

## Land At Beach Road, Cottenham, Cambridgeshire

### Archaeological Evaluation Report





**LAND AT BEACH ROAD, COTTENHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

**Archaeological Evaluation Report**

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## LAND AT BEACH ROAD, COTTENHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

### Archaeological Evaluation Report

#### Summary

Wessex Archaeology were appointed by David Wilson Homes and Cedric John Abbs to undertake an Archaeological Evaluation on land at Beach Road, Cottenham, Cambridgeshire, hereafter the 'Site'. The Site was centred on approximate Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) 545662, 267430. Development proposals included the redevelopment of the Site with the construction of 50 new houses and associated infrastructure (see **Figure 1**).

The field evaluation was proposed to further inform the archaeological potential of the Site by quantifying the quality and extent of the archaeological resource. The results will help define the need for, and scope of, any further archaeological mitigation. The archaeological works programme related to an evaluation comprising the excavation of five 50m x 2.1m and eight 30m x 2.1m trenches.

A common stratigraphic sequence was recognised across the site comprising topsoil overlying subsoil and natural geology. Two distinct elements to the topsoil were recorded with an upper organic layer directly overlying a lower orchard soil. A clear horizon separated the underlying subsoil which appeared to be formed through a combination of bioturbation and the erosion of the upper natural geology. As a result trenches occasionally required overcutting in order to expose clean surfaces and archaeological features cut into them. Archaeological horizons have been shown to survive at a depth approximately 0.5m below the existing ground level, with eight of the 13 evaluation trenches indicating the presence of surviving archaeological features. A total of 21 potential archaeological features were encountered, including 20 ditches, two post holes and one pit. Unfortunately the lack of secure dateable finds make phasing features on site rather difficult as the early finds are likely to be residual and later post-medieval finds could easily be intrusive.

Truncation of archaeological horizons was evident only by the existence of field drains, root boles and animal burrows. Suggestions as to the definition of potential archaeological features have been offered.

**LAND AT BEACH ROAD, COTTENHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE****Archaeological Evaluation Report****Acknowledgements**

The project was commissioned by David Wilson Homes and Cedric John Abbs. Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Paul Horrigan (Engineering Manager) in this regard. The assistance of Dan McConnell, Archaeological Officer for Cambridge County Council, who monitored the fieldwork, is also appreciated.

The fieldwork was directed by David Britchfield with the assistance of Jo Condliffe and Brenton Culshaw. The report was prepared by Rob De'Athe and the illustrations by Ken Lymer. The finds were assessed by Lorraine Meopham. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Mark Williams.

## LAND AT BEACH ROAD, COTTENHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

### Archaeological Evaluation Report

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

##### 1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology had been appointed by David Wilson Homes and Cedric John Abbs to undertake an Archaeological Evaluation on land at Beach Road, Cottenham, Cambridgeshire, hereafter the Site. The Site was centred on approximate Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) 545662, 267430. Development proposals included the redevelopment of the Site with the construction of 50 new houses and associated infrastructure (see **Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 The archaeological works programme related to an evaluation comprising the excavation of five 50m x 2.1m and eight 30m x 2.1m trenches.
- 1.1.3 Prior to the commencement of work a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), which provided a Project Design for an archaeological evaluation, was compiled. It set out the programme of evaluation work to be carried out and the methods by which it was to be achieved, including reporting. It envisaged that the report on the results of the evaluation would be assessed in the context of the archaeological potential of the area of the Site.
- 1.1.4 The WSI had been prepared in accordance with relevant standards and guidance issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists, with which Wessex Archaeology is a Registered Archaeological Organisation.
- 1.1.5 The WSI set out the strategy and methodology by which Wessex Archaeology implemented the archaeological evaluation. In format and content it conformed with current best practice and to the guidance outlined in *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1999) and the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (as amended 1994).
- 1.1.6 The WSI was submitted to the Archaeological Advisor to the Local Planning Authority, for approval prior to the commencement of the archaeological programme.
- 1.1.7 The field evaluation was proposed to further inform the archaeological potential of the Site by quantifying the quality and extent of the archaeological resource. The results of the evaluation will inform the suitability of the area for development, and help define the need for, and scope of, any further archaeological mitigation.
- 1.1.8 The fieldwork was conducted from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2011.



## **1.2 Site Location, Topography and Geology**

- 1.2.1 The Site is located on the eastern side of Cottenham, Cambridgeshire (**Figure 1**). The Site was broadly rectangular in plan and bounded to the north by Calvin Close with residential properties beyond, to the south by Long Drove, to the east by Beach Road and to the west by further properties and associated open gardens with agricultural land beyond. The Site was occupied by grassland with dispersed trees and shrubs.
- 1.2.2 The Site lies at an average of 7.7m aOD; the underlying geology has been recorded as the Woburn Sands Formation. A high voltage cable was known to cross the western part of the Site on a north east / south west alignment and evaluation trenches were positioned to avoid this service.

## **2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

- 2.1.1 The archaeological background presented below has been taken from the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record. The site lies within an area of high archaeological potential. No Palaeolithic finds have been recorded in the immediate area however, the following brief description of later remains and finds illustrates the archaeological potential of the Site.

### **2.2 Mesolithic & Neolithic (8500 – 2400 BC)**

- 2.2.1 A large number of Mesolithic flints were recovered during archaeological investigations at Lordship Lane, Cottenham. Several Neolithic finds have been identified in the area including a polished axe, a polished knife and a bifacially flaked broken 'spear point'. A Mesolithic transept axe has been found just 200m to the north of the Site.

### **2.3 Bronze Age (2400 – 700 BC)**

- 2.3.1 A Bronze Age barrow was identified to the North East of Cottenham. Whilst foundations were being excavated at 69 Rook Street Cottenham in 1986 a crouched inhumation burial was discovered with the remains facing in a northerly direction, this lies approximately 500m to the north of the Site.
- 2.3.2 A Late Bronze Age site has been found in the vicinity of Cottenham on a gravel spur outcrop. This site was subject to further fieldwalking, test pitting and excavation in November 1992 - July 1993. A number of finds were recovered, and a number of features were found in the southwest corner of the site, comprising a ditch, a post built structure, a post medieval quarry and a series of intercutting wells with preserved organic remains, representing the remains of an important Later Bronze Age settlement of the fen edge.

### **2.4 Iron Age (700 BC – 43 AD)**

- 2.4.1 Pottery sherds dating to the Iron Age have been recovered from the Cottenham area probably associated with crop marks of Late Iron Age – Romano-British date modelling as enclosures and trackways. Iron Age pottery sherds and an inhumation along with an iron ingot have been recovered from the north east of Cottenham.

## **2.5 Roman (43 – 410 AD)**

- 2.5.1 Car Dyke located to the east of the village is an 85 mile long ditch which runs along the western edge of the Fens and is generally accepted to be Roman in origin. The dyke has been postulated as serving as a canal during the Roman period. The remains of a Roman road have been identified broadly following the course of the modern A10 roadway to the east of the village.
- 2.5.2 A Roman coin hoard comprising 5000 coins dating to the late 3rd century was recovered by metal detector survey in 1986. Most of the coins were radiate double denarii and were found within a pot. In addition, an enclosure system and possible settlement area was identified at North Fen Farm.
- 2.5.3 A total of 119 Roman coins. A miniature bronze axe and a bronze dagger along with Roman pottery possibly associated with a double ditched enclosure was recovered during gravel extraction near Cottenham. Further quarrying is recorded to have destroyed a Roman fen-edge settlement which comprised an enclosure system of which the principle crop mark was a double rectangular enclosure. This enclosure produced over 100 Roman coins mostly of 4th century date and a miniature 'votive' axe although pottery evidence was described as scarce.
- 2.5.4 A significant Romano-British settlement site has been identified at Bullock's Haste Common to the north of Cottenham comprising a complex of Roman dykes and field systems. This settlement is believed to have served as a major port and possibly an administration and religious centre during the Roman period. Further find spots of Roman pottery have been recorded in the areas surrounding Cottenham as have several archaeological features.

