



Den Brook
North Tawton, Devon

Archaeological Evaluation and Mitigation Report



Executive Summary

This report presents the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation undertaken by Wessex Archaeology in November and December 2012 on land to the south-east of North Tawton, Devon (NGR 268700 100250) prior to the construction of a wind farm.

The evaluation consisted of 26 trenches and an excavation area targeted on locations based on information from a desk-based assessment and a geophysical survey.

The investigations located the remains of a Roman road with associated features, a small area of activity (consisting of postholes, a pit and a ditch) and a number of other ditches thought to be former field boundaries.

No further work on the artefactual or paleo-environmental evidence is proposed given the known baseline and the nature and extent of development proposals, although it is noted that there is some potential for further analysis of the environmental material recovered from some of those features identified, should the opportunity arise.



**DEN BROOK,
NORTH TAWTON, DEVON**

Archaeological Evaluation and Mitigation Report

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NORTH TAWTON, DEVON**

Archaeological Evaluation and Mitigation Report

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**DEN BROOK,
NORTH TAWTON, DEVON****Archaeological Evaluation and Mitigation Report****Summary**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by AMEC on behalf of RES, to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land some 2.5km south east of North Tawton, Devon (NGR 268700 100250). This evaluation was undertaken prior to the construction of nine wind turbines and associated structures and services (planning reference APP/Q1153/A/06/2017162).

The evaluation consisted of 26 trenches and an area of excavation and was undertaken in November and December 2012.

This investigation successfully located the remains of the known Roman road which runs from east to west through the southern part of the Site. This was found to survive in relatively good condition with much of the stone metalling still *in situ*. Two wheel ruts were apparent within its surface and a ditch was located on the southern edge. The full width of the road was not seen as the northern edge was truncated and disturbed by the double hedgerow and ditch of the present parish boundary, but was over 7m wide. Another ditch lay just to the south of the road on the same alignment.

A small area of activity was seen in Trench 11, in the western part of the Site, consisting of five postholes, a pit and a ditch. Despite the presence of a sherd of prehistoric pottery in the topsoil these features remained undated and their exact purpose unclear despite opening an additional trench.

A number of shallow, small ditches were encountered which were concluded to be related to cultivation. A number of these ditches could be identified on late 19th and early 20th century maps but others may be of greater antiquity. Little dating evidence was found in relation to these features; although some small pieces of struck flint were recovered during this investigation which may be indicative of some general prehistoric activity in the vicinity. A stone axe (SF1), found in the northern part of the Site where circular cropmarks have been identified, also indicates prehistoric activity.

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The evaluation was directed by Naomi Brennan, assisted by Mark Bagwell, Dane Wright, Jonathan Buttery and Mark Stewart. The report was written and compiled by Naomi Brennan with specialist reports by Matt Leivers (finds) and Sarah Wyles (environmental). The illustrations were prepared by Linda Coleman. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Caroline Budd.

**DEN BROOK,
NORTH TAWTON, DEVON****Archaeological Evaluation and Mitigation Report****1 INTRODUCTION****1.1 Project Background**

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by AMEC on behalf of RES, to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land some 2.5km south east of North Tawton, Devon. Centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 268700 100250, hereafter referred to as the 'Site' (**Figure 1**). The development consists of nine wind turbines and associated structures and services (planning reference APP/Q1153/A/06/2017162).

1.1.2 The evaluation was carried out between the 26th November and 7th December 2012.

1.2 The Site, Location and Geology

1.2.1 The Site lies around 2km to the south-east of North Tawton and some 3km to the north-west of Spreyton within an area of small farm holdings. A branch of the Dartmoor Railway runs east – west through the Site. Along the line of the Roman road lies the parish boundary dividing North and South Tawton.

1.2.2 Due to the nature of the development the Site covers a wide extent but only impacts upon narrow corridors of land within this larger area. The northern edge of the Site is bounded by the A3072, it then extends south-east along the margins of Croke Lane. Further trenches were located in the fields just to the north of the railway line with additional trenches to the south of the line and to the north-east of Itton, particularly around the area of the known Roman road. Trenches were also situated at the southern end of Sandford Lane with a single trench further east to the south of Sandford Plantation.

1.2.3 The majority of the Site is currently under pasture though it is ploughed in rotation for root crops and to improve the grass.

1.2.4 The topography of the Site is extremely varied with a number of small hills and valleys. The Site includes two tributaries of the River Yeo; a stream that passes through Croke Burnell and Den Brook (both aligned east to west). The highest point of the site, just to the south of Croke Burnell Farm, lies approximately 150m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) and the lowest point lies between 125m and 130m (aOD) at Den Brook.

1.2.5 The bedrock geology on site varies across the Site with three bedrock geological formations dominating. The sedimentary Bow Breccia Formation (Permian) spans the northern section of the site with igneous basalts of the same formation spanning the central region of the site. The south of the site lies over bedrock of the Ashton Mudstone Member and Crackington Formation (undifferentiated) – sedimentary mudstone and siltstone (Carboniferous). There are no superficial deposits recorded over the majority of the site but superficial deposits are recorded for the stream valleys. These deposits include Taw river terrace deposits and alluvium composed of clay, silt, sand and gravel.

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 1.3.1 A full consideration and assessment of the archaeological background was undertaken as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) (RES 2005); a summary of the most relevant results are included below.
- 1.3.2 A series of cropmarks have been identified in the field adjacent to the A3072 which seem to indicate ring ditches that can relate to prehistoric barrows. It is anticipated that the construction impacts will avoid these features but they may be associated activity within this area of Site. An additional possible circular cropmark lies in the field to the north of Trench 15.
- 1.3.3 Along the line of the parish boundary lies a known Roman road, which runs from Exeter to a complex of Roman military enclosures on a crossing point over the River Taw to the east of the Site (Scheduled Monument Number 10384).
- 1.3.4 Crook Burnell farmstead to which much of the development land belongs is thought to be the location of a former manor and is recorded during the Domesday Survey (AD 1086) as 'Crwk'. The farm also includes a 14th century chapel which is still used as a hayloft. This would seem to indicate cultivation of the immediate area around the farmstead from the medieval period, though much of the land, particularly the moorland areas, was unenclosed until the latter part of the nineteenth century.
- 1.3.5 The railway line which runs through the southern part of the Site, originally part of the Devon and Cornwall railway, was opened in 1865.

1.4 Previous Investigations

- 1.4.1 An evaluation was carried out by AC archaeology in which 2006 consisted of twelve trenches, primarily located in the proposed turbine locations. These located only three features, one tree-throw and two ditches. No dating was recovered from these features though seven pieces of struck flint were recovered from topsoil contexts which may indicate some prehistoric activity.
- 1.4.2 A geophysical survey was undertaken by Wessex Archaeology (2012) prior to the evaluation. This allowed some trenches to be targeted on identified anomalies. The gradiometer survey covered 12.3ha and demonstrated the presence of anomalies of definite, probable and possible archaeological interest within the survey area, along with regions of increased magnetic response and linear trends. One possible ring ditch was identified which was considered to be of definite archaeological interest.

1.5 Aims and Objectives

- 1.5.1 The aims of this field evaluation were to determine, as far as it was reasonably possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development.
- 1.5.2 Specifically two areas of higher archaeological potential were identified; possible burial mounds in the northernmost field and the course of a Roman road to the south of the railway line.

2 METHODOLOGY

- 2.1.1 The full detailed methodology of the archaeological works was set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (AMEC 2012).
- 2.1.2 The trenches were excavated using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a wide toothless bucket, under constant archaeological supervision. Mechanical excavation continued in spits through topsoil and subsoil down to either the uppermost archaeological features or natural deposits, whichever was encountered first. Topsoil was separated from subsoil and any other arisings and stored at a minimum of 1m from the trench edge. The spoil from the trenches was scanned for artefacts. The trenches were back-filled with the excavated spoil, topsoil last in order to preserve the soil stratigraphy.
- 2.1.3 Where archaeological features were encountered they were investigated by hand, with a sufficient sample of each layer/feature type excavated in order to establish, where possible, their date, nature, character, extent and condition.
- 2.1.4 Archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Archaeological features and deposits were hand-drawn at either 1:10 or 1:20, including both plans and sections, these were referred to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels were calculated and this information is included on both plans and sections. A representative section of each trench was recorded showing the depth of the overburden deposits.
- 2.1.5 A photographic record was kept utilising digital images. The record illustrates both the detail and the general context of the principal features, finds excavated, and the site as a whole. Digital images have been subject to a managed quality control and curation process which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and ensures the long term accessibility of the image set.
- 2.1.6 The survey was carried out with a Leica Viva series GNSS unit using the OS National GPS Network through an RTK network with a 3D accuracy of 30mm or below. All survey data was recorded using the OSGB36 British National Grid coordinate system.
- 2.1.7 A unique site code **86781** was allocated to the Site, and was used on all records and finds.
- 2.2 Best practice**
- 2.2.1 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2008).

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 Details of individual excavated contexts and features are retained in the project archive. Summaries of the excavated sequences and details of the archaeological features can be found in **Appendix 1**.
- 3.1.2 A total of 25 trenches were excavated, included an additional trench requested by the County Archaeologist. These were around 25m long by 1.9m wide. A further excavation area was located over the course of the Roman road (approx. 30m long by 7m wide).
- 3.1.3 The trenches were between 0.23-0.60m deep and generally encountered around 0.30m of topsoil or ploughsoil directly overlying the natural deposits. In some areas a thin undeveloped subsoil was also seen.
- 3.1.4 Three different natural geological deposits were seen across the Site. The northernmost field (Trenches 1-4) was situated on a red sandy clay, a similar deposit was seen in Trenches 5 and 6 but here it was clearly weathered stone likely derived from the underlying basalt. The remainder of the trenches encountered a yellow clay.
- 3.1.5 Although many of the fields are currently under pasture most have been ploughed in recent history.

