

THST/01



TRINITY HALL FARM, TILSWORTH, CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

Archaeological Evaluation

commissioned by Smiths Gore
on behalf of Andreas Von Rosen

November 2014

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project info

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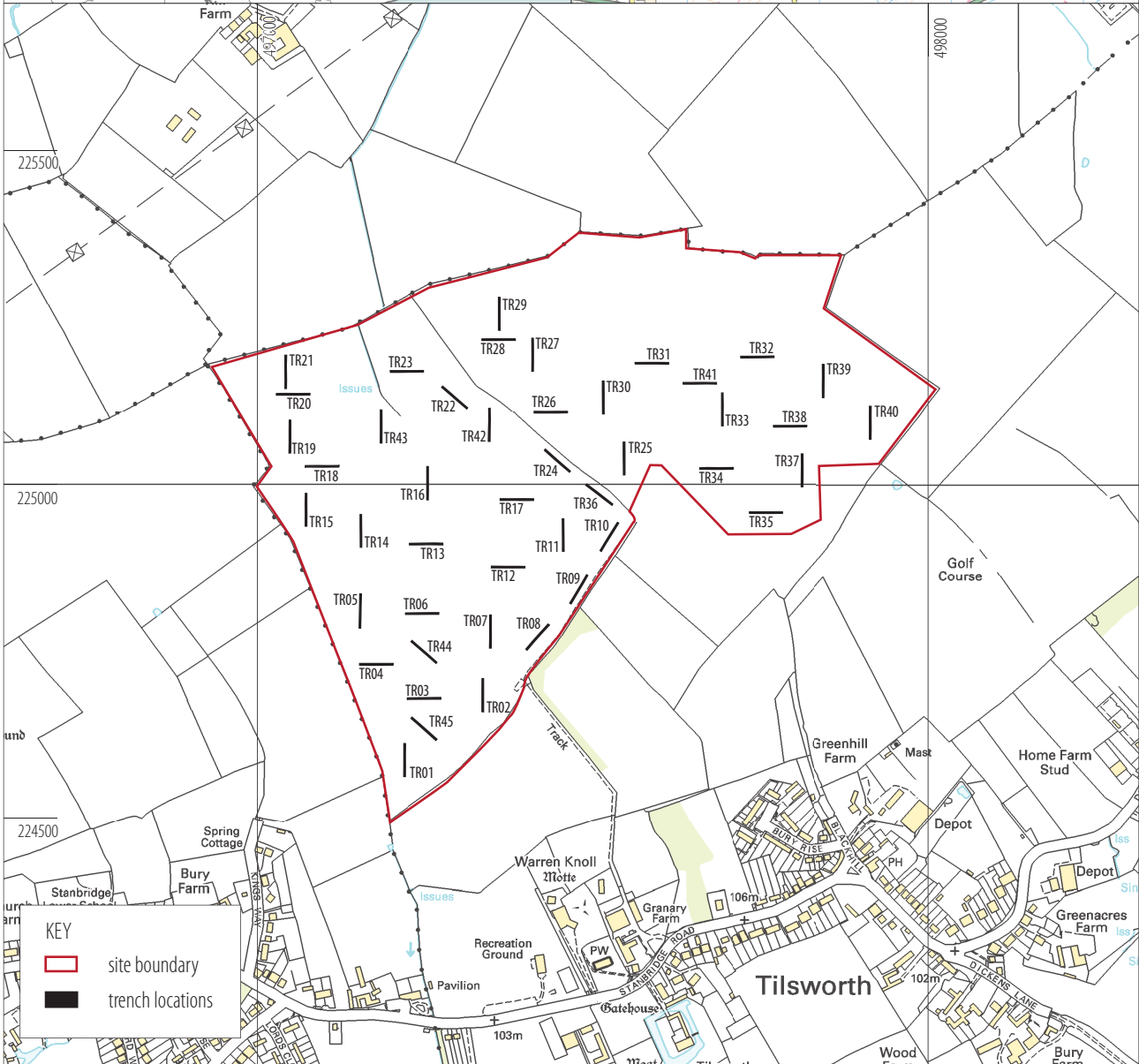
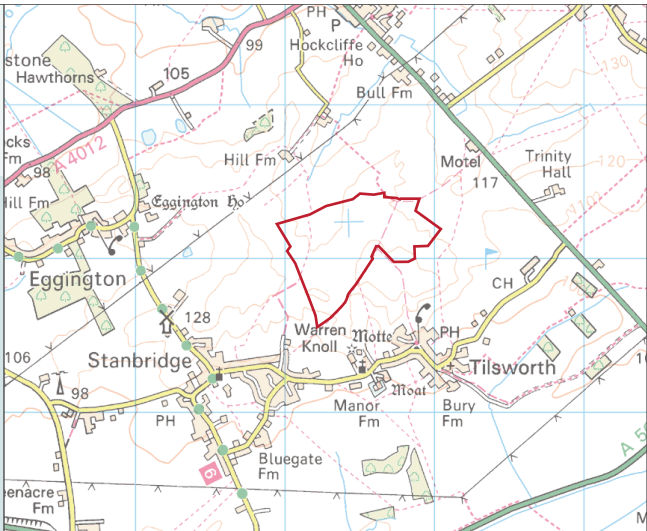
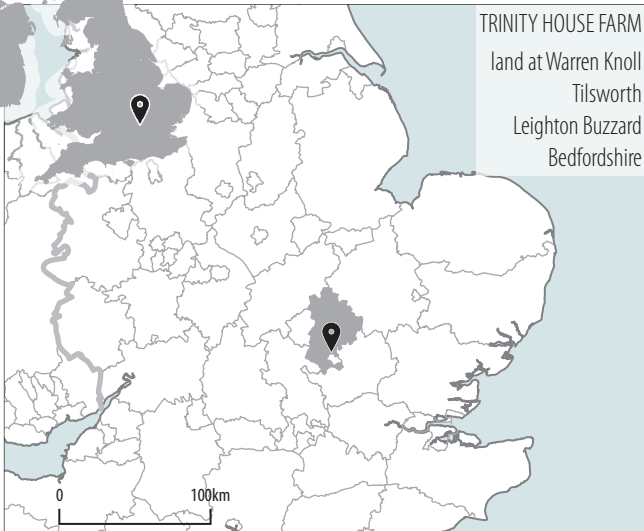
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ILLUS 1
Site location

TRINITY HALL FARM, TILSWORTH, CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

Archaeological Evaluation

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd conducted a trial-trench archaeological evaluation on land at Trinity Hall Farm, Tilsworth, Bedfordshire, as part of a programme of archaeological evaluative works carried out in support of a planning application for the construction of a solar farm and two wind turbines. Trial trenching revealed evidence for an Iron Age / Romano-British trackway connecting a presumed settlement to the south of the DA with Watling Street; Saxon activity in the south-eastern part of the DA representing agriculture and nearby settlement; furrows (indicative of medieval ridge-and-furrow cultivation) across the DA; and the remains of post-medieval and modern field boundaries.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND

The client is preparing a planning application for the construction of a solar farm and two wind turbines on land at Trinity Hall Farm, Tilsworth, Bedfordshire, NGR SP 97427 25105. This land is henceforth referred to as the Development Area (DA) and covers an area of approximately 44ha. In support of the planning application, the developer has been required to undertake a series of archaeological evaluative measures, consisting of a Cultural Heritage Assessment, geophysical survey, and trial trenching (the results of which are covered in this document).

To date, a Cultural Heritage Assessment (Headland Archaeology 2014a) and geophysical survey (Headland Archaeology 2014b) have been undertaken – the results of which are discussed in Section 1.3 below. Following this assessment work, it has been decided to re-design the site layout plan to exclude the south-eastern corner of the PDA from the development and thereby preserve the archaeological remains present in situ. The archaeological trial trenching has therefore been focused on the area outside of this (**Illus 1**). The archaeological features that have been preserved in situ can be seen in **Illustration 2** highlighted in blue in the south eastern section of the DA.

Smiths Gore, acting on behalf of Andreas Von Rosen, has commissioned Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd to carry out the trial trenching evaluation and produce a report on the results. This evaluation has been carried out in order to assess the extent, nature and survival of archaeological features within those parts of the site where intrusive development will take place. The results will allow the Central Bedfordshire Archaeological Officer (AO) to determine the significance of any archaeological remains within the DA, and the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource. Decisions on the type and scope of mitigation measures (if required by the AO) will be based on the results of field evaluation.

The remit of the archaeological trial trenching programme was outlined in a 'Written Scheme of Investigation' compiled by Headland Archaeology before the fieldwork started, and was agreed with the AO (Headland Archaeology 2014c). A systematic array of trenches was designed to effectively evaluate the DA, orientated on varying alignments, targeting particular geophysical anomalies, and with two trenches on each turbine base and an additional trench on the turbine trackways (**Illus 1**). All evaluative works were carried out with the agreement of the AO.



1.2 SITE DESCRIPTION

The DA is located some 3km to the east of Leighton Buzzard and c.4km to the northwest of Dunstable. It is positioned in an area of agricultural fields, to the north-west of Tilsworth and north-east of Stanbridge, c.500m to the west of the A5 (centred at NGR SP 97427 25105).

The DA consists of two large arable fields (all of the western field and the majority of the eastern, with the exception of the south-eastern corner), bounded by hedgerows on all sides. It covers an area of approximately 44 hectares. It is accessed via a track running north from Granary Farm (from the main road through Tilsworth).

It lies on gently undulating land, between 120m OD and 130m OD. It generally drops in height towards the northern end (c.120m OD), with higher areas of land (c.130m OD) in the southern areas.

The solid geology of the DA is mainly mudstones of the Upper Greensand Formation. These sedimentary bedrocks formed approximately 94 to 112 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period when the local environment was dominated by shallow seas. Superficial deposits of Diamicton Till are recorded in the northern part of the site, belonging to the Oadby Group. These Quaternary deposits were formed during ice age conditions up to 2 million years ago (British Geological Survey website; <http://www.bgs.ac.uk>).

1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The discussion in this section is drawn mainly from the results of the 'Cultural Heritage Assessment' (Headland Archaeology 2014a), supplemented by the results from the geophysical survey (Headland Archaeology 2014b).

This area of the country is known to have been occupied in the prehistoric period, with Palaeolithic material having been uncovered in the Chilterns, Mesolithic monuments in Bedfordshire, and the 'Theedway' (which ran east-west across the northern boundary of the DA) possibly originating as a route in the Neolithic period. However, there is little evidence for prehistoric activity in the direct vicinity of the site, with the only finds consisting of some Neolithic and to Bronze Age flints uncovered during fieldwalking to the east of Tilsworth (16272).

There is greater evidence for Iron Age and Roman activity in the vicinity, with Watling Street (a Roman road) being positioned some 500m to the east of the DA (the present A5). Findspots in this area indicate earlier Iron Age activity pre-dating the construction of Watling Street, with possible early Iron Age sherds uncovered just to the south-east of the DA (1761; 3932). Evidence for Romano-British activity in this area consists of pottery uncovered across the landscape (1376; 2803; 3442; 3220), and a quern to the south of Tilsworth (2887). There are also suggestions, based on cropmarks of channels and ditches in an area devoid of ridge and furrow, that there were Roman period springs to the north of the DA, and that these may have been used as the foci for settlement (11683).