## **2.6 Saxon & medieval (410 – 1499 AD)**

- 2.6.1 In Denmark Road, Cottenham an archaeological evaluation comprising twenty-two trenches undertaken in 1996-1997 revealed a variety of pits, ditches and gullies most of which could be dated to the medieval period. An enclosure ditch and the foundations of a timber structure were also identified along with boundary ditches and evidence for rubbish disposal. The remains may be associated with a medieval manor house known from documentary sources. More medieval pits were recorded near the street front on Grave's land as well as a small oven and a further timber structure both of which remain undated.
- 2.6.2 Close to the north west side of the village a double moated site on the south side of Broad Lane has been recorded. The smaller of the two moated areas measures 120ft by 140ft with the moat 40ft wide and 2ft deep. Adjacent to the north a larger area measuring 375ft by 250ft surrounded by a bank some 2ft high has been identified.
- 2.6.3 All Saint's Church, Cottenham is understood to have originated in the 12<sup>th</sup> century with structural additions dating to the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries. Ditches dating to the 12<sup>th</sup> century with associated features dating from the 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards were identified during a watching brief undertaken in the High Street at Cottenham. Further watching briefs have identified pits and

ditches dating to the Late Saxon – early medieval periods in Corbett Street, Cottenham.

- 2.6.4 A double ditched droveway identified at Lordship Lane, Cottenham has been dated to the Saxo-Norman period and may be associated with a manor complex constructed by the Bishops of Ely during the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries.

## **2.7 Post-medieval & modern (1500 AD - present)**

- 2.7.1 Before the Fens were drained in the 19<sup>th</sup> century Cottenham was located on the last contour before the waterlogged marshes with the nearest land located at Ely some 32km to the north with the majority of the working population involved in agricultural work. During the post-medieval period the village flourished with a variety of trades listed as being resident within the village including wheelwrights, butchers, glovers, weavers, shoemakers, thatchers, joiners, bricklayers and coopers. There were metalworkers and engineers present in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a brass and iron foundry operated within the village from the 1860's through to the 1950's. RAF Waterbeach, a World War II Bomber Command airfield, is situated 3.4km to the east of the Site.
- 2.7.2 Historic mapping dating to 1888 show the Site to be occupied by an orchard laid out within small field plots.

## **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **3.1 General**

- 3.1.1 The objective of the evaluation was to identify, expose, plan and investigate the archaeological resource within a framework of defined aims (see below) and to seek a better understanding of the said archaeological resource. The findings were to be disseminated appropriately and may result in a further stage of work. To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence where development is proposed.
- 3.1.2 Particular research issues that applied to the Site included:
- Was there any evidence of archaeological activity on the Site?
  - What was the amount of truncation present within the Site and what effect has such truncation had upon archaeological remains?
  - To confirm the presence or absence of a palaeosol or 'B' horizon on the Site
  - To identify the condition of preservation of deposits within any negative features
  - To understand Site formation processes

## **4 METHODOLOGY**

### **4.1 Health and Safety**

- 4.1.1 Health and Safety considerations were of paramount importance in conducting the fieldwork. Safe working practices overrode archaeological considerations at all times.
- 4.1.2 All work was carried out in accordance with the *Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974* and the *Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992*, and all other relevant Health and Safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice.
- 4.1.3 Wessex Archaeology supplied a copy of their Health and Safety Policy and a Risk Assessment to the Client before the commencement of the fieldwork. The Risk Assessment was read and understood by all staff attending the Site before any groundwork commenced.

### **4.2 Service location**

- 4.2.1 Prior to and during excavation, the trenches were scanned with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) to verify the absence of underground services.

### **4.3 Fieldwork**

- 4.3.1 All works were conducted in compliance with the standards outlined in the Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations* (2008), excepting where they were superseded by statements made below.
- 4.3.2 A total of 13 machine excavated trial trenches, five measuring 50m x 2.1m and eight measuring 30m x 2.1m, were excavated. **TR 1** was shortened to avoid extant trees; **TR's 2, 8 and 13** were also shortened slightly to avoid existing obstructions.
- 4.3.3 All trenches were excavated with a 360° tracked mechanical excavator, equipped with a toothless bucket, operating under constant archaeological supervision. Machining continued to the first recognisable archaeological horizon or to the underlying geological deposits, whichever was encountered first.
- 4.3.4 The machine excavated arisings were stored adjacent to the trench and spoil heaps were routinely inspected for artefacts and ecofacts of archaeological interest.
- 4.3.5 All trenches were marked out on the ground using a Global Positioning System (GPS) prior to the commencement of work and were tied into the Ordnance Survey.
- 4.3.6 All trenches, on agreement with the Archaeological Officer for Cambridgeshire County Council, were backfilled on completion of the archaeological recording in the order in which they were excavated.
- 4.3.7 Once the level of archaeological deposits was exposed by machine, cleaning of the trench bases was undertaken by hand where necessary.



Appropriate sampling of all archaeological features identified in the evaluation trenches was carried out by hand. The scope of the sampling was agreed with the Client and Cambridgeshire County Council.

4.3.8 Where modern features were seen to truncate the archaeological stratification, these were carefully removed without damage to surrounding deposits to enable the depth of stratification to be assessed.

4.3.9 A metal detector search was implemented at all stages of the evaluation by experienced Wessex Archaeology staff.

#### **4.4 Recording**

4.4.1 All recording was undertaken using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system.

4.4.2 A complete record of the evaluation trenches comprising both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections) was undertaken. The plans and sections were annotated with coordinates and aOD heights.

4.4.3 Photographs were taken as appropriate, providing a record of the excavated trenches to illustrate their location and context, as well as images of the site overall. The photographic record comprises digital, black and white and colour slides. A photographic register of all the photographs is contained within the project archive.

4.4.4 All interventions were surveyed using a GPS tied into the Ordnance Survey.

#### **4.5 Monitoring**

4.5.1 Wessex Archaeology informed Cambridgeshire County Council of the commencement of fieldwork and the progress of the investigations on Site.

4.5.2 Reasonable access to the Site was arranged for CCC to make Site visits to inspect and monitor the archaeological investigations as they progressed.

4.5.3 Variations to the WSI were agreed in advance with representatives of the Client and the CCC.

### **5 RESULTS**

#### **5.1 Introduction**

5.1.1 This section presents the results of the Archaeological Evaluation. Detailed descriptions of the contexts recorded are included in **Appendix 2**.

5.1.2 **Figure 1** presents the site and the trench locations. **Plates 1-6** provide photographic images of a selection of several features within the trenches.

#### **5.2 Stratigraphic Sequence**

5.2.1 Overall a standard deposit model comprising topsoil overlaying subsoil and natural geology was recorded within each of the evaluation trenches. The topsoil, which was recorded as two separate contexts due to the heavy

vegetation and rooting that was present, consisted of dark grey clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks. Directly below, the subsoil comprised orange brown silty clay with moderate rooting and occasional fragmented stones and overlay natural geology comprised orange and yellow brown silty clay with inclusions of fragmented stone and occasional iron panning.

- 5.2.2 The depth range of the trenches varied between 0.29m and 0.72m with an average depth of c.0.49m.