3.2 Results

Trenches without any archaeological features or deposits

- 3.2.1 Eleven of the trenches excavated revealed no archaeological features or deposits (**Trenches 2, 4-6, 8, 10, 12, 21-23 and 26**). Some disturbance was noted in **Trench 2** but upon further investigation was concluded to be animal burrows. Shallow ephemeral features observed in **Trenches 5 and 12** were concluded to be ruts from the wheels of modern agricultural machinery.
- 3.2.2 Between the base of the topsoil and the upper surface of the natural geology in **Trench 8** was a discontinuous grey silty layer **802** which had been deposited into a number of undulations in the natural geology. Upon investigation these were concluded not be features but likely the result of recent disturbance potentially a combination of heavy loads on the ground surface and standing water. Overlying the results with the 1906 Ordnance Survey map shows that **Trench 8** is situated along the original course of the track before it was diverted slightly to the west. A similar layer in **Trench 26 (2602)** which exhibited a roughly linear, north-south alignment was thought to be the result of water flowing downslope, probably over the track from the drainage ditch to the north.
- 3.2.3 Modern features were observed in **Trenches 22 and 23** where the farmer has been laying pipework to help drain the land.

Natural features

- 3.2.4 Features were noted, investigated and recorded in **Trenches 9, 16 and 18** but were concluded to be of natural origin. Within **Trench 9** a large sub-oval feature was investigated, **904**, and was interpreted to be the base of a tree-throw. A field boundary is shown passing through **Trench 9** on the 1906

map but no definite traces were apparent in the trench. Tree-throw **904** is mostly likely to be from a tree situated along this boundary.

- 3.2.5 A smaller oval feature in **Trench 18, 1803** was also concluded to be of natural origin. A possible feature in this trench, further investigated at the request of the County Archaeologist, was shown to be a layer of silty material (**1805**) containing fragments of degraded stone. Its shallow and irregular nature indicates it is most likely the result of bioturbation.
- 3.2.6 A large but relatively shallow feature **1603** in **Trench 16** which contained a humic deposit with signs of gleying (oxygen deficiency) at the base was thought to be an area which was previously waterlogged or a pond. A geophysical anomaly corresponds to this feature.

Undated features

- 3.2.7 Six trenches contained undated features (**Trenches 1, 3, 7, 11, 13 and 14**), although a small number of finds were recovered from features in **Trenches 3 and 14** and in the topsoil of **Trench 11** these cannot be considered to securely date these features and are more likely to be residual.
- 3.2.8 **Trenches 1 and 3** both contained 'V-shaped' south-west – north-east aligned ditches (**104** and **303**), roughly parallel to the road (**Figure 2, Plates 1 and 2**). Projecting the alignment of these features suggests that they are either closely parallel or part of the same feature; the profile and deposit characteristics are very similar. **Ditch 303** cut deposit **306** a colluvial deposit within possible plough headland **305** (**Figure 2, Plate 2**).
- 3.2.9 Another small ditch was located within **Trench 7, 703** (**Figure 3**). This lies at a distinctly different alignment to the current field boundaries but does lie at the correct alignment to channel water down to the brook to the north and as such may reflect earlier cultivation. A corresponding response was seen in the geophysical data but only a limited extent could be seen.
- 3.2.10 **Trench 11** included the possible ring ditch feature identified by the geophysical survey (**Figure 4**). Although a corresponding ditch **1103** was found at the southern end of the trench (**Figure 4, Plate 6**) nothing was located to correspond to the northern part of the arc. Ditch **1103** which contained a primary fill (**1105**) and two secondary fills (**1104, 1118**) appeared to have been heavily truncated. To the north of this was a series of postholes (**1106, 1108, 1112, 1114 and 1116**) and a small pit **1110**. Four of these postholes (**1106, 1112, 1114 and 1116**) were very similar, containing a slightly mixed fill with remnants of the stone post-packing. In contrast **1108** had a much darker fill with fragments of charcoal (**Figure 4, Plate 7**). An environmental sample taken from this feature did not identify any other charred remains within the feature. Within the narrow confines of the trench it was difficult to establish the arrangement of the postholes but based on the current configuration **1106, 1112, 1114 and 1116** seem to form two parallel lines. At the request of the County Archaeologist an additional trench (**Trench 26**) was opened at the northern end of **Trench 11** parallel to the fenceline, however, no further postholes were present. Pit **1110** contained three fills (**1111, 1119, 1120**) which were very red in colour (**Figure 4, Plate 8**), this colour may be partly due to heating but may also be natural colouring from the source material. Red coloured natural geology is not found in this area but does underlie the fields further to the north.

Fragments of charcoal were apparent within the upper and lower fills (**1111** and **1119** respectively). Deposit **1111** was sampled and found to contain a small amount of charred grain in addition to the charcoal; this may suggest settlement activity in the vicinity. All three fills as interpreted as deliberate backfills of material, potentially derived from a nearby domestic hearth.

- 3.2.11 **Trenches 13 and 14** both contained two ditches (**1303, 1305, 1403** and **1405**) (**Figure 3**), those in **Trench 13** and the most northerly ditch in **Trench 14** (**1303, 1305** and **1405**) were on a similar north-east – south-west alignment with a distinctive humic brown fill (**1304, 1306, 1406**) and a shallow concave profile (**Figure 3, Plates 3 and 4**). It therefore seems likely that these three features are contemporary and may be plough furrows or a system of drainage ditches. The remaining ditch **1403** was on a divergent east – west alignment with a much paler silty clay fill (**1404**), the amount of manganese within this fill suggests it was deposited under wet conditions. The alignment of this feature is tangential to the former field boundary suggesting this may have been a smaller sub-division or drainage ditch associated with this. All four features were visible from the geophysical survey though this area showed a high level of ‘noise’ potentially reflecting changes in the sub-surface geology.

Post-medieval boundaries

- 3.2.12 Comparison between the trench locations and the tithe and early Ordnance Survey mapping shows that a number of features encountered, though not directly datable in the field, are post-medieval or modern field boundaries. These features were located in **Trenches 15, 17, 19, 20** and **24** (**Figure 5**).
- 3.2.13 Within **Trench 15** were two potentially parallel features **1503** and **1505**. While **1503** was clearly a wide but shallow north-north-east – south-south-west aligned ditch, **1505** did not extend all the way across. The fills of both features were similar (**1504** and **1506**) but the shape of **1505** was more characteristic of a tree-throw. Superimposing the features over earlier mapping shows that **1503** lies close to and potentially along the line of a field boundary, **1505** is therefore likely to be either vegetation along this boundary or, as is seen elsewhere, part of a double ditch and bank hedgerow arrangement with **1503**.
- 3.2.14 **Trench 17** lies to the south-west of **Trench 15**, and contained two intercutting linear features **1703** and **1704** at the western end. Both were shallow with the easternmost feature in particular being slightly irregular, consistent with a hedgerow. Although they fall slightly to the east of where the field boundary is depicted on the 1906 map they are likely to relate to the boundary or activity along the field margin.
- 3.2.15 A visible dip or crease could be seen in the hedgerow, running through the western part of **Trench 19** and northwards to the brook (**Figure 5, Plate 9**). Excavation showed that this corresponded to a ditch **1903**. This ditch was only partially excavated due to its likely modern origins, its rapid infilling with water and the discovery of modern tree roots. The 1906 OS map shows that Sandford Lane continued southwards to the railway line revealing that **1903** was the eastern ditch along the edge of this track. At the eastern end of the trench an irregular area of disturbance was thought to be the result of water action.

- 3.2.16 Both **Trenches 20** and **24** contained parallel features consistent with the traditional local double hedgerow and bank field boundaries (**2004**, **2006**, **2403** and **2405**) (**Figure 5**, **Plate 10**). Comparison with 1906 map shows that these were still extant boundaries at this time.

Excavation Area 25

- 3.2.17 The excavation area was targeted on the projected line of the Roman road and was designed to measure 30m long by 6m wide. Observation in the field indicated that the area crossed a major field boundary which also functioned as the parish boundary and a boundary between two farms. This consisted of a double bank with an internal ditch, hedges and mature trees were situated on both banks. A gap in the hedgerow and where the ditch had been filled in formed the only access route into the field to the north. As such a discontinuous area was originally stripped to the south and north of the boundary beyond the tree canopy. At the monitoring visit the County Archaeologist advised that he wanted a section dug through the boundary incorporating both banks in the hope of revealing the full width of the Roman road.
- 3.2.18 Immediately to the south of the field boundary a slight raised area was visible which the farmer identified as the course of the Roman road. Excavation in this area revealed the surface of the road **2510** directly beneath the topsoil **2501** (**front cover**). Hand cleaning of the surface showed this to be composed of densely compacted, small angular fragments of local stone. Two wheel ruts, **2503** and **2506**, were visible aligned west-north-west - east-south-east in line with the road and thought to be contemporary with its use. These ruts were directly parallel and around 1.5m apart (**Figure 6** and **Figure 7**, **Plate 11**). The southernmost rut, **2503**, is significantly deeper and contains a lower fill, **2504**, where the road metalling has been pressed into the natural geology and an upper fill, **2505**, where silt has accumulated in the resultant dip. The northernmost rut, **2506**, is shallower and contains a single fill of gradually deposited material within the depression, **2507**. The differing depths can most easily be explained if the road originally had a north-south camber causing the load to be unevenly distributed onto the downslope wheels. Though a slight bank is visible on the ground surface the stone surface **2510** appears to have been truncated and the original agger lost. The road line itself **2512** appears to have been dug into the natural geology and falls slightly to the north. A preliminary deposit of clay **2511** appears to have been laid as a base for the road. Along the southern edge of the road a ditch was visible **2508**, this contained a single, very homogeneous fill of red sandy clay **2509** (**Figure 7**, **Plate 11**). The characteristics of this clay suggest it is derived from the natural deposits found in the fields further to the north. Possibly this was imported to provide the upper surface of the road and it has subsequently eroded.
- 3.2.19 Extending the area through the current field boundary revealed the stone surface **2510** still *in situ* beneath the southern edge of the southern bank but beyond this the road had been lost, probably due to root disturbance (**Figure 6**, **section** and **Figure 7**, **Plate 12**). Both the existing hedgerow banks revealed a similar stratigraphic sequence (**Figure 6**, **section**). Each had a lower deposit, to the south **2517** a grey sandy clay and to the north a red sandy silt loam, **2520**. These may be the last remnants of the road base layer and a deposit similar to that of the southern roadside ditch

respectively. Above this was a buried topsoil horizon (**2518** and **2521**) overlain by re-deposited natural clay (**2519** and **2522**). This re-deposited clay will have been derived from the digging out of the central ditch **2515**.