Of particular interest is the evidence for Roman activity within the DA itself. A piece of Roman tile was uncovered in the eastern part of the PDA (1764), and there are suggestions that the place-name

'Wickham Hill', in the south-western part of the DA, indicates the presence of late Roman occupation. Of most interest, however, are the irregular linear cropmarks and findspots of Iron Age and Romano-British pottery in the south-eastern part of the DA (2804). The geophysical survey identified a number of anomalies in this area, including the outline of one or more probable enclosures, with numerous discrete anomalies within and adjacent to the probable enclosures which may be indicative of features associated with settlement activity (Headland Archaeology 2014b). It is thought that this could represent an area of Iron Age – Romano-British settlement activity.

Saxon settlement activity is known in this area, with Tilsworth being mentioned in the Domesday Survey as being held by Leofric son of Osmund at a value of £10 (www.domesdaymap.co.uk). Although Stanbridge was not mentioned in the Domesday Survey, a Saxon cross is recorded within the churchyard of St John the Baptist's (8969), indicating that there may have been Saxon settlement here. The Theedway (10843) is also first recorded in AD926 when it was used for the transportation of salt. Saxon finds within this area consist of two Anglo-Saxon brooches found along the route of the A5 (20525; 20764).

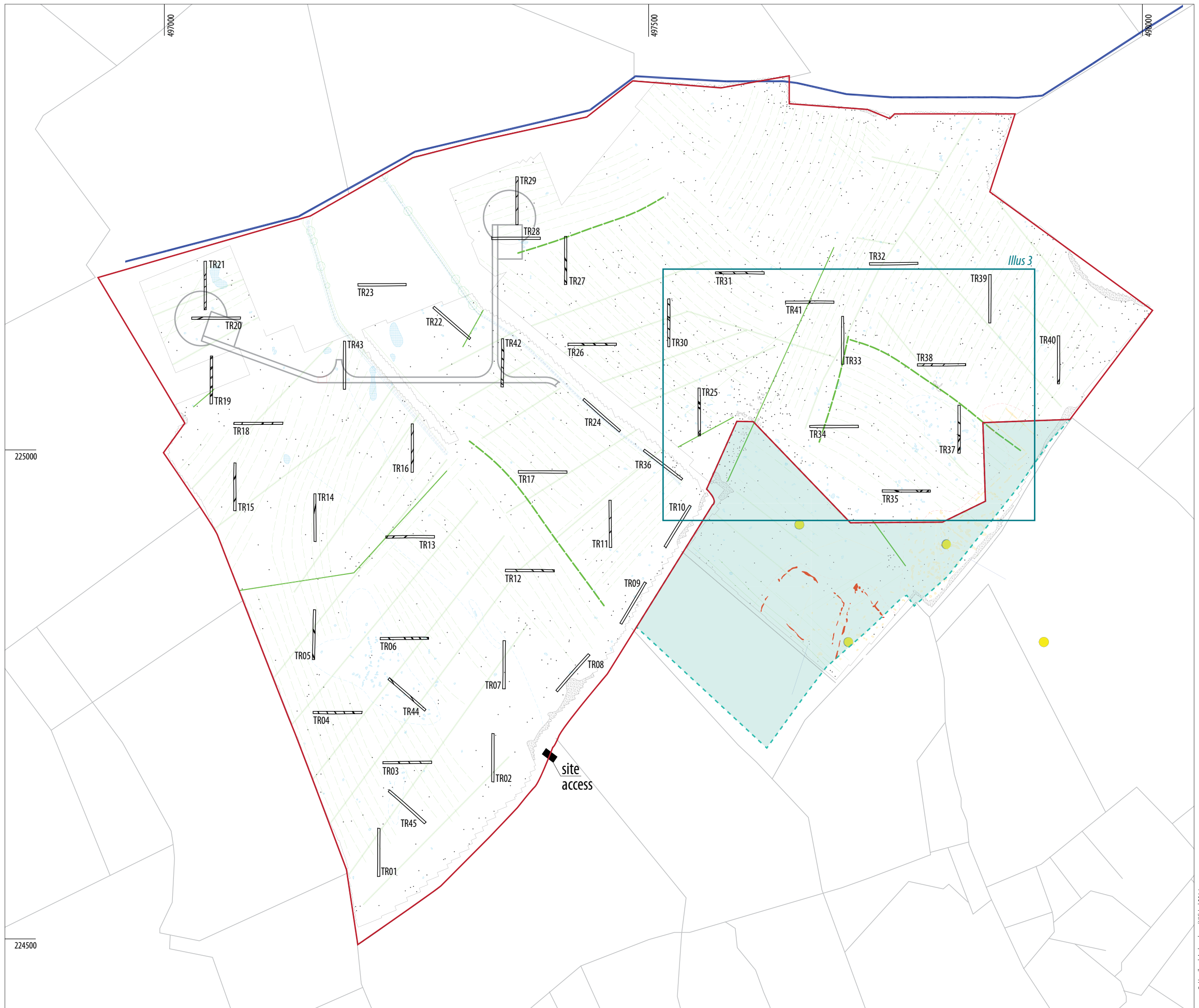
There is greater evidence for activity in this area during the medieval period, particularly to the south of the site with the medieval moated site at Tilsworth Manor (Scheduled: NMR11544) and the 11th century castle at Warren Knoll (Scheduled: NMR24408). The villages of Tilsworth and Stanbridge continued in use, with archaeological work uncovering evidence for such activity, including 12th and 13th century boundary ditches and a pit at a school in Stanbridge, and 12th–15th century ceramics at Granary Farm in Tilsworth (Vince 2004). The surrounding areas were broadly agricultural, as is seen in the ridge and furrow cropmarks observed across the landscape (5073). The geophysical survey also identified curvilinear anomalies, indicative of ridge and furrow cultivation, across the DA, alongside ploughing headlands and former field boundaries (Headland Archaeology 2014b).

The post-medieval history of the area consists of the development of the surrounding villages, with the DA itself remaining in agricultural use. There have been some changes to the field layout over time – the 1980–82 OS Map shows the DA as consisting of five separate fields; the 1927 OS Map showing it as six separate fields in a different layout; and the 1889 OS Map depicting a different layout again (<http://www.oldmaps.co.uk/index.html>). Nonetheless, it is believed that the DA has been in use as agricultural land throughout the post-medieval period.

2 METHODOLOGY

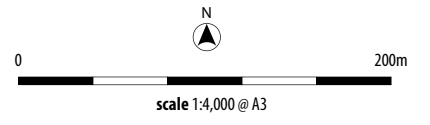
2.1 OBJECTIVES

The general aim of the trenching evaluation was to obtain useful information concerning the presence, character, date, status and level of preservation of surviving archaeological remains. It also allows the curatorial authority to determine the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource, and to



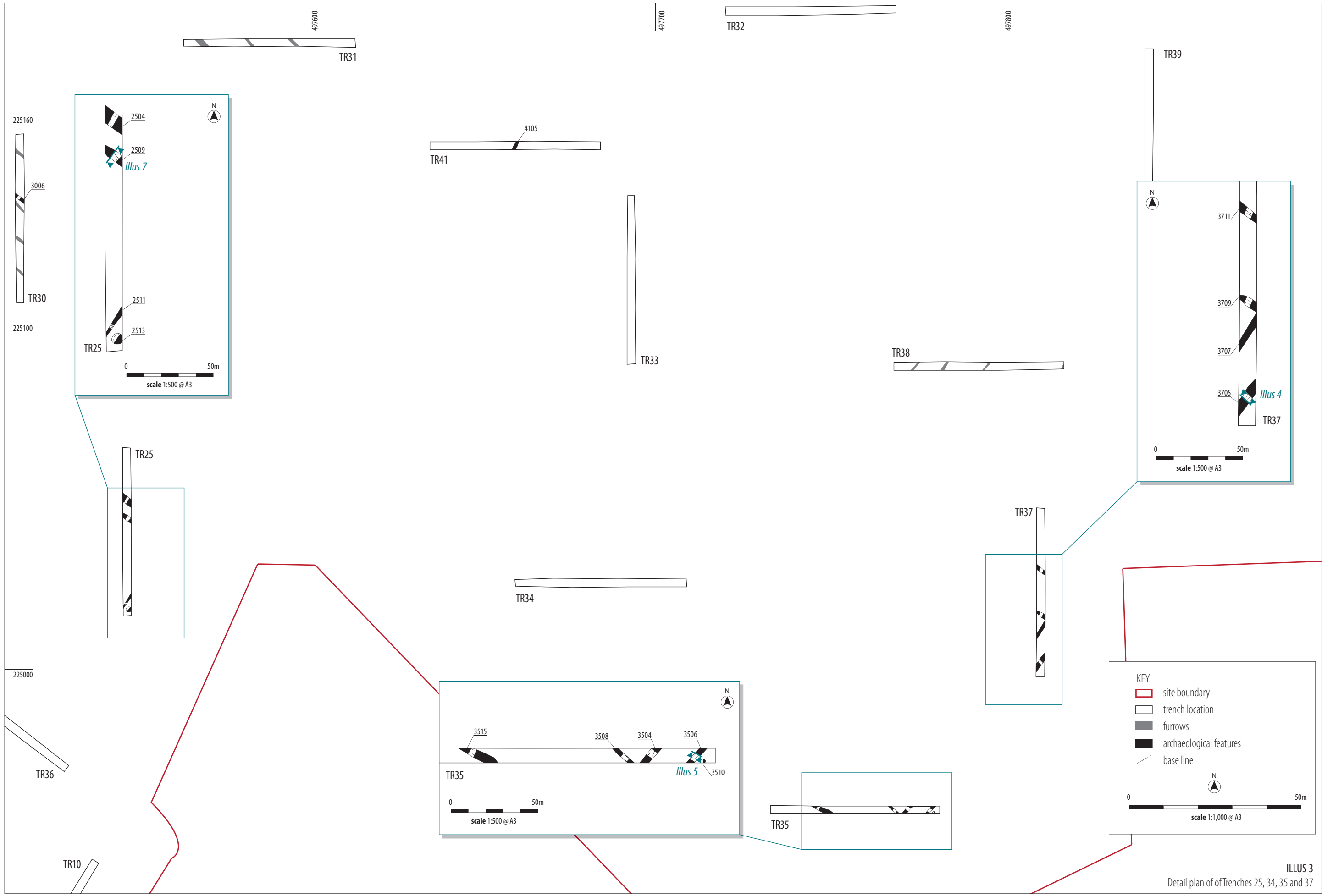
TYPE OF ANOMALY	INTERPRETATION
● DIPOLAR ISOLATED	FERROUS MATERIAL
● MAGNETIC DISTURBANCE	FERROUS MATERIAL
— LINEAR TREND	FIELD DRAIN
— LINEAR TREND	FORMER FIELD BOUNDARY
— LINEAR TREND	RIDGE AND FURROW
— LINEAR TREND	PLOUGHING HEADLAND
— LINEAR TREND	AGRICULTURAL
— LINEAR TREND	GEOLOGICAL VARIATION
● MAGNETIC ENHANCEMENT	GEOLOGY
● MAGNETIC ENHANCEMENT	ARCHAEOLOGY?
— LINEAR TREND	ARCHAEOLOGY?
● MAGNETIC ENHANCEMENT	ARCHAEOLOGY

KEY	
□ (red border)	site boundary
□ (black border)	trench locations
■ (black)	archaeological features
□ (dashed blue)	area of archaeological interest
■ (grey)	solar panels



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ILLUS 2
Trench locations



ILLUS 3
Detail plan of Trenches 25, 34, 35 and 37

discuss the necessity for the preservation by record and/or the possibilities which may exist (via Masterplanning changes) to preserve certain areas of archaeological remains in-situ if appropriate and thus determine their significance.