### **5.3 Archaeological Results**

- 5.3.1 Following excavation and hand-cleaning of the bases of the evaluation trenches, the following trenches contained no archaeological features: **TR's 1, 9, 10, 11 and 12**. Land drains were observed in **TR's 1, 9 and 11** with rooting evident in **TR's 10 and 13**.

- 5.3.2 **TR 2**, aligned broadly north/south was located within the western extent of the Site and contained four linear features all of which were orientated north-east/south-west. Within the northern extent of the trench the first of these ditches measured 0.78m in width with a depth of 0.09m [204]. The single fill comprised mid grey brown clay sand with moderate sub-angular stone, iron panning and rooting (205). No dateable finds are associated with this feature.

- 5.3.3 To the immediate south the second linear feature measured 2.01m in width with a maximum depth of 0.29m. An original cut [206] possessed concave sides with a relatively flat base and was filled by mid red grey silty clay with occasional rooting and sub-angular stones (207). Slumping of this feature was visible of the northern extent of the ditch [208] filled by mid yellow brown silty clay. A later re-cut of the feature [210] had an irregular profile being steep sided on the northern extent and relatively shallow on the southern extent. The earlier fill of this feature consisted of mid yellow grey silty clay that contained fragments of 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> century glass and four fragments of post-medieval pottery (211).

- 5.3.4 Within the central area of the trench the largest of the linear features was orientated north-east/south-west and measured 2.47m in width with a maximum depth of approximately 0.23m [213]. The lower fill of this ditch consisted of mid grey yellow sandy clay with occasional sub-angular stones and iron panning (215) while the upper fill was a slightly darker yellow brown sandy clay silty with moderate sub-angular stones (214). With the exception of an undateable nail, no finds were associated with this feature which had been truncated by a modern field drain [216].

- 5.3.5 Within the southern extent of the trench the fourth linear was orientated north-east/south-west and was represented in two distinct phases. The earlier phase comprised the cut of a ditch [219] measuring approximately 0.97m in width with a depth of 0.24m the concave sides and slightly sloping base gave way to mid yellow grey silty clay (220) which was sealed by an upper fill comprising dark red grey clay with occasional sub-angular stone (221). A later re-cut [222] was on the same alignment and measured 1.08m in width with a maximum depth no greater than 0.12m. The single fill of this re-cut consisted of mid orange brown with occasional rounded stones (223).

With the exception of a large fragment of cattle bone from the earlier ditch (220) no finds were associated with either of these phases of activity.

- 5.3.6 **TR 3**, aligned north-west / south-east, contained three linear features and a post hole [314]. Within the southern extent of the trench two linear features formed a right-angle with ditch [316] measuring 1.15m in width with a depth of 0.11m. Tangential to this ditch [318] measured 1.36m in width with a depth of 0.18m being slightly deeper than its counterpart although both possessed concave sides and a flat base. A single fill was recorded within these feature (315 & 317) comprising mid orange brown sandy clay with moderate inclusions of fragmented gravel.
- 5.3.7 Located within the central area of the trench the third linear feature had two distinct phases of activity. An original cut [312] was aligned south-west/north-east and measured approximately 2.44m in width with a depth of 0.72m. Four fills were recorded within this feature with the earliest consisting of mid orange grey silty clay with moderate shell fragments and charcoal flecks (311). Mid brown grey silty clay, occasional shell and charcoal flecks (309) was located only on the southern extent of the feature as was the overlying mid to dark grey silt (310). The final phase of filling within the early cut consisted of mid grey silty clay with occasional gravel stones (308). The upper fills of this feature had been subsequently re-cut by a second ditch measuring 1.56m in width with a depth of 0.34m [307]. An early naturally formed lower fill consisted of mottled orange and dark grey silty clay (306) which was sealed by mid orange brown silty clay (305) directly underling to lower topsoil horizon (302).
- 5.3.8 Following detailed inspection of this feature it was clear that the ditch had cut through both the subsoil (303) as well as the natural geology (304) suggesting a later date, although no finds were present within any of the fills.
- 5.3.9 The isolated post hole was sub circular in plan with a diameter of approximately 0.31m and depth of 0.09m [314]. With concave sides and a flat base this feature contained a single fill which comprised mid grey brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks (313). No finds were associated with this feature.
- 5.3.10 **TR 4** aligned broadly north north-east/ south south-west, contained five linear features along with a pit and a single post hole. Within the southern extent of the trench three linear features were all of similar alignments possessing similar characteristics. Ditch [407] measured 0.52m in width with a depth of 0.13m. With a rather undulated profile this feature possessed a single fill consisting of mid grey brown silty clay (408). To the north the second linear feature measured 0.67m in width with a depth of 0.12m [409] and also possessed a single fill comprising mid grey brown silty clay (410) although contained elements of sand and gravel, as well as iron panning and coke fragments. The third ditch in this series measured 0.54m in width with a depth of 0.14m. The undulating profile and rounded base measured approximately 0.14m in depth with the totals width of the ditch averaging 0.55m [411]. The single fill comprised mid grey brown silty clay with gravel, iron panning and manganese flecks (412). No artefacts were retrieved from any of these features.

- 5.3.11 Within the central area of the trench a shallow ditch [403] measured 1.46m in width with a depth of 0.17m. The single fill of this feature consisted of mid orange grey sandy clay with sub-angular stones, iron pan and manganese flecks (404). This fill had been re-cut by a shallow bowl-shaped linear of exactly the same alignment [405] measuring 0.42m in width and 0.11m in depth filled by mid yellow orange sandy clay (406). Further to the north-east a shallow gully extended across the trench measuring 0.37m in width and 0.07m in depth [413]. The concave profile of this feature was overlain by mid brown grey sandy clay that contained manganese flecks and a fragment from a yellow stock brick (414). Directly adjacent to the gully a shallow circular tree bole measured 0.82m in diameter with a maximum depth of 0.11m [415]. The single fill comprised mid brown grey sandy clay with manganese flecks and occasional rooting (416).
- 5.3.12 The final feature within **TR 4** consisted of a square cut post hole measuring 0.29m in width and 0.07m in depth [417]. The fill consisted of mid brown grey sandy clay with manganese flecks and rooting (418).
- 5.3.13 **TR 5** was aligned broadly east/west and contained three parallel ditches aligned northeast/southwest. Ditch [504] was 0.73m wide and 0.08m deep with concave sides and a relatively flat base. The ditch contained a single fill comprising mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks and fragments of post-medieval pottery (505). Directly to the east a second ditch measured 1.79m in width with a maximum depth of 0.6m [506]. The gently sloping undulated base and concave sides gave way to mid grey brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks, animal bone and three sherds of post-medieval pottery (507).
- 5.3.14 Ditch [508] within the eastern extent of the trench was also aligned northwest/southeast and was characterised by steep undulating sides and base measuring 1.07m wide and 0.76m deep. The ditch contained a single fill that comprised mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional flint pebbles, CBM and a single fragment of Roman pottery (509). Directly adjacent a square cut post hole measured 0.41m in width with a depth of approximately 0.13m [510]. Dark red grey clay sand filled this feature which contained occasional rounded stones but no archaeological artefacts (511).
- 5.3.15 **TR 6**, orientated north/south, contained two archaeological features, ditch [606] and ditch [608], both of which were orientated north-west/south-east. Ditch [606] measured 0.91m in width with a depth of 0.23m and contained a single fill comprising soft mid grey silty clay (605). Ditch [608] was slightly larger measuring 1.23m in width with a maximum depth of 0.44m. The single fill of this feature consisted of mid grey silty clay containing animal bone, CBM and post-medieval pottery (607). Both linear features possessed irregular profiles showing evidence of possible erosion of their southern extents.
- 5.3.16 **TR 7** orientated east north-east/ west south-west contained a single ditch [706] which was aligned north-west / south-east. The features extended across the trench and contained a single secondary fill (705). The ditch was characterised by steep straight sides and a flat base and measured 0.66m in width and 0.28m in depth and may be related to ditch [508] in **TR 5** to the north. The ditch contained a single fill (705) which was characterised by a



firm mid orange grey silty clay containing animal bone, glass and an unidentified iron object.