- 3.2.20 No finds were found in association with the road. Though it is believed to be Roman, the likelihood is that it continued its use through later periods. The siting of the parish boundary along the northern edge of the road suggests it was visible probably at least into the medieval period.
- 3.2.21 Another ditch **2513** was seen in the southern excavation area running parallel to the road approximately 2m to the south (**Figure 6**). As it respects the road it was probably constructed in reference to it but as discussed above the road may well have been visible for some time after the Romano-British period; therefore no conclusive date can be assigned to this ditch.
- 3.2.22 Within the north part of the excavation area, with the exception of a land drain, only one other feature was visible. This east – west linear feature **2523**, partially visible on the geophysical survey, appeared to be a modern feature (**Figure 6**). An initial hand-dug slot seemed to confirm this showing it to have straight, near vertical sides and a single deposit of mixed topsoil and re-deposited natural indicative of deliberate backfill. The slot was then deepened by machine to check this hypothesis, excavation halted once the intervention exceeded 1m in depth, without finding the bottom of the feature. Another obviously modern cut linear feature could be seen in the south-east corner of the southern part of the excavation area (**Figure 6**).

4 FINDS

- 4.1.1 The archaeological investigations produced a very small quantity of finds, comprising a single sherd of pottery, four pieces of struck flint and two worked stone objects, recovered from three contexts.
- 4.1.2 The pottery consists of a small, abraded and undiagnostic grog-tempered sherd (topsoil **1101 Trench 11**), probably of Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date, although a later date (in the Iron Age) is possible.
- 4.1.3 The flint is largely undiagnostic. One piece (from **1101**) is a crude scraper on a thick secondary flake which may be Early Bronze Age. A chisel arrowhead of Green's type f (1980, 101) came from **304**. This is later Neolithic. The remaining pieces are flakes.
- 4.1.4 The blade end of an axe was unstratified. The axe has a truncated lenticular profile, finely ground on both faces but with the flat sides rough. The maximum width is 70mm, the depth 40mm. The axe is made from Group I (uralitized gabbro, epidiorite, or greenstone) from the Penzance area, Cornwall.
- 4.1.5 The second stone object is a flat piece of laminar stone, probably a local schist, 35mm wide at the butt end, flaring to 60mm wide. One side is flat (c. 20mm thick) and smooth, the other irregular and less apparently worked. The broad end is regularly convex. In form, the piece mimics a stone axe, although the raw material means that it cannot have functioned as such.

5 PALEO-ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

5.1 Introduction

Environmental samples taken

5.1.1 Bulk samples were taken from undated pit **1110** and posthole **1108** in Trench 11 to evaluate the presence and preservation of palaeo-environmental remains. The samples were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoals. This information can contribute to the archaeological significance of the sampled features and may assist in providing an indication of the date of these features.

5.2 Charred Plant Remains

5.2.1 Bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6 mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. Flots were scanned under a x10 – x40 stereobinocular microscope and the preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains recorded in **Table 2 (Appendix 2)**. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary and Hopf (2000, Tables 3, page 28 and 5, page 65), for cereals.

5.2.2 The flots were generally large with around 15% rooty material, which may be indicative of stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material comprised varying degrees of preservation.

5.2.3 The small quantity of charred plant remains recovered from pit **1110** included a few grains of wheat (*Triticum* sp.). These grains were not well enough preserved to be identifiable as either hulled or free-threshing wheat and so provide no indication of the date of this feature.

5.2.4 However, the presence of cereals (even in small numbers) would suggest that this small assemblage may be indicative of settlement activity in the vicinity.

5.3 Wood Charcoal

5.3.1 Wood charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in **Table 2**. A large quantity of wood charcoal fragments greater than 4 mm, including both round wood and mature wood pieces, was retrieved from pit **1110**.

5.4 Potential

Charred plant remains

5.4.1 There is no potential for further analysis to provide any information on the nature of the site and agricultural processes due to the paucity of remains recovered.

Wood charcoal

- 5.4.2 Wood charcoal analysis has the potential to provide information on species composition and the management and exploitation of the local woodland resource. This would be limited as the feature is undated however as roundwood was present in the samples which would be suitable for radiocarbon dating if required.

5.5 Proposals**Charred plant remains**

- 5.5.1 No further work is proposed on these samples.

Wood charcoal

- 5.5.2 No further work is proposed at this stage on these samples. Should further mitigation work be required by Devon County Council following the results of this evaluation these samples would be suitable for radiocarbon dating and if dated further analysis of the wood charcoal may be appropriate.

Recommendations for Sampling- Charred plant remains and wood charcoal

- 5.5.3 Samples should be taken where permitting from phased features, especially any arising and related to settlement activities and/or structures. Features that are specifically related to burning activities, such as cremations, should also be sampled. Generally samples should be taken covering as wider range of feature types, and phases as possible. Where available deposits permit, sample size should be of 30 to 40 litres and from individual, secure contexts. However if contexts are encountered that consist predominately of carbonised wood charcoal, in these cases smaller samples of 10 litres would appear suitable.

6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1.1 This investigation successfully located the remains of the known Roman road which was found to survive in relatively good condition with much of the stone metalling still *in situ*. Two wheel ruts were apparent within its surface and a ditch was located on the southern edge. The wheel ruts are contemporary with the use of the road though this usage may extend beyond the Romano-British period. The full width of the road was not seen, as the northern edge was truncated and disturbed by the double hedgerow and ditch of the present parish boundary, but was recorded as over 7m wide. Another ditch lay just to the south of the road on the same alignment.
- 6.1.2 A small area of activity was recorded in **Trench 11** consisting of five postholes, a pit and a ditch. Despite the presence of a sherd of prehistoric pottery in the topsoil these features remain undated and their exact purpose unclear though they may indicate domestic activity.
- 6.1.3 The majority of the features encountered during the evaluation were relatively shallow, small ditches and are likely to be related to cultivation. A number of these ditches could be identified on late 19th and early 20th century maps but others may be of greater antiquity. However little dating evidence was found in relation to these features; the few small pieces of struck flint recovered during this investigation may be indicative of some general prehistoric activity rather than directly dating the features they were

located in. A stone axe, found in a field where circular cropmarks have been identified, also indicates some prehistoric activity on the Site.

- 6.1.4 There was generally good correlation with features identified by the previous geophysical survey (WA 2012), though it did seem to indicate that a number of the identified anomalies are associated with agricultural activity and near-surface geology.

7 ARCHIVE

- 7.1.1 The project archive was prepared in accordance with the guidelines outlined in Appendix 3 of *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and in accordance with the *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage* (Walker 1990). The project archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology under the project code **86781**.

- 7.1.2 Currently there are no stores in Devon able to accept archives for deposition therefore the ultimate repository will be decided in due course by Devon County Council and the LPA with reference to the consultant. An archive reference number **RAMM:12/94** has been obtained from the Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery, Exeter which will be referenced throughout the project archive.

- 7.1.3 An OASIS online record (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis/>) will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators Forms. All appropriate parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the AHBR. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included with the archive).

7.2 Copyright

- 7.2.1 This report may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g. Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which we are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferrable by Wessex Archaeology. You are reminded that you remain bound by the conditions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

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APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES

bgl = below ground level

TRENCH 1		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 26.3x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.56m	Ground level: 140.46-141.53m aOD
Easting: 267875		Northing: 101077	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
101	<i>Topsoil</i> Modern ploughsoil. Dark red-brown sandy clay. 2% stone, sub-angular, <1-5cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 102.	0.00-0.23 bgl	
102	<i>Subsoil</i> Modern subsoil. Dark red-brown sandy clay. 5% stone, angular, <1-5cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Some bioturbation. Overlies 103.	0.23-0.42 bgl	
103	<i>Natural</i> Natural geology. Mid brown-red sandy clay (degraded mudstone). 10% stone, angular, <1-4cm. Compact. Homogeneous.	0.42+ bgl	
104	<i>Ditch</i> South-west - north-east aligned ditch filled with 105. Straight, moderate sides, concave base. 0.82m wide. Cuts 103.	0.32 deep	
105	<i>Secondary fill</i> Fill of ditch 104. Dark brown-red sandy silt loam. 10% stone, angular, <1-3cm. Homogeneous. Fairly compact. Overlies 104.	0.32 deep	

TRENCH 2		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 26.5x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.60m	Ground level: 139.53-140.17m aOD
Easting: 267902		Northing: 101070	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
201	<i>Topsoil</i> Modern ploughsoil. Dark red-brown sandy clay. 2% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 202.	0.00-0.25 bgl	
202	<i>Subsoil</i> Modern subsoil. Dark red-brown sandy clay. 5% stone, angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Some bioturbation. Overlies 203.	0.25-0.35+ bgl	
203	<i>Natural</i> Natural geology. Mid brown-red sandy clay (degraded mudstone). 10% stone, angular, <1-3cm. Compact. Homogeneous.	0.35+ bgl	

TRENCH 3		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 25.7x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.35m	Ground level: 138.0-138.77m aOD
Easting: 268047		Northing: 101171	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
301	<i>Topsoil</i> Modern ploughsoil. Dark red-brown sandy clay. 2% stone, sub-angular, <1-3cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 302.	0.00-0.32 bgl	
302	<i>Subsoil</i> Modern subsoil. Dark red-brown sandy clay. 5% stone, angular, <1-5cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Some bioturbation. Overlies 307.	0.32-0.41 bgl	
303	<i>Ditch</i> South-west - north-east aligned ditch filled with 304. Straight, moderate sides, concave base. 0.52m wide. Cuts 306.	0.46 deep	
304	<i>Secondary fill</i> Fill of ditch 303. Mid brown-red sandy clay. 5% stone, angular, <1-3cm. Homogeneous. Fairly compact. Overlies 303.	0.46 deep	
305	<i>Feature</i> Possible plough headland. South-west - north-east aligned filled with 306. Moderate, convex sides, flat base. 1.8m+ wide. Cuts 307.	0.16 deep	
306	<i>Secondary fill</i> Fill of 305. Pale red-orange sandy clay. 1% stone, angular, <1cm. Homogenous. Fairly compact. Overlies 305.	0.16 deep	
307	<i>Natural</i> Natural geology. Mid brown-red sandy clay (degraded mudstone). 2% stone, angular, <1-2cm. Compact. Homogeneous.	0.41+ bgl	