The archaeological investigations were carried out in order to:

- assess extent, layout, structure and date of features and deposits of archaeological interest;
- place, where possible, the identified features within their local and regional context;
- place the findings in the context of the results of earlier work in the surrounding area.

The local and regional research contexts are provided by Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England (Medlycott, 2011), and Bedfordshire Archaeology: Research and Archaeology: Research Assessment, Research Agenda, and Strategy (Oake et al., 2007). Specific research questions to be tackled in this evaluation included:

- Iron Age / Roman transition (Medlycott 2011, 31). Is there any evidence for the transition from the Iron Age to the Roman period, both in terms of settlement and agricultural activity? Is there any indication as to how this may have taken place?
- Roman Rural Settlements and Landscapes (Medlycott 2011, 47; Oake et al. 2007, 73–4). Is there any evidence of the form that rural settlements may have taken, and how does this fit in with the surrounding landscape?
- Anglo-Saxon / Medieval Rural Settlements and Landscapes / Economy (Medlycott 2011, 58; Oake et al. 2007, 97). What is the evidence for Anglo-Saxon – medieval agricultural activity, and does this suggest anything about how this was undertaken?

2.2 METHODOLOGY

Trial trenching was carried out between 18th September and 1st October 2014. A total of forty-five trenches were excavated across the DA, all measuring 50m in length by 1.8m in width.

The methodology underlying of the archaeological trial trenching programme was outlined the Written Scheme of Investigation (Headland Archaeology 2014c), and agreed with the AO. The trench layout was designed to evaluate the DA using a systematic trenching array, with the trenches spread across the DA and positioned on varying alignments to pick up any potential archaeological features, with some trenches being targeted on geophysical anomalies identified during the geophysical survey. Two trenches were positioned on each turbine base, with another on the trackway. Trench 8 had to be moved slightly to the northwest when on site, to avoid a manhole.

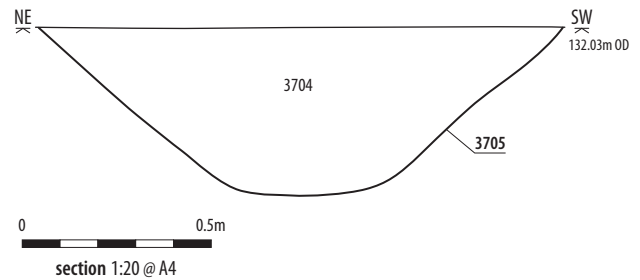
A 360 degree tracked mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless bucket was used to remove topsoil under direct archaeological control. Excavation continued until clean geological sediments or archaeological deposits were encountered.

Further excavation 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.

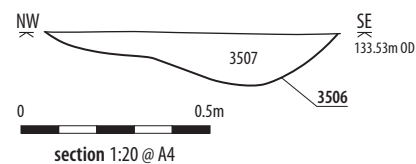
2.3 RECORDING

All recording was in accordance with the code of practice of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) and in line with the approved WSI (Headland Archaeology 2014c). 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.



ILLUS 4

NW facing section of ditch [3705]



ILLUS 5

SSW facing section of ditch [3506]



ILLUS 6

NW facing section of pit [2513]



ILLUS 7

SE facing section of ditch [3711]

Trenches 10, 25 and 29, and a minimum of 0.25m in Trenches 05, 09, 15, 18, 19, 26 and 31).

The topsoil, a dark brown clayey-silt deposit, with rooting and pebbles, was observed in all trenches across the DA, and was between 0.25 and 0.3m in thickness. In many trenches, this overlay the subsoil – a yellow-brown clayey-silt with rooting and pebbles, which was between 0.05 and 0.25m in thickness (an average of 0.15m thick). This was not, however observed in all trenches – in general, trenches in the north-western part of the DA appeared to lack subsoil deposits, although there were exceptions to this, such as Trenches 24, 26, 27, 30 and 31 towards the centre of the DA which lacked subsoil deposits; and Trenches 9 and 10 towards the south which also lacked subsoil deposits. This may be explained by the minor variations in topography across the site, or differences in ploughing regimes. The subsoil is believed to broadly date to the medieval period, based on its similar nature as the fills in the furrows and the fact it seals features dated to the Roman period, and is thought to have derived from ploughing across the site.

Archaeological evidence for an Iron Age / Romano-British trackway was uncovered in Trenches 35 and 37, running northeast out of the potential settlement to the south. Evidence for Saxon activity (a pit, gully, and two ditches) was uncovered in Trenches 25 and 37, and represents agricultural activity in the hinterland of the settlements at Tilsworth and Stanbridge and other nearby settlement activity. Elsewhere across the DA the remains of furrows, indicative of ridge-and-furrow cultivation practised in the medieval period, were observed. Other evidence for medieval and post-medieval agriculture within the DA includes field boundaries, some of which can be identified on post-medieval historic maps. This supports the picture of this area being utilised for agriculture during both the medieval and post-medieval periods.

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

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

Full trench descriptions, including orientation, length, and depth are presented in Appendix 1. Technical details of individual contexts are presented in Appendix 1. Contexts are numbered by trench number: i.e. Trench 1 (101), Trench 2 (201). Cut features are shown as [101] whilst their fills are expressed as (102), for example.

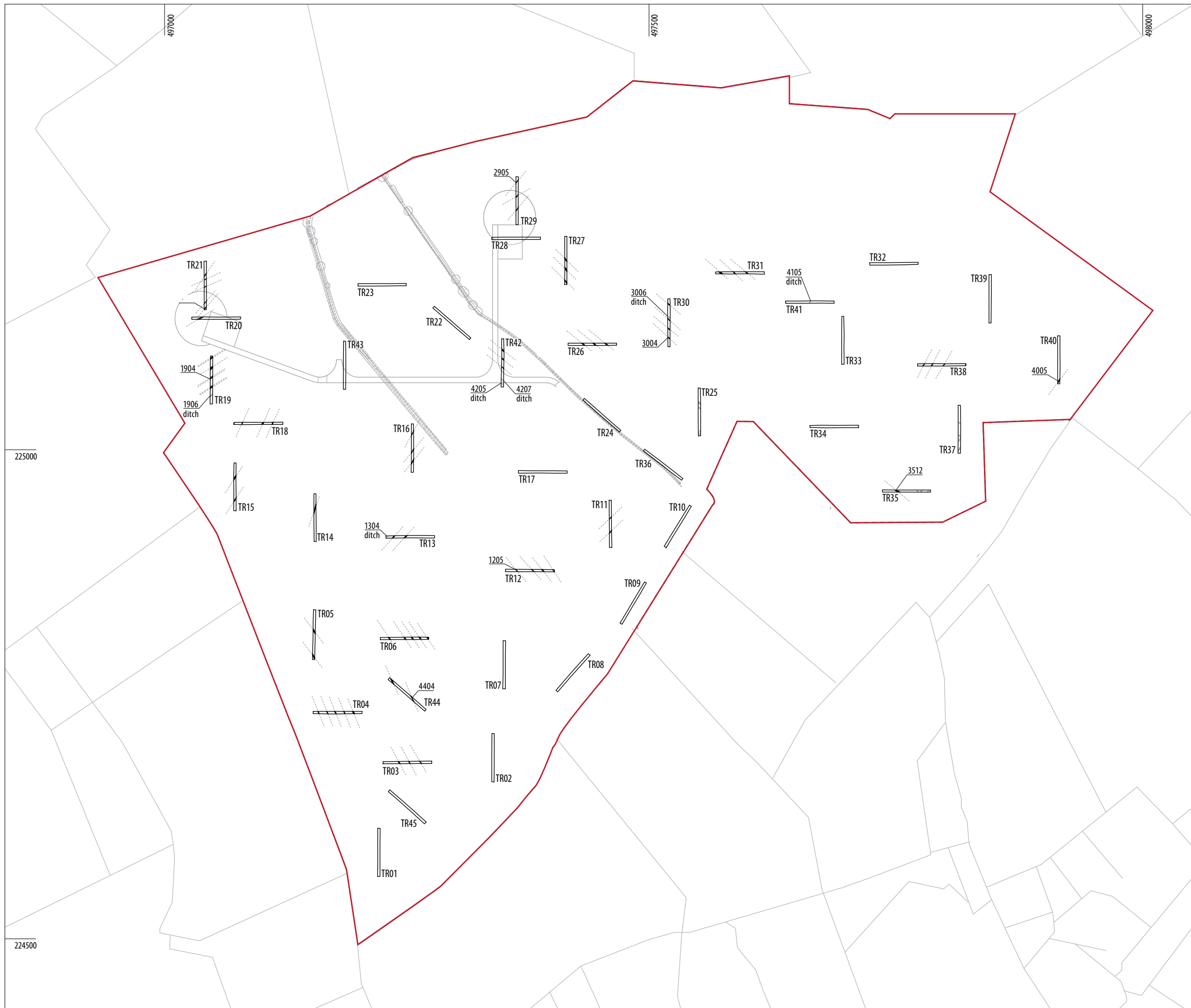
Undisturbed natural deposits were variable across the site. They mainly comprised a mottled mid-light grey-brown silty-clay, with chalk specks and flints. Patches of orange-brown gravels were also common, particularly in the trenches positioned on the higher ground (i.e. Trench 35, 37, 25, 9, 10, and 6). Patches of sand were also encountered in places across the site, such as in Trenches 24, 25, 35, and 39. These deposits formed part of the Diamicton Till formation – a sandy-silty clay with pebbles, and gravel and sand layers. This natural deposit was generally observed at around 0.3–0.45m beneath the present ground-surface (a maximum of 0.5m in

3.2 IRON AGE / ROMANO-BRITISH ACTIVITY

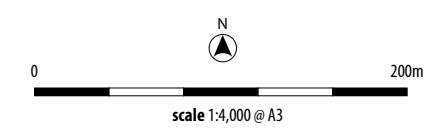
Trackway

Ditches [3504] and [3506] in Trench 35, and ditches [3705] and [3707] in Trench 37, form part of a trackway aligned northeast to southwest, and running towards the settlement to the south of the DA identified by the geophysical survey.

These two sets of parallel ditches were both positioned c.5m apart, were on the same northeast to southwest alignment, and contained similar mid grey-brown silty-clay fills (with pebbles, flints, and iron panning). However, they had different profiles and varied in size over their course - ditch [3504] was 0.94m in width by 0.23m in depth and had irregular sides with a flat base, whereas ditch [3506] and [3705] measured between 0.79m and 1.4m in width by 0.13–0.4m in depth and had gradual steep sides with a concave base in one place, and irregular sides and an uneven base in the other place.



- KEY
- site boundary
 - trench locations
 - furrows
 - furrows lines



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ILLUS 8
Plan showing furrows and field boundaries

ILLUS 9
NE facing section through furrow [2905]



ILLUS 10
Ditch [1304], pre-excitation, looking E



ILLUS 11
NW facing section of ditch [3010]



Finds recovered from ditch [3504] included seventeen flint flakes and chips (prehistoric in date), and one sherd of probable early Iron Age pottery. Finds from ditch [3506] included two fragments of tile, thought to be post-medieval in date.