- 5.3.17 **TR 8** was orientated broadly north-east/south-west and contained ditch **[806]** which was orientated parallel to other similar ditches recorded in **TR 5**, **TR 6** and **TR 7**. The ditch measured 0.71m wide and 0.95m deep and contained a single fill (**805**) which comprised a mottled mid orange and brown silty clay with occasional flint pebble inclusions. No finds were recovered from this deposit.
- 5.3.18 **TR 13** was orientated broadly north/south and contained ditch **[1305]** which appears to be on a same alignment as ditches within Trenches **5-8**. As with all other linear features on the Site the ditch extended the entire width of the trench was measured 0.3m wide and 0.11m deep with moderately sloping undulating sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a single fill (**1306**) which comprised mid to dark brown silty clay with moderate flint pebble inclusions. Finds retrieved from this fill consisted of a clay pipe and a single worked flint.

## **6 FINDS**

### **6.1 Introduction**

- 6.1.1 The evaluation produced a small quantity of finds, mainly comprising ceramics and animal bone. These derived from six of the trenches excavated (**Trenches 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 13**), and all finds came from stratified ditch fills within those trenches. Datable material is largely of post-medieval date (which serves to date most of the ditches that produced finds), with a few earlier items (prehistoric, Romano-British, medieval), all residual. In general the assemblage is not in good condition; the ceramic material in particular is fragmentary and abraded.

- 6.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are presented in **Table 1**.

### **6.2 Pottery**

- 6.2.1 Pottery provides the primary dating evidence for the Site. Of the 18 sherds recovered, 16 are of post-medieval date. The exceptions are one Romano-British coarse sandy ware jar rim from ditch **[508]**; and a body sherd in a medieval coarse sandy Ely-type ware from ditch **[806]** (fabric code MEL in the Cambridgeshire type series, dating to the 12th to 14th centuries). Both these sherds were residual finds in post-medieval features.
- 6.2.2 The post-medieval wares comprise coarse red earthenwares, which are not closely datable within the post-medieval period, with four sherds of 18th century creamware (ditches **210** and **608**). The post-medieval sherds occurred in ditches **[210]**, **[504]**, **[506]**, **[608]** and **[806]**.

### **6.3 Ceramic Building Material**

- 6.3.1 This category includes fragments of brick and tile. No complete pieces were recovered. Apart from one piece of medieval (flat) roof tile (ditch **608**), all fragments are post-medieval in date.

## 6.4 Animal Bone

6.4.1 Cattle bone was found in six contexts; only three of these produced fragments that were identifiable to species (in all cases cattle). Two other contexts contained fragments belonging to large mammals, while the sixth yielded only small unidentifiable fragments.

## 6.5 Other Finds

6.5.1 Other finds comprise two pieces of post-medieval vessel glass, one from a small phial neck, of later 17th or 18th century date (ditch **210**), and the other from the base of a green wine bottle of late 18th century or later date (ditch **706**); a single prehistoric flint flake; a piece of clay tobacco pipe stem; and three iron objects (two nails and one strip, of unknown function; none datable).

**Table 1: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)**

Context	Feature	Animal Bone	CBM	Roman Pottery	Medieval Pottery	Post-med pottery	Other Finds
211	ditch 210	1/36	1/16			4/15	1 glass; 1 iron
214	ditch 213						1 iron
220	ditch 219	1/237					
505	ditch 504					5/21	
507	ditch 506	2/17				3/46	
509	ditch 508		4/58	1/8			
607	ditch 608	1/8	1/18			3/15	
705	ditch 706	2/3					1 glass; 1 iron
805	ditch 806		5/46		1/9	1/4	
1306	gully 1305						1 clay pipe; 1 worked flint
1310	ditch 1309	4/34					
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>11/335</b>	<b>11/138</b>	<b>1/8</b>	<b>1/9</b>	<b>16/101</b>	

CBM = ceramic building material

## 7 ENVIRONMENTAL

### 7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 No features identified as appropriate for environmental sampling were observed during the course of the fieldwork.

## 8 DISCUSSION

### 8.1 Archaeological Narrative

8.1.1 A common stratigraphic sequence was recognized across the site comprising topsoil overlying subsoil and natural geology. Two distinct elements to the topsoil were recorded with an upper organic layer directly overlying an orchard soil. A clear horizon separated the underlying subsoil which appeared to be formed through a combination of bioturbation (i.e. the mixing of sediments through rooting, leaching, animal burrows etc) and the

erosion of the upper natural geology. As a result trenches occasionally required overcutting in order to expose clean surfaces and archaeological features cut into them.

- 8.1.2 A total of 23 potential archaeological features were encountered, including 20 ditches, two post holes and one pit. Unfortunately the lack of secure dateable finds make phasing features on site rather difficult as the early finds (i.e. Roman pottery from Trench **5** and medieval pottery from Trench **8**) are likely to be residual. In addition to this, later post-medieval CBM, glass and pottery could easily be intrusive particularly when considering the degree of bioturbation on Site coupled with the erosion of the upper natural horizon and formation of the topsoil (as described above). Caution is therefore recommended when assigning to dates to identified archaeological features.
- 8.1.3 Archaeological features were primarily focused within the western extent of the Site and largely comprised linear ditches on NW-SE, NE-SW and ENE-WNW alignments. Ditches within trenches **5**, **6**, **7**, **8** and **13** are all aligned parallel to the north-western boundary of the Site which may suggest either a more modern date or an older well established field system. The parallel nature of the ditches couple with the regular spacing would seem to suggest modern agricultural process and the presence of an established orchard previously occupying may not necessarily be a coincidence. Although the features are relatively deep which clear extents patterns do seem to tie in with tree distributions shown on late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century mapping (although this may be indicative mapping symbology). It is worth noting that natural features were recognized on the same alignment within trenches **9** and **10**.
- 8.1.4 Similarly the ENE-WSW orientated ditches within the far western extent of the Site, particularly within trenches **3** and **4**, appear to run parallel and tangential to Long Drove to the south. The junction between two ditches recorded in trench **3** [**316** & **318**] suggests a contemporary relationship forming land divisions although it should be noted that neither of these features were visible in adjacent trenches. Three parallel ditches [**407**, **409**, and **411**] also fit in with this field alignment and shallow and irregular profiles may represent plough scaring. In contrast to the above ditches within trenches **2**, **3** and **4** do not appear to tie in with established field pattern within the immediate area and may have earlier origins. The single pit recorded within trench **4** appears to be in isolation and square cut post holes within trenches **4** and **5** [**417** and **510** respectively] are considered to be modern.

## **8.2 Confidence Rating**

- 8.2.1 This report supports a **high degree of confidence** that archaeological features or significant deposits within the trenches were recognised and recorded where present.

## **8.3 Conclusion**

- 8.3.1 The purpose of the archaeological evaluation was to provide an assessment of the contextual archaeological record, in order to determine the potential

survival of archaeological deposits that may be impacted upon during any proposed construction works.

- 8.3.2 The evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification. Archaeological horizons have been shown to survive at a depth approximately 0.5m below the existing ground level, with eight out of the 13 evaluation trenches indicating the possible presence of surviving archaeological features, largely focused within the western extent of the development area.
- 8.3.3 Full development proposals are at present time unconfirmed, although it is assumed that excavation will be required in order to remove the topsoil and possibly subsoil thereby exposing and compromising sub-surface archaeological horizons, where they exist.
- 8.3.4 This evaluation has therefore assessed the archaeological potential of land intended for development. The results from this work will be used to aid and inform the Archaeological Officer at Cambridgeshire County Council of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with the development proposals.