TRENCH 4			Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 25.20x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.46m	Ground level: 131.74-133.19m aOD	
Easting: 268187		Northing: 101045		
Context	Description			Depth (m)
401	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark red-brown sandy clay. 5% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 402.		0.00-0.37 bgl
402	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid brown-red sandy clay (degraded mudstone). 15% stone, angular, <1-4cm. Compact. Homogeneous.		0.37+ bgl

TRENCH 5			Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 23.0x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.55m	Ground level: 137.58-139.75m aOD	
Easting: 268268		Northing: 100842		
Context	Description			Depth (m)
501	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern topsoil. Mid red-brown sandy clay. 2% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 502. Under grass.		0.00-0.19 bgl
502	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Dark red-brown sandy clay. 5% stone, angular, <1-5cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Some bioturbation. Overlies 503.		0.19-0.43 bgl
503	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid red-yellow sandy clay. 2% stone, angular, <1-4cm. Compact. Homogeneous.		0.43+ bgl

TRENCH 6			Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 26.8x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.43m	Ground level: 143.06-143.42m aOD	
Easting: 268439		Northing: 100711		
Context	Description			Depth (m)
601	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark red-brown sandy clay. 10% stone, sub-angular, <1-5cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 602.		0.00-0.35 bgl
602	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid grey-yellow sandy clay. 5% stone, angular, <1-4cm. Compact. Homogeneous.		0.33+ bgl

TRENCH 7			Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 25.5x2.6m		Max. depth: 0.33m	Ground level: 137.39-138.79m aOD	
Easting: 268533		Northing: 100500		
Context	Description			Depth (m)
701	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay loam. 2% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 702.		0.00-0.28 bgl
702	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.		0.28-0.33 bgl
703	<i>Ditch</i>	North-west -south-east aligned ditch filled with 704. Straight, moderate sides, concave base. 0.90m wide. Cuts 702.		0.28 deep
704	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 703. Mid grey silty clay loam. 1% stone, angular, <1-3cm. Sparse mottles of re-deposited natural. Fairly compact. Overlies 703.		0.28 deep

TRENCH 8		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 24.20x1.9m	Max. depth: 0.29m	Ground level:	141.00-142.06m aOD
Easting: 268552		Northing: 100379	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
801	<i>Topsoil</i> Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 2% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 802.	0.00-0.16 bgl	
802	<i>Layer</i> Pale blue-grey silty clay. Discontinuous layer, deposited into a number of ephemeral dips and hollows. Thought to represent natural features or disturbance.	0.16-0.24 bgl	
803	<i>Natural</i> Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.	0.24+ bgl	

TRENCH 9		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 25.5x1.9m	Max. depth: 0.45m	Ground level:	143.41-144.23m aOD
Easting: 268629		Northing: 100261	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
901	<i>Topsoil</i> Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 902.	0.00-0.15 bgl	
902	<i>Subsoil</i> Modern subsoil. Pale yellow-brown silty clay loam. 5% stone, angular, <1-3cm. Fairly homogeneous. Compact. Some bioturbation. Overlies 903.	0.15-0.30 bgl	
903	<i>Natural</i> Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.	0.30+ bgl	
904	<i>Natural Feature</i> Tree-throw filled with 905. Sub-oval. Moderate, concave sides, concave base. 1.5 diameter. Cuts 903.	0.30 deep	
905	<i>Secondary fill</i> Fill of tree-throw 904. Mid brown to yellow-grey sandy clay. 5% stone, angular, <1-5cm. Mixed deposit. Overlies 904.	0.30 deep	

TRENCH 10		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 25.6x1.9m	Max. depth: 0.34m	Ground level:	144.69-146.01m aOD
Easting: 268563		Northing: 100229	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1001	<i>Topsoil</i> Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 1002.	0.00-0.30 bgl	
1002	<i>Natural</i> Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.	0.30+ bgl	

TRENCH 11		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 25.0x1.9m	Max. depth: 0.23m	Ground level:	150.08-150.49m aOD
Easting: 268407		Northing: 100273	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1101	<i>Topsoil</i> Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-2cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 1102.	0.00-0.19 bgl	

1102	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.	0.19+ bgl
1103	<i>Ditch</i>	North-north-west - south-south-east aligned ditch, possibly curvilinear. Filled with 1104, 1105 and 1118. Straight, moderate sides, concave base. 0.82m wide. Cuts 1102.	0.22 deep
1104	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 1103. Mid yellow-grey silty clay. 2% stone, angular, <1-3cm. Slightly mixed. Some bioturbation. Overlies 1105.	0.08 deep
1105	<i>Primary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 1103. Dark brown-grey silty clay. 5% stone, angular, <1-3cm. Occasional manganese flecks. Slightly mixed. Overlies 1103.	0.05 deep
1106	<i>Posthole</i>	Sub-circular posthole filled with 1107. Straight, vertical sides, concave base. 0.24m diameter. Cuts 1102.	0.11 deep
1107	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of 1106. Pale grey silty clay. 2% stone, angular, <1cm, 8cm+. Evidence of stone post-packing. Slightly mixed, occasional mid orange flecks. Fairly compact. Overlies 1106.	0.11 deep
1108	<i>Posthole</i>	Sub-circular posthole filled with 1109. Straight, vertical sides, concave base. 0.25m diameter. Cuts 1102.	0.12 deep
1109	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of 1106, possible deliberate backfill. Dark grey-brown silty clay. 2% stone, angular, <1cm. Frequent charcoal flecks. Fairly homogeneous. Fairly compact. Overlies 1108. Environmental sample 2.	0.12 deep
1110	<i>Pit</i>	Possible hearth though no traces of intense in-situ burning. Circular, filled with 1111, 1119 and 1120. Convex, undercut sides, flat base. 0.54m diameter. Cuts 1102.	0.17 deep
1111	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Possible deliberate backfill. Fill of 1110. Mid red-brown silty clay. Occasional charcoal flecks. Fairly homogenous. Fairly compact. Overlies 1120. Environmental sample 1.	0.02 deep
1112	<i>Posthole</i>	Sub-circular posthole filled with 1113. Moderate, concave sides, concave base. 0.34m diameter. Cuts 1102.	0.18 deep
1113	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of 1112. Pale brown-grey silty clay. 2% stone, angular, <1cm, 6cm+. Evidence of stone post-packing. Sparse charcoal flecks. Fairly compact. Overlies 1112.	0.18 deep
1114	<i>Posthole</i>	Sub-circular posthole filled with 1115. Straight, steep sides, flat base. 0.34m diameter. Cuts 1102.	0.07 deep
1115	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of 1114. Mid grey silty clay. 2% stone, angular, <1cm, 6cm+. Evidence of stone post-packing. Fairly compact. Overlies 1114.	0.07 deep
1116	<i>Posthole</i>	Sub-circular posthole filled with 1117. Straight, slightly convex sides, flat base. 0.36m diameter. Cuts 1102.	0.17 deep
1117	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of 1116. Dark grey silty clay. 2% stone, angular, <1cm, 8cm+. Evidence of stone post-packing. Slightly mixed, occasional mid orange flecks. Fairly compact. Overlies 1116.	0.17 deep
1118	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 1103. Pale yellow-grey sandy clay loam. 2% stone, angular, <1-3cm. Slightly mixed. Some bioturbation. Overlies 1104.	0.09 deep
1119	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of 1110, possible deliberate backfill. Mid red-brown sandy clay loam. 2% stone, angular, <1cm. Occasional charcoal flecks. Fairly homogeneous. Fairly compact. Overlies 1110.	0.17 deep
1120	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of 1110, possible deliberate backfill. Pale sandy clay loam. 1% stone, angular, <1cm. Homogeneous. Fairly compact. Overlies 1119.	0.06 deep

TRENCH 12		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 25.8x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.28m	Ground level: 153.55-154.21m aOD
Easting: 268278		Northing: 100285	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1201	<i>Topsoil</i> Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 1202.	0.00-0.20 bgl	

1202	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.	0.20+ bgl
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TRENCH 13			Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 25.5x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.34m	Ground level: 149.41-151.33m aOD	
Easting: 268260		Northing: 100208		
Context	Description			Depth (m)
1301	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-3cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 1202.		0.00-0.28 bgl
1302	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.		0.28+ bgl
1303	<i>Ditch</i>	North-east - south-west aligned ditch, filled with 1304. Shallow, concave sides, flat base. 0.66m wide. Cuts 1302.		0.14 deep
1304	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 1303. Dark brown silty clay. No visible inclusions, slightly humic. Homogeneous. Fairly compact. Overlies 1303.		0.14 deep
1305	<i>Ditch</i>	North-east - south-west aligned ditch, filled with 1306. Shallow, concave sides, flat base. 0.56m wide. Cuts 1302.		0.22 deep
1306	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 1305. Dark brown silty clay. No visible inclusions, slightly humic. Homogeneous. Fairly compact. Overlies 1305.		0.22 deep
1307	<i>Natural Feature</i>	Irregular feature, likely tree-throw. Filled with 1308. Cuts 1302.		0.06 deep
1308	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of 1307. Mid red-brown silty clay. <1% stone, sub-angular, <1cm. Slightly mixed. Overlies 1307.		0.06 deep

