It appears to be on the same alignment as [1304] and a series of other ditches in the trench.
(1305)	Trench 13	Clayey silt deposit, mid grey brown, clear interface, soft, no inclusions, 0.66m wide, 0.18m deep. Fill of linear feature.
[1704]	Trench 17	Linear cut, gently sloping sides, concave base, imperceptible break of slope. 0.95m wide, 0.15m deep. Cut of linear. Possible boundary ditch.
(1705)	Trench 17	Clayey silt deposit, dark grey brown, clear interface, soft, occasional small rounded stones, 0.95m wide, 0.15m deep. Slightly peaty and organic, a characteristic of the features in T18 and many other ditches seen across the site.
[1706]	Trench 17	Linear cut, gently sloping sides, concave base, imperceptible break of slope 0.70m wide, 0.08m deep. A shallow ditch which appears to cut ino the terminal of [1704]
(1707)	Trench 17	Clayey silt deposit, dark grey brown, clear interface, soft, occasional small stones. 0.08m deep. Fill of linear feature. [1706]
[1804]	Trench 18	Linear cut, steep sided, flat base, sharp break of slope. 1.20m wide, 0.55m deep. And example of a type of ditch tapering down to a narrow flat base, which had only been seen in trench 7. cut of possible post-med drainage. Three fills, (1805) (1806) (1807)
(1805)	Trench 18	Sandy Silt deposit, dark red brown, clear interface, soft, occasional small stones. 1.20m wide, 0.16m deep. Later fill of possible post med drain [1804]
(1806)	Trench 18	Sandy silt (organic), dark red brown, clear interface, soft, occasional small stones. 0.30m max depth. Possible silting of drainage ditch [1804]
(1807)	Trench 18	Silty clay fill, dark brown, clear interface, firm, occasional small stones, 0.23m wide, 0.14m deep. Final fill of ditch [1804]
(1808)	Trench 18	Linear cut, steep sided, flat base, sharp break of slope, 1.45m wide, 0.67m deep. The profile as [1804]; steep sides narrowing down to a flat base gully. Post med drainage.
(1809)	Trench 18	
(1810)	Trench 18	Sandy silt, organic peaty, dark red brown, clear interface, soft, occasional small stones, 1.23m wide, 0.47m deep. Main fill of linear [1808]
(1811)	Trench 18	Silty clay, dark red brown, clear interface, firm, occasional small stones. 0.25m wide, 0.12m deep. Primary fill of (1808)
[2204]	Trench 22	Silty peat deposit, light grey black, clear interface, very loose, no inclusions. 1m wide, 0.22m deep. Backfill of clay extraction pit [2207].
(2205)	Trench 22	Silty peat deposit, light grey black, clear interface, very loose, no inclusions, 0.97m wide, 0.05m deep. Backfill of clay extraction pit[2206].
[2206]	Trench 22	Linear cut, vertical sides, uneven base, sharp break of slope. 1.00m wide, 0.22m deep. Cut for clay extraction undated. Filled by (2205)
(2207)	Trench 22	Linear cut, vertical sides, uneven base, sharp break of slope, 0.97m wide, 0.05m deep. Cut for clay extraction. Filled by (2204)
(2304)	Trench 23	Silty peat deposit, dark grey black, clear interface, loose, occasional re deposited natural clay. 0.9m wide, 0.2m deep. Fill of [2305] undated clay extraction feature.
[2305]	Trench 23	Rectangular cut, vertical sides, uneven base, sharp break of slope. 0.9m wide, 0.2m deep. Cut for clay extraction, undated. Single fill = (2304)
(2306)	Trench 23	Silty peat, dark grey balck, clear interface, loose, occasional re deposited clay. 1.0m wide, 0.20m deep. Fill of clay extraction pit.
[2307]	Trench 23	Linear cut, vertical sides, uneven base, sharp break of slope. 1.0m wide, 0.20m deep. Cut for clay extraction pit.
(2310)	Trench 23	Silty peat deposit, dark grey black, clear interface, loose, occasional re deposited natural clay. 1.0m wide, 0.18m deep, fill of clay extraction pit [2311]
[2311]	Trench 23	Linear cut, slightly undercutting, uneven base, sharp break of slope. 1.0m wide, 0.18m deep. Cut for clay extraction undated.