## **9 ARCHIVE**

### **9.1 Preparation and Deposition**

- 9.1.1 The complete project archive will be prepared in accordance with Wessex Archaeology's *Guidelines for Archive Preparation* and in accordance with *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-Term Storage* (Walker 1990) and following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995). On completion of the project, the archive will be deposited with the County Museum Service or similar repository to be agreed with the Archaeological Officer for Cambridgeshire County Council.

### **9.2 Archive**

- 9.2.1 Following the fieldwork the archive and all artefacts were subsequently transported to Wessex Archaeology's Rochester office where they were processed and assessed for this report. The accompanying documentary records from the archaeological works have been compiled into a stable fully cross-referenced and indexed archive in accordance with Appendix 6 of Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991).
- 9.2.2 The contents of the project archive, comprises two A4 ring-bound file containing the following (as further detailed in **Appendix 1**):
- 13 Trench Record Sheets
  - 6 Photographic Records
  - 13 A3 permatrace sheets
  - 9 A4 permatrace sheets
  - Day Book (2 sheets)



- A copy of the WSI
- A copy of the RA

9.2.3 The project archive including plans, photographs and written records are currently held at Wessex Archaeology's Rochester office under the site code **73900**. The project archive will be deposited with an appropriate local museum in the Cambridgeshire area.

### **9.3 Copyright**

9.3.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the site will be retained by Wessex Archaeology Ltd under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. The recipient museum, however, will be granted an exclusive license for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profit making, and conforms to the Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003.

### **9.4 Security Copy**

9.4.1 In line with current best practice, on completion of the project a security copy of the paper records will be prepared, in the form of microfilm. The master jackets and one diazo copy of the microfilm will be submitted to the National Monuments Record Centre (NMR) (English Heritage) in Swindon; a second diazo copy will be deposited with the paper records at the appropriate local museum, and a third diazo copy will be retained by Wessex Archaeology.

## 10 REFERENCES

### ***Bibliographical References***

Institute of for Archaeologists 2008 Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation

Wessex Archaeology 2011a Land at Beach Road, Cottenham, Cambridgeshire. Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Field Evaluation. Ref T14723.01

Wessex Archaeology 2011b Land at Beach Road, Cottenham, Cambridgeshire. Archaeological Risk Assessment. Ref T14723.01

### ***Cartographic References***

Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> Edition (1871-1890)

Ordnance Survey 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (1897-1900)

Ordnance Survey 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (1907-1923)

Ordnance Survey 4<sup>th</sup> Edition (1929-1952)

### ***Websites***

Archaeological Investigations Project

<http://csweb.bournemouth.ac.uk/aip/aipintro.htm>

Archaeological Data Service <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/>

Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environmental Record

<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/leisure/archaeology/historic/record/>

Fen Edge Archaeology Group <http://www.feag.co.uk/Cottenham-2009>

Heritage Gateway <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/>

## APPENDIX 1: ARCHIVE INDEX

File No.	NAR Cat.	Details	Format	No. Sheets
1	-	Index to Archive	A4	1
1	A	Client Report	A4	30
1	-	Project Specification	A4	36
2	B	Day Book (photocopy)	A4	2
2	B	Trial trench records	A4	13
2	B	Survey Data Print-out	A4	1
2	B	Site Graphics	A4	9
2	B	Site Graphics	A3	11
2	D	Photographic Register	A4	6
1	D	CD-Rom – digital photo's	-	-
2	E	Environmental Sample Register	A4	-
2	E	Environmental Sample Records	A4	-
<b>FINDS</b>	15 bags			

## APPENDIX 2: TRENCH SUMMARY TABLES

All archaeological deposits/features shown in **bold**

All (+) indicate deposits/features not fully excavated

'Depth' equals depth from present ground surface

Trench 1	Dimensions :	26.27m x 2.10m x 0.44m	
	Land use:	Vacant Land – Not previously developed	
Context	Category	Description	Depth
101	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt with frequent rooting.	0.00-0.09m
102	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt same as (101) without rooting.	0.09-0.17m
103	Layer	Subsoil: Orange brown silt clay with moderate rooting and fragmented gravel stones.	0.17-0.44m
104	Layer	Natural: Orange sand clay with occasional gravel stones and iron pan.	0.44m (+)

Trench 2	Dimensions :	43.3m x 2.10m x 0.49m	
	Land use:	Vacant Land – Not previously developed	
Context	Category	Description	Depth
201	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt with frequent rooting.	0.00-0.22m
202	Layer	Subsoil: Orange brown silt clay with moderate rooting and fragmented gravel stones.	0.22-0.49m
203	Layer	Natural: Orange sand clay with occasional gravel stones and iron pan.	0.49m (+)
204	Cut	Cut of NE-SW linear ditch, flat base, straight, moderate to steep sides.	
205	Fill	Secondary fill of [204]. Mid grey brown clay sand, moderate sub-angular stones, moderate iron pan lumps and rooting.	
206	Cut	Cut of NE-SW linear ditch, flat base, straight moderate sides.	
207	Fill	Secondary fill of [206]. Mid red grey, silty clay, rooting, occasional sub-angular stones. Very soft compaction.	
208	Cut	Cut of NE-SW linear ditch, flat base, straight moderate sides.	
209	Fill	Secondary fill of [208]. Mid yellow brown, silty clay with frequent sub-angular stones and rooting.	
210	Cut	Cut of NE-SW linear ditch, concaved base with straight, moderate to steep sides.	
211	Fill	Secondary fill of [210]. Mid yellow grey silty clay with frequent sub-angular stones and rooting. Pottery, CBM, Bone, Glass, Fe object and slate.	
212	Fill	Re-deposited natural in top of [210]. Mid yellow orange sandy clay.	
213	Cut	Cut of NE-SW linear ditch, concaved base, straight moderate to steep sides.	
214	Fill	Secondary fill of [213]. Dark yellow brown sandy clay silt with moderate sub-angular stones. Fe object.	
215	Fill	Secondary fill of [213]. Mid grey yellow sandy clay with occasional sub-angular stones and iron pan.	
216	Cut	Cut of NE-SW modern linear ditch, flat base, straight near vertical sides. Not seen in opposite section.	
217	Fill	Secondary fill or [216]. Dark yellow grey silty clay with rooting, sub-angular stones. Fe object.	
218	Fill	Deliberate backfill of [216]. Re-deposited natural, mid orange yellow sandy clay.	
219	Cut	Cut of NE-SW linear ditch, flat base, with straight steep sides.	
220	Fill	Secondary fill of [219]. Mid yellow grey silty clay. Bone.	
221	Fill	Secondary fill of [219]. Dark red grey clay silt with occasional sub-angular stones.	
222	Cut	Cut of NE-SW linear, concaved base with straight, shallow to moderate sides.	