TRENCH 14			Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 23.5x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.38m	Ground level: 142.43-144.88m aOD	
Easting: 268265		Northing: 100131		
Context	Description			Depth (m)
1401	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-2cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies		0.00-0.30 bgl
1402	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.		0.30+ bgl
1403	<i>Ditch</i>	East - west aligned ditch, filled with 1404. Shallow, concave sides, flat base. 0.90m wide. Cuts 1402.		0.20 deep
1404	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 1403. Mid grey silty clay. 1% stone, angular, <1cm. Occasional manganese flecks. Homogeneous. Fairly compact. Overlies 1403.		0.20 deep
1405	<i>Ditch</i>	North-east - south-west aligned ditch, filled with 1406. Shallow, concave sides, flat base. 0.70m wide. Cuts 1402.		0.25 deep
1406	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 1405. Dark brown silty clay. 1% stone, angular, <1cm. Slightly humic. Homogeneous. Fairly compact. Overlies 1405.		0.25 deep

TRENCH 15			Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 25.8x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.35m	Ground level: 133.94-134.67m aOD	
Easting: 269017		Northing: 100314		
Context	Description			Depth (m)
1501	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 1502.		0.00-0.27 bgl

1502	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.	0.27+ bgl
1503	<i>Ditch</i>	North-north-east - south-south-west aligned ditch, filled with 1504. Shallow, straight sides, irregular base. 1.34m wide. Cuts 1502.	0.20 deep
1504	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 1503. Dark grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, angular, <1-3cm. Homogeneous. Fairly compact. Overlies 1503.	0.20 deep
1505	<i>Feature</i>	North-north-east - south-south-west aligned feature, filled with 1506, only partially seen in plan - either ditch terminus or sub-oval feature. Shallow, straight sides, flat base. 1.4m wide. Cuts 1502.	0.20 deep
1506	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of feature 1505. Dark grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, angular, <1-3cm. Homogeneous. Fairly compact. Overlies 1505.	0.20 deep

TRENCH 16		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 24.6x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.65m	Ground level: 132.16-132.66m aOD
Easting: 269081		Northing: 100296	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
1601	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 1602.	0.00-0.30 bgl
1602	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.	0.30+ bgl
1603	<i>Natural Feature</i>	Large wide feature, north-east - south-west aligned. Probable pond or boggy area. Shallow, irregular sides, very slightly concave base. 6.8m wide. Cuts 1602.	0.30 deep
1604	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of 1603. Mid brown silty clay. Humic within upper part of deposit, gleyed blue-grey at base. Homogeneous. Compact. Some bioturbation. Overlies 1603.	0.30 deep

TRENCH 17		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 25.7x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.36m	Ground level: 127.44-128.13m aOD
Easting: 268998		Northing: 100184	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
1701	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 1702.	0.00-0.30 bgl
1702	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.	0.30+ bgl
1703	<i>Ditch</i>	North-south aligned ditch, filled with 1704. Shallow, concave sides, flat base. 0.73m wide. Cuts 1706.	0.10 deep
1704	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 1703. Pale grey silty clay. <1% stone, sub-angular, <1cm. Sparse manganese flecks. Fairly homogeneous. Fairly compact. Overlies 1703.	0.10 deep
1705	<i>Ditch</i>	North-south aligned ditch, filled with 1706. Shallow, irregular sides, flat base. 0.55m wide. Cuts 1702.	0.10 deep
1706	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 1705. Pale grey silty clay. <1% stone, sub-angular, <1cm. Sparse manganese flecks. Fairly homogeneous. Fairly compact. Overlies 1705.	0.10 deep

TRENCH 18			Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 24.50x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.36m	Ground level: 124.70-125.18m aOD	
Easting: 268998		Northing: 100114		
Context	Description			Depth (m)
1801	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-3cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 1802.		0.00-0.30 bgl
1802	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.		0.30+ bgl
1803	<i>Natural Feature</i>	Sub-oval feature filled with 1804. Straight. Steep sides, flat base. 0.3m diameter. Cuts 1802.		0.12 deep
1804	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of 1803. Mid yellow-grey clay. Frequent manganese flecks. Compact. Overlies 1803.		0.12 deep
1805	<i>Layer</i>	Mid brown silty clay. 5% degraded red stone. Compact. Fairly homogeneous. Either area of bioturbation or response to a localised change in the natural.		0.13 deep

TRENCH 19			Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 24.4x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.50m	Ground level: 129.48-131.36m aOD	
Easting: 269082		Northing: 100001		
Context	Description			Depth (m)
1901	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 2% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 1902.		0.00-0.27 bgl
1902	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.		0.27+ bgl
1903	<i>Ditch</i>	North-north-west - south-south-east aligned ditch, filled with 1904. Not fully excavated. Moderate, concave sides. 2.10m wide. Contained modern roots. Cuts 1902.		0.30+ deep
1904	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 1903. Dark grey-brown silty clay. Humic, slightly gleyed. Fairly compact. Bioturbated. Overlies 1903.		0.30+ deep

TRENCH 20			Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 25.5x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.40m	Ground level: 123.53-123.78m aOD	
Easting: 269542		Northing: 100405		
Context	Description			Depth (m)
2001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern topsoil. Dark brown silty clay. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 2002.		0.00-0.20 bgl
2002	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Dark grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-2cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 2003.		0.20-0.28 bgl
2003	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.		0.28+ bgl
2004	<i>Ditch</i>	South-west - north-east aligned ditch filled with 2005. shallow, concave sides, concave base. 0.76m wide. Cuts 2003.		0.25 deep
2005	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 2004. Mid grey-brown silty clay loam. <1% stone, sub-angular, <1cm. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact. Overlies 2004.		0.25 deep
2006	<i>Ditch</i>	South-west - north-east aligned ditch filled with 2007. Shallow,		0.26

		concave sides, concave base. 0.95m wide. Cuts 2003.	deep
2007	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 2006. Mid grey-brown silty clay loam. <1% stone, sub-angular, <1cm. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact. Overlies 2006.	0.26 deep

TRENCH 21		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 25.7x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.28m	Ground level: 132.94-133.0m aOD
Easting: 268563		Northing: 99946	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
2101	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 2102.	0.00-0.26 bgl
2102	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.	0.26+ bgl

TRENCH 22		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 25.4x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.34m	Ground level: 154.81-156.30m aOD
Easting: 268546		Northing: 99676	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
2201	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. <1% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 2202.	0.00-0.32 bgl
2202	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.	0.30+ bgl

TRENCH 23		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 24.7x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.29m	Ground level: 153.56-154.66m aOD
Easting: 268665		Northing: 99690	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
2301	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-2cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 2302.	0.00-0.25 bgl
2302	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.	0.24+ bgl

TRENCH 24		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 23.0x1.9m		Max. depth: 0.40m	Ground level: 148.59-149.49m aOD
Easting: 268700		Northing: 99750	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
2401	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 2402.	0.00-0.27 bgl
2402	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.	0.27+ bgl
2403	<i>Ditch</i>	North-north-east - south-south-west aligned ditch, filled with 2404. Shallow, concave sides, concave base. 1.64m wide. Cuts 2402.	0.25 deep
2404	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 2403. Mixed mid yellow-grey clay. <1% stone, angular, <1cm. Some bioturbation. Fairly compact. Overlies 2403.	0.25 deep

2405	<i>Ditch</i>	North-north-east - south-south-west aligned ditch, filled with 2406. Shallow, concave sides, concave base. 1.76m wide. Cuts 2402.	0.40 deep
2406	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 2405. Mixed mid yellow-grey clay. <1% stone, angular, <1cm. Some bioturbation. Fairly compact. Overlies 2405.	0.40 deep

AREA 25		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 29.75x7.0m		Max. depth: 0.30m	Ground level: 150.87-153.07m aOD
Easting: 268684		Northing: 99720	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
2501	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 2502.	0.00-0.24 bgl
2502	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.	0.24+ bgl
2503	<i>Wheel-rut</i>	West-north-west - east-south-east aligned wheel rut filled with 2504 and 2505. Concave, moderate sides, concave base. 0.4m wide. Cuts 2510.	0.13 deep
2504	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Compacted material at base of rut 2503. Dark grey-brown silty clay. 25% stone, angular, <1-8cm. Compact. Fairly homogeneous. Overlies 2503.	0.13 deep
2505	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of rut 2503. Dark grey-brown silty clay. <1% stone, angular, <1cm. Fairly homogeneous. Compact. Overlies 2504.	0.09 deep
2506	<i>Wheel-rut</i>	West-north-west - east-south-east aligned wheel rut filled with 2507. Concave, moderate sides, concave base. 0.32m wide. Cuts 2510.	0.13 deep
2507	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of rut 2506. Dark grey-brown silty clay. <1% stone, angular, <1cm. Fairly homogeneous. Compact. Overlies 2506.	0.13 deep
2508	<i>Ditch</i>	West-north-west - east-south-east aligned ditch filled with 2509. Concave, moderate sides, concave base. 0.9m wide. Cuts 2502 though fill abuts 2510.	0.30 deep
2509	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 2508. Mid to pale red sandy clay. 1% stone, angular, <1-2cm. Homogeneous. Compact. Overlies 2508.	0.30 deep
2510	<i>Deposit</i>	Road make-up. 60% stone, angular, <1-12cm within mid grey-brown silty clay matrix. Compact. Overlies 2510.	0.10 deep
2511	<i>Deposit</i>	Base layer for road. Pale grey silty clay. <1% stone, angular, <1-2cm. Fairly homogeneous. Compact. Overlies 2512.	0.13 deep
2512	<i>Road</i>	Cut for road west- north-west - east-south-east aligned. Shallow, straight sides, flat base. 7m+ wide. Cuts 2502.	0.25 deep
2513	<i>Ditch</i>	West-north-west - east-south-east aligned ditch filled with 2514. Straight, moderate sides, concave base. 0.75m wide. Cuts 2502.	0.20 deep
2514	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 2513. Dark grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, angular, <1-2cm. Some paler mottling. Compact. Overlies 2513.	0.20 deep
2515	<i>Ditch</i>	Modern field boundary ditch, still extant beyond this crossing point. East - west aligned, filled with 2516. Straight, moderate sides, concave base. 1.6m wide. Cuts 2502.	0.44 deep
2516	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Fill of ditch 2515. Dark grey-brown silty clay. Slightly humic, slightly gleyed. No visible inclusions. Some bioturbation. Fairly compact. Overlies 2515.	0.44 deep
2517	<i>Layer</i>	Southern hedgerow/bank deposit. Dark grey sandy clay. Fairly homogeneous. Compact. Bioturbated. Overlies 2510.	0.14 deep
2518	<i>Layer</i>	Southern hedgerow/bank deposit. Buried topsoil. Dark grey-brown silty clay loam. <1% stone, angular, <1-2cm. Bioturbated. Fairly homogeneous. Fairly compact. Overlies 2517.	0.30 deep
2519	<i>Layer</i>	Southern hedgerow/bank deposit. Re-deposited natural. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale grey mottling. Bioturbated. Slightly mixed.	0.30 deep