The projected line of this trackway runs directly towards the enclosure identified on the geophysical survey to the south of the DA, interpreted as the remains of an Iron Age – Romano-British settlement. The lack of good dating evidence to support this does not undermine this interpretation. The feature would have functioned as a routeway potentially connecting this settlement to Watling Street (the present A5) to the northeast. Indeed, the projected line of this trackway does follow the shortest distance between the settlement and Watling Street.

Other activity

No other features on the site are definitively dated to the Iron Age / Romano-British period. One sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from ditch [3711], however two sherds of early-mid Saxon pottery were also recovered from this ditch. This indicates that activity within the presumed settlement to the south of the DA was restricted to that area, and did not extend into the DA.

3.3 SAXON ACTIVITY

Evidence for Saxon activity was uncovered in the southeastern part of the DA (Trenches 25 and 37), and represents activity (mainly agricultural with hints of settlement) in the hinterland of the settlements at Tilsworth and Stanbridge. This was dated, using pottery, to the early-mid Saxon period.



ILLUS 11

NW facing section of ditch [3010]

None of the 'ridges' – where the ploughed soil was heaped – survive within the DA, because of the impact of post-medieval and modern ploughing on the land. However, remnants of the 'furrows' – the dips between the ridges – survive below-ground. These are identifiable as a series of ditches, between 0.4 and 0.8m in width, spaced evenly apart. The fills of these appear similar to the subsoil – generally a mid-orange-grey-brown silty-clay.

A selection of these furrows were investigated archaeologically (those on different alignments, and therefore part of different furlongs, were targeted) – [1205], [1904], [2104], [2905], [3004], [3512], [4005], and [4404]. This showed that the furrows were generally shallow (between 0.05 and 0.15m deep), with gently sloping sides and flat / slightly concave bases. Few finds were recovered from these, however pottery and tile fragments from furrow [4404] were dated to the 16th-19th centuries. This demonstrates that the system of ridge-and-furrow cultivation was in operation into the early post-medieval period.

A single pit was excavated at the southern end of Trench 25 – [2513]. This was broadly oval in shape, although had an uneven base and sides. 21 pieces of early-mid Saxon pottery, making up a full vessel, were recovered from this pit. Some prehistoric lithics and magnetic residue (potentially indicating ironworking in the vicinity) was also recovered. This is further evidence for Saxon activity in this area, potentially on the outskirts of settlement and with the pit being used as a rubbish pit for a short period. Whatever settlement it relates to does not lie within the DA.

Adjacent to this pit was a narrow NE-SW aligned linear, [2511], which contained one fragment of early-mid Saxon pottery. This is further evidence for Saxon activity in this area.

Two ditches within Trench 37 – [3709] and [3711] – are also thought to be related to the Saxon activity. They are both orientated northwest to southeast, were both sealed by the subsoil, and both contained similar sandy-clay fills, although had different profiles and depths. Two sherds of pottery recovered from ditch [3711] were dated to the early-mid Saxon period, and the similar alignment of this to ditch [3709] suggests that they are both of these date. They may have functioned as boundary and drainage ditches related to agricultural activity in this area.

3.4 MEDIEVAL AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY

Furrows

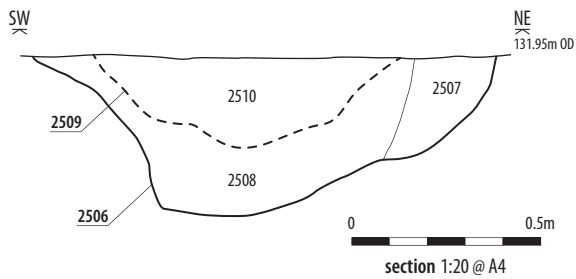
A number of furrows were identified across the DA. This fits with the picture gained from the geophysical survey, which shows furrows, positioned at regular intervals, across the majority of the DA (with the exception of some small areas in the southwestern part of the DA and other areas towards the northwest). These furrows are shown on a variety of alignments, mainly northwest to southeast or northeast to southwest, fitting with the topography of the land. This is indicative of 'ridge-and-furrow' cultivation, created by a system of ploughing used during the medieval period (until the end of the open field system), whereby non-reversible ploughs were used on the same strips of land each year.

The survival of furrows was not uniform across the site. This might partly be because of their ephemeral nature, such that examples may have been hard to distinguish from the surrounding natural deposit. Moreover, the impact of post-medieval and modern ploughing may have removed all but the slightest traces of these furrows. Nonetheless, the picture gained from the geophysical survey, supported by the archaeological evidence, shows that the DA was covered by a system of ridge-and-furrow cultivation during the medieval period. This area was therefore the agricultural hinterland of the medieval settlements of Tilsforth and Stanbridge.

3.5 POST-MEDIEVAL / MODERN ACTIVITY

Agricultural activity

Some of the excavated ditches across the site date from the post-medieval – modern period, and can clearly be identified on historic maps as former field boundaries. This includes ditch [4105], a northeast – southwest orientated ditch shown on the Plan accompanying the 1804 Sales Catalogue, the First Edition OS Map (1886), and on maps up to the end of the 20th century (1980–95 OS Map). This separated the eastern field into two blocks. Its fill contained pieces of plastic and a sherd of 20th century milk bottle glass, reflecting the recent backfilling of the ditch. However, it should be noted that the date at which it was first constructed cannot be ascertained – it is possible that it may have originated from a medieval field boundary (particularly considering the fact that the furrows appear to change alignment along this line), but was nonetheless part of the post-medieval and modern field system.



ILLUS 12

SE facing section of ditch [2506] / [2509]

this ditch, its dark grey-brown silty-clay fill, and the fact that it was cut from directly beneath the topsoil, supports the modern date of this ditch.

Other ditches are not identifiable on historic maps, but are thought to date from the post-medieval period, pre-dating the earliest available map (the 1804 Plan), but still being part of the post-medieval field system. This includes ditch [3006], which contained pottery dating to the 16th-19th century, and a fragment of post-medieval tile. This is therefore thought to have been a field boundary ditch from the earlier post-medieval period.

Similarly, the two northwest to southeast orientated ditches in Trench 25 – [2504] and [2506]/[2509] – are thought to be post-medieval / modern in date, based on the recovery of twenty pieces of tile and two nails (dated to the 19th century onwards) from the fill of [2504]. Although no finds were recovered from ditch [2506] or its re-cut [2509], the close proximity of the two, their similar alignment, and similarity of fills, suggests they may be from the same phase of activity. It seems likely that they functioned as boundary / drainage ditches, although not shown on historic maps – potentially [2506]/[2509] functioning as the more substantial boundary ditch with ditch [2504] acting as a drainage ditch running along this boundary.

Other activity

Ditches [4205] and [4207] are also thought to date to the post-medieval period, as they are cut through the subsoil (4201) and contained post-medieval to modern tile fragments. Their positioning approximately 3m apart, similarity in alignment, and similarity of fills, indicates that they functioned together. Their regular profile, with very sharp vertical sides, suggests that they may have acted as foundation trenches. It is therefore possible that there was some form of structure, potentially a temporary structure for use in agriculture, in this location at some point during the post-medieval period.

Pit [3510] is also thought to date from the modern period, based on the fact that it cuts the topsoil and subsoil and has a dark grey-brown silty fill. No finds were recovered from this to date it more precisely, however it is likely to have functioned as a small pit dug in relation to the modern agricultural activity taking place across the site.



Similarly, ditch [1304], aligned northeast to southwest at the western end of Trench 13, is shown on the 1804 Plan, the 1886 OS Map and maps up to the late 20th century OS Map. This separated the northwestern part of the DA into a separate smaller field. Finds from this ditch also included pieces of plastic, similarly reflecting its recent backfilling. It is also difficult to ascertain when this ditch was constructed, although it appears to cut across the ridge-and-furrow cultivation, and so is unlikely to originate from a medieval field boundary.

Ditch [1906] is not shown on the 1804 Plan, however it is on the 1886 OS Map and maps up to the 1960 OS Map, although not on later maps. This separated the very far northwestern part of the DA into a smaller field. This ditch was therefore created in the 19th century (between 1804 and 1886), and was backfilled at some point between 1960 and 1980. Although no finds were recovered from



ILLUS 13

NW facing section of ditch [4205]



Trench	Pottery		CBM		Lithics	Iron	Stone	Glass	Industrial waste	Dating
	count	wgt	count	wgt	count	count	count	count	wgt	
25	22	217g	20	182g	27	2	5	–	2g	PH + Sax + PM/Mod
30	1	2g	5	26g	–	–	–	–	–	PM/Mod
35	1	5g	8	19g	18	–	–	–	–	PH + PM/Mod
37	3	7g	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	Rom + Sax
41	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	Mod
42	–	–	2	2g	–	–	–	–	–	PM/Mod
44	1	2g	1	5g	–	–	–	–	–	PM/Mod
Total	28	233g	36	234g	45	2	5	1	2g	–

TABLE 1

Quantification of finds by trench, with spot dating

3.6 FINDS

JULIE FRANKLIN, PAUL BLINKHORN & JULIE LOCHRIE

The finds assemblage numbered 28 sherds (233g) of pottery, 36 sherds (234g) of ceramic building material, 45 chipped stone finds and a small collection of other materials. These were found in seven separate trenches. The finds are mixed in terms of dating, with material present from the prehistoric, Romano-British, Saxon and post-medieval to modern periods. The finds are quantified by trench below (Table 1) and a complete catalogue is given in Appendix 2.

The pottery assemblage comprised a mixture of prehistoric, Romano-British, early/middle Anglo-Saxon and post-medieval material. They were recorded using the conventions of the Bedfordshire County Archaeology Service type-series (eg Baker & Hassall 1977). The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown below (Table 2).

All the wares are types which are well-known in the region. The sherds found in pit [2513] (2514) are the most significant. These were 21 sherds (216g) all from a single vessel (fabric A18), a narrow, deep bowl. It is re-con structable, and clearly a primary deposit, and suggests very strongly that there was early/middle Anglo-Saxon activity in the immediate vicinity of these excavations. The rest of the assemblage comprises a few small and abraded sherds.

Fabric code	Fabric name	Description/dating	Sherds	Weight
F01	Flint-tempered	Prehistoric (early Iron Age?)	1	5g
R06	Greyware	Romano-British	1	1g
A01	Early/Middle Anglo-Saxon Chaff-tempered	Moderate to dense chaff voids, sparse quartz and /or calcareous material up to 1mm, c AD450–850	2	6g
A18	Early/Middle Anglo-Saxon Quartz	Moderate to dense sub-rounded quartz up to 1mm, c AD450–850	22	217g
P01	Glazed Red Earthenware	16th century+	2	4g

TABLE 2

Pottery fabrics

Ceramic building material

All the clay building material consisted of small, somewhat abraded fragments in a fairly hard sandy fabric (TF1). It all appears to be post-medieval or modern. Sherds are concentrated in Trench 25, but also found in Trenches 30, 35, 42 and 44.