223	Fill	Secondary fill of [222]. Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional rounded stones.	
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Trench 3	Dimensions :	16.14m x 2.10m x 0.57m	
	Land use:	Vacant Land – Not previously developed	
Context	Category	Description	Depth
301	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt with frequent rooting.	0.00-0.12m
302	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt same as (301) without rooting.	0.12-0.38m
303	Layer	Subsoil: Orange brown silt clay with moderate rooting and fragmented gravel stones.	0.38-0.57m
304	Layer	Natural: Orange sand clay with occasional gravel stones and iron pan.	0.57m (+)
305	Fill	Secondary fill of [307]. Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional stones. Compacted material.	
306	Fill	Secondary fill of [307]. Mottled orange and dark grey silty clay.	
307	Cut	Cut of possible ENE-WSW linear ditch, undulating base, concaved moderate sides.	
308	Fill	Secondary fill of [312]. Mid grey silty clay with occasional gravel stones. Soft compaction.	
309	Fill	Secondary fill of [312]. Mid brown grey silty clay with occasional shell fragments and charcoal flecks.	
310	Fill	Secondary fill of [312]. Mid to dark grey silt with small rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
311	Fill	Primary fill of [312]. Mid orange grey silty clay with moderate shell fragments and charcoal flecks. Soft compaction.	
312	Cut	Cut of WSW-ENE linear ditch with convex base, straight, moderate to steep sides.	
313	Fill	Secondary fill of posthole [314]. Mid to dark grey brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks.	
314	Cut	Cut of irregular/oval posthole. Flat base with steep concaved sides.	
315	Fill	Secondary fill [316]. Mid orange brown sandy clay with moderate fragmented gravel stones. Relatively compacted material.	
316	Cut	Cut of N-S linear ditch, flat base with straight steep sides.	
317	Fill	Secondary fill [318]. Mid orange brown sandy clay with moderate fragmented gravel stones. Relatively compacted material.	
318	Cut	Cut of N-S linear ditch, flat base with straight steep sides.	

Trench 4	Dimensions :	11.16m x 2.10m x 0.30m	
	Land use:	Vacant Land – Not previously developed	
Context	Category	Description	Depth
401	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey brown sandy silt with moderate charcoal flecks, occasional sub-angular stones 10-20mm and rooting in top half of layer. Possible subsoil in lower half of layer.	0.00-0.30m
402	Layer	Natural: Mid yellow brown very compacted sand clay with moderate small sub-angular stones 10-20mm and frequent manganese flecks.	0.30m (+)
403	Cut	Cut of NE-SW linear ditch, concaved base with concaved, shallow to moderate sides.	
404	Fill	Secondary fill of [403]. Mid orange grey sandy clay with occasional sub-angular stones, manganese flecks and iron pan.	
405	Cut	Cut of NE-SW linear ditch, concaved base, concaved, moderate to steep sides.	
406	Fill	Secondary fill of [405]. Mid yellow orange sandy clay with manganese flecks and sub-angular stones.	
407	Cut	Cut of NE-SW linear ditch, flat base, moderate concaved	

		sides.	
408	Fill	Secondary fill of [407]. Mid grey brown silty clay with sub-angular gravel stones. Burnt flint	
409	Cut	Cut of NE-SW linear ditch, flat base, moderate straight sides.	
410	Fill	Secondary fill of [409]. Mid grey brown silty clay with sand, gravel and iron pan stones. Coke fragments.	
411	Cut	Cut of NE-SW linear ditch, concaved base with concaved, moderate to steep sides. Base deeper at NE end.	
412	Fill	Secondary fill of [411]. Mid grey brown silty clay with gravel, iron oxide and manganese flecks.	
413	Cut	Cut of NW-SE linear gully. Concaved base with straight shallow sides.	
414	Fill	Secondary fill of [413]. Mid brown grey sandy clay with manganese flecks and a fragment from a yellow stock brick.	
415	Cut	Cut of rounded pit/tree throw. Flat base, straight shallow sides.	
416	Fill	Secondary fill of [415]. Mid brown grey sandy clay with manganese flecks and rooting.	
417	Cut	Cut of rectangular posthole. Irregular base, straight steep sides.	
418	Fill	Secondary fill of [417]. Mid brown grey sandy clay with manganese flecks and rooting.	

<b>Trench 5</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	50.65m x 2.10m x 0.36m	
	<b>Land use:</b>	Vacant Land – Not previously developed	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth</b>
501	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey brown sandy silt with manganese flecks, occasional sub-angular stones and heavy rooting.	0.00-0.24m
502	Layer	Subsoil: Mid brown yellow sandy clay silt with occasional stones.	0.24-0.36m
503	Layer	Natural: Mid yellow brown clay sand with manganese flecks, sub-angular stones, iron pan and rooting.	0.36m (+)
504	Cut	Cut of NW-SE linear ditch, flat base, straight moderate sides.	
505	Fill	Secondary fill of [504]. Mid grey brown sandy silt with charcoal and CBM flecks. Pottery.	
506	Cut	Cut of NW-SE linear ditch with undulating base, concaved shallow to moderate sides.	
507	Fill	Secondary fill of [506]. Mid grey brown sandy silt with charcoal and CBM flecks. Pottery and animal bone.	
508	Cut	Cut of NW-SE linear ditch with undulating base, straight moderate sides.	
509	Fill	Secondary fill of [508]. Mid grey brown silty sand with moderate sub-angular stones, charcoal and CBM flecks. Pottery and CBM.	
510	Cut	Cut of square pit or posthole. Flat base, straight steep sides.	
511	Fill	Secondary fill of [510]. Dark red grey clay sand with moderate sub-angular stones and rooting.	

<b>Trench 6</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	29.45m x 2.10m x 0.29mm	
	<b>Land use:</b>	Vacant Land – Not previously developed	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth</b>
601	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt with frequent rooting.	0.00-0.08m
602	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt same as (601) without rooting.	0.08-0.17m
603	Layer	Subsoil: Orange brown silt clay with moderate rooting and fragmented gravel stones.	0.17-0.29m
604	Layer	Natural: Orange sand clay with occasional gravel stones and iron pan.	0.29m (+)
<b>605</b>	<b>Fill</b>	Secondary fill of <b>[606]</b> . Mid grey silty clay. Soft compaction.	
<b>606</b>	<b>Cut</b>	Cut of NW-SE linear ditch, flat base, stepped SW side, steep to moderate sides.	
<b>607</b>	<b>Fill</b>	Secondary fill of <b>[608]</b> . Mid grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks, pottery, tile and animal bone.	
<b>608</b>	<b>Cut</b>	Cut of NW-SE linear ditch with concaved base, stepped SW side and moderate to steep sides.	

<b>Trench 7</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	45.9m x 2.10m x 0.41m	
	<b>Land use:</b>	Vacant Land – Not previously developed	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth</b>
701	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt with frequent rooting.	0.00-0.12m
702	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt same as (701) without rooting.	0.12-0.35m
703	Layer	Subsoil: Orange brown silt clay with moderate rooting and fragmented gravel stones.	0.35-0.41m
704	Layer	Natural: Orange sand clay with occasional gravel stones and iron pan.	0.41m (+)
<b>705</b>	<b>Fill</b>	Secondary fill of <b>[706]</b> . Mid orange grey silty clay with glass, Fe object and animal bone. Firm compaction.	
<b>706</b>	<b>Cut</b>	Cut of NW-SE linear ditch with flat base and straight steep sides.	

<b>Trench 8</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	23.37m x 2.10m x 0.34m	
	<b>Land use:</b>	Vacant Land – Not previously developed	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth</b>
801	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt with frequent rooting.	0.00-0.11m
802	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt same as (801) without rooting.	0.11-0.19m
803	Layer	Subsoil: Orange brown silt clay with moderate rooting and fragmented gravel stones.	0.19-0.34m
804	Layer	Natural: Orange sand clay with occasional gravel stones and iron pan.	0.34m (+)
<b>805</b>	<b>Fill</b>	Secondary fill of <b>[806]</b> . Mottled mid orange and brown silty clay with pottery and CBM.	
<b>806</b>	<b>Cut</b>	Cut of NW-SE linear ditch with concaved base and straight steep sides.	