Appendix 1.3 Photographic register

Photo	Direction facing	Description
001	NE	Trench 1 General Shot

Photo	Direction facing	Description
002	NE	Trench 1 General Shot
003	E	Thrench 3 General Shot
004	E	Trench 4 General Shot
005	NW	Trench 6 General Shot
006	E	Trench 5 General Shot
007	SE	Trench 7 General Shot
008	S	Trench 8 General Shot
009	S	Trench 10 General Shot
010	NW	Trench 9 General Shot
011	W	Trench 11 General Shot
012	E	Trench 12 General Shot
013	W	Trench 13 General Shot
014	W	Trench 14 General Shot
015	W	Trench 15 General Shot
016	W	Trench 16 General Shot
017	W	Trench 17 General Shot
018	S	Trench 18 General Shot
019	NW	Trench 21 General Shot
020	W	Trench 19 General Shot
021	E	Trench 20 General Shot
022	–	ID Shot
023	NW	[204]/(205) drainage ditch + (211)
024	NW	[204]/(205) drainage ditch
025	NW	Trench 2 clay extraction ditch [206]/(207) {208]/(209) (210)
026	SW	Trench 4 clay extraction ditch [404]/(405)
027	N	Trench 3 cultivation trench [303]/(304)
028	W	Trench 1 cultivation trench general shot, close up
029	S	Trench 1 excavated slot of cultivation ditch
030	E	Trench 1 excavated slot of cultivation ditch
031	N	Trench 5 ring ditch [504]
032	S	Trench 5 narrow gully [508]
033	N	Trench 5 large ring ditch [510]
034	N	Trench 5 large pit [514]
035	S	Trench 5 small cremation [516]
036	N	Trench 6 large pit-posthole [608] [610]
037	E	Trench 7 'V' shaped ditch [706]
038	E	Trench 7 shallow ditch [704]
039	N	Trench 13 large post-med ieval ditch [1304]
040	E	Trench 6 V shaped ditch [604]
041	E	Trench 6 large two pit feature [606] [612]
042	E	Trench 17 2 intercutting ditches [1704] section
043	W	Trench 17 2 intercutting ditches [1706] section
044	E	Trench 18 [1808] section of a 'V' shaped ditch
045	E	Trench 18 [1804] section of a 'V' shaped ditch
046	E	Trench 22
047	W	Trench 22 [2207]
048	W	Trench 22 [2207]
049	N	Trench 22 [2205]
050	E	Trench 23
051	S	Trench 23 [2305]
052	S	Trench 23 [2305]
053	S	Trench 23 [2309]
054	S	Trench 23 [2309]
055	S	Trench 23 [2311]
056	S	Trench 23 [2311]
057	S	Trench 23 [2307]

Appendix 1.4 Sample register

Sample	Context.	Description
001	(512)	Fill of Ring Ditch; Clayey Silt, Charcoal Flecks
002	(517)	Fill of small pit; Dark Sandy Silt, Charcoal

Appendix 1.5 Drawing register

Drawing	Plan	Section	Description
001			Trench 2 Ditch [204]
002			Trench 4 Ditch [404]
003			Trench2 Ditch [206]
004			Trench 3 Ditch [303]/(304)
005			Trench 3 Ditch [303]
006			Trench 6 Plan
007			Trench 6 [608]
008			Trench 6 [610]
009			Trench 6 [604]
010			Trench 6 [606] [612]
011			Trench 5 Plan

012	Trench 5 [504]
013	Trench 5 [508]
014	Trench 5 [510] Ring Ditch (E Segment)
015	Trench 5 [510] Plan of Ring Ditch
016	Trench 5 [514] Section of Large Pit
017	Trench 5 [514] Plan of Large Pit
018	Trench 5 [516] Section of Cremation Pit
019	Trench 5 [516] Plan of Cremation Pit
020	Trench 7 [706] 'V' Shaped ditch
021	Trench 7 [706] 'V' Shaped ditch
022	Trench 7 [704] Shallow Ditch
023	Trench 7 [704] Shallow Ditch
024	Trench 13 [1304] Large Ditch
025	Trench 13 [1304] Large Ditch
026	Trench 17 [1704] Wide Ditch
027	Trench 17 [1704] [1706] 2 Intercutting Ditches
028	Trench 17 [1706] Narrow Ditch
029	Trench 18 [1804] 'V' Shaped Ditch
030	Trench 18 [1804] 'V' Shaped Ditch
031	Trench 18 [1808] 'V' Shaped Ditch
032	Trench 18 [1808] 'V' Shaped Ditch
033	Trench 18 Plan og [1804] / [1808]
034	Trench 17 Plan of [1704] / [1706]
035	Trench 13 Plan
036	Trench 7 Plan
037	Trench 22 Section of [2207]