Lithics

Chipped flint numbered 45 pieces, weighing 22g, retrieved from Trenches 25 and 35. This small quantity of flint debitage is not indicative of any date or function but indicates prehistoric activity. A tool from (3509) may be have functioned as a borer but it is in such poor condition that its precise date is not possible to discern. Most appear to be residual, associated as they are with Saxon pottery (2514) and post-medieval or modern tile (3509). The 17 lithics found in ditch [3504] (3505) are associated with one small sherd of flint tempered pottery (fabric F01) which has been tentatively dated to the early Iron Age. It is conceivable that these finds are contemporary and date the feature, though the dating must remain vague.

Other finds

A small quantity (2g) of magnetic residues were recovered from a sample (2514) associated with the Saxon bowl. Though the quantity is small it may suggest ironworking was being undertaken in the vicinity during that period.

Other finds are of limited significance. Two modern nail fragments and some possible stone counters were recovered from ditch [2504] (2505). These were associated with post-medieval or modern tile fragments. The stone counters may in fact be natural. A milk bottle sherd (4104) was the only find from Trench 41 and is clearly of modern date.

Summary

The earliest finds are prehistoric lithics and a single prehistoric pottery sherd, found in ditch [3504] (3505). Further prehistoric lithics in Trench 35 and 25 show this activity may have been more widespread though it cannot be accurately dated.

The early to middle Saxon period is better defined with an in situ pottery bowl deposited in pit [2513] (2514) and further sherds in gully [2511] (2512) and ditch [3711] (3710). A fragment of Romano-British pottery associated with the (3710) Saxon sherds potentially belongs to the same phase of activity.

Other material derives from a series of ditches and furrows and is all post-medieval or modern in date.

3.7 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

LAURA BAILEY & TIM HOLDEN

Two 40 litre samples and hand collected animal bone recovered during an evaluation at Trinity Hall, Tilsworth, Bedfordshire, were received for palaeoenvironmental assessment. The samples were from the fills (2514) and (3505) of pit [2513] and ditch [3504] respectively. The aims of the assessment were to assess the presence, preservation and abundance of any environmental remains in the samples. The environmental remains are quantified in Appendix 3.

The aims of the assessment were to provide a basic quantification of the available material and to characterize the assemblage as far as possible. Bulk 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. Sub-samples (500ml) taken from three waterlogged deposits (2819, 3204 and 4407) were sieved through meshes of 4mm, 1mm and 500µm in order to remove any plant macrofossils. All samples were scanned using a stereomicroscope at magnifications of x10 and up to x100. Identifications, where provided, were confirmed using modern reference material and seed atlases including Cappers et al. (2006). Fragments of hand collected bone were recorded (Appendix 3), together with the preservation and any signs of modification of the bone in order to assess the quality and quantity of the assemblage. Where possible fragments were identified to species level using Schmid 1972. Results of the assessment are presented in Appendix 3 (Flotation results), (Retent results) and (Animal bone). Material suitable for AMS (Accelerated Mass Spectrometry) radiocarbon dating is shown in the tables.

Wood charcoal

A small amount of charcoal ranging in size from 1 to 5mm was present in the flots of both samples.

Animal bone

The animal bone assemblage comprised five small bags of hand recovered specimens from four deposits. Two small bags of bone

were also recovered from the retents from the fill (3505) of ditch [3504]. Results of the assessment are provided in Appendix 3.

Generally the bone was in poor to fair condition. The surface condition was good. Many of the bones were medially and longitudinally split, possibly for marrow extraction. A brief description of the bone is given in Appendix 3.

Many of the bones were heavily fragmented and were therefore recorded as Indeterminate Mammal (IM). However, cow radius shaft fragments were recovered from the fill (3704) of ditch [3705]. Cow thoracic vertebrae fragments were recovered from the fill (3505) of ditch [3504].

Other finds

Lithics recovered from the retents will be discussed as the subject of a separate finds report.

Discussion

The environmental assemblage was restricted to a few identifiable elements of cow, in the fills (3704) and (3505) of ditches [3504] and [3705]. The presence of heavily fragmented burnt bone together with pottery suggest traces of domestic waste that could indicate settlement nearby or the use of domestic materials in the manuring of the field. Given the small amount of material recovered little more can be said regarding relative abundance of species.

3.8 DESCRIPTION OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE HERITAGE ASSETS

The local and regional research contexts are provided by Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England (Medlycott, 2011), and Bedfordshire Archaeology: Research and Archaeology: Research Assessment, Research Agenda, and Strategy (Oake et al., 2007).

In Section 2.1 of this document we identified research aims relating to the Iron Age / Roman transition; Roman rural settlements and landscapes; and Anglo-Saxon / medieval rural settlements and landscapes / the economy. Having completed the fieldwork we have identified the following heritage assets:

Description of HA	Trench	Feature	Significance of HA (Low, Medium, High) and of local, regional, national, international interest
HA1: Iron Age / Romano-British trackway	35; 37	[3504], [3506], [3705], [3707]	Medium significance of local and regional interest
HA2: Early-mid Saxon activity	25; 37	[2511] [2513], [3709], [3711]	Medium significance of local and regional interest
HA3: Medieval ridge-and-furrow cultivation	03; 04; 05; 06; 11; 12; 13; 14; 15; 16; 18; 19; 20; 21; 26; 27; 29; 30; 31; 35; 38; 40; 41; 42; 44	[1205], [1904], [2104], [2905], [3004], [3513], [4005], [4404]	Low significance of local interest
HA4: Post-medieval / modern agricultural activity	13; 19; 25; 30; 41	[1304], [1906], [2504], [2506], [2509], [3006], [4105]	Low significance of local interest
HA5: Other Post-medieval / modern activity	35; 42	[3510], [4205], [4207]	Low significance of local interest

TABLE 3

Heritage Assets recorded during intrusive evaluation



HA1 consists of the trackway leading out from the presumed Iron Age / Romano-British settlement to the south of the DA (indicated by the geophysical survey). It is thought to connect the settlement to Watling Street to the northeast. This is therefore useful evidence for the layout and organisation of the landscape surrounding Iron Age / Romano-British settlements, contributing to research aims about this.

HA2 consists of evidence for early-mid Saxon activity (a pit, a gully, and two ditches) in the south-eastern part of the DA. This is thought to reflect activity in the hinterlands of the settlements at Tilsworth and Stanbridge, predominantly agricultural activity with the pit reflecting nearby settlement activity. This contributes to research questions about Anglo-Saxon rural settlements and the surrounding landscapes.

HA3 contributes to research questions about medieval landscapes and the agricultural economy. The discovery of furrows supports the picture provided by the geophysical survey of a system of ridge-and-furrow cultivation covering the DA. This shows that the area was used for agriculture associated with the medieval settlements at Tilsworth and Stanbridge.

HAs 4 and 5 provide evidence about the post-medieval and modern usage and layout of the land. It was clearly utilised for agriculture, with the former layout of fields being evidenced through the discovery of field boundaries which can, to some extent, be matched to historic mapping. Two features not necessarily related to agriculture – the possible structure in Trench 42, and the modern pit in Trench 35, were also uncovered.

4 CONCLUSIONS

The archaeological trial trenching evaluation uncovered evidence for activity dating to 1) the Iron Age / Romano-British period; 2) early-mid Saxon period; 3) medieval period; and 4) post-medieval / modern periods. The evidence for Iron Age / Romano-British activity is related to the presumed settlement to the south of the DA, and consisted of a trackway connecting the settlement to Watling Street. The evidence for early-mid Saxon activity consisted of two ditches (presumed agricultural), a narrow gully, and a pit thought to reflect nearby settlement activity. The evidence for medieval activity consisted of furrows spread across the DA (and shown on the geophysical survey), which is evidence for the system of ridge-and-furrow cultivation which encompassed this area in the medieval period. Post-medieval and modern activity consisted of a series of field boundaries, some of which can be identified on historic mapping, the foundation trenches for a probable structure, and a single small modern pit. This reflects the broadly agricultural use of this area in the post-medieval and modern periods.

The results from this evaluation are of low and medium local and regional interest – the evidence for Iron Age / Romano-British activity being of medium local and regional interest due to the information it can provide about how the landscape around settlements was organised; the evidence for Saxon activity being of medium local and regional interest because of the information it provides about the utilisation of land surrounding Saxon settlements; and the

evidence for medieval and post-medieval / modern agricultural activity being of limited local interest in indicating how the land was utilised in these periods.

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6 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 SITE REGISTERS

Trench register

Trench	Orientation	Depth	Description	Length
1	N-S	0.55m	Topsoil (0101); over subsoil (0102); over natural (0103)	50m
2	N-S	0.5m	Topsoil (0201) over subsoil (0202) over natural (0203)	50m
3	E-W	0.45m	Topsoil (0301) over subsoil (0302) over natural (0303). Three NW-SE aligned furrows	50m
4	E-W	0.4m	Topsoil (0401) over natural (0402). Five NW-SE aligned furrows	50m
5	N-S	0.35m	Topsoil (0501) over natural (0502). Two NW-SE aligned furrows	50m
6	E-W	0.4m	Topsoil (0601) over natural (0602). Five NW-SE aligned furrows	50m
7	N-S	0.5m	Topsoil (0701) over subsoil (0702) over natural (0703)	50m
8	NE-SW	0.4m	Topsoil (0801) over natural (0802)	50m
9	NE-SW	0.3m	Topsoil (0901) over natural (0902)	50m
10	NE-SW	0.55m	Topsoil (1001) over subsoil (1002) over natural (1003)	50m
11	N-S	0.5m	Topsoil (1101) over subsoil (1102) over natural (1103). Two NE-SW aligned furrows	50m
12	E-W	0.45m	Topsoil (1201) over subsoil (1202) over natural (1203). Four NW-SE aligned furrows - one investigated [1205]	50m
13	E-W	0.4m	Topsoil (1301) over natural (1302). Two NW-SE aligned furrows, and one ditch [1304]	50m
14	N-S	0.4m	Topsoil (1401) over natural (1402). One NE-SW aligned furrow	50m
15	N-S	0.35m	Topsoil (1501) over natural (1502). Two NE-SW aligned furrows	50m
16	N-S	0.4m	Topsoil (1601) over natural (1602). Three NE-SW aligned furrows	50m
17	E-W	0.45m	Topsoil (1701) over subsoil (1702) over natural (1702)	50m
18	E-W	0.35m	Topsoil (1801) over natural (1802). Three NE-SW aligned furrows	50m
19	N-S	0.35m	Topsoil (1901) over natural (1902). Eight NE-SW aligned furrows - one investigated [1914]. One NE-SW aligned ditch [1920]	50m
20	E-W	0.4m	Topsoil (2001) over natural (2002). One NE-SW aligned furrow	50m
21	N-S	0.4m	Topsoil (2101) over natural (2102). Five NE-SW aligned furrows - one investigated [2104]	50m
22	NW-SE	0.5m	Topsoil (2201) over subsoil (2202) over natural (2203)	50m
23	E-W	0.55m	Topsoil (2301) over subsoil (2302) over natural (2303)	50m
24	NW-SE	0.4m	Topsoil (2401) over natural (2402)	50m
25	N-S	0.4m	Topsoil (2501) over subsoil (2502) over natural (2503). Two NW-SE aligned ditches [2504] and [2506], one narrow NE-SW aligned gully [2511], and one pit [2513]	50m
26	E-W	0.3m	Topsoil (2601) over natural (2602). Three NW-SE aligned furrows	50m
27	N-S	0.35m	Topsoil (2701) over natural (2702). Three NW-SE aligned furrows	50m
28	E-W	0.65m	Topsoil (2801) over subsoil (2802) over natural (2803)	50m
29	N-S	0.6m	Topsoil (2901) over subsoil (2902) over natural (2903). Three NW-SE aligned furrows - one investigated [2905]	50m
30	N-S	0.35m	Topsoil (3001) over natural (3002). Four NW-SE aligned furrows - one investigated [3004]. One NW-SE aligned ditch [3010]	50m
31	E-W	0.35m	Topsoil (3101) over natural (3102). Three NW-SE aligned furrows	50m