		Fairly compact. Overlies 2518.	
2520	<i>Layer</i>	Northern hedgerow/bank deposit. Mid red-grey sandy silt loam. No visible inclusions. Homogeneous. Compact. Overlies 2502.	0.07 deep
2521	<i>Layer</i>	Northern hedgerow/bank deposit. Buried topsoil. Dark grey-brown silty clay loam. <1% stone, angular, <1-2cm. Bioturbated. Fairly homogeneous. Fairly compact. Overlies 2520.	0.22 deep
2522	<i>Layer</i>	Northern hedgerow/bank deposit. Re-deposited natural. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale grey mottling. Bioturbated. Slightly mixed. Fairly compact. Overlies 2521.	0.80 deep
2523	Modern Feature	East - west aligned linear thought to be modern, not fully excavated. Straight, near vertical sides. 2.34m wide. Cuts 2502.	1.00+ deep
2524	<i>Deliberate backfill</i>	Fill of 2523. Mixed mid yellow clay. With mid grey-brown mottles/patches. <1% stone, angular, <1cm. Fairly loose. Not fully excavated.	1.00+ deep

TRENCH 26		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 10.0x3.3m		Max. depth: 0.45m	Ground level: 150.24-150.83m aOD
Easting: 268409		Northing: 100281	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
2601	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Fairly compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Overlies 2602.	0.00-0.25 bgl
2602	<i>Layer</i>	Pale grey clay with frequent iron and manganese concretions. Homogeneous. Fairly compact. Water deposited, roughly linear north-south spread.	0.25-0.36 bgl
2603	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow clay with diffuse pale yellow-grey mottling. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact. Some bioturbation.	0.30+ bgl

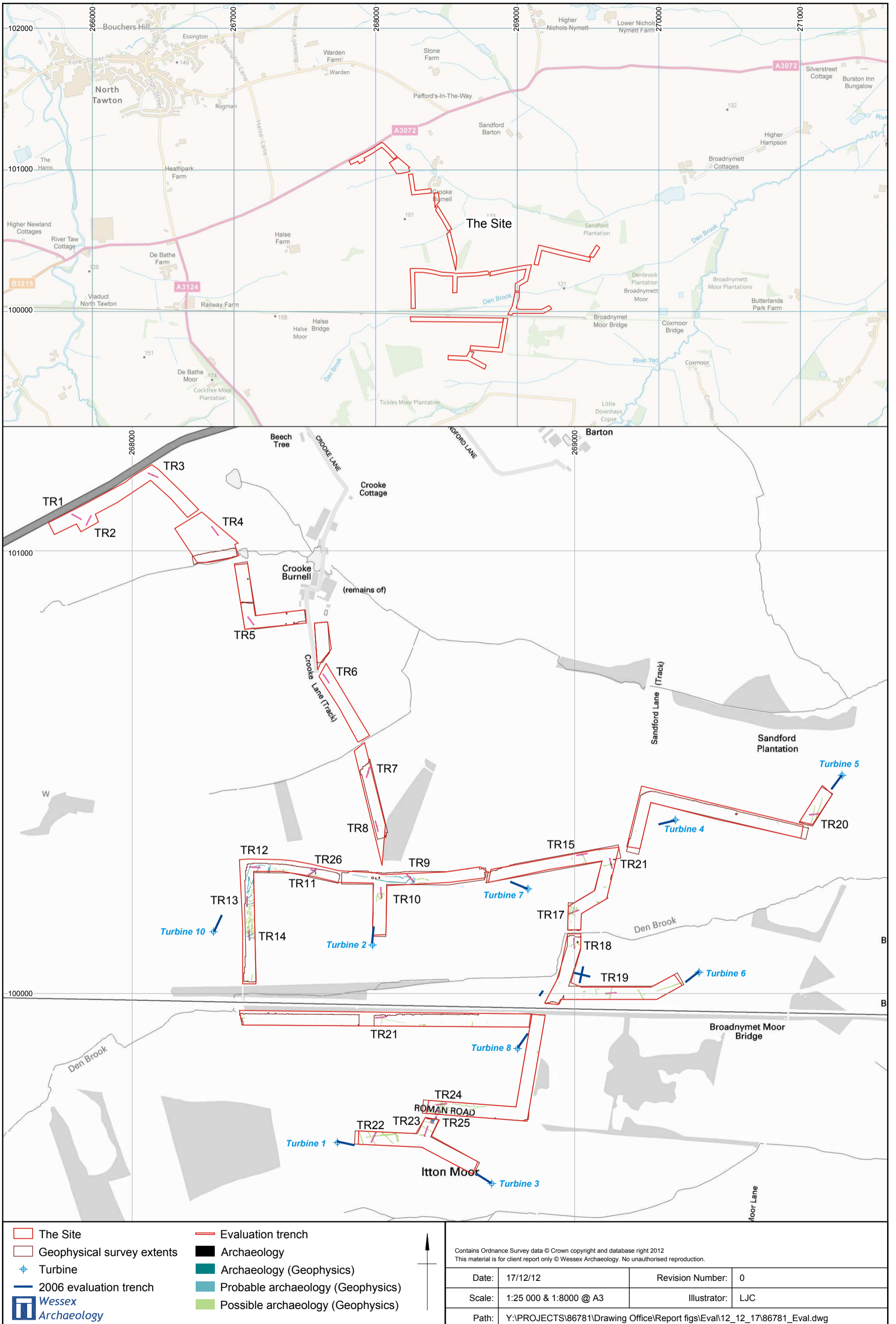
APPENDIX 2: FINDS AND PALEOENVIRONMENTAL TABLES
Table 1: All finds by context (number/weight in grammes)

Context	Stone	Pottery	Flint
304			1/1
1101	1/292	1/8	1/11
1406			1/3
Unstrat	1/460		1/12
TOTAL	2/752	1/8	4/27

Table 2: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

<i>Samples</i>				<i>Flot</i>							
Feature	Context	Sam ple	Vol. Ltrs	Flot (ml)	% roots	Charred Plant Remains				Charcoal >4/2mm	Other
						Grain	Chaff	Other	Comments		
Trench 11											
Pit											
1110	1111	1	10	300	15	C	-	-	Wheat (?hulled) grain frags	80/70 ml	-
Posthole											
1108	1109	2	2	40	15	-	-	-	-	7/3 ml	-

Key: A*** = exceptional, A** = 100+, A* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5;