<b>Trench 9</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	24.89m x 2.10m x 0.33m	
	<b>Land use:</b>	Vacant Land – Not previously developed	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth</b>
901	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt with frequent rooting.	0.00-0.11m
902	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt same as (901) without rooting.	0.11-0.17m
903	Layer	Subsoil: Orange brown silt clay with moderate rooting and fragmented gravel stones.	0.17-0.33m
904	Layer	Natural: Orange sand clay with occasional gravel stones and iron pan.	0.33m (+)

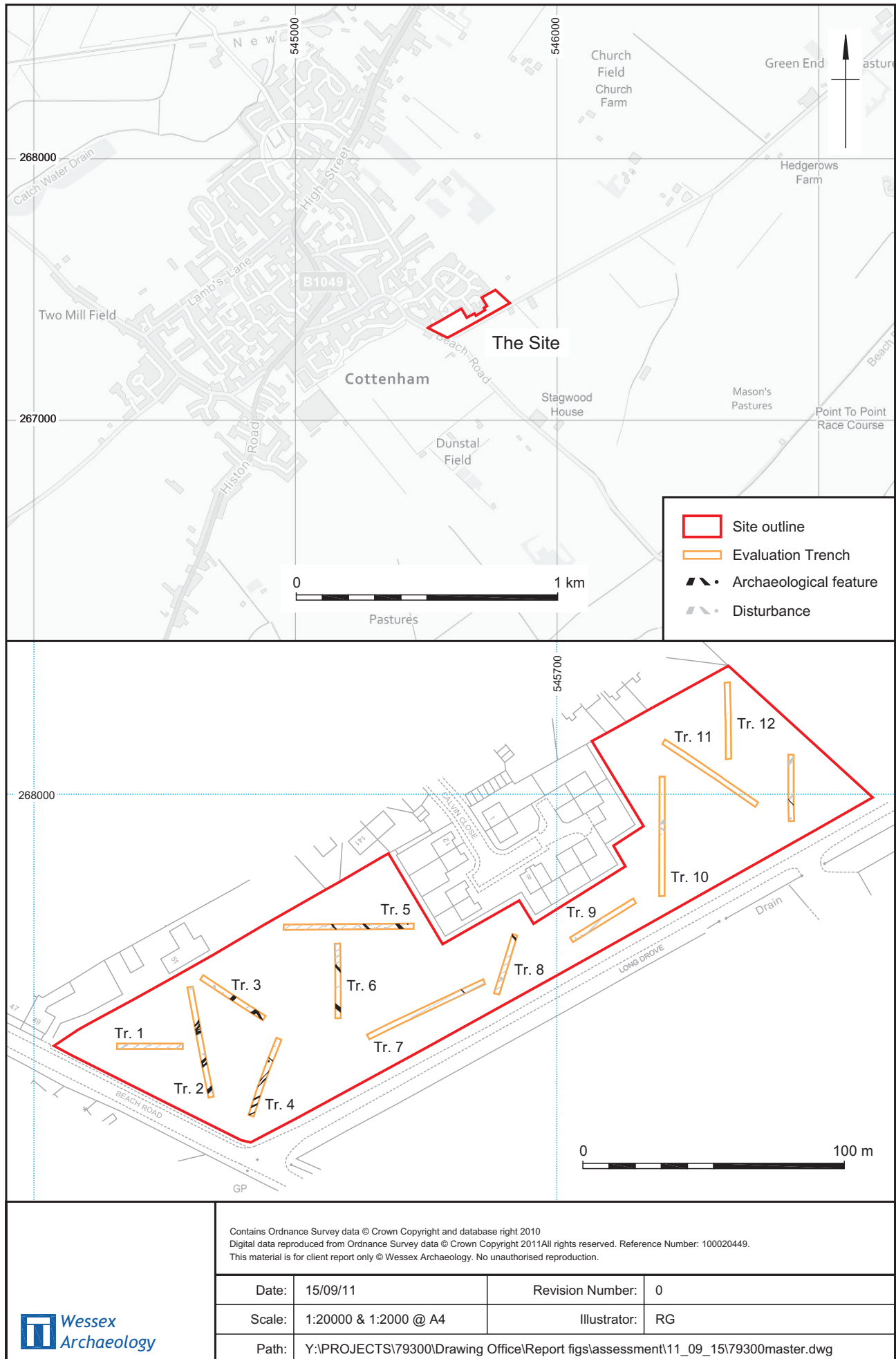
<b>Trench 10</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	47.06m x 2.10m x 0.32m	
	<b>Land use:</b>	Vacant Land – Not previously developed	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth</b>
1001	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt with frequent rooting.	0.00-0.08m
1002	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt same as (1001) without rooting.	0.08-0.16m
1003	Layer	Subsoil: Orange brown silt clay with moderate rooting and fragmented gravel stones.	0.16-0.32m
1004	Layer	Natural: Orange sand clay with occasional gravel stones and iron pan.	0.32m (+)

<b>Trench 11</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	36.56m x 2.10m x 0.72m	
	<b>Land use:</b>	Vacant Land – Not previously developed	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth</b>
1101	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt with frequent rooting.	0.00-0.09m
1102	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt same as (1101) without rooting.	0.09-0.18m
1103	Layer	Subsoil: Orange brown silt clay with moderate rooting and fragmented gravel stones.	0.18-0.36m
1104	Layer	Natural: Orange sand clay with occasional gravel stones and iron pan.	0.36-0.72m
1105	Layer	Natural: Sand	0.72m (+)

<b>Trench 12</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	30.18m x 2.10m x 0.38m	
	<b>Land use:</b>	Vacant Land – Not previously developed	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth</b>
1201	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt with frequent rooting.	0.00-0.11m
1202	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt same as (1201) without rooting.	0.11-0.23m
1203	Layer	Subsoil: Orange brown silt clay with moderate rooting and fragmented gravel stones.	0.23-0.38m
1204	Layer	Natural: Orange sand clay with occasional gravel stones and iron pan.	0.38m (+)