Trench	Orientation	Depth	Description	Length
32	E-W	0.45m	Topsoil (3201) over subsoil (3202) over natural (3203)	50m
33	N-S	0.55m	Topsoil (3301) over subsoil (3302) over natural (3303)	50m
34	E-W	0.5m	Topsoil (3401) over subsoil (3402) over natural (3403)	50m
35	E-W	0.5m	Topsoil (3501) over subsoil (3502) over natural (3503). Two parallel NE-SW aligned ditches [3504] and [3506]; one small pit [3510]; one palaeochannel [3508]; and two NW-SE aligned furrows - one investigated [3512]	50m
36	NW-SE	0.55m	Topsoil (3601) over subsoil (3602) over natural (3603)	50m
37	N-S	0.45m	Topsoil (3701) over subsoil (3702) over natural (3703). Two parallel NE-SW aligned ditches [3705] and [3707] (continuation of [3504] and [3506]); and two NW-SE aligned ditches [3709] and [3711]	50m
38	E-W	0.5m	Topsoil (3801) over subsoil (3802) over natural (3803). Four NE-SW aligned furrows	50m
39	N-S	0.45m	Topsoil (3901) over subsoil (3902) over natural (3903)	50m
40	N-S	0.45m	Topsoil (4001) over subsoil (4002) over natural (4003). One NE-SW aligned furrow [4005]	50m
41	E-W	0.55m	Topsoil (4101) over subsoil (4102) over natural (4103). One NE-SW aligned ditch [4105]	50m
42	N-S	0.5m	Topsoil (4201) over subsoil (4202) over natural (4203). Three NW-SE aligned furrows. Two parallel NW-SE aligned ditches [4205] and [4207]	50m
43	N-S	0.45m	Topsoil (4301) over natural (4302)	50m
44	NW-SE	0.4m	Topsoil (4401) over natural (4402). Two NW-SE aligned furrows - one investigated [4404]	50m
45	NW-SE	0.48m	Topsoil (4501) over subsoil (4502) over natural (4503)	50m

Context register

Context	Trench	Description	Dimensions
0101	01	Topsoil: dark-brown clayey silt with rooting and pebbles	0–0.3m
0102	01	Subsoil: yellow-brown clayey-silt with pebbles	0.3–0.45m
0103	01	Natural: mottled mid-light brown clay with chalk specks	0.45m+
0201	02	Topsoil	0–0.3m
0202	02	Subsoil	0.3–0.4m
0203	02	Natural: mottled mid-light grey-brown clay with chalk, flints, and gravel	0.4m+
0301	03	Topsoil	0–0.3m
0302	03	Subsoil	0.3–0.4m
0303	03	Natural: mottled mid-light grey clay with chalk and flints	0.4m+
0401	04	Topsoil	0–0.3m
0402	04	Natural: light grey-brown mottled clay with chalk and flints	0.3m+
0501	05	Topsoil	0–0.25m
0502	05	Natural: mid-light brown clay with flints, chalk flecks, and patches of orange-brown gravels	0.25m+
0601	06	Topsoil	0–0.3m
0602	06	Natural: light brown-yellow clay with flints, gravels, and chalk flecks; with orange-brown gravels towards the western (higher) end	0.3m+
0701	07	Topsoil	0–0.3m
0702	07	Subsoil	0.3–0.45m
0703	07	Natural: mid-light brown clay with chalk and flints, and patches of orange-brown gravels	0.45m+
0801	08	Topsoil	0–0.3m



Context	Trench	Description	Dimensions
0802	8	Natural: light grey silty-gravelly-clay, with flints	0.3m+
0901	9	Topsoil	0–0.25m
0902	9	Natural: orange-brown sandy-gravels and mid-light grey silty-clay	0.25m+
1001	10	Topsoil	0–0.3m
1002	10	Subsoil	0.3–0.5m
1003	10	Natural: orange-brown silty-clay with chalk, flints, and gravels; with sandy-gravels to southwestern end	0.5m+
1101	11	Topsoil	0–0.28m
1102	11	Subsoil	0.28–0.45m
1103	11	Natural: mid-light brown silty-clay with flints, gravels, and chalk patches	0.45m+
1201	12	Topsoil	0–0.3m
1202	12	Subsoil	0.3–0.4m
1203	12	Natural: yellow-brown silty-clay with flints	0.4m+
1204	12	Fill of furrow [1205]. Mid-brown silty-clay with occasional small pebbles (similar to subsoil). No finds. Accumulation deposit within furrow	3.2m+ (NW–SE) X 0.75m X 0.15m (depth).
1205	12	Cut of NW-SE aligned furrow (one of four in trench). Regular gently sloping sides with flat base. Part of system of ridge-and-furrow cultivation across the site	3.2m+ (NW–SE) X 0.75m X 0.15m (depth).
1301	13	Topsoil	0–0.3m
1302	13	Natural: mottled light grey-brown clay with chalk flecks, flints, and patches of grey-blue and orange-brown clay	0.3m+
1303	13	Fill of ditch [1304]. Dark grey-black silty-sand with occasional pebbles and pieces of plastic. Disuse fill of field boundary	1.7m+ (NE–SW) X 0.8m X 0.3m (depth).
1304	13	Cut of NE-SW aligned ditch. Regular sides and flat base. Cut from directly beneath the topsoil. Cut by drain cut to the north. Field boundary shown on late 19th century OS Map	1.7m+ (NE–SW) X 0.8m X 0.3m (depth).
1401	14	Topsoil	0–0.3m
1402	14	Natural: mottled light grey clay with flints, chalk flecks, and patches of orange-brown gravels	0.3m+
1501	15	Topsoil	0–0.25m
1502	15	Natural: mottled light grey clay with chalk and flints	0.25m+
1601	16	Topsoil	0–0.3m
1602	16	Natural: cream-light brown clays	0.3m+
1701	17	Topsoil	0–0.28m
1702	17	Subsoil	0.28–0.4m
1703	17	Natural: yellow-brown silty-clay with chalk flecks and flints	0.4m+
1801	18	Topsoil	0–0.25m
1802	18	Natural: mottled grey-brown clay with chalk, flints, and gravel	0.25m+
1901	19	Topsoil	0–0.25m
1902	19	Natural: mottled light grey silty-clay with chalk, flints, and gravels	0.25m+
1903	19	Fill of furrow [1904]. Mid orange-brown silty-clay with occasional small stones and chalk (similar to subsoil). No finds. Accumulation deposit within furrow	2.7m+ (NE–SW) X 0.45m X 0.08m (depth).
1904	19	Cut of NE-SW aligned furrow (one of eight in trench). Gently sloping sides with slightly concave base. Part of system of ridge-and-furrow cultivation across the site	2.7m+ (NE–SW) X 0.45m X 0.08m (depth).
1905	19	Fill of ditch [1906]. Dark grey-brown silty-clay with pebbles, flints, CBM flecks, and charcoal. Disuse fill of field boundary	2.6m+ (NE–SW) X 1.5m X 0.3m (depth).

Context	Trench	Description	Dimensions
1906	19	Cut of NE-SW aligned ditch. Regular sides, c.45°. Cut from directly beneath the topsoil. Field boundary shown on late 19th century OS Map	2.6m+ (NE-SW) X 1.5m X 0.3m (depth).
2001	20	Topsoil	0–0.3m
2002	20	Natural: mid brown clay with chalk flecks	0.3m+
2101	21	Topsoil	0–0.3m
2102	21	Natural: light grey silty-clay with chalk, flints, patches of orange-brown gravels, and patches of blue-grey clay	0.3m+
2103	21	Fill of furrow [2104]. Mid-light grey silty-clay, with occasional pebbles (similar to subsoil). No finds. Accumulation deposit within furrow	3m+ (NE-SW) X 0.4m X 0.1m (depth).
2104	21	Cut of NE-SW aligned furrow (one of five in trench). Regular gently sloping sides with flat base. Part of system of ridge-and-furrow cultivation across the site	3m+ (NE-SW) X 0.4m X 0.1m (depth).
2201	22	Topsoil	0–0.3m
2202	22	Subsoil	0.3–0.4m
2203	22	Natural: mid-light yellow-brown clay	0.4m+
2301	23	Topsoil	0–0.3m
2302	23	Subsoil	0.3–0.45m
2303	23	Natural: light grey silty-clay	0.45m+
2401	24	Topsoil	0–0.3m
2402	24	Natural: mid-light grey-brown silty-clay with chalk, flints, and sand patches	0.3m+
2501	25	Topsoil	0–0.28m
2502	25	Subsoil	0.28–0.5m
2503	25	Natural: orange-brown sandy-gravels with flints (southern end); orange sand with flints and gravel (central part); mottled grey silty-clay with chalk, flints, and gravel (northern end)	0.5m+
2504	25	Cut of NW-SE orientated ditch. Gently sloping sides and flat base. Cut by land drain. Boundary or drainage ditch	2m+ (NW-SE) X 1.7m X 0.15m (depth).
2505	25	Fill of ditch [2504]. Light grey-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles, flint inclusions, and charcoal flecks. Finds include ceramic building material, nails, and slag	2m+ (NW-SE) X 1.7m X 0.15m (depth).
2506	25	Cut of NW-SE orientated ditch. Sharp sides with slightly rounded base. Truncated by ditch [2509]. Boundary or drainage ditch	2m+ (NW-SE) X 1.16m X 0.42m (depth).
2507	25	Primary fill of ditch [2506]. Mid-yellow-brown friable sandy-clay with some flints. No finds	2m+ (NW-SE) X 0.21m X 0.26m (depth).
2508	25	Secondary fill of ditch [2506]. Mid-grey sandy-clay with pebbles and flints. No finds	2m+ (NW-SE) X 0.21m X 0.26m (depth).
2509	25	Cut of NW-SE orientated ditch. Steep sharp sides and stepped base. Truncates ditch [2506] - re-cut? Boundary or drainage ditch	2m+ (NW-SE) X 0.8m X 0.42m (depth).
2510	25	Fill of ditch [2510]. Mid-grey friable sandy-clay with flints. No finds	2m+ (NW-SE) X 0.8m X 0.42m (depth).
2511	25	Cut of NE-SW gully. Gradual sloping sides with flat base. Drainage gully?	4m+ (NE-SW) X 0.36m X 0.11m (depth).
2512	25	Fill of gully [2511]. Dark brown friable sandy-clay with flints and pebbles. Finds include pot and bone	4m+ (NE-SW) X 0.36m X 0.11m (depth).
2513	25	Cut of oval pit. Uneven sides and uneven base	1.63m X 1.56m X 0.2m (depth).
2514	25	Fill of pit [2513]. Mid-grey friable silty-clay with sand, flints, and pebbles. Finds include pottery	1.63m X 1.56m X 0.2m (depth).
2601	26	Topsoil	0–0.25m
2602	26	Natural: mottled mid-light grey silty-clay with chalk, flints, and sand patches	0.25m+
2701	27	Topsoil	0–0.28m