Location of Site and evaluation trenches

Figure 1

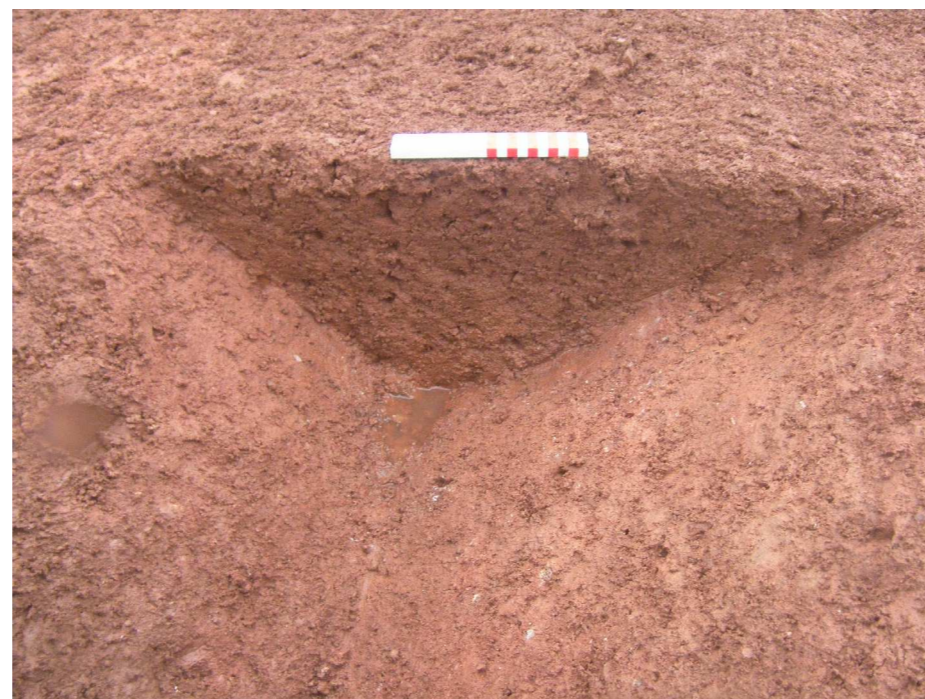
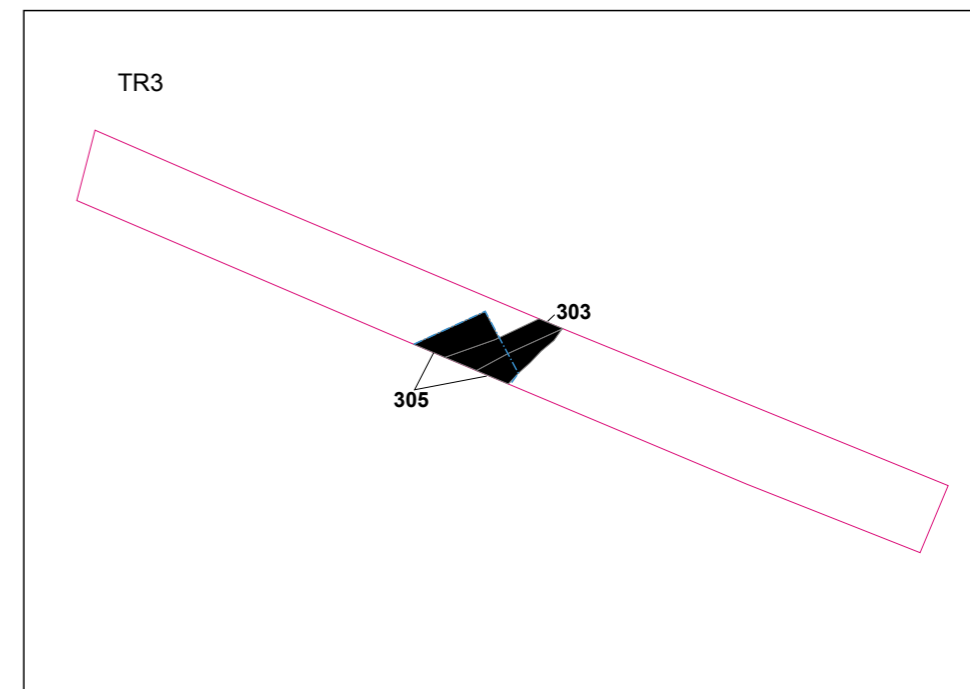
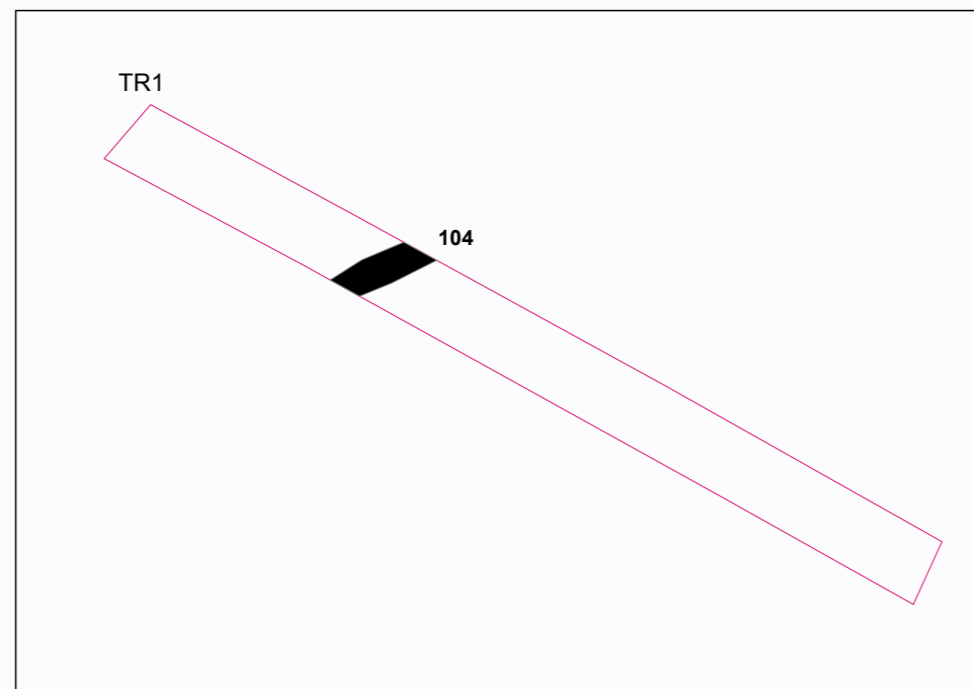
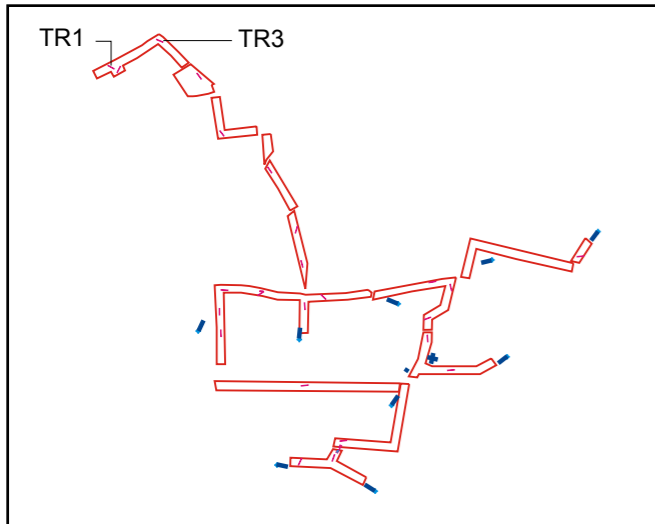


Plate 1: North-east facing section of ditch 104



Plate 2: North-east facing section of ditch 303 and possible plough headland 305

- The Site
- Geophysical survey extents
- ⊕ Turbine
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeology
- Archaeology (Geophysics)
- Probable archaeology (Geophysics)
- Possible archaeology (Geophysics)



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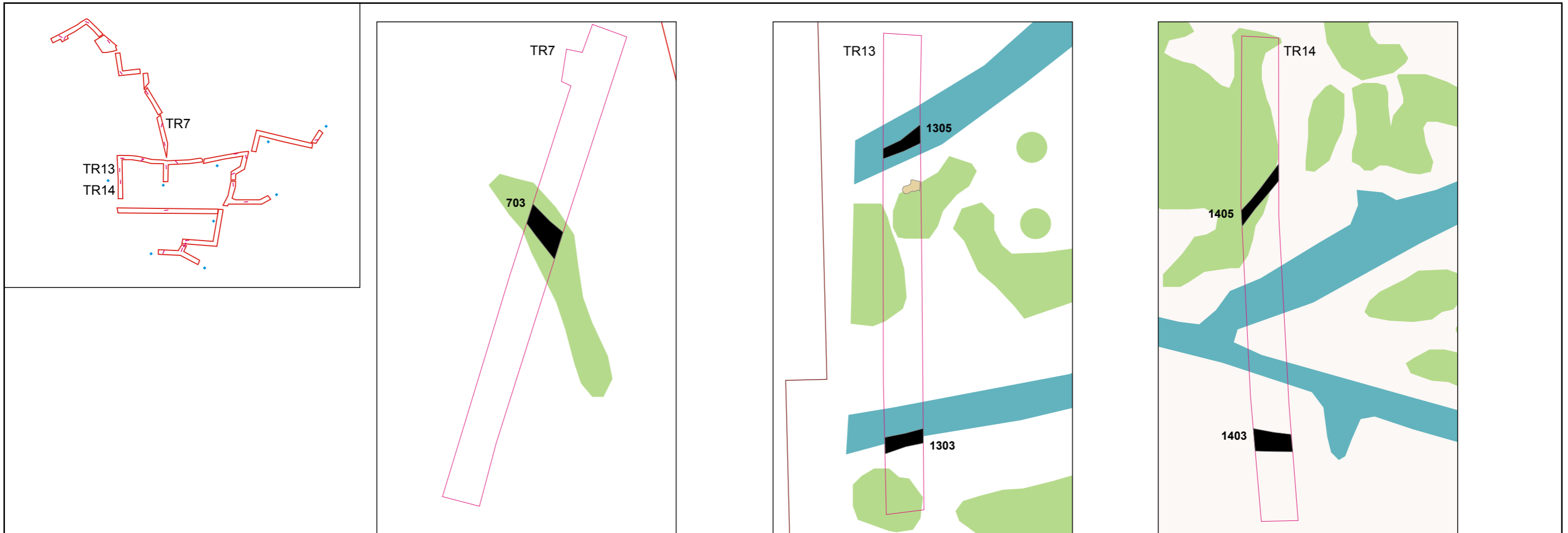


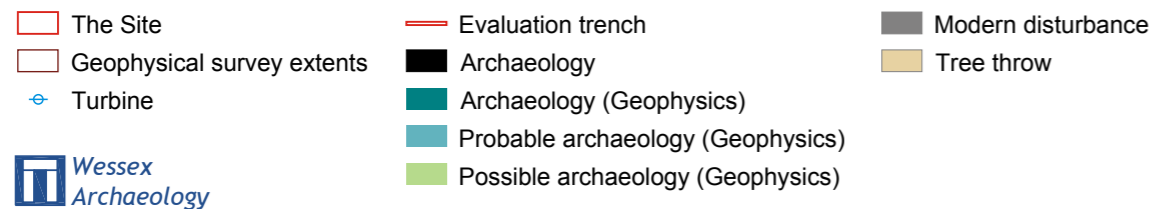
Plate 3: South-west facing section of ditch **1305**



Plate 4: South-west facing section of ditch **1405**



Plate 5: West facing section of ditch **1403**



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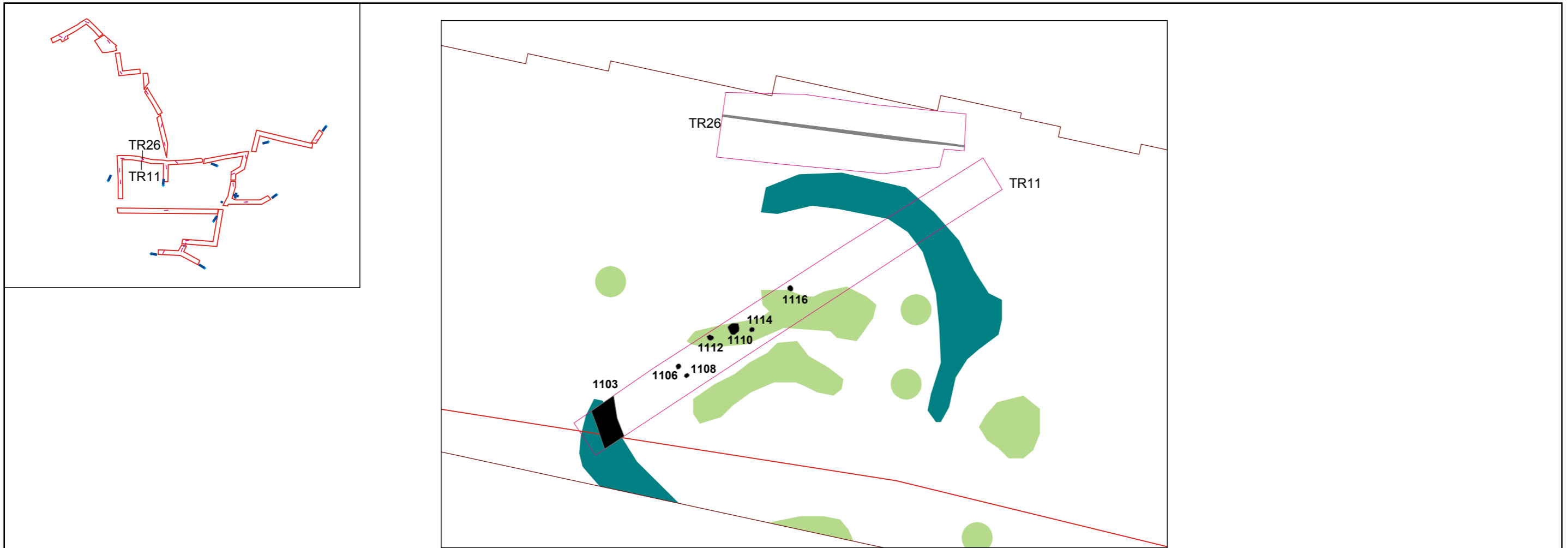