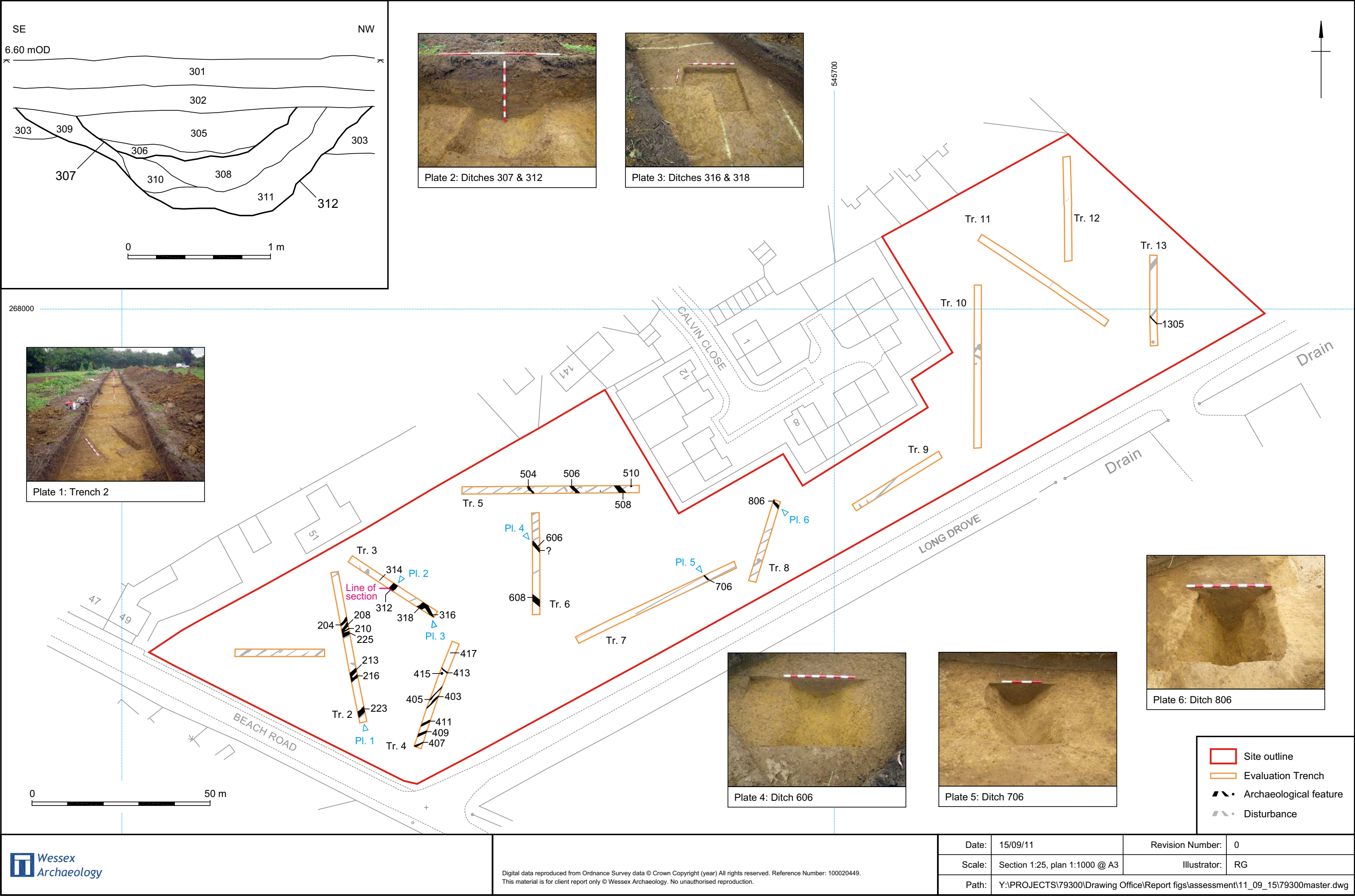


<b>Trench 13</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	27.07m x 2.10m x 0.99m	
	<b>Land use:</b>	Vacant Land – Not previously developed	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth</b>
1301	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt with frequent rooting.	0.00-0.10m
1302	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey clay silt same as (1301) without rooting.	0.10-0.30m
1303	Layer	Subsoil: Orange brown silt clay with moderate rooting and fragmented gravel stones.	0.30-0.46m
1304	Layer	Natural: Orange sand clay with occasional gravel stones and iron pan.	0.46-0.99m
<b>1305</b>	<b>Cut</b>	Cut of NW-SE linear gully, concaved base with moderate concaved sides.	
<b>1306</b>	<b>Fill</b>	Secondary fill of <b>[1305]</b> . Mid dark grey silty clay with flint and possible clay pipe.	
<b>1307</b>	<b>Cut</b>	Cut of NE-SW linear ditch, concaved base and moderate concaved sides. Land drain truncated SE side.	
<b>1308</b>	<b>Fill</b>	Secondary fill of <b>[1307]</b> . Mottled mid grey and mid orange brown silty clay with occasional shell and stones.	
<b>1309</b>	<b>Cut</b>	Cut of NE-SW linear ditch, flat base, straight shallow sides.	
<b>1310</b>	<b>Fill</b>	Secondary fill of <b>[1309]</b> . Light grey silty clay with occasional rooting and moderate rounded stones.	



Site and trench location plan

Figure 1



Trench locations showing archaeological features, section through feature 312 and thumbnails of plates

Figure 2





Plate 1: Trench 2, looking north

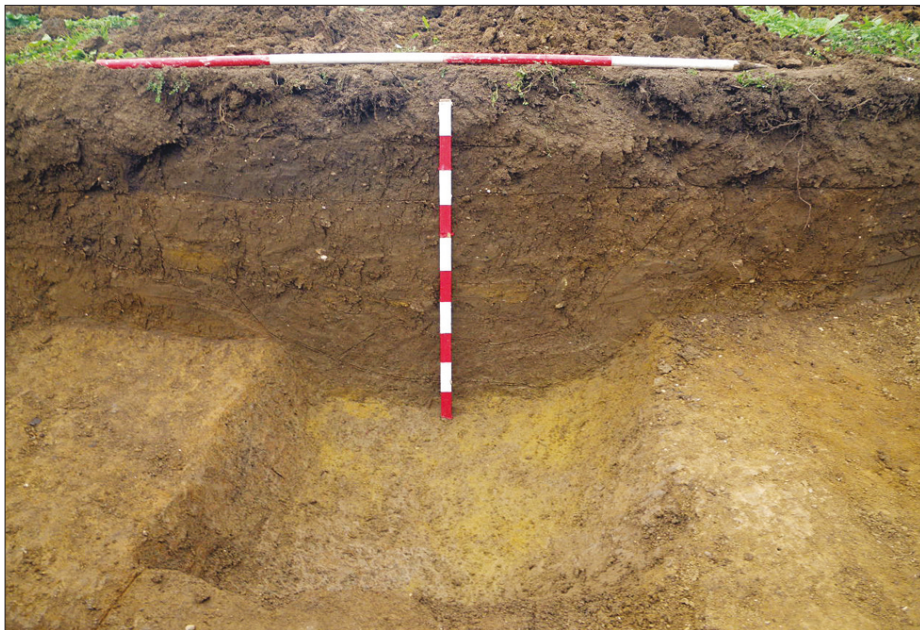


Plate 2: North east facing section of ditch 312 showing recut 307


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Plate 3: South facing section of ditches 316 & 318

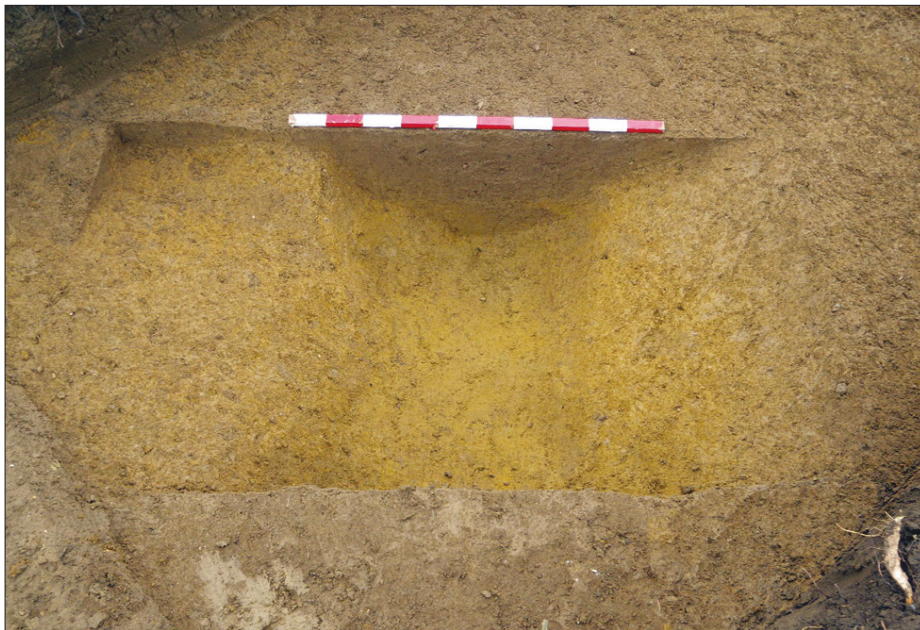


Plate 4: Northwest facing section of ditch 606


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Plate 5: North facing section of ditch 706



Plate 6: South east facing section of ditch 806

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