Context	Trench	Description	Dimensions
2702	27	Natural: light grey silty-clay with chalk and flints	0.28m+
2801	28	Topsoil	0–0.25m
2802	28	Subsoil	0.25–0.5m
2803	28	Natural: yellow-brown silty-clay with flint, gravel, and chalk flecks	0.5m+
2901	29	Topsoil	0–0.3m
2902	29	Subsoil	0.3–0.5m
2903	29	Natural: yellow-brown silty-clay with gravel pieces and flints	0.5m+
2904	29	Fill of furrow [2905]. Mid-brown silty-clay with flints, pebbles, and CBM flecks (similar to subsoil). No finds. Accumulation deposit within furrow	3.6m+ (NE–SW) X 0.7m X 0.12m (depth).
2905	29	Cut of NE-SW orientated furrow (one of three in trench). Gently sloping sides with flat base. Part of system of ridge-and-furrow cultivation across the site	3.6m+ (NE–SW) X 0.7m X 0.12m (depth).
3001	30	Topsoil	0–0.28m
3002	30	Natural: light grey silty-clay with chalk and gravels	0–28m+
3003	30	Fill of furrow [3004]. Mid orange-brown silty-clay with occasional small stones (similar to subsoil). No finds. Accumulation deposit within furrow	2.2m+ (NW–SE) X 0.55m X 0.06m (depth).
3004	30	Cut of NW-SE aligned furrow (one of four in trench). Regular gently sloping sides with concave base. Part of system of ridge-and-furrow cultivation across the site	2.2m+ (NW–SE) X 0.55m X 0.06m (depth).
3005	30	Fill of ditch [3006]. Mid orange-brown silty-clay with occasional stones. Finds include pottery and CBM	2m+ (NW–SE) X 0.75m X 0.18m (depth).
3006	30	Cut of NW-SE aligned ditch. Gently sloping sides and concave base. Boundary ditch?	2m+ (NW–SE) X 0.75m X 0.18m (depth).
3101	31	Topsoil	0–0.25m
3102	31	Natural: mid-light grey silty-clay with chalk and pebbles	0.25m+
3201	32	Topsoil	0–0.28m
3202	32	Subsoil	0.28–0.4m
3203	32	Natural: mottled grey clay with flints, gravels, and blue-grey clay patches	0.4m+
3301	33	Topsoil	0–0.3m
3302	33	Subsoil	0.3–0.45m
3303	33	Natural: orange-brown silty-clay with flints and gravels	0.45m+
3401	34	Topsoil	0–0.28m
3402	34	Subsoil	0.28–0.35m
3403	34	Natural: mid-light brown silty-clay with flints and chalk	0.35m+
3501	35	Topsoil	0–0.25m
3502	35	Subsoil	0.25–0.35m
3503	35	Natural: orange-brown sandy-gravels with flints (central part); yellow-brown clay with chalk (eastern end); sands (western end)	0.35m+
3504	35	Cut of NE-SW orientated ditch. Irregular sides with flat base. Sealed by subsoil (3502). Ditch for trackway, functioning alongside ditch [3506]?	2.7m (NE–SW) X 0.94m X 0.23m (depth).
3505	35	Fill of ditch [3504]. Mid grey-brown silty-clay with pebbles and iron panning. Finds include pot, bone, CBM, and stone. Backfill deposit	2.7m (NE–SW) X 0.94m X 0.23m (depth).
3506	35	Cut of NE-SW orientated ditch. Irregular sides and uneven base. Sealed by subsoil (3502). Ditch for trackway functioning alongside ditch [3504]?	2.7m (NE–SW) X 0.79m X 0.13m (depth).

Context	Trench	Description	Dimensions
3507	35	Fill of ditch [3506]. Mid grey silty-clay with pebbles, flints, and iron panning. Finds include CBM and bone. Backfill deposit	2.7m (NE-SW) X 0.79m X 0.13m (depth).
3508	35	Cut of curvilinear ditch. Irregular sides and base. Sealed by subsoil (3502). Palaeo-channel?	3m (NE-SW) X 0.74m X 0.07m (depth).
3509	35	Fill of ditch [3508]. Mid brown silt with flints and CBM flecks	3m (NE-SW) X 0.74m X 0.07m (depth).
3510	35	Cut of half-circular pit (obscured by section). Irregular sides and flat base. Cuts topsoil (3501)	1.05m X 0.48m X 0.43m (depth).
3511	35	Fill of pit [3510]. Dark grey silt-loam with pebbles and flints. No finds	1.05m X 0.48m X 0.43m (depth).
3512	35	Cut of NW-SE aligned ditch, probable furrow. Straight sides and slightly rounded base. Disturbed terminus to the southeast. Part of system of ridge-and-furrow cultivation across the site	0.87m X 0.74m X 0.12m (depth).
3513	35	Fill of furrow [3512]. Mid grey friable silty-clay with flints and pebbles and occasional charcoal (similar to subsoil). No finds. Accumulation deposit within furrow	0.87m X 0.74m X 0.12m (depth).
3601	36	Topsoil	0-0.25m
3602	36	Subsoil	0.25-0.45m
3603	35	Natural: light grey mottled silty-clay with chalk, flints, and orange sandy-gravel patches	0.45m+
3701	37	Topsoil	0-0.3m
3702	37	Subsoil	0.3-0.4m
3703	37	Natural: orange-brown gravels with flints and chalk	0.4m+
3704	37	Fill of ditch [3705]. Mid grey-brown sandy-clay with small stones, charcoal, and chalk. Finds include bone. Backfill deposit?	2m+ (NE-SW) X 1.4m X 0.4m (depth).
3705	37	Cut of NE-SW orientated ditch. Gradual steep sides and concave base. Sealed by subsoil (3702). Ditch for trackway functioning alongside ditch [3707]? Continuation of [3506]?	2m+ (NE-SW) X 1.4m X 0.4m (depth).
3706	37	Fill of ditch [3707]. Backfill deposit? Unexcavated	2m+ (NE-SW) X 1.2m
3707	37	Cut of NE-SW orientated ditch. Unexcavated. Ditch for trackway functioning alongside ditch [3705]? Continuation of [3504]?	2m+ (NE-SW) X 1.2m
3708	37	Fill of ditch [3709]. Mid grey-brown sandy-clay with small stones and chalk inclusions. No finds. Backfill deposit	2.5m+ (NW-SE) X 0.85m X 0.12m (depth).
3709	37	Cut of NW-SE orientated ditch. Gently sloping sides and slightly concave base. Sealed by subsoil (3702). Same alignment as [3711]. Boundary / drainage ditch?	2.5m+ (NW-SE) X 0.85m X 0.12m (depth).
3710	37	Fill of ditch [3711]. Mid grey-brown sandy-clay with small stones and charcoal inclusions. Finds include pot. Backfill deposit	2.5m+ (NW-SE) X 0.85m X 0.42m (depth).
3711	37	Cut of NW-SE orientated ditch. Steep sides and concave base. Sealed by subsoil (3702). Same alignment as [3709]. Boundary / drainage ditch?	2.5m+ (NW-SE) X 0.85m X 0.42m (depth).
3801	38	Topsoil	0-0.28m
3802	38	Subsoil	0.28-0.35m
3803	38	Natural: mottled grey silty-clay with flints, gravels, and chalk	0.35m+
3901	39	Topsoil	0-0.28m
3902	39	Subsoil	0.28-0.4m
3903	39	Natural: mottled brown silty-clay with chalk, gravels, and flints; orange-brown sands at northern end	0.4m+
4001	40	Topsoil	0-0.25m
4002	40	Subsoil	0.25-0.3m
4003	40	Natural: mottled grey-brown clay with flints, chalk, and gravels	0.3m+
4004	40	Fill of furrow [4005]. Light grey-brown silty-clay with occasional small stones (similar to subsoil). No finds. Accumulation deposit within furrow	2m+ (NE-SW) X 0.8m X 0.05m (depth).
4005	40	Cut of NE-SW orientated furrow. Gently sloping sides and flat base. Part of system of ridge-and-furrow cultivation across the site	2m+ (NE-SW) X 0.8m X 0.05m (depth).



Context	Trench	Description	Dimensions
4101	41	Topsoil	0–0.28m
4102	41	Subsoil	0.28–0.4m
4103	41	Natural: mottled light brown clayey-silt with flints and chalk	0.4m+
4104	41	Fill of ditch [4105]. Unexcavated. Dark brown-black silty-clay, with pieces of plastic and modern glass	2m+ (NE–SW) X 1.1m
4105	41	Cut of NE-SW orientated ditch. Unexcavated. Field boundary on late 19th century OS Maps	2m+ (NE–SW) X 1.1m
4201	42	Topsoil	0–0.3m
4202	42	Subsoil	0.3–0.45m
4203	42	Natural: orange and grey sandy-clays with flints and chalk flecks	0.45m+
4204	42	Fill of ditch [4205]. Unexcavated. Mid orange-brown silty-clay	2m+ (NW–SE) X 0.6m
4205	42	Cut of NW-SE aligned ditch. Same alignment and fill as [4207]	2m+ (NW–SE) X 0.6m
4206	42	Fill of ditch [4207]. Mid orange-brown brittle silty-clay with small stones. Finds include pot. Backfill deposit?	2m+ (NW–SE) X 0.6m X 0.2m
4207	42	Cut of NW-SE aligned ditch. Very sharp vertical sides and uneven base. Cut through subsoil (4202). On same alignment and with same fill as [4205]. Foundation trench?	2m+ (NW–SE) X 0.6m X 0.2m
4301	43	Topsoil	0–0.3m
4302	43	Natural: yellow-brown silty-clay with flints and chalk flecks	0.3m+
4401	44	Topsoil	0–0.3m
4402	44	Natural: orange-brown gravels and patches of yellow-brown clay, with flints	0.3m+
4403	44	Fill of furrow [4404]. Mid grey-brown firm silty-clay with occasional small pebbles and CBM flecks. Some rooting in southwestern part of section. Finds include CBM fragments. Accumulation deposit within furrow	6m+ (NW–SE) X 0.6m X 0.1m (depth).
4404	44	Cut of NW-SE aligned furrow (one of two in trench). Gently sloping sides and flat base. Part of system of ridge-and-furrow cultivation across the site	6m+ (NW–SE) X 0.6m X 0.1m (depth).
4501	45	Topsoil	0–0.3m
4502	45	Subsoil	0.3–0.4m
4503	45	Natural: mottled blue-grey sandy-clay; and yellow-brown clay, with flints and gravels	0.4m+