Plate 6: South-east facing section of ditch 1103



Plate 7: Postholes 1106 and 1108, view from south-east



Plate 8: South-east facing section through pit 1110

- The Site
- Geophysical survey extents
- ⊕ Turbine
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeology
- Archaeology (Geophysics)
- Probable archaeology (Geophysics)
- Possible archaeology (Geophysics)
- Modern disturbance
- Tree throw



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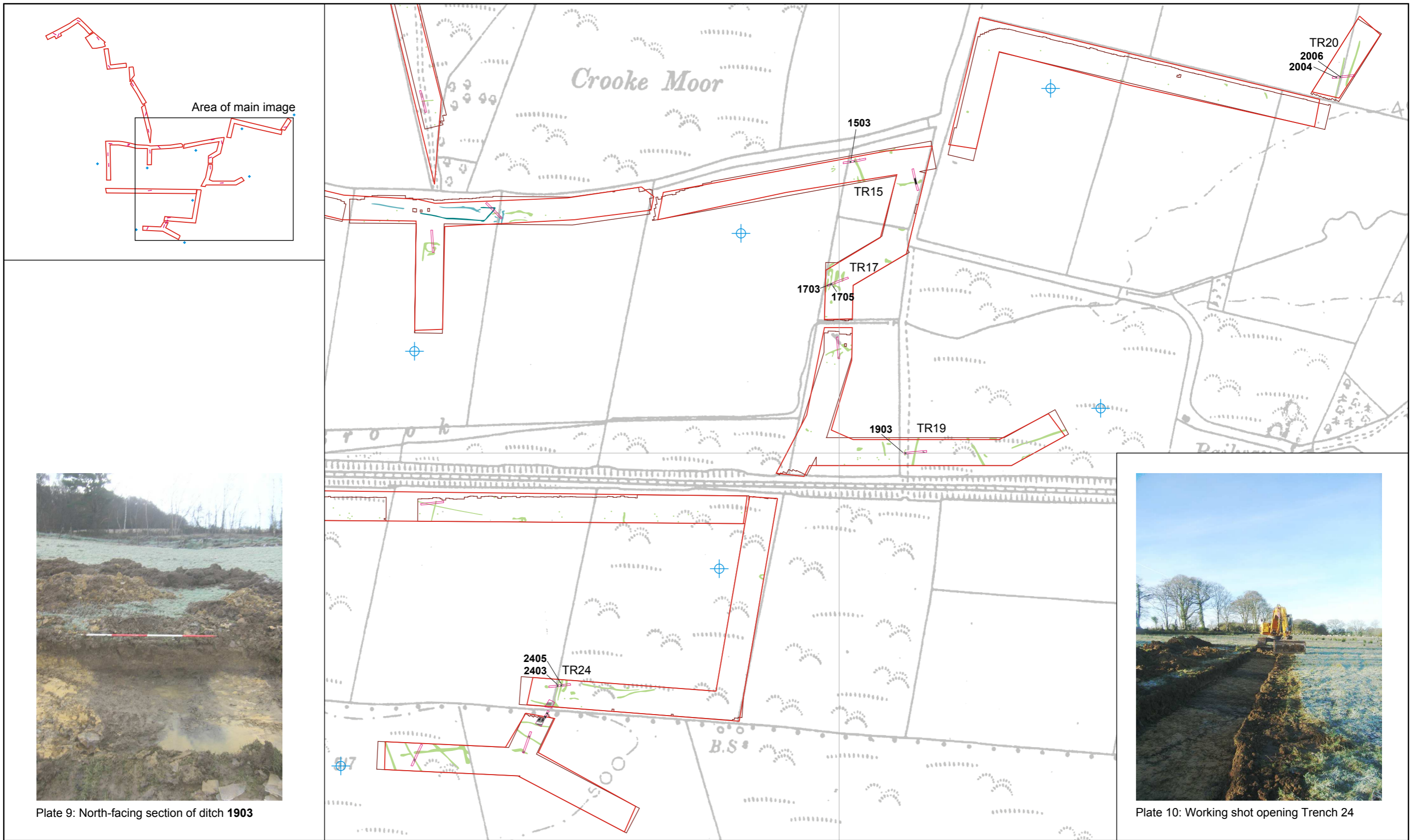


Plate 9: North-facing section of ditch 1903

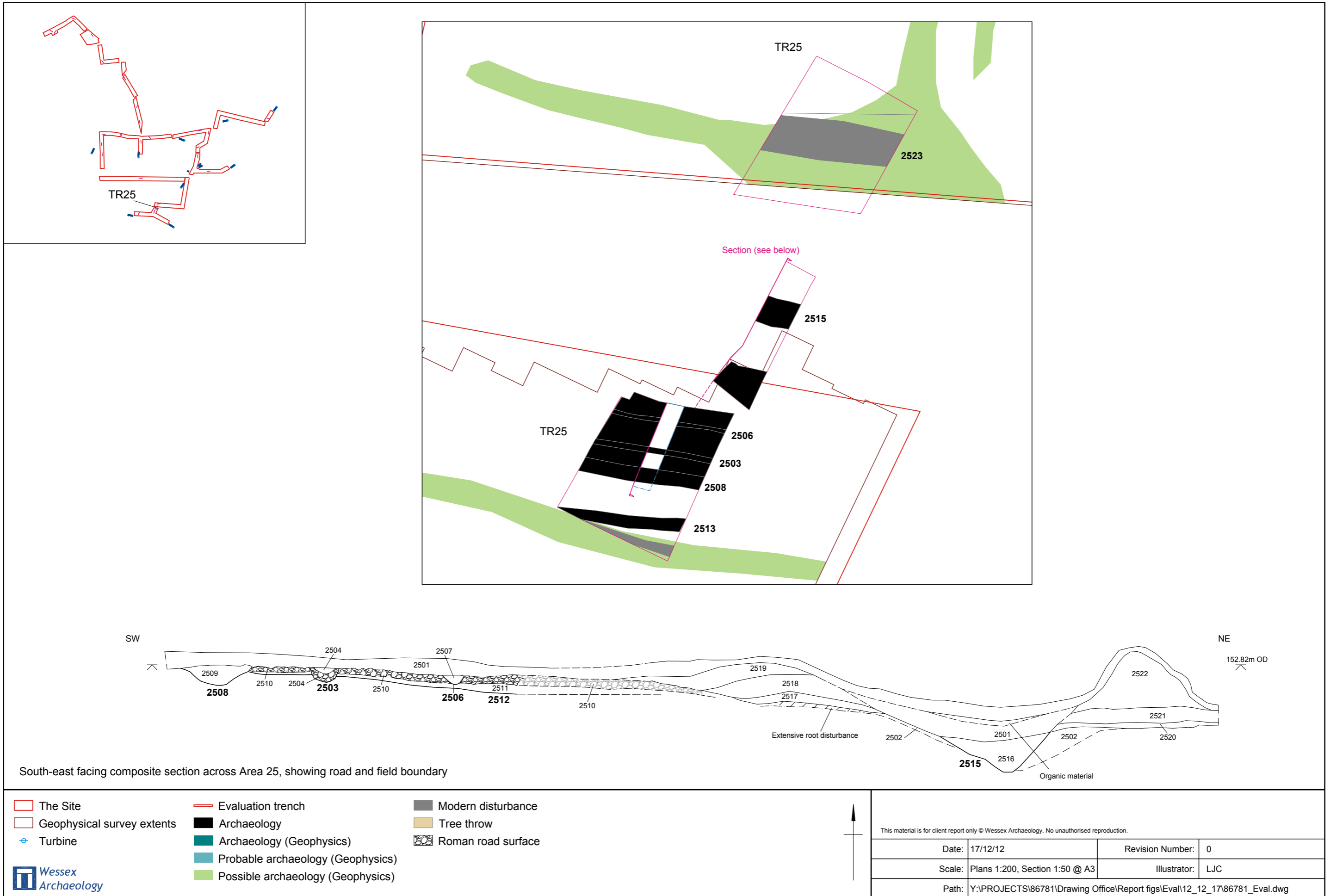
Plate 10: Working shot opening Trench 24

- The Site
- Geophysical survey extents
- ⊕ Turbine
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeology
- Archaeology (Geophysics)
- Probable archaeology (Geophysics)
- Possible archaeology (Geophysics)
- Modern disturbance
- Tree throw



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South-east facing composite section across Area 25, showing road and field boundary

- The Site
- Geophysical survey extents
- ⊕ Turbine
- Archaeology
- Archaeology (Geophysics)
- Probable archaeology (Geophysics)
- Possible archaeology (Geophysics)
- Modern disturbance
- Tree throw
- Roman road surface



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Plate 11: North-west facing section of wheel ruts **2503** and **2506**, road **2512** and ditch **2508**



Plate 12: South-east facing section through field boundary

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