Appendix 2 Finds catalogue

Trench	Context	Sample	Qty	Weight (g)	Material	Object	Description	Condition	Fabric
5	502	0	5	40	Lithics	Core, Debitage and Tool	Single-platform core, multi-platform core, distal end of probable knife (right lateral abrupt retouch) and two flakes	Fresh	–
5	512	1	23	79	Lithics	Debitage	Chunks, flakes and chips	broken, abraded and at least 6 are burnt	–
5	513	0	1	3	Lithics	Tool	Medial blade section of knife, abrupt lateral retouch to left and right,	Patinated and abraded	–
5	517	0	2	18	CBM	Daub	Large, amorphous, abraded, flint-tempered lump	Abraded	–
5	517	2	14	16	CBM	Daub	Small, amorphous, abraded, flint-tempered lumps	Abraded	–
5	517	0	5	32	Lithics	Debitage	Flakes, including one large hard hammer flake which may be a platform trimming flake	one burnt, some light abrasion and light patination	–
5	517	2	106	233	Lithics	Debitage and Tool	Chunks, flakes and chips, plus one fragment of an edge retouched distal corner	broken, burnt, abraded and variously abraded	–
5	517	2	1	1	Pottery (PH)	Body sherds	Very small fragment with curving edge	abraded	Heavily shell–tempered
5	517	2	3	10	Pottery (PH)	Body sherds	Three small body sherds, when held against raking light one of the sherds appears to have very shallowly grooved decoration, there are three obvious, parallel diagonals	abraded	Quartz sand, iron rich clay matrix, oxidised
5	517	2	4	17	Pottery (PH)	Body sherds	Two of the small undecorated fragments conjoin, the other two larger sherds are decorated with shallow grooves in a herringbone or zig-zag motif, not a large enough portion remains to discern overall pattern. The sherds are very gently curving and do not indicate overall profile	abraded	Grog–temper, Quartz sand, oxidised

Appendix 3 Environmental tables

Context	Sample	Sample Vol (l)	Burnt bone	Unburnt bone	Charcoal		Material available for AMS Dating	Comments
			Mammal	Mammal	Qty	Max Size (cm)		
0512	1	40	x	x	x	< 0.5 cm	–	A few small fragments < 1cm of burnt bone. A singe cf. rodent bone - probably modern.
0517	2	50	xxx	xxx	xxx	> 1cm	–	A collection of >50 fragments (< 5 cm long) of animal bone inc. longbone, ribs and teeth (cf. sheep)

Key: x = rare (0–5), xx = occasional (6–15), xxx = common (15–50) and xxxx = abundant (>50)

Table A3.1

Retent sample results

Context	Sample	Cereal grain	Charred 'seeds'	Charcoal Qty	Enough for AMS	Comments
0512	1	–	–	x	N	–
0517	2	–	x	xx	N	2 x apple/pear 'seeds' (Malus)

Key: x = rare (0–5), xx = occasional (6–15), xxx = common (15–50) and xxxx = abundant (>50)

Table A3.2

Flotation sample results

Context	No. of Bags	Condition	Weight (grams)	Large mammal frag. No.	Medium animal frag. No.	Comments
0512	1	poor	153	2	–	Rib and long bone
0517	1	very poor	106	>10	–	Jaw of pig (inc. teeth) and longbone fragments. Large amount of iron deposition

Table A3.3

Animal bone results

Headland Archaeology
North East

13 Jane Street
Edinburgh EH6 5HE

0131 467 7705
northeast@headlandarchaeology.com

Headland Archaeology
North West

10 Payne Street
Glasgow G4 0LF

0141 354 8100
northwest@headlandarchaeology.com

Headland Archaeology
Midlands & West

Unit 1, Premier Business Park, Faraday Road
Hereford HR4 9NZ

01432 364 901
midlandsandwest@headlandarchaeology.com

Headland Archaeology
South & East

Building 68A, Wrest Park, Silsoe
Bedfordshire MK45 4HS

01525 861 578
southandeast@headlandarchaeology.com

www.headlandarchaeology.com