Photographic register

Photo	Colour	B&W	Digital	Facing	Description
001	-	-	5324	NE	TR35: stone in ditch [3504]
002	-	-	5325	NE	TR35: stone in ditch [3504]
003	01/14	02/14	5327	-	ID shot
004	01/13	02/13	5328	NE	SW-facing section of ditch [3504]
005	01/12	02/12	5329	NNE	SSW-facing section of ditch [3506]
006	01/11	02/11	5330	SSE	NNW-facing section of ditch [3508]
007	01/10	02/10	5331	E	W-facing section of pit [3510]
008	01/9	02/9	5332	SSE	N-facing section of pit [3510]
009	-	-	5333	SW	Oblique shot of section of pit [3510]
010	01/8	02/8	5334	NW	SE-facing section of [3512]
011	-	-	5335	WNW	ESE-facing section of [3512]
012	-	-	5336	N	S-facing section of trench 35
013	-	-	5337	SW	TR10 general
014	-	-	5338	NE	TR10 general
015	-	-	5339	SW	TR9 general
016	-	-	5340	NE	TR9 general
017	-	-	5341	NW	TR36 general
018	-	-	5342	SE	TR36 general
019	-	-	5343	NW	TR24 general
020	-	-	5344	SE	TR24 general
021	-	-	5345	SE	TR22 general
022	-	-	5346	NW	TR22 general
023	-	-	5347	E	TR17 general

Photo	Colour	B&W	Digital	Facing	Description
024	-	-	5348	W	TR17 general
025	01/7	02/7	5349	WNW	ESE-facing section of ditch [2504]
026	01/6	02/6	5350	NW	SE-facing section of ditches [2506] and [2509]
027	01/5	02/5	5351	SE	NW-facing section of pit [2513]
028	-	-	5352	W	E-facing trench section showing pit [2513]
029	-	-	5353	SW	TR8 general
030	-	-	5354	NE	TR8 general
031	-	-	5355	S	TR7 general
032	-	-	5356	N	TR7 general
033	-	-	5357	S	TR2 general
034	-	-	5358	N	TR2 general
035	-	-	5359	N	TR1 general
036	-	-	5360	S	TR1 general
037	-	-	5361	NW	TR45 general
038	-	-	5362	SE	TR45 general
039	-	-	5363	W	TR3 general
040	-	-	5364	E	TR3 general
041	-	-	5365	W	TR4 general
042	-	-	5366	E	TR4 general
043	-	-	5367	N	TR5 general
044	-	-	5368	S	TR5 general
045	-	-	5369	E	TR6 general
046	-	-	5370	W	TR6 general
047	01/4	02/4	5371	SW	NE-facing section of [2511]
048	-	-	5372	N	TR14 general
049	-	-	5373	S	TR14 general
050	-	-	5374	N	TR15 general
051	-	-	5375	S	TR15 general
052	-	-	5376	E	TR18 general
053	-	-	5377	W	TR18 general
054	-	-	5378	W	TR20 general
055	-	-	5379	E	TR20 general
056	-	-	5380	S	TR43 general
057	-	-	5381	N	TR43 general
058	-	-	5382	S	TR16 general
059	-	-	5383	N	TR16 general
060	-	-	5384	E	TR23 general

Photo	Colour	B&W	Digital	Facing	Description
061	-	-	5385	W	TR23 general
062	-	-	5386	E	TR28 general
063	-	-	5387	W	TR28 general
064	-	-	5388	S	TR27 general
065	-	-	5389	N	TR27 general
066	-	-	5390	E	TR26 general
067	-	-	5391	W	TR26 general
068	-	-	5392	S	TR25 general
069	-	-	5393	N	TR25 general
070	-	-	5394	E	TR34 general
071	-	-	5395	W	TR34 general
072	-	-	5396	E	TR34 general
073	-	-	5397	W	TR35 general
074	-	-	5398	E	TR38 general
075	-	-	5399	W	TR38 general
076	-	-	5400	N	TR39 general
077	-	-	5401	S	TR39 general
078	-	-	5402	W	TR32 general
079	-	-	5403	E	TR32 general
080	-	-	5404	S	TR33 general
081	-	-	5405	N	TR33 general
082	-	-	5406	W	TR31 general
083	-	-	5407	E	TR31 general
084	-	-	5408	SW	NE-facing section of ditch [3705]
085	-	-	5409	SW	NE-facing section of ditch [3705]
086	-	-	5410	SW	NE-facing section of ditch [3705]
087	-	-	5411	SE	NW-facing section of ditch [3709]
088	-	-	5412	SE	NW-facing section of ditch [3709]
089	-	-	5413	NW	SE-facing section of ditch [3711]
090	-	-	5414	NW	SE-facing section of ditch [3711]
091	-	-	5415	NW	SE-facing section of ditch [3711]
092	-	-	5416	S	TR37 general
093	-	-	5417	N	TR37 general
094	01/3	02/3	5418	SW	NE-facing section through furrow [2905]
095	-	-	5419	S	TR29 general
096	-	-	5420	N	TR29 general
097	-	-	5421	SE	NW-facing section through furrow [1205]
098	-	-	5422	W	TR12 general



Photo	Colour	B&W	Digital	Facing	Description
099	-	-	5423	E	TR12 general
100	-	-	5424	N	TR11 general
101	-	-	5425	S	TR11 general
102	-	-	5426	NE	SW-facing section through furrow [4005]
103	-	-	5427	S	TR40 general
104	-	-	5429	N	TR40 general
105	-	-	5430	W	Ditch [4105]
106	-	-	5431	W	TR41 general
107	-	-	5432	E	TR41 general
108	-	-	5433	SE	NW-facing section of ditch [3010]
109	-	-	5434	SE	NW-facing section of ditch [3010]
110	-	-	5435	NW	SE-facing section through furrow [3004]
111	-	-	5436	NW	SE-facing section through furrow [3004]
112	-	-	5437	S	TR30 general
113	-	-	5438	N	TR30 general
114	-	-	5439	SE	NW-facing section through furrow [2104]
115	-	-	5440	N	TR21 general
116	-	-	5441	S	TR21 general
117	-	-	5442	SE	TR44 general
118	-	-	5443	NW	SE-facing section through furrow [4404]

Photo	Colour	B&W	Digital	Facing	Description
139	-	-	5464	-	Repaired land drain

Photo	Colour	B&W	Digital	Facing	Description
119	-	-	5444	NW	TR44 general
120	-	-	5445	E	Ditch [1304]
121	-	-	5446	S	N-facing section of ditch [1304]
122	-	-	5447	E	TR13 general
123	-	-	5448	W	TR13 general
124	01/2	02/2	5449	SE	NW-facing section of ditch [4205]
125	-	-	5450	N	TR42 general
126	-	-	5451	S	TR42 general
127	-	-	5452	S	TR19 general
128	-	-	5453	NE	SW-facing section through furrow [1914]
129	-	-	5454	SW	Ditch [1920]
130	-	-	5455	N	TR19 general
131	-	-	5456	-	Backfilled trenches
132	-	-	5457	-	Backfilled trenches
133	-	-	5458	-	Backfilled trenches
134	-	-	5459	-	Backfilled trenches
135	-	-	5460	-	Repaired land drain
136	-	-	5461	-	Repaired land drain
137	-	-	5462	-	Repaired land drain
138	-	-	5463	-	Repaired land drain

Drawing register

Drawing	Scale	Description
1	1:10	SE-facing section of ditches [2506] and [2509]
2	1:10	SSW-facing section of ditch [3506]
3	1:10	NW-facing section of ditch [3705]

Sample register

Sample	Context	Volume	Description
1	2514	40L	Pit fill
2	3505	40L	Ditch fill

APPENDIX 2 FINDS CATALOGUE

Trench	Context	Sample	Qty	Weight (g)	Material	Object / Fabric	Description	Spot Date
25	2505	—	20	182	CBM	Tile	TF1 Sandy	PM/Mod
25	2505	—	2	4	Iron	Nails	small T-headed nail and shaft from different nail	L19th-present
25	2505	—	5	7	Stone	Counters?	Small flat pieces of shale, roughly round and of similar size, though no trace of shaping. Probably natural though possibly used as counters	?
25	2512	—	1	1	Pottery (Sax)	A18	Quartz	E/M Sax
25	2514	1		2	Industrial Waste	Magnetic Residue	—	?
25	2514	—	26	9	Lithics	Debitage	Flint, small, broken indeterminate piece. Fairly fresh condition	PH
25	2514	—	1	3	Lithics	Debitage	Flint. Small flakes and chips. Lightly abraded	PH
25	2514	—	21	216	Pottery (Sax)	A18	Quartz, all from one narrow, deep bowl, reconstructable	E/M Sax
30	3005	—	5	26	CBM	Tile	TF1 Sandy	PM/Mod
30	3005	—	1	2	Pottery (PM)	P01	Glazed Red Earthenware	16th-19th
35	3505	—	17	4	Lithics	Debitage	Flint. Small flakes and chips. Lightly abraded	PH
35	3505	—	1	5	Pottery (PH)	F01	Flint	EIA?
35	3507	—	2	3	CBM	Tile	TF1 Sandy	PM/Mod
35	3509	—	6	16	CBM	Tile	TF1 Sandy	PM/Mod
35	3509	—	1	6	Lithics	Tool	Flint. Heavily abraded and patinated, coarse grained pebble flint. Fairly acute retouch to the left lateral edge and some abrupt retouch to either side of the distal tip	PH
37	3710	—	1	1	Pottery (Rom)	R06	Greyware	RB
37	3710	—	2	6	Pottery (Sax)	A01	Chaff-tempered	E/M Sax
41	4104	—	1	17	Glass	Bottle	colourless bottle base sherd, moulded lettering 'K.B.L', probably a milk bottle base	20th
42	4206	—	2	2	CBM	Tile	TF1 Sandy	PM/Mod
44	4403	—	1	5	CBM	Tile	TF1 Sandy	PM/Mod
44	4403	—	1	2	Pottery (PM)	P01	Glazed Red Earthenware	16th-19th



APPENDIX 3 ENVIRONMENTAL TABLES

Flotation results

Context	Sample	Feature	Total flot Vol (ml)	Charcoal Qty	Charcoal Max size (mm)	Material available for AMS	Comments
2514	1	Fill of pit [2513]	100	+	1	No	Contains frequent modern roots and seeds
3505	2	Fill of ditch [3504]	100	+	1	No	Contains frequent modern roots and seeds

Key: + = rare (1–5), ++ = occasional (6–15), +++ = common (16–50) and ++++ = abundant (>50)

NB charcoal over 1cm is suitable for identification and AMS dating

Retent results

Context	Sample	Feature	Sample Vol (l)	Lithics	Mag res	Burnt bone	Unburnt bone	Material available for AMS dating
						Mammal	Mammal	
2514	1	Fill of pit [2513]	40	+++	+++	–	–	No
3505	2	Fill of ditch [3504]	–	++	–	+	++++	Yes

Key: + = rare (0–5), ++ = occasional (6–15), +++ = common (15–50) and ++++ = abundant (>50)

NB charcoal over 1cm is suitable for identification and AMS dating

Animal bone

Context	Sample	Feature	Weight (g)	Cow	Condition	Comments
2512	–	Fill of gully [2511]	2	–	Fair	IM- small mammal burnt bone fragment and IM small mammal bone fragment (2 bags)
3505	–	Fill of ditch [3504]	12	–	Poor	IM- small mammal- heavily fragmented bone
3505	2	Fill of ditch [3504]	115	+	Fair	IM- small mammal burnt bone fragment. IM- large mammal- rib fragment. Heavily fragmented thoracic vertebrae-cow (2 bags)
3507	–	Fill of ditch [3506]	3	–	Poor	IM- large mammal- rib fragment
3704	–	Fill of ditch [3705]	117	+	Fair	Heavily fragmented radius- cow



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